

THE ZODIAC RACE

THE ETON ACADEMY

By EtonHouse



Once upon a time, the Jade Emperor needed to think of a way to measure time, so he organised a race.

“The first 12 animals to cross the river will earn a spot on the Zodiac calendar!” he announced. The race would determine the order in which each animal was placed on the calendar.





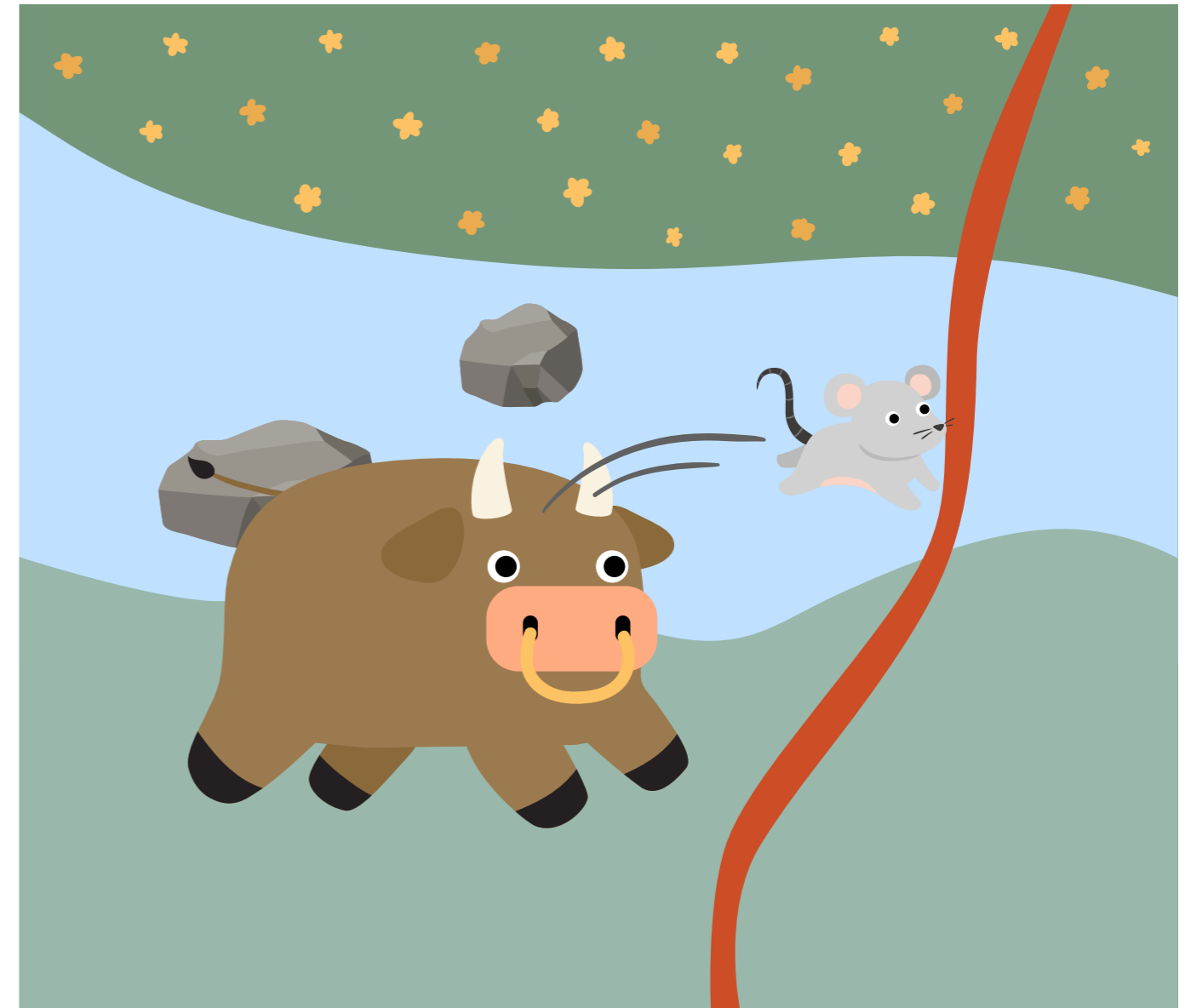
Rat arrived at the river and was horrified to see the swift-flowing waters. "Oh no! How am I going to get across?" he wailed.

Soon, Ox arrived. Rat pleaded with Ox, "Please, may I ride on your back?"

