MANDARIN CHINESE · GRADE 1 · AGES 6–7

Grade 1 Mandarin

First edition | 5 units | 10 lessons · one quarter | Simplified characters with pinyin

A song or video for every lesson

FIRST EDITION

Course guide

Grade 1 Mandarin is a short course of 10 lessons (5 units of 2), one lesson a week for a quarter, with three sessions of 15–20 minutes a week.

The child learns polite words (谢谢, 不客气, 对不起, 没关系, 请), greetings for morning, night and teacher, the family, how to ask and tell age, a birthday song, asking for food with 我要, and the sun, moon, stars and weather. Every Chinese word is shown in simplified characters with pinyin above it.

Reading is not required: the child listens, sings, says, points and traces a few simple characters, and each lesson has a worksheet with a separate answer key. Kindergarten Mandarin is helpful but not required.

> Every embedded video comes from a channel approved for School Launch: Miss Panda Chinese (a cheerful teacher with Mandarin songs, picture words and picture-book read-alouds for little children) and Little Fox Chinese (short animated Mandarin songs and stories with the words on screen), with a few short vocabulary videos from ChineseClass101. Miss Panda teaches in Taiwan-style Mandarin and sometimes shows traditional characters on screen; the sounds are the same Mandarin, and the course itself uses simplified characters. Most songs are two to five minutes long, so play them twice: once to listen and once to sing along. The videos play in YouTube's privacy-enhanced player. Please preview every video yourself before you show it to your child. The videos were chosen by title and channel from channels approved for School Launch and checked one by one, and YouTube may show its own suggestions when a video ends, so stay nearby and stop the player when the lesson's part is done.

Start with Lesson 1.1 →

Who it is for

Written for students in grade 1 (about ages 6–7), with a parent or teacher reading the lessons aloud and joining in. No Chinese is needed by the child or the parent: every word comes with its pinyin and an English sound guide, and the songs do the rest. Reading and writing are light: tracing a few simple characters and saying words from picture cards. Sessions are short, 15 to 20 minutes. Nothing needs to be bought: every activity uses paper, crayons and household things.

How to use this course

1. **The weekly rhythm.** The quarter has 10 lessons, one a week, each with three sessions of 15–20 minutes. Session 1 is the warm-up, the story, the song and the picture study (in the first lesson of each unit). Session 2 is the activity and the picture dictionary. Session 3 is the worked examples, the practice questions (asked out loud), the game and a little show for the family.
2. **Say it every day.** Young children learn a language by hearing it and saying it, a few minutes every day, cheerfully. Say 你好 (nǐ hǎo) at breakfast and 晚安 (wǎn'ān, good night) at bedtime, count the stairs in Chinese, and sing the week's song in the car.
3. **Hands for the tones.** Draw each tone in the air as you say it: a flat line for the first tone, a line up for the second, a dip for the third and a chop down for the fourth. Children love it, and it keeps the tones honest.
4. **The picture dictionary.** Keep one notebook for the quarter. Each lesson the child draws the new words, and a parent writes the character and pinyin beside each drawing for the child to trace.
5. **Tones are part of the word.** Every Chinese syllable has a tone, and the tone changes the meaning. Say every new word with its tone from the first day, draw the tone in the air with your hand, and copy the tone marks carefully. A word said with the wrong tone is a different word.
6. **Characters and pinyin.** The course writes Chinese in simplified characters, the form used in mainland China and Singapore and by most learners, with pinyin

printed above the characters. Each vocabulary card also gives the traditional form, used in Taiwan and Hong Kong, when it is different. Families who read traditional characters at home are welcome to use them.

7. **The word list.** The quarter teaches 48 words and phrases, in this order. Unit 1: 谢谢 (xièxie), 不客气 (bú kèqi), 对不起 (duìbuqǐ), 没关系 (méi guānxi), 早上好 (zǎoshang hǎo), 晚安 (wǎn'ān), 老师 (lǎoshī), 请 (qǐng). Unit 2: 爸爸 (bàba), 妈妈 (māma), 哥哥 (gēge), 姐姐 (jiějie), 弟弟 (dìdi), 妹妹 (mèimei), 爷爷 (yéye), 奶奶 (nǎinai), 外公 (wàigōng), 外婆 (wàipó), 我爱你 (wǒ ài nǐ). Unit 3: 几 (jǐ), 岁 (suì), 零 (líng), 两 (liǎng), 生日 (shēngrì), 快乐 (kuàilè), 生日快乐 (shēngrì kuàilè), 蛋糕 (dàngāo). Unit 4: 苹果 (píngguǒ), 香蕉 (xiāngjiāo), 西瓜 (xīguā), 葡萄 (pútao), 要 (yào), 米饭 (mǐfàn), 面条 (miàntiáo), 饺子 (jiǎozi), 水 (shuǐ), 牛奶 (niúnǎi), 筷子 (kuàizi). Unit 5: 太阳 (tàiyáng), 月亮 (yuèliang), 星星 (xīngxing), 天 (tiān), 下雨 (xià yǔ), 下雪 (xià xuě), 刮风 (guā fēng), 热 (rè), 冷 (lěng), 天气 (tiānqì).
8. **Word games.** The crossword, word-find and hangman games used in other School Launch language courses need typed letters; Chinese needs characters or pinyin with tone marks, so the games are turned off for Mandarin. Each lesson has a spoken game instead.
9. **Printables.** Each lesson has a one-page worksheet, and the answers are in a separate key for the parent. Each unit review also has a printable key.
10. **The Chinese Bible.** Chinese verses are quoted from the Chinese Union Version (和合本 Héhéběn), the Mandarin translation finished in 1919 by a team of missionaries and Chinese scholars and still the Bible of most Chinese-speaking churches. The 1919 text is in the public domain. The course prints it in simplified characters, the form taught in this course, with modern punctuation; every verse has been checked word for word against the 1919 edition, and where the 1988 New Punctuation edition changed a word, the 1919 word is printed. A small space is printed before 神 (shén, God) in this version, as in the original: it was a mark of reverence, and it let the same printing plates serve the edition that used the two-character name 上帝 (Shàngdì). God's name, printed LORD in the King James Version, is 耶和华 (Yēhéhuá, Jehovah) in the Union Version. The pinyin under each verse was added by School Launch to help with reading aloud. The English verse is always the King James Version, quoted exactly.

Scope and sequence

UNIT 1 · WEEKS 1–2

Polite Words: 谢谢 and 对不起

Kind words for every day: 谢谢 (thank you), 不客气 (you're welcome), 对不起 (sorry), 没关系 (that's all right), 请 (please), and greetings for the morning and for a teacher. Xu Yang's busy street in old Suzhou.

1.1 谢谢 and 对不起: Thank You and Sorry

1.2 早上好 and 晚安: Morning, Night and Please

UNIT 2 · WEEKS 3–4

My Family: 爸爸 妈妈

Family words: 爸爸, 妈妈, 哥哥, 姐姐, 弟弟, 妹妹, 爷爷 and 奶奶, and how to say "this is my…" with 这是我的. A palace household on a spring morning, and honoring father and mother.

2.1 爸爸 妈妈: Dad, Mom, Brothers and Sisters

2.2 爷爷 奶奶: Grandparents, and I Love You

UNIT 3 · WEEKS 5–6

Numbers and Age: 几岁?

Review counting to 十, ask and answer 你几岁? (how old are you?) with 我…岁, and sing 生日快乐 (happy birthday). Zhang Zeduan's great Qingming scroll, and "teach us to number our days."

3.1 你几岁? How Old Are You?

3.2 生日快乐: Happy Birthday!

UNIT 4 · WEEKS 7–8

Food: 我要...

Fruit and food words with 我要… (I want…) and 我不要 (I don't want): 苹果, 香蕉, 西瓜, 米饭, 面条, 饺子, 水 and 牛奶. Lin Chun's loquats, the fruit of the Spirit, and our daily bread.

4.1 苹果 香蕉: Fruit, and 我要

4.2 米饭 面条: Rice, Noodles and Chopsticks

UNIT 5 · WEEKS 9–10

Sun, Moon, Stars and Weather

Sky and weather words: 太阳, 月亮, 星星, 天, and 下雨, 下雪, 刮风, 热, 冷. Guo Xi's misty Early Spring, "Praise ye him, sun and moon," and God's promise of seasons.

