

rat	ox	tiger	rabbit
dragon	snake	horse	ram
monkey	rooster	dog	pig

## Chinese Animal Card Games

# CHINESE NEW YEAR INFORMATION



The oldest and most important festival in China is called the Spring Festival. Many people know this as Chinese New Year. Millions of people all over the world celebrate this holiday.

The Chinese Spring Festival celebrates the Earth coming back to life and the beginning of plowing and planting. Because the Chinese use a lunar calendar, the date of the Spring Festival changes each year. It takes place at some time during the end of January or the beginning of February. This year it falls on Friday, January 30th.

The Chinese calendar has a 12-year cycle. Each year is named after an animal. People born in each of these years are said to have certain characteristics. This year (2014) is the year of the horse; last year it was the Year of the Snake.

To prepare for the New Year, Chinese people clean their homes, repay debts, get their hair cut, and buy new clothes. They decorate their houses with signs that wish peace and luck for the coming year.

On New Year's Eve the Chinese light up their houses with lanterns, and gather together for a family dinner. Special foods are served.

Most people stay up late and set off fireworks to scare away evil spirits. Another tradition is the handing out of red packets which are decorated red paper envelopes containing money.

There is a lot of dancing, music, and parades.

In Cantonese, you wish people a Happy New Year (may prosperity be with you) by saying: kung hai fat choi

Pronounced: Goung see fah tai Go to this website to listen to how it is pronounced. <http://mandarinabout.com/library/audio/newyear/5.mp3>

In Mandarin, you wish people a Happy New Year by saying: Xin Nian Kuai Le! Pronounced: "zin neeang kwai luh." To listen to how this is pronounced go to: <http://mandarinabout.com/library/audio/newyear/6.mp3>

"Ni hao" (pronounced "nee haow") is the basic way you'd say "Hello" in Chinese. Both words are pronounced with a falling-then-rising tone. The literal translation is "you good," or in other words, "How are you?"





Cantonese, spoken in Hong Kong and southern parts of China, have a slightly modified greeting. "Neih hou" (pronounced "nay hoe") both words have a rising tone and also mean How are you?

If you're wondering if you should bow when greeting someone in China, the answer is no. This is a popular and common Japanese custom. Chinese tend to only bow during martial arts, as an apology, or to show deep respect at funerals. Many Chinese shake hands like we do in America. However, their handshakes are not as firm as ours.







Chinese New Year Animals: Find the year you were born. That is the animal that represents that year. The Chinese believe that you will have those characteristics.

Writing prompt: Do you think you have the qualities listed or are you more like another animal or a combination of animals? Why? Which ones?



Chinese New Year Rat

1912, 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996, 2008.

People born in the Year of the Chinese new year rat are cheerful, charming and welcome everywhere. They compatible with people born in the years of Dragon, Monkey and Ox.



Chinese New Year OX

1913, 1925, 1937, 1949, 1961, 1973, 1985, 1997, 2009.

People born in the Year of the Chinese new year OX are hardworking and patient. They compatible with people born in the years of Snake, Rooster and Rat.



Chinese New Year Tiger

1914, 1926, 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986, 1998, 2010.

People born in the Year of the Chinese new year Tiger have a forceful personality and Tigers are adventurous and confident. They compatible with people born in the years of Horses, Dragons, and Dogs.



Chinese New Year Rabbit

1915, 1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999, 2011.

People born in the Year of the Chinese new year Rabbit are articulate, talented, and ambitious. They compatible with people born in the years of Sheep, Pig, and Dog.



Chinese New Year Dragon

1916, 1928, 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000, 2012.

People born in the Year of the Chinese new year Dragon have strong personalities, love Dragon their freedom. Dragon are hate routine. They compatible with people born in the years of Rats, Snakes, Monkeys, and Roosters.



#### Chinese New Year Snake

1917, 1929, 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989, 2001, 2013.

