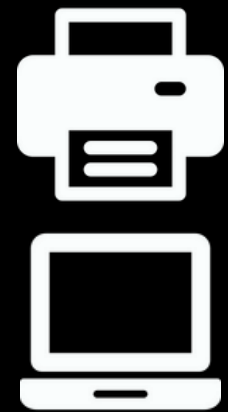


CLOSE READING

with Mystery Pictures



Name: _____ Date: _____

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year

Lunar Cycle	The cycle of the Moon's phases
Solar Solstices	The longest and shortest days of the year (2x/year)
Equinoxes	When day and night are of equal length (2x/year)

The Chinese New Year has been celebrated in China for centuries. More recently, it was renamed the Spring Festival. Despite the name change, the Chinese New Year is arguably one of the most important holidays in China.

Name: _____ Date: _____

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year

Directions: Read the passage. Then, answer the questions. Use your answers here to help you color the mystery picture.

1st Read Questions

1	In which year did the Chinese change their calendar to the Gregorian calendar and make January 1 the official start to the new year?	1912	1996	1921
---	--	------	------	------

WHITE

They gather with their families to celebrate.

Name: _____ Date: _____

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year

Lunar Cycle	The cycle of the Moon's phases
Solar Solstices	The longest and shortest days of the year (2x/year)
Equinoxes	When day and night are of equal length (2x/year)

The Chinese New Year has been celebrated in China for centuries. More recently, it was renamed the Spring Festival. Despite the name change, the Chinese New Year is arguably one of the most important holidays in China.

Name: _____ Date: _____

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year

Directions: Read the passage. Answer the questions. Use the answers for each question to determine which color to use. (Ex. If your answer to question 2 has the color "pink" under it, color all of the number 2s pink.)

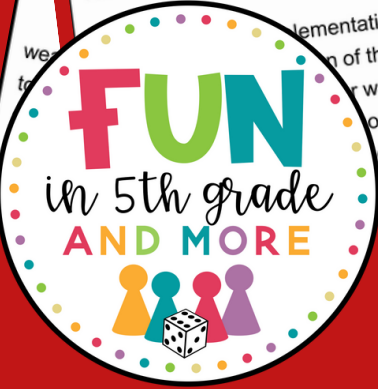
2nd Read Questions

6	Which statement best supports the sentence below? While the Chinese officially begin their new year on January 1, they still celebrate and practice the traditions of the Chinese New Year.	"In 1996, China implemented a week-long vacation in honor of the new year."	"Firecrackers would be set off the moment the new year began."	"...Chinese people believe that even numbers bring good luck."
7	Which word is the best synonym for the word <u>bountiful</u> as used in the passage?			
8	Which type of text structure is this passage written in?			
9	What do you think was the author's purpose of writing this passage?			
10	The root "unite", which means to come together, helps figure out the meaning of the word <u>reunite</u> .			

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year Answer Key

Directions: Read the passage. Answer the questions. Use the answers for each question to determine which color to use. (Ex. If your answer to question 2 has the color "pink" under it, color all of the number 2s pink.)

1	5	1	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
2	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	2	2
8	8	8	4	4	8	8	4	8	8
10	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	10
2	2	7	7	7	7	7	7	2	2
2	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	2
2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	2	2
10	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	10
8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	8	8
2	2	2	2	7	7	2	2	2	2



CHINESE NEW YEAR

Digital & Print

DIFFERENTIATED TO 3 LEVELS



**AUDIO
INCLUDED**

Print this page out to color or use the instructions below to color digitally.

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year Answer Key

Directions: Read the passage. Answer the questions. Use the answers for each question to determine which color to use.
(Ex. If your answer to question 2 has the color "pink" under it, color all of the number 2s pink.)

1	5	1	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
2	2	2	2	4	2	2	4	2	2
8	8	8	4	8	8	8	4	8	8
10	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	10
2	2	7	7	7	7	7	7	2	2

How to color the squares

- Put cursor inside the space or spaces you want to color.
- Select the paint can from the toolbar.
- Choose the color you need that matches your answer.
- Repeat as needed.

How to color the triangle and rectangles

- Select shape.
- Click paint can and then color.

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year Answer Key

Directions: Read the passage. Answer the questions. Use the answers for each question to determine which color to use.
(Ex. If your answer to question 2 has the color "pink" under it, color all of the number 2s pink.)

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year Answer Key

Directions: Read the passage. Answer the questions. Use the answers for each question to determine which color to use.
(Ex. If your answer to question 2 has the color "pink" under it, color all of the number 2s pink.)

1	5	1	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
2	2	2	2	4	2	2	4	2	2
8	8	8	4	8	8	8	4	8	8
10	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	10
2	2	7	7	7	7	7	7	2	2
2	2	6	6	6	6	6	6	2	2
2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	2	2
10	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	10
2	2	2	2	7	7	2	2	2	2
8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	8	8
2	2	2	2	7	7	2	2	2	2

EVERY SET INCLUDES

1 FICTION TEXT

2 NONFICTION TEXTS

MYSTERY PIC FOR EACH

Passage 1-Fiction

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Legend of the Chinese New Year

Once upon a time, a vicious beast named Nian lived in the mountains. He had the body of a bull and the head of a lion. He spent his days waiting for the nights. Every year when the New Moon came, Nian would come down to the village. He was looking for food. He would **consume** animals, crops, and even small children who were left outside unattended.

The villagers lived in constant fear of the beast. In preparation for his coming, they would lock their doors and windows. They would gather all the livestock and move them indoors. They would make sure that all of the crops were safely locked away. Food was placed outside of their doors. They hoped that this would be enough to keep them safe from Nian. Once the New Moon came, Nian would travel from his place in the mountains and prey upon the village.

Just before Nian appeared one year, an elderly man arrived in the village. No one recognized him, but he said, "Why are you so fearful of one beast? You are many. You can protect yourselves against Nian."



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Legend of the Chinese New Year

Once upon a time, in the mountains rising and falling beyond the village, there lived a vicious beast named Nian. He had the body of a bull and the head of a lion. He spent his days lurking, waiting for the nights. Every year when the New Moon was upon the Earth, Nian would descend upon the village, seeking food and causing destruction. Within minutes of his arrival, he would **consume** animals, crops, and even small children who were left outside unattended.

The villagers lived in constant fear of the hideous beast. In preparation for his coming, they would lock their doors and windows. They would gather all the livestock and move them indoors. They would ensure that all of the crops were safely locked away. Food was placed outside of their doors for Nian. They hoped that this would be enough to keep them safe from his wrath. Once the New Moon was fully displayed in the night sky, Nian would emerge from the mountains and prey upon the village.

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Legend of the Chinese New Year Writing Prompt

What is the sequence of events that led to the village being free of the beast? Use specific details from the passage to support your response.

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Legend of the Chinese New Year

Once upon a time, in the mountains rising and falling beyond the village, there lived a vicious beast named Nian. He had the body of a bull and the head of a lion. He spent his days lurking, waiting for the nights to embrace the Earth. Every year when the New Moon was upon the Earth, Nian would descend upon the village, seeking food and causing destruction. Within minutes of his arrival, he would **consume** animals, crops, and even small children who were left outside unattended.

The villagers lived in constant fear of the hideous beast. In preparation for his coming, they would lock their doors and windows, gather all the livestock indoors, and ensure that the crops were safely locked away. Food was placed outside of their doors for Nian; they hoped that this would be enough to keep them safe from his wrath. Once the New Moon was fully displayed in the night sky, Nian would emerge from the mountains and prey upon the village.

Just before Nian appeared one year, an elderly man arrived in the village. No one recognized him, but he said, "Why are you so fearful of one beast? You are many. You can protect yourselves against Nian."



Name: _____ Date: _____

The Legend of the Chinese New Year

Directions: Read the passage. Then, answer the questions. When finished, use your answers here to help you color the mystery grid.

1st Read Questions

1	Which character trait best describes the elderly man from the passage?	Hesitant	Concerned	Fearless
		RED	WHITE	ORANGE

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Legend of the Chinese New Year

2nd Read Questions

2	The Chinese word for Nian is <i>Guo Nian</i> .	Beast	Overcome
3	Which is the meaning of the word deity as used in the passage?	God or goddess	Genius
		YELLOW	WHITE
4	Which best states the genre of the passage?	Science Fiction	Fantasy
		WHITE	RED
5	Which point of view is this passage told in?	1st person	2nd person
		YELLOW	RED
6	Which best states the meaning of the word consume as it is used in the passage?	To eat or drink	To use
		RED	YELLOW

Name: _____ Date: _____

Key Ideas and Details

Paragraph	Key Ideas & Details
1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____
5	_____

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Legend of the Chinese New Year Answer Key

Directions: Read the passage. Answer the questions. Use the answers for each question to determine which color to use. (Ex. If your answer to question 2 has the color "pink" under it, color all of the number 2s pink.)

