



Grades 1-4

Exploring Ancient China

Learning Lapbook with Study Guide



A Journey Through Learning
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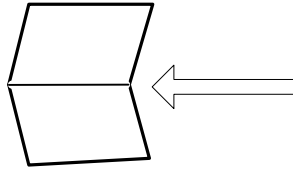
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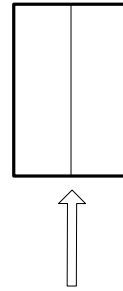
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Things to Know

Hamburger Fold-Fold horizontally



Hotdog Fold-Fold vertically



Dotted Lines-These are the cutting lines.

Accordion Fold-This fold is like making a paper fan. Fold on the first line so that title is on top. Turn over and fold on next line so that title is on top again. Turn over again and fold again on the next line so that title is on top. Continue until all folds are done.

Cover Labels-Most of the booklets that are folded look nicer with a label on top instead of just a blank space. They will be referred to as "cover label."

How Long Does it Take to Complete the Lapbook?

Doing a study guide page and mini-booklet a day, a 3-folder lapbook takes about one month to complete. However, you can expand the study portion and make it last as long as you like! That's the beauty of homeschooling! Do it YOUR way!

Lapbook Assembly Choices

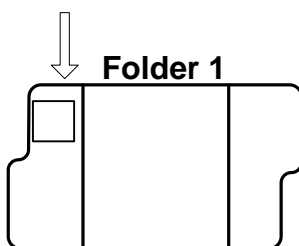
(see photos on how to fold and glue your folders together)

We recommend using Zip Dry Glue or Elmer's Extreme.

Choice #1 -Do not glue your folders together until you have completely finished all three folders. It is easier to work with one folder instead of two or three glued together.

Choice #2 -Glue all of your folders together before beginning. Some children like to see the entire project as they work on it. It helps with keeping up with which folder you are supposed to be working in. The choices are completely up to you and your child!

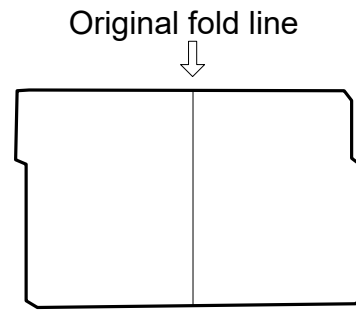
How do I know where to place each template in the folder?



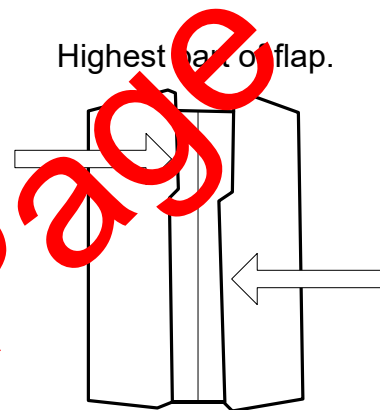
This placement key tells you the template goes in the first folder at the top of the left flap.

Folding a Lapbook Base

Gather the number of folders required for the project. Fold them flat as seen here.



For each folder, fold the left and right sides inward toward the original line to create two flaps. Crease so that the highest part of each flap is touching the original line. It is important not to let the two flaps overlap. *You may want to take a ruler and run it down each crease to make it sharper.*



Glue your folders together by putting glue (or you may staple) on the inside of the flaps. Then press the newly glued flaps together with your hands until they get a good strong hold to each other. Follow this step to add as many folders as you need for your project. Most of our lapbooks have either 2 or 3 folders.

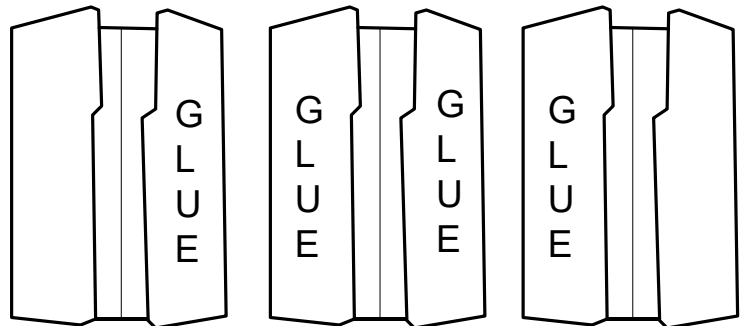
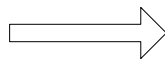


