Ancient China
Lapbook
Ancient China Lapbook
study by Jimmie

**Basic Timeline**
Ancient China includes just three dynasties:

1. Zhou Dynasty 1100 - 221 BC
   --Confucius lived 551 - 479 BC

2. Qin Dynasty 221 - 210 BC
   --Unification of China under Qin Shi Huang Di

3. Han Dynasty 206BC - 9 AD
   --Flowering of Chinese culture
   --invention of the kite and of paper
   --Buddhism introduced into China
   --Silk Road opens

Create an accordion book with the timeline figures.

**Emperor Qin**
Read the information in the file and create a mini-book.

**Terracotta Soldiers**
Read *The Emperor's Silent Army: Terracotta Warriors of Ancient China* by Jane O' Connor (if possible). If you can't get the book, just read the information in the
file. Read through the Terracotta information and complete the trifold book.

If desired, watch this video a man making a replica of a Terra Cotta Warrior.

**Great Wall**
Read *The Great Wall of China* by Leonard Everett Fisher
Complete Great Wall ¾ book and read through the Great Wall information.

If desired, watch this video about The Great Wall.

**Confucius**
Read Confucius Information and complete the Confucius shutterflap and the Confucius Quotes copywork & pocket.

**Ancient Chinese Book**
Paper was invented in the Han Dynasty (206 BC - 220 AD). But before the invention of paper, books were made with strips of bamboo tied together with strings. Then the books could be rolled up like a scroll. Add Ancient Chinese book to your lapbook.

**Ancient Chinese Money**
By 400 B.C., China was using bronze coins for money. The coins had square holes in the middle so that people could keep them on a ribbon or stick.

For extra fun for your lapbook, make some coin replicas. Roll some Sculpey clay flat with a rolling pin. Cut circle shapes out. Punch a square shape in the middle of each coin. Bake according to directions on package. When the coins are cool, paint them with bronze or gold craft paint. After the paint dries, add some Chinese characters with a black permanent marker. Run a ribbon through your
coins. Make a special pocket (you may want to use a small plastic bag) and store them in your lapbook.

![Ancient Chinese Coins - replicas.](image)

**Ancient Chinese Inventions**
Read *Made in China: Ideas and Inventions from Ancient China* by Suzanne Williams

Note: The kite may be best suited for one invention while the window book can be used to record information about three different inventions.

**Silk Road**
Read *The Silk Route: 7,000 Miles of History* by John S. Major.

The production of silk began during the Shang Dynasty (1750 - 1100 BC). The secrets of spinning silk worm cocoons into luxurious fabric was a closely guarded secret for many years. During the Han Dynasty, the Silk Road opened, taking Chinese made silk the 7000 mile journey across Central Asia to the Eastern Roman Empire in Byzantium.

Make a three-square unfolding book. Open it up and draw the silk route based on the information in *The Silk Route: 7,000 Miles of History* (make it go diagonally through the center- see picture below). If desired, add the lifecycle of the silkworm on the outside empty squares. You can find nice images of the
silkworm's lifecycle [here](#) (see silkworm sequencing cards).

Decorate your lapbook or make more mini-books with the extra images.

**Links**
- [Ellen McHenry's Basement Workshop](#)
- [Ancient China Unit Study Squidoo Lens](#)
- [Learning Page Great Wall Fact Sheet #30](#)
- [How to Make Paper](#)

**Recommended Books**
- *Life in Ancient China* by Paul Challen
- *The Emperor's Silent Army: Terracotta Warriors of Ancient China* by Jane O'Connor
- *The Great Wall of China* by Leonard Everett Fisher
- *Made in China: Ideas and Inventions from Ancient China* by Suzanne Williams
- *Adventures in Ancient China* (Good Times Travel Agency)
- *The Silk Route: 7,000 Miles of History* by John S. Major
- *The Emperor and the Kite* by Jane Yolen
- *You Wouldn't Want to Work on the Great Wall of China!* by Jacqueline Morley
- *Yeh-Shen* by Ai-Ling Louie
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Image</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zhou Dynasty Begins</td>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Zhou Dynasty Begins" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confucius</td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Confucius" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhou Dynasty Ends</td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Zhou Dynasty Ends" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qin Dynasty Begins</td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Qin Dynasty Begins" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Great Wall and Terracotta Warriors Are Built.</td>
<td><img src="image5" alt="Terracotta Warriors" /></td>
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<tr>
<td>Qin Dynasty Ends/Han Begins</td>
<td><img src="image6" alt="Qin Dynasty Ends/Han Begins" /></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kite and Silk are Invented.</td>
<td><img src="image7" alt="Kite and Silk" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silk Road Opens</td>
<td><img src="image8" alt="Silk Road" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Han Dynasty Ends</td>
<td><img src="image9" alt="Han Dynasty Ends" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Directions for timeline.**

Use four index cards (or cardstock/paper cut to that approximate size) to make an accordion book. Decorate the front and make a title (Ancient China Timeline) Print the events and pictures above. Inside, use two timeline items per page. Fill in the dates.

