

## YHBA Novel Resource #1

Archer's Quest  
Linda Sue Park  
Clarion Books  
Houghton Mifflin Company  
2006

Laura McWilliams

### About the Author:



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press photo!  
4.9x 4.6 300dpi.

"Linda Sue Park" <http://www.lindasuepark.com>

Some could say that Linda Sue Park "was a poet and didn't know it". Park has been writing poems and stories since the age of four. She had her first publishing at age nine, which was a haiku for a children's magazine. Born in Urbana, Illinois in 1960 Park was the daughter of Korean immigrants. After high school she continued her education by getting her English degree from Stanford. Before writing children's books, Park spent time as a public relations writer, a food journalist, and as an English as a

Laura McWilliams [lmac.1@comcast.net](mailto:lmac.1@comcast.net)

Second Language teacher. In 1997 she wrote her first children's book, "Seesaw Girl" and it was published two years later.

From there she wrote "Kite Flyers" in 2000 and "A Single Shard" in 2001. All of Park's books, with the exception of 3 picture books, are about Korean history and culture. Park has dedicated a lot of her time to the research of her Korean heritage. Park resides in upstate New York with her husband and two children.

## **Awards**

### **A Single Shard**

- 2002 - Newbery
- 2002- ALA Best Book Young Adults
- 2002 - ALA Notable Book For Child
- 2001- Booklist Editors Choice
- 2001 - Capitol Choices Selection
- 2001 - School Library Journal, Best Books of Year
- 2001- NY Public Library, 100 titles for Reading/ Sharing
- 2004 - Sequoyah Book Award
- 2006 - Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Book Award Masters List

### **When My Name Was Keoko**

- 2002 - Publishers Weekly Best Books of Year
- 2002 - School Library Journal, Best books of Year
- 2002 - NYPL, 100 titles for Reading/ Sharing
- 2003 - ALA, Notable Book for Child
- 2003 - Notable Children's Trade Book in field of Social Studies
- 2003 - ALA Best Book of Year Award
- 2003 - Bank Street Best Children's Book
- 2003 - NYPL books for Teenage List
- 2003- CCBC Choices
- 2005 - Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Book Award

- 2004 - Skipping Stones Honor Award
- 2004 - Maine Student Book award
- 2003 - Jane Addams Book Award Honor Book
- 2005 - Mark Twain Award Master List
- 2006 - Sunshine State Young Readers Master List
- 2005 - Garden State Teen Book Award Nominee

#### Project Mulberry

- 2006 - CCBC Choices
- 2005 - NYPL, 100 titles for Reading/ Sharing
- 2005 - Chicago Tribune Young Adult
- 2005 - Chicago Public Library Best of Books
- 2005 - Notable Books for Global Society
- 2006 - Bank Street Best Children's Books of Year
- 2006 - Kansas State Reading Circle recommendation
- 2006 - Texas Blue Bonnet Master List
- 2006 - Keystone to Reading Master List
- 2007 - Kentucky Bluegrass Award Nominee
- 2008 - Mark Twain Award Master List

#### The Kite Flyers

- 2002 - California Young Readers Medalist Finalist
- 2001 - Notable Books for a Global Society
- 2000 - Bank Street Best Children's Books of Year
- 2004 - Texas Blue Bonnet Master List
- 2005 - Arizona Young Reader's Master List

#### Seesaw Girl

- 1999 - Riverbank Review Book of Distinction
- 1999 - NYPL 100 titles for Reading/ Sharing
- 2000 - Bank Street Best Children's Books of Year

### Tap Dancing on the Roof

- 2008 - The Lion and the Unicorn Prize for Excellence & North American Poetry
- 2008 - ALA Notable Book for Children
- 2007 - Book Sense Award Finalist
- 2007 - Horn Book Fan Fare Selection
- 2007 - ABC Children's Booksellers Choice Award

### The Firekeeper's Son

- 2004 - Parents Choice Recommended Winner
- 2004 - NYPL 100 titles for Reading/Sharing
- 2005 - CCBC Choices
- 2005 - Kansas State Reading Circle recommendation
- 2005 - Bank Street Best of Children's Books of Year
- 2006 - YHBA Indiana Nominee
- 2006 - Kentucky Bluegrass Award Nominee
- 2004 - Bank street College of Education / Irma S. & James H. Black Finalist
- 2007 - Volunteer State (TN) Book Award Master Reading List

