

Buddhas, Bodhisattvas and Teachers

Learn together, one small step.



Look closely

Is everyone who teaches us a Buddha or bodhisattva?



Story 1 / 3



Xiaohe opens a picture book and sees a Buddha seated beneath a tree. "Is he a teacher?" Mum says, "Shakyamuni Buddha taught about suffering and the way beyond it. In Buddhism, a Buddha is fully awakened. That means more than knowing many facts."

Pause and ask: Is awakening the same as knowing many facts?

Story 2 / 3



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All Illustration

“What about a bodhisattva?” Xiaohe asks. Mum shows a card of helping hands. “In Mahayana Buddhism, a bodhisattva develops bodhichitta: the aim to become a Buddha for all beings. We can learn from that generous direction without rushing to give ourselves a title.”

Pause and ask: Whom does the bodhisattva aim include?

Story 3 / 3



At school, Xiaohe asks her teacher about a problem. “Let us look again,” the teacher says. Xiaohe learns that respect leaves room for questions. A teacher helps us learn; clothes or titles alone cannot show that someone is awakened. She draws a question mark in her notebook.

Pause and ask: Can respect include questions?

A Buddhist idea

Listen and ask,
so understanding can grow.



Talk together

How could you ask about a word you do not understand?

What does a teacher show by saying, "Let us check" ?



Try an activity

Make three word cards and draw a question.



For grown-ups

Read aloud, discuss and try a small activity.

Stories and exercises: BlessFu

Illustrations: AI-assisted

Full references and guidance are in the companion booklet.

