



CHINESE NEW YEAR

AROUND THE WORLD

Multicultural Development Team

Telford and Wrekin Council

TEACHING RESOURCE – 2025

Key Stage 3



Chinese New Year Around the World– Introduction



The Chinese New Year festival has been celebrated for more than four thousand years. It celebrates the earth coming back to life and the beginning of the growing cycle, to mark the end of the long winter season and the arrival of spring. Hence it is also called the **Spring Festival**. For Chinese people the **Lunar New Year** is *the* celebration of the year, a time for happy reunions, family and friends, rich in colourful traditions and customs.

Chinese New Year is now an annual observance and celebration globally as a result of trade links, emigration and the presence of long established Chinese communities around the world. Substantial Chinese populations beyond China **exceeding one million** (including ancestry) from the largest include: Thailand; Malaysia; U.S.A.; Indonesia; Singapore; Canada; Myanmar; Philippines; Australia and South Korea. The U.K. has approximately 466,000 people of Chinese heritage and notable 'Chinatowns' in London, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle upon Tyne and Liverpool.

The Chinese New Year Resource Pack is intended to be a starting point, to shine a light on and to celebrate the enormous contribution of Chinese Britons have made to our vibrant and diverse society, and is intended to be a working document to be adapted, added to or changed to suit the individual requirements of the educational setting.

Moreover, it has been questioned whether it is appropriate to confine the study of Chinese history and culture to one month of the year. This Chinese New Year Resource Pack is intended therefore to avoid tokenism and does not substitute for the inclusion of these elements, themes and accomplishments, in the curriculum throughout the year, in all spheres including: history; literature; religion; politics; design and technology; science; sport; mathematics; music; media; visual and the performing arts.

Chinese New Year Additional Resources for KS3

<https://www.activityvillage.co.uk/chinese-zodiac-boggler-puzzle>

How many words of three letters or more can you make out of the letters in this printable puzzle with a Chinese New Year theme- you need to become a member or sign in to download the resources or use as an inspiration.



A word scramble- to reinforce spellings while challenging children to recognise words



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/sdwb4wx>

A three minutes video showing people celebrating the Chinese New Year in China + discussion activity idea.

<https://www.globetrottingkids.com/countries/china/> - Learn more about China.

<https://www.globetrottingkids.com/downloads/china-research-project/>

Explore China's geography and culture with our Country Research Project. Young explorers are guided through the research process to create a final presentation they can share. It is to help students develop geographic and cultural awareness.

Geography

- identify the country's location on a world map and continent map
- complete a compass rose
- create a map key
- label a country map according to the map key

Quick Facts

- record the country's population, area, climate, products, and currency

Flag

- colour the country's flag
- describe the meaning of its colour(s) and symbol(s)

Languages

- learn common words and phrases in the country's official language

Food

- create a menu for a day

Clothing

- design traditional clothing (paper, fabric) for paper dolls

Sports

- identify popular sports and activities

Animals

- classify by animal group and display in a pocket chart

Influential People

- sketch a portrait and write a description of the individual's contributions

Holidays & Celebrations

- create *Save the Date* cards using 4Ws (what, when, where, why) and 1 H (how)

A country research project is a fun learning experience for the whole class, cooperative groups, or independent investigations.

Please Note: This country research project does not include information about the country. Students conduct their own research and record their own notes as part of this project.

The project templates and a draft booklet can be purchased online for \$4.

The research project on China might include:

detailed map

infographic of quick facts (population, currency, etc.)

National symbols

photo gallery

informational video

activities for exploring the country's food, sports, animals, and more

book suggestions

country "challenge" – interactive tasks for learning about the country's geography and culture.

How to prepare a classroom for a research project on Chinese New Year / China

Prepare the Room for Research Projects by displaying:

- world map to hang or project on a screen
- world atlas – online or book
- globe – physical or virtual
- make it a festive environment with world flags decor
- country map(s) – posters or printed
- posters of famous landmarks, people, inventions, etc.
- vocabulary wall
- culture kit – check with your school/district resource centres and local libraries
- country artefacts such as clothing, tools, art, and musical instruments
- traditional music

- ✓ games
- ✓ websites
- ✓ books

<https://ci.ioe.ac.uk/mandarin-resource/resource-ks3-other-chinese-new-year-worksheet/>

Chinese New Year's booklet downloadable for free. Texts + fill in the missing words exercise, quiz about China, scenes to be acted out.

Learning and performing a Chinese poem i.e. "Shancun Yong Huai" (a classic Chinese poem which describes the beautiful scenery in a village.) you can watch the students performing it by clicking on the link on the right hand side of the webpage.

<https://www.teachervision.com/holidays/chinese-new-year>



Chinese New Year History Resources

Explore our history resources and increase your teaching strategies with reading passages about the history of chopsticks and tea, the art of Feng Shui, and the development of "Chinatowns" in major cities of the United States.

In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson

Making a Koto History

of Chopsticks Asian-

American History

History of Tea

The Art of Feng Shui

Chinatowns and Other Asian-American Enclaves

More Chinese New Year History Resources

Printables

To extend students' learning about the Chinese New Year by making musical instruments such as the Erhu and Koto, creating a dragon puppet, making mooncake cookies, and learning a traditional Chinese folk song.

Quizzes

Lesson Plans

Chinese New Year Literature Resources

You need to create an account to be able to download the resources

Chinese New Year customs

A board game for younger secondary school pupils- free downloadable quiz questions and answers:

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/chinese-new-year-0>



The screenshot shows a webpage from TeachingEnglish. The header includes the British Council logo and navigation links for 'Professional development', 'Publications', 'Teaching resources', 'News and events', and 'Training'. The main content area is titled 'Chinese New Year' and includes a sub-header 'In this lesson children learn about Chinese New Year customs.' Below this is a photograph of numerous red lanterns hanging in a row. The author is identified as Katherine Bisborough. A short paragraph of text follows, describing an activity where children learn about Chinese New Year customs through a board game. On the right side, there is a sidebar with an 'A-Z of Content' index and a 'Popular' section listing various articles.

Multicultural Development