



Cast



Narrator 1



the emperor



Jun's mother



the boys



Narrator 2



Jun



Jun's father



the people

Non-speaking



the emperor's servants

Work with the children to allocate characters and prepare a short performance. Discuss the stage directions in advance and make sure the children understand how to follow the script.

Narrator 1: The emperor is in his garden.

(The emperor is talking to his servant.)

the emperor: I'm old. I have no child.

(The emperor is in the palace with his servants.)

the emperor: How do I find a new emperor?

(The emperor sits at his desk. He is writing.)

the emperor: *(Speaking as he writes)* Boys! I'm choosing the new emperor. Come to my palace and get a seed, please.

(Jun is with his mother in the garden. She tells him about the emperor's plan.)

Jun: A seed?

Jun's mother: Yes. You grow beautiful plants, Jun. Go to the palace.

Narrator 2: Jun walks to the palace with many boys.

the boys: I want a seed. I can be the new emperor.

(The emperor hands out seeds to all the boys.)

the emperor: Have a seed. Go home. Put it in a pot. Come back with your pot after one year.

Narrator 1: Jun puts his seed in his favorite pot.
Jun watches his pot.

Narrator 2: The boys have leaves in their pots. But they are not from the emperor's seeds . . .

Narrator 1: Jun watches his pot.

(Jun's father pours water into the pot.)

Jun: That's good soil and water, Father.

(Jun looks sadly at his empty pot.)

Jun: Look, no leaves.

Jun's father: Don't worry.

Narrator 2: After one year, the boys carry their pots to the palace. Jun goes with his empty pot.

the emperor: I like this empty pot.

the people: Why?

the emperor: Well, my seeds are old and bad. You CAN'T grow them.

(The emperor is very happy.)

the emperor: Well done, Jun. You're a good boy—and you are the new emperor!

