

BAT CAVE: TREASURES OF THE DAY AND CREATURES OF THE NIGHT

16.09.2015 – 03.01.2016

School Tour worksheet (Secondary)

Name: School:

Discussion 1

- What is your impression of traditional Chinese art?
- What kind of Chinese handicrafts did you see in the exhibition?
 - Do you have something similar at home?

Discussion 2

- What kind of materials are usually used in the handicrafts made during the Ming and Qing dynasties?
- Can you find any crafts that were influenced by Western culture?



Representations of visual auspiciousness can be categorized into 3 methods

1. Directly applying Chinese words and phrases that carry auspicious meanings, such as *shou* (longevity), or four-character phrases like *jinyu mantang* (hall full of gold and jade);
2. Applying traditional visual attributes (objects, figures, animals, or plants) as decorations;
3. Utilizing the Chinese homophony, like “bat” which stands for *fu* (blessings).

**How have the exhibits combined the above methods with bat motifs?
Let’s find and list the related elements from the exhibits.**

Phrases with auspicious meanings

Chinese homophony

Bat, together with other visual attributes



Composition of Chinese auspicious patterns

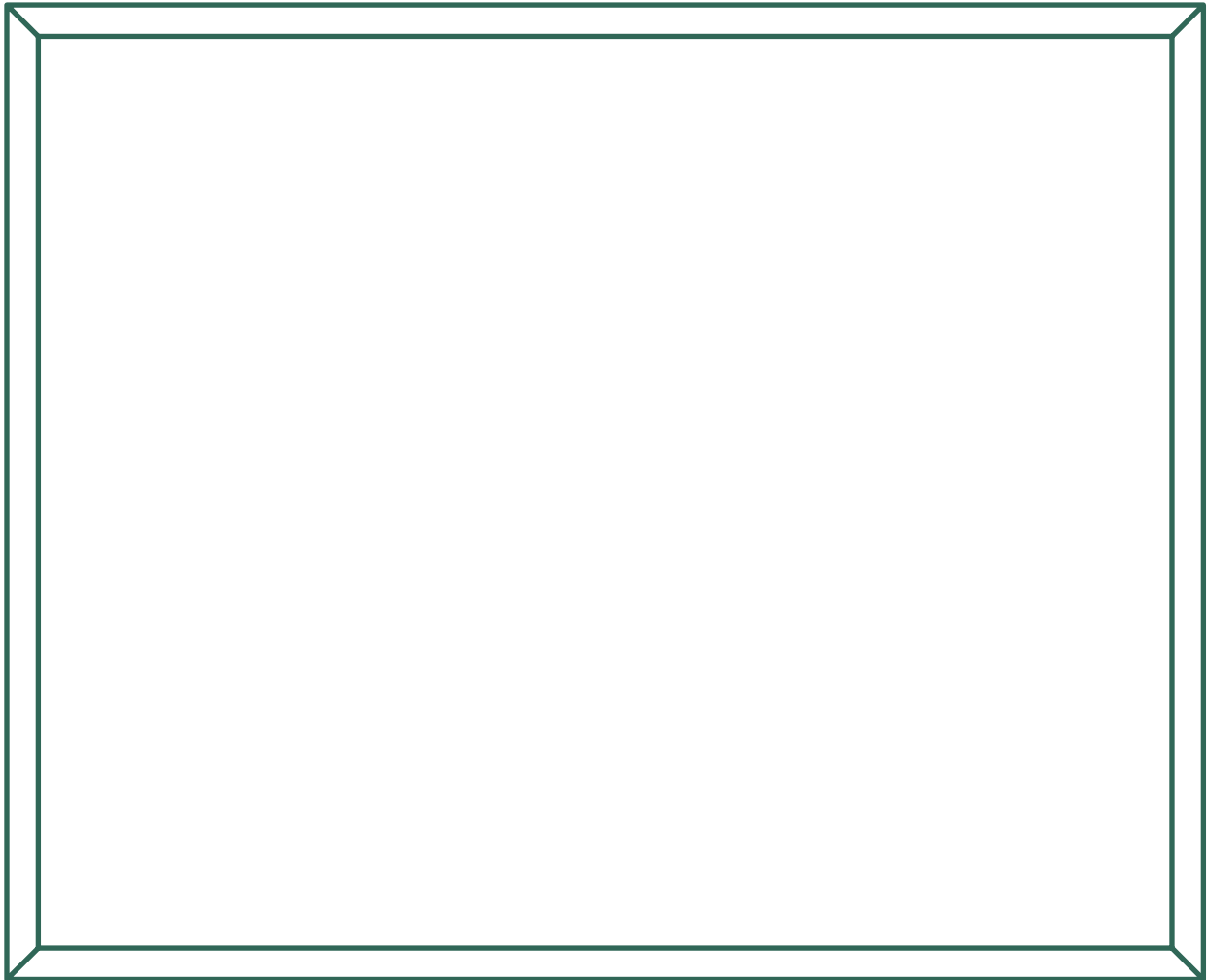
Repetition : A pattern is repeatedly arranged with different sequences, resulting in a continuity effect.

