

# Korean Traditional Tales and Stories



# Themes of Traditional Tales

- “Reward the good, punish the bad”
- Characters who are good in the stories, and work hard are rewarded for their diligence
- Characters who are bad, and cause trouble for others, meet an unfortunate ending

# Honoring Elders and Family

- Korea culture is based in part on Confucianism
- Elders are honored above everyone else
- Family is very important, and sons and daughters should be devoted to their families
- These values are called hyo 효 in Korea

# Magic and Supernatural

- Certain magical or unexplainable circumstances happen
- The good characters are helped or blessed by a kind animal, or a supernatural character or object
- The bad characters are attacked or punished by animals or some supernatural occurrence



# Heungbu and Nolbu

- Let's learn about the story of Heungbu and Nolbu



# Heungbu and Nolbu

- There was a man named Heungbu who had a wife and 10 children
- But he was very poor and couldn't take care of them
- He went to his rich brother Nolbu to ask for some food
- But, the greedy Nolbu told Heungbu to leave him alone

# Heungbu and Nolbu

- One day, a sparrow with a broken leg was found by Heungbu's house
- His family took care of the swallow and nursed it back to health and the sparrow flew away



# Heungbu and Nolbu

- The next day, the sparrow came back and gave them some magic seeds
- Heungbu buried them in the garden and the next day, the garden was covered with giant gourds





# Heungbu and Nolbu

- When Heungbu opened the gourds, diamonds and other treasures came out
- Heungbu and his family became very rich
- But Nolbu was jealous of his brother's wealth



# Heungbu and Nolbu

- Nolbu kidnapped the bird and broke its leg
- He then took care of it until it got better
- The bird flew away, and came back the next day
- It gave Nolbu some magic seeds
- After the seeds were planted, giant gourds grew all around Nolbu's house

# Heungbu and Nolbu

- He greedily opened the biggest gourd
- But instead of treasures, there were goblins inside, and as soon as they were released, they began to destroy Nolbu's house and all of his belongings



# Heungbu and Nolbu

- Nolbu became the poorest person in town and turned to Heungbu for help
- Heungbu helped his brother and gave him food and shelter
- Nolbu became a good person after seeing the kindness of his brother



# The Sun and the Moon

- Now, let's learn about the story of the Sun and the Moon





# The Sun and the Moon

- There was a poor mother who lived with her son and daughter in the forest
- One day, the mother was returning home with a basket full of rice cakes when a tiger appeared
- He demanded a rice cake, and the woman gave one to him



# The Sun and the Moon

- He let her go, but after a short time, he bothered her again for another rice cake, which she gave him
- This continued until she had no more rice cakes left
- She asked him to let her go so that she could go home and see her children, but instead, the tiger ate her up



# The Sun and the Moon

- He thought that eating some children was a great idea, so he put on her clothing so that he could pretend he was their mother
- When the tiger got to the house, the children thought he was their mother
- However, the tiger forgot to hide his tail, and the children ran outside





# The Sun and the Moon

- They climbed to the top of a tree, but the tiger found an ax and began to chop the tree down
- The children prayed to heaven, and a rope came down
- The children climbed the rope up into the sky



# The Sun and the Moon

- The tiger called for a rope also, but as he climbed his rope, it snapped and he fell back down to Earth
- In order to keep the children safe, heaven caused the girl to become the sun, and the boy to become the moon





# Hanbok 한복

- In these stories, all of the characters are wearing traditional clothing
- These are called hanbok 한복
- They have been worn in Korea for hundreds of years



# Parts of a Hanbok

- Women's Hanbok
  - Jeogori 저고리 – a blouse skirt or jacket
  - Chima 치마 – a wrap around skirt
- Men's Hanbok
  - Jeogori 저고리
  - Baji 바지 - baggy pants



# Hanbok Coloring Activity

- Color the different parts of the women's and men's hanbok

