Chinese New Year Story

Symbol Book

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Symbol

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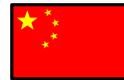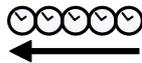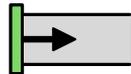
The story begins a long time ago in China.
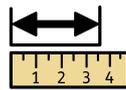
The Jade Emperor wanted to measure time.
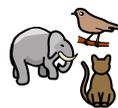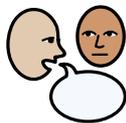
He told the animals to compete in a race.

The fastest would have years named after them.
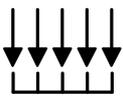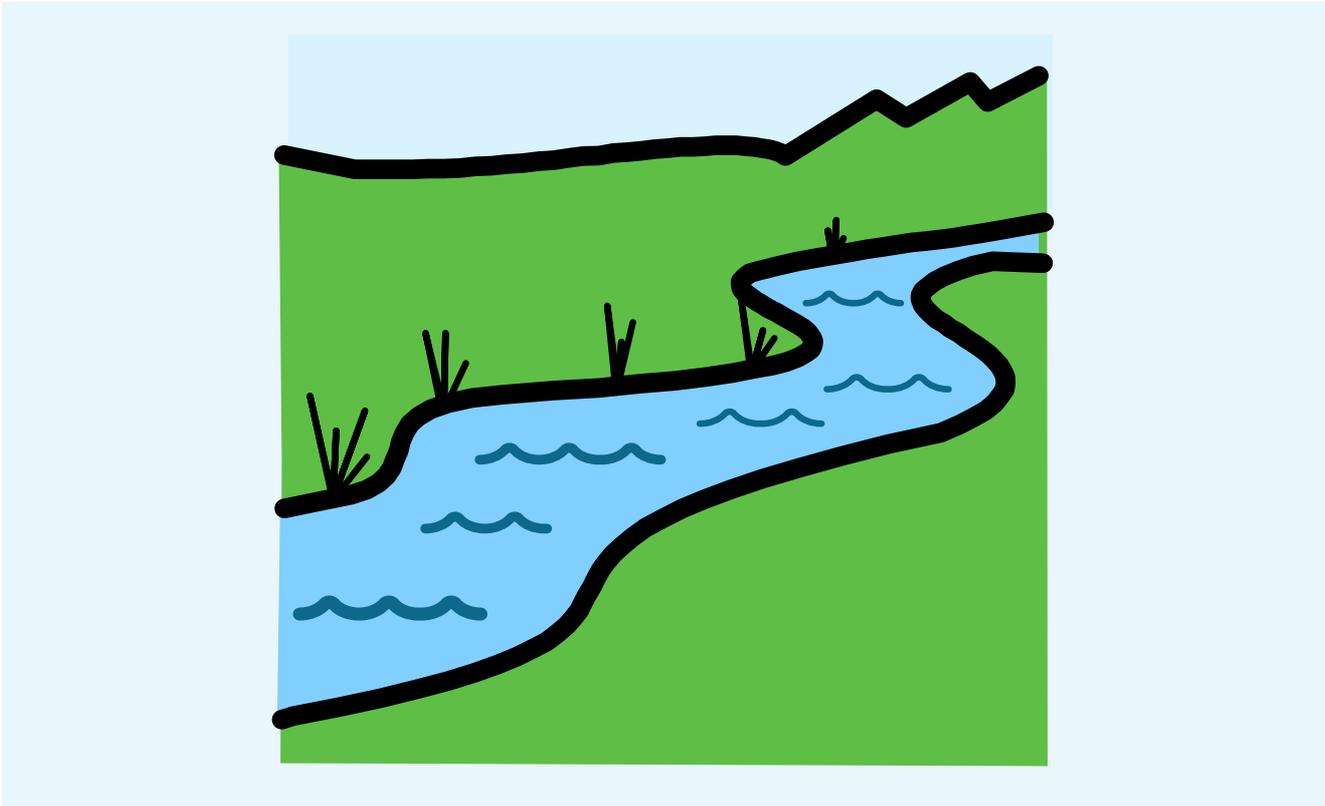
All the animals lined up besides the river.
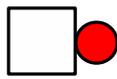
The rat and the cat were best friends.
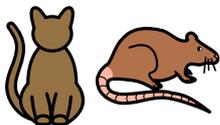
They were worried as they could not swim.
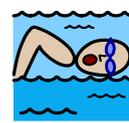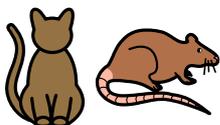
They asked the ox if he would carry them.

