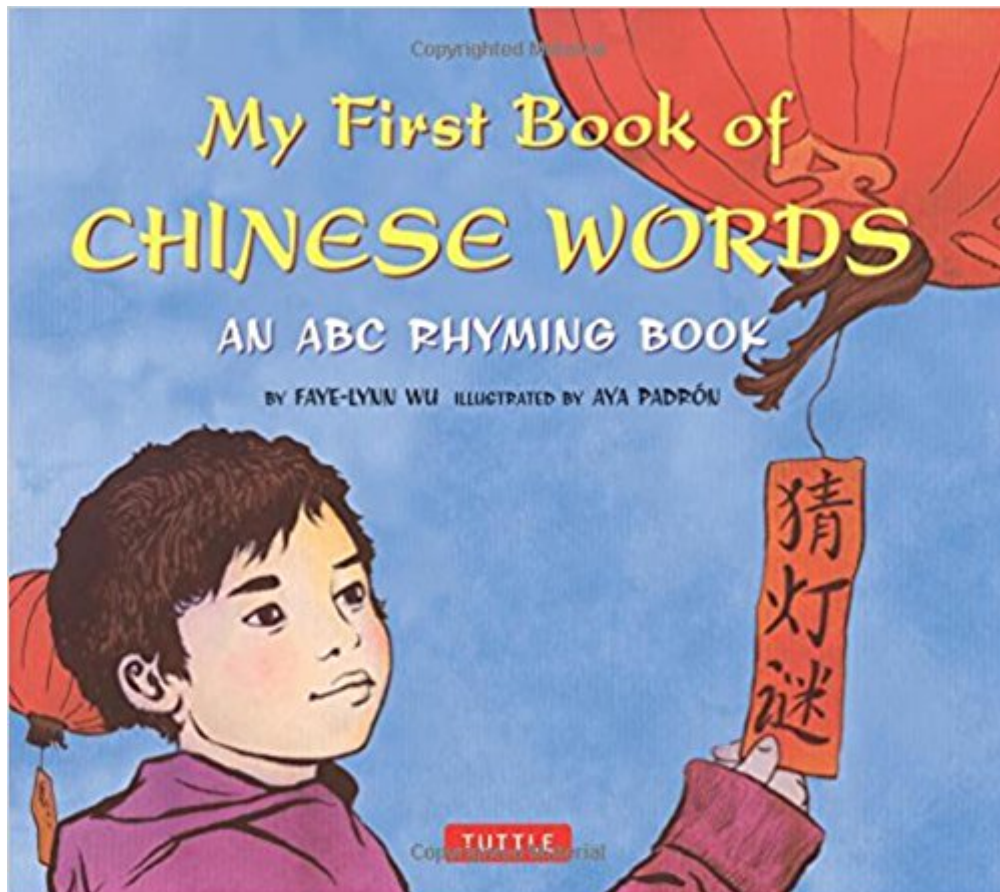




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My First Book Of Chinese Words: An ABC Rhyming Book



Synopsis

My First Book of Chinese Words introduces young children to basic words and concepts in the Chinese language through colorful rhymes and beautiful imagery. It is a book that parents and young children will enjoy reading together. The Chinese words in the book are all common, everyday items, and the rhymes are informative and fun for children. The goal of My First Book of Chinese Words is to familiarize children with the basic sounds and written characters of Chinese, to introduce core concepts of Chinese culture and to illustrate the ways in which Chinese sounds differ from English ones. Teachers and parents will welcome the cultural notes at the back of the book and appreciate how the book is organized using a familiar ABC structure. Each word is presented in Chinese characters (both Simplified and Traditional) as well as Romanized Pinyin for easy pronunciation. With the help of this book, we hope more children (and adults) will soon join the more than one billion people worldwide who speak Chinese!

Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Tuttle Publishing; Hardcover with Jacket edition (February 12, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0804843678

ISBN-13: 978-0804843676

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.5 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 22 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #176,059 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Foreign Language Learning > Chinese](#) #154 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Asia](#)

Age Range: 3 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Starting with A, for ai, a word that means love in Chinese, this picture book uses the English alphabet as a framework to learn Chinese words. Each entry includes the word in Pinyin as well as the traditional and simplified Chinese characters, accompanied by a rhyme that incorporates the term. Some topics, such as the moon, dogs, and grandmothers, are universal; others introduce cultural aspects of Chinese life, such as chopsticks, rice, and dragons. A preface for adults offers

guidelines for pronunciation, but the publisher's website, mentioned on the book flap, is more helpful. Colorful illustrations complement the text and clarify a few of the terms. This first book is a good supplement to primary multicultural units, but it does require preliminary practice unless read aloud by someone fluent in Chinese. Grades K-2. --Linda Perkins

"A perfect introduction to Chinese for any age." --PragmaticMom.com blog
"This book is truly a beautiful lesson on culture and language." --Crafty Moms Share blog
"Starting with A, for 'ai', a word that means 'love' in Chinese, this picture book uses the English alphabet as a framework to learn Chinese words." --Booklist
"On a more instructional, but equally enjoyable level, My First Book of Chinese Words introduces children to the Chinese character system as well as language." --McClatchy News Service
"This book uses the alphabet to introduce Chinese words. There are both simplified and traditional versions of Chinese used, which is good, and colorful pictures on each page showing the words to be learned. There are short rhyming poems on each page and the words are spelled out in pinyin so you know how to say the words. There are also small hints on how to pronounce the words. I liked that this book has lots of colorful hand-drawn pictures." --Joshua, age 8, City Book Review
"provides a basic primer for preschool children who want to learn Chinese, using the familiar ABC structure to present everyday words that hold special meaning to Chinese culture. Each word is presented in Chinese characters and in Romanized form, with easy cultural and language notes accompanying the story of a Chinese family who helps youngsters learn. An accompanying website page helps kids actually listen to the Chinese words in the book." --Midwest Book Review
"This unique and charming alphabet book uses rhymes and fact snippets to introduce Chinese words to a pre-schooler." --The Children's Book Review blog
"a great way to introduce young children to basic words and concepts through pictures and rhymes." --BiculturalMama.com blog

I thought this was an adorable book. I am a native Mandarin speaker, but my son was born in the US. I did not teach him Mandarin early enough, as he is now 3, and I wanted to gently steer him to some Mandarin options. This works - it has very few Mandarin words - basically, 26, one for each letter of the alphabet. The text combines Chinese and English - so A is for "Ai", the Chinese word for "love", with the character written in both traditional and simplified form. Each character is introduced with a rhyming descriptive paragraph (in English). There are some pronunciation guides and more explanatory notes in the back. Some of the characters were a stretch or didn't quite fit the letter, but overall it is a clever, warm, and gentle introduction to the language. It won't teach you how to

converse in Chinese, for example, but it's purpose isn't that.

We have used Faye Wu's other book and CD at Rockridge Little School for years, and I often give it as a gift. We brought it in to expose the kids to Mandarin, but didn't expect them to really learn the language. One day a parent told me her child was signing in Mandarin in the car on their way home. She asked her where she learned it and she said Rockridge Little School! This inspired teachers and parents to share the language with our kids, and now we offer informal Mandarin classes regularly. It's all in fun through books and travel stories. We were excited to see Wu's latest book - My First Book of Chinese Words. Like the other book, the rhyming is fun and easy to follow. The kids don't think they are learning a language, they are just enjoying a special book. It is easy to read whether or not you speak Mandarin yourself, and the kids love it.

The rhymes in this book are really great as are the illustrations. My husband (the Chinese speaker) is most often asked to read this, but even I can make due with my non-existent Chinese. I also love that there are little "tell me more" excerpts for adults or older kids to learn more about Chinese language and culture. Definitely a great addition to any library.

I liked the fact that they have both simplified and traditional Chinese vocabulary words written. Because they used pinyin, my husband who can't read Chinese can also read this book to my daughter. Very cute book.

At first my kids didn't like this book. It doesn't have a story and the pictures are more appealing to older kids. I suggest using it to learn just one or two words a day and then closing it if you have kiddos with short attention spans like my toddlers. 5 stars because I love it! and I can tell it will grow on them.

Catchy rhymes, with good illustrations. Very nice to see that the book includes the traditional and simplified versions for the vocab words. Would have been better to have more than one Chinese word per alphabet letter though; I felt the book was too short, even as an introduction... there's not enough content to truly keep the eager learner engaged.

Ok, but the rhymes are in English and not Chinese. Most of the text is in English as well. Seems better if you know Chinese (Mandarin) and are learning English, rather than vice-a-versa

I think it was a great book, and I think my son will learn a lot from it. It has a lot of good starting words.

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