

# China Research Project

## Unit 3

### Grade 6 Social Studies





Welcome to the cultural research project on Ancient China. You will be required to ask questions about a topic that interests you, show its connection to one of the Dynasties, and how it is relevant today. You will research the answers to your questions and present your findings in a creative project.

The steps for the project will be

1. Brainstorm ideas for the project
2. Select a topic
  - a. Narrow down your ideas from the prior step and select one
3. Prepare for research by generating a minimum of 5 questions
4. Research
5. Create your finished product

## **Steps 1 and 2. Brainstorm and select a topic**

### **Project Topics:**

Here are some project topic ideas to get you started brainstorming.

#### **Philosophies**

- Legalism
- Buddhism
- Daoism
- Confucianism

#### **Arts and Architecture**

- Great Wall of China
- Grand Canal
- Forbidden City
- Temple of Heaven
- Shadow Puppets
- Landscape Painting
- Wood Block Printing
- Calligraphy
- Dance
- Poetry, Li Bai
- Music
- Opera

#### **Trade and Exploration**

- Silk industry
- Silk Road

- Pottery
- Junks (ships)

### **Advances and Breakthroughs**

- Educational system
- Civil service examination system
- Medicine
- Inventions
  - Fireworks
  - Printing, moveable type
  - Gunpowder
  - Compass
  - Paper
  - Kites

## **Step 3 Generate Questions**

- \* ONE QUESTION MUST RELATE TO A CHINESE DYNASTY*
- \* ONE QUESTION MUST RELATE TO HOW THIS TOPIC IS RELEVANT TODAY*

Come up with a minimum of five questions about your topic using different types of questions from the list below.

**Build on New Information:** As you learn more about a topic there are more questions you can ask. Use new information to ask new questions, get clarification or take your thinking in a new direction.

**Change Your Perspective:** Pretend you are someone else when you are asking the questions.

**Connect to You Own Experiences:** Think about what you know about the topic from your own life. Ask questions to find out how your experiences have been similar or different from the topic you are researching.

## Step 4: Research

We will be going to the media center for two days and working in the classroom for two days but you may also do research on your own.

You will need to keep track of your sources and include a bibliography containing information on your sources. Use Noodletools to create the bibliography.

### Research Resources

#### *Keywords*

While searching all online and text resources you will want to choose specific keywords (and combinations of words) that will guide you to the best information possible on your topic. Helpful keywords and terms:

Chinese Dynasty	Trade route	Poetry
Ancient China	Transportation	Painting
Shang Dynasty	Technology	Pottery
Zhou(Chou)Dynasty	Political System	Music
Qin(Chin) Dynasty	Leadership	Textiles
Han Dynasty	Authority	Inventions
Tang(T'ang) Dynasty	Laws	Philosophies
Xia Dynasty	Three Kingdoms	Sui Dynasty
Western Chin Dynasty	The Five Dynasties	Yuan Dynasty (Kublai Khan)
Economy	Ideas	Structure
Economic Systems	Government	Cities
Jobs	Social System	Building Projects
Goods and Services	Levels of society	Regional map
Markets	Arts	
Trade	Architecture	

#### *Media Center*

REF 930 ANC	<u>Ancient Civilizations</u>
REF 930 ANC	<u>Ancient and Medieval World</u>
REF 951 CAM	<u>The Cambridge Encyclopedia of China</u>
609.51 GRE	<u>Technology of Ancient China</u>
930 MAR	<u>The Kingfisher Book of The Ancient World</u>
931 ALL	<u>Life in Ancient China</u>

931 AND	<u>Ancient China</u>
931 ARM	<u>Treasures From China</u>
931 COT	<u>Eyewitness Books: Ancient China</u>
931 DUT	<u>The Great Wall of China</u>
931 LAN	<u>Exploring Ancient China with Elaine Landau</u>
931 OCO	<u>The Emperor's Silent Army</u>
931 REE	<u>The Ancient Chinese: Understanding People in the Past</u>
931 SCH	<u>The Ancient Chinese</u>
931 SHE	<u>Your Travel Guide to Ancient China</u>
931 SHU	<u>Ancient China</u>
931 SIM	<u>The Nature Companies: Ancient China</u>
951 FIE	<u>China</u> <u>The Message of Ancient Days (class textbook)</u>

When using these texts make sure you check the index and table of contents in order to locate the dynasty you are working on.

