

## Four Seasons, Four Flowers, Four Birds Bulletin Board Set

additional website assistance

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This additional resource is intended to assist teachers who are using the Teacher Idea Sheet included in Classic Education Product FS001 (Four Seasons, Four Flowers, Four Birds).

### Bird Information (with pinyin and English)

#### 丹顶鹤

丹顶鹤因头顶有红肉冠而得名，也叫仙鹤、白鹤。因为它们生活在沼泽或浅水地带，又被人称为“湿地之神”。和其他的鸟类相比，丹顶鹤的寿命很长，一般可达50~60岁，所以成为了“长寿”的代名词。另外，也有幸福、吉祥、忠贞的寓意。中国人常把丹顶鹤和松树画在一起，从科学的观点看，不符合实际，因为鹤是生活在沼泽地的鸟。但从文化意义上看，却有特殊的含义，因为松树和鹤都代表长寿，所以中国古代有“松鹤延年”之说，并有赠送“松鹤图”祝寿的习俗。在道教中，丹顶鹤飘逸的形象已成为“成仙”的象征。

#### Dāndǐnghè

Dāndǐnghè yīn tóudǐng yǒu hóngròuguān ér dé míng, yě jiào xiānhè, bái hè. Yīnwèi tāmen shēnghuó zài zhǎozé huò qiǎnshuǐ dìdài, yòu bèi rén chēng wéi “shīdì zhī shén”. Hé qítā de niǎolèi xiāngbǐ, dāndǐnghè de shòumìng hěn cháng, yībān kědà wǔshí dào liùshí suì, suǒyǐ chéngwéi le “chángshòu” de dàimíngcí. Lìngwài, yěyǒu xìngfú, jíxiáng, zhōngzhēn de yù yì. Zhōngguó rén cháng bǎ dāndǐnghè hé sōngshù huà zài yīqǐ, cóng kēxué de guāndiǎn kàn, bù fúhé shíjì, yīnwèi hè shì shēnghuó zài zhǎozédì de niǎo. Dàn cóng wénhuà yì yì shàng kàn, què yǒu tèshū de hányì, yīnwèi sōngshù hé hè dōu dài biǎo chángshòu, suǒyǐ Zhōngguó gǔdài yǒu “sōng hè yánnián” zhī shuō, bìng yǒu zèngsòng “sōng hè tú” zhùshòu de xísú. Zài Dàojiào zhōng, dāndǐnghè piāoyì de xíngxiàng yǐ chéngwéi “chéngxiān” de xiàngzhēng.

#### The Red-Crowned Crane

The Red-Crowned Crane has a red crown-shaped head, thus its name. It may also be called "fairy crane" or "white crane." Since they live in marshy or shallow water regions, they are also called "the god of the wet ground." Compared to other birds, the red-crowned crane's life-span is quite long, up to 50-60 years; thus, they represent longevity. The red-crowned crane also can take on the meaning of happiness, luck or loyalty. Chinese people often draw red-crowned cranes together with pine trees, but this is incorrect scientifically, because the cranes live in a marshy area. From a culturally perspective, there is another special meaning, because pine trees and cranes both represent longevity, so ancient China has a idiom "sōng hè yánnián" to describe this. Traditionally, China also has a custom of giving large crane and pine tree pictures to celebrate a elderly person's birthday. Daoism believes that the image of an elegantly flying red-crowned crane is a symbol of becoming an immortal.

### 喜鹊

喜鹊是自古以来深受人们喜爱的鸟类，是好运与福气的象征，农村喜庆婚礼时最乐于用剪贴“喜鹊登枝头”来装饰新房。喜鹊登梅亦是中国画中非常常见的题材，它还经常出现在中国传统诗歌当中。此外，在中国的民间传说中，每年的七夕人间所有的喜鹊会飞上天河，搭起一座鹊桥，引分离的牛郎和织女相会，因而在中华文化中鹊桥常常成为男女情缘的纽带。

