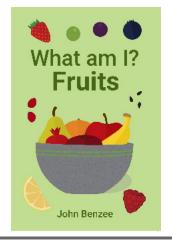
Teacher's Guide

What am I? Fruits

by John Benzee

A series of fifteen riddles give descriptions of various fruits and then reveal their names.



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johnbenzee.com

ABOUT THE BOOK

Can you guess what fruit I am? In this guessthe-fruit book, fifteen riddles about common fruits ask the question, "what am I?" Each rhythmic riddle first gives a detailed description of a fruit. On the following page, a colorful illustration provides the answer.

Kids will have fun trying to solve these riddles about fruits that they may encounter on their plate, in the grocery store, or in an orchard. A perfect companion to What am I? Vegetables.

THEMES

- Fruits

- Riddles/ rhymes

- Gardening

- Food supply

Agriculture/ Farming

- Plant diversity

SKILLS

- Nonfiction literature
- Subject/ object identification
- Vocabulary
- Rhyming
- Listening

BEFORE YOU READ

- Look at the cover: Can students identify any fruits?
- Discuss what a fruit may be. Can students name any fruits or describe them?
- Review themes.

AS YOU READ

- Read each riddle and have students guess the fruits. If they have trouble, re-read the riddle, emphasizing key words (ex. colors, location, size/ shape). You can also show them the illustration with the word covered up.
- After they have guessed, reveal the illustration. Point out specific visual cues that are specific to each fruits. Key words also play into the picture. (ex. <u>stem</u> on an apple, a <u>pit</u> in a peach, a banana <u>peel</u>)

AFTER YOU READ

- Review any fruits that were difficult or students have questions about.
- Ask students to name a fruit in the book. Can they describe it?
- Discuss what the book is about and how the art and words provide information.
- Review the discussion questions or continue to classroom activities.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What is your favorite fruit? Why?
- 2. Were any fruits not included in the book? Which ones?
- 3. Where do fruits grow? Which ones grow on trees, bushes, and vines?

- 4. Are certain colors or textures associated with certain fruits? Name some.
- 5. Fruits usually contain seeds. Why?
- 6. Are fruits eaten in different ways? How?
- 7. How do fruits grow? What do they need?
- 8. Can you name any words that rhyme? How about from the book?

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

- Ask students to draw a fruit. See if they can label the parts of a fruit.
- Have students create their own rhyme, focusing on words that rhyme.
- Have students can create their own "What am I?" riddle to share with the class.
- Using a map, point to places where fruits are commonly grown. Some fruits need hot weather to grow, while others don't.
- Bring in a few fruits for students to see, touch, and taste. Let them record their experiences.
- Have students compare fruits, noting their similarities and differences. Additionally, they can compare different varieties of the same fruit.
- Review and explain vocabulary.

VOCABULARY

<u>Fruit:</u> The edible part of a plant, containing seeds and flesh, that comes from a flower.

<u>Luster:</u> A shine or glow of an object.

<u>Glean:</u> To gather something from a field or vineyard that has been left after harvest.

<u>Inedible:</u> Something not fit to be eaten.

<u>Drupelet:</u> The single part of a fruit that is part of a cluster (as with a raspberry, blackberry).

Orchard: A place where fruit trees are grown.

Vineyard: A field where grapes are grown.

<u>Agriculture:</u> The raising of crops or animals; i.e. farming or gardening.



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