

Dinosaur Fact File

Dinosaurs come in a wide variety of different shapes and sizes and lived on earth some 65-230 million years ago.

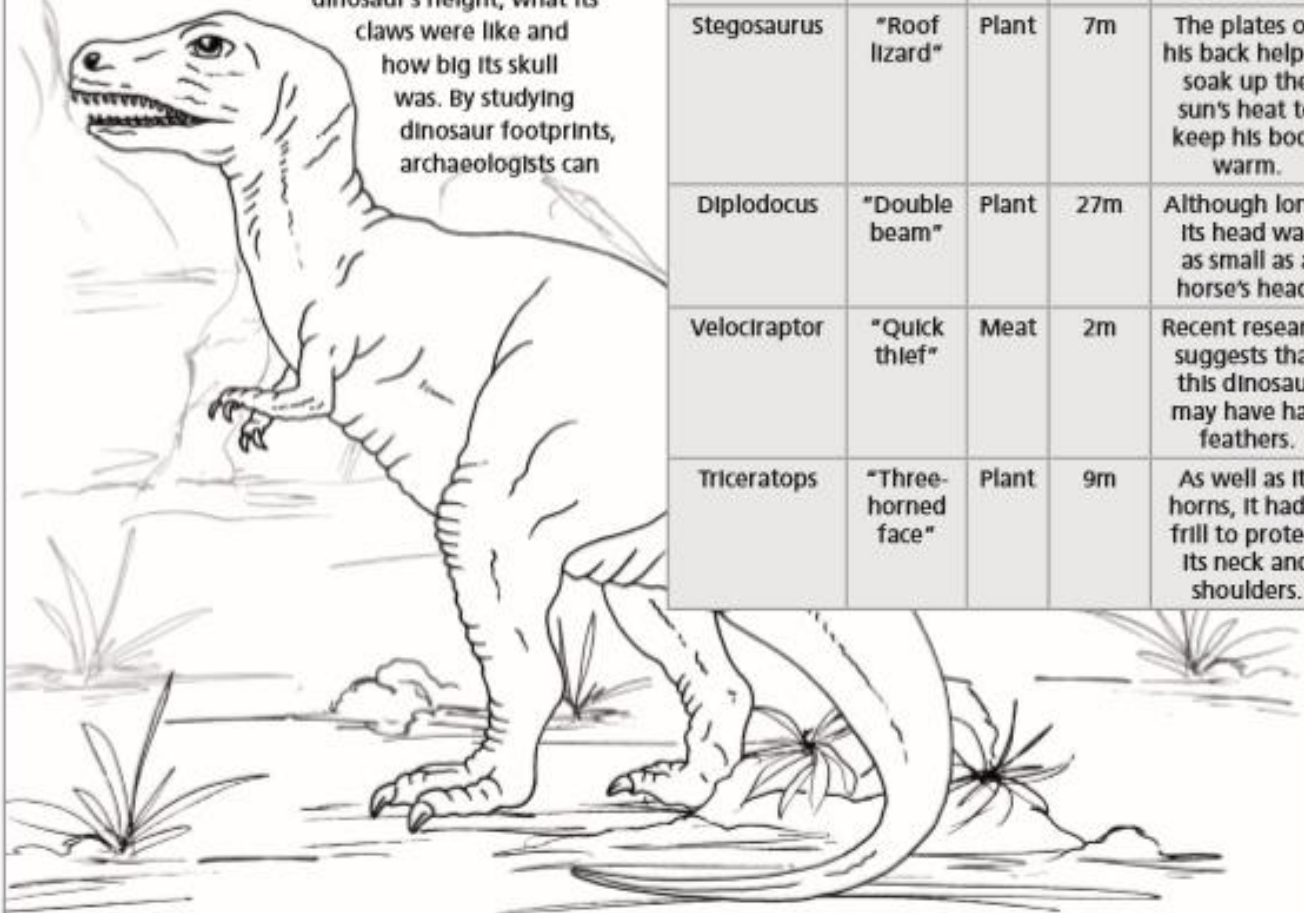
Approximately 300 different kinds of dinosaur have been identified and new ones are being discovered around the world all the time. Interestingly, the very first whole dinosaur skeleton ever to be found was an Ichthyosaurus – a dolphin-like creature with acute eyesight for hunting the fish it liked to prey on. What's more, it was unearthed in our own back yard (at the foot of coastal cliffs in Dorset, southern England) by 12-year-old Mary Anning and her 16-year-old brother Joseph in 1810.

