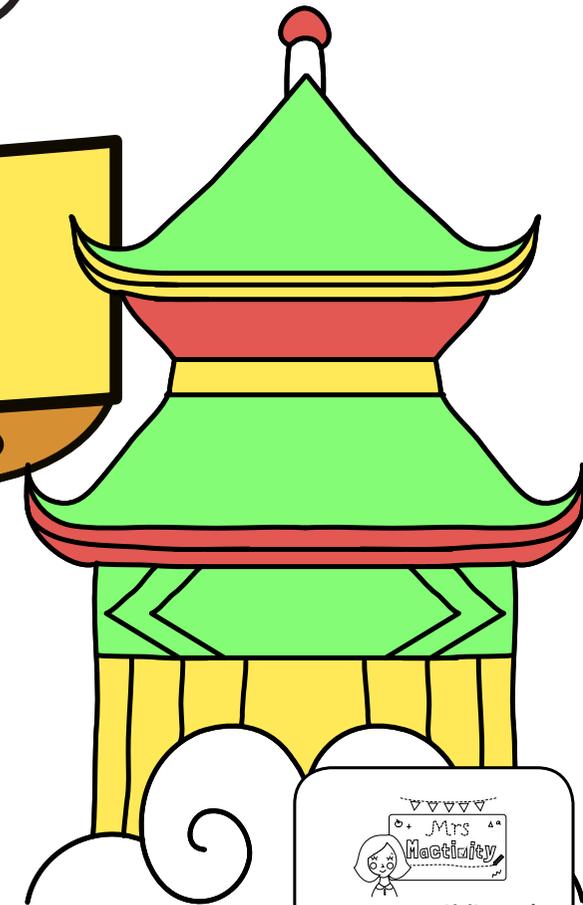


The Chinese Zodiac Story

The Great Race

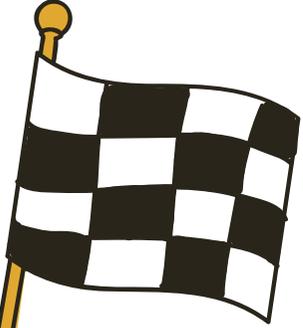


The Jade Emperor
wanted to measure
time to work out
how old he was.
He decided to have
a swimming race
with different
types of animals.

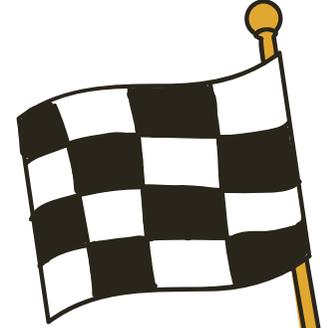


The Emperor invited thirteen animals down to the river to take part but he only needed twelve for his zodiac.





The Racers



Tiger

Snake

Rat

Rabbit

Monkey

Dog

Pig



Cat

Rooster

Goat

Horse

Ox

and even a Dragon!

The Emperor explained that the winner would be the first one to have a year named after them.

The race started and the ox was soon ahead with rat and cat on his back.



