

Storytime Suggestions for *Suki's Kimono*

Suki's Kimono is recommended for ages 4–8.

Storytime Props

Make storytime more creative and fun by including props to encourage group participation, emphasize important scenes in the story and get into character. It is always a good idea to organize your props and rehearse your storytime actions in advance. Don't forget to store all of your props in a bin for next time.

You might need

- ▶ a paper parasol
- ▶ a kite (miniature or life-size)
- ▶ a few sets of chopsticks
- ▶ a pink handkerchief (pale pink linen if possible)
- ▶ a hand drum that mimics a loud *boom* sound
- ▶ a paper lantern



Activity Materials

Before storytime, collect the following materials and organize an activity area where your group can work. Make sure to store your activity materials in a separate bin from the storytime props.

You will need

- ▶ different colored construction paper
- ▶ pencils, different colored markers and pencil crayons
- ▶ safety scissors
- ▶ one or two bottles of glue (clear-drying nontoxic liquid white craft glue)
- ▶ decorative material such as glitter, beads, pipe cleaners, cotton balls, ribbon, etc.

Before You Read the Story

ASK your group to list as many holidays as they can think of and explain which one is their favorite and why.

DISCUSS what the word “culture” means with your group. Ask your group to answer the following questions: What is your cultural background? Do you celebrate any special holidays or traditions? If yes, please describe them.

After You Read the Story

Keep the fun going by asking your group to participate in some of the following activities.

1. Ask your group to use the activity materials to create their own miniature-size paper kimono, kite or fan. Once your group has completed the activity, ask everyone to share their artwork.
2. Hand out pieces of construction paper, and ask your group to create an image that depicts something special in their lives, such as their cultural background, family, friends, etc. Ask everyone to share their artwork with the group.



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Suki's kimono



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