Archaeologists have discovered an enormous amount about dinosaurs through the study of their fossilised remains. These fossils, preserved in sandstone, clay, limestone or shale rocks, can tell us many things. Studying fossilised bones, for example, can tell us a dinosaur's height, what its claws were like and how big its skull was. By studying dinosaur footprints, archaeologists can

work out how heavy different dinosaurs were and how fast they travelled. Even fossilised dinosaur droppings are helpful! The pieces of food left inside tell us what different dinosaurs ate. Some even ate small 'gizzard' stones to help grind down tough plant food in their stomach.

However, we do not know what colour dinosaurs were because fossilised skin can only show us that they were scaly, similar to present-day lizards, snakes and crocodiles. In fact, the word 'dinosaur' actually means 'terrible lizard' ('deinos' = terrible + 'sauros' = lizard).

Name	Meaning	Diet	Length (metres)	Fascinating Fact
Tyrannosaurus Rex (T - Rex)	"Tyrant lizard"	Meat	14m	T-Rex was huge! Its teeth were 18cm long and its lungs were the size of a car.
Stegosaurus	"Roof lizard"	Plant	7m	The plates on his back helped soak up the sun's heat to keep his body warm.
Diplodocus	"Double beam"	Plant	27m	Although long, its head was as small as a horse's head.
Velociraptor	"Quick thief"	Meat	2m	Recent research suggests that this dinosaur may have had feathers.
Triceratops	"Three-horned face"	Plant	9m	As well as its horns, it had a frill to protect its neck and shoulders.



Dinosaur Facts

Non-fiction

Literal

Warm up Questions:

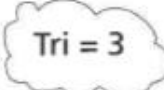
- In what type of book would you find this information?
A story book, a science book or an encyclopaedia? (encyclopaedia)
- Is this book fiction or non-fiction? (non-fiction)
- What is the special name for a person who studies the ancient past?
(archaeologist)
- How long ago did dinosaurs live?
(65 - 230 million years ago)
- How many different dinosaurs have been discovered? (around 300)

Main Questions:

1. Where and when was the first whole dinosaur skeleton found? (Dorset, 1810)
2. Highlight two words or phrases in paragraph two that can also mean 'found'.
(‘discovered’, ‘unearthed’. 1b - ‘dug up’, ‘spotted’)
3. Where are fossils usually found?
In soil? In water? In rocks? In sand? (in rocks)
4. What can scientists learn by studying fossilised dinosaur poo?
(bits of food tell them what dinosaurs ate)
5. How long was Diplodocus? (27 metres)
6. Was Tyrannosaurus a plant or meat eater? (meat)
7. Why did the Stegosaurus have plates on its back?
(to keep its body warm)
8. How many horns did Triceratops have? (three)

Essential Vocabulary:

- What does the word ‘dinosaur’ mean?
(terrible lizard)

■  Tri = 3

- Draw a Triceratops.
How do you think it got its name?

- Draw the following words.
a triangle a set of triplets
a tripod a tricycle

- What do you notice about these words?
What do they mean?

- A ‘tyrant’ is a cruel king. How would he act?
Show your teacher.

- Do you think T-Rex’s name suits him?
Yes or no? Why?

Evaluative Questions:

- What is this page about?
(a) The history of dinosaurs?
(b) How we learn about dinosaurs?
(c) What dinosaurs looked like?
- Do you think boys or girls would enjoy this page? Why?
- Is the title interesting or boring? What title would you give it? Why?
- Do you think the chart at the bottom of the text is useful? How?

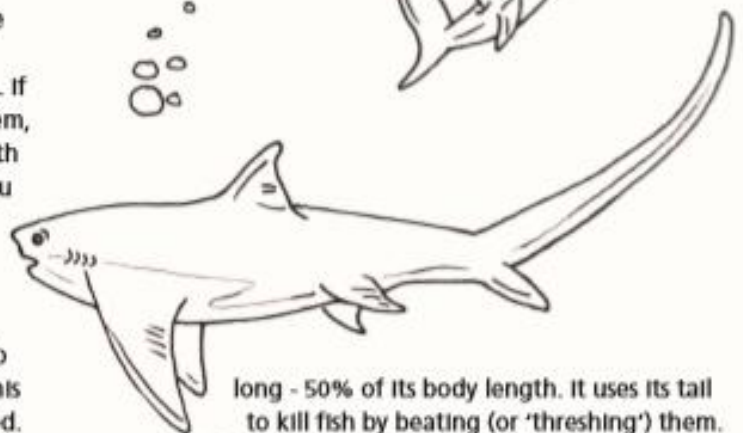
Shark Attack!



