Folklife Festival 2014

China: Tradition and the Art of Living
Festivals are celebrations where groups of people go to have fun together with others.
The Folklife Festival happens every year on the National Mall and celebrates a different country or culture.
This year, the Folklife Festival is about China. China is a country in Asia.
I may see many people from China at the festival. Some may be wearing special clothes, or costumes, from their country. These people may want to share information about special things in China with me.
The Chinese languages sound very different from English. I may hear many people speaking one of the languages spoken in China at the Festival. It is OK if I do not understand what they say, but I may learn some new words.

欢迎 (huānyíng)  
Means  
Welcome!
I may hear music and see people dancing at the Festival. Chinese music may sound different from most music I have heard. The musicians may play stringed instruments that make sounds like violins or fiddles. I may also hear cymbals and drums.
The music may be loud and I may not like it. It is OK to move away and find a quite space with my adult.
There may be Chinese dancers performing special dances from their country.
At the festival I might also see a Flower Plaque. Flower Plaques are decorated bamboo buildings. They are used in China for celebrations.
There may be Chinese food and drinks to try. They may taste different from foods and drinks I have had before. It can be fun to try new things. I may find a new taste that I like. I may not like these different foods and that is OK.
There may be people making things. I might see people carving wood. I might see people cooking food. I might even see people making Kites.
There might be things I can touch. I should wait for the Festival participant to tell me that this is OK before I touch anything. Some things may be fragile or sharp. The Festival Participant can tell me which things I may touch and which things I should not touch.
The Folklife Festival will be outside on the National Mall. It is important to wear clothes that are comfortable for the weather.
There might be crowds of people who also want to see the Folklife Festival. If it is too crowded, I may want to go to a quiet place like the “Take A Break Tent”/Participant Hospitality or the first aid tent.
There are many things about the country China that I may see and learn at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival.