

The

 Chinese

Zodiac: What Is It?

A Zine

By: Tracy Zhu





There are twelve animals in the
chinese zodiac. The first three are...

1. The rat:



鼠
shǔ

2. The ox:



牛
niú

3. The tiger:



虎
hǔ

Then come...

the rabbit



tù - 兔

the dragon



lóng - 龍

the snake



shé - 蛇

the monkey



hóu - 猴

the horse



mǎ - 馬

the rooster



jī - 鸡

the sheep (or goat)



yáng - 羊

the dog



gǒu - 狗

the pig



zhū - 猪



The animals correspond with each year.

2022 is the year of the tiger! 2010 is as well. There is a twelve year cycle.

Personalities
and years

Rat: charming; clever.

1926, 1996
1948, 2008
1960, 2020
1972, 2032
1984, 2044

Ox: persistent;
straightforward
... 2021, 2009...

Tiger: lucky; daring
... 2022, 2010, 1998...

Rabbit: kind; smart
... 2011, 1999...

Dragon: warm-hearted;
exciting
... 2012, 2000...

Snake: curious; graceful
... 2013, 2001...

Monkey:
funny; social
... 2016, 2004...

Horse: charismatic;
generous
... 2014, 2002...

Sheep: creative;
easygoing
... 2015, 2003...

Rooster: brave; entertaining
... 2017, 2005...

Dog: playful; fearless
... 2018, 2006...

Pig: loving; satisfied
... 2019, 2007...

The animals come
in a specific order.

This is often explained with the story of the **Great Race**.



 The Jade Emperor, "Ruler of the Heavens", decided to gather all the animals in the kingdom to a race.



However, during the race, the competitors encountered a great river. They all tried to get across quickly, as the finish line was at the end of it.

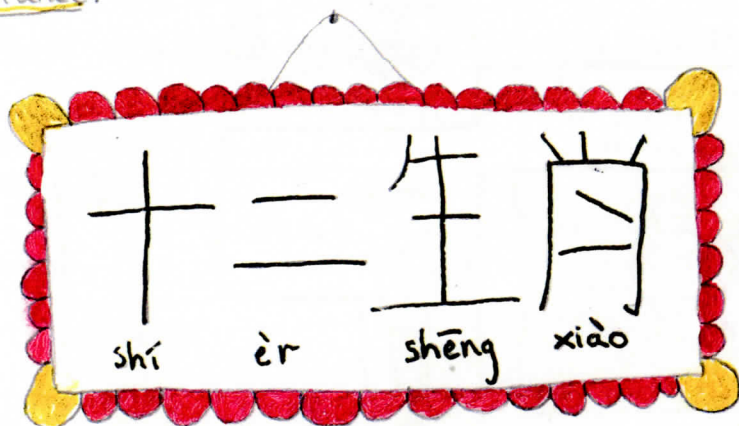


The cat was first, as it had jumped onto the ox's back and then off again as soon as they reached the finish line





In Chinese, the twelve zodiac animals are called shēng xiào, which literally translates to birth resemblance.



(twelve = shí èr)

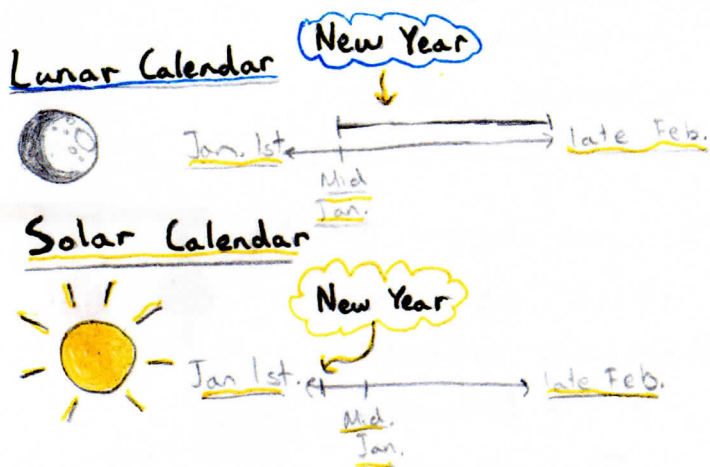
When a year with your zodiac sign/animal comes, you are considered to be unlucky. This is because you are thought to have angered the God of Age (Jupiter-12 year orbit). These years come when you are twelve, twenty-four, thirty-six, and so on.

The God of Age



— He holds a peach, as they symbolize longevity.

 One important thing to note about each zodiac year is that they don't start on January 1st. They follow the lunar calendar. That means the new year will fall somewhere in between mid-January and late February. In 2022, it falls on February 1st.



This means that if you are born from January 1st through mid January, you are the zodiac sign from the past year.

Feb. 12 Feb. 1
Ox: 2021 - 2022

Feb. 1 Jan. 22
Tiger: 2022 - 2023

I hope you learned a lot about the Chinese Zodiac!

There is much more to know about the

十二生肖

, so continue research on your own if you are interested! Happy Lunar New Year!



What zodiac animal
are you?



There are 12



in the

Chinese Zodiac.

Did you know that
there is more
than one calendar
people follow?



The Chinese
Zodiac uses

the Lunar Calendar.



十二生肖



What does
that mean?



February 24, 2022

Sources: Chinahighlights.com

Thanks to my parents too for sharing info!