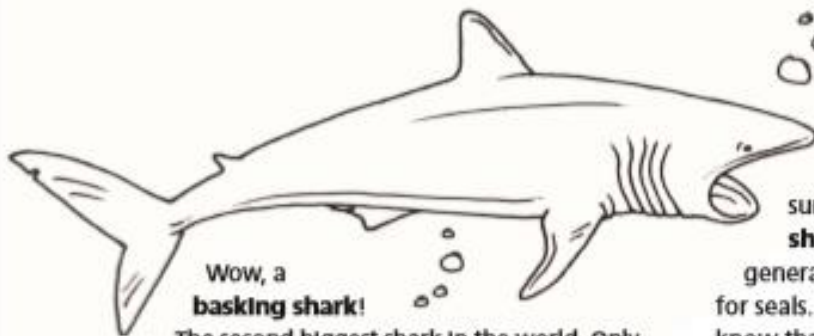
Hi there! My name's Paul Neary and I welcome you aboard my scientific shark expedition. Are you feeling nervous? Don't be! It's rare that sharks actually attack humans. Usually there are less than 100 reported cases worldwide each year, and fewer than 20 people die as a consequence. In fact, you're more likely to be killed by a hippo, crocodile or even lightning than by a shark.

As a marine biologist, I try to learn more about life in the oceans so that we can protect endangered species such as the basking and great white sharks. If people could learn to love sharks and not hunt them, then shark fin soup, sharkskin shoes and shark teeth jewellery would become things of the past. Did you know that over 50 of the 400 species of shark are endangered? Terrible isn't it? And they call sharks 'the hunters of the sea'!

Anyway, it's time we dived into this watery deep to see what we can find. But remember, stay close. This is, after all, their home and we haven't been invited.



long - 50% of its body length. It uses its tail to kill fish by beating (or 'threshing') them. So you can see where it got its name. It's probably one of the cleverest sharks. Both the Greeks and the Romans called it the fox shark because it's so cunning.



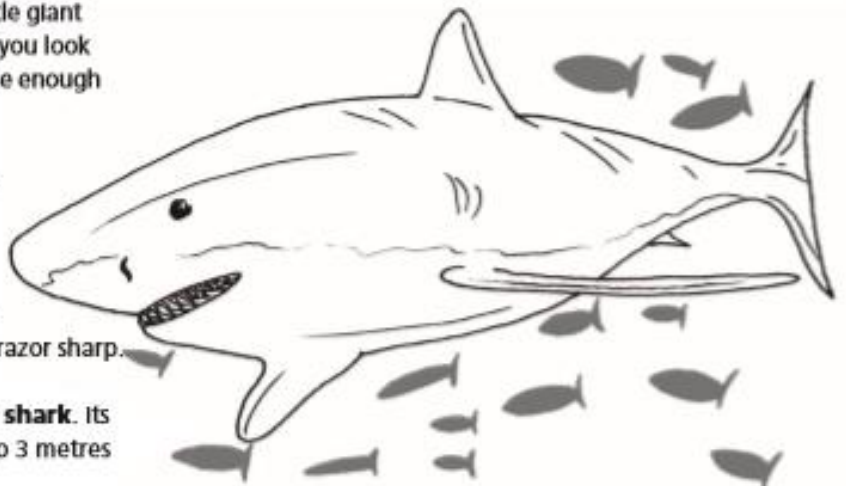
Wow, a **basking shark**!

The second biggest shark in the world. Only the **whale shark** can beat it. An adult can be 9 metres long. But don't worry; this gentle giant eats krill (like tiny prawns) and plankton. If you look carefully you will notice it doesn't have large enough teeth for biting or chewing.

