

Isesaki School English Magazine

2021
Winter

Impress

The World Wide Web

IMPRESS

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Next Issue



For the spring issue, we'd like to talk about our experiences around the world. Would you like to share or ask us anything? Let us know, and we'll send you something!

“Common sense is the collection of prejudices acquired by age eighteen.”

— *Albert Einstein*



When you look into the sky at night and see the stars, do you ever feel small and alone? People are really small, and the universe is huge.

But our world is not a big place anymore. That's why we sing the song *It's A Small World After All* at Disneyland. Our world is small because everything in our lives is connected to things all over the world.

Did you have *udon* for lunch? Well, the *udon* in our school lunch in Isesaki was made with wheat from the USA. The wheat came to Japan in a boat made in South Korea, crewed by people from the Philippines, using oil from Saudi Arabia. Even this simple *udon* comes from a connected web of different products. Everything and everyone is connected. This world-wide web is what we call globalism.

Maybe we don't imagine Isesaki as a global place. But we are connected to the world here, too. Car parts and clothes are always coming to Isesaki and going to other countries. People are always coming and going, too. A lot of us are from other countries or have family in other countries. We are really more global than we think.

There are a lot of things in our lives that we don't think about. But when we stop to think about it, there are a lot of simple things in our lives that are really amazing. That *udon* in our lunch, for example. It's proof that when we are all connected together, we can make the impossible seem easy.

— *George*

夜空の星を見ると、自分を小さく感じることはありますか？人々は本当に小さく、宇宙は巨大です。しかし、私たちの世界はもはや大きな場所ではありません。だから私たちはディズニーランドで「小さな世界」を歌っているのです。私たちの人生の中のすべてのものが世界中のものに接続されているため、世界は小さいのです。

学校給食のうどんを食べたことがあるでしょう。その伊勢崎産のうどんはアメリカ産の小麦で作られました。その小麦はサウジアラビアの石油を使って、フィリピンの人々が乗船した韓国産の船で日本にやって来ました。このシンプルなおでんさえ、さまざまな製品の接続されたウェブから来ています。すべてとすべての人がつながっています。このワールドワイドウェブは、私たちがグローバルイズムと呼んでいるものです。

伊勢崎は世界的な場所だと思わないかもしれませんが、私たちはここでも世界とつながっています。車の部品、服、人々も伊勢崎から他の国に行き、他の国から伊勢崎にきています。私たちの多くは他の国から来ているか、他の国に家族がいます。私たちが思っているよりも、伊勢崎市は本当にグローバルなのです。

私たちの生活の中には、シンプルなものがたくさんあります。しかし、ちょっと考えてみると、シンプルではありません。例えば給食のグローバルなおでん。世界の全員がつながっているなら、不可能を簡単に思えるようにすることが出来ます。

The Global Food Trade

Have you ever thought about where the food that you eat comes from? In our elementary school textbooks, we are learning about where food comes from. A lot of the meat and vegetables in our food comes from Gunma! But many others come from very far away. Let's take a look at some examples!



Natto chahan
The Soybean is from America.
The rice is from Ise-saki.
The egg is from Japan.
It's delicious.



Konkon udon
The wheat is from America.
The leek is from Ise-saki.
The soy bean is from Brazil.
It's delicious.



Japan sushi
The rice is from Ise-saki.
The tuna is from Niigata.
The green tea is from Shizuoka.
It's delicious.



Salmon sushi
The rice is from Ise-saki.
The salmon is from Norway.
It's delicious.



Yasai ramen
The wheat is from America.
The leek is from Ise-saki.
The pork is from Gunma.
It's delicious.



Delicious pasta
The wheat is from America.
The milk is from Hokkaido.
The pork is from Ise-saki.
It's delicious.



Ise-saki naporitan
The wheat is from America.
The tomato is from Ise-saki.
The corn is from Ise-saki.
It's delicious.



Marugerita Pizza
The wheat is from America.
The cheese is from America.
The tomato is from Ise-saki.
It's delicious.

In Our Supermarkets



A lot of cabbage, konnyaku, and corn comes from Gunma.



A lot of meat is from Gunma, the USA, or Australia.



A lot of carrots, onions, and potatoes come from Hokkaido.



