Ancient China

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| **Geography**  Where is China located? How did the ancient Chinese adapt to their environment? | * China is located on the continent of Asia. * The climate in ancient China includes seasons similar to those in North America. * The ancient Chinese fished, farmed, and irrigated the land. There is a variety of plant life in China. * The land in ancient China consists of forests, hills, mountains, and deserts. |
| **Government**  Who ruled in ancient China? | * Chinese rulers, called emperors, based their government on the Confucian model, which taught that the best ruler was a virtuous man who led by example. * Legalists stressed strength, not goodness, as a ruler's greatest virtue, while Daoists, who rejected the everyday world, believed that the best government was the one that governed least. |
| **Economics**  What did the ancient Chinese people use to buy and sell goods and services? | * The ancient Chinese traded goods with other cultures. In addition, they used metal coins in community bartering. * The ancient Chinese fished, farmed, and irrigated the land. * Silk was traded for other goods or services as they traveled the "Silk Route." |
| **Contributions**  A contribution is the act of giving or doing something. Many of the ancient Chinese inventions are used today. | * The ancient Chinese used characters and symbols as their written language. * The Great Wall of China was built by Shi Huangdi. He united China and built a strong, centralized, authoritarian government. His most remarkable achievement was building the Great Wall. * They invented many things which we still use today. Some of their inventions were: [Abacus](http://www.hitmill.com/computers/history/abacus.html), [Acupuncture](http://www.mikids.com/ChineseNewYear/Acupuncture.doc), Bronze, [Cannon](http://www.chinahistoryforum.com/index.php?showtopic=422&st=15), [Cast iron](http://www.computersmiths.com/chineseinvention/ironplow.htm), [Chess](http://www.yutopian.com/chinesechess/history.html), [Clock](http://library.thinkquest.org/23062/mclock.html) Coins, [Compass](http://www.smith.edu/hsc/museum/ancient_inventions/compass2.html), [Decimal System](http://www.computersmiths.com/chineseinvention/decimal.htm), [Fireworks](http://www.fireworks.com/safety/fireworks-history.asp), [Gunpowder](http://www.timelineindex.com/content/view/1119), [Guns](http://sunzi1.lib.hku.hk/hkjo/view/44/4400807.pdf), [Ink](http://www.kinabaloo.com/chinese_culture.html), [Kite](http://www.computersmiths.com/chineseinvention/kite.htm), [Martial Arts](http://www.cacbc.org/Learn_more/InterestingFacts.htm), [Matches](http://library.thinkquest.org/23062/match.html), [Paper](http://ipst.gatech.edu/amp/collection/museum_invention_paper.htm), [Paper money](http://www.computersmiths.com/chineseinvention/papermoney.htm), [Porcelain](http://www.west-meet-east.com/artcpo.htm), [Printing](http://www.computersmiths.com/chineseinvention/blockprint.htm), [Silk](http://silkery.com/invent.html), Tea, [Umbrella](http://www.chinavista.com/experience/umbrella/umbrella.html), and [Wheelbarrow](http://www.chinaculture.org/gb/en_madeinchina/2005-05/25/content_69096.htm) |