



Title: Food or Friend?

Author: Rebel Challenger

Illustrator: Rebel Challenger

Publisher: Larrikin House

Target Age Group: 3-8 years

Key Curriculum Areas: English, The Arts, STEAM and Technologies.

SYNOPSIS

Did you know that there are berries that are named after a Goose?
Or Crabs named after apples and Pumpkin Spiders running loose?
Inside you'll find some Foodie Friends but be careful what you eat.
Whilst all of them have funny names, they're not a yummy treat!

THEMES

Nature, Food, Animals and Creatures, Word Play, Visual Arts.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR

Rebel is an artist and wildlife carer who lives on a leafy acreage property surrounded by chickens and ducks. As a working art director and graphic designer (and with a science degree from that time she dreamed of being a park ranger) Rebel uses none of these skills when drawing. Instead, most of her artwork is inspired by the animals she cares for, the ones who visit her backyard and animals throughout the world she would love to meet one day.





ACTIVITIES

BEFORE READING

Questions to ask:

1. What do you think this story might be about?
2. Can you point out the following features of the book?
(Spine, title, illustration, front page, back page, blurb, end papers).



DURING READING

Clap the blurb - On the back page, students clap their hands along to the beat of the rhyming words. (ACELT1585)

Recognising Word Play - Ask students to put up their hand when they notice some similar words on a selected page. (ACELA1439) (ACELT1585)

Recognising visual literacy - Ask students to put up their hand when they notice something interesting about how the illustrations help to tell the story. (ACELA1439) (ACELT1585)

Questions to ask:

1. What do you think this book is about?
2. Have you learnt anything new after reading this book?
3. Have you tried any of the foods in the book?
4. What do you like about the illustrations in the book?
5. Can you make any connections to the story so far?
(ACELT1575) (ACELY1646) (ACELT1582) (ACPPS020) (ACPPS004)

AFTER READING

Questions to ask:

1. What did you enjoy most about the book?
2. Who was your favourite Foodie Friend? Why?
3. Would you like to try some of the foods in the book?
(ACELY1646) (ACELT1581)



SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES:

1. Cloze passages: Choose a section of text and omit words. Students to fill in the blanks.

Curriculum Links: (ACELA1435) (ACELA1434) (ACELA1786) (ACELY1650) (ACELA1447) (ACELA1448)

2. Character Profile: Students draw the characters in the story and write their name underneath each picture.

Curriculum Links: (ACELT1783) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACAVAM108) (ACTDEP007) (ACELA1586)

3. Word Search: Create a word search using words from the text.

Curriculum links: (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACELY1663) (ACELA1586) (ACTDEP007) (ACELY1653)

4. Retell Activities:

a. Create a table with the following headings: Setting (Where?) - Characters (Who?) - Problem (What?) - 1. In the beginning - 2. Next - 3. Then - 4. Finally - 5. Solution - 6. Lastly. Ask students to write or draw the order of events in the story.

b. Write short sentences which retell the story and jumble them up. Ask students to put them in the correct order.

Curriculum Links: (ACELT1578) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACELY1663) (ACELA1586) (ACTDEP007)

5. Acrostic Poem: Students choose a character from the story and write an acrostic poem.

Curriculum Links: (ACELY1651) (ACAMAM056)

6. Write a Blurb: Explore the existing blurb on the back cover. Explain the purpose of the blurb to the students and ask them to create their own blurb.

Curriculum Links: (ACELY1651) (ACELA1586)

7. Colouring Pages: Design your own Mandarin Duck, Dragon or Crab.

Curriculum Links: (ACTDEK004) (ACAVAM108)

8. Research Task: Using the glossary at the back of the book, research one of the 'Foods' or 'Friends'. Cards can be laminated and used for a speaking task or students could make posters or simple websites (using Google Sites or similar) looking at both the 'Friend' and the 'Food' exploring these in further detail. Students may then present their findings to the class.

Curriculum Links: (ACELT1578) (ACELT1580) (ACELT1831) (ACELY1651) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACTDEP007) (ACTDEK004) (ACHASSI001) (ACHASSI002) (ACELT1581) (ACELT1582) (ACHASSI001) (ACHASSI002) (ACHASSI003)

9. Market Visit: Take the students on an excursion to the local fresh food markets or local greengrocer to find some of the foods from the book. Students could write a reading response on their return to school.

