

Bookfolio for **The Land I Lost: Adventures of a Boy in Vietnam**

Author: [Huynh Quang Nhuong](#)

Illustrator: Vo-Dinh Mai

First Publication Date: 1982

Publisher: Harper Collins

ISBN: 0397324480

Recommended for: [Grades 5-8](#)

Classification: Fiction

Genre: [Historical Fiction](#)

MultiCulture: Asian American

Story Summary: THE LAND I LOST: ADVENTURE OF A BOY IN VIETNAM is Huynh Quang Nhuong's account of life in his hamlet, Mytho, Vietnam, in a series of memories. He tells of his beautiful, karate expert grandmother who wins respect for his shy grandfather, and he recounts the adventures of Tank, his family's water buffalo who protects the hamlet. The members of Huynh Quang Nhuong's village live in fear of the many predators that surround them, including crocodiles, wild hogs, and horse snakes that are stronger than twenty men, but they also hold their own as a community against the forces of nature. This book of true stories of Huynh Quang Nhuong's boyhood adventures ends abruptly with the coming of war to Vietnam.

Read-aloud Recommendation: "My Cousin," pages 10-16.

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

The Land I Lost: Adventures of a Boy in Vietnam - Independent Activities	Skills
1. An Open Letter (Writing to the author)	W
2. An Illustrated Book Talk (Reporting the illustrator's importance)	S
3. The Fable of Tank (Sharing an original story)	S , W
4. Wedding Traditions (Comparing customs)	R , S , W
5. A Metric World (Converting measurements)	R , W
6. Southeast Asia (Making a travel brochure)	D , R
The Land I Lost: Adventures of a Boy in Vietnam - Group Activities	Skills
1. Episodic Autobiographies (Comparing authors' styles)	S , W
2. Another Approach (Outlining a story plan)	S , W
3. Autobiography to Biography (Writing a fictionalized biography)	W
4. Predators (Telling a story)	S , W
5. Naming Customs (Researching names)	R , S
6. "Let's Talk About..." (Discussing the story)	L , S

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