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Dragons in the City





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Dragons in the City

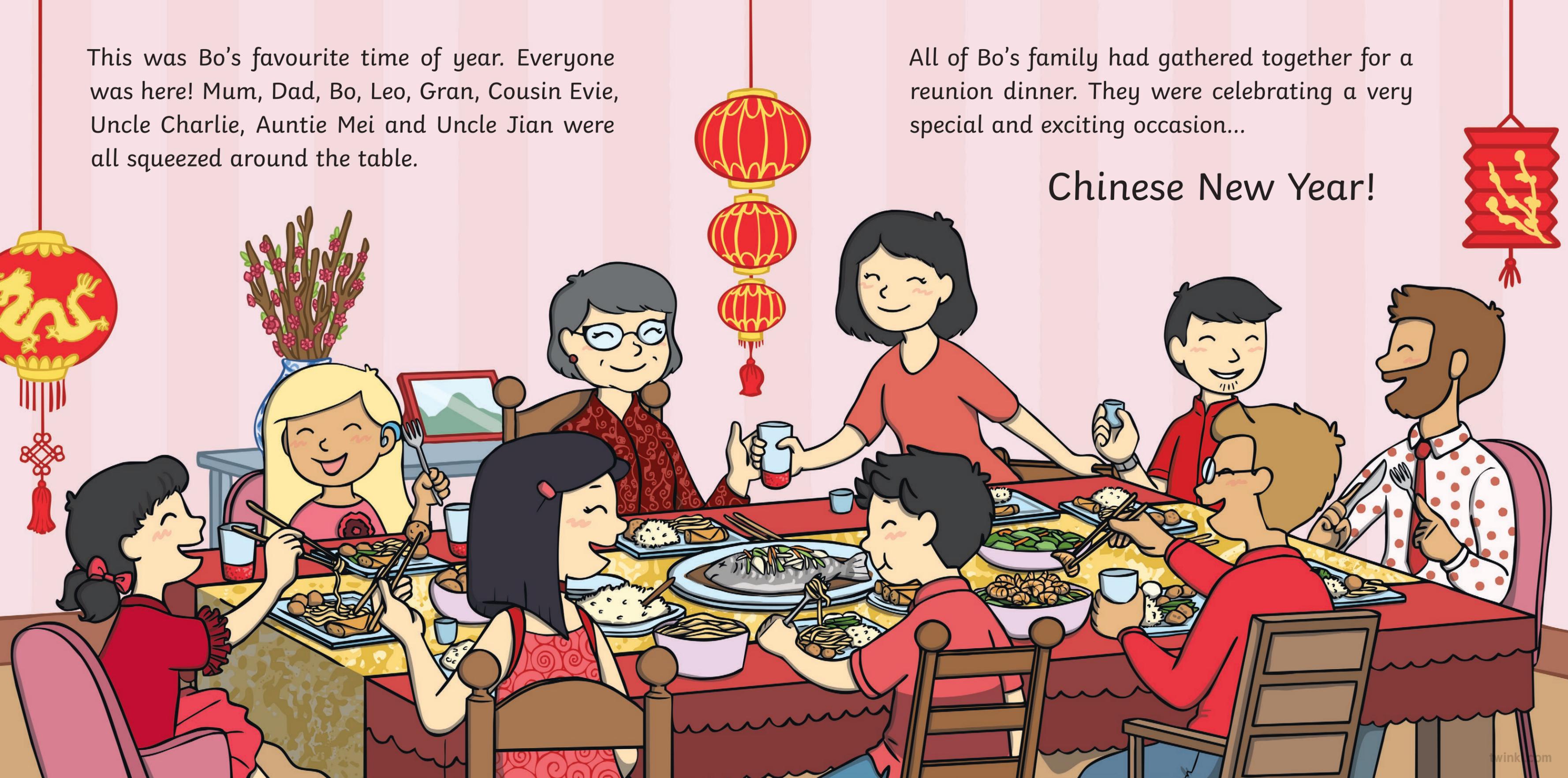


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This was Bo's favourite time of year. Everyone was here! Mum, Dad, Bo, Leo, Gran, Cousin Evie, Uncle Charlie, Auntie Mei and Uncle Jian were all squeezed around the table.

