

Exploring Ancient China with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To understand the key features and inventions of Ancient China during the Shang and Han Dynasties.

Follow the drawing prompts below to create a scene from Ancient China. Use the word bank to label your finished masterpiece. Ensure your details reflect the historical inventions and architecture of the time.

Draw: Draw a panoramic scene of Ancient China. In the background, sketch the winding stone path of the Great Wall stretching over misty mountains. In the foreground, draw a small pagoda with curved roof tiles and a merchant carrying a roll of silk. Include a small group of Terracotta-style clay figures standing in a line. Use a detailed, historical illustrative style, similar to a museum reconstruction drawing.



Label words: Terracotta Army · Silk Road · Great Wall · Calligraphy · Bronze vessel · Pagoda

Steps:

1. Identify one invention from Ancient China and explain why it was important for trade or communication.
2. Label your drawing to point out where the silk would have been traded along the famous ancient route.
3. Describe the style of architecture you have drawn for the pagoda. What materials might they have used?
4. Why do you think the Emperor commissioned the Terracotta Army? What was their purpose?
5. Explain the significance of the Great Wall of China in terms of geography and defence.