

## Mid-Autumn Festival

**Grade Level:** Grade Two

**Unit Theme:** Mid-autumn festival

**Ohio Standards Connection:** Foreign Language

**Standard:** Communication: Communicate in languages other than English.

**Benchmark F:** Identify people and objects based on descriptions.

**Indicator 7:** Identify accurate and inaccurate descriptions of people and objects (e.g., Snow is cold. The ball is square.).

**Benchmark I:** Dramatize songs, short stories, poetry or activities.

**Indicator 12:** Recite a poem or rhyme with body movements.

**Standard:** Cultures: Gain knowledge and understanding of other cultures.

**Benchmark B:** Identify and imitate gestures and oral expressions to participate in age-appropriate cultural activities.

**Indicator 3:** Sing/sign songs, play games and celebrate events from the target culture.

**Standard:** Comparisons: Develop insight into the nature of language and culture.

**Benchmark D:** Identify and describe products of the target culture and students' own culture.

**Indicator 4:** Identify similarities and differences between tangible products of the target culture and students' own culture (e.g., school supplies, toys).

**Unit mode(s) of focus:** Interpretive and Presentational

### Unit Description

In this multiple-day unit, students will demonstrate an understanding of insights gained into another culture through the examination of its practices (what the people do during the Festival in China), products (moon cake, tea, grape, some familiar music about the moon) and perspectives (what the people think of this festival in China and compared to the similar festivals in the US). Students will also review the words learned about shape, seasons, family members, etc.

### Performance Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- Have a general idea about what the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival is;
- Be familiar with the traditional things about the food and activities;
- Identify cultural items using previously learned vocabulary about shape, size, seasons, and family members; and
- Perform the song written for Chinese children, 中秋月儿圆又明 (zhōng qiū yuè er yuán yòu míng the Mid-Autumn moon is round and bright)

**Time Frame/Estimated Duration:** *Six classes / Three hours*

### **General Tips from the Writers**

- Modify the time needed for this unit based on class size and time it takes to move through the activity sequence.
- Teachers may choose the Thanksgiving Day in the US to compare with the Mid-Autumn Festival in China letting the students find the similarities and differences.
- Instructors may also prepare the food for the students on that day to interest students.

### **Pre-Assessment**

The purpose of the Pre-Assessment is to learn about the students' knowledge of the Chinese characters we learned before, and whether they have some ideas about this Chinese Festival.

- Using Attachment A, Pre-Assessment Chinese Characters of Mid-autumn, show the characters “中 zhōng ” middle, “秋 qiū” Autumn to the students and have the students tell the meaning of these two characters, “中” means, “middle”, “秋” means “autumn”.
- Review the characters “中” “秋”

### **Pre-Assessment Scoring Guidelines**

The Pre-Assessment shall not be scored. Use it to guide your instruction. As the first unit of Grade Two, you might need to review some Chinese characters related to this unit.

### **Unit Assessments and Scoring Guidelines**

#### **Interpretive Assessment**

Have students identify pictures of the festival and cultural products based on your description.

#### **Interpretive Assessment Scoring Guidelines**

Use the Interpretive Assessment section given in Attachment B, Post-Assessment Scoring Rubric to score the students.

#### **Presentational Assessment**

Have students sing the children's song learned during the unit. Videotape the performance.

## Presentational Assessment Scoring Guidelines

Score the students using the remaining sections of Attachment B, Post-Assessment Scoring Rubric based on the videotape of students' performance.

### Vocabulary and Structures

• 月	yuè	Moon
• 日	rì	Sun
• 星	xīng	Star
• 月饼	yuèbǐng	Moon cake
• 葡萄	pútáo	Grape
• 茶	chá	Tea

### Materials, Resources and Useful Web Sites

<http://bbs-files7.iyaya.com/20061002/20061002091752-7941.swf>

### Sequence of Activities

#### Day One

- Greet the students, then start the Pre-Assessment.
- Show these two characters to the students: “中” ( “zhōng” middle) “秋” ( “qiū” Autumn.) You may write them on two pieces of paper and ask students to tell the meaning. Because they have seen “中国” ( “zhōng guó” China) or “中文”( zhōng wén Chinese) many times, you can also explain that “中” not only means middle, but also means just right—no more and no less in Chinese. “Daoism”, also it’s the spiritual attitude of the Nation.
- Before talking about the character “秋”, review the words for the four seasons, “春” “夏” “秋” “冬” (spring, summer, autumn, winter) . Explain that the character “秋”: separates to “禾” (hé ) and “火” (huǒ) . , means “crops” and “fire”. In ancient China the people celebrated the harvest of autumn by burning the remains of the crops after reaping them. It’s better to bring some pictures when telling the story.

