

Ancient China

Fun Projects for World History

Jean Henrich, Writer

Bill Williams, Editor
Dr. Aaron Willis, Project Coordinator
Christina Trejo, Editorial Assistant
Shoshana Muhammad, Editorial Assistant

Social Studies School Service
10200 Jefferson Blvd., P.O. Box 802
Culver City, CA 90232
<http://socialstudies.com>
access@socialstudies.com
(800) 421-4246

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10200 Jefferson Blvd., P.O. Box 802
Culver City, CA 90232
United States of America

(310) 839-2436
(800) 421-4246

Fax: (800) 944-5432
Fax: (310) 839-2249

<http://socialstudies.com>
access@socialstudies.com

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History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

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History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

GENERAL OVERVIEW

This collection of nine enrichment activities was designed to complement existing curricula and expand one's understanding of the ancient Chinese. Studies have confirmed that using our hands helps us retain information. So, if you are looking for creative and simple, yet stimulating and exciting projects to spark learning, take the next step toward a highly engaging encounter.

There is truly nothing more stimulating than combining a hands-on activity with a subject being studied. Regardless of a learner's age, learning by doing will help maintain their interest, improve retention of information, and foster a desire to learn now and in the future.

In this collection, there are a total of nine hands-on projects and writing activities. To enhance the complete learning experience using this collection, character and setting development statements as well as extensive vocabulary lists are provided. A general materials list, detailed instructions, and extensive activity suggestions are provided for the nine projects that focus on the collection theme.

As an educator with 18 plus years of teaching and product development experience, it is my personal goal to encourage young people to be creative. Each of the activities included in this collection are based on actual artifacts representative of ancient China. A conscious effort was made to develop activities that are constructed from readily available materials, yet result in stunning end products. Although having a wonderful end product is desirable, an essential part of learning is the process of creating something. A young person will gain a greater appreciation for the skills required by the ancient Chinese when they accomplish an activity.

It is my heartfelt desire that both teacher and student will find the nine activities in this book a wonderful journey of creativity. Jean Henrich



Chinese Emperors & Dynasties in Focus



History Chinese Emperors & Dynasties

EMPERORS IN FOCUS



Chinese emperors, or the “Sons of Heaven,” were considered to have complete and absolute authority over all the earth. Each emperor from the different dynasties that ruled ancient China were both high achievers and terrible leaders. Each emperor and the dynasty they ruled contributed different things to the Chinese empire. Chinese emperors were known for the dynasty they ruled. It was often the name of the family that assumed power from which a dynasty was named. For example, the Shang family assumed power at one point in Chinese history and a dynasty is named after them as a result.

Chinese emperors had absolute power. They were advised by many government officials and ministers. Wives were selected from the families of nobles. Emperors were constantly in danger from plots against them. As a result, many executed their entire family or members of their wife’s family. They lived a lavish lifestyle. The imperial kitchen staff had over 5000 servants and cooks. Exotic animals and rare plants were added to the palace gardens.

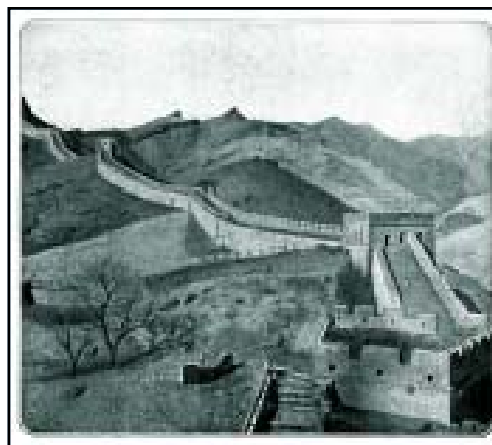
EMPERORS IN FOCUS

On the next several pages are a few of the primary dynasties (not chronological) and the accomplishments achieved by the rulers during that time.

THE FIRST CHINESE EMPEROR

The rule of the Chinese emperors began when the Qin soldiers defeated and united the warring factions under the leadership of the Yellow Emperor, Zheng, of the Qin clan. Zheng called himself “First Sovereign Qin Emperor,” or Qin Shi Huangdi. The name Qin eventually became the word China.

During his rule as emperor, he accomplished and contributed many things to the newly unified China. He built a massive tomb protected by thousands of life-sized terracotta warriors. He is credited with ordering the constructions of the Great Wall. He established many public works such as roads and canals. He made the dragon the emblem of the Chinese emperors.



History, Language Arts, Art- **Ancient China**

EMPERORS IN FOCUS

THE SHANG DYNASTY

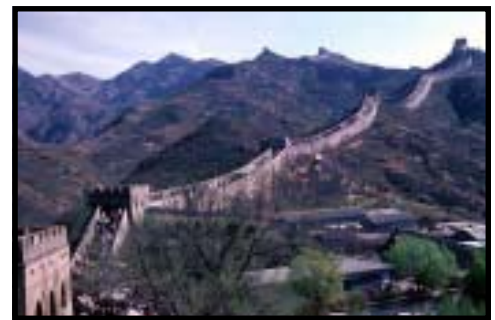
Another great dynasty was the Shang Dynasty. Around the Huang River Valley, or Yellow River, a group of people began to establish permanent farms and communities. The Yellow River provided a fertile area for the people to grow crops and live in small villages. These early villages were led by clan chiefs. It was from these clan chiefs that the Shang emperors were established.

There were numerous achievements under the Shang rule. This was the era when many bronze items including weapons, tools, and ornamental objects were made. People worshipped their ancestors and built China's first fortified walled cities. They placed wheels on their chariots which gave their military an enormous advantage during battles.

The economy was based on farming. Rice, wheat, millet, and barley were cultivated. Shang farmers raised silkworms, pigs, chicken, water buffalo, sheep, oxen, and dogs. They used carts and plows, dug ditches and canals to water farm fields, and had communal graves.

The Shang are credited with the creation of a decimal system, a 12-month calendar, and a writing system featuring more than 3000 characters. Shang craftsmen were skilled in textiles, and making jade ornaments, vessels, and pottery. Jade, ivory, and marble were carved into beautiful objects under their talented hands.

The Shang used soothsayers to help determine the course of government. Soothsayers would use "oracle bones," which were animal bones and tortoise shells that were arranged and deciphered.



EMPERORS IN FOCUS

THE ZHOU DYNASTY

The Zhou Dynasty was established when the warrior-kings came down from the western mountains and defeated the Shang. The Zhou established a feudal society in China. The emperor gave land to loyal nobles. Often, these nobles were appointed from family members. These nobles ruled their lands with absolute power. They established and maintained their own armies. It was the goal of each noble to please the emperor. Whenever the emperor required soldiers, the noble would provide him with peasants from the lands he ruled.



The Zhou Dynasty is recognized for numerous achievements as well. During their rule, advancements in astronomy were made, and the process for making ornate lacquer appeared in art. They made many technological advances and invented the crossbow. Skilled mechanics included potters, metalworkers, jewelers, and wheelwrights.

The Zhou Dynasty was primarily based on an agricultural economy. Farming land was divided into tracks of nine square plots. The first large canals were built for irrigation and transportation.

During the Zhou Dynasty, Confucius was born (circa 551-479 BC) and he became one of the greatest teachers and philosophers of China. He and other scholars traveled throughout the country teaching people how to be in harmony with their world. Confucianism and Taoism thought began.

The Zhou believed that heaven decided who would rule. Zhou emperors sacrificed to the Lord on High. Without the sacrifices, they believed great troubles would befall the empire. The Zhou empire collapsed after three centuries of warfare. Powerful feudal lords separated into seven warring states. This period in Chinese history would be known as the “Warring States” period.

EMPERORS IN FOCUS



THE QIN DYNASTY

The Qin Dynasty was established when they conquered all the other warring states and established the first Chinese empire in 221 BC. The new emperor called himself Qin Shi Huangdi. Under his rule, he unified China.

During the Qin Dynasty, a standardized coin system was adopted to encourage trade. A standardized and compulsory writing system was established. A standardized system of weights and measures was established. People could own land, and taxes and laws applied to all, regardless of position in society.

During the Qin Dynasty, citizens were expected to help with public labor. Over 30,000 peasants worked to complete remaining 1400 miles of the Great Wall.

The government operated significantly different than previous dynasties. Hereditary aristocracies were abolished. Territories that were once ruled by nobles were divided into provinces and ruled by government officials. Legalism was adopted as the official government policy. The term “emperor” was used as a title. Provinces were unified through highways, walls, and dams. This was an era in China when different schools of thought flourished.

EMPERORS IN FOCUS

THE EARLY HAN DYNASTY

The Han Dynasty was established when Liu Bang overthrew the Qin rulers in 207 BC. They used a centralized form of government and extended their empire. Under Han rule, 400 years of peace called the *Pax Sinica* occurred. Civil service tests were developed to give any Chinese citizen the opportunity to hold a public office. Confucianism was adopted as the official ideology. People were appointed positions based on their capabilities rather than their heritage.

During the Han Dynasty, the Silk Road was established and opened up trade between the Parthian Empire and China. Inventions such as the sundial and waterclock were invented. Lacquerware became more detailed and soybeans were cultivated as a farm crop.

The Han Dynasty was the first to use an iron sword. This was also a time when wall paintings and sculpture appeared throughout the empire. Buddhism was introduced to China from India, and the first overview of Chinese history was written by Ssu-ma Ch'ien

THE HSIN DYNASTY

Wang Mang became emperor when he deposed an infant emperor. Although short-lived, Wang Mang tried to improve the conditions of the peasantry which were harsh at best. The richer classes were angered by Wang Mang's attention to the lower classes and this eventually resulted in a large-scale rebellion. Large landholding families and a group called the Red Eyebrows were so angered by the changes that they killed Wang Mang and reestablished the Han dynasty rulers.

Richer classes had been so angered by Wang Mang was because under his rule, all land was nationalized and redistributed among different farmers, and slavery was abolished. Government increased control of coinage, salt, and iron. Low-interest state loans were provided to those who needed start-up money for businesses.

EMPERORS IN FOCUS



THE LATER HAN DYNASTY

After their reestablishment as rulers, the later Han Dynasty began to place family members and infant emperors into positions of leadership. It was during this time that court eunuchs (disfigured attendants or servants) gained great power. During the years of 168 to 170 AD, war broke out between the government bureaucrats and the eunuchs. It wasn't until general Ts'ao Ts'ao took control that peace was reestablished.

THE SUI DYNASTY

The first Sui emperor was a military servant who overthrew the non-Chinese rule of the Northern Chou. The Sui Dynasty was marked by the reestablishment of a centralized administrative system, along with an examination system for selecting qualified candidates to hold government positions.

Under Sui rule, Confucianism was officially reinstated as the state doctrine, and Buddhism and Nestorian Christianity flourished.

Massive projects were implemented, such as repairing the Great Wall and constructing the Great Canal to allow farms to flourish in the Yangtze delta.

Campaigns against the southern Manchuria region and northern Korea ended in defeat. Rebels defeated the Sui rulers and a new dynasty was established.

EMPERORS IN FOCUS

THE T'ANG DYNASTY

The T'ang dynasty was a time of unprecedented achievement in Chinese history. During this era, local and imperial governments were restructured and evolved into a well-defined governing process.

Under T'ang rule, numerous achievements and events occurred. Great cultural and religious toleration was seen compared to previous dynasties. Trade with Central Asia and the West was established with extensive caravan routes. It was considered the golden age of Chinese poetry, art, music, and literature. Schools were constructed throughout the empire. Block printing was invented. The first female emperor, Wu Tang, ruled China.

THE SUNG (SONG) DYNASTY

The Sung Dynasty saw development and advances in many areas, including exploration, trade, and farming. The magnetic compass was invented, iron plows were developed, the use of paper money was established, the first known use of fractions in math were developed, and body armor was used by soldiers. This was also the dynasty when the Lunar phases of the moon were described.

During the Sung Dynasty, rulers incorporated the Korean method of moveable type in printing. It was also considered the golden age of painting. Other achievements included the use of porcelain, and a mechanical celestial clock using a chain drive mechanism was created by Su Song.



EMPERORS IN FOCUS

THE MONGOL (YUAN) DYNASTY

The Mongols were the first non-Chinese dynasty. Even though they were considered foreigners in China, they made many improvements including building granaries to store harvests in case of future famines, improving roads, farming sorghum which became a major new crop, and rebuilding the capital city of Beijing.

Under Mongol rule, Kublai Khan created the Imperial Library in Beijing. Marco Polo arrived in China and trade with the outside world increased dramatically. Gunpowder as a weapon was introduced.

The Mongols were hated by the Chinese because they refused any Chinese person to hold government positions. They maintained their own language and customs.

THE MING DYNASTY

The Ming Dynasty was established by a Buddhist monk who was of Han lineage. This era was marked as a time of reorganization and restoration of old practices such as Confucianism.



EMPERORS IN FOCUS

THE MING DYNASTY (continued)

Under Ming rule, the Forbidden City was built and China became a naval power with the creation of its Grand Fleet. The Encyclopedia of Chinese Writing called *Yung-lo* was developed. The Ming moved the capital to Peking (Beijing), and the Imperial palace was built.

During the 15th century, the Ming sailed to distant areas such as the Persian Gulf, eastern Africa, the South Pacific, the Red Sea, and the Indian Ocean.

Official corruption, weak emperors, wars with the Japanese and Mongols, along with taxation of the poor, weakened and eventually destroyed the Ming Dynasty.

QING OR MANCHU

The Manchus were a nomadic people who ruled all of China. During their rule, they assimilated much of the Chinese culture into their own beliefs, but prevented the Han families from moving into the Manchurian homeland, intermarrying with Manchurians, or engaging in trade.

Under Manchurian rule, foot-binding was abolished by Empress Dowager Cixi or Tzi'u-hsi, a postal service were established, and Taiwan became a part of China for the first time.

The Manchus expanded the empire to include Mongolia, Xinjiang, and Tibet. A period of peace and prosperity was maintained for over a century but foreign conflicts, beginning with the Opium Wars, destroyed the rule of the Manchus. The Boxers were supported by the Empress Dowager against foreigners, but they were eventually suppressed.

One of the worst wars in history, the Taiping Rebellion, resulted in the deaths of more than 20 to 30 million people. The Manchu dynasty was weakened by the wars and rebellions. As a result, China would experience many changes including the Cultural Revolution launched by Mao.

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China



EMPERORS IN FOCUS

DIRECTIONS: Follow the steps listed at the bottom of this page in order. Use the words provided under the different categories to help you write your paragraph. If you would like, add your own words to the categories. If appropriate, you may use more than one word from each column. Additional character development statements and details for characterization can be found on pages 132 - 138.

CLOTHING

Yellow robe
Sandals
Embroidered
slippers
Silk robe
Colorful designs

PERSONALITY

Proud
Rash
Aloof
Solitary
Forceful

VOICE

Rough
High-pitched
Clear
Soft
Sinister

EYES

Slant upward
Kind
Sunken
Dark
Bright
Flashing

JEWELRY

Amulet
Earrings
Silver hoops
Bracelets
Hair ornaments

RESPONSIBILITIES

Lead ceremonies
Oversee the...
-collection of taxes
-building projects
-deciding criminal
punishments
-compiling the calendar

ACTIVITIES

Listening to court music
Carried to different parts of
the palace by servants
Listen to poets
Go hunting on horseback

STEPS

1. Indent and write one sentence introducing your character by name. (Use your own words for this step.)
2. Write several sentences describing his/her clothing.
3. Write several sentences describing his/her personality.
4. Write several sentences describing his/her voice and eyes.
5. Write one or more sentences describing the jewelry he/she wears.
6. Write one or more sentences describing his/her responsibilities as an emperor/empress.
7. Write several sentences describing the different activities he/she participates in during a day.

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

Chinese Dragon

Dragons symbolized wisdom, goodness, and strength. The ancient Chinese believed that dragons lived in every lake, sea, and river, and even among the rain clouds that surrounded the high mountains.

The Imperial seal of the emperors featured a dragon surrounded by swirling clouds guarding a great pearl that symbolized wisdom.

The dragon of the emperor featured five eagle-like claws with the pads of a tiger, the ears of a bull, long whiskers similar to a cat, stag-like horns, fierce demon-like round eyes, scaly skin, and the head of a camel.

Chinese dragons could change in size. They could become as small as an insect or large enough to cover the world.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- *Cookie pan measuring 12" X 17"
- *Copy machine
- *Paintbrush - wide and thin tipped
- *Aluminum foil
- *Bowl
- *Clay recipe - (see recipe this page)
- *PLAID FolkArt Acrylic Paints - (black, blue, white, yellow, orange, green, gold and various other colors)
- *Rolling pin
- *Glue - (Tacky glue recommended)



GLAZED SCREEN WALL DRAGON

This is one of the nine dragons featured on a glazed screen wall in front of the Gate of Imperial Supremacy. The dragons are molded in high relief. The nine dragons pursue a flaming pearl. The dragons are divided by angular hanging rocks and the design of rushing, stylized waves.

CLAY RECIPE

- 5 cups flour
- 2 1/2 cups salt
- 2 1/2 cups water
- Mixing bowl

Stir the flour, salt, and water together in a mixing bowl. Knead the dough to a desired consistency. If the clay is too sticky, add a little more flour. If the clay is too dry, add a little more water. Keep unused portions covered with a moist towel to prevent drying. Bake in a 250 degree F oven until hard, or allow to air dry.

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1. MAKE THE BACKGROUND PANEL

*Enlarge the dragon pattern on page 19 to a size you desire. The larger the size, the easier it is to make the pieces. Consider enlarging the pattern to fit an 11" X 17" sheet of paper.

*Mix up a batch of the clay recipe on page 14.

*Place a sheet of aluminum foil on a larger sheet of cardboard.

*Roll out a slab of clay between two wood slats. This slab should be at least 1/2" thick.

*Follow the directions on the next several pages to form the various parts of the dragon, angular rocks, and waves.



2. HOW TO FORM THE DRAGON'S BODY

*Roll out a long, thick portion of clay approximately 3/4" thick and 24" long. Form as shown in the illustration.



*Form four legs and claws and attach to the main body.

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*Add the claws to the bottom of the legs.



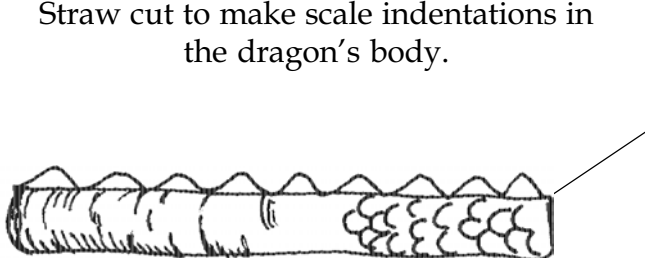
*Form a head and position it in the center of the body as illustrated.



*Add the scales along the back.

*To create scales along the body, use half of the tip of a straw to make indentations into the dragon's body.

Straw cut to make scale indentations in the dragon's body.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

3. MAKE THE WAVES

*Roll a thin strip of clay into a long tube.



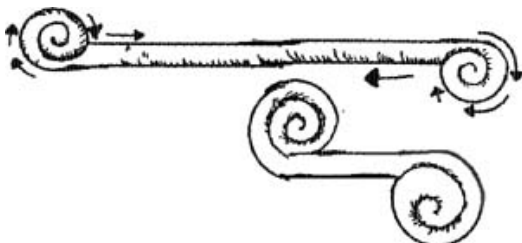
*Moisten the slab of clay where the waves will be located.

*Carefully form the crest of the waves in the manner shown on the large diagram on page 19.

4. MAKE THE SCROLLING WAVES

*Roll a portion of clay into a long thin tube.

*Roll the snake toward the center from both ends, but with one part rolled above and the other below.



5. MAKE THE ANGULAR ROCKS

*Roll a portion of clay into long tubes approximately 1/4" thick.



*Cut off pieces of various lengths with a knife.

*Layer the pieces on top of each other.

*If necessary, use a bit of water to help attach the pieces together.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

6. PAINT THE SURFACE AND ATTACH THE PIECES

*Glue the finished dragon onto a large sheet of cardboard. Be careful because it is fragile and may crack. Just piece the sections together and glue to the cardboard with a strong adhesive.



*Paint the entire surface with an all-purpose white sealing paint. Let dry.

*Spray paint the entire surface with black spray paint. Let dry.

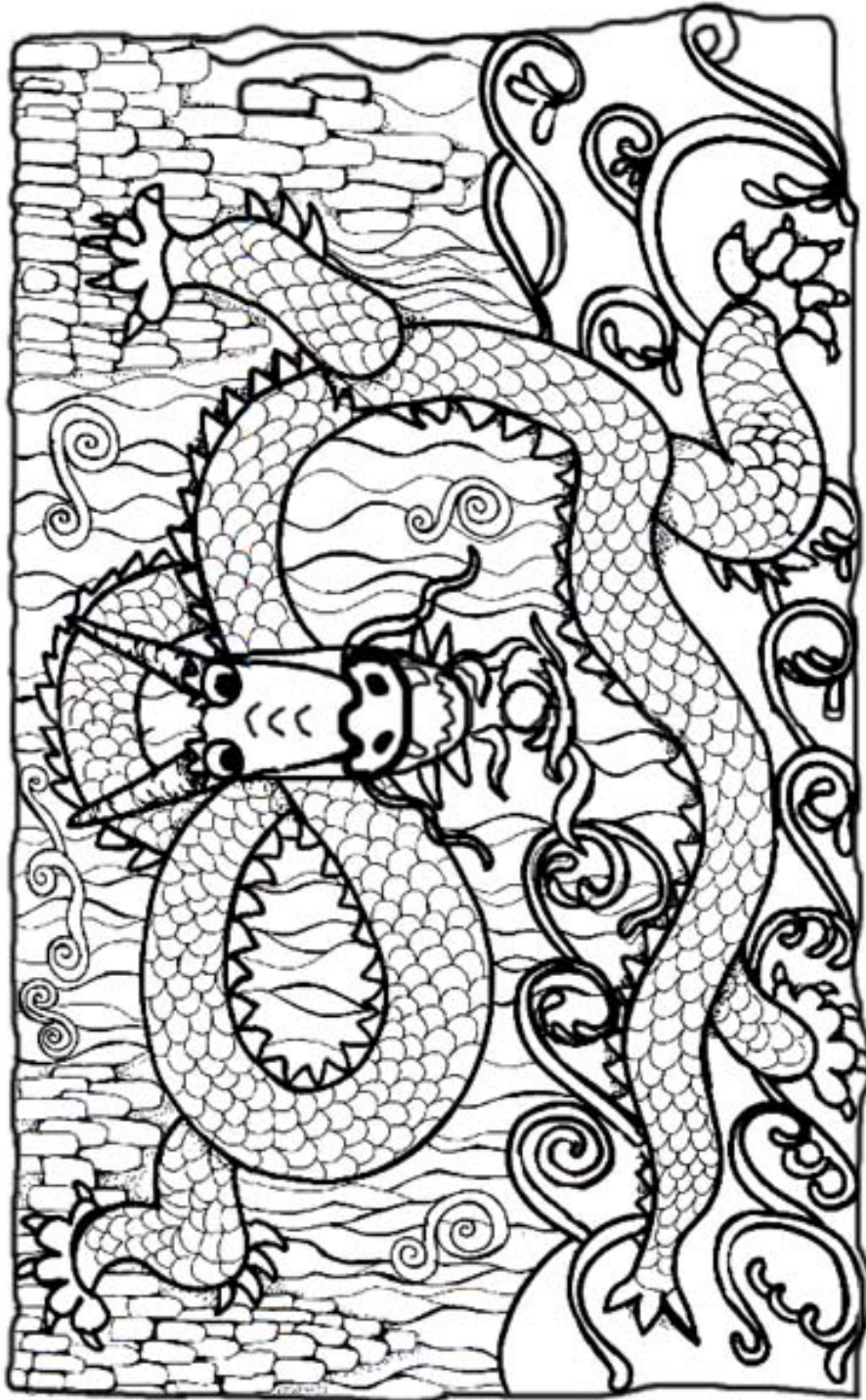


*Using the next series of pictures as guidance, paint the different parts of the dragon using the FolkArt[®] acrylic paints in the various colors shown in the illustrations, or use ones of your own.



History, Language Arts, Art- *Ancient China*

DRAGON PATTERN





Chinese Soldiers in Focus



History Chinese Soldiers

CHINESE SOLDIERS IN FOCUS

The Chinese dynasties were frequently established through wars and rebellions. The practice of war became a necessary part of life. The Chinese military was composed of the general, officers, archers, the cavalry, charioteers, armored infantry, and foot soldiers.



Chinese soldiers selected a specific weapon of their weapon of choice and practiced “sets.” The sets were a sequence of movements that would create a oneness between the soldier and his weapon. Learning sets taught the soldier how to work in unison with other soldiers. Since most Chinese were unable to read or write, skills were passed on through a system of memorization. This was done through song, reciting poems, and performing traditional sets devised for a particular weapon. It was similar to the sequenced rifle practices that are performed by contemporary military soldiers.



For centuries, the Chinese army dominated the open plains of China. Their use of skilled charioteers and infantry allowed them to conquer and maintain control over the territory. When skilled Hun archers arrived and threatened the empire, the military leaders of China began to train their soldiers to shoot a bow from horseback. The military used both mounted horsemen and women as well as huge crossbows during sieges to protect the empire.

