



LEARN WITH ME CHINESE NEW YEAR PACKET

Let's celebrate Chinese culture and values together!

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LESSON PLAN 1:

INTRODUCTION TO CHINESE NEW YEAR

LEVEL: Grades 1-5

SUBJECTS: Social Studies, World Culture



LESSON OVERVIEW

This introductory lesson features a short video on the background of Chinese New Year. Students will learn about the history, traditional and modern practices of Chinese New Year.

OBJECTIVE

- Develop an understanding of the history and cultural practices of the holiday
- Identify with the Chinese New Year holiday

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Internet access to play Panda Express' Chinese New Year video

INTRODUCTION

- Before watching the video, tell your pupils:
- Raise your hand if you know what Chinese New Year is...
- Chinese New Year is the most important traditional festival in China.
- To learn more about Chinese New Year, we will now watch a short video, and then we will work on fun activities!

MAIN ACTIVITY

Play the video by streaming this link: CelebrateCNY.com/video/full

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Chinese New Year:

1. How many days is Chinese New Year celebrated? (Answer: Fifteen days)
2. 2018 is the year of what Chinese Zodiac animal? (Answer: Year of The Dog)

Symbolic foods in Chinese culture:

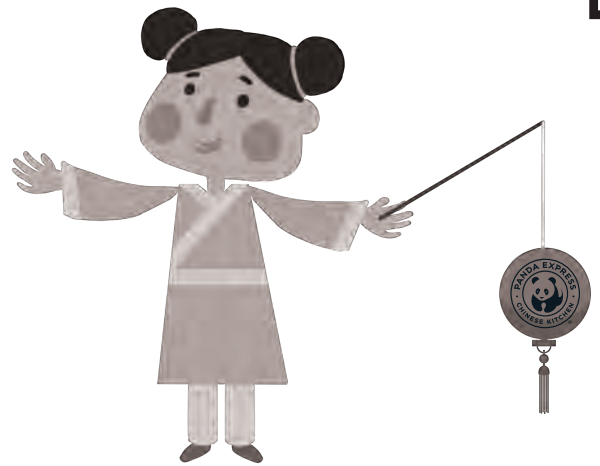
1. Egg Rolls are a symbol for what? (Answer: Wealth)
2. Chow Mein noodles are a symbol for what? (Answer: Long life)
3. Shrimp are a symbol for what? (Answer: Happiness)

LESSON PLAN 2:

CHINESE NEW YEAR FACTS

LEVEL: Grades 1-5

SUBJECTS: Social Studies, World Culture



LESSON OVERVIEW

This lesson focuses on the historical importance of the Chinese Zodiac. In this activity, students will learn about the Year of the Dog and other Chinese Zodiac animals.

OBJECTIVES

- Learn how to pronounce specific Chinese phrases
- Identify characteristics and facts about the Year of the Dog
- Students will discover and reflect upon their own Chinese zodiac sign and characteristics

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Chinese New Year Facts worksheet (Page 10)

INTRODUCTION

- Before handing out worksheet, tell your pupils:
 - » We are going to learn about the Year of the Dog.
 - » Then we will discover all the different Chinese Zodiac signs.

MAIN ACTIVITY

- Students can follow along as you read each section aloud.
- Ask students to find their birth year and find their Zodiac animal.
- Read aloud each student's Chinese Zodiac characteristics.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Q: How would you describe a person born in the Year of the Dog?

A: People born in the year of the Dog are friendly, responsible and honest. They are also simple, straightforward and makes others feel reliable and safe. Especially with friends, there's a strong sense of loyalty and willingness to finish the thing they promised to others.

Q: Do you know any of the famous people born in the Year of the Dog?

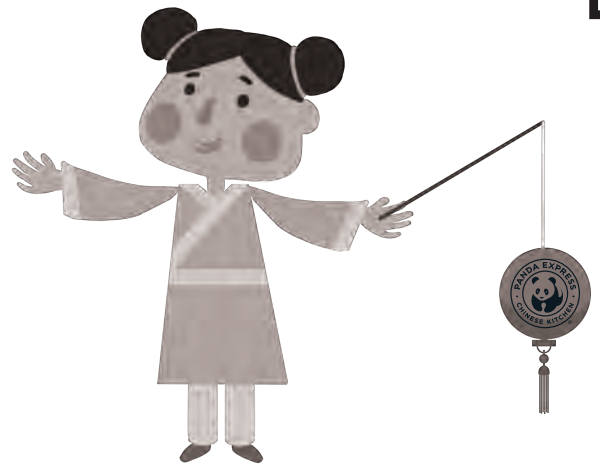
A: Benjamin Franklin, Bill Clinton, Jennifer Lopez, Michael Jackson, Mariah Carey, Winston Churchill, Madonna, Justin Bieber and Ellen DeGeneres (answers may vary)

LESSON PLAN 3:

CHINESE NEW YEAR TRIVIA

LEVEL: Grades 2-5

SUBJECTS: Social Studies, World Culture



LESSON OVERVIEW

This lesson focuses on reviewing main ideas illustrated in the three chapters of the Chinese New Year video. In this activity, students will complete a trivia worksheet for each chapter of the video.

