Overview
This is a story of hope and the importance of family heritage. A young girl is forced to leave Vietnam and takes a lotus seed from the Imperial Garden in remembrance of her homeland.

Instructions
Read the book to see what happens to the lotus seed.

Vocabulary
Immigration: the action of coming to live permanently in a foreign country.
Immigrants: a person who comes to live permanently in a foreign country.

Comprehension Questions
- Where is the setting at the beginning of the story? End?
- What is so special about the lotus seed?
- Why did the grandmother take the lotus seed from the Imperial Garden?
- Why does the grandmother flee and come to America?
- How do we know the seed was important to the grandmother?
- What does the lotus seed represent?

Activity
- Using the step-by-step instructions, draw your own lotus flower.

Materials
- “The Lotus Seed” book
- Dry erase board
- Dry erase marker
- Pencils
- Crayons
- White construction paper
- Lotus flower activity sheet
How to Draw a Lotus Flower

**Step 1**
Begin drawing your lotus by making two peel like shapes that are spread out from each other. These are the second tier of petals.

**Step 2**
Draw in a cone shape for the middle petal, then two more lotus petals off to the sides.

**Step 3**
Next, draw in the base or bottom lotus petals which the flower or lily rests on besides the lily pad.

**Step 4**
Lastly, draw the plate like shape under the lily or lotus which is also known as the lily pad. Add some detailing lines, then erase the mistakes you may have made along the way.

Finally, color it all in!