All of Bo's family had gathered together for a reunion dinner. They were celebrating a very special and exciting occasion...

Chinese New Year!





After dinner, Auntie Mei showed Bo and Evie how to make boiled dumplings. The girls loved getting their hands all sticky in the mixture.

They finished boiling the dumplings just in time for the fireworks.

“I can’t believe we got to stay up until midnight!” exclaimed Bo as she nibbled on a dumpling.



Bo and Evie gazed through the windows at the bright, colourful patterns exploding in the night sky.

Uncle Jian and Mum wished each other a happy New Year in Mandarin Chinese.

“How do I say that?” Evie asked Bo.

“You say it like this: Sheen nian kwai luh,” said Bo.

“Xīn nián kuài lè!” everyone shouted happily.



The next morning, Bo and Evie woke up full of excitement. When they got downstairs, they were each given some lucky red envelopes with money inside.

“Thank you!” they both said with huge smiles on their faces.



“Now go and get dressed while I make breakfast,” said Dad. “We can leave for the parade as soon as you’re ready!”

Soon, the family had arrived in the hustle and bustle of the festival. The noise of the crowd filled the air and the streets were bright with colour.

“The best part is the dragon,” said Bo excitedly.
“Just wait until you see it!”



As they walked past the food stalls, Evie couldn't believe her eyes. “There's just so much to choose from!”



Evie bought some delicious sweets and shared them with Bo as they looked around at the red and gold decorations.

Walking through the crowd, Evie noticed someone holding a paper dragon on wooden sticks. "Is that the dragon?" she asked hopefully.

"No," Bo explained, "that's not the dragon we're looking for – but those ones are good fun!"

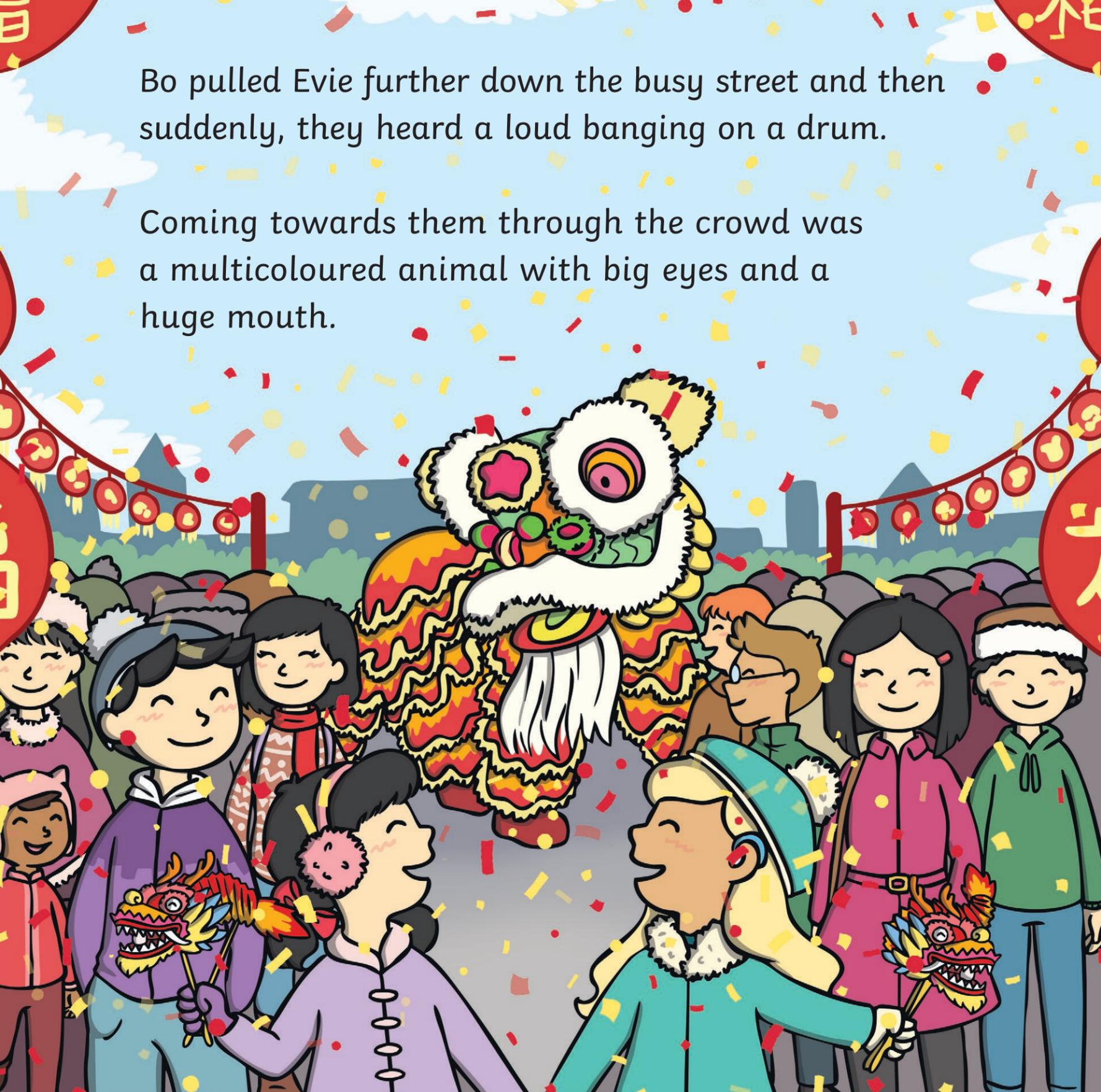
Uncle Jian passed some money to the woman behind the stall and took two of the paper dragons.

