

# Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Illustrations

Read the short story. Then answer each question



## The Mask of the Mountain Festival

Every spring, the villagers of Taru climbed to the top of Cloudstone Mountain to celebrate the Festival of Renewal. It was said that the mountain spirit, Kava, watched over them and sent rain when they showed gratitude. Each family brought painted masks to honor him.

Lina's grandmother had always made their family's mask, but this year, it was Lina's turn. Nervous but determined, she shaped a mask from clay and painted it with gold, green, and deep purple. She added feathers and small bells and followed the image she had seen in an old mural near the temple—a face with kind eyes and a crown of leaves.

When the festival began, masks lined the mountain's summit. As the villagers danced, wind whipped across the ledge. Some masks fell. Lina's stayed in place. A soft bell chimed.

Suddenly, clouds gathered and rain began to fall gently on the mountaintop. The villagers cheered. Lina's grandmother looked at her and smiled. "You honored him well," she whispered.

Later, Lina walked past the temple again. The mural had changed. The face now had golden cheeks—and eyes that looked just like hers.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Mask of the Mountain Festival

1. What does the mural changing at the end of the story suggest?

- A. That the spirit accepted Lina's offering.
- B. That Lina painted over the mural.
- C. That the rain erased the mural.
- D. That the temple was broken.

2. How does Lina use the old mural to help create her mask?

- A. She uses it as a guide for the colors and design.
- B. She copies another family's mask.
- C. She guesses what the spirit might like.
- D. She closes her eyes and paints randomly.

3. Fill in the blank:

Each family brought a painted \_\_\_\_\_ to honor the mountain spirit, Kava.

4. How did the image in the mural help guide Lina's actions during the story?

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5. What do you think it means that the mural's face changed to look like Lina?

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# Parent and Teacher Guide

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**Guide Reading Level:** P

**Lexile Level:** 645L-795L

**Grade Level:** 3rd Grade, End of the Year

**Genre:** Myth / Legends

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## Introducing the Text

*"Today we'll read a legend about a girl named Lina who participates in an ancient mountain festival. As we read, we'll think about how illustrations—like murals and symbolic images—help tell a deeper story and show how Lina connects with the tradition."*

**Vocabulary:** festival, mural, honor, spirit, renewal

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## Discussion Questions Before Reading

1. What are festivals or traditions you or your family celebrate?
  2. Have you ever seen art used as part of a celebration?
  3. What do you think a mask might represent in a legend?
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## Discussion Questions During Reading

1. What details from the mural does Lina use in her mask?
  2. What happens that makes the villagers believe Kava is pleased?
  3. How does the story use visual changes (like the mural) to show important moments?
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## Discussion Questions After Reading

1. Why do you think the mural changed at the end of the story?
  2. What might the mask and mural symbolize about Lina's growth?
  3. How do the illustrations (real or imagined) help explain the festival's deeper meaning?
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## Activity Idea

Invite students to create a symbolic mask for a fictional festival. Each mask must include colors, patterns, or decorations that represent a personal value (e.g., courage, kindness, creativity). They should write a short paragraph explaining how their mask honors something important—just like Lina's did.

