A Teaching and Learning Resource for Schools participating in the OZASIA FESTIVAL

MOON LANTERN FESTIVAL

OZASIA MOON LANTERN FESTIVAL
TEACHING AND LEARNING RESOURCE
Festivals are a time for rich learning experiences in schools

This centrED Teacher’s Resource has been produced to support participating SA schools in this authentic learning experience for the OzAsia annual Moon Lantern Festival.

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centrED, the education program of Adelaide Festival Centre, exists to make the resources of the Adelaide Festival Centre accessible to the school community and to support school curriculum. This program is made possible by the partnership between Adelaide Festival Centre and the Department for Education and Child Development.

Learning through the Australian Curriculum

Cross Curriculum Priority: Asia and Australia’s Engagement with Asia

The Adelaide Festival Centre’s annual OzAsia Moon Lantern Festival provides the impetus for rich authentic learning beyond the classroom. The Adelaide Festival Centre is leading the country in bringing together diverse communities for this celebration. The OzAsia and the Moon Lantern Festival are great examples of how the links between Australia and our Asian region neighbours can be explored through an array of performing and visual arts experiences. South Australian teachers and student audiences have a unique opportunity to increase their respect and understanding for Asian cultures while identifying with a diversity of perspectives and experiences.

Moon Lantern Festival

On the fifteenth day of the eighth lunar month 2015: Sunday 27 September - Term 3 Week 10 over 22,000 people of diverse ages and a multitude of cultural backgrounds gather in Elder Park, South Australia to celebrate the OzAsia Moon Lantern Festival. At a selected moment in the event program the thousands of people will be directed to look up to the bright full moon to sense the feelings of unity and connectedness. School students, their parents, teachers and community groups parade with traditional and contemporary hand-made lit lanterns through Elder Park celebrating the beauty of the full moon. Prior to the parade various Asian performances are held on the big stage and an Asian market for exploring.

Future dates for the Celebration

- 2015: 27 September
- 2016: 15 September
- 2017: 4 October
- 2018: 24 September
- 2019: 13 September
- 2020: 1 October
Teaching for Effective Learning (TfEL)

Actions

- Negotiate the nature of the learning and involvement in the festival with your class or Student Rep Council
- Create safe conditions for students to take risks and share their ideas and learning
- Establish and monitor explicit expectations and criteria for success and negotiate the modes in which students demonstrate their learning

Considerations

How can your students use this authentic context to demonstrate their learning?
How are you building a community of learning through the process?
How can you challenge and support your students to achieve a high standard for public display?

Developing expert learners by personalising and connecting the learning

Teachers’ comments on their students experience of the OzAsia Moon Lantern Festival

“Parading through the crowd, the look on my students faces as they realised they were involved in something big”
“We felt connected as a group – with the Adelaide Community and as global citizens.”
“We really enjoyed being part of a significant state-wide event. Students gained a greater understanding and appreciation of Asian culture and communities.”
“this was an opportunity to promote and showcase our school in a new and different cultural celebration.”
“A lovely sense of community – a village feel.”
“Overall my experience was truly something that both my students and I will remember for our lifetimes!”
“This authentic experience fits in perfectly with our study of the Chinese mid–autumn festival in Chinese lessons”

Inquiry/Focus Questions

- How do traditional celebrations provide an insight into the life of different cultures?
- Why do people celebrate festivals?
- Where do ceremonies originate?
- How do parades reflect community interest, values and beliefs?

Mid-Autumn or Moon Lantern Festival

- How do people across the world celebrate this Festival?
- Why is the festival important to Asian cultures?
- Why has it maintained its importance to Asian Cultures?
- How do different Asian cultures represent the Moon lantern festival?
- How have they changed over time?
Key learning ideas within the Australian Curriculum Priority:  
Asia and Australia’s Engagement with Asia

- The Oz Asia Moon Lantern Festival presents an authentic context to address the Asia and Australia’s Engagement with Asia Cross-Curriculum Priority in all learning areas through the development of key ideas, including:
  
  o The peoples and countries of Asia are diverse in ethnic background, traditions, cultures, belief systems and religions and have contributed and continue to contribute to world history and human endeavour
  
  o The arts and literature of Asia influence aesthetic and creative pursuits within Australia, the region and globally
  
  o Australians of Asian heritage have influenced Australia’s history and continue to influence its dynamic culture and society

- An understanding of Asia underpins the capacity of Australian students to be active and informed citizens working together to build harmonious local, regional and global communities.

