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The Chinese Zodiac Animals (sheng1xiao1)

Lesson Plan:

The students will be introduced to the 12 zodiac animals that represent each year of a 12-year cycle. Along with the cultural exposure, they will also learn the names of those animals. They will also be asked to find out which animals represent their birth year and how to express it in Chinese.

Level / Class:

These are seventh grade students who are taking Chinese Language with a varied level of familiarity to Chinese culture.

Objectives:

The students will understand the concept of zodiac animals.

The students will be able to find out more information about their own birth year zodiac animal.

Time Period:

This lesson will take a 45-50 minute class periods.

Materials needed:

Handouts

Paper

Pencil

Overhead projector

Assessment:

The students will be informally assessed on their participation in class discussion on the day of class.

The students will be formally assessed on a series of questions that reflect class content on the following day of the class.

The students will also be given a quiz for the examination of the Chinese names of the 12 animals and the expressions related to the topic.

References:

<http://www.c-c-c.org/chineseculture/zodiac/zodiac.html>

<http://www.chinesezodiac.com/signs.php>

http://www.lausd.k12.ca.us/Haskell_EL/calendar%20past%20events/chinesenew%20year%20gifs/chinesenewyear.htm