The ox agreed and the race began.

The rat and cat climbed onto the ox.

The ox was very good at swimming.
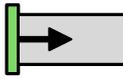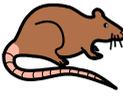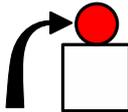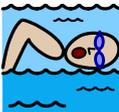
The ox was winning the race.
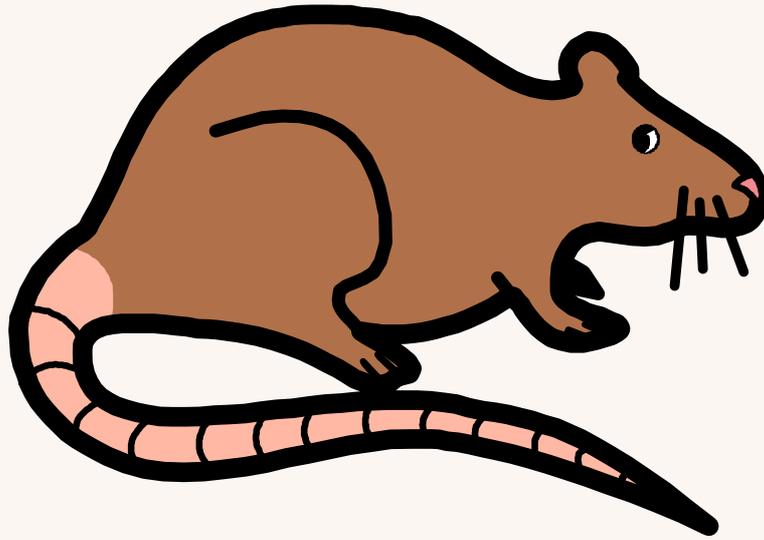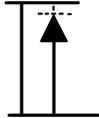
The ox was nearly at the other side.
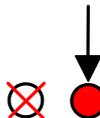
The rat pushed the cat into the water.
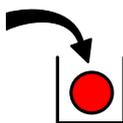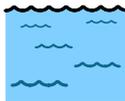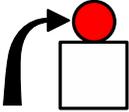
The rat then jumped onto the riverbank.
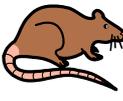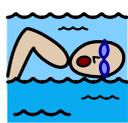
The rat, who couldn't swim, won the race!
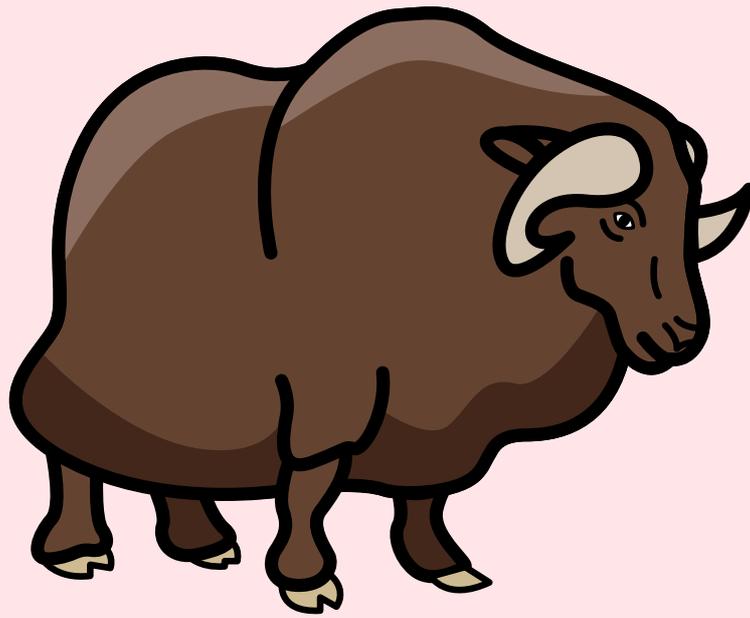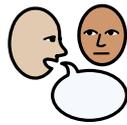
"Well done!" said the Jade Emperor to the rat.
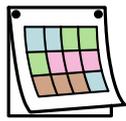
"The first year will be named after you."
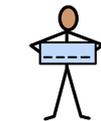
The ox had been tricked into second place.
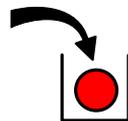
The second year was named after the ox.
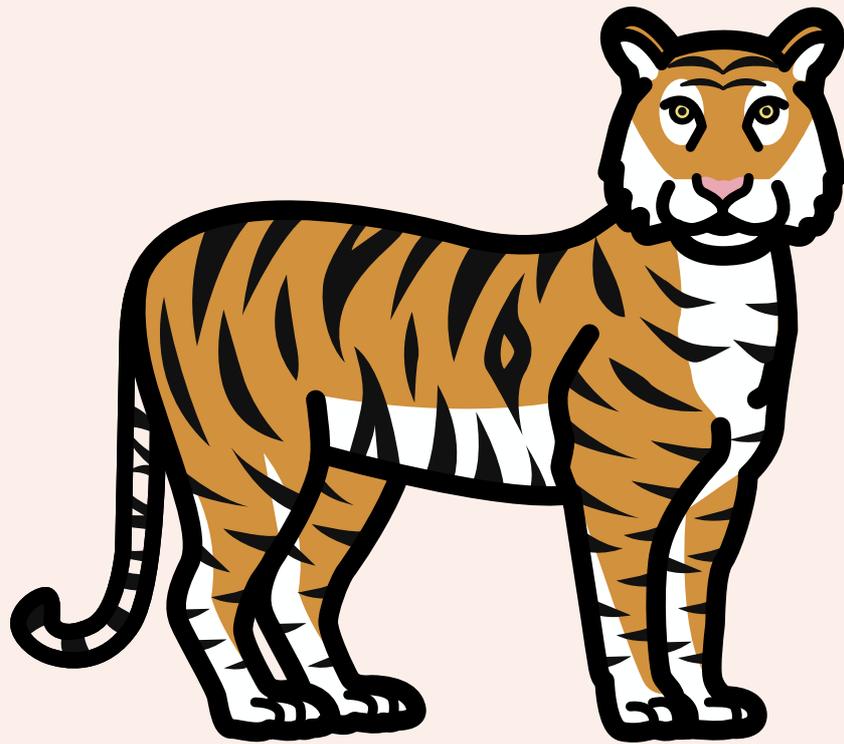
The tiger was the 3rd third to cross the river.
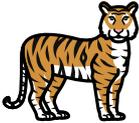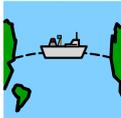
The Emperor named the 3rd third year after him.

