

SIXTH GRADE SCHOOL TOURS AT THE HACKETT HOUSE Zhenjiang, China

GREETING: NI-HAO (Knee-how) (Literally means “you good”
(Pronunciations of names and places are attempted!)

I. Location/Geography (Arizona History and Social Science Standards 6.G1.1, 6.G2.1, 6.G3.2, 6.G4.1)

A. Hemisphere/Continent

1. China is located in the Eastern and Northern hemisphere on the continent of Asia. The hilly scenery in Zhenjiang's southern suburbs was considered beautiful enough to be the theme of many landscapes by Chinese painters.
2. Zhenjiang is known for offering a combination of “urban forests” and “grand river scenery” due to the surrounding mountains dotted with marvelous temples and pagodas, mighty rivers and bridges, and natural beauty.

B. Influence of Water on Development

1. Zhenjiang is located 130 miles inland from Shanghai, in Jiangsu Province, where the Chang Jiang River (Yangtze) crosses the Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal built in the early 7th century.
2. The Grand Canal interconnected the Chang Jiang River (Yangtze), Yellow, Huaihe, Haihe, and Qiantang Rivers and flowed through Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei, Shandong, Jiangsu and Zhejiang with Hangzhou at its southernmost end.
3. The Chang Jiang River (Yangtze) intersects the Grand Canal at Zhenjiang, which forms the biggest golden cross water system in China. The length of Grand Canal in Zhenjiang is 42 kilometers. Since Tang Dynasty, Zhenjiang has been an important place for waterways and roadways.
4. Zhenjiang is close to Nanjing, Changzhou and Yangzhou.

II. Historical Perspective (Arizona History and Social Science Standards 6.SP1.1, 6.SP1.3, 6.SP2.1, 6.C4.1)

A. Chinese Early History

1. Chinese civilization started around 10,000 B.C., when a group called the Yangshao (yahng show) settled near the Huang He River. (Whang Ho-yellow river)
2. About 3,000 B.C., another farming group appeared, the Lungshan (Loongshan) people who harvested silk to weave, used the potter's wheel, made strong mud bricks and introduced irrigation to China. (Note the silk kites in the room - ask students to point to "please point to the silk kites")
3. Next there was the Xia (Sia) (sometimes called the Hsia) Dynasty in about 2,000 B.C. followed by the Shang (Shawng) Dynasty from 1750 to 1045 B.C., which developed the Chinese writing system.

B. Zhenjiang's History

1. Zhenjiang means "Guarding the Yangtze River" and is named such because it was the first original port on the way up the Chang Jiang (Chon Jong) (or Yangtze River) from the East China Sea.
2. The recorded history of Zhenjiang could be traced back to the Zhou (Zsho) Dynasty during the 8th Century B.C. The Zhou was the longest Chinese Dynasty during which time both Confucianism and Daoism became part of Chinese philosophy. The city was called Zhufangyi and later Kuyangyi.
3. Part of Taoism is the Ying Yang symbol - birth/death; darkness/light; opposite; balance in nature
4. Zhenjiang was called Dantu in the Qin (Chin) Dynasty from 221 B.C. to 202 B.C. During this time Emperor Qin Shi Huangdi connected all the sections of the Great Wall and had a tomb of Terra Cotta Warriors built for himself. (Find the warriors in the room)

5. During the Song (Sohng) Dynasty from 960 A.D. to 1279 A.D., Zhenjiang became the official name of this city. (Notice the Chinese writing as an artifact in the room)

III. Cultural/Connections (Arizona History and Social Science Standards 6.SP1.2, 6.SP1.3, 6.H1.2, 6.H3.2)

A. How are we in Tempe connected to Zhenjiang, China?

1. Pearl Buck (1892–1973) was Nobel Prize-winning American author who wrote, *The Good Earth*. Zhenjiang, her Chinese hometown, was her source of inspiration. She lived there with her missionary parents until the age of 18. Her childhood home is preserved on the grounds of a semiconductor factory in Zhenjiang. Nearby is Zhenjiang Number 2 Middle School at which she studied and taught.
2. This home is now a museum that has been restored largely due to financial contributions from Tempe Sister Cities. In this museum is a room devoted to Tempe that includes the names of student ambassadors along a Kachina doll to represent Arizona's history and of course many photographs of the exchange program between the two cities.
3. Zhenjiang became Tempe's Sister City in 1989.

IV. Economic/Trade (Arizona History and Social Science Standards 6.E3.2, 6.E5.1, 6.G3.1, 6.G3.2, 6.H1.2)

A. Trade Routes

1. Zhenjiang has been an important port and transportation hub. The poem “a boat flowing three thousand miles sees ten thousand houses with lights along the river” shows a picture of flourishing Zhenjiang along the Grand Canal.
2. Zhenjiang is still one of China's busiest ports for domestic commerce, serving as a hub for trade between northern Jiangsu and Anhui provinces, and Shanghai. The trade mostly consists of grain, cotton, oils, and lumber.

3. The city reached its zenith under the Song dynasty (960-1279), when it produced fine silks, satins, and silverware for the emperors.
4. Zhenjiang is now home to the Silkworm Raising Research Institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science of China.
5. Zhenjiang is also known as, “*The Home of Sweet & Sour*” because of the vinegar that is produced there. (Might be a bottle of vinegar - try to get Zhenjiang vinegar)

V. Conclusion

Today, Zhenjiang is Tempe’s largest Sister City: The city spans four counties and two districts with 2.9 million inhabitants. The urban area alone is home to 1 million people. Zhenjiang is blessed with a mild climate, beautiful vistas and bountiful agriculture and is famous for its vinegar, jade, white marble, woodcarving and other crafts. Zhenjiang is planning to host a major conference in honor of the 120th anniversary of Pearl Buck’s birth and the 40th anniversary of President Nixon’s trip to China on June 26, 2012.

Timeline

c. 800 B.C. Zhenjiang’s became a city called Zhufangyi and later Kuyangyi.

221 B.C. Zhenjiang was called Dantu during the Qin Dynasty

960 A.D. to 1279 A.D. during the Song Dynasty Zhenjiang became the official name of this city.

1893-1910 Pearl Buck lived in Zhenjiang

1989 Zhenjiang became Tempe’s Sister City

GIVEN TO STUDENTS AS ARTIFACT: YING YANG SYMBOL TATOO
AND CHINESE WRITING TO SYMBOLIZE BALANCE IN NATURE
COULD HAVE A HOROSCOPE TO SHOW AS AN ARTIFACT

ARTIFACTS FROM ZHENJIANG:

Pearl Buck Reading Book

Three pieces of washable silk

Kite

Lanterns

Teacups - handleless

Terra Cotta Warriors with Horse (Xian)

Chinese ornament on stand

Vase - glazed pottery

Ceramic vase

Mini Chinese screen - hand painted with Mother of Pearl inlay

Chinese dragon - ceremonial - the dragon guards the Great Wall and the People

Panda

People's Republic of China flag

FLAG OF CHINA:



China's national flag was adopted in September, 1949. This flag was first flown in Tiananmen Square on October 1, 1949 - the day of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

The rectangular flag has a red field with five golden-yellow stars (each with five points) in the upper left corner. The star on the left is larger than the other four.

The red color of the flag symbolizes revolution. The large star symbolizes the Communist Party (which rules China) and the smaller stars represent the people of China.