

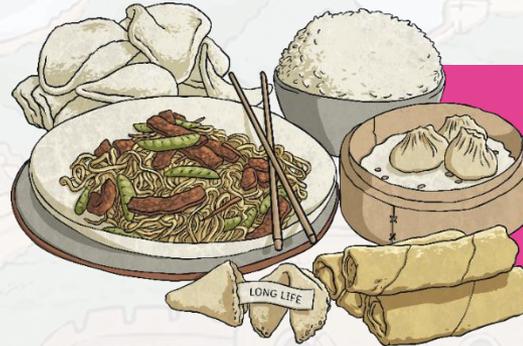
# China



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**Culture**



**Food**



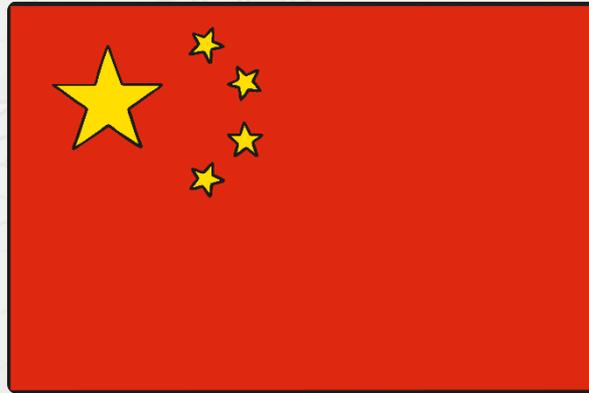
**School**

# Culture

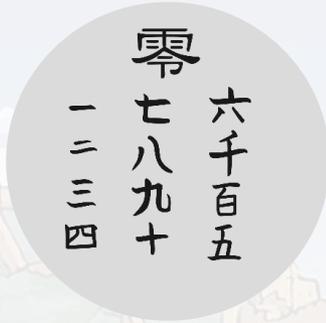
The national flag of the People's Republic of China is red with 5 golden stars.

Red represents the communist revolution and the stars represent the unity of the Chinese people under their leadership.

China used to have a strict policy only allowing one child per family due to overpopulation. They can now have two children if either parent was an only child.



# Culture



**Official Language:** Mandarin



**Capital City:** Beijing



**Landmarks:**  
Great Wall of China



**Population:** 1.4 billion



**Major Religion:** Buddhism  
Followed by Christianity



# Food

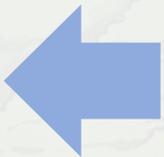


Chinese cuisine is famous for being very vast and includes a huge range of ingredients.

Most Chinese people use chopsticks to eat with.



Rice is a very important food in China and eaten every day. 'Dim sum' is a type of Chinese food that is made up of small, tasty dishes served in bamboo steamers. These can be dumplings, meat or vegetables and steamed or fried.



# Dim Sum



# *China Facts*

- *In China, the colour red symbolises joy and good fortune. Red will be seen when celebrating special occasions in China.*
- *What colour do brides wear in England?*
- *Can you guess what colour they might wear in China?*



# School

- Education in China is compulsory for 9 years, starting from the age of 6 or 7.
- Schools can range from being very poor to being well funded and modern.
- Teaching in China is influenced by the Chinese Communist Party.
- The Chinese have an annual festival called Teacher's Day on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

