

2017-2018

DISCOVERY



Resource Guide



DRAGONS LOVE TACOS AND OTHER STORIES

Based on the books *Dragons Love Tacos* by Adam Rubin; Adapted by Marcus & Joe Stevens, *Interrupting Chicken* by David Ezra Stein; Adapted by Marcus Stevens & Brian Lowdermilk, *Mercy Watson Goes for a Ride* by Kate DiCamillo; Adapted by Brendon Milburn & Janet Allard, *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds; *Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa: School Days* by Erica Silverman; Adapted by Mark Sonnenblick & Ben Wexler
Produced by Theatreworks, USA

Monday, November 6, 2017
9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.



VICTORIA THEATRE ASSOCIATION
VICTORIA - SCHUSTER - MAC/LOFT - ARTS ANNEX - ARTS GARAGE



Welcome to the 2017-2018 Discovery Series at Victoria Theatre Association. We are very excited to be your education partner in providing professional arts experiences to you and your students!

Let's be honest- tacos are amazing. Who doesn't love tacos? Well, as you have probably figured out, dragons are included in that list. They love all kinds of tacos. But where there are tacos, there is also salsa. And if you mix salsa with a dragon, well, you are in for a hot surprise! We are excited to have this 2012 book brought to life on stage at the Victoria Theatre this season, and can't wait to see what you have to say about our hungry dragon's appetite.

The information and activities in this resource guide have been carefully crafted to help you and your students explore the many ways a live theatre experience can open up learning opportunities. Grade level icons will help you determine which activities are good for students, too. And don't forget to take advantage of the local resources listed inside to extend the play-going experience and make even more curricular connections for you and your students. Thank you again and welcome!

Gary Minyard
Vice President -
Education & Engagement



Curriculum Connections



You will find these icons listed in the resource guide next to the activities that indicate curricular connections. Teachers and parents are encouraged to adapt all of the activities included in an appropriate way for your students' age and abilities. *DRAGONS LOVE TACOS AND OTHER STORIES* fulfills the following Ohio and National Education Standards and Benchmarks for Grades K-5:

Ohio's English/ Language Arts Learning Standards:

- Kindergarten-** RL.K.3, RL.K.4, W.K.3, L.K.4
- Grade 1-** RL.1.1, RL.1.3, RL.1.4, W.1.3, L.1.4
- Grade 2-** RL.2.1, RL.2.2, RL.2.3, RL.2.4, RL.2.5, RL.2.6, W.2.3, L.2.4
- Grade 3-** RL.3.1, RL.3.2, RL.3.6, W.3.3, L.3.4
- Grade 4-** RL.4.2, RL.4.3, RL.4.4, RL.4.5, RL.4.6, RL.4.7, RL.4.9, W.4.3, L.4.4
- Grade 5-** RL.5.2, RL.5.3, RL.5.4, RL.5.5, RL.5.6, W.5.3, L.5.4

Ohio's Learning Standards for Math:

Operations and Algebraic Thinking (Grades K-3), Measurement and Data (Grades 4-5)

Ohio's New Learning Standards for Social Studies:

Spatial Thinking & Skills (Grades K-5), Heritage (Grades K-5), Human Systems (Grades K-5)

National Core Arts Theatre Standards:

- Kindergarten-** TH:Cr1.1.K, TH:Pr4.1.K, TH:Pr5.1.K, TH:Re8.1.K, TH:Cn10.1.K.
- Grade 1-** TH:Cr1.1.1, TH:Pr4.1.1, TH:Pr5.1.1, TH:Re7.1.1, TH:Re8.1.1, TH:Cn10.1.1.
- Grade 2-** TH:Cr1.1.2, TH:Pr4.1.2, TH:Pr5.1.2, TH:Re7.1.2, TH:Re8.1.2, TH:Cn10.1.2.
- Grade 3-** TH:Cr1.1.3, TH:Pr4.1.3, TH:Pr5.1.3, TH:Re7.1.3, TH:Re8.1.3, TH:Cn10.1.3
- Grade 4-** TH:Re7.1.4, TH:Cn10.1.4, TH:Cn11.1.4, TH:Cn11.2.4
- Grade 5-** TH:Re7.1.5, TH:Cn10.1.5, TH:Cn11.1.5, TH:Cn11.2.5

This resource guide was created by Amy Handra. All activities are available for distribution and use in the classroom or at home.

