

All about...

How Weeds Get Everywhere!

How come weeds get everywhere in our gardens? One minute your lawn can be lovely and green and the next minute it's covered - and I mean covered - in dandelions! Well, it's all to do with the clever way that plants reproduce and spread their seeds far and wide to keep their species alive.

Making the Seeds

So, how do the plants make so many seeds?

Most plants are made up of some female and male plant parts. Bees and other insects are attracted to the flowers because of their lovely smells and colours. While they are at the flower, they help move pollen around to fertilise the plant. Sometimes even the wind can help with moving the pollen around to the right places.

Once the plant is fertilised, the seeds can grow. When this happens in a dandelion, the yellow flower turns into what we call a dandelion 'clock'. If you look closely at a dandelion clock (also called a 'seed head'), it is full of dark coloured seeds with light, feathery, white tops that look like umbrellas.



Fact File

- A weed is only a plant that someone does not want in their garden. They can be very pretty!
- Nettles are used for making tea and medicines, so they are actually very useful.
- The world's largest weed is giant hogweed. It can grow up to 3.65m in height and have leaves that measure 91cm long.
- Some people think that if you hold a buttercup under your chin and the yellow reflects on your skin it means that you like butter.

Spreading the Seeds

So, how do the seeds get everywhere?

This is the clever bit...

As we said before, dandelions make lots and lots of seeds. They all have feathery, white tops that look like umbrellas. This makes the seeds brilliant at floating and flying through the air. So, all they need is the wind to carry them near and far. Before you know it, there are hundreds of seeds all over your lawn, which are all ready to germinate and make yet more dandelions. Other flowers and plants also have other clever ways of spreading their seeds, including putting them inside tasty fruit so that animals eat them. Eventually, the seeds come out of the other end in their poo and start to germinate.

Introduction



There are many stories that have trolls in them. Trolls, like dragons, giants and unicorns, have been talked and written about for hundreds of years. One very well-known story, I am sure you will know, is about a very angry troll that tried to stop goats going over a bridge to feed on the rich, green grass.

But is this what all trolls are really like?

The information that follows has been written by Professor Folklore, an expert on Trolls from the University of Myth and Legend.

He provides some basic information on these strange, often misunderstood mythical creatures. You can decide what you think maybe true and what needs more research to establish the truth.

Professor Folklore needs other experts to write more about trolls so that the 'truth' can be shared across the world. He wondered whether you could also become an expert on trolls. Can you dream up some of your own interesting and amazing information to set the record straight and not let trolls just be known as nasty, mean creatures?

You can listen to a recording of the story of The Truth about Trolls text below here:
<https://soundcloud.com/talkforwriting/trolls>

The Truth about Trolls

Many people believe trolls are angry, **mean** beasts that **terrify** goats and people. However, this is not true. Here is the truth about trolls.

What do trolls look like?

Like the **ogre**, trolls are huge. They look **fierce** and ugly but to another troll they are kind and beautiful. The adult troll has small, beady eyes, a **bulbous, warty** nose and sharp, yellow teeth. Most trolls have long, curly horns on their heads similar to a goat. Interestingly, a few trolls do not have any horns at all. No one knows why.



Where do trolls live?

Trolls are usually found in very cold countries like Iceland. They make



their homes in caves near volcanoes which provide both warmth and **shelter**. They live **peacefully** in small family groups, hidden away from people. One troll, who was very grumpy, lived alone under a wooden bridge. Because he **bullied** the local goats, he gave all trolls a very bad name.

Photo by Michael Behrens on Unsplash

What do trolls eat?

Trolls enjoy eating all types of seafood. Trolls fish in total darkness so that they are not seen by anyone. They mostly eat their food **raw**.

Sometimes, when the volcanoes have erupted, they cook their food on the hot rocks. In addition, they **gather** large mushrooms and dig up juicy roots that grow in the forest. Surprisingly, goats are not on the menu!

