

CHINESE NEW YEAR

CLICK ON THE
ENVELOPES FOR LOTS
OF FUN ACTIVITIES



THE STORY OF CHINESE
NEW YEAR



CHINESE SHADOW PUPPETS
ZODIAC STORY



HOW TO DRAW
A CHINESE DRAGON



ZODIAC ANIMAL
YOGA



HOW TO DRAW
AN OX FOR 2021



CHINESE FAN DANCE



The Year of the Ox

What Is the Chinese Horoscope?

Each new lunar year in Chinese **culture** is shown by an animal. There are 12 animals altogether. This tradition is thousands of years old and is believed to have first begun with a story.

It is said that Buddha asked all of the animals on Earth to come and see him. However, only 12 animals answered his call. Buddha gave each one of these animals their own year in the Chinese **zodiac cycle** as a way of saying thank you.

Did You Know...?

Some versions of the story have the Jade Emperor as the main character and others have Buddha. However, all of the stories are very similar and talk about the same animals.

When Does the Year of the Ox Start?

The Year of the Ox begins on 12th February 2021. It is the 4719th year of the Chinese calendar. Once the Year of the Ox is over, the next will not begin again until 31st January 2033.

You were born in the Year of the Ox if you were born in:

1961 1973 1985 1997 2009



What Is Special about the Year of the Ox?

People born in the Year of the Ox are believed to have many special qualities. If someone was born in the Year of the Ox then many people believe that they are:

- hard-working. They work tirelessly;
- reliable. They can be trusted;
- determined. They don't give up easily;
- thorough. They will do things properly;
- loyal. They always show support.

Did You Know...?

People born in the Year of the Ox are said to get on well with those who were born in the Year of the Rat, the Year of the Snake and the Year of the Rooster.

What Jobs Could They Be Good At?

Many people believe that people born in the Year of the Ox might make good:

- lawyers;
- carpenters;
- bankers;
- army officers.

Glossary

culture: The ideas and traditions of a group of people.

zodiac cycle: A repeating cycle of 12 years with each year being represented by an animal or sign.

Questions

1. How many animals answered Buddha's call? Tick one.

- 10
 11
 12
 13

2. When does the Year of the Ox begin in 2021?

- 12th February
 31st January
 31st February
 12th January

3. Draw **three** lines and match each word with its meaning.

reliable

thorough

determined

They don't give up easily.

They can be trusted.

They will do things properly.

4. Which of the following years is not a Year of the Ox? Tick one.

- 2009
 1961
 1975
 1985

5. List **two** jobs that someone born in the Year of the Ox might be good at.

- _____
- _____

6. Fill in the missing number.

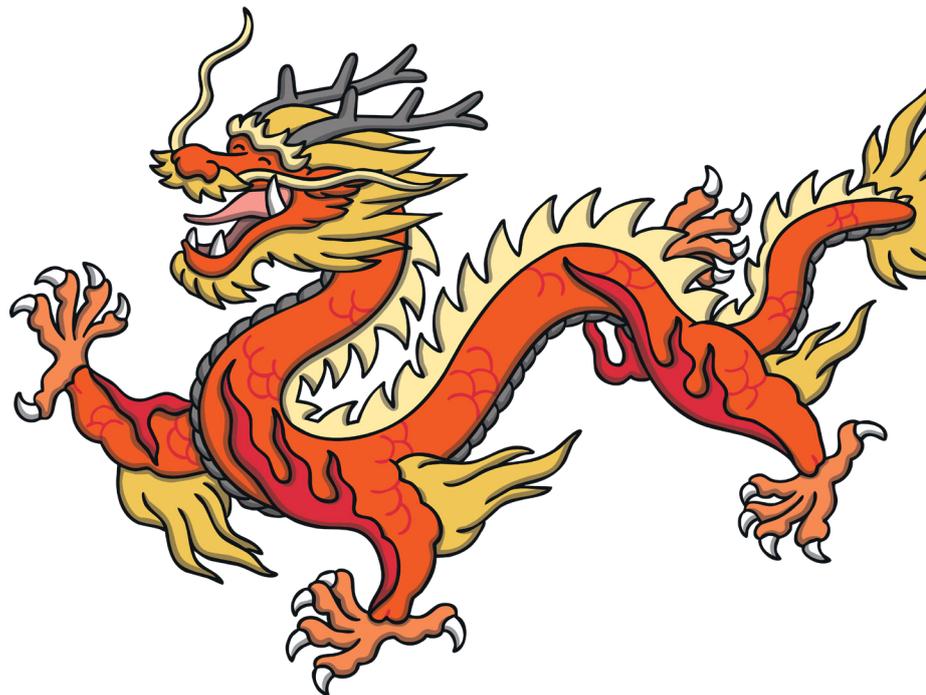
The Year of the Ox is the _____th year of the Chinese calendar.