5.1 太阳 月亮 星星: Sun, Moon and Stars

5.2 下雨了! Rain, Snow, Wind, Hot and Cold

Weekly pacing calendar

WEEK	PLAN
1	• Session 1: Lesson 1.1 谢谢 and 对不起: Thank You and Sorry: warm-up, story, words and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 1.1 activity (kind-word cards) and song • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and the worksheet *Three sessions a week of 15–20 minutes. On the other days, use the week's words at meals and bedtime.*
2	• Session 1: Lesson 1.2 早上好 and 晚安: Morning, Night and Please: warm-up, story, words and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 1.2 activity (morning and night door hanger) and song • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 1 review and unit challenge (a polite puppet show)
3	• Session 1: Lesson 2.1 爸爸 妈妈: Dad, Mom, Brothers and Sisters: warm-up, story, words and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 2.1 activity (finger family puppets) and song • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and the worksheet
4	• Session 1: Lesson 2.2 爷爷 奶奶: Grandparents, and I Love You: warm-up, story, words and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 2.2 activity (a card for grandma and grandpa) and song • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 2 review and unit challenge (my family tree)
5	• Session 1: Lesson 3.1 你几岁? How Old Are You?: warm-up, story, words and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 3.1 activity (age tower) and song • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and the worksheet
6	• Session 1: Lesson 3.2 生日快乐: Happy Birthday!: warm-up, story, words and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 3.2 activity (birthday card) and song • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 3 review and unit challenge (a birthday interview)

WEEK	PLAN
7	• Session 1: Lesson 4.1 苹果 香蕉: Fruit, and 我要: warm-up, story, words and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 4.1 activity (fruit salad helpers) and song • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and the worksheet
8	• Session 1: Lesson 4.2 米饭 面条: Rice, Noodles and Chopsticks: warm-up, story, words and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 4.2 activity (chopstick challenge) and song • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 4 review and unit challenge (our chinese snack shop)
9	• Session 1: Lesson 5.1 太阳 月亮 星星: Sun, Moon and Stars: warm-up, story, words and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 5.1 activity (day-and-night plate) and song • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and the worksheet
10	• Session 1: Lesson 5.2 下雨了! Rain, Snow, Wind, Hot and Cold: warm-up, story, words and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 5.2 activity (weather wheel) and song • Session 3: Worked examples, practice out loud, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 5 review and unit challenge (my weather report)

Materials

A notebook for the picture dictionary

One for the quarter, for drawings and traced characters.

Crayons or markers, paper, scissors, glue and tape

For the activities. A parent helps with cutting.

Index cards

For picture cards and games.

Grading

Grades at this age come from cheerful participation: saying the words, singing the songs, playing the games and making the picture dictionary. A child who joins in every day earns full credit.

PART	%
Saying and singing (daily greetings, songs, motions, games)	**40**
Picture dictionary and activities	**30**
Unit reviews (out loud)	**15**
Unit challenges	**15**

Scale: Most families simply mark each review Got it, Getting there or Not yet. If you prefer letters: A 90–100, B 80–89, C 70–79. Below that, sing the songs and play the games again, then try once more.

- Every review is done out loud. The parent asks, the child answers or points, and the parent marks the answer key.
- A word counts when the child says it so a Chinese speaker would understand. The tones come with time; praise every try.

A note to parents

You do not need to know Chinese to teach this course. Every Chinese word has its pinyin and an English sound guide (你好 nǐ hǎo is nee HOW), every answer is in the answer key, and every lesson has a short song or video with a native speaker. Learn right alongside your child.

Please preview every video yourself before you show it to your child. The videos were chosen by title and channel from channels approved for School Launch and checked one by one, and YouTube may show its own suggestions when a video ends, so stay nearby and stop the player when the lesson's part is done.

Keep it short and happy. If your child is tired, sing the song and stop. Fifteen joyful minutes are better than thirty unhappy ones.

The stories in this course are true stories of Chinese painters, places and people, of missionaries who loved China, and stories from the Bible. Each lesson ends with a verse in English (King James Version) and the same verse in the Chinese Union Version, the Bible of most Chinese Christians, so your child can hear that God's Word speaks in every language. Chinese festivals are taught as facts about Chinese life (what families do, eat and say), not as religious practice. Where a custom comes from Chinese folk religion, the lesson says so plainly, and it explains how Chinese Christians keep the day.

UNIT 1

Polite Words: 谢谢 and 对不起

Lesson 1.1 reviews 你好 and 再见 and teaches 谢谢, 不客气, 对不起 and 没关系, with Xu Yang's painting of a busy street in Suzhou.

Lesson 1.2 teaches 早上好 (good morning), 晚安 (good night), 老师好 (hello, teacher) and 请 (please).

PREREQUISITES

- Kindergarten Mandarin, or none: Lesson 1.1 reviews 你好 and 再见.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can say thank you and answer you're welcome.
- ☐ I can say sorry and that's all right.
- ☐ I can greet in the morning and at night, and greet a teacher.
- ☐ I can say please.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

1.1	**谢谢 and 对不起: Thank You and Sorry**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
1.2	**早上好 and 晚安: Morning, Night and Please**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes

Unit 1 review

The parent acts out each moment; the child answers out loud. The review is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**
   The parent hands the child a pencil. What does the child say? What does the parent answer?

2. **4 pts**
   The child bumps into someone. What does the child say?

3. **4 pts**
   Someone says 对不起 to you. What do you answer?

4. **4 pts**
   What do you say when you wake up in the morning? At bedtime?

5. **4 pts**
   How do you greet your teacher?

ANSWER KEY

1. 谢谢 (xièxie); 不客气 (bú kèqi).
2. 对不起 (duìbuqǐ).
3. 没关系 (méi guānxi).
4. 早上好 (zǎoshang hǎo); 晚安 (wǎn'ān).
5. 老师好 (lǎoshī hǎo).

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: A POLITE PUPPET SHOW

With two puppets, act out a little show: they meet (你好), one bumps the other (对不起 / 没关系), one shares a snack (请 / 谢谢 / 不客气), and they say good night (晚安).

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Saying	The child uses at least five polite words in Chinese.
Using it	The words fit each moment of the show.
Making	The puppets and the little stage are ready.
Joy	The child joins in cheerfully.

UNIT 1 · POLITE WORDS: 谢谢 AND 对不起 · LESSON 1.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

1.1 谢谢 and 对不起: Thank You and Sorry

OBJECTIVES

- Say 谢谢 (thank you) and answer 不客气 (you're welcome).
- Say 对不起 (sorry) and answer 没关系 (that's all right).
- Remember to be kind with words, as God is kind to us.

> **Warm-up.** Act it out: the parent drops a spoon, and the child picks it up and hands it back. What do we say? Kind words are like gifts we give each other.

WATCH

Playful Chinese Podcast - Thank You and I Am Grateful For... in Chinese

Miss Panda Chinese · 5:16

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=snwHzyk56Rc

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the story; say 谢谢 along with Miss Panda.

Note: Miss Panda Chinese: how to say thank you, and what we are thankful for, in Chinese. Parent note: Miss Panda sometimes shows traditional characters on screen (for example 媽媽 for 妈妈, 謝謝 for 谢谢); these lessons teach the simplified forms, so point to the simplified characters in the lesson.

BACKUP VIDEO

Learn Chinese - Chinese in Three Minutes - How to Greet People in Chinese

Learn Chinese with ChineseClass101.com · 3:03

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_aUDPHn_Jow

ChineseClass101: “Chinese in Three Minutes,” how to greet people.

KEY TERMS

xiè xie
谢谢 **xièxie**

Thank you.

bú kè qi
不客气 **bú kèqi**

You’re welcome (literally “don’t be polite”).

duì bu qǐ
对不起 **duìbuqǐ**

Sorry; excuse me.

méiguan xi
没关系 **méi guānxi**

That’s all right; it doesn’t matter.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

谢谢

xièxie

SHYEH-shyeh

phrase · traditional 謝謝

thank you

不客气

bú kèqi

boo KUH-chee

phrase · traditional 不客氣

you’re welcome

对不起

duìbuqǐ

dway-boo-CHEE

phrase · traditional 對不起

sorry; excuse me

没关系

méi guānxi

may GWAHN-shee

phrase · traditional 沒關係

that’s all right

CORE IDEAS

The story. The Bible says, “Be ye kind one to another.” Kind words make a home happy. In China, as in our homes, children learn to say thank you and sorry, and to answer kindly when someone else says them.

How Chinese works. Polite words come in pairs. When someone says 谢谢 (xiè xie), answer 不客气 (bú kè qi). When someone says 对不起 (duì bu qǐ), answer 没关系 (méiguān xi).

Say it out loud. xièxie (SHYEH-shyeh), bú kèqi (boo-KUH-chee), duìbuqǐ (dway-boo-CHEE), méi guānxi (may-GWAHN-shee). Practice the pairs with a parent.

PICTURE STUDY



Prosperous Suzhou (detail: Changmen Street), Xu Yang, 1759 (Qing dynasty) · Ink and color on paper, handscroll (detail) · Liaoning Provincial Museum, Shenyang

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Xu Yang was a painter from the city of Suzhou who worked for the emperor about two hundred and sixty years ago. He painted his whole hometown on one very long scroll: canals, bridges, boats and busy shops, with thousands of tiny people going about their day.

Look closely

- Find someone carrying something on a pole across his shoulders.
- Find the shop signs. What do you think they sell?
- Find two people who look like they are greeting each other.
- Can you see water? Boats?

Talk about it

1. What polite words do you think people used in these shops?
2. Would you like to visit this street? What would you buy?

ACTIVITY

Kind-word cards

Make four little cards with polite words to use all week.

You will need

- Index cards or paper
- Crayons

Steps

1. A parent writes 谢谢, 不客气, 对不起 and 没关系 on four cards, with pinyin.
2. Draw a picture on each: a gift, a smile, a bump, a hug.
3. Put them on the fridge.
4. Each time you use one this week, put a sticker on it.

Tips

- Use the words for real, not just in practice.

Check your work

☐ I made four cards.

☐ I used the words this week.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw someone giving you a gift. Write or trace 谢谢 under the picture.

> **From history.** In China, it is polite to give and receive a gift with both hands. Try it: hold out a gift with two hands and say 请 (please, here you are).

> **At home in Chinese.** If a grandparent speaks Chinese, ask how they were taught to show respect as children. Many families teach children to greet each older relative by title: 爷爷 (grandpa), 奶奶 (grandma).

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Your sister gives you a crayon. What do you say? What does she answer?

▼ **Show solution**

1. A gift: say thank you.
2. The answer to 谢谢 is 不客气.

Answer: 谢谢! 不客气!

Example 2. You step on Dad's toe by accident. What do you say? What does Dad answer?

▼ **Show solution**

1. An accident: say sorry.
2. The answer to 对不起 is 没关系.

Answer: 对不起! 没关系!

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say thank you in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   谢谢 (xièxie).

2. Easy Say sorry in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   对不起 (duìbuqǐ).

3. Medium Someone says 谢谢 to you. What do you say?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   不客气 (bú kèqi).

4. Medium Someone says 对不起 to you. What do you say?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   没关系 (méi guānxi).

5. Hard Act out sharing a toy, using two polite pairs.

▼ **Show answer**

For example: 谢谢! 不客气! … 对不起! 没关系!

COMMON MISTAKES

- Answering 谢谢 with 谢谢. The answer is 不客气.
- Saying 不客气 with bù. Before kè, 不 is said bú.

> **Make it a game · Polite pairs.** The parent says one word of a pair, and the child answers with the other: 谢谢 → 不客气; 对不起 → 没关系. Speed up, then switch.

> **Scripture.** "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." (Ephesians 4:32, KJV)
>
> In the Chinese Bible (Chinese Union Version), this verse reads:
>
> > 并要以恩慈相待，存怜悯的心，彼此饶恕
> >
> > *Bìng yào yǐ ēn cí xiāng dài, cún lián mǐn de xīn, bǐ cǐ ráo shù*
>
> God tells us to be kind and to forgive one another, because God forgave us in Christ.

UNIT 1 · POLITE WORDS: 谢谢 AND 对不起 · LESSON 1.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

1.2 早上好 and 晚安: Morning, Night and Please

OBJECTIVES

- Say 早上好 (good morning) and 晚安 (good night).
- Greet a teacher: 老师好.
- Say 请 (please).

> **Warm-up.** Pretend to wake up: stretch and yawn. What is the first thing you say to your family? Then pretend it is bedtime. What do you say?

WATCH

Playful Chinese Podcast - Good Morning in Chinese

Miss Panda Chinese · 4:52

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yrG5hd5J-sg

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the story; stretch and say 早上好 when you hear it.

Note: Miss Panda Chinese: saying good morning in Chinese, with a song. Parent note: Miss Panda sometimes shows traditional characters on screen (for example 媽媽 for 妈妈, 謝謝 for 谢谢); these lessons teach the simplified forms, so point to the simplified characters in the lesson.

BACKUP VIDEO

中文儿歌｜清晨儿歌合集｜早晨洗漱歌｜懒玛丽｜早上好，晚上好｜Little Fox Chinese ｜Chinese Songs for Kids

Little Fox Chinese - Stories & Songs for Learners · 5:38

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xcFzR72vAtc

Little Fox Chinese: morning songs, including “Good Morning, Good Night.”

KEY TERMS

zǎoshanghǎo
早 上 好 **zǎoshang hǎo**
Good morning.

wǎn ān
晚安 **wǎn’ān**
Good night.

lǎo shī
老师 **lǎoshī**
Teacher.

qǐng
请 **qǐng**
Please; here you are.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

早上好

zǎoshang hǎo

dzao-shahng HOW

phrase

good morning

晚安

wǎn'ān

wahn-AHN

phrase

good night

老师

lǎoshī

lao-SHR

noun · traditional 老師

teacher

请

qǐng

ching (dipping)

word · traditional 請

please; here you are

CORE IDEAS

The story. The Bible says God's mercies are "new every morning." Each morning is a gift from God. Chinese families greet each other in the morning, and children greet their teacher at school by saying 老师好, "teacher, hello!"

How Chinese works. Add 好 (good) to a word to make a greeting: 早 上 (zǎoshang) (morning) + 好 = good morning; 老师 (lǎo shī) + 好 = hello, teacher. 请 (qǐng) means please, or here you are when you hand something over.

Say it out loud. zǎoshang hǎo (dzao-shahng HOW), wǎn'ān (wahn-AHN), lǎoshī hǎo (lao-shr HOW), qǐng (ching).

ACTIVITY

Morning and night door hanger

Make a two-sided door hanger.

You will need

- Card stock or a paper plate
- Crayons
- String

Steps

1. On one side draw a sun and write 早上好.
2. On the other side draw a moon and write 晚安.
3. Hang it on your door; turn it over each morning and night.
4. Greet your family with the side that shows.

Tips

- A parent writes the characters; the child traces them.

Check your work

☐ My hanger has a morning side and a night side.

☐ I greet my family in Chinese.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw a sun and a moon. Write 早上好 under the sun and 晚安 under the moon.

> **From history.** Chinese schoolchildren often stand up together when the teacher comes in and say 老师好! The teacher answers 同学们好 (tóngxuémen hǎo), "hello, students!"

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. You wake up and see Mom. What do you say?

▼ **Show solution**

1. It is morning.
2. Good morning is 早上好.

Answer: 早上好! (zǎoshang hǎo)

Example 2. You come into class. How do you greet your teacher?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Teacher is 老师.
2. Add 好.

Answer: 老师好! (lǎoshī hǎo)

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say good night in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   晚安 (wǎn'ān).

2. Easy Say good morning in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   早上好 (zǎoshang hǎo).

3. Medium Hand someone a cookie politely in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   请! (qǐng)

4. Hard Say good morning to your teacher, then thank you.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   老师早上好! 谢谢!

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying 晚安 as one blurred word. There are two parts: wǎn-ān.

- Saying 老师 lǎoshī as lao-see. The shī has an sh sound.

> **Make it a game · Sun and moon.** The parent holds up a sun picture or a moon picture. The child says 早上好 for the sun and 晚安 for the moon, and acts it out (stretching or sleeping).

> **Scripture.** “They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.” (Lamentations 3:23, KJV)
>
> In the Chinese Bible (Chinese Union Version), this verse reads:
>
> > 每早晨，这都是新的；你的诚实极其广大！
>
> *Měi zǎo chén, zhè dōu shì xīn de; nǐ de chéng shí jí qí guǎng dà!*
>
> God’s mercies are new every morning. Begin each day with thanks to Him.

UNIT 2

My Family: 爸爸 妈妈

Lesson 2.1 teaches 爸爸, 妈妈, 哥哥, 姐姐, 弟弟 and 妹妹, and 这是我的… (this is my…). The picture is Spring Morning in the Han Palace.

Lesson 2.2 adds 爷爷 and 奶奶 (grandpa and grandma, father’s side), 外公 and 外婆 (mother’s side), and 我爱你 (I love you).

PREREQUISITES

- Unit 1.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can name the people in my family in Chinese.
- ☐ I can say 这是我的 + a family word.
- ☐ I can say 我爱你.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

2.1	**爸爸 妈妈: Dad, Mom, Brothers and Sisters**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
2.2	**爷爷 奶奶: Grandparents, and I Love You**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes

Unit 2 review

Use a family photo or drawing. The parent asks; the child answers out loud. The review is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**
   Point to Dad and Mom and say who they are in Chinese.

2. **4 pts**
   What do you call an older brother? A younger sister?

3. **4 pts**
   What do you call an older sister? A younger brother?

4. **4 pts**
   What do you call Dad's father and mother?

5. **4 pts**
   Say "This is my mom."

ANSWER KEY

1. 爸爸 (bàba), 妈妈 (māma).
2. 哥哥 (gēge); 妹妹 (mèimei).
3. 姐姐 (jiějie); 弟弟 (dìdi).
4. 爷爷 (yéye) and 奶奶 (nǎinai).
5. 这是我的妈妈 (zhè shì wǒ de māma).

> Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: MY FAMILY TREE

Draw a family tree with a face for each person. A parent writes the Chinese word under each face. Introduce the family out loud: 这是我的爸爸...

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Saying	The child names everyone in Chinese.
Using it	The child uses 这是我的... for each person.
Making	The tree has a face and a word for each person.
Joy	The child joins in cheerfully.

UNIT 2 · MY FAMILY: 爸爸 妈妈 · LESSON 2.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

2.1 爸爸 妈妈: Dad, Mom, Brothers and Sisters

OBJECTIVES

- Say 爸爸, 妈妈, 哥哥, 姐姐, 弟弟 and 妹妹.
- Say 这是我的... (this is my...).
- Know that Chinese has different words for older and younger brothers and sisters.

> **Warm-up.** Hold up a family photo. Who is this? Who is that? Today we learn to name our family in Chinese.

WATCH

家人儿歌｜Family Nursery Rhymes｜汉语启蒙｜Chinese Songs for Kids｜Little Fox Chinese

Little Fox Chinese - Stories & Songs for Learners · 5:43

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ztYkyzdjw1A

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the story; point to each family member in your photo as the song names them.

Note: Little Fox Chinese: family songs naming Dad, Mom, brothers and sisters.

BACKUP VIDEO

我的家人 (The Family) | Sing-Alongs | Chinese song | By Little Fox

Little Fox Chinese - Stories & Songs for Learners · 1:54

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPvYsKAgsM0

Little Fox Chinese: “The Family,” a short sing-along.

KEY TERMS

bà ba
爸爸 **bàba**

Dad.

mā ma
妈妈 **māma**

Mom.

gē ge
哥哥 **gēge**

Older brother.

jiě jie
姐姐 **jiějie**

Older sister.

dì di
弟弟 **dìdi**

Younger brother.

mèimei
妹妹 **mèimei**

Younger sister.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

爸爸

bàba

BAH-bah

noun

dad

妈妈

māma

MAH-mah

noun · traditional 媽媽

mom

哥哥

gēge

GUH-guh

noun

older brother

姐姐

jiějie

JYEH-jyeh

noun

older sister

弟弟

dìdi

DEE-dee

noun

younger brother

妹妹

mèimei

MAY-may

noun

younger sister

CORE IDEAS

The story. God made families. He gave children a father and a mother to love and teach them. In Chinese families, children show respect by calling each person by a family title.

How Chinese works. Chinese does not have just one word for brother: an older brother is gē ge 哥哥 and a younger brother is dì di 弟弟. Sisters too: jiě jie 姐姐 (older) and mèimei 妹妹 (younger). Most family words say the same sound twice.

Say it out loud. To introduce someone, say zhè shì wǒ de 这是我的 + the family word: 这是我的爸爸 (this is my dad).

PICTURE STUDY



Spring Morning in the Han Palace (copy), after Qiu Ying, Qing dynasty copy of a Ming painting · Ink and color on silk, handscroll (detail) · Walters Art Museum, Baltimore

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Qiu Ying was a famous painter about five hundred years ago. This long scroll, copied by a later artist, shows a palace household on a spring morning: mothers, sisters and children busy with music, games and chores.

Look closely

- Find a child. Who is looking after the child?
- Find someone playing music.
- What colors do the robes have?
- Find a tree with blossoms.

Talk about it

1. Who do you think is the oldest person here?
2. What would your family be doing on a spring morning?

ACTIVITY

Finger family puppets

Make a puppet for each person in your family.

You will need

- Paper strips or an old glove
- Crayons and tape

Steps

1. Draw a face for each family member on a paper strip.
2. Tape each strip into a ring that fits a finger.
3. A parent writes the Chinese word on each.
4. Wiggle each finger and say 这是我的...

Tips

- Use the right word: older or younger.

Check your work

☐ I made a puppet for each person.

☐ I introduced my family in Chinese.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw your family. Label each person with the Chinese word.

> **From history.** In Chinese, even cousins and friends' children are often called 哥哥 or 姐姐 if they are older. It is a way of showing honor and closeness.

> **At home in Chinese.** Chinese family titles carry a lot of meaning. If your family has its own names for relatives, teach them alongside these.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Ben is older than you. What do you call him if he is your brother?

▼ **Show solution**

1. An older brother.
2. Older brother is 哥哥.

Answer: 哥哥 (gēge).

Example 2. Introduce your mom in Chinese.

▼ **Show solution**

1. This is my... = 这是我的...
2. Mom is 妈妈.

Answer: 这是我的妈妈.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say Dad in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   爸爸 (bàba).

2. Easy Say Mom in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   妈妈 (māma).

3. Medium What is a younger sister in Chinese?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   妹妹 (mèimei).

4. Medium What is an older sister in Chinese?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   姐姐 (jiějie).

5. Hard Introduce two people in your family.

▼ **Show answer**

For example: 这是我的爸爸. 这是我的哥哥.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Mixing 哥哥 (older brother) and 弟弟 (younger brother). Ask: is he older or younger than me?
- Saying 妈妈 with two strong beats. The second ma is light.

> **Make it a game · Who am I?.** The parent pretends to be a family member (a deep voice for 爸爸, a cane for 爷爷…). The child guesses in Chinese.

> **Scripture.** "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right." (Ephesians 6:1, KJV)
>
> In the Chinese Bible (Chinese Union Version), this verse reads:
>
> > 你们作儿女的，要在主里听从父母，这是理所当然的。
> >
> > *Nǐ men zuò ér nǚ de, yào zài zhǔ lǐ tīng cóng fù mǔ, zhè shì lǐ suǒ dāng rán de.*
>
> God asks children to obey their parents in the Lord. It is right, and it pleases God.

UNIT 2 · MY FAMILY: 爸爸 妈妈 · LESSON 2.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

2.2 爷爷 奶奶: Grandparents, and I Love You

OBJECTIVES

- Say 爷爷 and 奶奶 (Dad's parents) and 外公 and 外婆 (Mom's parents).
- Say 我爱你 (I love you).
- Honor grandparents with kind words.

> **Warm-up.** Who is your mom's mom? Who is your dad's dad? In Chinese, Grandma and Grandpa have different names depending on which side of the family they are on!

WATCH

[4K] 手指家庭 (The Finger Family) | Sing-Alongs | Chinese song | By Little Fox

Little Fox Chinese - Stories & Songs for Learners · 2:09

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8EVDyWDgThM

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the story; hold up each finger as the family is named.

Note: Little Fox Chinese: “The Finger Family” in Chinese.

BACKUP VIDEO

淘气包里奇 21: 欢迎回家，奶奶！ (Wacky Ricky 21: Welcome Home, Grandma!) | Friendship | Chinese | By Little Fox

Little Fox Chinese - Stories & Songs for Learners · 2:19

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Syd_hod6HAQ

Little Fox Chinese: “Welcome Home, Grandma!”, a two-minute story.

KEY TERMS

yé ye
爷爷 **yéye**

Grandpa (Dad’s father).

nǎi nai
奶奶 **nǎinai**

Grandma (Dad’s mother).

wàigōng
外公 **wàigōng**

Grandpa (Mom’s father).

wài pó
外婆 **wàipó**

Grandma (Mom’s mother).

wǒ ài nǐ
我爱你 **wǒ ài nǐ**

I love you.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

爷爷

yéye

YEH-yeh

noun · traditional 爺爺

grandpa (father's father)

奶奶

nǎinai

NYE-nye

noun

grandma (father's mother)

外公

wàigōng

why-GONG

noun

grandpa (mother's father)

外婆

wàipó

why-PWAH

noun

grandma (mother's mother)

我爱你

wǒ ài nǐ

woh eye NEE

phrase · traditional 我愛你

I love you

CORE IDEAS

The story. The Bible says grandchildren are a crown to the old. Grandparents love to see their grandchildren grow, and children are blessed by their grandparents' stories and prayers.

How Chinese works. On Dad's side: 爷(yé ye)爷 and 奶(nǎi nai)奶. On Mom's side: 外(wàigōng)公 and 外(wài pó)婆. 外 means outside: Mom's parents lived in another household. 我(wǒ)爱(ài)你(nǐ) means I love you.

Say it out loud. yéye (YEH-yeh), nǎinai (NYE-nye), wàigōng (why-GONG), wàipó (why-PWAH), wǒ ài nǐ (woh-eye-NEE).

ACTIVITY

A card for Grandma and Grandpa

Make a card to send to a grandparent.

You will need

- Folded paper
- Crayons
- An envelope

Steps

1. Draw yourself with your grandparent.
2. Write (or trace) 我爱你 inside.
3. Add the right title: 爷爷, 奶奶, 外公 or 外婆.
4. Mail it or hand it over with both hands.

Tips

- Ask a parent which title is right for each grandparent.

Check your work

☐ My card says 我爱你.

☐ I used the right title.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw your grandparents. Write their Chinese titles under them.

> **From history.** In many Chinese families, grandparents help raise the grandchildren, and several generations may live together. Caring for one's parents in old age is seen as a great duty.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. What do you call your dad's mother?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Dad's side.
2. Grandma on Dad's side is 奶奶.

Answer: 奶奶 (nǎinai).

Example 2. What do you call your mom's father?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Mom's side uses 外.
2. Grandpa on Mom's side is 外公.

Answer: 外公 (wàigōng).

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say I love you in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   我爱你 (wǒ ài nǐ).

2. Easy What is 爷爷?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Grandpa (Dad's father).

3. Medium What do you call Mom's mother?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   外婆 (wàipó).

4. Hard Tell your grandma in Chinese that you love her.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   奶奶 (or 外婆), 我爱你!

COMMON MISTAKES

- Using 奶奶 for both grandmas. Mom's mother is 外婆.

- Saying 爷爷 yéye with a falling tone. It rises: YEH-yeh.

> **Make it a game · Family match.** Lay out cards with family words and cards with pictures. Match each word to its picture and say it out loud.

> **Scripture.** “Children’s children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.” (Proverbs 17:6, KJV)
>
> In the Chinese Bible (Chinese Union Version), this verse reads:
>
> > 子孙为老人的冠冕；父亲是儿女的荣耀。
>
> *Zǐ sūn wéi lǎo rén de guān miǎn; fù qīn shì ér nǚ de róng yào.*
>
> Grandchildren are a crown to their grandparents, and children are proud of a good father. God gives families joy in each other.

UNIT 3

Numbers and Age: 几岁?

Lesson 3.1 reviews 一 to 十, adds 零 (zero), and teaches 你几岁? / 我六岁 (how old are you? / I am six). The picture is Along the River During the Qingming Festival.

Lesson 3.2 teaches 生日快乐 (happy birthday), 生日 (birthday) and 蛋糕 (cake), and celebrates each day as a gift.

PREREQUISITES

- Units 1–2; counting 一 to 十 helps.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can count from 零 to 十.
- ☐ I can ask 你几岁? and answer 我… 岁.
- ☐ I can sing or say 生日快乐.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

3.1	**你几岁? How Old Are You?**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
3.2	**生日快乐: Happy Birthday!**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes

Unit 3 review

The parent asks; the child answers out loud. The review is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**
   Count from one to ten in Chinese.

2. **4 pts**
   What is zero in Chinese?

3. **4 pts**
   The parent asks 你几岁? Answer for yourself.

4. **4 pts**
   How do you say happy birthday?

5. **4 pts**
   Show 九 with a Chinese hand sign and say it.

ANSWER KEY

1. 一, 二, 三, 四, 五, 六, 七, 八, 九, 十.
2. 零 (líng).
3. 我 + age + 岁, for example 我七岁 (wǒ qī suì).
4. 生日快乐 (shēngrì kuàilè).
5. A hooked pointer finger; 九 (jiǔ).

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: A BIRTHDAY INTERVIEW

Interview three family members in Chinese: ask 你几岁? and help them answer (or answer for them with a parent's help). Make a little chart with each name and age written in Chinese numbers. End by singing 生日快乐 to the next person with a birthday.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Saying	The child asks 你几岁? and says ages in Chinese.
Using it	The child records ages correctly.
Making	The chart has names and Chinese numbers.
Joy	The child joins in cheerfully.

UNIT 3 · NUMBERS AND AGE: 几岁? · LESSON 3.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

3.1 你几岁? How Old Are You?

OBJECTIVES

- Count from 零 (zero) to 十.
- Ask 你几岁? (how old are you?).
- Answer 我…岁 (I am … years old).

> **Warm-up.** Hold up fingers to show how old you are. Now show how old a baby brother or cousin is. Today we learn to ask and answer "How old are you?" in Chinese.

WATCH

Playful Chinese Podcast - How Old Are You in Chinese

Miss Panda Chinese · 8:31

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gACXitS3ObM

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the story; answer Miss Panda's question with your own age.

Note: Miss Panda Chinese: asking and answering "How old are you?" in Chinese. Parent note: Miss Panda sometimes shows traditional characters on screen (for example 媽媽 for 妈妈, 謝謝 for 谢谢); these lessons teach the simplified forms, so point to the simplified characters in the lesson.

BACKUP VIDEO

Learn Chinese - Chinese in Three Minutes - Numbers 1-10

Learn Chinese with ChineseClass101.com · 3:42

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dx8T39ZQRSs

ChineseClass101: the numbers 1 to 10, clearly spoken.

KEY TERMS

jǐ suì
几岁 jǐ suì

How many years old? (for children).

suì
岁 suì

Years old.

líng
零 líng

Zero.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

几

jǐ

jee (dipping)

question word · traditional 幾

how many (small numbers)

岁

suì

sway (falling)

measure word · traditional 歲

years old

零

líng

ling (rising)

number

zero

两

liǎng

lyahng (dipping)

number · traditional 兩

two (before a measure word)

CORE IDEAS

The story. Moses prayed, “Teach us to number our days.” Every year of your life is a gift from God. In China, a child’s first birthday is a big celebration, and long life is a common wish.

How Chinese works. To ask a child’s age, say 你几岁? (you how-many years?). To answer, put the number before 岁: 我六岁 (I am six). For two years old, say 两岁 (liǎng suì), not 二岁.

Say it out loud. Count from 零 (ling) to 十. Then ask everyone in the family: 你几岁?

PICTURE STUDY



Along the River During the Qingming Festival (detail), Zhang Zeduan, early 12th century (Song dynasty) · Ink and light color on silk, handscroll (detail) · Palace Museum, Beijing

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

This is one of the most famous paintings in China. Zhang Zeduan painted a whole city by a river on a scroll more than five meters long, with over eight hundred people, animals, boats and carts. This part shows the busy Rainbow Bridge.

Look closely

- Count the boats you can see: 一, 二, 三...
- Count the people on the boat.
- Find a donkey or ox.
- What is happening with the big boat's mast?

Talk about it

1. Why are the people on the bridge leaning over?
2. Which person would you like to be in this picture?

ACTIVITY

Age tower

Build a tower of blocks for each person's age.

You will need

- Blocks, cups or Lego
- Paper labels

Steps

1. Ask each person 你几岁?
2. Build a tower with that many blocks, counting in Chinese.
3. Label each tower with the Chinese number.
4. Which tower is tallest?

Tips

- For big ages like Dad's, count by tens: 十, 二十, 三十...

Check your work

☐ I asked 你几岁?

☐ I counted the towers in Chinese.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw yourself with candles for your age. Write 我...岁 with your number.

> **From history.** In old China, babies were counted as one year old at birth, and everyone added a year at the New Year. Many families still remember this "traditional age."

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. A friend asks 你几岁? You are seven. Answer.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Seven is 七.
2. Number before 岁.

Answer: 我七岁 (wǒ qī suì).

Example 2. How do you ask a little cousin how old she is?

▼ **Show solution**

1. How many years: 几岁.
2. You: 你.

Answer: 你几岁? (nǐ jǐ suì?)

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say zero in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   零 (líng).

2. Easy Count from one to ten.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   一 to 十.

3. Medium Say how old you are.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   我...岁.

4. Hard Ask a parent's age, and count to it by tens.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   你几岁? 十, 二十, 三十...

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying 我是六岁. Chinese leaves out 是: 我六岁.

- Saying 二岁 for two years old. Say 两岁 (liǎng suì).

> **Make it a game · How old is the toy?.** Line up stuffed animals. The child asks each one 你几岁? and the parent answers in a funny voice with a number in Chinese. The child holds up that many fingers.

> **Scripture.** “So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” (Psalm 90:12, KJV)
>
> In the Chinese Bible (Chinese Union Version), this verse reads:
>
> > 求你指教我们怎样数算自己的日子
> >
> > *Qiú nǐ zhǐ jiào wǒ men zěn yàng shù suàn zì jǐ de rì zi*
>
> Moses asked God to teach us to number our days, so that we use each one wisely.

UNIT 3 · NUMBERS AND AGE: 几岁? · LESSON 3.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

3.2 生日快乐: Happy Birthday!

OBJECTIVES

- Say and sing 生日快乐 (happy birthday).
- Say 生日 (birthday) and 蛋糕 (cake).
- Thank God for each day He gives.

> **Warm-up.** Whose birthday is next in your family? What do we do on a birthday? Today we sing Happy Birthday in Chinese!

WATCH

Playful Chinese Podcast - Happy Birthday in Chinese

Miss Panda Chinese · 8:28

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KfFDqHSnavM

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the story; sing along with 生日快乐.

Note: Miss Panda Chinese: saying and singing happy birthday in Chinese. Parent note: Miss Panda sometimes shows traditional characters on screen (for example 媽媽 for 妈妈, 謝謝 for 谢谢); these lessons teach the simplified forms, so point to the simplified characters in the lesson.

BACKUP VIDEO

My Sixth Birthday (六岁生日) | Family | Chinese | By Little Fox

Little Fox Chinese - Stories & Songs for Learners · 1:47

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TOBq-YfqgHs

Little Fox Chinese: “My Sixth Birthday” (六岁生日), a short birthday story.

KEY TERMS

shēng rì
生 日 **shēngrì**

Birthday.

kuài lè
快 乐 **kuàilè**

Happy.

shēng rì kuài lè
生 日 快 乐 **shēngrì kuàilè**

Happy birthday.

dàngāo
蛋糕 **dàngāo**

Cake.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

生日

shēngrì

shung-RR

noun

birthday

快乐

kuàilè

kwai-LUH

adjective · traditional 快樂

happy

生日快乐

shēngrì kuàilè

shung-rr kwai-LUH

phrase · traditional 生日快樂

happy birthday

蛋糕

dàngāo

dahn-GOW

noun

cake

CORE IDEAS

The story. “This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.” A birthday is a day to thank God for making you and giving you another year.

How Chinese works. shēng rì 生 日 means birth-day. kuài lè 快 乐 means happy. Put them together: shēng rì kuài lè 生 日 快 乐! Chinese children sing it to the same tune as Happy Birthday to You.

Say it out loud. Sing: 祝你生日快乐 (zhù nǐ shēngrì kuàilè), “wishing you a happy birthday,” four times. Many Chinese families eat long noodles on birthdays as a wish for a long life, and also have cake.

ACTIVITY

Birthday card

Make a birthday card for the next birthday in the family.

You will need

- Folded paper
- Crayons, stickers

Steps

1. Draw a cake with candles.
2. Write or trace 生日快乐 inside.
3. Count the candles in Chinese.
4. Give the card on the birthday and sing the song.

Tips

- A parent writes the characters lightly for the child to trace.

Check your work

- ☐ My card says 生日快乐.
- ☐ I sang the birthday song in Chinese.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw a birthday cake. Write 生日快乐 above it.

> **From history.** Long noodles for a birthday are called 长寿面 (chángshòu miàn), long-life noodles. You try not to bite through them!

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. It is Grandpa's birthday. What do you say?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Birthday is 生日.
2. Happy is 快乐.

Answer: 爷爷, 生日快乐!

Example 2. How many candles for a six-year-old? Say it in Chinese.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Six is 六.

Answer: 六 (liù).

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say happy birthday in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   生日快乐 (shēngrì kuàilè).

2. Easy What is 蛋糕?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Cake.

3. Medium Sing the first line of the Chinese birthday song.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   祝你生日快乐.

4. Hard Wish your mom a happy birthday and say you love her.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   妈妈, 生日快乐! 我爱你!

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying 快乐 kuàilè as kwai-lay. The second part is luh.
- Forgetting 生 in 生日. 日 alone means day or sun.

Make it a game · Birthday counting. Put “candles” (sticks or crayons) on a play-dough cake. The parent says a number in Chinese; the child puts that many candles on and then sings 生日快乐.

Scripture. “This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.” (Psalm 118:24, KJV)

In the Chinese Bible (Chinese Union Version), this verse reads:

> 这是耶和华所定的日子，我们在其中要高兴欢喜！
>
> *Zhè shì Yēhéhuá suǒ dìng de rì zi, wǒ men zài qí zhōng yào gāo xìng huān xǐ!*

Every day, and every birthday, is a day the Lord made. Rejoice and be glad in it.

UNIT 4

Food: 我要...

Lesson 4.1 teaches fruit words and 我要... / 我不要, with Lin Chun’s Loquats and Mountain Bird.

Lesson 4.2 teaches 米饭 (rice), 面条 (noodles), 饺子 (dumplings), 水 (water) and 牛奶 (milk), chopsticks, and thanks before meals.

PREREQUISITES

- Units 1–3.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can name four fruits in Chinese.
- ☐ I can ask for food with 我要... and say 我不要 politely.
- ☐ I can name rice, noodles, dumplings, water and milk.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

4.1	**苹果 香蕉: Fruit, and 我要**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
4.2	**米饭 面条: Rice, Noodles and Chopsticks**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes

Unit 4 review

Use real food or pictures. The parent asks; the child answers out loud. The review is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**
   Point to the 苹果 (píngguǒ) and the 香蕉 (xiāngjiāo).

2. **4 pts**
   What is watermelon in Chinese?

3. **4 pts**
   Ask for an apple in Chinese.

4. **4 pts**
   Say “I don’t want milk.”

5. **4 pts**
   Name two Chinese foods from the lesson.

ANSWER KEY

1. Apple; banana.
2. 西瓜 (xīguā).
3. 我要苹果 (wǒ yào píngguǒ). (请 is a polite extra.)
4. 我不要牛奶 (wǒ bú yào niúnǎi).
5. Any two: 米饭 (rice), 面条 (noodles), 饺子 (dumplings).

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: OUR CHINESE SNACK SHOP

Set up a little shop with real or paper food. One person sells, one buys. The buyer says 我要… and 谢谢; the seller says 请 and 不客气. Take turns.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Saying	The child names at least six foods in Chinese.
Using it	The child uses 我要, 我不要, 请 and 谢谢.
Making	The shop has labeled food.
Joy	The child joins in cheerfully.

UNIT 4 · FOOD: 我要… · LESSON 4.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

4.1 苹果 香蕉: Fruit, and 我要

OBJECTIVES

- Say 苹果 (apple), 香蕉 (banana), 西瓜 (watermelon) and 葡萄 (grapes).
- Ask with 我要… (I want…).
- Say 我不要 (I don’t want) politely.

> **Warm-up.** Put out a bowl of fruit. Which one would you like? Point to it. Today we learn how to ask for it in Chinese.

WATCH

Miss Panda Chinese - Chinese for kids - Learn Chinese fruit words

Miss Panda Chinese · 0:41

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k2csi9_JhLM

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the story; point to each fruit as it is named.

Note: Miss Panda Chinese: fruit words in Chinese, under a minute. She says 凤梨 for pineapple, the word used in Taiwan; on the mainland it is 菠萝. Parent note: Miss Panda sometimes shows traditional characters on screen (for example 媽媽 for 妈妈, 謝謝 for 谢谢); these lessons teach the simplified forms, so point to the simplified characters in the lesson.

BACKUP VIDEO

Learn Chinese - Chinese Fruits Vocabulary

Learn Chinese with ChineseClass101.com · 2:43

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=09p6Ae_02-s

ChineseClass101: fruit vocabulary, clearly spoken.

KEY TERMS

píngguǒ
苹果 **píngguǒ**

Apple.

xiāngjiāo
香蕉 **xiāngjiāo**

Banana.

xī guā
西瓜 **xīguā**

Watermelon (literally “west melon”).

pú tao
葡萄 **pútao**

Grapes.

wǒ yào
我要 **wǒ yào**

I want.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

苹果

píngguǒ

ping-GWOH

noun · traditional 蘋果

apple

香蕉

xiāngjiāo

shyahng-JYOW

noun

banana

西瓜

xīguā

shee-GWAH

noun

watermelon

葡萄

pútao

POO-tow

noun

grapes

要

yào

yow (falling)

verb

to want

CORE IDEAS

The story. God filled the garden of Eden with trees “good for food.” The Bible also talks about another kind of fruit: the fruit of the Spirit, love, joy and peace, that grows in the lives of God’s people.

How Chinese works. To ask for something, say 我要 (wǒ yào) + the thing: 我要香蕉 (I want a banana). To say no, put 不 in front: 我不要 (wǒ bú yào). Add 请 or 谢谢 to be polite.

Say it out loud. píngguǒ (ping-GWOH), xiāngjiāo (shyahng-JYOW), xīguā (shee-GWAH), pútao (POO-tow). 我要苹果, 谢谢!

PICTURE STUDY



Loquats and Mountain Bird, Lin Chun, late 12th century (Southern Song dynasty) · Ink and color on silk, album leaf · Palace Museum, Beijing

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Lin Chun painted small pictures of birds, flowers and fruit about eight hundred years ago, for the emperor's court. Loquats are sweet orange fruits that grow in southern China. Look how carefully he painted every leaf.

Look closely

- How many loquats can you count? Count in Chinese.
- What color are the fruits?
- What is the bird looking at?
- Find the biggest leaf.

Talk about it

1. Do you think the bird wants a loquat? What would it say in Chinese? (我要!)
2. What fruit would you paint?

ACTIVITY

Fruit salad helpers

Make a fruit salad and ask for each fruit in Chinese.

You will need

- Several fruits
- A bowl, a spoon, a child-safe knife
- A grown-up helper

Steps

1. Lay out the fruit. The parent is the shopkeeper.
2. Ask for each fruit: 我要苹果, 谢谢!
3. Help cut and mix the salad.
4. Pray and say thank you to God before eating.

Tips

- Say 我不要 politely for any fruit you don't want.

Check your work

☐ I asked for each fruit in Chinese.

☐ We made a salad together.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw your favorite fruit. Write 我要 and its name.

> **From history.** Watermelon is called 西瓜, "west melon," because it came to China from the lands to the west, along the old trade roads.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. You want a banana. What do you say?

▼ **Show solution**

1. I want = 我要.
2. Banana = 香蕉.

Answer: 我要香蕉 (wǒ yào xiāngjiāo).

Example 2. You don’t want grapes. Say it politely.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Put 不 before 要.
2. Add 谢谢.

Answer: 我不要葡萄, 谢谢.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say apple in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   苹果 (píngguǒ).

2. Easy What does 西瓜 mean?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Watermelon.

3. Medium Ask for grapes.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   我要葡萄.

4. Hard Ask for an apple, but say no to a banana.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   我要苹果. 我不要香蕉, 谢谢.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying 我不要 with bù. Before yào, 不 is said bú.

- Forgetting to be polite. Add 请 or 谢谢.

> **Make it a game · Fruit basket.** Each player is a fruit. The caller says 我要苹果! and the apple must run and switch seats. When the caller says 我要水果! (fruit), everyone switches.

> **Scripture.** “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,” (Galatians 5:22, KJV)
>
> In the Chinese Bible (Chinese Union Version), this verse reads:
>
> > 圣灵所结的果子，就是仁爱、喜乐、和平
>
> *Shènglíng suǒ jié de guǒ zi, jiù shì rén ài, xǐ lè, hé píng*
>
> The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace and more. God grows good fruit in our hearts.

UNIT 4 · FOOD: 我要… · LESSON 4.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

4.2 米饭 面条: Rice, Noodles and Chopsticks

OBJECTIVES

- Say 米饭 (rice), 面条 (noodles), 饺子 (dumplings), 水 (water) and 牛奶 (milk).
- Try holding chopsticks: 筷子.
- Give thanks before a meal.

> **Warm-up.** What did you eat for breakfast? Lunch? In China many families eat rice or noodles every day. Have you ever eaten with chopsticks?

WATCH

🥘 好喝的汤 (Yummy Soup) | Easy Chinese Story + Chants for Kids | 学汉语 | Mandarin | Little Fox Chinese

Little Fox Chinese - Stories & Songs for Learners · 3:14

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XgzzQD2vQwo

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the story; say 我要 when someone in the story wants something.

Note: Little Fox Chinese: “Yummy Soup,” an easy story and chant.

BACKUP VIDEO

我喜欢冰淇淋（I Like Icecream 🍨）| Easy Chinese Story + Chants for Kids | 学汉语 | Mandarin | Little Fox Chinese

Little Fox Chinese - Stories & Songs for Learners · 3:32

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=76LW2SAqXYU

Little Fox Chinese: “I Like Ice Cream,” an easy story and chant.

KEY TERMS

mǐ fàn
米饭 mǐfàn

Cooked rice.

miàntiáo
面 条 miàntiáo

Noodles.

jiǎo zi
饺子 jiǎozi

Dumplings.

shuǐ
水 shuǐ

Water.

niú nǎi
牛奶 niúnǎi

Milk (literally “cow milk”).

kuài zi
筷子 kuàizi

Chopsticks.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

米饭

mǐfàn

mee-FAHN

noun · traditional 米飯

cooked rice

面条

miàntiáo

myen-TYOW

noun · traditional 麪條

noodles

饺子

jiǎozi

JYOW-dzuh

noun · traditional 餃子

dumplings

水

shuǐ

shway (dipping)

noun

water

牛奶

niúnǎi

nyoh-NYE

noun

milk

筷子

kuàizi

KWAI-dzuh

noun

chopsticks

CORE IDEAS

The story. Jesus taught us to pray, “Give us this day our daily bread.” In China, rice is like daily bread. When we eat, we thank God, who gives us our food.

How Chinese works. Remember niú 牛 (cow) from Kindergarten? niú nǎi 牛奶 is cow-milk! jiǎo zi 饺子 are dumplings, often made by the whole family together at the New Year.

Say it out loud. mǐfàn (mee-FAHN), miàntiáo (myen-TYOW), jiǎozi (JYOW-dzuh), shuǐ (shway), niúnǎi (nyoh-NYE). 我要米饭!

ACTIVITY

Chopstick challenge

Practice using chopsticks with cotton balls or pom-poms.

You will need

- Chopsticks (or two pencils with a rubber band)
- Cotton balls or pom-poms
- Two bowls

Steps

1. Hold the bottom chopstick still, like a pencil resting in your hand.
2. Move only the top chopstick with your thumb and two fingers.
3. Move the cotton balls from one bowl to the other.
4. Count them in Chinese as you go.

Tips

- Training chopsticks joined at the top make it easier.

Check your work

- ☐ I moved five cotton balls with chopsticks.
- ☐ I counted them in Chinese.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw a bowl of rice and chopsticks. Write 米饭 and 筷子.

> **From history.** Chopsticks have been used in China for more than three thousand years. The word 筷子 sounds like “quick sons,” and chopsticks are a common wedding gift.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. You are thirsty. Ask for water.

▼ **Show solution**

1. I want = 我要.
2. Water = 水.

Answer: 我要水 (wǒ yào shuǐ).

Example 2. What does 牛奶 mean, word by word?

▼ **Show solution**

1. 牛 = cow.
2. 奶 = milk.

Answer: Cow milk: milk.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say rice in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   米饭 (mǐfàn).

2. Easy Say water in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   水 (shuǐ).

3. Medium What are 饺子?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Dumplings.

4. Hard Order a meal: noodles and milk.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   我要面条和牛奶 (wǒ yào miàntiáo hé niúnǎi).

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying 水 shuǐ like “sway.” It is shway, with sh.

- Sticking chopsticks straight up in a bowl of rice. In China that is thought rude; lay them across the bowl.

> **Make it a game · Waiter, waiter.** The child is the waiter with a notepad. Family members order in Chinese (我要面条!) and the waiter brings toy or paper food.

> **Scripture.** "Give us this day our daily bread." (Matthew 6:11, KJV)
>
> In the Chinese Bible (Chinese Union Version), this verse reads:
>
> > 我们日用的饮食，今日赐给我们。
> >
> > *Wǒ men rì yòng de yǐn shí, jīn rì cì gěi wǒ men.*
>
> Jesus taught us to ask God for our daily food. Thank Him before every meal.

UNIT 5

Sun, Moon, Stars and Weather

Lesson 5.1 teaches 太阳 (sun), 月亮 (moon), 星星 (stars) and 天 (sky), with Guo Xi's Early Spring and Twinkle, Twinkle in Chinese.

Lesson 5.2 teaches weather: 下雨 (it's raining), 下雪 (it's snowing), 刮风 (it's windy), 热 (hot), 冷 (cold) and 天气 (weather). A year-end review closes the course.

PREREQUISITES

- Units 1–4.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can name the sun, moon and stars in Chinese.
- ☐ I can tell the weather in Chinese.
- ☐ I can say hot and cold.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

5.1	**太阳 月亮 星星: Sun, Moon and Stars**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes
5.2	**下雨了! Rain, Snow, Wind, Hot and Cold**	3 sessions of 15–20 minutes

Unit 5 review

The parent asks; the child answers out loud. The review is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**
   What is the sun in Chinese? The moon?

2. **4 pts**
   What twinkles at night? Say it in Chinese.

3. **4 pts**
   It's raining. Say it in Chinese.

4. **4 pts**
   It's snowing. Say it in Chinese.

5. **4 pts**
   Say hot and cold in Chinese.

ANSWER KEY

1. 太阳 (tàiyáng); 月亮 (yuèliang).
2. 星星 (xīngxing).
3. 下雨了 (xià yǔ le).
4. 下雪了 (xià xuě le).
5. 热 (rè); 冷 (lěng).

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: MY WEATHER REPORT

Give a little weather report for the family each day for a week, like a TV weather reporter: 今天下雨 (today it's raining), 今天很热 (today is hot). Draw a weather chart with a picture for each day.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Saying	The child names the weather in Chinese each day.
Using it	The child uses 今天 + the weather.
Making	The chart has seven days with pictures.
Joy	The child joins in cheerfully.

UNIT 5 · SUN, MOON, STARS AND WEATHER · LESSON 5.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

5.1 太阳 月亮 星星: Sun, Moon and Stars

OBJECTIVES

- Say 太阳 (sun), 月亮 (moon), 星星 (stars) and 天 (sky).
- Sing Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star in Chinese.
- Praise God, who made the lights in the sky.

> **Warm-up.** Go outside or look out the window. Is the sun out? At bedtime, look for the moon and stars. Who made them all?

WATCH

摇篮曲｜Lullaby｜睡前儿歌｜汉语启蒙｜一闪一闪小星星｜Chinese Songs for Kids｜Little Fox Chinese

Little Fox Chinese - Stories & Songs for Learners · 3:01

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-3Nje-R-IUI

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the story; sing along with Twinkle, Twinkle.

Note: Little Fox Chinese: lullabies, including “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star” in Chinese.

BACKUP VIDEO

Playful Chinese Podcast - Good Night in Chinese

Miss Panda Chinese · 8:36

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q0eO7JgV8wo

Miss Panda Chinese: saying good night in Chinese. Parent note: Miss Panda sometimes shows traditional characters on screen (for example 媽媽 for 妈妈, 謝謝 for 谢谢); these lessons teach the simplified forms, so point to the simplified characters in the lesson.

KEY TERMS

tài yáng
太阳 **tàiyáng**
Sun.

yuèliang
月亮 **yuèliang**
Moon.

xīngxing
星星 **xīngxing**
Stars.

tiān
天 **tiān**
Sky; day.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

太阳

tàiyáng

tie-YAHNG

noun · traditional 太陽

sun

月亮

yuèliang

YWEH-lyahng

noun

moon

星星

xīngxing

SHING-shing

noun

star(s)

天

tiān

tyen (high)

noun

sky; day

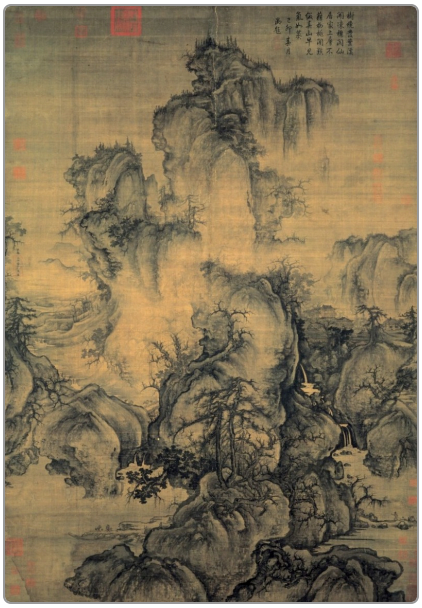
CORE IDEAS

The story. On the fourth day of creation God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also. Psalm 148 calls the sun, moon and stars to praise Him!