OBJECTIVE

- Demonstrate comprehension of Chinese New Year's history and practices

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Pencil
- Internet access to play three chapters of Panda Express' Chinese New Year video:
 - » Video link for Chapter 1: CelebrateCNY.com/video/ch1
 - » Video link for Chapter 2: CelebrateCNY.com/video/ch2
 - » Video link for Chapter 3: CelebrateCNY.com/video/ch3
 - » Worksheet for Chapter 1: The Legend of Chinese New Year Trivia (Page 11)
 - » Worksheet for Chapter 2: The Legend of the Chinese Zodiac Trivia (Page 12)
 - » Worksheet for Chapter 3: Chinese New Year Today Trivia (Page 13)

INTRODUCTION

- Before beginning the activity, tell your pupils,
 - » We will now work fill out a fun trivia worksheet for each chapter of the Chinese New Year video!

MAIN ACTIVITY

- Students can answer the questions and answers aloud as a class:
 - » Play Chapters 1, 2, 3 of the video by steaming the links above
 - » Students can complete each Trivia worksheet after watching each chapter

LESSON PLAN 4:

FILL-IN-THE-BLANK STORIES

LEVEL: Grades 2-5

SUBJECTS: Social Studies, World Culture



LESSON OVERVIEW

This lesson focuses on reviewing main ideas illustrated in the three chapters of the Chinese New Year video. In this activity, students will complete a fill-in-the-blank story worksheet for each chapter of the video.

OBJECTIVES

- Demonstrate comprehension of Chinese New Year's history and practices

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Pencil
- Internet access to play three chapters of Panda Express' Chinese New Year video:
 - » Video link for Chapter 1: CelebrateCNY.com/video/ch1
 - » Video link for Chapter 2: CelebrateCNY.com/video/ch2
 - » Video link for Chapter 3: CelebrateCNY.com/video/ch3
 - » Worksheet for Chapter 1: The Legend of Chinese New Year Story (Page 14)
 - » Worksheet for Chapter 2: The Legend of the Chinese Zodiac Story (Page 15)
 - » Worksheet for Chapter 3: Chinese New Year Today Story (Page 16)

INTRODUCTION

- Before beginning the activity, tell your pupils,
 - » We will now work fill on a fun story worksheet for each chapter of the Chinese New Year video!
- Play Chapters 1, 2, 3 of the video by steaming the links above

MAIN ACTIVITY

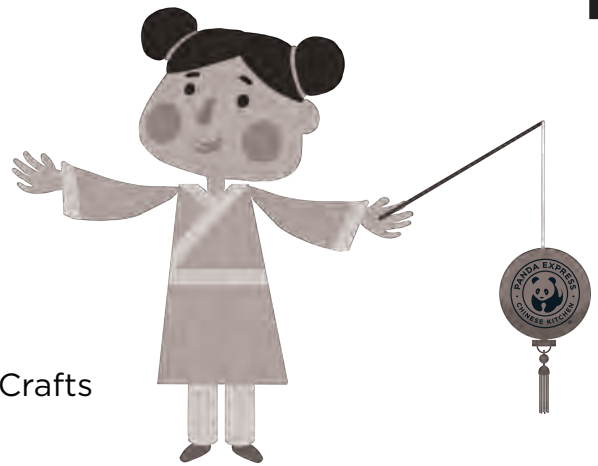
- Students can complete each Story Worksheet after watching each video chapter

LESSON PLAN 5:

CHINESE LANTERN CRAFT ACTIVITY

LEVEL: Grades 2-5

SUBJECTS: Social Studies, World Culture, Arts & Crafts



LESSON OVERVIEW

This lesson focuses on a historical practice of the Lantern Festival. Students will be able to express their creativity and decorate their classroom with Chinese paper lanterns.

OBJECTIVES

- Express artistic creativity and self-expression through a cultural holiday practice
- Decorate their classroom with their lanterns

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Crayons or Coloring Pencils
- Scissors
- Glue
- How to Make a Chinese Paper Lantern worksheet (Page 17)
- Chinese Lantern Template worksheet (Page 18)

INTRODUCTION

- Before beginning the activity, tell your pupils,
 - » How many of you remember what the Lantern Festival is?
 - » The Lantern Festival is when thousands of red lanterns glow in the night to bring good fortune to all on the last day of the New Year celebration.
 - » Let's make our own Chinese paper lanterns!
- Play Chapters 1, 2, 3 of the video by steaming the links above

MAIN ACTIVITY

- Direct students to follow along as you read out loud the information about Chinese lanterns
- Have students follow the instructions to create a lantern using the Chinese Lantern Template

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Review significance of Chinese lanterns:

Q: What day is the Lantern Festival held on?

