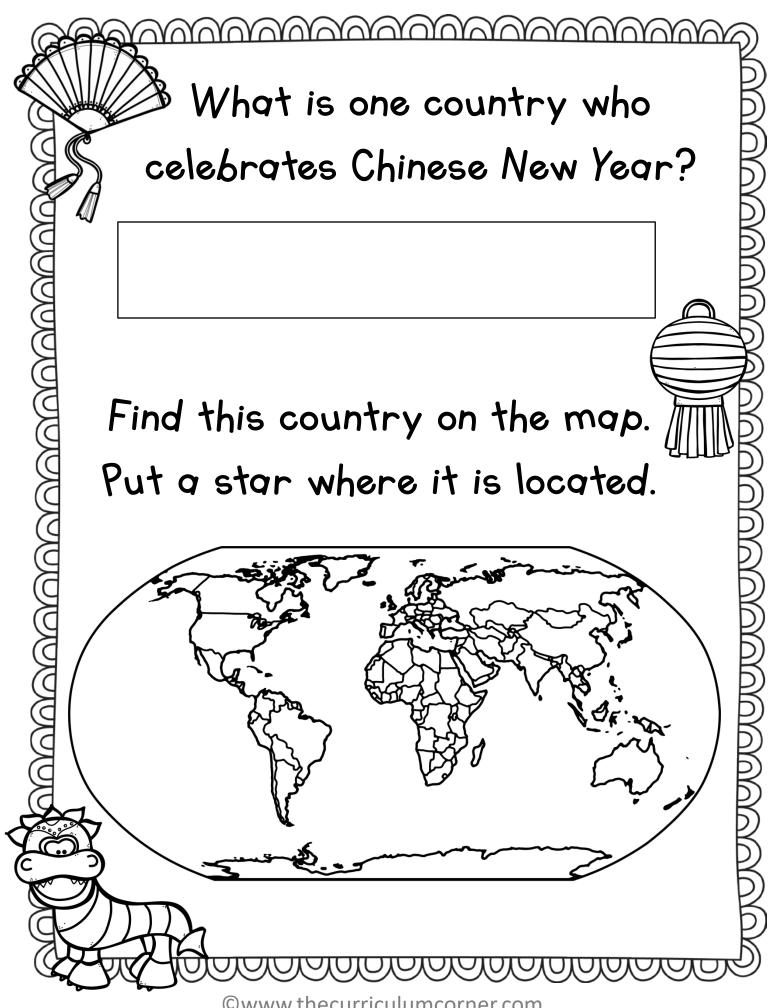


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Chinese New Year is celebrated in China. It is known as the spring festival and is the most important holiday in China. It is also celebrated in other countries with a large Chinese population.

The Chinese New Year is a way to recognize the new year on the Chinese lunar calendar. The celebration starts on the 23^{rd} day of the 12^{th} lunar month. It ends on the 15^{th} day of the first lunar month in the following year.

To recognize the holiday, many families will clean their homes which is thought to sweep away any ill-fortune. It will also welcome good luck. They also decorate their homes and doors with red posters, poems and lanterns. Mandarin trees are also used as a decoration.

