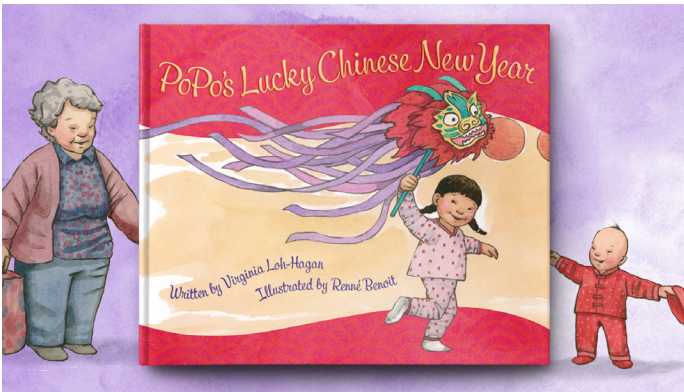


PoPo's Lucky Chinese New Year



Book Information

Run Time	13:28
Author	Virginia Loh-Hagan
Illustrator	Renné Benoit
Narrator	Harmony Zhang Cheuna Suet Yi Winifred (Popo)
Publisher	Sleeping Bear Press
Ages	4–9/AD580L
Genre	creative nonfiction
Text Structure	first person narrative
Themes & Ideas	Chinese New Year, traditions, luck, generations, holidays
Language & Literary Features	Facts are woven through the story to make this story a great example of creative nonfiction.
Sentence Complexity	simple sentences
Vocabulary	bundled, naughty, fortune, ruckus, traditional, firecracking, relatives
Special Vocabulary	PoPo, Fu, mah-jongg, ancestors, cheongsam, lai see
Illustrations	portrait-like pencil-and-watercolor illustrations

Story Summary

PoPo's Lucky Chinese New Year tells the story of PoPo helping her granddaughter learn Chinese New Year traditions in this intergenerational celebration of family and culture. PoPo arrives from China to make preparations for Chinese New Year, a holiday that's like "Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day all bundled together". PoPo explains the symbolism behind each gesture and her Chinese-American granddaughter reacts with an honesty and effort that is both humorous and endearing. *PoPo's Lucky Chinese New Year* offers a comprehensive idea of what the Chinese New Year is about while sharing an authentic Chinese-American experience.



Lesson Focus

Chinese New Year

Activity Ideas

Scavenger Hunt

Ask the children to go on a scavenger hunt.

Venn Diagram

Watch *Chelsea's Chinese New Year* on Vooks.

Complete a Venn diagram to compare and contrast the two stories.

Craft

Make a Chinese Pellet Drum.

Game

Play mah-jongg.

Streamers

Make red and gold paper swirls and streamers (like in the story).

Additional activities can be found in the following pages of this document.

PoPo's Lucky Chinese New Year

NAME _____

Discuss the story and write your answers together.

PoPo's Lucky Chinese New Year offers a detailed lesson on the intricate customs of the Chinese New Year, but more importantly, it illustrates the ways rituals bring different generations together and how time spent with family makes rituals meaningful. Children learn about the customs of the Chinese New Year and the joy of family.

What is *PoPo's Lucky Chinese New Year* about?

How is PoPo related to the little girl telling the story?

How do you know?

What kinds of things do PoPo and the little girl do to get ready for Chinese New Year?

What are some of the ways they celebrate Chinese New Year?

What was your favorite thing that you learned from the story?

PoPo's Lucky Chinese New Year

Pause at the indicated time stamps and discuss the story

1:30

How do you think the little girl feels about her brother? What clues did you use?

2:47

Why does the little girl wash her hair three times?

3:38

What are some other things that Americans do for good luck?

4:37

What are some decorations that you have made for holidays?

6:35

How do you think the little girl feels about her brother? What clues did you use? Has your opinion changed since the beginning of the story? Why or why not?

8:43

Why does PoPo add more cookies?

12:56

Why do you think the little girl does this?

After viewing the Book:

1. Why did PoPo make the trip from China to America?
2. Describe the Chinese New Year's celebration.

NAME _____



Drawing and Writing

NAME _____

Write about a traditional holiday that you celebrate with your family. Draw a picture to illustrate.

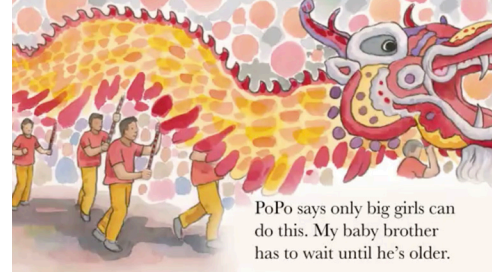


Chinese New Year KWL Chart

NAME _____

Make a KWL chart about the Chinese New Year.

1. Write down what you already **know** about the Chinese New Year.
2. What do you **want** to learn about the Chinese New Year.
3. Research to find the answers to your questions and write down what you **learned**.



Topic

Chinese New Year

What I K now	What I W ant to Know	What I L earned

Chinese New Year Do's or Do Not's

NAME _____

PoPo shares a lot of beliefs about Chinese New Year with her granddaughter. Complete the sentences by circling Do or Do not at the beginning of these sentences:

Do	Do not	___ carry dirt out the front door because that means a family member will leave.
Do	Do not	___ open the windows and doors at midnight to allow the old year to leave.
Do	Do not	___ wash your hair on New Year's Day.
Do	Do not	___ cook and eat lucky foods.
Do	Do not	___ break the noodles.
Do	Do not	___ hang red and gold banners and paper cuts to ensure a flow of good luck and to invite in good spirits.
Do	Do not	___ sleep on New Year's Eve. Your parents will live longer.
Do	Do not	___ greet people in their bedrooms.
Do	Do not	___ cut away your good thoughts.
Do	Do not	___ use knives or scissors on this day.
Do	Do not	___ wear red.
Do	Do not	___ use the number four.
Do	Do not	___ make loud noises to scare away the evil spirits.
Do	Do not	___ keep the leaves and stems on fruits and give those to married people.
Do	Do not	___ give children two lai see because PoPo says, "happiness comes in pairs."