

Great Wall of China

万里长城



Click on the picture to see a video produced by TED-Ed on the history of the Great Wall of China.
<https://youtu.be/23oHqNEqRyo>

A visit to the Great Wall of China, which is said to be the longest man made wall in history, is probably on a lot of people's bucket list. It is approximately 21,196 km long and took more than 2,000 years to build across several dynasties. During the course of construction, many workers died and their bodies are said to be buried within the wall.

The Great Wall was not always that long. It started off as a series of smaller wall in the 7th century B.C., made from materials like earth, woods, branches, sand and stones, back when China was still divided into many smaller states.

In 221 B.C. it was the famous Emperor Qin Shihuang who united the states together and connected all the smaller walls into one big wall (now known as the Great Wall) to help stop the regular raids from the "barbarians" of the North.

The Great Wall has been rebuilt, modified and extended throughout Chinese history. Most of the Great Wall we see today was built in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) when bricks and stones were used for construction.

China is not the only country used walls for its boundaries. Countries like England (Hadrian's Wall) and Iraq (Wall of Babylon) all built walls for the purpose of keeping invaders out. Today the Great Wall of China is no longer serving as a military defence mechanism, but is a cultural destination which draws thousands of visitors to admire it as one of the largest man-made structure in the world.



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Wall of Blessings

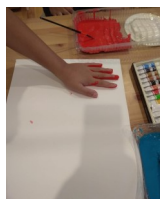
祈Qí福fú墙Qiáng

Constant battles and wars occurred throughout history. Today great wars are more rare as everyone is committed to promoting peace and harmony as global citizens. Instead of building a Great Wall, this week we are making a 'Wall of Blessings' to mark our commitment to peace and harmony. Ask your mum and dad, brothers, sisters, family and friends to be involved in this fun activity. Invite them to write a message to stick on the handprints as a reminder that we are all staying connected and growing stronger together in this challenging time.

Step 1: Set up all materials (colour paints, paint brushes, water bowls, plates, paper) on the table



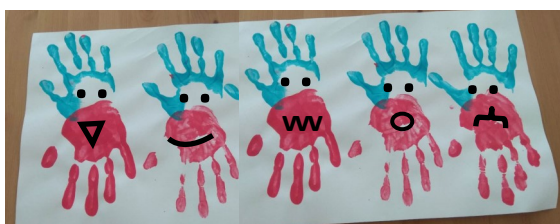
Step 2: Place different coloured paints into each plate. Pick your favourite colour and submerge your palm into the paint and print it on the paper.



Step 3: Next, use your other clean hand and submerge **only your fingers** into another colour of your choice. Print it below the other handprint we just did.



Step 4: Wait till the paint is completely dry. Grab a black marker and draw eyes and a mouth on the handprints. Repeat steps 2 and 3 to make the handprint wall as long as you like. Be sure to also add your own kind messages of hope under each handprint.



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