1	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	1
6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3				
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
7	7	2	2	2	2	4	2	9	9				
7	7	10	4	10	4	10	10	9	9				
7	7	10	10	4	4	4	10	9	9				
7	7	2	2	4	2	2	2	9	9				
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
3	3	8	8	8	8	8	8	6	6				
8	3	3	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	6	6	8	8


Passage 2-Nonfiction

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Importance of the Zodiac

The Chinese zodiac holds an important place in the Chinese New Year's traditions. The zodiac is a repeating cycle of twelve years. Each year is represented by an animal. The order of the animals is as follows: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Pig.

At the beginning of each year, the zodiac sign changes. A new animal is assigned to that year. For instance, after the Rat would be the Year of the Ox.




The Chinese Zodiac

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Importance of the Zodiac

The Chinese zodiac holds an important place in the Chinese New Year's traditions. It is also called the Shengxiao. The zodiac is a repeating cycle of twelve years. Each year is represented by an animal. The order of the animals is as follows: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Pig.

At the beginning of each year, the zodiac sign changes. A new animal is assigned to that year. For instance, after the Rat would be the Year of the Ox.



The Chinese Zodiac

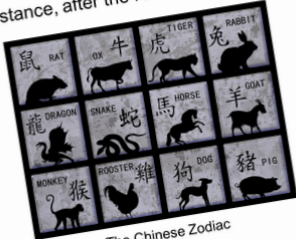
In Chinese culture, it is important for a person to remember the animal assigned to their birth year. That animal...

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Importance of the Zodiac

The Chinese zodiac holds significant value in the Chinese New Year's traditions. Also called the Shengxiao, the zodiac is a repeating cycle of twelve years. Each year is represented by an animal. The order of the animals is as follows: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Pig.

At the beginning of each year, the zodiac sign changes. Thus, a new animal is assigned to that year. For instance, after the Rat would be the Year of the Ox.



The Chinese Zodiac

In Chinese culture, it is important for a person to remember the animal assigned to their birth year. That animal year will come around once every 12 years. Ancient Chinese superstition states that every time a person's animal year rolls around, bad luck will fall upon that person. The animal that year will **offend** the gods. Thus, when people are 12 years old, 24 years old, 36 years old, etc, they will receive bad luck. To negate the effects of this bad luck, people wear various red-colored items, such as socks, underwear, bracelets or necklaces. Once the year is over, their good luck is restored again.

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Importance of the Zodiac

Directions: Read the passage. Then, answer the questions. When finished, use your answers here to help you color the mystery grid.

1st Read Questions

Question	The year of the snake	The year of the dragon	The year of the rooster
1 What comes after the year of the rabbit?	LIGHT BLUE	ORANGE	DARK RED
2 Which is not a year of the zodiac?	You will wear red clothing	Your age will be 12	You will have a new year

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Importance of the Zodiac

Directions: Read the passage. Then, answer the questions. When finished, use your answers here to help you color the mystery grid.

2nd Read Questions

Question	Answer	Color
3 What is the offend as used in the passage?	"...it is important for a person to remember the animal assigned to his or her birth year."	YELLOW
4 How many animals are in the zodiac?	In the passage, it states that your animal sign can determine compatible people for you.	WHITE
5 Which is not a year of the zodiac?	Which best states the meaning of the word compatible as used in the sentence above?	ORANGE
6 Which detail from the passage best supports this statement?	Which type of text structure is this passage written in?	ORANGE
7 How many animals are in the zodiac?	What do you think was the author's purpose of writing the passage?	LIGHT BLUE

