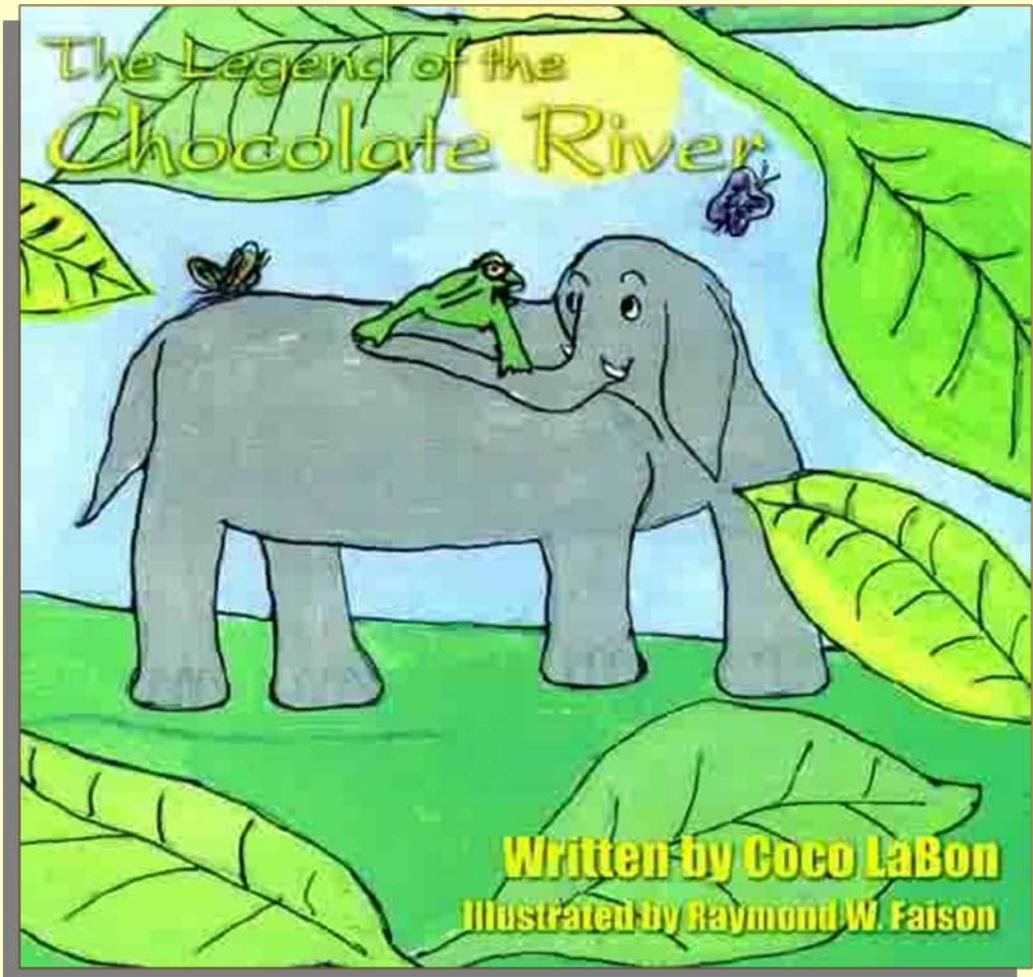
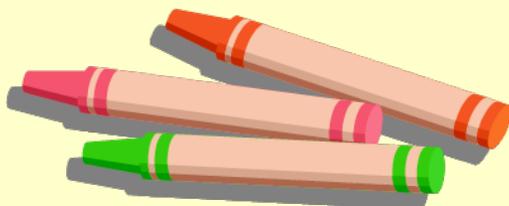


# The Legend of the Chocolate River

## Activity Book and Lesson Plan



**Prepared for Teachers and Parents**



Written and Prepared by Coco LaBon

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## Introduction

The Legend of the Chocolate River is a whimsical adventure story that takes children on the journey to find the Chocolate River with Manda, a baby elephant; and his best friend Mr. Crowley, an old, wise frog.

This Activity/Lesson Plan is meant to accompany the book and be used in the classroom by teachers or at home by parents to help children learn valuable skills and information to develop their inner creativity and expand their learning experience.



## This Activity/Lesson Plan Includes:

- Questions, Quizzes & Puzzles
- Drawing Exercises
- Internet Research Activities about African Animals
- Trips to the Zoo to See the Animals in their Simulated Habitats
- Research Activities to Learn about the Ingredients in Chocolate and Maybe include a Field Trip to a Chocolate Factory
- Ideas for Planning a Chocolate River Party



## Materials/Supplies Needed:

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- At least one copy of "The Legend of the Chocolate River" book, or one copy per every two children
- Construction or Drawing Paper
- Crayons
- Markers
- Pencils
- Cardboard or Card-Stock Paper
- Children's Scissors
- Scotch Tape
- Glue
- Computer with Internet Access
- World Globe or World Map



# Questions from the Book:

Read the book and then ask the kids to answer the following questions:

1. What did Manda want to find? (page 2)
2. How did Mr. Crowley get on Manda's back? (page 2)
3. What was the name of the river that Manda and Mr. Crowley had to cross on the way to the Chocolate River? (page 3)
4. What did Mr. Crowley want Manda to eat instead of chocolate? (page 5)
5. Who did Manda see sleeping next to Skeleton River? (page 9)
6. What did Manda and Mr. Crowley see floating in Skeleton River? (page 13)
7. What kind of sounds did Manda hear while swimming across Skeleton River? (page 14)
8. What color were the flowers that were on the path to the Chocolate River? (page 16)
9. What did the waterfall look and smell like? (page 20)
10. Who was waiting when Manda and Mr. Crowley woke up from their nap after drinking from the chocolate river? (page 21)
11. After the alligators surrounded Manda and Mr. Crowley, what sound did they hear that sounded like a musical instrument? (page 24)

## Questions, cont...:

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12. Who showed up to save Manda and Mr. Crowley?  
(page 25)
13. How did Manda's family scare off the alligators? (page 26)
14. Was Manda sorry that he had left home without his parent's permission? (page 28)



## Drawing Exercises

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- ✚ Ask the children to draw pictures of Manda, Mr. Crowley and Alex.
- ✚ Have children sketch pictures of the chocolate river and waterfall.
- ✚ Ask the children to draw pictures of African landscapes.



## Activities:

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- ▶ Plan a field trip to your local Zoo to see elephants and alligators in their simulated habitats.
- ▶ Discover how chocolate is made by doing internet research or by taking a trip to a chocolate factory.
- ▶ Ask kids if they have a best friend, or if an older person has ever given them advice.
- ▶ Ask if they have a large family, or if they have ever been scared.
- ▶ Have they ever been on a journey? What kind of family trips have they taken and where did they go?
- ▶ Did they learn new things when they went on the trip? What did they learn?
- ▶ Prepare a list of questions to keep kids engaged.



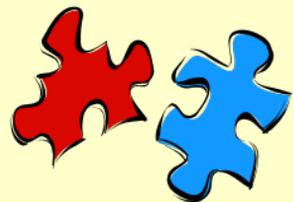
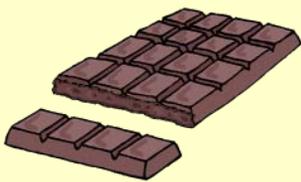
## Activities:

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Help children learn the different types of chocolate and include a taste test between white chocolate, milk chocolate and dark chocolate.

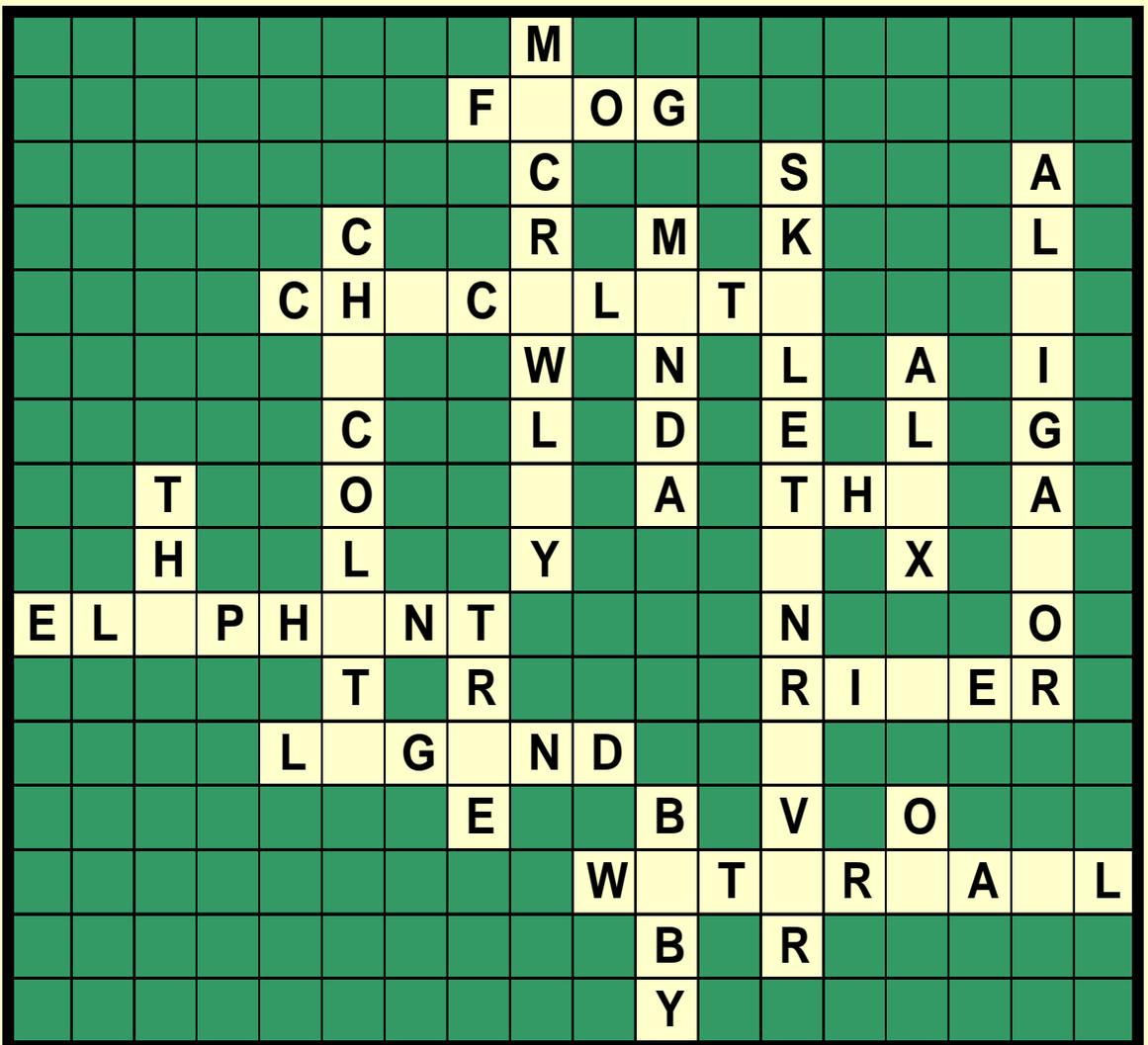
Ask children to use a map or globe to locate Africa.

Take a picture from one page of the book and make puzzle pieces. Make a copy of the picture on a black & white or color printer, glue the picture to a piece of cardboard or thick cover-stock paper, cut up the picture into sections and ask the children to assemble the pieces to complete the picture.



# Crossword Puzzle

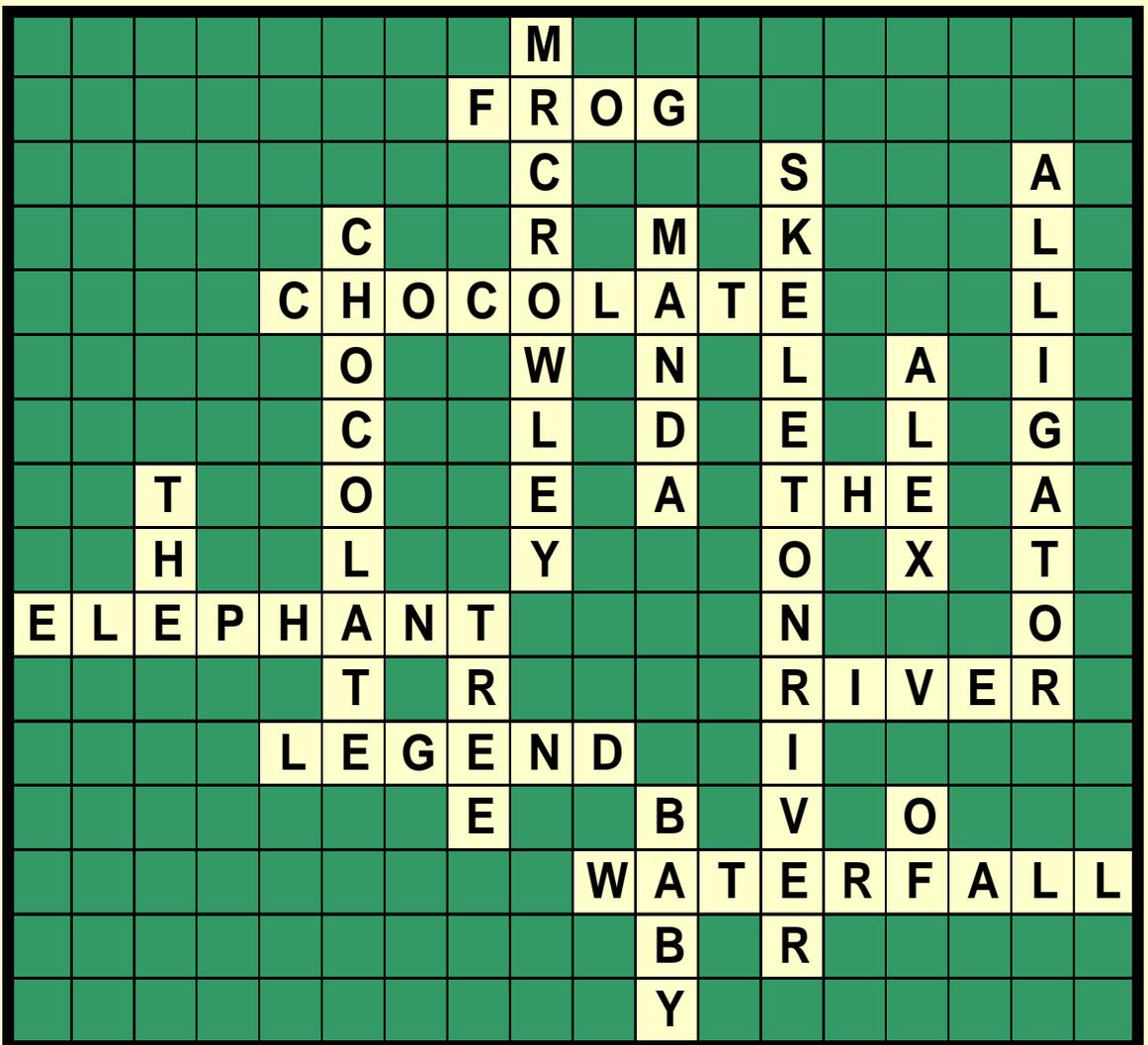
Print this page and make copies for the kids.



Crossword puzzle answers on the next page.

# Crossword Puzzle

## Answers



# Research the Following Questions in a Library or on the Internet:

(See suggested websites on the next page)

- How long do elephants live?
- How long do elephants stay pregnant?
- How many teeth do alligators have?
- How large do alligators grow?
- What is the difference between an alligator and a crocodile?
- Think of additional questions to ask.



# Internet Research:

## Suggested Websites

(Please be careful when surfing the internet and use a good anti-virus program to protect against viruses, spam and spyware. I have previewed these sites and believe they are safe.)

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### ◆ Elephants -

[http://magma.nationalgeographic.com/ngexplorer/0109/articles/big\\_talkers\\_0109.html](http://magma.nationalgeographic.com/ngexplorer/0109/articles/big_talkers_0109.html)

### ◆ Alligators and Crocodiles -

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/lessons/08/gk2/crocsalligator.html>

### ◆ How Chocolate is Made –

<http://library.thinkquest.org/J0110012/made/made.htm>

### ◆ Is Chocolate Good for You?

<http://www.webmd.com/diet/news/20030827/dark-chocolate-is-healthy-chocolate>

# Plan a “Chocolate River” Party!

1. Prepare invitations and balloons using the design from the cover of the book.
2. Pick a picture from the book and take to a bakery so that they can make the top of the cake look like the picture.
3. Prepare gift bags with party favors such as toy elephants, frogs or alligators. Include crayons, a coloring book and a compass.
4. Suggested menu is small tuna sandwiches, small veggie tray with dip, spaghetti or fresh fruit and chicken nuggets. Plan to have water, regular and chocolate milk available for the kids to drink.
5. Fill an empty fishbowl or jar with pieces of chocolate and ask the kids to guess how many pieces of candy are in the jar. Whoever comes closest to the correct number will win the jar of candy.
6. Include a movie break and show a movie about chocolate and ask the children what they learned from the movie.
7. Have children take turns reading pages from the book and ask them to talk about their favorite part of the story.
8. Play charades - Ask kids to “act out” different sections of the story and ask other kids to guess which character they are playing.
9. Ask kids to help build a “path” to the Chocolate River with construction or poster paper for the kids to follow. Re-create the Skeleton River and the chocolate waterfall on the path.
10. For a special treat, invite the author to join the party and read an excerpt of the book via phone by emailing a request to [coco@cocolabon.com](mailto:coco@cocolabon.com).



# General Information

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This Activity/Lesson Plan was prepared and researched by Coco LaBon. If you have any questions regarding this publication or would like additional information on "The Legend of the Chocolate River," please email Coco LaBon at [coco@cocolabon.com](mailto:coco@cocolabon.com), or visit the website at [www.cocolabon.com](http://www.cocolabon.com).

There is no charge for using this Activity/Lesson Plan, but please do not make changes to this publication and distribute without the expressed, written authorization of the author, Coco LaBon.

This Activity/Lesson Plan is meant to accompany the book, so please be sure to have ample copies of the book available for your children and/or students.

Thank you for making "The Legend of the Chocolate River" a part of your daily activities with children and students!

