

Little Changes Worksheet

Name.....

Date.....

Part 1. Variation

As much as they all looked the same, up close each was unique,

With slightly different faces and different in physique.

Different markings, different heights, different eyes to see,

All the same, but each one special, just like you and me.



Discuss the verse with your teacher and answer the questions.

1. *In what ways do the rinkidinks look the same?*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2. *In what ways do the rinkidinks look different?*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

3. *Why do you think we all look a bit different to each other?*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Part 2. Natural Selection

*The rinkidinks were carefree sorts, as I have said before,
So how could they anticipate what there could be in store?
One rainy day the river swelled and burst out at the bank,
And the rinkidinks could only watch as all they knew was sank.*



Discuss the verse with your teacher and complete the exercise.

1. *Imagine you are a bird, and you think bugs are delicious to eat. Look at the picture below, there are 30 bugs hiding in the leaves, you have 30 seconds to find as many as you can below (get someone to help time you).*



How many did you find?

2. *Were some bugs easier to find than others? Why?*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Part 3. Adaptation

*As years raced by, those on the hill spent less time on the ground,
And so it was that other things could help them get around,
Long arms helped them sway and swing between the slender branches,
So they could reach the tastiest fruit, without taking any chances.*

*Whereas in the valley large paws helped them swim,
And a dense and downy fur meant no water could get in!
So in the end, and given time, these strange peculiar creatures,
Once so alike in all they were now shared different features.*



Discuss the verse with your teacher and answer the questions.

1. List three ways the rinkidinks that live in the trees have changed, and why does it make them better at living in the trees?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

2. List three ways the rinkidinks that live in the water have changed, and why does it make them better at living in the water?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

3. Describe an animal that is adapted to where it lives.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Part 4. It's in the family

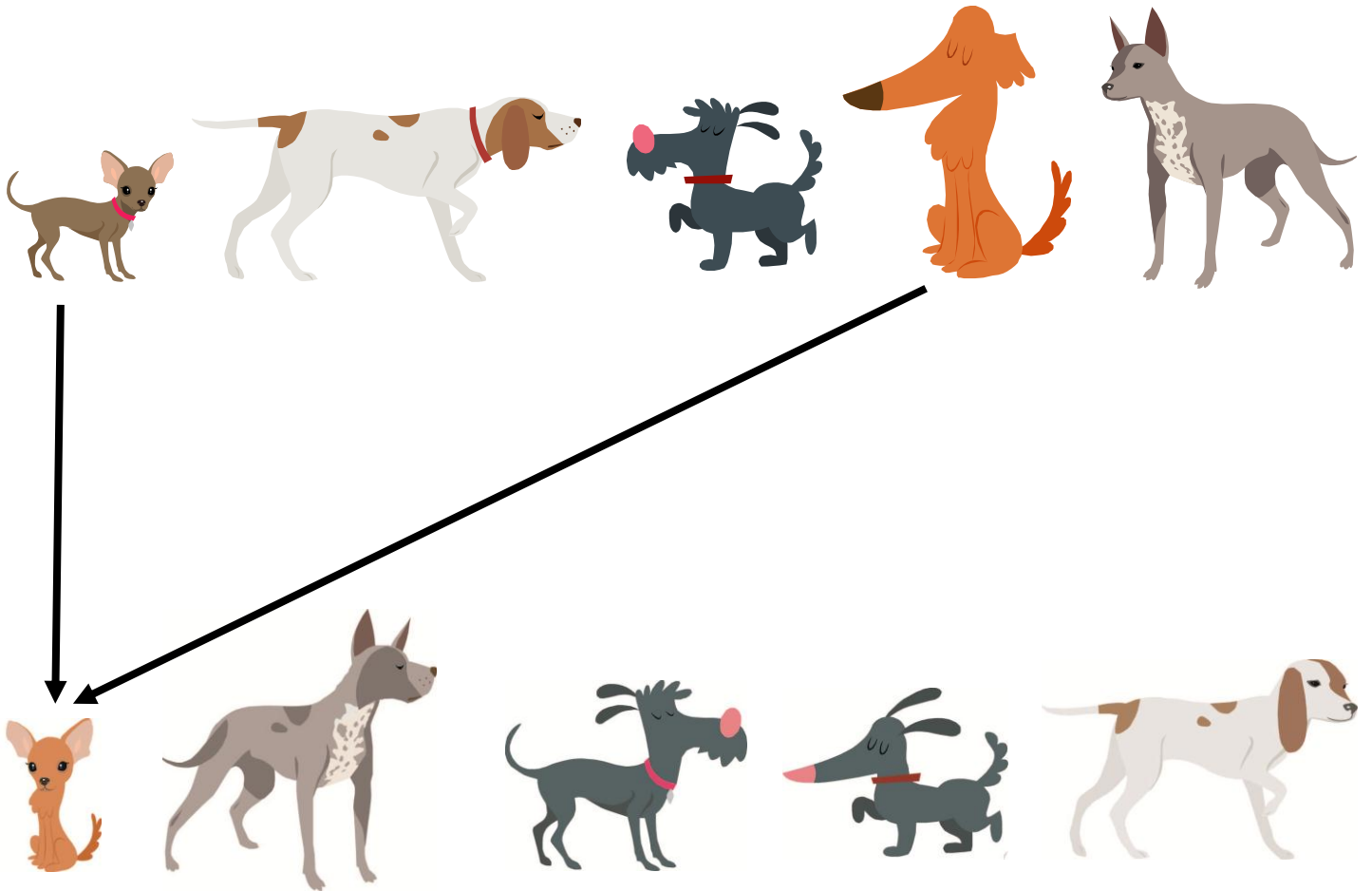
*Have you ever noticed when you look at families
That they all look a bit alike, sharing similarities?
Nose and ears, teeth and smile, hair colour and eyes,
And that's because they're all made from the same stuff inside.*



Discuss the verse with your teacher and complete the exercise.

Which two dogs, if you mixed them together, would make the dog below?

One example has been done for you.



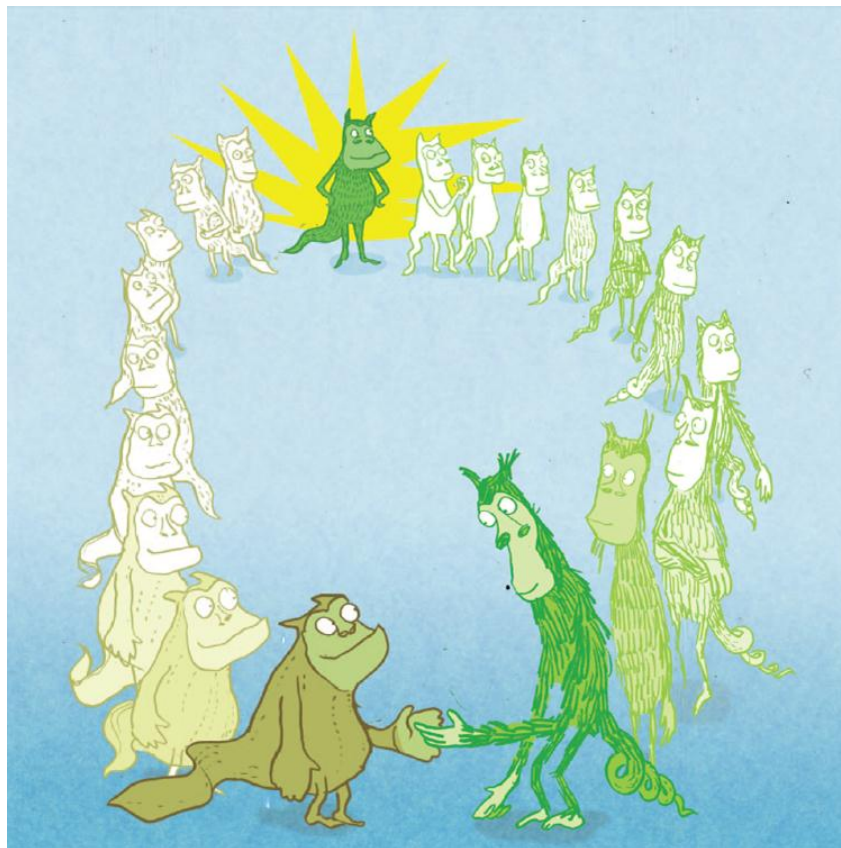
Part 5. Little changes, make big differences

Until one day, whilst wandering, two strangers they caught sight,

One was short and tubby; the other tall and slight,

So different in so many ways: their tail, their shape, their skin;

That how could they imagine, that their ancestors were kin?



Discuss the verse with your teacher and complete the exercise.

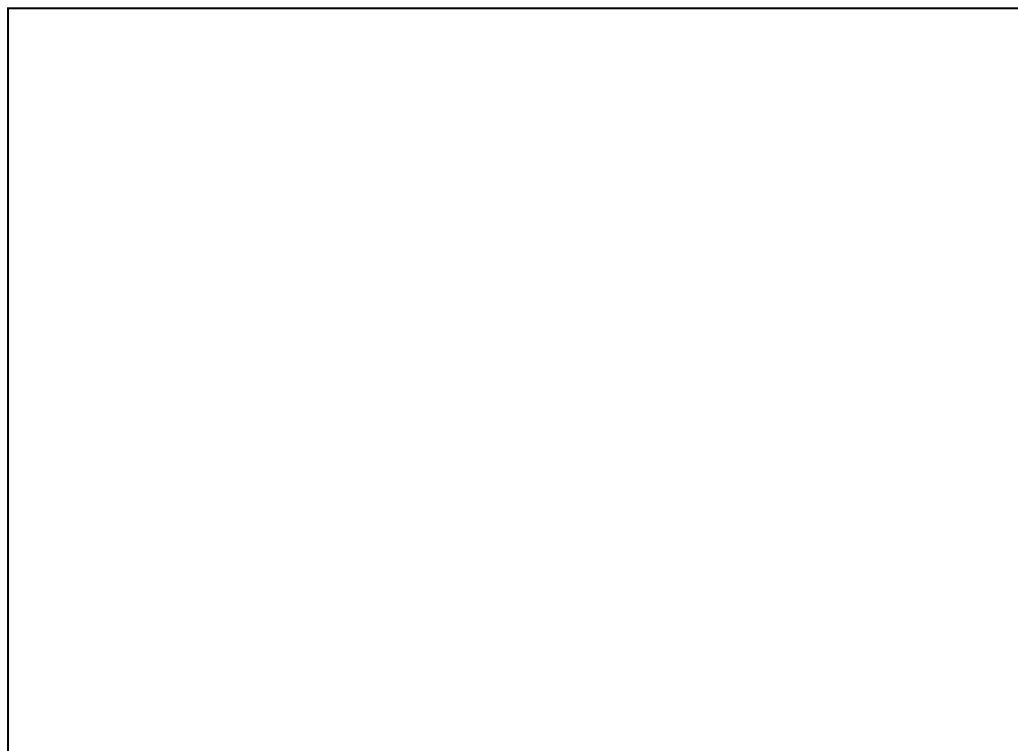
Imagine you are an astronaut, and you travel to a faraway planet called Cruddy.

- 1. Describe what planet Cruddy looks like, what kind of a place would it be to live? (Be imaginative!)*

.....
.....
.....
.....

It's a long way to planet Cruddy and you have to travel on your own, so you decide to bring your three pet dogs along for company. Two of the dogs are boys and one is a girl. The girl dog is pregnant with pups.

- 2. What are the dog's names? Draw them below.*



Oh no! The dogs escape, and you can't find them anywhere. You have to make the long trip back to earth alone. 10,000 years later, another astronaut is sent to planet Cruddy. She finds the lost dogs have made a home on Cruddy and now there are lots and lots of them! But they don't look like the dogs you left behind 10,000 years ago. They are adapted to the strange world of planet Cruddy.

3. How have the dogs changed? What things do they have which make them better at living on planet Cruddy than the first dogs left behind?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

4. Draw the evolved dogs below, and label the things which make them good at living on planet Cruddy.

