

A Farm in China



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Illustrations by Scott Mattern

Green Words and *Challenge Words:

May	Woo	* family	*vegetables	spoon	1
north		* families	*raised	chopsticks	
*goose					
*school		*every	*alphabet	bamboo	2
fifty		*picture	cool	stretch	
pool		invented	year	*everyone	3
hopscotch		*dragon	soon	*fireworks	

Red Words to practice every day:

many	wild	very	great
most	also		



Chen May Woo lives in the north of China. In China they say the last name first.

Chen May Woo's dad's name is Chen Ji Ling. Her mom's name is Chen Ling Ha. Her grandma's name is Chen Eu Fong.



May Woo lives on a big, big farm. Many families share the work on this farm. They plant rice and vegetables. They raise this food to eat and to sell. May Woo's family has a pig, a duck, and a goose.

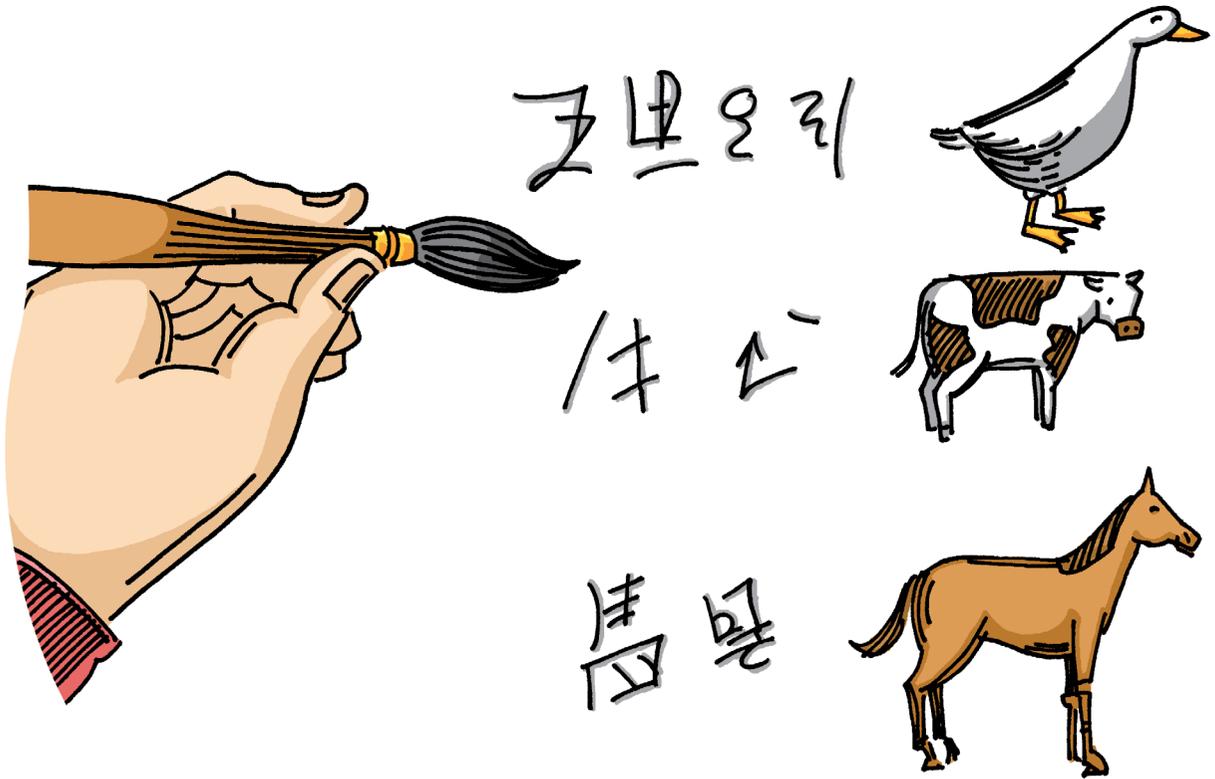


Most of the food May Woo eats is raised on the farm. Her mom makes meals. She chops small bits of meat and vegetables. May Woo helps chop the food. May Woo does not need a fork. She picks up her food with a spoon and chopsticks. She drinks tea with meals.