People born in the Year of the Chinese new year Snake are sensitive with a strong sense of responsibility. They compatible with people born in the years of Ox and Rooster.



#### Chinese New Year Horse

1918, 1930, 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002, 2014.

People born in the Year of the Chinese new year Horse are hardworking, admirable and ambitious. They compatible with people born in the years of Tigers, Dogs, and Sheep.



#### Chinese New Year Ram

1919, 1931, 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979, 1991, 2003, 2015.

People born in the Year of the Chinese new year Ram are gentle, caring. They compatible with people born in the years of Rabbits, Pigs and Horses.



#### Chinese New Year Monkey

1920, 1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004, 2016.

People born in the Year of the Chinese new year Monkey are charming, cheeky and clever. They compatible with people born in the years of Dragon and Rat.



#### Chinese New Year Rooster

1921, 1933, 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005, 2017.

People born in the Year of the Chinese new year Rooster are faithful to family and friends. They compatible with people born in the years of Ox, Snake, and Dragon.

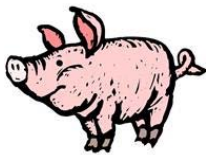
#### Chinese New Year Dog



#### Chinese New Year Animals Dog

1922, 1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006, 2018.

People born in the Year of the Chinese new year Dog are loyal and caring with a fearless streak. They compatible with people born in the years of Horse, Tiger, and Rabbit.



#### Chinese New Year Pig

1923, 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007, 2019.

People born in the Year of the Chinese new year Dog are peace loving, trusting and strong. They compatible with people born in the years of Rabbits and Sheep.

