

The Boy in the Garden

By Allen Say


Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Write the answer you think is correct. Inferring is "the author plus me" so the answers will not be stated in the story. You must mix the author's words and your own thoughts to arrive at answers.

This story takes place in Japan. It is written and illustrated by Allen Say. He was born in Japan and has won the Caldecott Medal for another book he wrote, *Grandfather's Journey*.



The story that Mama read to Jiro was *The Grateful Crane*. What lesson do you think *The Grateful Crane* teaches us?

	Why do you think Jiro noticed the statue of the crane? Why did he think it was really alive?	
	Why did Jiro think the tea house in the garden was the woodcutter's house?	
	Why was Jiro able to tie the obi on his Kimono without his mother's help?	
	The first pictures of the garden had green trees. Why did the woman come in out of a snowstorm?	
	Why did Jiro want to take care of the woman?	
	Why wouldn't Jiro peak at the woman weaving?	
	Why did Jiro tell his father the crane in the garden was just a statue?	
	What are clues the boy was having a dream?	
	What are some clues it wasn't a dream?	
	Have you ever heard a story and then had a dream similar to the story?	

The Boy in the Garden **KEY**

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This story takes place in Japan. It is written and illustrated by Allen Say. He was born in Japan and has won the Caldecott Medal for another book he wrote, *Grandfather's Journey*.



The story that Mama read to Jiro was *The Grateful Crane*. What lesson do you think *The Grateful Crane* teaches us? **If someone helps us, we should be grateful and not be greedy.**

	Why do you think Jiro noticed the statue of the crane? Why did he think it was really alive?	He was thinking about the crane in the story and wished it was alive. He was probably wondering if cranes were magic.
	Why did Jiro think the teahouse in the garden was the woodcutter's house?	It was similar to the house in the story and he thought maybe the woodcutter lived there.
	Why was Jiro able to tie the obi on his Kimono without his mother's help?	In our dreams we can do many things we cannot do in real life.
	The first pictures of the garden had green trees. Why did the woman come in out of a snowstorm?	The myth had a snowstorm and Jiro wanted the story to happen again; it was like he was expecting the woman and the snow.
	Why did Jiro want to take care of the woman?	The story doesn't say but children may think he maybe has no living mother, or that he wanted the woman to stay as a mother figure.
	Why wouldn't Jiro peak at the woman weaving?	In the story the woman left when the husband peaked and Jiro wanted her to stay.
	Why did Jiro tell his father the crane in the garden was just a statue?	Father had laughed at Jiro for thinking the statue was alive, so maybe he didn't want father to laugh at him again. Also, maybe he wanted to keep his memory of the crane a secret to himself.
	What are clues the boy was having a dream?	Snow was not in the beginning of the story; he could tie the obi, he thought he would go to work like a man, the crane was alive for him, he looked for firewood in the snow to sell, maybe children will say there was no loom in the teahouse.
	What are some clues it wasn't a dream?	There were many details that were so clear. If it happened in a story, maybe it could happen again. Jiro was alone so Father could not be sure of what happened in the tea house. The woman told Jiro he had a big imagination and did not admit to being a crane.
	Have you ever heard a story and then had a dream similar to the story?	answers will vary

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Compound Words in the Story

teahouse

woodcutter

snowstorm

grownup

outside

firewood