

Worms for Breakfast

By Helaine Becker,
Illustrated by Kathy Boake

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HC \$17.95 CDN / \$16.95 US

"Animal lovers and aspiring vets or nutritionists will have plenty to feast on with this fun and informative book."

— Quill & Quire

Grades

3+

Reading Levels

Fountas & Pinnell: T
Lexile® Measure: 980L

Curriculum Links

Science:

Needs and Characteristics of Living Things; Growth and Change in Plants and Animals; Habitats; Communities

Classroom Activity

About the book

Ever wondered what zoo animals eat? Packed with facts from experts at zoos and aquariums, *Worms for Breakfast: How to Feed a Zoo* answers this question with research and real-life recipes from zoos around the world.

Beyond the book

Science, Health & Nutrition Activities

In *Worms for Breakfast*, we find out how zookeepers come up with healthy foods for each animal in their care. Some of these foods would be great for humans to eat. Some – not so much.

1. Which food in *Worms for Breakfast* sounds yummiest to you? _____
Yuckiest? _____
2. A koala's favourite food is eucalyptus leaves (p. 18).
What's your favourite food? _____

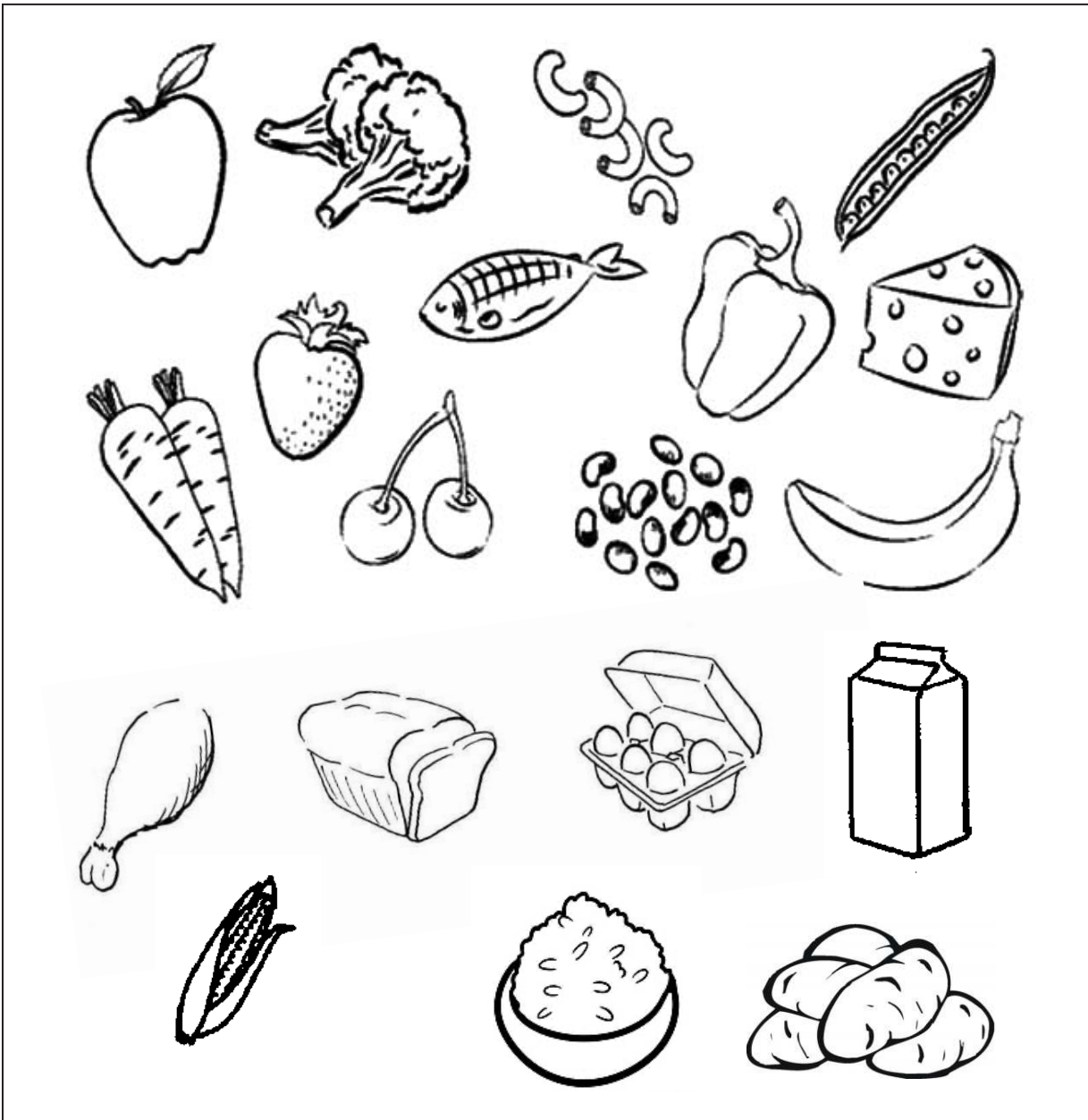
Draw it here:

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3. Skunks, bears, and raccoons are omnivores. So are people! That means we can eat many different kinds of foods, including both plants and animals, and we need a variety of nutrients for a healthy diet.

Colour in or circle a few of the foods shown below to create a healthy meal that you would love to eat.



Math, Measurement & Fractions Activities

In *Worms for Breakfast*, you can find real recipes zookeepers use to make delicious dishes for the animals in their care. A recipe is a list of instructions that anyone can use to make the same dish. You add the same ingredients, in the same amounts, to get the same results – no matter who the chef is!

The measurements in *Worms for Breakfast* come in two forms: customary (shown first) and metric (shown in parentheses).

Metric measurement is what we normally use in Canada. Many cooks, however, use customary measurements in the kitchen.

1. Customary measurements often include fractions. For example, *Digger's Delight* (p. 16) calls for "1/3 cup" of peanut butter. Can you tell which of the given measurements is larger?

- A.) 3/4 lb. OR 1/2 lb.?
- B.) 1/3 cup OR 2/3 cup?
- C.) 1/4 cup OR 1/3 cup?

2. Metric measurements can be used to measure mass (how much something weighs), volume (how much space it takes up) or distance. Match each metric measurement to what it measures.

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| a. Litres | 1. Distance |
| b. Grams | 2. Mass |
| c. Metres | 3. Volume |

3. To make the Flamingo Chick Formula (p. 9), you would need 1,000 ml of water. Is this a lot or a little bit of liquid?

Use metric measuring cups or a graduated cylinder to measure out this amount of water. Once you've seen the actual amount, give your opinion (circle your answer):

1,000 ml is:

a LOT OR a little bit

of liquid.

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Draw a picture of some flamingo chicks and their favourite food here:

