

Lesson 70 - Father's Home

Aim

- * to learn about Father's home as a child
- * To learn that Father was a very curious child

Materials

- * Pictures from Father's home in Sangsa-ri,
- * board game, counters, dice
- * Pictures to cut from old magazines and catalogues, scissors, glue, display paper

Lesson Outline

1. Introduction
2. Living on a Farm
3. Exploring Nature
4. Activities - board game, make a collage,
5. Review lesson aims
6. Prayer

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1) Introduction

- * Where do you live? Is it a house or flat? Do you live in the city or countryside? What do you like to do outside? Do you like exploring nature? Today's lesson is about Father's home when he was a child and the things he liked to do.

2) Living on a Farm

- * Father was born into farming family. He was one of eight children. The house was one of a line of fifteen which made up a tiny village called Sangsa-ri. People called it 'Moon Village' because ten of the homes were of the Moon clan. Grandparents, parents and children all lived together in the same house.
- * The families in the village farmed the land, growing rice, millet, corn, beans, cabbages and radishes. They kept chickens for their eggs, and ate beef, pork or chicken on special occasions usually birthdays. It was a hard life, but nobody starved.
- * Would you like to live on a farm, growing your own food and taking care of animals. What animals do we see on a farm? What animals do you like? What food can we grow? If you were a farmer what jobs would you do? Would it be hard work to be on a farm?

3) Exploring Nature

Father grew up in the countryside and loved to explore the nature around him and was curious about everything. He climbed mountains and knew every plant. He climbed trees and stayed there all day. He watched birds lay eggs. He knew what the sounds of insects meant. He also liked to do exciting things. He learned how catch eels with his teeth. In fact, he became friends with everything in nature and found it do be a place of peace.

This is what he said:

" When I was a child I wanted to know everything about nature. I was curious to know what was beyond the mountains. I searched every mountain and valley. I knew which trees, grasses and plants grew on what mountain. I knew all about the edible plants in the mountains. When I was a child, the women of the village loved to go with me to the mountains to pick these plants. I knew everything in the mountains: the grasses, the birds, the insects and the animals."

Plants

When I went to the mountains, I would touch all the flowers and trees. I wasn't satisfied just to look at things with my eyes; I had to touch the flowers, smell them, and even put them in my mouth and chew on them. I enjoyed the fragrances, the touch, and the tastes so much that I wouldn't have minded if someone had told me to stick my nose in the brush and keep it there the whole day. I loved nature so much that anytime I went outside I would spend the day roaming the hills and fields and forget about having to go home. When my older sisters would go into the hills to gather wild vegetables, I would lead the way up the hill and pick the plants. Thanks to this experience, I know a lot about many kinds of wild vegetables that taste good and are high in nutrition.

Trees

I used to enjoy climbing trees as well. Mainly, I climbed up and down a huge 200-year-old chestnut tree that was in our yard. I liked the view from the upper branches of that tree. I could see even beyond the entrance to the village. Once I was up there, I wouldn't want to come down. Sometimes, I would be up in the tree until late at night, and the youngest of my older sisters would come out of the house and make a fuss over how dangerous it was and try to get me to come down.

"Yong-myung, please come down," she would say. "It's late, and you need to come in and go to bed."

"If I get sleepy, I can sleep up here," I replied.

It didn't matter what she said. I wouldn't budge from my branch in the chestnut tree. Finally, she would lose her temper, and shout at me.

"Hey, monkey! Get down here NOW!"

Birds

Once, I climbed up and down a tree every morning and evening for several days to check on a magpie nest. I wanted to see how a magpie lays its eggs. I finally got to witness the magpie lay its eggs, and I became friends with the bird as well. The first few times it saw me, the magpie let out a loud squawk and made a big fuss when it saw me approach. Later, though, I could get close, and it would remain still.

