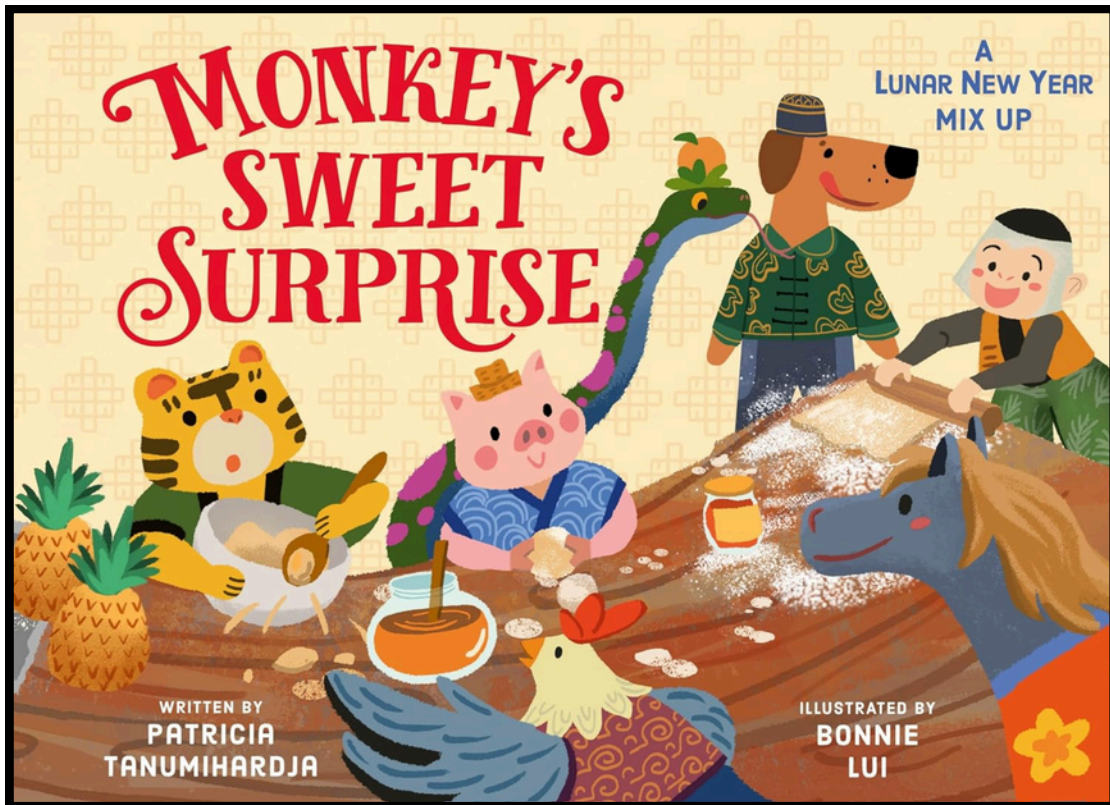




Activity Guide

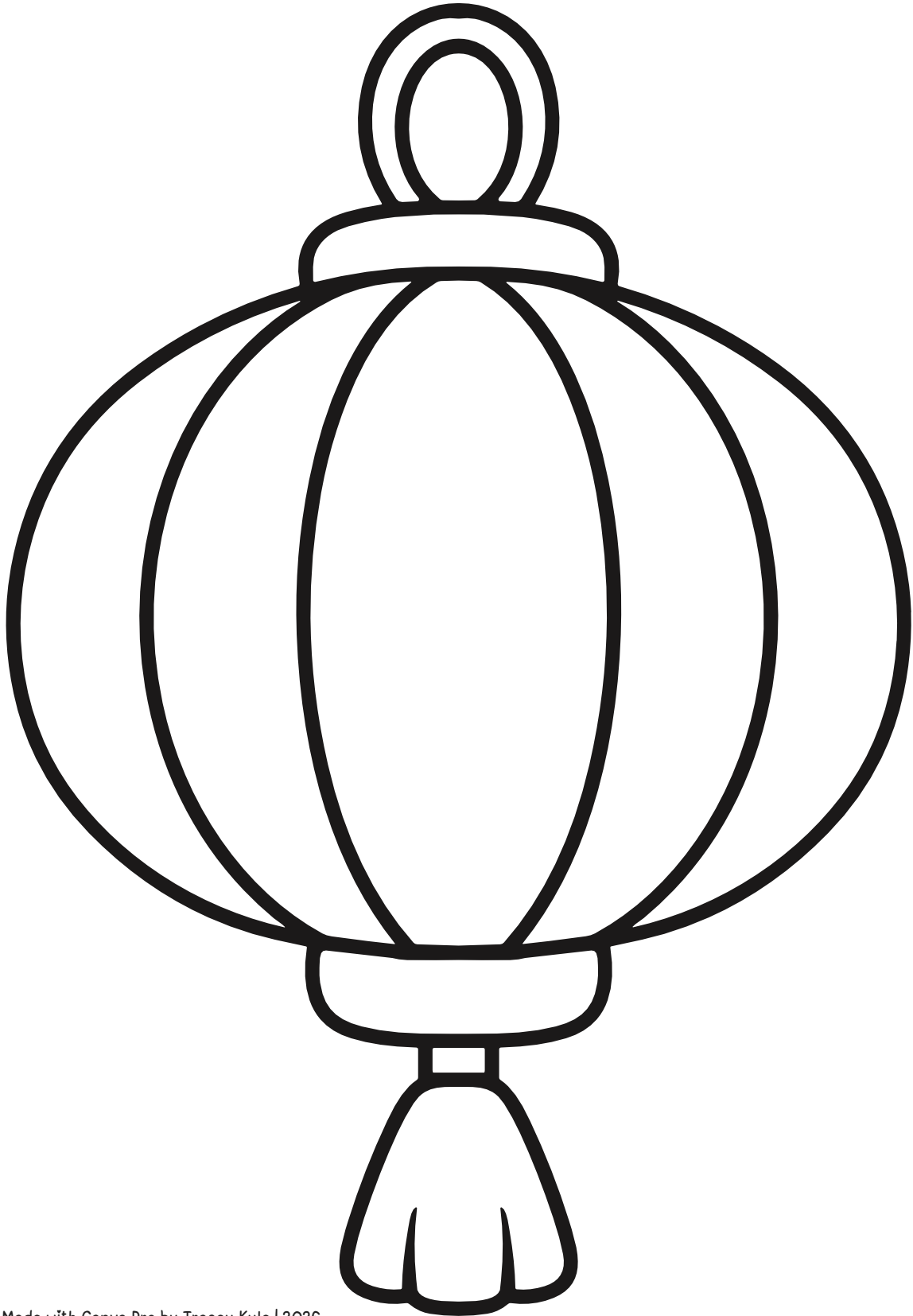
for **MONKEY'S SWEET SURPRISE**

by Pat Tanumihardja with illustrations