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About the Play

ENGLISH/
LANGUAGE
ARTS

Come along for an adventure of friends, family, and fun with five unique stories that will inspire children (and adults!) of all ages: When a boy throws his new dragon friends a spicy salsa taco party, red-hot problems ensue. Dragons LOVE tacos – except the spicy ones!... Later, It's bedtime for the little red chicken. Papa is going to read her a story, but the chicken can't help interrupting. Will the chicken ever get to sleep?... And what about Vashti? She doesn't think that she is able to draw, but when her teacher says "Just make a mark and see where it takes you." Vashti discovers she is an artist, after all. . . Mercy, a porcine wonder, and Mr. Watson go for a ride every Saturday in Mr. Watson's automobile. But one Saturday, guess who winds up behind the wheel?... "Yee Haw!" Cowgirl Kate and her loyal horse, Cocoa, are the perfect pair. They do everything together, until school is in session—and horses are not allowed. Or are they?



Ohio Spotlight

SOCIAL
STUDIES

The Dayton Dragons

Fifth Third Field, located in Downtown Dayton, has been home to the Dayton Dragons Minor League Baseball team since its grand opening on April 27, 2000. Nationally recognized as one of the best places to catch a baseball game, the stadium seats up to 7,230 Dragon-loving fans.

What's in a Name?

During the organization's planning stage, many options for the team's official name were considered. Since Dayton is known around the world as "the birthplace of aviation," the team wanted a name that celebrates local history in a fun, new way. They needed a name would soar above all others, they settled on the powerful, mythological dragon.

Meet the Mascots: Heater and Gem

Whether they're dancing with friends, playing games, taking pictures with fans, or cheering on the baseball players, Heater and Gem bring fun and excitement to every Dayton Dragons' game. In their shared role as mascots, they are the symbols of good luck for the team. Heater is 7 feet 2 inches tall and wears a size 27 shoe. Although Gem is a little shorter at 5 feet 8 inches, her red pigtailed and bright blue eyes can be seen by fans all throughout the stadium. Dragons fans will all agree that Heater and Gem bring their magic to Fifth Third Field.



Photo Courtesy of Our Sports Central

For more information on the Dayton Dragons, please visit <http://www.daytondragons.com>.

All
GRADES

COMPREHENSION

Chatting with Adam Rubin

ENGLISH/
LANGUAGE
ARTS

Meet the Author of *Dragons Love Tacos*

Adam Rubin is the *New York Times* best-selling author of a half dozen critically-acclaimed picture books, including *Robo-Sauce* and *Dragons Love Tacos*. He spent ten years working as a creative director in the advertising industry before leaving his day job to write full-time. Adam has a keen interest in camping and magic tricks. He lives in New York City. Adam wrote a sequel to *Dragon Love Tacos* called *Dragons Love Tacos 2*. He has also written *Secret Pizza Party*, *Robo-Sauce*, and *Those Darn Squirrels*.



Interview Courtesy of Claire Zulkey of Sheknows.com:

How did you decide that dragons love tacos, and not hot dogs or hamburgers or princesses?

Dragons Love Tacos was inspired by a little statue that my dad kept on his desk while I was growing up. It always looked like a dragon eating a taco to me. I was kind of a weird little kid.

Do you share dragons' feelings regarding spicy salsa? What are your ideal taco toppings?

AR: Unlike dragons, I love spicy salsa. In fact, the spicier the better. For me, the ideal taco toppings are chopped onion, some cilantro and a bit of lime juice. I like the classic Mexican style. I like crunchy, Tex-Mex, cheese-slathered too, but I prefer to keep it simple.