- This priority is concerned with Asia literacy developing knowledge, skills and understandings about the histories, geographies, cultures, arts, literatures and languages of the diverse countries of Asia.

Cross Curriculum Ideas for Learning with the Moon Lantern Festival:

English –

Linked to General Capabilities – Literacy- Critical & Creative- Intercultural Understanding

- Write a report on how moon lantern festivals have changed over time.
- Research and read the stories about moon lantern festivals
- Write the procedure for making a lantern (see Parades & Lanterns Suggestions)
- Listen to stories about moon lantern festivals and discuss
- Write poems about how the Moon Lantern festival would look and feel like in different countries (see e.g of students poems on page 19 of this Doc.)
- Create a talk/presentation about the moon lantern festival for your class mates or your school
- Design your own recipe for moon cakes and write it out
- Critique your own and other students lanterns on completion.
- Explore celebrations as a form of storytelling and share narratives e.g. students interview students and community members
- Create a student learning journal for recording the experience
The Arts – Dance Drama Media Music & Visual Arts

Linked to General Capabilities – Literacy- Critical & Creative- Intercultural Understanding

- Use a variety of materials to make a lantern (see Parades & Lanterns suggestions)
- Create through Improvisation a short play about a moon lantern festival celebration
- Design a poster advertising Adelaide’s OzAsia Moon Lantern Festival
- Design a poster advertising an Asian Moon Lantern Festival
- Design a signature moon cake.
- Choreograph a moving dance for parading

Society and Environment

Linked to General Capabilities – Literacy- Critical & Creative- Intercultural Understanding-Ethical behaviours- Personal & Social

- Discuss how and why moon lantern festivals began
- Discuss why moon lantern festivals are important to Asian cultures
- Research how different Asian cultures celebrate moon lantern festivals
- Discuss how Asian and Australian cultures celebrate moon lantern festivals
- On a map label Asian countries that celebrate moon lantern festivals
- Create a map of Elder Park including the markets, stage and audience areas
- Research where and how moon lantern festivals originated
- Design and create lanterns based on an environment focus theme, for example: water and wild life
- Research other customs and rituals of diverse Asian countries

Design and Technology

Linked to General Capabilities – Literacy- Critical & Creative- ICT

- Design and make your own lantern (see Parades & Lanterns Suggestions)
- Take digital photos of your lantern and write about it
- Use Kidpix to draw a picture about a moon lantern festival
- Use Kidpix to draw a picture of your lantern
- Use the Internet to find out more about moon cakes, including varieties
- Use the Internet to find out more about moon cakes, including varieties
- Design and make a signature lantern that symbolises what’s important in your school, your community or your backyard.
Mathematics

Linked to General Capabilities – Numeracy- Critical & Creative

- Use various patterns to decorate your lantern
- Make a 3D shaped lantern
- Measure the dimensions of your lantern
- Graph lanterns according to size, shape and colour
- Calculate the distance of the parade route in Elder Park or in your school community
- Estimate and calculate the area in your school for a parade Source a map of your school and/or a map of Elder Park

Science

Linked to General Capabilities – Critical & Creative

- Explore different types of lighting for lanterns
- Explore the distance light can be seen from lanterns
- Find out what colours allow the most amount of light to be projected
- Discover what shape of lantern allows the most light to be projected

History

Historical Concepts

Locate and use a range of historical sources to research how different Asian cultures celebrate moon lantern festivals. Historical sources of information could include photographs, interviews with people, artefacts such as lanterns and costumes, websites, books and memorabilia.