The rabbit came next by floating on a log.

The Emperor named the 4th fourth year after him.
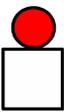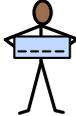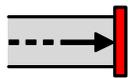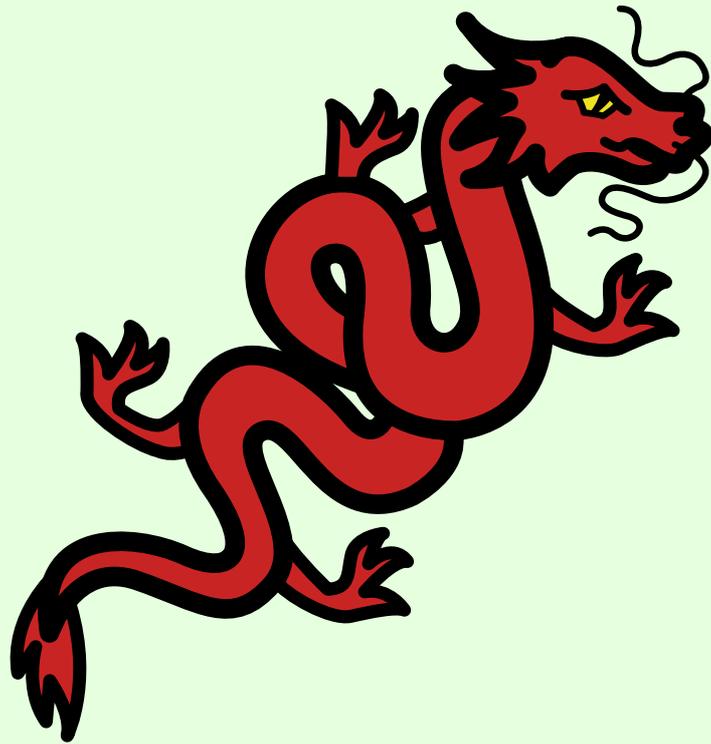
The dragon came in 5th fifth place.

