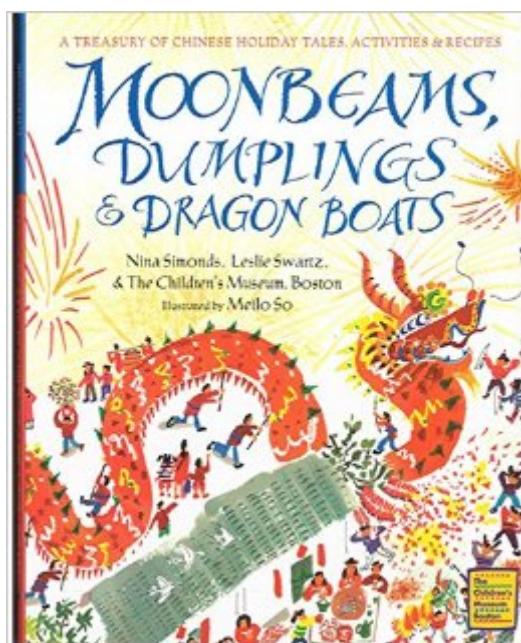


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# Moonbeams, Dumplings & Dragon Boats: A Treasury Of Chinese Holiday Tales, Activities & Recipes



## Synopsis

Filled with delectable recipes, hands-on family activities, and traditional tales to read aloud, this extraordinary collection will inspire families everywhere to re-create the magic of Chinese holidays in their own homes. They can feast on golden New Year's dumplings and tasty moon cakes, build a miniature boat for the Dragon Boat Festival and a kite at Qing Ming, or share the story of the greedy Kitchen God or the valiant warrior Hou Yi. This stunning compilation from bestselling cookbook author Nina Simonds and Leslie Swartz of the Children's Museum, Boston, is the perfect gift for families that have embraced Chinese holidays for generations--and for those just beginning new traditions.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1020 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 80 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (October 1, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0152019839

ISBN-13: 978-0152019839

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.5 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (32 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #39,251 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Chinese New Year #23 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Asian & Asian American #35 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Non-religious

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: 4 - 2

## Customer Reviews

... I was looking for Chinese folk tales. What a great surprise! I am totally envious of kids today who get books like these -- how I wish they had something like this when I was little so that I would have been more familiar with my own cultural background. The book is organized by following the Chinese traditions/festivals/holidays through the course of a year. Stories, recipes, activities are paired with each holiday to give you a full sense of what happens on each one of these special occasions. I recognized bits and pieces of the folklore from the stories that my mom and

grandparents told me when I was growing up...so it really feels authentic (not watered down) yet still accessible. The watercolors/illustrations are beautiful to look at too. Highly recommended.

This is a beautifully executed book. The watercolors alone are worth the purchase, but it also includes very clever, not too difficult activities. How can you not be enthralled by thousands of years-old traditions and folklore??

what a delight for children and their parents and teachers!! in a world consumed by suspicion and fear of "the other" here is a wonderful and friendly guide to a culture teeming with fabulous cuisine and colorful celebrations. this is indeed one world, and introducing young children to each other in this gentle journey through kitchen and holidays has to point to a better world for all children. beautiful, colorful, easy to follow recipes, and wonderfully interesting, this book is a winner! enthusiastically recommended! norman d. levine, md

This book is absolutely fantastic in it's overall illustrative, watercolor depictions of bringing about the folktales and legends to life that have influenced the Chinese holidays I have come to know and celebrate. There are great craft activities on making dragon boats for the Dragon boat festival, fabulous recipes you can make to enjoy authentic Chinese cuisine, as well reading entertaining stories from which these legends originated from. I have bought this book mainly to gain some insight into the story behind the Spring Festival of the Kitchen God for my Oral Communications Speech, and it's provided me with a recipe along with illustrations which my friend has used for our Power Point presentation. I would recommend this book to anyone looking to explore the history of Chinese culture and cuisine because it has been valuable to me.

From Nina Simonds, comes an entertaining activity book that combines the enchantment of ancient Chinese tales with lessons of tradition and history. A blending of delightful storytelling and colorful illustration makes this a cultural delight.

Very pretty book for those of us visual learners. Concrete and abstract examples of Chinese culture, good for children of different ages.

This book is a great intro to Chinese festivals and cultural mythology. Our five year old loves when we read it to her, though it's still a little over the head of my three year old. I think 5-8 is probably the

right age for this book, though younger kids will still enjoy bits and parts of it. In this book there are stories, crafts and recipes. For the story of Chang'e, this book features the version where she steals her husband's immortality potion because she is jealous. We also have books in which she drinks it to protect the potion from a greedy warrior. It's an old legend told different ways. But, my kids like the other version better because they hate thinking the Moon Goddess is a thief. Overall, the legends are well written and easy to understand for the young elementary crowd. The watercolor illustrations are simple, but beautiful. We'd recommend this book for anyone interested in learning more about Chinese culture or looking for more ways to share family traditions with their kids. Also perfect for adoptive families looking for ways to learn about and share their child's birth culture with them.

This book is filled with inspirational stories, fantastic recipes, and nifty craft ideas - perfect for celebrating all Chinese holidays - great to share with your child

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