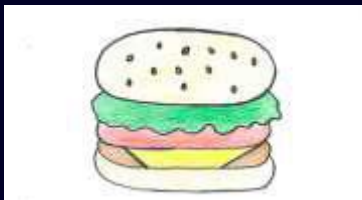
A lot of seafood comes from other countries!

What Do Where Is

by students of Akabo



Hayashi rice
The tomato is from Italy.
The rice is from Isesaki.
The onion is from Hokkaido.
It's delicious.



hamburger
The beef is from Australia.
The cheese is from Italy.
The tomato is from Isesaki.
It's delicious.

We Eat?



Tochi otome
The strawberry is from Tochigi.
It's sweet.

rd

It From?



Gunma lunch
The rice is from Isesaki.
The egg is from Japan.
The tomato is from Japan.
It's delicious.

ri Elementary School



My home hamburger.
The beef is from Isesaki.
The onion is from Isesaki.
The tomato is from Gunma.
It's delicious.



Cheeseburger.
The Bread is from America.
The Cheese is from America.
The Beef is from America.
It's Delicious.



Corn potage.
The corn is from America.
The milk is from Isesaki.
The salt is from Australia.
It's delicious.



Delicious steak
The beef is from America.
The corn is from Isesaki.
The broccoli is from Gunma.
It's very delicious.

Let's do a little quiz!

Q1: Which country produces the most kiwi fruit?
A: Brazil
B: China
C: New Zealand

Q2: Which country produces the most beef?
A: Australia
B: The USA
C: Brazil

Q3: Which country produces the most bananas?
A: The Philippines
B: The USA
C: India

Q4: Which country produces the most rice?
A: Japan
B: China
C: India

Japan's Top 3 Food Imports

1. **Soybeans.** We use them for tofu, miso, natto, and soy sauce.



2. **Wheat.** We use it for bread and noodles.



3. **Corn.** Do we really eat that much corn? (No, but pigs and cows do!)

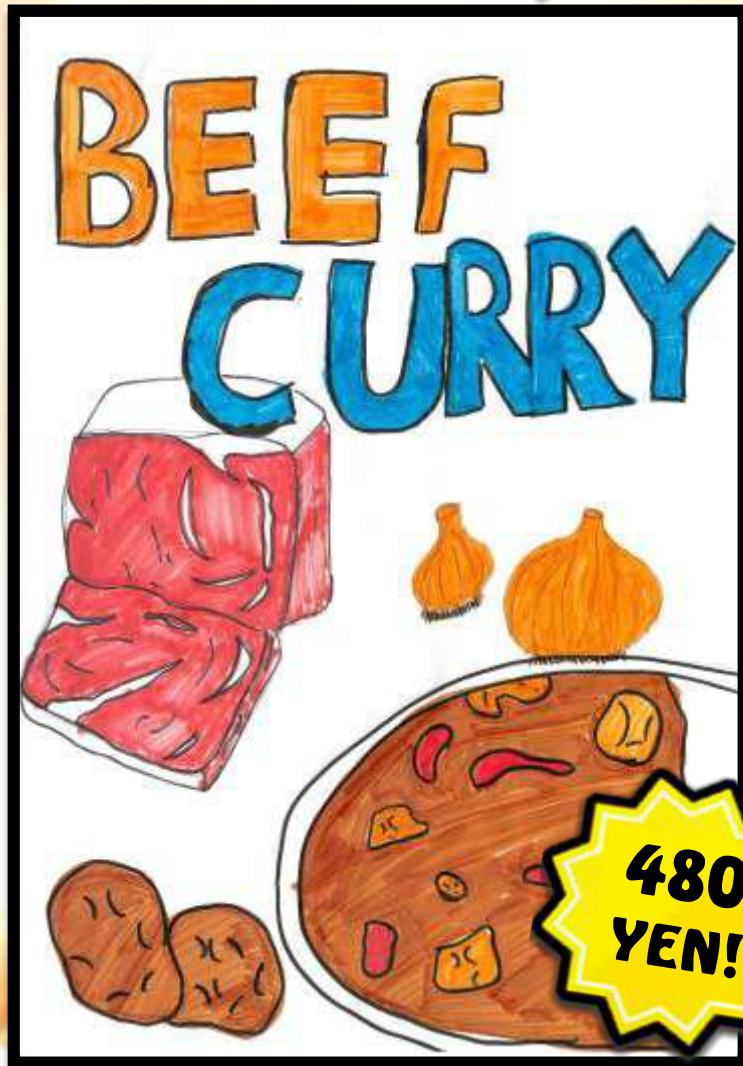


Quiz Answers: 1B, 2C, 3C, 4B

Today's

by the 6th graders of Azuma

Beef Curry



480
YEN!

Chicken

fall fl
ful
chick



840
YEN!

This is my Power-up beef curry.