Curriculum Links: (ACTDEK003) (ACPPS018) (ACSSU002) (ACSSU017) (ACELT1575) (ACPPS003) (ACELY1663) (ACAMAM054) (ACPPS021)

10. Food or Friend Taste Test: Sample a selection of foods from the story and give each of them a score.

Curriculum Links: (ACSHE013) (AC SIS011) (AC SIS012)



FURTHER INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

Rebel Challenger Links:

www.instagram.com/rebelchallenger

To find out about Rebel's animal conservation work and wild life care:

<https://livingwithkoalas.com.au/portfolio-item/challenger-rebel/>

Fresh Food Market Resources:

<https://www.brisbanecitymarkets.com.au/>

<https://brisbanemarkets.com.au/>

<https://perthmarket.com.au/>

<https://www.sydneymarkets.com.au/>

<https://www.belconnenmarkets.com.au/>

<https://www.fyshwickmarkets.com.au/>

<http://www.marketfresh.com.au/marketfresh-schools/>

<https://melbournemarkets.com.au/>

<https://rapidcreekmarkets.com.au/>

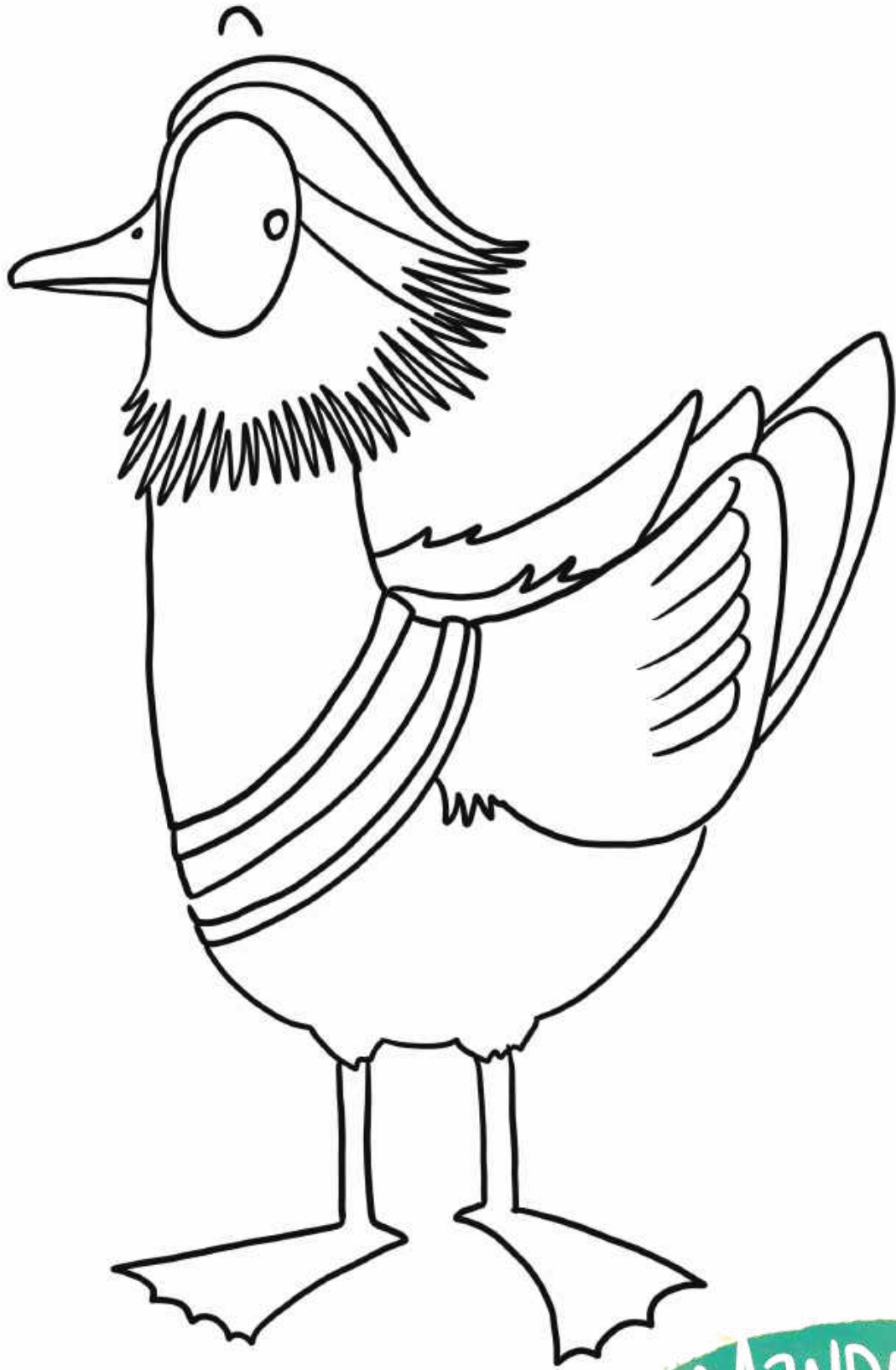


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Stories with Humour & Heart

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MANDARIN
DUCK



FOOD OR FRIEND?