Name: _____ Date: _____

Main Idea & Supporting Detail

Main Idea

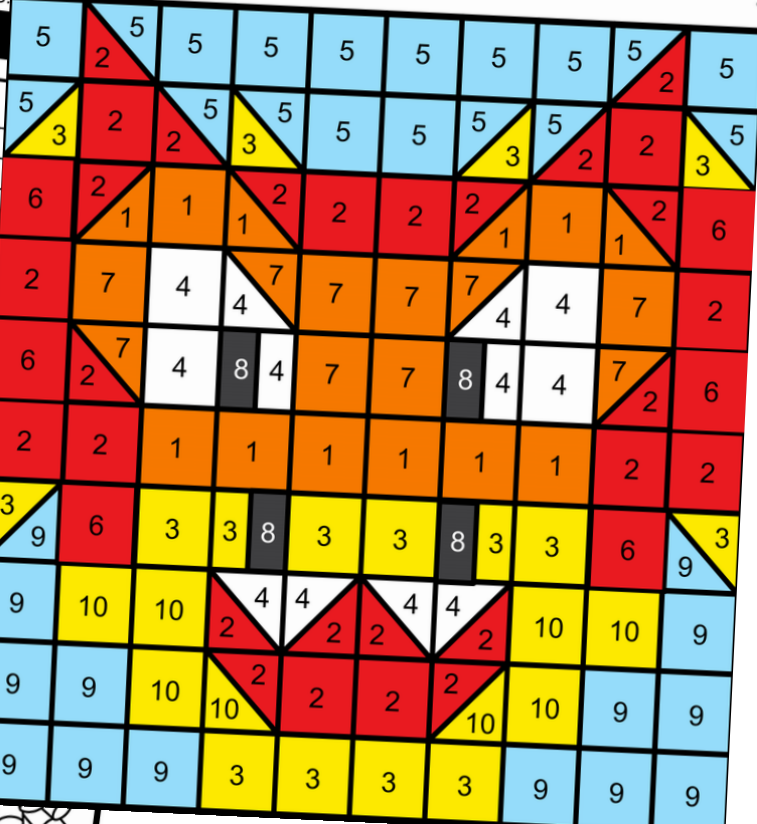
Supporting Detail

Supporting Detail

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Importance of the Zodiac Answer Key

Directions: Read the passage. Answer the questions. Use the answers for each question to determine which color to use. (Ex. If your answer to question 2 has the color "pink" under it, color all of the number 2s pink.)



Passage 3-Nonfiction

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year

Lunar Cycle	The cycle of the Moon's phases
Solar Solstices	The longest and shortest days of the year (2x/year)
Equinoxes	When day and night are of equal length (2x/year)

The Chinese New Year has been celebrated in China for centuries. More recently, it was renamed the Spring Festival. The Chinese New Year is one of the most important holidays in China.

Before the calendar became what it is today, there were many ways of figuring out a year. The Chinese calendar was based on the lunar cycle, solar solstices, and equinoxes. The Chinese zodiac was also connected to the calendar. All of these factors made the calendar quite complicated.

Historically, the Chinese New Year was a period of time that began in the middle of the twelfth month and ended in the middle of the first month of the year. This was determined by the first New Moon of the lunar year. The celebrations lasted for weeks. Families came together to focus on the celebrations. Families would clean their homes to prepare for the holiday. They believed that gods came down at the start of the year to inspect each home, so cleaning would please the gods and bring good luck.

Firecrackers would be set off the moment the new year arrived. People would offer sacrifices of food and folded paper.

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year

Directions: Read the passage. Then, answer the questions. When finished, use your answers here to help you color the mystery grid.

1st Read Questions			
1	In which year did the Chinese change their calendar to the Gregorian calendar and make January 1 the official start to a new year?	1912	1996
		ORANGE	YELLOW
2	Based on the passage, what is NOT a tradition of the Chinese New Year?	The elders in the family give the new year's money.	They dress up as dragons and lions.

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year

2nd Read Questions			
3	What is the best synonym for the word adopted as used in the passage?	DARK RED	SCARLET
4	Which best describes the structure of the Chinese New Year?	WHOLE	SEPARATE
5	In China, the Chinese New Year is celebrated on the first day of the lunar new year.	YELLOW	DARK RED
6	Which statement best supports the sentence below?		
7	While the Chinese officially begin their new year on January 1, they still celebrate and practice the traditions of the Chinese New Year.		
8	Which word is the best synonym for the word bountiful as used in the passage?		
9	Which type of text structure is this passage written in?		
10	What do you think was the author's purpose of writing the passage?		

