

Imagine That! Stories

Visualizing
and
Verbalizing®
For Language Comprehension and Thinking



Thanksgiving **Supplemental Lesson Packet**

HELPFUL ADVICE

This is an *Imagine That!* packet that can be used with any program of instruction to develop imagery for language comprehension, or used with the Visualizing and Verbalizing® (V/V®) program. Although this packet's stories has been written at a fourth- to fifth-grade reading level, you can use the stories with other grade levels as you feel appropriate. The stories feature a main idea or topic to be imaged, and then provides detailed imagery for the topic. While sentences or paragraphs may contain much concrete detail that can be imaged, others contain abstract concepts.

It is recommended that you start with any new vocabulary to help students both with decoding and with imaging new words and concepts. While reading a story, be sure to ask imagery questions to elicit detailed imagery from the student.

Once you have completed the story, move on to the Higher Order Thinking questions. These are main idea, inference, conclusion, evaluation, and prediction questions. The order of the HOT questions is such that they stimulate students' thinking first about the gestalt (the whole) and then about the details of the story. Some questions may include contrast or introduce additional information from which the students can extend their thinking about the story.

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Feasts Around the World is an original story written by Daniel Scott. *A Turkey Goes Free in the United States* is an original story written by Valarie Jones. Giant Pumpkin first appeared in *Imagine That! Stories, Grade 4, Wonders of the Natural World*.

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VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Preread words for each story:

1	pumpkin	tractor	2	turkey	pardoned
	soil	patch		White House	tradition
	sprouts	crane		nervous	spared
	harvest	hoist		lawn	decades
3	feast	ancestors	biscuits	skewers	guests
	annual	sesame	Cyprus	lamb	haggis
	Korea	wrestling	observe	ravioli	onion
	<i>Chuseok</i>	Provence	devour	bagpipe	toast

Study and visualize the vocabulary:

soil: dirt (*n.*)

sprouts: grows; springs up (*v.*)

harvest: a crop, fruit, vegetables, etc. (*n.*)

crane: a large, tall machine used for moving heavy objects by suspending them from an arm (*n.*)

hoist: raise or lift (something) (*v.*)

bobs: makes short, quick movements up and down (*v.*)

lawn: an area of grass, usually in a park, yard, or garden (*n.*)

pardoned: released an offender from legal outcomes such as jail, fines, punishment, or death (*v.*)

tradition: something that is done in a culture that is passed down from generation to generation, like sitting down to dinner together on Thanksgiving (*n.*)

decades: periods of ten years (*n.*)

feast: a huge meal for many people (*n.*)

annual: happening every year, usually on the same day each year (*adj.*)

ancestors: people from whom one is descended, such as your grandparents or your grandparents' grandparents (*n.*)

sesame: the edible seeds of the sesame plant (*n.*)

observe: notice or perceive (something) (*v.*)

devour: to eat greedily (*v.*)

skewers: long metal or wooden pins or sticks used to hold pieces of food while cooking (*n.*)

piper: a person who plays bagpipes (*n.*)

bagpipe: a musical instrument with a flexible bag inflated by a tube, with several pipes coming out, popular in Scotland (*n.*)

toast: to raise a glass and drink in honor of a person or thing; usually a group all raising their glasses at the same time (*n.*)

1. Giant Pumpkin

A farmer plants a small pumpkin vine in a bare patch of dark soil. Soon the vine sprouts big green leaves and lots of small pumpkins. The farmer cuts off small leaves and many pumpkins until there are just lots of big leaves and one big pumpkin. He waters the vine each day for months, watching the pumpkin grow and grow. At harvest time, the farmer and a friend drive a tractor and a truck out to the pumpkin patch. The farmer walks up to the giant pumpkin, which now comes up to his waist, and cuts it off the thick vine. The two men wrap the giant pumpkin with straps and hook them onto the tractor's crane. Gently, they hoist the pumpkin off the ground, set it in the truck bed, and drive off to a Giant Pumpkin Contest.

From what you pictured...

What is the main idea of this story?

Why do you think the farmer cuts off all the other pumpkins?

Why do you think the farmer has a friend help him harvest the pumpkin?

Why do you think the farmer and his friend wrap the pumpkin with straps?

Why do you think the farmer and his friend need both the tractor and the truck?

What do you think will happen at the contest?



2. A Turkey Goes Free in the United States

A fat, white turkey stands on a table outside the White House. The nervous bird ruffles its feathers and bobs its head. A crowd watches on the lawn. The President steps up to the table. He shouts that this turkey is pardoned. The crowd cheers for the turkey's freedom.

This tradition has been going on for over 25 years. Each November, families buy millions of turkeys for Thanksgiving dinner. But this turkey is spared by the leader of the country. It was President Reagan who first used the word pardon. A pardon given to a criminal frees them.