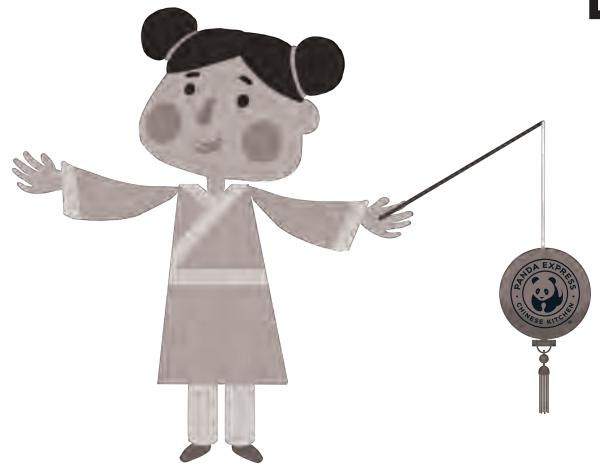
A: During the last day of the celebration, on the 15th day of Chinese New Year)

LESSON PLAN 6:

RED ENVELOPE ACTIVITIES

LEVEL: Grades 1-5

SUBJECTS: Social Studies, World Culture, Art



LESSON OVERVIEW

This lesson focuses on the cultural awareness of Chinese New Year traditions. In this activity, students will review what a red envelope is, the proper etiquette of accepting a red envelope, and lastly, students will create a red envelope!

OBJECTIVES

- Identify a traditional Chinese New Year practice
- Identify and perform the proper way to accept the gift of a Red Envelope during Chinese New Year
- Learn how to pronounce specific Chinese phrases

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Red Envelope Fun Facts & Word Search worksheet (Page 19)
- How to Make a Red Envelope worksheet (Page 20) (Recommended for: Grades 2-5)
- Pencils, Crayons, or Colored Pencils
- Scissors
- Glue

INTRODUCTION

- Before handing out the worksheets, tell your pupils:
 - » For this activity, we are going to learn to properly accept a Red Envelope.
 - » Then you can search for the words hidden in the puzzle below.
 - » Lastly, you can make your own Red Envelope to take home!(Recommended for: Grades 2-5)

MAIN ACTIVITY

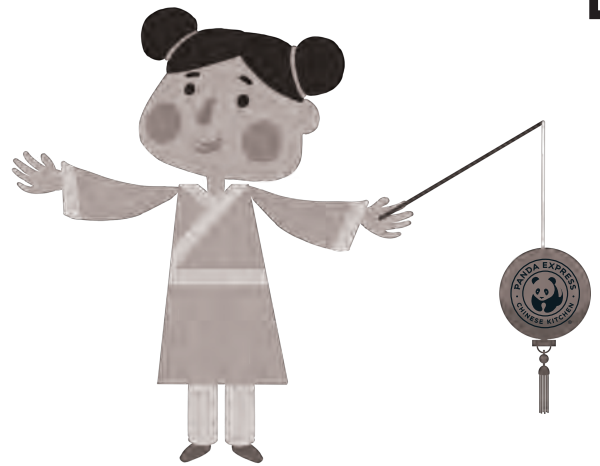
- Students can follow along as you read each section aloud.
- Have the class perform the proper way to accept a Red Envelope.
- Have the students follow the directions to create a Red Envelope.
(Recommended for: Grades 2-5)

LESSON PLAN 7:

CHINESE NEW YEAR COLORING PAGES

LEVEL: Grades 1-5

SUBJECTS: World Culture, Art



LESSON OVERVIEW

This lesson focuses on the meaning behind the symbol for good fortune (Fú 福)

OBJECTIVES

- Learn the meaning behind the Chinese symbol for good luck
- Express creativity with art through a historical holiday practice

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Good Fortune Coloring Page (Page 21)
- Learn With Me Coloring Page (Page 22)
- Crayons or Colored Pencils

INTRODUCTION

- Before handing out the 1st worksheet, tell your pupils:
 - » Raise your hand if you know what Fú (Pronounced: *foo*) means in Mandarin Chinese...
 - » Fú means good fortune!
 - » We will now trace and color in the symbol for good fortune.
- Before handing out the 2nd worksheet, tell your pupils:
 - » We will now color in the girl holding a lantern with the symbol for good fortune (Fú 福), and the panda from the Learn With Me Chinese New Year video!

MAIN ACTIVITY

- Tracing and coloring in the Good Fortune symbol
- Coloring in the characters from the Chinese New Year Learn With Me video

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITY

- Ask pupils to practice saying “Gōng Xi Fā Cǎi” (pronounced: *gong-she-fa-tsai*) to their family, friends, and teachers!

