Exploring Chinese New Year: A Fact-File with Nova

Learning objective: To understand the traditions, symbols, and significance of Chinese New Year as a major festival in Chinese culture.

Join Nova the owl on an adventure to learn about Chinese New Year! Use your research skills or class notes to complete this fact-file. Write clearly and ensure you explain the significance of the traditions you describe.

Word bank: Lunar Calendar · Zodiac · Red Envelopes · Prosperity · Lion Dance · Spring Festival · Lanterns · Tradition

1. The Spring Festival: Explain what Chinese New Year celebrates and why it is based on the lunar calendar. (3 marks)

2. Symbols and Colours: Why is the colour red considered lucky during this festival, and how is it used in decorations? (2 marks)

3. Family Traditions: Describe two things families typically do together to prepare for or celebrate the arrival of the New Year. (4 marks)

4. The Zodiac Animals: Choose one animal from the Chinese Zodiac and explain its place in the cycle or a trait associated with it. (2 marks)

5. Personal Reflection: If you were celebrating this festival, which tradition would you find most exciting and why? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research the legend of the Great Race. On a separate piece of paper, write a short paragraph explaining which animal you think was the cleverest in the race and why.