

Showcase China:



Si - Four: Beijing 2008 – World View

Focus concepts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Customs and traditions</i> • <i>Cultural images, celebrations</i> 	Effective teaching <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Encouraging reflective thought and action</i>
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Years 0 – 3

Learning Intentions:

Students will

- investigate and explain the use of the dragon/lion dance in China.

The students view the **dragon dance** to gain information on the importance of the dragon/lion dance

OR

view the Opening Ceremony and observe the use of the dragon/lion dance in this presentation.

Students make their own dancing dragon puppet following the step-by-step approach found at:

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/chinesenewyear/lion/>

For more activities see:

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/chinesenewyear/>

Years 4 – 6

Learning Intentions:

Students will:

- investigate and report on aspects of Chinese culture using a variety of sources;
 - analyse the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics and identify how Chinese culture has been represented and expressed.
- Have the students re-visit the items in the grab bag and consider the following question: "What symbols/objects/... represent the Chinese nation and its people?" Students list these.
 - Divide the class into groups. Each group is to collect and process information about a particular aspect of Chinese culture and present it to the class orally or visually. You could give each group a focus or have them choose one. Use the following *websites and examine the question – what makes the Olympics in Beijing unique? i.e. how are the Games different to those held in Athens or Sydney?*

Suggested focus areas and websites are listed below. Use these or develop your own ones.

Aspect of culture	Suggested website	Why is it important? How is it represented?
Famous places in China	http://www.chinaculture.org	
Colours in China	http://www.asianz.org.nz	
Symbol – dragon or lion dance	http://www.chinaculture.org	
Festivals in China	http://www.asianz.org.nz	
Olympic symbols using characters/mascots	http://en.beijing2008.cn	

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Other aspects you could focus on include music and dance, fireworks.

Let the Games Begin!

As a class, predict what you expect to see at the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics, based on what you now know about Chinese culture. Collect information by watching the opening ceremony (or some of it!) and/or by collecting news items.

In the opening ceremony, we predict we will see ...	What we saw

Teacher Prompt Questions:

- *What are the symbols that make the Olympics in Beijing unique?*
- *Was there anything that you expected to see in the opening ceremony that wasn't included?*
- *Was there anything included in the Opening Ceremony that surprised you?*
- *Do you have any further questions about Chinese culture and traditions after watching the Opening Ceremony?*

Language Focus 5 Family members