

# What Holiday do you celebrate?



*Written & Illustrated by Elaine Lavin*

Grade 5-6

2012 #4

**FULBRIGHT**  
TAIWAN

Children's Book Series

### ***Dedications:***

I would like to thank my co-teachers and the staff of Fulbright Taiwan who have welcomed me with open arms and made my year in Taiwan unforgettable. I also want to thank my parents for encouraging me to go forth and explore the world. To everyone who has ever felt different.

### **關於本書**

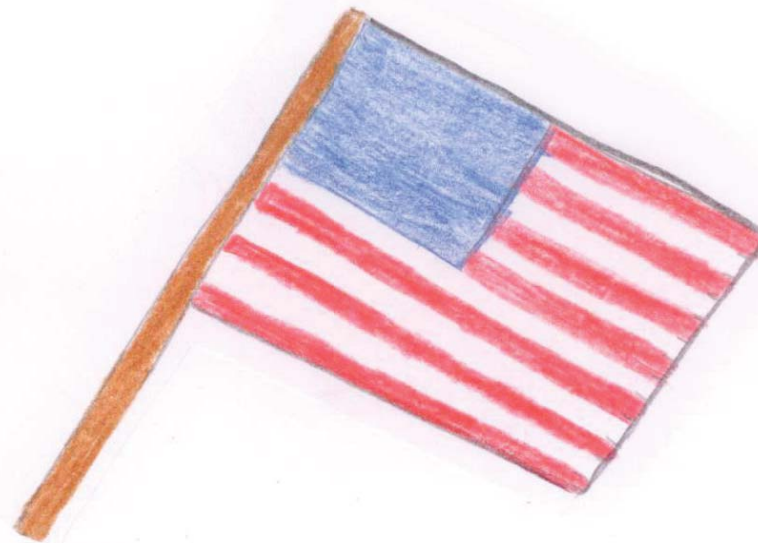
作者Elaine非常感謝協同教學的老師及所有台灣傅爾布萊特的夥伴們, 由於您們的包容及熱誠讓這一年的台灣行如此難忘. 她也特別感謝父母親的鼓勵讓她有機會探索這個世界!  
此書也獻給所有來自不同文化背景的朋友們。

### ***Fulbright Children's Book:***

The authors of Fulbright Children's Books are from Yilan from the Fulbright Taiwan English Teaching Assistantship (ETA) program, which promotes English language instruction in Taiwan and provides cultural exchange opportunities for Americans and the people of Taiwan. ETAs are full-time teaching assistants at elementary schools in Taiwan from 2011-2012. Special thanks to Yilan County Government & Kaohsiung City Government for their great support to ETA program through the years.