### What Does Bunny See

- 2006 - Bank Street Best Children's Books of Year
- 2006 - Kansas State reading Circle Recommendation

### Bee - Bim Bop!

- 2005 - NYPL 100 titles for Reading/Sharing
- 2006 - Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year
- 2006 - Kansas State Reading Circle Recommendation

### **Other Books by Park:**

- Seesaw Girl
- The Kite Flyers
- A Single Shard
- When My Name was Keoko
- The Firekeeper's Son
- Project Mulberry
- Archer's Quest
- Bee - Bim Bop
- What Does Bunny See
- Tap Dancing on the Roof
- Mung-Mung: A Foldout Book of Animal Sounds
- Yum! Yuck!: A Foldout Book of People Sounds From Around the World

### **Annotation:**

Linda Sue Park tells the story of how a twelve year old boy goes on a journey to help a historical figure find his way back in time. Park has come up with a fascinating tale of adventure, friendship and courage. The writing style makes the reader feel like they are running along beside Kevin and Archie. Park has written a great story that promotes the importance of family, culture and believing in you.

### **Genre:**

Fiction / Adventure / Fantasy

### **Point of View:**

This story is told from Kevin's point of view. The point of view is third - person.

### **Themes:**

Friendship/ Family

### **Interpretation of the Title:**

The title conveys the meaning of the book. Archer is on a quest or journey with Kevin to find his way back in time.

### **Conflict:**

There are a few conflicts in the story. The main conflict is Kevin and Archer against time. They are racing against time to try and get something accomplished. Another conflict would be between Kevin and his father. It seems Kevin feels his Dad is too busy for him and there isn't a special bond between them.

### **Conflict Resolution:**

The conflicts are both resolved at the end of the story. The main conflict is settled by working together on how to return Archer in time. The second is Kevin and his father having a closer relationship after discovering their similarities.

### **Characters:**

**Kevin** - One of the main characters in the story. He is a twelve - year old Korean boy in sixth grade. He is very good at math, but not so much with social studies. He lives in Dorchester, New York with his parents who are Korean immigrants.

**Chu-Mong Koh-** He is other main character. He is also known as Archer because of his bow and arrow skills. He is an ancient king from Korea who is considered very strong, brave, and magical. He was looked up to by many people from his time.

**Professor Lee** - A friend of Kevin's grandfather. He works at the museum and is very interested in Chu-Mong.

**Kevin's father** - He is a math and computer genius who works at Dorchester University. Chu-Mong was one his heroes when he was younger.

**Kevin's mother** - works at Dorchester University.

**Ah-Mee / Ah- Jee** - Kevin's grandparents.

### **Setting:**

The story takes place in Dorchester, New York in modern times. Park begins the story in Kevin's bedroom and takes on an adventure to a museum, zoo, and Chinese restaurant.

### **Interest / Reading Level:**

Ages 9 - 12

Grade Level 3-5

### **Book talk:**

Imagine being Kevin, an ordinary, Korean, twelve-year old boy doing your homework after school. You are sitting at a desk in your room when an arrow pierces thru your baseball hat and pins it to your wall. You turn to see a man with a large bow and arrow standing in your bedroom. His attire is that of another time. "Asian. Long black hair loose around his shoulders. White jacket, baggy white pants." As it turns out this man needs you to help him and in a very short amount of time. This man claims to have "lost his balance, fell off the tiger, and landed here." Kevin is the name of the boy and this stranger who has appeared in his room is Chu-

Mong, a Korean historical figure. Kevin lives in Dorchester, New York with his mother and father. His father is great at math and works at the University as well as his mother. Kevin is also great at math, but not too fond of Social Studies. What he is about to find out is that his feelings about the subject, Social Studies, are soon to be proven wrong. He feels this subject is nothing but "Names and dates and places from ages ago. Boring, boringer, and boringest."

Kevin's ordinary day after school turns into his biggest adventure. As he and his new friend set off for the Museum to find clues on how to help Chu - Mong, who Kevin refers to as Archie, he is also trying to keep his friend a secret. But, as they spin their wheels trying to find a way to send Archie back in time, "there are but a few hours of sun remaining. We must hurry."

As they make their journey to the zoo, to find another clue, Kevin listens to Archie tell more stories of his past. They head back to the tigers. As Kevin and Archie reach the tigers Kevin soon realizes that he is alone. "The tiger moved closer. It was an arm's length away from Archie now." Will Kevin be able to help his friend return or is it too late?

