



Orientation

Ensure that you have read about using the plan in the Program Guide.

Book summary

Read the following summary to the student.

Every year, my family celebrates Kwanzaa, but before we can eat and dance, we have to prepare the food and decorations.

Introduction

Foster interest and activate the student's background knowledge. Be concise – focus on motivating and involving the student. Encourage prediction by using the text and illustrations on the cover of the book. Discuss new vocabulary and remind the student to use the glossary (when applicable). Also remind the student to ask him/herself questions before, during and after the reading.

Discuss the title of the book with the student. Find out the student's prior knowledge of Kwanzaa and discuss what is happening on the cover.

Encourage the student to discuss other celebrations and the kinds of activities that they involve (special food, decorations, music and dancing, etc.)

Conferencing

Check how well the student reads

When you are conferencing, the student reads all or part of the book to you. Then:

- praise, pause, and prompt appropriately;
- check for accuracy (by counting mistakes) and fluency;
- check for understanding by using one or more of the following methods:
 - asking the comprehension questions provided and any others that seem necessary;
 - asking the student to retell the story in their own words;
 - asking questions about and discussing aspects of the story, such as the theme, plot, main ideas, sequence and characters;
 - encouraging the student to confirm the predictions they made during the orientation.

Decide what the student does next

Next recommend that the student:

- practices some more on the same book, with or without the audio;
- completes one of the activities provided that is related to the book;
- practices with another book from the same level; or
- is assessed for promotion to the next level.

Comprehension questions

1. What does Kwanzaa celebrate?
2. When do people celebrate Kwanzaa?
3. What do people do to celebrate Kwanzaa?
4. What other celebrations is Kwanzaa similar to?
5. Why is it important for

Answers to the Comprehension questions

1. African history.
2. In December.
3. They light candles, prepare a special meal, make paper chains, give gifts, play music, and dance.
4. Answers will vary but may include: Christmas and birthdays.
5. Answers will vary.

Supporting English Language Learners

The following are suggestions for optional lessons to take with your English language learners. See the overview chart in the Program Guide for a summary of the text features of this book.

Purpose

Sharing information and making oral comparisons

Introduce the concept and practice

Relating situations in a book to their own experiences enables students to extend their understanding and to develop empathy for others.

Once familiar with the text, ask the student to locate

some specific information about Kwanzaa. What is being celebrated? When is Kwanzaa celebrated and for how long? How is it celebrated? Now ask about a special occasion that the student's family celebrates. How is it similar to or different from Kwanzaa?

As the student makes the comparisons, summarize them on a page divided into two columns headed "Same" and "Different." This information could be used for written follow-up at a later stage.





Name: **Date:**

Introduction: Every year, my family celebrates Kwanzaa, but before we can eat and dance, we have to prepare the food and decorations.

Errors
M S

Grandma is growing okra. She is growing okra _____
 Kwanzaa. Kwanzaa is a special time _____ my family. It's
 when _____ celebrate our African history. _____ ago,
 people grew _____ first okra plants in Africa. Grandma
 _____ okra from seeds every _____. People celebrate
 Kwanzaa in December _____ year. Kwanzaa lasts for seven
 _____. My family celebrates Kwanzaa. _____ day, we
 light candles. _____ the sixth day of _____, we prepare
 for _____ special meal. We all _____ get ready. My
 sister _____ paper chains. They _____ red, black, and
 green. _____ help hang them up. _____ the seventh
 day, I _____ Mom cook the okra _____ a gumbo. Later,
 we _____ until we can't eat _____ more. Then we rest.
 _____ give each other gifts. _____ we play music, and
 _____ dance. We dance until we can't dance any more.

Accuracy Chart

Words Entered	Score	Level
More than 5 correct		Independent
5 correct		Instructional
Fewer than 5 correct		Frustration

Errors

M = Meaning (makes sense) ____ **S** = Syntax (sounds right) ____

Heard Seen Unseen

Comments:
.....





Grandma is growing okra.
She is growing okra for Kwanzaa.
Kwanzaa is a special time for my family.

It's when we celebrate our African history.
People celebrate Kwanzaa in December every year.
Kwanzaa lasts for seven days. On the sixth day of
Kwanzaa, we prepare for the special meal.

We all help get the meal ready. My sister makes paper
chains. I help hang them up. On the seventh day,
I help Mom cook the okra in a gumbo.

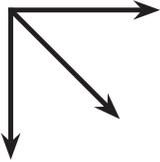
Later, we eat until we can't eat
any more. Then we rest. We give each other gifts.
Then we play music, and we dance.





Name: **Date:**

Words can be found in these directions:



The letter in each square can only be used in one word.

p	w	s	i	s	t	e	r	p
f	e	h	m	a	l	l	a	l
a	d	o	e	o	e	g	n	a
m	f	a	p	n	r	a	d	y
i	i	n	y	l	w	e	c	t
l	h	e	l	p	e	e	i	h
y	a	r	e	r	e	a	d	y
t	h	e	m	t	i	m	e	s
m	y	u	p	o	t	h	e	r

Words to find:

- | | | | | |
|--------|--------|------|-------|--------|
| all | and | are | day | each |
| family | help | in | more | my |
| other | people | play | ready | sister |
| them | time | up | we | when |

Use the letters that are left to make the word that tells what the family gives each other at Kwanzaa.....





- ★ Spin the numbered spinner.
- ★ The highest number starts.
- ★ You need to spin the exact number to move onto the END square.

START
Grandma is growing okra for Kwanzaa.

1

2 Kwanzaa is a special time. Spin again. Go forward that number.

3

19

20 On the seventh day, Mom cooks the okra in a gumbo. Spin again. If you spin an odd number, go on to 22.

21

22

4

18

END
You play music and you dance until you can't dance any more.



23 You give each other gifts. Name two numbers. If you spin one of them, go on to 26.

5 Kwanzaa is when African history is celebrated. Go on to 8.

17

30

24 You eat until you can't eat any more. Go back to 22.

6

16 On the sixth day of Kwanzaa, a special meal is prepared. Go back two spaces.

29

25

7

15

28

27 You rest. Miss a turn.

26

8

14

13 People celebrate Kwanzaa in December every year. Go forward four spaces.

12

11

10

9 Long ago, people grew the first okra plants in Africa. Spin again. Go back that number.





Name: **Date:**

Fill in the grid to write about what happens during Kwanzaa and what happens during a special time that your family celebrates.

	Celebrating Kwanzaa	Celebrating
Celebrated every year	yes	
Number of days	7	
Special symbols		
Decorations		
Special food	okra, gumbo	
Gifts	yes	
Music		
Dancing	yes	
Other		

Write on the back of this page if you need more space.



Write the name of your family's celebration and fill in each space. Use the "other" space to write some more information.