### **傅爾布萊特兒童英文圖書系列**

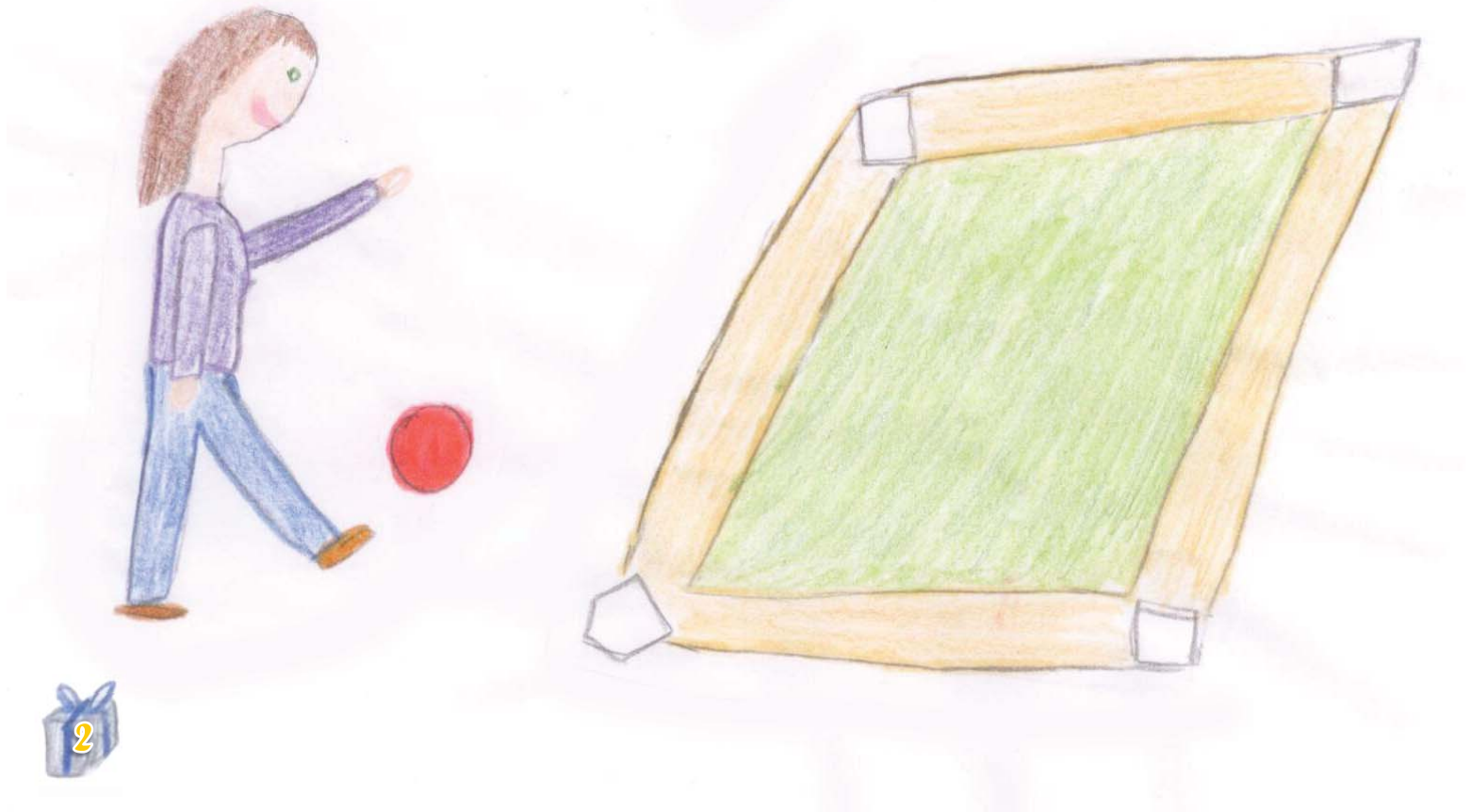
作者Lavin, Elaine ( 李亦珊 ) 參與2011-2012傅爾布萊特獎學金計畫(ETA) , 來到好山好水的宜蘭縣擔任為期近一年的國小英語協同教師, 為小學生們帶來更精彩的英語教學並開啟更多文化交流的機會。此台灣傅爾布萊特外師協同教學計畫特別感謝宜蘭縣政府教育處以及高雄市政府教育局多年來的支持與合作。



**Miriam Markowitz**  
is an elementary school student  
in the United States of America.



In the spring, she likes to play kickball,  
just like the other kids in her class.