“When I see a magpie's nest, I know which way the wind is blowing that year. If the magpie's nest faces east, then the wind is blowing from the west. Who taught them this? They are building masterpieces. The nests are made of twigs. When it rains they will get wet. So the magpies use mud to seal them up. This is marvelous. When it rains the water flows in one direction and doesn't go into the nest. Who taught them this? This skill is amazing.”

- * Do you like to explore nature? What do you like to do? Walk in a forest? Lie down in a field? Pick flowers? Find animals? Listen to birds singing? Walk on a sandy beach? Watch a crystal clear stream? Feel the warmth of the sun? Breathe the fresh air?
- * Are you a curious person like Father? What things are you interested in?

4) Activities

- * Play “Journey to Sansa-ri” board game to remind the children where Father lived. Throw a dice to move forward. First to reach Sanga-ri is the winner.
- * Make a nature collage to remind the children of Father’s love for nature. Cut out pictures from catalogues of animals, trees, plants, birds, insects, etc . . . and glue onto display paper. Write the title “Nature”
- * Make a farm collage to remind the children of the Moon family’s farm. Cut out pictures from catalogues of rice, millet, corn, beans, cabbages and radishes, chickens, birds, cows, pigs, etc . . . and glue onto display paper. Write the title “Life on a Farm”

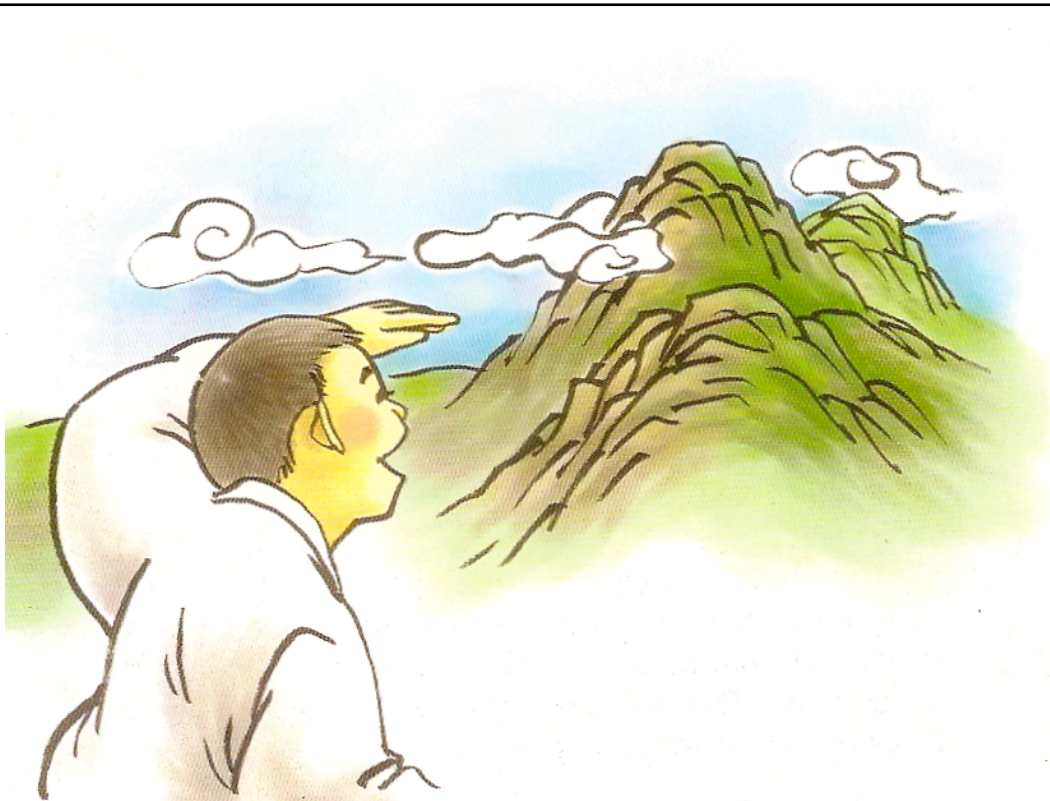
5) Review aims of lesson

- * to learn about Father’s home as a child
- * To learn that Father was a very curious child

