

Ancient China: Dynasties and Discoveries with Ellie

Step back in time with Ellie the Elephant to uncover the secrets of the Middle Kingdom!

- The Shang Dynasty is recognised as the first recorded Chinese dynasty, known for its masterful creation of intricate bronze vessels used in religious ceremonies.
- Ancient Chinese scribes developed calligraphy, a beautiful form of artistic writing that used complex characters to represent ideas rather than just sounds.
- The Silk Road was an extensive network of trade routes that connected Ancient China to the wider world, allowing silk, spices, and precious ideas to travel across continents.
- During the Qin Dynasty, a magnificent army of thousands of life-sized terracotta soldiers was crafted to protect the Emperor in the afterlife.
- Ancestor worship played a vital role in daily life, as families believed that their ancestors could influence the fortunes of the living and required regular offerings.

Did you know? Did you know? The Ancient Chinese were brilliant inventors! They created the first magnetic compasses using lodestone, invented paper long before the rest of the world, and even developed complex umbrellas to protect themselves from the sun and rain over 2,000 years ago.

Key vocabulary: Dynasty · Oracle bones · Silk Road · Terracotta · Ancestor worship · Calligraphy · Bronze