HOLIDAY HISTORY

LUNAR NEW YEAR



pogo

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CHAPTER 1

AN ANCIENT FESTIVAL

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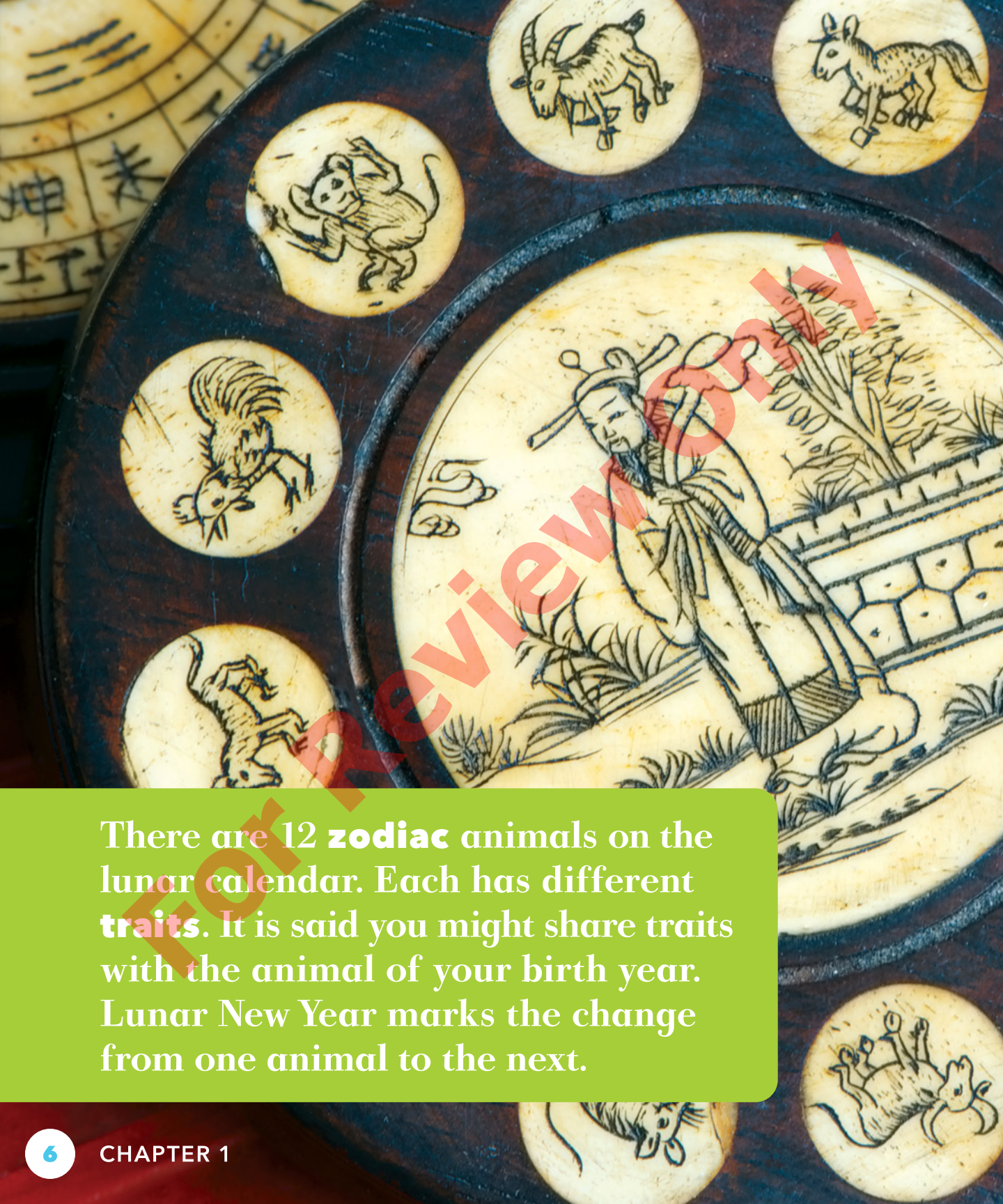
Lunar New Year is the most important Chinese festival. It dates back more than 3,000 years! **Ancient** Chinese people asked gods for good **harvests**. Today, luck and good **fortune** are **themes** of this holiday.



Lunar New Year takes place on the first day of the first month of the Chinese lunar calendar. The timing is based on the Moon's **cycle**. This means Lunar New Year falls on a different date each year. It is usually between January 21 and February 20.



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There are 12 **zodiac** animals on the lunar calendar. Each has different **traits**. It is said you might share traits with the animal of your birth year. Lunar New Year marks the change from one animal to the next.

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TAKE A LOOK!

What year were you born? Find your zodiac animal. What are the animal's traits? Take a look!



鼠 **RAT**
2008, 2020, 2032
charming and smart



牛 **OX**
2009, 2021, 2033
hardworking and patient



虎 **TIGER**
2010, 2022, 2034
confident and brave



兔 **RABBIT**
2011, 2023, 2035
kind and creative



龍 **DRAGON**
2012, 2024, 2036
generous and intelligent



蛇 **SNAKE**
2013, 2025, 2037
curious and wise



馬 **HORSE**
2014, 2026, 2038
funny and independent



羊 **SHEEP OR GOAT**
2015, 2027, 2039
creative and cheerful



猴 **MONKEY**
2016, 2028, 2040
friendly and intelligent



雞 **ROOSTER**
2017, 2029, 2041
loyal and funny



狗 **DOG**
2018, 2030, 2042
helpful and honest



豬 **PIG**
2019, 2031, 2043
caring and smart

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CHAPTER 2

LUNAR NEW YEAR TRADITIONS

In China, Lunar New Year is a 15-day festival. Schools close. So do many businesses. Before New Year's Day, people clean. Why? This **tradition** is thought to rid a home of bad luck and evil spirits. People patch up arguments. They pay back money they owe.



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People place flowers around their homes. They also decorate with red lanterns and banners. Why red? The color is considered good luck.

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