

ADELAIDE FESTIVAL CENTRE'S

MOON LANTERN PARADE

OzAsia
Festival

LANTERN MAKING WORKSHOP



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With special thanks to



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TEACHING AND LEARNING RESOURCE

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ADELAIDE FESTIVAL CENTRE
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FESTIVALS ARE A TIME FOR RICH LEARNING EXPERIENCES IN SCHOOLS

This Teaching and Learning Resource has been produced to support schools' participation in an authentic learning experience for OzAsia Festival's Moon Lantern Parade.

Adelaide Festival Centre's centrED Learning Program exists to make the resources of Adelaide Festival Centre accessible to South Australian school communities and to support the Australian Curriculum and SACE requirements. This program is supported by the Department for Education.

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CROSS CURRICULUM PRIORITY: ASIA AND AUSTRALIA'S ENGAGEMENT WITH ASIA

Adelaide Festival Centre's annual OzAsia Festival Moon Lantern Parade provides the impetus for rich authentic learning beyond the classroom. Adelaide Festival Centre is leading the country in bringing together diverse communities for this celebration. OzAsia Festival and the Moon Lantern Parade are great examples of how the links between Australia and our Asian region neighbours can be explored through an array of performing and visual arts experiences. South Australian teachers and student audiences have a unique opportunity to increase their respect and understanding for Asian cultures while identifying with a diversity of perspectives and experiences.

OZASIA FESTIVAL'S MOON LANTERN PARADE

Each year the fifteenth day of the eighth lunar month is celebration time for the Moon Lantern Festival, which is also known as Mid-Autumn Festival. The annual Moon Lantern Parade typically takes place during the first weekend of the official OzAsia Festival dates – usually within the last two weeks of October.

Thousands of people of diverse ages and a multitude of cultural backgrounds gather in Elder Park, South Australia, to celebrate the Moon Lantern Parade. As the sun sets and the moon lights the sky the thousands of people will be directed to look up to the bright full moon to sense the feelings of unity and connectedness. School students, their parents, teachers and community groups parade with traditional and contemporary hand-made lanterns through Elder Park celebrating the beauty of the full moon.

The event begins in the afternoon and provides an incredible opportunity for attendees to wander through the park and look at lantern installations, try a variety of cuisine, participate in workshop activities and watch community performances.



HOW TO MAKE A TRIANGLE LANTERN

Now you can join us from home or your classroom for a digital lantern making workshop by artist Paula Gallagher.

Watch the workshop online:

ozasiafestival.com.au/events/moon-lantern-parade-lantern-making-workshop

TOOLS AND MATERIALS

Most of the tools and materials can be sourced from supermarkets and hardware stores. Some materials, such as cane, can be substituted using easily accessible objects.

You will need:

- Rattan cane – dry cane can be used for the majority of lanterns. Soaking the cane overnight in water makes it more pliable for curved shapes. Alternative materials can include sticks or willow branches.
- Narrow gaffa tape – wide tape from your hardware store can be torn into narrower strips.
- White tissue paper – greasproof paper can be a good substitute.
- Cable ties
- Coloured tissue paper
- Small paper plates
- PVA (kid's craft – not industrial). Watered down at a 1:1 ratio.
- Heavy duty builders' plastic (black) to cover table and any other surfaces.
- Sponges
- Glue containers
- Scissors
- Buckets
- Old towels
- LED "stick and click" lights
- Carrying poles





PROCESS

The process can be broken down into three key stages: Construction, Papering and Decorating. Once you know the basic techniques, you can adapt them to create any kind of lantern you like!

CONSTRUCTION

- Cut 6 lengths of cane into 3 longer and 3 shorter pieces.
- Bind the 3 longer pieces of cane at the top using tape, leaving 5cm of cane above the tape.
- Spread sticks out into triangular form.
- Attach the shorter pieces of cane to the bottom of the longer pieces to create a pyramid shaped frame. Overlap the ends of the cane, leaving 3-5cm between the tape and the ends.
- Bind with tape using a figure 8 technique. Tape should be 10-15 cm long. Start at the tip of the tape and criss-cross around all corners. Squeeze the tape firmly.
- Tape the paper plate to the base of the triangle frame to hold the light.
- Trim off excess cane from the top and the sides – but be sure to leave the little legs for the base!
- Install a cable tie loop at the top and tape into place (this will help you carry the lantern).



