



Year Group: 4

Term: Spring

A Journey into The Orient

Theme Overview

Let's travel back over 3000 years into the past where the Shang dynasty ruled with fierce and noble leaders and creative innovators. We will take a close look at how society was ruled and organised and how this relates to the modern day. Let us examine the region they called home through artefacts and maps to understand the life and times of the emperors, commoners and slaves.

Knowledge Base

- To know that the Shang dynasty reigned between 1600BC and 1046BC
- To know the key leaders of the Shang dynasty (Cheng Tang (first leader), Wu Ding (reigned for 58 years), Lady Fu Hao (dynasty Queen) and Di Xin (last))
- To know that Wu Ding reigned from 1250BC to 1192BC
- To locate key historical geographical areas of China including The Yellow Valley and the City of Yin Xu.
- To know the capital city of China is Beijing and locate it on a map
- To know that the Shang dynasty had a hierarchal class system that was similar to a modern day monarchy
- To know that The Shang dynasty had a significant impact on modern civilisation through:
 - the invention of writing
 - development of governments
 - advancement of bronze technology
 - use of chariots and weapons

Skills

- Using maps and atlases and identifying key geographical features
- Use of timelines in order to sequence events and key figures chronologically
- Using secondary sources in order to retrieve key information
- Use artefacts and records to deduce events that may have happened in the past
- To explore the relationship between the physical geography of rivers and human geography (for example, choosing to settle on a flood plain)

Reading

- Traditional Chinese tales and fables
- How To Live Forever
- Tom's Midnight Garden

Additional Vocabulary

civilisation	military
dynasty	ruler
emperor	monarchy
Asia	class (in context of society)
China	nobles, commoners and slaves
aristocracy	artisan
bronze	flooding
leadership	climate
hazards	erosion
fertile	

DT Objectives

- Chinese slippers**
- Developing design criteria
 - create annotated designs
 - Understand how to create a product to be aesthetically pleasing to the eye
 - Evaluating devices

Inspire

English writing themes-cautionary tales