President Lincoln was the first to free a turkey. It was a request from his young son Tad. That turkey was going to be Christmas dinner. Decades later, President Kennedy chose to free a Thanksgiving turkey. It went to live out its life on a farm. Now each year, there is a lucky turkey!

From what you pictured...

What is the main idea of this story?

Do you picture the crowd is happy for the turkey? What do you picture for that?

Why do you think the turkey is spared?

Why do you think Reagan chose the word pardon?

Who was the first president to free a turkey?

How is the turkey 'lucky' each year? Explain.



President Obama pardons 'Abe' in November, 2015.



3. Feasts Around the World

Thanksgiving in America is hundreds of years old, but people have been coming together to feast since the dawn of history. Every culture has some sort of huge annual feast. After months of tending to crops, people harvested them in the fall, just before the cold winter. They had plenty of food and a break from their work in the fields. Families and friends celebrated with a feast.

In Korea, *Chuseok* is a holiday of family and food. Each year people in big cities return to their hometowns. Most families visit the graves of their ancestors. Once the dead have been honored, there is a feast. The main dish is steamed rice cakes stuffed with beans, sesame seeds, nuts, cinnamon, and honey. Three days of fun includes dancing, wrestling, going door-to-door playing music, and dressing in costumes.

Feasting (or not feasting) can also be part of a religion. In Provence, Catholics eat thirteen different kinds of dessert on Christmas Eve, including biscuits, puddings, and cakes. In Cyprus, many observe Lent, forty days in which they do not eat meat, fish, or dairy products. But right before Lent, they spend two weeks eating! The first week, they devour meat—pork stew and skewers of lamb, among other dishes. And the second week is all about cheese. Both children and adults enjoy cheese-filled pastries, breads and cookies, cheese ravioli, and more.

You may not want to join the feast on Burns Day! After the death of famed Scottish poet Robert Burns, his friends met for dinner and to trade stories. This celebration of Burns became an annual tradition for many. As guests enter a dining room, a piper playing bagpipes greets them. Then the cook brings the main course—haggis—to the table. Haggis is a kind of pudding made of sheep's heart, liver, and lungs, mixed with onion, oatmeal, and spices, and wrapped in the sheep's stomach. After this "tasty" dinner folks toast, dance, and take turns reading Burns' poetry out loud.



The March of 13 Desserts

PARAGRAPH BY PARAGRAPH

From what you pictured...

What is the main idea of this story?

Why do you think feasts are usually annual?

Why do you think people had a break in their work after they harvested crops?

Do you think people were happy when the harvest was over?

Why do you think people would return to their hometowns for Chuseok?

Why do you think people in Korea visit the graves of their ancestors?

Why do you think the story says *not* feasting can be part of a religion?

Do people eat a lot before Lent, or just a little? Explain.

Why do you think people met to trade stories about Robert Burns?

Why do you think the word “tasty” has quote marks around it in the story?

Would you want to attend a Burns Day celebration?

Which of these traditions would you most like to try? Why or why not?