You work for a puzzle and game company — what is your favorite game to play these days, with grownups or anyone in particular?

AR: My favorite games to play are *Shoot the Moon* and *Shut the Box*. *Shoot the Moon* is a skill game that requires a lot of patience and skill. It's pretty satisfying once you master it, though, because you feel like you're defying gravity. Very neat. *Shut the Box* is a dice game that's really fun for groups. You can make wagers or just compete for high score. It's very high-energy. It's fun for kids too, because it's good practice with arithmetic, the play is super-tactile and the board makes great clacking sounds. It was a big hit when I brought it to Thanksgiving [dinner].

Did you Know?

October 4th is National Taco Day! In 2016, Americans ate over 4.5 billion tacos on this very saucy day. That's 490,000 miles of tacos, which is enough tacos to circle the Earth 181,014 times!



COMPREHENSION

HERE BE DRAGONS: Dragons in History and Culture

ARTS

ENGLISH/
LANGUAGE
ARTS

SOCIAL
STUDIES

All
GRADES

What is a Dragon?

Dragons are said to be enormous, serpent-like creatures with mystical attributes. Their unique ability to fly and breathe fire, makes them unlike any other creature in mythology! While there are many different types of dragons, here are a few ways to recognize them :

- **Teeth like a crocodile**
- **Long torso like a serpent**
- **Scaled-skin like a fish**
- **Four, strong legs like a lion**
- **A pair of wings that resemble those belonging to a bat**



Dragons are also said to have a ferocious appetite, with a diet consisting of birds, snakes, rats, small mammals, and even humans, especially children! But don't worry, not every dragon is a villain!

Dragons in Myths and Fairytales

As far back as 4000 B.C., dragons have played important roles in *myths* which are traditional stories told in many different cultures that feature supernatural beings or events. In Western cultures, dragons are often portrayed as evil creatures that must be defeated. *Fairytales*, one of the most common types of *myths*, often feature a story in which a noble knight must fight the evil dragon to save a princess.

However, in Eastern cultures, dragons are seen as heroic creatures. Rather than the evil, fire-breathing villain, dragons are the protectors of all human beings. The Eastern dragon also has the unique ability to summon rain. In countries like China, dragons represent wisdom, power, and good fortune. Symbols of dragons can be seen throughout Chinese culture in artwork, cultural dances, festivals, and more.



Photos Courtesy of the Walt Disney Company

Did you Know?

SOCIAL
STUDIES

In the early days of sea exploration, European sailors would mark unknown territories with the words "HERE BE DRAGONS." During the time of Christopher Columbus, when the world was thought to be flat, dragons were said to live on its edges. While some scholars believe that these unknown creatures were in fact large squid or fish, others suggest that they were actually water-inhabiting dinosaurs. Whether or not they possessed magical attributes, the world may never know.



COMPREHENSION

Let's Explore: China

SOCIAL STUDIES

Official Name: The People's Republic of China

The Chinese name for China is “**Zhong Guo**” which means “the middle kingdom.” In ancient times, it was believed that China was the center of the universe.

Capital: China's capital city is **Beijing**. The largest city is Shanghai.

Population: China is the world's most populous country having 1.35 billion people. That's one billion more people than the United States!

Area: China is a total of **3.7 million square miles**. That makes it the fourth largest country in the world after Russia, Canada, and the United States.

Language: The official language of China is **Mandarin Chinese**, although there are thousands of Chinese dialects spoken throughout the country.

Religion: There is no official religion in China. **Buddhism and Taoism** are the most commonly practiced religions in the country.

Government: Established on October 1, 1949, China is a **socialist republic** ruled by a single party, The Communist Party of China.



The Chinese Flag

The Chinese flag has five yellow stars on a red background. The background symbolizes the revolution and the many lives lost during the civil war and Japanese invasion. The big star on the flag represents the Communist Party and the four smaller ones that surround it represent the four classes (aristocrats, farmers, artisans, and merchants) of China's society.

