SUMMARY Students learn about some differences between life in Korea and life in America.

VOCABULARY Concept Words
Korea rice paper
dumpling wooden

INTRODUCE THE BOOK
BUILD BACKGROUND Explain to students and show them on a map where Korea is located. Then discuss the aspects of American culture that may be different from Korean culture, such as clothes, food, and homes. Talk about how difficult it might be for an American to adapt to the Korean culture.

E U L Allow students to share with the class how different cultures have influenced their lives, whether it’s through language, celebrations, or food.

PREVIEW Invite students to take a picture walk to preview the text and illustrations. Have students discuss the differences on each page.

READ THE BOOK
SET PURPOSE Have students set a purpose for reading Our New Home. Ask them to think about why it is difficult to move from one country to another.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS
PAGE 5 How are the houses different in Korea and in America? (Korean doors are rice paper while American doors are wood.)

PAGE 6 Why might it be difficult to adapt to an American school after attending a Korean school? (Possible response: Everyone speaks a different language; you don’t have to take off your shoes; studying will be in English.)

PAGE 8 Why would it be difficult to adapt to moving halfway around the world? (When it’s daytime in America, it’s nighttime in Korea. Your body will be used to sleeping when you need to be awake.)

TEXT-TO-TEXT QUESTION What other books or stories have you read about living in two different cultures?

REVISIT THE BOOK
READER RESPONSE Answers
1. The houses have different doors; in school you keep your shoes on; you eat pizza and hamburgers; you are asleep when it’s daytime in Korea.

2. Possible responses: The details of everyday life are difficult to adjust to; it’s scary; you don’t know people or the language.

3. Responses will vary but should reflect thought and understanding of differences between cultures in relation to themselves.

EXTEND UNDERSTANDING Provide simple books about Korea. Have students explore other aspects of Korean and American cultures. List differences on the board and then paint a class mural that depicts them.

RESPONSE OPTIONS WRITING Have students write a short story about the people and places they would say good-bye to if they moved to a new country.

SOCIAL STUDIES CONNECTION Provide old travel magazines, if available, for students to cut and use for posters that show another country’s dress, food, and locations. Display their posters in the classroom or the school.

GRAPHIC ORGANIZER, PAGE 54 Have students complete the web to show possible changes and adaptations that might occur when moving to a new country and a new culture. (houses; schools; food; sleeping habits)
Complete the web to show changes that might occur if you must move far away and adapt to a new culture.