

## RESOURCES & ACTIVITIES

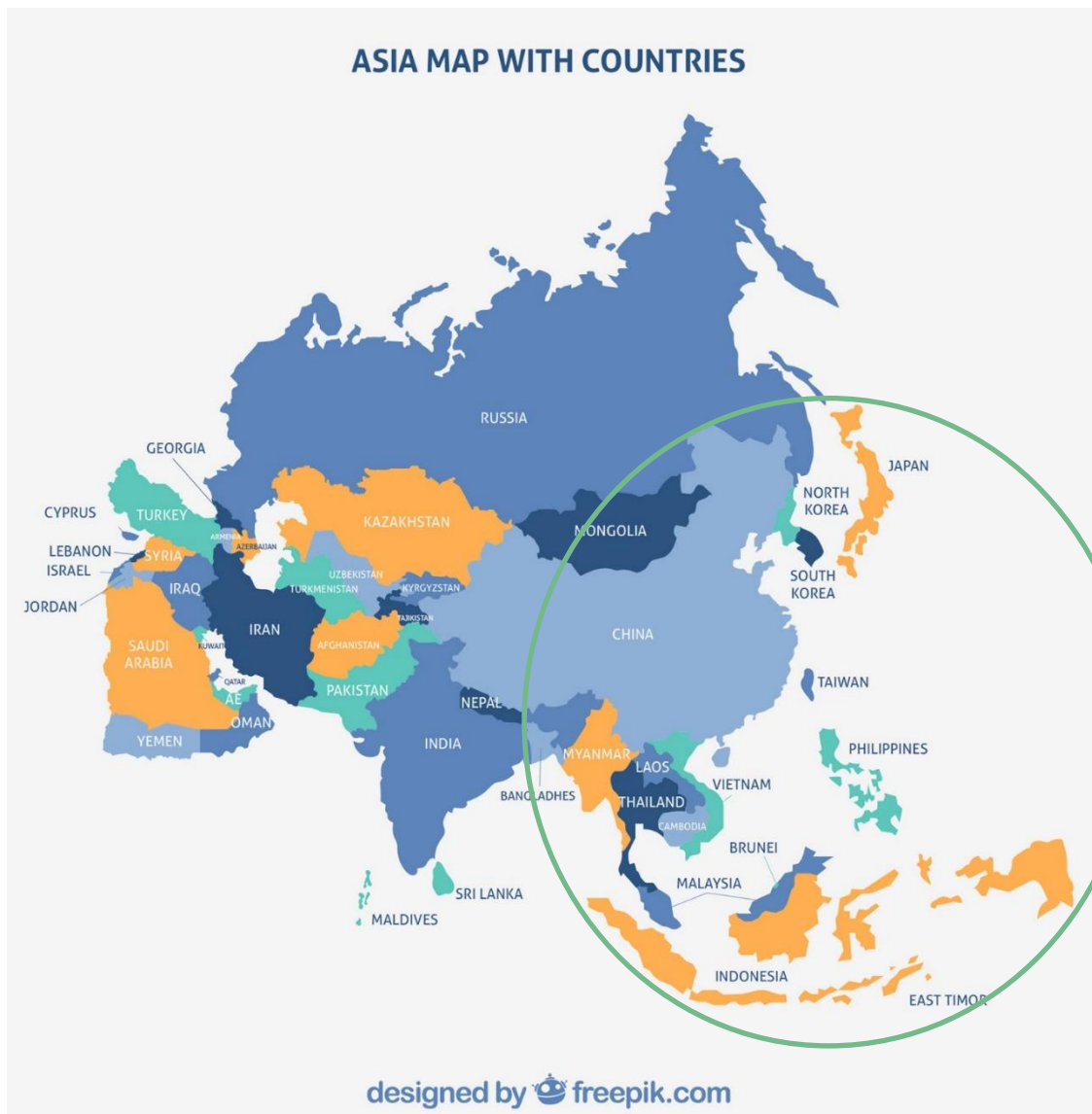
These activities are inspired by a beautiful Chinese traditional folktale as well as objects from the Museum collection. Please contact us by emailing [learning@meaa.org.uk](mailto:learning@meaa.org.uk) if you have any questions or want to send us pictures of your work.

**Disclaimer:** This document contains links to YouTube videos and external website links selected by the Museum team. The Museum of East Asian Art is not responsible for the content, accessibility, or privacy policies of external websites. The inclusion of a link to an external website from our website or downloadable materials does not entail an endorsement of that website, its owners, products or services. We also advise to have the necessary parental controls in place.

