



PINOCCHIO

Once upon a time,
there was a
piece of wood...

giggle!



Who is Pinocchio?

Pinocchio is a walking and talking puppet who wants nothing more nor less in life than to become a real flesh and blood little boy.

Where did he come from?

He was made by an old man called Geppetto. A friend of Geppetto's, Master Cherry the carpenter, had come upon a piece of wood which laughed and cried like a child, and he gave it to Geppetto as a present.

Geppetto decides to make the wood into a wonderful puppet which will know how to talk, sing and dance.

He calls the puppet Pinocchio.

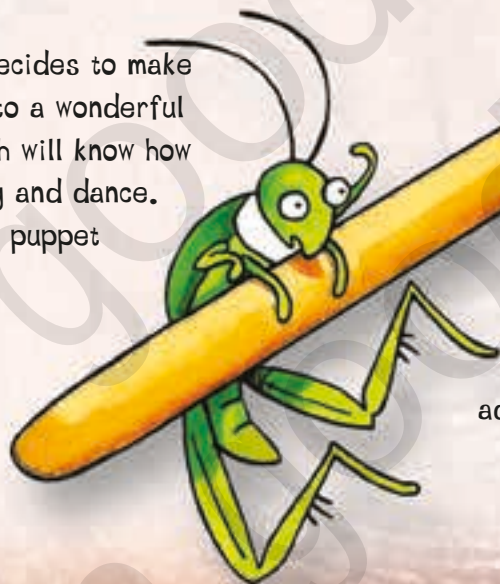
What happens to Pinocchio?

Well, he's just like any child - not always sensible enough to listen to good advice, and often very mischievous!

But luckily we can tell when Pinocchio is naughty enough to tell lies, because his nose grows longer when he tells a lie.

Poor Geppetto tries his best to make Pinocchio well-behaved and well-educated.

He even sells his only winter coat to buy a schoolbook for him but, like lots of us, Pinocchio thinks he knows better and runs away to have lots of adventures.



He joins a puppet show, then teams up with a rascal of a fox and a wily cat who make a complete fool of him for their own profit. He runs away to the Island of Folderol, where he eventually becomes a donkey and is in danger of his life!

After getting into and out of many scrapes, Pinocchio does finally realise who loves and cares about him the best and those whom he loves the best too. But he doesn't reach this conclusion by himself - he is helped by a Talking Cricket and by the Blue Angel. She really is his salvation and helps him when no-one else can.



How do we know the story of Pinocchio?

The story was first told by a man named Carlo Collodi well over a hundred years ago. Carlo was the son of a cook and a maid and he was born in Florence in Italy in 1826. The family his parents worked for were very kind and paid for Carlo to have an education, and he decided to become a writer.

He started work writing for newspapers and even started up his own newspaper, but the government didn't like what he was writing about them, so they closed it down.

Carlo then worked for the government for a while, as a theatre censor and in the education department. He also fought in two wars for his country, in 1848 and 1849. In the following ten or fifteen years he managed to get published both



Carlo Collodi



fiction and non-fiction for adults, wrote some plays and also became editor of the Tuscan dictionary. In recognition of all this work, he was made a Knight of the Star of Italy for his services to literature.

It was only now that Carlo Collodi started writing stories for children. He said that he did it because 'adults were too hard to please', but he was also inspired by his friend Felice Paggi, who was an imaginative publisher of children's books. At first, Carlo translated French fairy tales into Italian, then he began to write some stories of his own.

In 1881, he decided to write a series of stories for children which would celebrate Italy and all things Italian: the countryside, the people, the festivals, the myths and legends - and to include the not-so-good things as well as the good things.