And this odd-looking shark here is called a **hammerhead**. Can't think why. It can reach up to 6 metres long and usually swims in groups. It likes to eat squid, octopus and even crabs. I think we're safe but like most sharks, its saw-like teeth are razor sharp.

That shark over there is called a **thresher shark**. Its tail is really long, isn't it? It can grow up to 3 metres

Be careful of the shark down there. I'm sure you already know that the **great white shark** has been known to attack humans. They generally attack surfers because they mistake them for seals. Their poor eyesight doesn't help! Did you know that if kept in captivity, these beautiful creatures often live for only a few days? What does that tell you?



Shark Attack!

Non-fiction

Literal

Warm up Questions:

Read Paragraph 1

- What is the scientist's name? (Paul Neary)
- Where is he taking you? (on a scientific expedition)
- What are you looking for? (sharks)

Read Paragraph 2

- What is the special name for a scientist who looks at wildlife in the sea? (marine biologist)

Main Questions:

1. What is the name of the world's biggest shark? (whale shark)
2. How long can a thresher shark grow to? (6 metres)
3. Give one reason why great whites sometimes attack humans. (they mistake them for seals, poor eye sight)
4. Fill in the table below:

Shark	Food	Dangerous?
Basking		
Hammerhead		
Thresher		
Great White		

5. How many sharks are endangered? (over 50)
6. Name two sharks that are endangered. (basking, great white)
7. List three reasons why sharks are hunted. (for food, clothing, jewellery)
8. Who does Paul think are the real 'hunters of the sea'? (humans)

Essential Vocabulary

- Find a word or phrase in the introduction that means the following:

Paragraph 1

- a journey to find something out ('expedition')

Paragraph 2

- keep from harm ('protect')

Paragraph 2&3

- seas ('oceans'; 'watery deep')

- Highlight the word 'endangered' and circle the smaller word you can see in the middle ('danger'). What do you think 'endangered' means?
- Draw a Hammerhead shark. How did it get its name?
- What word does Paul use to describe the great white's eyesight? ('poor')
- Does this mean the shark can see well or not? (not well)
- Why do you think the shark names are written in bold?
- Did this make it quicker or slower to find your answers?

Evaluative Questions:

- Do you think 'Shark Attack' is a good title? Explain your reasons. Can you suggest a better title?
- What type of person do you think Paul is? Why?
- Imagine you are Paul. What might you say to someone hunting a shark?
- What do you think Paul would like to see happening to sharks in the future?

August 12th 1665

It's been four long months since this horrendous plague began stalking the streets of London. Four months since it first murdered Margaret Pontoous. How dare we think that God would only punish the poor of St. Giles? This very day Death creeps around the cobbled streets of this fine city touching us all. 7,000 a week are now dying. So many red crosses on doors! Death has blood on his hands.

An overwhelming, eerie silence hangs in the air tonight. The shops and the schools are all empty. Only the brave and the foolish risk going to church. People don't laugh anymore. Everyone is afraid. The children have even stopped singing that wretched poem:

A ring a ring a roses
A pocket full of posies
A-tishoo, a-tishoo
We all fall down.

All I hear now are the cries of 'bring out your dead' and the black rats scurrying from house to house. Oh how they have multiplied since we began killing the cats and dogs, 40,000 in total! And yet the plague continues his deadly wandering.

The stench that surrounds us is sickening. There is no escape. The gravediggers work night and day. The streets that were once filled with rotting food are now full of rotting flesh.

I haven't heard from my wife in several days. I pray the country air is safe and wish her well. Is it any wonder I feel so lonely? A prisoner in my own home! Even King Charles II has fled by horse and carriage to Salisbury.

When will this torment end?

May God have mercy on each and every one of us.

Samuel Pepys



The Black Death

Narrative

Literal

Warm up Questions:

- When was the text written? (August 12th 1665)
- Who wrote it? (Samuel Pepys)
- Where in Britain was it written? (London)
- What type of text is this? (diary) How do you know?

Main Questions:

1. In which month did the plague begin? (May)
2. Who was the first person to die? (Margaret Pondeous)
3. In which part of London did she live? (St. Giles)
4. What was another name for the plague? (Black Death)
5. Who do you think used to shout out 'bring out your dead'? (the gravediggers)
6. What did they paint on the doors of the houses that had people with the plague? (red crosses)
7. Why do you think the crosses were red?
8. Other than the date what else tells us that this event did not happen in modern times? ('cobbled streets', 'King Charles II', 'horse and carriage')
9. Was London noisy or quiet during this time? Why?
10. What do you think brought the rats to London?