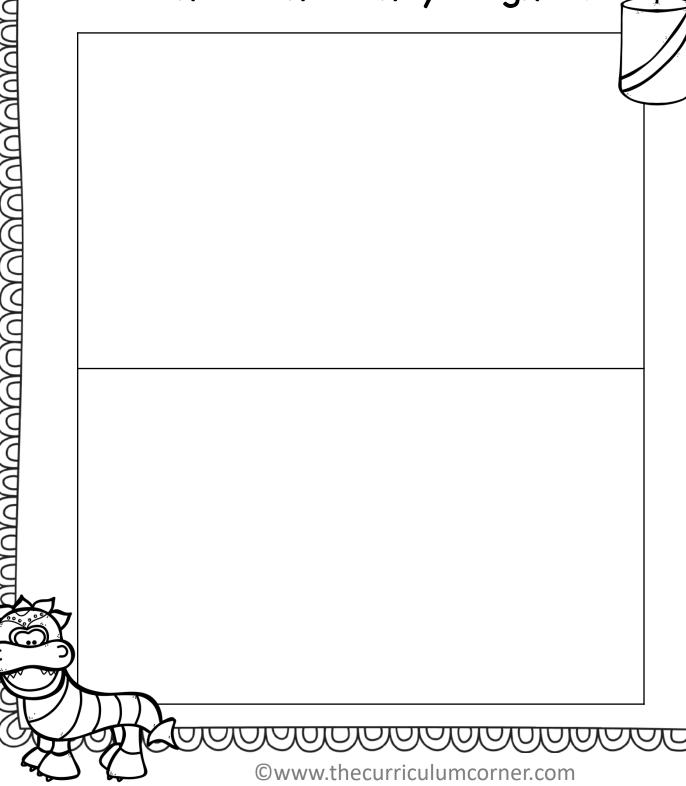
The celebration is a time to spend time with relatives. Families will often gather for a reunion. Part of their celebration will include the honoring of ancestors.

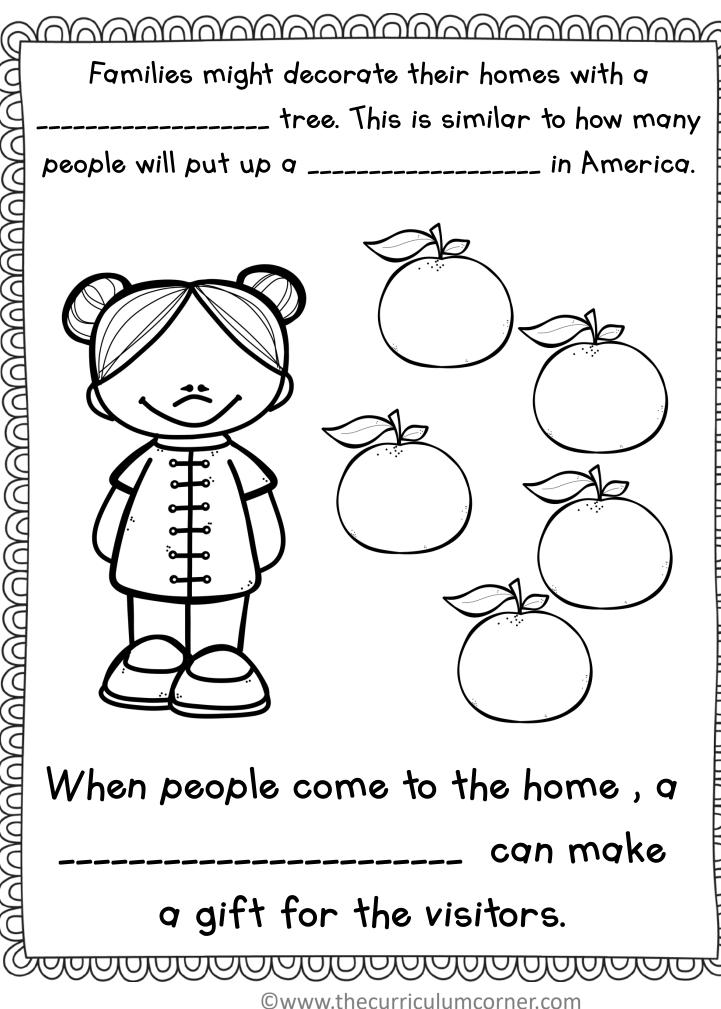
On Spring Festival Eve (much like our New Year's Eve), people will set off fireworks. Their hope is to send away bad luck and bring on good luck. Children might receive "luck" money which might be given in red paper envelopes.