#### *Websites*

The Ancient Dynasties

<http://www-chaos.umd.edu/history/ancient1.html>

A-Z Kid's Stuff: China

<http://www.atozkidsstuff.com/china.html>

Ancient, Classical History: China

<http://ancienthistory.about.com/cs/china>

China

<http://history.evansville.net/china.html#Resources>

Daily Life in Ancient China

<http://members.aol.com/Donnnclass/Chinalife.html>

Ancient China Index

<http://www.crystalinks.com/china.html>

Chinese Cultural Studies: Concise Political History of China (scroll down for dynasties)

<http://academic.brooklyn.cuny.edu/core9/phalsall/texts/chinhist.html>

<http://depts.washington.edu/chinaciv/index.htm>

<http://www.computersmiths.com/chineseinvention/>

<http://www.ancientchina.co.uk/menu.html>

[http://www.chinaculture.org/gb/en\\_artqa/node\\_405.htm](http://www.chinaculture.org/gb/en_artqa/node_405.htm)

<http://mnsu.edu/emuseum/prehistory/china/timeline.html>

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/lakelandsparkms/Media/China%20Links.htm>

<http://k12east.mrdonn.org/China.html>

The Art of Asia

<http://www.artsmia.org/art%2Dof%2Dasia/>

Timeline of Chinese Dynasties

<http://www.mnsu.edu/emuseum/prehistory/china/timeline.html>

Chinese History

<http://www.chinaknowledge.org/History/history.htm>

Tang Dynasty Art History

[http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/tang/hd\\_tang.htm](http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/tang/hd_tang.htm)

## Step 5: Create Your Finished Product

Once your topic and questions have been selected and researched, you will need to show what you have learned. You will do this by writing the answers to your questions and producing a visual that relates to your topic.

### Projects must include:

1. The five questions that you have researched along with their answers typed on separate piece of paper with your heading on it.
2. A typed list of your sources (bibliography)
3. A visual/product that relates to your topic and includes the answers to your research questions.

### Final project options include:

- Scrapbook
- Power Point slide show
- Newspaper
- Website
- Children's book
- Artwork
- Architectural feature
- Poster
- Artifact Replica
- Diorama
- Model
- Other

### Project Timeline:

March 3-7:	Generate ideas and questions
March 10:	<u>Hand in</u> a copy of topic and questions
March 10 & 11:	Research in Tilden Media Center
March 12 & 13:	Research in classroom (print material only)
March 14:	<u>Hand in</u> a copy of questions and answers that you have researched
March 18:	<u>Hand in</u> completed project (due date)
March 19:	Deadline

- \* ONE QUESTION MUST RELATE TO A CHINESE DYNASTY
- \* ONE QUESTION MUST RELATE TO HOW THIS TOPIC IS RELEVANT TODAY

\* ONE QUESTION MUST RELATE TO A CHINESE DYNASTY  
 \* ONE QUESTION MUST RELATE TO HOW THIS TOPIC IS RELEVANT  
 TODAY

Project Rubric

- \_\_\_\_\_ 2 points      Topic selection
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5 points      Generating at least 5 good questions that relate to  
your topic (having 6 or 7 at first is a good idea)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20 points     Answers to your questions that demonstrate new  
learning

Each questions is worth 4 points	<b>All questions and answers should be typed</b>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Answers question accurately and thoroughly</li> <li>▪ Grammatically correct</li> </ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Answers question partially but accurately</li> <li>▪ Grammatically correct</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Answer is vague or too general</li> <li>▪ Grammatically acceptable with few errors</li> </ul>
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Answer shows some understanding but is inaccurate and or insufficiently explained</li> <li>▪ Many grammatical errors</li> </ul>

\_\_\_\_\_ 5 points      Bibliography (minimum five sources)

\_\_\_\_\_ 20 points      Project visual

_____ 10 points	Visual shows a complete and thorough understanding of question
_____ 5 points	Visual is neat
_____ 5 points	Visual created by student

\_\_\_\_\_ 52 points      total points for the project