Dragons in China

According to the Chinese calendar, the Dragon is one of the 12-year cycle of animals that appear in the Chinese zodiac. The next Year of the Dragon will be 2024!

Each year, a very important Chinese tradition called **The Dragon Boat Festival**, also known as the **Duanwu Festival**, takes place throughout the country. Wooden boats, shaped and decorated to resemble dragons, are powered by up to 60 paddlers in a spectacular racing event. The winning team is said to have good luck for the year.

The Dragon Dance is a traditional dance that is performed during festive celebrations. The dance features a team of dancers who use long poles to control a long, flexible figure made out of bamboo hoops and shiny fabric.



Photo Courtesy of iLearn Culture



Photo Courtesy of Hello Kids



COMPREHENSION

The Dot Classroom Activity

ENGLISH/
LANGUAGE
ARTS

ARTS

You Will Need:

- Journal/Notebook
- Writing Utensil
- Large "Dots" (4-6 inches in diameter)
- Crayons or Colored Pencils

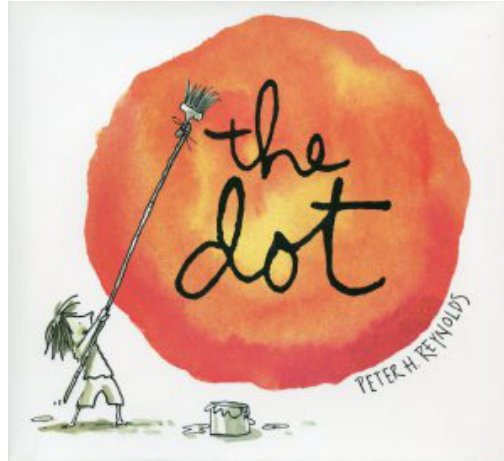


Illustration by Peter H. Reynolds

Step 1: Before reading the book, talk with your students about how they feel when they are starting something new. How do they feel when things seem difficult to do?

Step 2: Ask how many students like to draw. Tell them you are going to read a story about a girl who does not think she is good at drawing and what happens to her when she goes to art class.

Step 3: Read the story. Follow the reading with a discussion about the story asking the students what were some things that stood out to them about the story.

Activity 1: Pass out large "dots" to your students and have them write their names on them, as well as some activities they enjoy.

Activity 2: Provide your students with blank-page journals, for them to "make a mark" every day (a word, a picture, something funny that happened that day, a doodle, a squiggle, a dot!).

What Folly!

ENGLISH/
LANGUAGE
ARTS

ARTS



In *Mercy Watson Goes for a Ride*, Eugenia Lincoln refers to Mr. Watson's Saturday drive with Mercy as "**folly**".

Ask your students:

Step 1: What does **folly** mean? After students' ideas are put forward, check a dictionary (as a group or individually) and write the definition on a chalkboard.

Step 2: What are some synonyms for **folly**? List them on the board.

Step 3: Why does Eugenia think the rides are **folly**, while Mr. Watson and Mercy think they are great fun?

Step 4: Baby thinks the rides are both **folly** and **fun**. Can this be true?

Activity: Have each student write and draw about one of their own follies.



CONNECTION

Let's Count! Worksheet





Name: _____ Date: _____

Mercy Watson Goes for a ride every Saturday. On one of her exciting trips, she visits a farm with lots of little chicks and piggies, like herself. Help Mercy count how many animals are on the farm by solving each math problem and adding the total. Once you are finished, color the animals using your favorite colors.

Grade 1 Challenge:

1. Mercy Watson and her little pig friends are playing in the back yard at the farm. There are 11 little pigs all together. 5 of the little pigs want to take a break to eat lunch. How many little pigs will be left playing outside?

