



## Lunar New Year team activities

**Share:** Friday, February 16, 2018 signifies the Year of the Dog. Lunar New Year is considered one of the most important holidays for the Asian population, commencing on the first day of the first month

in the lunar calendar. The holiday is celebrated by Chinese, Vietnamese, Koreans, and throughout other Asian cultures. While customs and traditions vary, many consider Lunar New Year as a new beginning and a time to express wishes for good fortune and prosperity throughout the year. Below are some activities that you can conduct with your team to learn more about the traditions of the Lunar New Year.

Topic	Activity	
Chinese Zodiac	There are 12 Chinese zodiac animals each with different characteristics and personalities. This upcoming new year is the Year of the Dog and they are known to be loyal and friendly. Review the Chinese zodiac to identify your animal and animal's characteristics. Share characteristics you have in common as written in the zodiac.	
	Rat: 2008, 1996, 1984, 1972, 1960  o Adaptable and clever	Horse: 2014, 2002, 1990, 1978, 1966  o Enthusiastic and dynamic
	Ox: 2009, 1997, 1985, 1973, 1961  o Reliable and resilient	Goat: 2015, 2003, 1991, 1979, 1967  o Compassionate and serene
	<b>Tiger</b> : 2010, 1998, 1986, 1974, 1962  o Courageous and assertive	Monkey: 2016, 2004, 1992, 1980, 1968  o Inquisitive and cunning
	Rabbit: 2011, 1999, 1987, 1975, 1963  o Graceful and attentive	Rooster: 2017, 2005, 1993, 1981, 1969  o Punctual and prideful
	<b>Dragon</b> : 2012, 2000, 1988, 1976, 1964  o Bold and vibrant	<b>Dog</b> : 2018, 2006, 1994, 1982, 1970 o Loyal and friendly
	Snake: 2013, 2001, 1989, 1977, 1965  o Strongminded and astute	<b>Pig</b> : 2019, 2007, 1995, 1983, 1971  o Sympathetic and kind-hearted
Language	Cantonese: Gong Hay Fat Choy Mandarin: Gong Xi Fa Cai Vietnamese: Chúc Mừng Năm Mới Korean: Saehae Bok Mani Badeuseyo	
	Learning a language can be tough but also really fun! Practice saying these Lunar New Year greetings in the languages above with each other. You may show appreciation to a customer when you try to greet a customer with a Lunar New Year greeting in their language!	

Together we'll go far

### Express wishes for team members

Option 1: Share your wishes for good fortune verbally to a team member(s).

Option 2: Write a wish for good fortune to a team member(s).

#### Examples:

- "I wish you a healthy and prosperous new year!"
- "Wishing you a year of good fortune filled with love and happiness!"
- "May the new year make all your wishes come true!"

# Chinese Dragon Dance versus Vietnamese Lion Dance

During Lunar New Year there are electrifying performances like the dragon dance and the lion dance. Often times, people have confused the Chinese dragon dance with Vietnamese lion dance. One way to tell them apart are the number of people it takes to showcase the dance. The dragon is long and requires many people to perform the dance, whereas the lion only requires two people to perform. The dragon is often chasing a pearl where the lion performs acrobatic movements. Both the Chinese dragons and Vietnamese lions are considered mythical creatures that are whimsical and vibrant in color. They are not to be feared and are said to bring good luck!

Ask: Who has observed one of these energizing performances? Share your experience.





(Chinese Dragon)

(Vietnamese Lion)

#### **Festive food**

During Lunar New Year, there are many traditional foods that are shared and eaten, such as Chinese noodles, Vietnamese *bánh chưng* (rice cakes), and Korean *tteokguk* (soup).

Share a festive food you like to eat during a holiday/festival you celebrate. To learn more about traditional Lunar New Year foods, click here for the Wells Fargo Lunar New Year Fact Sheet.





