



NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC

Plus...  
Games,  
Jokes, and  
More!

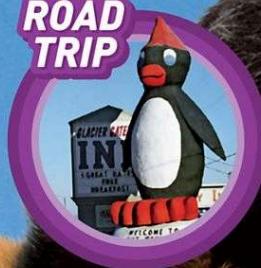
FREE PULLOUT  
POSTER

# KIDS

DARE TO EXPLORE

[kids.nationalgeographic.com](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com)

WACKY  
ROAD  
TRIP



NEW  
movie



FANTASTIC  
MR. FOX

AMAZING  
**Animal  
Friends!**



NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC

NOVEMBER 2009  
\$4.99 US \$6.99 CAN

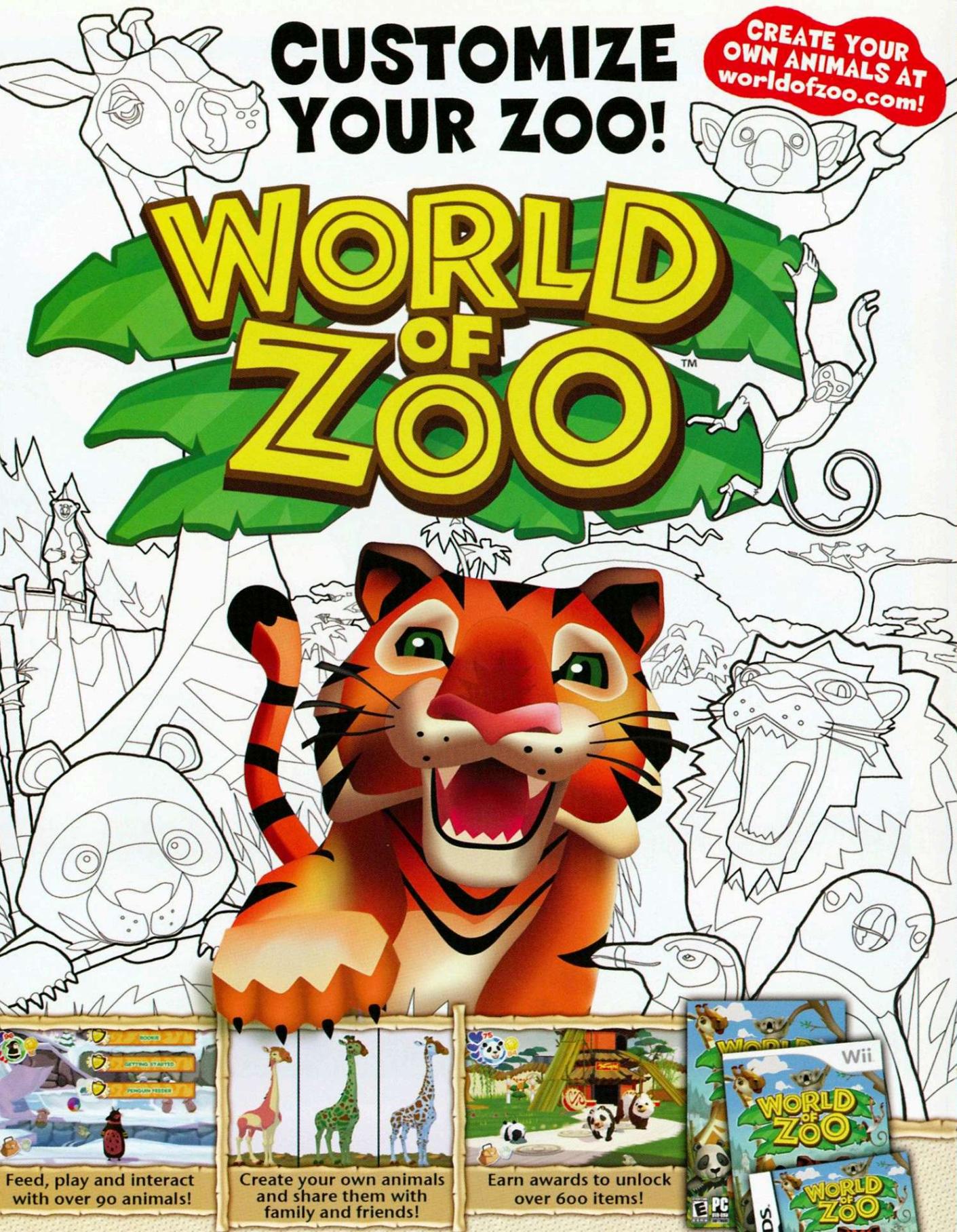


0 74820 18314 4

**CUSTOMIZE  
YOUR ZOO!**

CREATE YOUR  
OWN ANIMALS AT  
[worldofzoo.com!](http://worldofzoo.com)

# WORLD OF ZOO



Feed, play and interact  
with over 90 animals!

Create your own animals  
and share them with  
family and friends!

Earn awards to unlock  
over 600 items!



Crude Humor  
Mild Cartoon Violence



Wii

NINTENDO DS™

THQ

© 2009 THQ Inc. THQ, World of Zoo and their respective logos are trademarks and/or registered trademarks of THQ Inc. All rights reserved.  
All other trademarks, logos and copyrights are property of their respective owners. Wii and Nintendo DS are trademarks of Nintendo. © 2006 Nintendo.

**Executive Vice President of Children's Publishing and Editor in Chief** Melina Gerosa Bellows  
**Executive Editor** Julie Vosburgh Agnone  
**Design Director, Children's Publishing** Jonathan Halling  
**Managing Editor** Rachel Buchholz  
**Science Editor** Catherine D. Hughes  
**Senior Editor** Robin Terry  
**Photo** Jay Sumner, **Photo Director**; Karine Aigner, **Senior Editor**; Kelley Miller, **Editor**  
**Art** Eva Absher, **Associate Design Director**; Nicole M. Lazarus, **Associate Art Director**; Julide Obuz Dengel, **Art Production Assistant**  
**Writer-Researchers** Erin Taylor Monroney, Eleanor Shannahan, Sharon Thompson  
**Assistant Editor** Jill E. Yaworski

**Administration** Margaret J. Krauss, **Editorial Assistant**; Tammi Colleary, **Business Specialist**  
**Production** David V. Showers, **Director**  
**Online** Anne A. McCormack, **Senior Editor**  
**Manufacturing** Robert L. Feige, **Vice President, Production Services**; Gregory Storer, **Director**; Robert L. Barr, **Project Manager**

PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

**President and CEO** John M. Fahey, Jr.  
**President, Global Media** Tim Kelly  
**President, Publishing** John Q. Griffin  
**Chairman, Board of Trustees** Gilbert M. Grosvenor  
**Senior Vice President and Group Publisher** Stephen P. Giannetti  
**Marketing Director** Dana C. Deighton  
**Business Manager** John J. Paternoster, Jr.  
**Consumer and Member Marketing** Mark Viola, *Renewals and Planning Director*; Suzanne Mackay, *Renewals Manager*  
**Market Services** Tracy Hamilton Stone, *Research Manager*  
**Advertising Production** S. Kelly Marshall, *Manager*  
**Contract Manager** Mike Portillo  
**Publicists** Caryn Davidson, Ethan Fried (202) 857-7037

#### Advertising Offices:

Bob Amberg, *National Brand Director* (212) 610-5511;  
**Northeast** Kathy Nontasak (212) 610-5507;  
**Southeast** Ken Farber (770) 391-9905;  
**Midwest** (312) 467-1590; **West Coast** (310) 734-2224;  
**Detroit** Karen Sarris (248) 368-6304

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS** (ISSN 1542-3042) is published ten times a year by the National Geographic Society, Washington, DC 2036. Periodical postage paid at Washington, DC, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS**, P.O. Box 63002, Tampa, FL 33663-3002. Subscriptions: United States, \$19.95; Canada, \$35.95 in Canadian funds or \$26.00 in U.S. funds; elsewhere, \$29.95 in U.S. funds. United States and its outlying areas, \$34.00 for two years; Canada, \$55.95 in Canadian funds or \$41.95 in U.S. funds. Single copy: United States, \$4.99; Canada, \$6.99 in Canadian funds or \$5.75 in U.S. funds; elsewhere, \$5.99 in U.S. funds or equivalent (includes postage). In Canada, Agreement number 40063649, return undeliverable Canadian addresses to **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS**, P.O. Box 4412 STA A, Toronto, Ontario M5W 3W2.

