

BMYC's Youth Zone - China

3 BMYC members present (one to facilitate each game)

Description

Chinese culture is centered around tradition and many of their games are related to legends. The games that will be played are: Zhuā zhù lóng wěi (Grab the Dragon's Tail) (5+), Bǐsài kuàizi (Chopstick Race) (7-12), and Cultural Scavenger Hunt (12+).

Zhuā zhù lóng wěi (Grab the Dragon's Tail) (5+)

Materials: NA

Aim of game: For the "head of the dragon" to catch the end of its tail.

How to play:

- Participants form a line with their hands on the shoulders of the participant in front
- The first in line is the dragon's head and the last in line is the dragon's tail
- The dragon's head tries to catch the tail by manoeuvring the line around and tagging the last player
- Those who are not the head do their best to hinder the dragon's head
- The line can never break otherwise the game is forfeited
- When the head catches the tail, the tail player takes the first position and becomes the new head

Historical Background:

The origin of this game is unknown, but it is still played in China. Chinese dragons traditionally symbolize potent and auspicious powers, particularly control over water, rainfall, typhoons, and floods. The dragon is also a symbol of power, strength, and good luck for people who are worthy of it.

Bǐsài kuàizi (Chopstick Race) (7-12)

Materials: Chopsticks, Bowls, Rocks/Marbles

Aim of game: to be the first team to fill their bowl with marbles

How to play:

- Two equally large teams line up single file.
- At the signal to go, a player tries to pick up the marbles in her/his bowl with chopsticks and carry them to her/his team's bowl 4 meters away.

- The player returns with the chopsticks and passes them to the next teammate and returns to the end of the line.
- The first team to successfully fill their bowl wins the game.
- The players must pick up the marbles one at a time.
- Hands are not allowed to touch the marbles.
- If a player drops a marble, she/he must pick it up, put it in the original bowl, and start again.

Historical background:

Chopstick Race is a traditional Chinese game that was originally used to develop skills with chopsticks and has been adapted over time and adopted by various different countries. The westernized version uses cups with holes and buckets of water.

Scavenger Hunt (12+)

Materials: NA

Aim of game: To find/accomplish all the things listed below

List:

- Learn how to introduce yourself in chinese
- Take a picture of something with your chinese zodiac sign
- Find traditional chinese clothing
- Take a picture with traditional chinese performers
- Find hong bao(red packets)

Historical Background:

The tale of the Zodiac begins with the Jade Emperor requesting a meeting with all animals. He decreed that the first 12 animals to meet him would have a year named after them. The problem was that the animals had to swim across a strong river to meet the emperor. The rat and the cat who were both poor swimmers decided to jump on the ox's back to make it across the river. On the way there, the rat pushed off the cat which made it lose its place in the 12 years. It is for this reason that cats chase mice. The rat ended up jumping off the ox's back and meeting the emperor first with the rest of the animals meeting the emperor after him.

Hong Bao are gifts presented at social and family gatherings such as weddings or holidays such as Chinese New Year. The red color of the envelope symbolizes good luck and is supposed to ward off evil spirits.