Ancient Chinese soldiers used swords, spears, bows and arrows, maces, staffs, clubs, dagger-axes, bill hooks, halberds, and crossbows. Most weaponry was made of bronze.

The Chinese cavalry rode upon Mongolian ponies up until the Han Dynasty, when larger horses from Central Asia were brought into China by Emperor Wu Di.

CHINESE SOLDIERS IN FOCUS

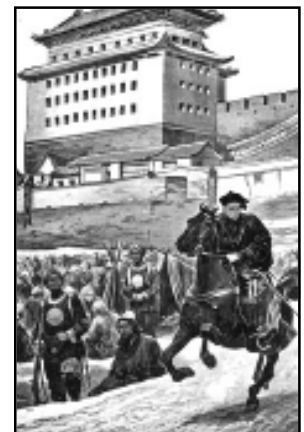
Most battles in ancient China were hand-to-hand combat. Fearless fighters would enter the fray of a battle with axes, swords, and halberds. Halberds were weapons carried by the foot soldiers. They featured shafted blades shaped like hooks that could be swung at an enemy from a distance. Halberds were fierce weapons that were used to peck, pierce, hook, and cut an enemy.



There were many different types of swords used by Chinese soldiers. Among them was the *Jian* which was called the “sovereign of blades.” Other swords included the *Yue Nu Jian*, the *Jian Dao* or “the Way of the Sword,” the *Tai Ji Jian* or “Tai Chi Sword,” the *Wudang Jian*, and the *Zui Jian* or “Drunken Sword.”

Spears were another important military weapon and are considered to be the oldest weapons used in China. Originally, spears were used by those riding horses. Eventually, foot soldiers would also carry spears that ranged from 9 to 18 feet long. Each spear featured a slicing or hooking blade that was designed for thrusting, not throwing. These long spears allowed soldiers to reach their enemies while keeping them at bay.

The mace was a short weapon made of iron. The Chinese mace featured a diamond-like arrangement of knobs on its head. There were both single and twin maces that were swung through the air to chop and cut an enemy.



CHINESE SOLDIERS IN FOCUS

Another favored Chinese weapon was the *Shu*. The *Shu* was a metal-headed bamboo club that was carried by the honor guards who protected the emperor.



Just about every Chinese weapon had a special name. The *Qiang* was an example of such a weapon. It was known as the “king of the hundred weapons.” The *Qiang* featured a steel or bronze tip mounted on a long shaft. It was the longest-reaching Chinese weapon.

The Chinese also invented the crossbow. It was a deadly weapon and destroyed an enemy’s ranks by a massive deluge of short arrows tipped with bronze, iron, or bone heads. It is estimated that an arrow shot from a crossbow could reach a distance upwards of 650 feet and could still pierce a wooden shield. Since most peasant soldiers did not wear armor, these crossbow attacks were lethal.

Not only did the Chinese fight among themselves, but they also fought with outsiders. Although they built numerous frontier walls that eventually joined the Great Wall, there were constant threats to the Chinese homeland. When necessary, the emperor would call up his military and if necessary seek additional soldiers from the peasant class.



CHINESE SOLDIERS IN FOCUS

The ancient Chinese developed methods of warfare that can be seen even today. Their approach was based on being cunning. They employed thinking as much as weapons to undermine their enemies. The Thirty-Six Strategies is a collection of proverbs that focus on how to undermine an enemy. The proverbs themselves have the flavor of Confucian ideas of honor, but in reality their implementation is quite nasty.

How, where, or when the Thirty-six Strategies evolved is open to discussion. Some contend they originated with the general Tan Daoji around 436 AD, but this is not known for certain. Many of the strategies are based on the wars that occurred for over 700 years in China. There are numerous variations of the proverbs. The following is our interpretation of the principals being instructed.

Strategy 1
**Confuse and fool the emperor to cross
the sea**

Strategy 2
Rescue Zhao by besieging Wei

Strategy 3
Use a borrowed sword to kill

Strategy 4
**Let your enemy become exhausted
while you wait and regain your
strength**

Strategy 5
Plunder a house on fire

Strategy 6
**Make commotion in the East and then
attack in the West**

Strategy 7
Make something out of nothing

Strategy 8
**Repair the walkway so all can see,
but secretly escape to Chen Cang**

Strategy 9
**Watch a fire from the other side of
shore**

Strategy 10
Hide your knife with a smile

Strategy 11
**Sacrifice the plum instead of the
peach**

Strategy 12
**Steal a sheep when the opportunity
occurs**

Strategy 13
Startle a snake by beating the grass

Strategy 14
Use a corpse to resurrect a soul

CHINESE SOLDIERS IN FOCUS

Strategy 15

Lure a tiger from its lair and
then down from the mountain

Strategy 16

To capture an enemy, first let him go

Strategy 17

Attack a jade by getting rid of a brick

Strategy 18

Capture a leader, remove the bandits

Strategy 19

Steal the firewood from under
the cauldron

Strategy 20

Cause trouble to catch a fish

Strategy 21

Escape from trouble like a cicada
sheds its skin

Strategy 22

Close the door to catch a thief

Strategy 23

Be kind to the enemy that is far
away while attacking one that is close

Strategy 24

Attack the Guo from a borrowed
passageway

Strategy 25

Use rotten timbers in place of sturdy
ones

Strategy 26

Direct your attention to the
Mulberry tree but blame the Locust
tree

Strategy 27

Pretend insanity, but keep your mind

Strategy 28

Entice your enemy onto a roof,
then remove the ladder

Strategy 29

Deck a dead tree with silk flowers

Strategy 30

Trade the role as the guest for that
of the host

Strategy 31

Scheme with beauty

Strategy 32

Scheme of the Open City Gates

Strategy 33

Create discord

Strategy 34

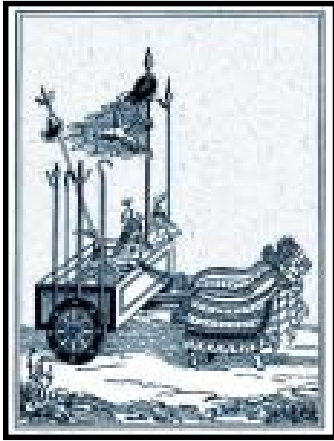
The strategy of self-injury

Strategy 35

The tactic of interconnected strategies

Strategy 36

Retreat is the best strategy
when all else fails



CHINESE SOLDIERS WRITING RECIPE

DIRECTIONS: Follow the steps listed at the bottom of this page in order. Use the words provided under the different categories to help you write your paragraph. If you would like, add your own words to the categories. If appropriate, you may use more than one word from each column. Additional character development statements and details for characterization can be found on pages 132 - 138.

CLOTHING

Bronze armor
Helmet
Tunic
Leather boots
Shin guards

PERSONAL ITEMS

Knife
Fan
Jade disc
Porcelain horse
Flute

WEAPONS

Lance
Shield
Crossbow
Sword
Spear
Bow and arrows
Ax

RESPONSIBILITIES

Patrolling the Great Wall
Protecting the emperor
Guarding the palace
Standing guard in the tower

FACIAL FEATURES

Flat face
Low-bridge nose
Protruding eyes
Large ears
High eyebrows
Slender lips

AMBITIONS

To become the emperor/empress's personal guard
Be selected as a leader
Vanquish a foe

STEPS

1. Indent and write one sentence introducing your character by name. (Use your imagination for this step.)
2. Write several sentences describing his clothing and weapons.
3. Write several sentences describing his facial features.
4. Write one or more sentences describing the different personal items he carries.
5. Write one or more sentences describing his responsibilities.
6. Write several sentences describing his ambitions as a soldier.

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

Bronze Horse



Chinese soldiers were skilled horsemen. Their horses were swift and strong. There are many depictions of horses in Chinese art. The following is based on a Chinese bronze horse dating from the second-century AD.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- *Sponge
- *Posterboard
- *Paintbrush
- *PLAID FolkArt[®] Acrylic Paints - black, bronze, dark green
- *High gloss varnish
- *Glue - (Tacky glue recommended)
- *Scissors
- *Bamboo skewer

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

1. CUT OUT THE HORSE

*Make one copy each of the horse patterns on page 30.

*Glue each pattern onto a piece of posterboard.

*Cut out each pattern.

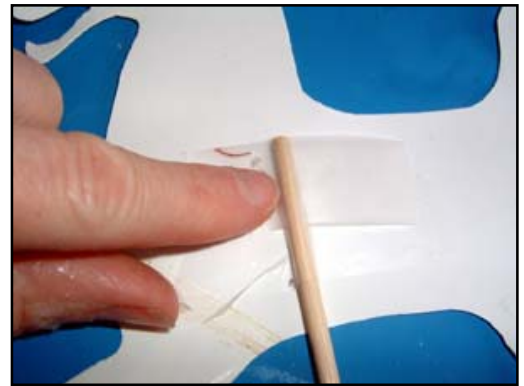
*Tape the skewer to one side of the horse.



2. ASSEMBLE AND "BURN" THE SURFACE OF THE HORSE

*Place glue on the inside body portion of each horse.

*Place the other half of the horse on top and sandwich the two sides together. Let dry.



History, Language Arts, Art- Ancient China

3. PAINT THE SURFACE

*Paint all parts of the horse and the bamboo skewer black. Let dry.

*Dip a damp sea sponge into the FolkArt[®] green acrylic paint and gently dab over the surface of the horse. Let dry.



*After the green paint has dried, repeat the process with bronze FolkArt acrylic paint until you have obtained the look you desire.

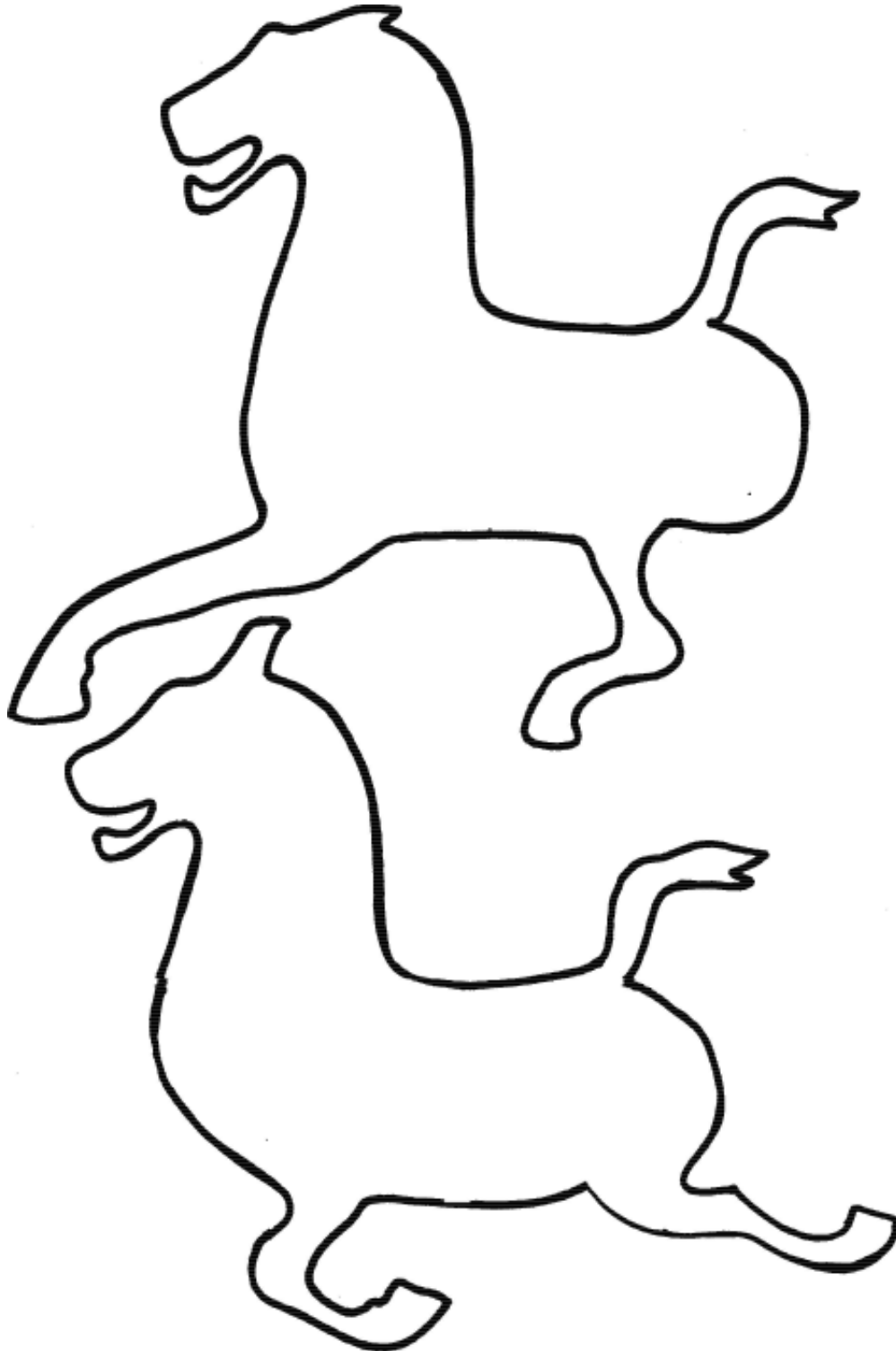
*Seal the surface of the horse with a high-gloss spray for added sheen.

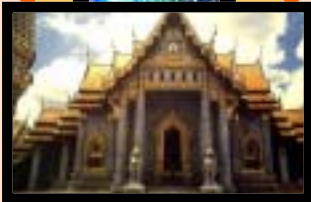
*Place the horse in a potted plant or scrap piece of wood.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

BRONZE HORSE PATTERNS





Chinese

Farmers in Focus



History Farmers

CHINESE FARMERS IN FOCUS

Life as an ancient Chinese farmer was wrought with challenges. Most farmers worked the small plots of land with other members of their family. They grew numerous crops including barley, wheat, rice, millet, and hemp to supply the Chinese population and army.



Life was hard. They worked long, labor-intensive days caring for their crops and animals. Some farmers raised chickens and pigs. They used oxen and water buffalo to help them till their land (using the Chinese invention, the plow) and to help them carry their harvest in wooden carts.



Local villagers and farmers worked together to insure that there would be food. The local villagers would assist farmers in digging irrigation ditches, watering their fields, and providing their excrement as fertilizer. Since most Chinese farmers lacked enough animals for fertilizer, human waste was collected each day and taken to the fields.

Most Chinese farmers used very basic tools made of wood or stone. The wheelbarrow, a Chinese invention, assisted them in their backbreaking efforts. By the fifth-century BC, iron plows assisted with the farming process. In northern China, where grasslands dominate the landscape, oxen were used to pull the plows. In southern China, the land is marshy, and water bison were used to help till the soil. Still, the Chinese farmer and his family did much of the hard labor themselves. Crops were carried in bags slung over each end of a pole and carried on the farmer's shoulders. Crops were threshed by beating them until the grain was released.



History, Language Arts, Art- Ancient China

CHINESE FARMERS IN FOCUS

Not only did Chinese farmers have to deal with the challenges of farming under harsh conditions, but they could be called to serve in the army or work on building projects such as the Great Wall if and when the government decided to seek their assistance. They were not paid for their services. In addition to serving the Chinese government, they also had to pay taxes either in the form of service or by a certain amount of food being provided. They did not own their land. Rather, they were assigned areas to farm by the Chinese aristocrats.



Chinese farmers (past and present) cultivated their land using terracing on hillsides, which layered the hill with crops to help prevent erosion. The flat lands were cultivated using the traditional method of laying out rows.

Farmers lived in very modest homes in villages. During the winter, their one-room, thatched or tiled homes with dirt floors were barely sufficient to protect them from the elements. The walls were made of mud. Most homes did not have any furniture and any accessories were minimal.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

CHINESE FARMERS IN FOCUS

The Chinese cultivated numerous grains such as millet, wheat, rice, soybeans, and hemp. Soybeans were first grown in northern China around the 11th-century BC. The soybean was used for food and medicine and was one of the “five sacred grains” cultivated by the ancient Chinese. The others were rice, barley, wheat, and millet.

In southern China, rice was the primary grain that was grown. Since the southern areas were marshy, it was a perfect location to grow rice. Farmers in China ate a variety of foods that they either grew on their farms or obtained through trade. They ate steamed buns, noodles, and pickled vegetables, and occasionally fish, eggs, and meat, especially pork. They ate two meals each day. One was mid-morning and the second one was in the evening. Farmers also raised carp fish in artificial ponds. Although many associate tea as the primary beverage in China, it was really rice beer that was most available for consumption.



Special foods were usually prepared for religious or important ceremonies such as births and marriages. Roast duck, chicken, dried or fried fish, various grains, and vegetables would be prepared with some type of symbolism associated with each item.

Not only did the Chinese farmers raise the five sacred grains, but they also raised hemp, cotton, and silkworms.

According to Chinese historians, hemp was first cultivated from the earliest of recorded times. Hemp was used as a fiber for spinning and weaving, paper making, and in medicines.

CHINESE FARMERS IN FOCUS

The Mongols introduced cotton to China. At that time, many farmers were raising silk, but during the invasion, many mulberry trees (which produce the leaves that the silkworms ate) were destroyed. With the efforts of Kublai Khan, the Mongol emperor, many farmers began to grow cotton as an alternative to raising silkworms.

Sericulture is a Chinese invention. Sericulture, or silkworm farming, was an alternative “crop” for Chinese farmers. Silk became a valuable trade item. Silkworms were reared indoors during the Zhou Dynasty. Based on archaeological findings and poems written during this time period, it is evident that the ancient Chinese had a great deal of knowledge about silkworm biology.

Techniques for raising silkworms have been discovered in county records of Yong-jia in the southern Zhejiang Province in China from the fourth-century AD. The records showed that by keeping the temperature low, problems were prevented in the next generation of silkworms.

When cocoons raised by silk farmers are ready for harvesting, they are taken to a filature factory. Filature factories unwind the thread or filament from the cocoons and collect them onto skeins.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China



CHINESE FARMERS IN FOCUS

DIRECTIONS: Follow the steps listed at the bottom of this page in order. Use the words provided under the different categories to help you write your paragraph. If you would like, add your own words to the categories. If appropriate, you may use more than one word from each column. Additional character development statements and details for characterization can be found on pages 132 - 138.

CLOTHING

Boots
Floral-patterned dress
Tunic
Furs
Robe

TALENTS

Carving
Jewelry making
Painting
Pottery making
Weaving
Growing various crops

ACTIVITIES

Transplanting
Plowing and manuring the soil
Sowing seed
Hoeing
Collecting firewood
Hay cutting
Collecting herbs & vegetables
Spinning
Slaughtering pigs

PROBLEMS

Too much rain, sun, or snow
Broken equipment
Government taxes
Illness
Failed crops

APPEARANCE

Dirty
Healthy
Ill
Rough
Poor
Strong

DISPOSITION

Awkward
Even-tempered
Gruff
Relaxed

STEPS

1. Indent and write one sentence introducing your character by name. (Use your own words for this step).
2. Write several sentences describing his/her clothing.
3. Write several sentences describing his/her talents
4. Write several sentences describing his/her voice and eyes. (Use your own words for this step.)
5. Write one or more sentences describing the activities he/she must accomplish.
6. Write one or more sentences describing the problems he/she faces as a farmer.
7. Write several sentences describing his/her disposition.
8. Write one or more sentences describing his/her appearance.

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

Chinese Container

Although most Chinese farmers had few material items, the items they did own were valued. Most containers were made from wood or woven reed. Very few farmers actually owned metal containers. The following activity is based on a traditional styled Chinese container. The Chinese used a variety of three-legged containers for cooking and heating throughout the early and later dynasties. This project is based on a bronze cooking vessel.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- *Newspaper
- *1 batch papier-mache paste recipe (see this page)
- *Small balloon
- *3 toilet paper rolls
- *Scissors
- *Strong tape
- *PLAID FolkArt[®] Acrylic Paint - bronze, gold, and shades of green
- *Paintbrush
- *Black or gold dimensional paint
- *Posterboard
- *Sea sponge
- *Black spray paint - ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED**



PAPIER-MACHE PASTE RECIPE

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup rice flour
- 2 cups cold water
- 2 cups boiling water
- 3 Tbsp. sugar

Directions:

- *Mix flour and cold water in a large bowl.
- *Add the flour mixture to the pot of boiling water.
- *Remove the container from the heat and stir in the sugar.
- *Set aside to cool

History, Language Arts, Art- *Ancient China*

1. PREPARE THE PIECES

*Blow up a small balloon and place it on top of a metal bowl or other container. Tape the bottom of the balloon to the container to help prevent it from moving around.

*Cut three toilet paper tubes around one end and flatten down the tops as illustrated.

*Tape the toilet paper tubes to the bottom of the balloon as illustrated.



2. PAPIER-MACHE

*Make up a batch of the papier-mache paste recipe using directions on page 37.

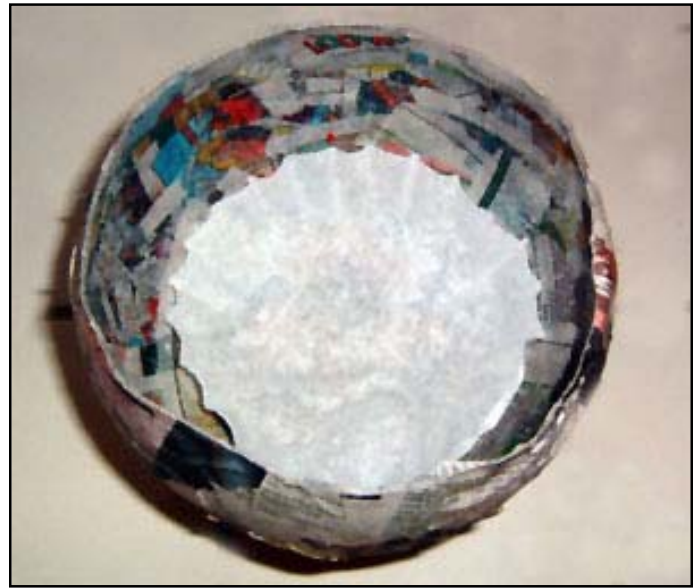
*Tear up pieces of newspaper and layer around and over the three legs and main body of the balloon. Make several layers. Set aside to dry.

*Carefully deflate the balloon and remove it from the inside of the container. Measure up and around the top of the bowl with a ruler to determine where to cut off the excess papier-mache and create an even rim.

History, Language Arts, Art- *Ancient China*

2. PAPIER-MACHE (continued)

*After cutting off any excess papier-mache, brush the bottom of the container with an all-purpose glue and apply at least two coffee filters to cover the inside bottom of the container.



3. PAINT THE CONTAINER

***WITH ADULT SUPERVISION AND IN A WELL-VENTILATED AREA,** spray paint the interior and exterior of the container with black spray paint.



History, Language Arts, Art- Ancient China

3. PAINT THE CONTAINER (continued)

*With a damp sea sponge, dab the interior and exterior of the container with a combination of Folk Art green, gold, and bronze acrylic paints. Don't cover all of the black paint. This will give the container an aged or antique look.



4. ADD THE DECORATIVE DETAILING

*Select one or more of the Chinese designs on page 42 to decorate the exterior of your container using black or gold dimensional paint. Look at the examples of the containers on Page 41 for alternative decorative detailing ideas.



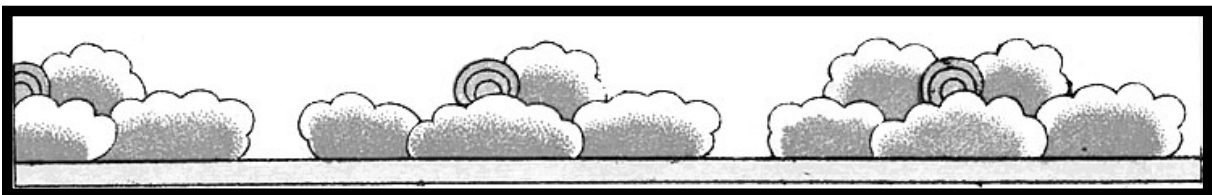
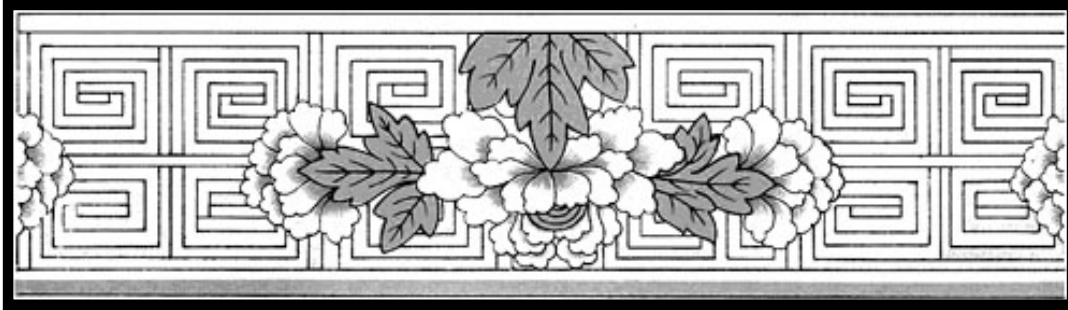
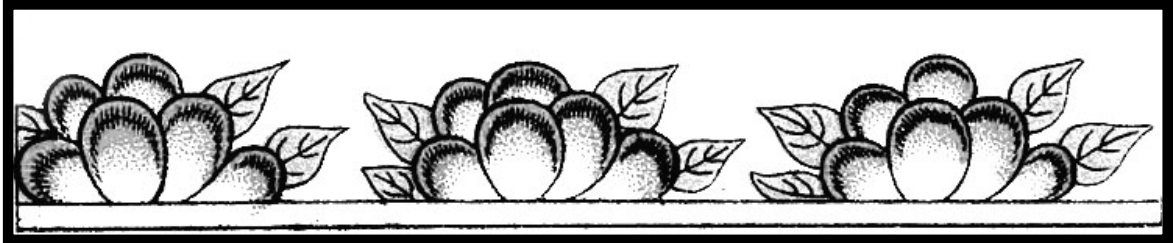
History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

CHINESE CONTAINERS



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

BORDER PATTERNS





Chinese Dragons in Focus



History Chinese Dragons

CHINESE DRAGONS IN FOCUS

Dragons are considered evil in western cultures, but in China, dragons are revered creatures. Throughout Chinese literature, art, architecture, and celebrations, dragons symbolize the essence of China. The Chinese dragon, or *lung*, represents power, skill, bravery, nobility, and immortality. They are viewed as wise and attractive creatures that are worshipped and honored by the Chinese.