7. Explain why you think that the Chinese zodiac is called a 'cycle'?

Chinese New Year

Unscramble the words below and write the answers on the line.

1. inelratoceb _____
2. ntarnel _____
3. daonrg _____
4. loevenp _____
5. erd _____
6. niounre _____
7. mflyai _____
8. adenc _____
9. fodo _____
10. ditiaontrs _____



Chinese New Year Dance Activities



1

Chinese New Year celebrations often have a dragon dance. Can you do three actions that show how a dragon might move?



2

Sometimes Chinese New Year dances have a lion dance. Lions are fierce and strong! Can you move like a lion? Put some music on and see if you can move like a lion in time to the beat.



3

Houses are decorated with lanterns at Chinese New Year. Lanterns light up the room. Can you come up with three actions to show how a lantern lights up a room?



4

Fireworks are set off to celebrate Chinese New Year. Think about how fireworks bang and pop in the night sky. Put on some music and move around the space as if you are a firework!



5

A fan is a lucky decoration for Chinese New Year. Fans move back and forth to cool the space down. Can you move around the space using your body like a fan?



6

Find out one other way that Chinese New Year is celebrated. Can you think of an action to show this way of celebrating?

SPRING ROLLS FOR CHINESE NEW YEAR

Always cook with an adult.



Ingredients

- 1 packet spring roll wrappers or filo pastry
- 500 g lean beef mince
- 1 tsp Chinese five-spice
- 3 tbs soy sauce
- 1 packet salad mix
- olive oil (for frying)
- sweet chilli sauce (*to serve)

Method

1

Remove spring roll wrappers from the freezer and allow to defrost.

2

In a non-stick pan, brown mince and continue cooking until the fat renders (runs out of the mince) and then drain off the excess fat and discard.

3

Add five spice powder, soy sauce and vegetables to mince and cook for a few minutes until vegetables have softened slightly.

4

Allow the mince to cool while you are separating the spring roll wrappers.

5

With a spring roll wrapper corner facing you, scoop a couple of tablespoons of filling across the paper, leaving enough room for the sides to be folded in. Fold the side corners in and roll it up into a log form as tightly as you can.

6

Heat a little olive oil in a non stick frypan over medium heat and gently brown each side until golden and crunchy. Serve with sweet chilli sauce.

Chinese New Year Traditions

y c p y j o m o t t e w y
m l a f s y b f p j e z e
z e a u u d s e o x h d j
g a n u w r g m y o a y d
h n h v o q u d b r d b w
k m e e e x o j a h r n o
s q g z d l i p x c a e u
g f i r e w o r k s g u c
m l d k n s n p b r o q m
o e u e r i v m e p n m p
r n u c m o n e y s t n i
e l a h k k k a y m q g g
x q v g p y h v c h r u c

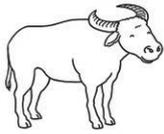
dragon
pig
parade
lucky
money

red
envelopes
fireworks
food
clean

Chinese New Year Code Breaking



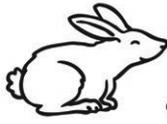
1



3



7



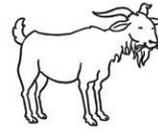
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4



2



9



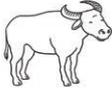
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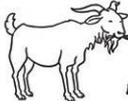
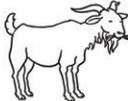


