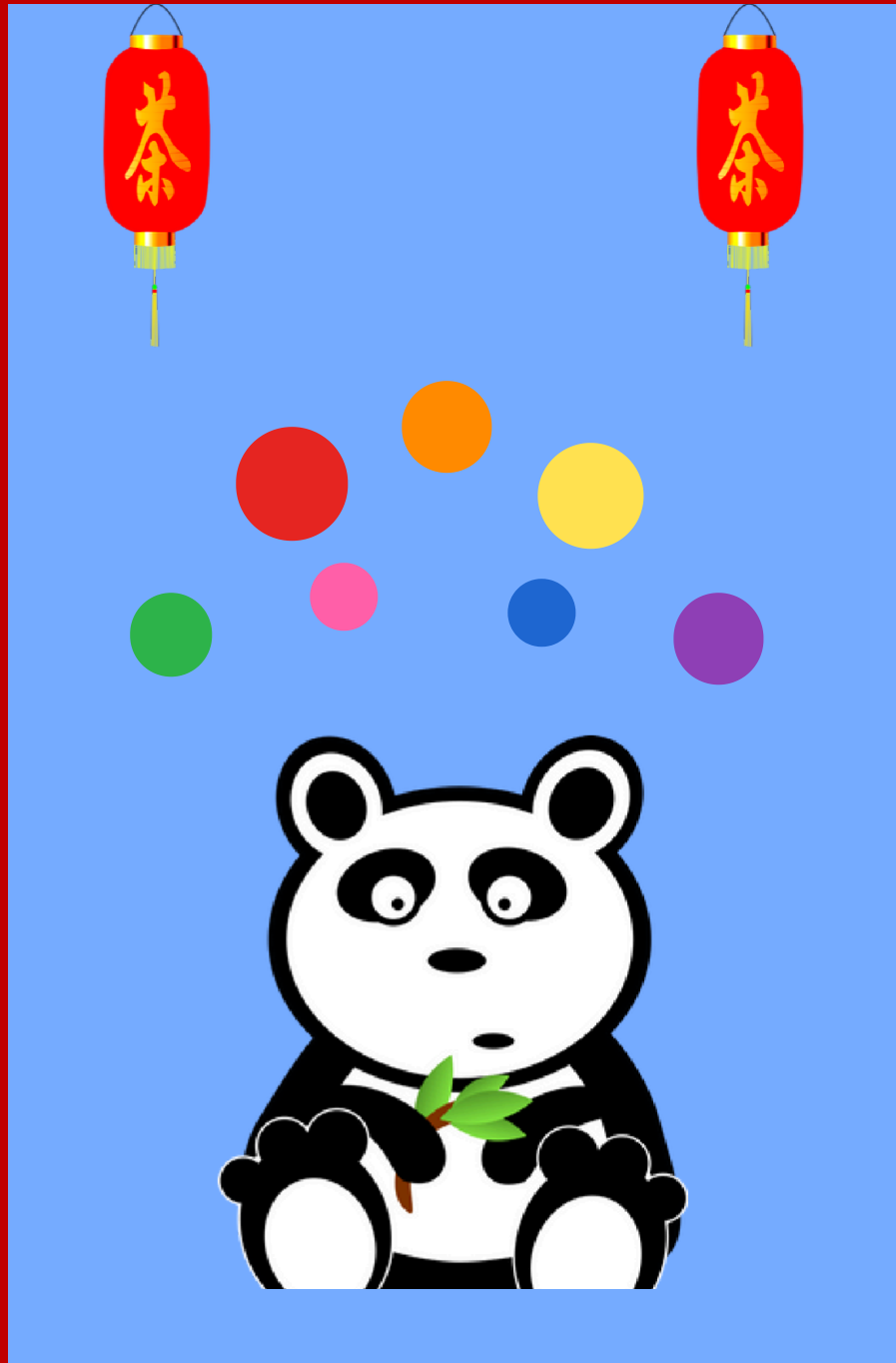


My First Mandarin Colours



Fun Languages
Australia



How to use this book

- Point to the big picture and say the colour slowly. Your little one does not need to repeat it straight away. Hearing comes first.
- Each colour shows **Chinese characters, pinyin** (Mandarin written with the English alphabet, with tone marks) and an easy **“say it”** guide.
- One or two colours a day is plenty for ages 2-3. Come back to the same page often.

