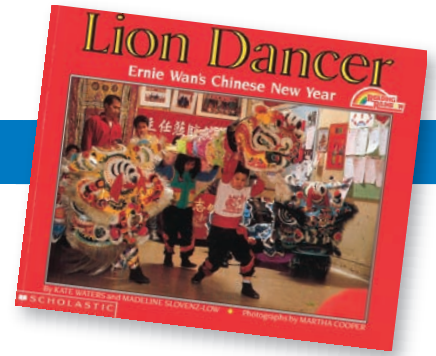


# Lion Dancer



## A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

**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  
Slovenz-Low

**Photographer:** Martha Cooper

## TIME TO READ!



**Before reading, make predictions:** Guess what the book is about based on the pictures. What tells you that this story is about a real family?

**While reading, pay attention to the order:** Notice how many things Ernie has to practice before the actual parade.

**After reading, ask questions:**

- ◆ What does Ernie have to practice?
- ◆ Why does he go to school on Saturdays?
- ◆ What are some traditional foods his family eats for New Year's?
- ◆ What are some of the other traditions mentioned in the book?

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### SUNNY CITRUS SALAD

*Oranges and tangerines are used for decoration at the Chinese New Year. They are a symbol of happiness.*

Spread some joy by cutting up oranges and tangerines and making a citrus salad. You can add other fruits if you like.

### OUT AND ABOUT

Next time your family takes a trip or celebrates a holiday, take pictures. Print them and put them in order to tell a story about your family. You can also make scrapbooks or photo albums for free online at websites like [www.smilebox.com](http://www.smilebox.com).



### GOOD WISHES

Materials: red paper, markers, tape

In China, red is considered lucky. Cut red paper into small pieces. On each piece of paper, write a good wish for another family member. Decorate your wishes with pictures or stickers and hang them on your windows and doors. Hopefully, they'll bring your family good luck!



## 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).



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