

FESTIVALS & CELEBRATIONS · GRADES 2–4

Lunar New Year

Celebrated across East and Southeast Asia

Quick facts

When	Late January or February — based on the lunar calendar.
How long	Up to 15 days, ending with the Lantern Festival.
Celebrated	China (Spring Festival / Chunjie), Vietnam (Tết), Korea (Seollal), Mongolia (Tsagaan Sar), and worldwide.
Color	RED — believed to bring luck and ward off bad spirits.

The 12 zodiac animals

Animal	Year (recent)	Personality
Rat	2020	Quick, clever
Ox	2021	Reliable, strong
Tiger	2022	Brave, confident
Rabbit	2023	Kind, peaceful
Dragon	2024	Lucky, ambitious
Snake	2025	Wise, thoughtful
Horse	2026	Energetic, free-spirited
Goat	2027	Gentle, creative
Monkey	2028	Curious, witty



Animal	Year (recent)	Personality
Rooster	2029	Confident, hardworking
Dog	2030	Loyal, honest
Pig	2031	Generous, easy-going

Five traditions

<p>Red envelopes (hongbao)</p> <p>Older relatives give children red envelopes with money inside — symbolic of luck and good wishes.</p>	<p>Family reunion dinner</p> <p>On New Year's Eve, families travel home for a huge meal — often the biggest of the year.</p>
<p>Cleaning</p> <p>Houses are cleaned BEFORE the new year — to sweep away bad luck. You don't sweep ON the day or you'd sweep away good luck!</p>	<p>Lion and dragon dances</p> <p>Performers dance through streets in dragon and lion costumes — to scare away bad spirits.</p>
<p>Lantern Festival</p> <p>On the 15th day, families release paper lanterns. Marks the end of celebrations.</p>	

