5 Flavors
Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Henry was always thinking about eating. He was hungry, and he liked to cook. It occurred to him that most things that were good seemed to be a combination of flavors. Like, chocolate was good, but mixed with raisins and peanuts, it became great! Or, pineapple went great with pizza, because the sweetness worked well with the saltiness.

He thought for a while, and came up with 5 basic flavors that everything had. He came up with: salty, sweet, sour, spicy, and savory. They were the 5 S’s that he tried to get in every meal. It took a while to come up with this list, and then he made a list of his favorite ingredients for each flavor.

Salty was easy, because he liked salty foods. Chips and snacks were often salty. Cheese and meats were usually salty, too.

Sour was a bit harder, because he didn’t like sour stuff a lot. He liked lemons and limes in lemonade and limeade, but not a lot more. Sour candies were good sometimes, and so were grapefruits. Sour was a harder flavor to like.

Spicy was pretty fun. He loved eating hot sauce. He ate it on his eggs, on his pizza, and on his burgers. He threw pickled hot peppers on his sandwiches, too. The vinegar made them a bit sour also, which helped him get his sour flavors.

Sweet was really easy. Desserts were usually sweet, and he had no trouble with them. He could eat fruit all day, or sweet yogurts and puddings. Candy and chocolate were sweet, too.

Savory was sort of a weird flavor to think about. It wasn’t something he often considered. It was usually the thing that made food smell so good and got your saliva going. It meant things like smoked cheeses, nuts, and garlic. They were the aroma makers that made a restaurant smell amazing.

So Henry had figured out all of his flavors, and started combining them. On pizza, he had sweet pineapple, spicy hot peppers, salty sausage, and savory smoked cheeses. All he was really missing was sour, so he had some lemonade. For another meal, he had sweet and spicy honey chicken with crushed almonds and salty fried noodles. A wedge of lime crushed over the top gave him all the flavors! It really rounded out the meal and made things more delicious.
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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. Which of these is NOT one of Henry’s 5 flavors?
   A. sweet
   B. spicy
   C. bitter
   D. savory

2. Which of these IS one of Henry’s 5 flavors?
   A. bitter
   B. tangy
   C. tart
   D. sweet

3. Which of these is an example of Henry’s savory flavor?
   A. grapefruit
   B. cookies
   C. hot peppers
   D. nuts

4. Which of these is NOT an example given for Henry’s sweet flavor?
   A. cheese
   B. chocolate
   C. candy
   D. pudding

5. Which of these is an example given of Henry’s sour flavor?
   A. apricots
   B. lemons
   C. raspberries
   D. strawberries
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