

Playing With Lanterns

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Chinese New Year, Emotions, Family

Book Brief: Zhao Di and her friends delight in celebrating Chinese New Year by carrying colorful, candlelit lanterns through their village, savoring the vibrant nights while dodging wind and mischievous boys. For 15 nights, they embrace this festive tradition, culminating in the thrilling finale of smashing their lanterns.

Author:
Wang Yage

Illustrator:
Zhu Chengliang



BEFORE READING

The Cover: Have students make predictions about the story based on the cover.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice about Zhao Di.

Prior Knowledge: Look up a video of the history of Chinese lanterns on YouTube.

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: "As we read today, see how Zhao Di and her friends celebrate the Chinese New Year."

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- Describe the celebration of the Chinese New Year.
- What happens at the end of the celebration of the Chinese New Year?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: Zhao Di and her friends celebrate the Chinese New Year. Explain how they celebrate and what they do.

Extending Our Thinking: Zhao Di and her friends celebrate the Chinese New Year with lanterns. Using [RIF's Comic Book Strip](#), have students retell the story of the lanterns.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the Chinese New Year.
 - [Festivals: Lantern Festival](#) (2017)
 - [Goldy Luck and the Three Pandas](#) (2015)
 - [Lion Dancer: Ernie Wan's Chinese New Year](#) (1991)