#### Day Two

- Ask two students to tell the meaning of the characters “中” and “秋”, and then introduce the festival “中秋节 zhōng qiū jié Mid-autumn Festival”.
- Have available two hula-hoops, or draw two large overlapping circles on the chalkboard or on a large piece of paper in order to create a Venn diagram that all students can see.
- Label one circle/hoop with the word “中秋节 zhōng qiū jié Mid-autumn Festival” and label the other with “感恩节 gǎn ēn jié Thanksgiving Day.
- Explain that you will ask the students to place pictures (or words if you feel they are ready to do so) related to the festivals in the appropriate circle/hoop. Explain that the overlapping area is for things that might be seen in both countries.
- Hold up individual pictures of scenes from both Mid-Autumn Festival and Thanksgiving Day. Make sure that you have an adhesive on the back of the pictures

or labels if you are attaching them to the chalkboard or to a piece of paper. Ask the students, “这是中国节日还是美国节日? Zhè shì zhōngguó jiérì háishì měiguó jiérì? Is this an image from a festival in China or in America?” Depending upon the picture shown, they should answer appropriately. Then attach/place the pictures where they direct you to do so.

- Continue in this way until all the pictures or labels you have are sorted. Then review the answers as a class. Make any corrections necessary and clarify any questions the students might have.
- For homework, have them compare these two festivals finding out how are they similar.

### Day Three

- Review the Chinese words of shape and size: “圆形”(circle), “方形”(square), “长方形”(rectangle), “星形”(star), “三角形”(triangle), “大”(big), “中”(middle), “小”(small).
- Using picture cards, present the new vocabulary and have students repeat as a class and individually each word or phrase to practice pronunciation and intonation: 日 rì (the sun), 月 yuè (the moon), and 星 xīng (star) and typical food of Mid-Autumn Festival, 月饼 yuèbǐng (moon cake), 葡萄 pútáo (grape), 茶 chá (tea).
- Have students identify from your description the sun, the moon, or the stars, the moon cake, grapes and tea.
- Have students use these words to make sentences describing the size of the sun, the moon and stars, and the shape of the good items.

### Day Four

- Review the words of family members by showing a family tree. You may use some interesting characters that the students are familiar with. See Attachment C, Family Tree. Pretend to have “Snow White” as “me”, then ask students telling the relationship with “me” by pointing to each picture.
- Teach students the following song called “中秋月儿圆又明” (zhōng qiū yuè er yuán yòu míng (the Mid-Autumn moon is round and bright). Use TPR story telling to illustrate the story of the song. See Attachment D, Children’s Song “中秋月儿圆又明 for the lyrics of this song. Ask the classroom teacher to help to do this performance. Have the classroom teacher act as the grandfather and you act as the boy. You could also download the song from a website with pretty paper-cutting flash cartoon characters in it.

八月十五月儿明呀  
爷爷为我打月饼阿  
月饼圆圆甜又香啊  
一块月饼一片情啊

Bā yuè shí wǔ yuè er míng ya  
Yéye wèi wǒ dǎ yuèbǐng a  
Yuèbǐng yuányuan tián yòu xiāng a  
Yíkuài yuèbǐng yí piàn qíng a

The Mid-Autumn Moon is perfect round, grandpa makes moon cakes for me, the moon cakes are sweet and delicious, each piece is with love.

### Day Five

- Start the class by singing the song “中秋月儿圆又明 zhōng qiū yuè er yuán yòu míng The Mid-Autumn moon is round and bright.)”.T
- Using either a worksheet you make up or using the pictures in class, have students identify from your description the items associated with the Mid-Autumn Festival.
- Tell the beautiful legend story to the students about Mid-Autumn Festival:  
Long long ago, there were ten suns in the sky. They took turns coming out bringing sunshine one by one. But, one day all ten of them came out together. A man called Hou Yi shot down nine suns and left only one sun to keep bringing sunshine everyday. He became a hero and almost everyone was grateful to him, except a man called Peng Meng. Peng Meng knew that he had a very precious pill that could keep people living all the time. One day when Hou Yi was out of town, Peng Meng broke into his house and asked his wife, Chang'e, to give him that pill. Chang'e didn't want a bad man to take that pill, so she had to eat the pill. As soon as she took it, she floated up and couldn't stay on the earth at all. She went to the nearest place, the Moon, because she loved her husband so much and did not want to be too far from him. After Hou Yi came back, he understood what had happened to his wife. He set the table under the moon and put the round cake and grapes, which his wife liked best, on the table. That day is the 15th day of Chinese Lunar calendar, so that people called it Mid-autumn Day.
- After telling the story to students, if sufficient time remains, play a game called Hou Yi shoots the suns. Prepare at least ten paper plates and hang them on the wall or stick them to the blackboard where the students can reach. Separate the students into two groups. Have every student from each group take one sticker so that all on one team have the same color sticker. Have students all stand five feet away from the plates. In turn, each team member will close his or her eyes, walk to the plate and try to put the sticker on the plate Sun. The secret is to try to have all the stickers on the plate Sun. After all of the students have had turns, count how many plate Sun have been “shot” by each team.

