

## Lesson Plan for

# THE HOUSE BEFORE FALLING INTO THE SEA

Written by Ann Suk Wang | Illustrated by Hanna Cha  
Genre: Historical Fiction | Length: 40 pages | Lexile: AD620L  
Lesson Plan by Daphne Chan Liu

## 1

### BEFORE YOU READ

#### Relate to Personal Experience

Provide options for students to relate to important ideas or concepts in the book.

- **Discuss** Say: *Imagine you have to leave your home quickly and move to a new place far away. What would you take with you? What would you worry about?* Invite volunteers to share their responses and experiences of moving to a new place. Then explain that *The House Before Falling into the Sea* is about many people who had to leave their homes during a dangerous time.
- **Quickwrite** Provide this prompt: *Tell about a time you helped someone in need. Is it always easy to help others?* Give students 10 minutes to respond in writing. Then invite volunteers to share their writing and experiences. Explain that the book is about a family that helps many people during a war.

#### Preview and Predict

Display the full front and back cover. Ask: *Where do you think the story takes place?* Then read aloud the title and ask what it might mean. Use the illustrations to lead a picture walk through the book and ask students to predict what the story will be about. Record their responses in a class Prediction Chart that you will update as you read.

| What I See or Read | What I Predict | What Happens |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------|
|                    |                |              |

#### Build Background: Busan

Point out Korea on a map. Then display the illustration of Busan in the front endpapers. Explain that in 1950, the Korean War began when North Korea invaded South Korea. Over three years, 260,000 refugees fled south to the city of Busan—one of only two cities that was never captured by the north. Many people traveled hundreds of miles by foot, carrying all of their belongings. During the war, Busan became home to many people who needed a safe place to stay. Point out Busan on the map and discuss how its location gives insight about the title of the book. Then turn to the back endpapers and display the illustration of current-day Busan. Explain that today Busan is the second largest city in South Korea. Discuss examples of how the city has changed.