

The earliest found examples of Chinese writing are dated to this period.

Fu Hao, one of the wives of King Wu Ding, dies.

Slaves revolt in protest. The Shang dynasty is overthrown and replaced by the Zhou dynasty.

1600 BC 1400-1200 BC 1250 BC 1200 BC 1075 BC 1046 BC

The Shang dynasty is founded when Cheng Tang overthrows the Xia dynasty. He has the support of 40 other kingdoms.

King Wu Ding begins his reign.

The last Shang king, Di Xin, begins his reign.



Prior Learning

- Understanding the term beyond living memory.
- Use of sources of information to make judgements in History.
- Experience of learning about pre history ie: The Stone Age.

Artefacts



Jade spear



Oracle bones



Axe head



A ding made from bronze.

Vocabulary Dozen

Ancient Civilisation	The first settled and stable communities that later became nations and empires.
Shang dynasty	The earliest dynasty of traditional Chinese history supported by archaeological evidence. The dynasty being a family ruling for many generations.
Hierarchy	A system of organising people into different levels of importance.
Emperor	A king or ruler of an entire empire or country.
General	The leader of an army.
Yellow River	A major river running across North-East China.
Artefact	An object created by a human, usually found much later than it was made.
Archaeologist	Someone who finds and studies remains and artefacts from the past
bronze	A metal made from tin and copper.
jade	A hard mineral stone, usually green.
Oracle bones	Shoulder bones or turtle shells with Chinese writing on. Used to communicate with the Gods.
Cowrie shells	Small sea shells which were used by the Shang when trading as a kind of money.

Key Questions

- What and where is the Shang Dynasty?
- What was life like for different people?
- What were the religious beliefs of the Shang Dynasty?
- How do we know about what life was like in the Shang Dynasty?
- How significant is Lady Fu Hao's tomb?