**Dates are as follows:**

Zhou Dynasty begins **1100 BC**
Confucius **551-479 BC**
Zhou Dynasty ends/Qin begins **221 BC**
Great Wall/Terracotta built during Qin’s reign **221-206 BC**
Qin Dynasty ends/Han begins **206 BC**
Kite, silk invented; Silk Road Opens during Han Dynasty **206 BC - 220 AD**
Han Dynasty ends **220 AD**
Qin Shi Huang Di built a long wall with watchtowers along the northern border of his empire to keep out the invading Huns. This wall linked many of the already existing walls that were built under the rule of the various kingdoms before he came to power. Some have called it the longest cemetery in the world because of all the people who died during its construction. Peasants and criminals were forced to work as slaves to build it. Furthermore, high taxes were exacted to finance this project.

The Great Wall is almost 4000 miles long and crosses approximately 1400 miles of land. The emperors of later dynasties rebuilt and extended Qin Shi Huang Di's original project. (The Great Wall that is visible today was constructed under the rule of the Ming Dynasty.)
Cut away this fourth
Qin Shi Huang Di was superstitious and afraid of death. He hired fortune tellers and magicians to find the secret to immortality. Ironically it is thought that his death at age 49 was brought on by the consumption of mercury, a common ingredient in these elixirs.

The greatest evidence of his obsession with death is his construction of his tombs. Thousands of laborers worked for up to 40 years to make clay models of an entire army - 7000 soldiers, 600 horses, 10 chariots, and a multitude of weapons and suits of armour. This army was meant to protect him in the afterlife. His own body is buried in a replica of his palace in a yet unexcavated underground tomb.

The terracotta warriors were made with local clay pressed in molds of body parts. These molded parts were assembled with a clay paste and facial and armour details were added. Finally each warrior and horse was fired in a huge kiln, painted in brilliant colors and assembled in ranks in the underground tombs.

Activity: Kitchen Terra Cotta
This activity is taken from *Marco Polo for Kids* by Janis Herbert.

What you need:

- Oven
- 1 cup boiling water Pot
- 1 cup salt Spoon
- 2 cups flour Bowl
- Cutting board
- Red and orange food coloring
- 4 T. paprika Toothpicks
- Cheese grater Cookie sheet

1. Preheat the oven to 250 degrees F. Boil the water in the pot, then stir in the salt. Place the flour in the bowl. Pour the salt water into the flour and mix with the spoon. Divide into four pieces.
2. Place one piece on the cutting board and drip 8 drops of yellow and 4 drops of red food coloring onto it. Sprinkle with 1-T. paprika. Knead until the color is distributed, then shape the clay into soldiers, horses, or evil emperors! (Some tips: Roll pieces of clay into balls to make head and eyes. Roll out clay “worms” for legs and arms. You can use toothpicks to carve details. Push a piece of clay through a cheese grater to make hair.)
3. Repeat with other pieces. Place the finished pieces on the cookie sheet, put them in the oven, and bake for 2 hours, until dry.
When you think of Ancient China, probably top on your list of associations are The Great Wall and the Terracotta Soldiers. Both of these monuments were built under the reign of Qin Shi Huang Di.

At the end of the Zhou Dynasty, many states were warring against each other and taking each others' lands until only seven states remained. One of those was the Qin Kingdom. In 221 BC the ruler of the Qin Kingdom took over the other six kingdoms and pronounced himself the first emperor with the title Qin Shi Huang Di. He is also known as the Yellow Emperor because he chose that color for his royal clothes.

Qin Shi Huang Di's major accomplishments were to unify China with standard measures, coinage, weights, and Chinese characters. He also ordered the construction of irrigation systems, bridges, roads, and canals. Legislating these changes brought more unity to China than had ever been experienced before. Trade and communication within China became easier than before.