These mythical creatures are believed to have power over natural elements such as water and fire. They can bring good luck, and as the symbol of the ancient Chinese emperors, they represented absolute power. Chinese emperors even believed they were descendents of dragons. They sat on a dragon throne, wore a dragon robe, slept in a dragon bed, and traveled in a dragon boat.

Dragons embodied all that was considered good in ancient China. They were protectors, sources of wisdom, and they could alter the weather. Dragons were the national “pet” of ancient China. The people viewed them as part of their everyday lives, and they even credit dragons with different abilities depending on their age. For example, the Chinese believed that if a mature dragon was not pleased, it was powerful enough to cause flooding, drought, or terrible storms. Dragons were one of the four Divine Creatures which included the phoenix, the tortoise, and the unicorn.



CHINESE DRAGONS IN FOCUS



Most Chinese dragons were believed to have lived in water - lakes, rivers, the sea, or streams - but could fly into the sky or live in the mountains. The Chinese have five main dragons:

First or Yellow dragon - Believed to be Fu-hsi, a mythical emperor. The yellow dragon controls day and night and the seasons. It is credited with giving Fu-hsi the tools for writing.

Guarding or Celestial dragon - These dragons guard and protect emperors, gods, and their palaces.

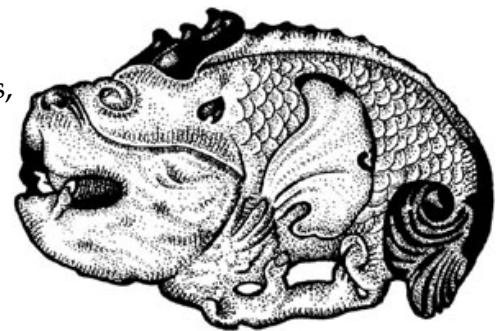
Wind and Rain or Spiritual dragon - These dragons controlled wind and rain.

Dragons of the Earth or Coiling dragons - These dragons can expand seas and rivers.

Treasure dragons - These dragons protect hidden treasure.

These dragons also have nine features that come from other animals.

1. The head of a camel
2. Ears of a cow or bull
3. A snake or lizard's neck
4. An eagle's claws - (the imperial dragon has five claws, everyday dragons have four claws)
5. The horns of a stag
6. Eyes of a rabbit or demon
7. The padded feet of a tiger
8. 117 scales of the carp
9. A clam or frog's stomach



CHINESE DRAGONS IN FOCUS

Chinese dragons can fly, alter their shapes, change their colors, and even disappear. They have large upper teeth and whiskers that extend down from their mouths. Along their backs and tails are scales or spines. Dragons range in colors from yellow, red, and green.

The Chinese celebrate the dragon in many different ways. Dragons can be found on temple eaves, bridges, the emperor's throne, swords, the gates of prisons, musical instruments, stone monuments, and clothing in the form of luxurious embroideries and tapestries.

The Chinese New Year features a Dragon dance and the Dragon Boat Festival, or *Duan Wu Jie*. It includes a race between boats that look like dragons and eating a special food called *zongzi*, which is a type of dumpling made from sticky rice wrapped in bamboo leaves.



To see a video clip of the Dragon Dance please go to the following Web site:

<http://chcp.org/mpeg/>



CHINESE DRAGONS IN FOCUS



DIRECTIONS: Follow the steps listed at the bottom of this page in order. Use the words provided under the different categories to help you write your paragraph. If you would like, add your own words to the categories. If appropriate, you may use more than one word from each column. Additional character development statements and details for characterization can be found on pages 132 - 138.

TYPE OF DRAGON

First dragon or Yellow dragon
Guarding or Celestial dragon
Wind & Rain or Spiritual dragon
Dragons of the Earth or Coiling Dragon
Hidden treasure dragon

QUALITIES

Powerful
Skillful
Brave
Noble
Immortal
Granter of good things

SPECIAL SKILLS

Ability to change size
Ability to change shape
Ability to alter weather
Ability to grant wishes

FAVORITE ITEM

Pearl
Sword
Lacquered box
Silk pillow
Golden goblet

APPEARANCE

Camel head
Cow or bull ears
A snake or lizard's neck
Eagle's claws
Stag horns
A rabbit or demon's eyes
Padded feet of a tiger
Scales of the carp
A clam or frog's stomach

COLORING

Bright
Sparkling
Green
Yellow
Metallic

STEPS

1. Indent and write one sentence introducing your dragon by name. (Use your imagination for this step.)
2. Write one sentence describing the type of dragon.
3. Write several sentences describing its special skills.
4. Write one or more sentences describing the its appearance.
5. Write one or more sentences describing its qualities.
6. Write several sentences describing its favorite item.
7. Write one or more sentences describing its coloring.

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

Chinese Dragon Incense Clock

The ancient Chinese used dragon images on just about every object imaginable. One of the most unique items was a time-keeping device known as an incense burner. These time pieces were usually made of metal or wood and had a metal interior. The outside of the time piece was decorated with black lacquer and was detailed in gold paint. The inside of the incense clock chamber was hollow much like a small canoe. Small metal wires ran the length of the vessel. An incense stick was placed on these wires and marked by thin silk strands at regular intervals. Each strand of silk had small metal balls attached to each end. As the incense burned, it would burn through the silk strand that would then cause



the small metal balls to fall into a metal dish that was directly underneath the incense burner. Each incense stick was the same length. The user of the incense clock could space the silk strands along the incense stick and know with a degree of certainty that the time sequence would be fairly accurate. In this activity, you will recreate a version of the ancient Chinese dragon incense burner.

MATERIALS

- *Polymer clay - Original Sculpey
- *Aluminum foil
- *Oven
- *Incense
- *Thread
- *Metal washers or beads
- *Rubbing alcohol
- *Thin cardboard - (back of artist paper support boards)
- *Copy machine
- *PLAID FolkArt Acrylic Paints - black, gold, and reddish-orange

- *Paintbrush
- *Gold metallic pen
- *Ruler
- *Posterboard
- *Florist wire
- *Wire Cutters
- *Tape
- *Matches - ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED**
- *Glue gun and glue - ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED**
- *X-Acto[®] knife - ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED**

History, Language Arts, Art- Ancient China

1. MAKE THE DRAGON HEAD

*Make a copy of the Dragon Head pattern on page 56.

*Place the Dragon Head pattern upside down onto a sheet of Original Sculpey[®] polymer clay that has been rolled out to a 1/8" thickness.

*Brush the back of the copy paper with rubbing alcohol. Rub the back of the paper (burnish) to help transfer the image onto the clay.

*Carefully pull back the copy paper and the image should have transferred to the clay.



*Use a toothpick to cut around the head shape.

*Add additional clay to the dragon face.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

2. MAKE THE INCENSE BOX

*Make a copy of the Incense Box pattern on page 58.

***WITH ADULT SUPERVISION,** cut out the box shape and score along the dashed lines.



*Spray the interior of the box with an adhesive and lay down a sheet of aluminum foil. Trim off the excess foil.



*Fold up the four corners of the box and tape together.

*Make two copies of the tail pattern on page 57 from posterboard.

*Glue the tail pattern to each side of the Incense Box.

*Glue the ends of the tail together.



History, Language Arts, Art- Ancient China

3. MAKE THE LEGS

*Roll out a long tube of polymer clay. Cut the clay into four 4" sections and form as shown below. To help you make each leg uniform, lay them out side by side. Use a toothpick to create the claws on top of each foot.

*Bake all of the clay pieces according to manufacturer's directions.



4. ADD THE HEAD AND LEGS

***WITH ADULT SUPERVISION**, use a hot glue gun and glue to attach the legs and head to the Incense Box.

*Position the head at an upward angle. Glue along the top of the head and around the chin, but leave the back open so it can be spread and glued to one end of the Incense Box.



History, Language Arts, Art- Ancient China

4. ADD THE FRONT AND BACK LEGS

***WITH ADULT SUPERVISION**, use the hot glue gun to glue the legs to the sides of the Incense Clock. It is essential that the legs raise the Incense Clock up and are balanced. This may take some effort, but it is very important.

*The legs should be glued just behind the head and toward the end of the Incense Box as illustrated in the pictures.



History, Language Arts, Art- **Ancient China**

5. ADD THE CLAY DETAIL TO THE TAIL, WIRE, AND PAINT THE DRAGON CLOCK

*Form and then bake some polymer clay in a “flame shape” as illustrated to the right for both sides of the tail. Bake the clay according to the manufacturer’s directions.

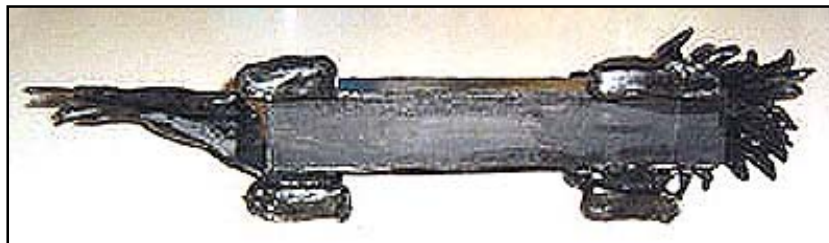
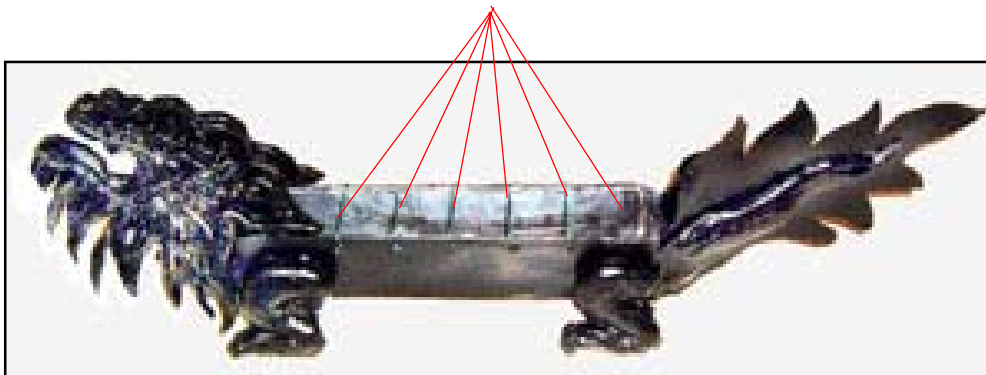


***WITH ADULT SUPERVISION,** use the hot glue gun to glue the clay flame to each side of the tail.

*Paint the entire dragon with FolkArt® black acrylic paint.



*Cut 6 pieces of florist’s wire that go just across the width of the Incense Box. Space each of the wires approximately 1” apart. Use a small amount of hot glue to hold the wires in place along the top edge.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

6. GILT DETAIL

HELPFUL HINT: Chinese artists were highly skilled in adding decorative detail to lacquerware with small paintbrushes. You can still apply the gold detailing to the Incense Clock dragon container by hand if you desire, but it is much easier to use a thin tipped gold paint pen.



*Along the sides of the Incense Clock, add scales and in the center, a decorative scene such as mountains and a pine tree.

*Brush the head, legs, and tail with gold paint. Use a fairly dry brush to apply the paint. Let some of the black paint show through the gold paint.

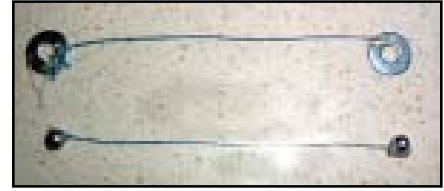
*Paint the mouth in a reddish-orange color.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

7. ADD THE TIME PIECES

***WITH ADULT SUPERVISION,** use a small amount of hot glue to attach either small washers or metal beads to the ends of 5 - 6 threads that are approximately 3 - 4" long. The threads should hang just to the outside bottom edge of the Incense Container.

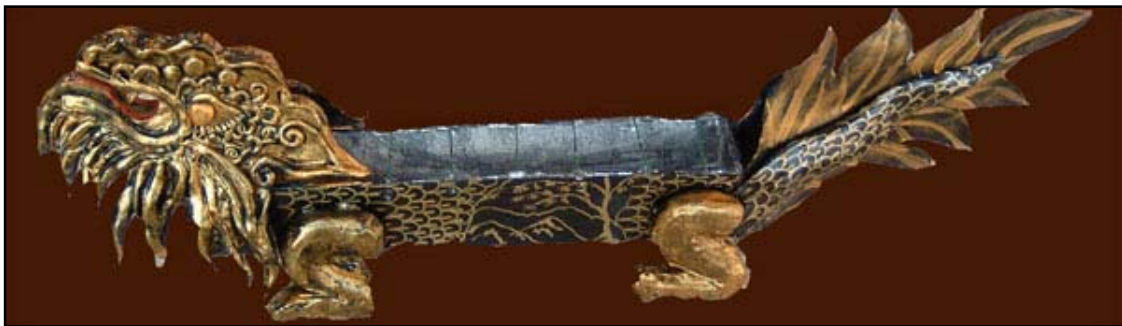
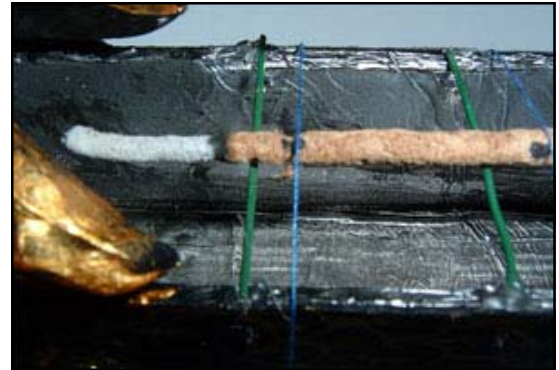


*Cut off the wooden end of a piece of incense stick and mark the incense stick in 1" increments with a magic marker.

*Place the incense stick across the wire supports on the Incense Container and drape the threads along and over the incense stick and sides of the container.



***WITH ADULT SUPERVISION,** light one end of the incense stick. When the flame reaches the first line, begin to time how long it takes for the thread to burn through and release the metal washers or beads. We found it averaged approximately eight minutes (give or take a few seconds) for each 1" segment of incense burned.

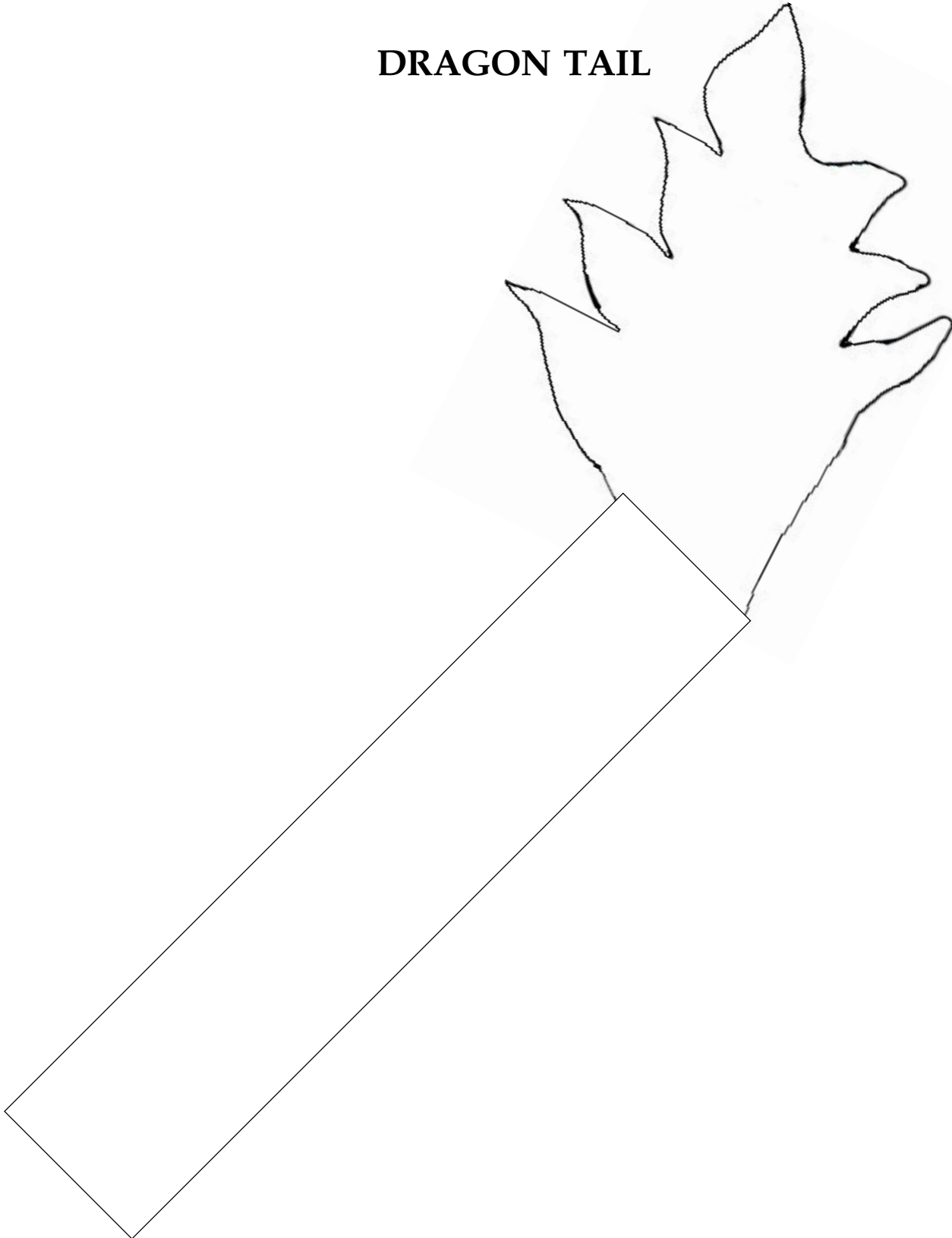


DRAGON HEAD



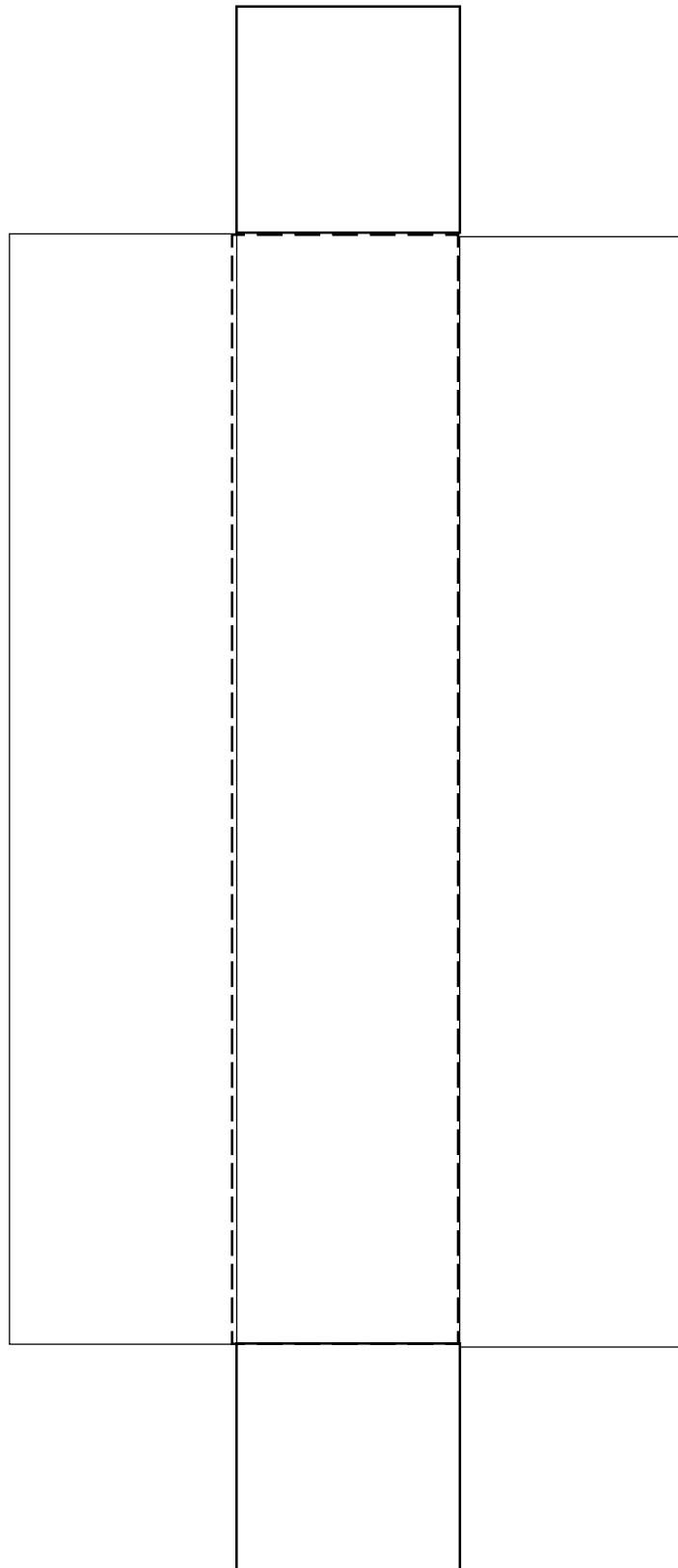
History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

DRAGON TAIL



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

INCENSE BOX





Chinese City Life in Focus



History Chinese City Life

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

CHINESE CITY LIFE IN FOCUS

Ancient Chinese cities were busy places. Their cities were built with hierarchy and symmetry and for protection. Chinese cities were surrounded by high stone walls. Sometimes these walls were as high as 60 feet and as thick as 50 feet, such as those of the capital city Chang'an. At one time, Chang'an was the biggest city in the world. As many as one million people lived in the city.



Cities also had marketplaces where the local farmers would sell and purchase goods. Chinese cities also included temples. Sometimes in the larger cities there were restaurants and tea houses. Street performers such as musicians, puppeteers, and acrobats would entertain villagers. Beggars, pickpockets, thieves, and other questionable characters would also gather in the cities.

Cities were overcrowded with few open spaces. Wooden buildings were packed so closely together that fire was a constant concern.

People entered and left the city through guarded gates. Streets were straight and ran north to south and east to west in a grid-like fashion. Both the Han and T'ang Dynasties selected Chang'an as their capital.



Ancient Chinese cities also featured *gulou* (drum) and *zhonglou* (bell) towers. These towers featured glazed roofs, verandas that encircled the buildings, carved brackets, and sloping roofs. Inside the tower would be a giant bell or drum that was struck to tell people the time, when the city gates were being opened, the start of the day, and the end of the day.

CHINESE CITY LIFE IN FOCUS

HOMES

All Chinese cities were built in the shape of a square. What “square” segment of the city you lived in depended on your position in society. The palace and audience hall for the emperor were positioned in the northern part of the city. Important people such as nobles and government officials had homes that were close to the emperor’s palace. Those who ran the city had homes in the center. Artists and craft shops were located in another square. Average Chinese citizens lived in small homes that filled out the remaining streets.

Wealthy merchant homes were made of wood and featured painted tile roofs. Their homes included private bathrooms. Homes of the wealthy often had surrounding walls and a main gate for additional privacy. Inside were courtyards and brightly painted and lacquered pillars and beams. Homes were decorated with large silk cushions, wall hangings, painted screens, bronze urns, and fur rugs. The very wealthy might have homes that were three to four stories high. Courtyards had willow trees, fish ponds, and sculpted pine trees.

Farmers and peasants lived on narrow, cramped streets in homes made of thatched reed roofs and mud bricks. Floors were commonly built below the ground, which helped keep people warm since the homes were drafty. These homes featured a single room that was used for cooking, eating, and sleeping. Peasants shared communal bathrooms. Windows were covered with hemp curtains. Some homes featured a charcoal fireplace for warmth, but most cooking was done outside.



CHINESE CITY LIFE IN FOCUS



THE MARKETPLACE

Marketplaces were located near the main gates of the city. Stalls were filled with many different goods. Traveling merchants would enter the main gates and sell their goods. Officials would oversee the trading of goods and the collection of taxes from the merchants. All sorts of items were sold in the marketplace stalls - fruit, cooked meats, clothing, jewelry, vegetables, birds, and even crickets.

