

AN INTERVIEW with Adam Rubin

Many students have read the books *Dragons Love Tacos* and *Dragons Love Tacos 2: The Sequel*. Kindergarten students at Strobridge Elementary in Castro Valley, CA put together a whole lot of questions for the author Adam Rubin and they loved these books so much, they went on to read more of Adam's books.



Q: How did you make the book?

A: I get this question a lot and I think some students are under the impression that I actually physically produce the books in my apartment ... I only write the words.

I use Google docs (just like a lot of students I know). After I'm finished writing, Dan draws the pictures and then all the digital files are sent to a factory in China where they print out the copies of the books for people to buy. The front and back cover are hard because there are thick pieces of cardboard hidden under the paper.

Q: How did you think of the idea?

A: When I was a kid, my dad had a little statue on his desk that looked like a dragon eating a taco. It made me think of the phrase "Dragons Love Tacos" which stuck in my head until I was an adult and it sounded like a good title for a picture book. I have the statue on my writing desk now.

Q: Where were you when you wrote the story?

A: I wrote *Dragons Love Tacos* at my kitchen table at night after work while I was working at an advertising agency in Chicago. I had a day job and wrote stories at night for the first seven years that I was an author.

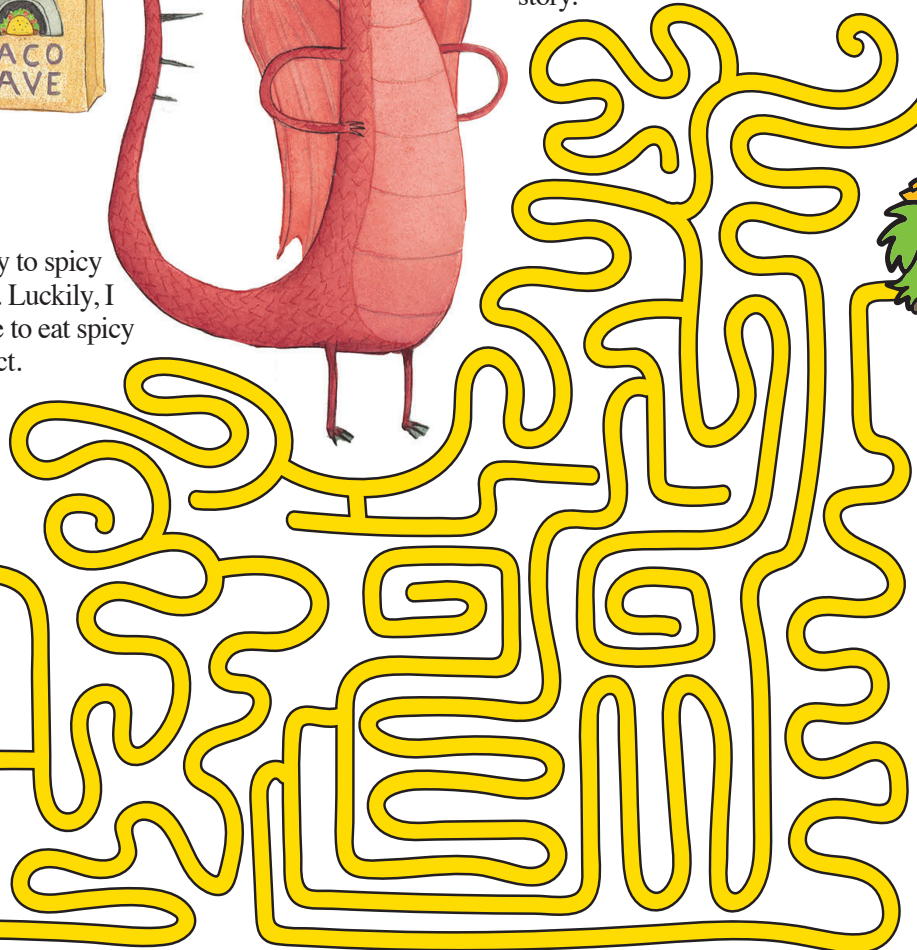
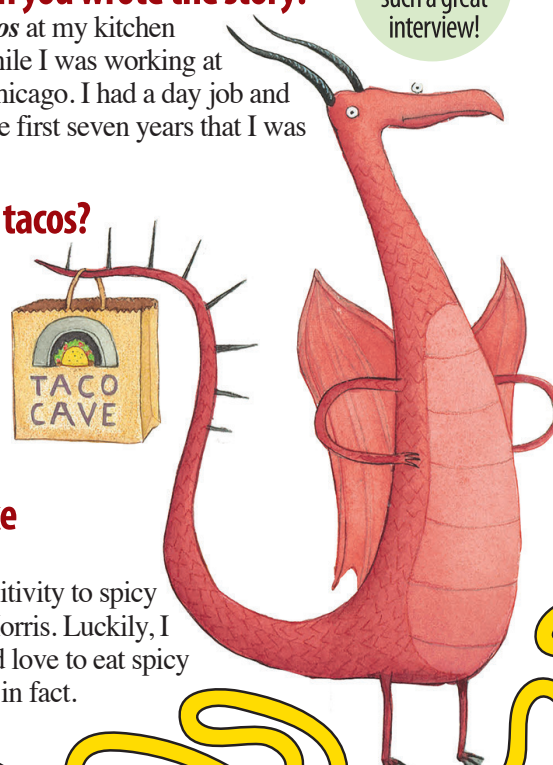
Q: Why do dragons love tacos?