狗

Dog

龍

Dragon

馬

Horse

猴

Monkey

牛

Ox

豬

Pig

兔

Rabbit

羊

Ram

鼠

Rat

雞

Rooster

蛇

Snake

虎

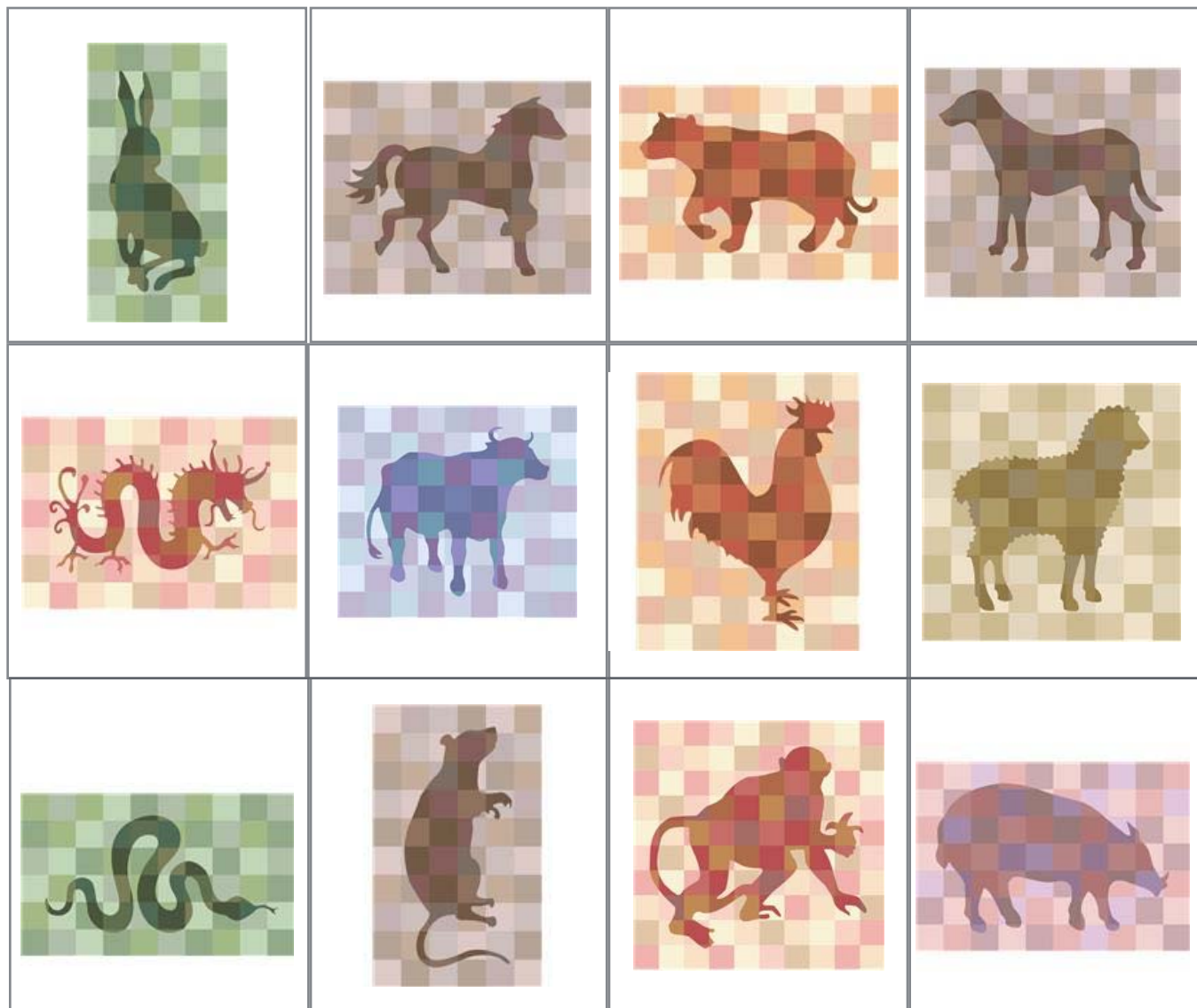
Tiger

- Run off on white construction paper. Laminate and trim. Students play Memory Match or "I Have; Who Has?" games. They can alphabetize the animal cards as well.



Match the animal picture card to the animal word card.