The submission of photographs and other material to **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS** is done at the risk of the sender; **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS** cannot accept liability for loss or damage.

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS** magazine's numerous honors include EdPress 2005 and 2006 Periodical of the Year, a Golden Lamp Award, a Parents' Choice Gold Award, a Parent's Guide Children's Media award, the Folio: Editorial Excellence Award, and an Ozzie Award for Design Excellence.

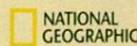
**SUBSCRIBE TO NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS!**  
**CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-NGS-LINE**

1-800-647-5463 (TDD: 1-800-548-9797)

MON.-FRI., 8 A.M.-MIDNIGHT ET, SAT., 8:30 A.M.-7 P.M. ET  
 For a subscription to **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS**, send written requests—including name, address, zip code, and payment in U.S. funds or equivalent—to

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS**, P.O. Box 63001  
 TAMPA, FL 33663-3001

For gift subscriptions, send giver's name and address as well as recipient's.



Copyright © 2009 National Geographic Society. All rights reserved. Reproduction of the whole or any part of the contents of **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS** without written permission is prohibited. **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS** and Yellow Border® Registered Trademarks ® Marcas Registradas. Printed in the U.S.A. Issue 395



BOTTLENOSE  
DOLPHINS LEAP  
INTO THE AIR.

p.18

## Inside

### 14 World's Coolest Skyscraper

The views will be breathtaking from this high-tech rotating building.



### 16 The Truth Behind the New Movie *Fantastic Mr. Fox*

Find out if the foxes, rabbits, and badgers in this film act anything like the real animals.



### 20 Amazing Animal Friends

Chimp and dog pals? Orangutan and cat buds? These animals prove that any two creatures can be best friends.



### 24 Wacky America

Check out these strange roadside attractions.



### 26 Guardians of the Tomb

This army of clay soldiers remained hidden for 2,200 years.



### 28 Rhino Rescue

Discover how an abandoned newborn finds a new family.



## Departments

- |                                 |                               |                              |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 4 <b>Weird But True</b>         | 7 <b>Just Joking</b>          | 12 <b>Green Scene</b>        |
| 5 <b>Wildlife Watch</b>         | 8 <b>Video Game Central</b>   | 13 <b>Sports Funnies</b>     |
| 6 <b>Guinness World Records</b> | 9 <b>Naughty Pets</b>         | 30 <b>Fun Stuff</b>          |
|                                 | 10 <b>Bet You Didn't Know</b> | 31 <b>What in the World?</b> |

## Just for KIDS online!

Go online to play games, check out venomous Gila monsters, and create your own hilarious Thanksgiving story. [kids.nationalgeographic.com](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com)



## On the Cover

Best friends Suzy the chimpanzee and Augie the golden retriever love to play together.

COVER PHOTOGRAPH © LENNETTE NEWELL PHOTOGRAPHY

COVER INSERTS: © ROADSIDEAMERICA.COM (PENGUIN); FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES /*FANTASTIC MR. FOX*, PAGE 3: © KONRAD WOTHE / MINDEN PICTURES (DOLPHINS); DYNAMIC ARCHITECTURE / DAVID FISHER, ARCHITECT / ALL RIGHTS RESERVED 2008 © INTERNATIONAL PATENT PENDING (BUILDING); FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES /*FANTASTIC MR. FOX*, © BROWN & GT PHOTO (ANIMAL FRIENDS); © RICHARD CUMMINS / ALAMY (WHALE); O. LOUIS MAZZATENTA / NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC STOCK (CLAY SOLDIERS); ANGELA SHELDICK OF THE DAVID SHELDICK WILDLIFE TRUST (RHINO)

## Check out these 9 outrageous facts.

ELEPHANTS CAN RUN  
FASTER THAN HUMANS.



A BOWLING PIN HAS  
TO TILT ABOUT TEN  
DEGREES



TO FALL  
DOWN.

**SAND**  
melts at around  
**3,000° F.**

Tyrannosaurus  
**rex**  
means



"tyrant  
lizard  
king"  
in Latin.

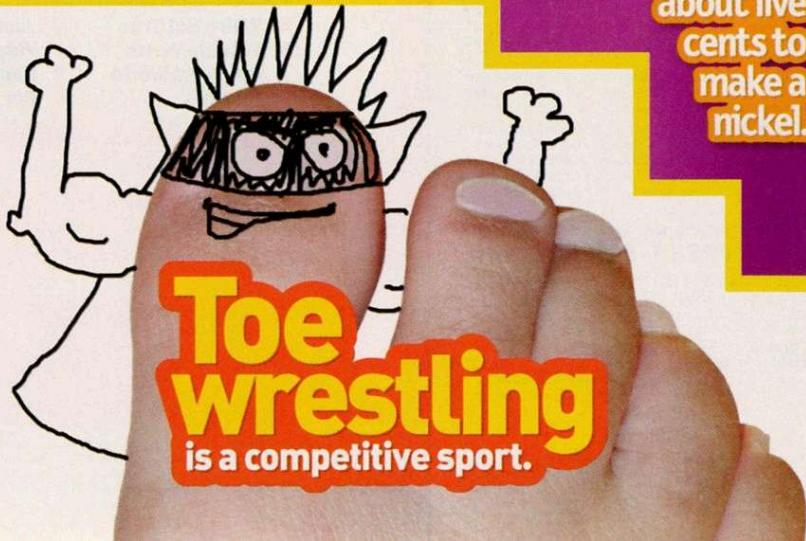
There  
is real  
**GOLD**  
in the sun.



THE DOTS  
ON DICE  
ARE  
CALLED  
PIPS.



It costs  
about five  
cents to  
make a  
nickel.



# Wildlife WATCH

BY JENNIFER WEEKS

PECK ON  
SOMEBODY  
YOUR OWN  
SIZE!

A WILD TURKEY IN  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS,  
TAKES TO THE SIDEWALK.

## Wild Turkeys Come to Town

Zelda the wild turkey is a city girl. Instead of making her home in a forest, she has lived in a New York City park for six years. She roosts in trees at night but roams around during the day, having her photo taken by tourists. This local celebrity isn't afraid to soar to new heights, either. Zelda once made her way to a balcony 28 floors up!

### FOWL PLAY

At one time North America had millions of wild turkeys, but early settlers overhunted them and cut down forests to make room for farmland. Eventually, wild turkeys were forced into remote woods, and their population dwindled.

About 50 years ago many states began releasing wild gobblers in safe forested areas. They also controlled hunting. With better protection, wild turkeys started wandering out of the woods into farmlands, suburbs, and even cities. Since they've made a comeback, these birds are turning up all across North America—wherever there are trees for sleeping and open spaces for feeding.

### TURKEY TROT

In springtime, turkeys come together in open areas and put on a show. "Males fan out their tails, strut around, and gobble to attract mates," says Wayne Petersen, a bird expert with the conservation group Mass Audubon.

Just don't get too close. Sometimes excited turkeys chase people or peck at shiny objects like car mirrors, thinking their reflections are rival birds. "They're kind of goofy, but they're not mean," says Petersen.



