

The Chinese Animal Zodiac(shengixiao)

Chinese 1 -7th
Handout

What is the Chinese animal zodiac?

The Chinese animal signs are a 12-year cycle used for dating the years. They represent a cyclical concept of time, rather than the Western linear concept of time.

The Chinese Lunar Calendar is based on the cycles of the moon, and is constructed in a different fashion than the Western solar calendar.

What are those animals?



The Year Of The Rat (shu3)

- *Those born under the Chinese Zodiac sign of the Rat are quick-witted, clever, charming, sharp and funny. They have excellent taste, are a good friend and are generous and loyal to others considered part of its pack. Motivated by money, can be greedy, is ever curious, seeks knowledge and welcomes challenges. Compatible with Dragon or Monkey.*



The Year Of The Ox (niu2)

- *Another of the powerful Chinese Zodiac signs, the Ox is steadfast, solid, a goal-oriented leader, detail-oriented, hard-working, stubborn, serious and introverted but can feel lonely and insecure. Takes comfort in friends and family and is a reliable, protective and strong companion. Compatible with Snake or Rooster.*



The Year Of The Tiger (hu3)

- *Those born under the Chinese Zodiac sign of the Tiger are authoritative, self-possessed, have strong leadership qualities, are charming, ambitious, courageous, warm-hearted, highly seductive, moody, intense, and they're ready to pounce at any time. Compatible with Horse or Dog.*



The Year Of The Rabbit (tu4)

- *Those born under the Chinese Zodiac sign of the Rabbit enjoy being surrounded by family and friends. They're popular, compassionate, sincere, and they like to avoid conflict and are sometimes seen as pushovers. Rabbits enjoy home and entertaining at home. Compatible with Goat or Pig.*



The Year Of The Dragon (long2)

- *A powerful sign, those born under the Chinese Zodiac sign of the Dragon are energetic and warm-hearted, charismatic, lucky at love and egotistic. They're natural born leaders, good at giving orders and doing what's necessary to remain on top. Compatible with Monkey and Rat.*



The Year Of The Snake (she2)

- *Those born under the Chinese Zodiac sign of the Snake are seductive, gregarious, introverted, generous, charming, good with money, analytical, insecure, jealous, slightly dangerous, smart, they rely on gut feelings, are hard-working and intelligent. Compatible with Rooster or Ox.*



The Year Of The Horse (ma3)

- *Those born under the Chinese Zodiac sign of the Horse love to roam free. They're energetic, self-reliant, money-wise, and they enjoy traveling, love and intimacy. They're great at seducing, sharp-witted, impatient and sometimes seen as a drifter. Compatible with Dog or Tiger.*



The Year Of The Goat (yang2)

- *Those born under the Chinese Zodiac sign of the Goat enjoy being alone in their thoughts. They're creative, thinkers, wanderers, unorganized, high-strung and insecure, and can be anxiety-ridden. They need lots of love, support and reassurance. Appearance is important too. Compatible with Pig or Rabbit.*



The Year Of The Monkey (hou2)

- *Those born under the Chinese Zodiac sign of the Monkey thrive on having fun. They're energetic, upbeat, and good at listening but lack self-control. They like being active and stimulated and enjoy pleasing self before pleasing others. They're heart-breakers, not good at long-term relationships, morals are weak. Compatible with Rat or Dragon.*



The Year Of The Rooster (jil)

- *Those born under the Chinese Zodiac sign of the Rooster are practical, resourceful, observant, analytical, straightforward, trusting, honest, perfectionists, neat and conservative. Compatible with Ox or Snake.*



The Year Of The Dog (gou3)

- *Those born under the Chinese Zodiac sign of the Dog are loyal, faithful, honest, distrustful, often guilty of telling white lies, temperamental, prone to mood swings, dogmatic, and sensitive. Dogs excel in business but have trouble finding mates. Compatible with Tiger or Horse.*



The Year Of The Pig (zhu1)

- *Those born under the Chinese Zodiac sign of the Pig are extremely nice, good-mannered and tasteful. They're perfectionists who enjoy finer things but are not perceived as snobs. They enjoy helping others and are good companions until someone close crosses them, then look out! They're intelligent, always seeking more knowledge, and exclusive. Compatible with Rabbit or Goat.*



What is your animal ?
Ni3 de sheng1 xiao1 shi4 shen2 me?

- *Shu3 – 1984, 1996...*
- *Niu2 – 1985, 1997...*
- *Hu3 – 1986, 1998...*
- *Tu4 – 1987, 1999...*
- *Long2 – 1988, 2000...*
- *She2 – 1989, 2001...*
- *Ma3 – 1990, 2002...*
- *Yang2 – 1991, 2003...*
- *Hou2 – 1992, 2004...*
- *Ji1 – 1993, 2005...*
- *Gou3 – 1994, 2006...*
- *Zhu1 – 1995, 2007...*

Questions

- *Ni3 Duo1 Da4 le (how old are you)?*
- *Ni3 de sheng1 xiao1 shi4 shen2 me (which animal present the year you were born)?*
- *Ni3 zui4 xi3 huan1 shen2 me sheng1 xiao1 dong4 wu4 (which one is your favorite zodiac animal)?*