Essential Vocabulary:

- How would somebody 'creep' and 'wander' around the streets of London?
Show your teacher. Are these fast or slow words?
- Who is creeping and wandering? (Death)
- In contrast, a fast word is used to describe how the rats moved. Find it in the text. ('scurrying')
- There is another fast word used that tells us how the king left London. Can you find it? ('fled')
- Highlight the word 'sickening'. Circle the first part of the word. What do you think 'sickening' means?
- What do you think 'eerie' means? Peaceful or Scary?
- Do you think 'eerie' is a positive or negative word?

Evaluative Questions:

- Choose from this list of words to describe the atmosphere in London at that time: calm, fearful, depressing, lively, dark, hopeful, sad, frightening, happy
- How do you think Samuel Pepys would describe death? Like a policeman? Like a thief? Like a rat? Draw your answer. Why do you think this?
- Why do you think Samuel Pepys stayed in London while he sent his wife to the countryside? Was this a good idea?
- How would you have felt if you had to stay in London at this time?

JAPAN

Made up of four main islands and a multitude of smaller ones, Japan is a truly fascinating country. From busy modern industrial cities to ancient Buddhist temples, there is something for everyone. So why not take a look around and discover a country full of culture, history and excitement!

General

- Japan is in Asia, which is in the East. The sun rises in the east in our country.
- The Japanese call their country 'Nippon', which translates as 'land of the rising sun' in English.
- The red circle in the Japanese flag represents the sun. They call their flag 'Hinomaru'.

Food

- Fish and rice are the two most important foods in Japan.
- The Japanese also eat a large amount of noodles and use chopsticks, rather than a knife and fork.
- Sushi is made from raw fish, vegetables or seaweed. It has become a very popular dish outside Japan too because it is very tasty and healthy.

Money

- The currency in Japan is the yen.
- Japan is one of the richest countries in the world and is famous for producing cars, cameras and computers.

Landscape

- The highest mountain in Japan is Mount Fuji (3776 metres). It is a sleeping volcano that hasn't erupted for nearly 300 years.
- Japan has nearly 1000 small earthquakes every year. In 1995 a quake hit the town of Kobe, killing over 6000 people.

Sport

- Japanese sports include judo, karate and sumo wrestling.
- They also participate in western sports such as baseball and football. In fact, in 2002 Japan hosted the World Cup with its neighbour, South Korea.

Language

- The main language is Japanese. Some Japanese words you may be familiar with are karaoke, bonsai and satsuma.



Japan

Non-fiction

Literal

Warm up Questions:

- What country are we going to learn about? (Japan)
- What do we call people who are born in Japan? (Japanese)
- Draw the Japanese flag. What does the red circle represent? (the sun)
- How many large islands make up Japan? 2, 3, 4 or 5? (4)

Main Questions:

1. What is the capital of Japan? (Tokyo)
2. In what part of the world is Japan? (Asia)
3. Draw three important foods. (fish, rice, noodles)
4. Which religion is important in Japan? (Buddhism)
5. Draw three things Japan makes and sells. (cars, computers, cameras)
6. Is South Korea close to Japan? (yes) How do you know? (in the sport section it says it is Japan's neighbour)
7. What do Japanese children eat with? (chopsticks)
8. How tall is Mount Fuji? (3776 metres)
What type of mountain is it? (sleeping volcano)
9. When did Japan host the World Cup? (2002)
10. Pretend you are playing three sports played in Japan. (judo, karate, sumo wrestling, baseball, football)
11. What is Sushi made from? (raw fish, vegetables, seaweed)
12. What do the Japanese call Japan? (Nippon)

Essential Vocabulary:

- How many small islands make up Japan?
a couple? some? a lot? (a lot)
- Circle the word that tells you this.
(‘crowd’, ‘lots’, ‘multitude’)
- The money people use in Japan is the yen.
Find a word that means ‘money’ (‘currency’)
- Find five Japanese words that we use in English.
(‘bonsai’, ‘karaoke’, ‘satsuma’, ‘sushi’, ‘karate’)
Why do you think we use these words?
- What do you think a ‘sleeping’ volcano is? (one that hasn’t erupted for a long time but may do one day)
- Draw a picture of a volcano that has ‘woken up’.