Male wild turkeys weigh about 20 pounds and can grow tall enough to peer into first-floor windows.

The gobblers can run 25 miles an hour and fly 55 miles an hour over short distances.

TWO WILD TURKEYS CROSS THE ROAD IN SOUTH CAROLINA.



ZELDA PERCHES ON A NEW YORK CITY BALCONY.

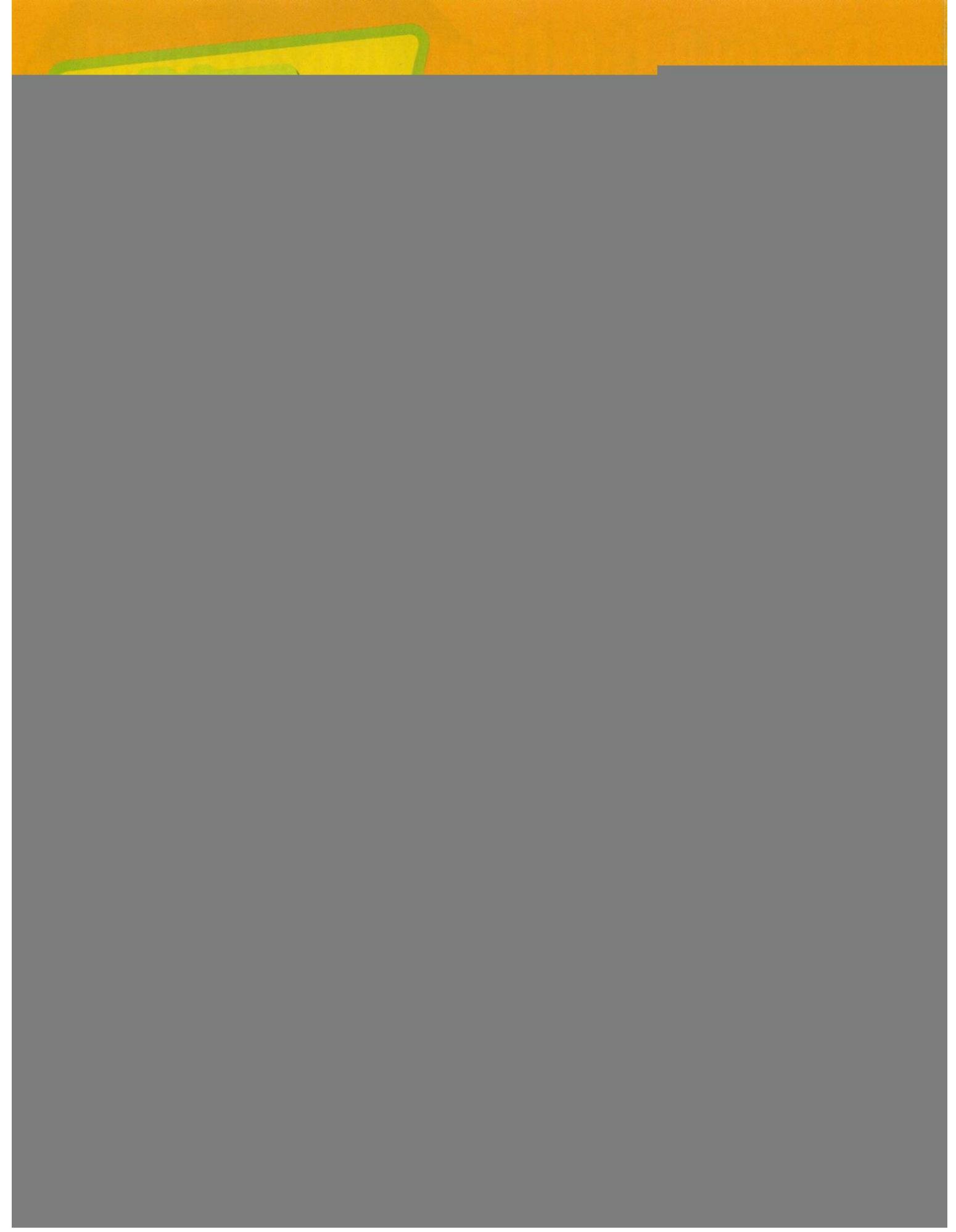




viDEO

RV MARK M







# green scene

BY ALLIE BENJAMIN

## CREATE A GREEN THANKSGIVING

**T**hanksgiving is a time to give thanks, so why not show the Earth some gratitude this year? Prepare an eco-friendly celebration that even Mother Nature would be proud of. Here are some small things you can do to make a difference.

### BRING YOUR OWN BAG

Shop for the holidays with a reusable fabric bag. You'll help reduce millions of plastic bags that make their way to landfills, waterways, and oceans each year.

### TURN DOWN THE HEAT

With all the heat produced from cooking a giant feast, your house will be warmer than usual. Turn down the thermostat at least two degrees to conserve energy.

### LET'S TALK TURKEY

The big meal is over, so what do you do with all the leftover turkey? Don't let it go to waste. Using the extra meat, make a delicious soup you can gobble down after the holiday.

### BUY LOCALLY

Produce travels an average of 1,500 miles before reaching your home. Buy ingredients at a nearby farmers' market to avoid harmful emissions created by transporting food from far away.

### MAKE GREEN DECORATIONS

Make your own festive holiday decorations. Create a colorful centerpiece using fruits and vegetables that you can eat later.

### DITCH THE PAPER NAPKINS

Chowing down on all that delicious food can get messy, so use cloth napkins rather than paper. Cloth napkins can be washed and reused, which saves trees.

### AVOID WASTING FOOD

The number of garbage trucks Americans fill each year would stretch halfway to the moon. Create natural fertilizer for your garden by composting vegetable scraps.

### BE GREEN BY GIVING

Help those who need it this holiday. If you have any extra food items or canned goods you don't want, take them to a soup kitchen.



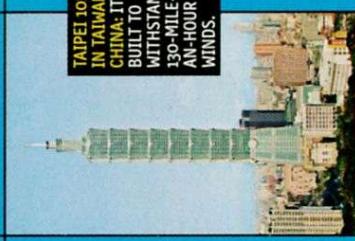
For more about helping the Earth, read our blog.  
[kidsblogs.nationalgeographic.com/greenscene](http://kidsblogs.nationalgeographic.com/greenscene)

A musical adventure

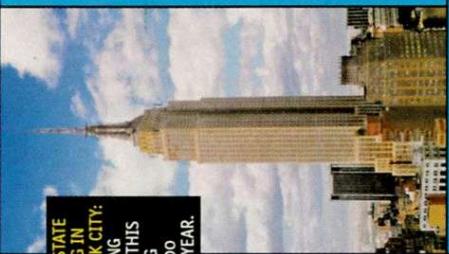
## SUPERSTRUCTURES

Take a look at these remarkable facts about six of the world's skyscrapers.

TAIPEI 101  
IN TAIWAN,  
CHINA: IT'S  
BUILT TO  
WITHSTAND  
130-MILE-  
AN-HOUR  
WINDS.



EMPIRE STATE  
BUILDING IN  
NEW YORK CITY:  
LIGHTNING  
STRIKES THIS  
BUILDING  
ABOUT 100  
TIMES A YEAR.



WILLIS (FORMERLY  
SEARS) TOWER IN  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:  
AT 1,450 FEET, IT  
IS THE TALLEST  
BUILDING IN  
NORTH AMERICA.



CHECK OUT  
THIS  
AMAZING  
ROTATING  
BUILDING.

# WORLD'S COOLEST SKYSCRAPER

14 NOVEMBER 2009

### LIFE IN A DYNAMIC TOWER

You're in your kitchen eating breakfast more than a quarter mile above the ground and decide you want a different view. "Ocean view," you call out. A voice-activated control system begins to rotate your luxury apartment.