ANSWER SHEET

CHINESE NEW YEAR TRIVIA

Chapter 1

1. C
2. D
3. B
4. C
5. A
6. D

Chapter 2

1. B
2. D
3. A
4. D
5. D
6. C

Chapter 3

1. B
2. C
3. C
4. B
5. A
6. D

FILL-IN-THE-BLANK STORIES

Chapter 1

1. Beast
2. New Moon
3. Firecracker
4. Celebrate
5. Chinese New Year

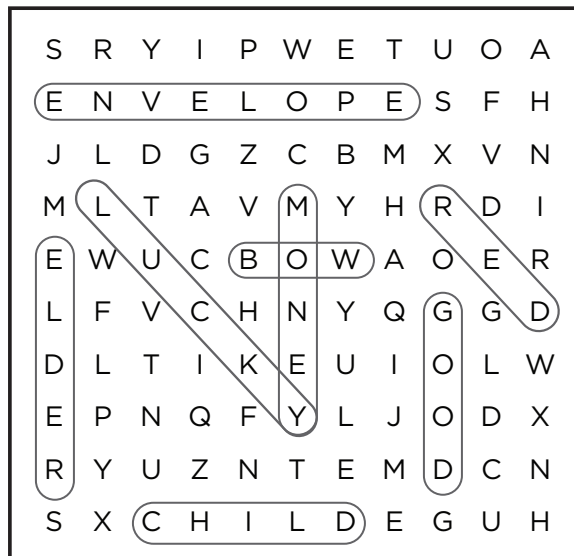
Chapter 2

1. Year
2. River
3. First
4. Rat
5. Chinese Zodiac

Chapter 3

1. Travel
2. Happy
3. Good Luck
4. Parades
5. Lantern

RED ENVELOPE WORD SEARCH





CHINESE NEW YEAR FACTS



This year, Chinese New Year begins on Friday, February 16, 2018. The date changes every year because it follows the first day in the lunar calendar. Chinese New Year lasts for 15 days and ends with the Lantern Festival. "Gong Xi Fa Cai" (Pronounced: gong-she fa-tsai) is said throughout the celebration, which means "Wishing you good fortune!" in Mandarin Chinese.

2018 IS THE YEAR OF THE DOG

People born in the year of the Dog are friendly, responsible and honest. They are also simple, straightforward and makes others feel reliable and safe. Especially with friends, there's a strong sense of loyalty and willingness to finish the thing they promised to others.

RISE UP TO THE NEW YEAR!

- 2018 is the Year of the Dog
- This year will be filled with opportunity and promise for those born in the Year of the Dog
- Famous people born in the Year of the Dog: Winston Churchill, Bill Clinton, Mariah Carey, Justin Bieber and Ellen DeGeneres

FIND YOUR ZODIAC SIGN

RAT	2008, 1996, 1984, 1972
OX	2009, 1997, 1985, 1973
TIGER	2010, 1998, 1986, 1974
RABBIT	2011, 1999, 1987, 1975
DRAGON	2012, 2000, 1988, 1976
SNAKE	2013, 2001, 1989, 1977
HORSE	2014, 2002, 1990, 1978
RAM	2015, 2003, 1991, 1979
MONKEY	2016, 2004, 1992, 1980
ROOSTER	2017, 2005, 1993, 1981
DOG	2018, 2006, 1994, 1982
BOAR	2019, 2007, 1995, 1983

