

Summary Description

This is the tenth in a series of 12 lessons that introduces the student to Asian American history.

Learning Objectives

To learn about Vietnamese American history and culture; Tet, the Vietnamese New Year.

Approximate Time for Lesson

30 minutes

Suggested Maturity Level for Instruction

Student should be able to read simple words and perform simple addition and subtraction. Also, student should be able to sit still and engage in one-on-one conversation.

Materials Needed

1. Internet Access - Pull up the following:
 - a. YouTube Access on "How to Make Tet New Year's Scroll"
2. "New Year" design - [found here](#).
3. Two extra long straws (like the long "Slurpee" straws at 7-Eleven)
4. Stapler
5. Yarn or ribbon
6. Crayons/Markers

Preparation

Make sure you have materials open, printed and/or available prior to beginning the lesson.

Script

Introduction (5 minutes)

1. Teacher: Last lesson we learned about Asian Americans called the Vietnamese Americans. The Vietnamese Americans brought their tradition of celebrating their New Year, called "Tet" [if you need help on how to pronounce this word, click [here](#). Click the red speaker symbol to hear how the word is pronounced].
2. Teacher: Just like our American New Year, Tet is a giant celebration with lots of food, candy, and something that is different than our New Year, bowing to your parents and family members older than you to get money!
3. Teacher: All you have to do is bow down to your parents and older family members while saying "Happy New Year", then your parents and older family members give you money in red envelopes. Do you think that a good idea? [Engage the Student in conversation but make the point that the act of bowing is an example of how respected older people are in the Vietnamese family].

4. Teacher: Today, we're going to make and decorate a Tet scroll that says, "New Year". Here is the way you write "New Year" in Chinese [give Student the "New Year" design]. Now, why do you think the Vietnamese use Chinese to write "New Year"? [Engage the Student in conversation].
5. Teacher: The reason why "New Year" is written in Chinese is because China is Vietnam's neighbor and since China is such a big country, it gave Vietnam a lot of its own things, like the alphabet. Even though Vietnamese has its own written alphabet today, long time ago Vietnam used the Chinese way to write stuff. And so, since New Year's Day was celebrated from a very long time ago, Vietnamese write the word "New Year" using Chinese.

Lesson (25 minutes)

1. Teacher: [Pointing to the "New Year" design] Ok, so this is the symbol for "New Year" used during Tet. First let's decorate this word using crayons and markers. [Wait until the Student finishes coloring the words].
2. [Refer to video on how to make the New Year scroll (access the YouTube link above). Make sure the Teacher is helping and guiding the Student along with her scroll].
3. Teacher: Great job! That's a great looking scroll.

Wrap Up (5 minutes)

Teacher: [Clapping] You did GREAT! Are there any questions that you have about Tet or the Vietnamese Americans? [Engage in conversation with the Student, research questions on the Internet, and close the lesson].