

Books

Unit 6 - Japan and Mean & Beans

Big Jimmy's Kum Kau Chinese Take Out by Ted Lewin. (HarperCollins, 2001. Paperback.)

A young narrator takes readers behind the scenes at his family's restaurant, and serves up a surprise in the end.

Carlos Digs to China by Jan Romero Stevens. (Rising Moon, 2001. Bilingual, paperback.)

The Carlos stories follow the adventures of a young boy who lives in New Mexico. Carlos and his classmates learn about China in school and then enjoy delicious Chinese food when their teacher takes them to a local Chinese restaurant

Cleversticks by Bernard Ashley. (Crown, 1991. Paperback.)

Wishing he had something to be clever at like each of the other children in his class, Ling Sung unexpectedly and happily discovers the others admire his prowess with chopsticks.

Cool Melons—Turn to Frogs by Matthew Gollub. (Lee & Low Books, 2004. Paperback.)

An introduction to haiku poetry and the life of Issa, Japan's premier haiku poet, told through narrative, art and translations of Issa's most beloved poems for children using authentic Japanese calligraphy.

Fortune Cookie Fortunes by Grace Lin. (Knopf Books, 2004. Hardcover.)

While eating at a Chinese restaurant, cookies snap open and Mei Mei wants to know how her fortune will come true.

* *I Live in Tokyo* by Mari Takabayashi. (Houghton Mifflin, 2001. Paperback.)

Bright, bustling illustrations abound in this pictorial look at Japanese life and customs through the eyes of a Tokyo schoolgirl.

* *The Story of Chopsticks* by Ying Chang Compestine. (Holiday House, 2001. Hardcover.)

When Kuai cannot get enough to eat, he begins using sticks to grab food too hot for his hands, and soon all of China uses chopsticks.

What You Never Knew about Fingers, Forks, and Chopsticks by Patricia Lauber. (Aladdin, 1999. Paperback.)

This book provides an entertaining look at eating habits around the world and their history. The text has clever illustrations and witty captions that add a light-hearted touch to the information.

Where on Earth is My Bagel? by Frances Park and Ginger Park. (Lee & Low Books, Inc, 2001. Hardcover.)

Yum Yang lives in Korea, but dreams of eating a New York bagel. He finds a pigeon to take his message to New York and then continues his search. With his friends—a farmer, a fisherman, a beekeeper, and a baker—he discovers a creative solution that makes everyone happy.

The Magical Starfruit Tree by Rosalind Wang. (Beyond Words Publishing, 1994. Hardcover.)

This Chinese folktale tells the story of a peddler, a young boy, and an old beggar on a summer day. The old man plants the seed and uses magic to make the seed grow and bear fruit, all before the eyes of a gathering crowd.

* recommended other books to use

