

Ancient China: A Journey Through Time with Ellie

Step into the past! Join Ellie the Elephant on a grand adventure to discover the wonders of the East.

- **The Shang Dynasty was the first recorded dynasty in China. They were famous for their exceptional skill in crafting intricate bronze vessels used for important ceremonies.**
- **Ancient Chinese society relied heavily on the Huang He (Yellow River) for farming. They built clever irrigation systems to control the water and grow crops like millet and wheat.**
- **Emperors held the highest position in society. They believed in the 'Mandate of Heaven', which was the idea that a ruler was chosen by the heavens to lead the people.**
- **Writing was very important in Ancient China. Scholars used 'Oracle Bones'—often turtle shells or animal shoulder blades—to ask the ancestors questions and record the future.**
- **The Terracotta Army was created to protect the first Emperor of China in his afterlife. It consists of thousands of life-sized clay soldiers, each with a unique facial expression.**

Did you know? Did you know? Ancient Chinese inventors were remarkably clever! Over two thousand years ago, they invented the kite, the compass, and even the very first paper. They also discovered how to harvest silk from silkworms, a secret they guarded so carefully that they kept the process hidden from the rest of the world for centuries!

Key vocabulary: Dynasty · Silk · Emperor · Oracle Bones · Bronze · Terracotta · Ancestor · Irrigation