from Bonnie Lui

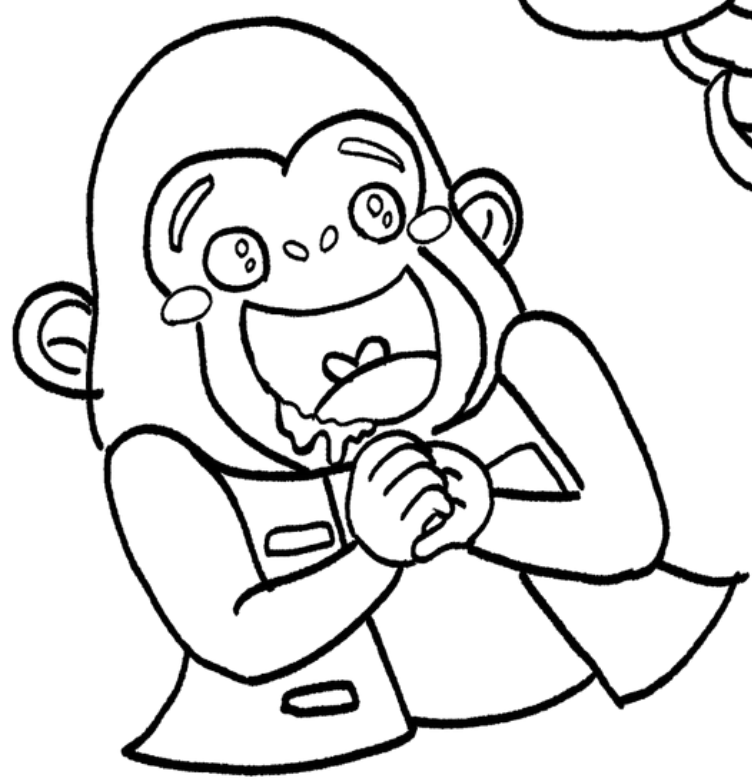
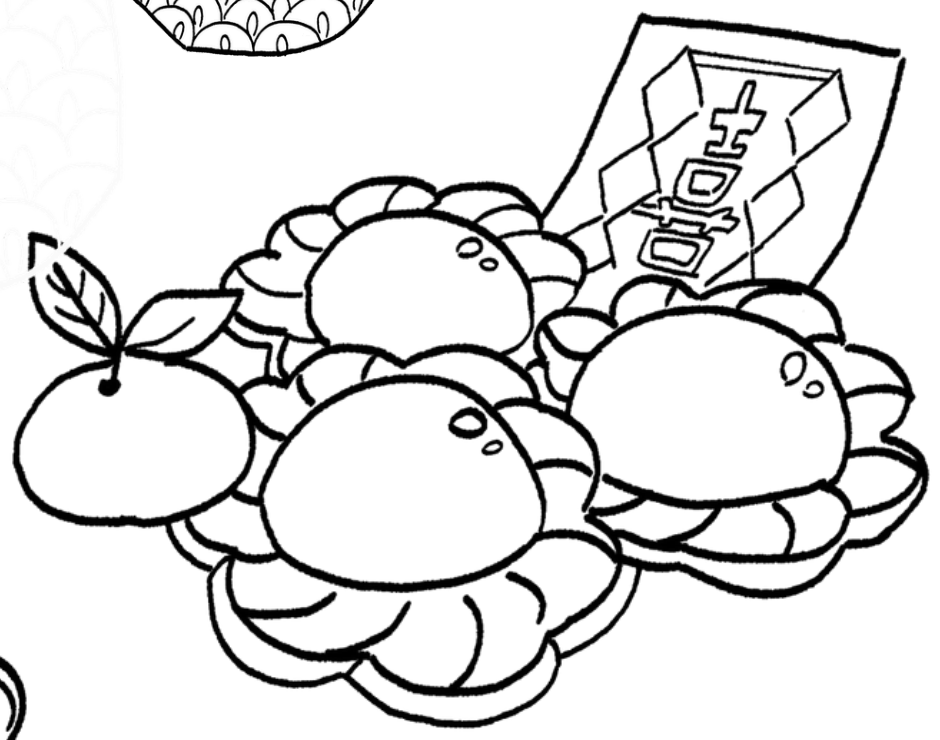
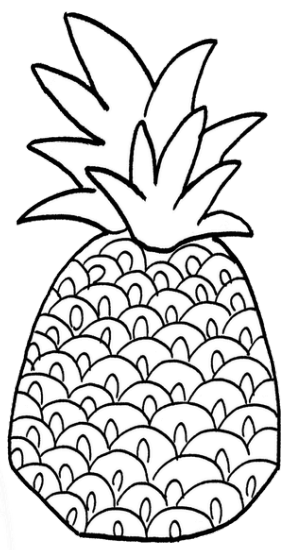


