

the Pandas and their Chopsticks



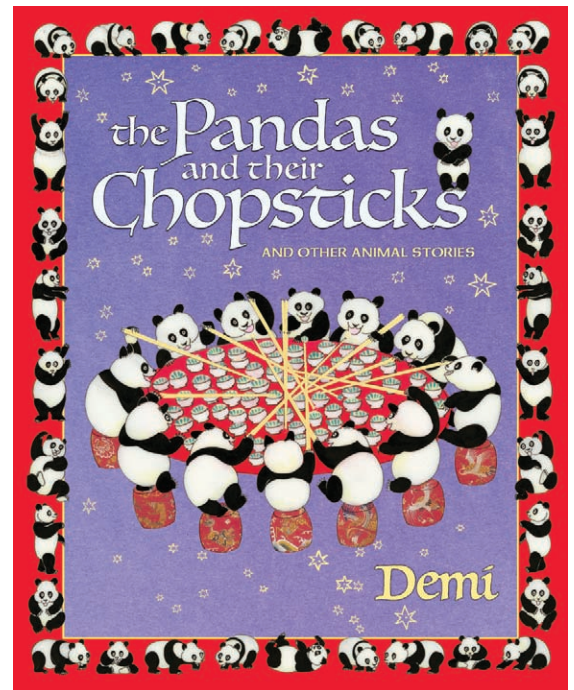
SUMMARY

- Eating bamboo shoots with chopsticks three feet long? Impossible, you say. Not if you are a playful panda and learn to share and work together with your friends!
- In ten whimsical and beautifully illustrated animal stories, award-winning author Demi teaches valuable life lessons to young readers
- Written for kindergarten children and up, it includes bright and colorful illustrations with beautiful borders to capture the attention of children and adults
- Each of the ten stories contains a teaching moral that is aptly suited for children ages 4-7
- Cunning kitties, helpful hummingbirds, talkative turtles, and hasty hedgehogs each provide valuable moral lessons for young hearts and minds, such as the importance of being humble, kind, and generous
- See how panda learns the importance of sharing, how turtle discovers the danger of being proud, and how everyone, including tiny hummingbird, has their part to play in life
- Ideal for teachers looking for simple, fun, and compelling stories to discuss emotions, virtues, and feelings with their students
- Issues of self-esteem, kindness, sharing, and generosity can be used to engage students in meaningful discussions
- This book is inspired by various Asian folktales, including Chinese and Indian, as retold by Demi

ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Demi is the award-winning author of over 130 bestselling children's books. Her titles have sold over half a million copies. *The Empty Pot* was selected by former First Lady Barbara Bush as one of the books to be read on the ABC Radio Network Program *Mrs. Bush's Story Time*, sponsored by the Children's Literacy Initiative. Demi's book *Gandhi* was named a New York Times Best Illustrated Book and received an Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Platinum Award. In addition, she represented the United States at the First International Children's Book Conference in Beijing, China. She lives with her husband in Yarrow Point, WA.

\$16.95, 28 pages, hardback, 8x10
28 color illustrations
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Lexile® measure—530L, Grade 2 and up



Winner in the “Children’s Picture Book: Hardcover Fiction” category of The USA “Best Books 2014” Awards

“The moral associated with each tale could be used as a teaching tool for parents or caregivers who want to discuss, or encourage, these qualities.”
—*Publishers Weekly*

“A versatile collection that would work well for independent reading and group sharing.”
—*ForeWord Reviews*

“Each of these 10 fables includes a moral or proverb worthy of discussion Demi’s signature motifs are used generously, often in the faint patterns filling many of the mainly pastel backgrounds.”
—*School Library Journal*

Wisdom Tales
Stories from Around the World

THE PANDAS AND THEIR CHOPSTICKS — WISDOM TALES DISCUSSION GUIDE



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is your favorite story and why?
2. Which animal is most like you?
3. Do all the animals in the book have good qualities? List the animals which show positive qualities, and those which do not. (Use in conjunction with the Classroom Activity described below.)
4. “The Pandas and Their Chopsticks”: Why was the first group of pandas mad and hungry? Why was the second group of pandas happy and well fed? Can you give an example of when you helped another person just like the pandas helped each other?
5. “A Hedgehog Thinks Twice”: After his favorite shovel went missing, what did the hedgehog first think about his neighbor? Later, how did the hedgehog feel about his neighbor and why did he change his mind? Have you ever felt someone took something of yours only to find out later that they had not? How did you feel? What lesson did you learn from this?
6. “The Fox Who was King of the Forest”: Why did the animals run away?
7. “The Helpful Hummingbird”: The tiny hummingbird tries to play his part. What did he do? Are there examples in your life where you also tried to help someone, even if it was a small contribution?
8. “The Turtle Who Couldn’t Stop Talking”: Have you ever talked too much or do you know anyone who talks too much? Are there examples you can share from your own life when it would have been better not to say anything?
9. “The Kite on a String”: Discuss why the kite was surprised? What was the butterfly’s response?
10. What are some simple things that you can do to help someone feel better? (Discuss the 3 steps of empathy: 1) “read” another person’s feelings; 2) allow yourself to share in those feelings; and 3) give a supportive response.)



VOCABULARY

suspicious: This word is an adjective that describes how someone feels towards others or towards a situation. It can be to believe someone else is guilty, false, bad, etc., with little or no proof. It can also mean feelings of doubt or mistrust of someone.

jealous: This adjective means to have negative feelings against someone because of that person’s success, or advantages, or possessions.

CLASSROOM AND GROUP ACTIVITIES

1. Ask your students to draw or paint their favorite animal or any other character in the book.
2. Discuss different emotions with your students. How did some of the animals feel in the stories? Ask your students to make a list of different emotions and how they feel.