### Day Six

- Have a quick review of this unit, focusing on the new words. (“日”(rì),“月”(yuè),“星”(xīng), “月饼”(yuèbǐng), “葡萄”(pútáo), “茶”(chá)).
- Have a Mid-Autumn Festival Party with the students. Bring the moon cakes, grapes, and Chinese tea. Review the word round as the shape of the moon, moon cake, and the grape. It's a good wish for everything to go well. (See Attachment F for photo of mooncakes.)
- Have students sing and act out the song using TPR “中秋月儿圆又明” (zhōng qiū yuè er yuán yòu míng The Mid-Autumn moon is round and bright.). Videotape their performance to score later.
- Consider showing the video at an open house or other community event.

### **Differentiated Instructional Support**

*Instruction is differentiated according to learner needs to help all learners either meet the intent of the specified indicator(s) or, if the indicator is already met, to advance beyond the specified indicator(s).*

- Ask heritage students to prepare the traditional celebration of the festival and retell the legend story of Chang'e flight to the moon.
- Allow students who are initially hesitant to use word utterances or short expressions rather than complete sentences to respond to the questions. Partner these students in subsequent activities with students who can provide a strong model for complete sentences.

### **Extensions and Home Connections**

- If time permits, play the game called 求长生丹 qiú cháng shēng dān Get the Longevity Pill.
- Encourage students to sing the song for family members or friends. Have the students bring back Attachment E, Speaking Extension Activity, to show that they have completed this activity at home.

### **Technology Connections**

- The story of the Mid-autumn Festival  
<http://hi.baidu.com/%D1%A9%D3%F0%D5%DB%D2%ED/blog/item/6d415608d6868e950a7b82a6.html>  
[http://www.ymps.tcc.edu.tw/classweb94/UploadDocument/56\\_%A4%A4%AC%EE%B8`%AA%BA%A5%D1%A8%D3%A9M%B6%C7%BB%A1%ACG%A8%C6.doc](http://www.ymps.tcc.edu.tw/classweb94/UploadDocument/56_%A4%A4%AC%EE%B8`%AA%BA%A5%D1%A8%D3%A9M%B6%C7%BB%A1%ACG%A8%C6.doc)
- Traditional celebration of Mid-autumn Festival  
<http://www.china.org.cn/ch-jieri/zhongqiu/3.htm>
- Mid-autumn Festival Picture  
<http://image.baidu.com/i?ct=201326592&cl=2&lm=-1&tn=baiduimage&pv=&word=%D6%D0%C7%EF%BD%DA&z=0>
- The children's song  
<http://bbs-files7.iyaya.com/20061002/20061002091752-7941.swf>