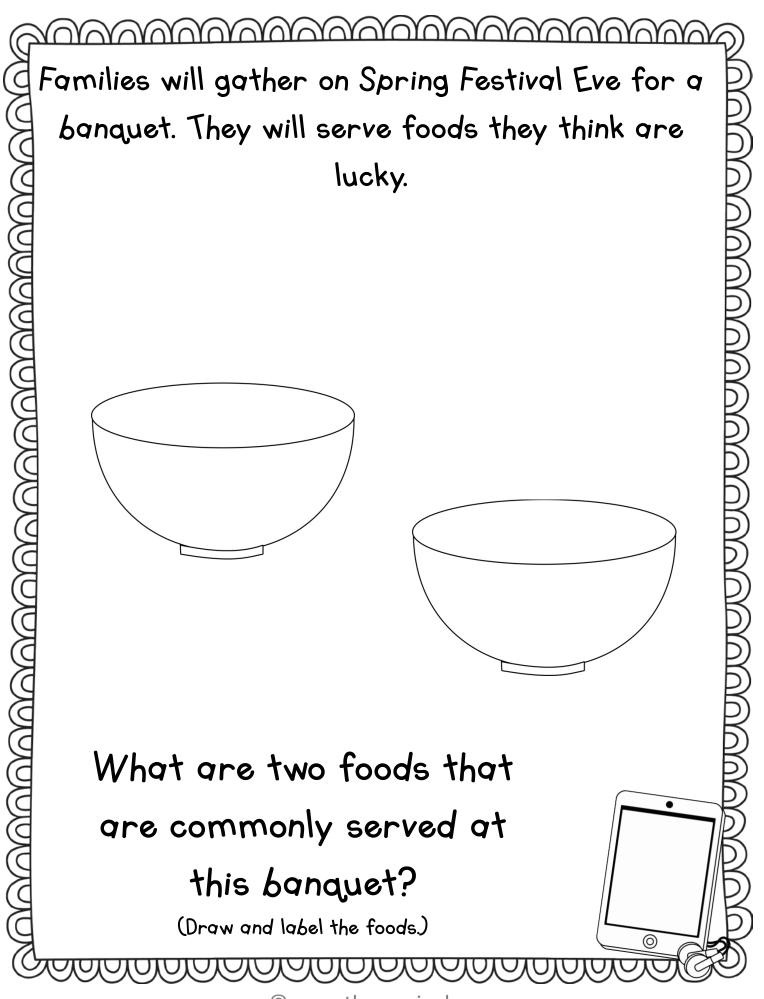


How do families get ready for the celebration? Use words and pictures

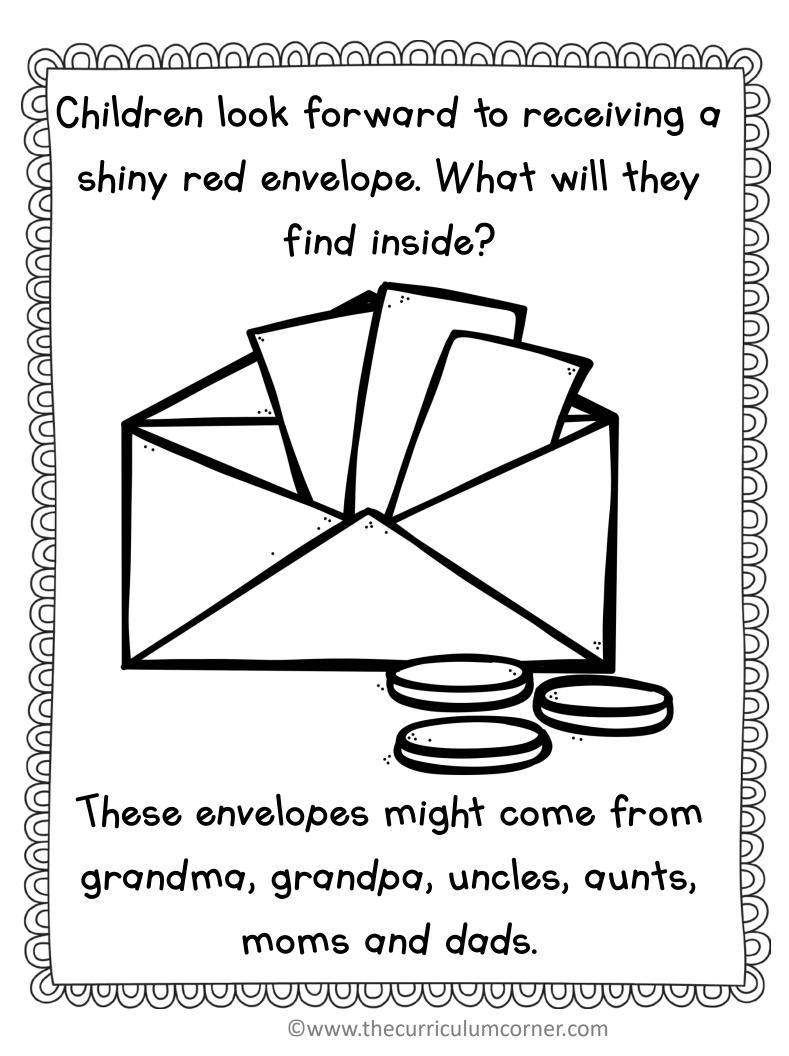
to show what they might do.

