RESOURCES AND VIDEOS

Target Age: All

The Life of Emperor Qin (15:00)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RFwjpGa5XoA
Excellent overview of Emperor Qin’s life, his contributions and his dynasty; good illustrations of archeology and how science brings antiquity alive.

Terracotta Warriors
Terracotta Warriors of Qin Shi Huang Mausoleum (5:22)
http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=endscreen&v=nNhASEF-NZo&NR=1
Xi-an, China tour with the music SONG FOR THE BEAUTY (Jia Run Qu) Wu-Fang 伍芳
Beautifully produced video of Terracotta Warriors and scenic shots with accompanying music based on ancient instruments and themes.

Ancient China History Project based on Lady GaGa's Poker Face (4:01)
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D5atoe51Ylo
Fun video with quick shots that shows modern interpretation of facts. NOTE: The Great Wall cannot be seen from the moon. This can be opportunity to talk about myths and legends, particularly “urban legends,” that weave together fact and fiction.

The Terra-Cotta Warriors (4:11)
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RsUE-ZtcUFg
Depicts history of Terracotta Warriors’ discovery and how warriors crafted.

Terracotta Warriors – Xi’an City (3:10)
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESGowFPTGwQ
Chinese produced video; shows modern city with ancient roots and expresses idea of tolerance for different cultures.

The Great Wall
National Geographic Great Wall of China (47:30)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bLMVZohnCwA
Describes the building of the wall from the earliest earthen ramparts through the Ming Dynasty’s reconstructions; interesting historical and social commentary.
Weeping Over the Great Wall (Chinese animation) (5:11)
The Great Wall and the Legend of Mengjiang, produced by the China Academy of Art
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AiyfIgOBqm8
This animated film has been adapted from the yue opera Girl Mengjiang. It is a well-known legend about the Great Wall during the Qin Dynasty. During the wall’s construction, a large number of men were forced to leave home to work on the structure, including Fan Xiliang, who was married to Mengjiang. One day, a part of the wall suddenly collapsed. Fan Xiliang was killed. When Mengjiang heard the terrible news, she ran to the Great Wall and cried for three days at its foot, which resulted in its destruction. Finally, she jumped into the sea.

Good discussion points for art deriving from experience, politics and universal themes of love, oppression and sacrifice.

Confucius
Confucius Special Quotes (5:18)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkHmoqHwaCU
Series of sayings with relevance to today.

4th – 6th Grades

The Life of Emperor Qin
The First Emperor: The Man Who Made China (1:42:26)
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kiYR9wBoOkE
Superb recreation, but with descriptions of his early years where his mother and her lover are destroyed for plotting against him, to his descent into paranoia and madness near the end of his life, this may be too disturbing for younger children. However, recreation is powerful, and selective sections may be viewed. Good philosophical and ethical questions raised about the ruler who created the “idea of China.”
The Archaeology Channel is “exploring the human cultural heritage through streaming media.” It is the website of the Archaeological Legacy Institute, www.archaeologychannel.org, and it is packed with original videos, audio, news resources, links and information that bring cultural heritage to life. You can even take part in their internationally recognized film festivals. Also, explore their Video Guide Map to find videos on content from around the world, including China.


Here are China links for Yesterday’s Child:

Saving the Last Living Ancient Town in China: Lijiang, Yunnan, China (6:00)

In 1253, Kublai Khan, on his march to conquer the State of Dali, stationed troops in Lijiang, at the foot of Yulong Snow Mountain in China’s Yunnan Province. Ruled by the Mu Clan of the Naxi people for 500 years, this ancient town, with its wood-stone-mud structures, narrow lanes and small streams, now risks losing the last of its ancient heritage due to its recent tourist popularity and poor planning decisions. To maintain the historical integrity of China’s last “living” ancient town, Global Heritage Fund (GHF) has embarked on planning and conservation.

Ping Yao, China: The Last Ancient City (4:00)

Ping Yao in Shanxi, China, was the central bank for much of the Silk Road trade during the Ming and Qing dynasties. One of only two Chinese ancient cities with UNESCO World Heritage status, but with over 40,000 low-income residents within its ancient walls, Ping Yao faces unprecedented pressures and deterioration of its core historic Qing Dynasty district and last remaining temples, towers, palaces, banks and ancient residences. The Global Heritage Fund is developing a plan for conservation, restoration and responsible tourism in Ping Yao.
Saving Asia’s Treasures: Foguang Temple, Shanxi, China (12:00)

The 1,200-year old Foguang Temple in Shanxi Province, China, is one the most important remaining wooden architectural jewels of Chinese civilization. Built during the Tang Dynasty, the temple is a tribute to the peak of Buddhist art and architecture from the 9th century AD. Without regular maintenance and conservation by successive Chinese dynasties, the structure has fallen into dangerous state of disrepair. Global Heritage Fund (GHF) will provide funding and expertise for the investigation, planning and scientific conservation of the site.