Instructions
You are going to read this story titled Only an Empty Pot out loud. This story is about a boy named Ping who had trouble growing a flower for the emperor (turn the reading passage over, face down). Try to read each word. You can use your finger to keep your place. If you come to a word you don’t know, I’ll tell it to you. You will read for one minute. Be sure to do your best reading. Are there any questions? (turn the passage right-side up). Put your finger on the first word. Begin.

Only an Empty Pot

Ping was very worried. He put new soil into a bigger pot. 11
Then he transferred the seed into the rich black soil. 21
Another two months he waited. Still nothing happened. 29
By and by the whole year passed. 36
Spring came, and all the children put on their best clothes to greet the Emperor. 50
They rushed to the palace with their beautiful flowers, eagerly hoping to be chosen. 62
Ping was ashamed of his empty pot. He thought the other children would laugh at him because for once he couldn't get a flower to grow. 76
His clever friend ran by, holding a great big plant. "Ping!" he said. "You're not really going to the Emperor with an empty pot, are you? Couldn't you grow a great big flower like mine?"
"I've grown lots of flowers better than yours," Ping said. "It's just this seed that won't grow."

Ping's father overheard this and said, "You did your best, and your best is good enough to present to the Emperor." 157