

Imani's Moon

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

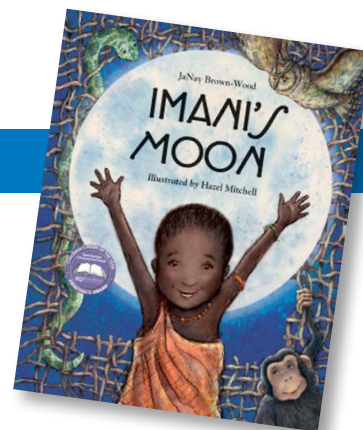
Themes: Maasai Culture, Moon, Folktales, Perseverance

Book Brief: Imani is teased by the other children in her tribe for being so small. With the love and encouragement of her mother, Imani proves that size is not a measure of what a person can accomplish.

Author:
JaNay Brown-Wood

Illustrator:
Hazel Mitchell

Content Connections:
Science, Social Studies



TIME TO READ!



BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: What clues does the cover illustration give about where this story takes place? Who is Imani?

The Pictures: Flip briefly through the pictures. Describe the area where Imani lives. What natural

resources do you think are available to the Maasai? What can you tell about Imani's village and customs?

Prior Knowledge: Discuss with students how many cultures have stories that revolve around the sun, moon, and stars. Talk about why these might be such popular subjects around the world. Have students read or heard any old stories—myths—that “explain” something in the nature? Ask students for examples. Are stories like this still common today? Why might myths be less common now?

Vocabulary: Maasai, inspired, mocked, taunt, myth, constellation

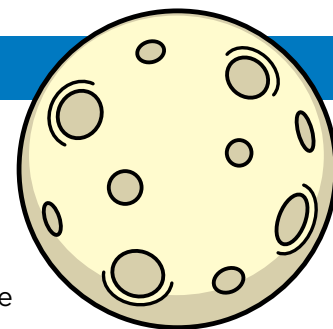
Purpose for Reading: As we read, think about why the author chose the moon for Imani to have as her goal.

WHILE WE READ

MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- ◆ How do the children in Imani's village treat her?
- ◆ How do their actions affect Imani? How does she feel?
- ◆ Where do the stories Imani's mom tells her come from?

- ◆ Why are dreams important?
- ◆ How does Imani's attitude change?
- ◆ How would you describe Imani? What are her character traits?



LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: Why do you think the author chose the moon for Imani to focus on as her goal? Are there any other goals Imani could have worked toward instead?

Extending Our Thinking: With a partner, discuss another way this story might have ended. Share your idea with the class. Do you like any of the alternate endings better than the one in the book? Why or why not? Can you think of any other titles the author could have used for this book? What other folktales or myths remind you of this story? Explain your answer.

NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.



Reading Is Fundamental