



## TASTE THE WORLD

# Potato

Did you know that there's evidence that potatoes were grown 8,000 years ago? And that after a potato is harvested, it is still living? Or that in ancient Peru, purple potatoes were considered the food of gods and reserved for kings? You'll learn this and more in World Book's *Taste the World! Potato*. Along the way, you'll find fun food facts and learn how to make some tasty recipes!

### What did you learn?

#### QUESTIONS

- The percentage of water a potato is made up of is ...
  - 20%
  - 80%
  - 50%
  - 40%
- The potato mostly used to make potato chips is the ...
  - Red Norland
  - Yukon Gold
  - Atlantic
  - Russet Burbank
- The potato became the first vegetable to be grown in space in the year ...
  - 1995
  - 1998
  - 1990
  - 1992
- National Potato Day in the United States is ...
  - November 19th
  - August 19th
  - March 19th
  - July 19th
- What is the German word for potato?
- What plant disease led to the Great Irish Famine in the 1840s?

#### TRUE OR FALSE?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| _____ 1. The leaves and stems of the potato plant are poisonous. | _____ 4. The first Mr. Potato Head toy was made from a real potato.               |
| _____ 2. Sweet potatoes aren't actually potatoes.                | _____ 5. The edible part of the potato plant is the thick, starchy rootlike aloo. |
| _____ 3. One acre of potatoes can feed nearly 100 people!        | _____ 6. In 2008, a farmer in Lebanon dug up a potato that was nearly 50 pounds!  |



## ANSWERS

- 1. b. 80%.** According to the section "What Is a Potato?" on page 7, we know that a potato is made up of about 80 percent water and 20 percent other material?" So, the correct answer is B.
- 2. c. Atlantic.** According to the section "Kinds of Potatoes" on page 13, we know that "The potato used most often to make potato chips is the Atlantic." So, the correct answer is C.
- 3. a. 1995.** According to the section "Potatoes in Space" on page 42, we know that "In 1995, potatoes became the first vegetable to be grown in space!" So, the correct answer is A.
- 4. b. August 19th.** According to the section "Grow Your Own Potatoes!" on page 45, we know that "August 19 is National Potato Day in the United States" So, the correct answer is B.
- 5.** According to page 16, the German word for potato is *kartoffel*.
- 6.** According to page 23, a plant disease called *blight* wiped out potato crops in many European countries and led to the Great Irish Famine.

## TRUE OR FALSE? ANSWERS

- 1. True.** According to the section "A Closer Look at the Potato Plant ..." on page 8, we know that "People do not eat the leaves or stems. They are poisonous!" So, the correct answer is True.
- 2. True.** According to the section "Kinds of Potatoes" on page 12, we know that "Sweet potatoes are not actually potatoes. They are part of the morning glory family, a climbing plant, and not related to the potato at all." So, the correct answer is True.
- 3. False.** According to the section "Europe" on page 15, we know that "One acre of potatoes can feed nearly 10 people!" So, the correct answer is False.
- 4. True.** According to the section "United States" on page 29, we know that "The first Mr. Potato Head toy was a real potato with plastic parts!" So, the correct answer is True.
- 5. False.** According to the section "A Closer Look at the Potato Plant ..." on page 8, we know that "The edible part of the potato plant is the thick, starchy rootlike tuber that grows underground." So, the correct answer is False.
- 6. False.** According to the section "A Closer Look at the Potato Plant ..." on page 9, we know that "In 2008, a farmer in Lebanon dug up a potato that was bigger than his head! It weighed nearly 25 pounds!" So, the correct answer is False.