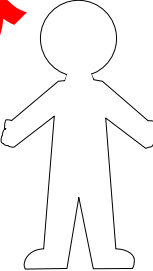
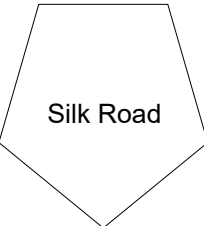
Photo of a completed lapbook base



Folder 1

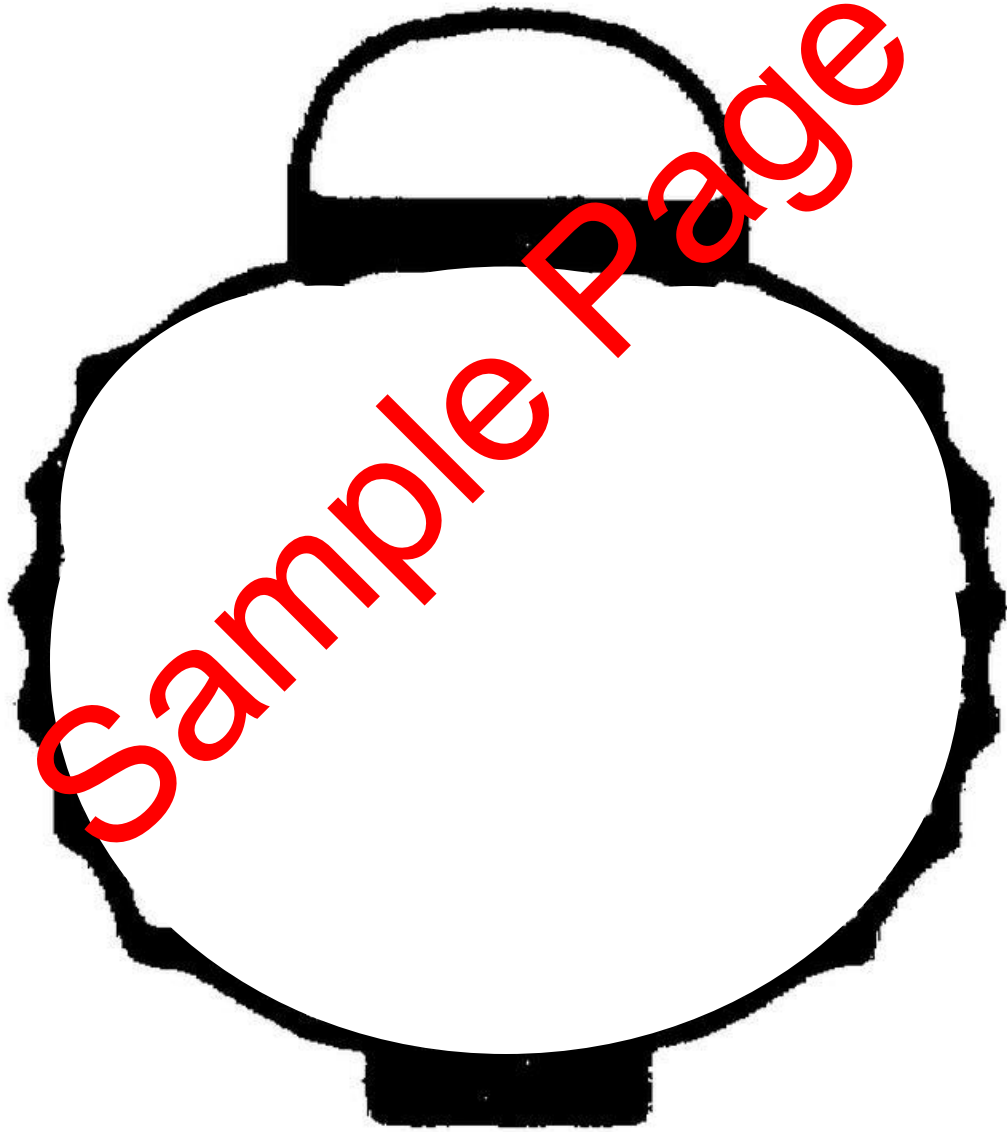
Geography	Where is China?	Vocabulary
	 Family	 Food

Folder 2

Life	Rare animals	Dynasties	Religion
Life	 Emperor	 Silk Road	China Today

Cut out the page around the dotted lines. Glue to the front of your closed lapbook.
Decorate your Chinese lantern!

Exploring Ancient China



Where is China?