NAME :

DESIGN A LANTERN!



NAME :



NAME :

LUNAR NEW YEAR

Traditions Sorting Activity



Sort the following traditions into the correct category.
Put the number of each activity in the correct box.



Then choose your favorite 6 activities and write them out on the page.

1. Giving red envelopes

2. Cleaning the house

3. Family banquet

4. Watching lion dances

5. Lighting firecrackers

6. Giving oranges

7. Saying blessings

8. Wearing new clothes

9. Cooking noodles

10. Making pineapple tarts

11. Visiting family and friends

12. Hanging lanterns

13. Eating dumplings

14. Staying up late

PREPARATION

CELEBRATION

GOOD LUCK CUSTOMS

PREPARATION	CELEBRATION	GOOD LUCK CUSTOMS

NAME :

My Favorite Lunar New Year Traditions

1

2

3

4

5

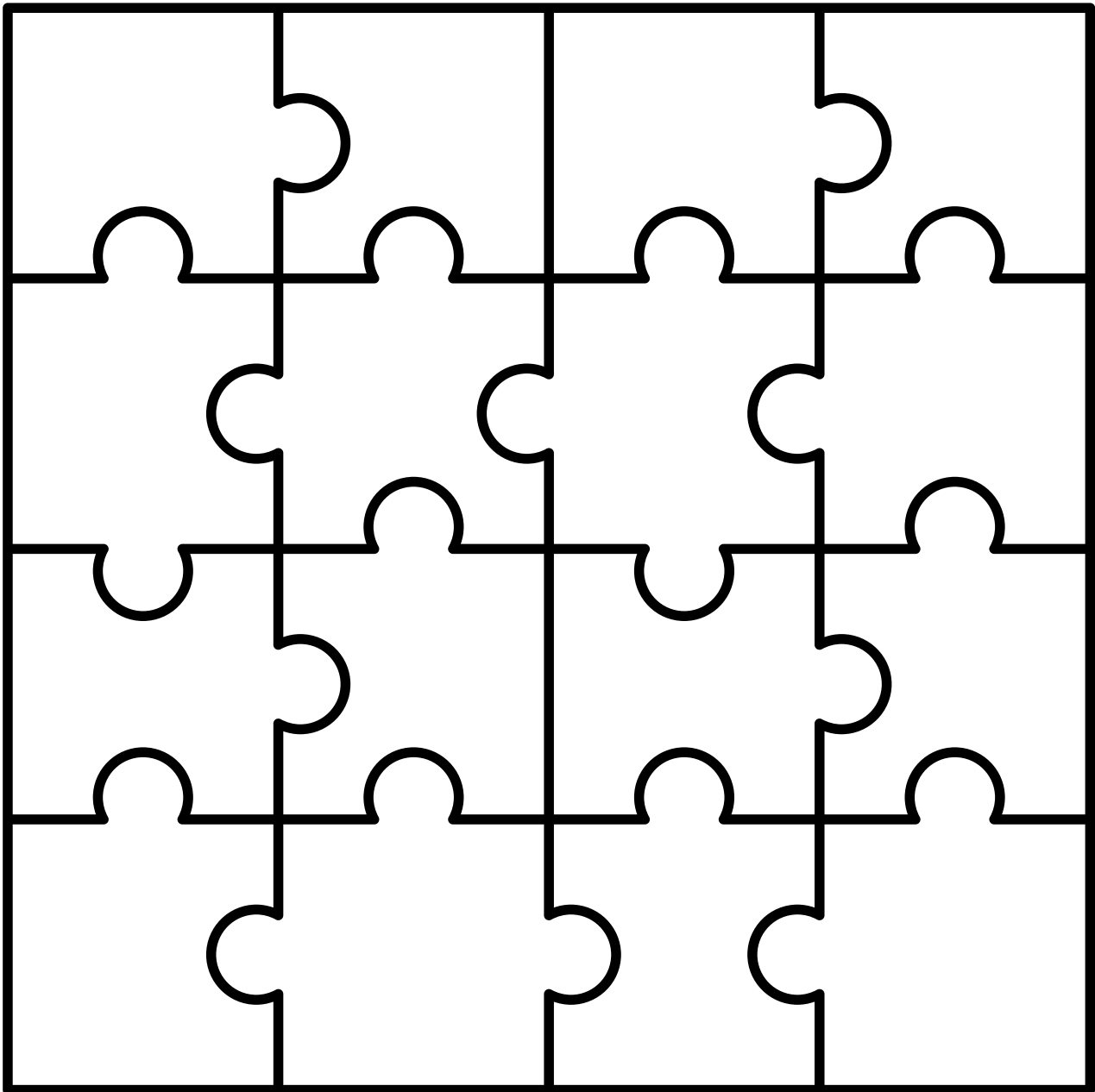
6

NAME :

PUZZLE

fun

Draw and color a picture about Lunar New Year. Fill all the spaces! Then cut out the pieces and swap with a classmate.



NAME :

Chinese Zodiac Animal Activity

Match the zodiac animals to their characteristics.

- | | | |
|---------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Rat | <input type="checkbox"/> | A. Generous and easygoing |
| Ox | <input type="checkbox"/> | B. Loyal and honest |