民间有许多关于喜鹊报喜的传说。其中，有这样一个故事：唐朝末期有个叫黎景逸的人，家门前的树上有个鹊巢，他常喂食巢里的鹊儿，长期以来，人和鸟有了感情。一次黎景逸被冤枉入狱，令他倍感痛苦。突然一天他喂食的那只鸟停在狱窗前欢叫不停。他暗自想大约有好消息要来了。果然，三天后他被无罪释放。原来是因为喜鹊变成人，假传圣旨。有这些故事印证，画鹊兆喜的风俗就大为流行。

### Xǐque

Xǐque shì zìgǔyǐlái shēnshòu rénmen xǐ'ài de niǎolèi, shì hǎoyùn yǔ fúqì de xiàngzhēng, nóngcūn xǐqìng hūnlǐ shí zuì lèyú yòng jiǎntiē "xǐque dēng zhītóu" lái zhuāngshì xīnfáng. Xǐque dēng méi yì shì Zhōngguóhuà zhōng fēicháng cháng jiàn de tícái, tā hái jīngcháng chūxiàn zài Zhōngguó chuántǒng shīgē dāngzhōng. Cǐwài, zài Zhōngguó de mǐnjiān chuánshuō zhōng, měi nián de Qīxī rénjiān suǒyǒu de xǐque huì fēi shàngtiān hé, dāqǐ yī zuò Quèqiáo, yǐn fēnlí de niúlang hé zhīnǚ xiānghuì, yīn'ér zài Zhōnghuá wénhuà zhōng Quèqiáo chángcháng chéngwéi nánǚ qíngyuán de niǔdài.

Mínjiān yǒu xǔduō guānyú xǐquebào xǐ de chuánshuō. 埧hōng,yǒu zh閏瀟g yī: Tángcháo mòqī yǒu gè jiào lí jǐng yì de rén, jiāmén qián de shù shàng yǒu gè quècháo, tā cháng wèishí cháo lǐ de què er, chángqīyǐlái, rén hé niǎo yǒu le gǎnqíng. Yīcì lí jǐng yì bèi yuānwang rùyù, lìng tā bèi gǎn tòngkǔ. Tūrán yī tiān tā wèi shí de nà zhī niǎo tíng zài yù chuāng qián huān jiào bùtíng. Tā ànzì xiǎng dàyuē yǒu hǎo xiāoxi yào lái le. Guǒrán, sān tiānhòu tā bèi wúzuì shìfàng. Yuánlái shì yīnwèi xǐque biànchéng rén, jiǎchuánshèngzhǐ. Yǒu zhèxiē gùshì yìnzhèng, huàquèzhào xǐ de fēngsú jiù dàwéi liúxíng.

### Magpie

Since ancient times, the Chinese people have been fond of magpies. Magpies are a symbol of good luck and blessing. In the countryside, for weddings and special events, people hang paper cuts of magpies perching on branches to decorate their homes. Chinese traditional paintings and poems frequently include magpies on plum trees. Also, according to Chinese folk legend, every year during the Chinese Valentine's Day, magpies will fly together to create a "magpie bridge" in order to allow the "Cowherd and Weaving Maid" to meet. Therefore, in Chinese culture, the Magpie Bridge symbolizes the opportunity for a man and a woman to meet and fall in love.

Chinese Folklore has many fairy tales involving magpies which can announce good news. This is the story: Towards the end of the Tang Dynasty, there was a person named "Li Jing Yi." In front of his house, there was a tree with a magpie nest. He fed the magpie every day, and so they became very good friends. One time Li Jing Yi was unjustly put in jail and felt very sad. One day his magpie friend suddenly came to the jail window and kept singing. Li Jing Yi thought that maybe the magpie was bringing good news. As expected, three days later, the good news came; he was released as innocent. The magpie became a person with the authority to falsely deliver a decree, therefore releasing Li Jing Yi. This story confirms that magpies are able to deliver good news. Thus, drawing pictures of magpies to predict good news has become a popular custom.

