

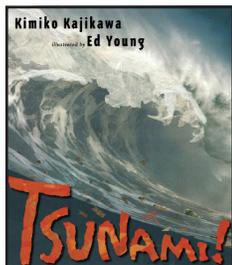


CRUCHLEY'S COLLECTION

Diana Cruchley is an award-winning educator and author, who has taught at elementary and secondary levels. Her workshops are practical, include detailed handouts, and are always enthusiastically received.

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TSUNAMI



In Japan, the oldest and wealthiest man in the village lives on the hill in his rice farm. One day he senses a problem, and when he sees the waters recede realizes a tsunami is coming. To draw the village to him, he sets his rice farm on fire and saves them all at the cost of his personal wealth.

Kimiko Kajikawa, Philomel Books, ©2009, ISBN 978-0-399-25006-4

PERSONAL WRITING

A springboard from a picture book to personal writing should provide at least three topics if possible. Here are some ideas:

1. A time when "something didn't feel quite right".
2. A story about your grandparent.
3. A story of an earthquake, fire, falling tree, high wind in your life.
4. Giving up something for someone else(a present? something you wanted?)
- 5 Identify a special someone in your life who helps others and write what they do.



KIMIKO KAJIKAWA'S BOOKS

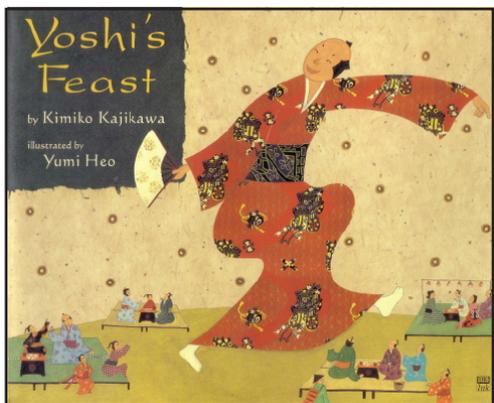
Kimiko Kajikawa has been a writer since she was 6 and published an article for *Seventeen* magazine when she herself was in her teens.

The author of a half dozen or so books, Kimiko is also the author of *Yoshi's Feast* which is a famous Japanese folktale told for the English-speaking audience.

TSUNAMI

This is a good time to study the science of the tsunami. These giant waves form where tectonic plates collide, where there is a gigantic (frequently underwater) eruption of a volcano, or after a meteor impact. 86% of all tsunamis come from underwater volcanoes or seismic shifts. These displace huge quantities of water suddenly. The water rushes in to fill the vacuum (thus explaining why the "tide" seems to go out suddenly and unusually far) and then rushes back out again in the form of a huge wave.

There are many websites with great information including <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U6XhqXHWRUg>.



STUDENT TSUNAMI REPORTS - RAPID RESEARCH

Students could research and prepare powerpoint presentations on aspects of tsunami's:

1. The causes of the Tsunami.
2. The destruction of Santorini 3600 years ago that destroyed the Minoan civilization across the Mediterranean.
3. The 2004 Tsunami.
4. The eruption of Krakatoa in 1883.
5. The Alaska Earthquake and Tsunami in 1946 (most websites are American in origin, and ignore the damage and death in BC communities.)
6. A timeline of known tsunamis, especially featuring ones not researched by other groups.

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PERSONIFICATION AND SIMILES

This book provides many opportunities to discuss and study simile, metaphor, and personification as figures of speech. Provide students with a typed version of the words of the book and ask them to seek them out. They should be able to find:

1. *golden rice fields waiting for harvest*
2. *a long, slow, spongy motion*
3. *the sea was running away from the land*
4. *tsunami - the monster wave*
5. *stalks caught like tinder*
6. *like a swarm of ants*
7. *the sky roared*
8. *as high as a cliff*
9. *as wide as the sky*
10. *heading for the village with lightning speed*
11. *jolt mightier than any thunder*
12. *The mountain shuddered*
13. *spray shot up the mountain like a dark cloud*
14. *the angry white sea swallowing up the village*
15. *the sea drew back, roaring, tearing out the land as it went*
16. *the furious sea devoured the village*
17. *still raging as after a typhoon*

TORN PAPER ILLUSTRATION

The book is illustrated with torn paper and pieces of cloth or woven straw. This is an easy style of illustration for students to copy in their own published book.

THE TRUE STORY

This book is based on a story in the 1897 publication by Lafadio Hearn called *Gleanings in Buddha-Fields*. The original wise wealthy man of the village was Hamguchi Goryo and there is a Japanese museum dedicated to him. (He was 35, not an old man, when it happened but the story is still wonderful. Making him older makes it possible for “experience” to tell him what to do.) Ask students to research the real person at locations such as http://www.town.hirogawa.wakayama.jp/inamuranohi/english/siryo_inamura.html

THE WORD TSUNAMI

In Japanese *tsu* means port and *nami* means wave. The first time it was used in English was in 1897 in Lafcadio Hearn’s “A Living God” in *Gleanings in Buddha-Fields*.

JAPANESE FOLKTALES

This might be a good time to study Japanese folktales in general. Students would read the story, write their own version, and tell them to the rest of the class as an easy oral presentation. (You could teach some of the skills of story-telling as well.) Some famous examples in picture book form include:

1. *The Dancing Kettle and Other Japanese Folktales*
2. *A Tale of Two Tengu*
3. *Japanese Children’s Favorite Stories*
4. *The Two Frogs*
5. *The Mirror of Matsuyama*
6. *The Stonecutter*

There are many more available on the internet, or in picture book form.