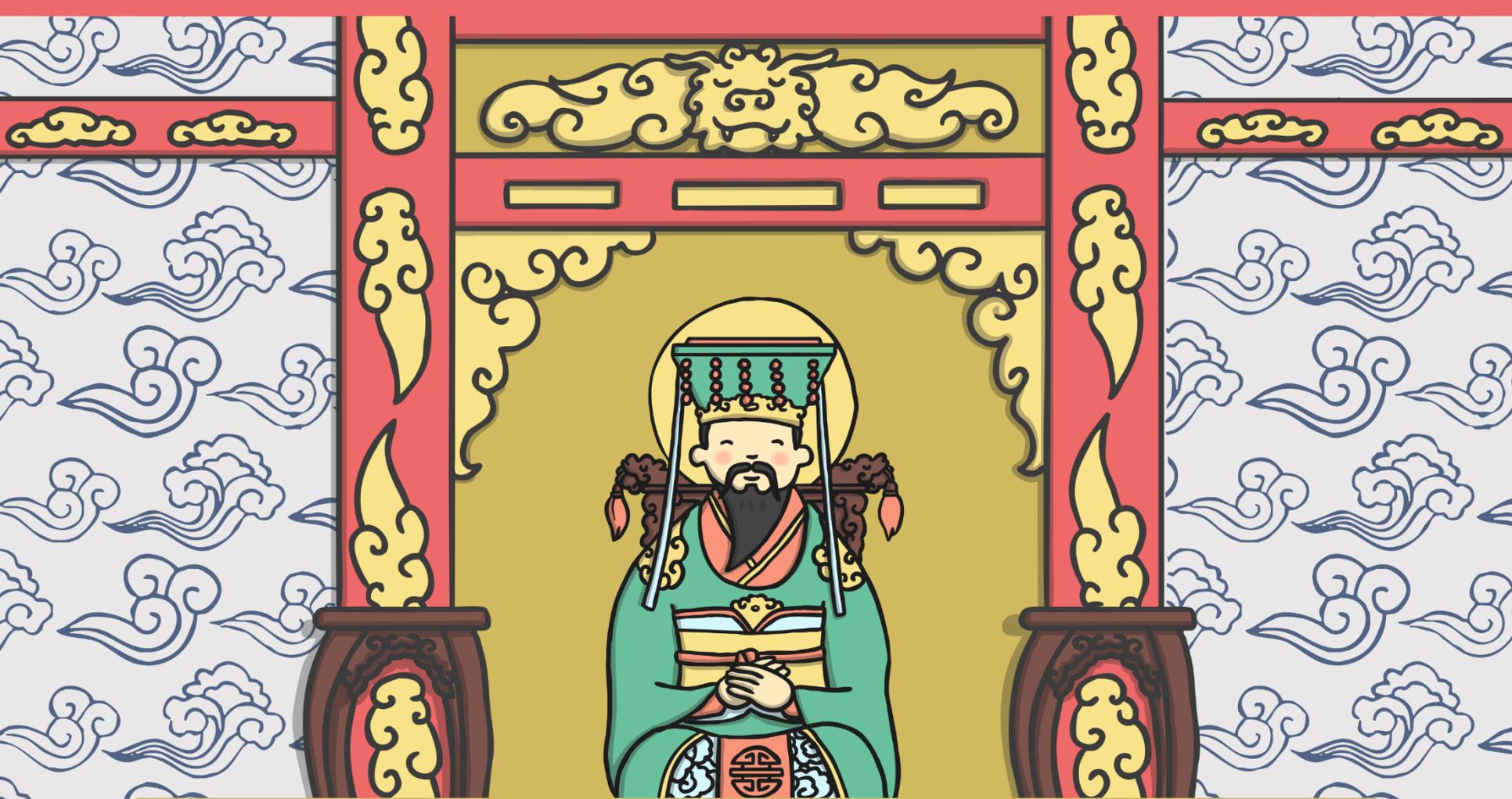


# Chinese School

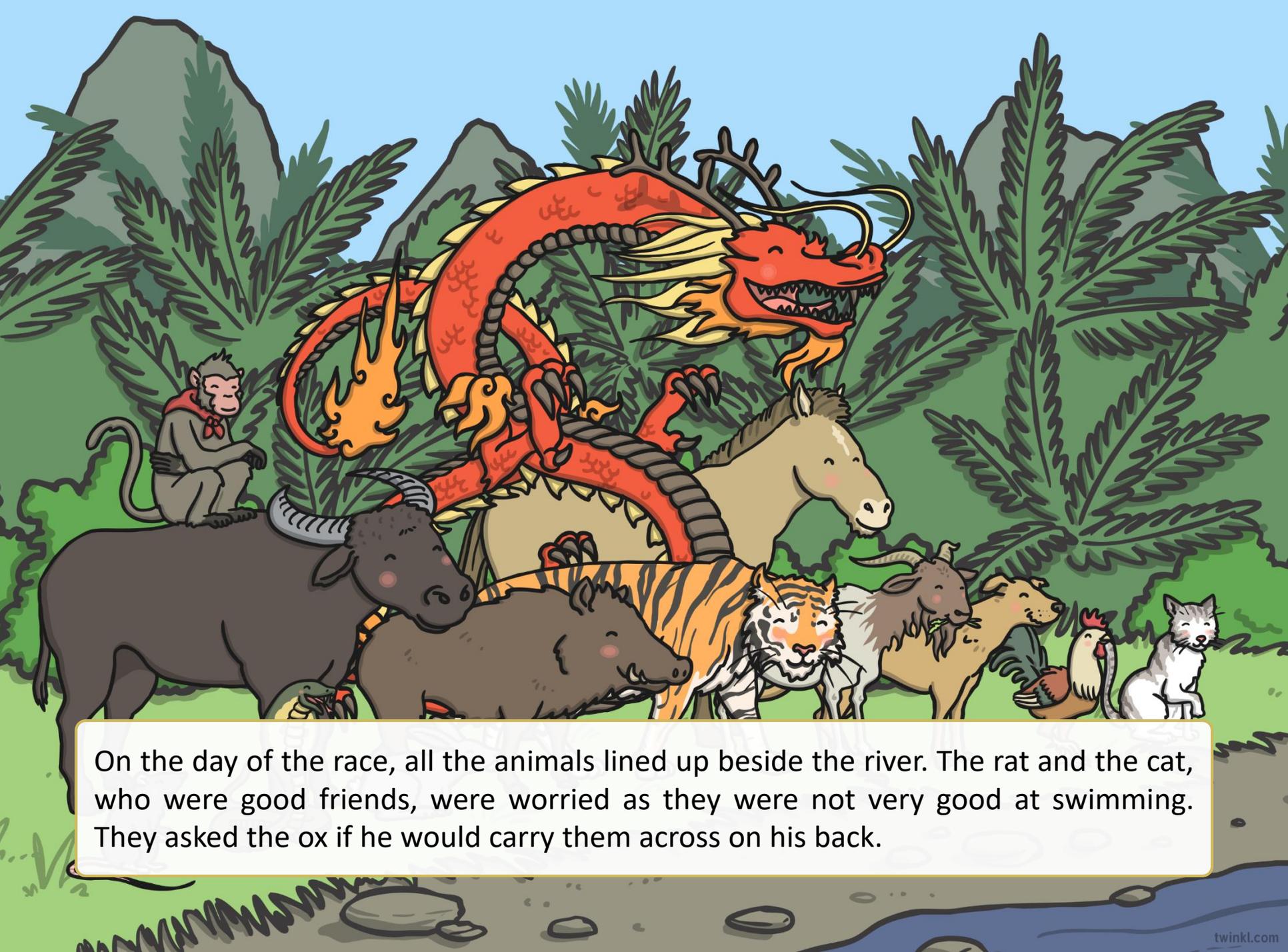


# Chinese New Year





A long time ago, in China, the Jade Emperor decided that there should be a way to measure time. He told the animals they were to compete in a race. The first twelve animals would be rewarded by having a year named after them.



On the day of the race, all the animals lined up beside the river. The rat and the cat, who were good friends, were worried as they were not very good at swimming. They asked the ox if he would carry them across on his back.

The ox agreed and they jumped on his back. When the race started, the rat and the cat were very pleased that the ox took the lead. They were almost across at the other side when the rat pushed the cat into the water and jumped on the bank to finish first!



