**Chinese Folktales:**

**A Lesson in Life**

**Instructor(s):** Alyssa Piccarreto, Irene Wasnik, Alicia Gosnell, Jaclyn Brown

**Age Level and Group Size**: 2nd Grade, Whole Group

**Time Estimate:** 30 minutes

**Learning Outcomes:**

* Students will be able to determine the theme of the story and apply it to their lives.
* Students will gain a deeper understanding of Chinese culture and folktales.

**Rationale:**

Students will increase their awareness of other cultures through the book and learn why being happy with what you have is important.

**Common Core Standards:**

* [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.1](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RL/5/1/) Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
* [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.5.2](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/W/5/2/) Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
* [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.5.3](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/SL/5/3/) Summarize the points a speaker makes and explain how each claim is supported by reasons and evidence.
* [CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.5.4](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/SL/5/4/) Report on a topic or text or present an opinion, sequencing ideas logically and using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes; speak clearly at an understandable pace.

**Materials:**

* Two of Everything by Lily Toy Hong
* Chart paper
* Markers
* Yellow “golden coins” made of construction paper
* Large black pot made of paper to put the coins in (placed on the bulletin board)

**Pre-reading:**

*“Today we are going to read another story about Asian culture. This story is a Chinese folktale. What do you know about folktales or China? I am going to write down what we think we know on this piece of chart paper here in the “K” section in my KWL chart. Thanks for sharing. When you are listening to this story, pay close attention to the lesson that the main character, Mr. Haktak, learns. He uses a magic pot to double everything he has. This may seem like a good idea but it is actually going to get him in some trouble. This is going to be the theme of the story. I want you thinking about what you could do differently in your own life because of the lesson Mr. Haktak learns. After we finish reading the story and filling in our KWL chart, I am going to ask you to reflect on the theme of the story and write about a lesson or piece of advice you can given someone else and we will put them in our own magic pot on the bulletin board.”*

**During reading:**

Stop and discuss the following at various points during the reading:

* What is Mr. Haktak choosing to “double”?Is it a good idea?
* What are some things the students would double?
* What begins to happen after Mr. Haktak doubles his belongings?
* Was it as good of an idea as Mr. Haktak originally thought? Do you think he would do the same thing if given the same opportunity again or did he learn his lesson?

**Post-reading:**

* Finish filling in the KWL chart with information the students learned about folktales and China and questions they may still have.
* Have a class discussion of the theme of the story and the lesson Mr. Haktak learned. Discuss what the students took away from the lesson: be happy with what you have.
* The students will fill in lessons they learned or pieces of advice they have for others on the golden coins to be put in the magic pot on the bulletin board.

**Extensions to other subject areas:**

* Math: write number sentences for basic addition doubles fact up to 20.
* ELA: research any questionsstudents still have about China from the KWL chart.