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year

Lunar Cycle	The cycle of the Moon's phases
Solar Solstices	The longest and shortest days of the year (2x/year)
Equinoxes	When day and night are of equal length (2x/year)

The Chinese New Year has been celebrated in China for centuries. More recently, it was renamed the Spring Festival. Despite the name change, the Chinese New Year is arguably one of the most important holidays in China.

Before the implementation of the current calendar, there were many ways to determine the calendar year. The Chinese calendar was based on the lunar cycle, solar solstices, and equinoxes. In addition, the Chinese zodiac was connected to the calendar. The zodiac is a cycle of twelve animal signs. All of these factors made the calendar quite complicated.

Historically, the Chinese New Year was a period of time that began in the middle of the twelfth month and ended in the middle of the first month of the year. This was determined by the first New Moon of the lunar year. The celebrations lasted for weeks. Families came together to focus on the celebrations. Families would clean their homes to prepare for the holiday. They believed that gods came down at the start of the year to inspect each home, so cleaning would please the gods and bring good luck.

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year Writing Prompt

What are three traditions that the Chinese have during their Spring Festival? Explain the meaning behind each one you choose. Use details and examples from the passage to support your response.

Timeline

Name: _____ Date: _____

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year

Angela Yorgey

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year

Lunar Cycle	The cycle of the Moon's phases
Solar Solstices	The longest and shortest days of the year (2x/year)
Equinoxes	When day and night are of equal length (2x/year)

The Chinese New Year has been celebrated in China for centuries. More recently, it was renamed the Spring Festival. Despite the name change, the Chinese New Year is arguably one of the most important holidays in China.

Prior to the implementation of the Julian calendar and Gregorian calendar, which was based on the rotation of the sun, there were many ways to determine the calendar year. The Chinese calendar was based on the lunar cycle, solar solstices, and equinoxes. The calendar also took into account yin and yang to ensure a harmonious world. Furthermore, the Chinese zodiac was intertwined with the calendar. The zodiac was a cycle of twelve animal signs, such as the Monkey, Rooster, Rabbit, and Dragon. All of these factors made the calendar quite complicated.

Historically, the Chinese New Year was a period of time that began in the middle of the twelfth month and ended in the middle of the first month of the year, depending on when the first New Moon of the lunar year happened. The celebrations lasted for weeks, with families coming together to focus on the festivities. Families would vigorously clean their homes in preparation for the holiday. They believed that a thorough cleaning would get rid of "huiqi", meaning unlucky breaths, that had collected during the previous year. They also believed that gods came down at the beginning of the new year to inspect each home. Thus, cleaning would please the gods and bring good luck. People would offer sacrifices of food and folded paper.