CHINESE ZODIAC ANIMALS

RAT



Creative, Likeable, Giving

DRAGON



Energetic, Brave, Trusting

MONKEY



Smart, Sly, Good Memory

OX



Leader, Patient, Inspires

SNAKE



Smart, Charming, Kind

ROOSTER



Hardworking, Courageous, Sharp

TIGER



Respected, Brave, Caring

HORSE



Well-Liked, Happy, Thrifty, Funny

DOG



Honest, Loyal, Pays Attention

RABBIT



Talented, Driven, Trusted

RAM



Creative, Calm, Caring

BOAR

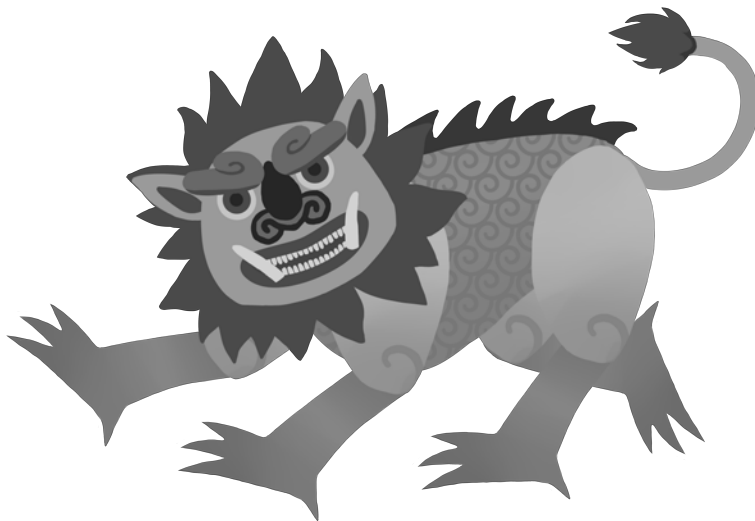


Brave, Sweet, Strong



THE LEGEND OF CHINESE NEW YEAR TRIVIA

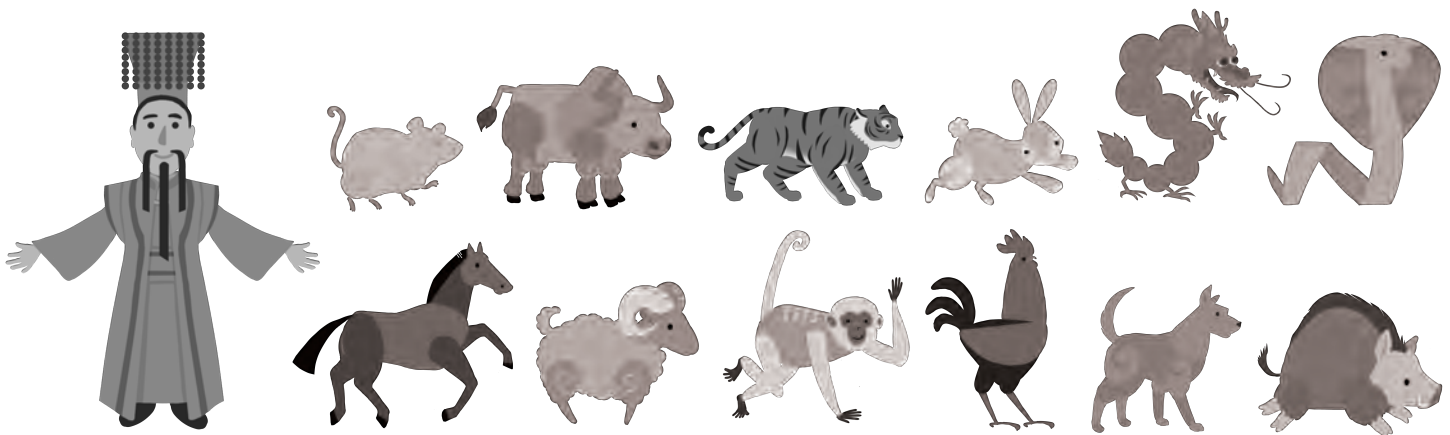
1. What does *Nian* mean in Chinese?
 - A. scary
 - B. green
 - C. year
 - D. growl
2. On what night does *Nian* come to the village?
 - A. the night of the eclipse
 - B. the night of Halloween
 - C. the night of the half moon
 - D. the night of the new moon
3. Who taught the villagers what *Nian* was afraid of?
 - A. an unwise man
 - B. a wise man
 - C. a wise woman
 - D. an emperor
4. What is something *Nian* is **not** afraid of?
 - A. the color red
 - B. fire
 - C. water
 - D. loud noises
5. What is *Nian* afraid of?
 - A. firecrackers
 - B. the color blue
 - C. funny noises
 - D. chicken
6. What is *Nian* afraid of?
 - A. calm music
 - B. the mountains
 - C. the animals
 - D. the color red





THE LEGEND OF THE CHINESE ZODIAC TRIVIA

1. How many animals in total make up the Chinese Zodiac?
 - A. eleven
 - B. twelve
 - C. thirteen
 - D. fourteen
2. During the great race, the Ox let the Rat ride on his back because:
 - A. the Rat cried
 - B. the Rat had sore feet
 - C. the Ox could not swim
 - D. the Rat could not swim
3. Which animal reached the Jade Emperor's palace first?
 - A. the Rat
 - B. the Ox
 - C. the Dragon
 - D. the Pig
4. The first year in the Chinese Zodiac calendar is:
 - A. the Year of the Dragon
 - B. the Year of the Ox
 - C. the Year of the Pig
 - D. the Year of the Rat
5. One of these animals DOES NOT belong on the Zodiac calendar:
 - A. the Horse
 - B. the Monkey
 - C. the Ox
 - D. the Unicorn
6. Legend says the animal your birth year is named after can affect:
 - A. your dreams
 - B. your nightmares
 - C. your destiny
 - D. your height