*Find links in green*

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Which regions are in East and South East Asia? Look inside the circle!



## The Empty Pot: A tale of honesty, flowers, and... pots!

The Chinese are known for making amazing art, and one of the most popular types of object are porcelain 'pots', also known as *china*. Porcelain is made using a very special technique, in which ceramics are fired at a very high temperature (between 1200 °C - 1400 °C), which was first discovered by the Chinese. Like glass, porcelain is extremely hard and watertight, but also very delicate.

It took a long time for the Chinese to perfect this technique, but it is believed that porcelain as we know it was developed during the Han Dynasty, 2000 years ago! Around 400 years ago, Chinese porcelain became so popular that people from around the world started ordering pots, plates, and other porcelain objects. This meant that people from Europe and other far-flung continents had the opportunity to understand Chinese art and culture through its ceramics.

### Watch, Read & Answer

['The Empty Pot' by Demi – 'Storyline Online' Video \(with Rami Malek\)](#)

[A different version of 'The Empty Pot' story to read](#)

**Question:** What is the message in this story?  
Circle the words which might relate to this story's message and talk about them with your parents or carers. There are no right or wrong answers.

Honesty

Empathy

Friendship

Beauty

Freedom

Creativity

Nature

Family

Emotions

Envy

Truth

Health

Love

Resilience

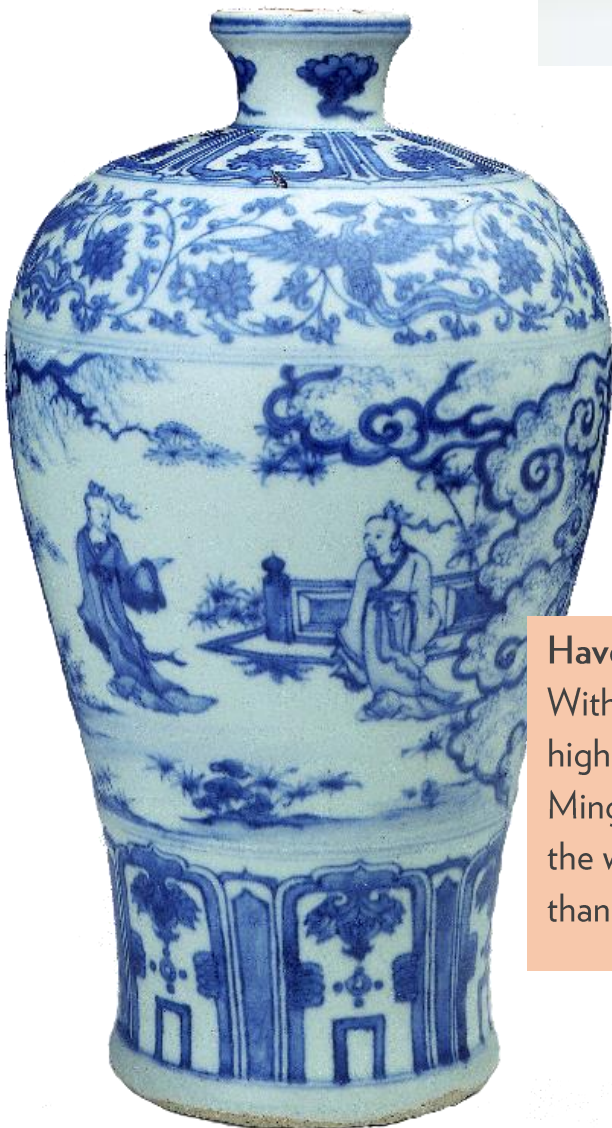
Integrity

Leadership

## Explore

Our collection has many interesting examples of Chinese ceramics such as vases, plates, pots, and so much more. Do you want to see them? Click [here](#) to explore our collection.

What do you think this object was used for? Click on the image to learn more.



Have you ever heard about Ming pots and vases? With its distinctive blue and white colouring, the high-quality Chinese porcelain made during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) became famous around the world. Nowadays Ming porcelain is so valuable that a single pot can be sold for millions of pounds!

## Learn

In China and other East Asian regions, flowers and plants are very important, and often have meanings which go beyond their beauty. Here are a couple of examples:

**Peonies**, known as 'The King of Flowers', are one of the most popular patterns found in East Asian art. They represent royalty, goodness and riches!



**The Lotus**, representing purity and goodness, is also a very important plant in East Asian art.





# Design

Explore the beautiful flower patterns in our collection [here](#) and design your own Chinese garden by adding your own flowers and plants to the empty pots.



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