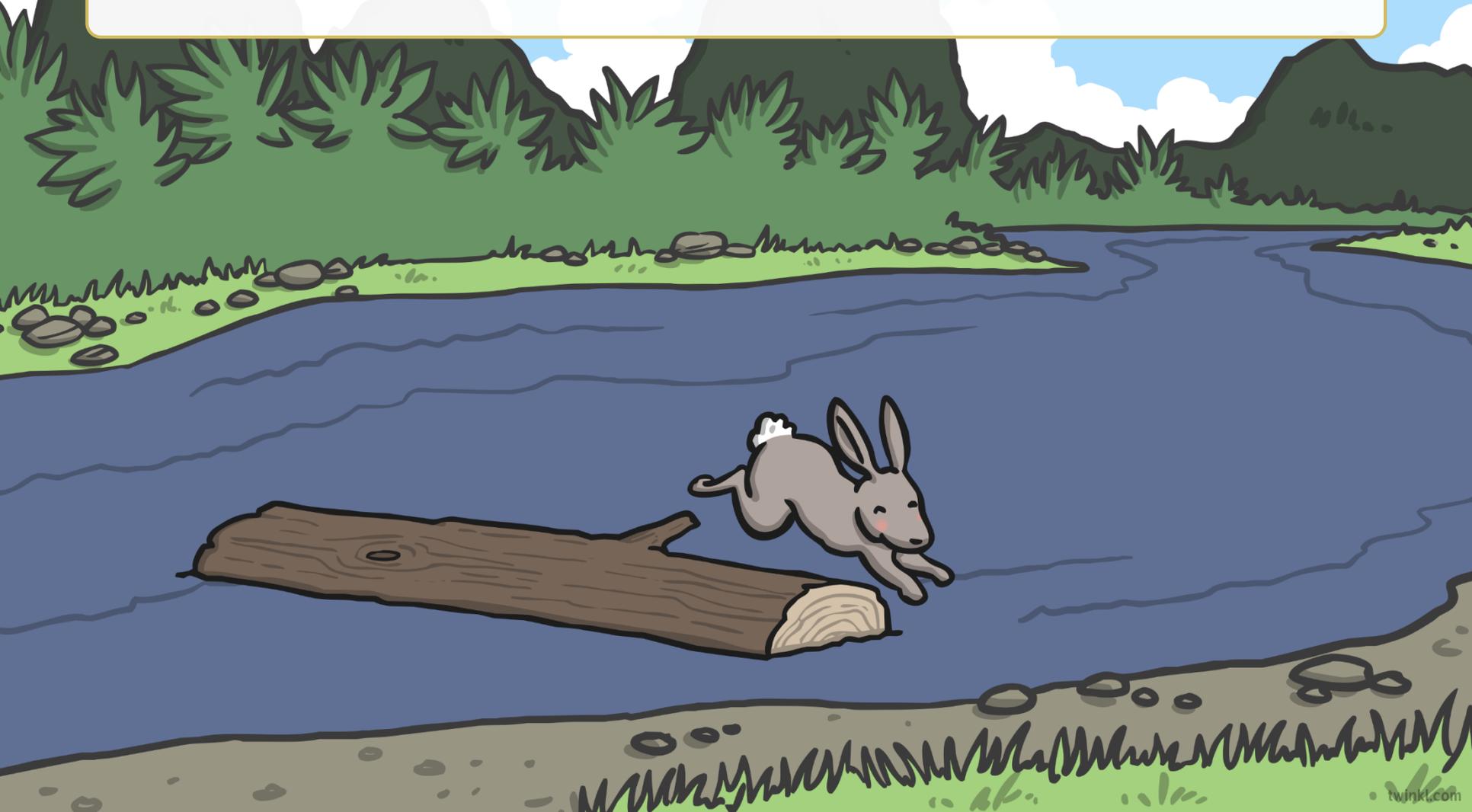
“Well done!” said the Jade Emperor to the rat. “The first year of the Zodiac will be named after you.” The poor ox was tricked into second place and so the second year of the Zodiac was named after him.

