

我爱华语 I Love Chinese
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Hi kids! Welcome back to our column. How many characters have we learned together so far? Count with Meimei, yi er san si

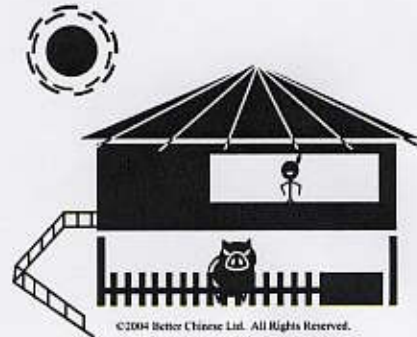
一 二 三 四

No wait Meimei, you're missing one. When we learned tian, 天 we also learned da. 大
 You're right Huahua. So together we know wu. 五

What character are we going to learn today? How about family -- jia.
 That sounds good - it has an interesting story behind it - would you like to hear the story with us?



There are many ways to define an ideal home. In the US we have a few sayings that capture the idea of a "perfect" home. Maybe you have heard some of them -- how about "a chicken in every pot" or "a house in the country." In ancient China, a "perfect" or ideal home meant having a house and owning a pig so you would never go hungry. The ancient Chinese character for home and family is derived from a roof with a pig underneath.



Let's see how the character changed from a pictograph (a picture) over 4000 years.



Visit www.FunChinese.com and check out the cartoon story for "jia" under the DEMO section.