"Here, you can have one each," he said with a smile, as he handed them to Bo and Evie.



Bo pulled Evie further down the busy street and then suddenly, they heard a loud banging on a drum.

Coming towards them through the crowd was a multicoloured animal with big eyes and a huge mouth.



“That **must** be the dragon!” shouted Evie over the noise of the drums.

“No,” explained Bo, “those are the lion dancers. They’re amazing!”





“What a show!” said Gran. “What next?”

“Shall we go and find the Blue Dragon?”
Mum asked, pointing down a narrow street.

Evie’s face lit up. ‘Finally, we get to see
the dragon!’ she thought.

“The Blue Dragon is our favourite restaurant,” explained Bo.
“You should try the pork buns, they’re yummy.”



Once everyone had eaten, Mum passed them all a piece of paper. “It’s time to write your wishes for the wishing tree,” she said.



“Make sure it’s a good one,” Bo whispered to Evie.
“It might come true!”

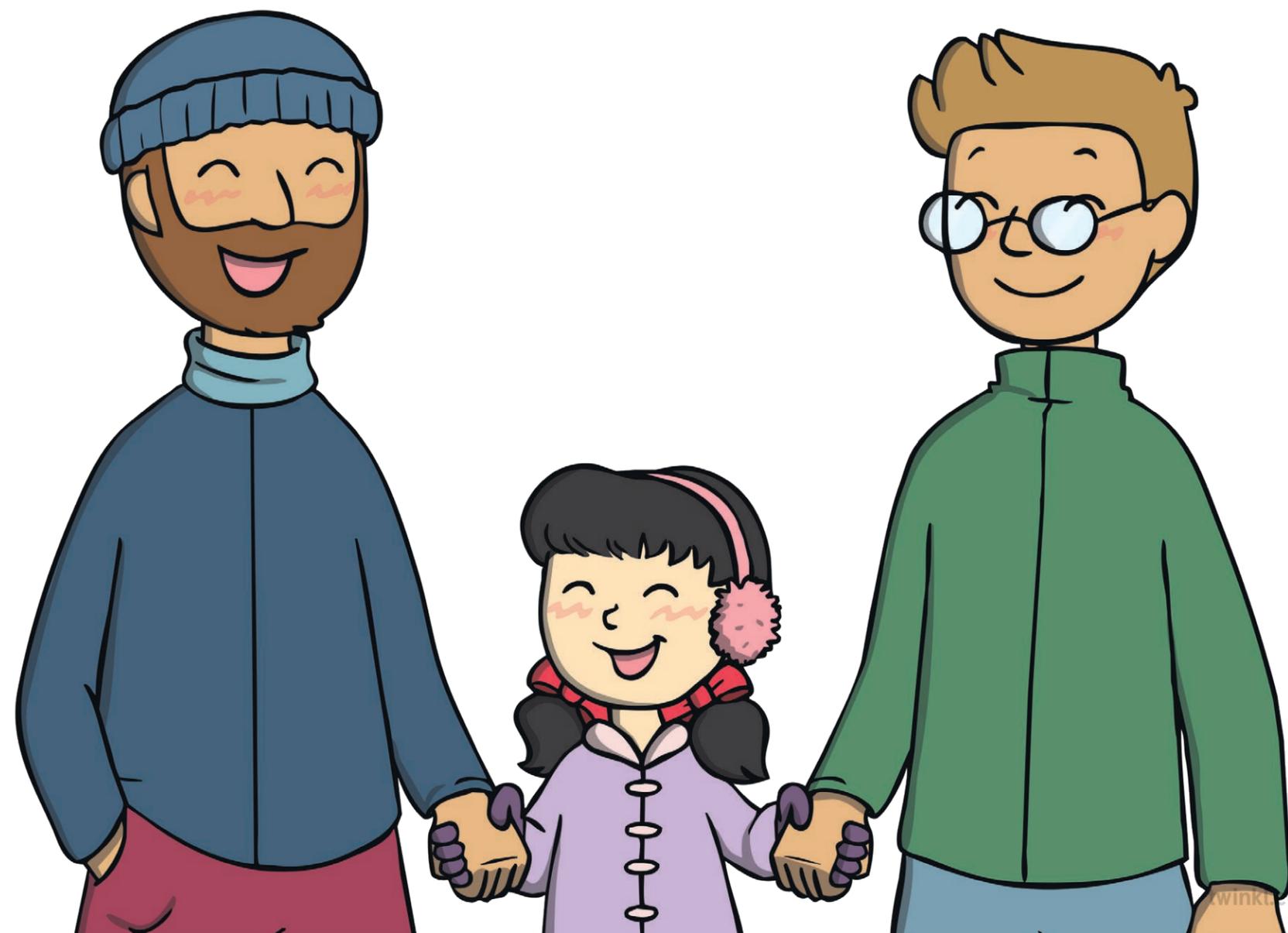




Everyone hung their wishes on the wishing tree, feeling hopeful about what the year would bring.

“Where next?” asked Uncle Charlie.

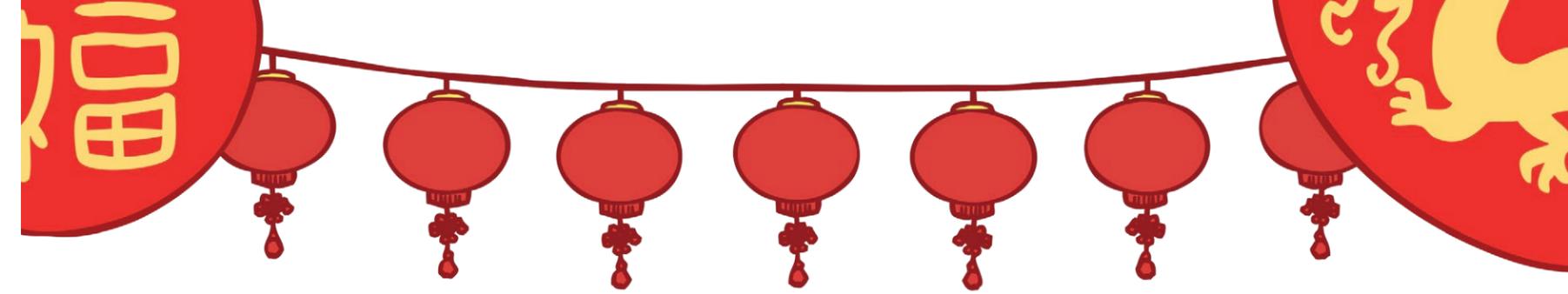
“We need to find a good spot for Bo’s favourite part of the day,” replied Dad.



The family found a space amongst the hundreds of excited people.



While they were waiting, Evie and Bo listened eagerly as Uncle Jian told the story of the Chinese zodiac.



“Look!” shouted Dad. “There it is!”