Did you know?

Amazingly, trolls like to have fun. They love singing and dancing. When they sing, it sounds like a rumble of thunder. When they dance, it feels like an earthquake. Sadly, because of the troll that upset the goats, all trolls now hide away from view.

They can still be seen, though, if you look really hard and believe. The rocks here are actually just sleeping trolls!



Professor Folklore
'Friend of the Troll'

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Glossary

Here's some help with the tricky technical vocabulary:

earthquake: Sudden shaking of the ground when the Earth's surface moves. Can cause terrible destruction.

volcano: a hole in the Earth, usually a mountain, where very hot, molten rock (magma) and hot gas from the centre of the Earth erupts – can cause terrible destruction

erupt: the action that happens when a volcano spits out hot molten rock (magma) and gas – can cause terrible destruction

cave: Hole or space in rock big enough for a person to go into.



Further Information on Earthquakes from BBC Bitesize

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/zj89t39>

Further Information on Volcanoes from BBC Bitesize

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/zd9cxyc>

Now, let's think about writing some new information about trolls.



In 'The truth About Trolls', Professor Folklore used questions as sub-headings to help organise his writing and make it easier for the reader.

Here is the underlying structure of the professor's information text about trolls.

Underlying Structure
Heading: The Truth About Trolls Introduction to get reader interested in topic
What do trolls look like?
Where do trolls live?
What do trolls eat?
Did you know? <i>Keep your best facts for the end!</i>

★ **Challenge:** What other sections could you add?

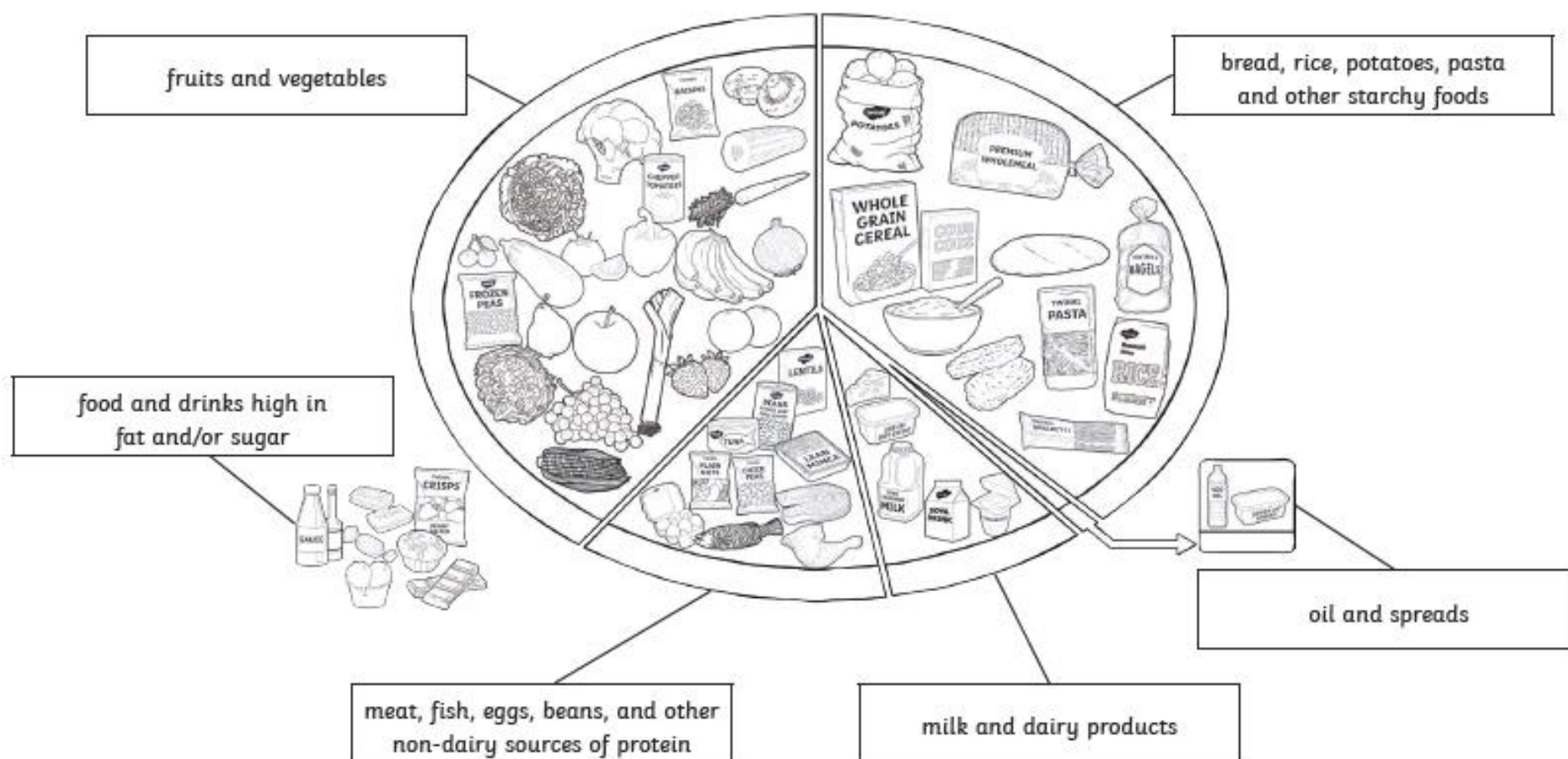
- What is troll school like?
- What jobs do trolls do?
- How do trolls look after their babies?
- What do trolls do on holiday?
- What is in a troll's cave?
- ??????????????????????

