Dynasties of Ancient China Lapbook



Designed by Melissa Noll



Dynasties of Ancient China Lapbook
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Publisher: Knowledge Box Central

Written by: Melissa Noll

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How do I get started?

First, you will want to gather your supplies. Depending on which format you purchased from us, you will need different supplies. So, take what applies, and skip over the rest.

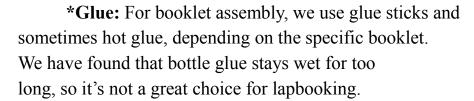
*** Printing:

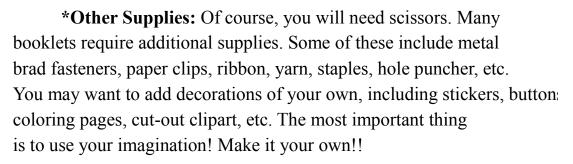
- *Print instructions and study guide on white copy paper.
- *Print the booklet templates on 24# colored paper.

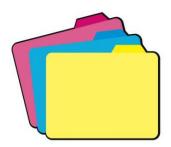


*** Assembly:

*Folders: We use colored file folders, which can be found at Wal-Mart, Sam's, Office Depot, Costco, etc. You will need 4 file folders. You may use manila folders if you prefer, but we have found that children respond better with the brightly colored folders. Don't worry about the tabs.... they aren't important. If you prefer, you can purchase the assembled lapbook bases from our website.















Ok. I've gathered the supplies. Now how do I use this product?

Inside, you will find several sections. They are as follows:

- 1. **Student Assembly and Completion Instructions:** This section is written directly to the student, in language that he or she can understand. However, depending on the age of the child, there may be some parent/teacher assistance needed. These instructions will tell the student exactly how to assemble the lapbook base and how to cut out and assemble each booklet. Here, they will find a layout of where each booklet should be placed in the lapbook and pictures of a completed lapbook. They will also tell the student exactly what should be written inside each booklet as he or she comes to it during the study.
- 2. **Booklet Templates:** This section includes all of the templates for the booklets within this lapbook.
- 3. **Study Guide:** This section includes most of the information that you need to teach this subject. You may choose to teach directly from the Study Guide, or you may choose to allow your student to read the study guide himself. Either way, you will find all of the information here.



Dynasties of Ancient China Lapbook Student Instruction Guide

Lapbook Base Assembly:

First, you will need to assemble the "Lapbook Base" for your project.

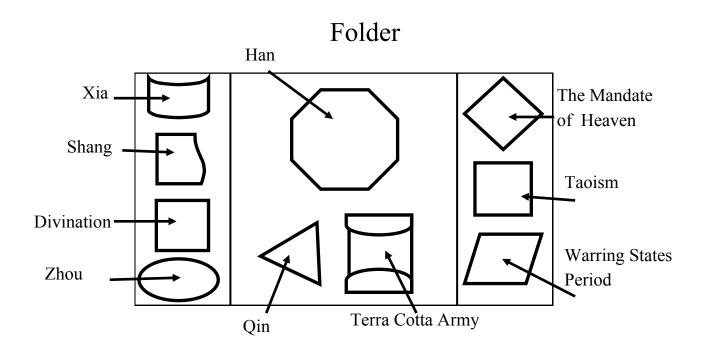
For this lapbook, you will need 4 file folders. Open the file folder, and lay it flat in front of you. Fold both sides of each folder toward the middle. The edges (or tabs) of the folded sides should touch the center original fold line on the folders. See **Figure 1**. **Figure 2** shows how all 3 folders should be assembled.