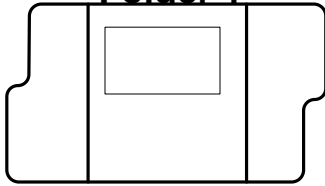
The vast country of China is located in the eastern region of the continent of Asia. This country, the third largest, covers an extensive portion of land and it is home to one-fifth of the total world's population. China is not only a big country, but it is a country with a long and rich history.

For most of its long history, China was **isolated** or apart from the rest of the world. Protected by its natural boundaries, it kept to itself for a long time. The enormous Taklamakan Desert to the west, the tall Himalayas Mountains to the southwest, and the China and Yellow Seas to the east kept China secure. The wide steppes and grassy plains of the north formed its most vulnerable or weak spot. So isolated were the Chinese, that for the longest time they thought they were all alone in the world!

China, because it is so big, presents many different kinds of climates. The south is wet and tropical even with the presence of some rainforests. Northwest China, with its vast deserts, is hot and dry. The Taklamakan Desert is the hottest place on Earth - so hot that raindrops do not reach the ground because they evaporate. To the north, close to Russia, it is so cold that the temperatures can fall many degrees below zero.

The land of China is bathed by two main rivers: the Yangtze and the Yellow Rivers. The Yangtze River is one of the longest rivers in the world.