The beef is from Australia

The onion is from Awa-ji-shima

The potato is from Hokkaido.

Beef curry is yummy.

Beef is in the red group.

Today's curry is

Really? It's m

The chicken is

Really? I like

Chicken is in the

Ok! 2 chicken c

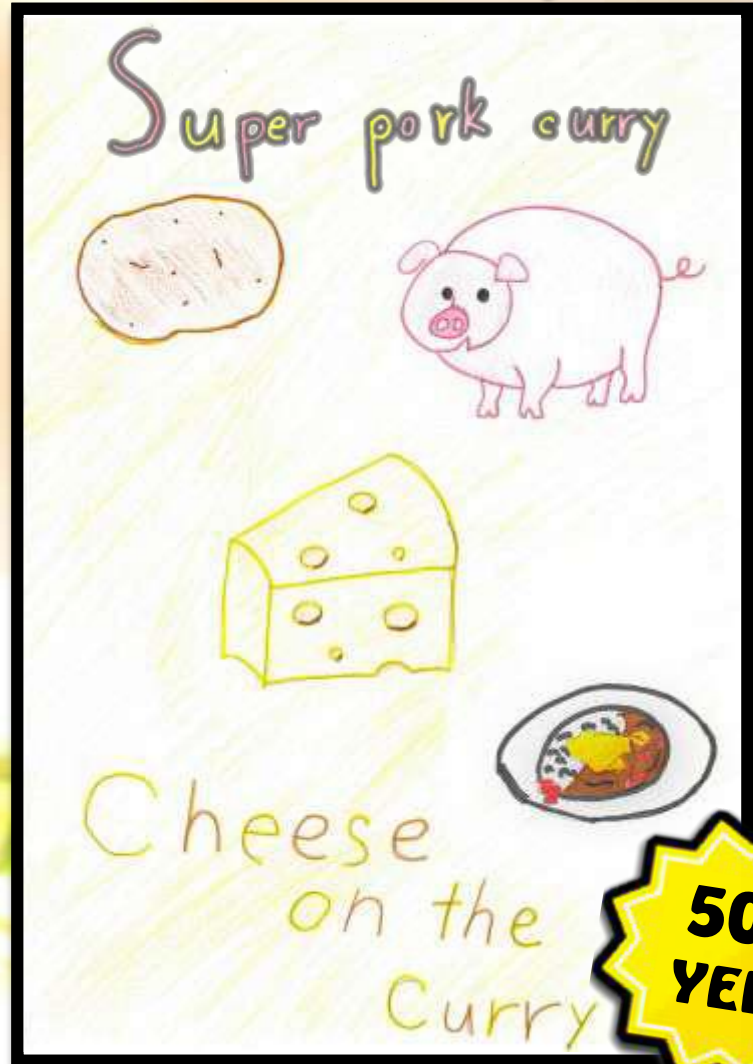
s Curry

Minami Elementary School

Curry



Pork Curry



chicken curry.
my favorite curry.
s from Gunma.
e Gunma chicken
e red group.
urries, please.

This is a curry shop
please eat curry & relax
Where is the pork from?
The pork is from Kagoshima.
The carrot is from Hokkaido.
so delicious, curry is yummy

This was my dinner

I ate...



The spaghetti is from Italy.
Spaghetti is in the yellow group.
 and...

The clams is from Aich.
Clams is in the red group.

I usually eat Rice for dinner.

Food For Thought

Before you take another bite¹ of that tasty² gyoza, stop and think for a moment³. Where is it from? I mean, the label says *Made in Gunma*, but where do the ingredients⁴ come from? How about the flour in the gyoza wrapping⁵? The chives⁶? Even the soy sauce you just dipped⁷ it in was probably⁸ made with ingredients from overseas.