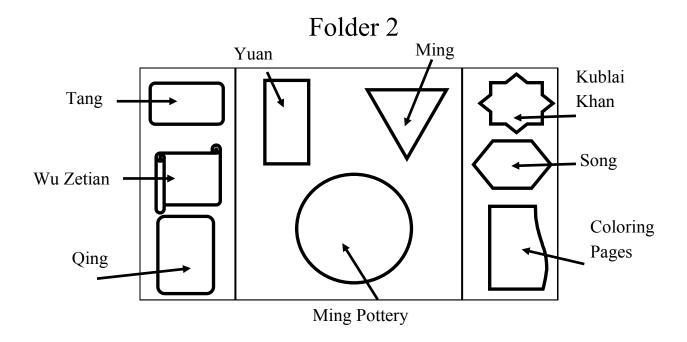
Figure 1

Figure 2

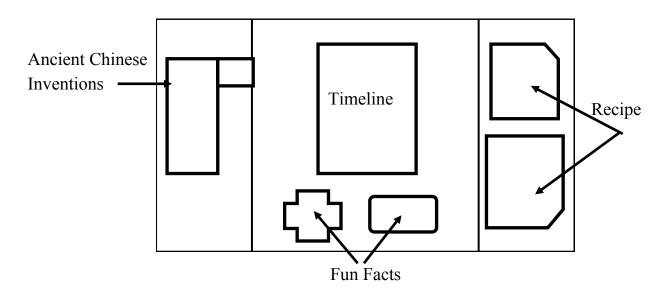
Lapbook Layout:

Below, you will see a layout for the lapbook. You may choose to glue the booklets into your Lapbook Base in any order that you like. However, you may have trouble fitting all of them in unless you follow the layout below. Some of the shapes aren't exactly the same on the layout as the booklets themselves.

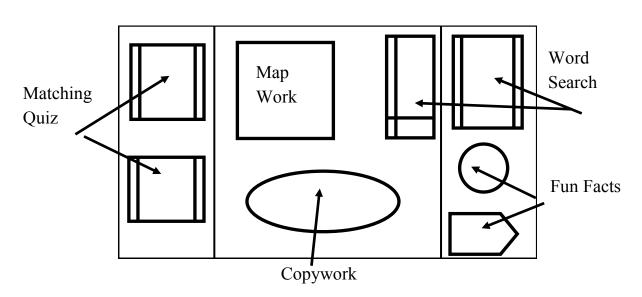




Folder 3



Folder 4



Below, you will find pictures of how the lapbook should look when you have completely assembled it.

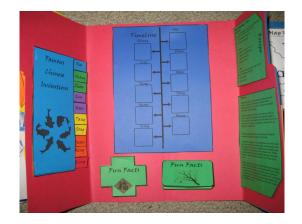
Folder 1



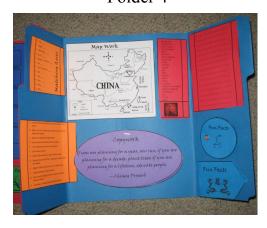
Folder 2



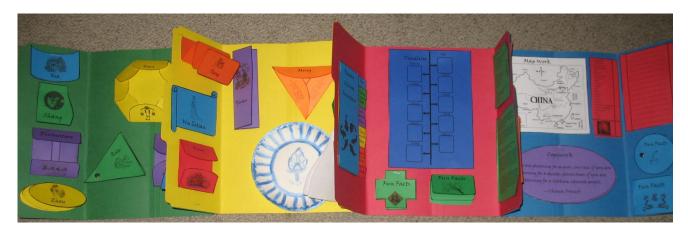
Folder 3



Folder 4



All Folders



Dynasties of Ancient China Lapbook

Student Instruction Guide

Booklet #1

*Booklet Title: Xia

*Student Instructions: When did the Xia dynasty begin? How long did it last? How is silk made? From what? Discuss your answer in this booklet.

**Assembly Instructions: Cut out along the outer black line edges of all three pages. Stack with the title page on top, and secure with a staple at the top of the stack.

Booklet #2

*Booklet Title: Shang

*Student Instructions: When did the Shang dynasty begin? How long did it last? What did the Shang believe in terms of religion? Discuss your answers in this booklet.