5

Example

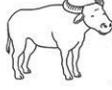
In the number  , what is  worth? 20

1. In the number  , what is  worth? _____

2. In the number  , what is  worth? _____

3. In the number   , what is  worth? _____

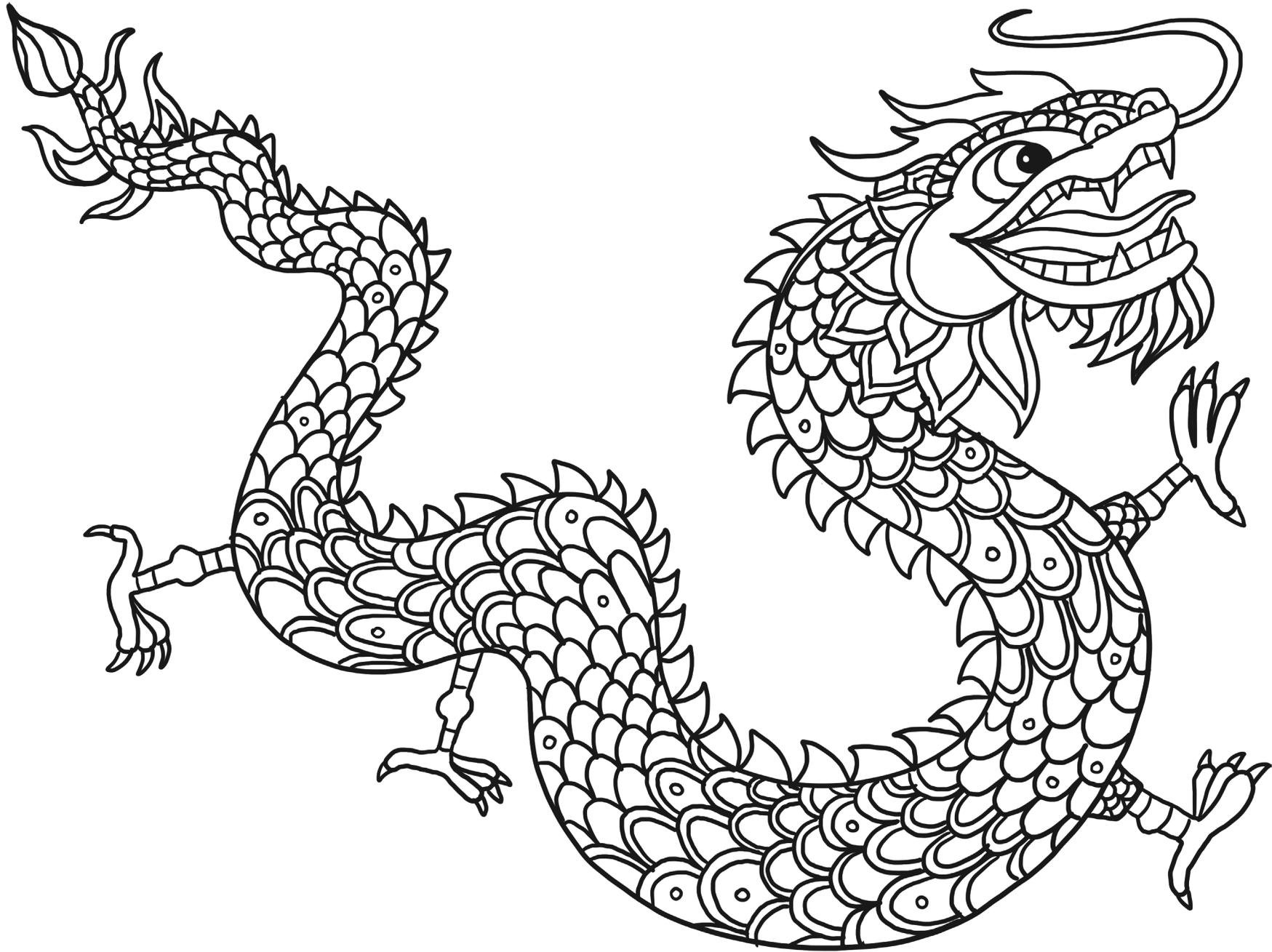
4. In the number   , what is  worth? _____

