

# Lunar New Year



## What Is Lunar New Year?

Lunar New Year is also known as the Spring Festival or Chinese New Year. There are other names for it too. It is celebrated in lots of countries around the world.

Lunar New Year begins when there is a new Moon. A new Moon is difficult to see as it starts as a very thin shape. Each new year is named after an animal. There are 12 different animals. New years are named after these animals in a special order.

## Legends

Each year is named after a different animal, based on an old story.

## How Is Lunar New Year Celebrated?

It is celebrated in lots of different ways.

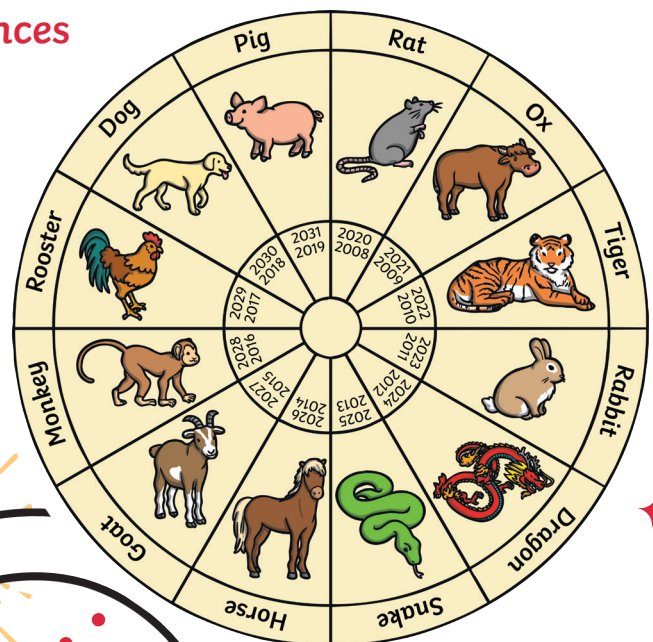
- Many people clean their homes before the festival.
- Families meet to give gifts and eat special food.
- Money is given as gifts in red envelopes.
- Flowers might be used as decorations.

You might see...

- decorations
- lanterns
- lion and dragon dances
- fireworks

You might hear...

- firecrackers
- drums and cymbals



# Questions

1. What does each Lunar New Year start with? Tick one.

- ☐ a new day
- ☐ a new Moon
- ☐ a new star

2. What is each new year named after? Tick one.

- ☐ a decoration
- ☐ a food
- ☐ an animal

3. How do some people receive gifts of money? Tick one.

- ☐ in red envelopes
- ☐ in yellow envelopes
- ☐ in orange envelopes

4. Which of these is **not** another name for Lunar New Year? Tick one.

- ☐ Spring Festival
- ☐ Lion Festival
- ☐ Chinese New Year

5. What do many people do to their homes before Lunar New Year?  
Tick one.

- ☐ paint them
- ☐ sell them
- ☐ clean them

# Answers

1. What does each Lunar New Year start with? Tick one.

- ☐ a new day
- ☒ **a new Moon**
- ☐ a new star

2. What is each new year named after? Tick one.

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- ☐ a food
- ☒ **an animal**

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- ☒ **Lion Festival**
- ☐ Chinese New Year

5. What do many people do to their homes before Lunar New Year?  
Tick one.

- ☐ paint them
- ☐ sell them
- ☒ **clean them**

## What Is Lunar New Year?

Lunar New Year is an important festival for many people and is celebrated in many countries around the world. It is also known as the Spring Festival or Chinese New Year and has other names in different parts of the world. ✨

A lunar year follows the phases of the Moon so the date of the festival is different each year. The Lunar New Year begins with a new Moon.



## How Is Lunar New Year Celebrated?

Lunar New Year is celebrated in lots of different ways.



- Many people spring clean their homes before the festival begins.
- Families get together to celebrate, give gifts and eat a special meal.
- Red is an important colour as it stands for good luck, joy and happiness. It is used for decorations and some people wear red clothes.
- Money is often given to children and other family members in red envelopes.
- Flowers are used as decorations in some countries.
- There are lion and dragon dances with loud drums and cymbals.
- Fireworks and firecrackers are an important part of the celebrations each year.
- The last event of the Lunar New Year is called the Lantern Festival.

# Lunar New Year

## Did You Know...?

The phases of the Moon are the shapes of the Moon that we can see from Earth. A new Moon is difficult to see until it becomes a thin crescent Moon shape.



