

What to do today

IMPORTANT! Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and with any weblinks or use of the Internet required.

1. It's reading time!

Re-read *The Race Across the River* by Ruth Merrittens & Anne Holm Petersen.

- Say which animals feature in the story.

2. Reading animals' names

- Look at the animal names listed in *The Jade Emperor's Zoo*.
- Use *My Best Reading Strategies* to help read new and tricky words.
- Highlight only the names of the animals that are in the story.
- Check by re-reading the story if you are not sure you have got them all.

3. Sequencing events from *The Race Across the River*

Which animal won the race? Who was second? And third?

- Use the *Race Result Chart* to record the order the animals came in in the race. The first one has been done for you.
- Use a descriptive word for each animal (the tiny rat, the huge ox, etc.).
- Look at *The Emperor's Twelve Animals* if you need to make sure you got the order right.

Now try these Fun-Time Extras

- Think up an alternative set of animals that you would put in the story: the Year of the Hamster, the Year of the Blackbird, etc.
- Go to <https://www.chinahighlights.com/travelguide/chinese-zodiac/> and discover which animal is linked to the year you were born.

The Jade Emperor's Zoo



giraffe

elephant

ox

cat

crocodile

horse

rat

dragon

unicorn

horse

eagle

blackbird

tiger

monkey

caterpillar

cat

ostrich

hippo

rooster

squirrel

pig

rabbit

hamster

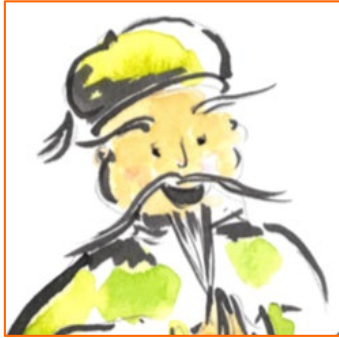
snake

mouse

goat

dog

My Best Reading Strategies



Slowly **sound out** and **blend** the letters

c a t e r p i l l a r

Break longer words up into **syllables**

ca – ter – pill – ar

Look for smaller words you know that are hidden inside the bigger word

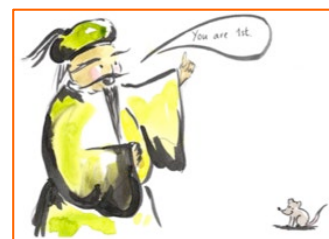
caterpillar

Think if the word **makes sense**

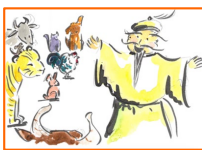
A caterpillar is a kind of animal. Yes! It makes sense in a list of animals.

Race Result Chart

- Use your best handwriting to write the animals' names and the numbers 1 to 12.
- At the bottom of the page, write a sentence about the animal which is your favourite.



The Emperor's Twelve Animals



Number	Animal
1	rat
2	ox
3	tiger
4	rabbit
5	dragon
6	snake
7	horse
8	goat
9	monkey
10	rooster
11	dog
12	pig

Alternative Animals Zodiac

<i>Number</i>	<i>Animal</i>
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	