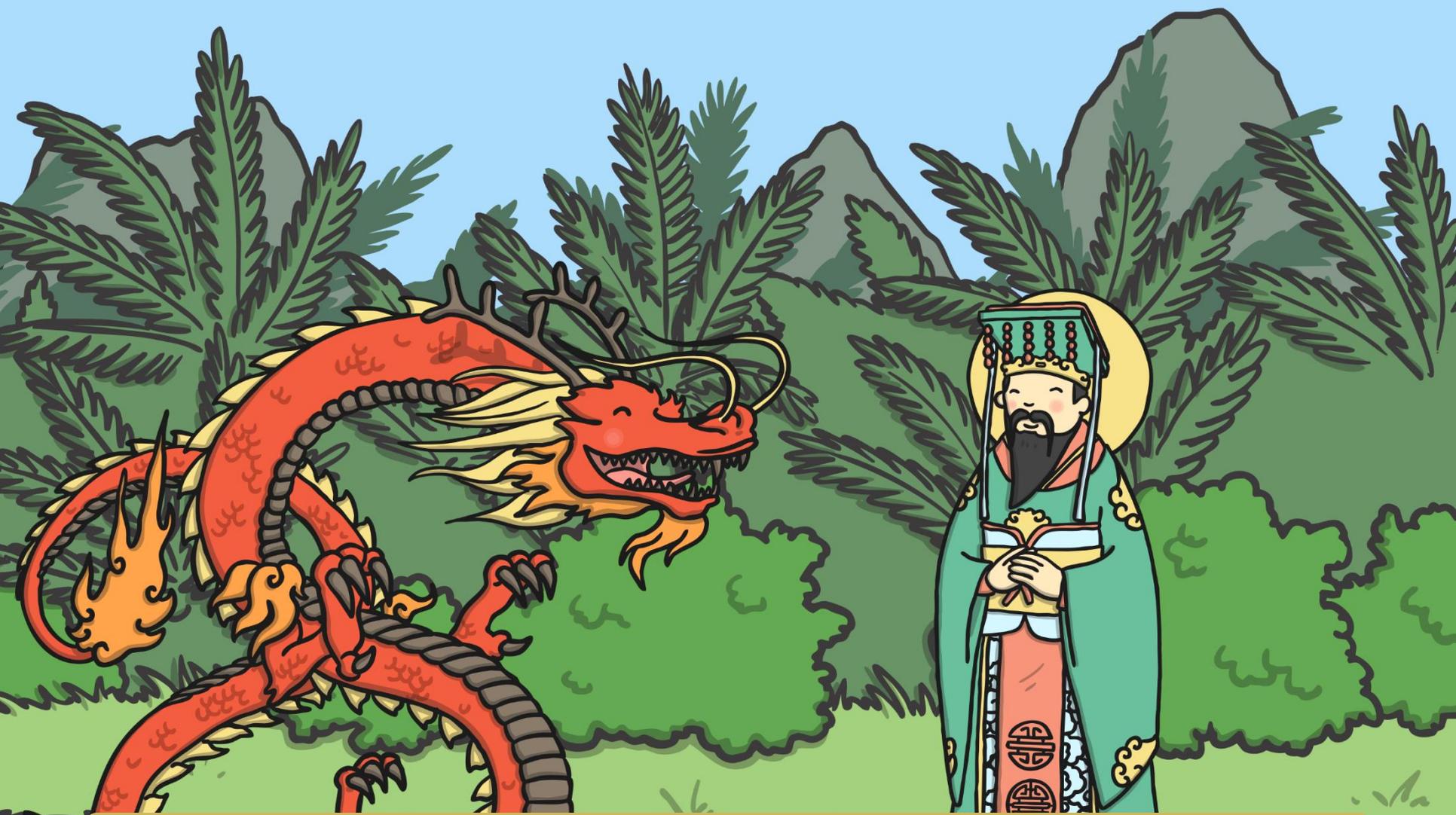


Shortly after, the exhausted tiger arrived on the river bank. Swimming the river had been very difficult, as he had to fight strong currents.



The next to arrive was the rabbit, who hadn't swum across but hopped across on some stepping stones and then onto a floating log which carried him to the river bank. "I shall call the fourth year after you," the surprised Jade Emperor said.





Taking fifth place was the dragon. “How come you didn’t win the race, when you could fly across?” the Emperor asked.  
“I stopped to help some animals,” the dragon explained.

Heading towards the line was the horse. Just as he thought the horse would cross, the sly snake wriggled around one of the horse's hooves. The horse was so surprised that he jumped backwards, giving the snake a chance to slither forward and take sixth place. The horse made it for seventh place.