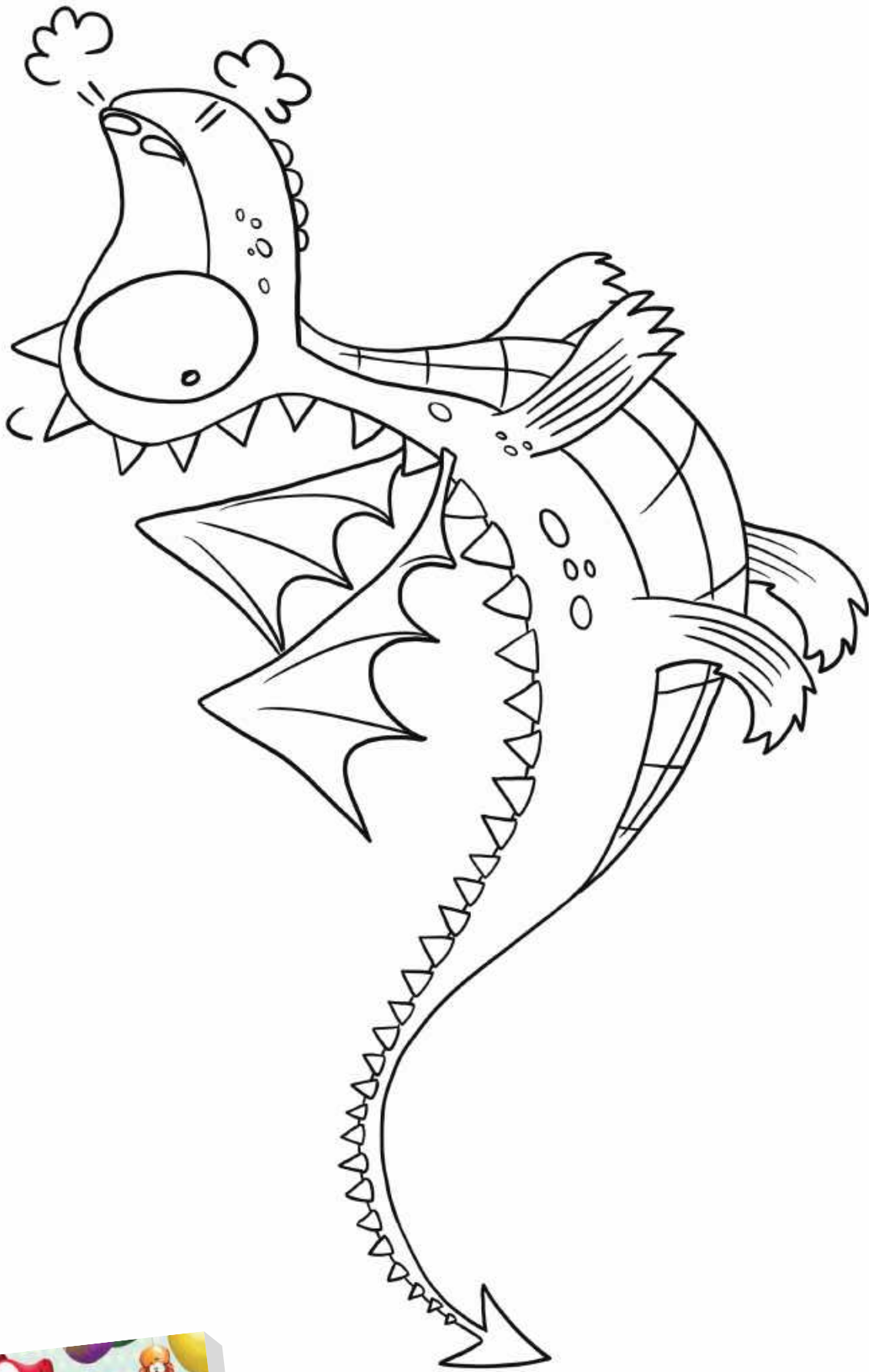
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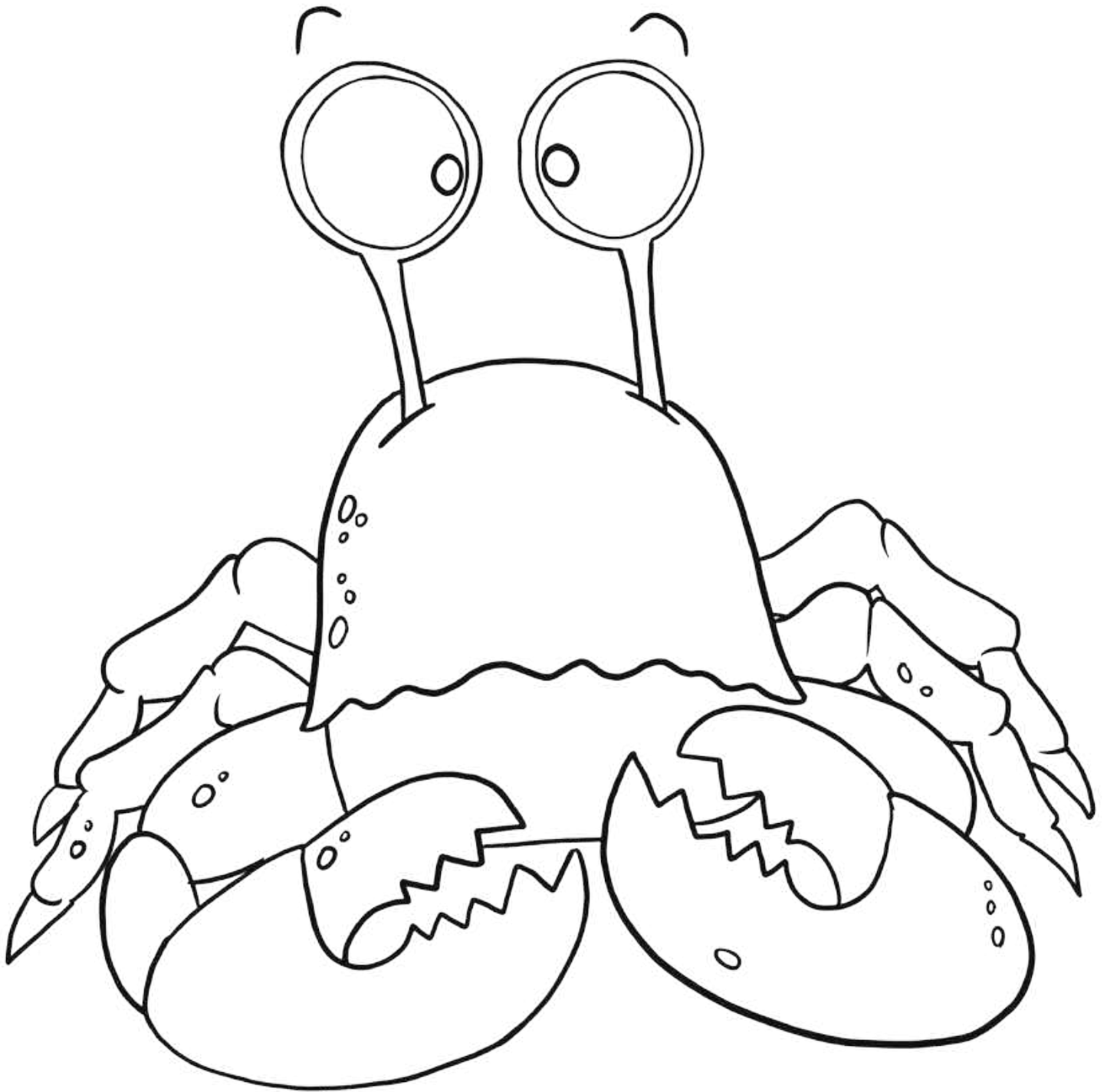


DRAGON



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CRAB



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Foodie Friends Cards

Cut out each 'Friend' and laminate. Use for research or a game of Snap!

