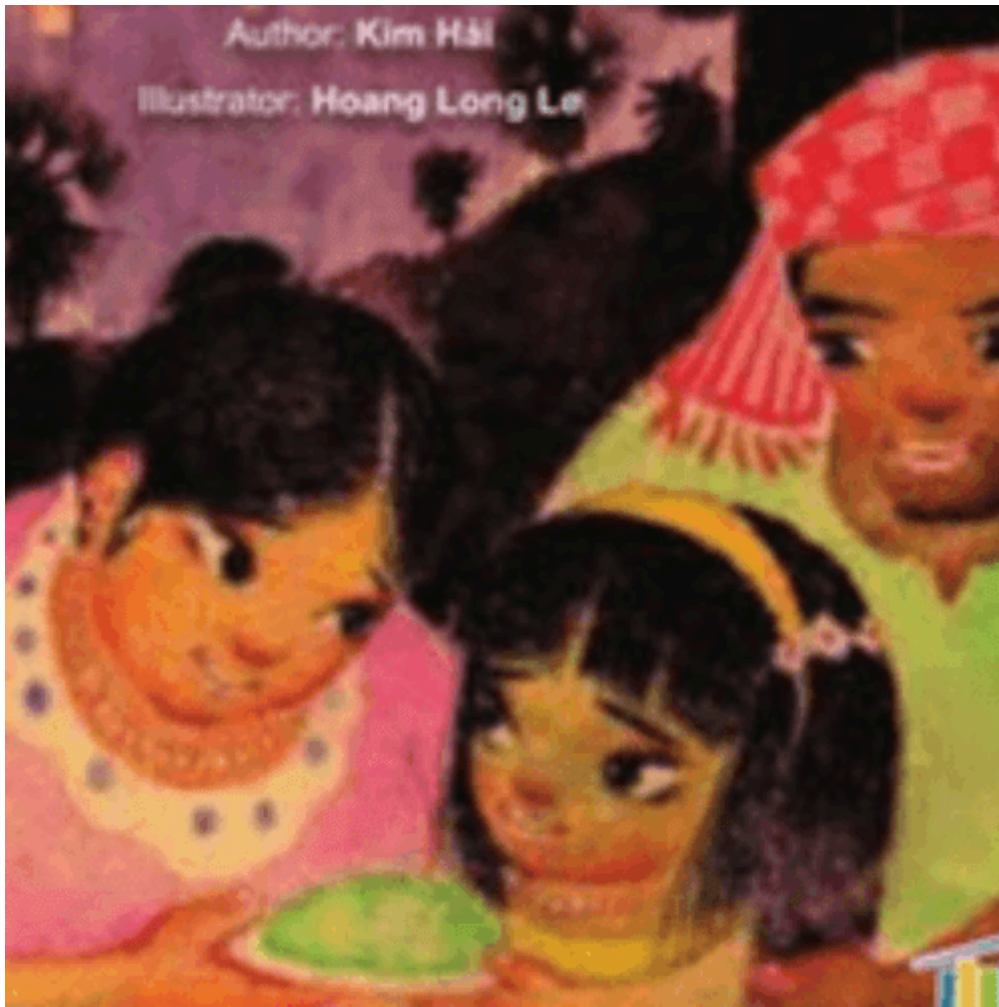


ZAMASAMA PRESENTS

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



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THEMES

Gratitude and Giving

Cultural Traditions

Family and Community

Celebration of Nature

LEARNING OUTCOME

- Recognize the significance of cultural festivals in community life.
- Understand the values of gratitude and communal harmony.
- Appreciate the diversity of global traditions and their meanings.

LESSON PLAN

Students explore the Ok Om Bok Festival through storytelling, discussions, and creative activities, nurturing appreciation for cultural diversity, gratitude, and community values.

Discussion Questions

Before Reading:

- What festivals do you celebrate with your family?
- How do these festivals bring your community together?

During Reading:

- What preparations does Nhâ's family make for the festival?
- How does Nhâ contribute to the celebrations?

After Reading:

- Why is the Moon significant in the Ok Om Bok Festival?
- How do festivals help in strengthening community bonds?

Activities:

- Festival Collage: Create a collage depicting lanterns, offerings, and traditional attire seen during the Ok Om Bok Festival.
- Gratitude Tree: Students write things they are thankful for on leaves and attach them to a classroom "Gratitude Tree."
- Cultural Exchange: Students present a festival they celebrate, drawing parallels with the Ok Om Bok Festival.
- Science Extension: How Do Lanterns Float?
- Objective: Understand why warm air rises and how it lifts sky lanterns.
- Materials: Hair dryer (warm/cool), lightweight balloon/ping-pong ball, markers.
- Steps: Decorate the balloon like a lantern, test in cool vs. warm airflow, observe how warm air lifts it higher.
- Discuss: Why does warm air rise? How does this relate to real lanterns at the festival?

RECOMMENDED ZAMASAMA BOOKS

- [Ismat's Eid – A humorous tale about family, generosity, and festival surprises. Read more](#)
- [The Best Doll Festival, Ever! – A story celebrating the importance of traditions and the joy of festivals.](#)
- [Easter Cookies in Bethlehem – A tale of sharing and caring and community spirit](#)

RELEVANT SDGS

Applicable SDGs:

- SDG 4 – Quality Education
- SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities
- SDG 16 – Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

SDG Explanation

- SDG 4 – Quality Education: Introduces young readers to Khmer cultural practices, fostering appreciation of global traditions.
- SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities: Highlights community participation in cultural festivals, underscoring preservation of intangible cultural heritage.
- SDG 16 – Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions: Shows how communal rituals promote social cohesion and shared values.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Enhanced understanding of cultural diversity and traditions.
- Greater empathy and appreciation for global communities.
- Encouragement of self-reflection on personal values and gratitude.

ABOUT ZAMASAMA

Zamasama is a nonprofit platform that brings together stories from around the world to help children discover that beneath our differences—of culture, language, or belief—we share the same hopes, joys, and dreams.

Today's children are tomorrow's citizens, and the responsibility of building a more peaceful, tolerant, and empathetic world lies with them.

That's why it's vital to instill these values early—through stories that help them rise above the biases they inherit, and see diversity as a strength that unites us all.