6) End with a prayer



The village of Sangsa-ri



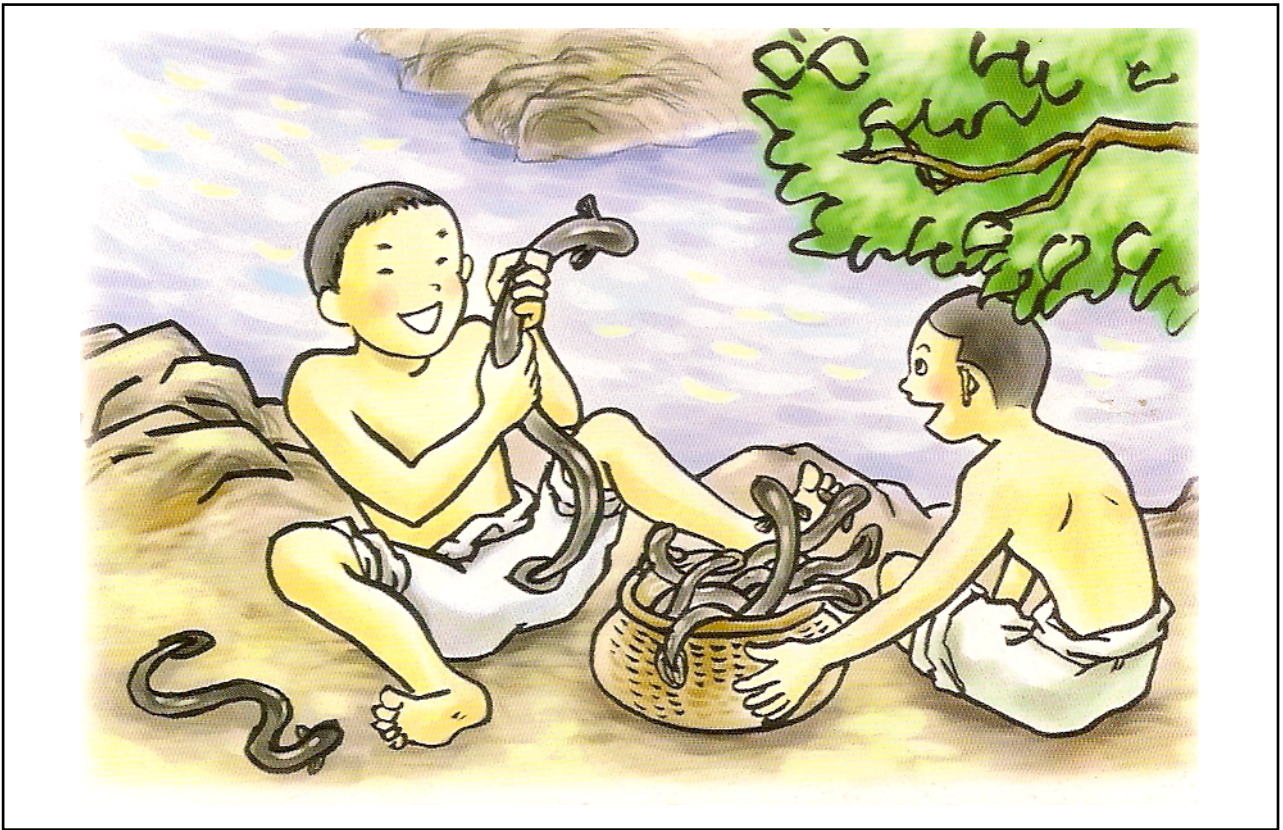
