



Lunar New Year—Ready to Read!

FICTION

Bae, Hyn-Hoo. **New Clothes for New Year's Day**. 2007. (Youth Picture Book)

A young Korean girl describes the new clothes that she will be wearing to celebrate the new year.

EPL: JPicture Yim.N

SPL: Ask Information Desk

Casey, Dawn. **Great Race**. 2006. (Elementary)

Thirteen creatures have come to the river to join in the Emperor's race. The winner will get the honour of naming the first year of the new calendar. The Great Race is a beautifully illustrated retelling of an ancient legend that introduces children to the concept of the Chinese Zodiac.

EPIC

Chen, Vincent. **Hot Pot Night**. 1996. (Pre-School—Gr K)

In this version of the classic Stone Soup tale, nobody in the apartment building has enough ingredients for dinner, so a Taiwanese child suggests they have a community hot pot night. Everybody contributes something, bringing their diverse community together for a delicious meal. Includes hot pot recipe.

EPL: Ask Information Desk

SPL: <https://skokiellibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2981490133>

Compestine, Ying Chang. **The Runaway Wok: A Chinese New Year Tale**. 2011. (Picture Book)

Ming & his family can't afford a proper Lunar New Year feast. When Ming decides to trade the last eggs for a rusty wok, his family is disappointed. Little do they know; this wok is actually magical.

EPL: JPicture Compe.Y

SPL: <https://skokiellibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/1658389133>

Dietz Shea, Pegi. **Ten Mice for Tet**. 2003. (Youth Picture Book)

A village of mice prepares for Tet (Vietnamese New Year) as different numbers of mice give gifts, cook food, & celebrate in other traditional ways. Includes afterword with Tea facts.

EPL: x394.2614 Shea.P

SPL: Ask Information Desk

Lee, Lyla. **Mindy Kim and the Lunar New Year Parade**. 2020. (Youth, Easy Fiction)

Mindy is excited to celebrate the Lunar New Year! Even though it's the first one without her mom, Mindy is determined to enjoy the day. She decides to make traditional Korean New Year food, a rice cake soup that's her favorite. But things aren't going quite to plan, and the celebration doesn't feel the same as it did before. With the help of her family and friends, can Mindy find a way to still enjoy her old holiday traditions, and create new ones along the way?

EPL: JChapter Lee.L

SPL: https://skokiellibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2947170133?active_tab=bib_info

A special thank you to Mrs. Jaquess and our local public librarians for their book recommendations!



Lunar New Year—Ready to Read!

Lee, Vickie. **Ruby's Chinese New Year**. 2017. (Pre-School–Gr 2)

Ruby travels to her grandmother's house to bring her a gift for Chinese New Year and is joined by all of the animals of the zodiac. Includes legend of the Chinese horoscope & crafts instructions.

EPL: Ask Information Desk

SPL: <https://skokiellibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2795290133>

Li, Jian. **My Lantern and the Fairy**. 2019. (Youth Picture Book)

A story of light and kindness told in English and Chinese.

EPL: Ask Information Desk

SPL: https://skokiellibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2930751133?active_tab=bib_info

Lin, Grace. **Brining in the New Year**. 2008. (Youth, Easy Read)

A Chinese American family prepares for and celebrates customs and traditions of the Lunar New Year.

EPL: JPicture Lin.G

SPL: Ask Information Desk

Lin, Grace. **The Year of the Dog**. 2006. (Gr 3 and above)

Frustrated at her seeming lack of talent for anything, a young Taiwanese American girl sets out to apply the lessons of the Chinese Year of the Dog, those of making best friends and finding oneself, to her own life.

EPL: JPaperbk Lin.G

SPL: <https://skokiellibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/1476484133>

Lin, Grace. **The Year of the Rat**. 2008. (Gr 3 and above)

In the Chinese Year of the Rat, a young Taiwanese American girl faces many challenges: her best friend moves to California and a new boy comes to her school, she must find the courage to forge ahead with her dream of becoming a writer and illustrator, and she must learn to find the beauty in change.

EPL: Ask Information Desk

SPL: <https://skokiellibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/1530471133>

Lin, Grace. **Dumpling Days**. 2012. (Gr 3–Gr 6)

When Pacy, her two sisters, and their parents go to Taiwan to celebrate Grandma's sixtieth birthday, the girls learn a great deal about their heritage.

EPL: Ask Information Desk

SPL: <https://skokiellibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/1695833133>

Li-Qiong, Yu. **A New Year's Reunion**. 2011. Picture Book (Youth Picture Book)

Maomao's dad works many miles away, but he is coming home for New Year!

EPL: JPicture Lin.G

SPL: <https://skokiellibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/1687832133>



Lunar New Year—Ready to Read!

Lo, Rich. **Chinese New Year Colors.** 2019. (Youth, Easy Read)
This vibrant, simple, and highly graphic bilingual book is the perfect introduction to Chinese and English words for colors as it honors one of the biggest holidays around the world.

EPL: x394.261 Lo.R

SPL: Ask Information Desk

Lo, Rich. **New Year.** 2016. (Pre-School—Gr 2)
A young immigrant boy from Hong Kong feels lost at his new school in America. With the help of his teacher, classmates, and family he realizes that he is not alone and that he should be proud of his unique heritage.