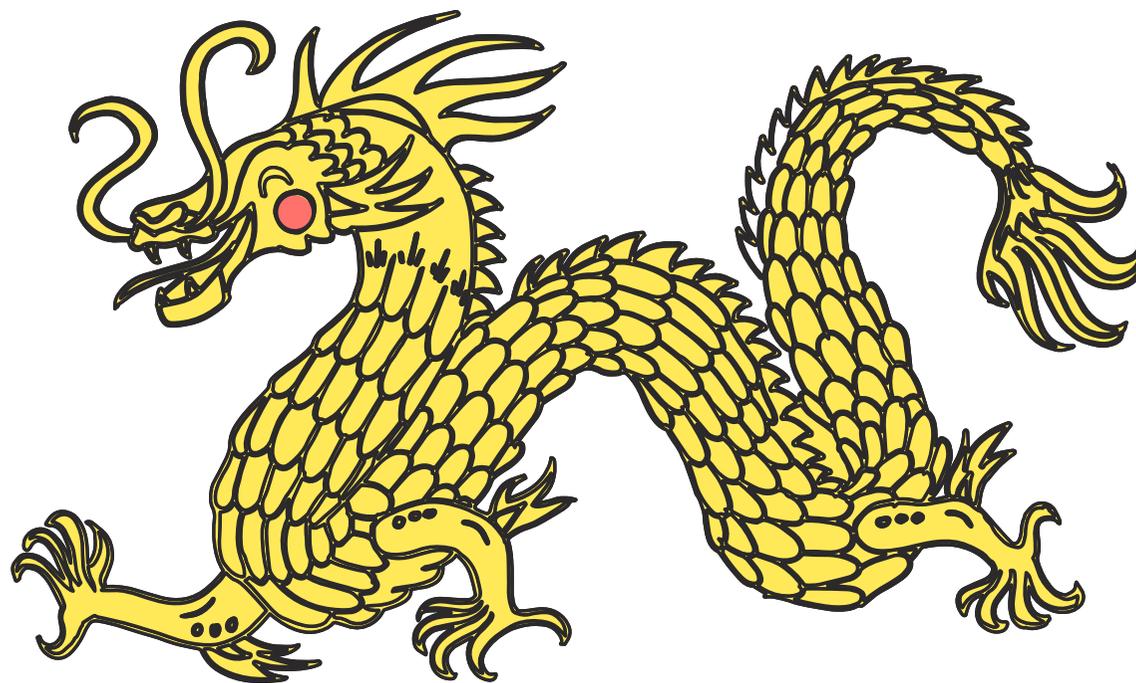
The sneaky sneaky rat pushed
the cat back into the water!
Rat came first and ox second.



Next came the tiger and he was soon followed by the rabbit, who had bounced across on stones and logs.



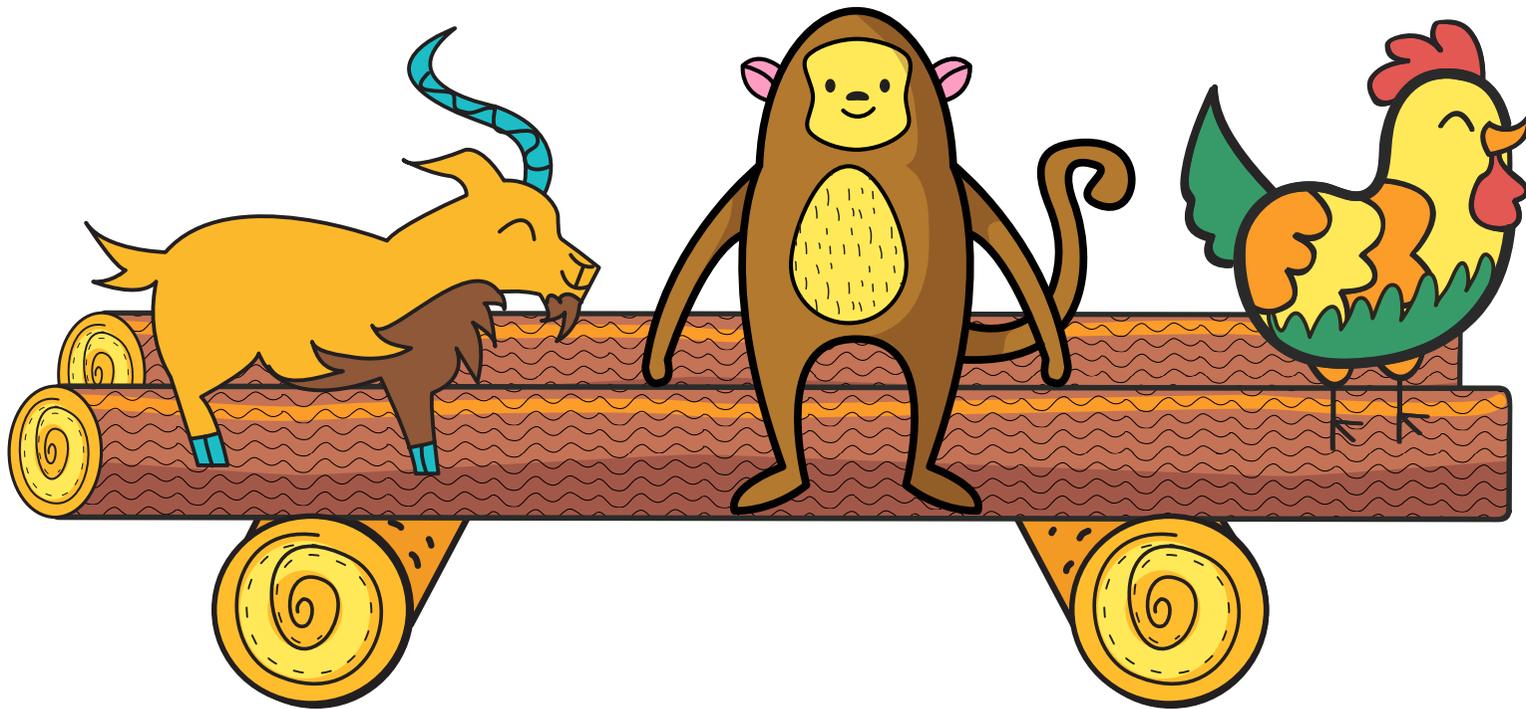
The next one to finish was the mighty dragon.
The dragon could easily have come first but
he was too busy helping others across
the land.