CHINESE NEW YEAR TODAY TRIVIA

1. In Chinese culture, which color is a symbol for good luck?
 - A. pink
 - B. red
 - C. blue
 - D. black
2. What can you usually find inside a red envelope?
 - A. food
 - B. bad luck
 - C. money
 - D. nothing
3. Which of these foods is a symbol for wealth? *Hint: It looks like solid bars of gold.*
 - A. Chow Mein Noodles
 - B. Shrimp
 - C. Egg Rolls
 - D. Fried Rice
4. Which of these foods is a symbol of happiness? *Hint: It sounds like smile in Chinese.*
 - A. Chow Mein Noodles
 - B. Shrimp
 - C. Egg Rolls
 - D. Fried Rice
5. Which of these foods is a symbol of health and long life? *Hint: Don't cut these!*
 - A. Chow Mein Noodles
 - B. Shrimp
 - C. Egg Rolls
 - D. Fried Rice
6. When an elder gives you a red envelope, what must you do?
 - A. run away
 - B. give it back
 - C. say "no thank you"
 - D. say "thank you"





THE LEGEND OF CHINESE NEW YEAR

First watch the video on the Legend of Chinese New Year. Then complete the story by using words from the word bank below to fill in the blanks. Use each word once. Good Luck!



WORD BANK

celebrate

new moon

beast

Chinese New Year

firecracker

According to Chinese legend, a long time ago, there once was a big scary _____ named Nian, whose name means "year." On the darkest night every year, when the _____ was in the sky, Nian would sneak into the village and scare everyone! People dreaded the new moon for many years, until a wise man taught them Nian was afraid of loud noises, fire, and the color red. The next time Nian came into the village, the villagers protected themselves from Nian. They hit their drums loudly, they lit every _____, and they wore the color red from head to toe. Nian was so afraid of the villagers, he ran FAR away and never came back. Now, instead of dreading the night of the new moon, people _____ it. That celebration then became a fifteen-day festival of family, food, and good fortune that is now called _____!



THE LEGEND OF THE CHINESE ZODIAC

First watch the video on the Legend of Chinese Zodiac. Then complete the story by using words from the word bank below to fill in the blanks. Use each word once. Good Luck!



WORD BANK

first

Chinese Zodiac

Rat

year

river

According to legend, a long time ago, the Jade Emperor of China held a great race to name the 12 different years. He decided that the first twelve animals to reach his palace would be the winners, and they would each get a _____ named after them in their honor.

During the great race, the Ox was winning, until he had to cross a rushing _____. The Rat, who was right behind the Ox, could not swim very well. So the kind Ox let the Rat ride on his back. Once they got to the other side of the river, the Rat quickly jumped off, and ran as fast as he could. The Rat was the _____ of the twelve animals to reach the finish line and win the race. That's why the first year in the Chinese Zodiac calendar is called the Year of the _____. In the end, the twelve winners of the great race made the twelve-year cycle of the _____!



CHINESE NEW YEAR TODAY

First watch the video on Chinese New Year Today. Then complete the story by using words from the word bank below to fill in the blanks. Use each word once. Good Luck!



WORD BANK

parades

travel

happy

Lantern

good luck

Today, Chinese New Year brings families together from all over the world! Billions of people _____ back to their homes and families in China for a delicious reunion dinner. Many of the foods eaten during the dinner mean something special. Eating egg rolls makes you wealthy, because they look like bars of gold. Eating shrimp makes you _____, because "shrimp" sounds like the same word as "smile" in Chinese. Eating long Chow Mein noodles makes you live long and healthy, so it is _____ not to break or cut the noodles.

There are other ways to share good fortune with others. During the fifteen-day celebration, lucky red envelopes, or Hong Bao, are gifted to loved ones, bright fireworks light up the sky for all to see, and huge _____ line the streets. On the last day of Chinese New Year, during the _____ Festival, thousands of red lanterns glow in the night sky to bring Chinese New Year to an end. How will you celebrate Chinese New Year this year?



HOW TO MAKE A CHINESE LANTERN

On the last day of the 15-day Chinese New Year celebration, thousands of red lanterns can be seen hanging in the sky during the "Lantern Festival". Follow the instructions below to make your own lantern.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Color and decorate the handle and lantern.
2. Cut the lantern and handle along the dotted line. - - -
3. Fold the lantern in half along the gray line. ———
4. Cut straight lines through the dotted lines and stop before the end. -----
5. Unfold the lantern.
6. Roll the lantern into a cylinder and glue the ends together.
7. Squish it!
8. Glue the handle to both sides of the top of the lantern.



GONG XI FA CAI

HANDLE

HANDLE

GLUE HERE





RED ENVELOPE FUN FACTS

What are Red Envelopes?

Every Chinese New Year, red envelopes, pronounced *Hong Bao* in Mandarin Chinese, are given to children and unmarried adults as a way of sharing good fortune. Usually, elders give out red envelopes that contain money inside.