FOOD

The average Chinese person ate very basic foods, most of which would have been grown by local farmers. Rice, wheat, millet, beans, and different fruits were cultivated on lands around the city.

Wild birds such as duck, goose, and pigeon were sometimes eaten, as were domestic chickens. During special festivals, people might even eat snails, dogs, snakes, and bear claws. Only the wealthy were able to afford pork, venison, or lamb.

Food was flavored with salt, sugar, soy sauce, honey, and many different spices. Food was cut into small pieces and prepared in hot iron frying woks. Steamed dumplings, rice, and vegetables were also prepared. Most people drank tea and rice wine.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China



CHINESE CITY LIFE WRITING RECIPE

DIRECTIONS: Follow the steps listed at the bottom of this page in order. Use the words provided under the different categories to help you write your paragraph. If you would like, add your own words to the categories. If appropriate, you may use more than one word from each column. Additional setting development statements and details for settings can be found on pages 139 - 145.

LOCATION

Capital city
Near the Yellow River
Near the Yangtze River
Near the Huai River
In a valley
Close to the mountains

PEOPLE

Travelers
Dancers
Singers
Jugglers
Storytellers
Children
Scribes
Fortune-tellers

BUILDINGS

Shrine
Palace
Temple
Houses
Pagoda

CLIMATE

Cold
Humid
Moist
Muggy
Warm and rainy
Scorching

ACTIVITIES

Buying produce
Watching entertainers
Going to the marketplace
Meeting for tea
Listening to a storyteller
Talking with friends
Hair cutting
Fortune telling

COLORS

Bright
Cheerful
Crisp
Red
Blue
Yellow
Black
Green

ODORS

Animals
Fresh
Dank
Moldy
Earthy
Smoky
Sweaty

SOUNDS

Animals
People talking
Laughing
Music
Footsteps
Marching
Clatter

STEPS

1. Indent and write one or more sentences describing the location of the setting.
2. Write several sentences of describing the people.
3. Write one or more sentences describing the buildings.
4. Write one sentence describing the climate.
5. Write several sentences describing the activities of the people.
6. Write one sentence describing the different colors in the city.
7. Write several sentences describing the odors and sounds you can smell and hear.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

Chinese Lantern

Chinese cities were a thriving combination of merchants, travelers, and rich and poor people, plus a rich variety of scents, sounds, and textures. Many streets stayed active in the evenings with light provided by lanterns. In this activity, you will create a simple Chinese-inspired lantern.

MATERIALS

- *Half-gallon milk container
- *Hole punch
- *Window screen mesh
- *Wood coffee stirrers
- *Scissors
- *Glue - (Tacky glue recommended)
- *Black dimensional paint
- *Tracing paper
- *X-Acto[®] knife - ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED**
- *Ruler
- *PLAID FolkArt[®] Acrylic Paints - red and gold
- *Posterboard, cardstock, or index weight paper
- *Yarn or cording
- *Magic markers



CHINESE LANTERNS

Lamps and lanterns used candles as the single source of lighting. The form and decoration of lamp and lantern shades were made from carved bamboo, carved wood, engraved bronze, and metal. Gauze panels were stretched and pasted across the frame and often decorated with paper cutouts or paintings of birds, flowers, and insects. This lantern is based on a Cloisonne palace lantern of the Forbidden City.

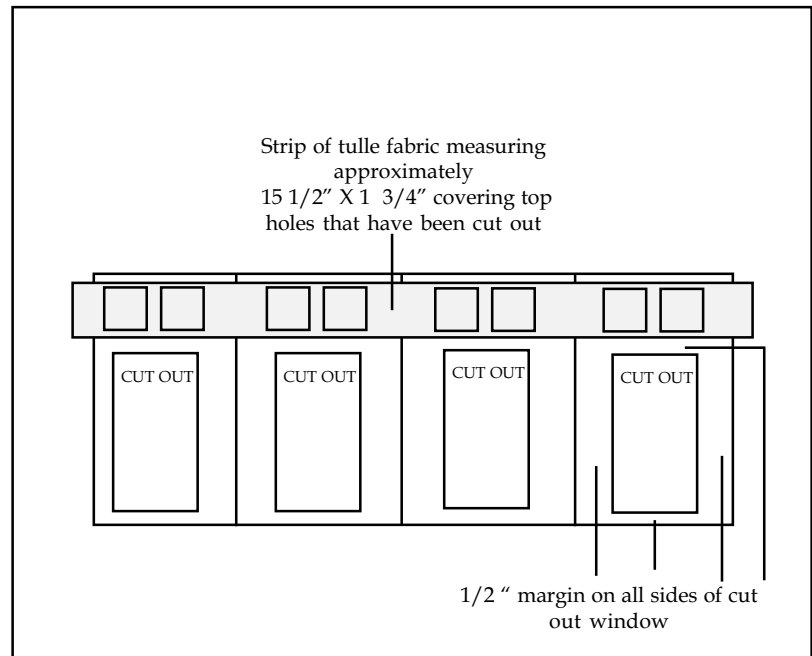
History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

1. PREPARE THE MILK CARTON

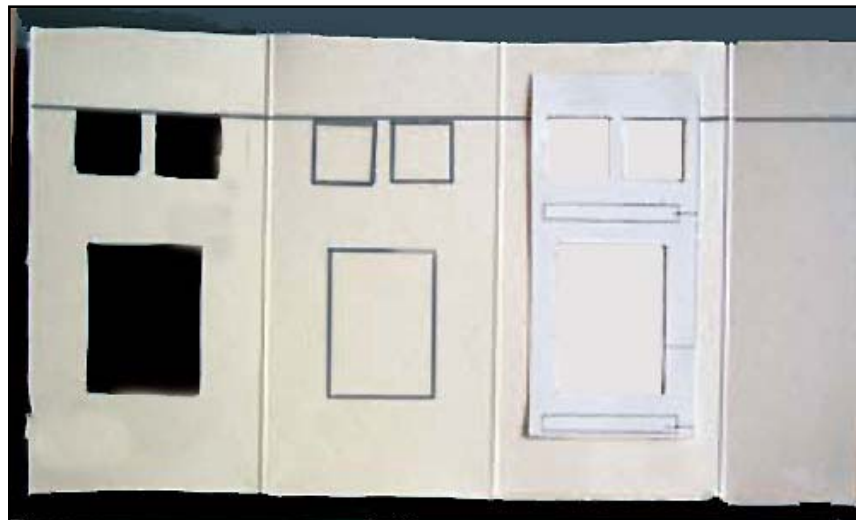
*Clean a half-gallon milk container thoroughly.

*Cut down one of the container's four sides.

*Cut off the spout of the milk container and far enough down until the container measures 6 1/2 inches from top to bottom.



***WITH ADULT SUPERVISION,** use an X-Acto knife and Pattern # 1 (page 70) as a template to cut out the section on each of the four sides of the milk carton.



History, Language Arts, Art- *Ancient China*

2. MAKE THE PATTERN PIECES AND ASSEMBLE

*In a well-ventilated area, spray the exterior of the carton red and the interior silver. Let dry.



3. MAKE THE WINDOW PANELS

*Make four tracing paper copies of the Cherry Blossom Panel (Pattern 4) on page 72.

*Color the panel with magic markers. (This will create a transparent effect.)

*Glue these panels behind the lower rectangles.



*Outline the windows with dimensional paint.

*Cut out eight glue tabs from cardstock paper that are each about 2" long and 1/2" wide.

* Glue the eight glue tabs in place at the top and bottom of the milk carton.

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4. EMBELLISH THE OTHER LANTERN PIECES

*Using Decorative Window Edge (Pattern #2 from page 70), cut out eight pieces from posterboard, index, or cardstock weight paper. Paint each piece with red acrylic paint. Decorate and embellish as desired with gold acrylic paint detailing.



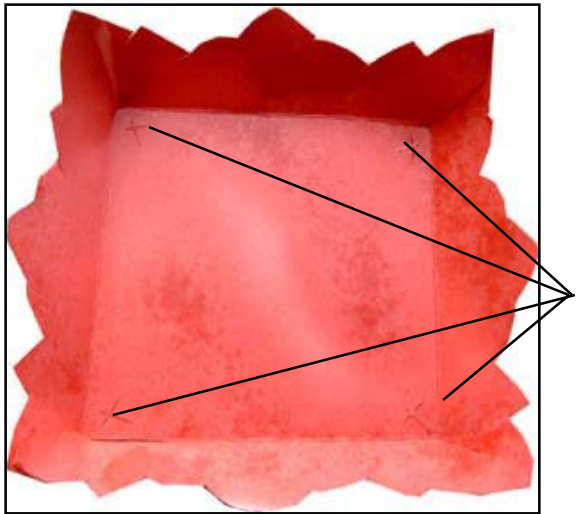
*Glue these pieces to the milk carton as shown in the illustration.



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5. MAKE THE TOP OF THE LANTERN

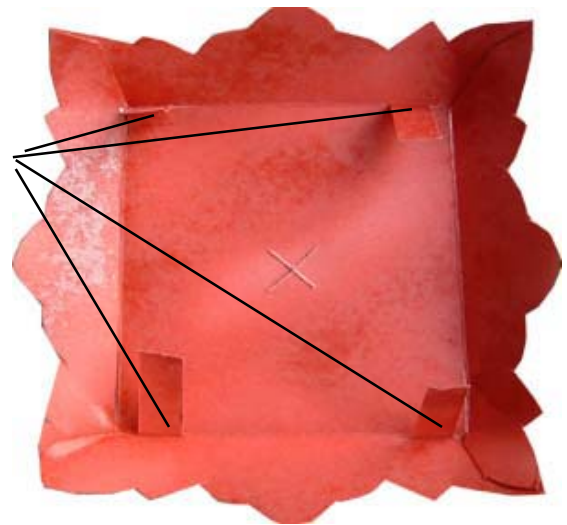
*Make one copy and cut out Top & Bottom Lantern Embellishment (Pattern #3 on page 71) from posterboard, cardstock, or index weight paper. Paint each of these pieces with red acrylic paint or with red spray paint.



*Fold up the corners and glue or tape together.

*Make four slits on the top and bottom of Pattern #3.

*On the bottom of the milk carton, insert the tabs up through the slits and glue down.



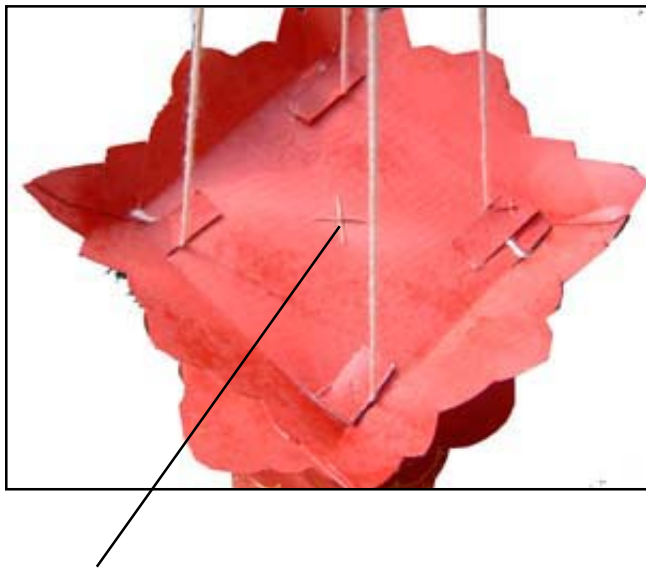
History, Language Arts, Art- *Ancient China*

6. ADD THE YARN AND TOP SECTION

***WITH ADULT SUPERVISION**, make four "X's" in each of the four corners with an X-Acto knife.

*Cut four strands of yarn measuring 10" long.

*Tie a knot in one end of each of the four strands and string through the four corner holes at the top of the lantern (base of the milk carton).



*Bring the four 10" knotted strands of yarn through the holes in Pattern #3. Slide Pattern #3 down on top of the tabs.

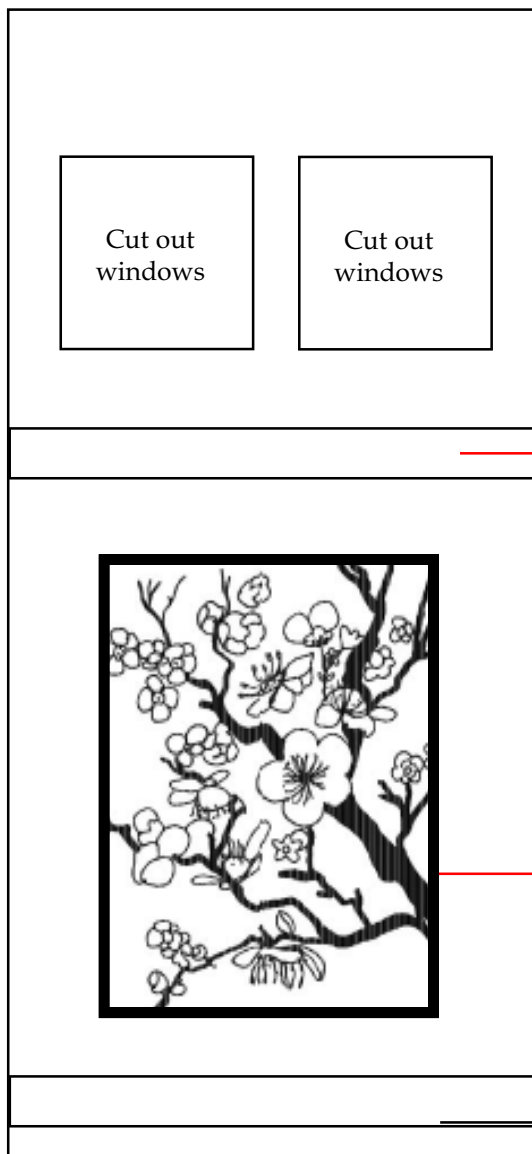
*Glue the tabs and Pattern #3 on top of the lantern.

*Tie the four strands of yarn together in a single knot.

OPTIONAL: Make an "X" in the center of the milk carton to insert a small electric light at a later time.

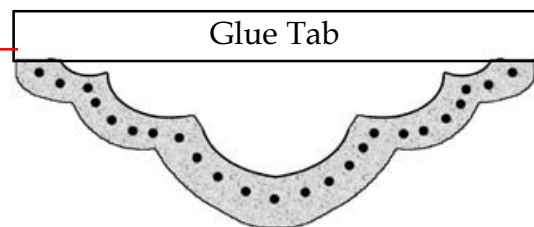
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MILK CARTON TEMPLATE Pattern #1



DECORATIVE WINDOW EDGE Pattern #2

Make 8 copies from posterboard, cardstock,
or index paper



CHERRY BLOSSOM PANEL Pattern #4 (page 72)

Make 4 copies from tracing paper

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

TOP & BOTTOM LANTERN PATTERN

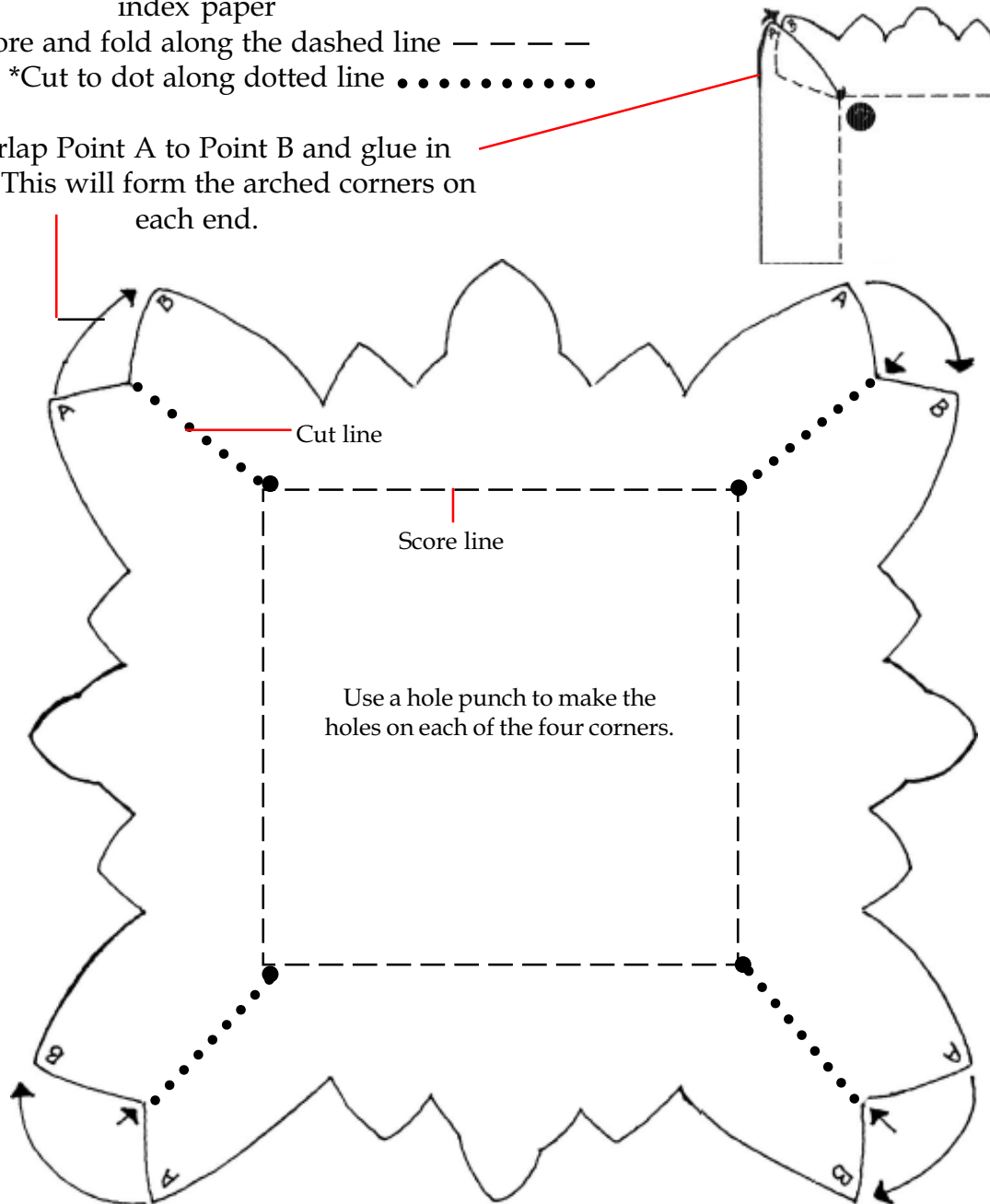
Pattern #3

Make 2 from posterboard, cardstock, or index paper

*Score and fold along the dashed line — — — —

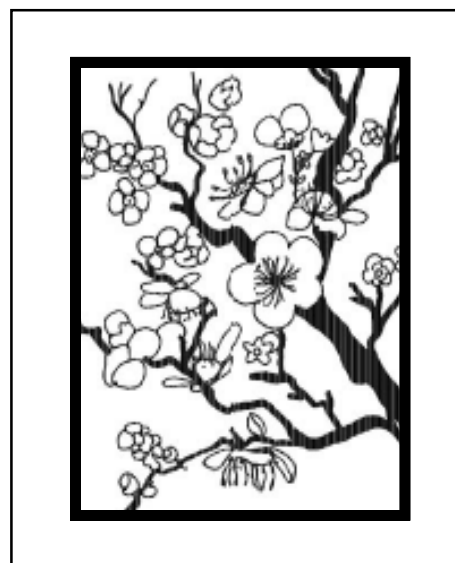
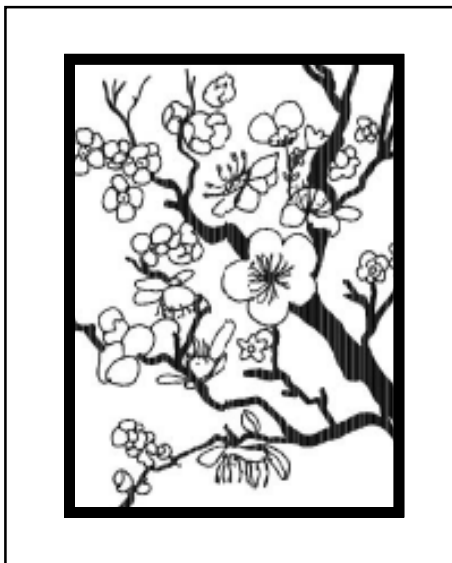
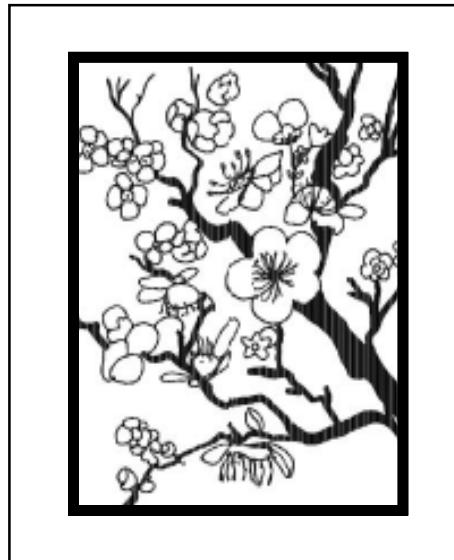
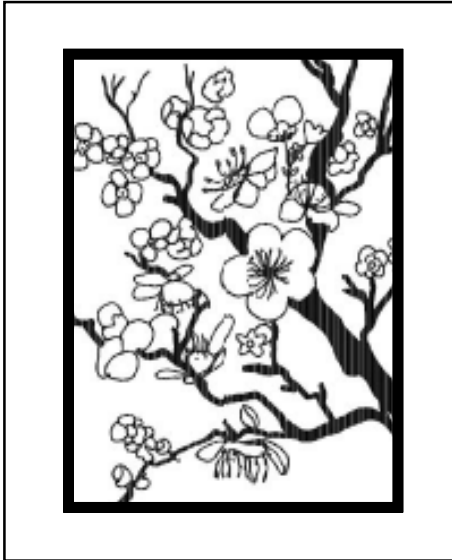
*Cut to dot along dotted line ••••••••••

Overlap Point A to Point B and glue in place. This will form the arched corners on each end.



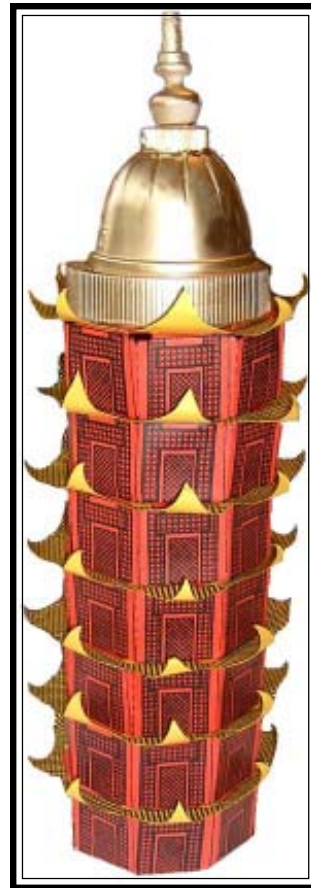
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Cherry Blossom Panel (Pattern #4)





Chinese Palaces in Focus



History Chinese Palaces

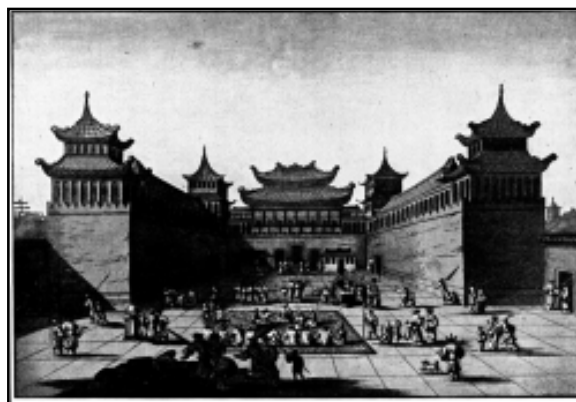
CHINESE PALACES IN FOCUS

All rooms, buildings, and architectural embellishments used in the design and construction of Chinese palaces were based on creating a sense of balance and symmetry. The Forbidden City palace was constructed along a north-south axis.

GONGS

The Chinese word for palace is *gong*. *Gongs* represented any group of buildings where the emperor conducted business or lived. *Gongs* eventually grew to enormous sizes. They featured extensive halls, terraces, towers, and pavilions. The Forbidden City of Beijing, which was the imperial palace for both the Ming and Qing emperors, covered approximately 72,000 square meters.

Chinese palaces turned into cities called *gongcheng*, or palace city. Some palaces were “on tour,” and were temporary locations where the emperor might stay. Another type of palace was called a *zhaigong*. These palaces were designed to be used by the emperor to prepare himself prior to special events, sacrifices, or important ceremonies. An example of a *zhaigong* is located on the Beijing’s Temple of Heaven grounds.



CHINESE PALACES IN FOCUS



Gongs could refer to any special building an emperor used. The Palace of Heavenly Purity in the Forbidden City was called *Qianging gong*. This was where the Qing emperors lived. Empresses stayed at the Palace of Female Tranquility called *Kun Ning Gong*.