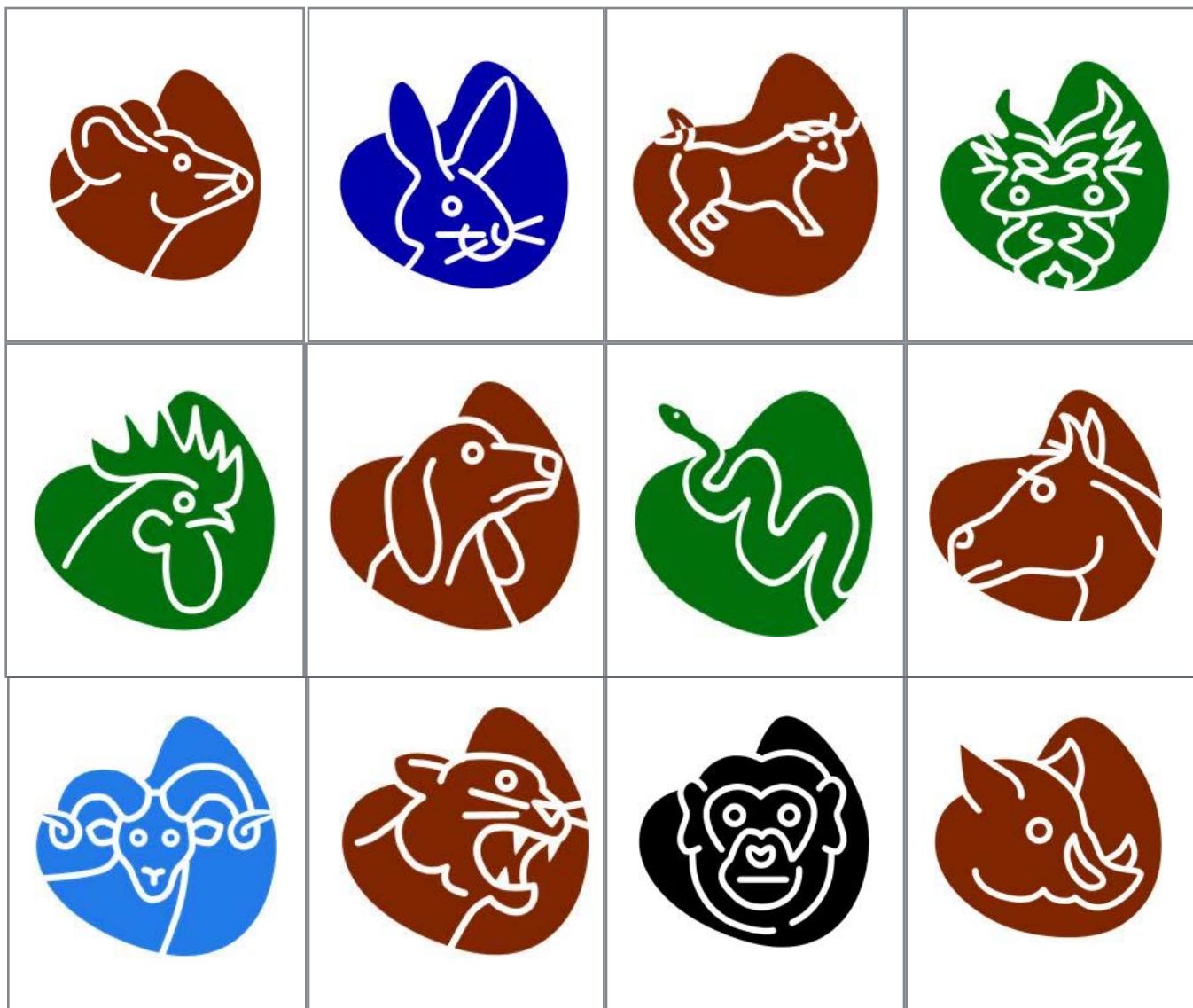




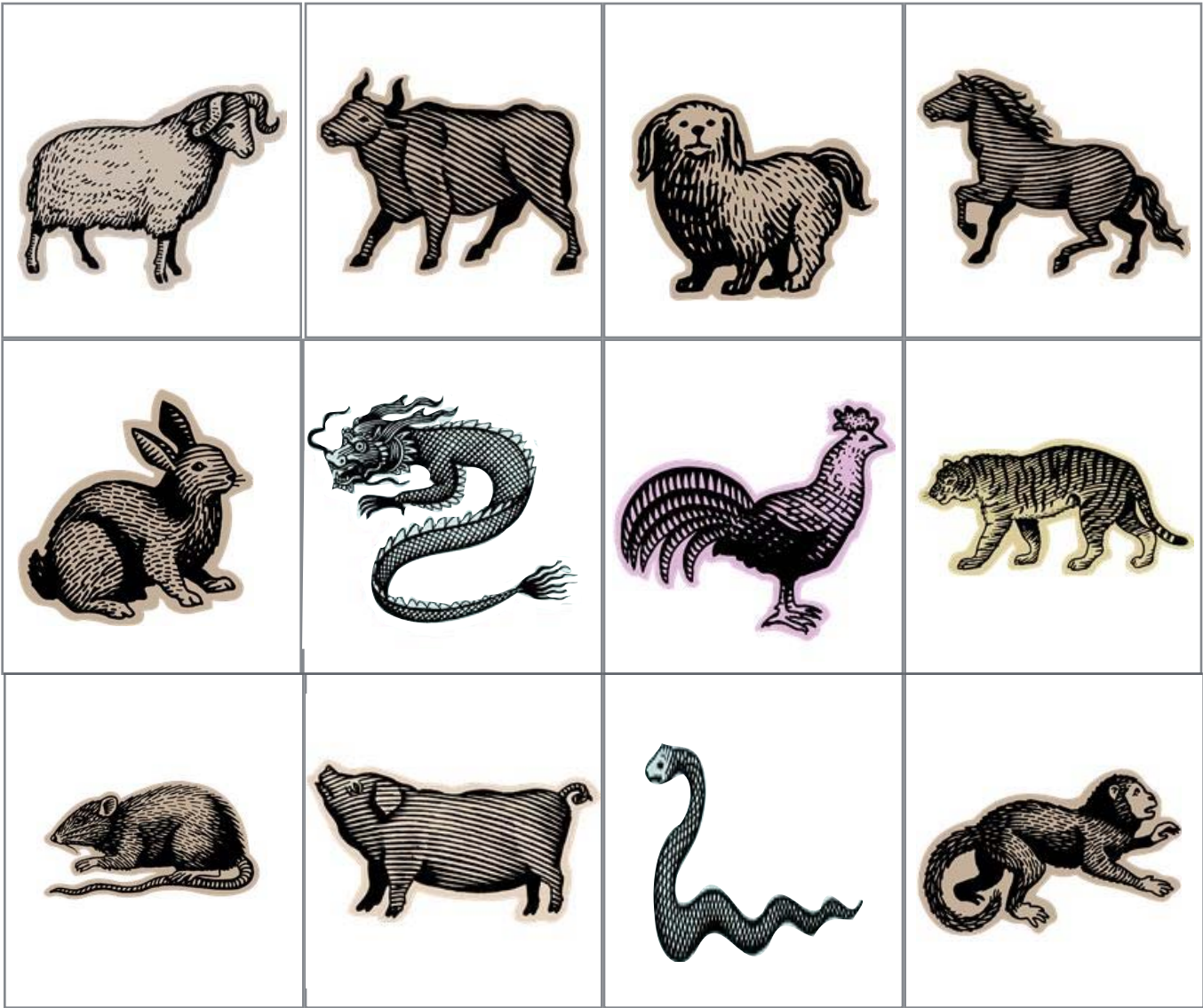
Match the animal picture card to the animal word card.

[TeachWithMe.com](http://TeachWithMe.com)

