

Name _____

The Boy Who Drew Cats

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Taro's passion for drawing cats in the story serves as a symbol of his unique talent and dedication. Initially perceived as an unusual interest, it ultimately becomes a source of strength and protection when he uses his artwork to banish the monstrous cat yokai. This emphasizes the idea that individual talents, no matter how unusual, can be harnessed for a greater purpose.
2. "The Boy Who Drew Cats" highlights the theme of the power of art and creativity. Taro's artistic talent not only allowed him to confront the yokai but also to banish it. This underscores the notion that art has the potential to influence and shape the world in unexpected ways, beyond its aesthetic value.
3. Taro exhibits character traits such as bravery, determination, and quick thinking during his confrontation with the monstrous cat yokai. His courage to face the threat head-on, along with his clever use of art, demonstrates his resilience and resourcefulness in the face of danger.
4. The folklore tale teaches us to embrace our unique talents and use them for a greater purpose. Taro's story encourages individuals to believe in themselves and their abilities, even if those talents may seem unconventional. It also emphasizes the importance of creativity, determination, and thinking outside the box when facing challenges.