### **List of Attachments**

Attachment A, Pre-Assessment Chinese Characters of Mid-autumn

Attachment B, Post-Assessment Scoring Rubric

Attachment C, Family Tree

Attachment D, Children's Song 中秋月儿圆又明 zhōng qiū yuè er yuán yòu míng

Attachment E, Speaking Extension Activity

Attachment F, Moon Cake Photo

Attachment A  
Pre-Assessment Chinese Characters of Mid-autumn

中  
秋  
秋 = 禾 + 火



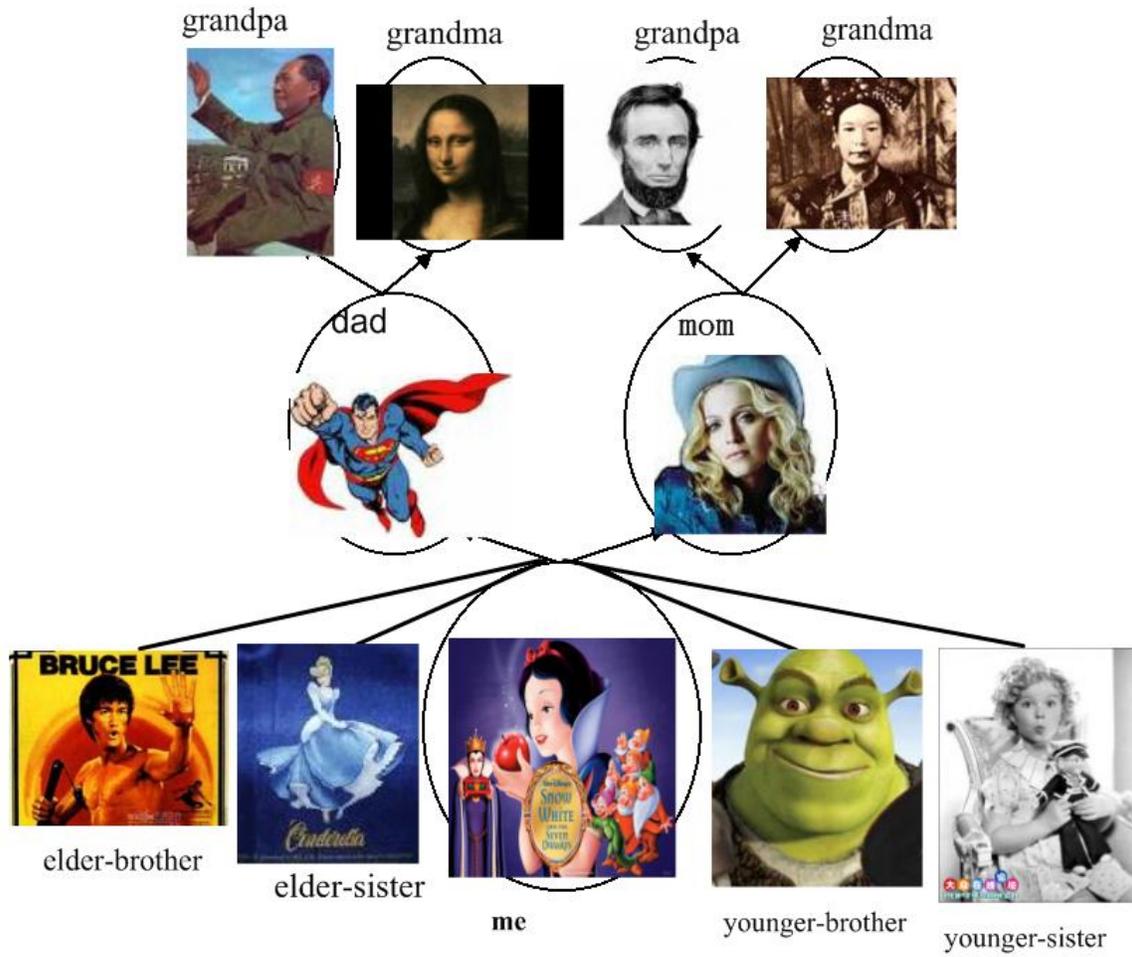
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**Attachment B**  
Post-Assessment Scoring Rubric

Performance Outcomes	5	3	1
Match the picture Mid-autumn Festival items. (Interpretive Assessment)	Student matched all pictures correctly.	Student matched most of the pictures correctly.	Student attempted to match at least one picture correctly.
Perform the children's song. (Presentational Assessment)	Student completed all parts of the children's song on the first try.	Student completed all parts of the children's song on the second or third try.	Student attempted to perform the children's song but did not succeed.
Clarity of speech (pronunciation, intonation, fluency/flow)	A native speaker easily understands student's remarks.	A native speaker understands student's remarks with some difficulty.	Student's remarks are not comprehensible to a native speaker.

Attachment C  
Family Tree



Attachment D  
Children's Song

中秋月儿圆又明

zhōng qiū yuè er yuán yóu míng

八月十五月儿明呀

bā yuè shí wǔ yuè er míng ya

爷爷为我打月饼阿

yéye wèi wǒ dǎ yuè bǐng a

月饼圆圆甜又香啊

yuè bǐng yuán yuán tián yòu xiāng a

一块月饼一片情啊

yī kuài yuè bǐng yī piàn qíng a



**Attachment E**  
Speaking Extension Activity

As an extension of the number learning in this class, your child has been given the opportunity to teach a family member a song “中秋月儿圆又明” (zhōng qiū yuè ér yuán yòu míng ). The song is:

八月十五月儿明呀  
bā yuè shí wǔ yuè er míng ya  
爷爷为我打月饼阿  
yéye wèi wǒ dǎ yuè bǐng a  
月饼圆圆甜又香啊  
yuè bǐng yuán yuán tián yòu xiāng a  
一块月饼一片情啊  
yī kuài yuè bǐng yī piàn qíng a

The Mid-Autumn Moon is perfect round, grandpa makes moon cakes for me, the moon cakes are sweet and delicious, each piece is with his love。

Once you have verified that your child has taught a member of the household the song by assisting that individual with his or her pronunciation and attempting to engage him or her in the complete task, sign this form and have your child return it to me.

Please trust that your child’s pronunciation of the vocabulary is accurate. Young children have an amazing ability to hear words and phrases and then pronounce them with great accuracy.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Remember, the more opportunities your child has to practice his or her Chinese outside of class, the better the chance that he or she will retain the language.

Xiè xie!

Thank you!

Attachment F  
Moon Cake Photo  
Zhong Wenxiu, Autumn 2010-12-10