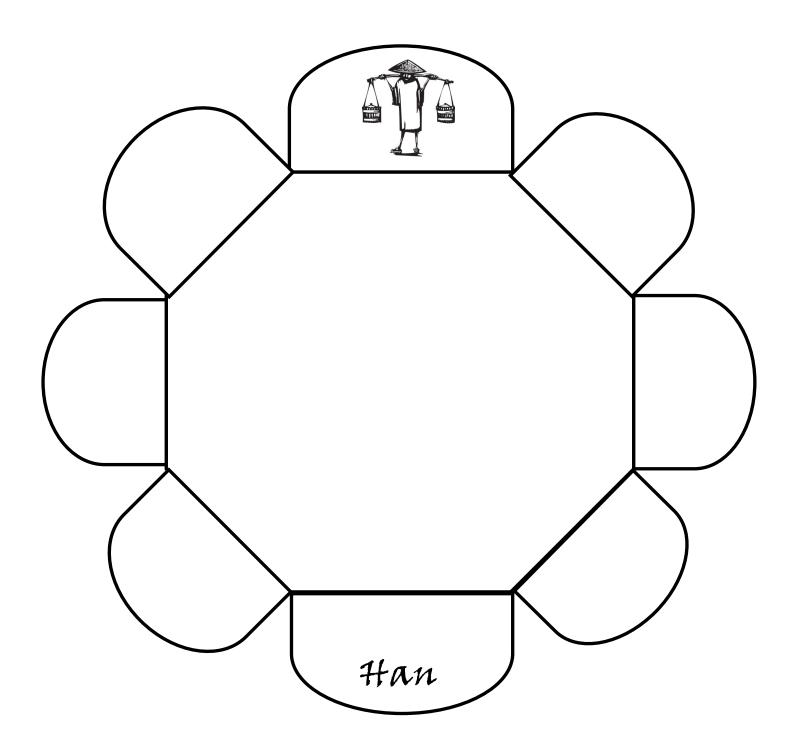
**Assembly Instructions: Cut out along the outer black edges of the booklet and 2 additional pages. Then fold inward on the bold black lines so that the title is on front. Insert additional pages inside and secure with staple at top.