After breakfast, you go for a quick swim before school. You dive into the indoor pool right next to your bedroom. Then you and your mom hop into the family car parked at the entrance to your apartment (below) on the 77th floor. She drives it into a huge elevator, which descends to the ground floor. Off you go!

INSIDE

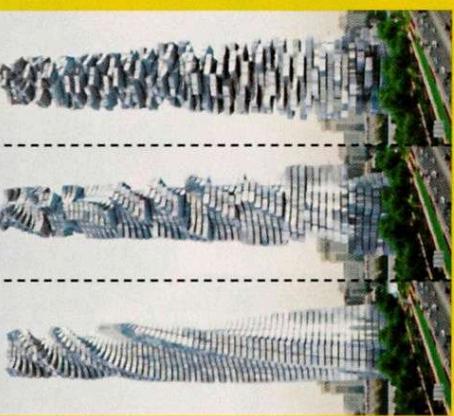


BY DOUGLAS E. RICHARDS

Humans have built incredible structures, including the Great Wall of China and the pyramids of Egypt. But there's one thing that even the world's most amazing structures can't do: alter their shapes. Well, that could change.

Someday, you could live in a shape-shifting skyscraper that never stays still. The first of these buildings, which are called Dynamic Towers, will be built in Dubai, a city in the United Arab Emirates in the Middle East. It will be about two-and-a-half times taller than the Washington Monument. Each floor will be in constant motion, rotating independently and at different speeds—like an 80-story Rubik's Cube forever being twisted by invisible hands. "These buildings will never look the same," according to David Fisher, the architect behind the idea.

IT ROTATES!



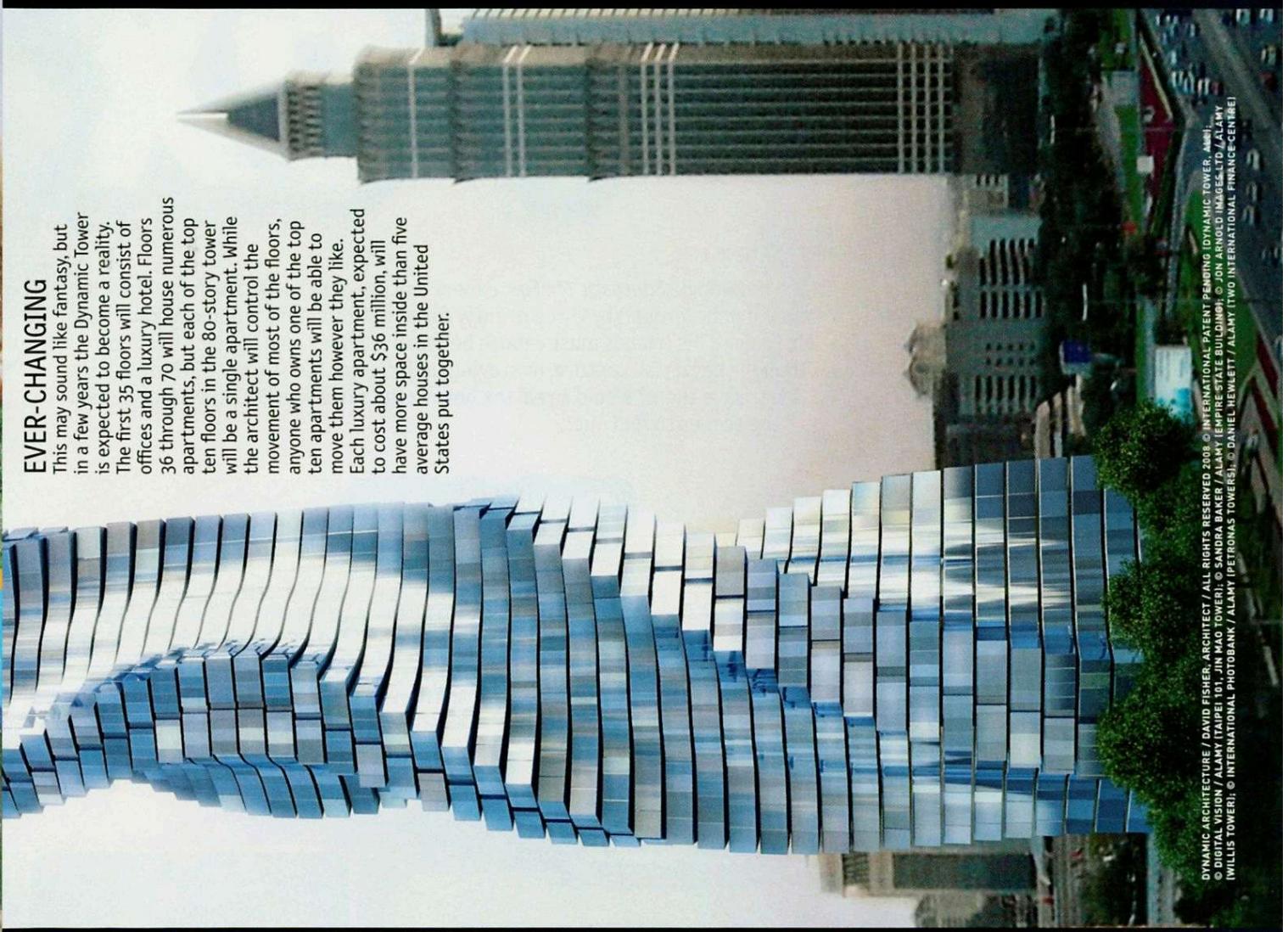
### GREENEST SKYSCRAPER

Wind will power the tower's motion, making it the first self-powered skyscraper in history. To generate electricity, the Dubai skyscraper will place windmill blades horizontally between each floor of the building (below). There

will be 79 of these wind turbines. In addition, the roofs of each of the floors will have solar panels to capture the sun's energy. Combined, this will generate enough electricity to power the entire tower—and several nearby skyscrapers as well.

## EVER-CHANGING

This may sound like fantasy, but in a few years the Dynamic Tower is expected to become a reality. The first 35 floors will consist of offices and a luxury hotel. Floors 36 through 70 will house numerous apartments, but each of the top ten floors in the 80-story tower will be a single apartment. While the architect will control the movement of most of the floors, anyone who owns one of the top ten apartments will be able to move them however they like. Each luxury apartment, expected to cost about \$36 million, will have more space inside than five average houses in the United States put together.



INSIDE

## SKYSCRAPER FACTORIES

Skyscrapers are usually built one floor at a time—from the bottom up. But not the Dynamic Tower: It will be the world's first skyscraper to be built in a factory. Only the enormous concrete core will be built on-site. This cylinder, weighing about 12 million pounds, will contain plumbing and elevators. While the core is being built, each floor will be made in segments at a factory. These will be shipped to the construction site ready to go: Even the furniture will be inside. The segments will be lifted up the side of the building and attached to the core from the top down, making construction safer, faster, and less expensive.



PETRONAS TOWERS IN KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA:  
THE TOWERS HAVE  
32,000 WINDOWS.  
IT TAKES WINDOW  
WASHERS A MONTH  
TO CLEAN EACH  
TOWER.

TWO INTERNATIONAL  
FINANCE CENTRE IN  
HONG KONG, CHINA:  
THERE ARE 62  
ELEVATORS IN THE  
1,362-FOOT-TALL  
BUILDING.

JIN MAO TOWER IN  
SHANGHAI, CHINA:  
THIS 88-STORY  
BUILDING HAS AN  
INDOOR OBSER-  
VATION DECK ON  
THE TOP FLOOR.