Food Groups



fruits and vegetables	meat, fish, eggs, beans, and other non-dairy sources of protein	bread, rice, potatoes, pasta and other starchy foods
oil and spreads	milk and dairy products	food and drinks high in fat and/or sugar

Food Groups Answers












What Do Nutrients Do for Us?










Cut out and match the nutrient type and why you need it. Give another type of food for each category in the blank box.

Nutrient Type		Why We Need It
Protein		Keeps you healthy
Carbohydrates		Moves nutrients in the body Cleans waste
Fats		Helps you digest food
Vitamins		Keeps you healthy
Minerals		Gives energy
Water		Grows and repairs your body
Fibre		Gives energy



What Do Nutrients Do for Us? **Answers**

Cut out and match the nutrient type and why you need it. Give another type of food for each category in the blank box.

Nutrient Type	Why We Need It
Protein 	Grows and repairs your body
Carbohydrates 	Gives Energy
Fats 	Gives Energy
Vitamins 	Keeps you healthy
Minerals 	Keeps you healthy
Water 	Moves nutrients in the body Cleans waste
Fibre 	Helps you digest food

★ Use the planner below to jot down some ideas for your information on trolls.

★ You can use the ideas from the word and sentence games.
Remember you are the new expert!

Underlying structure	New Ideas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heading • Introduction to get reader interested in trolls 	
What do trolls look like?	
Where do trolls live?	
What do trolls eat?	
Did you know? Keep your best facts for the end!	

Questions about How Weeds Get Everywhere!

1. Name the world's largest weed.

2. Name something mentioned in this text, other than bees and other insects, that can move pollen around in the flower.

3. What is another name for a dandelion 'clock'?

4. What is a good thing that nettles can be used for?

5. What makes dandelion seeds good at floating in the air?

6. Name another way mentioned in this text, apart from the wind, that seeds can be spread around to germinate in other places.

7. How tall can the largest weed grow?

8. What does 'germinate' mean in the final paragraph?

9. In paragraph one, the author has written the contracted word **it's**. Write the full words without the apostrophe.

10. In the first paragraph, what does the word 'reproduce' mean?

Questions about How Weeds Get Everywhere!

