

Lesson Plan: Chinese New Year Animals

Target Level: Middle School

Materials needed: Paper, Flashcards

<i>Time</i>	<i>Stage</i>	<i>Target Language</i>	<i>Activity</i>
1-3 min.	Warm up/Review Review familiar vocabulary from previous lessons to warm students up		Divide the board into 4 sections. Divide the class into 4 teams. Each team has to write as many animals on the board as they can. One person at a time.
15-20 min.	Process:		
5-10 min.	Intro Introduce the topic and new vocabulary in the simplest form	Chinese New Year Lanterns	Write the date of the Chinese New year. Ask the children what is important about this date. (Expected answer: Chinese new year). <i>What can you tell me about Chinese New Year?</i> The Chinese New Year has a story of animals that is significant.
5-7 min.	Context Introduce the target sentence to put vocab in context	Rat Ox Rabbit Dragon Snake Horse Ram Monkey Rooster Dog Pig	Tell the story of Chinese New Year using flash cards and actions. 'Long ago in China, there lived twelve animals.' Count 1 - 12 encouraging pupil participation. 'There was a rat' <i>invite pupils to point to the picture of the rat and repeat, 'an ox,' now point to the pictures only and invite pupils to say the name of the animal, 'a tiger, a rabbit, a dragon, a snake, a horse, a ram, a monkey, a rooster, a dog and a pig.'</i> 'When the old year was coming to an end, all the animals began to quarrel noisily. Each one wanted the New Year to be named after it'. <i>Mime quarrel or say the word in the L1 to convey meaning.</i> 'The animals made such a noise that even the king heard the quarrel from far away.' <i>Mime noise and introduce the flashcard of the King - you could put your hands over your ears pretending to be the King hearing all the noise.</i>

5-10 min.	Practice A topic based task for students to practice language	<p>'The king had a clever daughter. She asked the animals why they were quarrelling.' <i>Introduce the flashcard of the daughter then pretending to be her speak directly to the animals and say 'Why are you quarrelling?'</i> "I want to have the New Year named after me", said the tiger. "Me too", said the rat. "Me too", said the ox. "Me too", said the rabbit. "Me too", said the dragon. "Me too", said the snake. "Me too", said the horse. "Me too", said the ram. "Me too", said the monkey. "Me too", said the rooster. "Me too", said the dog. 'Me too', said the pig. <i>Point to the tiger as you say the word. Then say, 'Me too said the ...'</i> <i>Point to the flashcard and get the pupils to say the name.</i></p> <p><i>Repeat a couple of times, then point to the dragon and encourage pupils to say, 'Me too' continue in this way.</i> 'The princess said, "We shall have a swimming race across this river. The winner will be named after the New Year.' 'The animals agreed. They lined up on the bank of the river. "One, two three, go!" shouted the princess.' <i>Mime swimming if necessary and draw a river and the two banks on your board moving all the animal flashcards to one side to line up.</i> 'All the animals jumped into the river and began to swim to the opposite bank. Very soon the ox was in the lead. But he didn't see the crafty rat who climbed up his tail and onto his back.' <i>Move the animals into the river and put the ox in the lead and then the rat on his tail and back.</i></p> <p>'When the ox was near the bank, the rat ran along the ox's head and jumped onto the grass. "I am the winner!" said the rat." Well done", said the king. "The New Year will be named the Year of the Rat". <i>Using the flashcards show the rat running along the ox's head and jumping onto the grass.</i> 'The princess felt sorry for the other animals as, one by one, they finished the race. "The next eleven years can be named after the other animals", she said.</p> <p>And so the order is, Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Ram, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Pig.'</p>	<p>Tell the story again and repeat getting the students to pick the appropriate flash cards when you are speaking.</p> <p>Draw 6 boxes on the board and room for writing underneath. Model creating a comic of the story.</p> <p>Students are to create a comic of the story that was told. Each box must have writing underneath, telling the story.</p>

3-5 min.	Assessment Test understanding of the class as a whole		Ask students to tell their own version of the story to each other and to the class. Fast ball quiz the students about the story: Who won the race? How many animals were they?
3-5 min.	Cool Down A fun, calming activity to wrap up lesson. Reward good behaviour.		Children can continue with pictures or show a video of your choosing.