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| **A Red Letter Day** | | |
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| Making a beautiful red gift envelope | | |
| **Subject(s):** Mathematics and Design and Technology  **Approx time:** 50 – 80 minutes |  | **Key words / Topics:**   * Chinese New Year * Graphic products * Net |
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| **Suggested Learning Outcomes** |  |  |
| * To understand how products are made using nets. * To be able to make and assemble a red envelope. | | |
| **Introduction** |  |  |
| This is one of a set of resources that use seasonal events or celebrations to support the teaching of the primary national curriculum. They are designed to support the delivery of key topics within design and technology, science and maths. This resource focuses on using a net to make a red gift envelope.  At the lunisolar new year in China, it is traditional to give the gift of a bright, beautiful red envelope to your friends and family at new year. In Chinese the red envelope is known as 紅包, hóngbāo) and the red colour symbolizes good luck and prosperity. Often the envelope contains money. The envelopes are often decorated with good luck symbols like happy children, beautiful clothing and a peach.  In the Chinese zodiac, each year is associated with an animal. The animals change over a repeating 12-year cycle, which is an approximation to the 11.85 year orbital period of Jupiter. 2024 was the year of the Dragon. The other animals are the rabbit, rat, tiger, snake, horse, goat, ox, monkey, rooster, dog and pig. In Chinese astrology the animal signs are believed to represent how others perceive you or how you present yourself. | | |
| **Purpose of this activity**  In this activity learners will learn about nets within a graphics project. Learners will have an opportunity to use a net to make a Chinese red envelope.  This activity could be used as a main lesson activity, to teach learners about simple structures made from nets. | | |

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| **Activity** |  | | **Teacher notes** |
| **Introduction (10-15 minutes)**  Teacher to explain that learners are going to make a Chinese red gift envelope from a net.  **Making the Chinese red envelope (30-50 minutes)**  Teacher to demonstrate the steps shown in the teacher presentation and listed below:   * Step 1 – Hand out the **Chinese red envelope** activity sheet, identifying the solid and dotted folding lines. Safely cut out the net for the envelope. * Step 2 – score and fold the dotted lines. Fold tab B and glue tab A. Stick tab A to tab B. * Step 3 – Glue tab C and stick to tab B.   Learners to complete each step to conduct the activity for themselves. The teacher presentation could be left on the whiteboard as a supporting guide as they do this.  **Discussing the results of the activity (10-15 minutes)**  Teacher to explain how nets are used to make objects.  Learners to share their completed Chinese red gift envelopes with the class. Discuss what gifts may be put in the envelope and who they would give the gift to. |  | | **Make a Chinese red envelope activity.**  Print the activity sheet onto thin red card and distribute to the learners.  PVA or stick tape could be used as an alternative to glue sticks.  Learners could decorate the red envelope as time allows. They could also make a paper gift or write a note to put in the envelope.  Learners could also to investigate the Chinese zodiac animal for the year they were born. |
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| **Differentiation** |  | |  | |
| **Basic** |  | | **Extension** |
| * Provide learners with pre-cut net. |  | | * Learners could add designs to the front of the envelope. * Learners could write a message or make a gift to go in their envelope. |
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| **Resources** |  | | **Required files** icon-docicon-pdficon-ppt |
| * Red card * Glue sticks or PVA * Scissors * Optional: gold/Silver pens to add decoration * Optional: pre-printed Chinese New Year images. |  | | icon-ppt Teacher presentation – A Red Letter Day  icon-pdf Red Envelope activity handout sheet |
| **Additional websites** |  | |  | |
| * **YouTube** - CBeebies: Chinese New Year Zodiac Story: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eVClAj8q\_lY * **YouTube**: The myth behind the Chinese zodiac: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=may2s9j4RLk * **China Travel Guide**: Chinese Zodiac https://www.travelchinaguide.com/intro/social\_customs/zodiac | | | | |
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| **Related activities (to build a full lesson)** |  | |  | |
| **Starters** (Options)   * Watch the video: **YouTube**: The myth behind the Chinese zodiac: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=may2s9j4RLk> * Watch the video: China Travel Guide: Chinese Zodiac: https://www.travelchinaguide.com/intro/social\_customs/zodiac. | | **Extension** (Options)   * Learners to add their own design to their Chinese red gift envelopes. * Learners to write a message or make a gift to go in their envelope.   **Plenary**   * Learners to share their completed Chinese red gift envelopes with the class, discuss what gifts may be put in the envelope and who they would give the gift to. | | |
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| **The Engineering Context** film |
| * Engineers are use nets to make prototypes of products ranging from buildings to vacuum cleaners. Nets are also used to make most card-based packaging. |

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| **Curriculum links** | |
| **England: National Curriculum**  Mathematics  KS2 Geometry   * recognise, describe, and build simple 3-D shapes, including making nets. | **Northern Ireland Curriculum**  KS2 – Mathematics and Numeracy  Shape and Space   * build and make models with 3D shapes; create pictures and patterns with 2D shapes. |
| **Scotland: Curriculum for Excellence**  Numeracy and Mathematics  Shape, position and movement  MTH 2-16   * Through practical activities, I can show my understanding of the relationship between 3D objects and their nets. | **Wales: National Curriculum**  Mathematics  KS2 – Using geometry skills   * construct solids from given nets. |
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| **Assessment opportunities** |
| * Informal teacher assessment of practical skills through observation of learners. * Formal teacher assessment of activity results. |