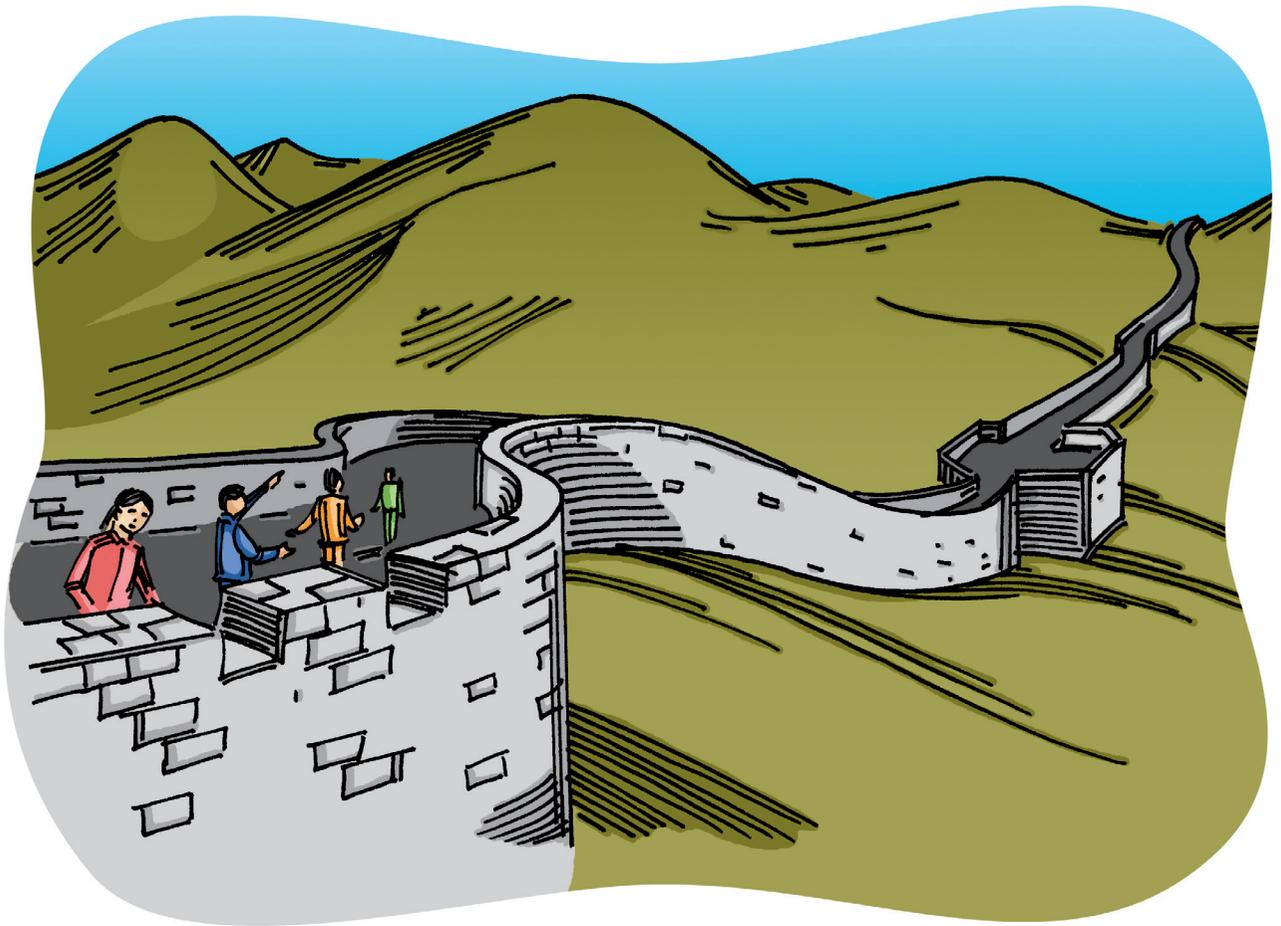
May Woo has a big class at school. Fifty children are in her room. She goes to school six days a week. The children are learning to read and write.



It is hard to read and write Chinese. In China, a picture stands for every idea. The Chinese alphabet has more than 5,000 pictures! May Woo and her classmates must learn to write all of these pictures.



Once, May Woo's class went to the zoo. May Woo liked to see the pandas. Wild pandas stay in the big, cool bamboo forests. They like to eat bamboo.



May Woo and her class also visited the Great Wall of China. It is tall and made of thick stone. It is very, very long. It is so long, it could stretch from New York to California! It is so big, it can be seen from space!





May Woo does fun things after school with her classmates. They eat lunch by the goldfish pool. Then they play Chinese jump rope, ping pong, five stones, and hopscotch too.



May Woo also likes to fly kites. Kites were invented in China! They are made of silk and paper in all shapes and sizes. Some big kites are 16 feet high. More than one person is needed to fly them.



Lots of other things were invented in China. Paper-cut pictures were invented there. Some paper-cut pictures are red for good luck. Last year, May Woo made a paper-cut dragon for the New Year feast.



At night when the moon came out, there were fireworks. Fireworks were invented in China too! At the end, a big, red dragon lit up the sky. All too soon, it was over. Everyone cheered and clapped.



That night, May Woo dreamed about the Chinese New Year, the bright fireworks, and her paper-cut dragon. It was a very good dream!

1. How do people in China pick up their food when they eat?

2. Write the answer on the blank line.

Farmers in China grow _____ like peas.

A. rubber

B. vegetables

C. cocoa

1. What tells you that the Great Wall of China is very big?

2. Write the answer on the blank line.

Pandas like to eat a plant called _____.

A. wheat

B. rice

C. bamboo

1. What do people in China do for their New Year feast?

2. Write the answer on the blank line.

People in China _____ paper-cut pictures and fireworks.

They made them first.

A. invented

B. raised

C. found

Reading Roots, Level 4 **A Farm in China**

“OO” as in moon



Reading Roots Shared Stories were developed under the direction of Robert E. Slavin and Nancy A. Madden, codirectors of the Success for All Foundation Family of Programs.

Success for All Foundation is a nonprofit education reform organization that develops and disseminates research-based reading and math programs for students in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, elementary and middle schools. These programs were originally developed at Johns Hopkins University.

Illustrations for this book were colored digitally by Jason Lego.

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