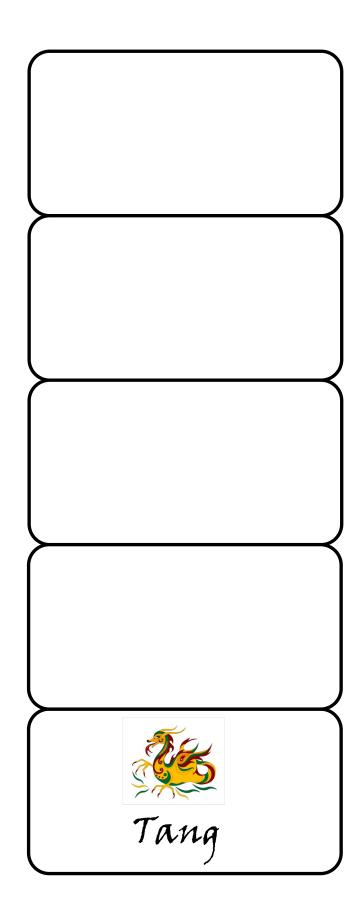
Booklet #3

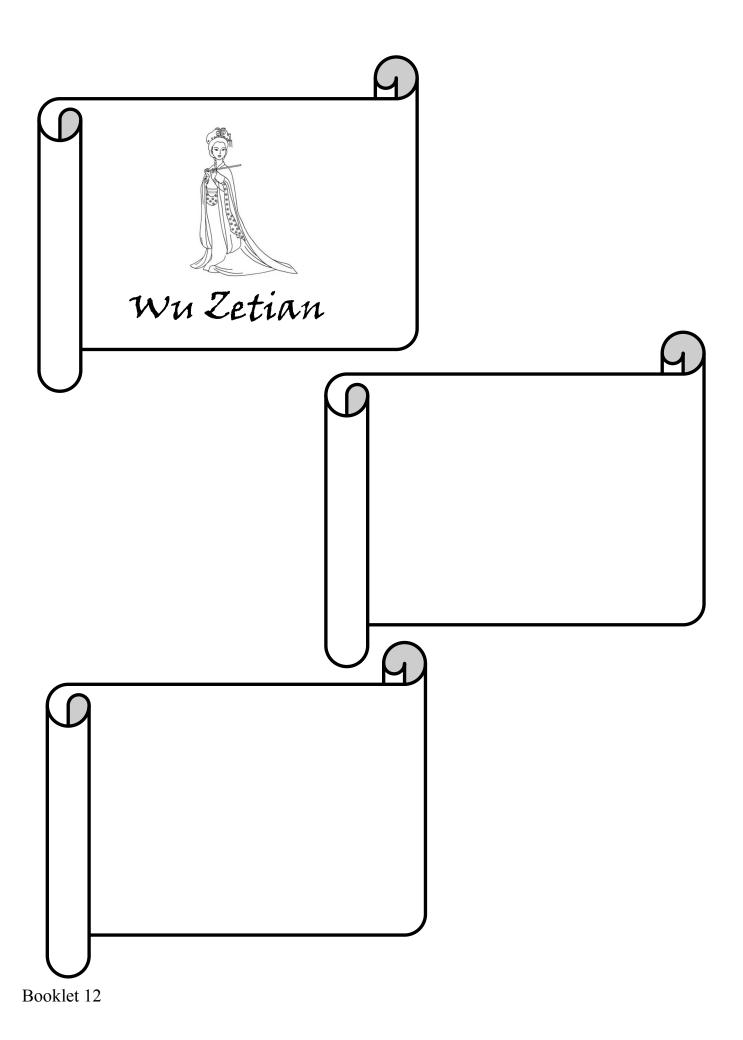
*Booklet Title: Divination

*Student Instructions: What were oracle bones? What were they used for? What kind of questions were they supposed to answer? Discuss your answers in this booklet.

**Assembly Instructions: Cut out along the outer black line edges of the booklet. Fold flaps in towards the center section. Make sure title flap folds in on top. Information is to be written on the inside center section. Attach in appropriate place in folder.







Dynasties of Ancient China

The history of ancient China is divided into dynastic periods. These family groups used a large government of related officials to control large areas of land.



Xia Dynasty

This dynasty controlled China from around 2100BC to 1600BC. Little is known about this dynasty and it is sometimes considered mythological. It is mentioned in some ancient Chinese history scrolls. The dynasty lasted around 500 years and included 17 different emperors. The people during this time were mostly farmers. They used bronze weapons and clay pottery. Silk, one of the most important of Chinese products, was produced during this dynasty. Silk is made by unraveling the cocoons of silkworms. Each cocoon is made from a single strand of silk thread.

The Shang Dynasty

The Shang dynasty took control from the Xia around 1600 BC after the battle of Mingtian. The Shang controlled China for over 600 years and included 30 different emperors. The Shang was the oldest Chinese civilization to leave behind written records. These are in the form of oracle bones, turtle shells and other bones used in the practice of divination. The Chinese used these bones to determine what the gods desired of them. They would carve question like "will the king have a son?" or "should we go to war?" and then heat the bone until it cracked. This would give them the answer to their question. Sometimes they would ask, "If we sacrifice 10 men or 5 oxen, will it rain tomorrow?"

The Shang created many crafts out of bronze. Many Shang artifacts have been found, some of

them quite large. The Shang worshipped many different gods, including weather and sky gods. They also believed in a supreme god known as Shangdi, who ruled over the other gods. The Shang believed that their ancestors became like gods when they died, so they also worshipped their own ancestors.

The Zhou Dynasty

The Zhou dynasty was the longest lasting dynasty in Chinese history, lasting from about 1066 BC to 256 BC. They defeated the Shang at the Battle of Muye. The Zhou used a semi-feudal form of rule.

Around this time the Zhou began to use the concept of the Mandate of Heaven. This mandate said that heaven chose the emperor and if it became displeased with his rule, natural disasters would begin to occur in great number. If this happened, the people should overthrow the emperor and a new ruler, with a new Mandate should be chosen.

During this time the Chinese people migrated into territory farther south. The Zhou battled invading armies from Mongolia to the north. They began to build large mounds of dirt and rocks as barriers to slow down the enemy. The use of iron was introduced into China during this dynasty. Iron tipped weapons did more damage and the iron plow increased food production. The crossbow was invented during this time.

Agriculture at this time was directed by the government. They divided each piece of land into nine squares. Each farmer worked his own square. The grain in the middle square was given to the government to stock up in case disaster struck. The eight farmers all worked together on this square.

Both Confucianism and Taoism began during the Zhou period. Confucius focused on doing the right thing for others, the importance of family and respect for elders. Taoists believed in living in harmony with nature, living humbly without too many possessions and having compassion for all life.

Towards the end of the Zhou dynasty local military leaders began to assert their own power. China was still facing invading peoples from the north. Power became decentralized. Hundreds