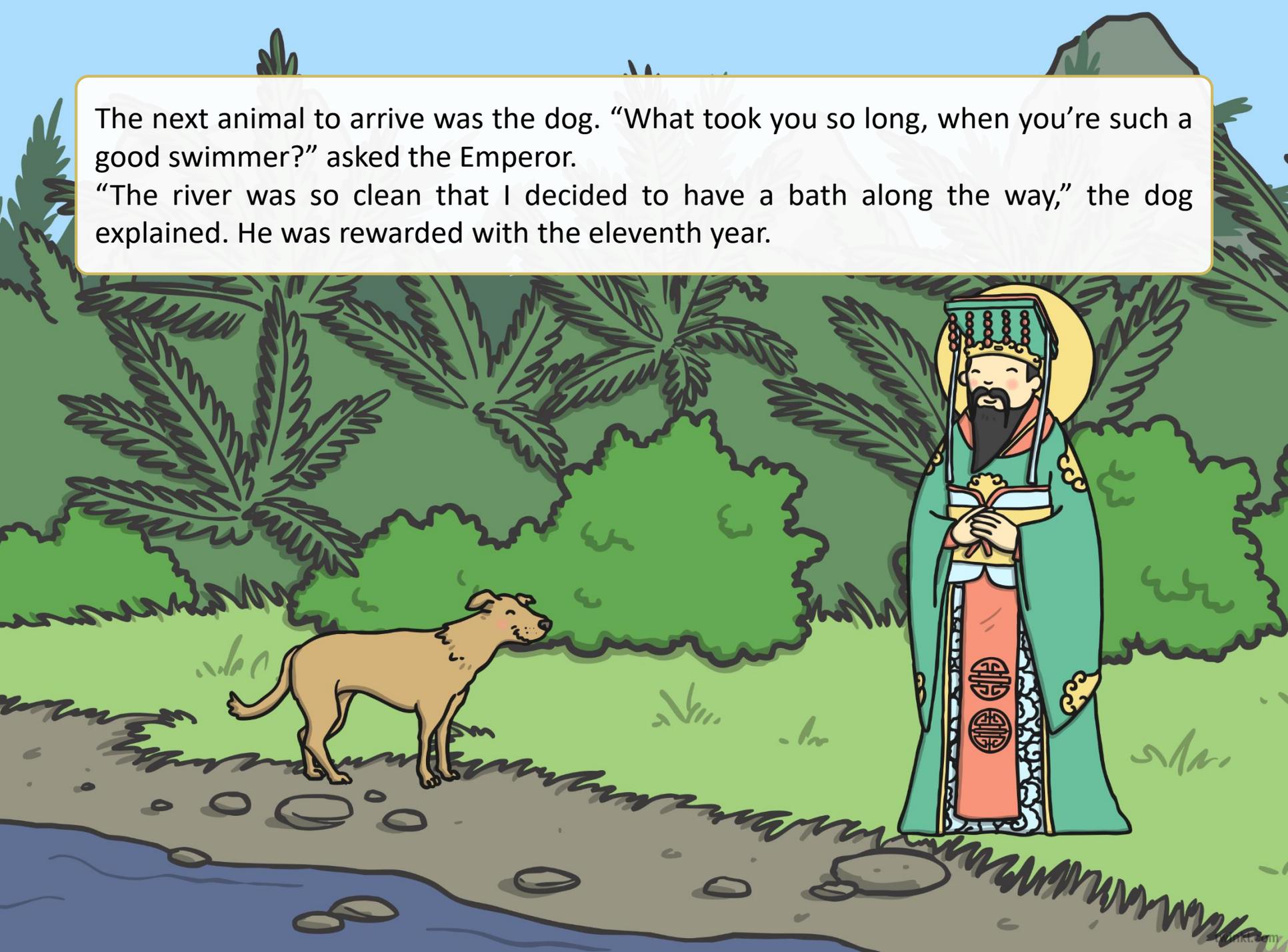


Not long afterwards, a raft arrived carrying the monkey, the rooster and the goat. They explained how they had worked as a team to get across. The Emperor was very pleased. He said the goat would be the eighth year, the monkey the ninth and the rooster the tenth.



The next animal to arrive was the dog. “What took you so long, when you’re such a good swimmer?” asked the Emperor.

“The river was so clean that I decided to have a bath along the way,” the dog explained. He was rewarded with the eleventh year.



