



St Leo's and Southmead
Catholic Nursery and Primary

Year 6

History - Shang Dynasty Knowledge Organiser

Spring
Term

Amazing Activity

Visit Liverpool Museum/ China Town to find out about Chinese history and culture.

Key Concepts

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A place in time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at a time line discovering when and where the Shang Dynasty existed. Discover what life was like in the Shang Dynasty.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living in the Shang Dynasty. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about the social hierarchy of the Shang Dynasty and what life was like for different people.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gods and Kings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about the religious beliefs of the people of the Shang Dynasty.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dragon Bones. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about the discovery, significance and purpose of oracle bones in the Shang culture.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shang Artefacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate artefacts and explain what they teach us about life in the Shang Dynasty.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fu Hao 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about the unearthing of Lady Fu Hao's tomb and what the objects discovered inside can teach us.

Timeline (Approximate dates)

1766 BC	Shang Tang overthrows the existing Xia family leader, setting up his capital in Bo
1737 BC	Tang's son succeeds him after 29 years of rule
1700 - 1500 BC	The Shang Dynasty usher in the use of bronze - weapons, tools and even chariots are made
1700 - 1000 BC	Oracle bones are carved with characters to ask a question of the gods - China's earliest form of writing
1700 - 1000 BC	The Shang Dynasty create looms to make silk cloth, build palaces and have walled towns
1300 BC	Emperor Pan Geng rules - Because of many enemies, he moves the capital city to Yin
1200 BC	Emperor Wuding brings the dynasty to its peak - He is the 22 nd ruler
1200 BC	Lady Hao, a wife of Emperor Wuding, dies
1200 - 1046 BC	The rulers after Wuding can't hold the people together and the dynasty begins to decline
1046 BC	Cruelty and high taxes cause the slaves to revolt and join forces with Chou people of West China
1046 BC	Di Xin, the last Shang ruler, is overthrown by WuWang of the Chou family
1046	The Chou dynasty begins - The Shang Dynasty is remembered for cultural advancement but a failure to rule wisely

Key Vocabulary

Bronze - A strong metal alloy made from copper
Oracle Bone - This was heated and cracked by holy men to seek advice from King's ancestors
Nobles - Under the ruling family; the highest ranking social class
Artisans - Talented group including potters, stonemasons and workers with bronze and jade - Lower than nobles but higher than farmers
Dynasty - A sequence of rulers from the same family
Warlords - Often ruled areas of land but owed allegiance to the Emperor
Emperor - The ruler of a country
Pagoda - A religious temple that is built as a tower with many tiers and roofs

Skills

- Use dates to order and place events on a timeline.
- Address and sometime devise historically valid questions about change, cause, similarity, difference and significance.
- Construct informed responses that involve thoughtful selection and organisation of relevant historical information.
- Understand how our knowledge of the past is contrasted from a range of sources.
- Make confident use of a variety of sources for independent research.
- Understand that the type of information available depends on the period of time studied.
- Evaluate the usefulness of a variety of sources.
- Provide an account of a historical event based on more than one source.
- Use evidence to support arguments.
- Discuss lives of significant people and changes and compare to lives of others in different periods.
- Describe the achievements of the Shang Dynasty and understand where and when they appeared.

Curriculum Links

English - Researching and reading around the topic.

"Nurture, Inspire, Succeed"