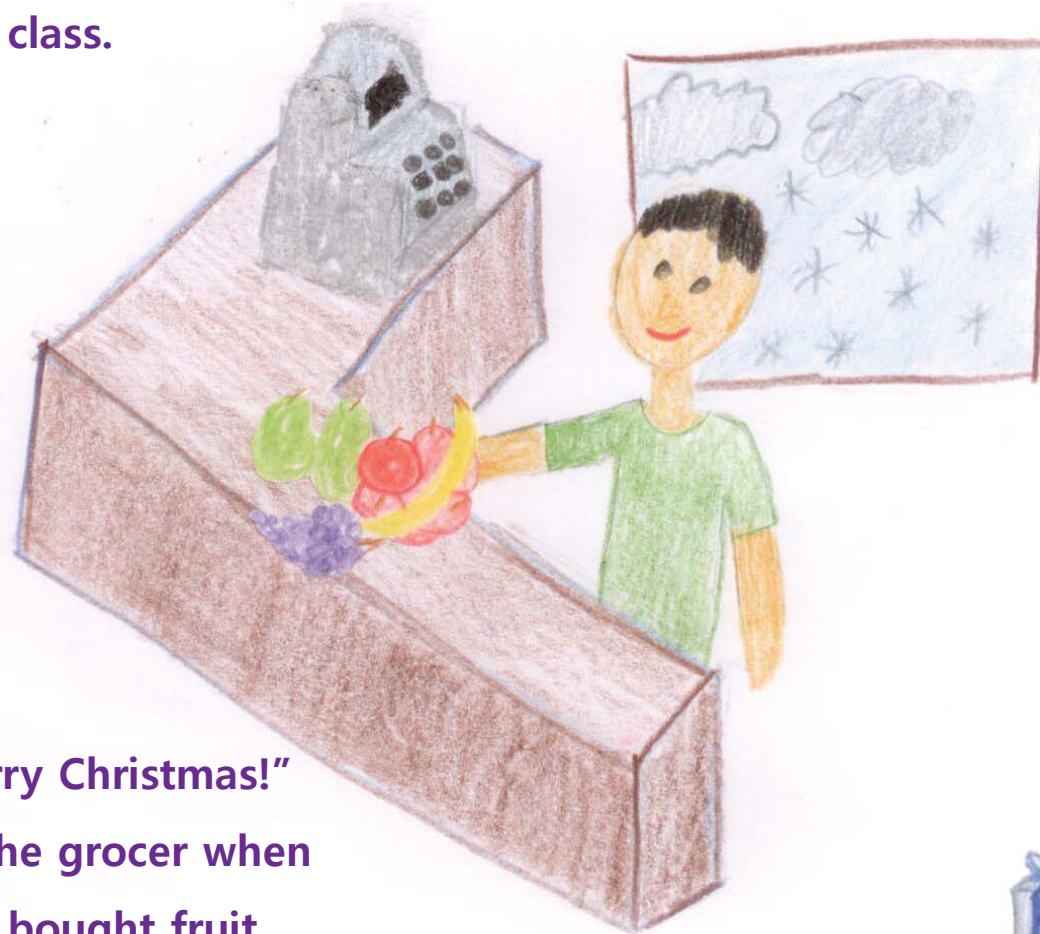
In the summer, she likes to go swimming,  
just like the other kids in her class.



In the fall, she likes to go apple picking,  
just like the other kids in her class.



But in the winter, Miriam began to feel different than the other kids in her class.



"Merry Christmas!"  
said the grocer when  
she bought fruit.



**“Merry Christmas!” said the librarian  
when she borrowed a book.**





**"Merry Christmas!" said the clerk  
when she bought a toy car for her little brother.**





"These people are all very nice, but..."



Miriam thought to herself

"... I don't celebrate Christmas."

Miriam was confused  
so she told her teacher, Ms. Matson,  
what the nice people had said to her.

The next day, Ms. Matson spoke to the class, "In the United States, people celebrate lots of different holidays in the winter.

Miriam is going to tell us about the holiday her family celebrates."



"My family is Jewish so in the winter, we don't celebrate Christmas, we celebrate Hanukkah. For eight nights, we light candles using this menorah."



**"My favorite part of Christmas is getting presents!"  
said Sam. "Do you get presents on Hanukkah?"**





"Yes, we do," said Miriam. "We get one on each night of the eight nights. But my favorite part of Hanukkah is spending time with my family."



Mary raised her hand.



"My family also lights candles in December, but we do it to celebrate Kwanzaa. We light seven candles to represent seven principles of African heritage."

**"We celebrate Christmas and Hanukkah," said Isabel "**  
**since my dad is Jewish and my mom is Catholic.**  
**We have two big family celebrations."**



"My family celebrates Chinese New Year," said Kevin.

"My parents came to the United States from Taiwan."



"We don't get presents, but my parents and grandparents and aunts and uncles give us lucky money in red envelopes."



**“There is one thing that all of these holidays have in common,” said Ms. Matson.**



**“They are all celebrated by spending time with your family.  
You see Miriam, you are not that different  
from the other kids in our class.”**



"Yeah, I guess I'm not." Miriam smiled.  
She didn't feel so different any more.

## 傅爾布萊特兒童英語圖書系列

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