- Examine the way a particular Asian culture has celebrated a moon lantern festival over time. Identify and suggest reasons for continuity and change in the celebrations.
- Research where and how moon lantern festivals originated. What factors influence the way a particular culture celebrates a festival? Use this research to explore the concept of cause and effect.
- Write a report or present a news item about a moon lantern festival from a particular perspective. What other perspectives might there be?
- Discuss the significance that moon lantern festivals have played in people’s lives over time? Consider why people over time have participated in festivals (historical empathy).
- Use an online timeline tool to demonstrate the history of moon lantern festivals chronologically. E.g dipity.com
Post festival Activities:

Linked to General Capabilities – Literacy- Critical & Creative- Intercultural Understanding-Ethical behaviours- Personal & Social

➢ Document the experience through notes, thumbnails, photographs and filming the parade
➢ Prepare a report with Power Point presentations or oral presentations

NOTES
History and Origins

Why did the Chinese Mid-Autumn festival also known as the Moon lantern Festival originate?

Whether it’s to honour the gods or celebrate long held traditions every part of the world has its share of great festival celebrations. China's festivals mainly fall into three categories, agricultural, religious and social festivals.

Through celebrations modern Chinese societies continue to retain their links with China and its values emphasizing the important place that tradition and longing for times past occupy in people’s lives. Besides the ethnic, geographic, historic, and linguistic ties that unite Chinese people, traditional festivals are one of the strongest bonds reinforcing the cultural identity of the Chinese nation.

The moon has long held a special significance, within many Asian cultures. It is a symbol of life or death and as it determines the calendar, it also determines when the rains will fall and has always been believed to influence the growth of vegetation. For thousands of years it was a rural rule that farmers should always plant during the new moon when the moon is at its fullest and brightest, it marks an ideal time to celebrate the abundance of the summer's harvest.

The first Chinese Civilisations arose on an agricultural base in the great river valleys and plans and agriculture became the most dominant employment and major source of production for Chinese people. Agricultural wealth has long supported the successive empires and cultures of China.

Today it’s not just the magnificent temples, palaces and terracotta armies of China’s past that remain but it’s wonderful tradition of celebrations and its longest and most significant is the celebration of the Mid-Autumn festival also come to be known as the Moon Lantern Festival. It falls on the 15th day of the 8th lunar month of the Chinese lunisolar calendar, it’s a legal holiday in many Asian countries, the other being the Chinese Lunar New Year.

During these ancient times, the Chinese emperors practiced the tradition of worshiping the Sun in spring, and the Moon in autumn. Rulers came and went, Empires collapsed and were rebuilt, the so called
“conquering barbarians ‘would invade and take over civilised communities, but the celebration of the Mid Autumn or the Moon lantern festival has survived over 3,000 years.

**When in Chinese History did the Moon lantern festival originate?** During China’s Zhou Dynasty (1066 BCE-221 BCE), there is evidence that the people celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival to worship the moon. It was in the early Tang Dynasty that the day was officially celebrated as a traditional festival and it’s most common present name (Moon lantern) was derived from the Tang Dynasty custom of hanging out lanterns on the night of the festival.

**CHRONOLOGY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BCE – before a common event</th>
<th>SIGNIFICANT DATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>8000 BCE</strong></td>
<td>Beginning of Farming in North China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1700-1025 BCE</td>
<td>Shang Dynasty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1025-771 BCE</td>
<td>Western Zou (Chou)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1045 – 1025 BCE</td>
<td>The Zhou destroys the Shang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>900-800 BCE</td>
<td>First raids into China by Northern tribes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>841 BCE</td>
<td>Beginning of dated history</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>771-256 BCE</td>
<td>Eastern Zou (Chou)</td>
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<tr>
<td>221-206 BCE</td>
<td>Qin Dynasty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>202 BCE – 8</td>
<td>Former Han Dynasty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-220 AD</td>
<td>Later Han Dynasty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>220-80</td>
<td>Period of the Three Kingdoms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>265 316</td>
<td>Western Jin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>317-589</td>
<td>Period of Disunity in Southern China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>317-581</td>
<td>Period of the 16 Kingdoms in Northern China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>581-618 AD</td>
<td>Sui Dynasty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>618-907 ADE</td>
<td>Tang Dynasty907-960 officially celebrated as a Traditional Festival (Period of 5 Dynasties Period and Ten Kingdoms)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>960-1279</td>
<td>Song (Sung) Established as popular as yje Spring Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1260-1368</td>
<td>Yuan Dynasty (most moon cake legends)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1330-1350</td>
<td>Plague rages through China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1368-1644</td>
<td>Ming Dynasty Forming of more customs for marking the occasion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Qing occupy Taiwan