DYNAMIC ARCHITECTURE / DAVID FISHER, ARCHITECT / ALL RIGHTS RESERVED 2008 © INTERNATIONAL PATENT PENDING DYNAMIC TOWER / AMN;  
© DIGITALVISION / ALAMY (TAIPEI 101, JIN MAO TOWER); © SANDRA BAKER / ALAMY (EMPIRE STATE BUILDING); © JON ARNOLD IMAGES LTD / ALAMY  
(WILLIS TOWER); © INTERNATIONAL PHOTOBANK / ALAMY (PETRONAS TOWER); © DANIEL HENLETT / ALAMY (TWO INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CENTRE)



The Truth Behind  
the New Movie

# FANTASTIC MR. FOX

BY JAMIE  
KIFFEL-ALCHEH

In the new movie *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, expert chicken-stealer Mr. Fox finds himself trapped underground by three grumpy farmers tired of his troublemaking. Now Mr. Fox and his friends must choose between leaving their holes to find food even though they'd risk capture, or staying underground to starve. Will Mr. Fox's sly ideas save them? Would a real fox behave the same way? NG KIDS went behind the scenes to find out.

## Digging Up Dirt

When the farmers try to dig out Mr. Fox from the hill where he lives, Mr. Fox furiously tunnels in the opposite direction. Real foxes wouldn't have it so easy. "Foxes' claws are small, like a dog's," says biologist Matt Peek of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. They can claw their way under fences or dig a den to live in, but their claws can't dig a tunnel fast enough to escape a predator. Instead, a fox would just pop out of its hole and race away.

## Rat Attack

Mrs. Fox wrestles with an evil rat that has kidnapped her son, Ash. She refuses to back down until her son is safe. Would a real mama fox do the same? "She would defend her babies from a coyote, but by trying to lure it away with a 'come-and-get-me' bark," Peek says. "Rats, though, are just dinner to foxes. It would be a short fight." And a fox-versus-rat fight would look more like ballet than wrestling. "Foxes jump several feet and pounce on rodents," Peek says.



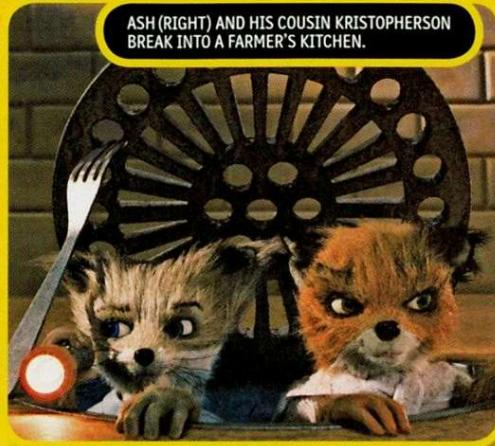
KYLIE THE POSSUM IS MR. FOX'S BEST FRIEND.

Most of the sets were built out of things you may have in your house. Grassy hills are actually bath towels. "Any smoke you see is made out of cotton balls," says producer Allison Abbate. "The waterfalls and streams are clear cellophane."

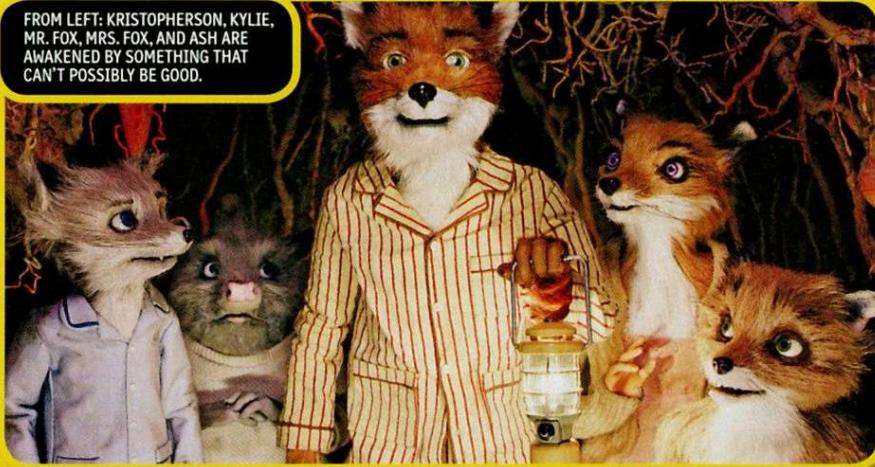
The movie is based on the book  
*Fantastic Mr. Fox*, by Roald Dahl.

## Weaseling In

Weasel is a slick real estate agent who talks Mr. Fox into buying a house he can't afford. Are real weasels that "weaselly"? "They probably got that reputation because they slink in the shadows," Peek says. "They sneak along a fence or in the shadows of rocks or brush to stay safe from raptors or mammals pouncing from above."



FROM LEFT: KRISTOPHERSON, KYLIE, MR. FOX, MRS. FOX, AND ASH ARE AWAKENED BY SOMETHING THAT CAN'T POSSIBLY BE GOOD.



## Badger of Honor

Badger seems like a grumpy old coot, arguing with Mr. Fox and hurling pinecones at people. "Real badgers have a mean rep because they're aggressive fighters," Peek says. "They aren't good runners, so they'll stand their ground and fight back." One trick they use is to lie flat on the ground so the predator can grab only the skin on their backs, which is very loose. That way, the badger can turn around and bite.



## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Rabbit cooks an entire feast for the underground animals after Mr. Fox breaks into the farmers' food storage rooms. Real rabbits also "prepare" interesting food...but you wouldn't want to taste it. "Rabbits basically eat their food twice," says Jan McCoy of the Oregon Zoo. "They excrete little green pellets of digested food rich in vitamins and protein that they then eat." Why would they do this? "They're getting all the nutrition they possibly can out of their meal," McCoy says.

## BEHIND THE SCENES



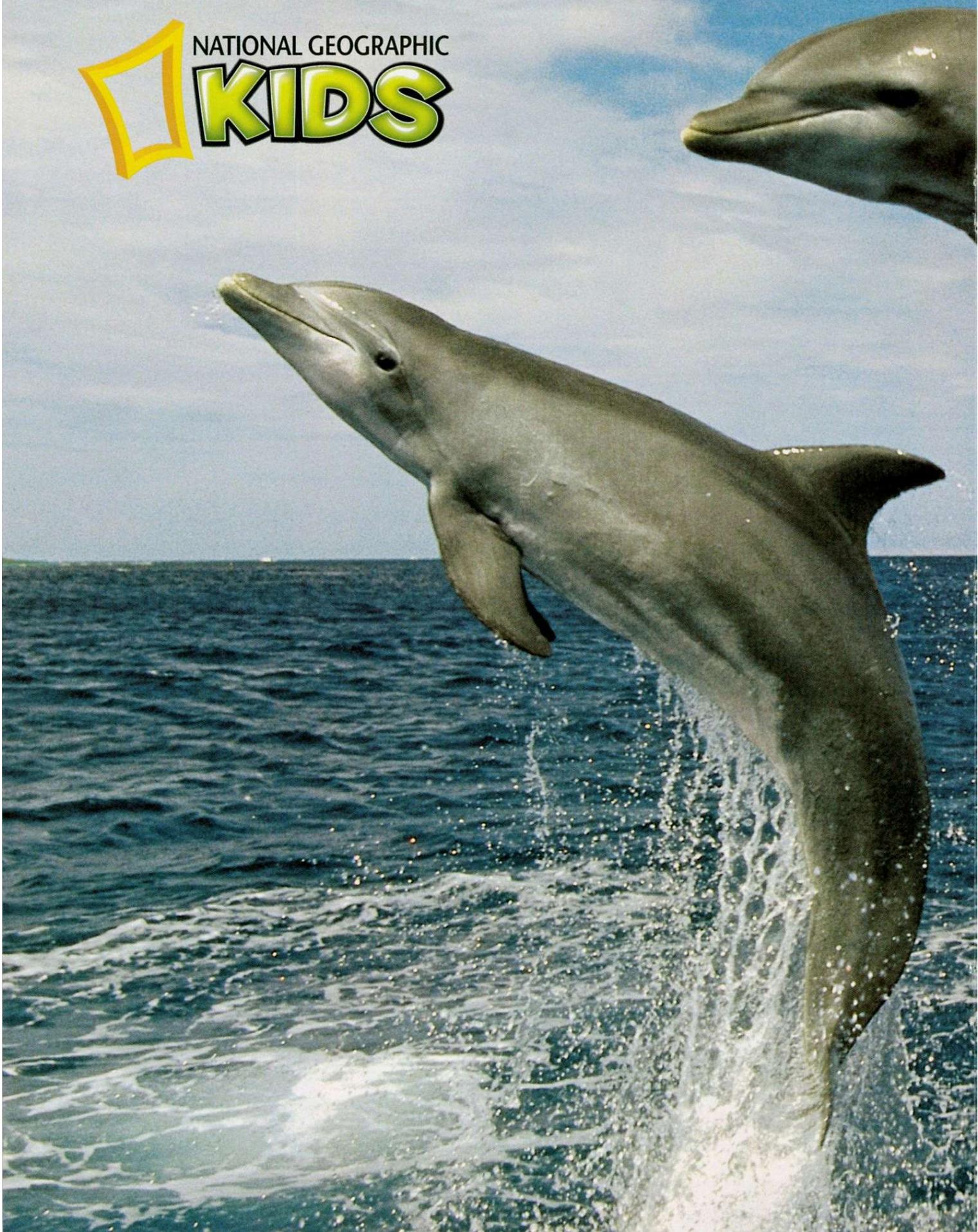
*Fantastic Mr. Fox* is a stop-motion animated movie, which means the characters are actually puppets that are moved just a smidge for each shot. Above, director Wes Anderson positions some of those puppets.



