



**University of Massachusetts-Boston
STARTALK Program Curriculum**

Theme: Traffic & Travel

**Target Proficiency Level:
Novice-Mid to Intermediate-Low**

Number of Hours: 40

Designed by: Suhong Chang

Brief Description of Program (including curricular context and goals)

Students will do some research on China's major tourist cities and learn the cultural background of each city. They will learn to identify places, ask and give directions to a location, name the modes of transportation in Chinese and compare/contrast the way people live in the target cultural communities to the way people live in the U.S.

Students will engage in problem solving, communicating, reasoning, connecting, and representing and demonstrating they are successful with the following standards:

- 1.5 Exchange information and knowledge
- 2.1 Follow directions
- 2.3 Obtain information and knowledge
- 2.4 Describe people, places and things
- 3.5 Present information in a brief report
- 5.4 Identify linguistic characteristics of the target language and compare and contrast them with English linguistic characteristics
- 6.4 Identify and discuss cultural characteristics of the target culture and compare and contrast them to cultural characteristics of their own culture

The three-mode communication class activities will be designed in the following teaching context:

- A tourist map of China, pictures of scenic spots and historical sites such as the Great Wall, Tian An Men and Terra-cotta Warriors and Horses etc.
- Vehicle models and traffic signs
- Follow directions/give directions (Maps: draw, label, describe)
- Identify the places you are dreaming to go on the map and describe them
- Identify appropriate modes of transportation for traveling to selected locations

What Enduring Understandings:

Students will understand the following:

- China has a long history and is rich in tourist resources.
- Transport creates valuable links between regions and economic activities, between people and the rest of the world.
- Why railway and bicycle are still the most important means of transportation for the majority of the people in China.
- With the rising living standards, more and more families own cars in China today.

What Essential Questions Will Guide this Program and Focus Teaching/Learning:

- What information you need before you travel to China.
- How many famous historical sites in China you know.
- To what extent or in what ways the city you want to go is interesting and special.
- Why good communication skills are important and helpful to me when traveling in China.
- To what extent or in what ways China trip is special and fun to you.

Standards/Goals:

Major Standards: 2.1, 3.4

Supporting Standards: 1.5, 2.3

Content:

Culture: China's Major Tourist Cities and China's Traffic

Key Structures: 请问, 去天坛怎么走? (Excuse me, how do I get to the Temple of Haven?)

一直走到红绿灯, 向右转。 (Go straight to the traffic light, then turn right.)

我们坐飞机去上海。 (We travel to Shanghai by plane)

他们坐火车去西安。 (They are going to Xian by train)

Key Vocabulary: 北京, 上海, 西安, 飞机, 火车, 公共汽车, 地铁, 自行车, 摩托车,

红绿灯, 东, 西, 南, 北, 转, 马路, 高楼, 美丽, 漂亮, 干净.....

Skills:

The students will be able to:

- Know and use the target vocabulary to describe the historical sites in China
- Exchange information and knowledge with their friends
- Ask and give directions
- Identify the modes of transportation and talk about the most important means of transportation in China.
- List some places you are dreaming to go and give a brief introduction of each place in Chinese characters.
- Compare and contrast the cities of the target cultures to cities in the U.S.

Connections to Other Disciplines: History, geography, weather, food, clothes, roads, music, the style of architecture and art.

Technology Integration: Videos for historical sites, internet research for the historical sites: pictures, background culture, historical stores and other related topics.

Assessments:

What evidence will show that students understand and can perform?

Performance tasks

- **Using the map and Word Bank (directions-target language only), give directions orally from one location to another.**

- **Talk with a pair about your favorite place**
- **Identify appropriate modes of transportation for traveling to selected locations**
- **Making a travel plan to visit China in Chinese characters**
- **Oral presentation: Introduce one city in China you are planning to visit (Including weather, hotel, food, transportation, and historical sites)**

Quizzes, Tests, Prompts, Work Samples

Unprompted Evidence (observations, dialogues)

Can do Statements From Linguafolio

I can

- **Obtain information and knowledge**
- **Ask and answer questions**
- **Identify places on maps**
- **Ask and give directions to a location**
- **Identify the modes of transportation**
- **Describe my community**
- **Understand the traffic sign in Chinese**
- **Express my personal preference**
- **Write a travel plan in Chinese characters**

Required Resources:

Text books: 1. Chinese Made Easy 4
2. Chinese Paradise 3
3. Chinese for Youth 3

Differentiation of Instruction:

Instructional Strategies:

What do they already know that will help them learn new information?

(May be assessed with surveys, background info given at the beginning of the course or a review of past work that the student presents)

To find out the students background info from their entrance exam for class placement.

Links to relevant web sites:

http://news.xinhuanet.com/ziliao/2003-01/22/content_701938.htm
<http://www.chinatravel.com/>
<http://www.tour-beijing.com/>
<http://www.chinahighlights.com/xian>
<http://www.chinavista.com/travel/shanghai/shanghai.html>

Sub-theme(s)/unit(s)

Chinese Geography, Chinese Language, Literature and History and Chinese Culture (Holidays, families, food, music, calligraphy, martial art...),

Lessons that support the subtheme/unit:

Teacher Guided Instruction: Question 1. What you need to know about China

Geography and Background of China

- * Using the map of China or research on line from the following websites, find and list the geographical position of China, population, language, weather, capital city, major cities and the major rivers.
- * Readings from: <http://www.chinatoday.com/>
http://news.xinhuanet.com/ziliao/2003-01/22/content_701938.htm

Teacher Guided Instruction: Question 2. How many tourist cities you know

Major Tourist Cities

- * Doing the internet search, read brief introduction of some famous Chinese tourist cities. (Beijing, Xian, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Suzhou and Hangzhou)
See the **Links to relevant web sites**
- * Presenting one of the tourist cities which you like to go to visit. Identify the city on the map and describe (the name of the city, cultural background, population, weather, food, scenic spots, hotel and transportation)

Teacher Guided Instruction: Question 3. Why good communication skills are important

Map Labeling and Asking & Giving directions to selected locations

- * Drawing a simple big map, label scenic spots in one city you are going to visit in the target language.
- * Preparing some questions for asking the directions to a selected location.
- * Presenting how you get to selected locations and identify appropriate modes of transportation to the places.

Teacher Guided Instruction: Question 4. Why China trip will be fun and special to you

Purpose of traveling to China and your travel plan

- * Writing down why you want to travel to China in Chinese (list your purposes).
- * Presenting your travel plan to China: When you are going, how long, what city, what scenic spots, what cost...
- * Sharing your travel with your classmates.