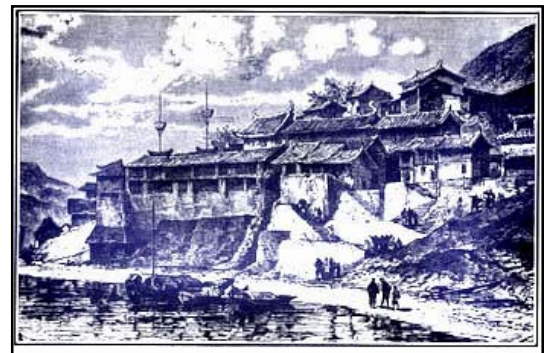
Other people living and working at the palaces had special areas as well. Imperial concubines lived in six *gongs* that were located on both sides of the central axis of the Forbidden City. When a ruler or their spouses died, they were buried in *gongs* underground.

Even religious buildings that were of great size were called *gongs*. The palace of Triple Purity, which was the temple of Taoist priests, was called a *sanging gong*.

ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES

Roofs

One of the most outstanding and distinctive architectural features in Chinese palaces are their roofs. The roofs were not just functional, but were works of art. Chinese palace roofs featured stunning tiles of bright red, yellow, and green. Mythical figurines embellished the ridges. Brackets that were painted with colorful designs were not structural and were used only for decoration. Colonnades were used as the actual support system for the massive weight of the roofs on the exterior edges. Sometimes dragons, lions, or other fierce creatures would be placed on roofs to protect the palace from evil spirits.



CHINESE PALACES IN FOCUS

Avenues

Mythical animals, camels, elephants, lions, and guardians lined the grand avenues of Chinese palaces. These figures were often carved from a single block of marble. They were used both for decoration and to guard the palace from evil spirits.

The Number Nine

Just like the number seven is considered a lucky number in western culture, the number nine figures prominently in Chinese culture. The ancient Chinese divided numbers into either masculine or feminine. Odd numbers were masculine, whereas even numbers were feminine.

The number nine was the largest single masculine digit. It became the symbolic number of the emperor. Since palaces or *gongs* were built for emperors, the number nine, or multiples of the number nine, played an important part in their construction. For example, the decorative studs used on the palace gates were set in nine rows of nine each. Dimensions for rooms such as the Underground Palace Mausoleum in Beijing features 81 stone studs on the marble gates. There are 9,999 rooms in the Forbidden City palace.

Most ancient *gongs* featured nine courtyards. Towers that guarded the four corners of the Forbidden City featured 18 columns and 9 beams. The decorative screen walls of the palace featured nine dragons.



CHINESE PALACES IN FOCUS

Mythical Creatures

Dragons and phoenixes were the primary designs used on palaces. They symbolized many wonderful things to the Chinese, and they were used as part of the decorations inside and outside of the palace. For example, gold dragons decorated the columns of the grand throne hall of the emperor. Carved and painted reliefs of dragons and phoenixes were common motifs on walls and screens. Many were painted in bright colors.

The dragon was the symbol for the emperor. It also was believed to control water. It was placed on roofs to protect against fire. The throne of the emperor was called the dragon seat. He wore a dragon robe and slept in a dragon bed. The imperial flag featured a dragon. Early Chinese postage stamps were called dragonheads since they featured dragons as a motif.

The phoenix was the most important of all birds. It was the “emperor” of birds. If you look at Chinese paintings or carvings of the phoenix, you will see a beautiful creature that had the features of different animals. For example, it had the feathers of a peacock, the beak of a parrot, the legs of a crane, and the head of a golden pheasant.



CHINESE PALACES IN FOCUS

Pavilions

Another common structure found on the grounds of ancient Chinese palaces were pavilions. They are called *ting* in China and mean kiosk. Pavilions were built in different shapes including squares, hexagons, octagons, fan shapes, five-petal flowers, and triangles. Chinese pavilions also featured columns. Pavilions were made from a variety of materials including bamboo, wood, stone, and occasionally bronze. They were often built in scenic locations.

One of the most famous pavilions was the Baoyunge Pavilion of Precious Clouds at the Summer Palace in Beijing. This pavilion featured columns and a roof of cast bronze.

Gardens

Chinese palaces had beautiful gardens. Chinese gardens are divided into three groups: the imperial garden, the natural scenic site garden, and the private garden.

Chinese palace gardens were created to show a sense of harmony, proportion, and balance. They used natural items such as trees, water, rocks, and flowers, along with man-made objects such as bridges, pavilions, pagodas, towers, and terraces to create the balance they desired. Many of the gardens were constructed according to the Taoist beliefs of creating a balance and harmony between nature and man.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

CHINESE PALACES WRITING RECIPE



DIRECTIONS: Follow the steps listed at the bottom of this page in order. Use the words provided under the different categories to help you write your paragraph. If you would like, add your own words to the categories. If appropriate, you may use more than one word from each column. Additional setting development statements and details for settings can be found on pages 139 - 145.

LOCATION

Anyang
Yellow River
Hsuan-tang
Near the Great Wall

BUILDINGS

Guard tower
Gateway and hall
Courtyard
Garden
Triple corner-towers
Treasury
Gabled pavilions
Interconnecting courtyards
Park where musk deer,
roebucks, stags, and
squirrels lived
Temples
Paved streets

PEOPLE

Emperor and Empress
Scholars
Musicians
Officials
Servants
Eunuchs
Soldiers

CONSTRUCTION

Columns of brilliantly
lacquered wood
Red beams painted with
gold and with carved
dragons
Red carved windows
Marble steps
Tiered roofs
Carved trellis-work
Circular doorways
Ridgepole roofs with
overhanging eaves, and
gabled ends
Geometric designs

ACTIVITIES

Listening to music
Talking with friends
Preparing food
Walking in the garden
Reading scrolls
Attending banquets
Serving the emperor and
empress

DECORATIONS

Bronze leopards
Bronze flying horses
Cloisonne (enameled) vases
Bronze lions
Ink paintings
Silk pile rugs
Lanterns
Banners
Screen doors
Scrolls
Silk Cushions
Ornate pictures of dragons

STEPS

1. Indent and write one or more sentences describing the location of the palace.
2. Write several sentences describing the people at the palace.
3. Write one or more sentences describing the activities of the people.
4. Write several sentences describing the buildings around the palace.
5. Write several sentences describing the construction of the palace.
6. Write several sentences describing the decorations inside the palace.

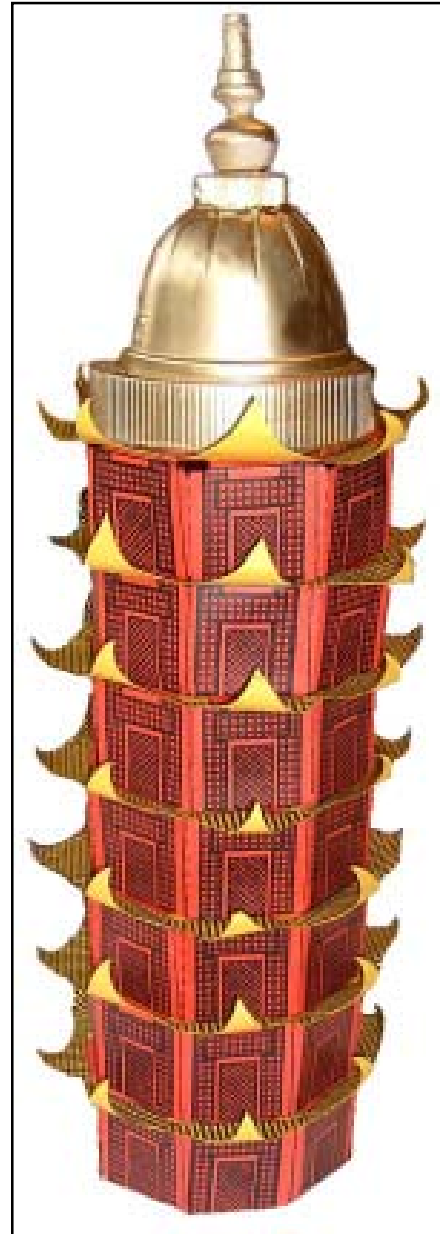
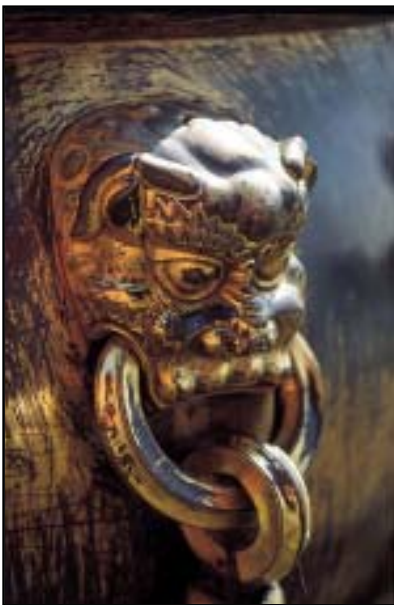
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Chinese Pagoda

A pagoda is a towerlike building with several levels. Pagodas are common in China. They are often elaborate in design. There are several styles of pagodas. A typical Chinese pagoda has eight sides and many levels. Each level has a roof which curves upward. The Chinese used brick, glazed tile, or porcelain to build their pagodas and decorated them with ivory, bone, and stonework.

MATERIALS

- *7 sheets each of red and yellow cardstock weight paper
- *Copy machine
- *Various bottle tops to use for the top of the pagoda or decorative wood pieces
- *X-Acto knife - ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED**
- *Scissors
- *Glue - (Tacky glue recommended)



The ancient Chinese believed that all mankind lived under the dome of heaven and represented that with a pagoda.

History, Language Arts, Art- *Ancient China*

1. MAKE THE PATTERN PIECES AND ASSEMBLE

*Enlarge Pattern #1 (page 85) and Pattern #2 (page 86) by 125 percent. Make 7 copies of Pattern #1 from red paper and 7 copies of Pattern 2 from yellow cardstock weight paper.

*Cut out each pattern carefully.



***WITH ADULT SUPERVISION,** use an X-Acto knife to make slits in Pattern 2 for tab insertion from Pattern 1.

*Assemble all 7 copies of Pattern 1

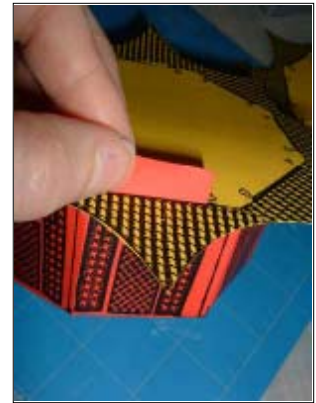
*Fold up the side walls and glue the triangular tabs to the back of the adjacent wall to form the eight sides of the pagoda.



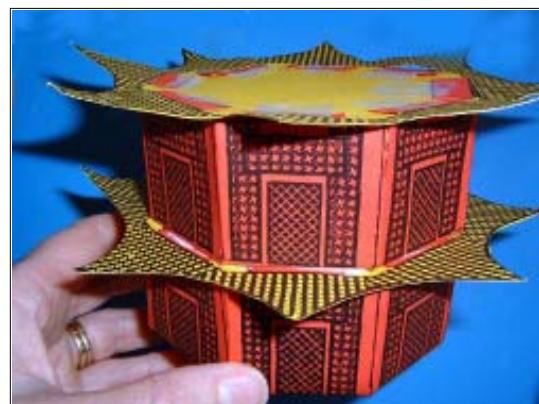
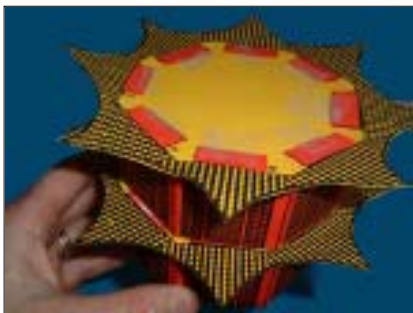
History, Language Arts, Art- Ancient China

2. ASSEMBLE THE LAYERS

*Insert the Pattern #1 tabs through the roof section. Fold down and use a piece of tape to hold the tabs down.



*Place glue between each story of the pagoda until all seven sections of the pagoda are glued together.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

3. MAKE THE TOP ROOF AND ADD THE ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS

*Glue each of the seven sections together as illustrated.



*Use the side of a pencil to curl the edges of the roof points upward.



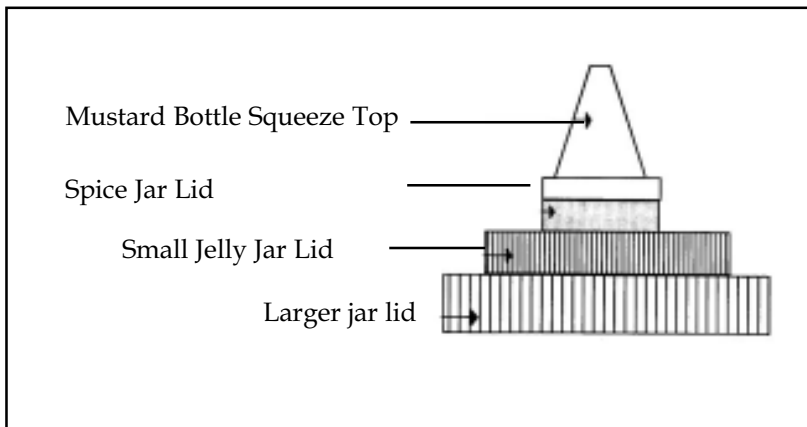
History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

4. ADD THE ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS

*Select a variety of discarded tops from containers such as peanut butter lids, spice jar lids, and mustard bottle squeeze tops. Clean them well and then glue these together as illustrated.

*Completely cover the surface of the tops with red, green, or gold paint. Consider adding a small amount of play sand to the acrylic paint to create a stonelike texture.

*Glue the top figures to the assembled paper pagoda.



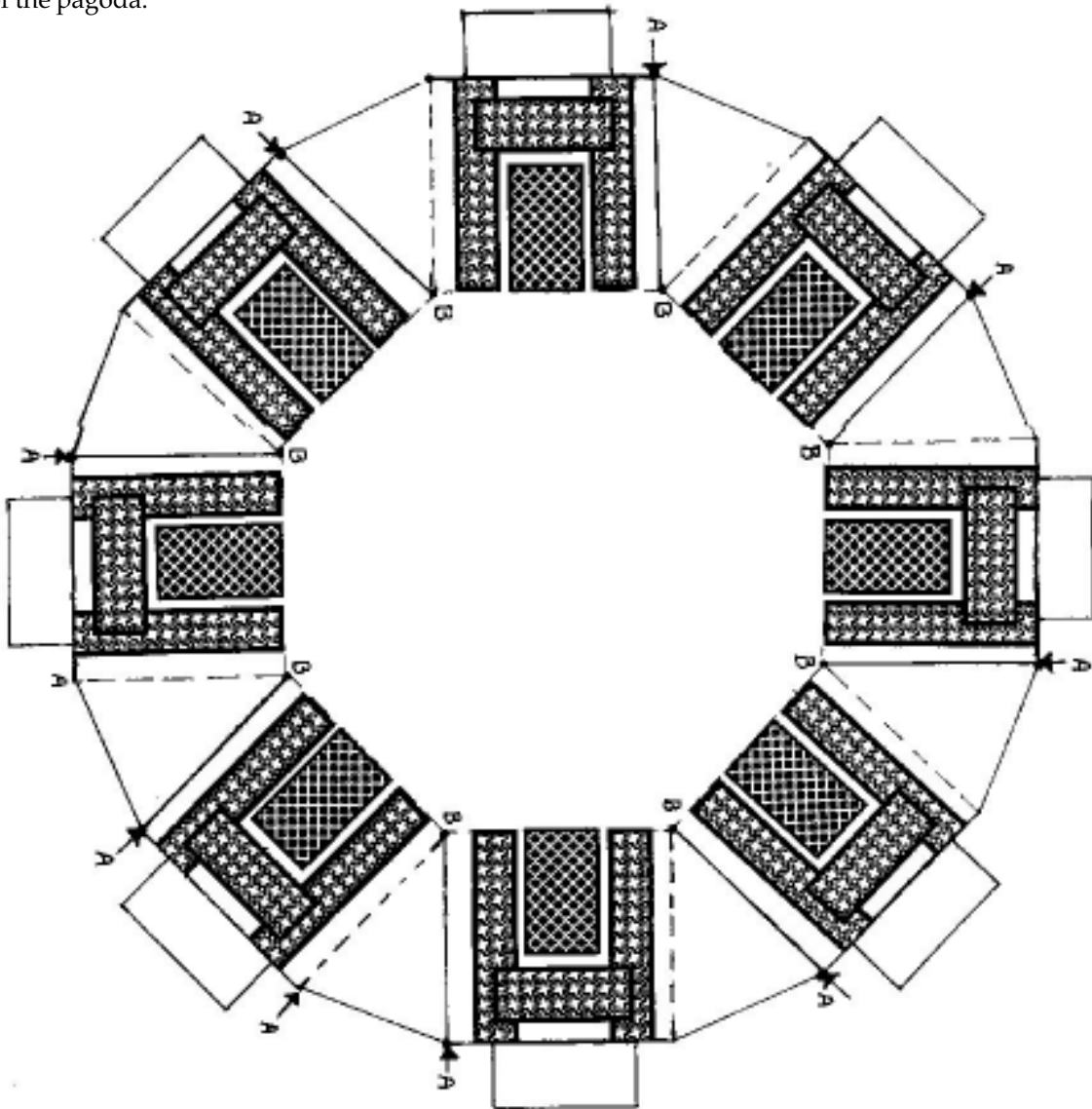
HELPFUL HINT: The patterns provided for this project can be enlarged to any size. For a gigantic pagoda, use flat sheets of cardboard and tape to secure the sides. Use your imagination to make the top pieces.

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

PAGODA BASE - PATTERN #1

Make 7 copies from red cardstock paper

1. Enlarge the pattern to a size you desire.
2. Carefully cut around the pattern.
3. Cut from Point A to Point B. (There are 8 cuts.)
4. Fold up the side walls along the B to B dotted lines.
5. Fold along the dotted lines of the triangular tabs and glue them to the back of the adjacent sides to form the sides of the pagoda.

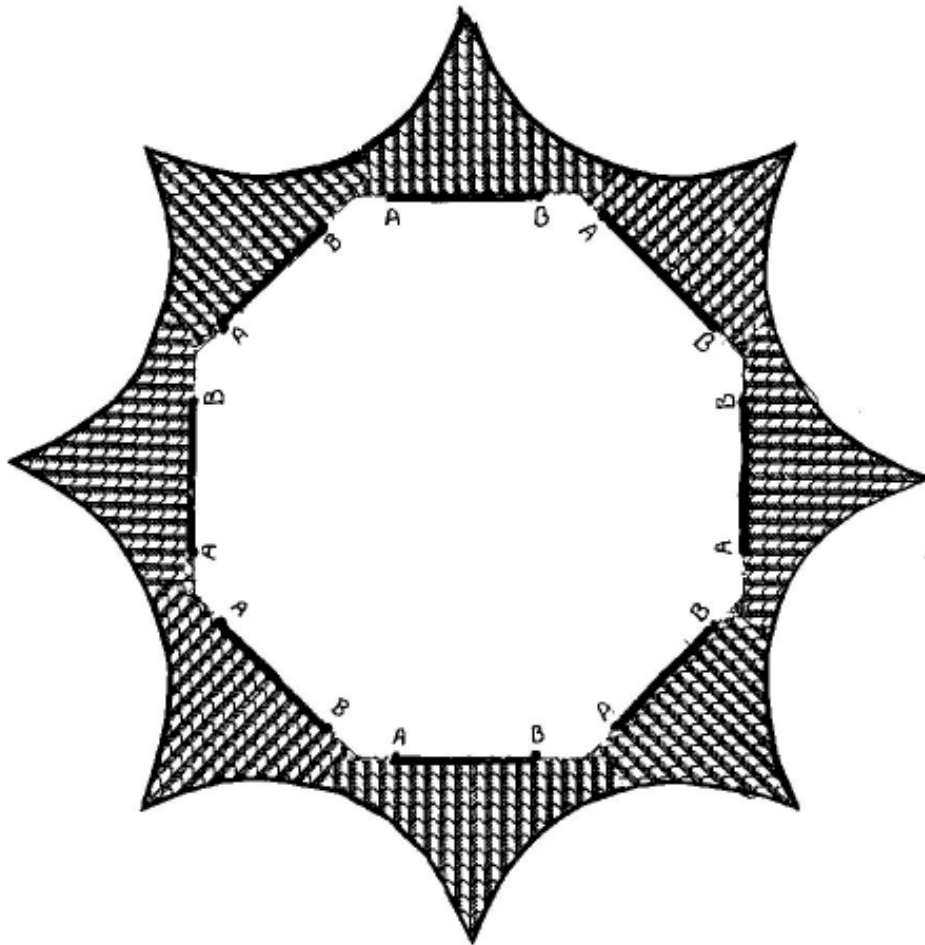


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PAGODA BASE - PATTERN #2

Make 7 copies from yellow cardstock weight paper

1. Enlarge the pattern to a size you desire, but equal to the size enlargement of Pattern #1
2. Carefully cut around the pattern.
3. Make slits as indicated from Point A to Point B.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China



Chinese Silk Road in Focus



History Chinese Silk Road

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

CHINESE SILK ROAD IN FOCUS



The Chinese Silk Road is a journey into exotic lands, danger, and riches. Silk was originally traded within China by camel-laden caravans. The caravans were frequent targets of Central Asian tribes who would attack the caravans seeking to steal the merchants' goods. This became such a problem, that the rulers of the Han Dynasty began to establish military support for the traveling merchants. It was through the efforts for a merchant by the name of Chan Ch'ien, who sought the support for the Central Asian tribes, that the silk trade extended beyond China.

Trade with the Roman Empire began after silk was given as a gift to important Roman officials. Eventually, the Silk Road spanned approximately 7000 miles through the Roman Empire, Central Asia, and Northern India. Chinese merchants would trade their precious silk for such items as jade, silver, and gold with Indian merchants who would then trade it with those living under Roman control.

Trade with outsiders opened up not only commerce, but it brought in new ideas - especially religion. Buddhism entered China from India and monks from Europe introduced Christianity.

By 760 AD, trade along the Silk Road had slowed, but it was revived under Mongol rule. This was the time of Marco Polo (the famous Venetian trader and explorer). The people of Europe wanted luxury goods that China offered such as silk, jade, gunpowder, bronze, lacquerware, iron, porcelain, ivory, and more. The Chinese sought slaves, exotic scents, medicines, jewels, and even furs from Russia. Along the Silk Road, several important cities and trading centers developed.



CHINESE SILK ROAD IN FOCUS



Each location provided the merchants an opportunity to trade a variety of items. Chinese, Arab, Indian, African, and Russian merchants traveled along the Silk Road. The following are a few of the primary trading centers along the Silk Road and the different goods or services that were exchanged or provided or silk and other items:

***Damascus (Syria)** - silk

***Kashgar (Kashi)** - Halfway point along the Silk Road. Many merchants would sell their items to other middlemen for such things as jade, raisins, dates, and exotic fruits, who would then carry the items to the next destination.

***Baghdad, Iraq** - exotic spices, cotton fabric, golds, precious jewels, ivory, gold, pearls

***Tyre, Lebanon** - ship transport

***Chang'an, China** - herbs, medicines, porcelain, silk

***Tashkent, Uzbekistan** - horses, metalworks, glass, musical instruments

***Herat, Afghanistan** - dyed fabric, exotic spices, handmade carpets, objects in metal and glass, metalworks, Dromedary camels

***Dunhuang, China** - horses

***Taklimakan Desert, China** - Bactrian camels

Travel was dangerous. The Pamir Mountains, the Gansu Corridor, and the Transoxiana region were perilous. (This area is now part of Uzbekistan and southwest Kazakhstan. It is the region located between the Syr Darya and Amu Darya rivers). Merchants had to watch for bandits, contend with difficult terrain, disease, harsh climates, and limited food and water. Merchants would often travel together in huge caravans of 100 to 1000 camels. Both the Dromedary and Bactrian camels were able to carry enormous weights (up to 500 pounds), required little water, and were able to traverse diverse terrains.

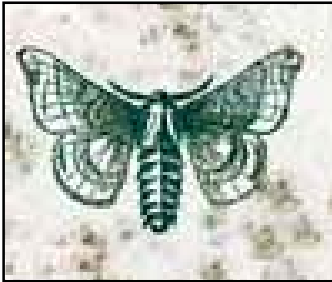
CHINESE SILK ROAD IN FOCUS

The Silk Road was at its greatest during the Tang Dynasty. During the rule of Genghis Khan, the Mongol warrior-leader, the Yuan Dynasty was established and included Persia, Central Asia, and as far as the Mediterranean. The Silk Road served not only as a trade route, but as a communication system. For all their barbaric warring, the Mongols were rather tolerant of other faiths, cultural practices, and ethnic groups. It was during the rule of Kublai Khan that Marco Polo learned firsthand about the expansive Mongol empire. Trade among nations was the great communicator. The expression “money talks” was demonstrated along the silk Road. The need to sell and buy made communication essential. As communication increased, so did the exchange of ideas. This exchange of ideas improved China’s status in the western world, but also opened it up to ideologies and less desirable influences.

As trade by sea improved, travel by land became less desirable and less profitable. Maintaining the remote trading centers was difficult, and there was always the threat of attacks by bandits. Eventually, the major land-based trade centers gave way to seaports.



