China: Construct a special vessel

Who is it made for?

Ritual vessels were used for ancestor worship. Some held wine, some were used for food and some were used to show how important people were. The type of vessel and its use can be identified by its shape.

Take a look again at the images on the website to remind yourself of the different shapes of the vessels.

Challenge:

Do you think you can use your knowledge and making from the past few days to create a special vessel?

How could you do it?

You could find a cardboard, cereal, pizza or brown packaging box will do

Try turning the box inside out so you have a plain cardboard surface to decorate

You could use kitchen or toilet roll tubes to create legs for the vessel

Could you add handles to the sides?

Try arranging your cardboard taotie design on the largest side of the box

Glue it on when you are happy

You will need:

Cardboard box, scissors, glue, cardboard tubes (or roll your own) sticky or masking tape, paint, pencils, marker pens

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Turn your cardboard box inside out. This makes it easier to decorate.

Use kitchen or toilet roll tubes or roll some thin card to create 3 or 4 tubes to make legs.

Make short cuts around one end of the tubes, spread out the tabs. Use that end to attach to the bottom of the box. Use tape to stick down the tabs. Make sure the legs are the same length!

Experiment with the layout of the taotie features. Decide how you want to arrange them, trim and adjust. When happy, glue to the box, create layers to add depth to the pattern. Use spare cardboard to make handles or extra designs for the rest of the box. You could experiment with painting your model...do you have any metallic paint or paint it green, so it looks like it's been buried?

Have fun, this could keep you busy for days!

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