

Book Title: To Swim in Our Own Pond

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Introduction

- Begin with a discussion about proverbs. What are they, and what purpose do they hold? (*A proverb is a short, wise saying that teaches a lesson or truth about life.*)
- Explain that this book illustrates several Vietnamese proverbs with their English translations. We will read through them and discuss how they are similar or different from their English proverbs.

Reading and Discussion

Introduce vocabulary: frock, illuminated, persistently

- Read through each proverb and discuss its meaning.
- Discuss the matching English proverb.
- Do you think the proverbs mean the same things in Vietnamese and English?
- What proverbs might you create to teach the same lessons?

Activity: Create a Proverb about School

- As a class, brainstorm some important things students might need to know to be successful in school.
- Remind students that a proverb is a short, wise saying that teaches a lesson or truth about life, or in this case, how to succeed in school.
- Have students create their own proverbs about how to succeed in school.
- Have students write their proverbs on slips of paper, collect them, and share anonymously with the class.
- For fun (depending on the dynamics of your class), students could even vote for which proverb most accurately reflects what new students would need to know when they join your class.