The Jade Emperor asked why she did not fly?
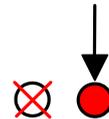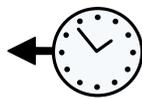
The dragon had stopped to help other animals.

The 5th fifth year was named after the dragon.
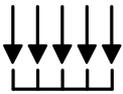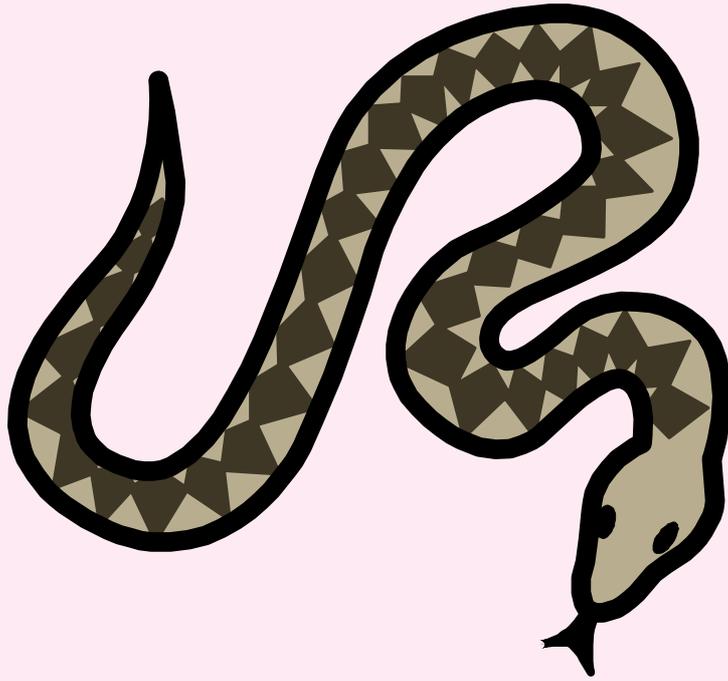
All the animals managed to cross the river.
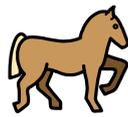
The snake and the horse finished next.
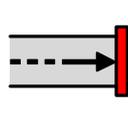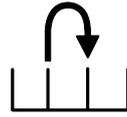
The sixth year was named after the snake.

