

Rice & Rocks

TEACHER'S GUIDE

Essential Questions for Discussion/Reflection

- * How important is food when it comes to establishing memories and culture?
 - * What does "culture" mean, and how important is it to you?
 - * What are some other ways people establish culture, other than food?
- * How important is it for people to share their culture with people who are unfamiliar with it?
- * What are some positive and negative things that can happen as a result of sharing one's culture?

Reading

- * Point of View (First person).
- * Motifs (recurring images) birds, flight, food, frogs, music/trumpet.
- * Create a Rice & Rocks play for students to act out or read aloud in class.
- * Find another story about food and diversity, and read that to the class. Some comparable stories might be found here: <http://www.sheknows.com/parenting/articles/981657/10-childrens-books-that-teach-diversity>

Listening

- * Include enhanced e-book with music- listen to music, commentary.
- * Have students play music that reflects their culture, and explain how it does so to the class (include lyrics).

Writing

- * Write a story about what happens to Giovanni after his friends come to dinner.
- * Write a letter from Giovanni's point of view to his grandma explaining why he doesn't want her to cook "rice and rocks."
- * Have students write a story to Giovanni explaining an important food from their culture.
- * As a large group, brainstorm what "American" culture means. What foods are distinctly American, what images are associated with American culture?

Speaking

- * Have students create a poster that shows the foods that come from their culture, and what they represent.
- * Have a "pot luck" celebration in class that includes foods that represent the cultures of the classroom.

Vocabulary

Tradition	Phrase
Inquired	Diversity
Chuckled	Admitted

- * Have students identify/list a food native to their culture, and share the word for that food with the class.
- * Have students identify/list the other "national" items from their culture: birds, flags, etc.