

Happy Chinese Year of the Dragon

Legend has it that in ancient times, Buddha asked all the animals to meet him on Chinese New Year. Twelve animals did, and Buddha named a year after each one. He announced that people born in each animal's year would have some of that animal's traits. Those born in the Year of the Dragon are innovative, brave, and passionate.



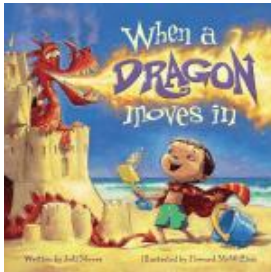
Chinese New Year Celebrations Begin Today

Chinese New Year celebrations last 15 days during which people wear red clothes, decorate their homes with poems on red paper, and give children "lucky money" in red envelopes. Red symbolizes fire which, according to legend, can drive away bad luck.

The culmination of the celebrations is the Lantern Festival (this year on February 6th), and one of the highlights of the Lantern Festival is the Dragon Dance. The dragon - which might stretch one hundred feet long - is typically made of silk, paper, and bamboo, and is traditionally held aloft by up to 50 dancers who guide the colorful beast through the streets.

More Dragon-ness

Discover and learn more about your Chinese Zodiac sign [here](#).



And in honor of The Year of the Dragon, have fun reading *When a Dragon Moves In* online by clicking on the book cover on the left.

When a Dragon Moves In

Written by Jodi Moore

Illustrated by Howard McWilliam

Hardcover, 32 full color pages, ages 4-8

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