The main character in these stories was the puppet Pinocchio, who could move without strings and talk by himself. Carlo's Pinocchio stories were serialised in a children's newspaper called *Il Giornale di Bambini*. After fifteen chapters of adventures, Carlo ended the story by leaving Pinocchio hanging from an old tree in the forest. Or so he thought... There was such an outcry from his young readers that Carlo was obliged to continue Pinocchio's adventures. He went on to write another twenty-one chapters, including the famous story of Pinocchio's nose. In 1883 *The Adventures of Pinocchio* were published as a book. Like all good children's books, there's plenty in Carlo's book for adults too. The wood out of which Geppetto carves Pinocchio might be seen as humanity itself. The arrogance, carelessness and selfishness Pinocchio shows as he pursues his various adventures are not just particular to the naughty puppet; we can all see at least some reflection of ourselves and our own behaviour, just as we can recognise Pinocchio's charm in our nearest and dearest. Carlo Collodi saw the fatal flaw in people as the pursuit of pleasure without regard to consequences, and he shows quite plainly what can happen as a result. There are lessons in the stories for all of us, but we can enjoy them at the same time!

The book has sold more than a million copies and, in all the time since it was published, it has never been out of print. It is the most famous book in Italy and the most famous Italian book in the world. It has been translated into about two hundred and fifty different languages! - so children all over the world can read Pinocchio's adventures in their own language.

It wasn't until 1940 that there was a film version of the story of Pinocchio. It was made by the famous Walt Disney, but although the basics were the same, the film does not follow the original story very faithfully. However, it was a big success, and the video became one of Disney's bestsellers.

In 1951 a theme park was built in Tuscany in Italy as a monument to Carlo Collodi and his mischievous creation, Pinocchio.

In 1970 an epic five-hour television version of the story was made in Italy with world-famous actress Gina Lollobrigida as the Blue Angel. The seven-year-old boy who played Pinocchio himself, Balestri, became almost synonymous with his character. Even years later when he got married, the newspaper headline read 'Pinocchio weds'!

Here in England the BBC made a version of the Pinocchio story in 1972, and later a new live-action version of the film came out, featuring a larger-than-life wooden puppet.

There have also been stage versions of the stories and, in 2002, a new Italian film version opened to mixed reactions; Italian children like it, but the adults seem to think there is something missing which they found in the original stories...

Everyone seems to have their own idea of what Pinocchio, Geppetto, the Blue Angel and all the other characters should really be like and how they should behave. One thing's for sure: Pinocchio's adventures look set to fascinate and entertain us for at least another hundred years yet!

Elaine Peake
© John Good



PINOCCHIO'S PIZZA & PASTA

Why not try these easy Italian recipes. Make sure that an adult helps you.

PINOCCHIO'S PIZZA

Ingredients:

One pizza base or packet of pizza mix.

Toppings of your own choice.

Follow instructions on the packet to make the pizza dough. Grease a baking sheet or pizza plate and shape to fit or make small individual pizzas.

Suggested toppings:

Smiley Face

One large tomato

One black olive

One red or green pepper

Lots of grated cheese

Cover the pizza base with the cheese. Carefully cut the tomato into circular slices and the pepper into long, thin pieces. Place two slices of tomato on the pizza for the eyes, use the olive for the nose and one or two slices of the pepper for the mouth.