### 孔雀

孔雀被视为“百鸟之王”，是优美和才华的体现。在中国，孔雀仅分布在云南省，而云南是傣族聚集的地方。据说“傣”的含意就是和平，孔雀是傣族的崇拜物。在傣族人民的心目中，孔雀是最善良、最聪明、最爱自由与和平的鸟，是吉祥幸福的象征。

著名的孔雀舞就来源于孔雀优美动作的模仿。这种舞蹈也间接再现了傣族人民的民族性格和精神。他们在孔雀歌里唱道：“孔雀，最爱好和平，它的心像月亮一样光明……。”对于佛教徒和印度教徒来说孔雀是神圣的，它们是神话中“凤凰”的化身，也象征着女性的和谐美。

### Kǒngquè

Kǒngquè bèi shìwéi “bǎiniǎo zhī wáng”, shì yōuměi hé cáihuá de tǐxiàn. Zài Zhōngguó, kǒngquè jǐn fēnbù zài Yúnnán shěng, ér Yúnnán shì Dǎizú jùjí de dìfāng. Jùshuō “Dǎi” de hányì jiùshì héping, kǒngquè shì Dǎizú de chóngbài wù. Zài Dǎizú rénmín de xīnmù zhōng, kǒngquè shì zuì shànlíang, zuì cōngmíng, zuì ài zìyóu yǔ héping de niǎo, shì jíxiáng xìngfú de xiàngzhēng.

Zhùmíng de kǒngquè wǔ jiù láiyuányú kǒngquè yōuměi dòngzuò de mófǎng. Zhèzhǒng wǔdǎo yě jiànjiē zàixiàn le Dǎizú rénmín de mínzú xìnggé hé jīngshén. Tāmen zài kǒngquè gē lǐ chàng dào: “kǒngquè zuì àihào héping, tāde xīn xiàng yuèliang yīyàng guāngmíng ... ..” Duìyú Fójiàotú hé Yīndùjiàotú láishuō kǒngquè shì shénshèng de, tāmen shì shénhuà zhōng “fènghuáng” de huàshēn, yě xiàngzhēng zhe nǚxìng de héxié měi.

### Peacock

The peacock is regarded as "the king of the birds," and is very graceful and talented. In China, the peacock is most commonly found in Yunnan province. The Dai ethnic minority people live in Yunnan. "Dai" means "peace." The Dai people strongly adore the peacock. The Dai people believe the peacock is the kindest and smartest bird, pursuing freedom and peace. The peacock is a symbol of luck and happiness.

The famous peacock dance is an imitation of the peacock's graceful movements. This kind of dance indirectly demonstrates the Dai people's personality and dignity. Part of the lyrics to one of the Dai people peacock songs is: "Peacocks long for peace; their hearts shine as bright as the moon..." Buddhists and Hindus consider the peacock as sacred; peacocks are regarded as an image of the renowned "Phoenix" and can be resemble a female's overall beauty.

### 燕子

燕属候鸟，随季节变化而迁徙。春天一到，燕子就飞来了。因此，人们都亲切的称它是“报春使者”。又因燕子喜欢成双成对地飞行，因此成为了爱情的象征。燕子对筑巢的环境比较讲究；只挑选通风，干燥，光线好的地方安家。如果他们常常出入在某个人家屋内或屋檐下，那就说明这户人家的环境也很好。

人们喜爱燕子还跟一个传说有关。相传，玉皇大帝给燕子和麻雀的工作是一起帮助农民收稻谷。狡猾的麻雀不仅吃掉它的谷子，还吃掉了燕子的谷子，让不清楚真相的玉皇大帝惩罚燕子，让燕子吃虫子。但老百姓知道真相，所以从来不伤害诚实的燕子，而且非常爱护它。

### Yànzi

Yàn shǔ hòuniǎo, suí jìjié biànhuà ér qiānxǐ. Chūntiān yídào, yànzi jiù fēi lái le. Yīncǐ, rénmen dōu qīnqiè de chēng tā shì “bàochūn shǐzhě”. Yòu yīn yànzi xǐhuan chéngshuāngchéngduì de fēixíng, yīncǐ chéngwéi le àiqíng de xiàngzhēng. Yànzi duì zhùcháoc de huánjìng bǐjiào jiǎngjiū, zhǐ tiāoxuǎn tōngfēng, gānzào, āngxiàn hǎo de dìfāng ānjiā. Rúguǒ tāmen chángcháng chūrù zài mǒugè rén jiā wūnèi huò wūyán xià, àijiù shuōmíng zhè hù rénjiā de huánjìng yě hěn hǎo.