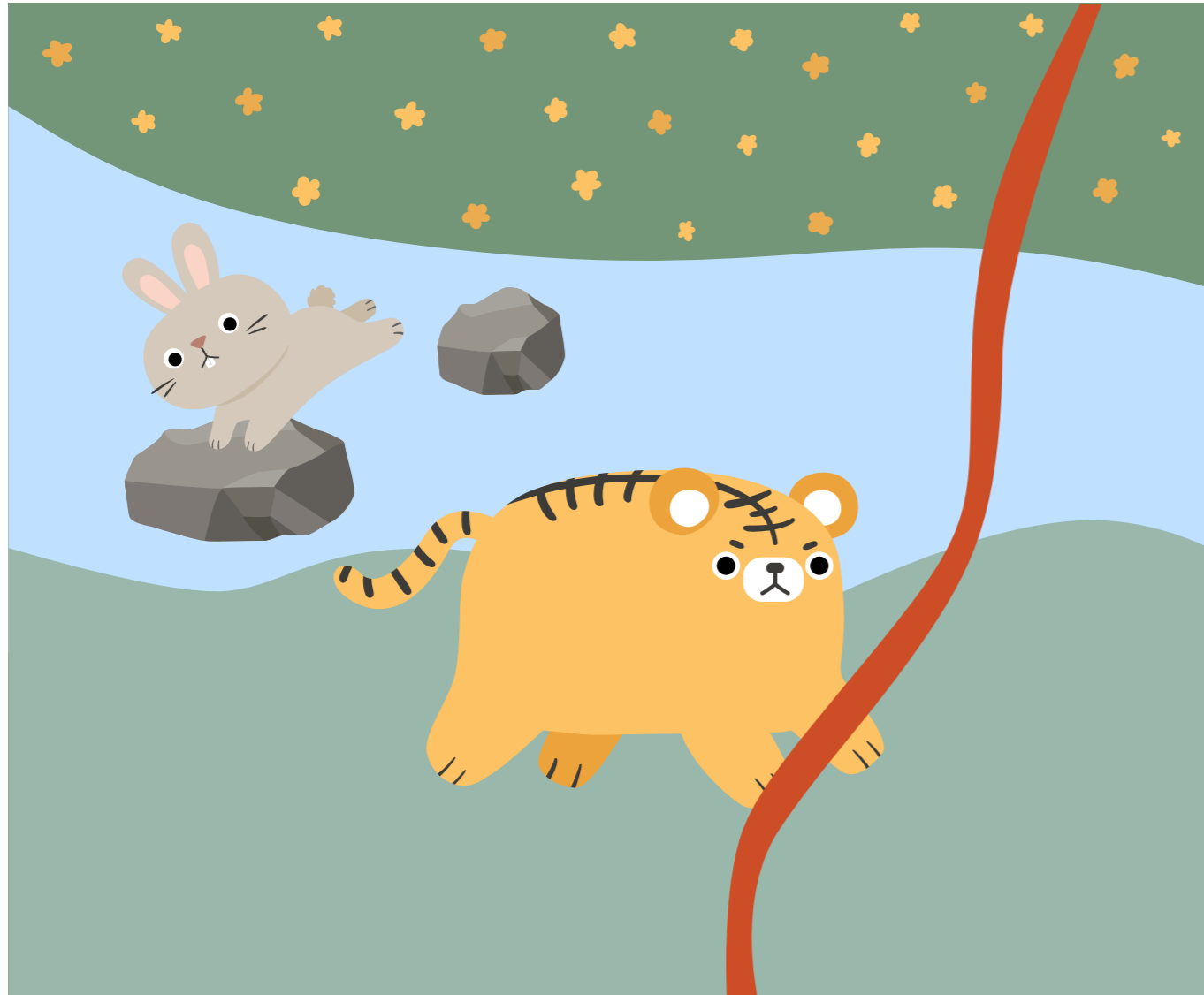
Kind-hearted Ox agreed and both crossed the river.

Just as they reached the other side, Rat jumped off Ox's head and scrambled ahead to reach the finishing line first!

Ox came in second.