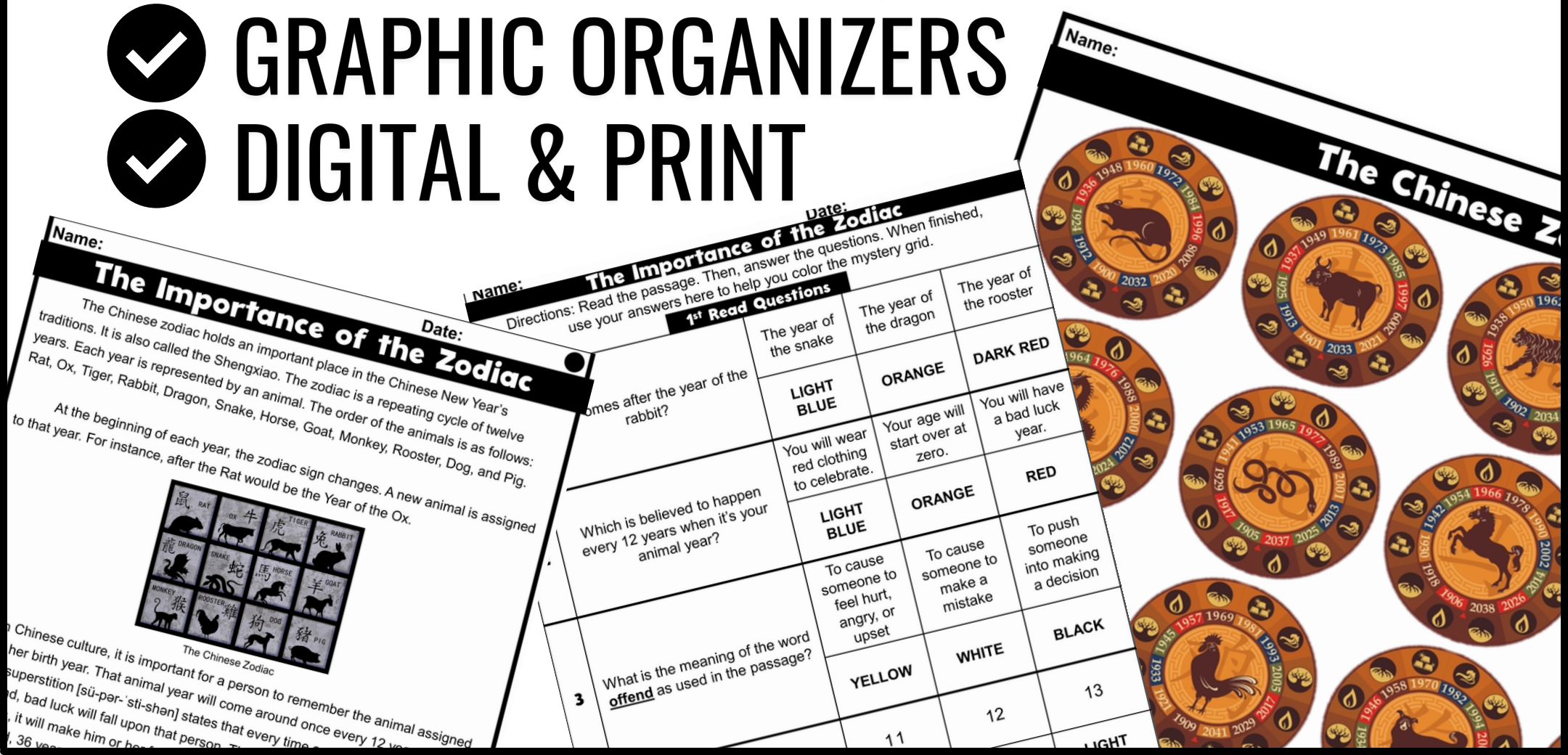
The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year Answer Key

Directions: Read the passage. Answer the questions. Use the answers for each question to determine which color to use. (Ex. If your answer to question 2 has the color "pink" under it, color all of the number 2s pink.)

1	5	1	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
2	2	2	2	4	2	2	4	2	2
8	8	8	4	8	8	8	4	8	8
10	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	10
2	2	7	7	7	7	7	7	2	2
2	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	2
2	2	9	9	9	9	9	9	2	2
10	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	10
8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	8	8
2	2	2	2	7	7	2	2	2	2