He wanted to do away with feudalism and old ways of thinking. Qin Shi Huang Di took away the nobles' land and forced them to live with him at his capitol so that he could control them. The land was available for sale and officials were sent to each area to collect taxes and to rule according to Qin Shi Huang Di's strict legalist government. Those who broke the laws were punished severely - often being forced to serve as slave labor for his projects, including the Terracotta Army and the Great Wall. Books of literature, philosophy, and history were burned under his rule. He also ordered the execution of more than 400 Confucian scholars.

Qin is pronounced "Chin." This is the sound from which the modern name China comes.
秦始皇

Qin Shi Huang
Window book with 4 windows.

Made in China

Indicates mountain fold.

Indicates valley fold.

Before cutting, use a pencil to lightly label/number the pages according to the numbers in the margin. Later you can erase these marks.

Cut on solid lines; fold on dotted lines.
Indicates valley fold.
Indicates valley fold.

Indicates mountain fold.
Indicates valley fold.

GLUE THIS SHEET TO INSIDE OF PP 2/5.
Cut shape out as one piece. Fold flaps (this has to be done precisely to fit right). Use the book to write about different Chinese inventions. A good go-along book is *Made in China* by Suzanne Williams. Add string and bows to your kite shape book. Paste the back of the book to your lapbook.
Personal Reflections by Confucius

At 15, I set my mind on learning.
At 30, I took my stand.
At 40, I no longer had doubts.
At 50, I knew the will of Heaven.
At 60, my ear was attuned.
At 70, I follow my heart's desire.

His works were banned and burned under Qin Shi Huang Di in the Qin Dynasty. But during the later Han dynasty, Confucius' works were renewed and adapted into what became State Confucianism.

Goal
The goal of Confucianism is to realize a harmonious state in which perfect order prevails, and virtuous men are rewarded. Virtue consists of filial piety, fulfillment of duty, and the good example of superiors.

Teachings
Hierarchy of the 5 Cardinal Relationships:
1. Ruler and ruled
2. Parents and children
3. Husband and wife
4. Older and younger brother
5. Friend and friend

Proverbs
- A man who has committed a mistake and doesn't correct it is committing another mistake.
- If the ruler is upright, all will go well in his country.
- Bad government is more terrible than tigers.
- The strength of a nation derives from the virtue of the home.
- A gem can't be polished without friction, nor a man perfected without trials.
- What you do not want done to you, do not do to others.
- Consideration for others is the basis of a good society.
- The sage knows what is right; the fool knows what will sell.
- The sage demands much of himself; the fool demands much of others.
- Real knowledge is knowing the extent of one's ignorance.

Information from http://www.vhinkle.com/china/confucianism.html
During the Han Dynasty

During the Qin Dynasty

Confucius

sayings

teachings
Confucius was born in Shantung province and his visits covered what are today Shantung, Honan, Anhwei and Southern Hopei, approximately included in the blue area shown above.
CONFUCIUS SAID:

A man who has committed a mistake and doesn't correct it is committing another mistake.
CONFUCIUS SAID:

If the ruler is upright, all will go well in his country.

DESCRIBE AN UPRIGHT RULER:
Bad government is more terrible than tigers.
CONFUCIUS SAID:

The strength of a nation
derives from the virtue of
the home.

LOOK UP AND DEFINE THE WORD VIRTUE:
CONFUCIUS
Said:

Consideration for others is the
basis of a good society.

HOW DO YOU SHOW CONSIDERATION FOR OTHERS?
Real knowledge is knowing the extent of one’s ignorance.
If you would like to include copywork in a lapbook, fold in quarters and store in pocket.

QUOTES
BY
CONFUCIUS

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Jimmie’s guide for making an Ancient Chinese book.

I gathered an exacto knife, a cutting board, wooden craft sticks, a ruler, and a pencil.

I measured about one cm from the top of the sticks on both tips and marked it lightly.

My next step was to cut notches where I'd drawn the line. I used a marker here to make it clear for you.
This is for the adult to do, obviously.

Then DD tied the sticks together with rafia, making sure the rafia fit into the grooves I'd cut. Twine or jute would work well too. But we had rafia.
5. Lastly DD wrote Chinese characters on the sticks going up and down. Well, some of her characters are a bit *creative*. Chinese people may not recognize them. But to you it looks great, right? It looks *just like* Chinese characters!

http://www.homeschoolblogger.com/Jimmie/369189/