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D Is For Dancing Dragon: A China Alphabet (Discover The World)





Synopsis

Winding its way like a long dragon through 4,000 miles of mountains, desert, and grasslands, The Great Wall of China was built entirely by hand, taking hundreds of years and millions of workers to complete. That's just one of the myriad wonders of China children will discover in this far-reaching book. "D is for Dancing Dragon" brings China's history and culture alive by describing its unique customs, art works, music, foods, geography and wildlife. Children will learn, for example, that paper, ink, printing, umbrellas, kites and fireworks are all Chinese inventions. They'll find the secrets of how silk is made, how chopsticks work and why you should never cry on the Chinese New Year's Day. They will even learn a few Chinese words, as well as which astrological animal sign belongs to them. This captivating book is sure to be of special interest to anyone curious about this beautiful and mysterious land.

Book Information

Series: Discover the World Hardcover: 40 pages Publisher: Sleeping Bear Press; 1st Printing edition (August 1, 2006) Language: English ISBN-10: 1585362735 ISBN-13: 978-1585362738 Product Dimensions: 10 x 1 x 11 inches Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (9 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #635,876 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #98 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Asia #471 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Asia #24903 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction Age Range: 6 - 9 years Grade Level: 1 - 3

Customer Reviews

I have about 3 or 4 of these Chinese Alphabet books and this book is a definately up there as an awesome book about China A through Z with lots of interesting facts that some books do not have. I actually learned several new facts that I had not know prior. The way this book was done allows for the book to grow with your child as they grow. There is a picture representing the letter which I believe is done in oil paint and a few sentences of information. Then if you look to the left hand side

of the page there is much more detailed information.Here is a break down of each letter. I hope this is helpful to you.A - Acrobats (showing Lion dancers)B - Bejing (shows the Forbidden City, Summer Palace)C - ChopsticksD - Dragon DanceE - Ehru pronounced Ay-roo (an old musical instrument that only has 2 strings) this page also talks about the Chinese instruments.F- " Four Treasures of Study - brush, ink, paper and ink stone used for Calligraphy which is a must for every child to begin to learn since the Chinese language has no alphabet but characters that are for each word.G - Great WallH - Himalayan Mountain range & Mount EverestI- Inventions - paper printing, compass, abacus, wheelbarrow & fireworksJ - Jasmine FlowerK - Kites & doughL - Lanterns (also talks about the fifteenth day of the Spring festival marking the end of the Chinese New Year celebrations which is the Lantern Festival.M - MongoliansN - Chinese New YearO - Opera & shadow puppetsP - Giant PandasQ - Qin Terra-Cotta WarriorsR - Rice Paddies and terracesS - Silk RoadT - TransportationU - UmbrellaV - VegetablesW - WokX - Xie, Xie Mandarin for THANK YOU (pronounced She-eh She-eh)Y - Yangtze RiverZ - Chinese Zodiac (painted to look like paper cuts of the 12 animals)

Don't let the title fool you. D is for Dancing Dragon: A China Alphabet is not a baby book to learn the ABCs. Each layout features a letter and something for that letter related to China or Chinese culture that aren't all the easy, typical topics (e.g., B is for Beijing, E is for Ehru, O is for opera, Q is for Qin terra cotta warriors, S is for silk road...). Text is in a small font and fairly wordy (but really interesting!), targeting more the older elementary set or even early middle school if they are doing research and can get past reading a book that has "alphabet" in the title. Illustrated by a native of Shanxi Province, the pictures are really interesting and inviting.If you want to read my reviews of 35 different kids books having to do with China, visit my 7/2/2012 post on myoverthinking(dot)com

I like the Sleeping Bear press alphabet series and this one is another good entry. China is covered by using dragons, Beijing, the forbidden city, acrobats and other familiar subjects. It is very nice. You can read the poetry to children and read more thorough information on side. It seems pretty accurate and the pictures are very engaging and beautiful.

This is a beautiful book with a lot of good information. My daughter, even at 2 loves to look at it. It has large type for easy reading out loud, with more in-depth text on the side for when the child gets larger. A great book for those with adopted Chinese daughters.

Beautifully illustrated with text for the younger child to understand and additionally each page includes a more detailed explanation with some history about each Chinese custom.

I bought this book in preparation for a trip my family took to China, the illustrations are gorgeous! It's a fun book for many ages and has nice informational passages as well.

There was a hole in the book jacket that looked like someone had torn off a sticker. It was a gift so I had to give them the book without the jacket. It had been marked online as "new." Rather disappointed in that but otherwise the book was fine.

the kids loved this book

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