

FLAT STANLEY

IN THAILAND

April 2010

Stanley came to a country in **SouthEast Asia** called Thailand.

There are about **65,998,436 people** in Thailand.

Thailand has a **tropical** climate.

The language they speak is called **Thai**.

Their main religion is called **Buddhist**.

This is their flag:



It was really exciting when Stanley first arrived in Lopburi.

We had been waiting for him to come visit us, and we got along great from the start!

“Let our Thai adventures begin!,” he told us right away.





One of the first things Stanley wanted to do was learn some of the Thai language. After all, how was he going to make friends if he couldn't talk to people, right? Stanley was a GREAT student!

So, what are a few things Stanley learned in school?

Sawatdii khrap - Hello!

(Sah - waht - dee crop)

Khop khun khrap - Thank you!

(Cop coon crop)

Maa jaak America - I come from America.

(Mah jock Ahh - mǎ - ree - gaa)

How to write "Stanley" in Thai:

สแตนลีย์



One thing Stanley didn't expect was to meet people from so many different places here in Thailand. At our language school, we have people come to study Thai all the way from Germany, Switzerland, India, Holland, Japan, America, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, England, South Africa, Brazil, Sweden, and more people just keep coming!



Whoa! What was that?? All over one end of our city, there are monkeys called Macaque that run free just like squirrels do in America! Stanley could not believe his eyes when he looked at this building and saw them climbing away, jumping into windows, and swinging from the power lines. We assured him he wasn't going crazy.



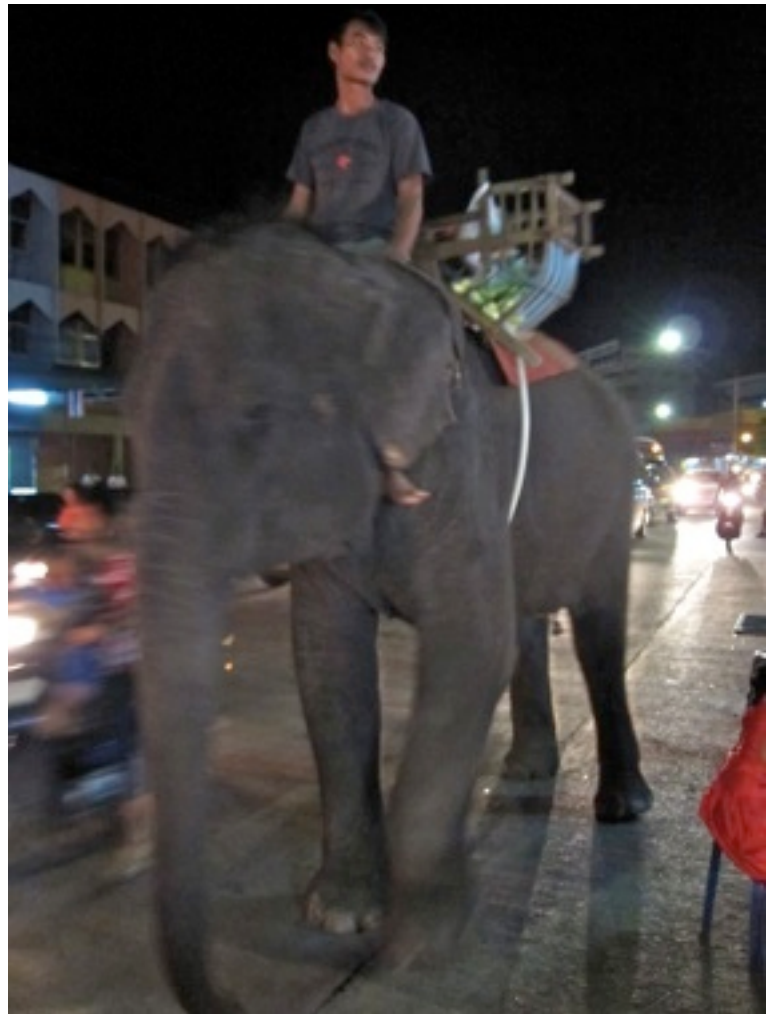
In that same part of the city, there are many ancient temples and the King's old palace from hundreds of years ago. People come from all over the world to walk through them and see the monkeys that live in them now. Some of the ruins are close to 700 years old!



Stanley loved walking with us to the market almost every day. We buy most of our fruits, veggies, and things for baking (like flour & sugar) in the outdoor fresh market. This is one of the friends Stanley met when buying a watermelon.



So, what other things did Stanley get to see in the market?



Lots more food and some elephants. Elephants?! Stanley was so shocked, he forgot to get up and get in the photo as the 2 elephants walked by.



Boy, is it HOT!!! Stanley happened to visit us during the **hottest** time of the whole year. Since Thailand is tropical, it always feels like summer. The only seasons we have in central Thailand are hot, hotter, super hot, and rainy hot. Stanley thought he would melt!

So, how did Stanley learn to deal with the crazy hotness?



... BY CELEBRATING SONGKRAAN!

Songkran is celebrated as the Thai New Year every year in April, during the hottest week of the year (over 100 degrees!). There are many traditions, but the most well-known is the **world's biggest water fight**. During this time, everyone in the whole country goes outside to play with water guns, buckets filled with icy cold water, and hoses. Everyone gets soaked, cools off, and has TONS of FUN! Good thing Stanley came laminated!!!



We really enjoyed having Stanley as our very first guest from America. Thanks to Makenna for sending him and thanks to the whole class for being so awesome in learning about other places in your own country and the world!

Stanley found a new flat friend here in Thailand, and she loved the idea of travelling so much, that she wanted to come back with him to check out America. Her name is Kung (say it like "goong"), which means "shrimp" in Thai. She wanted to look her very best for you, so she is wearing a dress that would be used for all special ceremonies and traditional meetings here in Thailand. We hope that you enjoy meeting her!

... AND WHO KNOWS WHO MAY COME TO VISIT NEXT. IT JUST MAY BE YOU! 😊