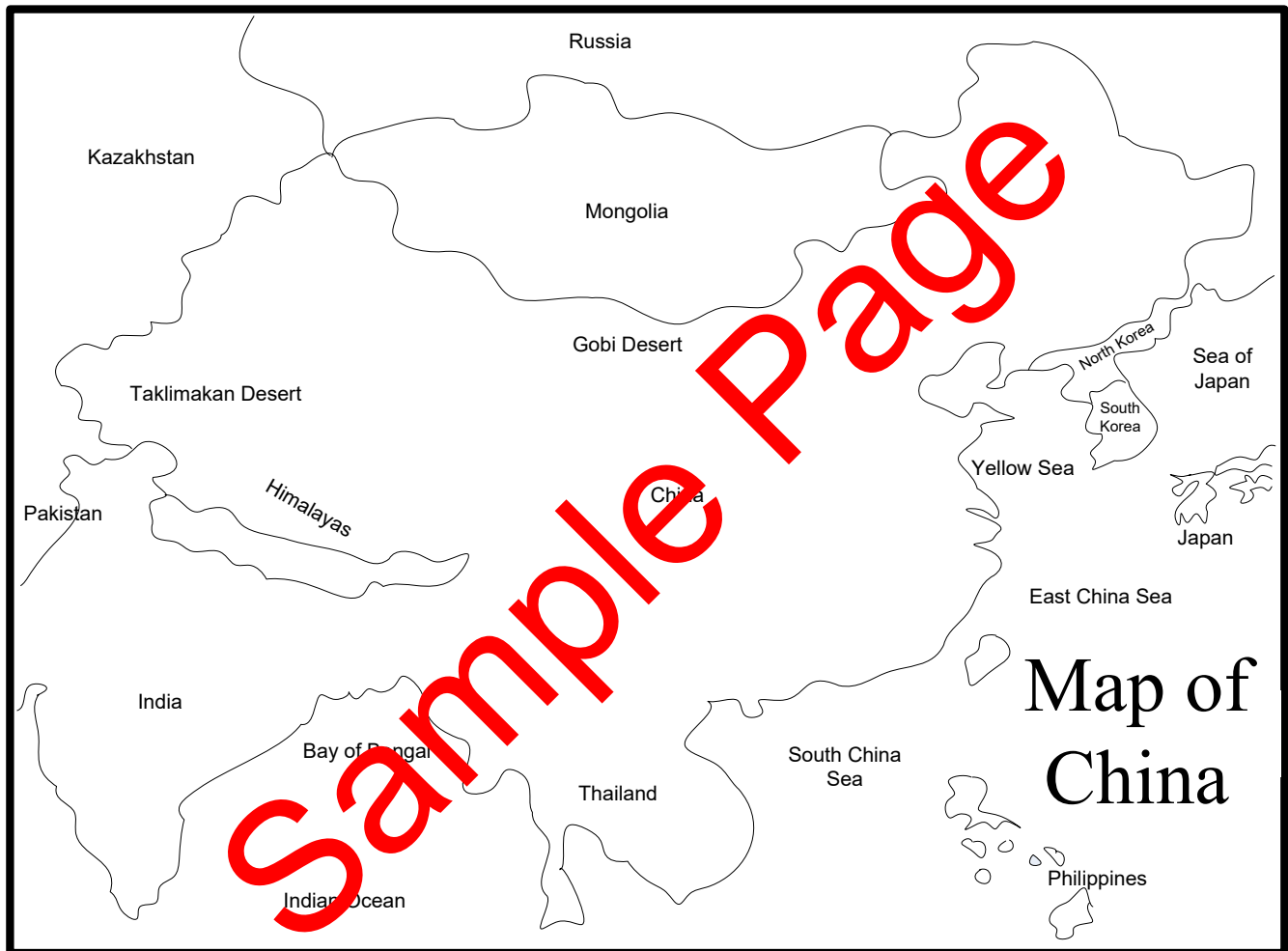
Folder 1



Read Where is China?

Cut out the booklet. Glue into lapbook.

Directions: Shade the Taklamakan Desert brown. Shade the Himalayas Mountains green. Color the China Sea blue. Color the Yellow Sea yellow. Draw the Yangtze River red. Draw the Yellow River purple.



China's Major Dynasties

When the rulers of a country belong to the same powerful family, it is said that this family is a dynasty. The head of the family is the ruler. When he dies, one of his children becomes the ruler. Many powerful dynasties have ruled China. Here are some of them:

~ The Xia dynasty: The Xia Dynasty is the first Chinese dynasty. This dynasty ruled so long ago that not much is known about it.

~ The Shang Dynasty (c.1500 BC-1100 BC): It is the first great dynasty in the history of China. It is during this dynasty that China became united for the first time under one ruler. During this time, Chinese people learned how to skillfully work metals like bronze and copper. Like other great civilizations, the Chinese learned how to write.

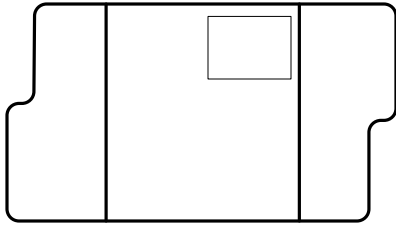
~ Zhou Dynasty (c.1028 BC-771 BC): The Zhou emperors believed that they ruled because it was the gods' desire. They called this *Heaven's Mandate*. This dynasty ruled longer than any other dynasty in China. They established a very organized system of government.

~ Qin Dynasty (c. 221 BC-210 BC): This dynasty lasted a very short time but it accomplished a lot. It is during this time that the Great Wall of China was built.

~ Han Dynasty: During this dynasty, China learned about other civilizations and established trade with them.

~ Ming Dynasty: This is the last of the great Chinese dynasties. The Forbidden City was built for this emperor.

Folder 2



Read China's Major Dynasties.

Cut out the booklet as one piece. Fold in half. Glue into lapbook.

Directions: Inside of the booklet, list the Ancient Dynasties.



China's Major Dynasties

Sample Page

At the Service of the Emperor

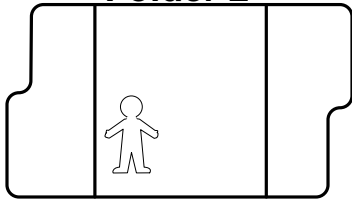
China is a big country. To be able to govern such a vast country, Chinese emperors had a network of civil servants who represented the emperor and watched out for his interests. Thousands of these powerful officials were sent throughout the empire.

The Emperor Gaozu, the first emperor of the Han Dynasty, started this efficient civil service network. Emperor Gaozu knew he could not govern alone. He gathered a group of the most wise and educated men in China. A later emperor, Wu di, founded a university dedicated to the training of civil service officials.

Not anybody could become a civil service official. To become an official, you had to take several tests. These tests were very difficult. People had to study for many years memorizing an enormous amount of information in many subjects. There were different levels of civil service officials. The more tests you passed, the higher your rank as a government official. Only the very brightest rose to the highest ranks.

The highest-ranking officials lived in the palace and reported directly to the Emperor. They were in charge of large areas of the empire. Minor officials were in charge of smaller areas. There they served as judges, collected taxes for the Emperor, and made sure that people lived by the laws of the land. The position of a government official was considered a very prestigious career.

Folder 2



Read At the Service of the Emperor.

Cut out the booklet as one piece.

Directions: On the booklet, write as many adjectives that you can think of to describe an Emperor.