Each Lunar New Year is named after a different animal. There are 12 animals in the lunar calendar. New years are named after these animals in a special order.

# Questions

1. What are used as decorations in some countries? Tick one.

- ☐ leaves
- ☐ tinsel
- ☐ flowers
- ☐ stars

2. Draw **three** lines and make each fact correct.

Lunar New Year begins with...

• an animal.

Each Lunar New Year is named after...

• the Lantern Festival.

The last event of Lunar New Year is called...

• a new moon.

3. Number the sentences from 1-4 to show the order in which they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

- ☐ Many people spring clean their homes before the festival begins.
- ☒ 1 Lunar New Year is celebrated in many countries around the world.
- ☐ Fireworks and firecrackers are an important part of the celebrations each year.
- ☐ The Lunar New Year begins with a new Moon.

4. Fill in the missing word.

The lunar year follows the \_\_\_\_\_ of the moon so the date of the festival is different each year.

5. Why is red an important colour?

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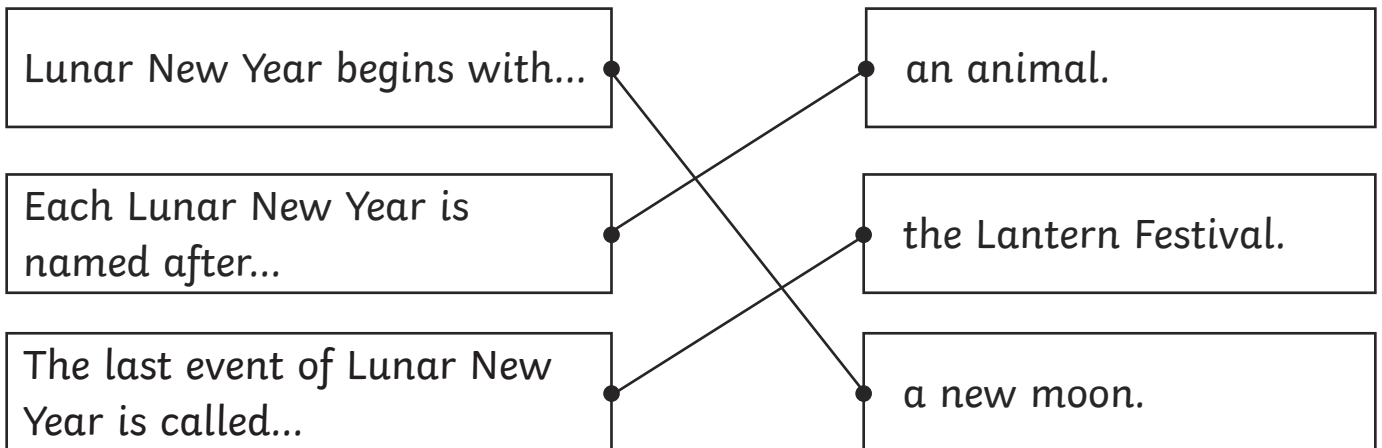
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# Answers

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- ☐ leaves
- ☐ tinsel
- ☒ **flowers**
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2. Draw **three** lines and make each fact correct.



3. Number the sentences from 1-4 to show the order in which they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

- 3** Many people spring clean their homes before the festival begins.
- 1** Lunar New Year is celebrated in many countries around the world.
- 4** Fireworks and firecrackers are an important part of the celebrations each year.
- 2** The Lunar New Year begins with a new moon.

4. Fill in the missing word.

The lunar year follows the **phases** of the moon so the date of the festival is different each year.

5. Why is red an important colour?

**Red is an important colour because it stands for good luck, joy and happiness.**





# Lunar New Year


Lunar New Year is an important festival for many people and is celebrated in lots of countries around the world. It is also known as the Spring Festival or Chinese New Year and has other names in different parts of the world. It is known as Tet in Vietnam and in Tibet it is called Losar.

A lunar year follows the phases of the moon so the exact date changes each year. The Lunar New Year begins with a new moon and the celebrations can last for several days depending on where they are.

## Did You Know...?

The phases of the moon are the shapes of the moon that we can see from Earth. A new moon is difficult to see until it becomes a thin crescent moon shape.

