

Lunar New Year Animal Exploration

Use this guide to learn about Lunar New Year 2025: The Year of the Snake and to locate works of art in the galleries.



The Lunar New Year occurs each year between January 21 and February 19. In 2025, the first day of Lunar New Year is celebrated on January 29 with festivities continuing until the Lantern Festival, which celebrates the first full moon of the New Year on February 12. Unless noted, the animals in this list are on view in the Chinese galleries.

The snake, horse, ram, monkey, rooster, dog, pig/boar, rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, and dragon form a 12-year cycle. According to a Chinese legend, the twelve animals quarreled about who was to head the cycle of years. It was decided that a contest would be held to determine the sequence of years. The first animal to reach the other side of the riverbank would have the first year of the lunar calendar named after them, and the rest of the animals would receive their years according to their finish. All twelve animals gathered at the riverbank and jumped in. Unknown to the ox, the rat had jumped upon his back. As the ox was about to step ashore, the rat sprung from the ox's back and won the race. The languid pig was last. Therefore, the rat is the first year of the animal cycle, the ox is second, and the pig is last.

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People Born Under the Signs of the 12 Lunar Year Animals



ON VIEW
FIRST FLOOR

Snake (1929 - 1941 - 1953 - 1965 - 1977 - 1989 - 2001 - 2013 - 2025)

Rich in wisdom and charm, snakes are romantic and deep-thinking, plus strongly guided by intuition. Snakes should avoid procrastination and stinginess and maintain a sense of humor. Snakes are most content as teachers, philosophers, and writers. **Some snakes:** Pablo Picasso, Muhammad Ali, Edgar Allen Poe, Johannes Brahms, Charles Darwin, Gandhi, Abraham Lincoln, Oprah Winfrey, Taylor Swift, Caitlin Clark, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and Volodymyr Zelensky.



ON VIEW
SECOND FLOOR

Horse (1930 - 1942 - 1954 - 1966 - 1978 - 1990 - 2002 - 2014 - 2026)

The horse's capacity for hard work is amazing. Horses are very independent, intelligent, and friendly, but should guard against being egotistical. Horses are successful as adventurers, scientists, poets, or politicians. **Some horses:** Chopin, Rembrandt, Teddy Roosevelt, Jimi Hendrix, Edward Hopper, Aretha Franklin, Jackie Chan, George Bellows, Mike Tyson, and Joe Biden.



ON VIEW
FIRST FLOOR

Ram (1931 - 1943 - 1955 - 1967 - 1979 - 1991 - 2003 - 2015 - 2027)

Except for the knack of always getting off on the wrong foot with people, being the first to complain, pessimistic, and dependent on material comforts, rams can be charming, elegant, and creative. Rams are best suited to artistic, musical, medical, editorial, and educational endeavors. **Some rams:** Michelangelo, Frida Kahlo, Dorothea Lange, Charles Demuth, Xu Bing, Mick Jagger, George Harrison, Desmond Tutu, and Selena Gomez.



ON VIEW
THIRD FLOOR

Monkey (1932 - 1944 - 1956 - 1968 - 1980 - 1992 - 2004 - 2016 - 2028)

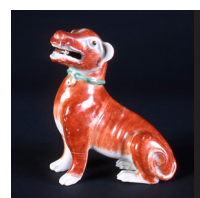
Monkeys are very intelligent and clever with magnetic personalities. Monkeys must guard against being opportunistic and distrustful but can be successful in any field that captures their interest. **Some monkeys:** Julius Caesar, Diana Ross, Modigliani, Leonardo da Vinci, Gauguin, George Lucas, Tom Hanks, Little Richard, Alicia Keys, and Alice Walker.



ON VIEW
THIRD FLOOR

Rooster (1933 - 1945 - 1957 - 1969 - 1981 - 1993 - 2005 - 2017 - 2029)

Roosters are flashy, extravagant, hardworking, shrewd, decisive, and opinionated dreamers. Professions suited to roosters include political, diplomatic, literary, and artistic. **Some roosters:** Buddha, Ptolemy, Benjamin Franklin, St. Patrick, Meghan Markle, Amelia Earhart, Rudyard. Kipling, Groucho Marx, Salvador Dali, Bob Marley, Beyoncé, Ariana Grande, and Eric Clapton.



ON VIEW
THIRD FLOOR

Dog (1922 - 1934 - 1946 - 1958 - 1970 - 1982 - 1994 - 2006 - 2018 - 2030)

Dogs are loyal, honest, and faithful, but plagued by worry, a sharp tongue, and a tendency to be a fault finder. Dogs make excellent businesspeople, activists, and teachers. **Some dogs:** Socrates, Alexander Calder, Winston Churchill, Benjamin Franklin, George Gershwin, Jane Goodall, Mother Teresa, Golda Meir, Steven Spielberg, Michael Jackson, and Donald Trump.