| Tiger | <input type="checkbox"/> | C. Observant and hardworking |
| Rabbit | <input type="checkbox"/> | D. Clever and playful |
| Dragon | <input type="checkbox"/> | E. Calm and artistic |
| Snake | <input type="checkbox"/> | F. Energetic and free-spirited |
| Horse | <input type="checkbox"/> | G. Wise and intuitive |
| Goat | <input type="checkbox"/> | H. Confident and enthusiastic |
| Monkey | <input type="checkbox"/> | I. Gentle and kind |
| Rooster | <input type="checkbox"/> | J. Brave and competitive |
| Dog | <input type="checkbox"/> | K. Strong and reliable |
| Pig | <input type="checkbox"/> | L. Intelligent and resourceful |



NAME :

Lunar New Year

First find all the words in the list.

Words can go in any direction and share letters as well as cross over each other.

C	O	H	O	I	Y	F	O	F	S	A	S	C	C	B
L	O	O	N	J	O	L	W	D	X	P	A	E	O	G
R	E	D	S	R	K	X	I	P	T	I	R	S	P	A
K	B	Q	T	Z	C	N	L	M	D	J	P	I	X	V
H	H	U	B	A	U	B	S	O	A	U	R	E	N	B
J	N	N	Q	K	L	J	Z	L	R	F	O	X	F	G
E	Q	N	N	F	L	H	R	Q	Q	E	S	W	V	C
L	E	R	T	O	I	Z	A	Y	Q	X	P	T	Q	L
L	S	E	U	A	G	R	N	E	W	Y	E	A	R	X
D	G	T	T	C	E	A	E	Z	C	P	R	X	R	S
P	R	N	Z	R	X	F	R	W	A	N	I	Q	M	B
R	H	A	O	I	B	W	Z	D	O	V	T	S	B	M
O	N	L	A	V	I	T	S	E	F	R	Y	J	E	T
O	G	H	Q	P	D	M	F	D	O	X	K	A	N	T
T	F	G	H	K	D	L	W	H	Y	W	K	S	L	J