PAPERING

- Place white paper on a chair or dry area. Paper on the table will get covered in glue and ruined!
- Mix PVA glue with water 1:1 ratio
- Soak sponge in glue and wipe onto plastic on the table.
- Lay paper on the glue and wipe with sponge. Start on the middle of the sheet and spread glue to edges.
- Lay another sheet on top and wipe with glue again.
- Peel both sheets off the table together and drape over one side of the frame.
- Wrap paper tightly around the cane, pressing down to ensure full contact.
- Use smaller pieces of paper to fill any gaps.
- Repeat until all panels of the frame are covered, including the base, and leave to dry.
- When the lantern is dry, a small trap door can be cut in with a Stanley knife so the light can be placed on the plate.

DECORATING

- When designing decoration, remember it is a lantern and must emit light. It will probably be seen from a distance, so keep it simple and bold (small details will not be seen). Note: coloured tissue is much thinner than the white, so the technique is different.
- Cut out coloured paper shapes and put them in a dry place (not the table!).
- Apply glue to white paper panel, place coloured paper, and repeat.
- Gently dab (not wipe) glue on top of the coloured paper to stick down the edges.
- When your designs are dry, your lantern is ready to use! Insert your light through the trapdoor and attach the carrying pole using the cable tie.



KEY LEARNING IDEAS WITHIN THE AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM PRIORITY:

Asia and Australia's Engagement with Asia

The OzAsia Festival Moon Lantern Parade presents an authentic context to address the Asia and Australia's Engagement with Asia Cross-Curriculum Priority, including:

- The peoples and countries of Asia are diverse in ethnic background, traditions, cultures, belief systems and religions (OI.1).
- The arts and literature of Asia influence aesthetic and creative pursuits within Australia, the region and globally (OI.4).
- Collaboration and engagement with the peoples of Asia support effective regional and global citizenship (OI.5).
- Australia is part of the Asia region and our histories from ancient times to the present are linked (OI.6).
- Australians of Asian heritage have influenced Australia's history and continue to influence its dynamic culture and society (OI.8).

INQUIRY/FOCUS QUESTIONS

General

- How do traditional celebrations provide an insight into the life of different cultures?
- Why do people celebrate festivals?
- Where do ceremonies originate?
- How do parades reflect community interest, values and beliefs?

Mid-Autumn or Moon Lantern Festival

- How do people across the world celebrate this festival?
- Why is the festival important to Asian cultures?
- Why has it maintained its importance to Asian cultures?
- How do different Asian cultures celebrate the moon lantern festival?
- How have they changed over time?

HISTORY AND ORIGINS

WHY DID THE CHINESE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL ORIGINATE?

Whether it's to honour the gods or celebrate long held traditions, every part of the world has its share of great festival celebrations. China's festivals mainly fall into three categories, agricultural, religious and social festivals.

Through celebrations modern Chinese societies continue to retain their links with China and its values, emphasizing the important place that tradition and longing for times past occupy in people's lives. Besides the ethnic, geographic, historic, and linguistic ties that unite Chinese people, traditional festivals are one of the strongest bonds reinforcing the cultural identity of the Chinese nation.

The moon has long held a special significance within many Asian cultures. It is a symbol of life or death and as it determines the calendar, it also determines when the rains will fall and has always been believed to influence the growth of vegetation. For thousands of years it was a rural rule that farmers should always plant during the new moon when the moon is at its fullest and brightest, it marks an ideal time to celebrate the abundance of the summer's harvest.

The first Chinese civilisations arose on an agricultural base in the great river valleys and plains and agriculture became the most dominant employment and major source of production for Chinese people. Agricultural wealth has long supported the successive empires and cultures of China.

Today it's not just the magnificent temples, palaces and terracotta armies of China's past that remain but it's wonderful tradition of celebrations and its longest and most significant is the celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival also come to be known as the Moon Lantern Festival. It falls on the 15th day of the 8th lunar month of the Chinese lunisolar calendar, it's a legal holiday in many Asian countries, the other being the Chinese Lunar New Year.