The 4 tones (plus 1 light tone)

In Mandarin the voice goes up or down, and that changes the meaning. The little mark above the letter shows which way.

TONE 1

ā

High and flat, like singing a long note

TONE 2

á

Rises, like asking “Huh?”

TONE 3

ǎ

Dips down low, then comes up

TONE 4

à

Falls fast, like a firm “No!”

LIGHT

a

No mark: short and soft

Reading the “say it” guide

sè sounds like “suh”

x sounds like “sh” (smile as you say it)

ü say “ee” with your lips in a small circle

“ow” in the guide always rhymes with “cow”

z sounds like “ds” in “kids”

q sounds like “ch” (smile as you say it)

ong sounds like “oong”

de (的) is short and soft: “duh”

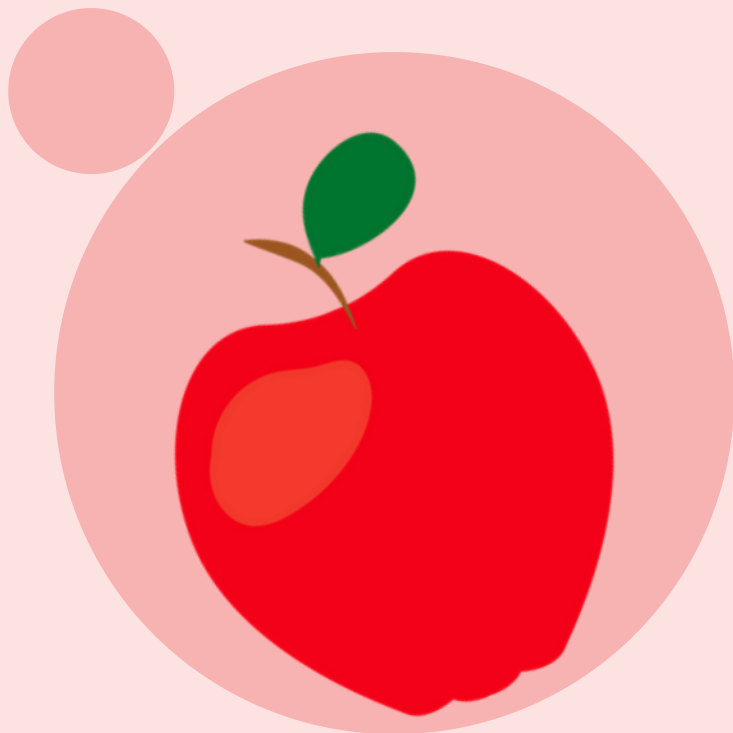
The English “say it” guide is a close match to help you get started. Mandarin has some sounds English does not, so the pinyin and tone marks are the exact guide.

红色

hóngsè
red

Say it: **hoong-suh**

Did you know? Red is a happy, lucky colour in China. You will see lots of red lanterns at Chinese New Year.