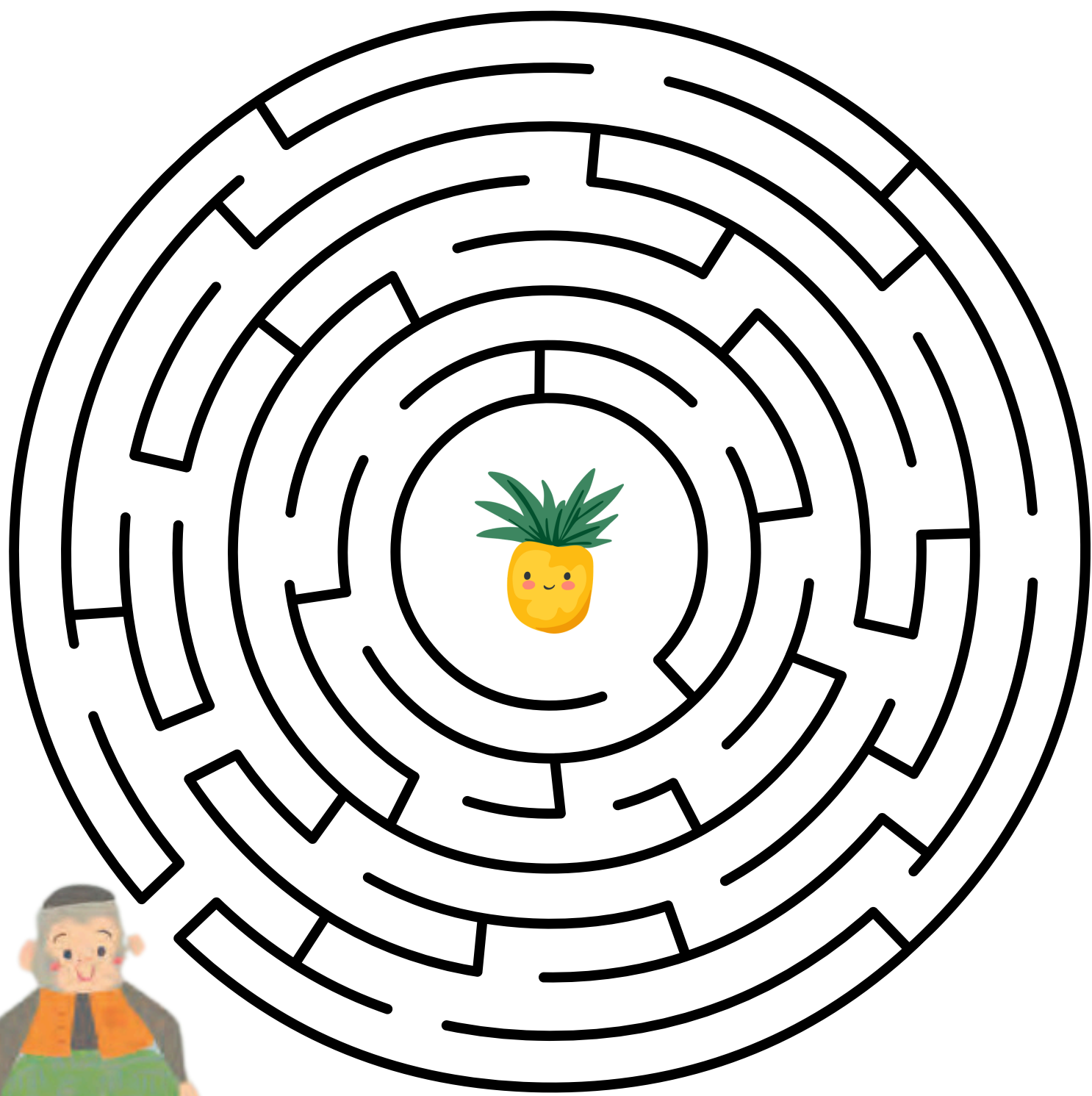
DRAGON
FIREWORKS
LUCK
RED

FAMILY
FORTUNE
NEWYEAR
SPRING

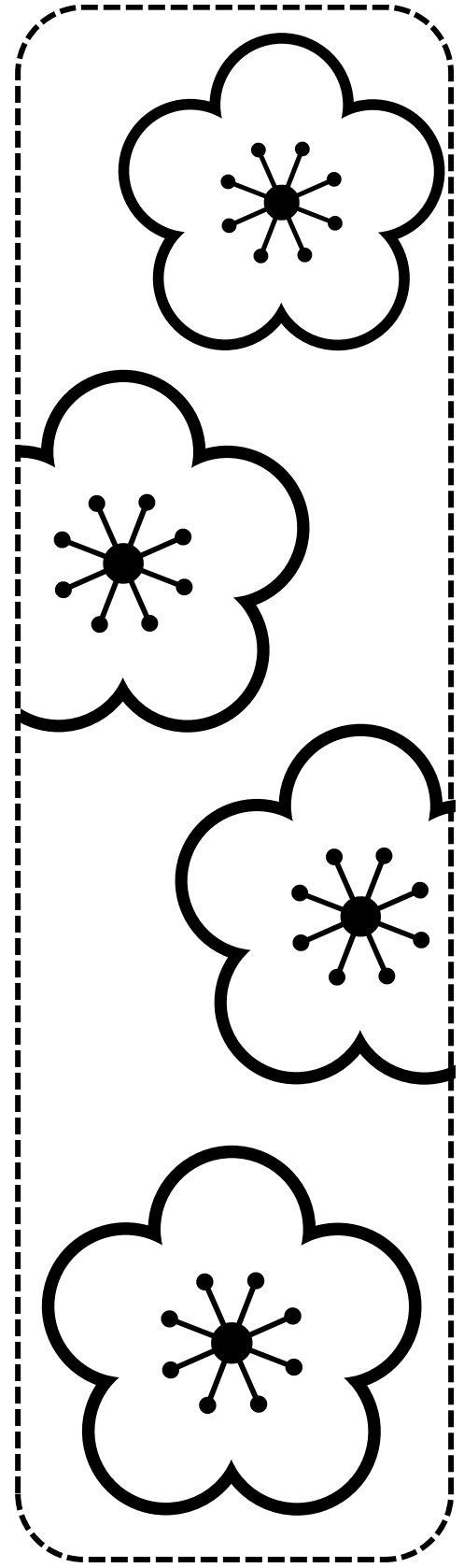
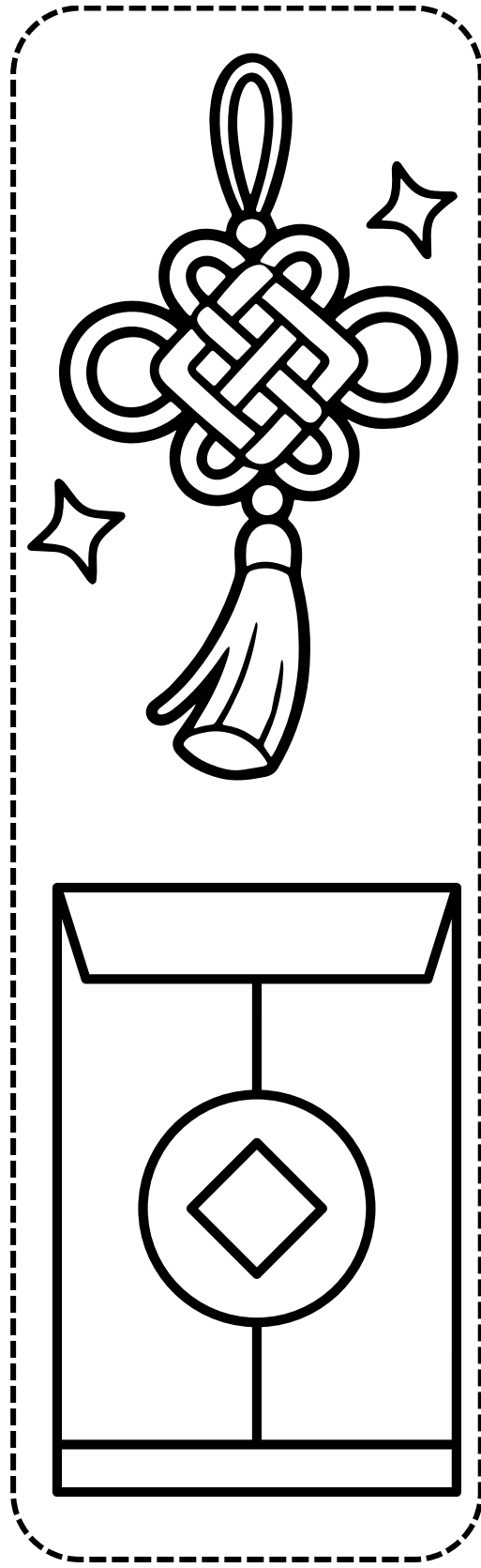
FESTIVAL
LANTERN
PROSPERITY
ZODIAC

NAME :

Monkey needs a pineapple to make a pineapple tart for the Jade Empress' Banquet. Can you help him get to the pineapple?



BOOKMARKS



NAME :

PLAN A LUNAR NEW YEAR BANQUET

GUESTS

MUSIC

FOOD

ACTIVITIES

WRITING prompts

MY TRADITION

What is New Year's Eve like in your family?
How do you celebrate?

MY FAVORITE CHARACTER!

Which of the characters in *MONKEY'S SWEET SURPRISE* do you like the most? Why?
How are you like the character?

THE BANQUET

Imagine you are at the Jade Empress' banquet. Describe the smells, sounds and sights. What is your favorite part of the banquet?

MY FRIENDS

Teamwork is important for Monkey and his friends while they plan. When do you and your friends worked as a team?

WHAT IS KINDNESS?

In *MONKEY'S SWEET SURPRISE*, being kind is more important than the pineapple tart.
How can you be kind?

OH NO!

Write about a time you tried to make something perfect, but it went wrong. What happened, and how did you feel?

OOPS!

Monkey feels embarrassed because he messed up last year's Lunar New Year event.
When have you felt embarrassed?

A LETTER TO THE AUTHOR

Write a letter to the author of *A MONKEY'S SWEET SURPRISE*.
Tell her how you felt after reading her book.

NAME :

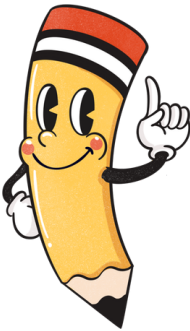
Topic
→

Scallop-edged rectangular box for writing the topic.