EPL: Ask Information Desk

SPL: <https://skokiellibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2659171133>

Jango-Cohen, Judith. **Chinese New Year.** 2005. (Elementary)
A colorful introduction to this important Chinese holiday. With expressive paintings and clear, informative text, the book explains traditions and festive activities, the Chinese zodiac, and traditional symbols of the new year.

EPIC

Roy, Ron. **The New Year Dragon Dilemma.** 2011. (Youth)
Dink, Josh, and Ruth Rose are enjoying a visit to San Francisco when Holden, their college-age tour guide, is accused of abducting Miss Chinatown from the Chinese New Year parade and stealing her valuable crown.

EPL: Ask Information Desk

SPL: https://skokiellibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2107758133?active_tab=age_suitability

Wallace, Adam. **How to Catch A Dragon.** 2019. (Elementary)
The How to Catch kids are off again, this time trying to catch a dragon as they chase him through Chinese New Year celebrations!

EPL: Ask Information Desk

SPL: <https://skokiellibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2948651133>

Wang, Andrea. **The Nian Monster.** 2016. (Youth Picture Book)
The legendary Nian Monster has returned at Chinese New Year. Nian is intent on devouring Shanghai, starting with young Xingling! But Xingling is clever and thinks quickly to outwit him with Chinese New Year traditions.

EPL: JPicture Wang.A

SPL: <https://skokiellibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2650152133>

Wang, Gabrielle. **The race for the Chinese Zodiac.** 2013. (Elementary)

Thirteen animals are racing for only twelve places on the Zodiac. Who will be honest, and who devious? Who will help friends along the way? Who will come first, and who will miss out? With gorgeous illustrations based on Chinese painting techniques, The Race for the Chinese Zodiac is a lively retelling of the legendary animals' race.

EPIC



Lunar New Year—Ready to Read!

Wei, Jie. **Home for Chinese New Year**. 2017. (Pre-School—Gr 2)

The Chinese New Year is a time for family reunions. This Chinese children's story tells a delightful trip with lots of cultural details along the way.

EPL: Contact Information Desk

SPL: <https://skokielibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2793925133>

Wong, Janet. **The Next New Year**. 2000. (Pre-school—Gr 2)
In the Next New Year by Janet Wong, a Chinese Korean boy tells his best friends, who are German/French and Hopi/Mexican, what it's like to celebrate Lunar New Year. His family celebrates with both Chinese and Korean traditions.

EPL: JPicture Wong.J

SPL: <https://skokielibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/1340536133>

Yim, Natasha. **Goldy Luck and the Three Pandas**. 2014.

Picture Book (Pre-School—Gr 4)

In this Chinese American retelling of "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," a careless Goldy Luck wreaks havoc on the home of a family of panda bears.

EPL: JPicture Yim.N

SPL: <https://skokielibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2084381133>

Yim, Natasha. **Mulan's New Year**. 2018. (Elementary)

Lunar New Year is Mulan's favorite festival! There is a lot to do to prepare for this important celebration, and for the first time, Mulan is old enough to help out. But everything she does seems to turn out wrong.

EPIC

Zhao, Katie. **The Dragon Warrior, Book 1**. 2019. (Pre-Teen)

Twelve-year-old Jade Society member Faryn Liu may be destined to command the Jade Emperor's army of demon-fighting dragons, but first she must complete a daring quest across several Chinatowns before the Lunar New Year.

EPL: J Zhao.K

SPL: Ask Information Desk

NONFICTION

Bullard, Lisa. **Chelsea's Chinese New Year**. 2012. (K—Gr 2)

Explains the significance of the holiday, discussing the traditional foods and customs.

EPL: Ask Information Desk

SPL: <https://skokielibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/1700280133>

Compestine, Ying Chang. **D is for Dragon Dance**. 2006.

(Youth, Easy Non-Fiction)

Introduces different aspects of the celebration, followed by a brief explanation of the dragon dances and firecrackers performance.

EPL: Ask Information Desk

SPL: <https://skokielibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/1475918133>



Lunar New Year—Ready to Read!

Lee, Jen Sookfong. **Chinese New Year**. 2017. (Gr 3—Gr 6)
Readers will learn how a simple gathering of family and friends grew into a weeklong, worldwide festival.

EPL: Ask Information Desk

SPL: <https://skokielibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2775560133>

Loh-Hagan, Virginia. **PoPo's Chinese New Year**. 2017. (K—Gr 3)
Introduces Chinese New Year social life and customs.

EPL: Ask Information Desk

SPL: https://skokielibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2613469133?active_tab=bib_info

Otto, Carolyn. **Celebrate Chinese New Year**. 2015. (K—Gr 4)
For two joyous weeks red is all around. The color represents luck and happiness. Children receive money wrapped in red paper, and friends and loved one's exchange poems written on red paper.

EPL: Ask Information Desk

SPL: <https://skokielibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2411482133>

SOURCES

Evanston Public Library (EPL)
<https://www.epl.org/booklist/lunar-new-year/>

Skokie Public Library: <https://skokielibrary.info/>
<https://coloursofus.com/16-childrens-books-about-the-chinese-new-year/>