

Rituals and Bronzes: The Shang
Dynasty of Ancient China
Teacher's Pack



**COMPTON
VERNEY**

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About the Workshop

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In the morning students will visit Compton Verney's Chinese Collection with a member of the Learning Team to explore objects and artworks from Ancient China. They will investigate the ritual bronzes, discovering their importance and learning about religion and life during the Shang dynasty. Students will also take part in a handling session where they will be able to get close to original objects from Ancient China, students will discover how we learn about early civilizations from the objects they left behind. Taking inspiration from the Chinese bronzes, students will create and design their own ritual vessel using air drying clay.

Key information

- KS2 workshop
- Workshop timings 10am – 2.15pm
- £9 per student
- Minimum charge £180 per workshop
- Maximum capacity 60 student per day

How to book

Email: Learning@comptonverney.org.uk

Tel: 01926 645 563

Learning objectives

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- To explore the Shang dynasty of Ancient China through original objects and artworks
- To participate in an interactive gallery experience, including handling an original Chinese bronze
- To gain an understanding of life in Ancient China including religion and ritual customs
- To gain knowledge of the achievements of the Shang dynasty
- To develop artistic skill and creative thinking
- To create their own clay pot based on the designs of the Chinese bronzes

Learning outcomes

- An appreciation of ancient Chinese art and ritual bronzes
- An understanding of how the bronzes were used and the significance of different types of vessel
- Knowledge of life, customs and religion during the Shang dynasty
- An understanding of the achievements of the Shang dynasty
- Developed artistic skills, including knowledge of different ways to make a clay pot

Itinerary

10am – 10.15am	Welcome and Introduction at the Learning centre
10.15am – 11.30am	Gallery Students visit the Chinese collection and explore the objects. They take part in discussions and record their observations through sketching
11.30am – 12noon	Learning Centre Students take part in a handling session with a real Chinese bronze
12 noon – 12.45pm	Lunch On the West Lawn or classroom depending on the weather. At the beginning of lunch all students will be taken to the Learning Centre to use the toilet facilities.
12.45pm – 2.00pm	Learning Centre Students use air drying clay to make their own Chinese vessel
2.00pm – 2.15pm	Plenary Students and teachers review their day and reflect on what they have learnt

For two classes

During the morning, one group will visit the galleries first and the other will explore the bronzes, they will then alternate. In the afternoon both groups will make their clay bronzes at the same time.

Top Tips

Planning your visit and making the most of the day...

- Your group will need appropriate clothing that they don't mind getting messy
- Prior to your visit please make us aware of any students with additional requirements or special needs so we can make all necessary arrangements to support your students
- Please bring suitable containers to transport clay work back to school, for example trays or cardboard boxes
- We recommended staff bring a camera to record activities in the Learning Centre, park and permanent collections.
- We're a cashless site, please contact us in advance if you would like the children to visit the shop
- Students will need to bring a packed lunch, and be supervised during lunch break

We encourage all adults to lead by example, that includes getting stuck in and having a go at the activities too!

- Teacher Ratio for Primary School 1:6 and Secondary School 1:10
- Children 12 years old and under must be accompanied by an adult at all times. The supervising adult must be over the age 18
- We cannot lead workshops or tours without a teacher present

On Arrival

- Coaches can drop off in the carpark. Coaches cannot drop off at the gallery owing to weight restrictions on the Upper Bridge.
- When arriving please enter through the gate behind the ticket lodge in the main car park. The walk from the car park will take approximately 10 minutes. A member of the Learning Team will meet you at the gallery