The truth is that without international trade⁹, we wouldn't be able to have all of those nice things on our plate. With a food self-sufficiency¹⁰ of around 38%, Japan needs to import¹¹ a huge amount¹² of food to feed the population. For example, just 6% of soybeans are produced¹³ in Japan, so the remaining¹⁴ 94%

This was my dinner

I ate...

The shrimp is from Thailand.
Shrimp is in the red group.
 and...

The tomato is from Gunma.
Tomato is in the green group.

I usually eat salad for dinner.
 It's really good! Thank you.

This was my dinner

I ate...

The benetton is from China.
Benetton is in the green group.
 and...

The tomato is from Gunma.
Tomato is in the green group.

I usually eat salad for dinner.
 It's really good! Thank you.

This was my dinner

I ate...

The beef is from America.
Beef is in the red group.
 and...

The mushroom is from Gunma.
Mushroom is in the green group.

I usually eat salad for dinner.
 It's really good! Thank you.

This was my breakfast

I ate...

The lettuce is from Kansai.
Lettuce is in the green group.
 and...

The cucumber is from Gunma.
Cucumber is in the green group.

I usually eat rice for breakfast.
 It's really good! Thank you.

This was my breakfast

I ate...

The egg is from Osaka.
Egg is in the red group.
 and...

The rice is from Gunma.
Rice is in the yellow group.

I usually eat rice for breakfast.
 It's really good! Thank you.

This was my dinner

I ate...

The cheese is from Hokkaido.
Cheese is in the yellow group.
 and...

The carrot is from Thailand.
Carrot is in the green group.

I usually eat rice for dinner.
 It's really good! Thank you.

Vocabulary

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| 1. bite | 一口 |
| 2. tasty | おいしい |
| 3. for a moment | ちょっとした間、一瞬 |
| 4. ingredients | 材料 |
| 5. flour wrapping | 小麦粉のラッピング (皮) |
| 6. chives | ニラ |
| 7. dipped in | ～に浸した |
| 8. probably | おそらく |
| 9. international trade | 国際貿易 |

by Ryan Ballantine

with dinner introductions
by students of Misato
Elementary School

must be imported from places ²²
like the US, Canada and Brazil.
Your natto, tofu, and soy sauce is
thanks to ¹⁵ trade. A whopping ¹⁶ ²⁵
90% of Japan's wheat is also
shipped from ¹⁷ Australia, the US,
and Canada, too. So that wrap
on your gyoza is made possible ¹⁸
by farmers overseas. As for rice, ³⁰
well, Japan has that covered.
97% of rice for consumption ¹⁹ is
grown here mainly in Hokkaido,
Akita and Niigata.

So please enjoy your cabbage ³⁵
from Gunma with some Aussie
beef, American pork, bananas
from the Philippines, and
avocados from Mexico.

Bon appétit and *Gochisosama* ⁴⁰
deshita.

- 10. self-sufficiency
- 11. import / export
- 12. amount
- 13. produced in
- 14. remaining
- 15. thanks to
- 16. whopping
- 17. shipped from
- 18. make possible
- 19. consumption

- 自給自足
- 輸入 / 輸出
- 分量
- 〜で生産された
- 残っている (の)
- 〜のおかげで
- なんと
- 〜から出荷
- 可能にする
- 消費 (人が食べるための)

This was my dinner

I ate...



The chicken is from Gunma.
Chicken is in the red group.
and...

The pineapple is from Filipin.
pineapple is in the green group.
I usually eat pork for dinner.

This was my dinner

I ate...

The rice is from Niigata.
rice is in the yellow group.
and...
The salmon is from Norway.
Salmon is in the red group.
I usually eat soup for dinner.
It's really good! Thank you.

This was my dinner

I ate...

The fish is from Hokkaido.
Fish is in the red group.
and...
The rice is from Akita.
Rice is in the yellow group.
I usually eat soup for dinner.
It's really good! Thank you.

This was my dinner

I ate...

The rice is from Gunma.
rice is in the yellow group.
and...
The pork is from Canada.
pork is in the red group.
I usually eat rice for dinner.
It's really good! Thank you.

This was my dinner

I ate...

The chicken is from Japan.
Chicken is in the red group.
and...
The rice is from Yamaguchi.
rice is in the yellow group.
I usually eat rice for dinner.
It's really good! Thank you.

This was my dinner

I ate...