红色的苹果

hóngsè de píngguǒ

a red apple

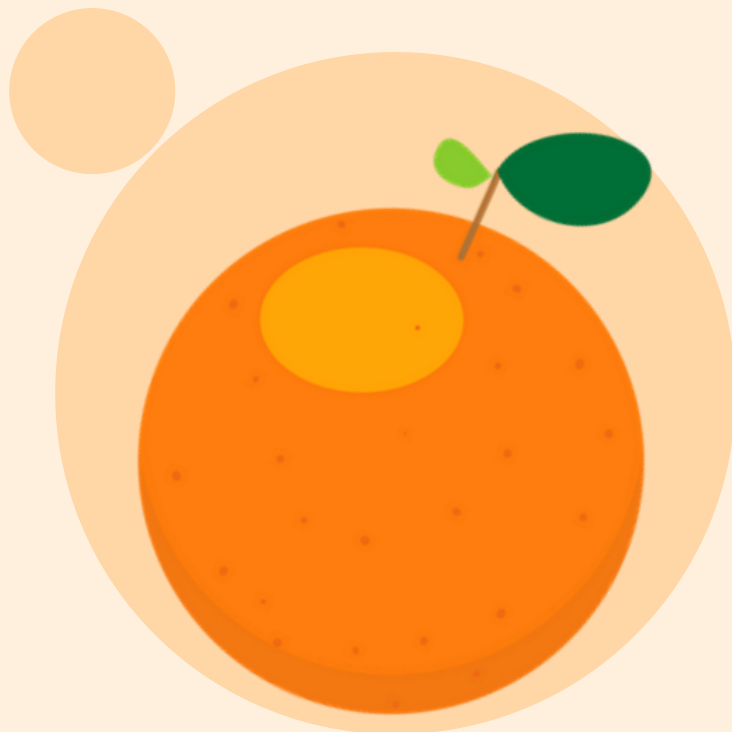
Say it: hoong-suh duh ping-gwaw

橙色

chéngsè
orange

Say it: **chung-suh**

Did you know? Just like in English, **chéng** (橙) is the name of the fruit and the colour!



橙色的橙子

chéngsè de chéngzi
an orange orange

Say it: chung-suh duh chung-dzuh

黄色

huángsè
yellow

Say it: hwahng-suh



Try this: Peel a banana together at snack time and say **huángsè**!

黄色的香蕉

huángsè de xiāngjiāo

a yellow banana

Say it: hwahng-suh duh shyahng-jyow

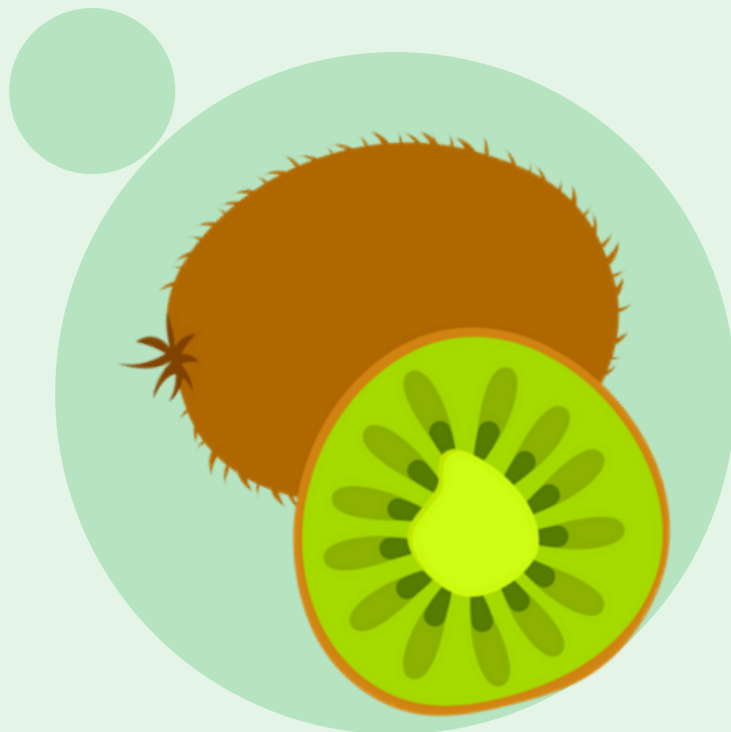
绿色

lǜsè

green

Say it: **lǜ-suh**

Tip: For **ü**, say “ee” with your lips in a small circle. **Try this:** find green leaves in the garden.



绿色的猕猴桃

lǜsè de mīhóutáo

a green kiwi fruit

Say it: lǜ-suh duh mee-hoh-tow

蓝色

lānsè
blue

Say it: **lahn-suh**

Try this: Look up at the sky together. 蓝天
lántiān means “blue sky”.



蓝色的小鸟

lānsè de xiǎoniǎo
a blue bird

Say it: lahn-suh duh shyow-nyow

紫色

zǐsè

purple

Say it: **dzuh-suh**

Tip: For **zǐ**, start with the “ds” sound in “kids”. **Try this:** blow up a balloon and say **zǐsè**!



紫色的气球

zǐsè de qìqiú
a purple balloon

Say it: dzuh-suh duh chee-chyoh

粉色

fěnsè
pink

Say it: **fun-suh**

Try this: Look in the wardrobe together. Can you find pink socks, a pink hat or pink boots?



