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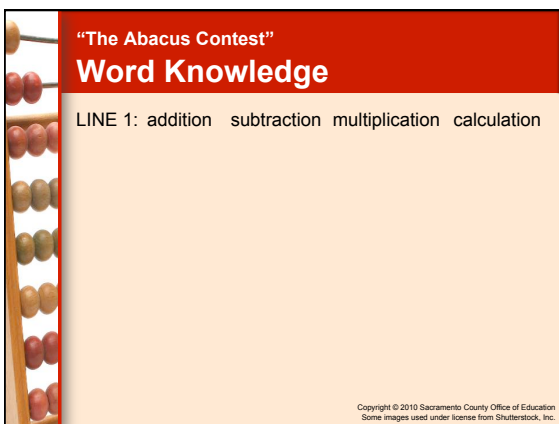
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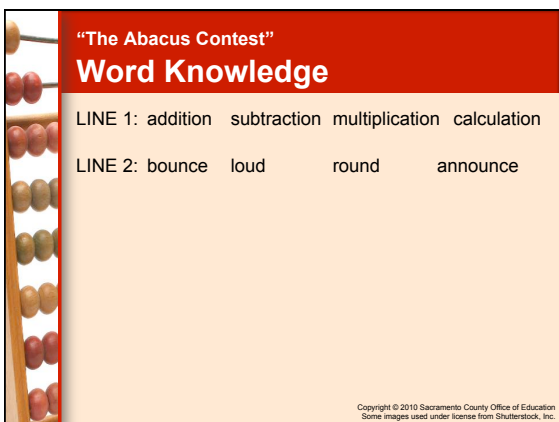
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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Word Knowledge**

LINE 1: addition subtraction multiplication calculation

LINE 2: bounce loud round announce

LINE 3: teacher bead breathing feature

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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Word Knowledge**

LINE 1: addition subtraction multiplication calculation

LINE 2: bounce loud round announce

LINE 3: teacher bead breathing feature

LINE 4: mistake giggled quilt begin division

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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Word Knowledge**

SENTENCE 1: The teacher showed the students how to do subtraction.

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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Word Knowledge**

SENTENCE 1: The teacher showed the students how to do subtraction.

SENTENCE 2: The multiplication game is played with a round bead and a game board.

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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Word Knowledge**

SENTENCE 1: The teacher showed the students how to do subtraction.

SENTENCE 2: The multiplication game is played with a round bead and a game board.

SENTENCE 3: The players are breathing hard as they bounce the ball.

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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Word Knowledge**

SENTENCE 1: The teacher showed the students how to do subtraction.

SENTENCE 2: The multiplication game is played with a round bead and a game board.

SENTENCE 3: The players are breathing hard as they bounce the ball.

SENTENCE 4: It is easy to make a mistake when you are doing a long division problem.

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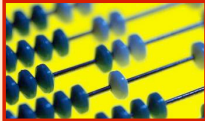

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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Activate Prior Knowledge**

Do you know what an abacus is used for?



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Activate Prior Knowledge**

- Are you familiar with the story "The Abacus Contest"?
- If you are, share a little about it, but don't give away the ending.



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Activate Prior Knowledge**

What are other stories you have read that have timed contests or intense competition?



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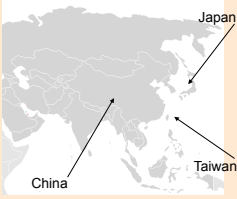
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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Background Information**

- An abacus is usually made of beads strung on wires.
- An abacus is sometimes used in Asian countries such as Taiwan, China, and Japan to add and subtract.



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Background Information**

- What does **honor** mean?
- Why is **honor** important for a family?



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Background Information**

The game *jian zhi* seems similar to a game played in the United States with a small leather beanbag.



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Background Information**

"The Abacus Contest" is a positive illustration of how people who are in competition with each other can maintain their friendship.



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Background Information**

- "The Abacus Contest" is realistic fiction.
- What elements of **realistic fiction** might you expect in the selection?



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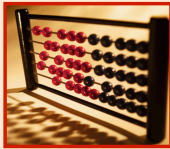
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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Background Information**

Elements of Realistic Fiction:

- The characters behave as people or animals do in real life.
- The setting of the story is a real place.
- The events of the story are based on a conflict or problem that occur in real life.



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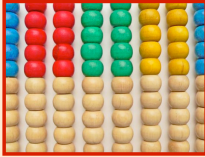
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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Browse**

- Read aloud the title and the names of the author and illustrator.
- Quickly look over the first page or two of the selection.
- What do you think this story might have to do with *competition*?



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Browse**

Look for Clues

- What unfamiliar words or long sentences did you notice while browsing?
- What clues did you find to help you understand the selection?



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Browse**

Focus Questions

- Read the Focus Questions before you read.
- Keep these questions in mind as you read.



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Set Purposes**

As you read, think about friendship in competitive situations and how this can teach us lessons.



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Vocabulary**

- abacus
- drills
- mischievous
- collided
- accuracy

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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Vocabulary**

**abacus**

- Gao Mal's finders flew back and forth over the smooth black beads of the **abacus**.

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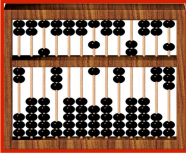
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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Vocabulary**

**abacus**

- Gao Mal's fingers flew back and forth over the smooth black beads of the **abacus**.
- Using the **abacus**, she was able to quickly calculate the answer to the math problem.



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Vocabulary**

**drills**

- During a few of her many timed **drills** she was even faster than her father.



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Vocabulary**

**drills**

- During a few of her many timed **drills** she was even faster than her father.
- Every Friday, we do **drills** in math class. Thanks to all the practice, I am much faster at multiplying than I was before.



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Vocabulary**

**mischievous**

- She knew Li Zhi loved practical jokes and could tell by her **mischievous** look that she might play one at any moment.

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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Vocabulary**

**mischievous**

- She knew Li Zhi loved practical jokes and could tell by her **mischievous** look that she might play one at any moment.
- The **mischievous** little boy put a frog in his sister's shoe and laughed when she screamed.



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Vocabulary**

**collided**

- Finally she wrote the last answer, she jumped from her seat and **collided** with Li Zhi.

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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Vocabulary**

**collided**

- Finally she wrote the last answer, she jumped from her seat and **collided** with Li Zhi.
- The bumper cars **collided**, giving their drivers a jolt.



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Vocabulary**

**accuracy**

- First place in speed and **accuracy** goes to Li Zhi, last year's first-place winner, and also to Gao Mai, last year's second-place winner.



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**"The Abacus Contest"**  
**Vocabulary**

**accuracy**

- First place in speed and **accuracy** goes to Li Zhi, last year's first-place winner, and also to Gao Mai, last year's second-place winner.
- **Accuracy** is important when you take a test. It's a good idea to go back and fix any errors.



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