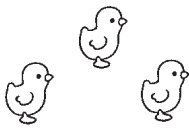
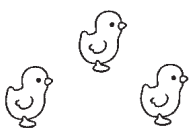
1.  +  = ? _____

2.  +  = ? _____

$11 - 5 = ?$

2. There are 8 beds in the barn for baby chicks to sleep. 6 baby chicks are sleeping. How many baby chicks are missing?

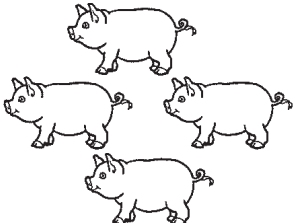
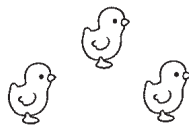
3.  +  = ? _____

4.  +  = ? _____

$8 - 6 = ?$

Bonus Activity:

Determine if the answers are odd or even numbers.

5.  +  = ? _____

Total = ? _____

Totally Taco Math Worksheet



Name: _____ Date: _____

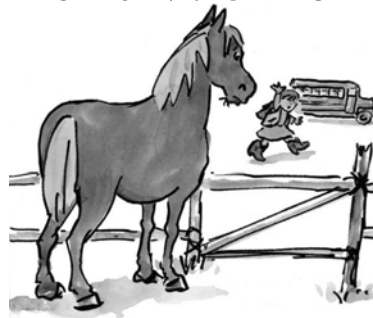
1. Four dragons sat on the grass. two more dragons flew over to join them. How many dragons are now on the grass?
2. Marcus has three more tacos than Nina. Nina has three tacos. How many tacos does Marcus have?
3. Kayla has three fewer tomatoes than Alex. Alex has eight tomatoes. How many tomatoes does Kayla have?
4. Li and John were making salsa. Some more people came to help them. Then, there were seven people making salsa. How many people came to help Li and John?
5. Ten tacos are sitting on the table. Six are spicy and the rest are not. How many tacos are not spicy?
6. Nine dragons were at the taco party. Some ate tacos. Five dragons did not eat tacos. How many dragons ate tacos?
7. There are 6 plates with 3 tacos on each plate. How many tacos are there in all?
8. If 15 jars of salsa are arranged into equal rows of 3 jars, how many rows will there be?
9. You have 16 inches of ribbon, which you cut into 4 equal pieces. How long will each piece of string be?
10. Spicy salsa costs \$10. Salsa that has no spice costs \$5. How many times more does the spicy salsa cost than the salsa that is not spicy?

1.	<input type="text"/>	2.	<input type="text"/>	3.	<input type="text"/>	4.	<input type="text"/>	5.	<input type="text"/>
6.	<input type="text"/>	7.	<input type="text"/>	8.	<input type="text"/>	9.	<input type="text"/>	10.	<input type="text"/>

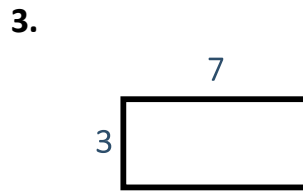
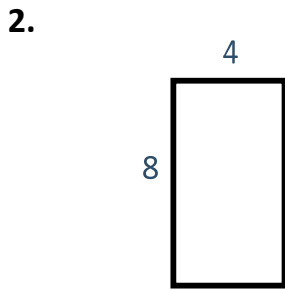
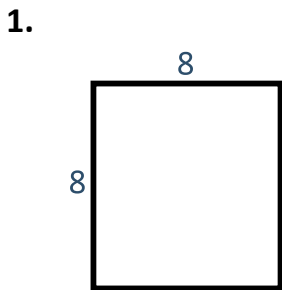
Perimeter & Area Measurement Worksheet



The **Perimeter** is the distance around a shape. The **Area** is the amount of space inside the boundary. Cowgirl Kate's horse, Cocoa, has a very big appetite! Cowgirl Kate must make sure that Cocoa eats enough his favorite food: *fresh grass!* Help Cowgirl Kate solve each question below by finding the perimeter and the area of each field. Each figure is measured in acres and not in scale.