粉色的靴子

fěnsè de xuēzi
pink boots

Say it: fun-suh duh shweh-dzuh

棕色

zōngsè

brown

Say it: **dzoong-suh**

Try this: Cuddle a brown teddy or toy dog and say **zōngsè**!



棕色的小狗

zōngsè de xiǎogǒu

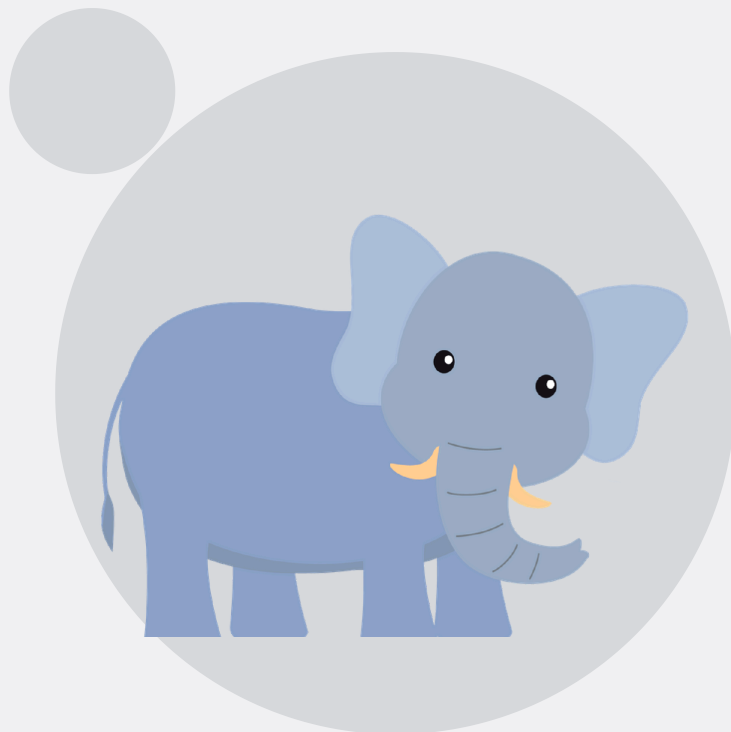
a brown puppy

Say it: dzoong-suh duh shyow-goh

灰色

huīsè
grey

Say it: **hway-suh**



Try this: Stomp around the room like a big elephant and say **huīsè**!

灰色的大象

huīsè de dàxiàng
a grey elephant

Say it: hway-suh duh dah-shyahng

黑色

hēisè

black

Say it: **hay-suh**

白色

báisè

white

Say it: **bye-suh**



熊猫是黑色和白色的。

Xióngmāo shì hēisè hé báisè de.

The panda is black and white.

Say it: shyoong-mow shr hay-suh huh bye-suh duh

All my colours 颜色 yánsè



红色
hóngsè
red



橙色
chéngsè
orange



黄色
huángsè
yellow



绿色
lǜsè
green



蓝色
lánsè
blue



紫色
zǐsè
purple



粉色
fěnsè
pink



棕色
zōngsè
brown



灰色
huīsè
grey



黑色
hēisè
black



白色
báisè
white



Well done!
Zhēn bàng!

Easy colour talk

这是什么颜色?

Zhè shì shénme yánsè?

What colour is this?

Say it: juh shr shun-muh yen-suh?

这是红色。

Zhè shì hóngsè.

This is red.

Say it: juh shr hoong-suh

你喜欢什么颜色?

Nǐ xǐhuan shénme yánsè?

What colour do you like?

Say it: nee shee-hwahn shun-muh yen-suh?

我喜欢蓝色。

Wǒ xǐhuan lán sè.

I like blue.

Say it: waw shee-hwahn lahn-suh

真棒!

Zhēn bàng!

Well done! / Great job!

Say it: jun bahng!

Game: Colour hunt at home

Pick one colour, for example **hóngsè** (red). Walk around the house together and point to red things: a cup, a toy, a sock. Each time, say "**Hóngsè!**" and clap. When your child finds one, cheer "**Zhēn bàng!**"

Want more fun learning for your child?

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Kinderdance Music & Movement

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