Future Dates for the OzAsia Moon lantern Festival celebration

- **2015**: September 27
- **2016**: September 15
- **2017**: October 4
- **2018**: September 24
- **2019**: September 13
- **2020**: October 1

Moon Lantern Festivals – Celebrations across the world

The Moon lantern Festival is celebrated by many Asian Cultures, Chinese, Vietnamese, Thai, Laotians, Cambodians, Koreans, Japanese, Indonesians, Malaysians and Singaporeans. The South East Asian beliefs is that the moon provides positive influences over the earth during this time of the year.

**Moon Lantern Festivals in Australia**

Every year people of Asian descent celebrate the Moon Lantern Festival across Australia. In Australia ‘mid autumn’ is early spring so “the first full moon of the new season is a nostalgic time.

Winter is behind us and the energy of summer is on the horizon” (www.chinatown.com.au). People celebrate the beauty of the moon at public celebrations across Australia, as well as in backyards, with lanterns and moon cakes.

**Moon Lantern Festivals in Vietnam**

*Vietnamese name: Tet-Trung-Thu (Tet-Troong-Tho)*

It is one of the most popular family holidays, which is planned around their children because the Vietnamese people used to leave their children to play by themselves while they were working to prepare for the upcoming harvest.

The most popular Vietnamese lantern is the star lantern.

**Moon Lantern Festivals in Korea**

*Korea name: Chuseok or Korean Thanksgiving*

The festival occurs during the harvest season and Korean families thank their ancestors for providing them with rice and fruits.

Korean families spend three days together celebrating the moon by praying, eating rice cakes, playing games, dancing and singing.

**Moon Lantern Festivals in Japan**

*Japanese name: Tsukimi*

Moon viewing is when the Japanese people view the full moon in September in the clear autumn sky. They admire its beauty and pray for a good harvest of rice.

Japanese people believe one rabbit lives on the moon and pounds rice to make rice cakes.
Legends and Stories associated with the Moon Lantern Festival

As with all traditional festivals the Mid Autumn or Moon Lantern Festival has it’s connection with legends and stories that represent its origins.

Here are three legendary stories that have been passed down through the ages and through oral history. There are many versions of these stories.

The Lady - Chang’e Flying to the Moon

In Chinese culture, the moon is much more than just a piece of rock orbiting the earth reflecting the sun's light. The time of this story is around 2170 B.C. The earth once had ten suns circling over it; each took its turn to illuminate the earth.

But one day all ten suns appeared together, scorching the earth with their heat and instantly dried the crops and caused disaster to the people on earth.

A strong local archer, named Hou Yi, had great sympathy for the people suffering the blistering heat and decided to climb up to the summit of Kunlun Mountains and shoot down the suns leaving only one to benefit the people and the crops.

Hou Yi naturally became a hero and then married a beautiful girl called Chang’e.

The young Hou Yi was so famous for his perfect archery skills that he had a lot of apprentices, including the unrighteous Peng Meng.

One day Hou Yi was given an elixir of immortality as a reward for his heroic undertaking from the Queen Mother of the West with a warning not to swallow the pill before preparing himself with prayer and fasting for a year.

Hou Yi gave the elixir to his wife Chang’e for safekeeping and she took it as a treasure ( in other versions of this story the Queen is referred to as a Goddess and claims that Hou Yi actually stole the elixir )

One of Hou Yi apprentices, the unrighteous Peng Meng discovered this secret and planed to steal the elixir.

When Hou Yi and the other apprentices went out for hunting, Peng pretended to fall ill and stay back to forced Chang’e to give him the elixir. Knowing that she could not defeat Peng, Chang’e swallowed the elixir herself and immediately started floating up into the sky.
Chang'e’s love for her husband, was so great that she chose to be an immortal on the moon, close to the earth and her husband.

When Hou Yi returned and was told what had happened he became heart-stricken. He began calling his wife’s name endlessly until he found that the moon one night was extremely clean and bright and he could see a moving figure like Chang'e in the moon.

