



Orientation

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

Book summary

Read the following summary to the student.

The battle rages all around you ... Your sword flashes with lightning speed ... You're fighting for your life and the honor of your clan. Find out how samurai warriors in Japan kept order and protected their rulers' lands.

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.

Ask the student to close their eyes. Using a dramatic voice, read aloud the text on the back of the book. Discuss how the student might feel as a samurai warrior in battle (frightened, confused, angry, proud). Explain that when text refers to the reader as "you," it is written in the second person.

Discuss the illustrations on the front and back covers including what samurai wore, the weapons that they used, and the fact that they battled on horseback.

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 was the samurai's role?
2. What are the parts of the samurai's armor?
3. What are some positive and negative things about being a samurai?
4. How did the photographs and illustrations help you to read the book?
5. What is the authors' opinion of samurai warriors? How do you know?

Answers to the Comprehension questions

1. To keep order and protect their rulers' lands.
2. Accept any of the following: the main armor for the upper body, called a "do"; robe; shin, arm, and shoulder guards; helmet; mask.
3. Answers will vary.
4. Answers will vary.
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

Using adjectives in simple factual sentences

Introduce the concept and practice

Using adjectives in expository writing requires the student to explore their options and to choose words that provide an accurate description to inform the reader.

When the student has read the book, ask them to find adjectival phrases on pages 6, 8 and 9, for example, "lacquered metal," "sweet-smelling plants," "sharp horns," "elaborate figures," "written prayers," "menacing face," "long blade," "confined space," and "curved blades."

Ask the student to write a brief description of a helmet, a mask, and a sword, using the photos as inspiration. Encourage them to use adjectives that don't appear in the text. Explain that in expository texts, descriptive language should not be overly lively or colorful because the main purpose of the text is to provide factual and precise information.





Name: Date:

Introduction: The battle rages all around you ... Your sword flashes with lightning speed ... You're fighting for your life and the honor of your clan. Find out how samurai warriors in Japan kept order and protected their rulers' lands.

Errors M S

Introduction The battle rages all around you. You're surrounded by fierce warriors _____ rival clans mounted _____ gleaming war horses. Your _____ flashes with lightning speed. _____ hear battle cries, the ring _____ metal striking metal, and _____ thunder of hoofs. Your _____ collapses beneath you, but _____ battle on bravely. You're _____ for your life and _____ honor of your clan. _____ is Japan, and you _____ a samurai warrior. Who Were the Samurai? From _____ 12th to the 19th _____, samurai warriors served _____ local rulers who were governed _____ shogun – the military rulers _____ Japan during this period. _____ role of the samurai _____ was to keep order _____ protect their rulers' lands. _____ be a samurai was _____ live a life of honor _____ duty. Samurai warriors were _____ to follow a strict _____ of conduct that was known as "the way of the warrior."

Accuracy Chart (Exact word replacement only)

Table with 3 columns: Words Entered, Score, Level. Rows: More than 11 correct (Independent), 10 or 11 correct (Instructional), Fewer than 10 correct (Frustration)

Errors M = Meaning (makes sense) _____ S = Syntax (sounds right) _____

Heard (circle) Seen (circle) Unseen (circle)

Comments:



From the 12th to the 19th centuries, samurai warriors served under local rulers who were governed by shogun – the military rulers of Japan during this period. The role of the samurai warriors was to keep order and protect their rulers’ lands. To be a samurai was to live a life of honor and duty.

Samurai warriors were expected to follow a strict code of conduct that was known as “the way of the warrior.” This code included specific rules for behavior. From an early age, children of samurai parents were taught by their fathers or samurai masters.

Young warriors learned the importance of loyalty, honor, discipline, and respectful behavior. Their training included wrestling, combat, survival training, military tactics, mental discipline, and how to fight on horseback. Students of the way of the warrior also studied regular school subjects. Samurai were mounted warriors who depended on their skills, their well-trained horses, and their armor to protect them in battle.

The armor of the samurai was made up of many separate parts that allowed the warriors to move freely while giving them protection. There were so many different pieces of armor to put on that sometimes it took the samurai over an hour to dress for battle. The samurai’s weapon of choice was the sword.

A warrior usually carried two swords, one with a long blade and the other a short blade, which was useful when fighting in a confined space. The samurai’s choice of weapon and style of combat changed over time and included the bow and arrow, a long pole with a blade at one end, and muskets. Women often carried a dagger.

Sickles and swords were other weapons used by samurai women. By the 1900s, the political situation in Japan had changed. The rule of the shogun was over, and so was the power of the samurai. However, through the Japanese traditions of honor, respect, and loyalty, the way of the warrior lives on.





Name: Date:

Words can be found in these directions:



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

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

Words to find:

- | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| advantage | effective | loyalty | school | the |
| also | fighting | military | shoulder | two |
| battle | from | new | situation | uncomfortable |
| be | hear | on | strength | under |
| behavior | honor | popular | strong | warrior |
| could | horse | protection | subjects | were |
| decorated | important | respect | taught | while |
| different | in | role | that | young |
| dress | | | | |

Use the letters that are left to make the word that tells you the samurai's weapon of choice.





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

START
This is Japan, and you are a samurai warrior.

1

2 As a samurai warrior, it is your role to keep order and protect your rulers' lands. Go on to 6.

3 As a child, you learn the importance of loyalty to your master. Go forward 3 spaces.

19

20

21

22 You're battling bravely when your horse collapses beneath you. Go back 3 spaces.

4

18 For close combat, you use a long pole with a sharp, curving blade attached. Spin again. Go forward that number.

END
Through the Japanese traditions of honor, respect, and loyalty, the way of the warrior lives on.

23

5 Your training includes mental discipline and how to fight on horseback. Go on to 9.

17

30

24

6

16

29

25 During the years of peace, you write poetry. Name 2 numbers. If you spin one of them, go on to 29.

7

15 Your sword was given to you by your father. Spin again. If you spin an odd number, go on to 19.

28

27

26

8 With so many pieces of armor, it takes over an hour for you to dress for battle. Miss a turn.

14

13

12 Your metal mask is difficult to see out of and uncomfortable. Spin again. Go back that number.

11

10

9





Name: Date:

You are a samurai warrior. Your shogun has trusted you to escort his only daughter through enemy country to art school in a distant city. Use the story map to write about your adventure-filled journey.

Setting

▼ Characters

▼ Problem

▼ Goal

Event 1

Event 2

Event 3

▼ Resolution

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



Use enough detail so that your reader could imagine what your story would look like if it were made into a movie!