Evaluative Questions:

- Who do you think would read this page? a Japanese adult? an English adult? a Japanese child? an English child?
Why do you think this?
- Why do you think this page has been written? To make us laugh? To educate and inform us? To scare us?
- Do you think the tone of this page is friendly or unfriendly?
- What helped you find your answers quickly?
- Do you think it is important to learn about other countries? Why?

Twinkl's Fairy Cakes



For a magical treat why not have a go at baking some pretty little fairy cakes? This uncomplicated recipe will make 12 scrumptious cakes. And for that extra sparkle, why not decorate them yourself using chocolate drops, glacé cherries or fresh fruit?

Ingredients:

90g self-raising flour
90g caster sugar
90g soft margarine
2 medium eggs
1/2 tsp vanilla essence

For the Icing:

175g icing sugar
1 1/2 tbsp warm water

Also needed:

12 cup shallow bun tray
paper cake cases
sieve
large bowl
teaspoon
wire rack

1. Preheat the oven to 190°C, 375°F or gas mark 5. Place a paper case into each hollow of the bun tray. Using a sieve, sift the flour into a large bowl. Add the margarine, sugar and vanilla.
2. Break the eggs, one at a time, into a cup then add them to the bowl. Stir thoroughly with a wooden spoon until the mixture is smooth and creamy.
3. Using a teaspoon, transfer some of the mixture into each paper case, filling just over half way to avoid overspill during cooking.
Warning: until cooked, this mixture contains raw egg which can cause stomach upsets if eaten.
4. Carefully place the tray in the oven for approximately 15 minutes. Be sure to wear oven gloves or get an adult to assist you.
Remember: ovens can get extremely hot.
5. When your cakes are firm and golden, remove them from the oven. Leave the tray to stand for a few minutes. When safe, take the cakes out of the tray and place them on a wire rack to cool.
6. While your cakes are cooling, you can make the icing. Sift the icing sugar into a clean bowl and gently stir in the warm water until you have a smooth paste. You are now ready to decorate your fairy cakes.

Chef's tip

Dip a blunt knife into warm water when icing the cakes - this will stop it from being sticky.

For a gorgeous gift, place your cakes in a pretty box.

Twinkle's Fairy Cakes

Non-fiction

Literal

Warm up Questions:

- What type of book would you find this page in? (recipe)
- What does the recipe make? (fairy cakes)
- Write a shopping list of ingredients required. (self-raising flour, caster sugar, margarine, eggs, vanilla essence, icing sugar. Optional: things to decorate such as chocolate drops, cherries, fruit)
- How many cakes will this recipe make? (12)

Main Questions:

1. Make a list of the equipment needed.
(12 cup bun tray, paper cake cases, sieve, large bowl, cup, wooden spoon, teaspoon, tablespoon, oven gloves, wire rack, blunt knife)
2. How hot must the oven be? (190°C, 375°F or gas mark 5)
Why are three temperatures given? (to account for different oven types)
3. Is the writer safety conscious? Yes or no? (yes)
How do you know? (warnings are given about eating raw eggs, blunt knife, warm water and hot ovens)
4. How long must the tray be left to stand before handling the cakes? Less than 1 minute? 2-3 minutes? Over 5 minutes? (2-3)
5. Why break the eggs into a cup before adding them to the mixture? (to check the eggs are fresh and to prevent egg shells getting into the mixture)
6. Draw a bun case. Show how much mixture should be put into each case. (half way up the case)
7. How does the chef suggest making these cakes into a present? (putting them in a pretty box)

Essential Vocabulary:

- How long do you cook the cakes for?
Exactly 15 minutes? Around 15 minutes?
(around 15 minutes)
- Circle the word that tells you this.
(‘approximately’ or ‘about’)
- Find a word that means not cooked. (‘raw’)
- How do cookery writers shorten the words teaspoon and tablespoon? (‘tsp’, ‘tbsp’)
- Which spoon is the largest? (tablespoon)
- Why do you think the words ‘warning’ and ‘remember’ are in bold? (so they stand out to make sure the reader reads them)
- Suggest a word for how you would eat these cakes.
Show your teacher how you would eat them.

