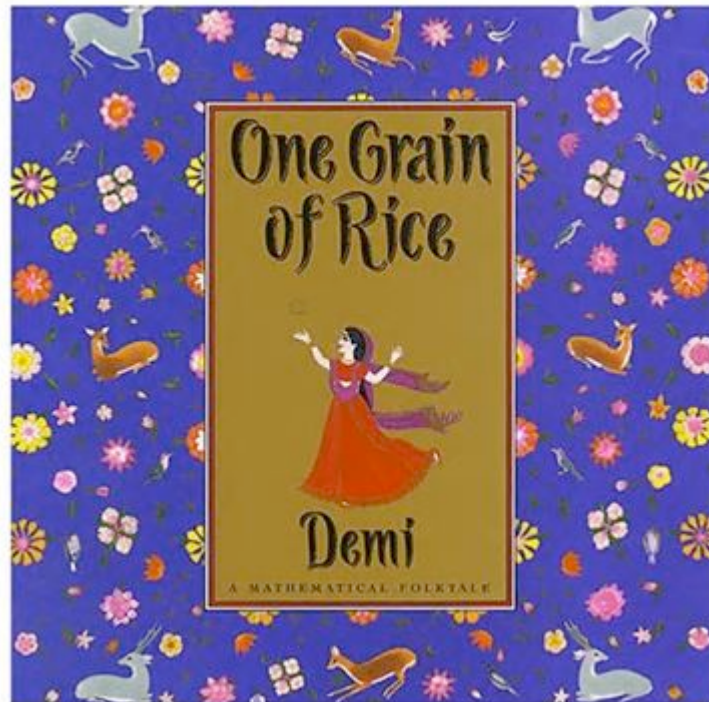


# One Grain of Rice: A Mathematical Folktale

By Demi

Recommended Reading for Grades 3-5



RG

Long ago in India, there lived a raja who believed that he was wise and fair. But every year he kept nearly all of the people's rice for himself. Then when famine came, the raja refused to share the rice, and the people went hungry. Then a village girl named Rani devises a clever plan. She does a good deed for the raja, and in return the raja lets her choose a reward. Rani asks for just one grain of rice, doubled every day for thirty days. Through the surprising power of doubling, one grain of rice grows into more than *one billion* grains of rice – and Rani teaches the raja a lesson about what it truly means to be wise and fair.

## **Guidelines for Parents**

### **Multiple Choice**

Multiple-choice questions are designed to assess Common Core Reading and Language Standards. They will ask students to analyze different aspects of a given text, including central idea, style elements, character and plot development, and vocabulary. Almost all questions, including vocabulary questions, will only be answered correctly if the student comprehends and makes use of the whole passage. For multiple-choice questions, students will select the correct response from four answer choices.

### **Short Response**

Short-response questions are designed to assess Common Core Reading and Language Standards. These are single questions in which students use textual evidence to support their own answer to an inferential question. These questions ask the student to make an inference (a claim, position, or conclusion) based on his or her analysis of the passage, and then provide two pieces of text based evidence to support his or her answer.

The purpose of the short-response questions is to assess a student's ability to comprehend and analyze text. In responding to these questions, students will be expected to write in complete sentences. Responses should require no more than three complete sentences. Please write response with complete sentences, correct spelling and punctuation.

### **Extended Response**

Extended-response questions are designed to measure a student's ability to Write from Sources. Questions that measure Writing from Sources prompt students to communicate a clear and coherent analysis of one or two texts. The comprehension and analysis required by each extended response is directly related to grade specific reading standards.

Student responses are evaluated on the degree to which they meet grade-level writing and language expectations. This evaluation is made using a rubric that incorporates the demands of grade specific Common Core Writing, Reading, and Language standards. The integrated nature of the Common Core Learning Standards for ELA and Literacy require that students are evaluated across the strands (Reading, Writing and Language) with longer piece of writing such as those prompted by the extended-response questions. Please remember to write complete sentences, correct spelling, punctuation, opening paragraph, answer question with details from text and closing paragraph.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Short Response Question 1

- Why did the raja want the people in his province to give nearly all their rice to him?
- Use *one detail* from the text to support your answer.

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Office use only      1 pt. question \_\_\_\_\_  
Score

Short Response Question 2



“Your Highness,” said Rani, “I do not deserve any reward at all. But if you wish, you may give me one grain of rice.”

4 “Only one grain of rice?” exclaimed the raja. “Surely you will allow me to reward you more plentifully, as a raja should.”

8 “Very well,” said Rani. “If it pleases your Highness, you may reward me in this way. Today, you will give me a single grain of rice. Then, each day for thirty days you will give me double the rice you gave me the day before. Thus, tomorrow you will give me two grains of rice, the next day four grains of rice, and so on for thirty days.”

“This seems still to be a modest reward,” said the raja. “But you shall have it.”

And Rani was presented with a single grain of rice.

The next day, Rani was presented with two grains of rice.

12 And the following day, Rani was presented with four grains of rice.

On the ninth day, Rani was presented with two hundred and fifty-six grains of rice. She had received in all five hundred and eleven grains of rice, only enough for a small handful.

16 “This girl is honest, but not very clever,” thought the raja. “She would have gained more rice by keeping what fell into her skirt!”

Multiple Choice Questions 3A-3C

3A) In line four, the word “plentifully” is used. What part of speech is it?

- a. pronoun
- b. noun
- c. adverb
- d. adjective

3B) In line 9, the word “modest” is used to describe Rani’s request for her reward. What does “modest” mean?

- a. bold, coarse
- b. showing a humble estimate of one’s merits
- c. showing an honest idea of one’s worth
- d. having a proud opinion of one’s abilities

3C) In line 16, the raja describes Rani as “honest, but not very clever”. Which of the following adjectives would also describe someone that is “not very clever”?

- a. smart
- b. deceitful
- c. quick witted
- d. clumsy

Office use only      3 pt. question \_\_\_\_\_  
Score



Extended Response Reading ~

Altogether, Rani had received more than one billion grains of rice. The raja had no more rice to give. “And what will you do with this rice,” said the raja with a sigh, “now that I have none?”

“I shall give it to all the hungry people,” said Rani. “And I shall leave a basket of rice for you, too, if you promise from now on to take only as much rice as you need.”

“I promise,” said the raja.

And for the rest of his days, the raja was truly wise and fair, as a raja should be.







Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

***SCORE SHEET***

One Grain of Rice (Grades 3-5)

RS

		<u>Score</u>
Short Response 1	1 pt.	_____
Short Response 2	2 pts.	_____
Multiple Choice 3A	1 pt.	_____
Multiple Choice 3B	1 pt.	_____
Multiple Choice 3C	1 pt.	_____
Short Response 4	1 pt.	_____
Extended Response	4 pts.	_____
Passing Grade	9-11 pts.	_____
		Your final score

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For Scorers Use Only

Comments to Student:

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© Thank you for participating in Mr. G's ELA Book Club. Please save these score sheets. Once you have completed three books and received three passing grades returns the sheets to my office for a free Dress Down Day

## **Tips for Parents**

1. Read the entire book before filling out the form
2. Yes, you may read it to your child
3. Ask questions along the way ~ i.e. vocabulary inference, predicting what will happen next
4. When students answer your questions ask them what from the text gave them the clues to help with their answer
5. Have children do drafts on scrap paper for the written response first
  - a. Review for spelling, punctuation, grammar, etc.
  - b. Enhance the vocabulary words in the response
    - i. Change ~ like to adore
    - ii. Change ~ want to desire etc.
6. Develop vocabulary word list from the stories and use them at home whenever possible
7. Discuss what your child learned from the story not just retelling the story