Bill Murray, the actor who voices Badger, looks into the puppet's set. In the movie, Badger's law office is built into a beaver dam.

All the puppets have a molded steel skeleton that is covered in foam. Fur is glued on later, and tiny paintbrushes add the fine details.







# Amazing Animal Friends

SPECIAL EDITION

Like humans, animals take care of each other. Sometimes it doesn't matter if they're different species. These stories prove that friendship comes in all shapes and sizes.

HUGS  
ARE NICE,  
BUT SPARE  
ME THE BANANA  
BREATH!



## CHIMP LOVES DOG

### Frazier Park, California

When Suzy the chimpanzee lost her mother, her caretaker wasn't sure if the primate would survive on her own. That's when Augie the golden retriever stepped in as part babysitter, part best friend. Suzy climbs the good-natured pooch like a jungle gym and takes rides on his back. The two sleep together and even share meals: Suzy gives her jelly sandwiches to the dog after he's eaten all his chow. "Whenever Suzy gets startled, Augie's the first one she runs to," says Keith Bauer, Suzy's caretaker and Augie's owner. "They trust each other. Suzy knows he'll never hurt her, and Augie never would."



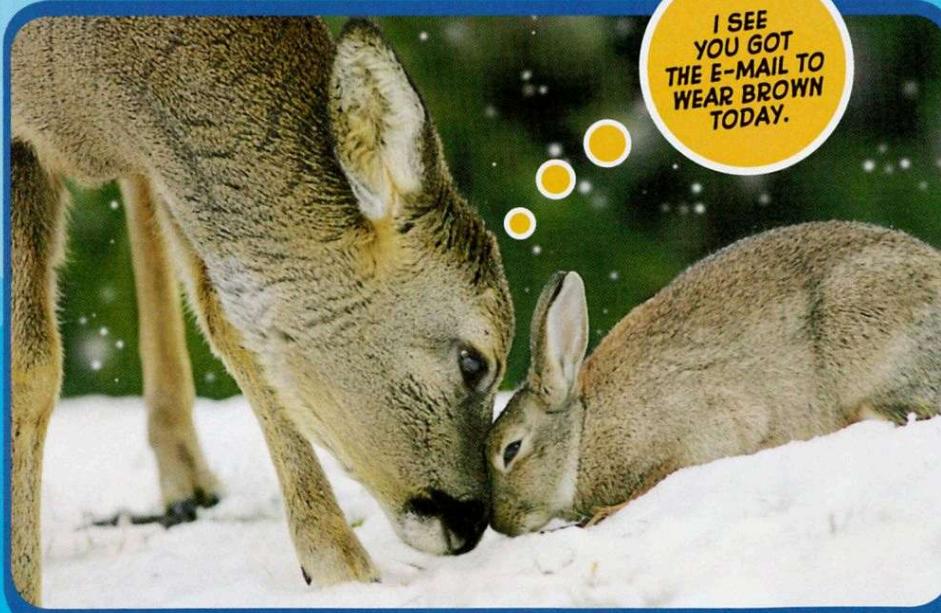
# Amazing Animal Friends

The word orangutan comes from two words in Asian languages: *orang*, meaning "man," and *utan*, meaning "of the forest."



## ORANGUTAN KEEPS PET CAT

Panama City Beach, Florida  
Tonda the orangutan was sad when her mate went away. She even lost interest in painting, one of her favorite hobbies. Then her keepers introduced her to a cat named T.K.—and suddenly the ape was back to her old self. "Tonda carried T.K. all over the place," says Stephanie Willard of ZooWorld. "She gave him food, stroked him, and dangled toys for him to play with." The orangutan even covered T.K.'s eyes when the ape got her shots so the cat wouldn't be afraid. Tonda wouldn't come into her enclosure at night until T.K. was there, too. The cat even inspired Tonda to start painting again.



I THINK  
IT'S TIME  
FOR SOMEONE  
TO GET A  
PEDICURE.

## ELEPHANT HEALS POOCH

### Hohenwald, Tennessee

It's common for two elephants to be best friends at the Elephant Sanctuary. But an elephant and a dog? That's a little unusual! Despite their nearly 8,700-pound difference, Bella the dog rolls over on her back and allows Tarra the elephant to rub her belly with her trunk. The two go on walks together and sleep side by side. Once, Bella injured herself and couldn't move her back legs or even wag her tail. The elephant waited outside the vet's office every day while Bella healed. Caregivers carried the dog out to visit with her pachyderm pal so the two could "talk" to each other through barks and rumbles while Tarra gently rubbed Bella with her trunk. Soon Bella was on her way to recovery—and workers truly believe Tarra's caring nature helped the dog heal. "Bella and Tarra give each other unconditional love 24/7," says sanctuary cofounder Carol Buckley. It's definitely an elephant-size friendship.



Go online for a chance to win a copy of the books *Travels With Tarra* and *Just for Elephants*.  
[kids.nationalgeographic.com/Activities/New/Giveaways](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/Activities/New/Giveaways)

## RABBIT BUILDS BED FOR DEER

### Niedersachsen, Germany

After her mother was struck by a car, Finchen the fawn was brought to live on a farm. One day as she grazed, a wild rabbit appeared, and it's been by Finchen's side ever since. "I've watched them alert each other to hazards or predators so they can flee to safety," says Tanja Askani, who photographed the pair. But Finchen and her rabbit friend seem to be more than each other's bodyguard. The rabbit must have realized that Finchen was too big to sleep underground, because the bunny built a grassy nest that was big enough for them both to curl up in. They're like a real-life Bambi and Thumper.



# Wacky America

Check out these  
but-true roadside attractions.

BY JILL  
YAWORSKI

You're riding in the car listening to your favorite tune and daydreaming about the next cool stop on this family vacation. Suddenly your dad slows down. Peering into an alley, you see an entire wall covered in gum! Huh? Actually, this sticky attraction is just one of many wacky art displays scattered across the country. So buckle your seat belt and get ready for a wild ride.