5. In the number   , what is  worth? _____

6. In the number   , what is  worth? _____

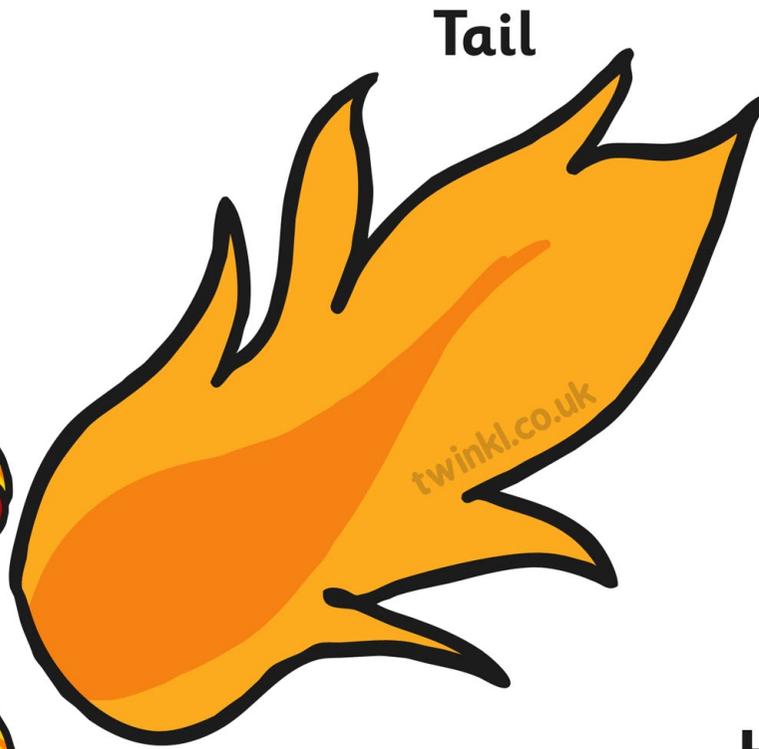
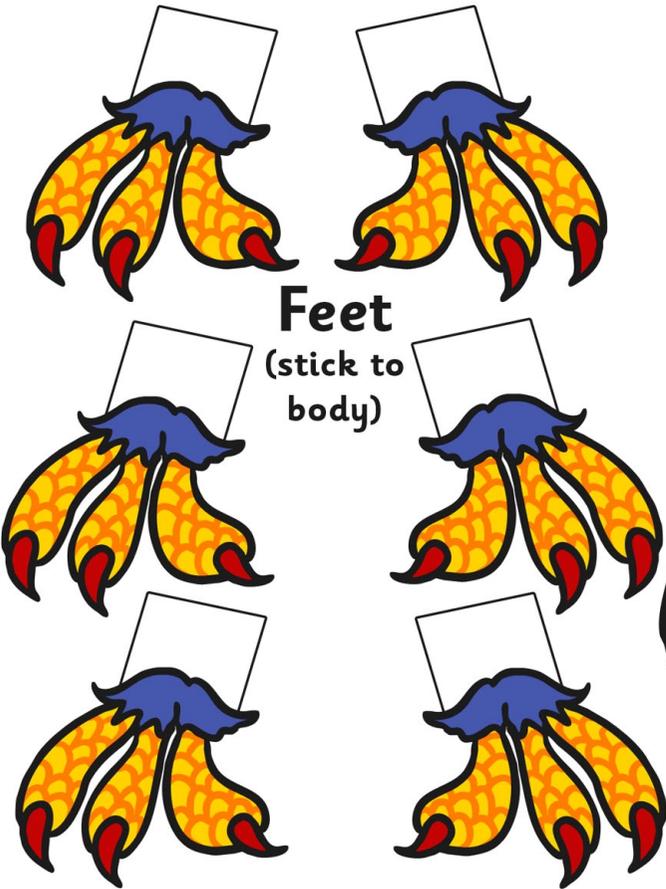
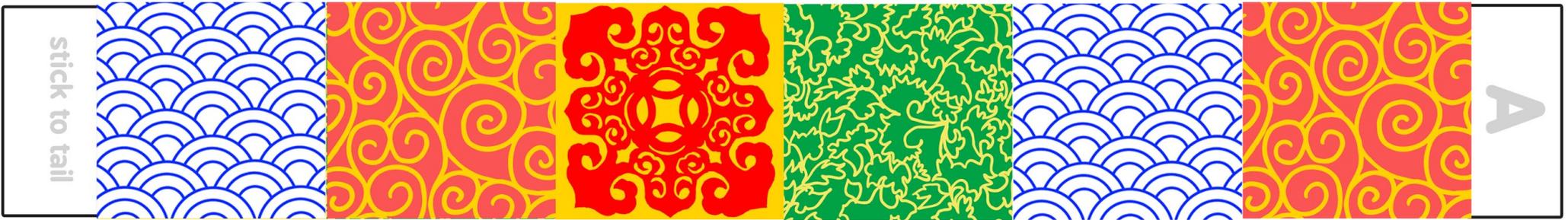
7. In the number    , what is  worth? _____