OUR FOODIE FRIENDS

JELLYFISH

These colourful marine animals are common throughout the world, often forming large groups known as blooms. Like the jelly you eat, jellyfish are wobbly, blobby-looking creatures. However, they also have long tentacles that when touched, can shoot out millions of tiny poisonous darts known as nematocytes, which can really leave a sting.



DRAGON FRUIT

Does a dragon fruit look like a dragon or does a dragon look like a dragon fruit? Either way, with their colourful skin covered in scaly spikes, these fruits of various cactus species from Central America look as enchanting as the magical flying dragons you read about in fairy tales.



CABBAGE BUTTERFLY

Also known as a cabbage moth. They don't look like cabbages, so why the name? The cabbage butterfly lays its eggs on cabbage leaves and other vegetables. When the eggs hatch, hungry cabbage worms can quickly munch their way through an entire vegetable garden.



OLIVE PYTHON

The non-venomous olive python is among Australia's largest snakes. It is found in warm, rocky areas near water and can reach over four metres in length. This giant reptile ranges in colour from beige, to brown to the olive green it is named after.



GOOSEBERRY

The gooseberry is a small fruit. The goose is a large bird. They only seem to have their name in common. Some believe the 'goose' in gooseberry comes from old German, French or English words that changed over time to the current name.



TOMATO FROG

Hop over to Madagascar, east of Africa, to find the endangered tomato frog. These nocturnal amphibians range in colour from yellow through to red. If a tomato frog feels threatened, it will puff itself up to appear bigger... making it look a lot like a tomato.



PINEAPPLEFISH

Take a dip in Australia's coastal waters and you might see a pineapplefish. That is, if you swim at night. These small nocturnal fish hide during the day and move around after dark. With yellow scales and backward-pointing spines, it is easy to see how this fish got its name. It looks like a pineapple with eyes!



MANDARIN DUCK

No resemblance to the mandarin fruit. A more likely explanation for the name is that the colourful plumage of the male mandarin duck from East Asia reminded people of the ceremonial robes worn by important officials, known as Mandarin, in Chinese history.



PUMPKIN SPIDER

Once you see the female pumpkin spider, it's obvious where the name comes from. Her large orange abdomen looks like a miniature pumpkin! Pumpkin spiders are master web weavers, found mostly in parts of the Northern Hemisphere including Canada and Europe.



HONEY BADGER

Tough. Strong. Fierce. Honey badgers are not known for being sweet. But their taste buds are. They eat insects, small animals and fruits, but their favourite treat is honey. Honey badgers are found in Africa, Asia and parts of India.



FIGBIRD

A medium-sized bird, with subspecies found in northern Australia and New Guinea. They don't look like figs, but they sure do like to eat them! Figbirds are mostly frugivorous (fruit-eating) but also eat insects. They live in open wooded areas and often like to visit suburban backyards.



CRABAPPLE

A crab is a crustacean, a crabapple is a fruit. They have little in common except their name. Crabs are found in water and on land. Many walk sideways and are great to watch. Crabapples look like tiny apples and can taste sour... so maybe if you eat a raw one you might feel a bit crabby?



ICE CREAM CONE WORM

In shallow marine waters around the world, ice cream cone worms spend their time building shells to call home. The tiny shells are made of single grains of sand and other marine matter stuck together to create long tubes that end up looking just like miniature ice cream cones!



KIWIFRUIT

Kiwifruits are native to China and are also known as Chinese gooseberries. A long way away in New Zealand, the kiwi bird is unrelated. But you wouldn't think so. The flightless birds have brown, bristly, hair-like feathers & round bodies... a lot like kiwifruits!



LEMON SHARK

We all know lemons can be sour so does that mean the lemon shark is too? Not at all. Lemon sharks are found in shallow subtropical waters and they must be fairly friendly because they often hang around in groups. Their name comes from subtle lemon-yellow colouring which is most obvious on their backs.



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Food or Friend Taste Test



Food (Write or draw)	Taste (Circle)	Result (Colour or circle)	Result (Colour or circle)	Result (Colour or circle)
	Juicy Sweet Sour Bitter			
	Juicy Sweet Sour Bitter			
	Juicy Sweet Sour Bitter			
	Juicy Sweet Sour Bitter			

Which food was your favourite? Which was your least favourite?



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