

ACTIVITY TIME

Maisy's Chinese New Year Lucy Cousins

Maisy is celebrating one of the world's biggest festivals, Chinese New Year! This beautiful book features many Chinese New Year traditions, including the giving of red packets, receiving gifts such as kumquat and flowers, and learning all about the Chinese zodiac.

Paper lanterns

You will need

- You and your toddler
- A4 coloured paper or card
- Coloured pencils, textas or crayons
- Optional extra decorations such as ribbon or patterned paper
- Sticky tape or a stapler
- Scissors.

What to do

1. Cut a small strip from the short end of your A4 coloured paper or card. This will be used for the lantern handle.
2. Fold the remaining paper in half longways. Carefully make multiple evenly spaced cuts along the folded edge. Make sure to not cut all the way to the open side and keep the paper as one piece.
3. Unfold and open your paper. Loop the paper around to form a tube. Staple or tape the short ends of the paper together.
4. Tape or staple the handle to the top of your lantern. Decorate!

Other ideas

Make lots of lanterns and decorate your home to celebrate Chinese New Year! Maybe you could have some friends over to celebrate like Maisy in the story. Can you do a dragon dance like Maisy?

Research your Chinese Zodiac sign. What year were you born in? Were you born in the year of the rabbit or maybe the year of the monkey?

More information

From birth, children are learning about themselves, other people and how to build connections and respectful relationships. We can teach children to respect and value people regardless of the colour of their skin, their physical abilities, or the language they speak. One way to do this is by regularly sharing stories about people from different backgrounds and experiences. By talking about our differences and our similarities we can raise children to celebrate and value diversity, be accepting of others, and also be proud of themselves and their family traditions.

Songs

Chinese Dragon Dance – <https://youtu.be/by5sTzh67fUs>

Chinese New Year Song – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y6TExia8VOY>

Key message

Children are born ready to learn.

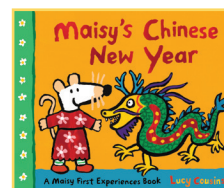
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Adult supervision is required at all times when children play or are around water.



*You can introduce simple Science Technology, Engineering & Maths (STEM) concepts to children aged 2+ years through every day play.