

The Seven Chinese Sisters

by Kathy Tucker

Vivid illustrations, unique abilities and a positive plot combine to help young readers discover that the bond between sisters is stronger than any obstacle they might face.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *What would you do if you had seven sisters?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder what they are doing on the bridge?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *The Seven Chinese Sisters*

- scooter: a motorized bike
- karate: a traditional Japanese form of fighting
- beagle: a dog
- pantry: a place to store food
- roaring: a loud, deep cry
- regret: to be sorry
- curious: eager to learn
- starving: very hungry
- whizzed: to move swiftly

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Which sister could ride a scooter fast as the wind?
- What ability did the second sister have?
- Which sister could talk to dogs?
- What was Seventh Sister's first word?
- Where did the dragon live?
- Why did the dragon come down to their house?
- What kind of dog was Fourth Sister talking to?
- How did the sisters know the dragon was hungry?
- How many trees did the sisters have to pass in order to get home?
- What did Seventh Sister do when she grew tall?

Do

Counting Noodles

You will need: 11 paper or plastic small plates, white or off-white yarn, a magic marker and a small tub (to store the yarn and plates)

Before: Number each plate 0-10 with the magic marker and cut the yarn into 12-inch strings (as much as you want to have)

In small groups or in a center, lay out the plates and the tub of “noodles” (yarn). Read each number on the plates (make sure the children can name the numbers). Choose one plate to model the game. Read the number on the plate and count out that many noodles. Place the noodles on the corresponding number plate and repeat the steps with a new plate. Allow the children enough time to fill each plate with the correct amount of noodles. The children can either work in small groups or individually.