

TERRACOTTA WARRIOR SHIELD

AN INTERACTIVE ART PROJECT FOCUSED ON
THE TERRACOTTA ARMY AND ANCIENT CHINA

Inspired by the books:
Ming's Adventure with the Terracotta Army and
Hidden Army: Clay Soldiers of Ancient China

Grades: Pre K - 2nd



Finished Terracotta Warrior Shield

OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES

- Students will learn about the Terracotta Army and Qin Shi Huang, the first emperor of China.
- Students will connect the past and present by learning about Ancient China and the modern excavation that has uncovered the army.
- Students will create a shield that includes an image of a chariot similar to those used in Ancient China.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY/CONCEPT

This project informs students about the archaeological discovery of the Terracotta Army. Students are able to look back into ancient history and create a shield that references the terracotta warriors, horses, and chariots. The shield is symbolic of the purpose of the army: to provide protection for the emperor.

MATERIALS

Paper plates, white cardstock, markers, glue sticks, tape, scissors.

VOCABULARY

Terracotta Army – a collection of terracotta sculptures depicting the armies of Qin Shi Huang, the first Emperor of China.

Warrior – a brave or experienced soldier or fighter.

Shield – a person or thing providing protection; often a broad piece of metal held by a handle.

Terracotta - a type of fired clay, typically of a brownish-red colour and unglazed.

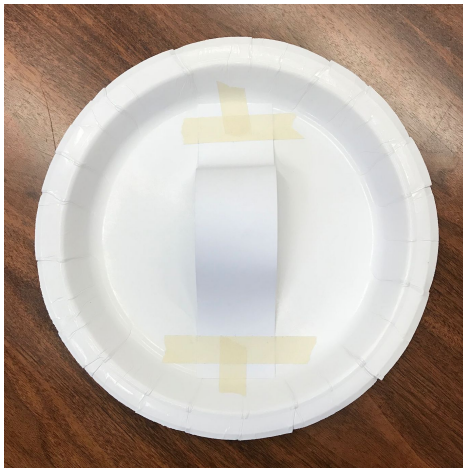
PROCEDURE

Pre-class Prep

1. Print the template found on page 4 of this document.
2. Cut along the horizontal lines at the top of the page to create the handle that will go on the back of the shield. *Students may help with this step.*
3. Cut out the circle for the face of the shield. *Students may help with this step.*

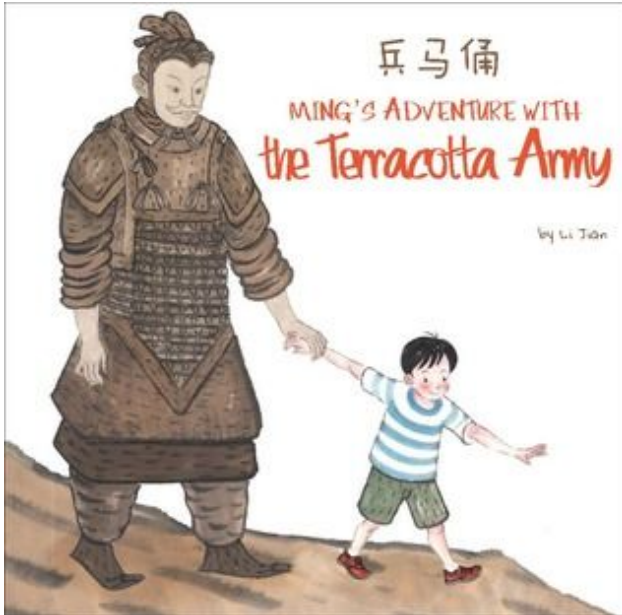
Class Procedure

4. Students glue the image of the chariot to the bottom of the plate, or the face of the shield.
5. Students color the image using markers and decorate the border of the plate.
6. Students use tape to attach the handle to the back of the shield. Students can now interact with their new work of art.

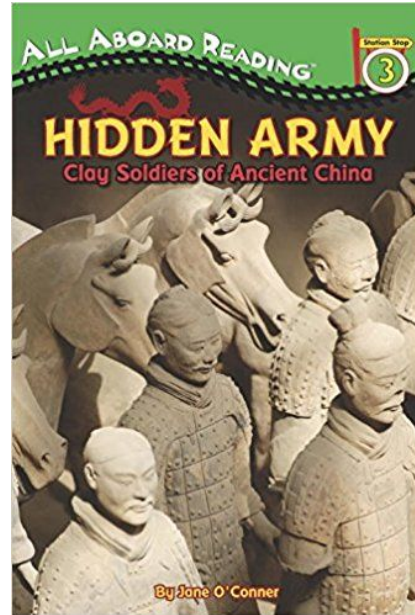


RELATED RESOURCES

Use these books to guide the lesson and add more meaning to the students' artmaking.



Ming's Adventure with the Terracotta Army
Li Jian



Hidden Army: Clay Soldiers of Ancient China
Jane O'Connor

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

To increase students' learning, inform the class that the Terracotta Warriors were originally brightly colored.

After being fired in the kiln, warriors were coated in a dark lacquer and painted with vibrant colors like purple, red, green, blue, brown, orange, yellow, white, and black. Most of the excavated warriors have lost their color due to time and water damage.

Encourage the students to use bright colors when coloring their shields, to emulate the warriors' original appearance.



TEMPLATE FOR WARRIOR SHIELD

