

Teaching About East Asia

Lesson Plan submitted by:

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Subject Matter: Time Travel: China, Japan and Korea

Grade Level: Seventh Grade
Middle School, Grades 6 - 8
Ohio Academic Course of Study benchmark

Type: Culmination: Exit Project

The students' study of Southeast Asian countries of China, Japan and Korea provides the content base. Cooperative group work, review of textbook resources as well as other sources listed below should be made accessible.

Performance Objectives:

Students will:

1. Create multiple tier timelines.
2. Graphically depict historical events for the given time and place.
3. Compare and contrast developments of ancient China, Japan and Korea.
4. Analyze to find relationships and evidence of cultural borrowing.

Student groups will create an illustrated multiple tier timeline on:

- a. 3 aspects such as government, art, and economy of one civilization's development during a specific time period

or

- b. Comparative: 1 aspect of three cultures during a given time period, eg.: government represented for given time period of China, Japan and Korea.

Procedure:

Day One

1. Assign teacher-made cooperative groups and task direction sheets for research on ancient China, Japan and Korea.
2. Cooperatively students review standards on cooperative group work and sign / fill-in tasks for Day One (see task and direction sheets).

For example,

Tasks: recorder
illustrators
resource persons
assemblers

Students need to know that they are accountable each day for a task sheet on their job performance which will be due and credit / points given.

Days Two, Three and Four

3. Group work and research for multiple tier timeline a or b (see sources and websites).

Days Five and Six

Student groups create multiple tier, illustrated timelines.

Days Seven and Eight

Students will plan and practice presentations for illustrated multiple tier timelines. Students may choose a simple narrative or choose to all participate with given events and illustrations.

Evaluation:

Students will answer question sheets made up by student presenters.

Example:

1. When did written language begin in China? And does that coincide with written language in Japan?
2. What evidence do you find of "cultural Borrowing" between Korea and China and Korea and Japan?

Materials:

1. Daily cooperative group assignment sheets and task sheets
2. Poster paper, tag board or 8" x 11" copy paper
3. Magic markers, colored pencils or crayons
4. Magazines, newspapers
5. Scissors, glue
6. Timeline handouts
7. Textbooks

Sources:

<http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~dee/ANCJAPAN/TIMELINE.HTM>
Timeline of Ancient Japan from 10,500 B. C. to 1192 A. D.
Washington State University

<http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~dee/ANCCHINA/ANCCHINA.HTM>

<http://www.travelchinaguide.com/intro/history/>
Timeline of Ancient China from 21st Century B. C. to 960 A. D.
Travel China Guide

<http://www.slu.edu/organizations/ksa/History.htm>
Ancient Korea from 2333 B. C. to the present
St. Louis University

ODE:

Academic Content Standards: Social Studies

1. Group events by broadly defined historical eras and enter onto multiple tier timelines, page 145.
2. Select events and construct a multiple tier timeline to show relationships between events, page 148.
3. Give examples of contacts among different cultures that led to changes in belief systems, art, science, technology, language or systems of government, page 146.
4. Establish guidelines, rules and timelines for group work, page 147.

Ancient China Time Line

The time line on pages 45–47 has fallen apart in sections. First, color the heading of each section a different color through which you can still read the headings. Then cut out the sections and put them in chronological order. Tape the sections into one long strip. Finally, use your time line to answer the questions below on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Approximately how many years did humans live in ancient China before they learned how to farm?
2. Approximately how many years did farmers exist in China before the Xia dynasty?
3. Which dynasty ruled for the longest period of time?
4. Which dynasty ruled for the shortest period of time?
5. During which dynasty was Confucius born?
6. During which dynasty was paper invented?
7. During which dynasty was the Great Wall of China constructed?
8. During which dynasty were printing and porcelain invented?

The Qin Dynasty

- 221 B.C.** The state of Qin overpowers the other states. Its leader, Qin Shi Huangdi, begins a new dynasty. He reorganizes the government into a bureaucracy so he can retain control of all the provinces. Qin rules using harsh laws with severe punishments under the Legalist philosophy.
- c. 215 B.C.** Qin orders the construction of the Great Wall of China and the Grand Canal.
- 210 B.C.** Qin Shi Huangdi dies and is buried in a tomb with an army of 6,000 terra-cotta soldiers.

