Chinese New Year
Chinese Lunar New Year

MONKEY L JADE E PGR
AERGSGNIRPSMOS
GDUMPLINGSUOEH
REDYENOMOSSEDE
FESTIVALRTERAE
OADERAODEARS
EAONNTROAGAUKM
CZROVSSRORSTRSB
OOSXELANTERNOB
MDECLPCRAXAWF
PINROEKANSRFEY
AAIMPSNALUCKRW
SCETEUTIGERHIK
SGODELETIBBARFV

ANCESTORS
BOAR
COMPASS
DOG
DRAGON
DUMPLINGS
ENVELOPE
FANS
FESTIVAL
FIREWORKS
HORSE
JADE
LANTERN
LUCK
LUNAR
MONEY
MONKEY
OX
PARADE
RABBIT
RAT
RED
ROOSTERS
SHEEP
SNAKE
SPRING
TIGER
ZODIAC
FOR BEST RESULTS, PRINT ON COLORED CARDSTOCK
Tangram puzzles originated in Imperial China during the Tang Dynasty. They are thought to have been introduced in Europe in the 19th century on trading ships.

Tangram patterns are called in Chine “Chin-Chiao Pan” meaning “intriguing seven piece puzzle”. A book published in China in 1815 by Shan–Chiao contains 374 puzzle patterns.

The rules are simple: use all the shapes, or tans, from the puzzle; make sure they all touch another piece but do not let them overlap; and create a recognizable design. Use your imagination or make the shapes shown on this page.
CHINESE NEW YEAR LUCKY RED ENVELOPE

YOU WILL NEED:
SCISSORS
GLUE STICK

INSTRUCTIONS:
1. COLOR ENVELOPE RED
2. CUT OUT ENVELOPE
3. FOLD ON DOTTED LINES
4. PUT GLUE ON TABS WHERE INDICATED
5. GLUE TOGETHER
6. GLUE 2 GOLD COINS TOGETHER TO MAKE 1 DOUBLE-SIDED COIN
REPEAT TO MAKE 5 COINS
7. PUT COINS IN ENVELOPE
Chinese New Year falls sometime in January or February each year. It begins on the first New Moon of the year. During this time, the Moon cannot be seen in the night sky. Chinese New Year ends 15 days later, during the first Full Moon of the year.

Each new year is ruled by one of the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac. According to one legend, the animals were chosen by the Buddha. One day the Buddha asked all the animals to come and visit him. The animals that showed up are the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac. Over time, it was believed that people took on the traits of the year they were born. Are you like your Chinese zodiac animal?

People set off fireworks to welcome the New Year. It is believed that the fireworks will drive away evil and bring good luck.

The Red packet is a red envelope with money in it. Usually the Red packet is given by adults to young children during the days of the New Year celebration. It is believed that the money in the Red packet will keep the children healthy, give them a long life, and protect them from evil.

Lively parades filled with colorful costumes, dancing, and the sounds of drums and gongs take place all through Chinese New Year. Dragon dances are performed all over China. At the front of the dragon, a dancer holds up the head. More dancers follow behind with the body. Lion dances are believed to chase off evil and to bring good luck to shopkeepers.

Dragons are also a symbol of spring in China. According to legend, people began performing dragon dances to wake up a dragon that brought spring rain for newly planted crops.

People hang long red banners with good luck wishes written on them around their home.

Chinese New Year is the most important celebration in China. Chinese people follow certain traditions to make sure they have a lucky new year.

Most information here is from Celebrations in My World: CHINESE New Year, written by Carrie Gleason and published by Crabtree Publishing Company in 1973.
CHINESE ZODIAC CALENDAR
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monkey</td>
<td>You are smart, polite, and funny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabbit</td>
<td>You are lucky, loving, and careful in all that you do</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>You are charming, ambitious, and you like adventure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rooster</td>
<td>You are honest, hardworking, and clever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horse</td>
<td>You are popular, cheerful, and do well in sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dragon</td>
<td>You are honest, brave, and have a lot of energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ox</td>
<td>You are patient, strong, and a natural leader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog</td>
<td>You are generous, brave, and dependable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiger</td>
<td>You are caring, sensitive, and filled with courage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snake</td>
<td>You are wise, quiet, and charming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goat/Sheep</td>
<td>You are calm, creative, and you care a lot about others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig</td>
<td>You are honest, giving, and kind</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Print on red cardstock paper