Evaluative Questions:

- Why do you think they are called ‘fairy’ cakes? How does the writer develop this idea?
(a) with the choice of title (b) in the introduction
- Do you think this recipe is for boys or girls? Why?
- Do you think the writer is male or female? Why?
- Do you think the layout of the page will make it easier or more difficult to follow the recipe? Give reasons for your answer.



How the sea became salty

Long, long ago, in a distant land, there lived two impoverished brothers. Both earned their living as fishermen – catching just enough fish to sell by night and selling just enough to live on by day.

Living as they did in a rickety old house, you would think the two brothers were miserable, but you would be wrong. They were very carefree and content with life. They laughed and sang as they worked and had many close friends.

One day a mysterious man, with a weathered face and an unusually long wispy beard, hobbled into their village. On seeing the man in distress, the brothers at once decided to offer him a delicious hot meal and a comfortable place to rest his weary head for the night.

Grateful for their warm generosity, the following morning the mysterious man placed a small wooden bowl upon the table.

"Kindness repays kindness. Never again will you need salt to flavour your food, for this is a magical bowl. Simply say 'knee how, war der pongyow' and the bowl will begin to fill with salt. Say 'dzi jeen, war der pongyow' and it will cease."

Thankful for the present, the amazed brothers bid him a safe journey home and waved as he again hobbled down the road.

However, a seed of greed was soon planted in the hearts of the two brothers for the salt that they had begun selling to their friends had made them richer and richer and richer.

Anxious that the magical bowl would one day be stolen, the two brothers would sail into the ocean before whispering the moneymaking words into the bowl.

But this day was different. Despite a storm racing towards them, the two brothers set sail. Soon the angry storm toyed with them like a cat with a mouse, but still they took no notice. "Knee how, war der pongyow", whispered the brothers and the bowl began to fill. And as the bowl brimmed to the top, the brothers laughed and sang about what a wonderful life they had. Little did they notice that the storm had become furious and the boat was beginning to capsize. It wasn't long before it was too late. The boat, the bowl and the two brothers all sank to the bottom of the ocean, never to be seen again.

The storm calmed and the fierce winds became a gentle breeze. But neither brother got a chance to say 'dzi jeen, war der pongyow' and the bowl continues to overflow to this day.

And that is how the sea became salty.



How the sea became salty

Non-fiction

Deductive

Warm up Questions:

- Which country is this story from? (China)
- Where and when does the story take place?
- When did the two brothers go fishing? Day or night? (night)
- What material was the magical bowl made from? (wood)

Main Questions:

1. Give two pieces of evidence that the mysterious man was old ('weathered face', 'wispy beard', 'hobbled')
2. How do you know that the two brothers did not have a lot of money before they met the mysterious old man? (they were poor, lived in a rickety house)
3. Did the two brothers become rich quickly or over a long period of time? ('richer, richer and richer' implies it was over time)
4. Did the brothers say the magic words loudly or quietly? (quietly - whispered)
5. What does this tell us about their character? Were they Kind? Selfish? Greedy? Generous? (selfish, greedy)
6. Which of the other two words would best describe the brothers at the beginning of the story? (kind)
7. What did the brothers do to prove this? (offered the old man food and shelter)
8. Draw a picture of the storm 'toying with their boat like a cat with a mouse'. Do you think the storm was big or small? (big)
9. Was the storm a little dangerous, very dangerous or not dangerous at all? How do you know? (very dangerous - the storm had become furious)

Essential Vocabulary:

- Do you think the mysterious man walked quickly or slowly, with ease or with difficulty? Find a word to support your view. (with difficulty - 'hobbled')
- Show your teacher how you would hobble to your desk.
- Draw the picture that shows how the magic bowl 'brimmed to the top' with salt.



- Find a word that means 'very worried' ('anxious'). Show your teacher how somebody would look if they were anxious.
- Find a word that means 'very angry' ('furious'). Show your teacher how somebody would look if they were furious.

Evaluative Questions:

- What do you think the Chinese words mean? ('knee how, war der pongyow' means 'Hello my friend' in Mandarin. 'dzi jeen, war der pongyow' means 'Goodbye my friend' in Mandarin.)
- When you see foreign or unknown words, how do you work out how to say them?
- Do you think it's good to read stories from other countries? Why?
- What do you think the moral of this story is?