

Central Valley Home School

Kingsburg Elementary Charter School District



Superintendent: Wes Sever, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent: Melanie Sembritzki

Principal: Misti Jennings

In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson by Bette Bao Lord

4/20/20 – 4/24/20

Morning Meeting: April, 20 @ 9:30 AM - 10: 15 - open to all CVHS students.

Topics include a book chat, students can show off thier artwork (Chinese characters), share with others the nickname thier family would assign to them, and discuss their Zodiac year of birth/animal. If time allows we can read today's assigned pages together as well.

March - China's Little Ambassador

April 20 - Read pages 41- 49. Once you've finished reading March, click this link to take a short quiz to assess your comprehension of the story [March](#)

Discuss/Journal - Pages 46 - 47 describes Shirley's first lunch with her classmates. They eat at a place called Mr. P's. She eats a meatball sub loaded with onions, peppers, and a hot red gravy (probably marinara sauce) and drinks an orange soda. She was overwhelmed with all the candy she saw behind the glass of the counter and after careful consideration selected one that "looked better than it tasted." Think back to a time, you tried new food. What were your emotions (excited, scared, worried)? How did it taste? Did your imagination of the flavor and the actual taste match. Put as much detail as you can into this piece. Write so that the reader feels like they are having the same experience as you. If you can't think of a time you tasted something new, ask your parents to choose a new food for you to try. If you are feeling really brave, taste the food while blindfolded and see if you can identify the mystery food.

April - A Hungry Ghost

April 21 - Read pages 51-58.

Discuss/Journal - The opening line of the chapter on page 51 reads "Day by day, week by week, little by little Shirley shrank until she was no more." What does the author mean by that? What evidence in the text can you find that shows how Shirley is feeling? Have you ever had that feeling?

April 22 - Read pages 59-67. Once you've finished reading April, click this link to take a short quiz to assess your comprehension of the story [April](#)

Discuss/Journal - By April, Shirley is feeling blue. Her self esteem is suffering, she doesn't have friends, and generally she feels left out. Have you ever felt ignored or had your feelings hurt?

May - Two Black Eyes and Whispy Whiskers

April 23 - Read pages 69 - 83. Once you've finished reading May, click this link to take a short quiz to assess your comprehension of the story [May](#)

Discuss/Journal - May is quite a month for Shirley. She gets in a fight with a fellow student and later makes a friend with the same student, Mabel.

In reflection of these events, on pages 82-83 Shirley thinks about Grandfather's motto, "things are not always what they seem." "Good can be bad. Bad can be good. Sadness can be happiness. Joy, sorrow."

Do you agree with Grandfather? Has there been a time that something you thought was going to be horrible, ended up being amazing or vice versa?

June - I Pledge a Lesson to the Frog

April 24 - Read pages 85 - 93. Once you've finished reading June, click this link to take a short quiz to assess your comprehension of the story [June](#)

Discuss/Journal - In June, Shirley asks who Jackie Robinson is. She learns that he was a Negro and his grandparents were slaves. He grew up in poverty, faced injustices and against all odds was able to attend college, serve his country and become a famous baseball player for the Brooklyn Dodgers. Mrs. Rappaport took time to remind the class about the rights they have because they are Americans. On page 92 she says, "In the life of our nation, each man is a citizen of the United States, but he has the right to pursue his own happiness. For no matter what his race, religion, or creed be he pauper or president, he has the right to speak his mind, to live as he wishes within the law, to elect our officials and stand for office, to excel. To make a difference. To change what has been. To make a better America."

What does it mean to you to be an American? How can you make a better America?

If this seems like too big of a subject to comprehend, tell me what it means to be a member of your family, church, or a team you are on.

Tangrams

Tangrams are an ancient Chinese puzzle, consisting of seven geometric shapes that can be arranged to create an image of many different shapes. Each Tangram puzzle contains; 5 **isosceles triangles** of various sizes (2 large congruent triangles; 1 medium-size right triangle; 2 small congruent triangles) 1 **square**, 1 **parallelogram**.

The History: Tangrams originated during the Tang Dynasty and may be up to 4,000 years old. They made their debut in Europe around the 19th century. It is believed that the laborers on the trade ships from China to Europe used them to pass the time and once they arrived, the Europeans were curious about them.

How to play: All tangram pieces, a.k.a **tans**, must be used, must touch one another, lay flat, and may not overlap. The player will see only a silhouette or outline and from that image must form the shape using all of the tans.

Why we love them: This versatile learning tool is appropriate for all ages and stages. Through both logical and applied reasoning, students can hone decision making, visual-spatial, orientation skills, problem-solving, etc. Students can use these to develop skills in fractions, area, perimeter, geometry, the list goes on and on.

Resources to help you unlock the learning from the tans

<https://www.hand2mind.com/Resources/Glossary-of-Hands-On-Manipulatives/Tangrams>

[Tangrams](#) - A fabulous resource for finding age and grade-level appropriate activities using tangrams. We highly recommend parents spend at least a couple of minutes perusing this site in an effort to get the most out of this amazing learning puzzle.

<https://tasks.illustrativemathematics.org/content-standards/tasks/1311> - A lesson plan using the book *Grandfather Tang's Story* by Ann Tompert. If you don't have a copy of this picture book, you can type the title into youtube and easily find it. Another option, ask one of our teachers really nicely and I bet they'd love to read this classic tale using Zoom.

https://illustrativemathematics.s3.amazonaws.com/attachments/000/000/264/original/1.G.Grandfather_tang.pdf - This is an answer key of how to solve the puzzles. Adults use this with discretion, it is great for our students to experience a productive struggle in working with the shapes.

<https://mathbookmagic.com/2017/12/11/shapeshifting-and-storytelling-with-tangrams/> - Math book Magic page that incorporates shapeshifting and storytelling using tans. Great ideas on how to infuse tangrams into everyday literature time.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ex-TT9s4OKk> - Fun one-minute animation that showcases the power of imagination that tangrams can unlock.

Monday Meeting with Mrs. Jennings - open to all CVHS students

April 27, 2020 @ 9:30 AM

Topics to include

- Book chat - students share any connections they made to the assigned text
- *Grandfather Tang's Story* Read Aloud
- Tangram Challenge - create a silhouette and see if you peers can recreate it.