

221 Chinese Festivals

PowerPoint Three – The Story of the Twelve Animals

1 The Story of the 12 Animals
2 Why there is an Year of the Cat
3 Year Animal Placement
4 The Cycle of 60 years

5 This is a very fast horse.
It is very close to the ground.
It is a very slow animal.
It is a very tall animal.
It is a very strong animal.
It is a very beautiful animal.

6 One day the twelve animals were having a feast together.
They started to argue to know who was the best.
I think the goat should be named after me. I should be called the Year of the Dog.
Decided the dog.

7 He, I think the goat should be named after me. I should be called the Year of the Monkey.
I should be named.

8 He said the goat should be named after me. I should be called the Year of the Dragon.
I should be named.

9 The goat started to argue and they heard the monkey saying:
I should be named.
I should be named.

10 The goat said:
Can you see that big animal?
The goat said the pig is not a good companion and that he will not be named.
I should be named.

11 All the animals lined up on the bank of the river.
They were all eager to get on with the race.
I should be named.

12 The monkey was very strong and he could swim very fast.
So he beat them all in the race.
I should be named.

13 The goat decided that he was going to win the race but just before the race he saw the goat and a pig.
I should be named.

14 The goat looked at the cat to compare.
I should be named.

15 The goat laughed and said:
The goat is not a good companion and that he will not be named.
I should be named.

16 So it was that of the other animals decided the race.
I should be named.

17 The goat decided that each Chinese year would be named after one of the animals in the race.
I should be named.



18 The goat was named after an animal and it was the year of the goat.
I should be named.

19 The goat was named after an animal and it was the year of the pig.
I should be named.

20 The goat was named after an animal and it was the year of the horse.
I should be named.

21 The goat was named after an animal and it was the year of the dragon.
I should be named.

22 The goat was named after an animal and it was the year of the ox.
I should be named.

23 The goat was named after an animal and it was the year of the monkey.
I should be named.

24 The goat was named after an animal and it was the year of the dog.
I should be named.

25 The goat was named after an animal and it was the year of the cat.
I should be named.

26 Long ago, people in China used to divide the day and night into two hours periods. Each had the name of an animal.
I should be named.

27 1:00 am (until 2:00 am), the mouse effort. In the name of the mouse. Each had the name of an animal.
I should be named.

28 In early morning, from 3:00 am to 5:00 am, the tiger goes by. In the name of the tiger.
I should be named.

29 The rabbit runs from the forest in the middle of the night. In the name of the rabbit.
I should be named.

30 The dragon is the lord of all living things. In the name of the dragon.
I should be named.

31 The snake is a very smart animal. In the name of the snake.
I should be named.

32 In the horse race in the middle of the day, the horse is the main. In the name of the horse.
I should be named.

33 The goat is the main in the middle of the night. In the name of the goat.
I should be named.

34 The monkey is the main in the middle of the afternoon. In the name of the monkey.
I should be named.

35 The ox is the main in the middle of the night. In the name of the ox.
I should be named.

36 The dog is the main in the middle of the night. In the name of the dog.
I should be named.

37 The pig is the main in the middle of the day. In the name of the pig.
I should be named.



Alternate version of the story — audio

low quality samples only