Tasty Tuna

One can of tuna

One small onion

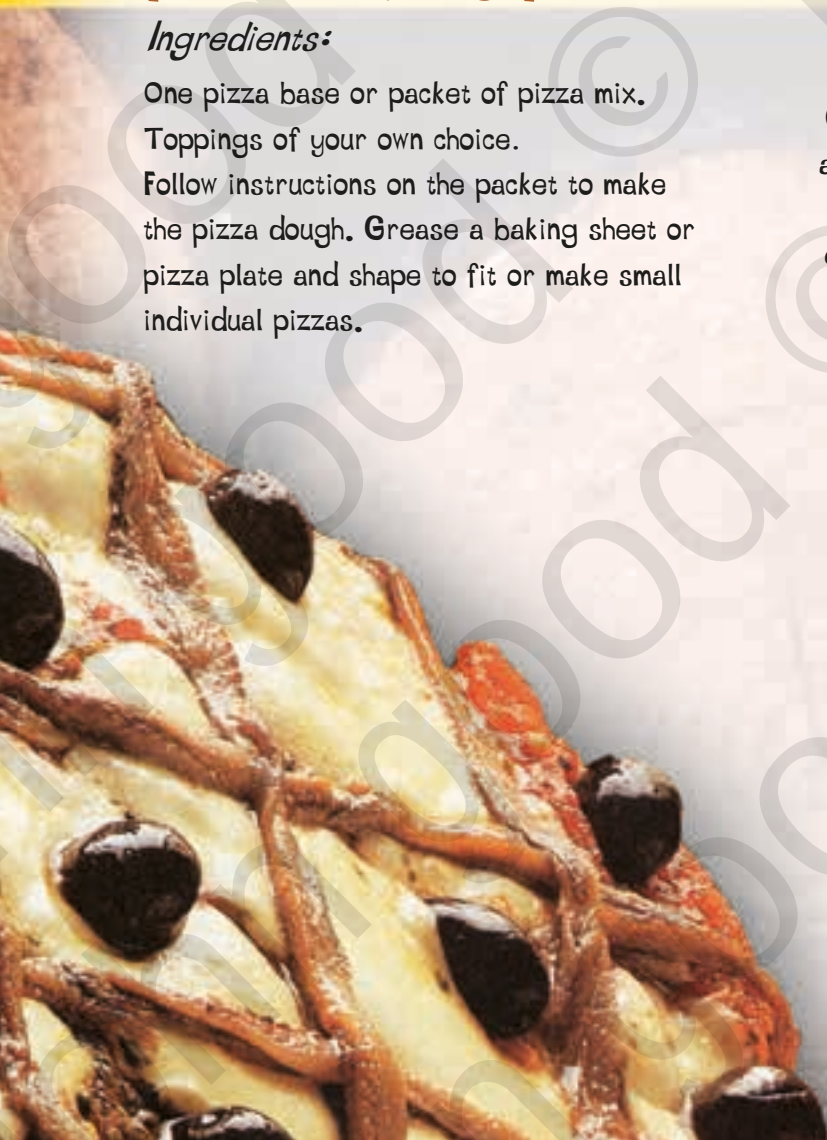
One can of chopped tomatoes

½ teaspoon mixed herbs

Carefully open the can of tuna and the can of tomatoes.

Spread the tomatoes over the pizza base and sprinkle the herbs on top. Carefully chop the onion and scatter over the tomatoes. Drain the liquid from the tuna, empty into a bowl and mash with a fork.

Then spread over the pizza.



Spicy Sausage

Sliced pepperoni
One small onion
Lots of grated cheese
One tin of chopped tomatoes
¼ teaspoon paprika or chilli powder
(optional)

Carefully open the can of tomatoes and spread over the pizza base. Sprinkle the paprika or chilli over the tomatoes if using. Carefully chop the onion, scatter the onion and pepperoni over the pizza. Top with the grated cheese.

Cook as instructed on the packet of pizza mix/pizza base or for 15 to 20 minutes at 220°F or Gas Mark 7.



SPAGHETTI CARBONARA

Ingredients:

340g spaghetti (or other long pasta)
3 eggs
115g streaky bacon
55g parmesan cheese (grated)
1 ½ tablespoons olive or vegetable oil
2 tablespoons double cream

- 1) Boil a large saucepan of water with a drop of oil to stop the pasta sticking. Gently push the pasta into the water until covered and cook as instructed on the packet.
- 2) While it cooks, beat the eggs in a bowl and add the cream, half the cheese and a pinch of salt and pepper.
- 3) Heat the oil in a frying pan and fry the bacon for a few minutes until cooked.
- 4) When the pasta is cooked, drain in a colander and tip it back into the saucepan.
- 5) Quickly add the egg mixture and the bacon to the pasta. Stir well to coat the pasta and cook the egg.
- 6) Serve with the rest of the parmesan on top.

