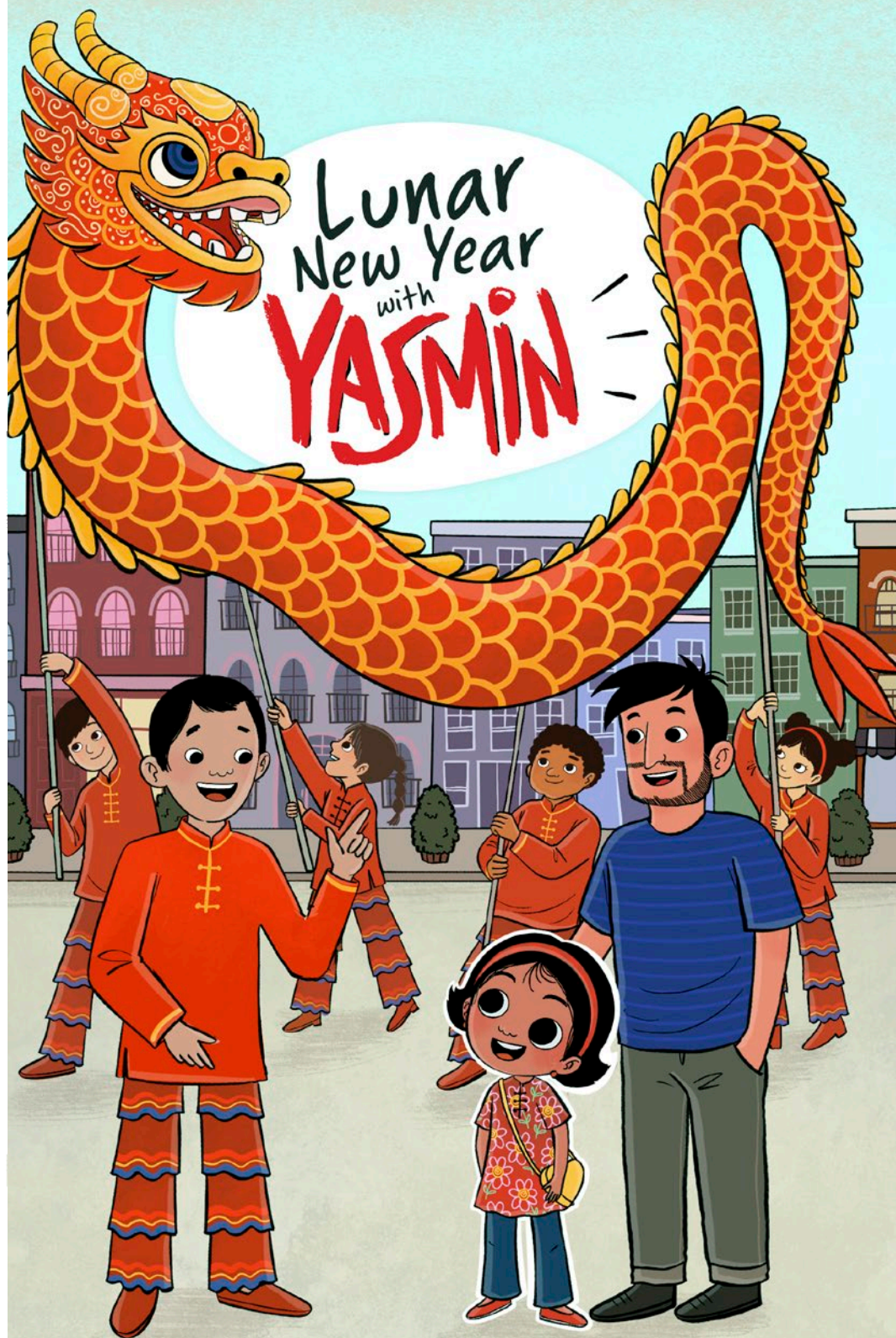




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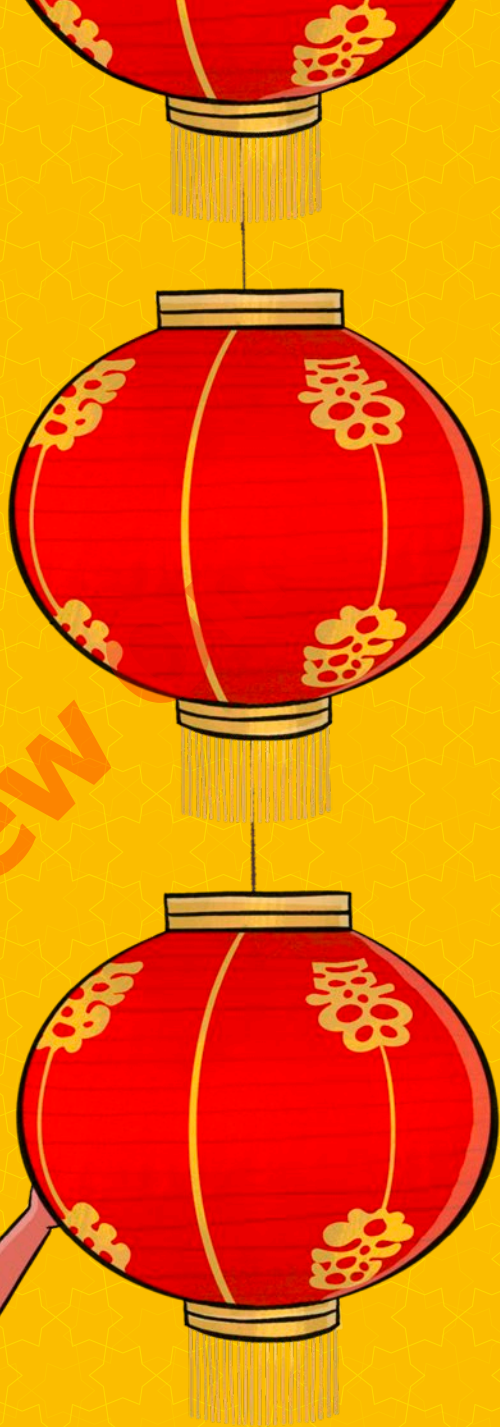
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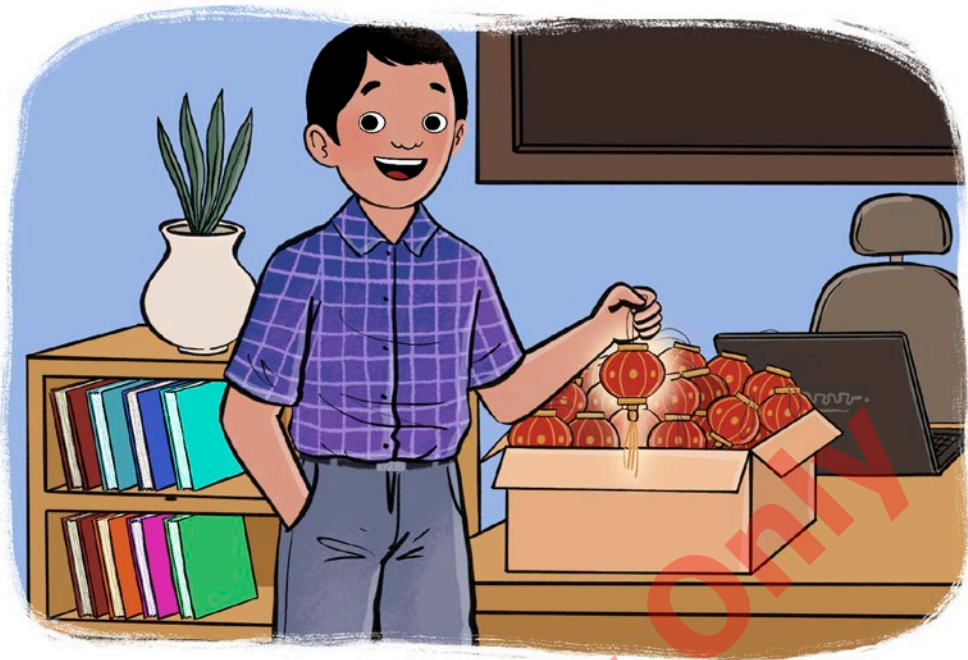


❖ CHAPTER ONE ❖

Lanterns, Feasts, and Dragons

One Friday, Principal Nguyen came into Ms. Alex's class.

“Lunar New Year has begun!” he announced. He held up a box full of red paper lanterns. “Anyone who would like may take a paper lantern to celebrate.”



Everyone gasped at the pretty lanterns.

“What is Lunar New Year?”

Yasmin asked.

Ali pointed to the box. “And what do lanterns have to do with it?”

“Good questions,” Principal Nguyen said.

“Lunar New Year is a holiday in many Asian countries. It celebrates the new year and the coming of spring. It is also known as Chinese New Year, Spring Festival, or Tet.”

“What about the lanterns?” Ali asked again.



“Lanterns represent good fortune, hope, and light in the new year,” Principal Nguyen explained.

He showed them pictures on the smart board as he spoke.



“We also celebrate in other ways.

We feast with our families, light
candles and firecrackers, and dress
up as lucky dragons in parades!”



“It reminds me of Eid!” Yasmin
said. “We have a feast too! But no
dragons . . .” She shook her head,
looking scared.

Learn About Lunar New Year

- ❁ Lunar New Year, also known as Chinese New Year, Spring Festival, or Tet, celebrates the start of a new year and the coming of spring.
- ❁ The Lunar New Year is celebrated in many Asian countries, such as China, Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, Singapore, Hong Kong, and the Philippines. It is also celebrated by Asian communities around the world.
- ❁ The holiday begins on the first new moon of the lunar calendar, which happens in January or February. It ends fifteen days later at the first full moon. A lunar calendar bases its months on the cycle of the moon's phases.
- ❁ The lunar calendar repeats every 12 years. Each of the 12 years is represented by an animal: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep or goat, monkey, rooster, dog, and pig. Each animal is said to have different traits, which affect how the year will go!

