



DESTINATION: *China*
and
CHINESE NEW YEAR



Activity Booklet



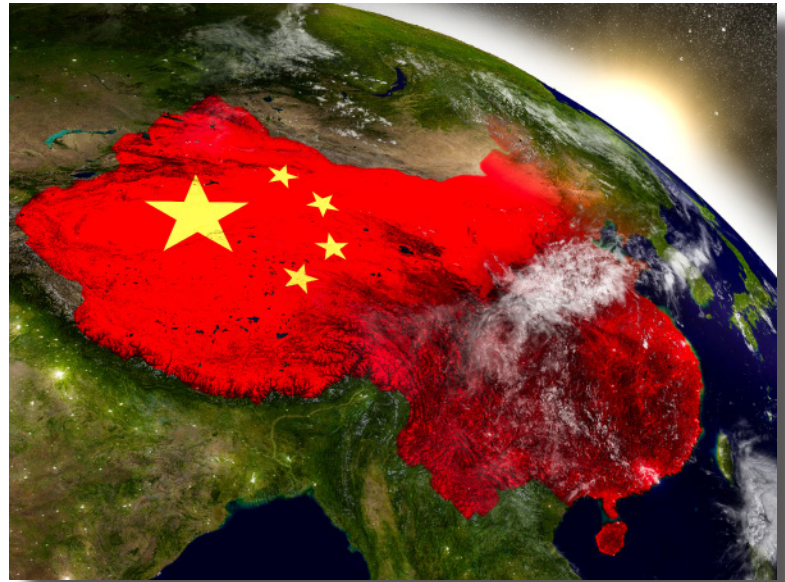
Destination: CHINA

China is located in the eastern parts of Asia and is the largest country that is entirely situated in Asia.

China borders 14 countries. The countries bordering China are: Russia, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar (formerly called Burma), Laos, Vietnam, and North Korea.

Interesting Facts:

- China is the most populous country in the world as it is home to almost one-fifth of the world population.
- The highest mountain on the border with China is Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain, at 29,000ft.
- The longest river in China is the Yangtze River 3,914miles in length. This is also Asia's longest river.
- China has the world's longest sea-crossing bridge. The Hongkong to Zhuhai-Macao bridge was opened to traffic in October 2018.
- The Gobi Desert which stretches over China and Mongolia is the largest desert in Asia.



The People of China

Almost one in five people on our earth live in China, while the country is smaller than the USA. The Chinese government lifted the one-child policy in 2016, now Chinese parents are allowed to have two children.

Many Chinese live in the 'megacities' of the country. Megacities are cities with more than 10 million inhabitants. Six of the 33 megacities in the world are located in China. In rural areas, the living standard is still very poor and many people live there live in huts or along the rivers in stilt houses.

The Chinese love music and opera plays, although the voices of the Chinese opera singers may sound strange to our ears.

Chinese Language

Although Mandarin Chinese is the official language, in many regions other languages are spoken such as Cantonese, Shanghaiese, Hainanese or Mongolian.

Chinese writing is done from top to bottom in little symbols or signs, called 'characters' of which an adult usually knows about 8,000 different characters. By age 13 years most Chinese children can read and write 3,000 characters.

Some Chinese words good to know:

Ni hao! (Nee-HOW) means "Hello!"

Xie Xie (Shee-yoo Shee-yoo) means "Thank You"

Gong Xi Fa Cai! (gong zee fah chai) means "Happy Chinese New Year!"

All About the Chinese New Year

The Chinese New Year, or Spring Festival, has more than 4,000 years of history and is the longest holiday of the year. In the 21st century, the national holiday begins on the first of the Lunar Calendar and lasts until the 15th of the first month. In 2021, the Chinese New Year begins on February 12th and ends on February 26th with the Lantern Festival.

In China, all stores are closed during the first five days of the Spring Festival, with some not opening until the very end. People must stock up on New Year supplies beforehand and many begin on the Laba Festival. Kitchens will also show the first signs of Spring Festival dishes with the preparation of cured meat, salted fish, and other preserved food.

Chinese New Year - Year of the Ox



Friday, February 12th, 2021 - Lantern Festival, 2/26/21

Chinese New Year, also called the Lunar New Year, is the biggest celebration on the Chinese calendar. The Chinese calendar starts at the end of January/early February each year and every year another animal sign symbolizes the strength and the weaknesses. There are 12 zodiac/animal signs and thus every 12 years the animal signs start over

again. 2021 is the Year of the Ox.

Children receive gifts, often money wrapped in red envelopes or red packets, from family and friends. Popular 'Lion Dances' also take place during this time. The dragon is the most celebrated symbol of prosperity and strength.

Chinese Astrology — What's Your Zodiac Animal?

Chinese zodiac animals have lucky meanings. Chinese people associate each animal sign with certain characteristics. It's believed that people born in a given year have the personality of that year's animal. Each zodiac animal's year comes around every 12 years, and each year is associated with a zodiac animal. The most recent zodiac sign years are shown below.



Year of the Rat

1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984,
1996, 2008, 2020

Personality Traits

Quick-witted, resourceful, versatile, kind



Year of the Horse

1930, 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990,
2002, 2014, 2026

Personality Traits

Animated, active, energetic



Year of the Ox

1925, 1937, 1949, 1961, 1973, 1985,
1997, 2009, 2021

Personality Traits

Diligent, dependable, strong, determined



Year of the Goat

1931, 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979, 1991,
2003, 2015, 2027

Personality Traits

Calm, gentle, sympathetic



Year of the Tiger

1926, 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986,
1998, 2010, 2022

Personality Traits

Brave, confident, competitive, dynamic



Year of the Monkey

1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992,
2004, 2016, 2028

Personality Traits

Sharp, smart, curiosity



Year of the Hare

1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987,
1999, 2011, 2023

Personality Traits

Quiet, elegant, kind, responsible



Year of the Rooster

1933, 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993,
2005, 2017, 2029

Personality Traits

Observant, hardworking, courageous



Year of the Dragon

1928, 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988,
2000, 2012, 2024

Personality Traits

Confident, intelligent, enthusiastic



Year of the Dog

1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994,
2006, 2018, 2030

Personality Traits

Lovely, honest, prudent



Year of the Snake

1929, 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989,
2001, 2013, 2025

Personality Traits

Enigmatic, intelligent, wise



Year of the Pig

1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995,
2007, 2019, 2031

Personality Traits

Compassionate, generous, diligent

How much do you know about...

CHINA?



How much do you know about the beautiful country of China?
Test your knowledge of facts by taking our 20-question quiz. Solutions are at the end of the booklet.

1. Where is China?

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| A. Eastern Europe | C. East Asia |
| B. Central Asia. | D. Southern Asia |

2. China is geographically the _____ largest country in the world.

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| A. 1st | C. 3rd |
| B. 2nd | D. 4th |

3. The full name of the U.S. is the United States of America. What is the full name of China?

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| A. China | C. Republic of China |
| B. People's China | D. People's Republic of China |

4. How many time zones does China have?

- | | |
|--------|----------|
| A. One | C. Three |
| B. Two | D. Four |

5. What is the currency of China?

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| A. Renminbi | C. Dollar |
| B. Rupees | D. Yen |

6. On the Chinese flag, what is the main color?

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| A. Red | C. White |
| B. Yellow | D. Blue |

7. What is the capital city of China?

- A. Beijing
- B. Seoul
- C. Shanghai
- D. Kathmandu

8. Which of these endangered animals is native only to China?

- A. Giant panda
- B. Orangutan
- C. Asian elephant
- D. Black rhinoceros

9. There are many UNESCO World Heritage Sites located in China. Which one is part of the New 7 Wonders of the World?

- A. Forbidden City
- B. Temple of Heaven
- C. Summer Palace
- D. Great Wall of China

10. There are five _____ featured on China's flag.

- A. Lions
- B. Strips
- C. Rings
- D. Stars

11. Located in China alone, what is the longest river in Asia?

- A. Yangtze River
- B. Ganges River
- C. Yellow River
- D. Tibr River

12. Has China ever hosted the summer Olympic Games?

- A. Yes
- B. No

13. What piece of architecture, which is the entrance to the Forbidden City, is featured on China's national emblem?

- A. Puning Temple
- B. Tiananmen Gate
- C. Shaolin Monastery
- D. Great Wall of China

14. "March of the Volunteers" is China's national _____.

- A. Motto
- B. University
- C. Book
- D. Anthem

15. 'The Four Great Inventions' from ancient China which are celebrated in Chinese culture for their historical significance are gunpowder, papermaking, printing, and which other invention?
- A. boat sails
 - B. The compass
 - C. nails
 - D. Domestication of horses
16. What is the name of the dam and largest hydro-electric power station in the world which is located on the Yangtze river?
- A. Gezhouba Dam
 - B. Liyuan Dam
 - C. The Three Gorges Dam
 - D. Guandi Dam
17. What's the literal translation of 'Hong Kong'?
- A. Red Frog
 - B. Fragrant Harbor
 - C. Happy Family
 - D. Pollyanna
18. Native to South Central China, the giant panda's diet consists mainly of what?
- A. Grasses
 - B. Green Corn
 - C. Bamboo
 - D. Honey
19. What name was given to the network of trade routes that connected the East with the West from the 2nd to the 18th centuries?
- A. Silk Road
 - B. Roman Road
 - C. Asia Minor Road
 - D. Network of Roads
20. What name is given to the 8,000 clay soldiers discovered in Xi'an?
- A. Terracotta Army
 - B. Qin Shi Statues
 - C. Giant Chinese Statue
 - D. Chinese Dragon Statue



MATCH THE ANSWERS

Match the item in the left column with the clue on the right and write the letter of the answer in the circle. How many can you guess correctly?

