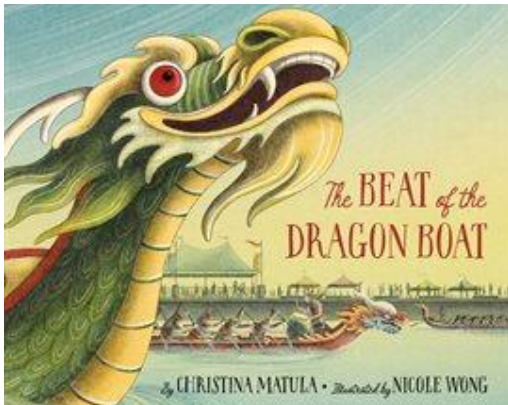




Name: _____

The Beat of the Dragon Boat Discussion Questions

1. What does the main character's Chinese name *Xiao Long* mean?
2. The story begins with Yeye telling Xiao Long the story of the dragons. Who were the two main characters in his story?
3. Before heading to the Festival, Xiao Long makes zongzi (sticky rice dumplings) with Nainai. Is there a food or dish that you like to make with your family?
4. Nainai says that zongzi are the favourite food of the dragons. What is your favourite food to eat?
5. Yeye paints their team's dragon green and gold. If you had to paint a dragon to race, which two colours would you paint it? Why did you choose those two colours?
6. Before the Dragon Boat Festival race, how does Xiao Long "wake up" their dragon?
7. What does Xiao Long throw into the water during the race to help their dragon?
8. What helps Xiao Long's dragon boat win the race?
9. Music and rhythm are a large theme in the story and drums are played for the dragon boat race. Do you play an instrument? If not, what instrument would you most like to learn how to play?
10. At the end of the book, Xiao Long thinks that he sees a real dragon in the water. Do you think that the dragon was real?

11. The Dragon Boat Festival is celebrated every year all across Asia and other countries with large Chinese cultural communities. Is there a festival or a holiday that you celebrate every year with your family from your culture? What is your favourite holiday or festival to celebrate?