The white bean is from Shizuoka.
White bean is in the red group.
and...
The cabbage is from Chiba.
Cabbage is in the green group.
I usually eat rice for dinner.
It's really good! Thank you.

This was my dinner

I ate...

The beef is from Australia.
Beef is in the red group.
and...
The potato is from Hokkaido.
potato is in the yellow group.
I usually eat potato for dinner.
It's really good! Thank you.

The Bringer of Gifts



In Japan and in the USA, Santa Claus is the person who brings us gifts. But Santa isn't the only one who gives people gifts. There are many other gift-bringers¹ in the world. Let's learn about some of them!

A. Saint Nicholas was a Greek² Christian³ man who helped many people. In Dutch⁴, his name is *Sinterklaas*. He gives us presents on his birthday, December 6th.

B. The Yule Goat⁵ comes from Norse⁶ legends⁷. In Finland, the Yule Goat is a goat-man who wears red clothes⁸ and rides a sleigh⁹ pulled by reindeer¹⁰.

C. Two of the Norse gods¹¹ are a lot like Santa, but they don't give us gifts. You might know of them from the *Avengers* movies. Odin is an old man with a long white beard¹². And Thor rides a chariot¹³ pulled by two goats.

D. Long ago in Sweden and Norway, a gnome¹⁴, or little man, protected¹⁵ farms. These days, he brings us presents together with the Yule Goat or a pig.

E. In Russia, Father Frost¹⁶ and his granddaughter the Snow Maiden¹⁷ give children gifts on December 31st. And in the UK, Father Christmas brings gifts to people.

F. Not all gift-bringers are old men. In Italy, La Befana is an old woman on a broomstick¹⁸ that brings us gifts. In some countries, the baby Christ child, called *Christkindl*, or the Three Wise Men bring us gifts on January 6th.

In some countries, there are two or three gift-bringers. So some lucky people get gifts twice!

1. bringer
持ってくる人
2. Greek
ギリシャの～
3. Christian
キリスト教の
4. Dutch
オランダ語
5. goat
ヤギ
6. Norse
ノルド
(北欧神話)
7. legend
神話・伝説
8. clothes
服
9. sleigh
そり
10. reindeer
トナカイ
11. god
神様
12. beard
あごひげ
13. chariot
チャリオット
馬車
14. gnome
小鬼
15. protect
守る
16. frost
霜 (しも)
17. maiden
少女
18. broomstick
ほうき





Gift Bringers From Around the World



(And two who are not. Who are they?)



サンタさんだけではない！

世界のなかにはたくさんのサンタのようなプレゼントを送る人がいます。
殖蓮第二小学校の皆様、サンタの絵を描いてくださりありがとうございます！

In Other Words

People are always finding new ways of saying things. Sometimes things are too gross or scary to say. Or sometimes we just want to be creative. Look at the questions below. Can you match them to the correct meanings?

Q1: The last time we went to the beach, I got hit by a **bird missile**. It was gross.



Q2: It was cold, so I put on some **finger pants**.



Q3: My dad turned 40 last week. Now he's **over the hill**.



Q4: My grandmother **passed away** last week. I'm still really sad.



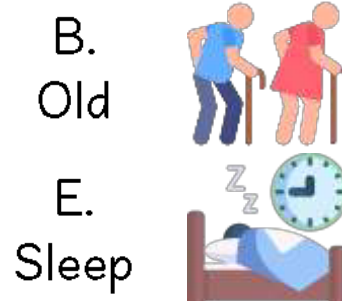
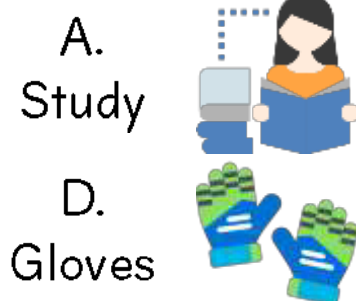
Q5: I stayed up until 2 last night, so I'm gonna go home after school and **crash**.



Q6: We have a hard test tomorrow, so I really have to **hit the books**.



Meanings



The 2020 English Haiku Contest

Thanks to all of the students and teachers who participated in our summer haiku contest! All of your haiku were excellent! They were very creative.

Please enjoy reading the these winning haiku!

