Now that you and your child have read the story, enjoy one or more of the following activities. Remember, it's also OK to read the story again and again!

Celebrating Chinese New Year: Nick's New Year

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Activities

- Make a paper lantern. You will need scissors, paper, and crayons. Use colored construction paper or glossy pages of magazines. Fold the paper lengthwise. Cut strips from the fold/crosswise but not all the way. Leave about one inch from the edge of the paper. Write "HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR" on the top edge. Glue the sides of the paper and tape strings on opposite sides of the edges.
- Point out that the Chinese phrase on the last page of the book means "Happy New Year." Have your child string together pieces of red paper to make a banner. Then have him or her either copy the Chinese words in the book for "Happy New Year" (Gung Hay Fat Choy) onto the banner or cut out the letters to make up the phrase from magazines or newspapers and paste them on it. Display the banner.
- Ask your child what the similarities and differences are in how your family celebrates the New Year and how Nick and his family celebrate their New Year. Draw two circles that overlap in the middle. Have your child list the activities that are different for each family on either part of the circles that do not overlap. Write the similarities in the middle part where the circles overlap.

Read More About It!

If you and your child enjoyed this book, look for these related titles at your local library or bookstore: Lion Dancer: Ernie Wan's Chinese New Year by Kate Waters and Madeline Slovenz-Low, Chinatown by William Low, Gung Hay Fat Choy by June Behrens, Happy New Year! Kung-Hsi Fa-Ts'Ai! by Demi, and The Turning of the Year by Greg Shed.



