

Magic Ramen

The Story of Momofuku Ando

By: Andrea Wang

Illustrated: Kana Urbanowicz

Synopsis: Inspiration struck when Momofuku Ando spotted the long lines for a simple bowl of ramen following World War II. Magic Ramen tells the true story behind the creation of one of the world's most popular foods. Every day, Ando Momofuku would retire to his lab, which is a little shed in his backyard. For years, he'd dreamed about making a new kind of ramen noodle soup that was quick, convenient, and tasty to feed the hungry people he'd seen in line for a bowl on the black market following World War II. "Peace follows from a full stomach," he believed. Day after day, Ando experimented. Night after night, he failed. But Ando kept experimenting. With persistence, creativity, and a little inspiration, Ando succeeded.

Suggested Reading Dates: November for Community Service Month, or during your school's STEM month.

Activity Descriptions:

(Text to World and Self Connections)

- Generate a list of ways people help the community (Community Services)
- Discussion about your school's Community Services
- Discussion about a time a science project or creation of something was not successful. What happened? What steps were taken to make corrections?
- Create a graph with students about their favorite type of ramen (instant, chicken, shrimp or beef flavored, spicy, etc.). Print out or cut out pictures of ramen for your graph. A pictograph using a bowl to represent votes would be fun with 2nd and 3rd graders.



Related Websites:

- Author's webpage <http://andreyawang.com/books/picture-books/magic-ramen/>
- You Tube about Momofuku Ando <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=asgpQP81ZqU>
- How Momofuku Ando Invented Instant Noodles <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ejsnCn2mzIU>
- You Tube: How instant noodles are made https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=riO5p_Qi8Vc

Text to Text Connections:

Carmela Full of Wishes by Matt De la Pena

Maddie's Fridge by Lois Brandt

What is Given from the Heart by Pat McKissack

Pop!: The Invention of Bubble Gum by Meghan McCarthy

The Kid Who Invented the Popsicle by Don Wulffson

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