During these ancient times, the Chinese emperors practiced the tradition of worshiping the sun in spring, and the moon in autumn. Rulers came and went, empires collapsed and were rebuilt, the so called "conquering barbarians" would invade and take over civilised communities, but the celebration of the Mid-Autumn or the Moon Lantern Festival has survived over 3,000 years.

MOON LANTERN FESTIVALS – CELEBRATIONS ACROSS THE WORLD

The Moon Lantern Festival is celebrated by many Asian cultures, Chinese, Vietnamese, Thai, Laotians, Cambodians, Koreans, Japanese, Indonesians, Malaysians and Singaporeans. The South East Asian beliefs is that the moon provides positive influences over the earth during this time of the year.

MOON LANTERN FESTIVALS IN AUSTRALIA

Every year people of Asian descent celebrate the Moon Lantern Festival across Australia. In Australia 'mid-autumn' is early spring so "the first full moon of the new season is a nostalgic time. Winter is behind us and the energy of summer is on the horizon" (Chinatown.com.au). People celebrate the beauty of the moon at public celebrations across Australia, as well as in backyards, with lanterns and moon cakes.

MOON LANTERN FESTIVALS IN VIETNAM

Vietnamese name:

Tet-Trung-Thu (Tet-Troong-Tho)

Also known as The Children's Festival, Tet-Trung-Thu is one of the most popular family holidays, which is planned around their children because the Vietnamese people used to leave their children to play by themselves while they were working to prepare for the upcoming harvest.

The most popular Vietnamese lantern is the star lantern.

MOON LANTERN FESTIVALS IN KOREA

Korea name: Chuseok or Korean Thanksgiving

The festival occurs during the harvest season and Korean families thank their ancestors for providing them with rice and fruits. Korean families spend three days together celebrating the moon by praying, eating rice cakes, playing games, dancing and singing.

MOON LANTERN FESTIVALS IN JAPAN

Japanese name: Tsukimi

Moon viewing is when the Japanese people view the full moon in September in the clear autumn sky. They admire its beauty and pray for a good harvest of rice. Japanese people believe one rabbit lives on the moon and pounds rice to make rice cakes.

This resource was originally compiled by Robyn Goldsworthy and has been revised for the OzAsia Festival 2020 online Lantern Making Workshop.

THANK YOU

Renaë Gardner for learning ideas (original version).

Designers Kathryn Sproul and Paula Gallagher for creating and making ideas.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES

Sally Heinrich, 'The Most Beautiful Lantern', (Lothian Book, 2007)

John Zucker, 'Festival Time, Lanterns and Firecrackers', (Frances Lincoln, 2004)

Tan Huay Peng, 'Fun with Chinese Festivals', (Marshall Cavendish, 2003)

S.C. Hoey, 'Chinese Feasts & Festivals', (Periplus, 2006)

Kid friendly

<http://www.kidzworld.com/article/1365-mid-autumn-festival>

<https://www.chinahighlights.com/festivals/mid-autumn-festival-for-kids.htm>

Mid-Autumn Festival in China

www.chinahighlights.com/festivals/mid-autumn-festival.htm

<https://www.travelchinaguide.com/essential/holidays/mid-autumn.htm>

Mid-Autumn Festival in Hong Kong

<http://www.discoverhongkong.com/au/see-do/events-festivals/chinese-festivals/mid-autumn-festival.jsp>

<http://www.discoverhongkong.com/au/see-do/events-festivals/chinese-festivals/index.jsp>

Host a Mid-Autumn Feast

<http://www.seriousseats.com/2015/09/mid-autumn-festival-feast.html>

<http://splash.abc.net.au/home#!/media/2405701/what-are-mooncakes->

Chinese Family Values and Moon Lantern Festival in Australia

<https://aifs.gov.au/publications/families-and-cultural-diversity-australia/4-chinese-family-values-australia>

<http://splash.abc.net.au/home#!/media/521287/chinese-australians-and-the-moon-festival-1978>

<http://splash.abc.net.au/home#!/media/521309/sydney-s-moon-festival-1979>