Within a short time, more and more people heard about the news that Chang'e had become an immortal and they would pray to Chang'e for good fortune and safety.

From then on, the custom of worshipping the moon on the Mid-Autumn Festival began to spread in China.

This story is one that most Chinese know and has enough importance that China has named its lunar orbiter “Chang’e.

**Jade Rabbit Making Heavenly Medicine**

This legend is considered to be an extension of Chang'e Flying to the Moon.

It tells the story of three fairy sages who transformed themselves into pitiful old men and begged for something to eat from a fox, a monkey and a rabbit.

The fox and the monkey both had food to give to the old men, but the rabbit, with nothing to share offered his own flesh instead, jumping into a blazing fire to cook himself.

The sages were so touched by the rabbit’s sacrifice that they let him live in the Moon Palace where he became the "Jade Rabbit".

At first sight, Chang'e, liked the Jade Rabbit and they became inseparable friends.

Upon hearing about the story of Chang'e and Hou Yi, the Jade Rabbit felt sympathetic to them and decided to make a special heavenly medicine, which could help Chang'e return to Earth.

He worked hard for years to make the medicine but unfortunately, he had no success.

On the Mid-Autumn Day it is believed the Jade Rabbit can still be seen making his heavenly medicine on the moon.
The legends associated with Moon Cakes

The tradition of eating moon-cakes on this festival has a long history in China.

There are a number of versions of the story about the revolution or rebellion that highlighted the importance of the mooncake to the Mid–Autumn festival.

According to one Chinese folk tale, it was during the Yuan Dynasty (A.D.1280-1368) a Han Chinese rebel leader named Liu Fu Tong devised a scheme to arouse the Han Chinese to rise up against the ruling Mongols to end the oppressive Yuan Dynasty.

He decided to coordinate a rebellion without it being discovered.

He sought permission from Mongolian leaders to give gifts to friends as a symbolic gesture to honour the longevity of the Mongolian Emperor.

Knowing that the Moon Festival was drawing near, he ordered the making of special round moon cakes.

Inside each moon cake was a message with the outline of the planned attack, eating moon cakes was not a Mongolian tradition so they would not be interested.

Inside the moon cake, Liu had his follower’s place pieces of paper with the date the Han Chinese were to strike out in rebellion -- on the fifteenth night of the eighth month. Families were instructed not to eat the mooncakes until the day of the Mid–Autumn festival.

On the night, the full moon shone brightly on the pathways to guide the rebels through the maze of the palace was the rebellion took place. Liu was able to get word to his people, who when they cut open the mooncakes would find the revolutionary message and set out to overthrow the Mongols, thus ending the Yuan dynasty.

Since this time on the evening of the Mid-Autumn festival, the eating of moon cakes and the carrying of lanterns are traditional celebratory practices along with burning incense, planting sweet-olive trees, lighting lanterns on towers and fire dragon dances.

NOTES
CREATING AND MAKING

The lantern design

May be a traditional or contemporary design
It may reflect themes of your community or your school
Use the cross-curriculum ideas to brainstorm lantern designs that mean something to your school
Schools may adopt a signature lantern from the Adelaide Festival Centre and design small individual lanterns to complement the large one

Some suggested Moon Lantern themes

- Asian animals
- Asian flowers
- Symbols of Asia
- Families and celebrations
- Australian and Asian foods
- ‘Aussie’ backyard items or sports equipment
- Natural elements: Fire, earth, water, wood, wind
- Forms of communication
- Transport

Once a basic design has been chosen, it is important to calculate if the shape has narrow elements that will not be illuminated by the interior light.

For example, if the design of a bird with out-stretched wings is very narrow the end of the wings might not be illuminated. This could be overcome by either additional lights in the wings, or by
making the wings wider. It helps to draw the lantern in a variety of profiles, face on, side view and overhead view. These drawings can be put onto overhead transparencies and projected onto butchers’ paper to be used to plot the sculpture of the lantern.