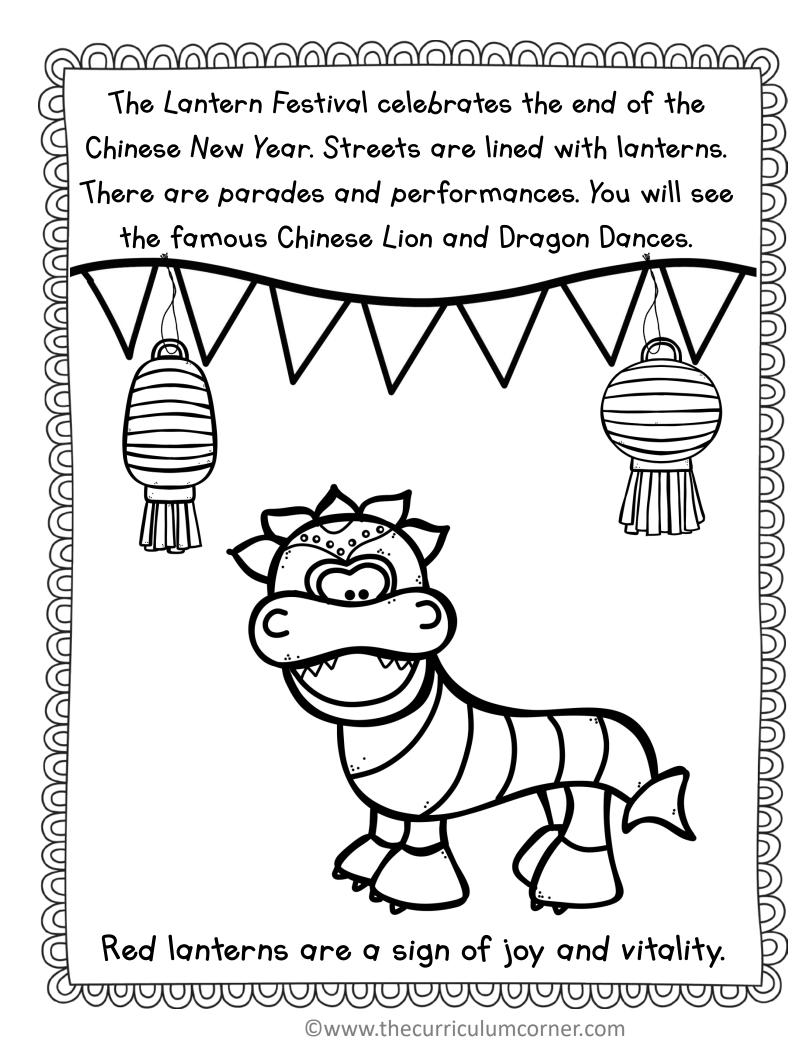






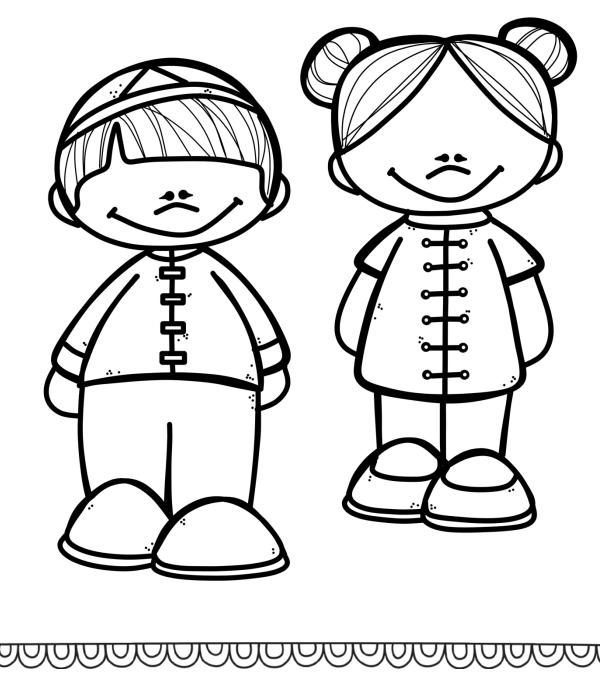
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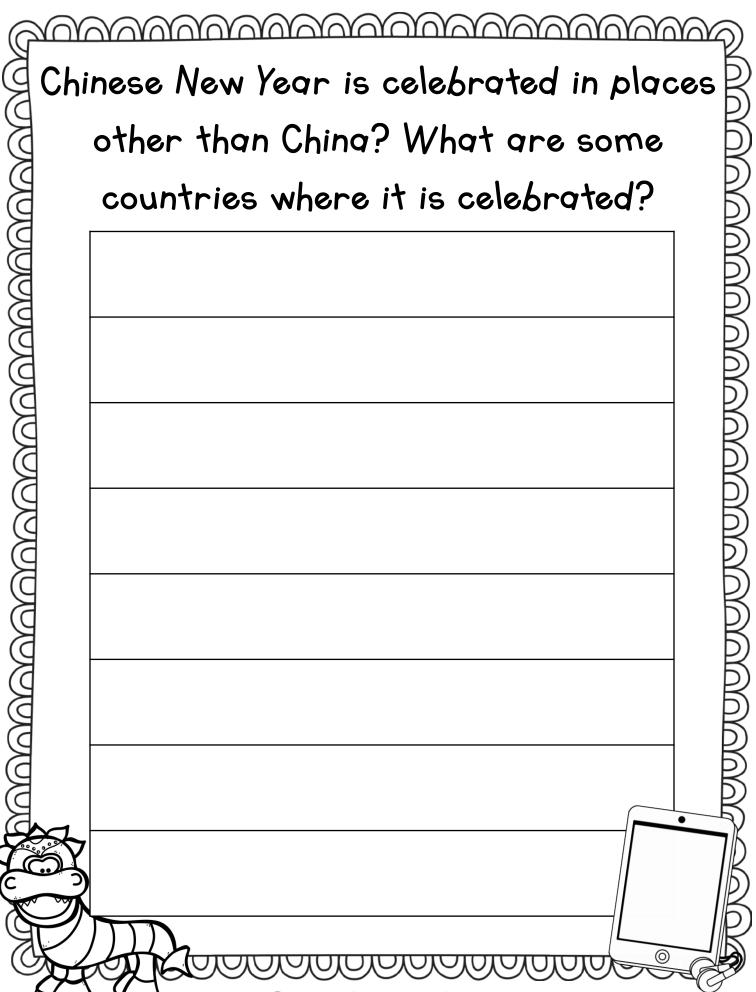


On the first day of the new year, all family members will wear new clothes. Some families still wear traditional Chinese clothing. Many will wear clothing that looks similar to what we wear.

<u>YAYAYAYAYAYAYAYAYAYAYAYAYAYAYAYAYA</u>



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