

## Parent Guide: Day 1, Introduction to China

**Notes and Tips:** Based on the needs of your child, take breaks between the content or spread it out over a few days. Older children can go through on their own, while younger children may need more support. You can stop to search online for pictures and videos, or refer back to the map from the Introduction to Asia lesson.

First, download the Introduction to China PDF. Refer to these notes as you go through the slides:

### Slides 1 and 2:

Tell your children how excited you are to travel to your first stop in Asia-China! Ask them to write down everything they know about China in the "k" column, and then create questions of what they want to learn.

### Slide 3s and 4:

Additional info to Share:

China's history is so long that it dates back to the Xia Dynasty in 2100 BCE, thousands of years ago! Throughout its history China has had several dynasties or kingdoms that ruled the land. Each dynasty possesses a unique cultural contribution to China's rich history. Each of them having distinctive cultural markers such as clothing, make up, and even armor!

Activity: Pause and add what you learned about History to the L column of the KWL chart.

### Slides 5 and 6:

Additional info: China is one of the biggest countries in the Asian continent. It borders 14 countries such as Russia, Pakistan, North Korea, and Vietnam.

Activity: Point out China's location on the map. Compare it to the U.S.- is it bigger or smaller? How long would it take to get from the U.S. to China? How many hours would it take on the airplane? Look it up and see!

### Slide 7

Additional info: China is HUGE and is approximately the same size as the US with the size of 9,596,960 sq km! From the northernmost part to the southernmost part of China there is an enormous variety in climate and weather

Activity: Pause and add what you learned about geography to the "L" column of the KWL chart.

### Slides 8-9

Additional Info: China is home to approximately 1.4 billion people. Making up to 18.6% of the global population. This means that they have 1.1 billion more people than the US.

- Provinces
  - China has a total of 26 provinces. Provinces are similar to states and can range in size and shapes. Each Chinese province has a unique culture and even dialect of Chinese.
- Cities
  - China has 65 cities with more than a million people. With Shanghai in the Jiangsu province being the most populated city with a population of 22,315,474. The second largest being its capital of Beijing in the Hebei province with a population of 11,716,620.
  - In comparison, Houston has 2.2 million people, New York City has 8.2 million people.

Activity: Pause and add what you learned about Population to the L column of the KW chart. How does it compare to the U.S.?

### Slides 10-11

Additional Info: Chinese traditional *hanfu* has now become very popular among the youth in China. It is not uncommon to go to historical districts in town to see people dressed up in different types of *hanfu*. It has even become a very popular trend on Doyou, China's version of Tik Tok, to show off their various *hanfus*.

Activity: See if you can find *hanfu* pictures through a search. Try to find someone your age wearing one!

### Slides 12-13

Additional Info: Then there are Chinese dishes that we know in the United States such as General Tso's Chicken which has roots in Hunan cooking, however, as the dish traveled it developed different characteristics and flavors.

The video we're about to watch is by a popular Chinese YouTube named li zi qi who makes dishes entirely from scratch in the Chinese countryside. In this video she is making mapo tofu.

Activity: Ask your children what their favorite Chinese foods and restaurants are.

### Slides 14-15

Watch the video and try to learn a few phrases in the Mandarin dialect!

### Slides 16-18

Additional Info:

Holidays are very important in Chinese culture. Ask your child what their favorite holidays are that your family celebrates.

Activity: As you go through each holiday, look for things that are similar to and different from what you celebrate.