

## Chinese Cultural Studies Online Resources for Parents

### Pen Pal Opportunity

<http://pingyuhomeofhope.org>

Next Towns Foundation, an American non-profit operates three "Home of Hope" orphanages in China. Each location has a separate website loaded with information about the children and operations, including photographs and live streaming video. The Home of Hope Administrators provide detailed and useful guidelines for email pen pals, and will translate between English and Chinese, if needed. The PingYu location seems to be well run and up-to-date. Exploring the website and corresponding with the children provides another way to learn about Chinese culture. As a non-profit orphanage, the group welcomes donations. The website, however, focuses on providing positive information about what they are accomplishing, and does not make a desperate cry for help. It is important for parents to preview sites and supervise any on-line correspondence.

**Videos.** Here are some videos you may want to watch at home.

- Lantern Festival  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=hskfOi7e27M&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hskfOi7e27M&feature=related) (2 minutes)
- Dragon Dance:  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=1XSgT0UXXW0&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1XSgT0UXXW0&feature=related) (4 minutes)
- BBC Four: Chinese Schools: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=C8cyb02YbU8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C8cyb02YbU8)  
(six 1-hour episodes)
- TED Talks: Yang Lan: The Generation That's Remaking China  
[http://www.ted.com/talks/yang\\_lan.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/yang_lan.html) (20 minutes)
- Grade School Children [www.youtube.com/watch?v=pOJ1Cbqf\\_h4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pOJ1Cbqf_h4)  
(3 minutes)

Other interesting websites:

- [www.chinahighlights.com](http://www.chinahighlights.com) An information-packed website put together by a travel company.
- [www.made-in-china.com](http://www.made-in-china.com) This business website is designed to connect China manufacturers with buyers. Amazing detail about the volume and diversity of products made in China, and facts about geographic regions and specific companies.

### Chinese New Year Crafts

Teach kids about Chinese culture while having fun! Find instructions for lovely crafts such as Chinese orange trays, red envelopes or plum blossoms, and many other fantastic Chinese New Year arts activities on Kaboose.com.

[http://crafts.kaboose.com/holidays/chinese\\_new\\_year.html](http://crafts.kaboose.com/holidays/chinese_new_year.html)