The seventh year was named after the horse.
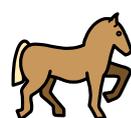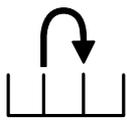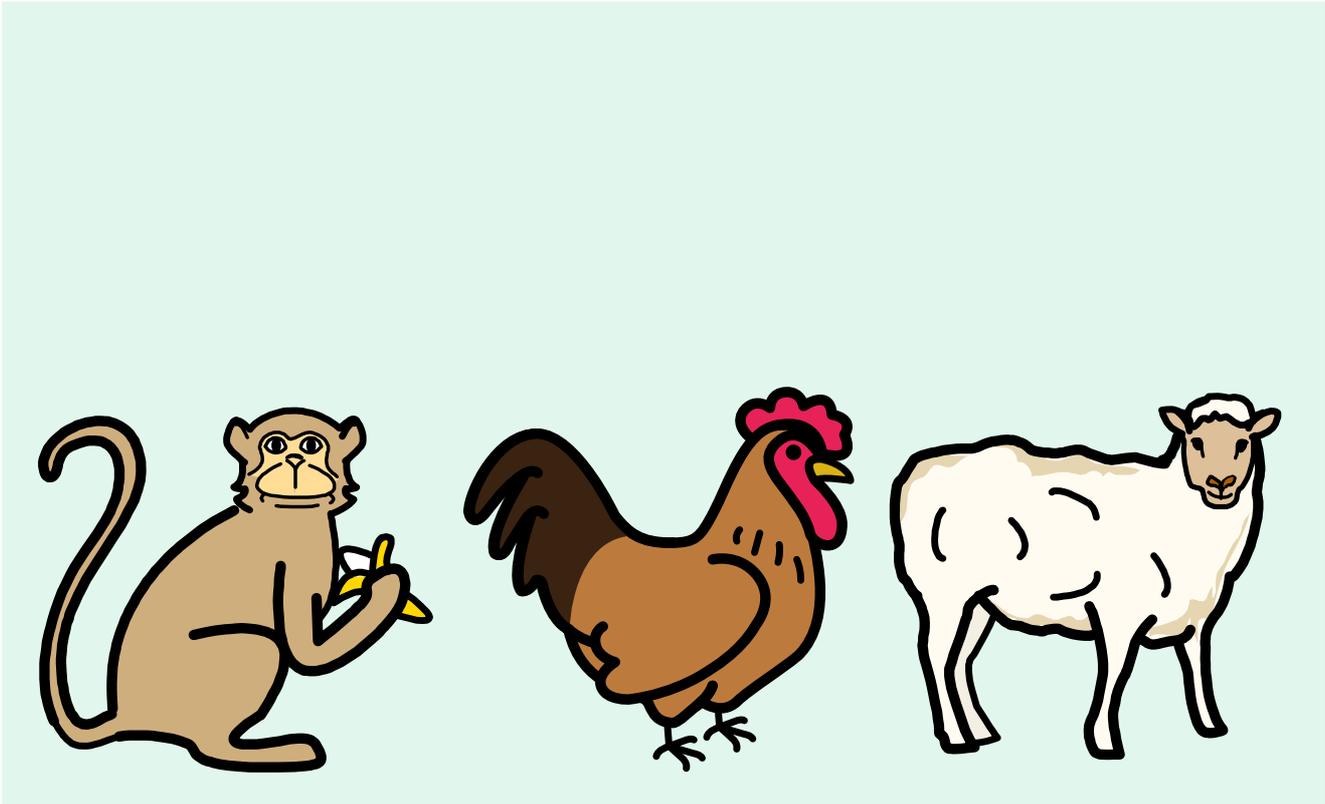
Next a raft arrived at the riverbank.

The raft carried the monkey, rooster and sheep.
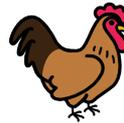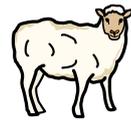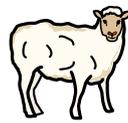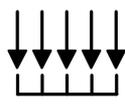
They had all worked as a team.

The Jade Emperor was very pleased.
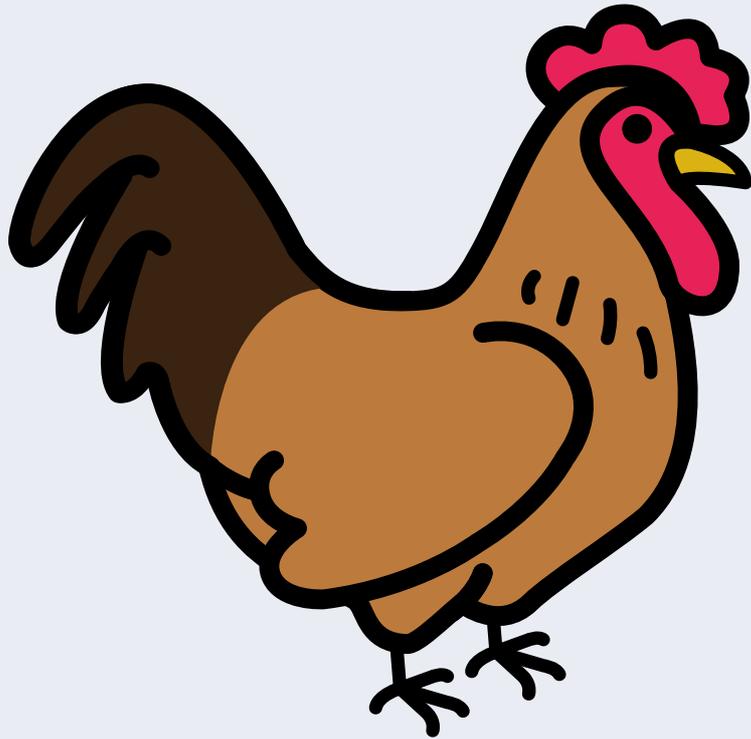
The 8th eighth year ✓ was named after the sheep.

