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www.globetrottinkids.com/mid-autumn-festival/





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READ YOUR WORLD Book Companion



Thanking the Moon Celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival by Grace Lin

Go on a nighttime picnic with a Chinese-American family celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival –one of the most anticipated holidays of the lunar year.

GLOBE

Under a brightly lit sky, a family prepares to honor and thank the moon for bringing them together. From arranging the offering table to pouring the tea, everyone helps with the traditions that make this celebration unique.



Themes

- Chinese celebrations
- cultural awareness
- customs & traditions
- family
- community
- gratitude

Cross-Curricular Connections

Geography

- China
- United States

Literacy

- sequence of events
- vocabulary
- summarizing
- narrative writing
- subject/predicate
- synonyms

Science

• moon phases

Language

• Chinese

Art

• Foil Stamping/Printing

After-Reading Activities

Identify Festival Traditions Make a list of the traditions of the Mid-Autumn Festival.



Make a Celebration Wall

Dedicate a space in your classroom for displaying student examples of *Gratitude, Wishes, and Moon Art.*

• **Gratitude & Wishes** In the book, we see how the family closes their eyes to thank the moon for bringing them together - and to make secret wishes. Ask students to close their eyes and think about what they would thank the moon for. What would their secret wishes be? Use sentence strips to have students finish the sentence: Thank you moon for...

For the secret wishes, well they are secret, so students can write those on a piece of paper and seal them in an envelope with their name on the front.

• **Moon Art** You can't celebrate the Mid-Autumn festival without moons. Complete your *Celebration Wall* with moons.

Find links to moon crafts (and lots more) on our website.

Thanking the Moon



by Grace Lin

Use these sentences from the story to review a variety of skills below.

Ma-Ma prepares the nighttime picnic.

Ba-Ba arranges the moon-honoring table.

Mei-Mei plays with the pomelo peel.

Jie-Jiebrings out the lanterns.

I pour the round cups of tea.

We eat soft, sweet mooncakes.

We thank the moon for bringing us together and send it our secret wishes.

Sequence of Events

Present the sentences out of order. Have students arrange the events to show the correct sequence of the story. Use the text for support as needed.

Subject & Predicate

Ask students to identify the subject (who or what the sentence is about) and the predicate (tells what the subject does or is). Can they identify the sentence with a compound predicate?

Change the Verb

Ask students to identify the verb(s) in the sentence, and brainstorm synonyms that could replace it. (prepares: makes, creates, arranges...)

Chinese Vocabulary

Review the Chinese character names used in the story. Ma-Ma, Ba-Ba, Mei-Mei (younger sister) and Jie-Jie(older sister). Teach students how to say "thank you." xièxiè(syeh-syeh)

Illustrated Summary

Have students draw or paint a scene that represents the important traditions of the Mid-Autumn Festival. Great for sharing and retelling!