A. Red Envelopes



1. Popular means of transportation in China.

B. Mao Zedong



2. The largest public square in the world.

C. Beijing



3. The capital of China.

D. Tiananmen Gate



4. Gifts that contain good luck money, given for births, weddings and the new year

E. Great Wall of China



5. The official language of China

F. Mandarin Chinese



6. Gate of Heavenly Peace

G. Tiananmen Square



7. A communist nation that covers a vast territory in eastern Asia; the most populous country in the world

H. Chinese New Year



8. Marks the end of winter and beginning of spring and believed to bring good luck for the future

I. People's Republic of China



9. Founder of the Communist People's Republic

J. Bicycle Riding



10. A fortification 5,500 miles long built across northern China in the 3rd century BC; it averages 6 meters in width

K. Shang



11. The first-ever Chinese dynasty.

CHINA WORD SEARCH

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

Beijing
Bicycle Riding
Great Wall
Mandarin
Mao Zedong
Red Envelopes
Pandas

Potala Palace
Forbidden City
Red
Population
Dynasty
Lanterns
Silk Road

Solutions

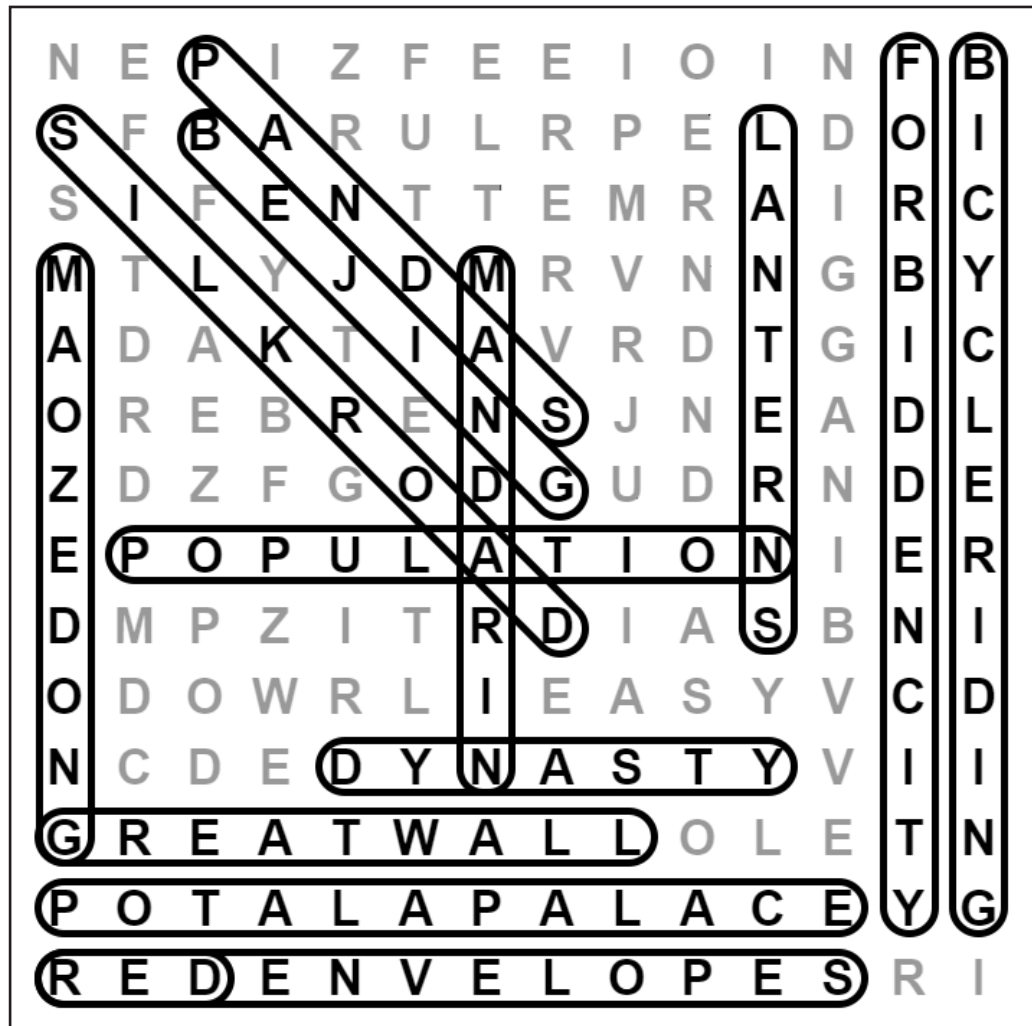
MATCH THE ANSWERS

1. Bicycle Riding
2. Tiananmen Square
3. Beijing
4. Red Envelopes
5. Mandarin Chinese
6. Tiananmen Gate
7. People's Republic of China
8. Chinese New Year
9. Mao Zedong
10. Great Wall of China
11. Shang

CHINA TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. C
2. C
3. D
4. A
5. A
6. A
7. A
8. A
9. D
10. D
11. A
12. A
13. B
14. D
15. B
16. C
17. B
18. C
19. A
20. A

CHINA WORD SEARCH



Beijing
Bicycle Riding
Great Wall
Mandarin
Mao Zedong
Red Envelopes
Pandas

Potala Palace
Forbidden City
Red
Population
Dynasty
Lanterns
Silk Road