8. In the number   , what is  worth? _____





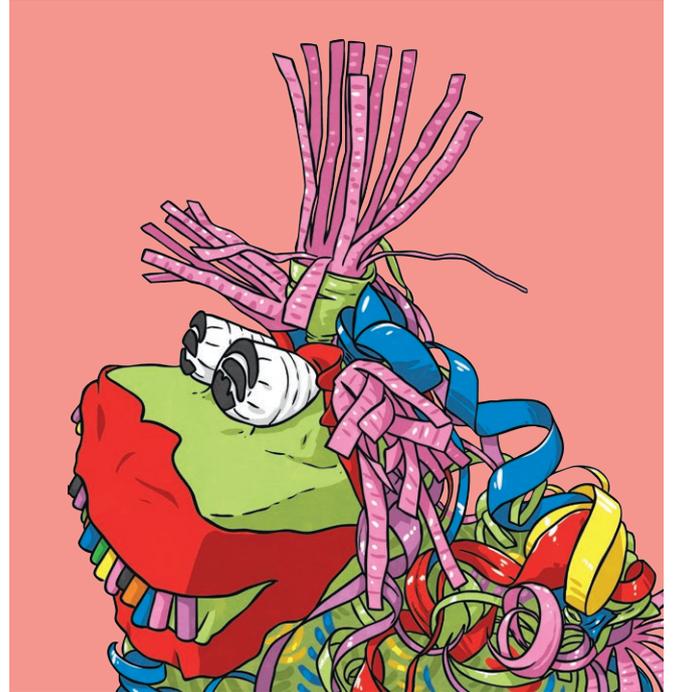




Recycled Water Bottle Dragons

You will need:

empty plastic bottles
 diluted acrylic paint
 glitter
 scissors
 roll of chicken wire
 cardboard
 collage materials
 2 ping pong balls
 2 paper cups
 old felt tip lids



Instructions

1. Collect a substantial amount of empty water bottles.
2. Pour diluted acrylic paint into the bottles. Choose one colour per bottle. Glitter and flakes can also be put inside, if required.
3. Put the lid on and shake the paint inside to cover the bottle.
4. Empty the paint out, leave the lid off and leave to dry.



5. Carefully cut the bottle from the bottom in a spiral motion. Beware of the sharp plastic edges. Leave the bottle neck intact for attaching.
6. Roll the chicken wire into a cylindrical shape.
7. Attach the bottles through the wire or thread string through the neck and tie onto the chicken wire.
8. For the dragon head, make a large cardboard face and collage to make the eyes and mouth. The eyes could be ping pong balls inside polystyrene cups. For the teeth, use old felt tip pen lids.

To make the tissue paper version of the water bottle dragons, instead of using paint, glue tissue paper around the bottles. Leave the ends longer, and twist into a tail or tassel-like shape. The bottles do not need cutting into spirals with this technique.

Paper Lantern

You will need:

Lantern Template

Red paper (optional)

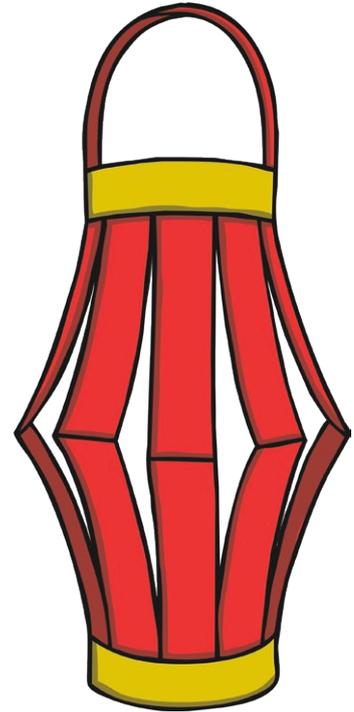
Red and gold paint/coloured pens

Scissors

Glue

Sticky tape

Stapler



Instructions

1. Print the Lantern Template onto plain or red paper, as desired.
2. Cut off one end of the paper and set aside to make the handle.
3. Decorate the sheet using coloured pens or paint (red and gold are the traditional Chinese New Year colours).
4. Fold the paper in half lengthwise along the dashed line.
5. Cut along the marked lines on the sheet Do not cut to the edge of the paper.
6. Unfold the paper.
7. Curve the paper round to form a cylinder shape.
8. Tape the two ends of the paper together to create your lantern.
9. Staple the handle to the top of the lantern.