How Chinese works. The characters 日 (sun, day) and 月 (moon, month) began as pictures: a round sun and a crescent moon. 星星 (xīngxing) says star twice, like many little stars.

Say it out loud. tàiyáng (tie-YAHNG), yuèliang (yweh-lyahng), xīngxing (shing-shing). Sing: 一闪一闪亮晶晶 (yì shǎn yì shǎn liàng jīngjīng), “twinkle, twinkle, shining bright.”

PICTURE STUDY



Early Spring, Guo Xi, 1072 (Song dynasty) · Ink and light color on silk, hanging scroll · National Palace Museum, Taipei

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Guo Xi was a great landscape painter almost a thousand years ago. He painted the mountains on a misty spring morning, when the snow is melting and the trees are just waking up. Chinese painters loved to show how small people are beside the great works of nature, which we know God made.

Look closely

- Find the waterfall.
- Find the tiny people. What are they doing?
- Where is the mist?
- Can you see the sun? What time of day do you think it is?

Talk about it

1. How does this picture make you feel?
2. If you climbed this mountain, what would you see at the top?

ACTIVITY

Day-and-night plate

Make a plate with the day sky on one side and the night sky on the other.

You will need

- A paper plate
- Crayons, yellow and white paper, glue

Steps

1. Color one side blue with a big yellow 太阳.
2. Color the other side dark with a 月亮 and 星星.
3. Write the Chinese words on each side.
4. Flip it and say 太阳! or 月亮! 星星!

Tips

- Count the stars in Chinese.

Check your work

- ☐ My plate shows day and night.
- ☐ I can name the sun, moon and stars.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw the day sky and the night sky. Label 太阳, 月亮, 星星.

> **From history.** Long ago, Chinese astronomers watched the sky carefully and wrote down eclipses and comets. Some of their records are among the oldest in the world.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. What shines in the day? Say it in Chinese.

▼ **Show solution**

1. The sun shines by day.
2. Sun = 太阳.

Answer: 太阳 (tàiyáng).

Example 2. What twinkles at night?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Stars twinkle.
2. Stars = 星星.

Answer: 星星 (xīngxing).

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say moon in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   月亮 (yuèliang).

2. Easy Say sun in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   太阳 (tàiyáng).

3. Medium Which character is a picture of the sun: 日 or 月?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   日.

4. Hard Sing the first line of Twinkle, Twinkle in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   一闪一闪亮晶晶.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Mixing 日 (sun) and 月 (moon). 日 is a box with a line; 月 has two lines and a curved side.
- Saying 月亮 with two strong beats. The liang is light.

> **Make it a game · Day and night.** When the parent says 太阳! the child stands up and stretches. When the parent says 月亮! the child lies down and sleeps. 星星! means twinkle your fingers.

> **Scripture.** "Praise ye him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars of light." (Psalm 148:3, KJV)
>
> In the Chinese Bible (Chinese Union Version), this verse reads:
>
> > 日头月亮，你们要赞美他！放光的星宿，你们都要赞美他！
> >
> > *Rì tou yuè liang, nǐ men yào zàn měi tā! Fàng guāng de xīng xiù, nǐ men dōu yào zàn měi tā!*
>
> The sun, moon and stars praise God by shining as He made them to. We praise Him with our voices.

UNIT 5 · SUN, MOON, STARS AND WEATHER · LESSON 5.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 15–20 MINUTES

5.2 下雨了! Rain, Snow, Wind, Hot and Cold

OBJECTIVES

- Say 下雨 (rain), 下雪 (snow), 刮风 (wind), 热 (hot) and 冷 (cold).
- Ask 今天天气怎么样? (how is the weather today?).
- Thank God for every season.

> **Warm-up.** Look outside. What is the weather like today? Is it sunny, rainy, snowy or windy? Hot or cold?

WATCH

天气儿歌｜Weather Learning Songs｜汉语启蒙｜Chinese Songs for Kids｜Little Fox Chinese

Little Fox Chinese - Stories & Songs for Learners · 5:15

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=abCaPLFfCcA

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the story; act out the rain, snow and wind as the song goes.

Note: Little Fox Chinese: weather songs for children.

BACKUP VIDEO

Playful Chinese Podcast - It's Raining in Chinese

Miss Panda Chinese · 8:24

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u0stKZEwLxM

Miss Panda Chinese: “It’s Raining” in Chinese. Parent note: Miss Panda sometimes shows traditional characters on screen (for example 媽媽 for 妈妈, 謝謝 for 谢谢); these lessons teach the simplified forms, so point to the simplified characters in the lesson.

KEY TERMS

xià yǔ
下雨 **xià yǔ**

To rain (literally “fall rain”).

xià xuě
下雪 **xià xuě**

To snow.

guā fēng
刮风 **guā fēng**

Windy (literally “blow wind”).

rè
热 **rè**

Hot.

lěng
冷 **lěng**

Cold.

tiān qì
天气 **tiānqì**

Weather.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Pinyin spells each syllable; the mark over the vowel is the tone: ā high and level, á rising, ǎ low and dipping, à falling, a with no mark light and short. In the sound guides, (high), (rising), (dipping) and (falling) name the tone.

下雨

xià yǔ

shyah YÜ

verb

to rain

下雪

xià xuě

shyah SHWEH

verb

to snow

刮风

guā fēng

gwah FUNG

verb · traditional 颳風

to be windy

热

rè

ruh (falling)

adjective · traditional 熱

hot

冷

lěng

lung (dipping)

adjective

cold

天气

tiānqì

tyen-CHEE

noun · traditional 天氣

weather

CORE IDEAS

The story. After the flood God promised that as long as the earth remains, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will not stop. God sends the rain and the snow, and He makes the grass grow on the mountains.

How Chinese works. Chinese says rain and snow "come down": 下雨 (xià yǔ), 下雪 (xià xuě). Add 了 (le) for "it's raining now!": 下雨了! To say it's very hot, say 很热 (hěn rè); very cold: 很冷 (hěnlěng).

Say it out loud. xià yǔ (shyah YÜ), xià xuě (shyah SHWEH), guā fēng (gwah FUNG), rè (ruh), lěng (lung). Ask: 今天天气怎么样? (jīntiān tiānqì zěnmeyàng?)

ACTIVITY

Weather wheel

Make a wheel to show the weather each day.

You will need

- A paper plate, a paper arrow, a brass fastener
- Crayons

Steps

1. Divide the plate into four parts.
2. Draw sun, rain, snow and wind, and write 太阳, 下雨, 下雪, 刮风.
3. Fasten the arrow in the middle.
4. Each morning, turn the arrow and say the weather.

Tips

- Add 热 or 冷 out loud.

Check your work

- ☐ My wheel has four kinds of weather.
- ☐ I tell the weather in Chinese each day.

PICTURE DICTIONARY

1. Draw today's weather. Write the Chinese words for it.

> **From history.** China is so big that on the same day it can be snowing in the north while people swim at the beach in the south.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. It's raining outside. Say it in Chinese.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Rain falls: 下雨.
2. Add 了 for now.

Answer: 下雨了! (xià yǔ le)

Example 2. It is a snowy winter day. Is it 热 or 冷?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Snow means cold.
2. Cold = 冷.

Answer: 冷 (lěng). 很冷!

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say hot in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   热 (rè).

2. Easy Say cold in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   冷 (lěng).

3. Medium It's snowing. Say it in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   下雪了 (xià xuě le).

4. Hard Give today's weather report in Chinese.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   For example: 今天下雨. 很冷.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying 热 rè like English "ray." It is closer to ruh, with the tongue curled.

- Saying 下雨 like “sha you.” 雨 is yü, with rounded lips.

> **Make it a game · Weather actions.** The parent calls a weather word: 下雨! (wiggle fingers down), 下雪! (float like snowflakes), 刮风! (sway like trees), 热! (fan yourself), 冷! (shiver).

> **Scripture.** “While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.” (Genesis 8:22, KJV)
>
> In the Chinese Bible (Chinese Union Version), this verse reads:
>
> > 地还存留的时候，稼穡、寒暑、冬夏、昼夜就永不停息了。
>
> *Dì hái cún liú de shí hou, jià sè, hán shǔ, dōng xià, zhòu yè jiù yǒng bù tíng xī le.*
>
> God promised Noah that the seasons would keep coming: cold and heat, summer and winter. He keeps His promise every year.