Exploring Traditions: The Lunar New Year

Learning objective: I can identify and explain key symbols and traditions associated with the Lunar New Year.

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Ask your child to explain why certain colours are important during these celebrations.

Read the term on the front of the card. Think carefully about its meaning before checking the answer on the back. For example: Front: Red Envelopes | Answer: Small red packets containing money given to children for good luck.

Lunar Calendar	**Chinese New Year**
A calendar based on the cycles of the Moon's phases.	A festival celebrating the beginning of a new year on the traditional lunisolar calendar.
The Zodiac	**Red Envelopes**
A cycle of 12 animals, where each year is represented by a specific animal.	Gift packets given to children or family containing money to wish for good luck and prosperity.
Lion Dance	**Reunion Dinner**
A traditional dance performed to bring good luck and drive away evil spirits.	A special meal eaten with family on New Year's Eve to celebrate togetherness.
Lantern Festival	**The colour Red**
The final day of the celebrations, marked by lighting paper lanterns.	A symbol of good fortune, joy, and happiness in Chinese culture.
Cleaning the house	**Firecrackers**
A tradition performed before the New Year to 'sweep away' bad luck from the past year.	Explosives used traditionally to create loud noises that scare away negative energy.