

## **Ancient Civilizations: Asia**

### **Study Sheet**

Look closely at the ceramic vessels from China in gallery 204, in the first case of Neolithic pottery. What, if anything, surprises you about this work as a whole? Select a vessel that you find to be beautiful and explain why.

Look closely at the Neolithic jades from China in gallery 215. What types of shapes and forms do you see? Which of the jades appear powerful to you? What do you see that makes you say that?

Go to the Mia website to find images of the following ancient bronzes (search by accession number):

Shang dynasty, Yu (food vessel), 50.46.121

Western Zhou dynasty, Gui (food vessel), 50.46.119

How are these two vessels similar? How are they different?

(over)

You are preparing a tour for the assigned topic, “Mysteries of the Ancient World,” and will include the following objects:

Longshan (China), Neolithic period, *Ceremonial Stem Cups*, c. 3000-2000 BCE, burnished earthenware, 93.60.1, 94.63, and 2000.156.1 (G204)

Majiayao (China), *Storage Jar*, 2300 BCE, earthenware, 89.49 (G204)

Lopburi-Pa Sak Basin (Thailand), *Vessel in the Shape of a Buffalo*, 1000 BCE, earthenware with impressed designs, 2000.204.1 (G213)

What is your theme for the tour?

Prepare transitions to move from one object to the next.