

ANCIENT MYTHOLOGY

CHINESE MYTHS AND LEGENDS



Tools for Parents & Teachers

Grasshopper Books enhance imagination and introduce the earliest readers to fun storylines and illustrations. The easy-to-read text supports early reading experiences with repetitive sentence patterns and sight words.

Before Reading

- Discuss the cover illustration. What do readers see?
- Look at the glossary together. Discuss the words.

During Reading

- “Walk” through the book with the reader. Discuss new or unfamiliar words. Sound them out together.
- Look at the illustrations. When and where does the story take place? What is happening in the story?

After Reading

- Prompt the child to think more. Ask: What is your favorite Chinese myth? Why?

Grasshopper Books are published by Jump!
3500 American Blvd W, Suite 150
Bloomington, MN 55431
www.jumplibrary.com

Copyright © 2026 Jump! International copyright reserved in all countries. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form without written permission from the publisher.

Jump! is a division of FlutterBee Education Group.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Havemeyer, Janie, author.

Samaniego, César, 1975– illustrator.

Title: Chinese myths and legends / by Janie Havemeyer; illustrated by Cesar Samaniego.

Description: Minneapolis, MN: Jump!, Inc., [2026]

Series: Ancient mythology | Includes index.

Audience: Ages 7-10

Identifiers: LCCN 2024047675 (print)

LCCN 2024047676 (ebook)

ISBN 9798892137508 (hardcover)

ISBN 9798892137515 (paperback)

ISBN 9798892137522 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: Mythology, Chinese–Juvenile literature.

Legends–Juvenile literature.

Folklore–Juvenile literature.

Classification: LCC BL1825 .H38 2026 (print)

LCC BL1825 (ebook)

DDC 398.20951–dc23/eng/20241121

LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2024047675>

LC ebook record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2024047676>

Editor: Alyssa Sorenson

Direction and Layout: Anna Peterson

Illustrator: Cesar Samaniego

Content Consultant: Nicholas Williams, PhD, Associate Professor of Chinese Literature, Arizona State University

Printed in the United States of America at
Corporate Graphics in North Mankato, Minnesota.

Table of Contents

Gods, Heroes, and Dragons.....	4
Chinese Gods and Goddesses.....	22
To Learn More.....	23
Glossary.....	24
Index.....	24



Gods, Heroes, and Dragons



The Jade **Emperor** ruled heaven. He met with other **Chinese** gods and goddesses. They had **important** jobs. Gods who did a **good job** got happiness and luck! **Gods** who did not were punished.



Ancient Chinese people thought gods, like Mazu, could help them. Mazu had power over the sea. She protected fishermen. Other gods could hurt people. Stories about gods and heroes are known as **mythology**.

Lei Gong was the god of thunder. He punished people who did bad things. One day, two robbers stole from a man who was blind. Lei Gong beat a drum loudly as a warning. It sounded like thunder. The robbers did not stop, so Lei Gong hit them with a hammer. Since then, thunder reminds people to be good.





The Yellow Emperor was a god who ruled half the world. He battled Yan Di, the god of fire, for the other half. The Yellow Emperor led animals into battle. He won!



The Yellow Emperor ruled for many years. He is an **ancestor** of Chinese people. When he was done ruling Earth, he rode a dragon to heaven!