The Han Dynasty	
206 B.C.	The Han dynasty comes to power after the death of Qin Shi Huangdi. During its reign there are many rebellions and uprisings, as well as great strides in culture and technology. Han rulers govern with the combined philosophies of Legalism and Confucianism.
A.D. 100	Merchants and monks bring Buddhism from India to China. Trade flourishes with the Roman Empire along the Silk Road.
A.D. 105	Papermaking is invented. It uses torn silk rags, and the process is unrefined and very costly.
A.D. 132	Zhang Heng invents the first seismograph.
A.D. 150	Court official Cai Lun discovers a cheaper way of making paper.
The Sui Dynasty	
A.D. 581	China is reunited under the Sui dynasty, during which some great improvements are made to the Grand Canal.
A.D. 618	Yang Ti, the second and last emperor of the Sui dynasty, is assassinated.

The Zhou Dynasty

- 1122 B.C.** The Shang are overthrown by the Zhou, who rule from different parts of China. Throughout this period there is much turmoil. The Zhou rulers govern using a system of feudalism. The Chinese language is unified by creating pictures or characters that stand for whole words.
- 551 B.C.** Confucius is born in the state of Lu.
- 450 B.C.** Ironworking starts in China and creates advances in weapons and tools.

The Three Kingdoms Period

- A.D. 220** The Han dynasty falls and the Three Kingdoms period in which six different dynasties ruled begins.
- A.D. 383** Northern and southern dynasties rule after an invasion from the north.

Ancient China Time Line *(cont.)*

The Shang Dynasty

- c. 1700 B.C.** The Shang dynasty in eastern China begins. Here the people lived in walled cities and worshiped a supreme god called Shang Di.
- c. 1600 B.C.** Craft workers in Yenshih mix tin and copper to make bronze.
- c. 1400 B.C.** The first oracle bones are used.

The Sung Dynasty

- A.D. 960** The Sung dynasty comes to power after a period of turmoil.
- A.D. 978** The whole of China is reunited under the Sung.
- A.D. 1126** The Sung gradually lose control of northern China, so the capital is moved to Hangzhou. This part of the reign is known as the Southern Sung.
- A.D. 1180** The Chinese use the maritime compass to navigate their way to Arabia and Japan.
- A.D. 1240** Northern China is conquered by the Mongols, who threaten the rest of China.

The Xia Dynasty

- c. 2100 B.C.** There are no written records of this dynasty. Legend claims the Xia ruled for 300 years.

The Han Dynasty

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The Sui Dynasty

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- A.D. 618** Yang Ti, the second and last emperor of the Sui dynasty, is assassinated.

The Five Dynasties Period

- A.D. 907** The T'ang dynasty is overthrown. A period of unrest known as the Five Dynasties and Ten Kingdoms begins.

Ancient China Time Line *(cont.)*

The T'ang Dynasty

- A.D. 618** The T'ang dynasty begins with the assassination of Yang Ti.
- A.D. 661** Porcelain is used, possibly for the first time.
- A.D. 700** Carved blocks of wood are used for the first printing.
- A.D. 701** The famous Chinese poet Li Bo is born.

Early Chinese Farmers

- 6000 B.C.** The first farmers settle in the Huang He (Yellow River) Valley.
- 5000 B.C.** In northern China the farming village of Banpo is built of wattle and daub huts. Pottery is made and used. In the Hangzhou Bay area of southeast China, farmers grow rice.
- 4000 B.C.** Silkmaking was possibly understood, according to historical finds of stone models of silkworms.
- 3500 B.C.** Stone plowshares, or hoes, are used in the Hangzhou Bay area. Fine painted pottery is made at Yangshao.
- 3000 B.C.** Copper mining starts. At Longshan, potters start using a pottery wheel.
- 2300 B.C.** Earliest evidence of silk cloth.

The Earliest Chinese

- 600,000 B.C.** Early humans live in parts of China. They are hunters and gatherers.
- 400,000 B.C.** Peking man lives in caves at Zhoukoudian. Humans know how to make fire and use simple stone tools.
- 28,000 B.C.** Early humans closer to resembling modern humans live at Zhoukoudian. They still survive by hunting and gathering.
- 9000 B.C.** The caves at Xianrendong are occupied by hunters and gatherers.

Rule by Foreigners

- A.D. 1279** The Mongols conquer all of China. Kublai Khan becomes the first non-Chinese person to rule over the entire country.