



Before you read

What can you see in the photos?

Do you use these things?

Read

The people of ancient China invented many things. Read about five important Chinese inventions.

Paper

The ancient Chinese invented paper. It was made from wood. The Chinese used paper to make books, maps and money. People used paper to make playing cards too and card games were a popular hobby.



Fireworks

Do you like fireworks? Fireworks are a Chinese invention. In ancient China, people used fireworks on festival days. In China today, fireworks are an important part of the New Year festival.



The umbrella

Have you got an umbrella? The umbrella is another Chinese invention. People used umbrellas for protection from the sun and the rain. Look! In Chinese writing, this is the word for umbrella: 伞



The toothbrush

How often do you brush your teeth? Did you know that the toothbrush is a Chinese invention? The first toothbrushes were made with animal hairs and bamboo. The Chinese introduced toothbrushes to Europe about 400 years ago.



The kite

The first kites were made from bamboo and paper. People used them for different reasons. Farmers and sailors used kites to learn about the wind. Soldiers used kites to send messages.



After you read

Find and write

- They were made with paper and bamboo _____
- The Chinese introduced this invention to Europe 400 years ago _____
- It was a popular hobby in ancient China _____
- These people used kites to send messages _____
- You can see this invention at Chinese New Year _____
- They were made from animal hair and bamboo _____