Did you know?

Elders are people who are much older than you. For example, elders can be teachers, parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles!

How do I respectfully receive a Red Envelope from an elder?



Step 1: Once an elder hands you a red envelope, you must accept the red envelope with both of your hands.

Step 2: To show your respect to the elder, you must bow your head and say “Xiè Xiè” (she-yeh she-yeh), which means “Thank You” in Mandarin Chinese.

RED ENVELOPE WORD SEARCH

Search for the words hidden below.

S	R	Y	I	P	W	E	T	U	O	A
E	N	V	E	L	O	P	E	S	F	H
J	L	D	G	Z	C	B	M	X	V	N
M	L	T	A	V	M	Y	H	R	D	I
E	W	U	C	B	O	W	A	O	E	R
L	F	V	C	H	N	Y	Q	G	G	D
D	L	T	I	K	E	U	I	O	L	W
E	P	N	Q	F	Y	L	J	O	D	X
R	Y	U	Z	N	T	E	M	D	C	N
S	X	C	H	I	L	D	E	G	U	H

ENVELOPE

BOW

ELDER

RED

CHILD

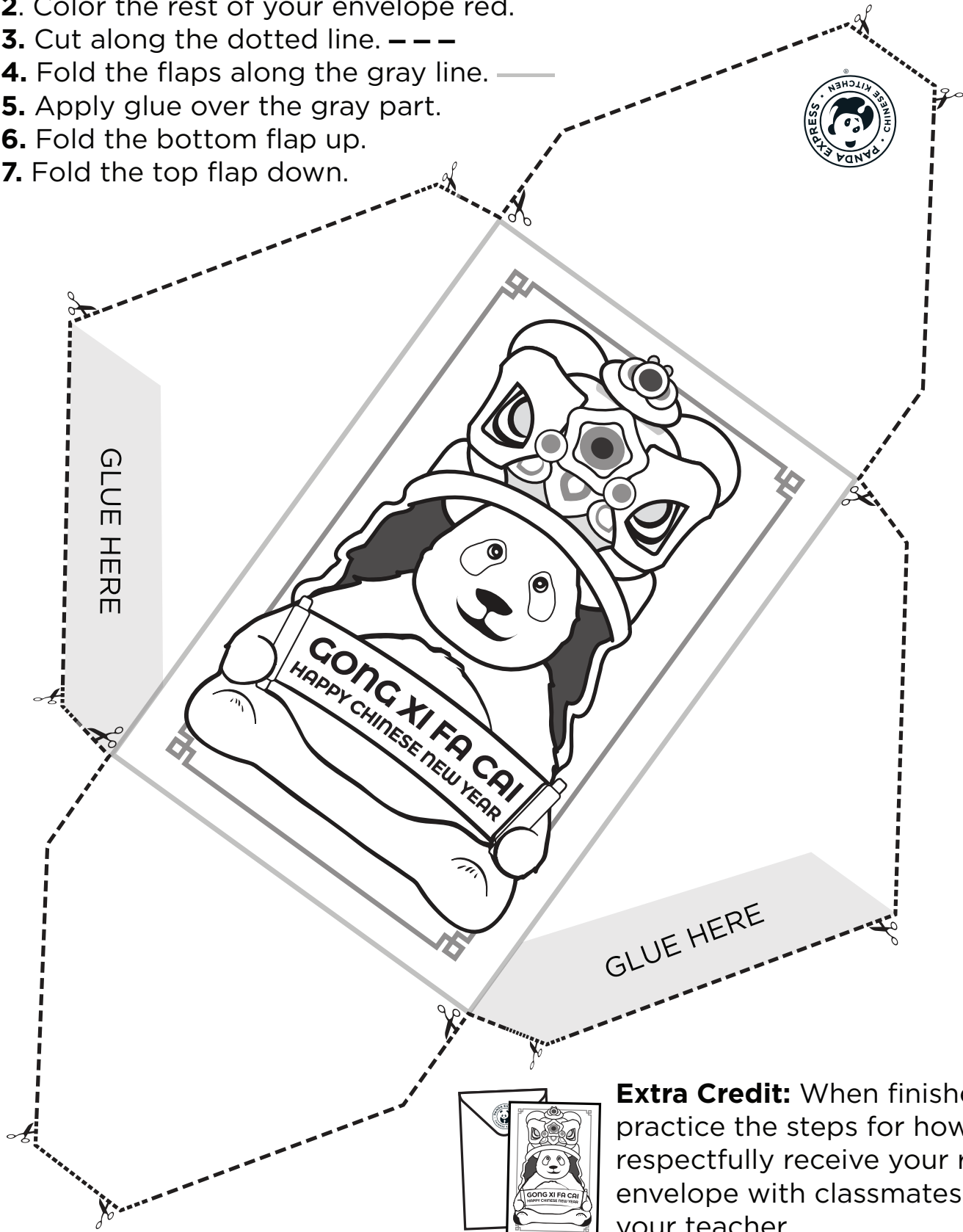
LUCKY

GOOD

MONEY

HOW TO MAKE A RED ENVELOPE

1. Color in the image.
2. Color the rest of your envelope red.
3. Cut along the dotted line. - - -
4. Fold the flaps along the gray line. ———
5. Apply glue over the gray part.
6. Fold the bottom flap up.
7. Fold the top flap down.