Evie turned around and saw the most enormous,

colourful,

spectacular...



...dragon!

Evie stared in wonder, trying to work out how the people were making it move. It was the most amazing puppet she had ever seen.

The family watched as the magical creature made its way through the crowd.

“Wow!” exclaimed Evie.

“That really **was** the best part!”





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Why is Chinese New Year Celebrated?

Chinese New Year has been celebrated for more than 4000 years. It is a festival that marks the beginning of a new year according to the Chinese lunar calendar. It is celebrated in many parts of the world, including China, Hong Kong, and Singapore.

Chinese Dragon Dance

Click on the picture to find out more.

Dragons in the City

Chinese New Year Traditions

Dragons are mythical creatures that are believed to bring good luck and prosperity. They are often depicted as large, multi-headed creatures with long, flowing manes. In Chinese culture, dragons are considered to be powerful and wise.

Questions

1. What are the main reasons for celebrating Chinese New Year?
 2. How do people celebrate Chinese New Year?
 3. What are the traditional foods eaten during Chinese New Year?
 4. How do people wish each other good luck during Chinese New Year?

Dragons in the City Multiplication

Solve the maths problems to reveal the hidden picture. Each answer has a special colour.

20 = red
 15 = bright yellow
 40 = gold
 50 = light yellow
 10 = white

Answers

1. $1 \times 10 = 10$ (red)
 2. $2 \times 5 = 10$ (red)
 3. $5 \times 2 = 10$ (red)
 4. $10 \times 1 = 10$ (red)
 5. $1 \times 10 = 10$ (red)
 6. $2 \times 5 = 10$ (red)
 7. $5 \times 2 = 10$ (red)
 8. $10 \times 1 = 10$ (red)
 9. $1 \times 10 = 10$ (red)
 10. $2 \times 5 = 10$ (red)
 11. $5 \times 2 = 10$ (red)
 12. $10 \times 1 = 10$ (red)
 13. $1 \times 10 = 10$ (red)
 14. $2 \times 5 = 10$ (red)
 15. $5 \times 2 = 10$ (red)
 16. $10 \times 1 = 10$ (red)
 17. $1 \times 10 = 10$ (red)
 18. $2 \times 5 = 10$ (red)
 19. $5 \times 2 = 10$ (red)
 20. $10 \times 1 = 10$ (red)

Paper Dragon

You will need:
 Dragon template (in colour or black and white)
 Coloured pens or pencils (if using the black and white dragon template)
 Scissors
 Glue
 Sticky tack and four sticks (optional)

Instructions

- Print out the desired dragon template (either in colour or black and white).
- Colour and decorate as you wish, to make the dragon really stand out.
- Cut out the dragon template.
- Fold along each line to produce a rigid dragon.
- Glue the dragon to a piece of paper or card.
- Use the sticks to hold the dragon together.
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Lucky Red Playdough Recipe

You will need:
 100g of flour
 100g of salt
 100g of oil
 100g of water
 100g of red food coloring
 100g of red glitter

Method

- Put the flour, salt, and oil in a large bowl.
- Put the water and red food coloring in a separate bowl.
- Mix the water and red food coloring together.
- Pour the water and red food coloring mixture into the large bowl.
- Mix everything together until it forms a dough.
- Add the red glitter and mix it in.
- Roll the dough into a snake and cut it into small pieces.
- Use the red dough to make a wishing tree.

Use your playdough to put 10 wishes onto the wishing tree.

Dragons in the City Board Game

What you need:
 Dragon template (in colour or black and white)
 Coloured pens or pencils (if using the black and white dragon template)
 Scissors
 Glue
 Sticky tack and four sticks (optional)

How to play:

- Print out the dragon template and cut it out.
- Colour and decorate the dragon.
- Use the sticks to hold the dragon together.
- Use the dragon to play the board game.

How to play:

- Roll the dice and move the dragon forward.
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- Roll the dice and move the dragon forward.



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Bo loves Chinese New Year.
This time, she is sharing the
fun with her cousin, Evie.

“The best part is the dragon,” said Bo excitedly.
“Just wait until you see it!”

Will they ever see the dragon that Bo has told
Evie about? Find out in this colourful story
of celebration and wonder.



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