

Chinese New Year

- 10** Chinese New Year is an important Chinese holiday. It is
- 20** celebrated on a date in January or February each year.
- 33** The festival is also known as the Lunar New Year. It is the
- 41** longest festival in the Chinese calendar. People celebrate
- 49** Chinese New Year with many different traditions. Chinese
- 59** families get together to share a special dinner the night
- 69** before Chinese New Year begins. Money is given in red
- 80** envelopes because the colour red is a symbol of good luck
- 88** and happiness. Many people also enjoy watching and
- 95** taking part in lion or dragon dances.



Quick Questions



1. What is another name used for Chinese New Year?



2. When is Chinese New Year celebrated?

Tick **two**.

January

February

June



3. Number these facts from 1 to 3 to show the order they appear in the text.

It is the longest festival in the Chinese calendar.

Chinese families get together to share a special dinner.

Chinese New Year is an important Chinese holiday.



4. How do you think you would feel the night before Chinese New Year if your family was going to be celebrating?

Dancing Chinese Lion

- 5 Dancing Chinese lion, you appear,
10 Dancing Chinese lion, people cheer.
15 Dancing Chinese lion, dance around,
21 Dancing Chinese lion, touch the ground.
- 27 Dancing Chinese lion, oh so bright,
33 Dancing Chinese lion, dance all night.
39 Dancing Chinese lion, dip and duck,
45 Dancing Chinese lion, bring good luck.
- 51 Dancing Chinese lion, tail so long,
57 Dancing Chinese lion, hear the gong.
63 Dancing Chinese lion, leap so high,
69 Dancing Chinese lion, touch the sky.
- 75 Dancing Chinese lion, shake your head,
81 Dancing Chinese lion, scroll so red.
87 Dancing Chinese lion, stamp your feet,
93 Dancing Chinese lion, down the street.



Quick Questions



1. What do the people do when they see the lion appear?

people hide

people cheer

touch the ground



2. Find and copy a word from the text that describes the lion's tail.



3. Why do you think the people like to see the dancing chinese lion?



4. Use 20 words or fewer to describe how the lion moves in the poem.

How the Rat Won the Race

11 A long time ago in China, the Emperor held a swimming
22 race. The first 12 animals to cross the river would have
33 a year named after them. During the race, the rat and
44 cat rode on the ox's back because they were not good
54 swimmers. When they were almost to the other side, the
65 sneaky rat pushed the cat into the water. Then, he jumped
77 onto the bank to finish first. The Emperor told the rat that
89 the first year would be named after him. The poor ox was
101 tricked into second place. The cat was so slow that he did
108 not get a year named after him.



Quick Questions



1. How many animals would have a year named after them?

14

12

13



2. Can you find an adjective used to describe the rat?



3. How do you think the ox felt about the rat winning the race?



4. What do you think will happen next? Do you think the cat and rat were still good friends after the race?

How to Make a Paper Lantern

- 12 1. Cut a strip from the paper and save it for the handle.
- 20 2. Fold the piece of paper in half lengthways.
- 31 3. Draw a line with your ruler 3cm from the open edge.
- 42 4. Draw lines from the fold up to your top line every
- 46 2cm across the paper.
- 57 5. Carefully cut up each line from the fold and stop at
- 60 the top line.
- 63 6. Unfold the paper.
- 72 7. Curve the paper round to form a cylinder shape.
- 82 8. Tape the two ends of the paper together to make
- 84 the lantern.
- 93 9. Staple the handle onto the top of the lantern.



Quick Questions

1. What shape is the lantern?

sphere

cube

cylinder
2. Which part of the lantern is added last?
3. Find and copy the word used to describe how you should cut up each line from the fold.
4. What materials and equipment do you need to make a paper lantern?

