# Reader's Guide for Surf Soup TV: Chinese Lunar New Year and Moon Day Adventures

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#### Introduction:

Welcome to the magical world of Surf Soup TV! In this special collection, readers will embark on two enchanting cultural adventures with Koa and his friends as they celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year and Moon Day (Mid-Autumn Festival). This beautifully illustrated collection offers exciting stories, cultural traditions, and heartwarming messages about unity, teamwork, and friendship.

# Summary:

Moon Day and the Double-Headed Dragon: Koa and his friends join in the Mid-Autumn Festival with lanterns, mooncakes, and a playful dragon with two heads. The dragon brings joy and teaches the importance of unity in this cultural celebration.

Instant Noodle Friends: Koa's wish for a new companion magically turns Auntie Donna into a packet of instant noodles! This whimsical story shares the themes of teamwork and acceptance through fun adventures. Bonus Story – The Asian Double-Headed Dragon: The dragon returns in this special Lunar New Year story, where his sneeze causes bubble-filled mishaps and brings humor and joy to the festivities.

# **Discussion Questions:**

#### **Cultural Traditions:**

What did you learn about the Lunar New Year and Mid-Autumn Festival from the stories? Can you think of any other celebrations or holidays that bring people together? The Double-Headed Dragon:

The dragon symbolizes unity and togetherness. Why do you think dragons are often featured in Chinese mythology? How do the dragon's actions show teamwork?

# **Unexpected Friendships:**

In "Instant Noodle Friends," Koa learns that friends can come in unexpected forms. How does Koa's relationship with Auntie Donna change throughout the story? Can you think of a time when you made a new friend unexpectedly? Themes of Unity and Teamwork:

How do Koa and his friends work together to celebrate the festivals? How does teamwork help them solve problems in the stories?

# **Humor and Magic:**

The sneezy dragon brings humor to the story, especially during Lunar New Year. Why do you think humor is an important part of celebrations and friendships?

#### **Activities**:

#### **Create Your Own Lantern:**

Inspired by the Mid-Autumn Festival, make a paper lantern and decorate it with your favorite colors, dragons, or cultural symbols.

# Design a New Friend:

Like Auntie Donna transforming into noodles, imagine if one of your family members turned into something else. What

would they become, and how would you go on an adventure with them?

# Write Your Own Dragon Story:

Create a story where you meet a dragon who has a special power. How would you and the dragon become friends, and what kind of adventure would you go on?

Make Mooncakes:

With a parent or teacher, try making your own version of mooncakes at home! You can fill them with jam, chocolate, or anything you like.

# **Dragon Mask Craft:**

Using construction paper, glue, and string, make your own dragon mask. Wear it during your next reading session!

# Further Exploration:

Learn More About Lunar New Year:

Research the history of the Lunar New Year and Mid-Autumn Festival. Why are dragons so important in these celebrations?

#### **Cultural Festivals Around the World:**

Look up other festivals around the world. How do people celebrate, and what special foods or traditions do they have?