Answers

1. What is the name the world's largest weed?

Giant hogweed

2. Name something mentioned in this text, other than bees and other insects, that can move pollen around in the flower.

Wind

3. What is another name for a dandelion 'clock'?

Seed head

4. What is a good thing that nettles can be used for?

Making tea or medicine

5. What makes dandelion seeds good at floating in the air?

Accept any reference to them being; light, feathery, like an umbrella.

6. Name another way mentioned in this text, apart from the wind, that seeds can be spread around to germinate in other places.

Animal poo

7. How tall can the largest weed grow?

3.65m / 3.65 metres.

8. What does 'germinate' mean in the final paragraph?

Start to grow from a seed

9. In paragraph one, the author has written the contracted word it's. Write the full words without the apostrophe.

It is

10. In the first paragraph, what does the word 'reproduce' mean?

To make more of / make another one / produce offspring.



- ★ Use the model text and your plan to draft and edit your new information on trolls.

Challenges:

Remember to:

- give the reader a picture in their head by using adjectives to describe the features of your troll;
- build up a picture for the reader using a sentence of 3 to describe your troll;
- link your ideas by using adverbs at the start of your sentences to tell the reader you are adding on information – see poster A;
- engage your reader by using adverbs of emotion at the start of a sentence – see poster B.
- drop-in extra information for the reader by using a relative clause starting with **who**.

Poster A Add-on Adverbs	Poster B Engaging Adverbs
<p>Additionally, Also, In Addition, Furthermore,</p> <p>Remember to use a comma when you use these words to start a sentence.</p>	<p>Interestingly, Surprisingly, Amazingly,</p> <p>Remember to use a comma when you use these words to start a sentence.</p>

- ★ Read your work through and check that it flows and makes sense
- ★ Remember to check the spelling and punctuation and illustrate your text with pictures or drawings.
- ★ Now decide how you are going to publish your information.