Name: _____ Date: _____



ANSWERS

Perimeter Area

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

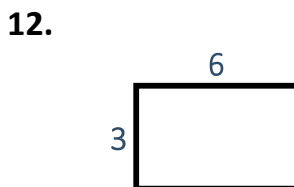
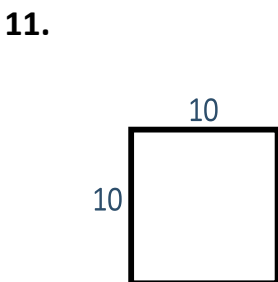
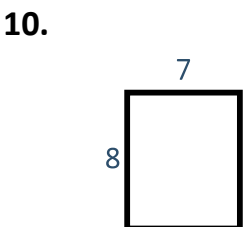
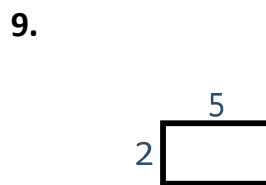
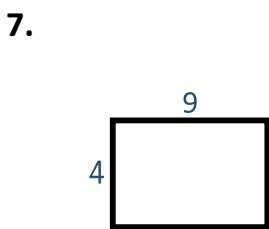
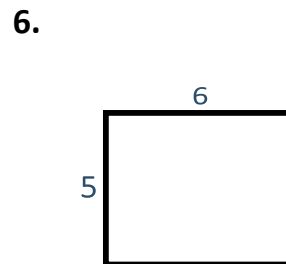
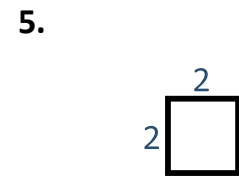
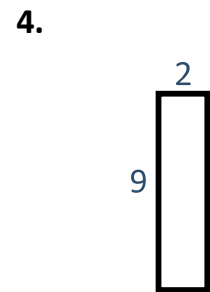
8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____



Finish Papa's Story



With each bedtime story that Papa reads to the little red chicken, the chicken gets excited and interrupts by telling the end of the story. Finally, the little red chicken tells Papa a story, but she doesn't get to finish it because Papa falls asleep. Have children finish the little red chicken's bedtime story.

Grades K-1: Students can draw and dictate it to an adult.

Grade 2-3: Students can write their story in box below.

Bedtime for Papa

Once there was a little red chicken who put her Papa to bed. She read him a hundred stories, and this is what she said:



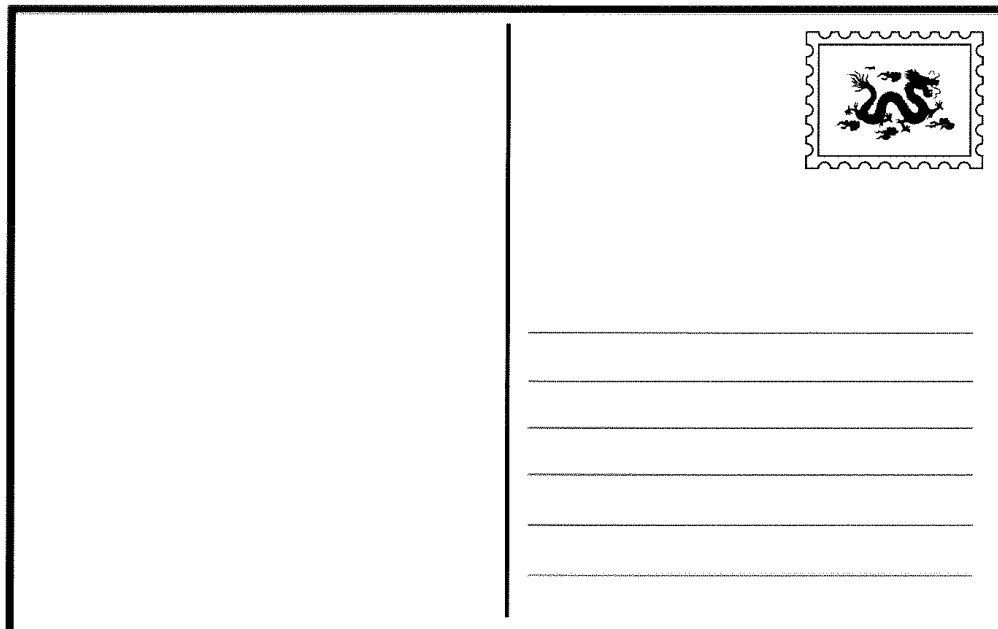
CREATIVITY

Postcard to China



Many travelers that visit new and exciting locations like to share their experiences with loved ones back home. A postcard is a great way to tell your friends and family all about your trip. One side of a postcard usually has a picture of the place that you are visiting. The other side is reserved for you to tell them in writing all that you are experiencing.

Imagine you are visiting China for the first time. Create a two-sided postcard to send to a friend or a family member, telling them about the many places you can find dragons in China. What else would you like to tell them about your trip?



CREATIVITY

Have a Taco Party!



No one knows the exact origin of tacos, but people around the world have been enjoying this delicious treat since the 18th century. Scholars believe that tacos were first eaten in Mexico by miners who were excavating for silver. Today, this easy-to-make meal has become a favorite for people all over the world. Here's a recipe for you and your family to make tacos of your own.



What You'll Need:

- 1 tsp. canola oil
- 1/2 cup finely-chopped onion
- 1 pound ground beef
- 1 tsp. ground cumin
- 1 tsp. chili powder
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1/2 tsp. kosher salt
- 1/2 cup water
- 8 taco shells

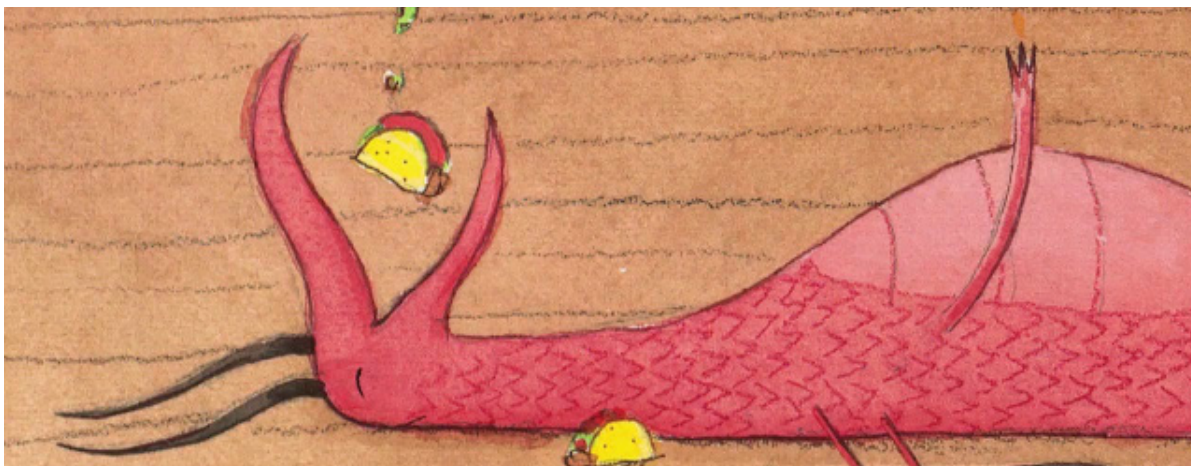
Taco Fillings:

- 2 cups shredded iceberg lettuce
- 1-2 diced tomatoes
- 2 cups shredded Mexican cheese blend (cheddar and Monterey Jack)
- 1 cup salsa
- 1 cup guacamole



Cooking Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
2. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add onion and cook 3 minutes or until onion is softened.
3. Add ground beef, breaking up with a spoon to brown on all sides.
4. Add cumin, chili powder, garlic powder, salt and water. Stir and bring to a boil, then reduce heat to medium-low and simmer for 8-10 minutes.
5. Meanwhile, place taco shells on a baking sheet in the center of preheated oven. Heat 3-5 minutes until lightly toasted.
6. Place taco shells, taco meat, lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, salsa and guacamole in separate serving dishes. Let everyone build their own tacos, starting with a little lettuce in the bottom of a taco shell. Top with the ground beef, cheese, salsa, and guacamole.
7. ENJOY!



