Name _____

Mystery Science Fruit Salad

Suppose you wanted to make a fruit salad. What would you buy at the grocery store?

Most people would buy apples and oranges and bananas. They might buy strawberries and peaches and watermelon—if it's the right time of year for those fruits to be in the store.

You could chop up all those fruits and mix them together. You'd get a great fruit salad, but it wouldn't be a Mystery Science Fruit Salad.

Plant scientists say that any food with seeds in it is the fruit of a plant.

At Mystery Science Labs, we think like plant scientists. So when we went to the grocery store, we bought two tomatoes, a cucumber, and an avocado. Tomatoes, cucumbers, and avocados all have seeds inside.

We also bought apple cider vinegar. That's made from apples. Everyone knows that apples are fruit.

Finally, we bought olive oil. Every olive has a pit. That pit is a seed. To a plant scientist, that means an olive is a fruit.

We chopped up the tomatoes, the cucumber, and the avocado. Then we mixed the vinegar and olive oil together to make salad dressing. We put it all together to make a tasty salad.

Most people wouldn't call this a fruit salad. But if you think like a plant scientist, that's exactly what it is.