

Knowledge Organiser • Shang Dynasty • Year 3

Vocabulary

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| Archaeologist | Someone who finds and studies buried objects to find out about the past. |
| Artefacts | An object created by a human, usually found much later after it was made. |
| Bronze | The first metal widely used by humans, made by melting and mixing copper and tin. |
| Cowrie shells | Small sea shells which were used by the Shang when trading as a kind of money. |
| Dynasty | A family that rule a country or state for many generations. |
| Emperor | A king or ruler of an empire or country. |
| General | The leader of an army. |
| Jade | A mineral (rock) that is green in colour. Used in lots of Asian art. |
| Oracle bones | Animal bones or turtle shells with Chinese writing, used to try and predict the future. |
| Yellow River | A major river running across the north east of China. |

Timeline of Events

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| 2400 BCE | The Bronze Age begins in China. |
| 1600 BCE | King Tang overthrows the last emperor of the Xia dynasty. The Shang Dynasty begins. |
| 1300 BCE | The capital of the Shang Dynasty moves to Yin |
| 1250 BCE - 1192 BCE | Emperor Wu Ding reigns over the Shang Dynasty |
| | General Fu Hao leads lots of successful military campaigns. |
| 1250 BCE - 1150 BCE | The 'I-Ching' (Book of Changes), a Chinese classic, is written. |
| 1046 BCE | The Shang Dynasty is defeated |
| 1898 | Antique dealers notice Chinese writing on Oracle Bones. |
| 1928 | Excavations begin in Anyang; many Shang artefacts are found. |
| 1976 | The tomb of Fu Hao is discovered in. |

Important People

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| Tang | First emperor of Shang. Very popular and successful. |
| Fu Hao | A great military leader and warrior. Also, wife of Wu Ding. |
| Wu Ding | A very successful emperor, who ruled for 58 years. |
| Zhou | The last emperor of the Shang Dynasty. A tyrant. Born 'Xin'. |
| Daji | The cruel wife of Zhou, who made up awful punishments. |



Chinese Dynasties

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|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 姒 Xia | 子 Shang | 姬 Zhou | 嬴 Qin | 劉 Han | Six | 楊 Sui | 李 Tang | Five | 趙 Song | Yuan | 朱 Ming | Qing |
| 2070 BCE - 1600 BCE | 1600 BCE - 1046 BCE | 1046 BCE - 256 BCE | 221 BCE - 207 BCE | 202 BCE - 220 CE | 220 - 589 | 581 - 618 | 618 - 907 | 907 - 960 | 960 - 1279 | 1271 - 1368 | 1368 - 1644 | 1636 - 1912 |