student activity 1

Name _____ Date _____

Dance Organizer

Use the chart below to help you organize your dance.

What is your dance about?

Circle 3 or add your own:Circle 2 or add your own:Use this column to makes notes about choreography, costumes, props, or your performance's settingJumping Turning Locomotion (Traveling)Flow (Bound/Free)Flow (Bound/Free)Open/Closed Movements Rising Sinking Streching/bendingFlow (Bound/Free)Flow (Bound/Free)	Actions	Energy	Notes
	Circle 3 or add your own: Jumping Turning Locomotion (Traveling) Open/Closed Movements Rising Sinking	Circle 2 or add your own: Force (Strong/Gentle) Weight (Heavy/Light)	Use this column to makes notes about choreography, costumes,



student activity 2

Name _

Date _____

Hóngbāo 红包

Read through the information about hongbao below before you create your own!



What is hongbao?

The word hongbao comes from the Chinese word hóngbāo 红包, which directly translates to "red envelope."

Hongbao are used in celebrations through Asia, but are particularly used in Chinese New Year celebrations. These envelopes are always bright red, as the color is symbolic of good fortune and a guard against evil spirits. The envelopes are usually filled with money and are emblazoned with intricate images and Chinese characters, invoking good luck and good fortune.

Hongbao origins & mythology

The practice of giving red envelopes on festivals and important milestones is not entirely clear and, as with many elements of traditional Chinese culture, has multiple explanations.

One of the most popular myths surrounding the custom involves a demon named Sui (祟 suì). This demon preyed exclusively on children. On New Year's Eve, he would emerge from his lair, slipping into the houses of unsuspecting families.

Once inside, Sui would enter the bedroom of the house's resident children. There he would drag his wizened talons across their foreheads as they slept. Awaking with a start, the child would let out a scream and be inflicted with a demonic headache.

To prevent this from occurring, one New Year's Eve a particularly devoted set of parents determined to keep their beloved son up all night. At first, they were successful, however as the hours dragged on it became clear that the little boy would not be able to make it through the night.

Determined to keep her son safe, the worried mother went to fetch eight lucky copper coins. After slipping them into a red envelope, she slid them under her son's pillow. Hoping this would be a sufficient deterrent against Sui's wiles, the family went to bed.

True to form, that night Sui slipped in under the door — eager to send yet another sleeping victim into a panic. However, as he approached the boy's bed, a hazy light began to radiate from under his pillow. The coins were beginning to glow! As Sui came closer, the light from the coins grew brighter and brighter until the rays pierced Sui's eyes like knives. He fled shrieking into the night.

The combination of the copper coins and the lucky color red had done the trick (with a little help from the gods). From that day on, the people of the land used red envelopes filled with money to fend off evil spirits.

Who gives and receives hongbao in China?

In contemporary China, red envelopes serve much the same function that they did in dynastic China: they maintain, cultivate and nurture relationships between different members of Chinese society.

Anniversaries

Birthdays

Graduations

• Births and baby showers

Special occasions involving guests

Usually, although not always, hongbao are given in the following contexts:

- Generational: from old to young (this is especially the case with children but also applies to young adults)
- Martial: from married to unmarried
- Employment: from bosses and managers to workers; promotions
 - orkers; promotions Festivals



Source: studycli.org/chinese-culture/hongbao/

Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company: Year of the Black Water Rabbit

student activity 2

Name ___

Date _____

Hóngbāo 红包

Use the QR code below to follow a DIY video on how to make your own hongbao.



While you're creating, consider the following:

- Who do you want to give your hongbao to? (i.e., parent, sibling, friend, teacher, mentor, coach, crossing guard)
- What color(s) do you think you should use for this special person, and why?
- Instead of money, what kind of gift might you put inside your hongbao?