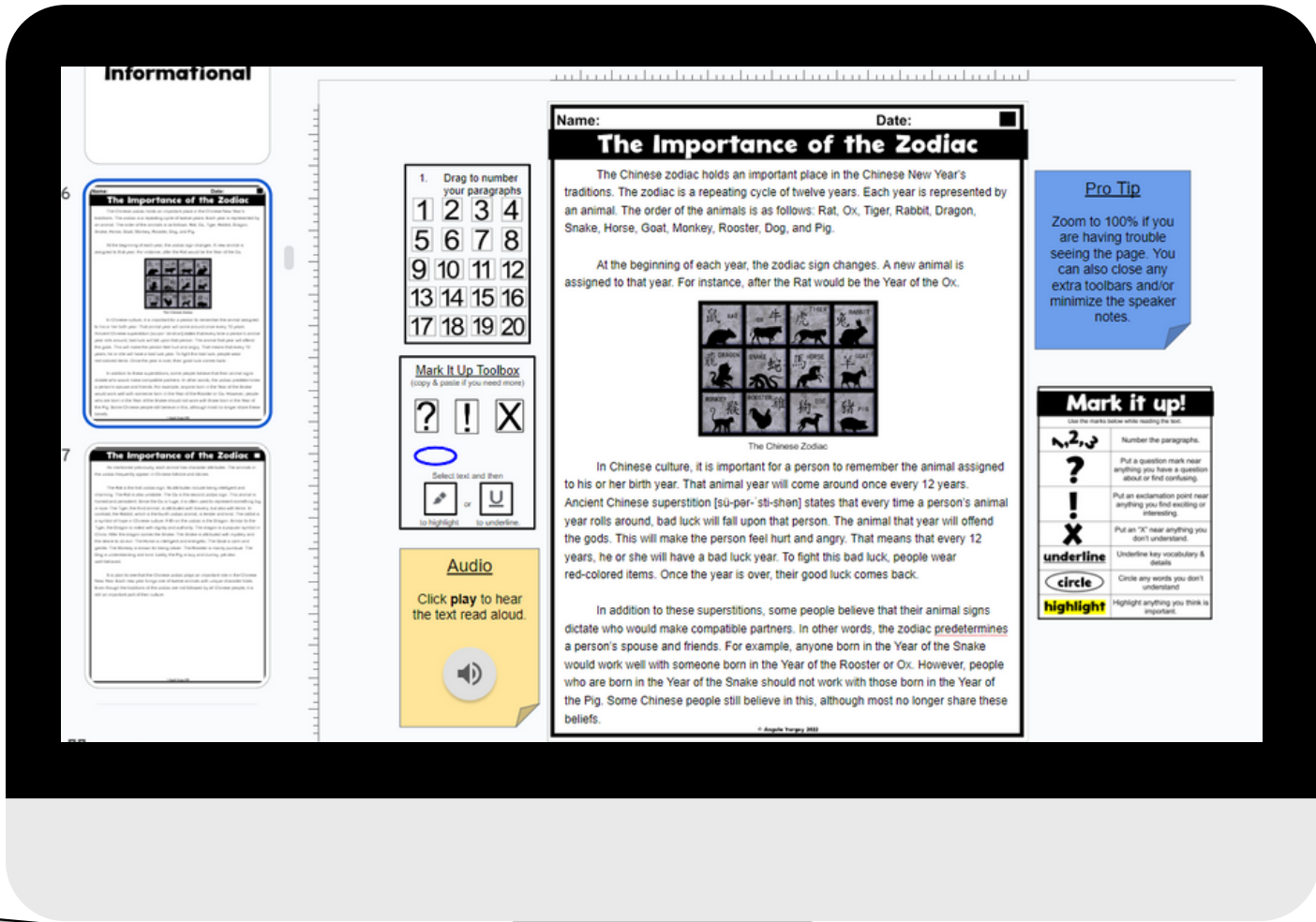
INCLUDES:

- ✓ TEACHER PAGES & PRINTABLES
- ✓ 3 DIFFERENTIATED PASSAGES
- ✓ 3 MYSTERY PICTURES
- ✓ 3 WRITING PROMPTS
- ✓ TEXT-DEPENDENT QUESTIONS
- ✓ GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS
- ✓ DIGITAL & PRINT



Holiday Fun + Engaging ELA Review

HIGH-INTEREST
TEXTS + MYSTERY
PICTURES IS THE
WINNING COMBO
FOR STUDENT
ENGAGEMENT.



Date: _____
Name: _____

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year

Directions: Read the passage. Answer the questions. Use the answers for each question to determine which color to use. (Ex. If your answer to question 2 has the color "pink" under it, color all of the number 2s pink.)

1	5	1	5
2	2	2	2
8	8	8	4
10	3	3	3
2	2	7	7
2	6	6	6
2	2	6	6

The History & Traditions of the Chinese New Year Answer Key

1. a vicious beast named Nian lived in the mountains. He had the head of a lion. He spent his days waiting for the nights. Every year, Nian would come down to the village. He was looking for...
2. Nian would come down to the village. He was looking for...
3. Nian would come down to the village. He was looking for...
4. Nian would come down to the village. He was looking for...
5. Nian would come down to the village. He was looking for...
6. Nian would come down to the village. He was looking for...
7. Nian would come down to the village. He was looking for...
8. Nian would come down to the village. He was looking for...
9. Nian would come down to the village. He was looking for...
10. Nian would come down to the village. He was looking for...

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

MY SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS RECENTLY REALLY STARTED PUSHING CLOSE READING SO THIS PRODUCT WENT RIGHT IN LINE WITH OUR READING GOALS. ALSO, BEING CHINESE MYSELF, I REALLY WANTED TO EXPLORE CHINESE NEW YEAR WITH MY STUDENTS AND THIS WAS PERFECT! THANK YOU!