



Timimoto

A Tale from Japan

How do tools help Timimoto explore?

Many years ago, in a small village in Japan, an old woman and her husband were talking about their life's wishes.

"I have only one wish," said the woman. "I am sad that we never had children. I wish that we could have a child, even if he were no bigger than my finger."

The old man nodded his head and sighed.

Later that day the woman took her bucket to go **fetch** some water. She was walking along when she heard a cry coming from the ground next to the path. She looked down and saw a tiny baby, only one inch long, wrapped in a piece of red cloth!

"My wish has come true!" cried the woman. She picked up the baby and cradled him in her arms. Filled with joy, she brought the baby home to her husband. They named him Timimoto.

Interactive Read Aloud

Oral Vocabulary

fetch

Define: When you *fetch* something, you go after it and then bring it back.

Example: My friend's dog can *fetch* sticks and toys.



Ask: What would you *fetch* from the store if you wanted to make a sandwich?



ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Discuss Read aloud the first two paragraphs on Card I. Then read aloud the last paragraph on Card I. Discuss how the woman felt at first and how she felt later in the day. *Ask: Why do the woman's feelings change? What clues tell how she feels?*

Intensive Vocabulary Support Use the routine on *How to Use the Interactive Read-Aloud Cards* to introduce the underlined words.



Unit 2 Week 1

Timimoto grew up, but he never grew very tall! When he was fifteen years old, he only stood as high as his mother's middle finger.

On the day of his fifteenth birthday, Timimoto decided that he wanted to see the world. "I am going on a journey," he announced.

"We understand, son," said the old man. "We, too, wanted to explore the world when we were younger. Let us give you some tools for your journey."

The old woman fetched a sewing needle, slid it into a piece of straw, and tied it to Timimoto's belt. "You will need a sword to protect yourself," she said.

The old man went to the kitchen. He returned with a rice bowl and a chopstick. "And you will need a boat and a paddle," he said to Timimoto. "You can get far if you travel on the river."

"Thank you," said Timimoto. "These tools will help me as I explore new places."

Timimoto said good-bye to his parents. "Be safe," they said to him. "Watch out for the night giant who lives down the river!"

Timimoto hopped in his boat and paddled away.

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Interactive Read Aloud

ELL

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Dramatize Guide children to perform a skit based on the scene on Card 2. Have children play the old man, the old woman, and Timimoto. Encourage children to act out the story as you reread Card 2 aloud. Invite children to talk about the skit and predict what Timimoto will do next.



Timimoto set out on his adventure to **discover** the world. As he was paddling along, he felt something sticky tap his shoulder. He turned and saw a huge frog on a rock behind his boat. The frog was trying to catch him with its tongue!

“Wait!” thought Timimoto. “I have the perfect **tool** for this!” He raised his chopstick high in the air and whacked the frog on the nose. The frog dived into the water and swam away.

Later Timimoto arrived at a small village. He saw a crowd of people running toward their houses. He got out of his boat and walked into the village. He spoke to a man who was pushing a cart of vegetables.

“Excuse me, sir. Why is everybody running?” he asked.

The man looked down and said, “You must be new in town, young man. Hasn’t anybody told you about the giant who comes out at sunset?”

Suddenly Timimoto remembered what his parents had told him. “This must be where the night giant lives!” he thought. Timimoto thanked the man and raced back to his boat.

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Oral Vocabulary

discover

Define: *Discover* means “to find out something for the first time.”

Example: I did *discover* the first sunflower in our yard.



Ask: What would you *discover* if you cut an apple in half?

tool

Define: A *tool* is something that helps people do work or helps people to learn.

Example: A shovel is a gardener’s *tool*.



Ask: Can you name a *tool* that a firefighter would use?



ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Build Background Talk with children about different kinds of tools. Explain that tools are more than just hammers and shovels. Point out that we use tools every day, even at school. For example, pencils, erasers, and crayons are tools. Help children name and describe tools used in school and at home.



Unit 2 Week 1

Timimoto ran toward the dock, but it was too late. The sun had already set behind a hill. What would happen next?

Suddenly the ground started to **rumble** and shake. The night giant appeared behind poor Timimoto.

"I am hungry for a big dinner!" the giant roared. "You are very small, but you'll do for my first bite." The giant scooped up Timimoto and popped him in its mouth.

Inside the giant's mouth, Timimoto knew just what to do. "Mother gave me this sword for a reason!" he thought. Timimoto lifted the sword high above his head and brought it down on the giant's tongue.

The giant let out a terrible scream. Timimoto leaped out of the giant's mouth and landed safely on the ground.

"That *hurt!*" the giant cried. "I will never return to this village again!" he whined as he ran back into the forest.

One by one, the townspeople came out of their houses and surrounded Timimoto. "You have **defeated** the night giant!" they cheered. "Thank you, friend!"

Timimoto bowed his head, then got into his boat and paddled toward home.

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Interactive Read Aloud

Oral Vocabulary

rumble

Define: A *rumble* is a long, low sound like thunder.

Example: The *rumble* of the old man's voice scared me.



Ask: How do you feel when you hear a *rumble* of thunder during a storm?

defeated

Define: When you have *defeated* someone in a game, you have won the game.

Example: She *defeated* the other runners and won the race.



Ask: How would you feel if you were *defeated* at a game?

Retell

Help children use the pictures to retell the story.

Card 1: What is the woman holding? Why is she smiling?

Card 2: Where is Timimoto going? What tools does he take with him?

Card 3: What time of day is it? Who is Timimoto talking to?

Card 4: How does the giant feel? Why does Timimoto hold a needle?