

# FACT or FICTION?



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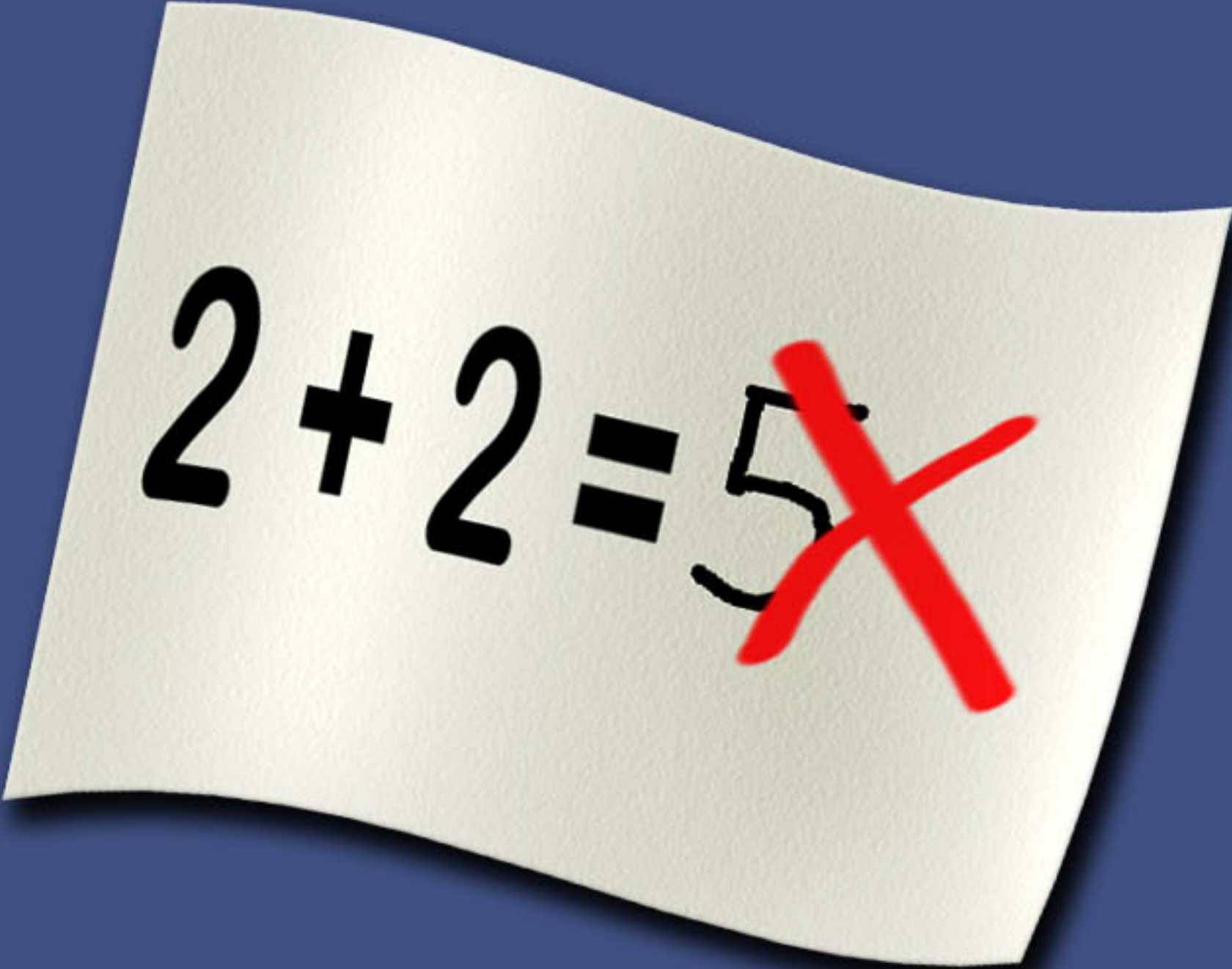


Do you know the difference between fact and fiction?





Fact stories are about real things and things that have really happened. Science and history stories are full of facts.



$2 + 2 = 5$



Fiction is not real, but it is not the same as a lie or a wrong answer on a test.





Fiction stories are about something made up or imaginary. They are just for fun!





There are both fact and fiction parts in stories like *Mayan Jungle Adventure*. Can you tell which is which?



Let's find out! Think about things from the *Mayan Jungle Adventure* story. Then guess which are fact and which are fiction.





You get trapped in the dark and see vampire bats. It's THE END because a vampire bat would suck out all your blood!  
**Fact? Or Fiction?**





**FICTION!** A vampire bat bites an animal or a person, and licks up some of the blood that comes out. But it wouldn't suck out all your blood.





You would see a big red bird with a long curved beak in the South American rainforest.

**Fact? Or Fiction?**





**FACT!** You could be sure of seeing this bird if you went to South America. Large flocks of Scarlet Ibis live in the tropical jungle there.





The Maya were mysterious people who built big cities long ago in Central and South America. Then they suddenly all disappeared.

**Fact? Or Fiction?**





Part **FACT**, part **FICTION**. The Maya people did build cities long ago. Later they stopped living in cities. The jungle covered the buildings, but the Maya people still live nearby today.





Hunters in the rainforest put poison on their darts and shoot them out of blowguns.

**Fact? Or Fiction?**





**FACT!** Rainforest hunters use poison from bright colored frogs on their darts. When they hit an animal, it falls down right away. That helps the hunters to find it in thick jungle.





The Maya brought big snakes from Asia long ago and used them to guard their cities.

**Fact? Or Fiction?**





**FICTION!** The snake in the story is a real snake, but you would have to go to Asia to see it. The Maya did not bring snakes from Asia, and they did not put snakes in their buildings.





The Olmec people lived before the Maya. They made big talking heads that come alive, get angry, and warn you to leave.

**Fact? Or Fiction?**





Part **FACT**, part **FICTION**. The Olmecs were real people who lived before the Maya. But the big stone heads the Olmec made don't talk to you. They are just stone statues.





Were most of your guesses correct? **Good job!** Keep on reading, and keep asking yourself, is it fact or fiction? It's fun to know which parts are real!





THE END  
THE END





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The **Fact or Fiction** activity should be used after a student has completed **Mayan Jungle Adventure**. There are also journals, a test, five puzzles, and off-computer activities and resources in this activity set. Go to the web site to download the full set.

Photos and original art by Ann Brundige. Most photos were taken in the Moody Gardens Rainforest Pyramid in Galveston, Texas. Vampire Bat photo is a composite of two photographs.

The face is from <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Desmodusrotundus.jpg> Date: 03/25/10 Photographed by Desmodus Dr. Marco Mello, biologist, Universit?t Ulm, Germany: <http://web.me.com/marmello/marcomello>.

The bat's body is from [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:VampireBat2010\\_2.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:VampireBat2010_2.jpg) Date: January 2010 Photographed by Ltshears at the Lousiville Zoo.

wings on horse from:

[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:2008-09\\_Pegasus.JPG](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:2008-09_Pegasus.JPG) Pegasus, Theater in Poznan Date: September 2008

Photographer: Ziko van Dijk

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[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Lingsberg\\_meadow.JPG](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Lingsberg_meadow.JPG) English: meadow Date: June 2008 Photographer: Berig

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Olmec heads adapted from photos from <http://www.echoesintime.com/> and turned into 3D and animated art in Bryce 3D® v5.5.