A: Dragons love tacos for the same reasons I love tacos. Tacos are delicious, nutritious, fun to make and easy to eat. There are endless varieties. They are the perfect food!

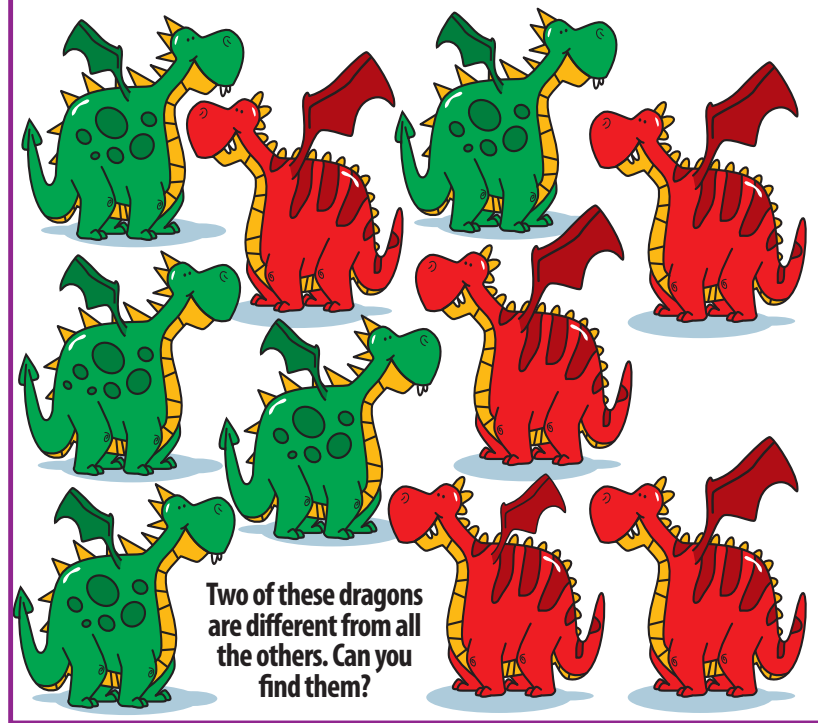
Q: Why don't dragons like spicy salsa?

Dragons have a special sensitivity to spicy foods, just like my Uncle Morris. Luckily, I have a stronger stomach and love to eat spicy salsa. The spicier the better, in fact.

Thank you to Adam Rubin for such a great interview!



Kid Scoop Puzzler



Two of these dragons are different from all the others. Can you find them?

Double Double Word Search

INTERVIEW
VARIETIES
DRAGONS
CHICAGO
INFERNO
AUTHOR
TACOS
STORY
WRITE
SEVEN
SMOKE
LOVE
FIRE
BOOK
FOOD

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

C	A	D	O	O	F	D	A	A	I
M	H	W	R	I	T	E	U	N	R
U	B	I	R	A	I	N	T	E	E
H	B	E	C	A	S	E	H	V	K
S	N	O	G	A	R	D	O	E	O
T	S	S	O	V	G	L	R	S	M
O	T	O	I	K	R	O	I	E	S
R	S	E	I	T	E	I	R	A	V
Y	W	O	N	R	E	F	N	I	S

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Headline Helpers

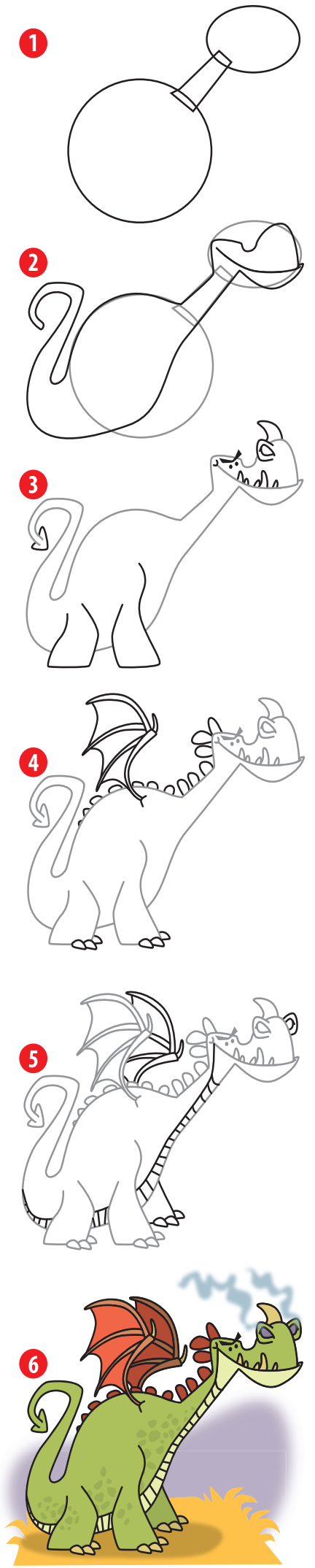
Select five headlines from the newspaper. Then rewrite them by using **synonyms** for the nouns and verbs. Synonyms are words that means the same thing as another word (For example, **good** = great, excellent, awesome).

Standards Link: Vocabulary: Use strategies of the writing process to write a variety of sentences.



What sounds do you hear when dragons eat spicy salsa?

ANSWER: Fire alarms!



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For more information about our literacy non-profit, visit kidscoopnews.org

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **PHYSICALLY**
The adverb **physically** means relating to the body not the mind.

Painting the mural was **physically** hard work.

Try to use the word **physically** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

Write On!

Reading Rocks

"I love to read because..."
Explain why and what you enjoy reading.