An Amazing Fact a Day

The United States of America

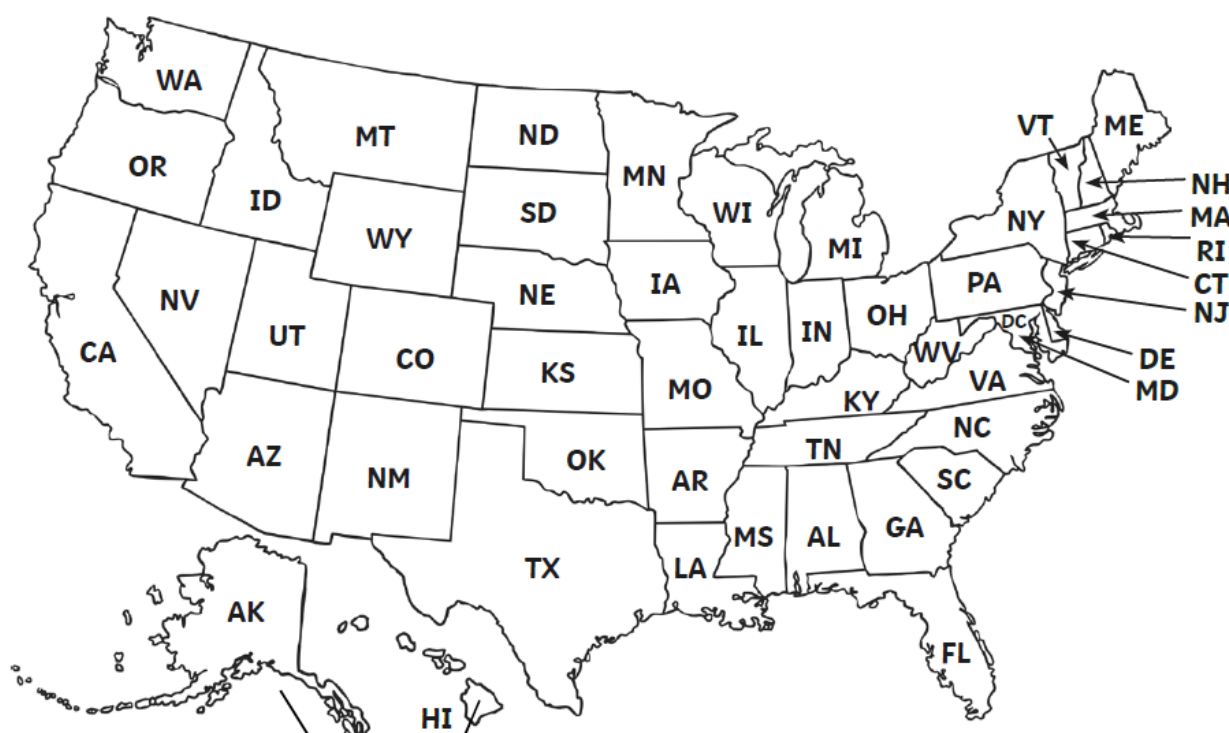
Amazing Fact

It is illegal to drive with a blindfold on in the state of Alabama in the USA.

Challenge

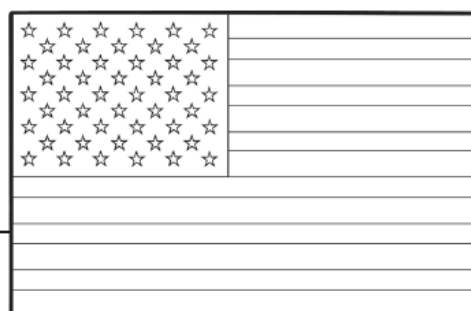
The USA is made up of 50 individual states.

Use the internet, non-fiction books or your own knowledge to name as many of these as you can!



Did You Know...?

Alaska and Hawaii are actually here and here!



You could also try to find out:

- about other unusual driving laws;
- where Alabama is;
- what the most common cause of car accidents is;
- how safe zebra crossings are.

Fill in the table with the names of the American states.

Abbreviated Name	Full Name	Abbreviated Name	Full Name
AL		MT	
AK		NE	
AZ		NV	
AR		NH	
CA		NJ	
CO		NM	
CT		NY	
DE		NC	
FL		ND	
GA		OH	
HI		OK	
ID		OR	
IL		PA	
IN		RI	
IA		SC	
KS		SD	
KY		TN	
LA		TX	
ME		UT	
MD		VT	
MA		VA	
MI		WA	
MN		WV	
MS		WI	
MO		WY	

Fill in the table with the names of the American states Answers.

Abbreviated Name	Full Name
AL	Alabama
AK	Alaska
AZ	Arizona
AR	Arkansas
CA	California
CO	Colorado
CT	Connecticut
DE	Delaware
FL	Florida
GA	Georgia
HI	Hawaii
ID	Idaho
IL	Illinois
IN	Indiana
IA	Iowa
KS	Kansas
KY	Kentucky
LA	Louisiana
ME	Maine
MD	Maryland
MA	Massachusetts
MI	Michigan
MN	Minnesota
MS	Mississippi
MO	Missouri

Abbreviated Name	Full Name
MT	Montana
NE	Nebraska
NV	Nevada
NH	New Hampshire
NJ	New Jersey
NM	New Mexico
NY	New York
NC	North Carolina
ND	North Dakota
OH	Ohio
OK	Oklahoma
OR	Oregon
PA	Pennsylvania
RI	Rhode Island
SC	South Carolina
SD	South Dakota
TN	Tennessee
TX	Texas
UT	Utah
VT	Vermont
VA	Virginia
WA	Washington
WV	West Virginia
WI	Wisconsin
WY	Wyoming

Extension task Answers

Unusual driving laws examples, including, but not limited to:

It is illegal to run out of gas in a congested district in Youngstown, Ohio.

In University City, Missouri, it is illegal to honk someone else's horn.