The 9th ninth year ✓ was named after the monkey.

The 10th tenth year ✓ was named after the rooster.

There were only 2 places left.
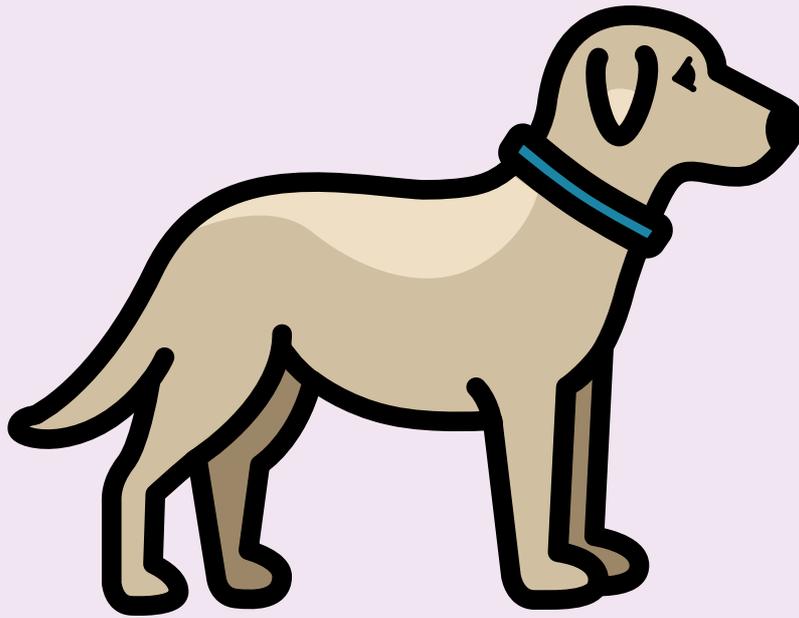
The dog arrived in 11th eleventh place.

He explained he had a bath along the way.
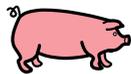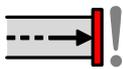
Finally the pig arrived in 12th twelfth place.
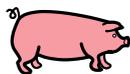
The pig had stopped for food and a sleep.
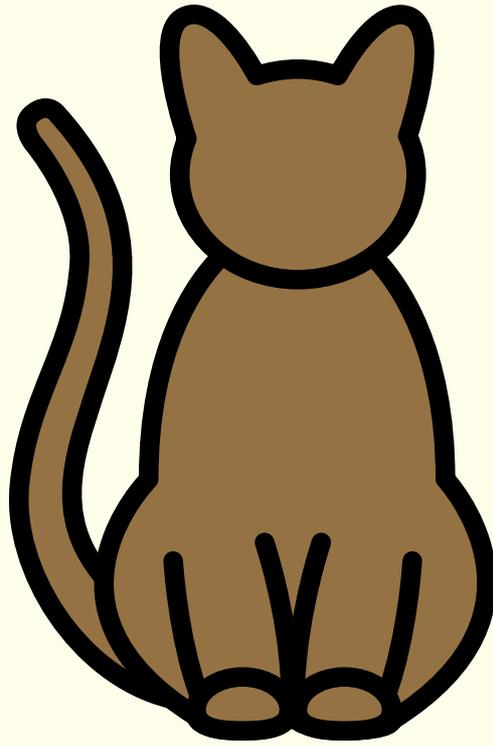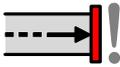
The cat finally crawled out of the river.

The cat was too late to win a year.

He was angry with the rat for pushing him.
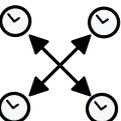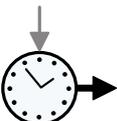
Ever since cats are not friends with rats.
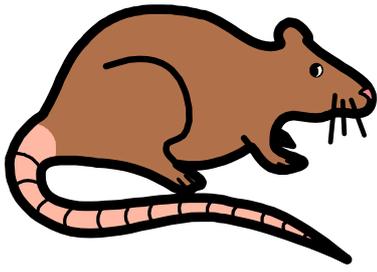
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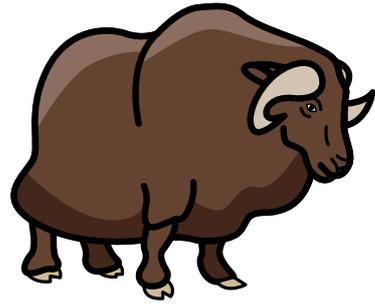
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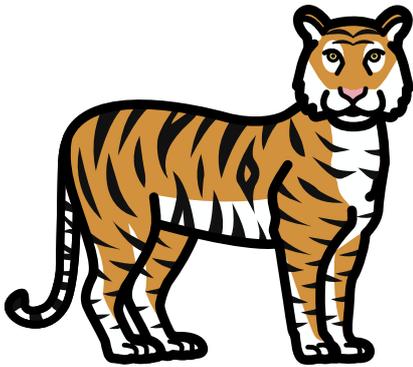
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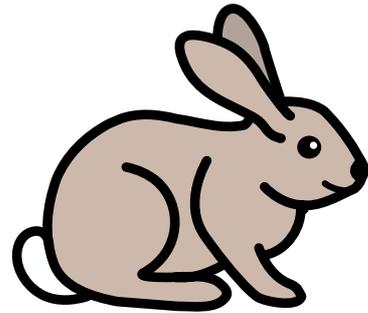
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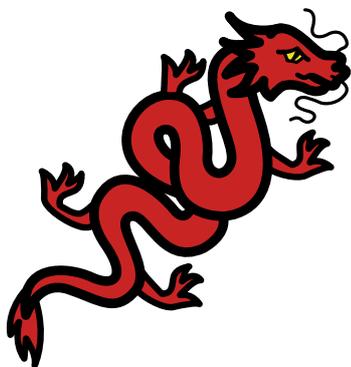
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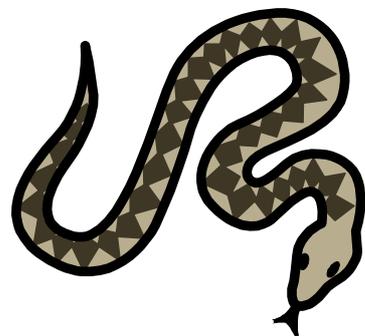
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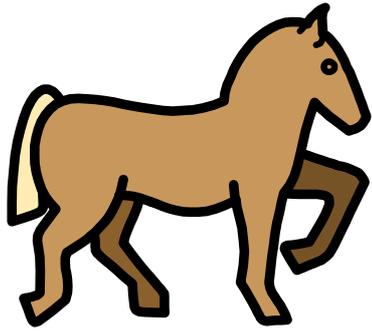
horse
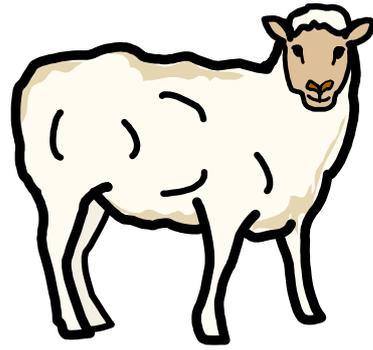
sheep

monkey

rooster

dog

pig