



Hand Fans

D D K Y S T A T U S
 S E C V J F K B H D
 Z C H I N E S E S G
 F O O H R W H B G K
 F R S O V P I A U U
 A A U K L X S M N F
 N T M V E Y T B T D
 L I M I K N O O A R
 N O E U L H R O L M
 X N R G P Y Y A N U

Word List

DECORATION HISTORY SUMMER STATUS HAND
 CHINESE BAMBOO FAMILY COOL FAN

4-H at Home

ON THE GO LESSON

CHINESE HAND FANS



INCLUDES

HALF PAPER PLATE | JUMBO CRAFT STICKS

4-H PROJECT AREAS

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT | CLOTHING



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

INCLUDED SUPPLIES

- *Half a Paper Plate*
- *2 Jumbo Craft Sticks*

ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES

- *Paint, Markers, or Crayons*
- *Glue*

BACKGROUND

The Chinese hand fan can be traced back thousands of years. The design of the fan often symbolized the social status; more decoration and higher quality materials indicated higher social status. Fans have been made from wood, bamboo, silk, paper, animals bones, and feathers. The fan has been used as decoration, to shield sunlight and to produce a cool breeze to cool you off on a hot summer's day. Today fans are decorated with designs, murals or written scripts. There are endless ways to decorate your fans. Use your imagination!

DO REFLECT APPLY

To create your own Chinese hand fan, first cut a paper plate in half with adult permission, and decorate it using paint, markers, crayons, or any supplies you have at home. Make your Chinese hand fan as decorative as you would like. Add symbols, pictures, or designs that are important to you. Next, decorate your craft sticks to match your paper plate. Then, glue two ends of the craft sticks together so they look like a "V". Let the glue dry. Glue your decorative paper plate to the other ends of the craft sticks. Let the glue dry completely before using. Use your hand fan to keep you cool during the summer months!

Reflect on how you made the fan: Was it easy, could you have made it more colorful or could have you used another material besides the paper plate? Think of how someone over a thousand years ago would have made the fan. Can you imagine how difficult it would be without modern supplies? Years ago the Chinese hand fan was used to keep you cool.

Would you be able to keep cool all day long using only the fan you just made?

Our clothing and accessories can communicate things about ourselves to other people. Chinese hand fans were a way to represent someone or their family, as well a way to keep cool. Do you use clothing or accessories to represent yourself or your family's history? Are there any connections between the Chinese hand fan and your culture or history? Is there anything you can make at home that would help represent your history or culture?



LEARN MORE

Project areas are topics that 4-H members can learn about on their own, with a friend, at club meeting, or at 4-H events. To learn more about the project areas you can explore in 4-H, please use our free resources online at <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/15266>.

To get involved with 4-H in Cherokee County, please contact Debbie, Cherokee County 4-H Youth Coordinator, for more information.

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