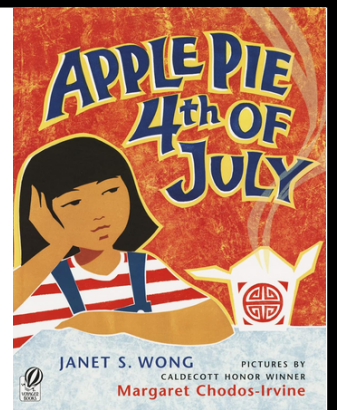


Apple Pie 4th of July

by Janet S. Wong

Illustrated by Margaret Chodos-Irvine



Before Reading: Get Ready

Review the book synopsis (on the back cover) with the student to confirm interest in reading the book. Share the title and author/illustrator. Talk about the cover.

Activate comprehension and set a purpose for reading. In *Apple Pie 4th of July*, a Chinese-American girl worries that her family's restaurant is not serving dishes that align with American Independence Day traditions. She learns that food can bridge cultures and later enjoys apple pie with her family and friends. Let's read to see how she felt on the Fourth of July and how her parents actually understood their community.

Introduce important vocabulary and ask your student to make connections before and during reading.

- **independence:** freedom, or not controlled by someone else. Americans celebrate independence on July 4th each year.
- **chow mein:** A Chinese dish of stir-fried noodles with vegetables and meat or tofu.

During Reading: Read Together

Sit side-by-side to share the book. Follow the conversation prompts and invite your student to ask questions or comments connected to the text to ensure their comprehension. Encourage your student to read the book with you!

- **After reading p. 5:** The girl does not think people will eat Chinese food on the Fourth of July. Why do you think she believes that? What food do you think she believes customers want to eat on the Fourth of July?
- **After reading p. 12:** Have you ever waited a long time for something to happen? How do you think the girl feels?
- **After reading p. 20:** Her parents brought fresh food for their customers. Do you think they knew they would sell to customers on the Fourth of July?

- **After reading p. 26:** Why might they climb up to the rooftop? Think back to the beginning of the book: What did the girl's father say that China invented?
- **After finishing the book:** Let's talk about how the girl felt at the beginning, middle, and end of the story. What evidence from the book supports your inferences? Have you ever felt like you were between two cultures, or two different groups?

NOTE: This book does not have page numbers. These conversation prompts will be marked in the book for your use.

After Reading: Discuss and Extend

After reading, briefly discuss the text and revisit vocabulary words to ensure your student understands the text. Extend the conversation with writing to give your student multiple opportunities to show understanding.

- **I hope you enjoyed our book today and will read other books by Janet S. Wong!**
- **Let's talk, draw, and write to respond to this book.** (Choose a prompt for student response and copy the selected frame into your student's notebook.)
 - Fireworks are often included in Fourth of July celebrations. They were first made in China. Do you like watching fireworks shows? (Write and discuss)
 - If you like fireworks, draw and discuss your favorite kinds _____.
 - If you do not like fireworks, share what you like to do instead. _____.
 - The girl first thought that people did not want Chinese food on the Fourth of July. What foods might she have wanted instead? (Write and discuss)_____.
 - I think the author of this book wanted us to understand that _____.
 - On page 30 the child is eating apple pie, which she said was her mother's favorite. What dessert is your favorite? (Draw and write)