CHINESE SILK ROAD WRITING RECIPE



DIRECTIONS: Follow the steps listed at the bottom of this page in order. Use the words provided under the different categories to help you write your paragraph. If you would like, add your own words to the categories. If appropriate, you may use more than one word from each column. Additional setting development statements and details for settings can be found on pages 139 - 145.

LOCATION

Yangtze Valley
Near Li River
Tibetan grassland
Mongolia
Manchuria

CROPS

Maize
Rice
Wheat
hemp
Water chestnuts
Cabbage
Melons
Tea shrub
Silkworms
Mulberry bushes

SCENERY

Streams
Dikes
Treadmills
Thatched-roof farms
Terracing
Cart and horses
Karst limestone mountains

ANIMALS

Yaks
Ducks
Pigs
Horses
Donkeys

ACTIVITIES

Growing crops
Plowing fields
Transplanting seedlings
Reaping, threshing &
harvesting grain
Harvesting, spinning, weaving
and dyeing silk thread

SOUNDS

Crackling fires
Gurgling brooks
Birds chirping
Crickets chirping
Frogs croaking
Children laughing
Wind blowing through leaves

STEPS

1. Indent and write one or more sentences describing the location of the silk farm.
2. Write several sentences describing the scenery you can see.
3. Write one or more sentences describing the activities of the people.
4. Write several sentences describing the crops being raised.
5. Write several sentences describing the animals that live on the farm.
6. Write several sentences describing the different sounds you can hear.

History, Language Arts, Art- Ancient China

Lacquered Container

One of the items transported along the Silk Road was ornate lacquerware. This activity is based on a Ming period red lacquer box decorated with camellias. Woodwork was covered in lacquer, a material which had become very popular by the end of the Chou dynasty. In its natural form, it is tree resin and is pliable and easily worked; it hardens not by drying, but by being submerged in water, after which it will resist corrosion even by acid.



MATERIALS

- *Wide tip magic marker
- *Empty oatmeal container
- *Art materials - crayons, colored pencils, magic markers
- *PLAID FolkArt Acrylic Paints - red and black
- *Paintbrush
- *Paper towels
- *Dimensional paint - gold
- *Craft foam

- *Strong tacky glue
- *Ruler
- *Wax paper
- *Tape
- *Scissors

***X-Acto knife - ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED**

***Woodburning tool - ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED**



History, Language Arts, Art- Ancient China

1. PREPARE THE PIECES

*Measure from the bottom of an oatmeal container up 4" around the total container.

***WITH ADULT SUPERVISION,** use an X-Acto[®] knife to cut down the container.

*Cut out a variety of leaf, butterfly, or flower shapes from a sheet of craft foam.

*For the top of the container, place the oatmeal lid onto a sheet of craft foam, draw around the outside of the lid, and cut out the circle shape.

*With a wide tip magic marker draw a design.

***WITH ADULT SUPERVISION AND IN A WELL-VENTILATED AREA,** use a woodburning tool with a pointed tip to go around the outside of the wide lines for the top, to create open areas.



History, Language Arts, Art- *Ancient China*

2. ASSEMBLE THE PIECES

*Spread the top of the oatmeal container with thick tacky glue.

*Position the top onto the lid and glue the shapes you have cut out around the sides of the container.

*To help hold the craft foam against the sides of the container, wrap the sides with some wax paper held together with pieces of tape.



HELPFUL HINT: After the glue has dried, carefully remove the wax paper. It may be stuck to the container in some locations.

History, Language Arts, Art- Ancient China

3. ADD THE FINAL TOUCHES

*Paint the entire container with a bright red FolkArt acrylic paint.

*Use gold dimensional paint to add details to the surface of the leaves and inside the spaces left open. Set aside to dry.

*Water down some FolkArt black acrylic paint and paint over the surface of the container. Let the paint seep into the cracks and designs.

*When the black paint is partially dry, remove the excess with a clean damp paper towel.





Chinese Waterways in Focus



History Chinese Waterways

CHINESE WATERWAYS IN FOCUS

The ancient Chinese traversed the expanse of their country on land and by waterways. Canals connected cities to each other both in the interior of the country and cities near the coastline. The waterways of China have been one of the most important transportation methods of moving goods from one location to another. The Chinese have made use of this natural resource using large ships, small sampans, and even family-owned fishing boats.

The Chinese have long been skilled merchants. Goods were imported and exported with ease through their ports. Major ports included places such as Shanghai, Nanjing, Tianjin, and Guangzhou.

The Chinese rely heavily on boats even today. Factories even have docking facilities that allow boats to load directly from the factory. Boats are also used to carry people. In some locations in China, a dowry boat will carry a bride's personal belongings to her new home. Spring is a common season for weddings. In ancient times, a bride would be carried to a boat on a bamboo sedan chair. The wedding ceremony, conducted at night, was especially spectacular with bright lanterns suspended from sections of the boat.

Numerous bridges dot the Chinese landscape. In the Zhejiang Province, the city of Shaoxing is reknown for its several thousand stone bridges. Many bridges have fierce stone lions at both ends of the bridge. The Chinese believed that the lions would help scare away any water monsters that could cause flooding. On the other hand, the Chinese believe that dragons live mostly in water. They believe that the dragons carved out the great rivers of China.

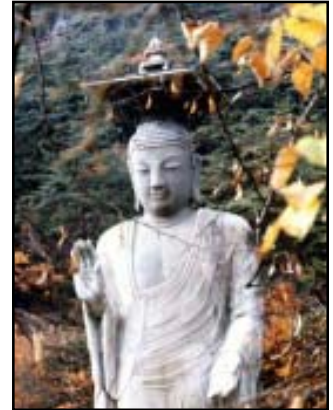


CHINESE WATERWAYS IN FOCUS

WATERWAY TRADITIONS

Many traditions surround the waterways of China. On New Year's Day, the older women of a village would bring paper money, **joss sticks***, and candles to give to the god of bridges with the hope that the god would grant safe passage for those traveling over and under the bridge.

***Joss sticks are sticks that are coated in a brown mixture that contains incense. Many Chinese burn joss sticks with the belief that the fragrant scent will attract the attention of the gods. The gods will then send back messages to the individual through the smoke.**



As in many cultures, there are numerous traditions that surround life's events. In China, there are numerous traditions that revolve around rivers. One of these historic traditions involved an expectant mother and noodles. When a woman neared her time to give birth, her family would take noodles over three bridges with the belief that after eating the noodles, she would have a successful birth.



Another tradition involved funeral processions. A pine and bamboo gateway decorated with paper flowers would be placed at the two ends of a bridge. As the funeral passed over the bridge, it was believed that the dead person would experience contentment in the spirit world.

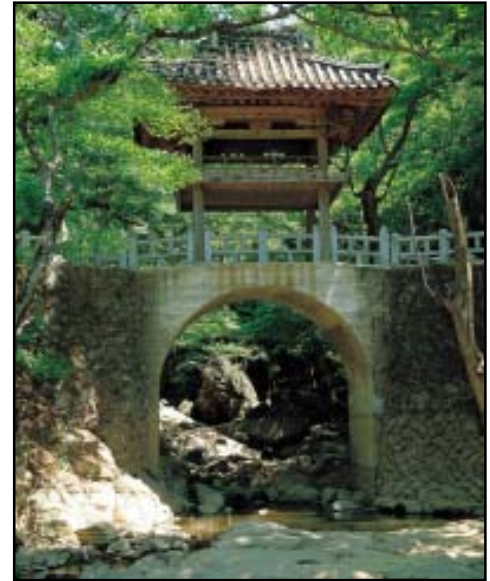
Traveling on China's waterways was a necessity, but it also posed dangers for the travelers. Boat travelers would avoid saying words or phrases speaking of boat accidents. Boat owners would even carve symbols on their boats to insure protection.

For an interesting look at Chinese bridges, please go to the following Web site:
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/lostempires/china/>

CHINESE WATERWAYS IN FOCUS

MAJOR RIVERS

There are four major rivers in China: the Songhua River, the Yellow River, the Yangtze River, and the Pearl River. The two most famous Chinese rivers are the Yellow River, also called the Huang He, and the Yangtze River. Both rivers originate on the Plateau of Tibet. Farmers depended on regular flooding of the river basins for the important fertile silt that would bring rich nutrients to the land and help ensure a successful crop. The wheat fields in the north of China and the rice fields in the south of China relied on irrigation from rivers. Archaeologists have discovered that rice was grown along the Yangtze River from as early as approximately 5000 BC.



During the reign of the First Emperor of Qin, China was united. The emperor connected two river systems - the Yangtze and Pearl Rivers, in the south of China with the Ling Canal. This allowed the Chinese to travel between vast areas, but it also provided a means to irrigate the farming fields.

WATER-BASED INNOVATIONS

Many inventions associated with traveling or harnessing the power of the waterways were devised by the Chinese. The Chinese designed the rudder, the canal lock, and mariner's compass. They traveled on numerous types of vessels such as fishing boats, trading junks, and sampans. Each vessel was designed to travel on a specific type of waterway. Some featured sails and rudders, while others were moved by hand rowing.



CHINESE WATERWAYS WRITING RECIPE



DIRECTIONS: Follow the steps listed at the bottom of this page in order. Use the words provided under the different categories to help you write your paragraph. If you would like, add your own words to the categories. If appropriate, you may use more than one word from each column. Additional setting development statements and details for settings can be found on pages 139 - 145.

LOCATION

Gorges of the Yangtze
River
Near the Yellow River
Along the coast
Below jagged cliffs

SOUNDS

Waves hitting the shore
Wind blowing through the
bamboo
People shouting
Sea birds chirping
Dogs barking

PEOPLE

Fishermen with long poles
Children playing by the shore
Women preparing dried fish
People making nets
Men in flatboats
Fishermen with cormorants attached
to boats with ropes to catch fish

SCENERY

Rugged cliffs
Small tile roofed houses
Rolling waves
Sun sparkling on the water
Pine-clad peaks
Shrine on the side of the mountain
Bamboo
Spring willow trees

WEATHER

Misty
Cool
Humid
Hot
Cold
Rainy

INSECTS

Crickets
Butterflies
Praying Mantis
Grasshoppers
Dragonflies

STEPS

1. Indent and write one or more sentences describing the location of the waterscape.
2. Write several sentences describing the people who live near the waterscape
3. Write one or more sentences describing the weather conditions.
4. Write several sentences describing the scenery around the waterscape
5. Write several sentences describing the sounds you can hear.
6. Write several sentences describing the insects you can see or hear.

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

Chinese 3-D Landscape Scene

Chinese artists have captured the beauty of their countryside in their paintings, lacquerware, and even in their literature. This activity is designed to give a “picture window” view into a Chinese landscape where stone bridges, bubbling streams, and fragrant blossoms dot the landscape.



MATERIALS

- *Copy machine
- *Glue stick or double-stick tape
- *Art materials - crayons, colored pencils, magic markers
- *Cardstock weight paper
- *Small rocks, moss, twigs, etc.
- *All purpose glue
- *Scissors[®]
- *X-Acto[®] knife - ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED**

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

1. PREPARE THE PIECES

*Enlarge (if desired) each of the 3-D scene pieces on pages 105 - 110 onto cardstock weight paper.

*Decorate each panel with your choice of art materials - crayons, magic markers, colored pencils, etc.



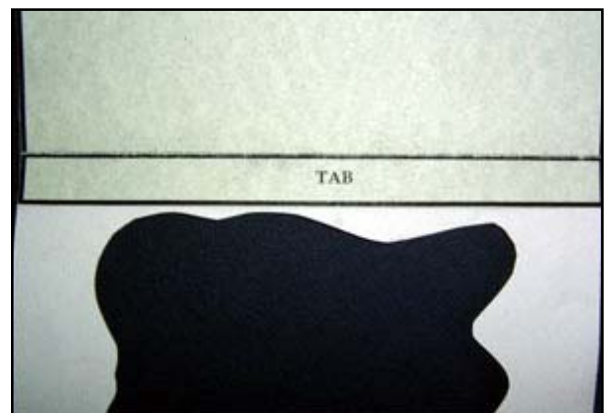
*Decorate the two Side Panels and Bottom Panel as desired. Add small rocks and moss to the Bottom Panel if desired.

***WITH ADULT SUPERVISION**, cut out each section where indicated on the Front and Middle Panels using an X-Acto knife.

*Carefully score along the tab lines and fold each of the tabs as indicated on the pattern.

2. ASSEMBLE THE PIECES

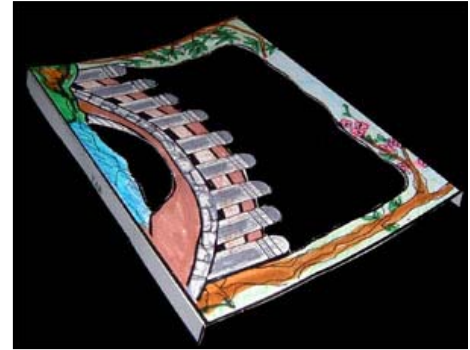
*Begin assembly by first attaching the Tab of the Top Panel behind the Front Panel using double-stick tape or a glue stick.



History, Language Arts, Art- Ancient China

2. ASSEMBLE THE PIECES (continued)

*Fold the Tabs on the Middle Panel backward as illustrated, and then attach the bottom of the Middle Panel's Tab to the center of the Top Panel.



*Attach the Top Panel's last Tab behind the Back Panel.

*Position and attach each of the Bottom Tabs behind the Front Panel and Back Panel, and attach the Middle Panel's Tab where indicated on the Bottom Panel.

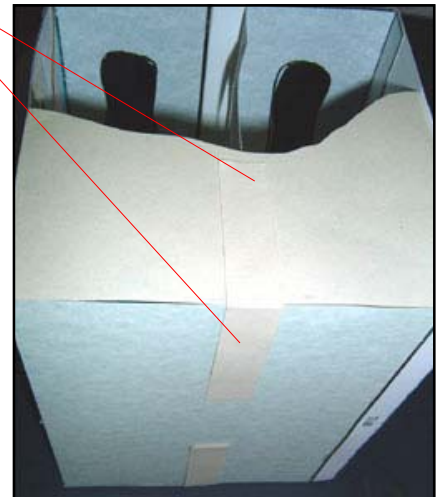


*Attach both Side Panel's Back Tabs behind the Back Panel.



*Attach the Side Panel's Front Tabs behind the Front Panel.

*Cut a 1/2" strip of paper and attach along both Side Panels and underneath the Bottom Panel.



History, Language Arts, Art- *Ancient China*

3. FINAL LOOK

*The following pictures illustrate how the completed Chinese 3-D Landscape Scene should appear.



Front and Side View



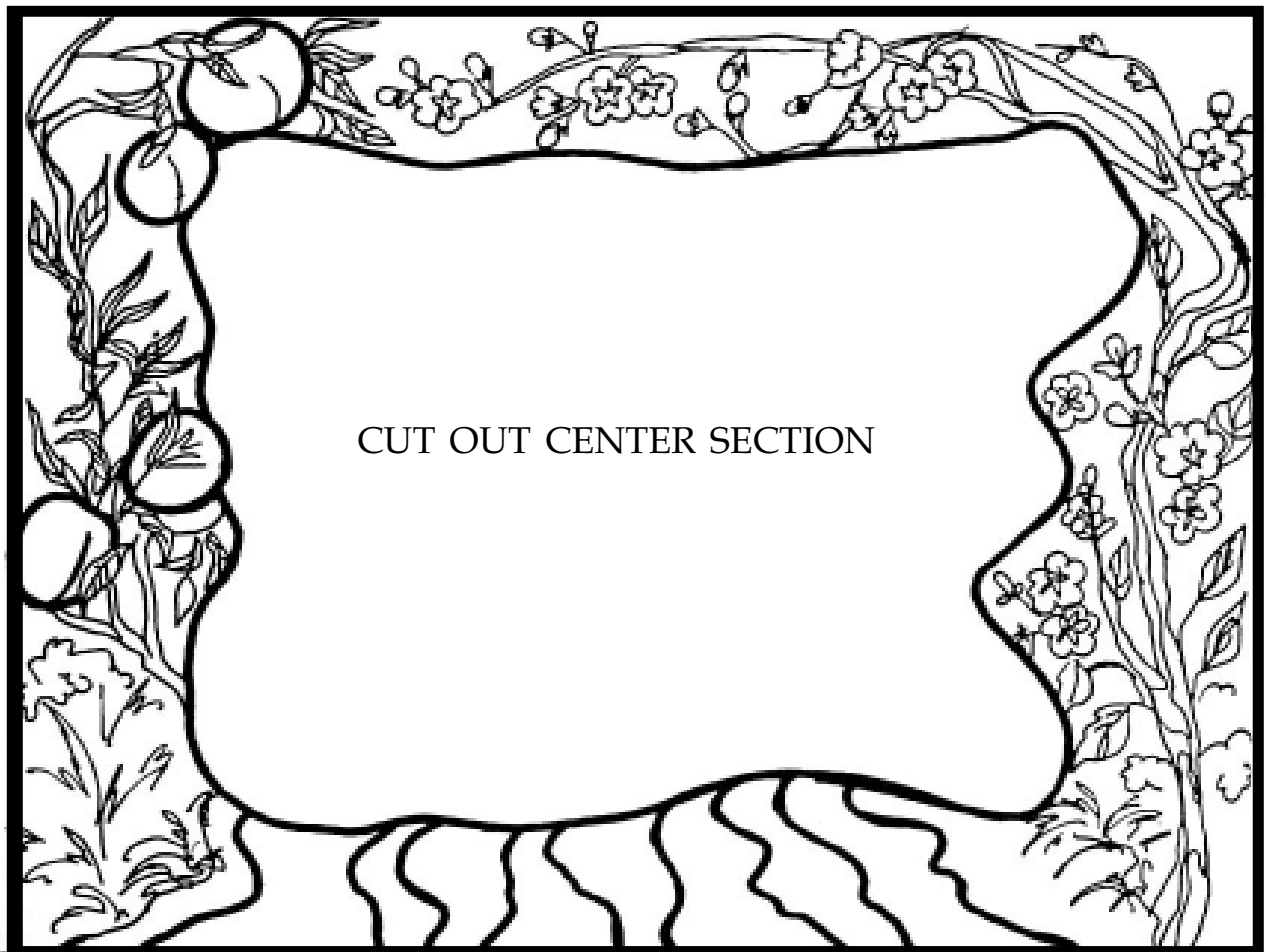
Top and Front View



Front View

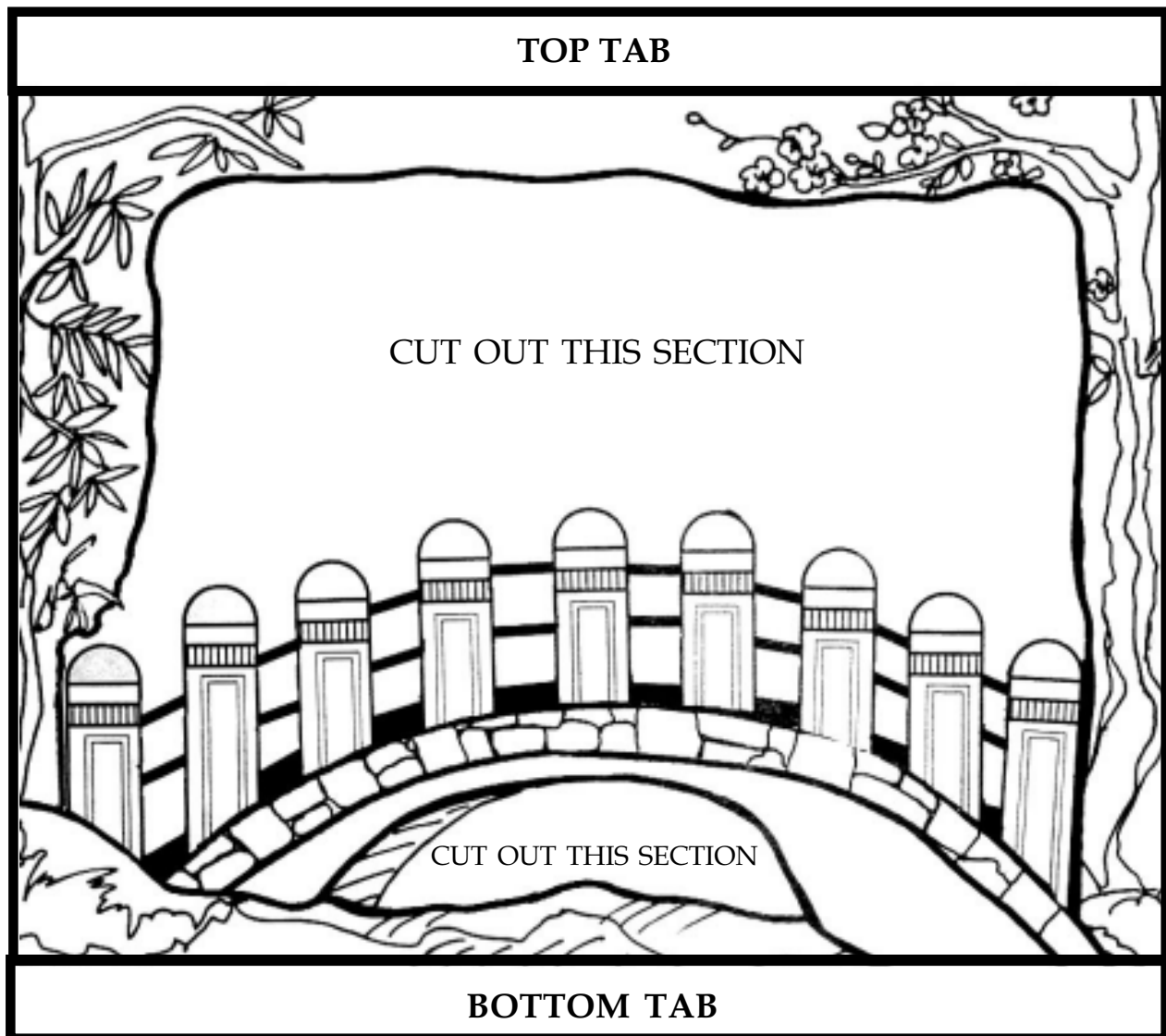
History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

FRONT PANEL - Make one copy. Decorate as desired. Cut out the areas where indicated. Fold the bottom tab toward the back and glue it underneath the Bottom Panel.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

MIDDLE PANEL - Make one copy. Decorate as desired. Cut out the areas where indicated. Fold the top and bottom tabs backwards and glue them to the center section of the Top and Bottom Panels.



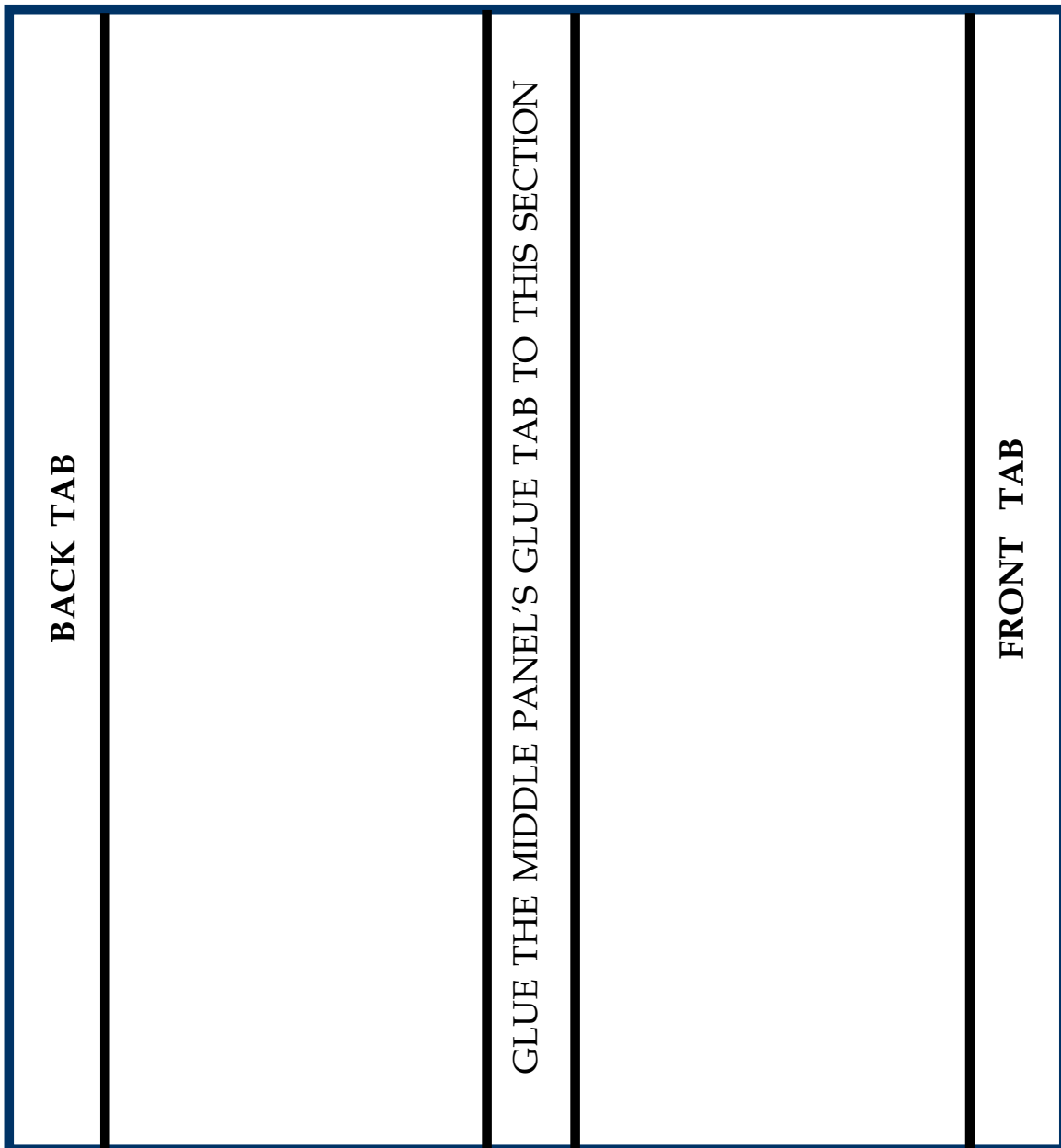
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BACK PANEL - Make one copy. Decorate as desired.



