The Ancient China Teaching Kit was developed by archaeologists and educators at ICEAACH in collaboration with the Boston Children’s Museum and Boston Public Schools, with the generous support of the Henry Luce Foundation and the Annenberg Foundation.

The Ancient China Teaching Kit is available for rental nationwide through the Boston Children’s Museum. Kit rental is $75 for a 3-week period. To rent the kit, contact the Boston Children’s Museum at (800) 370-5487, X 231, or (617) 426-6500, X 231, or call ICEAACH at (617) 358-8000.

Fun, informative, and filled with replica artifacts and hands-on activities, the Ancient China Teaching Kit brings amazing archaeological discoveries from China to the classroom. Available for rental nationwide, the kit is an exciting and essential classroom tool for Social Studies, Language Arts, Fine Arts, and World History curricula. Designed with the needs of today’s educators in mind, the kit guides teachers through a variety of classroom approaches to life in ancient China. Used in schools around the country, teachers rave about this kit and how it provides all they need to get students excited about China’s ancient past.

Would you like to learn more? Call ICEAACH for more information, or visit us in Kenmore Square.

The International Center for East Asian Archaeology and Cultural History

ICEAACH at Boston University offers a variety of opportunities to learn more about Asian art and archaeology through our teachers’ workshops, public lecture series, and in our comprehensive, publicly accessible research library in Boston’s Kenmore Square.

The International Center for East Asian Archaeology and Cultural History

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Hands-on learning: Fourth-graders from the Edward Everett Elementary School (Dorchester, Massachusetts) explore how bronze and lacquer were made in ancient China.

DRAGON BONES!
AN ANCIENT CHINA TEACHING KIT

The extensive classroom guide leads teachers through current understanding of the diversity of cultures in ancient China, and shows the interdisciplinary nature of archaeology. Classroom activities can be easily integrated into a range of grades 2-8 curricula.
With the **Ancient China Teaching Kit**, students can explore in vivid detail such fundamental archaeological questions as: What was life like in ancient China? What did people eat? What were the first Chinese cities like? How were bronze vessels made? What was religion like in ancient China? How did the first kings come to power? How did the First Emperor of Qin unify China, and why did he build his huge terra cotta army? The teaching kit provides all the resources students and teachers need to answer these questions and more. Using this kit, teachers and students also come away with an awareness of archaeological methods and how archaeology is constantly changing our understanding of China’s past.

### What's in the Ancient China Teaching Kit?

The kit includes a comprehensive multimedia presentation, a highly illustrated Teacher’s Guide to Chinese archaeology, precise replicas of ancient artifacts for hands-on activities outlined in the accompanying lesson plan book, color overheads, age-appropriate books and reference materials, and a CD of ancient music being played on a 2500 year old set of bronze bells excavated in central China.

### Explorable Objects Bring the Past to Life

- **Oracle bones**, with the earliest form of writing yet found in China, and a **bamboo slip “book”**, the standard form of texts from ca. 1500 BC until their gradual replacement by paper documents in the first few centuries AD.
- **Bronze “knife money”** and a **bronze mirror**, examples of important metal objects from China’s Bronze Age.
- **Mineral ores** needed to create bronze (an alloy of copper, tin, and lead), including native copper, malachite, azurite, cassiterite, and galena.
- **2,500 year old music** produced on a magnificent set of 65 bronze bells recently excavated in central China, allowing students to hear the musical sounds and styles of the Bronze Age.
- **Carved jade** (Shang dynasty), **lacquer “eared cup”** (Han dynasty), and **miniature terra cotta soldiers** from the tomb of the First Emperor of Qin.
- **Food grains**, including millet, sorghum, and rice.
- **Silk**, one of ancient China’s many technological achievements that impacted other world cultures.

### Teaching Materials

- **Background reading and overheads** for teachers, explaining how archaeologists reconstruct the past.
- **Adaptable lesson plans** that cover a range of ancient China topics, and that incorporate the kit’s artifacts. Classroom activities can be easily integrated into a range of grades 2-8 curricula.
- **Selected books** for all ages, including China’s “First Emperor,” early writing, the Great Wall, science and technology, and Chinese creation myths.