Not all countries celebrate Lunar New Year at the same time. Some countries' new year celebrations can be as much as a month apart as they begin with a different new moon. ✨

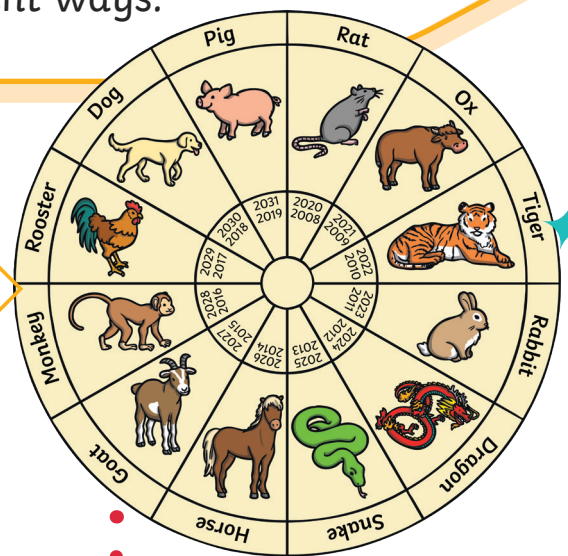


Each Lunar New Year is named after a different animal. There are 12 animals in the lunar calendar. New years are named after these animals in a special order.



## How Is Lunar New Year Celebrated?

Lunar New Year is celebrated in lots of different ways.



Many people spring clean their homes before the festival begins. This represents sweeping away bad luck.

Families get together to celebrate, honour their **ancestors**, give gifts and eat a special meal.

Red is an important colour as it stands for good luck, joy and happiness. It is used for decorations and some people wear red clothes.

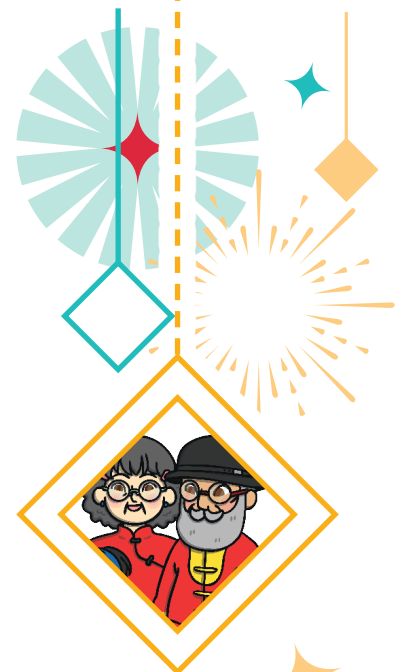
Money is often given to children and other family members in red envelopes.

Flowers are used as decorations in some countries.

Lion and dragon dances often take place as part of street parades. They move and dance to loud music made by drums and cymbals.

Fireworks and firecrackers are an important part of the celebrations each year.

The final event of the Lunar New Year celebrations is called the Lantern Festival. People might hang lanterns as decorations or carry them in a parade.



### Glossary

**ancestors:** People who were in a family in the past.



# Questions

1. Which of these is **not** a name for Lunar New Year? Tick one.

- ☐ Tet
- ☐ Moon Festival
- ☐ Spring Festival
- ☐ Losar

2. Number the sentences from 1-4 to show the order in which they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

- ☐ It is also known as the Spring Festival or Chinese New Year.
- ☐ Each Lunar New Year is named after a different animal.
- ☒ 1 Lunar New Year is an important festival for many people.
- ☐ Not all countries celebrate Lunar New Year at the same time.

3. Fill in the missing word.

A lunar year follows the \_\_\_\_\_ of the moon.

4. Why is the colour red important?

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5. What is the name of the last event of the Lunar New Year?

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6. What do you think the most exciting part about celebrating Lunar New Year would be?

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# Answers

1. Which of these is **not** a name for Lunar New Year? Tick one.

- ☐ Tet
- ☒ **Moon Festival**
- ☐ Spring Festival
- ☐ Losar

2. Number the sentences from 1-4 to show the order in which they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

- 2** It is also known as the Spring Festival or Chinese New Year.
- 4** Each Lunar New Year is named after a different animal.
- 1** Lunar New Year is an important festival for many people.
- 3** Not all countries celebrate Lunar New Year at the same time.

3. Fill in the missing word.

A lunar year follows the **phases** of the moon.

4. Why is the colour red important?

**Red is important because it stands for good luck, joy and happiness.**

5. What is the name of the last event of the Lunar New Year?

**The name of the final event of Lunar New Year is the Lantern Festival.**

6. What do you think the most exciting part about celebrating Lunar New Year would be?

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the most exciting part about celebrating Lunar New Year would be getting together with family to celebrate, exchange gifts and eat a special meal.**