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## Ancient chinese food storage

While people in the West traditionally welcome the New Year by drinking champagne and perhaps eating black-eyed peas and green vegetables for luck and fortune, Chinese people emphasize parties and mark New Year's Eve with a large dinner, which usually includes items such as dumplings, shrimp, dried oysters and other types of seafood. This is traditionally home-made food, but today more families celebrate in restaurants, which is why Booking New Year's Eve at a good restaurant in China can be hard to come by. Families may also hire professional chefs to cook their meals at home [source: History.com]. Many foods associated with the New Year have symbolic meaning attached to them. For example, oranges, melons and kumquats are popular because their golden color indicates richness. Dumplings are made to resemble gold and silver ingots and are served in soup as a symbol of wealth. Boiled eggs, cellophane noodles, fish and chicken are all linked to prosperity. Long noodles represent longevity, and the Chinese eat them whole - it is said that cutting them in bowls may lead to a short life. Since red is also so widely associated with the New Year, it also features heavily in celebratory dishes. Red dates, red-dyed pumpkin seeds and pomegranates often appear on Chinese tables during this time of year. On New Year's Day ads, some families eat vegetarian food in honor of Buddhism not to kill animals and to gain longevity. One popular meat-free dish is jai, a stew that includes ginkgo beans, black moss, bean curd, bamboo shoots, noodles and leeks, all foods associated with luck. For dessert, oranges and Chinese New Year cakes appear [source: Family Culture]. On the seventh day of the New Year, Universal Birthday, a colorful raw fish salad and teriyong serves as a symbol of longevity and luck. On the 13th, a simple cleaning meal of rice and vegetables is recommended to take a break from all parties. For the Lantern Festival at the end of the New Year celebration period, Chinese people eat soup containing glutinous rice balls. These dumplings represent a full moon and perfection and like many other New Year's meals, are meant to bring good luck. Popular snacks throughout the period include peanuts and mandarin oranges. A circular tray containing sweets and nuts, known as the Togetherness Tray, is also [source: nationsonline.org]. There are many other traditional ways to celebrate chinese new year. Read on to find out about the most popular. Chinese cuisine has always been an important element in culture, and beliefs about the best diets even reflect Taoist principles. Of course, a wide variety of people China's landscape has produced a very varied diet. And compared to what they find in their own Chinese restaurants, Westerners are often surprised by how diverse and The original Chinese food is. This is partly because necessity and hunger have historically encouraged The Chinese to look for food in unlikely places, and delicious such as chicken kidneys, tofu smells, larvae of fried insects, pork maw, and liver with dried squid usually do not correspond to the palate of Westerners. Pre-cooling preservation methods such as pickles, drying, loving and fermentation are still widely used for traditional Chinese food. Thus, some common items include pickled vegetables, semidry meat, salted fish and salt cured eggs, as well as fermented products such as vinegar, sauce and rice spirits [source: LJ]. Advertising The need to save on food, fuel, and cooking oil has led to a preference for efficient cooking styles and methods. For example, because meat is historically expensive, a cook makes it go further by cutting it into smaller pieces and serving it with lots of vegetables. Meanwhile, vegetables are usually boiled or boiled in soups rather than simply boiled in water which is then discarded, which discards some of the nutrients [source: Wu]. This skillet is popular for cooking traditional Chinese food because it distributes heat evenly, cooks food faster and requires less oil. Researchers Jian-rong Li and Yun-Hwa P. Hsieh argue that, compared to Western foods, Chinese food is generally less greasy and has fewer calories. Chinese people tend to appreciate sophisticated flavors and interesting textures [source: LJ]. Many Chinese also strive for a certain balance of yin-yang in their diet based on traditional Taoist principles. They believe that certain foods are inherently cold (yin), such as tofu and cucumber, or warm (yang), such as meat and spices. Even certain cooking methods fall into this category, with poaching and harvesting considered yin and roasting and frying considered that. According to tradition, striking the right balance of yin and yang in your diet will help keep you healthy [source: Young]. Foods with proper storage keep longer and taste better, either on shelves, in cabinets, or in refrigerators. With some helpful tips, your food can also last longer. Check out these useful tips on food storage to help preserve things in your kitchen. Storage and Expiration Date You want your food to stay fresh and delicious for as long as possible. Discover practical tips for buying and storing meat, milk, cheese and other perishable items. How to Save Brown Sugar Read some sweet advice on keeping your brown sugar soft and usable. How to Store Vinegar No need for acid! Learn more about vinegar and how to to save it. Storage Containers: Jar Jars are great for storage, but sometimes the lids won't work together. Learn how to get out of sticky situations and easily close the open jar. How to Save Berry Handle carefully! Berries require extra attention when they are bought and stored. How to Send Edible Gifts be sure your sweet treat arrives in one piece with this list of useful tips. To learn more about food storage, go to the next page. For more information on food preservation, see: We take things for granted in the modern world. Fiber optic cables provide a large amount of information at almost the speed of light. You can climb into your car and shout your destination on your GPS navigation system, and a digitized and disalated voice issues easy-to-follow instructions. We have it pretty sweet here in the 21st century. As time went on, it became easier to ignore the contributions of those who came before us. Even in the 19th century, Charles Duell, the United States patent commissioner, reportedly said that everything that could be found had already been found [source: Idea Finder]. Obviously, if Duell says something like that, he's far away. The 20th and 21st centuries have seen huge explosions in ingenuity. However, his alleged words also reveal an understanding that appears to have been lost. He understood that humans had experienced flashes of brilliance and made discoveries throughout history. He also understands that these advances have greatly accelerated human progress so that everything that follows them seems to be built on the foundations provided by these early discoveries. Perhaps no other ancient culture contributed more to the progress of this human progress than China. Here are ten of the greatest discoveries of ancient nations, in a certain order. It says we'll start with arguably the most famous ancient Chinese invention. Legend has it that gunpowder was accidentally discovered by alchemists looking for a quarry that would create immortality in humans. Ironically, what these ancient chemists stumbled upon was a discovery that could easily have taken human life. The initial gunpowder was made from a mixture of potassium nitrate (saltpeter), charcoal and sulfur, and was first described in 1044 in the Most Important Military Engineering Collection, compiled by Zeng Goliang [source: Chinese Embassy in South Africa]. It is assumed the discovery of gunpowder occurred some time earlier, as Zeng described three different gunpowder mixtures and the Chinese used it for signal flares and fireworks before approving it for military use in base grenades. Advertising Over time, we realized that the metal added to the mix creates brilliant colors in gunpowder explosions and – kaboom! – A modern fireworks display was born. It also makes explosives useful for projectiles such as bullets. Where would we be without a compass? We're going to get lost, that's where. For those of us who hike in the forest or fly various planes have China to thank for guiding Go home safely. Initially, the Chinese created their compass to point to the true south. This is because they are considered southern, not northern, their cardinals [source: Wright]. The earliest compass was created in the fourth century B.C. and was made of lodestones. Lodestone's advertising presence is just the result of a bit of luck. Lodestone is a type of magnetite (magnetic iron ore) that becomes highly magnetic when struck by lightning [source: Wasilewski]. The result is minerals magnetized towards the north and south poles. We're not sure exactly who came up with the clever idea of intelligent directions using lodestones, but archaeological evidence suggests china's ancient youth were balanced on divine boards; the stairs will point towards inner harmony for ancient Chinese soothsayers. It is not entirely clear who first came up with the idea of turning thought into written language. There was a horse race between the Sumerians in Mesopotamia, Harappa in present-day Pakistan and the Kemites in Egypt being the first to formulate a written language. We know that the first language seems to have appeared about 5,000 years ago. One can even make a case that comes from before - that is, if one includes artistic expressions such as cave paintings as a form of written language. Once the language begins to develop, though, humans write on anything that will lie still long enough. Clay tablets, bamboo, papyrus and stone are just some of the earliest writing surfaces. Things changed so China - in particular, a man named Cai Lun - found a prototype for modern paper. Before Cai's breakthrough, the Chinese wrote about thin pieces of bamboo and the length of silk, but in 105 A.D. he created a mixture of wood fibers and water and pressed them into woven fabrics. Woven in fabric allows moisture in the pulpy mixture to tap out, producing coarse paper [source: Wisconsin Paper Council]. Exactly what Cai wrote on his first piece of paper is unknown. Ad Anyone who likes a bowl of pasta e fagioli or linguine and good clams might want to tip his hat to ancient China to come up with pasta - not Italians, as you might expect. The jury is still out on this one, but it looks like China beat the Italians or Arabs (not obviously the one) by about 2,000 years. In 2006, archaeologists excavating a 4,000-year-old settlement in Lajia in Qinghai Province near the Tibetan border uncovered an overturned bowl of stringy noodles buried under ten feet of earth [source: Roach]. The newly discovered Pasta ad may be the oldest in the world. It is made from two types of millet grains, both of which have been cultivated in China for about 7,000 years. T again, the Chinese still use these grains to make pasta to this day. The Chinese are also responsible for lightening the burden on people around the world and around the clock with wheelbarrows. A general named Jugo who lived during the Han, Han, widely credited with coming up with the concept of a one-wheeled cart used to carry heavy objects in the second century [source: Krebs and Krebs]. Jugo's conception misses the mark only slightly; he did not add the barrow (handle) that came later because his invention was perfected. However, Jugo beat Europe by about 1,000 years with his wheelbarrow. Initially, the vehicle was intended for military purposes. Recognizing the physical advantages wheelbarrows give its troops over enemies -- they are used as mobile barricades as well as for transportation -- China has kept their inventions secret for centuries. Ad An old folklore also gives credit for creating a wheelbarrow to a farmer from the first century B.C. named Ko Yu [source: Leinhard]. Although its existence is questionable, there is a common thread between Jugo and Ko: As is common, farmers are said to have kept wheelbarrows secret by describing them in code. Although the Chinese could not tell anyone exactly what the earthquake measured on the Richter scale (because the Richter scale was not created until 1935), they managed to create the world's first earthquake detector - a seismograph. Not only did imperial astronomer Chang Heng create seismographs during the Han Dynasty at the beginning of the second century, he created a very beautiful one. Heng's creation is a heavy bronze container with nine dragons face down embedded out to the outside. The dragons are equidistant to each other on board, and under each dragon, separate frogs look up as each frog holds its mouth open. On board, the pendulum hangs motionless until vibrations move it. At this point, the pendulum swing regulates the internal lever of the moving seismograph. This will trigger the release of the ball held in the dragon's mouth facing the epicenter of the earthquake. The ball will then fall into the frog's mouth just below it [source: Xinhua News Agency]. This first seismograph seems a bit basic, but it will be another 1,500 years before Western countries develop their own version [source: Central Asia]. You can thank the Chinese for ethanol and isopropyl alcohol – not to mention beer, wine, and liquor. When you think of it, some human ingenuity has conveyed as much joy and sadness as alcohol. Over the years, it was assumed that alcohol fermentation grew from other similar processes. By the beginning of the third century B.C., the Chinese had figured out how to perfect food products such as vinegar and soy sauce using fermentation and distillation techniques [source: Huang]. An alcoholic spirit will soon follow. Recent advertising of archaeological discoveries has pushed the date for Chinese fermentation and alcohol creation much further back. Nine,000-year-old pottery fragments uncovered in Henan showed traces of traces This discovery proves that the Chinese were the first to make alcohol, since the previous titleholder, an ancient Arab, did not come up with alcoholic beverages until 1,000 years later [source: Walter]. Two ancient Chinese men share credit for coming up with one of China's biggest claims to fame. During the fourth century B.C., Gongshu Ban and Mo Di, patrons of art and philosophers, respectively, built bird-shaped kites that dipped and dived in the wind. The couple's novelty caught on quickly. Over time, the Chinese adapted and added an early kite design and discovered new uses for it beyond entertainment. Kites become an easy way to fish without boats, using only lines and hooks wrapped from the kite and dangling it into inaccessible bodies of water. Kites also play a role in military applications, serving as unmanned drones that deliver gunpowder payloads to enemy strongholds. In 1232, the Chinese used kites to drop propaganda leaflets on top of Mongol prisoner of war camps, urging the Captured Chinese there to rebel and eventually overtaking their captors [source: Pleskacheuskaya]. Advertising Soon, the push to fly will marry the kite technology to produce another Chinese invention, the hang glider. As we discussed earlier, kites were created by the fourth century B.C. By the end of the sixth century Maselah, China had successfully built large and aerodynamic kites sufficient to maintain the weight of an average-sized man. It's only a matter of time before someone decides to just remove the kite strings and see what happens. The Chinese used an unorganized kite that we know today as a hanging glider. However, these kites are not used for thrill rides: The Emperor finds joy in forcing convicted criminals and catching enemies to jump off cliffs while strapped into gliders. One poor man flew two miles before he landed safely [source: Wright]. With this early flight, China had defeated European ingenuity in 1335 years [source: Pleskacheuskaya]. The Mongols, Byzantine, Greek and Roman commercials all find themselves unhappy facing Chinese military innovations such as gunpowder. It was silk, however, that helped broker peace between ancient China and other cultures. The demand for silk is so high that fine fabrics help connect China to the outside world through trade [source: Columbia University]. The fabric gave rise to the fabled Silk Road trade route that eventually stretched from China to the Mediterranean, Africa, the Middle East and Europe. This method of manipulating silkworm-produced material existed 4,700 years ago. A which contains articles on silk production found in tombs made during the Liangzhu period, which lasted from 3330 to 2200 B.C. [source: ChinaCulture.org]. The Chinese carefully guarded the origin of silk; They just lost their secret when monks from Europe get silkworm eggs and take them back to the West [source: Columbia University]. The new video translation technology not only turns speech into another language, but makes the speaker's lips move accurately in that language. Benn, Charles D. Golden Age of China. Oxford University press. 2004. Jiken. Agricultural biotechnology research indicator: China. Science. October 2001. Robert E. and Krebs, Carolyn A. Groundbreaking Scientific Experiments, Discoveries, and Discoveries of the Ancient World. Greenwood Publishing Group. 2003. John H. No, no, no, no, 377: Wheelbarrow. University of Houston. Retrieved February 24, 2009. Inesa. Dreams flew for centuries. China Today. Retrieved February 27, 2009. John. The 4,000-year-old noodles were found in China. National Geographic. October 12, 2005. Frank. Triangle of Death: The Story In the Triad - The Chinese Mafia. Routledge. 1977. Patrick. 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