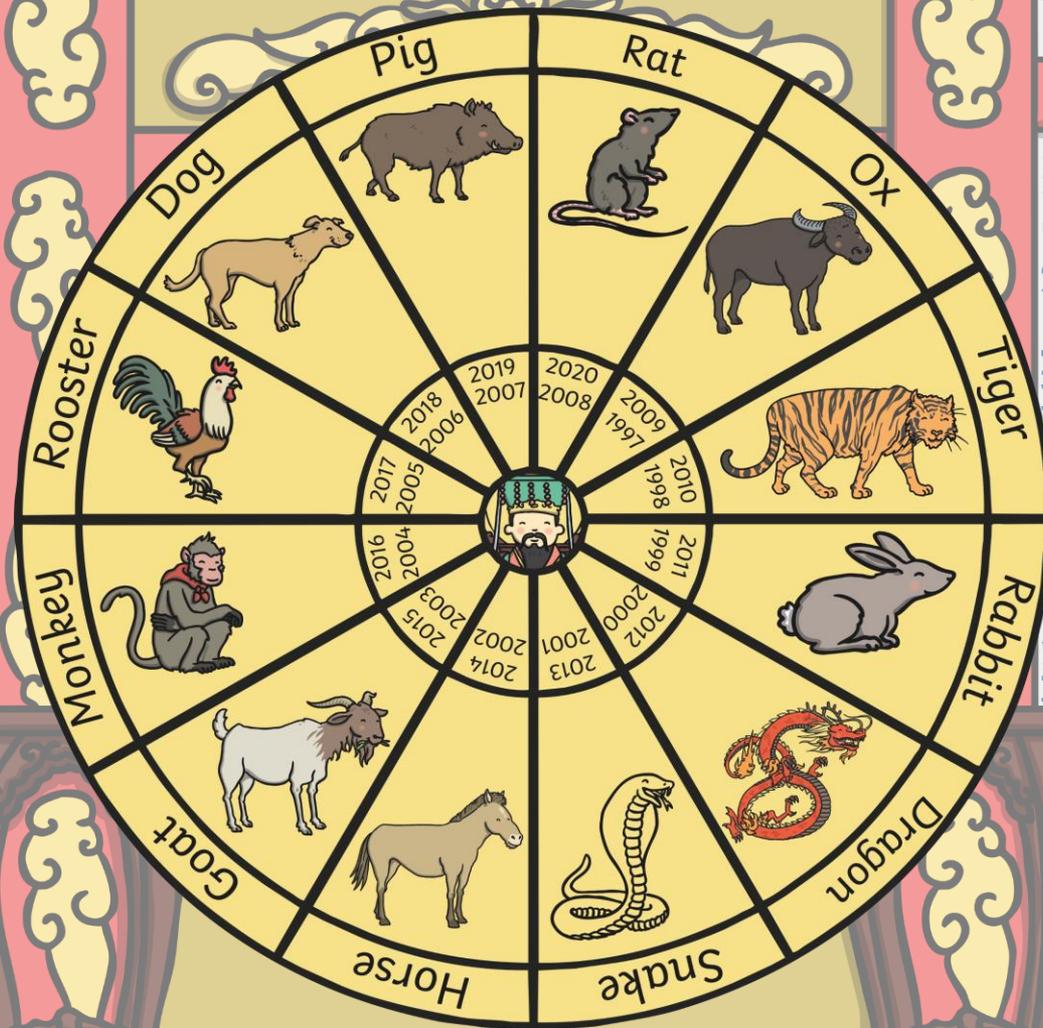
There was one place left in the Zodiac and the Emperor wondered who the last winner would be. All of a sudden, the pig turned up. "You took a long time. What happened?" the Emperor asked.

"I was hungry and stopped to eat, then I fell asleep," said the pig. The twelfth year was given to the pig.

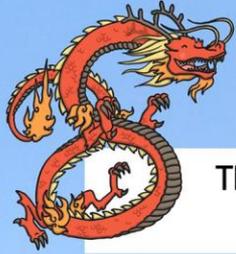




As for the cat, he finally crawled out of the river, but was too late to have a year named after him. He was very angry with the rat for pushing him in and, since then, cats have never been friends with rats!



From that day to this, the Chinese Zodiac has followed this cycle of years, named after the twelve animals.



# The Great Wall of China



The official length of the Great Wall of China is 21 196.18 km

The Great Wall is not a continuous line: there are side walls, circular walls, parallel walls, and sections with no wall (high mountains or rivers form a barrier instead).

Rumours that astronauts can see the Great Wall of China from the Moon with the naked eye are untrue.

According to legend, a helpful dragon traced out the course of the Great Wall for the workforce. The builders subsequently followed the tracks of the dragon.

Watchtowers were built at regular intervals along the Great Wall and could be up to 12 metres tall. They were used as lookouts and fortresses as well as for housing for troops and stockpiled supplies. They were also signal stations, where beacons, smoke, or flags were used for messages.