WONDERFUL WORDSEARCH

CAN YOU FIND THE WORDS LISTED BELOW IN THE WORDSQUARE?

They are all hidden somewhere. Cross out the words as you find them, and the remaining letters will spell out something Pinocchio should be telling!

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

BLUE ANGEL
CARPENTER
FIRE-EATER
LIE
SCHOOL

BOOK
COINS
FOX
NOSE
TOYS

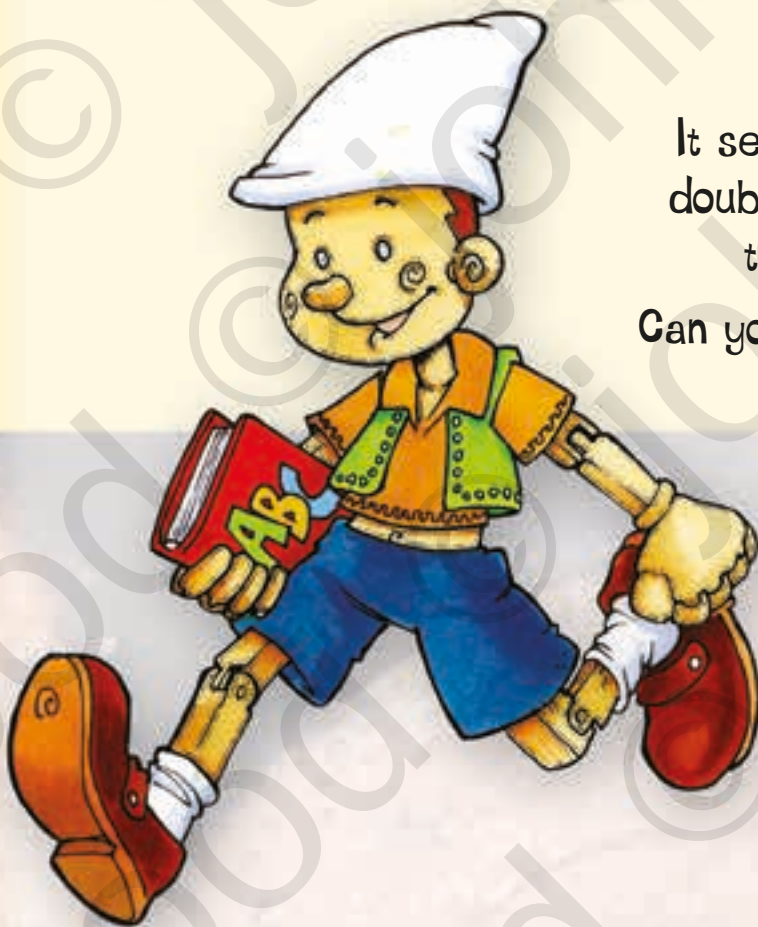
CAT
DONKEY
GEPPELTO
PINOCCHIO
WOODEN

COAT
FAIR
LAMPWICK
PUPPET

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