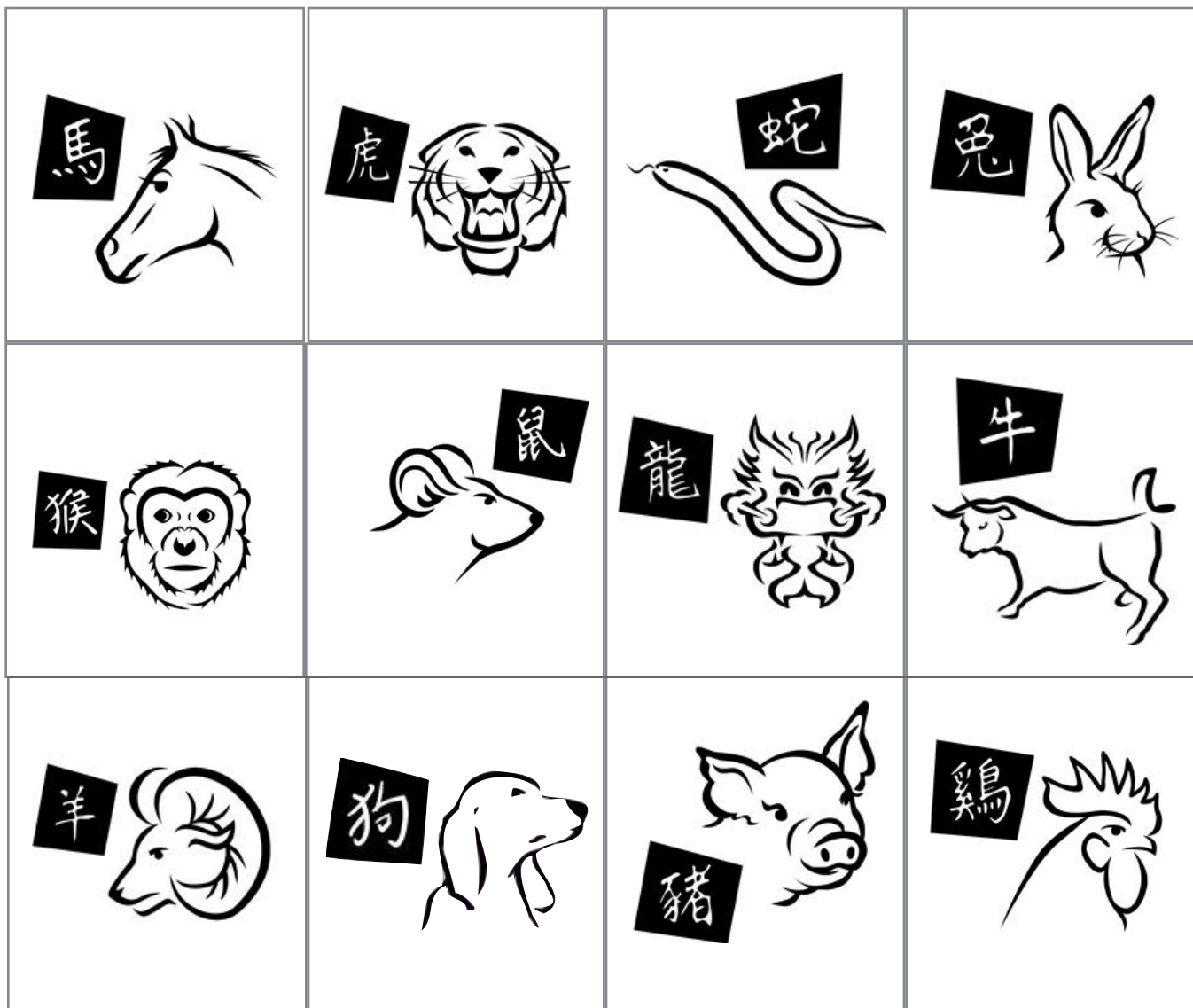




Match the animal picture card to the animal word card.