Climbing Mountains



Enjoying Nature

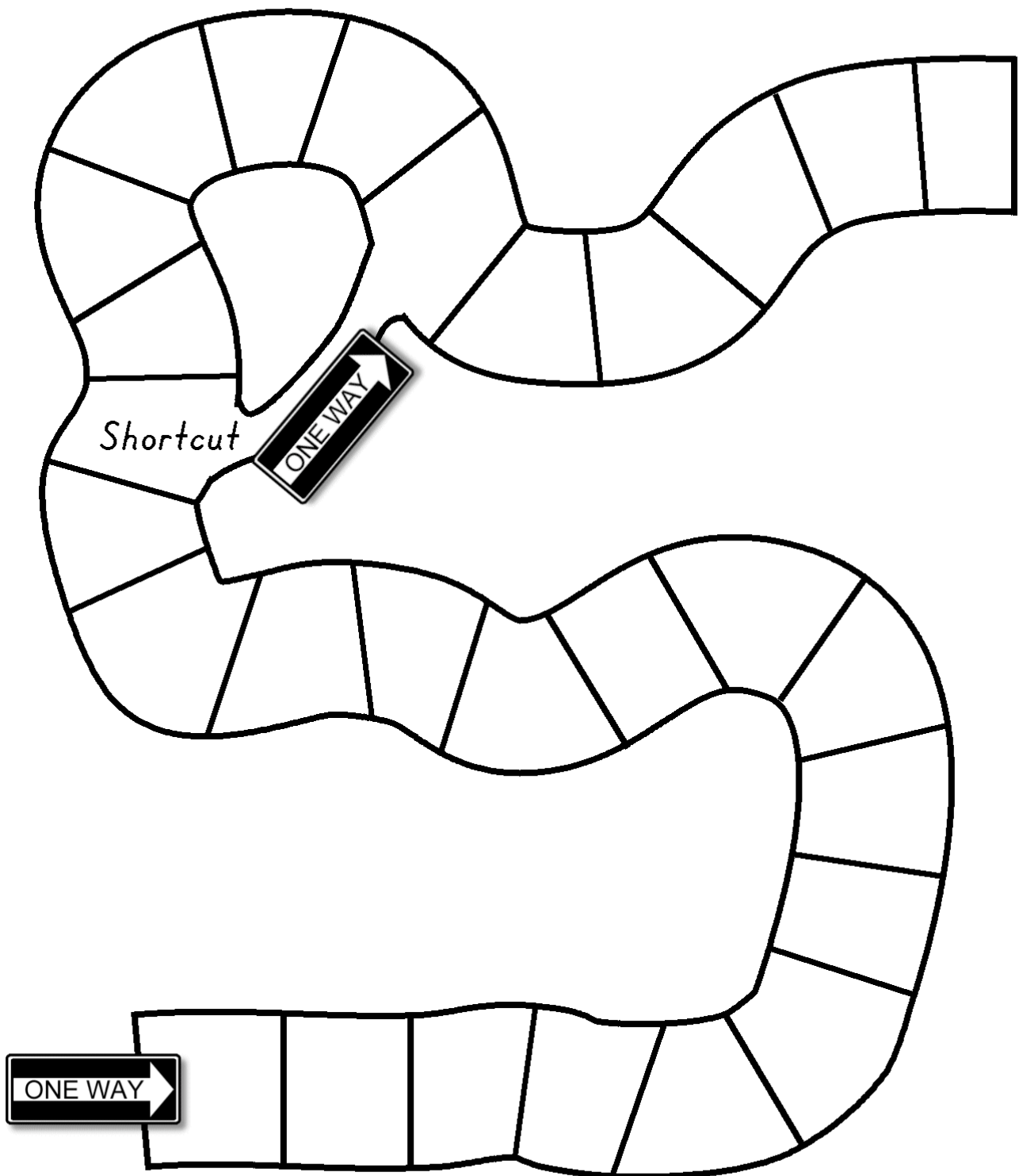