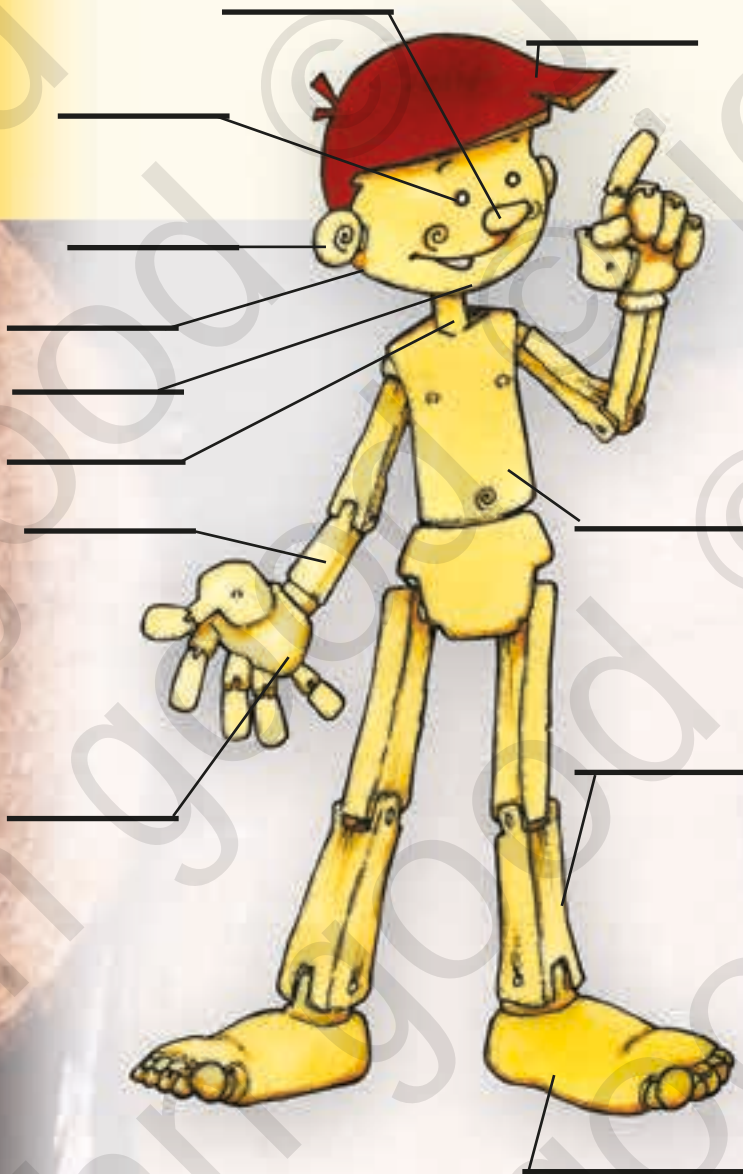
It seems Pinocchio has met a double walking to school. But they're not the same!

Can you spot twelve differences between the two?



ITALIAN DICTIONARY

Can you write the correct Italian word on each part of Pinocchio's body?



Arm BRACCIO (*brack-e-o*)

Body CORPO (*kaw-poe*)

Cheek GUANCIA (*kWan-teer*)

Chin MENTO (*mayn-toa*)

Ear ORECCHIO (*O-Reck-e-o*)

Eye OCCHIO (*ock-e-o*)

Foot PIEDE (*pie-E-day*)

Hair CAPELLI (*ka-pelly*)

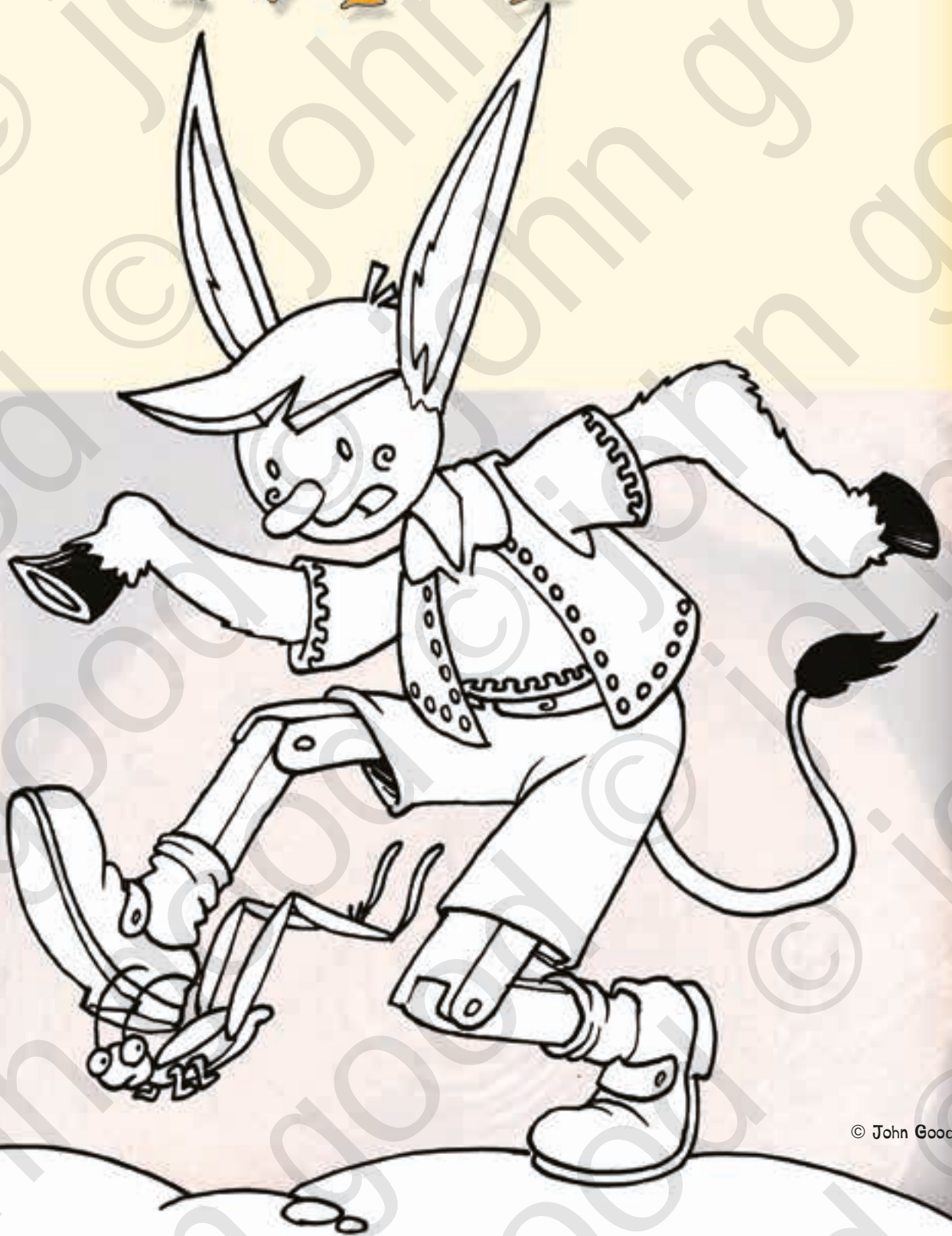
Hand MANO (*man-no*)

Leg GAMBA (*gam-bah*)

Neck COLLO (*col-lo*)

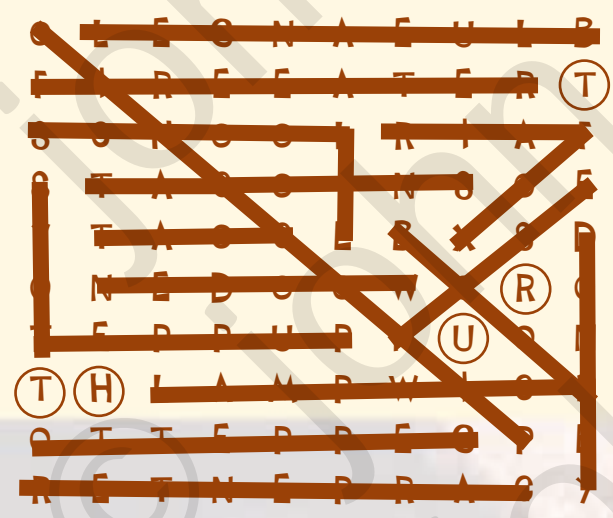
Nose NASO (*nah-soh*)

COLOUR ME IN



ANSWERS

WONDERFUL WORDSEARCH



TRUTH

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