### **Discussion Questions for Archer's Quest:**

#### **Pre-reading question:**

1. Do you believe that a person could really travel in time? Why?
2. Have you ever seen a Magician? Do you believe in magic he or she did? Explain your answer.

#### **Chapter 1:**

1. What are Kevin's feelings about math? (pg3)
2. How does Chu-Mong explain how he ended up in Kevin's room? (pg 6 )
3. What is the nick-name Chu-Mong gives Kevin?

## **Chapter 2:**

1. Why does Archie get so "bummed out"? (pg13)
2. What happened to Archie when he was a baby? (pg19)
3. Describe two different ways Archie's father did something horrible to him. (pg20)

## **Chapter 3:**

1. What makes Kevin think he should look up Korean magic on the computer? (26/27)
2. If you were Kevin would you help Archie or get an adult? Why?
3. Do you think Kevin's grandparents suspect something is going on while he is on the phone with them? Why? (pg34/35)

## **Chapter 4:**

1. How would you explain the broken window to your parents?
2. How does Kevin explain what a car is to Archie? (pg46)
3. Why does Archie think that Kevin's family "honors tigers"? (pg52)

## **Chapter 5:**

1. Why does Archie get on his knees and bow to Kevin? (pg56/57)
2. Who is Professor Lee and why is Kevin going to see him? (pg65/66)
3. Professor Lee mentions something that he always hoped he would find of Chu-Mongs - what was this? (pg69)

## **Chapter 6:**

1. Archie mentions that he has a "gift for this special ability", describe what he is talking about. (pg72/73)
2. List three facts we are told about Archie. (pg77)
3. Why is Kevin explaining to Archie what "third person" means? (pg80)

### **Chapter 7:**

1. Why did Archie's father want to have him killed as a baby? (pg82)
2. What does Archie do with his bow and arrows at the zoo? (pg90)
3. What is the Garden of Intelligence? (pg88)

### **Chapter 8:**

1. How does Archie find out information about the tiger? (pg100)
2. Do you think Archie has inspired Kevin to practice at things more and not give up so easily? Why?
3. How did you feel while reading the part about Archie's preparation to get in the tiger's pen?

### **Chapter 9:**

1. Why do you think Archie likes to sit with his back to the wall in the restaurant? (pg109)
2. What makes Kevin realize that his math calculations were wrong? (pg115)
3. What cycle does Kevin figure he was born in? How does he figure this out? (pg116)

### **Chapter 10:**

1. What funny game does Kevin tell Archie about with the fortune cookies? (pg119)
2. What "connection" does Kevin realize when he hears the gong at the restaurant? (pg121)

### **Chapter 11:**

1. Where is this "metal tiger" they are looking for? (pg122)
2. Name the five elements talked about in the story. (pg124)
3. Why doesn't Archie accept the gift Kevin tries to give him? (pg126)

### **Chapter 12:**

1. What is the "token of gratitude" that Archie gives to Kevin? (pg141)
2. What element does Kevin need to help Archie get back to his time? (pg149)
3. Why does Kevin decide to give the Professor his gift from Archie? (pg150)

### **Chapter 13:**

1. Why did Kevin's grandparents think he knew what his birthday gift was? (pg157)
2. What does Kevin learn about his father that he is quite surprised about? (pg158)
3. Do you think Kevin and his father will have a change in their relationship?

### **Post-reading discussion question:**

1. Working in pairs, come up with your own short story about a historical figure that comes to you for help. Explain why they chose you and how they appeared from the past.

### **Vocabulary Words:**

**Quiver** (pg6) - a case for holding or carrying arrows.

**Treachery** (pg17) - violation of faith; betrayal of trust; treason.

**Sacred** (pg19) -reverently dedicated to some person, purpose, or object.

**Warily** (pg35) - On guard; watchful.

**Solemnly** (pg36) - unsmiling, serious.

**Allegiance** (pg47) - loyalty or devotion to some person, group, cause, or the like.

**Delusional** (pg133) - a false belief or opinion.

**Uncanny** (pg111) - beyond the ordinary or normal.

**Altered** (pg95) - to change or become different.

**Deemed** (pg111) - to form an opinion or think.

**Indiana Academic Standards met by Novel Content:**

Social Studies: 3.1 / 4.1

Math: 3.2 / 4.2 / 4.6 / 5.2 / 5.6 / 6.2 / 6.6

**Anticipation Statements:**

<b>Before</b>		<b>Statement</b>	<b>After</b>	
<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>		<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>
		1. Magic and time travel are real.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		2. Being ordinary means you are boring.		
		3. Some people can communicate with animals.		
		4. Numbers and math have never changed throughout history.		
		5. Friends should always be the same age.		
		6. You should always respect your elders.		
		7. Practice makes perfect.		

