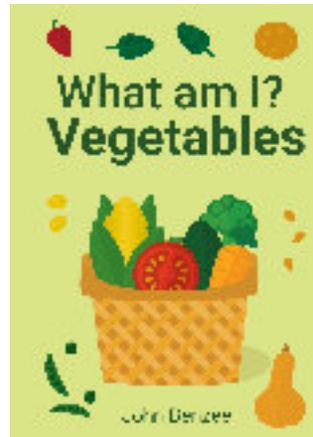


# Teacher's Guide

## What am I? Vegetables

by John Benzee

A series of fifteen riddles give descriptions of various vegetables and then reveal their names.



9780999737903  
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Grade levels: K-3

Page count: 36

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### ABOUT THE BOOK

Fifteen riddles about various vegetables ask the question, "what am I?" Each rhythmic riddle first gives a description of a vegetable. On the following page, an illustrated picture provides the answer.

Kids will have fun trying to solve these riddles about vegetables that they may encounter on their plate, in the grocery store, or in a garden.

### THEMES

- Vegetables
- Gardening
- Agriculture/ Farming
- Riddles/ rhymes
- Food supply
- Plant diversity

### SKILLS

- Nonfiction literature
- Subject/ object identification
- Vocabulary
- Rhyming
- Listening

### BEFORE YOU READ

- Look at the cover: Can students identify any vegetables?
- Discuss what a vegetable may be. Can students name any vegetables or describe them?
- Review themes.

### AS YOU READ

- Read each riddle and have students guess the vegetable. If they have trouble, re-read the riddle, emphasizing key words (ex. colors, location, size/ shape). You can also show them the illustration with the word covered up.
- After they has guessed, reveal the illustration. Point out specific visual cues that are specific to each vegetable. Key words also play into the picture. (ex. tendrils for peas, potatoes grow underground, rings of an onion)

### AFTER YOU READ

- Review any vegetables that may have been difficult or students have questions about.
- Ask students to name a vegetable in the book. Can they describe it?
- Discuss what the book is about and how the art and words provide information.
- Review the discussion questions or continue to classroom activities.

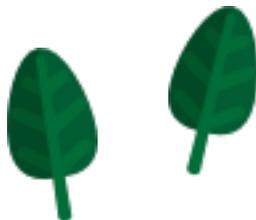
### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is your favorite vegetable? Why?
2. Where any vegetables not included in the book? Which ones?
3. Where do vegetables grow? Which ones grow above ground versus under ground?

4. Are certain colors associated with certain vegetables? Name some.
5. What vegetables are eaten for their leaves? Roots? Seeds or seed pods?
6. Are vegetables prepared for food in different ways? How?
7. How do vegetables grow? What do they need?
8. Can you name any words that rhyme? How about from the book?

## CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

- Ask students to draw a vegetable. See if they can label the parts of a plant.
- Have students create their own rhyme, focusing on words that rhyme.
- Have students can create their own "What am I?" riddle to share with the class.
- Using a map, point to places where vegetables are commonly grown. Some vegetables are more likely grown in cool-weather places or hot places.
- Bring in a few vegetables for students to see, touch, and taste. Let them record their experiences.
- Have students compare vegetables, noting their similarities and differences. Additionally, they can compare different varieties of the same vegetable.
- Review and explain vocabulary.



## VOCABULARY

**Vegetable:** A plant or part of a plant whose fruit, seeds, roots, stems, or leaves are grown for food.

**Fruit:** The edible part of a plant, containing seeds and flesh, that comes from a flower.

**Poisonous:** Something that is hurtful or deadly to eat.

**Leaf:** The green part of the plant that produces food for the plant from sunlight.

**Root:** The part of the plant that grows underground and collects water and nutrients.

**Blight:** A plant sickness that causes it to wither and die. (Used in context of a potato, it is a fungus)

**Prime:** The best part of something. (Certain vegetables are harvested when they have reached their best growth)

**Agriculture:** The raising of crops or livestock; i.e. farming or gardening.



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