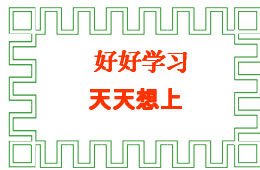


## RENREN CHINESE 人人中文



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A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CHINESE LEARNERS

## Traditional Chinese Holiday

chóng yáng jié

重阳节

The Double Ninth Day Festival

The Double Ninth Day is observed, as one of the traditional festivals, by Chinese on the 9th day of the 9th lunar month (this year is on Oct 16). It is known as Chong Yang Jie in Chinese because “Chong” means double, “Yang” suggests nine; according to the ancient Chinese book “*Yi Jing*” (or *I-Ching*, The Book of Changes), “nine” was considered as the *yang* number. The ninth day of the ninth lunar month include two *yang* numbers, so the day is called ‘Double Yang’ or “Double nine”; and “Jie” means festival.

Long ago, the festival was marked by climbing heights (mountains), enjoying chrysanthemum flowers, drinking chrysanthemum flower wine, wearing cornel twigs (dogwood), eating Double Ninth cake and so on.

In the recent years something new was added into the old festival and it became an annual “Respect-the-Senior Festival” (敬老节). At this day, people will hold all kinds of activities to show their respect to the senior people and wish them be always healthy and happy.

## News and Events

Ray CFL teachers conducted a self-training session on September 20. Ms. Zhang, Ms. Zhou, Ms. Cheng and Ms. Lee discussed the concerns in regarding to the Chinese education for non-heritage students: 1) there is no direct language and culture background or links for most of our students; some of students are lack of motivation and appreciation for learning Chinese. 2) Students spend much less time than required to study at home and there is no or very limited assistance from parents at home. 3) Students are absent from our valuable classes due to schedule’s conflicts way too frequently. Teachers also exchanged their teaching methods and how to utilize computer technology and on-line resources more effectively. After the training, Ms. Zhou created a public folder on-line to better and easier sharing and exchanging documents and ideas among CFL teachers.

CHIEF EDITOR

JEAN CHENG

JOINT EFFORTS OF

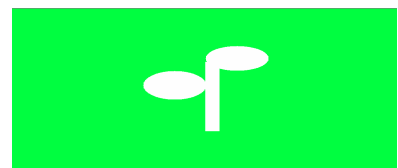
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每月一字

Word of the Month

What's in a Chinese Character  
What's in a Chinese Character

xiǎo

小

3 strokes

Small, petty, young

小吃: snacks

小孩: child

A vertical stroke (丨), separating two little ones gave man his concept of "small". The idea was also derived from the division of an object already small by its nature. To man, division makes small and multiplication makes big a thing.



.Practice Chinese Characters (s) here:

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RCS Calendar and Holidays

October 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	chóngyángjié 16 重阳节
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 No School
31 Halloween						

November 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 gǎnēnjié 感恩节	26	27 No School
28	29	30				