**Civilization in a Bag**

***Your task****: Find* ***5*** *items that represent the key aspects of the Chinese civilization and include them in a paper bag. Explain how they relate to the civilization.*

Instructions:

1. On the front of a paper bag (large or small) write the name of the current civilization we are studying and your name (first and last.)
2. Think of 5 objects that represent people, events, places, inventions or ideas from the civilization and place them in your bag.
   1. The items do not have to be actual things but just represent important concepts. For example, for Egypt, you might put a picture of the sun to represent their religion. Another example, for the Babylonians, you might include a sharks tooth to represent Hammurabi’s Code “An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth”.
   2. If you don’t have actual items, you may make the items by **drawing** them carefully and **cutting** them out.
3. On a separate paper you must write 1 paragraph (4-5 sentences) for each object in the bag explaining how it represents the civilization and providing information about what it represents. That will be 5 paragraphs in all for all 5 items. An example of what one paragraph might look like is provided in the box below.
4. Staple your written paper to your bag when you are finished.
5. Your bag should be decorated according to your civilization. You may draw pictures **or** print out pictures.
6. You will present the items from your bag to the class.

**Some examples for China:** Pepper or picture of fireworks: for gunpowder

Picture of a tree: represent dynasties of China

**EXAMPLE: EGYPT in a Bag**

**5 items:** 1.wrinkled paper to represent papyrus 2.a rock for the pyramids 3.a label from water bottle for the Nile River

4. a piece of cloth for mummification 5.picture of the sun for their religion

1. **Wrinkled paper: papyrus** Papyrus was developed by the Egyptians for writing. It was much easier to use than the earlier clay tablets most people were using at the time. They used the papyrus plant that grew on the Nile River to make the paper. They also used papyrus for making mats, boats, and many other things. Papyrus was also sold &/or traded by the Egyptians to other people around 1000BC.
2. **Pyramids: a small rock or pebble** Stones for the building of the Great Pyramids. They built these pyramids as resting places for their pharaohs. They placed objects the pharaoh would need for the next life such as chariots, jewels and riches, foods, and anything they might need for the afterlife. Often times tomb raiders would come and rob the tombs. These pyramids took years to build. They eventually stopped building the pyramids and buried their pharaohs underground in the Valley of the Kings.
3. **Mummies: a piece of cloth**
4. **Nile: water bottle label**
5. **Akhenaton: Picture of sunshine**  The pharaoh who tried to change the religion of the Egyptians to believing in only the main god, the Sun god. The people didn’t respond well to this. They were very unhappy when he and his queen did this because they closed down a lot of the temples that were built for other gods. His son, King Tut, would later take over as pharaoh. Tut would revert the religion back to their original polytheistic religion. The people were much happier with this.