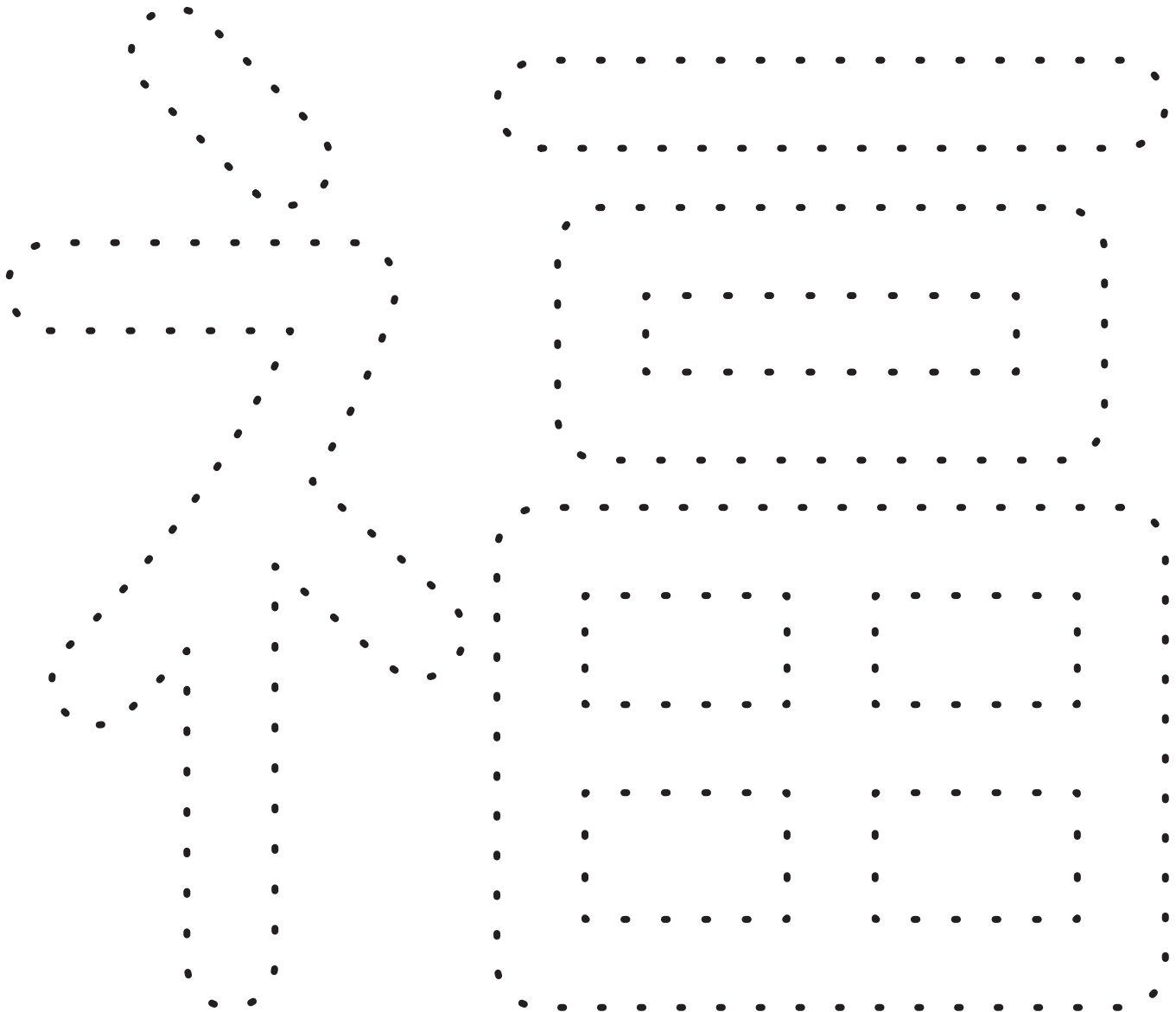


Extra Credit: When finished, practice the steps for how to respectfully receive your red envelope with classmates or your teacher.



GOOD FORTUNE COLORING PAGE

Trace the dotted lines to make the Chinese symbol for "Good Fortune."
Color the symbol red, the color of good fortune!



FU (GOOD FORTUNE)



LEARN WITH ME COLORING PAGE