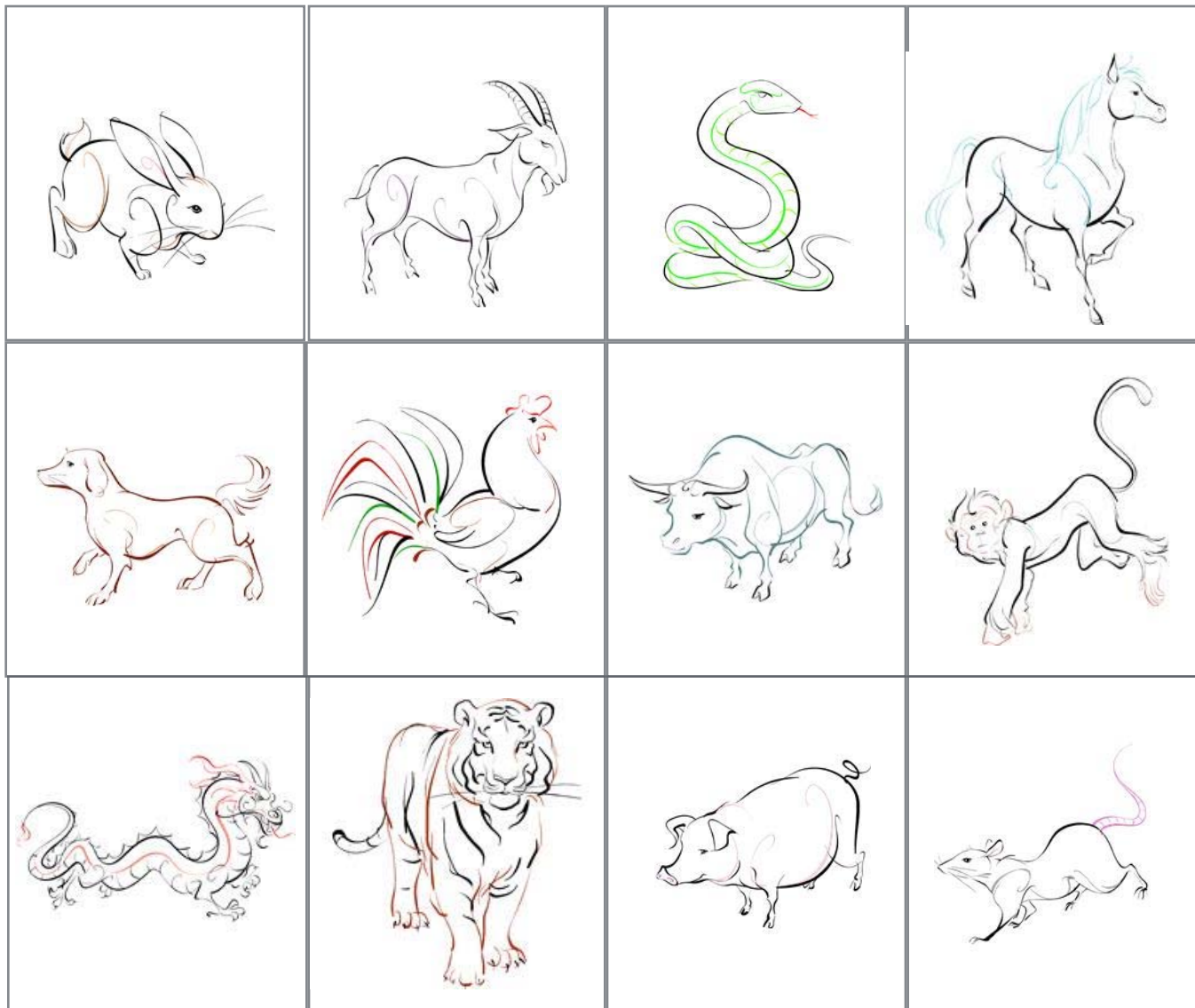


Match the animal picture card to the animal word card.



Match the animal picture card to the animal word card.

[TeachWithMe.com](http://TeachWithMe.com)