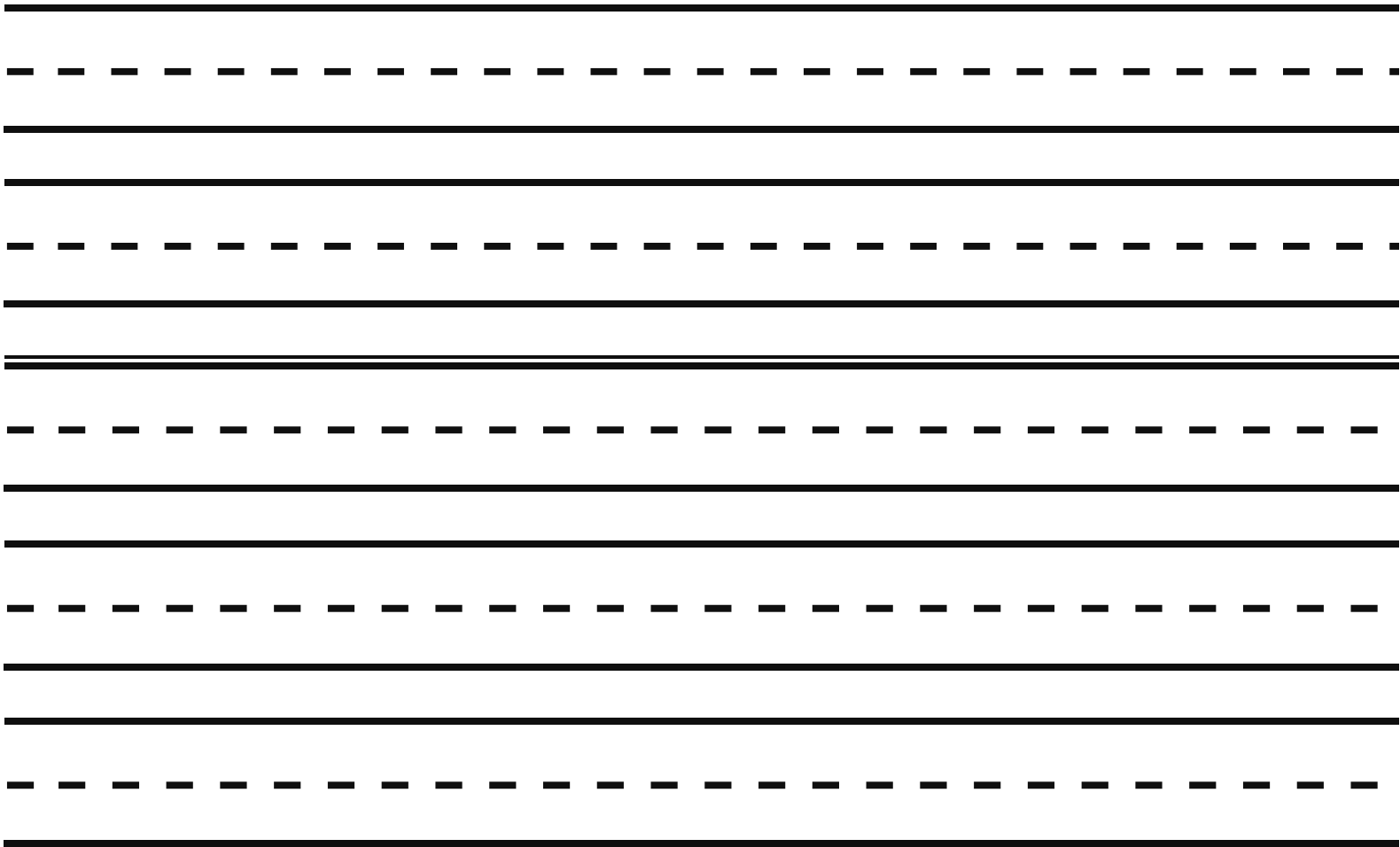
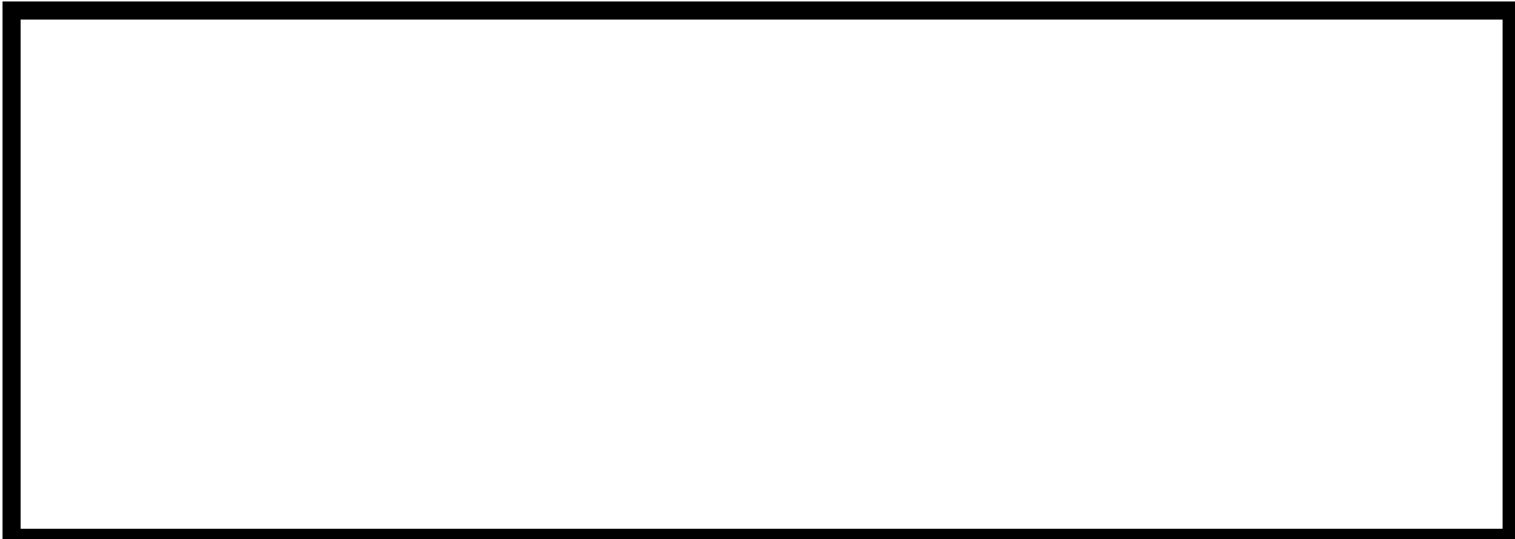
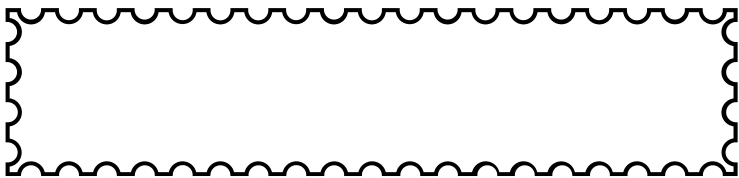


Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of three horizontal lines: a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.

NAME :






Topic
→



NAME :

MY ZODIAC SIGN

- Find the year you were born.
- Circle your Zodiac animal

 <p>RAT</p> <p>2008 2020</p>	 <p>OX</p> <p>2009 2021</p>	 <p>TIGER</p> <p>2010 2022</p>	 <p>RABBIT</p> <p>2011 2023</p>
 <p>DRAGON</p> <p>2012 2024</p>	 <p>SNAKE</p> <p>2013 2025</p>	 <p>HORSE</p> <p>2014 2026</p>	 <p>GOAT</p> <p>2015 2027</p>
 <p>MONKEY</p> <p>2016 2028</p>	 <p>ROOSTER</p> <p>2017 2029</p>	 <p>DOG</p> <p>2018 2030</p>	 <p>PIG</p> <p>2019 2031</p>

Draw a picture of you and your zodiac animal

FOR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS

Kid-Friendly WEBSITES



Lunar New Year STEM Activities

<https://www.sciencebuddies.org/blog/lunar-new-year-stem>



Lunar New Year at the SMITHSONIAN

<https://www.si.edu/events/lunar-new-year>



Scholastic Kids Press

<https://kpcnotebook.scholastic.com/post/learning-about-lunar-new-year>



National Geographic

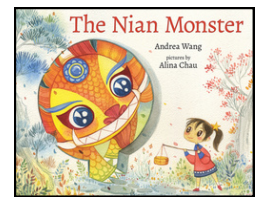
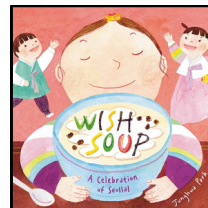
<https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/lunar-new-year/>



TIME Kids

<https://www.timeforkids.com/kl/lunar-new-year/>

More READING



A SWEET NEW YEAR FOR REN (Beachlane Books, 2022)



MAI'S ÁO DÀI (Caitlyn Dlouhy Books, 2025)



WISH SOUP: A CELEBRATION OF SEOLLAL (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2023)



SPARKLES FOR SUNNY: A LUNAR NEW YEAR STORY (Flamingo Book, 2025)



THE NIAN MONSTER (Albert Whitman & Company)

ANSWER KEYS

Zodiac Animal Activity

Match the zodiac animals to their characteristics.

- | | | |
|---------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Rat | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1.Rat - L |
| Ox | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2.Ox - K |
| Tiger | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3.Tiger - J |
| Rabbit | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4.Rabbit - I |
| Dragon | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5.Dragon - H |
| Snake | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6.Snake - G |
| Horse | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7.Horse - F |
| Goat | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8.Goat - E |
| Monkey | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9.Monkey - D |
| Rooster | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10.Rooster - C |
| Dog | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11.Dog - B |
| Pig | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12.Pig - A |

Word Search

Word search grid with highlighted words:

```

C O H O I Y F O F S A S C C B
L O O N J O L W D X P A E O G
R E D S R K X I P T I R S P A
K B Q T Z C N L M D J P I X V
H H U B A U B S O A U R E N B
J N N Q K L J Z L R F O X F G
E Q N N F L H R Q Q E S W V C
L E R T O I Z A Y Q X P T Q L
L S E U A G R N E W Y E A R X
D G T T C E A E Z C P R X R S
P R N Z R X F R W A N I Q M B
R H A O I B W Z D O V T S B M
O N L A V I T S E F R Y J E T
O G H Q P D M F D O X K A N T
T F G H K D L W H Y W K S L J
  
```

SORTING ACTIVITY

PREPARATION	CELEBRATION	GOOD LUCK CUSTOMS
Cleaning the house	Family banquet	Giving oranges
Making pineapple tart	Watching lion dances	Lighting firecrackers
Cooking noodles	Visiting family and friends	Hanging lanterns
	Staying up late	Saying blessings
		Wearing new clothes
		Eating dumplings