CREATIVITY

Victoria Fuse's Local Resources



Dayton Metro Library

Main Branch
215 E Third Street
Dayton, OH 45402
937-463-BOOK (2665)

<http://www.daytonmetrolibrary.org/>



DAYTON
METRO
LIBRARY



The Dayton Metro Library (DML) is a county-wide system of the Main Library in downtown Dayton, 20 branch libraries, and Outreach Services. As one of the oldest and largest public library systems in Ohio, and DML is proud to rank among the best in the nation!

Enjoy a vast collection of materials, services and programs for all ages and stages of life. Explore our online resources including digital collections, databases, searchable events calendar and reference assistance. Learn, imagine and discover at the Dayton Metro Library – your story begins here.

Fifth Third Field

Home of the *Dayton Dragons*
220 N Patterson Blvd
Dayton, OH 45402

Fifth Third Field is a minor league baseball stadium in Downtown Dayton, Ohio, which is the home of the Dayton Dragons, a Midwest League team and a Single-A affiliate of the nearby Cincinnati Reds. The stadium seats up to 7,230 baseball fans and is equipped with a variety of seating from luxury suites to lawn seating.



RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Resources for Students & Teachers

Publications for Students:

Dragon Dance: A Chinese New Year, Written by Joan Holub and Benrei Huang. Puffin: 2003.

Dragons Love Tacos 2: The Sequel, Written by Adam Rubin and Daniel Salmieri. Dial for Young Readers: 2017. Print.

How to Train Your Dragon, Written by Cressida Cowell. New York: Little Brown, 2010. Print.

The Knight and the Dragon, Written by Tomie DePaola. Putnam & Grosset Group: 1998.

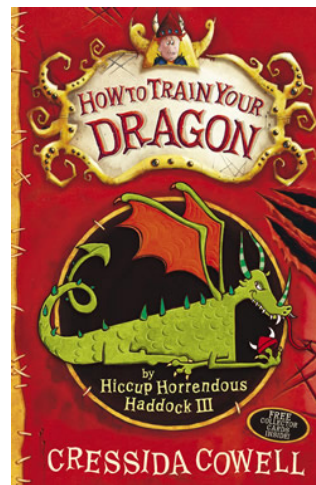


Publications for Teachers & Parents:

Organic Creativity in the Classroom: Teaching to Intuition in Academics and the Arts, Written by Jane Piirto. Prufrock Press: 2013.

Nurturing Creativity in the Classroom, Edited by Ronald A. Beghetto and James C. Kaufman. Cambridge University Press: 2010.

Theatre for Change: Education, Social Action, and Therapy, Written by Robert Landy and David T. Montgomery. Palgrave Macmillan: 2012.



Websites for Teachers and Students:

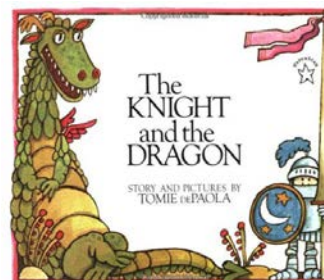
<https://www.chinahighlights.com/travelguide/article-chinese-dragons.htm>;

Offers an in-depth look at Chinese culture and its relationship to the mythical creatures known as dragons.

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/>; Relevant information pertaining to history and culture.

<https://www.clevelandart.org/lesson-plan-packet/role-dragons-chinese-culture> ;

This lesson plan uses art to teach students in grades K-5 the symbolic importance of dragons in the Chinese culture.



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