



The Shang Dynasty

One of Year 4's most popular topics is the Shang Dynasty, which offers children an exciting opportunity to delve into the rich historical tapestry of this Chinese ancient civilisation. Throughout the unit, students explore the fascinating life and accomplishments of the renowned leader Lady Fu Hao, a warrior and significant figure in Shang history renowned for her military prowess and contributions to the society. This cross-curricular project encompasses various engaging activities, including crafting intricate dragon bones from clay, an activity that allows children to express their creativity while learning about the arts and beliefs associated with the Shang culture. Furthermore, students study the complex hierarchy of Shang society, which provides insight into the roles of different classes, including the nobles, artisans, and peasants, thereby fostering a greater understanding of social structure. The educational journey also includes an exploration of the beliefs surrounding Shang religion, including ancestor worship and divination practices, which are central to understanding their worldview. Additionally, the children actively participate in a hands-on workshop focused on the Shang Dynasty, where they enact important rituals and observe demonstrations, which further deepens their appreciation and engagement with this remarkable period in history.


Tuesday 24th September 2024
Shang Dynasty




Family and Ancestor Worship ✓
Family was the most important thing in Shang culture. The Shang worshipped their ancestor after they died.



Ceremonies and sacrifices ✓
They were held by priests or a king. Sometimes animals or people were sacrificed.




Shang Gods ✓
The Shang's Shang Supreme god was called the Shang Di. The Shang people also believed in lesser gods.



Shang King with priest ✓

Shang King
The Shang King was the most most important person in Shang society. The Shang King was the closest human to god.



Tombs and burial Castles ✓
Poor people were buried in rows in group graves. That way in which a person living during the Shang dynasty was buried varied according to their social status.