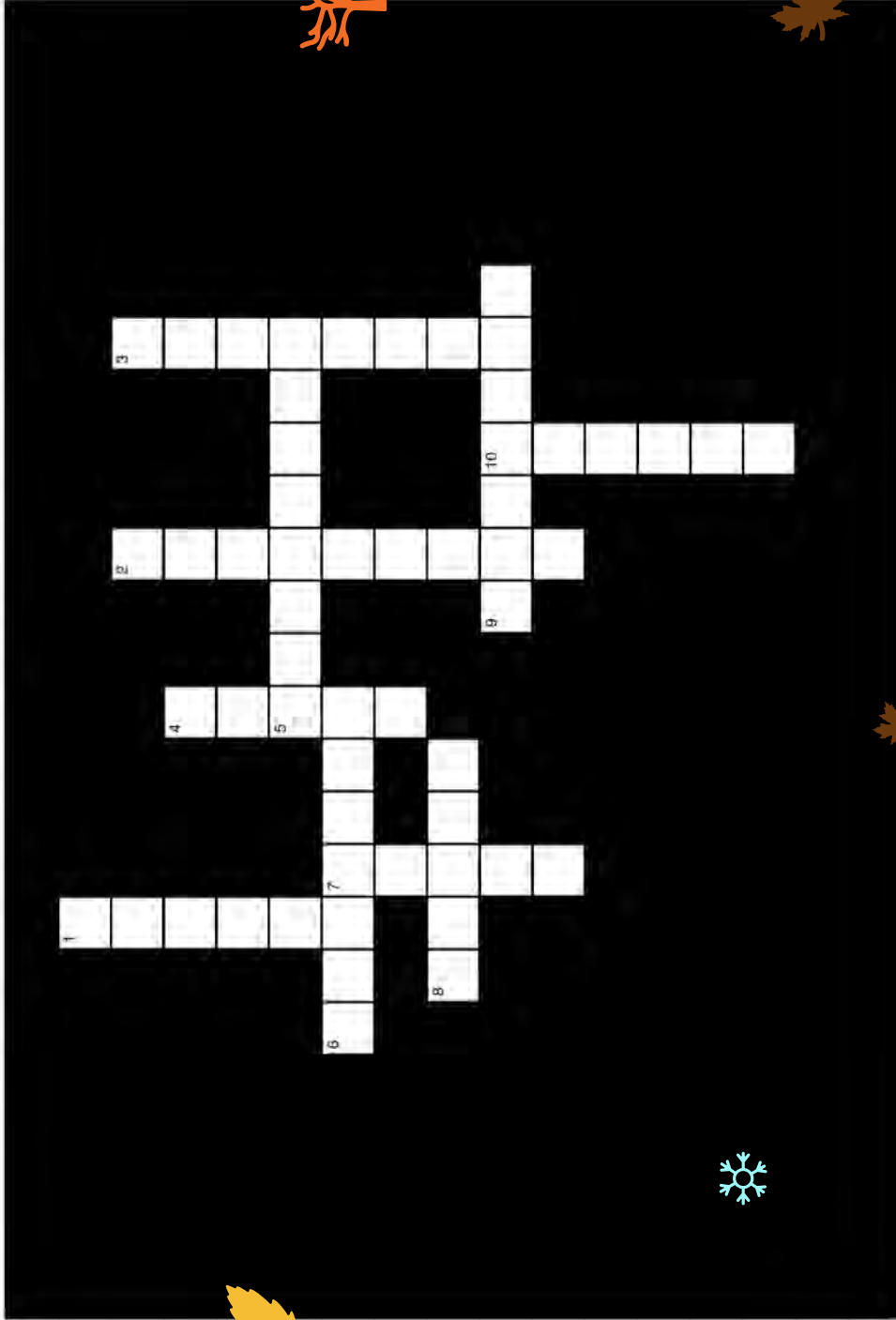


A piper playing (left)

Haggis (below); Chuseok feast (bottom)



FEASTS AROUND THE WORLD



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

5. A region in France
6. A particular set of clothes, like those worn on Halloween
8. A huge meal for many people
9. Caring for plants, crops, etc.

Down

1. An island in the Mediterranean Sea
2. Gathered a crop, picked fruit, etc.
3. The town or city where a person grew up
4. A person who plays bagpipes
7. To raise a glass and drink in honor of a person or thing
10. To eat greedily

MORE ABOUT FEASTS

WORD SEARCH

B	S	U	X	S	N	Y	E	Z	X	Y	C	Z	N	H	R	N	B	Q	P	F	K	D	C	O
E	O	I	F	S	D	S	E	N	D	P	S	P	R	C	Y	A	T	A	I	L	J	A	N	T
O	R	W	E	V	W	N	B	Z	F	B	E	F	L	P	X	W	R	J	I	D	W	T	B	
A	A	S	K	L	O	R	Z	F	T	H	M	A	X	Q	O	T	A	L	K	P	U	F	T	T
S	V	H	U	S	R	O	I	G	V	A	P	S	G	K	E	X	D	L	O	P	I	X	U	U
L	I	O	K	M	H	L	L	K	Q	R	P	V	A	O	S	Z	I	M	C	B	F	P	I	G
C	O	C	H	U	S	E	O	K	H	V	M	R	P	X	Z	J	T	Q	G	W	F	Z	E	K
Y	L	C	U	Z	X	O	V	X	A	E	G	N	C	Z	U	I	D	F	H	M	P	M	S	
M	I	S	D	F	S	L	A	N	G	S	O	P	G	Z	Y	O	W	G	B	C	Q	L	X	
K	L	M	J	J	B	S	B	H	G	T	G	A	L	D	U	W	N	B	R	Q	R	T	F	D
F	N	Z	W	C	R	S	X	P	I	E	P	J	B	O	Y	K	H	I	D	S	E	F	S	U
H	U	Y	A	E	T	J	L	U	S	D	S	E	O	N	X	O	Q	S	E	E	Y	X	R	M
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F	Z	E	A	T	B	M	C	A	N	C	E	S	T	O	R	U	F	U	O	A	X	Q	A	Y
Z	K	E	C	Z	E	L	Z	O	R	K	R	A	N	U	A	L	I	U	M	E	D	X	K	
S	F	Z	W	P	O	C	B	Z	I	D	G	Z	S	N	X	V	D	T	R	E	U	M	H	K
I	I	V	F	H	T	W	K	Q	G	W	F	J	A	U	B	R	R	S	W	E	K	F	Y	D

ancestor annual bagpipes biscuits Chuseok devour feasts haggis harvested
 onion poet ravioli sesame skewers tradition

