

## Bookfolio for **Dragonwings**

**Author:** [Laurence Yep](#)  
**First Publication Date:** 1975

**Publisher:** Harper Collins  
**ISBN:** 0060267380  
**Recommended for:** [Grades 4-6](#)  
**Classification:** Fiction  
**Genre:** [Historical Fiction](#)  
**MultiCulture:** Asian American

**Story Summary:** Moon Shadow was eight years old when he left China to join his father, Windrider, in San Francisco's Chinatown. After a few years of living in the Chinese community, Moon Shadow and his father moved to a stable behind Miss Whitlaw's boarding house, where Windrider can build his flying machine and Moon Shadow will be safe from street violence. Moon Shadow quickly learns to read and write English and in turn teaches Miss Whitlaw and her niece about Chinese dragons and other Chinese traditions. Despite their earlier beliefs that all whites are demons, Moon Shadow and Windrider develop a solid friendship with the Whitlows. They spend considerable time together flying the fabulous kites made by Windrider and working on Windrider's plan for building a flying machine. When *Dragonwings*, the flying machine, is completed, Windrider, with the help of Moon Shadow, his uncle, cousins, and the Whitlows, makes a brief but successful flight. Throughout these difficult times, Moon Shadow develops a love and respect for his intelligent father, who endures the mockery of the other Chinese, sacrifices to fulfill his dream, and longs for his wife and his own country.

**Read-aloud Recommendation:** Chapter 3, "The Dragon Man."

**The skills for each activity are identified by the following abbreviations:  
R=Reading, W=Writing, S=Speaking, L=Listening, D=Drawing**

Dragonwings - Independent Activities	Skills
1. <a href="#">Historical Fiction</a> (Separating fact from fiction)	S , W
2. <a href="#">Uncle's Story</a> (Writing from a character's point)	W
3. <a href="#">A Letter to China</a> (Writing a letter)	S , W
4. <a href="#">Earthquake Collage</a> (Making a picture collage)	D
5. <a href="#">Abacus Plus</a> (Making an informative poster)	R , S
6. <a href="#">Practical Kites</a> (Writing a report)	R , W
Dragonwings - Group Activities	Skills
1. <a href="#">Writing Historical Fiction</a> (Planning to write historical fiction)	L , S
2. <a href="#">Dragonwings, the Aeroplane</a> (Drawing a picture)	D
3. <a href="#">Point of View</a> (Writing from a character's point of view)	W
4. <a href="#">Dragon Design Contest</a> (Drawing a picture)	D
5. <a href="#">Experts on Earthquakes</a> (Writing a report)	R , S
6. <a href="#">"Let's Talk About..."</a> (Discussing the story)	L , S

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