

Name _____ Date _____



Chinese New Year is a time that most in China anticipate and enjoyed. The tradition of Chinese New Year started over four thousand years ago! This time of year started to celebrate the end of a long winter season when the earth came back to life and plants could grow. This is why Chinese New Year is also called the Spring Festival. For those that are Chinese or living in China, this celebration is a time of happiness to be spent with family and friends.

The dates of Chinese New Year vary because it is based on lunar cycles. So Chinese New Year could be at the end of January or even into February. The preparations for Chinese New Year are grand. Bright colors, firecrackers, and lucky red envelopes are all part of the traditions. Children get lucky red envelopes as part of the tradition, these hold money. There are even lucky foods. Chinese New Year does not have trees like in Western culture with Christmas trees, but homes are decorated with mandarin trees for good luck. Have you ever celebrated Chinese New Year?

Fill in the blanks below based on what you read.

Chinese New year is also called the

_____. This tradition is used to celebrate the end of _____ and a time when the earth comes back to _____ and _____ can begin to grow. Children are often excited about getting _____ red _____ because they hold _____. These are given instead of presents. _____ colors are used in decorations. Even though this is not celebrated with an evergreen like Christmas in western culture, the Chinese do decorate with _____ trees.