## **Read Aloud Passages:**

Chapter 3: Talking to the Spirits

Page: 35

"Ah-Jee, hold on for just one second, okay?"

"Sure thing, Kevin." Ah-Jee answered.

"Hold on to what?" Archie said.

"Kevin put his hand over the mouthpiece. "Archer. I. Am. Not. Talking. To. You." He spoke slowly, trying to force himself to be patient. "I'm talking to my *grandparents*."

"Your grandparents?" Archie leapt to his feet and looked around the room.

"No, no!" Kevin said. Sheesh, the things he had to explain! "They don't *live* here. I'm talking to them through - through *this*." He held the phone out. "It's called a telephone. It works- well, sort of like the spirit box. I can talk to them even when they're not with me."

Archie drew back a little, staring warily at the phone. "Your world has much powerful magic," he said. "It is wondrous indeed, but such power could be dangerous in the hands of an enemy."

### **Importance of passage:**

The importance of this particular passage is this is the first time we realize how strange modern times are to Archie.

## **Read Aloud #2**

Chapter 2: Little Frog

Pages: 17 / 18

“The window,” he said glumly. “My dad’s gonna kill me.” Archie jumped to his feet. “Where is he? I swear to you, he will not even be able to lift one hand in your direction before my arrow finds its way into his heart!”

“No, no,” Kevin said, dropping the broom in a panic. He could see that Archie was serious. “He wouldn’t *really* kill me. I just meant he’s gonna be mad.”

“You are sure?” Archie asked intently. “You are certain he would not try to kill you?”

“Of course not - it’s just something people say. He’d never kill me. I’m his son. Fathers don’t kill their sons - at least, not hardly ever.”

Archie looked solemn. He stared at Kevin for a long moment, then stepped toward the broken window. With one finger he poked at the few remaining bits of glass on the sill. “My father tried to kill me,” he said.

### **Importance of Passage:**

The importance of this passage is the use of Kevin’s idiom that Archie does not understand. “My dad’s gonna kill me”, does not mean he really is, but to Archie it does. Kevin is trying to explain this to him. With this passage we see how different people would phrase words in their time.

## Read Alikes:

### If you liked Archer's Quest by Linda Sue Park...You'll love:

- **The Castle in the Attic** by Elizabeth Winthrop:  
The Castle in the Attic and Archer's Quest are both stories of fantasy and adventure.
- **The Firekeeper's Son** by Linda Sue Park:  
The Firekeeper's Son is also Linda Sue Park and is about Korean history and culture.
- **Indian in the Cupboard** series by Lynne Reid Banks:  
Indian in the Cupboard ties into the friendship and magic theme. The genre is fantasy.
- **The Ancient One** by Thomas A. Barron:  
The Ancient One is a story about courage, adventure and going back in time.
- **Ella Enchanted** by Gail Carson Levine:  
Ella Enchanted is the story about fantasy and magic.

## **Across the Curriculum Expressions:**

### **Social Studies & Language Arts:**

The students will look up the South Korean flag on the provided internet websites.

[www.barrel.net/Korean\\_flag\\_php](http://www.barrel.net/Korean_flag_php)

[www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/flag\\_of\\_south\\_korea](http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/flag_of_south_korea)

Students will study the flag of South Korea. Students will take notes on what the symbols mean and design. As a class discuss the design and symbols of the flag.

**Materials:** computer / paper for notes

**Standards:**

Social Studies: 3.1 / 4.1

Language Arts: 3.5 / 4.5

### **Art:**

Students will use provided paper to design their own flag. What would you want your flag to symbolize? Would it be about your family or a special interest you have? Included must be symbols, colors, and a written meaning for their flag.