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# *The Great Wall of China facts*

- It was built over 2000 years ago by the first Chinese Emperor , Qin Shí Huangdǐ, to stop people from invading China.*



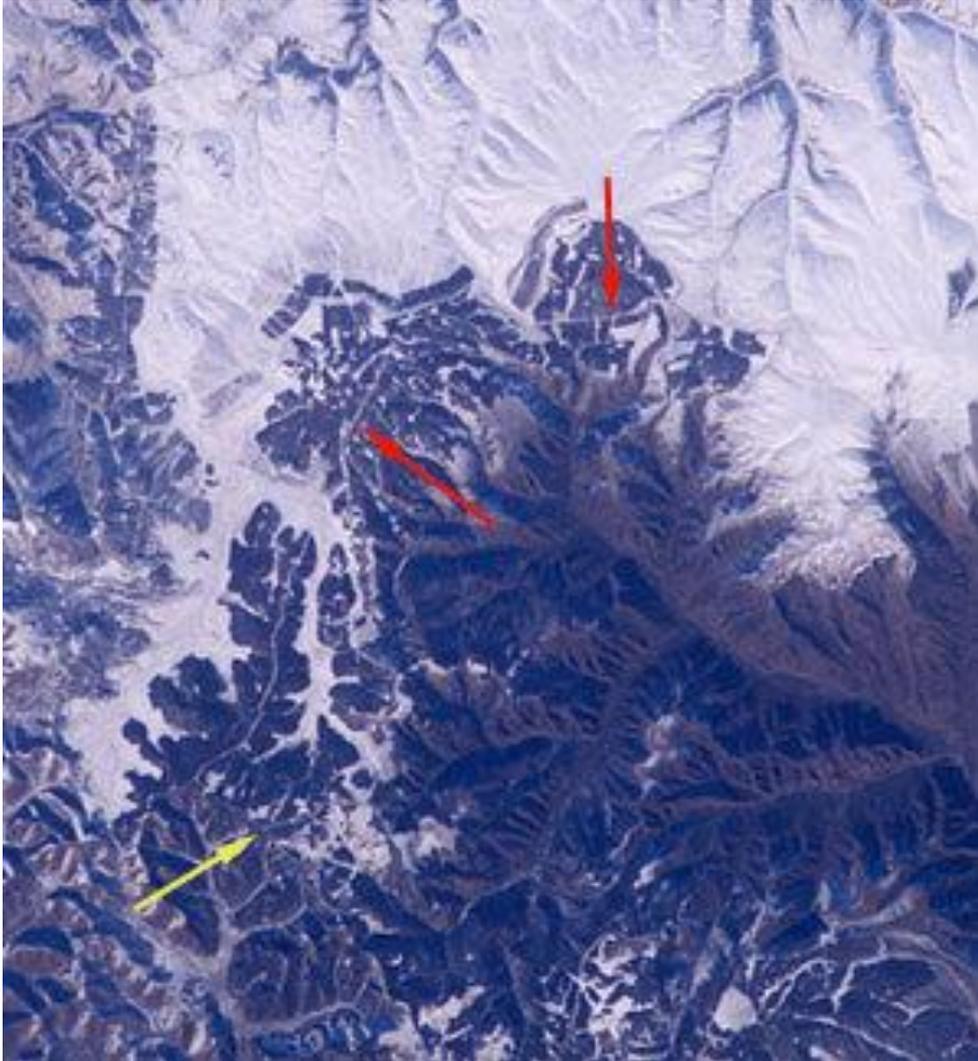
# More facts

- *He built it using slave labour. Peasants, criminals and captured enemies were made to build the wall. They were not paid for their work. It was a dangerous job. Rocks fell on people. Some died of exhaustion and disease.*
- *There is an old Chinese saying, "Each stone in the wall represents a life lost in the wall's construction."*



- *Building of the wall continued for thousands of years after the first emperor's death.*
- *The Great wall of China is now 6400 kilometers (4000miles) long*
- *It would take about 8 months to walk along the entire wall.*

It is so big, it can even be seen from space



# *Looking After the Wall*

- *The Great Wall of China is becoming shorter and shorter day by day due to the natural erosion and human activity.*
- *People should stop taking bricks from the wall for private use, stop cutting through the wall to build other things and stop dropping litter along the wall*