**NIAN**

* NIAN IS CONCIDERED A MAN EATING BEAST THAT LIVES IN THE OCEAN
* NIAN COMES OUT OF THE OCEAN ONCE A YEAR TO REAK HAVOC, EAT LIVE STOCK AND HURTS PEOPLE.
* NIAN IS AFRAID OF LOUD NOICES AND THE COLOR RED

**RED ENVELOPES**

* THEY ARE FILLED WITH MONEY AND NEED TO BE IN EVEN AMOUNTS
* SENDING AMOUNTS THAT BEGIN WITH 8 OR END WITH 8 SYMBOLIZES GOOD WILL.
* DON’T OPEN THEM IN FRONT OF GIVER
* OLDER GIVES TO YOUNGER
* AMOUNT IS GIVEN BASED ON RELATIONSHIP
* TRADITIONAL OR COMMERCIAL DESIGNS
* BRINGS GOOD LUCK TO THE RECEIVER

**WHEN, HOW LONG, TRADITIONS**

* BASED ON THE LUNAR MOON
* BEGINS ON THE 1ST DAY OF THE NEW MOON AND ENDS ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE FULL MOON.
* WINTER ENDS AND SPRING BEGINS
* DATE CHANGES EACH YEAR
* FEB 19TH 2015
* 15 DAYS – EACH DAY IS A DIFFERENT TRADITION
* LION DANCE
* LANTERNS – LANTERN FESTIVAL TAKES PLACE ON THE 15TH DAY
* MAKING DUMPLINGS WITH FAMILY – VISIT THE OLDEST MEMBER OF THE FAMILY
* FIRECRACKERS
* DRESS THEMSELVES AND THEIR HOUSE IN RED

**OTHER THINGS I LEANRED**

* CHINESE INVENTED GUN POWDER
* LION SYMBOLIZES COURAGE AND STRENGTH
* THE CHINESE NEW YEAR IS THE MOST IMPORTANT HOLIDAY IN CHINA
* ACCORDING TO THE CHINESE CUSTOM, DURING THE 15 DAYS OF NEW YEAR, YOU SHOULD NOT SWEEP THE FLOOR, TALK ABOUT THE DECEASED, BREAK DISHES, AND CUT YOUR HAIR.
* FAMILIES VISIT THE OLDEST FAMILY MEMBER ON THE 1ST DAY OF CHINESE NEW YEAR.

**DRAGONS**

* DRAGONS REPRESENT POWER, WEALTH, AND WISDON
* STYLIZED EVOLUTION OF THE CROCIDILE
* DIFFERENT KINDS OF DRAGONS
* ACT AS GUARDIANS
* MORE TOES THE MORE ROYAL THEY ARE – UP TO 5
* FIRE DRAGONS WERE RED THEY ARE OUTGOING
* WATER DRAGONS ARE BLUE AND PROTECT RIVER, STREAM, RAIN, WATER.
* DRAGONS WERE MALE- DRAGON IS THE YANG
* THE CHINESE DRAGON IS MADE UP OF DIFFERENT ANIMALS. CARP/FISH, EAGLE, SNAKE, DEER
* METAL DRAGON IS SELFISH AND THE PROTECTOR OF GEMS
* THE DRAGON IS KNOWN AS “A FORCE OF NATURE” DOESN’T MAKE THEM MAD BECAUSE THEY CAN CAUSE BAD WEATHER AND DISASTER. IF YOU RESPECT THE DRAGON, IT WILL BRING JUST ENOUGH RAIN FOR THE CROPS TO GROW.
* BLAMED FOR GOOD AND BAD THINGS THAT HAPPEN
* EMPERORS CONCIDERED THEMSELFVES DESENDANTS OF DRAGONS
* THEY DIDN’T BREATH FIRE
* WOOD DRAGONS ARE BROWN – THEY ARE THE PROTECTORS OF THE FORREST
* EARTH DRAGONS ARE GREEN – GUARD THE EARTH, CROPS, AND MOUNTAINS
* DRAGONS WERE THOUGHT TO BE WISE CARING AND MISCHEVEOUS AT TIMES
* 5 DRAGONS WOOD, FIRE, EARTH, WATER, METAL
* CHINESE REFERTO THEMSELVES AS “CHILDREN OF THE DRAGON”
* METAL DRAGONS DID NOT ACCEPT FAILURE – PROTECTOR OF GEMS
* CHINAS NICKNAME IS “THE DRAGON”
* THE FIRST DRAGON APPEARED IN CHINE IN 3,000 BC
* THE DRAGON REPRESENTS GOOD LUCK
* EACH DRAGON HAS A DIFFERENT POWER ND PERSONALITY.
* THE LONGER THE DRAGON, THE LUCKIER IT IS