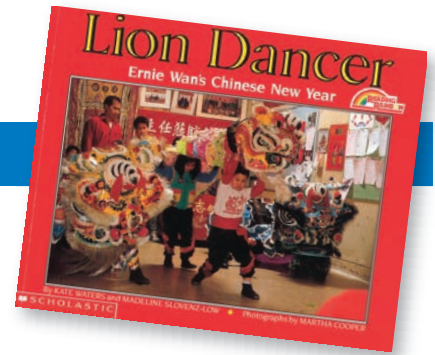


# Lion Dancer



## A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

**Themes:** Family, Chinese-American Culture, Celebrations, Traditions

**Grade Level:** Pre-K to 2nd grade

**Book Brief:** Ernie Wan prepares to celebrate the Chinese New Year.

**Authors:**  
Kate Waters  
and Madeline  
Slovencz-Low

**Photographer:** Martha Cooper



## TIME TO READ!

**Before reading:** Allow kids to look at the cover and some of the photographs. Explain that different cultures celebrate the new year on different days. Do any of the children celebrate New Year's on a day other than (or in addition to) January 1?

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### EIGHT IS ENOUGH! (AGES 6-12)

The Chinese character for 8 looks and sounds like another Chinese word that means "rich." Make a list of 8 ways you can be rich. For example, having good friends makes you "rich."

### ABC RACE (AGES 6-12)

Materials: cards with the names of the Chinese Zodiac animals (for more than 12 children, make extra copies)

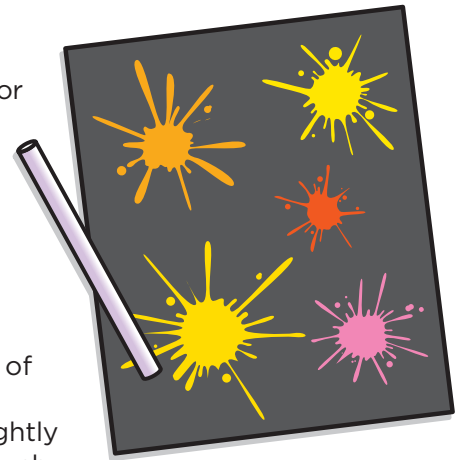


Kids draw a card from the pile. On your signal, they race to put themselves in alphabetical order. Time the race to see if they can improve their speed. For a large group, divide the children into teams.

### PAINTING FIREWORKS (AGES 4-9)

Materials: black paper, paint, stick or paint brush, straw, glitter (optional)

Firecrackers and fireworks are an important part of Chinese New Year celebrations. Give each child a piece of black paper. Drip small drops of brightly colored paint on each paper. Blow paint drops with a straw to make fireworks shapes. Before the paint is dry, have students sprinkle glitter on the paint. Did you know that fireworks were invented in China?



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### OTHER BOOKS ABOUT CHINESE NEW YEAR

*The Dancing Dragon*, Marcia Vaughan (1996), *Lanterns and Firecrackers*, Jonny Zucker (2003), *Hiss! Pop! Boom!*, Tricia Morrissey (2006).

### TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS

[www.rif.org/kids](http://www.rif.org/kids)



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