



Pineapple

How do pineapples grow?

Pineapple grows out of the stem of a plant that grows on the ground. The plant has spiky leaves like swords that can grow up to 1.5 metres long around the pineapple.

The pineapple fruit is actually the result of many individual fruit-producing flowers that come together to make a single fruit as they grow. The top of the pineapple is called a "crown". One pineapple plant can produce only one pineapple at a time and they can take over a year to be ready to harvest. That is a lot of work for one pineapple!

Pineapples do not grow from seeds. You can grow pineapple plants by slicing off the top of a pineapple and planting the top in soil.



Where did they come from?

The pineapple plant is originally from South America. Pineapple plants like warm climates. Christopher Columbus, an explorer, came across the pineapple in 1493 and took it back to Europe. In Europe, pineapples were grown in greenhouses and were only available to the very rich. In the 1700's, Captain James Cook brought pineapple to Hawaii and it started to become more popular and available in North America.

JOKE CORNER

What do you call an apple crossed with a Christmas tree? A pine-apple!

Why did the pineapple stop in the middle of the road? Because it ran out of juice!

Q: When is an apple not an apple?
When it's a pineapple!

The Pineapple Pizza Debate

Some people love pineapple on their pizza, while others think it's just plain wrong!



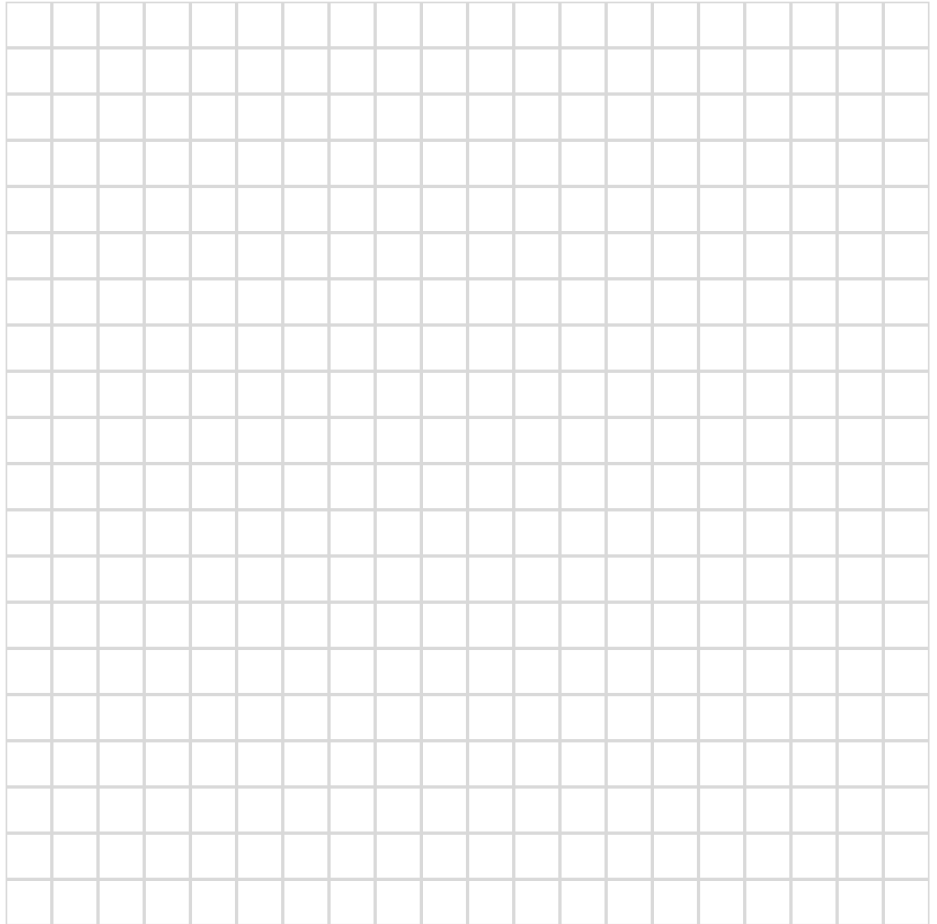
Let's see what the kids in your class think by doing a survey! As a class, do a tally to see how many students like pineapple on their pizza, and how many do not.

Total number of kids in my class:

Kids in my class who like pineapple on their pizza:

Kids in my class who do not like pineapple on their pizza:

Use the grid to create a bar graph of your results.



What type of pizza is more popular?

Did you know?

A pineapple is not a pine or an apple. It's actually a berry. The pineapple got its name from the Spanish word "pina" (because it reminded them of a pine cone) and the English "apple" (because it has a sweet taste).

The world's largest pineapple ever recorded was in 2011 grown by Christine McCollum from Bakewell Australia. It measured 32cm long and weighed 28kg!

Pineapple in French is l'ananas.