Constructing the lantern

Trinity Gardens Primary schools Dragon created and made for the 2009 OzAsia Moon Lantern Festival

Lantern Parameters (Note: applied to OzAsia festival event)

Signature lanterns:
- 2.2H x 1.1W x negotiable length metres
- This is based on the capacity of the transport truck, on-site storage and parade route clearance.
- Signature lantern can be a single piece or a modular construction of several parts which adhere to these parameters.
- Thought must be given to the ability of children to carry the signature lantern or whether adult supporters will be required.
- Lanterns of this size are not particularly heavy, but can be cumbersome - especially if there is a wind factor.
- Realise that you will need to carry your creation high, steady and proud for 45 minutes.

Small lanterns:
- Optimal 50 x 50 x 50 cm
- Small lanterns are suspended from the end of a 1 metre carrying pole.
- They need to be small and light enough to be carried aloft by a child for 45 minutes, large enough to display decorated panels to the audience
- The small lanterns need to be transported to the event by the school in private vehicles.
- AFC funded couriers carry signature lanterns only.
Workspace in Schools:

- A large, open-space area with tables, convenient water supply and no carpet is vital.
- The papier-mâché process involves messy, drippy, sticky, stainy PVA glue and is best done in a wet area with a plastic sheet on the ground or on the table.
- Similarly, children should wear smocks or aprons to avoid damage to clothes.
- During the project, space will need to be set aside for the construction and storage of the lanterns.
- If making a signature lantern, be aware that standard classroom doors are only 80cm wide (approximately 1.5m on the diagonal). This will restrict the size of your lantern elements. A room with double doors is preferable.
- An adult or older students are best to use the secateurs to cut the cane.

Materials:

- **Dry cane** can be used for the majority of lanterns. Soaking the cane overnight in water makes it more pliable, and when shaped into a position, and then bound with string, and left to dry it will hold an element of the shape.
- **Joining the Cane:** Use the cloth tape to join the pieces of cane together by wrapping diagonally around the two pieces.
- Currently through the **DECD Education Funding** selected schools are supplied with rattan cane, fabric tape and white tissue paper.
- **PVA:** and water needs to be mixed in a 1 to 1 ration to create the lantern glue mixture. Your school must supply the PVA glue and coloured tissue paper for decoration.
- **Cloth Tape:** Cut into small strips and then tear in half lengthwise to produce smaller width pieces.
- **Saddle Clips:** When creating a lantern on a base board, depending on the design, you can secure a staring ring, or pieces of cane to the board by screwing hammered out saddle clips.
- **Carrying Poles:** The carrying poles need to be placed underneath the base board to support the lanterns weight. Drill a hole in the carrying poles and base board and fasten with a bolt so that the nut of the bolt is at the top of the base board. This enables the carrying poles to be removed for storing and transporting the lantern.
- On the night of the event, schools are provided with **LED “stick and click” lights** for the small lanterns (which are collected and returned to the AFC).
- Collect milk cartons (cardboard or plastic), as they make ideal bases in which to stick the LED lights in small lanterns.
- If you are making a signature lantern, the school must also pay for the lighting component. This involves 2 or 3 fluorescent tubes (@$8 each) and a 12volt battery ($30). There may be other materials required for carrying larger lanterns (approximately $20).
- To continue the theme of your signature lantern, you can create smaller lanterns for students in the parade to hold. Using leftover bamboo sticks will help the students to hold the lantern high in the air.
The Making of Moon Cakes

Moon cakes are a delicacy eaten during the Moon Lantern Festivals. Usually round or rectangular, these cakes can have a variety of fillings including bean paste, lotus seed paste, melon seed and nuts.

Moon cakes come in square red and gold tins with Chinese characters and motifs printed on them, and containing four individually wrapped cakes, and are a traditional gift from one family to another.

Make your own moon cakes!

Syrup for Moon Cake
Ingredients: (A)
1.2kg sugar
1 litre water
1 lime - cut into 4 pieces, squeeze in the juice and put in the skin as well
3 tbsp maltose
Method: Put ingredients ( A ) into a pot and bring to a boil until sugar has dissolved. Lower heat and continue to simmer until thick and syrupy. Remove from heat and add the maltose. Stir well to dissolve. Leave to cool and keep for use as syrup for the pastry.