## Bubblegum Alley

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA

Some call it art; others call it just plain gross. Bubblegum Alley is covered from top to bottom with wads of chewed gum, a tradition that was started mysteriously by locals in the 1950s. Some artists even created images of funny faces and the American flag. Unamused community members had the "masterpiece" removed—twice. But the cleanup didn't stick, and soon more gum appeared. Now the alley has more than two million pieces of gum on it.

## Blue Whale

CATOOSA, OKLAHOMA

2

Not ready to dive the depths of the ocean to see a blue whale? No problem. Just visit this 80-foot-long cement beast, which even has a slide and diving board so visitors can take a dip in the pond. When the artist died, the whale fell into disrepair. Neighbors couldn't stand to see the grinning whale fall apart, so they fixed it and now keep it bright with gallons (and gallons) of blue paint.





# GUARDIANS OF THE TOMB

**These mysterious CLAY SOLDIERS were hidden underground for thousands of years.**

**S**ome Chinese farmers were digging for water when they got the shock of their lives. A face stared up at them from the soil, eyes wide open, with features that looked almost human. But the face was not part of a skeleton; it was made of baked clay, called terra cotta. And it led to the discovery of what many say is the eighth wonder of the ancient world.

## BURIED TREASURE

Underneath the mysterious head lay a pit the size of two football fields filled with thousands of life-size clay soldiers that had been hidden for 2,200 years. Row upon row of the soldiers were placed in battle formation, each face different from the next. "Every hair on the head and tread on the shoes is so realistic," says China expert Albert Dien.

Albert Dien.

STATUES OF ARCHERS (ABOVE AND RIGHT, STANDING) WERE BURIED HOLDING REAL CROSSBOWS.

Over time, archaeologists found a total of four pits, some containing statues of horse-drawn chariots, cavalry (soldiers on horseback), and high-ranking officers. One of the pits was empty and likely unfinished.

## TELLING CLUES

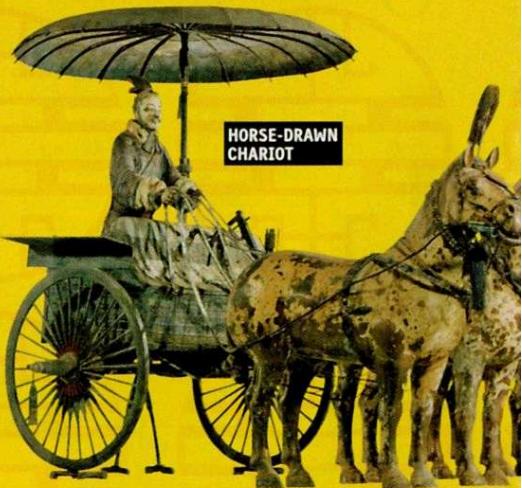
Who could have built this huge underground army? The archaeologists had a hunch they knew the answer.

Found near Xi'an, which was China's capital city for nearly 2,000 years, the soldiers could be the work of only one person: China's first emperor, Qin Shihuangdi (chin shure-hwong-dee).

The brilliant but brutal ruler was known for his big ideas and even bigger ego. He conquered nearby lands, creating the first unified China. He also ordered workers to build a hill taller than the Statue of Liberty for his tomb. This giant grave was less than a mile from the pits of terra cotta warriors. "There had to be a connection," Dien says.

## AN ETERNAL ARMY

Ancient Chinese rulers often were buried with small figurines of soldiers meant to protect them in the afterlife. But Qin Shihuangdi's terra cotta soldiers were grander than anything ever seen. "The emperor had killed a lot of people, so maybe he wanted a large army to protect him from his victims' ghosts," says Dien.



HORSE-DRAWN CHARIOT

# UNDER RECONSTRUCTION

Experts have painstakingly rebuilt and restored a thousand terra cotta warriors found in underground pits near the emperor's tomb. The complex is so vast that excavations may continue for generations.

ANCIENT CRAFTSMEN MADE THOUSANDS OF LIFE-SIZE TERRA COTTA WARRIORS, EACH WITH A UNIQUE FACE.

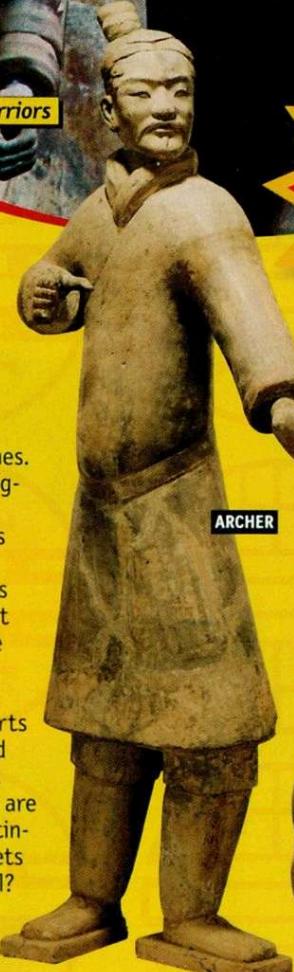
YIKES!  
WE'RE SUPPOSED  
TO PROTECT THE  
EMPEROR FROM  
GHOSTS?



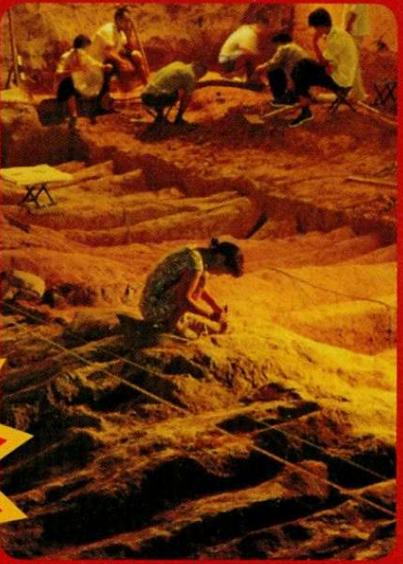
## FINAL REWARDS

It turned out that the emperor's living enemies took revenge—not the dead ones. In 206 B.C., a few years after Qin Shihuang-di's death, invading armies set the pits' wooden support beams on fire. The roofs collapsed, burying the warriors and cracking every figure. The pits caved in more as time went on, and the soldiers were lost to the ages.

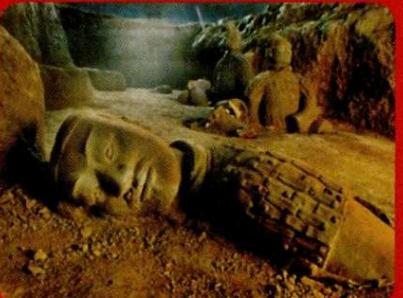
Since the farmers' discovery in 1974, experts have pieced a thousand soldiers back together. But some 6,000 figures are still buried. As work continues, who knows what secrets these soldiers have yet to tell?



A warrior's head poking out of the dirt still has traces of red paint. Originally all of the warriors were painted bright colors.



Workers brush dirt away from the collapsed roof that sheltered the terra cotta warriors.