**Materials:** paper / crayons or markers

**Standards:**

Art / Visual Literacy: 3.6 / 3.7 / 4.6 / 4.7 / 5.6 / 5.7

## Book Activities:

### Chinese Zodiac Activity

Title: Archer's Quest

Author: Linda Sue Park

Intended: Pairs

Teacher Instructions:

Have students pair up with a partner. Together they will research on the computer the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac. The animals need to be listed, on the attached form, as well as their traits. The students will then find the year they were born and one family member and the animal that goes with it. Questions will then follow for them to answer regarding the traits of the animals for their birth year.

Materials:

- Attached student form
- Computers

Standards met:

Science / scientific thinking

3.2, 4.2, 5.2

Reading

3.3, 4.2, 5.3

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Chinese Zodiac What's your sign??

Directions: Complete the -chart below. On the left, list the animals of the Chinese Zodiac, and on the right side, list the traits of that animal.

Animals	Traits

What is animal year were you born in? \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I. Research included:	
A. 12 animals	
B. Traits for each	
C. Complete answers	
	/ 25
Total Percentage	/ 25 %

## Book Activity #2

### Story Plate Activity

Title: Archer's Quest

Author: Linda Sue Park

Intended for: Individual

#### Teacher Instructions:

Students will be making a story plate after reading the book "Archer's Quest". The story plate will need to include the following:

- Title / Author
- Characters
- Problem
- Solution

#### Materials / Procedures

- Paper plates
  - Blue / green / red / orange construction paper
  - Scissors
  - Glue
  - Black marker
  - Copy of book "Archer's Quest"
1. First, the student needs to cut a circle from the blue paper to fit just inside the paper plate - 7 inch circle fits most plates. Glue onto the plate.

2. Cut a circle from the green paper so that when placed on the blue circle there is about 1 inch of the blue showing. Glue onto the blue circle.
3. Continue with the red and then orange paper. Each color should be showing about 1 inch underneath. Orange should be the smallest on top.
4. Using the marker write the name of the title around the blue paper showing.
5. Write the names of the characters around the green paper.
6. Write the problem in the story around the red circle.
7. Write the solution in the orange circle.

Standards met:

Reading 3.3, 4.2, 5.3

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Story Plate Activity

### Directions:

1. Cut a circle from the blue paper to fit just inside the paper plate - 7 inch circle fits most plates - use those rulers if you need to. Glue onto the plate.
2. Cut a circle from the green paper so that when placed on the blue circle there is about 1 inch of the blue showing. Glue onto the blue circle.
3. Continue with the red and then orange paper. Each color should be showing about 1 inch underneath. Orange should be the smallest on top.
4. Using the marker write the name of the title around the blue paper showing.
5. Write the names of the characters around the green paper.
6. Write the problem in the story around the red circle.
7. Write the solution in the orange circle.
8. Great job! You've just completed your story plate.

## Story Plate Rubric

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I. Story Plate included:	
A. Title	
B. Characters	
C. Problem	
D. Solution	
	/ 25
II. Neatness	/ 10
Total Percentage	/ 35 %

## **Resources:**

### **Author's Homepage:**

"Linda Sue Park" <http://www.lindasuepark.com>

### **Publisher's webpage:**

Houghton Mifflin's Homepage <http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com>

### **Publisher's webpage for the author or author's books:**

Houghton Mifflin

<http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/authors/clarionindex.shtml>

Houghton Mifflin

<http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/authors/clarionlist.shtml>

### **Other Web Resources:**

Scholastic Books

<http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/contributor.jsp?id=2789>

Random House, Inc.

<http://www.randomhouse.com/author/results.pperl?authorid=23199>

Teaching books [http://www.teachingbooks.net/content/Park\\_qu.pdf](http://www.teachingbooks.net/content/Park_qu.pdf)

### **THEME: Friendship**

#### **Web Resources:**

Lesson Plan: Friendship

<http://www.intranet.csupomona.edu/~tassi/friends.htm>

### **THEME: Korean Culture**

#### **Web Resources:**

Intranet

<http://www.intranet.csupomona.edu/~tassi/korea.htm>

### **THEME: Time Travel**

#### **Web Resources:**

Lesson Planet

<http://www.lessonplanet.com/search?keywords=time+travel&rating=3>

### **THEME: Folklore**

#### **Web Resources:**

EDSITEment webpage

[http://edsitement.neh.gov/view\\_lesson\\_plan.asp?id=344](http://edsitement.neh.gov/view_lesson_plan.asp?id=344)