

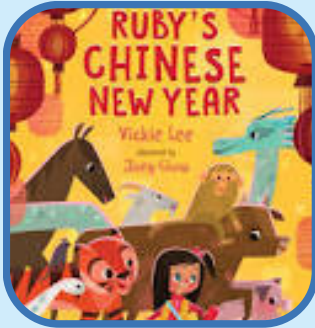
# BOOK OF THE MONTH:

## Ruby's Chinese New Year

by Vickie Lee

Ages: 4 -8 years old

### 1. Introducing the book:



#### Exploring the Cover

Look at the cover. Ask the children to name the animals they see. Explain that the objects they see hanging are Chinese lanterns, a symbol of Chinese New Year celebrations.

#### Building Background

Ask the children if they celebrate the Chinese New Year, also known as the Lunar New Year. Explain the difference between the solar and lunar calendars. Make a list of the animals they think will appear in the book. Explain that this year is the Year of the Dragon.

### 2. Reading the book:

As you read the book, compare the animals listed by the children with those presented in the book. They all reveal a type of food or tradition related to this holiday. Make a list of these items, such as fish, dumplings, rice cakes, lanterns, ribbons, cards and so on. At the end of the story, the author explains why these animals were chosen to appear in the Chinese zodiac and what they represent. Ask the children to name their favorite animals.

### 3. After reading the book:

#### Paper lanterns



- Learning to gather knowledge about the natural and physical world.



- Learning about their bodies and gaining body awareness.



- Print out a paper lantern template (link below).
- Cut red paper into squares.
- Provide crayons, tape and glue and let the children decorate the lantern.
- Cut out the lantern model after decorating.
- Attach a square of yellow paper to the bottom of the lantern (gluing it to the back) and let the children cut it out to make vertical stripes.
- Attach a strip of yellow paper at the top of the lantern to make a handle.

#### Chinese zodiac stick puppets

- Children can use them when they reread the book!
- Download images of Chinese zodiac animals (link below).
- Children cut them out and color them.
- They stick them on popsicle sticks.

#### References and resources

<https://kiddyhouse.com/CNY/tangloong.html>

<http://coloringway.com/education/zodiac-signs-coloring-pages.htm>

#### Legend



Cognitive



Socio-emotional

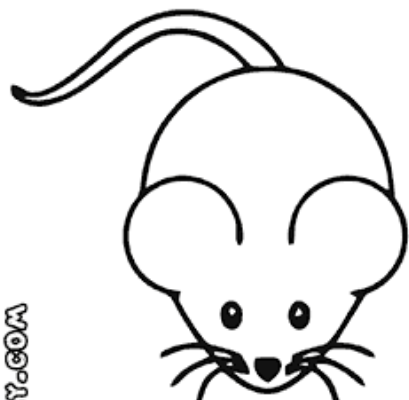


Language



Physical

# CHINESE ZODIAC



**RAT**



**OX**



**TIGER**

COLORINGWAY.COM



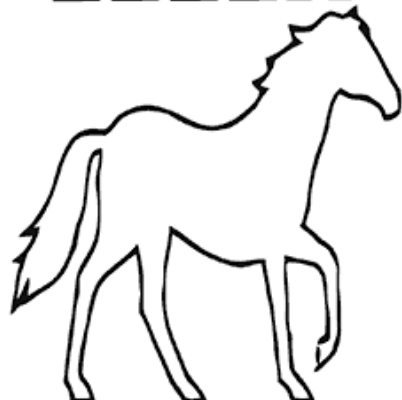
**RABBIT**



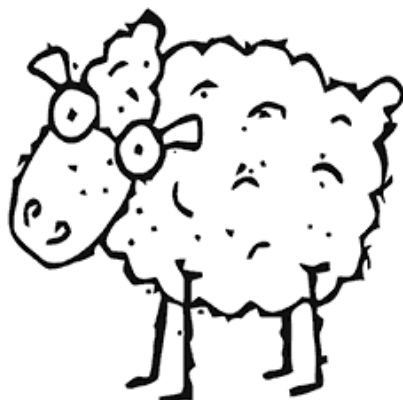
**DRAGON**



**SNAKE**



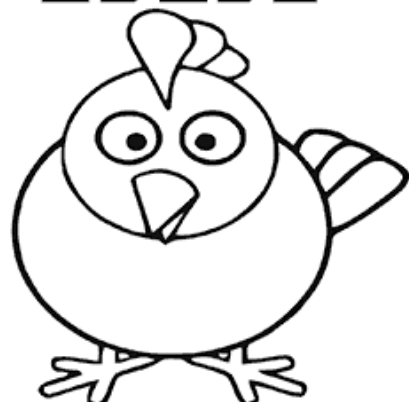
**HORSE**



**GOAT**



**MONKEY**



**ROOSTER**



**DOG**



**PIG**