Chinese Student Programs

Cultural Topics and Activities

- How first names are chosen in Chinese-speaking cultures
- Chinese zodiac
- Family titles and how to address elders
- Chinese and U.S. educational systems
- Comparing school subjects in Taiwan with those in the U.S.
- “Roasted” students: cram school
- Chinese philosophers and educators (e.g., Confucius, Mencius)/Confucianism
- Chinese notions of loyalty, filial piety, humanity and love
- Comparing Chinese and American cultures on: role models, idols, successful people, and communication with neighbors
- Chinese holidays and festivals
  - Chinese New Year
  - Lantern Festival
  - Dragon Boat Festival
  - Double Seventh Day
  - Hungry Ghosts Festival
- Chinese vs. U.S. holidays
- Chinese and American tableware
- Food and cooking
  - Traditional Chinese food for festivals
  - Chinese cuisine
  - Taiwanese appetizers
  - Making/Cooking dumplings
- Chinese eating habits and dining etiquette
- Coffee and tea in Chinese people’s life/tea and Chinese people/Chinese tea ceremony/Guangdong tea house
- Calligraphy and brush painting
  - The Four Treasures of the Study
  - Wang XiZhi – The Sage of Calligraphy
- Arts and crafts
  - Paper-cutting/Paper-folding (origami)
  - Fan-making
  - Chinese knots
  - Clay-figure making/dough sculpture
  - Creating of Chinese greeting cards and birthday party invitation
- Chinese martial arts and Tai-chi
- Abacus
- Puppet show
- Sports/Games/Leisure activities
  - Soccer
• Ping pong
• Badminton
• Stick exercise
• Rope jumping
• Hackie sack
• Chinese Yo-Yo
• Chinese checkers
• Chinese chess
• Mah-jong

- Music and dance
  • Chinese songs and lyrics
  • Traditional Chinese musical instruments
  • Karaoke
  • Traditional Chinese dance
  • Taiwanese Aboriginal dance
  • Beijing opera

- TV and films
  • Chinese talk shows
  • Videos/DVDs
  • Movies
    Examples:
    1. Movies on cultural conflicts between the East and the West
    2. *Uproar in Heaven*
    3. *To Live*
    4. *Shao-ling Kids*
    5. *King of Masks*
    6. *Tea in Love*
    7. *Not One Less*

- Language and literature
  • Tang poetry
  • Li Bai
  • Chinese classical poems and related idiomatic expressions
  • Modern poetry
  • Modern stories
  • Children books

- Traditional Chinese way of living
- Traditional Chinese medicine
- Religion and folk beliefs
- Match-makers

- Geography and history
  • The 2008 Beijing Olympics
  • Cities in China and in Taiwan
  • The Great Wall, the Silk Road, and other Chinese history sites
  • Tiananmen
  • Xi’an and the other ancient Chinese capitals
- Of Revolution and Demolition: Chinese Culture 1966-1976
- From Mount Wutai to the Dunhuang Caves
- Faces of a Changing Society: China Today and Tomorrow
- History of a Chinese newspaper publisher
- History of Taiwan
- US-China relations
- Minority groups in China
- Economic growth in China
- The ‘One Child per Family’ policy and adoption in China
- Life of teens in China
- Night markets in Taiwan
- Field trips
  Examples of places visited:
  - Chinatown
  - Chinese restaurants
  - Asian markets/shopping centers
  - Chinese medicine/book stores
  - Museums/Art centers
  - Asia Society
  - China Institute
  - Chinese communities
  - Dragon Boat Races
  - Enterprises (e.g., Motorola, Boeing, etc.)
- Cultural club
- Language Table
- End-of-program student performances/talent show