

# Kites in Flight

What different shaped kites do you see around you?

Go anywhere in the world on a windy day, and you might see kites floating high in the sky.

People have been flying kites for many years. Some people fly kites for fun. Other people fly kites to celebrate special holidays. Even scientists fly kites! They use kites to learn more about nature and changes in weather.

Kites can be different shapes. Some kites are shaped like squares or circles. Others are shaped like rectangles. There are even kites shaped like animals! Kites are often very <u>colorful</u>. Sometimes people paint pictures on their kites.

Every year, there is a big kite festival in Washington State.

Kite flyers from all over the world bring their kites to this special event. There are contests to see which kites are the most beautiful and other contests to see which kites make the most amazing movements in the sky.

## **Interactive Read Aloud**

## **Oral Vocabulary**

#### world

Define: The world is the planet Earth.

Example: There are billions of people living in the world.



Ask: Where do you live in the world?

#### nature

Define: Plants and animals around us are part of nature.

Example: We enjoyed nature as we hiked through the woods.



Ask: What is your favorite part of nature? Tell why.



#### ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Relate to Personal

Experience Point to the kites
on the card. Ask children if
they have ever flown a kite.

Ask: What did the kite look
like? Where did you fly it? What
did it feel like to fly a kite?



Kite flying is a popular activity in India, especially during different festivals throughout the year. People fly their kites from rooftops or in open fields.

In India many of the kites are shaped like diamonds and are very colorful. Some kites are made from materials such as bamboo, which is a type of grass that grows in India. These kites are then covered with a very thin paper. This makes the kite very light and easy to fly.

Many people in India play games together with their kites as the kites float in the air. You win the game if you keep your kite up in the air the longest. Every year, children in India have fun playing games with their kites.

## **Interactive Read Aloud**

## **Oral Vocabulary**

#### materials

Define: People use materials to make or build things.

Example: I used different materials to build my robot.



Ask: What kinds of materials would you use to make a cord for a friend?

#### games

Define: Games are fun activities with rules that people play.

Example: We played games after school, such as kickball and checkers.



Ask: What games do you like to play? Why?



#### ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Build Background. To help children learn shape words, use your finger to outline the shapes of the kites. As you trace each kite, say the name of the shape and have children repeat it. Then have children finger trace shapes on their desks. Encourage children to identify classroom objects that have the same shapes.

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Many people believe that the first kite was made in China thousands of years ago. Today, people in China still enjoy flying kites. Some kites are simple, while others have many parts and details.

Kite flyers can use a flat kite. A flat kite is made of simple shapes, such as two flat squares. These kites are very colorful. People decorate these kites with designs showing important scenes in Chinese history.

Other kites in China look like bugs, such as butterflies and dragonflies, which have wings. Some kites are even shaped like fish or birds! Many kites in China are made from bamboo and covered with silk, a thin, smooth material. People paint pictures on the silk to add decoration to their kites.

## **Interactive Read Aloud**

## **Oral Vocabulary**

#### decoration

Define: A decoration is something added to give color or shape to an object.

Example: I used stickers as a decoration for the poster.



Ask: What kinds of decoration would you use for a birthday party?



#### ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Use Photographs Show children Cards 2 and 3 and guide them to use the photographs to describe the Indian and Chinese kites. Supply sentence frames, such as, The kites both have \_\_\_\_\_ The kites both different because

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In South America the country of Brazil has a long history of kite flying. People fly kites that look like spinning tops. The kites are very colorful and are used in games. These kites usually have five sides, with a rectangle on the bottom and a triangle on top. Can you count the five sides on the kite in the picture?

People in Brazil make their own kites at home. They use wood to make the frame and thin tissue paper to make the kite. Some people paint the flag of Brazil on their kites. Others even add pictures of one of the country's soccer teams.

You can see that people all around the world enjoy flying kites. Kites can be many shapes, colors, and sizes! Which kite is your favorite?

## **Interactive Read Aloud**

### Retell

Help children use the pictures to tell about what they see.

Card I: What is flying high in the sky? What shapes do you see?

Card 2: What do you notice about the kites from India? What colors are the kites?

Card 3: What do most of the kites look like? Why do you think people fly kites shaped like this?

Card 4: What do the Brazilian kites look like? How are they made?