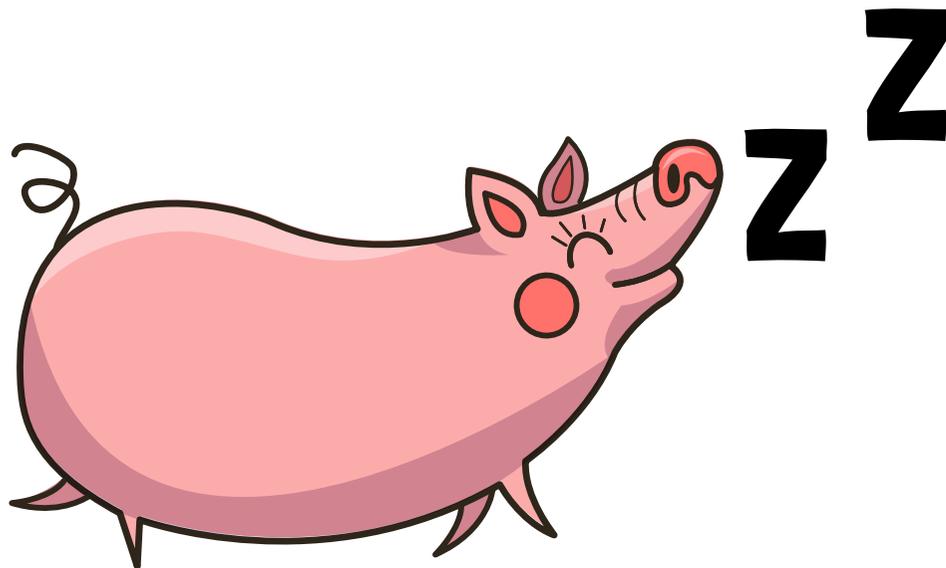
The snake and the horse
came sixth and seventh.



The goat, monkey and rooster
had worked together and
arrived on the riverbank safely.



Just after them, two more
animals arrived at the
riverbank.



The rat had pushed her
off the ox into the water
– which cats hate.

So she went home, still
angry with the rat and
vowed that cats and
rats would never be
friends again!



The Chinese Zodiac