Symmetrical: The same pattern arranged symmetrically in pairs.

Echo: Two patterns echoing with each other, such as bat with other symbols.

Movement: Animal patterns come to life with different gestures with the addition of external conditions, such as wind blowing, drifting clouds, and body rotation.

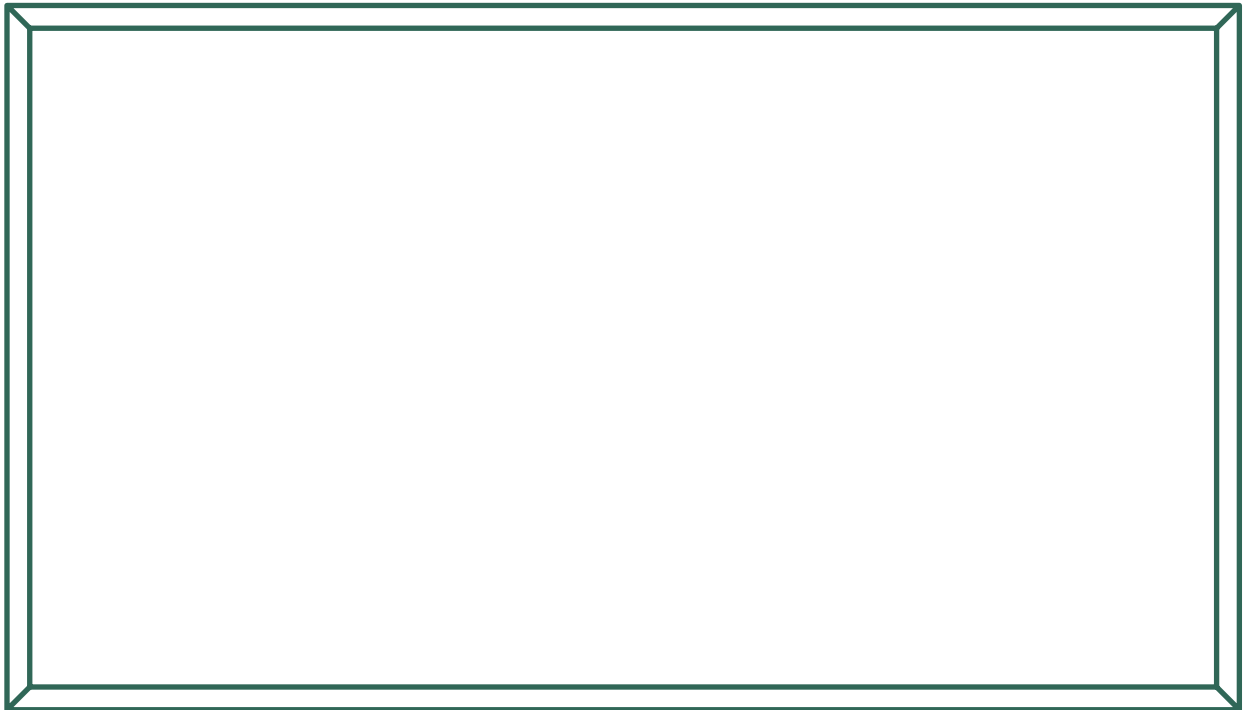
**Which bat motif do you like the most from the exhibits? Why? How was it composed?
Let's draw it out.**



Discussion 3

- What kind of auspicious wishes are usually made in Chinese culture?
- In your opinion, why would Chinese like these auspicious wishes?
- Are these auspicious wishes something you are looking for, too?

Living in Hong Kong in 2015, how would you define “happiness and bliss”? How would you represent it with a pattern?



Thank you for visit!



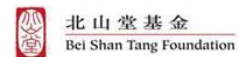
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