

Book Review

Fortune Cookies



By Albert Bitterman

Illustrated by Chris Raschka

In this story, a little girl named Fortune gets a box of cookies from her Uncle Albert in the mail. Each day of the week, she opens one of the cookies and reads the message inside—and each day something happens connected to the previous day’s fortune! In the end she ends up with seven wonderful surprises that are “here to stay!”

There are many possibilities with this short story. The pages are built in a way that the story is interactive, as you can actually pull out the fortune from the cookie! (Kind of like a pop-up book) This would be fun to help engage your students in the story!

There is a connection with the days of the week that can be made, as the repetitive part of the book happens on each page: “On Thursday my fortune said _____ AND GUESS WHAT?” This lends itself to a rhythmic chant or simple melody.

You also could connect this story to Chinese or Japanese folk music, as there is a debate in who actually invented the fortune cookie! It is truly and American treat, but the history is not clear on who made them first! Explore with your older students the story here:

<https://www.factmonster.com/history-fortune-cookie>