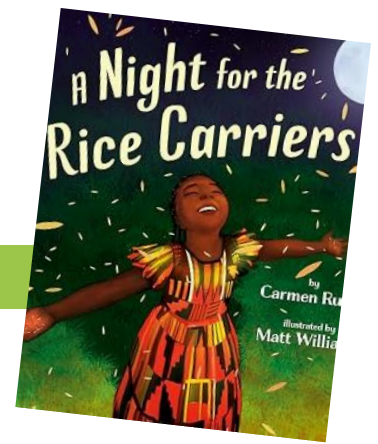




A Night for the Rice Carriers

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Girls & Women, Traditions, West Africa

Book Brief: The story follows a narrator who follows her community in a special nighttime tradition: carrying rice

Author:
Carmen Rubin

Illustrator:
Matt Williams

BEFORE READING

The Cover: Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover and title.

The Pictures: Take a quick picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

Prior Knowledge: Ask, “Have you ever had a family tradition that was passed down from generation to generation?” (Optional: Think-Pair-Share)

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: “As we read, think about what traditions were taught to the young girls?”

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What traditions are shown in the story?
- What happens during the nighttime gathering?
- How do the characters show responsibility?
- What emotions are connected to the rice-carrying ritual?
- How does the main character feel about their responsibility? What clues show this?



Think Aloud: “I notice that the young girls are taught the traditions of the rice carriers. I wonder if the young girls are also learning about courage and community.”

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: “What are the lessons learned by the young girls from the sharing of traditions?”

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content. Try [Freedom Soup](#) or [The Year We Learned to Fly](#)