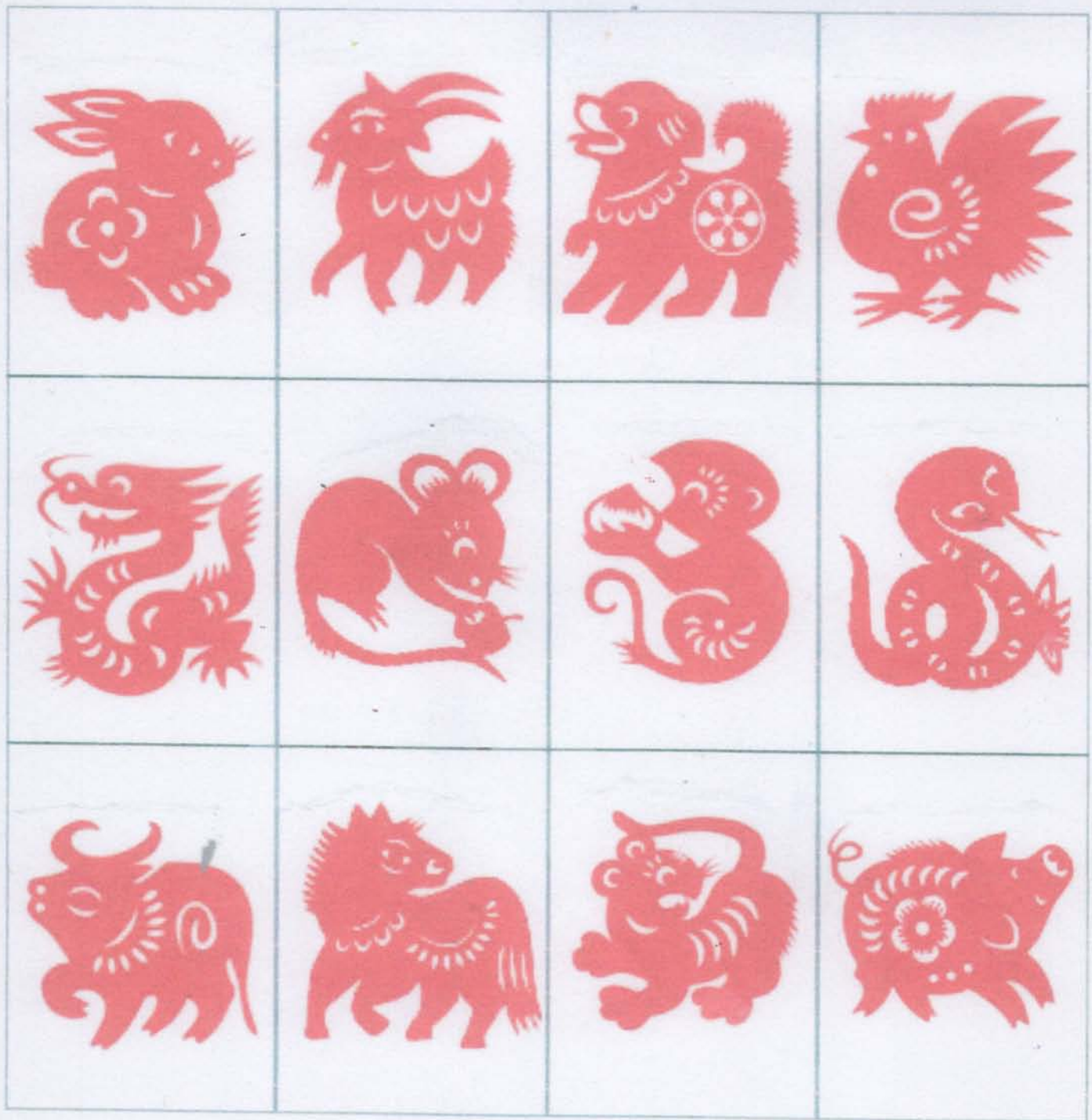
Match the animal picture card to the animal word card.

[TeachWithMe.com](http://TeachWithMe.com)





- Run off on white construction paper. Laminate and trim. Students play Memory Match or "I Have; Who Has?" games. They can alphabetize the animal cards as well.

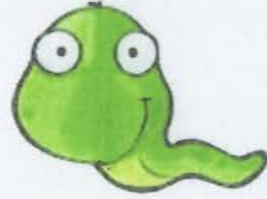


- Run off on white construction paper. Laminate and trim. Students play Memory Match or "I Have, Who Has?" games. They can alphabetize the animal cards as well.



Print, laminate and trim.

Students match the animal to the animal word card for a Memory Match, or I Have; Who Has? game.



rat	ox	tiger	rabbit
dragon	snake	horse	ram
monkey	rooster	dog	pig

Match the animal word card to the animal picture card.





rat rat

pig

ox ox

tiger. tiger

rabbit

dragon

rooster

ram

monkey

snake  
snake

horse

dog dog

Kaiden







Print, trim, glue to a piece of construction paper, laminate and trim.

Poke a hole in the center and attach a large paperclip with a brass brad.

Children choose a partner and take turns spinning. Whatever animal they land on, they trace and write the word on their recording sheet.

The 1st child to write all of the animal words is the winner.

TeachWithMe.com





rat

pig

ox

tiger

rabbit

dragon

rooster

ram

monkey

snake

horse

dog



rat

pig

ox

tiger

rabbit

dragon

rooster

ram

monkey

snake

horse

dog



rat

pig

ox

tiger

rabbit

dragon

rooster

ram

monkey

snake

horse

dog