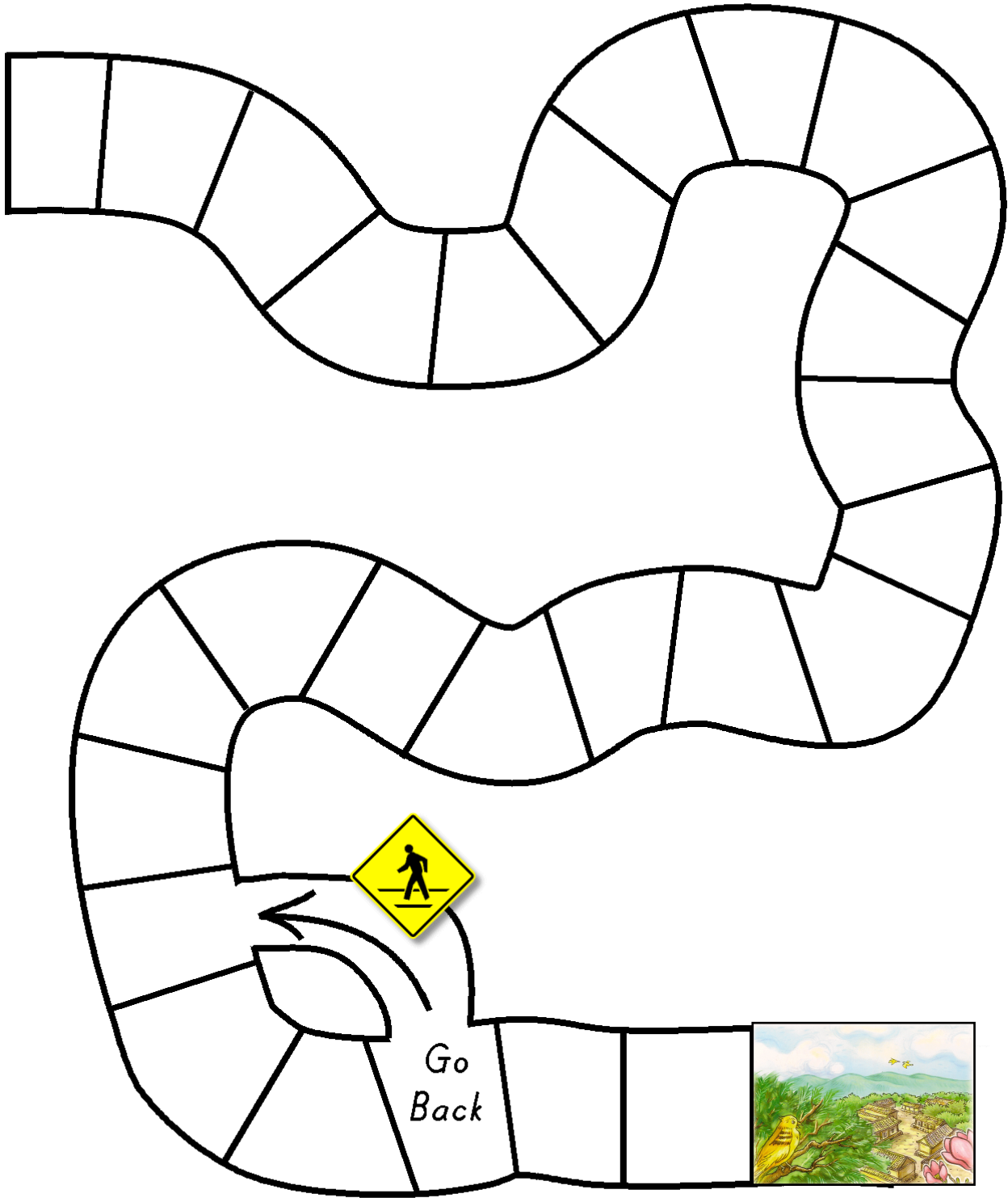
Baby Magpies



Catching Eels

Journey to Sangsa-ri





Sangsa-ri