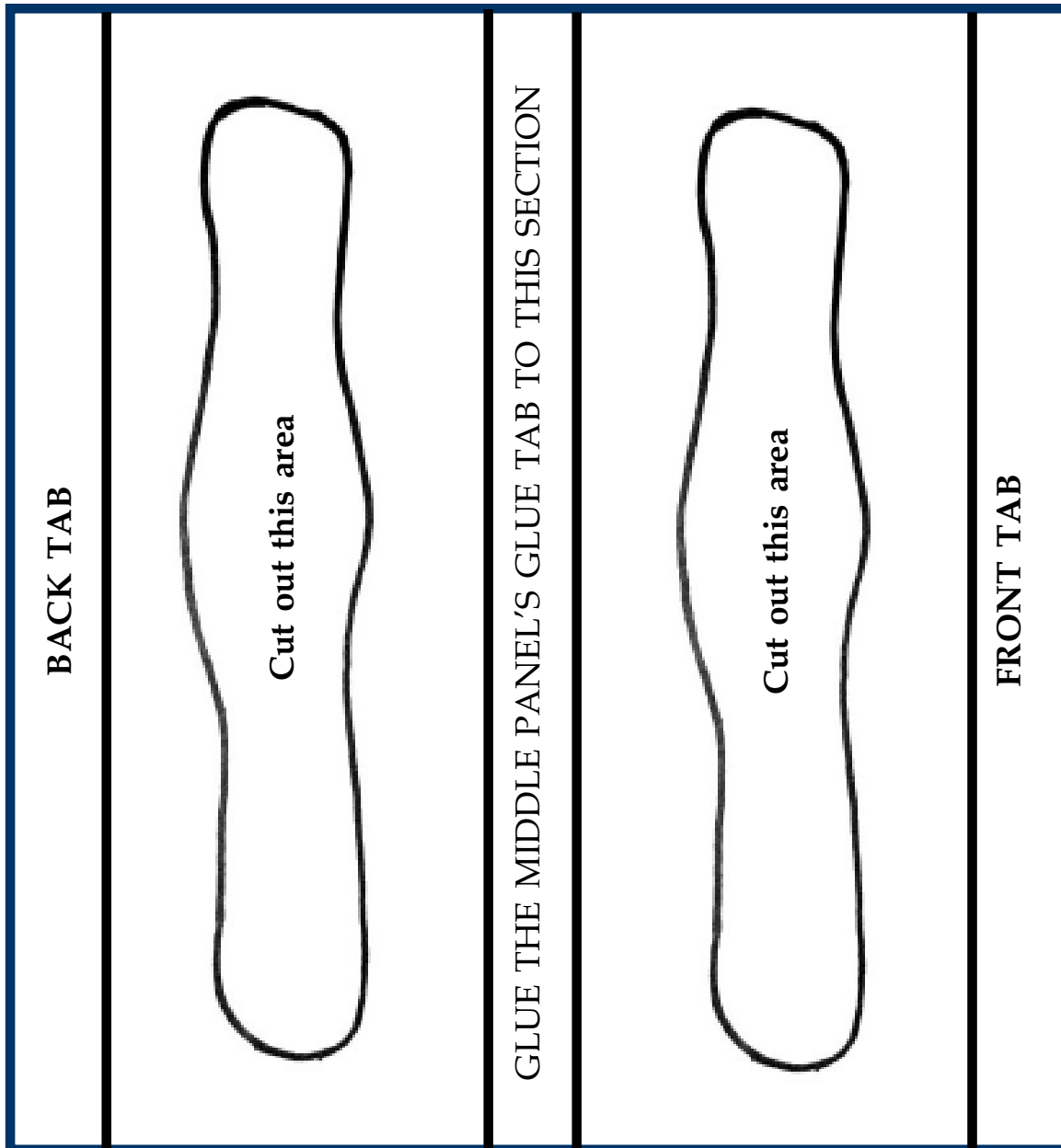
History, Language Arts, Art - *Ancient China*

BOTTOM PANEL - Make one copy. Decorate as desired. Add small rocks and moss where you wish. Fold the Front and Back Tabs upward. Attach the Front Tab behind the Front Panel. Attach the Back Tab behind the Back Panel.



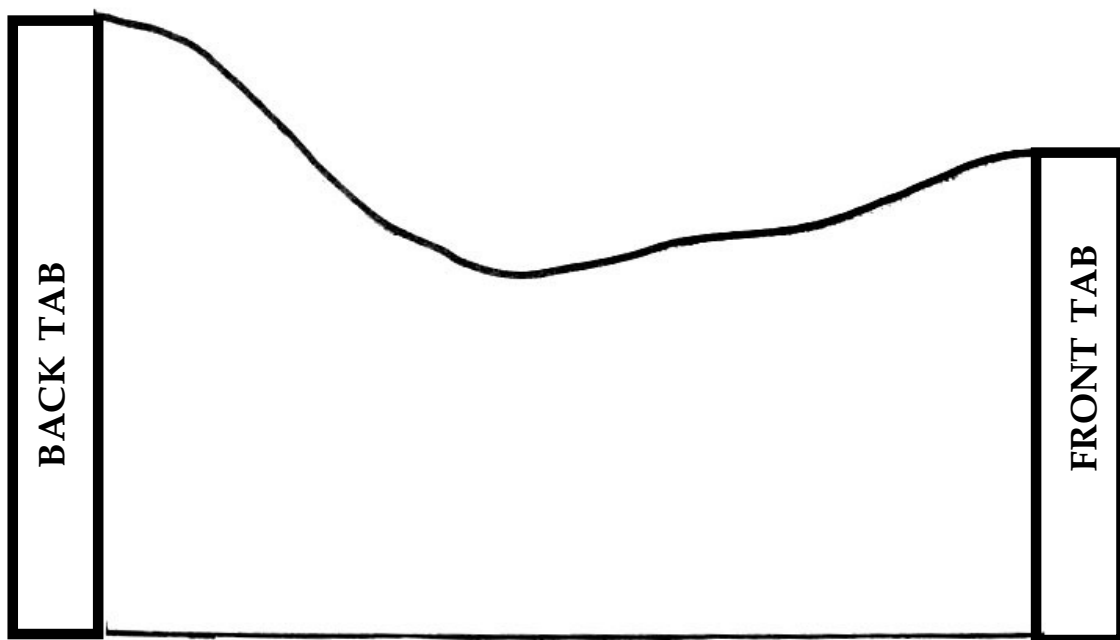
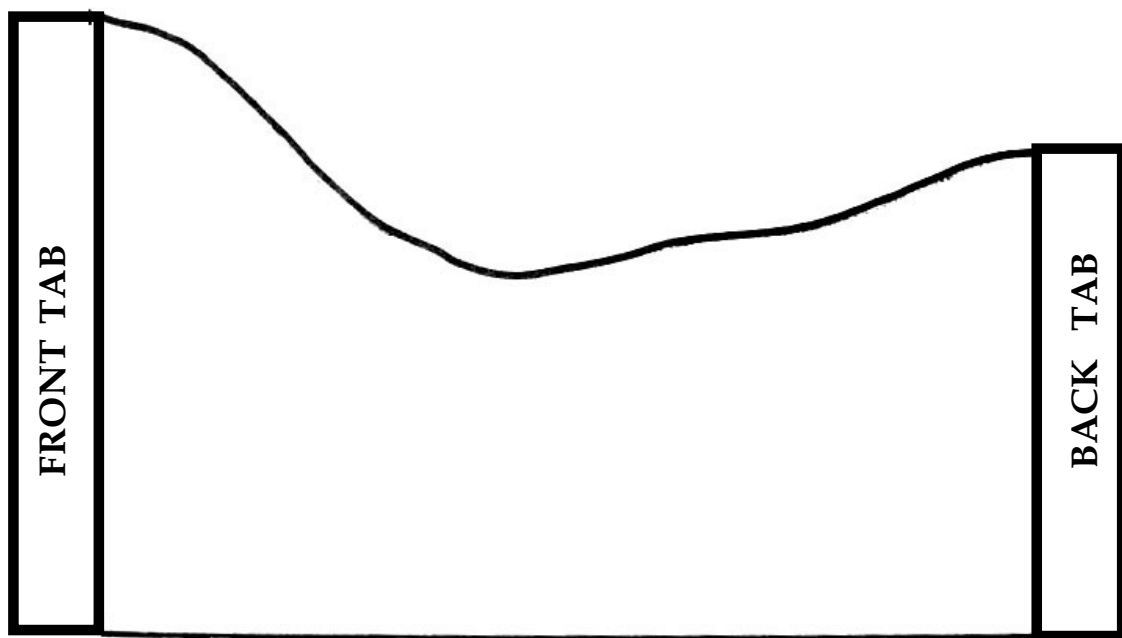
History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

TOP PANEL - Make one copy. Cut out the areas where indicated. Fold down the Front and Back Tabs. Attach the Front Tab behind the Front Panel. Attach the Back Tab behind the Back Panel.



History, Language Arts, Art - *Ancient China*

SIDE PANELS - Make two copies. Decorate as desired. Fold the Front Tabs and attach them behind the Front Panel. Attach the Back Tabs behind the Back Panel.





Ancient Chinese Stamps & Seals



History & Art Ancient Chinese Stamps & Seals

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China



In China today, most citizens have stamps made of horn, wood, or stone. Respected public figures had stamps made of jade, agate, crystal, ivory, and an unusual stone with red stains called Changhua.



Nobility had stamps made from gold or precious stones. At one time, stamps had small grips which had holes made through the center to be held by a cord. As stamps became longer, the grips were carved in many shapes including dragons, lions, rabbits, and other figures.

There are many different types and uses for stamps. Imperial stamps were generally large and thick. These required two men to create the stamped impression.

The Chinese used a red paste for their stamp ink. Cinnabar is pulverized into a fine powder and mixed with either castor oil or seed oil from Fukien Tea. The oil is exposed to the sun for three years. The finely pulverized cinnabar is then added to the oil. There are several formulas and methods for creating the ink.

DID YOU KNOW?

Forging stamps is a serious crime in China. Recently, a Beijing court sentenced nine farmers up to 17 years in prison for forging stamps.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China



Chinese stamps are carved using one of two styles: *Yang*, which is positive relief, or *Yin*, which is negative relief.



Yang stamps have Chinese characters in red with a white space around them when stamped onto a document. *Yang* stamps represent the male or groom form. *Yang* stamps also symbolize heat, south, sun, heaven, and day.

TRY THIS

www.mandarintools.com

Go to “China Reference Tools” and then to “Get a Chinese Name.” This site allows you to create your name in Chinese characters.

Yin stamps are styled as negative or intaglio designs. They represent the female force and symbolize dark, north, moon, lower, and black earth.

The shape of Chinese stamps also incorporates symbolism. Square stamps represent stability. These are often used on house contracts. Round stamps are used by businesses to symbolize “money rolling in.”

The number of strokes used to create a character can also represent good fortune.

In addition to designing a stamp for good fortune, the Chinese will often consult a Chinese calendar to determine the best day to use the stamp for optimum success.

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DID YOU *KNOW*?

Individual stamps included a person's name, a poem or quotation, and symbols.



Most stamps are made from stone. Shoushan stones are used the most. The Tianhuang stone, a form of Shoushan, is believed to have been used by the Qing Dynasty emperors. They would place a piece of Tianhuang stone onto their table to promote wealth and good fortune during ceremonies to worship heaven.



A stone of less value is called Chicken Blood Stone because the cinnabar in the stone resembles "chicken's blood." The appearance is similar to blood splashed onto the stone in a random pattern.

DID YOU *KNOW*?

Seals are designed in different sizes and shapes. Seals that are square and heavy are used on the lower corners of paintings. Seals that are oval, rectangular, or irregular are placed on the sides of documents. Name or signature seals are usually square. There are also message and mood seals, leisure seals, lucky seals, and more.

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China



DID YOU KNOW?

The use of seals on a painting is to embellish and enhance the balance of the painting.



Seals are required for business transactions even today. Since Chinese characters are devised by a set of strokes in a block format, utilizing names carved in stone or wood become similar to an individual's fingerprint or signature since each one is handmade.



In business, seals represent an individual's signature. Different seals may be used for various transactions. Some might be used for legal matters, some for bank transactions, and some for artistic purposes such as greeting cards or identifying an individual's property.

The Chinese maintain certain conditions for using their seals. For example, a bank seal is kept with a bank book in the same location to prevent theft. Company transactions usually require the use of more than one seal. A company president will use his/her seal along with that of another individual that controls the company seal.

DID YOU KNOW?

Painting, calligraphy, poetry, and seal carving are considered the "four arts" in traditional Chinese culture.

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

Chinese Square Stamp

MATERIALS

- *Polymer clay - Original Sculpey®
- *Scissors
- *Index weight/cardstock paper
- *Toothpicks
- *Plaster of Paris
- *Dimensional paint
- *Transparency plastic
- *Aluminum foil
- *Spray adhesive

DIRECTIONS

1. Select several of the Chinese designs on page 126. Place a piece of transparency plastic over the design and outline it with dimensional paint.
2. Make a copy of the square stamp pattern on page 125 using index weight paper or posterboard. Cut out the pattern and then score and fold where indicated on the dashed and dotted lines. Spray the surface of the pattern with spray adhesive and place your transparency designs in place on the pattern.
3. Form a small decorative creature to place on top of your stamp. Try to select a simple form that is easily recognized. Make the shape out of Original Sculpey polymer clay. Bake according to package directions.



History, Language Arts, Art- Ancient China

4. Fold up the sides and bottom of the square stamp and secure with tape. The designs will now be on the inside. Wrap the exterior with aluminum foil and form a tin foil well around the bottom to collect any oozing plaster.



5. Mix up a small amount of plaster according the directions on the package and pour it into the cardboard mold.



DID YOU *KNOW*?

In ancient China, the importance and rank of a government official was often reflected by the size of his stamp.

History, Language Arts, Art- Ancient China

5. Take the small shape created in Step 3 and as the top of the plaster begins to solidify, and place your figure into the plaster before it completely hardens. This will help set your figure into the top of the plaster stamp.



6. Carefully unwrap the cardboard stamp form to reveal the surface design. The plaster will need to be cleaned up and the stamp design carefully gone over again with a toothpick or other tool. The plaster stamp will take several hours or days to completely dry.



DID YOU KNOW???

Chinese motifs
were often
symbolic.
This is *chi* or cock.
He represents
courage, a warlike
personality and the warmth and life of
the Universe.



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

Chinese Round CHOP

MATERIALS

- *Polymer clay - Original Sculpey[®]
- *Plasticine clay
- *Plaster of Paris
- *Dimensional paint
- *Cardboard toilet roll tube
- *Knife and scissors
- *Sheetrock tape



DIRECTIONS

1. Cut a toilet roll tube in half.
2. Adhere sheetrock tape over the inside of the cardboard tube.
3. Cover the sheetrock tape with approximately 1/4" thick layer of plasticine clay.

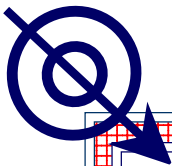


History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

3. Trim any edges with a knife and scissors as necessary.



4. Select one or more of the Chinese designs on page 126 to create both raised and incised designs on the surface of the clay using more clay.



DID YOU KNOW?

A *ma*, or horse, is one of the animals in the Chinese zodiac. They represent south on the compass.

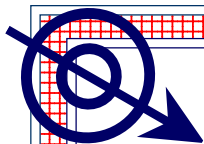


History, Language Arts, Art- Ancient China

5. Roll the tube back together and tape where the edges meet. Gently press the tube on top of a small circle of plasticine clay. Remove the tube. In this area, form the stamp design you wish to create. Again you can form it by using both raised or incised techniques.



6. Place the cardboard tube back over the stamp circle and mold the bottom up and around the clay tube.



DID YOU KNOW?

In Chinese culture, butterflies, or *Hu Tieh*, symbolize joy. It is easy to see why these beautiful creatures would represent such a happy emotion.

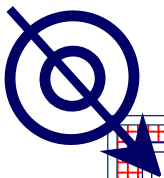


History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

7. Form a small decorative creature to place on top of your stamp. Try to select a simple form that is easily recognized. Make the shape out of Original Sculpey polymer clay. Bake according to package directions.



8. Place the cardboard tube onto a sheet of wax paper or aluminum foil. Mix up a small amount of plaster according to the directions on the package and pour it into the cardboard mold. Take the small shape created in Step 7 and as the top of the plaster begins to solidify, place your figure into the plaster before it completely hardens. This will help set your figure into the top of the plaster chop.



DID YOU KNOW?

Dragons were considered good in China, whereas in Western cultures, they were deemed bad. Dragons symbolized rain, spring, and royalty. They were against greed and avarice.

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

9. Carefully unwrap the cardboard stamp form to reveal the surface design. The plaster will need to be cleaned up and the stamp design carefully gone over again with a toothpick or other tool. The plaster stamp will take several hours or days to completely dry.



DID YOU *KNOW*?

In China *T'u*, or the hare, is the symbol of longevity. This little creature is also one of the animals of the Chinese zodiac.

History, Language Arts, Art- **Ancient China**

How to Use the Chinese Stamp

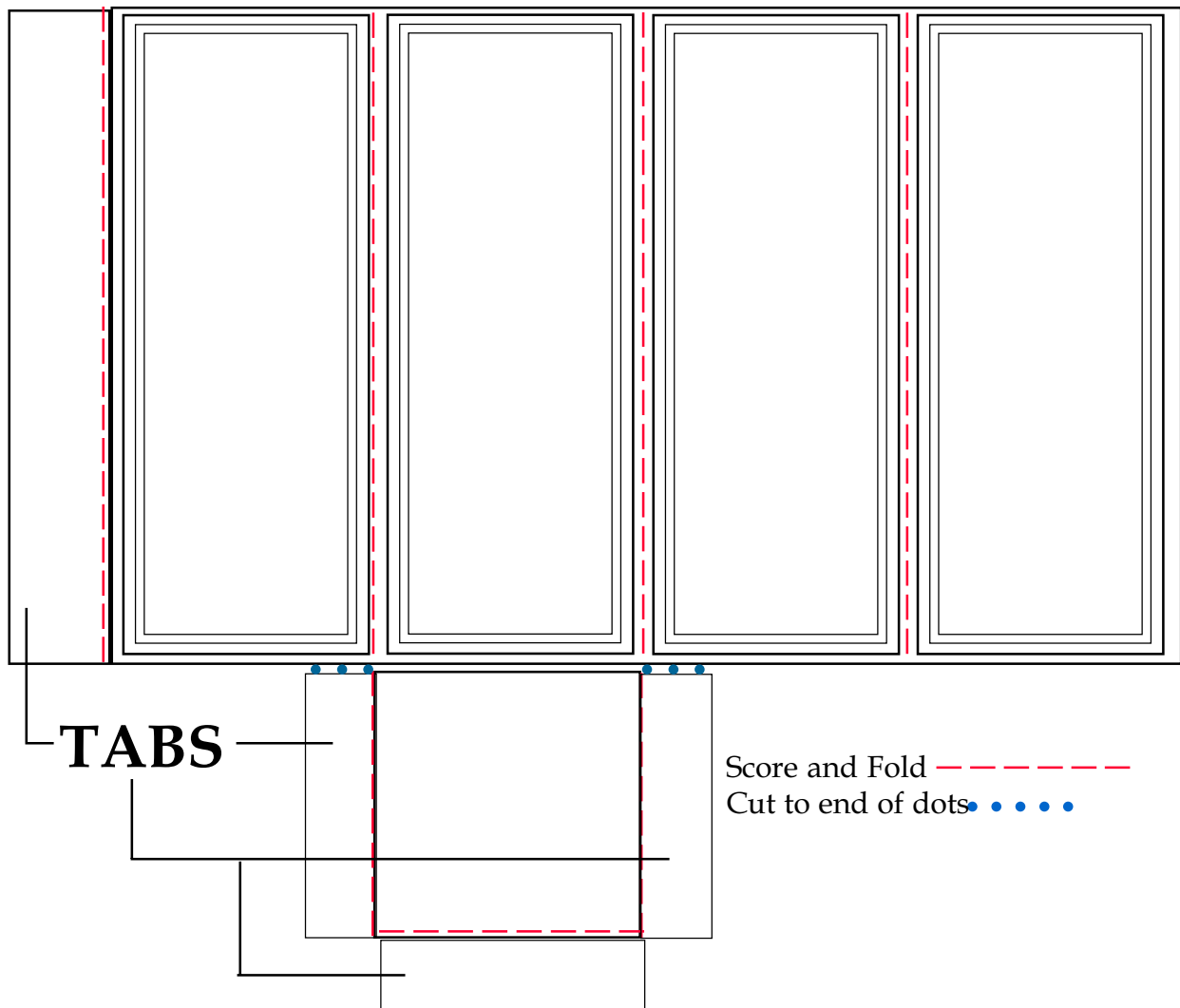
Select a bright red ink pad. Press the stamp firmly on top of the red ink pad and stamp the surface of the rice paper document you wish to seal.

Creative Options

1. *Experiment with different types of paper and ink to see what works best with your stamp.*
2. *Make a Chinese “brush painting” and use your seal to identify your work of art.*
3. *Sign your letters with both your signature and your seal.*
4. *Try using your stamp on other media such as clay and fabric.*
5. *Make a scrapbook collection of seals.*
6. *Design a stamp as a special gift for someone. Create a decorated box, include a small pad of red ink, and add a brief description of how to use the stamp.*



Square Stamp Template



CHINESE MOTIFS



Strength



Sun



Tiger



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

GENERAL MATERIALS LIST

The following lists are a collection of the different craft materials that will be used for the numerous projects presented in this collection. Each activity has a specific materials list. The following list can be used if you wish to make all the activities in this collection.

- *Aluminum foil
- *Art materials - crayons, colored pencils, magic markers
- *Bamboo skewer
- *Black or gold dimensional paint
- *Bowl
- *Cookie pan measuring 12 X 17 inches (suggested size)
- *Copy machine
- *Craft foam
- *Empty oatmeal container
- *Glue - (Tacky glue recommended)
- *High gloss varnish
- *Hole punch
- *Incense
- *Magic markers
- *Metal washers or beads
- *7 sheets each of red and yellow cardstock weight paper
- *1/2 gallon milk container
- *Newspaper
- *Original Sculpey[®] polymer clay
- *Paper towels
- *Plaster of Paris
- *Rubbing alcohol
- *Posterboard
- *Paintbrush - wide and thin tipped
- *PLAID FolkArt[®] Acrylic Paints
- *Rolling pin
- *Ruler
- *Spray adhesive
- *Spray paint - ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED**
- *Scissors
- *Small balloon
- *Sponge
- *Strong tape
- *Thread
- *3 toilet paper rolls
- *Toothpicks
- *Thin cardboard - (back of artist paper support boards
- *Tracing paper
- *Transparency plastic
- *Various "bottle" tops to use for the top of the pagoda or decorative wood pieces
- *Window screen mesh
- *Wood coffee stirrers
- *Wide tip magic marker
- *Yarn or cording
- *X-Acto[®] knife - ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED**



History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR GRAPHICS

1. DESCRIPTIVE VOCABULARY

Trace around the shape leaving the inside space empty. Write words inside the empty space about the culture or time period being studied.

2. STAMPS

Make stamps using smaller copies of the motif using "craft foam." (Craft foam is a thin dense foam that can be purchased at most craft or fabric stores. It is easily cut and glued.) Glue the selected shapes onto pieces of foam core board or pieces of wood. Use as you would any type rubber stamp.

3. RUBBINGS

Make a copy of the design. Glue onto a sheet of tag board or posterboard. Cut out the shape and glue onto another sheet of tag or posterboard. Use dimensional paint to outline the edges of the designs and let dry. Place a piece of paper over the slightly raised design and make a rubbing of the design.

4. COLLAGE

Enlarge the design if necessary and use a variety of collage materials to decorate the interior of each design. Utilize decoupage medium to layer different papers, threads, and lightweight fabric to the design. Embellish with dimensional paint.

5. STENCILS

Copy the designs onto cardstock paper. Use an X-Acto[®] knife to carefully cut out the interior of each design. (Don't try to cut out the details on the inside of each motif—just the outside of the design). Use stencil paint to stencil the shape onto other surfaces. Embellish with dimensional paint if desired.

6. "STAINED GLASS" PICTURES

Make a transparency copy of the design. Outline the design with PLAID Gallery Glass[®] Leading and let dry. Fill in the spaces inside the leading using PLAID Gallery Glass[®] Window Color. Tape the finished design onto a window for a "stained glass" effect.