It is illegal to honk your horn near a sandwich shop or cold beverage stand after 9pm in Little Rock, Arkansas.

In Marietta, Georgia, it is legal to spit from a truck, but if you do it from a car or a bus its illegal.

Even when responding to a call, fire trucks in New Britain, Connecticut, are not allowed to travel faster than 25 mph.

Alabama is located at the bottom of the US map, slightly to the right. It is between Mississippi and Georgia.

The most common cause of car accidents is distracted driving. This includes anything that distracts a driver from the road and includes looking at cell phones and eating food.

Answers might explain how pedestrians need to make sure they make it clear they want to cross and drivers need to be aware of pedestrians when approaching a zebra crossing.

Roy Lichtenstein

twinkl



Roy Lichtenstein

Roy Lichtenstein was born in 1923 in America.

He became famous for his colourful pop art paintings and comic book style.



Photo courtesy of Eric Koch (@commons.wikimedia.org) - granted under creative commons license



Pop Art is...

...art based on popular things of the time...



...such as everyday objects and adverts.

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Comic Strip Art



Lichtenstein made paintings inspired by comics but...

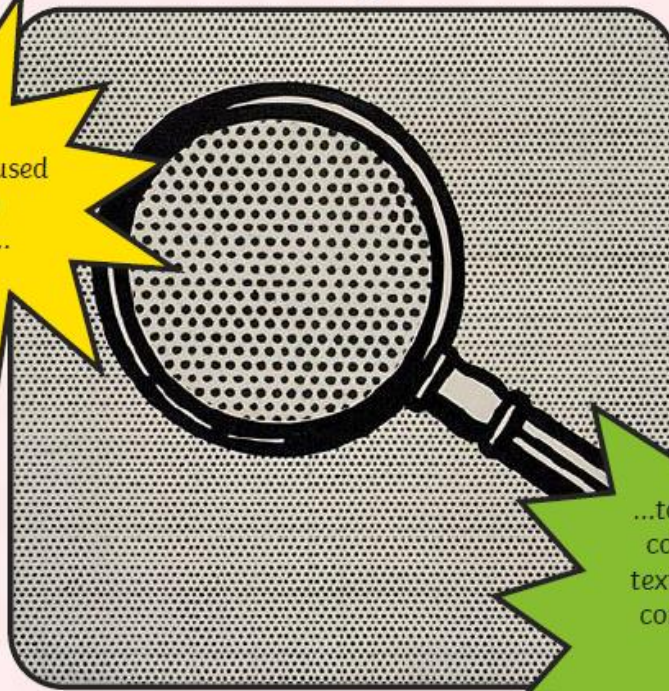
...unlike the paintings, they are enormous!

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Ben Day Dots

Lichtenstein used
this dotty
technique...



...to build up
colour and
texture like a
comic book.

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Clever Colours



Just like the
comics of the
day...

...Lichtenstein
used few
colours in his
paintings.

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Sculptures

Lichtenstein made sculptures too.

This sculpture is called House 1.



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Sculptures

This sculpture is called Brushstrokes.

What do you notice?



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Lichtenstein Today

Lichtenstein is very popular today.



One of his paintings sold for more than 55 million dollars in 2013.



All of these items have been inspired by Lichtenstein.

Photo courtesy of Birny Koala, George Redgrave, Steve Wilde, museumaffix (@flickr.com) - granted under creative commons license

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Lichtenstein Today



Which is your favourite piece of artwork by Lichtenstein?

Tell your partner which one you like and why.

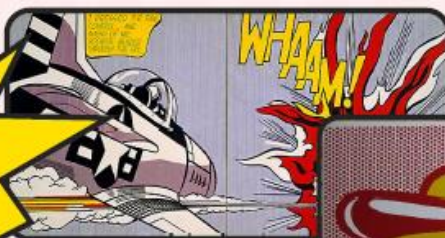


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Times Table Grid

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