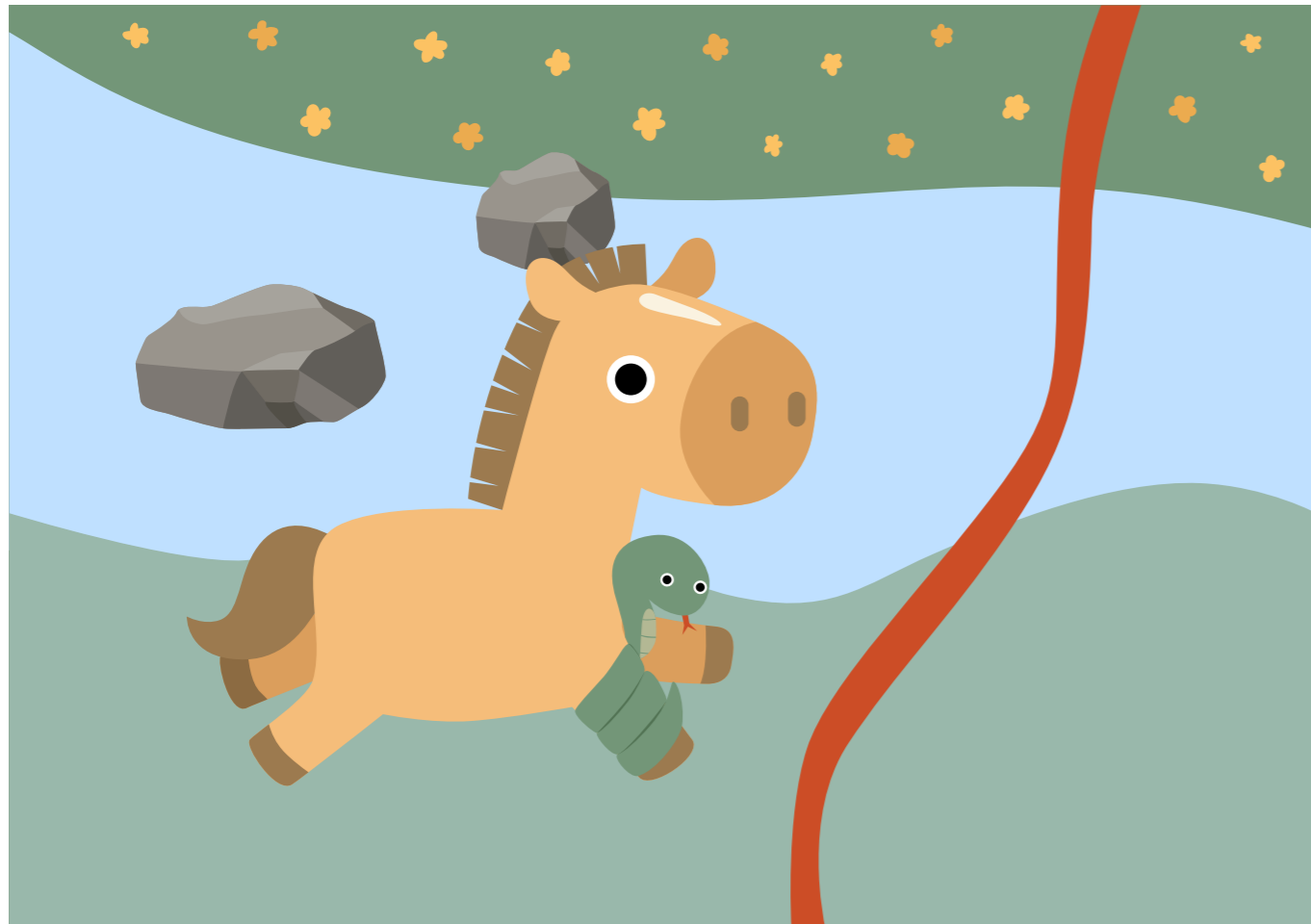
Powerful Tiger was right behind and came in third place.



Little Rabbit was too small for the currents, so he hopped on some stones to cross the river. "I'm 4th!" he announced when he arrived.

Dragon was on her way when she spotted a village on fire and stopped to extinguish the flames, saving the lives of the villagers. Therefore, she arrived in fifth place.





After her came Horse, swiftly galloping across the river. Horse did not notice that Snake had wrapped itself around his leg to hitch a ride. Once Horse crossed the river, Snake uncoiled itself and slithered into sixth place.

Horse was startled and reared back, then trotted into seventh place.

The Jade Emperor looked out at the river and spotted Goat, Monkey and Rooster. They had found a small raft and were working together to paddle across the river.

When they arrived, they agreed to give eighth place to Goat, who had been the most harmonious of them, followed by Monkey and Rooster.





Dog was an excellent swimmer, but he got distracted playing in the water, and only managed to come in 11th.



In twelfth place was Pig. Unfortunately, she was hungry and had stopped for a snack and a nap. She was the last to cross the finishing line.

“Finally!” exclaimed the Jade Emperor. “We have been waiting for you!”

All the animals celebrated after crossing the finishing line.

Till this day, each lunar year is represented by one of the animals in the order they had finished the race.



Activity Page

Let's review the names of the different Zodiac animals!

Match the stickers of the animals to their names below!

Place sticker here

Rat

Place sticker here

Ox

Place sticker here

Tiger

Place sticker here

Rabbit

Place sticker here

Dragon

Place sticker here

Snake

Place sticker here

Horse

Place sticker here

Goat

Place sticker here

Monkey

Place sticker here

Rooster

Place sticker here

Dog

Place sticker here

Pig



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The logo consists of the letters 'TEA' in a bold, sans-serif font. The letter 'T' is dark red, 'E' is yellow, and 'A' is green.

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