History, Language Arts, Art - Ancient China

7. TOOLING FOIL

There are a variety of different colored “tooling foils” that are available at craft and fabric stores. The foil is thicker than aluminium foil but easy to “tool” with simple tools such as a pencil or pen. Make a copy of the design. Tape the design onto the foil. Trace over the design to transfer it onto the metal surface. For a unique look - use PLAID Gallery Glass[®] Window Color on the metal. It will give the metal an enameled appearance. Mount as desired.

8. FABRIC DESIGNS

Transfer the designs onto muslin fabric using either fabric transfer paper, pens, or a technique of your choice. Use embroidery thread, yarn, fabric paint, and/or iron-on fabrics to decorate the motifs.

9. SANDPAPER DESIGNS

Make a copy of the design. Place a piece of carbon paper underneath the copy and place onto a sheet of sandpaper. Trace over the design until the design is transferred onto the sandpaper. Use chalk, colored pencils, or other media to decorate the motifs.

10. HANDMADE PAPER

There are many different books available on how to make handmade paper. It is an easy and fun activity that requires basic supplies and offers a wonderful textured finish when completed. Use handmade papers as a background surface or collage materials for the designs.

11. BOTANICAL COLLAGES

Make a copy onto a heavier cardstock paper. Select a variety of grains such as rice, beans, pasta, etc. to glue on the inside of each shape.

12. HIGHLIGHTING WITH METALLIC PAINT.

PLAID also offers a product called Tip-Pen Essentials[®]. This is a craft tip set for use with PLAID FolkArt[®] acrylic paints which allows for fine lines, beads, and lettering. This set is easy and fun to use. After the design has been decorated as desired, consider using acrylic paints with the Tip-Pens to add details.

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13. "PLASTER CARVINGS" AND CLAY TILES

This activity requires more supervision, but can offer two activities in one.

a. Use a small cardboard box measuring approximately 8 1/2" X 11". Line the interior with aluminum foil. Mix a sufficient quantity of plaster of Paris and pour into the interior of the box. Allow to harden and dry. Remove the dried plaster from the box.

b. Place a copy of the design onto the surface of the plaster and trace over the design until it is transferred onto the plaster below. Remove the copy and use linoleum tools to carefully go over the design to further accentuate the motifs.

c. To make the tiles, use Original Sculpey[®] polymer clay that has been rolled to an even thickness and is the size of one plaster form. Place the clay on top of the side of the plaster that has the design and press the clay evenly and firmly onto the carved design. Remove the clay and bake as recommended on the package.

d. Decorate the tile as desired using Plaid FolkArt[®] Acrylic Paints.

14. PIERCE-PATTERN PAPER

Piercing the motif with a needle will add interesting dimension and texture to the design. Use a heavy cardstock paper for this project. Tape or glue a copy of the selected motif onto one side of the cardstock paper. Place the paper onto a piece of cardboard. Use a darning needle or nail or experiment with different "piercing" tools such as tacks, needles, toothpicks, etc. that create different sizes of holes. Vary the pattern of the holes being made by changing the direction - go in circles, on the diagonal, vertically, or horizontally. Create shapes such as stars, circles, etc. within shapes.

15. HEAT TRANSFER TO WOOD CUP TRIVET

Make a reduced-size photocopy of a selected design the size of the trivet you wish to make. Place the reduced design so it faces downward onto a smooth piece of wood that fits the size of the paper. Use a very hot iron to "transfer" the copy onto the wood. Use acrylic paints to decorate the transfer. Seal the design with clear acrylic sealer to protect the design.

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16. COPY MACHINE FABRIC TRANSFER

Create your own fabric transfer on a copy machine. This is very easy and effective. All you need is an iron, freezer paper, muslin, and tape. Place a 8 1/2" X 11" piece of prewashed and ironed muslin onto a slightly larger piece of freezer paper (place the muslin on the "shiny" side of the freezer paper.) Iron the freezer paper until it adheres completely to the muslin. Cut around the edge of the muslin so the freezer paper is the same size as the muslin. Tape the edges around all sides of the muslin and freezer paper. This will help prevent peeling while the design is being printed. Select a design and place onto a copy machine and hand feed the muslin into a copy machine. The design will transfer onto the muslin. Use fabric, acrylic, and dimensional paints to decorate the design. After the paint has completely dried, remove the freezer paper and mount as desired.

17. COPY MACHINE TRANSFER TO POLYMER CLAY

This is a fun and easy way to make jewelry using Original Sculpey[®] polymer clay and a photocopy of a motif. Reduce a design to the size you desire or use one provided on the page. Roll out a piece of polymer clay that is approximately 1/8" thick and the size of the photocopy. Place the photocopy face down onto the polymer clay. Use a clean paintbrush to apply rubbing alcohol to the back side of the photocopy. Keep applying the alcohol until the paper is saturated. Let sit for at least five minutes to allow the alcohol time to dissolve the ink. Apply more alcohol and very, gently begin rubbing away the back of the paper until only the ink remains transferred onto the clay. Bake the clay according to package directions and mount onto a piece of jewelry or use as part of a collage. **DON'T FORGET TO REVERSE THE COPY SO IT WON'T BE PRINTED BACKWARDS.**



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CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT STATEMENTS

Sometimes it is just plain difficult to start writing. The following collection of statements can be mixed and matched to develop a writing recipe. These can be used to enhance the writing exercises for the previous activities. When you are ready, follow the directions below to develop your own special description.



DIRECTIONS

Pick any ten statements from the following list to create a paragraph about a character of your choice. Use the [Additional Details for Characterization](#) to help you write about your character.

INTRODUCING YOUR CHARACTER

1. Write one or more sentences introducing your character by name and occupation.
2. Write one or more sentences describing your character's home or type of dwelling.



CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT STATEMENTS



DESCRIPTION OF A CHARACTER'S FACE

3. Write one or more sentences describing your character's head shape. Include size and shape
4. Write one or more sentences describing your character's eyes. Include color, shape, and eyebrows.
5. Write one or more sentences describing your character's nose. Include size and shape.
6. Write one or more sentences describing your character's ears. Include size and shape.
7. Write one or more sentences describing your character's mouth. Include size, shape, and color.
8. Write one or more sentences describing your character's hair. Include color, cleanliness, length, and any facial hair such as a beard or moustache.
9. Write one or more sentences describing your character's teeth.
10. Write one or more sentences describing your character's skin. Include color and texture.

DESCRIPTION OF A CHARACTER'S CLOTHING

11. Write one or more sentences describing your character's tunic or skirt. Include size, color, and texture.
12. Write one or more sentences describing your character's shirt or blouse. Include size, color, and texture.
13. Write one or more sentences describing your character's head covering. Include size, shape, and color.
14. Write one or more sentences describing your character's accessories. Include jewelry, hair ornaments, buckles, etc.



CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT STATEMENTS



DESCRIPTION OF A CHARACTER'S PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

15. Write one or more sentences describing your character's posture. Include when sitting and walking.

16. Write one or more sentences describing your character's voice.

17. Write one or more sentences describing your character's weight and height.

18. Write one or more sentences describing your

character's physical build.

19. Write one or more sentences describing what you notice first about your character.

20. Write one sentence stating your character's age.

DESCRIPTION OF A CHARACTER'S TRAITS

21. Write one or more sentences describing your character's special skills or knowledge.

22. Write one or more sentences describing your character's special magical abilities.

23. Write one or more sentences describing your character's popularity.

24. Write one or more sentences describing your character's reputation.

25. Write one or more sentences describing the things your character likes and dislikes.

26. Write one or more sentences describing your character's feelings at night.

27. Write one or more sentences describing your character's favorite saying.

28. Write one or more sentences describing your character's disposition.

29. Write one or more sentences describing your character's worst deed ever committed.

30. Write one or more sentences describing your character's verbal expressions. Include when happy, sad, scared, lonely, or surprised.

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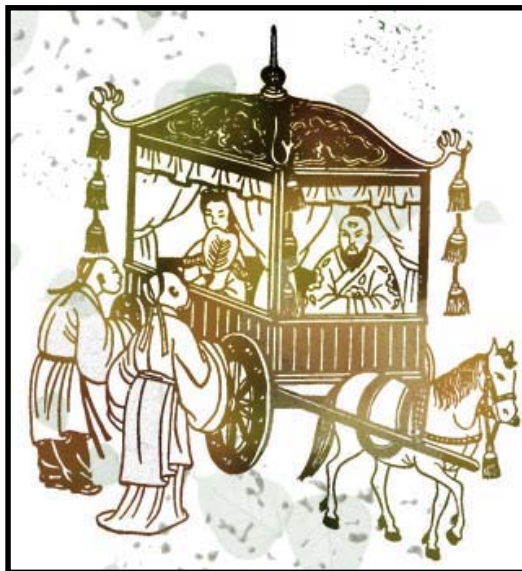
CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT STATEMENTS

DESCRIPTION OF A CHARACTER'S DESIRES

31. Write one or more sentences describing your character's greatest success.
32. Write one or more sentences describing your character's fondest hopes and dreams.
33. Write one or more sentences describing your character's favorite foods and drinks.
34. Write one or more sentences describing your character's favorite type of music.
35. Write one or more sentences describing the qualities your character expects in a best friend.
36. Write one or more sentences describing how your character feels about children, animals, the elderly, etc.

DESCRIPTION OF A CHARACTER'S INTEREST

37. Write one or more sentences describing your character's collections.
38. Write one or more sentences describing your character's interests.
39. Write one or more sentences describing your character's artistic talents.



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ADDITIONAL DETAILS FOR CHARACTERIZATION

APPEARANCE

DANGEROUS
DIRTY
FOPPISH
GENTLE
HEALTHY
ILL
KINDLY
POOR
ROUGH
RUGGED
TOUGH

INTELLIGENCE

ABLE TO SOLVE
PROBLEMS
AVERAGE
BRILLIANT
GOOD IMAGINATION
GOOD MEMORY
MECHANICAL SKILLS
POOR MEMORY
RESOURCEFUL
SCATTERBRAINED
SLOW



EYES (SHAPE)

PROTRUDING
ROUND
SLANT DOWNWARD
SLANT UPWARD
SMALL
SLITS
SUNKEN

EYES (COLOR)

BLACK
BLUE
BLUE-GREEN
BROWN
GREEN
METALLIC
ORANGE
RED
YELLOW

HAIR

AUBURN
BALDING
BLACK
BRAIDED
CHESTNUT
DARK BLACK
GOLDEN BLOND
GRAY
LIGHT BROWN
PURE WHITE
RAGGED
RUSTY RED
SANDY BLOND
SHORT
SHOULDER LENGTH
SILVER
SOFT
STRAWBERRY BLOND

NOSE

BONY
BUMPY
HAWKLIKE
LARGE AND FLAT
MISSHAPEN
PUG
STRAIGHT AND THIN

MOUTH

FAT LIPS
LARGE
MEDIUM
PERFECTLY FORMED
SLIGHTLY RAISED AT
THE SIDES
SLIGHTLY TURNED
DOWN
SMALL
THIN LIPS

SIZE & SHAPE OF HEAD

HEART-SHAPED
LARGE
MEDIUM
OVAL
ROUND
SMALL
SQUARE
TRIANGULAR

POPULATION DIVISION

KING (artisans)
NUNG (peasant farmers)
SHANG (merchants)
SHIH (lesser nobility,
gentry, scholars)

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ADDITIONAL DETAILS FOR CHARACTERIZATION

FACIAL TEXTURE

BLISTERED
CLEAN-SHAVEN
DELICATE
DRY
FRECKLED
GNARLED
GROOMED
HAIRY (WHISKERS)
OILY
ROUGH
SATINY
SCARRED
WORK-WORN
WRINKLED

EARS

HIDDEN BENEATH HAIR
LARGE
LONG
MEDIUM
MISSHAPEN
MISSING ONE
NICELY SHAPED
POINTED
PROTRUDING
SMALL
VERY OBVIOUS

JEWELRY

AMULET
COINS FOR BUTTONS AND
NECKLACES
FLORETS
EARRINGS
HAIR ORNAMENTS OF A
PHOENIX WROUGHT OF
PLAITED AND SOLDERED
GOLD WIRE
FILIGREES

CLOTHING

CAP
ELABORATE YELLOW
DRAGON ROBE
FLORAL-PATTERN
COTTON DRESS
EMBROIDERED SATIN ROBE
EMBROIDERED SLIPPERS
FURS
HAT
HIGH MANCHU SHOES
LEATHER BOOTS
SABLE HAT
SANDALS
SILK ROBE
SKULLCAP
TUNIC

BASICS OF CHINESE CLOTHING

*What you wore indicated your social class. Color, motifs, fabric, jewelry, head coverings, and shoes indicated your ranking.

*Nobles wore silk

*Peasants and the poor wore hemp fiber shirts.

*Men wore hats in public. The type of hat indicated your occupation and social status.

*Women wore their hair in topknots that were held in place with decorated hair ornaments made of ivory, tortoiseshell, and lacquerware.

*Women wore makeup.

*To stay warm in the winter, everyone wore quilted garments.

*From the time of the Sui Dynasty, only the emperor was allowed to wear yellow clothing.

*Most Chinese citizens wore black and blue clothing.

*White was worn when someone died.

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ARTISTIC TALENTS

CARVING
CHARCOAL DRAWING
JEWELRY MAKING
METAL WORKS
PAINTING
POTTERY
SCULPTURE
WEAVING



INTERESTS

ANIMALS
ART
DANCING
FISHING
HISTORY
HUNTING
LITERATURE
MUSIC
POLITICS
RELIGION
SCIENCE

PERSONALITY

TYPE
ALOOF
COURTEOUS
FORCEFUL
FRIENDLY
HOSTILE
INSENSITIVE
MODEST
PROUD

PERSONAL

ITEMS

AX
BOW AND ARROWS
BRONZE COIN
DAGGER
ERHU (two-stringed instrument)
FAN
FLUTE
HAND SCROLL
JADE DISC
KNIFE
LACQUERED CUP
LANCE
PAPER SCROLL
PIPA (four-stringed pear-shaped lute)
PORCELAIN HORSE
SADDLE AND BRIDLE
SCHOLAR'S KNIFE
SPEAR
SHIELD
SWORD

AGE
ELDERLY
BABY
CHILD
ELDERLY
MIDDLE AGED
TEENAGER
YOUNG ADULT

VIRTUES

BRAVE
CAUTIOUS
COWARDLY
HELPFUL
LIAR
PERCEPTIVE
TRUSTING

DISPOSITION

AWKWARD
CAREFREE
COMFORTABLE
EVEN-TEMPERED
FIDGETY
GRUFF
HARSH
NERVOUS
RELAXED
TENSE
UPTIGHT

COLLECTIONS

ANIMAL SKINS
BEADS
GOLD NUGGETS
JEWELRY
PRECIOUS STONES
SILK CLOTHING
SLAVES

SETTING DEVELOPMENT STATEMENTS

Sometimes it is just plain difficult to start writing. The following collection of statements can be mixed and matched to develop a writing recipe. These can be used to enhance the writing exercises for the previous setting activities. When you are ready follow the directions below to develop your own special description.



DIRECTIONS

Pick any ten statements from the following list to create a paragraph on a setting of your choice. Use the Additional Details for Settings to help you write about your setting.

INTRODUCING A SETTING

1. Write one or more sentences of introduction explaining the location and the setting you will be writing about.
2. Write one or more sentences describing the time period in history you will be describing.
3. Write one or more sentences describing the first impressions you get when seeing your setting for the first time.

DESCRIPTION OF A SETTING THROUGHOUT A 24-HOUR DAY

4. Write one or more sentences describing your setting in the morning.
5. Write one or more sentences describing your setting in the afternoon.
6. Write one or more sentences describing your setting in the evening.
7. Write one or more sentences describing your setting at sunrise.
8. Write one or more sentences describing your setting at sunset.
9. Write one or more sentences describing your setting during a storm.
10. Write one or more sentences describing your setting after it rains.

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SETTING DEVELOPMENT STATEMENTS

DESCRIPTION OF A SETTING'S APPEARANCE

11. Write one or more sentences describing your setting's colors when close to it.
12. Write one or more sentences describing your setting's colors when faraway.
13. Write one or more sentences describing your setting's general appearance.
14. Write one or more sentences describing your setting's reputation.
15. Write one or more sentences describing your setting's size and shape.
16. Write one or more sentences describing your setting's state of repair.
17. Write one or more sentences describing the interior and exterior of your setting.
18. Write one or more sentences describing the building materials that makeup your setting.
19. Write one or more sentences describing how busy the setting is with visitors.

SENSORY DESCRIPTION OF A SETTING

20. Write one or more sentences describing any sound you may hear in your setting.
21. Write one or more sentences describing your setting's odors.
22. Write one or more sentences describing your setting's climate/weather.
23. Write one or more sentences describing your setting's animals.
24. Write one or more sentences describing the season of the year that your setting is currently experiencing.
25. Write one or more sentences describing the movement of your setting. (Use this statement for settings describing bodies of water such as rivers, lakes, waterfalls, etc.)



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ADDITIONAL DETAILS FOR SETTINGS

**KINDS OF
STRUCTURES**
BATH HOUSES
HIPPED ROOF'S
PROJECTING EAVES
RED PAINTED
EXTERIORS
SEKI SHO (barrier gates)
TILE ROOFS

ANIMALS
BEARS
MANDARIN DUCKS
MONKEYS
NORTHERN FOXES
PHEASANTS
SABLES
SNAKES
WEASELS
WILD BOARS
AGILE
CONCEALED
CURIOUS
DANGEROUS
ENDANGERED
ENORMOUS
HIDDEN
LURKING
NIMBLE
POWERFUL
RAZOR-SHARP CLAWS
SENSITIVE
THRIVING
TWITTERING
UNPREDICTABLE
WARY

**FOOD AND
DRINK**
BAMBOO SHOOTS
BEAN CURD
BEAR PAWS
BEEF
BIRD'S NEST SOUP
CAMELS' FEET
CHICKEN
DEER
DOG
DUCK
EGGS
FISH
FLAT BREAD
FRIED TRIPE
FROGS
JELLYFISH
LOTUS ROOTS
MILLET
MUTTON
NOODLES
PORK
RICE
SHARK FIN
SLUGS
SNAIL
STEAMED DUMPLINGS
SQUID
TANGERINES
TEA
TURTLE
VEGETABLE STEW
WHEAT
WINE

LANDSCAPE
BADLANDS
BOG
COASTAL
DESERT
FOREST
HILLS
MARSH
MEADOW
MOUNTAINS
PLAINS
SWAMP
VALLEY

CLIMATE
COLD
HUMID
MOIST
MUGGY
STORMY
WARM AND RAINY
WINDY

**MUSICAL
INSTRUMENTS**
CHIN (seven-stringed lute)
DRUM
FLUTE
GONG
SAN XIAN (three-stringed
guitar-like instrument)
SUO NA - (horn)

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ADDITIONAL DETAILS FOR SETTINGS

SHELTER CONSTRUCTION

BAMBOO
CLAY
GRASS
MUD
REEDS
STONE
TILE
MARBLE

APPEARANCE OF THINGS

BUBBLING
CLEAR
CLOUDY
GLOWING
LUMINOUS
OILY
RAINBOW
LAYERED
SMOKY
TRANSPARENT
VAPOROUS
WATERY

LAND BORDERLAND

DELTA
DOMINION
DUST
EARTH
EXPANSE
FIELD
GROUND
ISLAND
LANDSCAPE

LOWLAND

MUCK
PENINSULA
PLOT
REGION
RIDGE
SHORELINE
TERRAIN
TERRITORY
TIDELAND
WILDERNESS
WILDS

TRANSPORTATION

CAMELS

CARRIAGES of officials had bronze fittings inlaid with gold and silver. They were decorated with precious stones, had silk canopies and the woodwork was covered in lacquer)

DONKEYS

DRAGON BOATS

SHALLOW-

DRAFT HOUSEBOATS

HORSES

OXEN

PALANQUIN - (the emperor were carried by four men)

SEDAN - (rich families were carried in this by two men)

SHOULDER ROD - (used to carry loads across the shoulders)



FLAVORS

BUTTERY
GARLIC
HOT
LEMON
ONIONS
PEPPERY
SALTY
SOUR
TANGY
TART

SOUNDS

BARK
BAY
BELLOW
BLAST
BLEAT
BRAY
BUBBLING RIVER
BUZZ
CACKLE
CAW
CHATTERING
MONKEYS
DRUM BEAT
GRUNTING FARMER
HISSING SNAKE
HOOT
HOWL
HUM
REED
FLUTE
ROAR
RUMBLE
SCREECH
SHRIEK

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ADDITIONAL DETAILS FOR SETTINGS

VEGETATION

REED GRASS
SWITCH GRASS
WATER MILFOIL
WHITE WATER LILY
AROMATIC
BLOOMING
BRIGHTLY COLORED
CAMOUFLAGED
CANOPY
COLORFUL
DANGLING TENDRILS
DENSE UNDERBRUSH
DIVERSIFIED
EXOTIC
FERN COVERED
FLOURISHING
FORESTED
FRAGRANT ORCHIDS
FRUIT LADEN
GRASSY
HARDWOOD
LOVELY
LUSH
LUXURIANT
MAJESTIC
MATTED
MEDICINAL
OLD GROWTH
OVERGROWN
ROBUST
SHADOWY
SPARSE
SPINY
THICK ROOTS
THORNY
THRIVING

WATER

BUBBLING
CHOPPY
CRASHING
CRYSTAL CLEAR
DRIPPING
FOAMING
FROTHING
GLASSY
SMOOTH
LAPPING
MISTY WATERFALLS
MURKY
PLUNGING
RAGING
REFLECTING
TEMPESTUOUS
THUNDERING
TRICKLING
TURBULENT
VEILS OF RAIN
WHIRLING
WHITE-CAPPED

ODORS

ACIDIC
DANK
EARTHY
METALLIC
MOLDY
NOXIOUS
ROTTING
SALTY
SICKLY SWEET
SMOKY
STALE
SULFUROUS



KINDS OF BUILDINGS

AUDIENCE HALL
BARRACKS
BRIDGES
COURTYARDS
ENTERTAINMENT
ROOM
EXAMINATION HALL
GREAT WALL
GUARD TOWER
HALL OF IMPERIAL
KITCHEN
PAGODA
PALACE
SHRINE
STOREHOUSES
STORE ROOM
TEMPLE
TOMB
TREASURY
WATCHTOWERS

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ADDITIONAL DETAILS FOR SETTINGS

CHINESE SYMBOLS

DRAGON (energy, law, masculinity,
good magic, art of painting)

PEARL (symbol of the imperial treasury)

TORTOISE (symbol of immortality)

LION (symbol of valor)

UNICORN (symbol of benevolence)

CRANE (symbol of longevity)

CAT (protector of silkworms)

DEER (symbol of longevity, honor,
success in learning)

BUTTERFLY (symbol of joy and
marriage happiness)

CICADA (symbol of immortality,
resurrection, happiness, eternal youth)

CRICKET (represents courage and
summer)

BAT - (symbol of longevity, prosperity,
happiness)

FURNISHINGS

INTERIOR & EXTERIOR

ALTAR

BRONZE BELLS

BRONZE CONTAINERS

BRONZE HORSE AND

CARRIAGE

BRONZE LIONS

ENAMELED DOUBLE-

GOURD VASE

FOOD VESSELS

CAULDRON

CHIMES

COPPER TRIPOD

HU (vase)

INCENSE BURNERS

KUANG (ritual wine-mixer)

KUEI (food vessel)

LACQUERED BAMBOO BOX

LACQUERED TABLE

LANTERNS

LOOM

ORACLE-BONE

PORCELAIN VASE

POT

RICE MAT

SCREEN DOOR

SCROLL

SILK PILE RUG

URN

YU (wine vessel)



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ADDITIONAL DETAILS FOR SETTINGS

PATTERNS & TEXTURES

BANDED
BRINDLED
CHECKED
CHECKERED
DAPPLIED
FLECKED
FRECKLED
HAIRLESS
MARBLED
MOSAIC
SILKY
SOFT
SLIPPERY
SMOOTH
SPINY
SPOTTED
STICKY
TRANSPARENT
UNEVEN
VELVETY
WAXY
MOTTLED
PATCHED
PATCHWORK
SPECKLED
SPRINKLED
BUMPY
CREAMY
GREASY
GROOVED
RAINBOW
SATIN

MOVEMENT

AMBLE
CANTER
CHARGE
CLATTER
CLUMP
COAST
CRUISE
DANCE
HASTEN
HIKE
HUSTLE
LIMP
LOAF
LUMBER
MEANDER
NAVIGATE
PACE
RACE
RAMBLE
RANGE
ROAM
STAMPEDE
STRAGGLE
STRIDE
STROLL
STRUT
SWERVE
TODDLE
TRAIPISE



DESCRIPTIVE PHRASES

Cinnamon-scented water
Steamy jungle
Silky droplets
Pungent vegetation
Slender leaves
Fragrant and tender flowers
Dripping icicles
Bright plumage of color
Clamoring creatures
Strong and supple trees
Tepid pools of creation
Touchstones to reality
Miracles of light and dark
Waterfall of shadows
Arresting darkness crept
Leaping lizards
Sunlit paradise
Lushly growing habitat
Life-giving water