

# Chandra's Magic Light

## A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

**Themes:** Family, Light, Perseverance

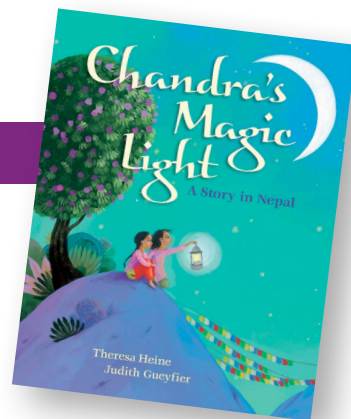
**Book Brief:** Chandra knows a solar lamp will light her family's home high in the Himalayas and help her brother breathe easily at night. But how can she earn enough money to buy one?

**Author:**

Theresa Heine

**Illustrator:**

Judith Gueyfier



## TIME TO READ!



**The Cover:** Look at the cover of the book with students and ask, "What do you see on the cover of this book? Where do you think the girls are?" Discuss student responses and keep them in mind for the picture walk.

**Prior Knowledge:** This book introduces students to solar energy. Show them a picture of a solar panel on the solar energy picture card and say, "This is a solar panel. It collects the sun's energy for us to use. What do you know about solar energy?"

**Vocabulary:** This story will introduce vocabulary relating to light. Use Picture Cards: *lamp*,

*sun, energy, batteries, light, smoke, fire, solar energy.* Ask students if they know of words in their home language(s) that mean the same thing as these words.

**Purpose for Reading:**

"As we read today think about Chandra's problem in the story. How do you think she will solve the problem?"

## WHILE WE READ

**AS YOU READ, PAUSE AND ASK...**

*Throughout the story, pause and ask...*

- **Level 1:** "Where is the light on this page? Point to it."
- **Level 2:** "Does Chandra have enough money to buy the lamp?" Students can respond yes/no, nod, or give a thumbs up/down.
- **Level 3:** "How does the magic light in this story work?"
- **Level 4:** "What do you think would happen if Chandra didn't get the magic light? What makes you think that?"

## LET'S THINK ABOUT

**Our Purpose:** Ask, "What was Chandra's problem in this story? How did she solve her problem?"

**Extending Our Thinking:** What would you have done if you were Chandra in this story?

**BOOK ACTIVITY: Creating a Solar Oven**

Materials: empty box (preferably a pizza-like box), aluminum foil, plastic wrap, tape, scissors, ruler, paper plate, food to cook

Cut a flap in the lid of an empty box, leaving a 2-inch border. Line the flap and inside of the box with shiny-side-out aluminum foil and tape it. Cover the opening with plastic wrap and tape it down. Place food on a paper plate inside, prop the flap open with a ruler to reflect sunlight, and let the sun cook the food for up to an hour. Carefully remove the food when it's hot and enjoy!

