

Books for Young Learners Teacher Resource

Book Notes

**Dragon Feet / Los pies del dragón**

Author Marjorie Jackson

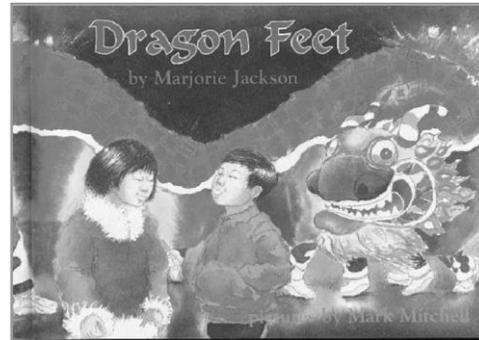
Illustrator Mark Mitchell

16 pages ■ 153 Eng. words ■ 153 Spn. words

Fountas and Pinnell Level K

Intervention Level 15

Descubriendo la Lectura Level 8



Dragon Feet

SYNOPSIS

Chinese New Year celebrations are fun for children as they watch a dragon and participate in the festivities.

WHAT THE BOOK OFFERS

- Realistic fiction
- Third person
- Present tense
- Description rather than action
- Cultural content
- Humor
- Full-cover illustration
- Illustrations provide setting

POSSIBLE SKILLS EMPHASIS

- Gathering and synthesizing information from text and illustrations
- Comparing own experiences with how others celebrate
- Rephrasing or summarizing information for a specific purpose

INTRODUCING THE BOOK

What information about the probable content of this book can we glean from the cover?

What kind of celebration might it be? For whom?

That dragon looks pretty fierce, but. . . ?

The children are dressed in warm clothes, so that suggests winter. What celebration might it be?

How do you celebrate the New Year?

As you read this book, gather information about the way Chinese children celebrate their New Year.

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FOCUS OF INSTRUCTION

Pages 2 and 3: *What information can you gather from this page? Which is the most important? Let's write that down as one important fact.*

- Continue gathering information, ensuring that it is about the way Chinese children celebrate their New Year. In some cases, the readers will have to change the way the information is presented. For example, on page 9, amend it to, "Adults give children money in red envelopes."

How could we write this so it is a statement about all Chinese children receiving red envelopes?

FOLLOWING THE READING

- Use the listed information for one column of a two-column table comparing Chinese New Year with a celebration that is familiar to all students in the group. Other columns could then be added to list information shared by students of other cultures in the classroom.
- Or, have the students pretend they were attending a Chinese New Year celebration and write about the new experience based on the information gathered during the reading of

Dragon Feet.

- Discuss how the illustrations provide the setting and mood. Revisit the illustrations to see if more information about the celebration can be gleaned.

What will you need to remember if you are illustrating a piece of writing set in another country?

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Additional Comprehension Prompts For Oral or Written Use Before, During, and After Reading	
FINISH THIS THOUGHT	<i>The Chinese New Year celebration reminds me of . . . because . . . Two things I learned from reading this great book were . . . and . . .</i>
USE YOUR MEMORY	<i>Who came to visit Yi-Yen and Chen's family? What did they bring and what did they say? Check page 8 to see if you were right. At the parade, what made a 'clang' sound? What made a 'bang' sound? What made 'pop' and 'crack' sounds? How do you know?</i>
WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?	<i>Why do you think everyone inside the dragon float wore sneakers? What do you think 'new money' is? Why were the children happy to receive it on the Chinese New Year? What would you do with your 'new money' if you got some?</i>
BE CREATIVE	<i>This book has been a favorite of children for a long time. Check the copyright date of this book on the inside front cover. Look for the © symbol. What year was this book made?</i> <i>Read the Nonfiction Note box on the inside back cover of the book. What year was the Year of the Dragon? How many years were there between the year this book was published (copyright date) and the Year of the Dragon?</i> <i>Now draw a fantastic dragon for the Year of the Dragon parade. What would the face of the dragon look like? Draw that face. What colors would it be? Use those colors. What designs would be on it? Draw those designs. How many feet would the dragon dance on? Draw those. Use your imagination!</i>
VOCABULARY AGENT	<i>Make a list of all the different kinds of foods your family has on a holiday. As you make your list, put a comma (,) between each type of food. For example: candy canes, chocolate, etc. Before the last food that you list, put the comma (,) plus the word and. This is how things are listed when there are more than 2 things in a list. For example: candy canes, chocolate, ham, soda, and cherry pie.</i>

Book Note by Margaret E. Mooney

Additional Comprehension Prompts by Dr. Connie Hebert

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