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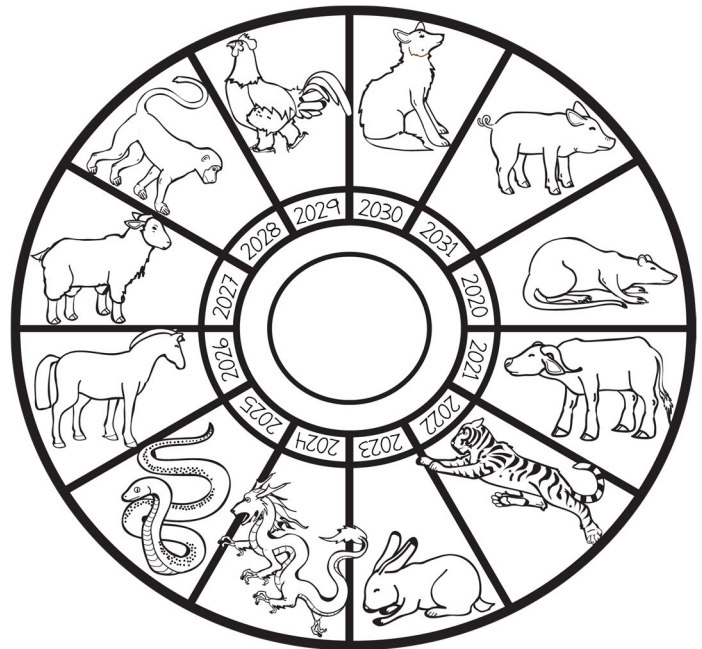
# Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is a joyous and colorful celebration that marks the beginning of the lunar calendar in China. This festive occasion is filled with traditions, customs, and exciting activities that bring families and communities together.

Chinese New Year is one of the most significant holidays in China. It is a time for people to bid farewell to the old year and welcome the new one with hope and positivity. Families take this opportunity to reunite, express gratitude, and wish each other good luck and prosperity for the coming year.

Unlike the calendar most people use, which follows the solar year, Chinese New Year is based on the lunar calendar. This means that the date of the celebration changes each year, usually falling between January 21 and February 20. The lunar calendar is divided into twelve cycles, each represented by an animal from the Chinese zodiac.

The Chinese zodiac consists of twelve animals, each associated with a specific year in a twelve-year cycle. These animals are Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Pig. People believe that the animal of the year influences the personalities and traits of individuals born during that year.



Chinese Zodiac

Preparations for Chinese New Year begin well in advance. Families clean and decorate their homes, symbolizing the removal of bad luck and the welcoming of good fortune. Red is a prominent color during this time, as it is believed to bring happiness and prosperity.

Chinese New Year is a time of joy, tradition, and hope. Families come together to celebrate, share delicious meals, and participate in various customs that have been passed down through generations. It is a colorful and festive occasion that holds great cultural significance for the people of China.

1. Why does the date of the Chinese New Year change each year? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What is another name for the Chinese New Year? \_\_\_\_\_



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