ON VIEW
SECOND FLOOR

Pig/Boar (1923 - 1935 - 1947 - 1959 - 1971 - 1983 - 1995 - 2007 - 2019 - 2031)

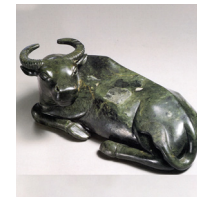
Boars are splendid intellectual, sincere, tolerant, and honest companions. In expecting others to reciprocate, boars are incredibly naïve, and their quest for material goods could be their downfall. They have an inborn need to set difficult goals and carry them out, and are happiest in artistic or diplomatic endeavors. **Some boars:** Joaquín Sorolla, Ernest Hemingway, Diego Rivera, Elton John, Henry VIII, Juan Gris, Georgia O'Keeffe, Rufino Tamayo, Jackson Pollock, Kublai Khan, the Dalai Lama, Snoop Dogg, and Elon Musk.



NOT ON VIEW

Rat (1924 - 1936 - 1948 - 1960 - 1972 - 1984 - 1996 - 2008 - 2020 - 2032)

Rats are imaginative, charming, and truly generous to loved ones, yet tend to be quick-tempered, overly critical, and opportunistic. Those born under the sign of the rat should be happy as writers, artists, and politicians. **Some rats:** Marie Antoinette, Mozart, Shakespeare, George Washington, Monet, Cézanne, Rodin, Gordon Parks, Yves St Laurent, King Charles III, Prince Harry, Mark Zuckerberg, and Dwayne Johnson.



ON VIEW
SECOND FLOOR

Ox/ Water Buffalo (1937 - 1949 - 1961 - 1973 - 1985 - 1997 - 2009 - 2021 - 2033)

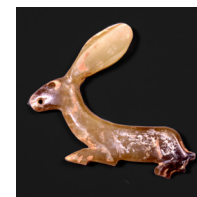
People born in the year of the ox are confident, conservative, methodical, dexterous leaders who must guard against being chauvinistic and demanding. Political and educational professions are suited to ox people. **Some oxen:** Napoleon Bonaparte, the Qianlong Emperor, Walt Disney, Rosa Parks, Van Gogh, Barack Obama, Louis Armstrong, Handel, Benjamin Netanyahu, and Simone Biles.



ON VIEW
SECOND FLOOR

Tiger (1926 - 1938 - 1950 - 1962 - 1974 - 1986 - 1998 - 2010 - 2022 - 2034)

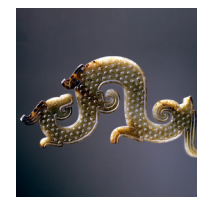
Tigers are sensitive, emotional, and capable of great love. However, they tend to get carried away and be stubborn about what they think is right and are often seen as hotheaded or rebellious. A tiger would be excellent as a leader, explorer, or competitor. **Some tigers:** Camille Pissarro, Emily Dickinson, Muhammad, Marilyn Monroe, Marco Polo, Beatrix Potter, Tina Turner, Stevie Wonder, Beethoven, Lady Gaga, Joaquin Phoenix, Queen Elizabeth II, and Narendra Modi.



ON VIEW
FIRST FLOOR

Rabbit (1927 - 1939 - 1951 - 1963 - 1975 - 1987 - 1999 - 2011 - 2023 - 2035)

It is said that those born in the year of the rabbit are the luckiest of them all. This is because rabbits are gentle, talented, friendly, and always gracious. These qualities make them popular. Sometimes, a rabbit can be very shy and sentimental, but if they can overcome that, they can succeed in almost everything. **Some rabbits:** Johann Sebastian Bach, Albert Einstein, Tina Turner, Qianlong Emperor, Queen Victoria, Michael Jordan, Whitney Houston, and Lionel Messi.



ON VIEW
FIRST FLOOR

Dragon (1928 - 1940 - 1952 - 1964 - 1976 - 1988 - 2000 - 2012 - 2024 - 2036)

Full of vitality and enthusiasm, the dragon is a popular individual even with the reputation of being foolhardy and a "big mouth" at times. Dragons are intelligent, gifted, and perfectionists. These qualities make them unduly demanding of others. Conversely, dragons tend to be soft-hearted which sometimes gives others an advantage over them. A dragon would be well suited to be an artist, priest, or politician. **Some dragons:** Joan of Arc, Pearl S. Buck, Sigmund Freud, Rubens, Claes Oldenburg, Warhol, John Lennon, Martin Luther King, Ryan Reynolds, and Kamala Harris.