Moon Cake Pastry
Ingredients:
400g golden syrup
1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
1 ½ tbsp lye water (kan sui)
100ml peanut oil
550g flour
Method: Pour golden syrup, bicarbonate of soda and oil into a mixing bowl. Add in lye water and mix with wooden spoon. Fold in flour gradually and stir to form a firm dough. Let dough rest for five hours.

Lotus Paste Filling (Lin Yoong)
Ingredients:
500g lotus seeds (seong lin)
1 ½ tbsp lye water (kan sui)
340ml peanut oil
450g sugar
1 tbsp maltose
1 tbsp kao fun (cooked glutinous rice flour)
Method: Add lye water into lotus seeds, mix well and leave aside for 20 minutes. Pour in boiling water and cover for 20-30 minutes. Strain and wash the lotus seeds to remove the skin. Boil lotus seeds until soft. Put seeds into blender with some water and blend into a thick paste.
Heat wok with a quarter of the oil and a quarter of the sugar. When sugar turns light brown, put in blended lotus paste and the remaining sugar. Stir constantly until paste is smooth and thick in consistency. Add in the rest of the oil gradually. Keep stirring the paste until thick. Lastly, stir in maltose and stir well to blend. Sieve in 1 tbsp kao fun for a thicker and firmer consistency in the paste. Leave overnight before use.

**Making of Moon Cakes**

**Method:**
Divide your dough into even pieces of 40g each. Roll the dough into a ball and flatten out with your hand. Place the lotus seed paste filling in the middle of the flat dough and slowly wrap around it. Seal the edges and roll dough lightly between your palms until the filling is hidden.

Dust moon cake mould lightly with flour. Press dough ball into the mould. Knock the mould against the table to dislodge the moon cake.

Bake in a preheated oven at 180 degrees C for 10 minutes. Remove and leave to cool for 5 minutes. Brush on beaten egg glaze. Return to bake for another 10 minutes or till golden.

**Egg Glaze**
Mix these ingredients together:
1 egg yolk
½ tsp water
A pinch of salt
The following poems were written by Year 1, 2 & 3 students from Hills Montessori School in response to their first Moon Lantern experience 2006

The Moon Lantern Festival by Tyler Milhench (year 1)
The shimmering moon shone
On the rippling river
While the glowing lanterns bobbed through the cheerful crowd
The crackling fireworks explode through the dark night sk

Moon, River and Lantern by Jackson Erhart-Bruce (year 2)
Down on the river’s edge,
Moon glowing bright.
Lanterns shining in the night.
I carry my lantern,
Its eyes so green!
Can you guess what lantern I mean?

The Moon Lantern Festival by Jonathon Daly (year 3)
A bright, sparkling moon shines
Over the dark, dim lake,
Where the coloured paddle boats move and the black swans cruise.
Gigantic lanterns glow,
Fireworks explode
All different colours, in the dark sky.
What a fabulous night!

At the Moon Lantern Festival by Seth Garner (year 1, Hills Montessori school, 2010)
See the tigers, up in the air
In the new moon light
Crowds cheer for the tiger lanterns
See the pale moon rising
See the river ever so still,
Its black water holding the boats on top.
See the fireworks, colours so bright
It’s all for enjoying.

The Moon Lantern Festival by Charlotte O’Reilly (year 3, Hills Montessori school, 2010)
The exciting night where lanterns bobble up and down.
See the tigers and the hares
The river black and still.
See the lotus and the tea pot.
Drums, loud and easy to hear.
See the dragon and the fruit.
Fireworks bang, pink and green, gold as well.
A moon big and soft yellow.
This Resource provided by Robyn Goldsworthy
DECD Education Manager based at the Adelaide Festival Centre

Phone: 8216 8861 or email robyn.goldsworthy@adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au

THANK YOU to:
Renae Gardner for learning ideas
Designers Kathryn Sproul and Pauline Gallagher for creating and making ideas

Resources:

National Statement for Engaging Young Australians with Asia in Australian Schools, (Curriculum Corporation,

http://www.topchinatravel.com/china-guide/chinese-festivals-celebrations/
http://www.rugreview.com/atroc/atrochan.htm
http://www.chinahighlights.com/travelguide/culture/history-and-origin.htm