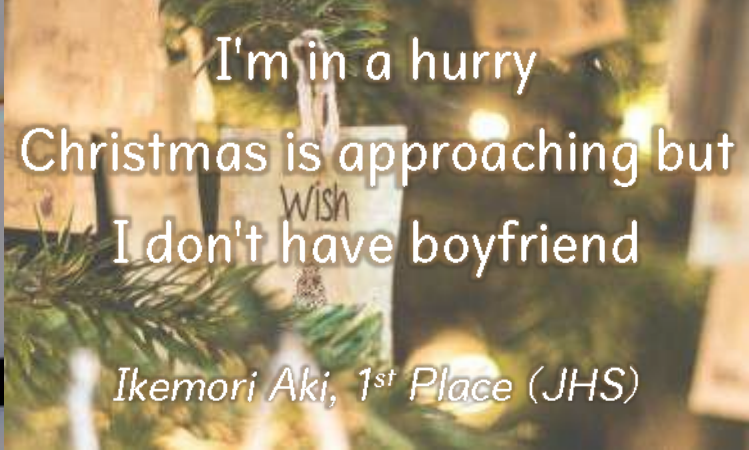


Autumn night

Play with the rabbit

In the moon

Yoshida Maya, 1st Place (ES)



I'm in a hurry

Christmas is approaching but

I don't have boyfriend

Ikemori Aki, 1st Place (JHS)



Looking up

Shining fire balls

In the sky

Ichikawa Yuki, 2nd Place (ES)



Try everything

Everyone makes mistakes

But they try again

Matsumura Yuto, 2nd Place (JHS)



With my friends

Eat under the shade

Cool shaved ice

Amagai Eita, 3rd Place (ES)



My zipper is down

Nobody told me all day

Who are my real friends?

Itai Tatsuki, 3rd Place (JHS)

If you would like to read more of these haiku, please check out the haiku contest book at in.isesaki.in/contestbook

More than 200 students participated this year.

We hope you participate next year, too!

Changing Lives



My Adventure in Taiwan

When I was in Taiwan, my host mother made me one dish. She said "Just try it."

It looked like chicken. Actually, it was delicious.

I asked her "What's this?"

She said, "It's legs of frogs."

When I found out it was frog, I was surprised. But getting to used to it, it gradually felt tasty. It was not so different from real chicken.

If I go to Taiwan again, I would eat it again.



Is this chicken?

My high school teacher taught me that English is interesting. So I decided to be an English teacher.

My high school English was mainly focused on reading and writing. There was little conversation. But my teacher showed me some good music like Led Zeppelin and Nirvana. So I started listening to English songs. I listened to NHK English radio programs everyday, so I didn't have a hard time studying English.

I like English because I like English songs and movies. I like the movies *The Shawshank Redemption* (from 1994) and *Shine* (from 1996). *Shawshank* has a surprising ending. *Shine* has beautiful classic music. Recently, I saw *Joker* (from 2019). It was horrible. The main actor is wonderful.

English is important because Japan has an open country policy. Many people from other countries come to Japan. English is important for working with them. So students need to study English. Everyday small steps are very important for learning English.

Yoshihiro Yamada is an exciting teacher at Akabori Elementary School. He can play the *shakuhachi*, the Japanese flute. He is always thinking of how to teach English in an easy-to-understand manner.

Winter in History

Credits



Jingle Bells is a famous Christmas song. But it wasn't written for Christmas. Many people say it was written for Thanksgiving.

Millions of soldiers died during World War I. But in 1914, soldiers stopped fighting to enjoy Christmas together.



A long time ago, January was called the Wolf Month because hungry wolves would come out to look for food.



Every year on February 2nd, we ask a groundhog about the weather. If he sees his shadow, the weather will be cold for 6 more weeks!



Have you ever played the game *Monopoly*? Originally made to teach people about money, it was first put on sale in February, 1935.



Covers and introduction
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Bananas. StockSnap [CC0], <https://in.isesaki.in/3oqpjeD>
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Italian Flag. Jorono [CC0], <https://in.isesaki.in/2JPPOLq>
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Fun with Phonics

The letter **Y** makes 4 different sounds!

What does it sound like when it comes at the end of a word?

In very **short** words, **Y** says: “**ai** (aɪ, ʔɪ).”



In **longer** words with more than one vowel sound, **Y** says: “**ee** (i, ɪ—).”