Rénmen xǐ'ài yànzi hái gēn yī gè chuánshuō yǒu guān. Xiāngchuán, Yùhuáng Dàdì gěi yànzi hé máquè de gōngzuò shì yīqǐ bāngzhù nóngmín shōu dàogǔ. Jiǎohuá de máquè bùjǐn chīdiào tā de gǔzi, hái chīdiào le yànzi de gǔzi, àng bù qīngchǔ zhēnxiàng de Yùhuáng Dàdì chéngfá yànzi, ràng yànzi chī chóngzi. Dàn lǎobǎixìng zhīdao zhēnxiàng, ǒyǐ cónglái bù shānghài chéngshí de yànzi, érqiě fēicháng àihù tā.

### Swallow

The swallow is a migratory bird, traveling according to the seasons. When spring comes, the swallow returns. Therefore, people call the bird "Herald of Spring." Since swallows like to fly in pairs, they symbolize romance. Swallows are very particular about where they build their nests. They will choose a well-ventilated, dry, well-lit area. If swallows build a nest under the eaves of someone's home, this means that the house is facing a good location.

The following folk story also demonstrates people's affection toward the swallow. The Jade Emperor gave a swallow and a sparrow the job of helping a farmer harvest his rice. But the sly sparrow ate the rice instead of harvesting it. And not only did he eat his portion of the rice to harvest, but the swallow's as well. The Jade Emperor did not understand what had happened, and so punished the swallow by making him eat worms. People know the truth, however, so they never harm the honest swallow and instead protect him.



 **Students take turns asking the teacher questions about the artwork.  
For example (with pinyin and English):**

1. 一年中有哪些季节?  
Yīniánzhōng yǒu nǎxiē jìjié?  
What are the four seasons?
2. 你最喜欢哪个季节?  
Nǐ zui xǐhuan nǎge jìjié?  
Which season do you like best?
3. 每个季节的气候是怎样的?  
Měigè jìjié de qìhòu shì zěnyàngde?  
What's the climate like in each season?
4. 这是什么花?  
Zhè shì shénme huā?  
What's the name of this flower?
5. 花的颜色有哪些?  
Huā de yánsè yǒu nǎxiē?  
What color are the flowers?
6. 花漂亮吗?  
Huā piàoliang ma?  
Is the flower beautiful?
7. 哪些花在春天（夏天、秋天、冬天）开放?  
Nǎxiē huā zài chūntiān (xiàtiān , qiūtiān, dōngtiān) kāifàng?  
What flowers bloom in spring (summer, autumn, winter)?
8. 这朵花有什么含义吗?  
Zhè duǒ huā yǒu shénme hányì ma?  
Does this flower have any particular meaning?
9. 这是什么鸟?  
Zhè shì shénme niǎo?  
What is name of this bird?
10. 羽毛的颜色有哪些?  
Yǔmáo de yánsè yǒu nǎxiē?  
What are the colors are the feathers?
11. 鸟会鸣叫吗?  
Niǎohuì míngjiào ma?  
Can birds tweet?

12. 这只鸟代表什么?  
Zhèzhīniǎo dài biǎo shénme?  
*What does this bird stand for?*
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 **Divide the class into four groups (one per season). Examples (with pinyin and English):**

1. 春天到了，我们去广场放风筝。  
Chūntiān dào le, wǒmen qù guǎngchǎng fàng fēngzheng.  
Spring is here; let's go to the square to fly kites.
2. 夏天很热，孩子们都到游泳池里游泳。  
Xiàtiān hěn rè, háizimen dōu dào yóuyǒngchíli yóuyǒng.  
Summer is very hot; the children all go to the swimming pool to swim.
3. 秋天比较凉爽，同学们一起去郊游。  
Qiūtiān bǐjiào liángshuǎng, tóngxué men yīqǐ qù jiāoyóu.  
Autumn is quite cool; students go on a field trip.
4. 到了冬天，伙伴们在一起堆雪人，打雪仗。  
Dào le dōngtiān, huǒbànmen zài yīqǐ duī xuě rén, dǎ xuězhàng.  
When winter has come, friends build a snowman and have a snowball fight.