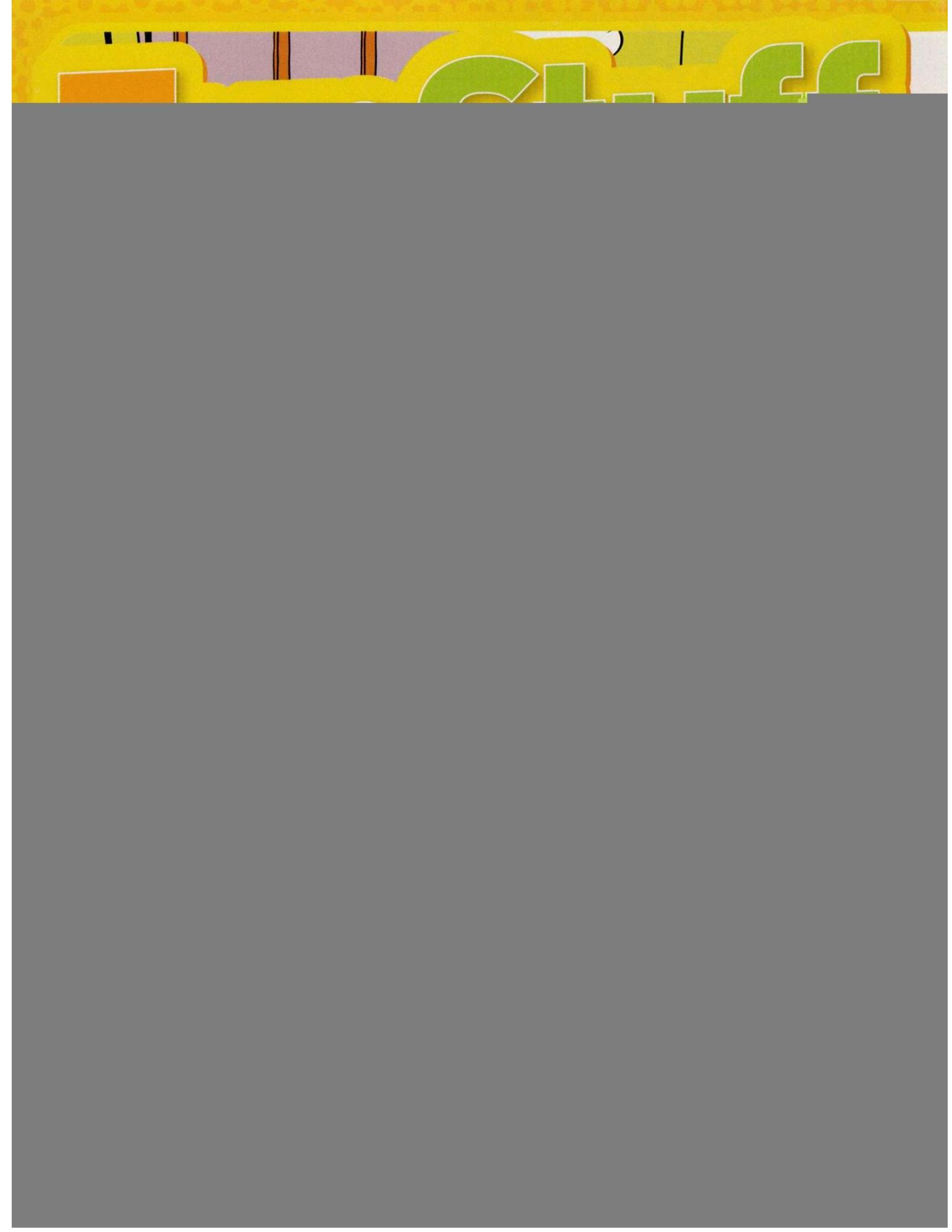
A toppled terra cotta warrior lies in its 2,200-year-old underground tomb.

WANG DA GANG (BOTH ARCHERS, CHARIOT, MUSICIAN); D. LOUIS MAZZATENTA / NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC STOCK (GROUP OF WARRIORS, HEAD, WORKERS IN PIT, TOPPLED SOLDIER)

DI

o





# What in the World?

Play interactive "What in the World?" and other games online.  
[kids.nationalgeographic.com](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com)



## RAIN FOREST ANIMALS

These images show close-up views of animals that can be found in the rain forests of Central and South America. Unscramble the letters to identify what's in each picture. Feeling lost? **ANSWERS ON PAGE 35**



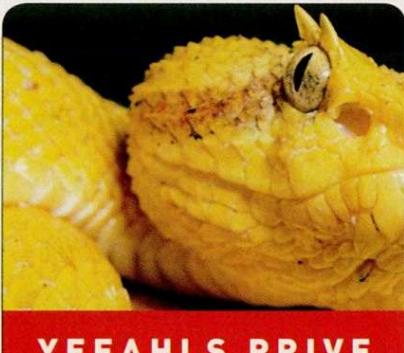
ELFA-EUTCRT  
TAN



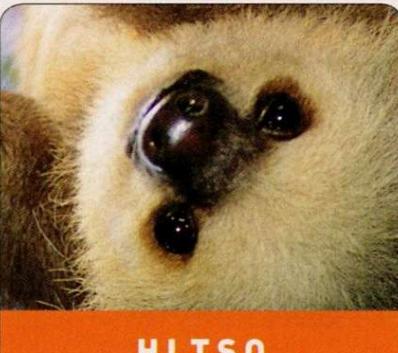
ATSB



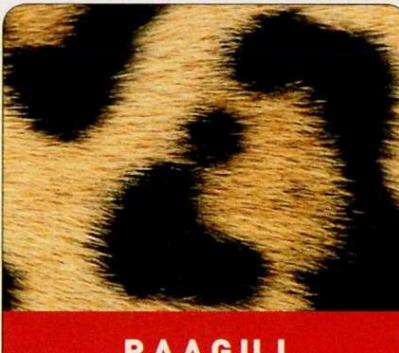
OSPINO TADR  
RGOF



YEEAHL S PRIVE



HLTSO



RAAGUJ



ARTEENTA



MAIANC



UCATNO

# Funny FILL-IN

## Thanksgiving Thief!

BY JILL YAWORSKI

Ask a friend to give you words to fill in the blanks in this story without showing it to him or her. Then read out loud for a laugh.



This year I helped my parents \_\_\_\_\_ Thanksgiving dinner. It took \_\_\_\_\_ hours,   
 but it was worth it—the \_\_\_\_\_ smelled so delicious. We set the \_\_\_\_\_ with  
 the \_\_\_\_\_ china and \_\_\_\_\_ crystal. When Uncle \_\_\_\_\_ arrived, we were ready to dig in. All of a sudden we heard a crash  
 from the \_\_\_\_\_. Our pet \_\_\_\_\_, was making a beeline  
 for the turkey. My dad tried to stop her, but he tripped on a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ and crashed through  
 a(n) \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ on the table, my mom landed on the gravy and sent the  
 \_\_\_\_\_ pie \_\_\_\_\_ through the air. I tried to catch the pie, but it landed on my  
 head, its \_\_\_\_\_. filling dripping and oozing down my face. Before I knew it, everyone was  
 \_\_\_\_\_ on the floor and laughing. Meanwhile \_\_\_\_\_ stood on the table eating a  
 turkey \_\_\_\_\_. My mom just shrugged and said, "Who wants takeout \_\_\_\_\_?"



# Back Talk

Is this seat taken?

What do  
YOU think  
this elephant  
is thinking?



1. Fill in the thought balloon.
2. Cut out the entire picture (or make a photocopy of it).
3. Mail it along with your name, address, phone number, and date of birth to NG KIDS, Back Talk, P.O. Box 96000, WASHINGTON, DC 20090-6000. Selection for publication in a future issue will be at the discretion of NG KIDS.



## From the August Issue

Remind me never to turn it on high again.

Bobby C., 11  
Wichita Falls, Texas

I'm a huge fan of afternoon naps.

Samantha and Andrew F., 10 and 8  
Bordentown, New Jersey

Does anyone feel a draft?

Kristin M., 12  
Fort Collins, Colorado

Ahh, the dog days of summer.

Katie J., 11  
Azle, Texas

Can someone get me a pillow?

Mary T., 9  
Richmond, Michigan

Let the good times blow.

Spencer O., 10  
Bay Village, Ohio

Wake me up when it's winter.

Jack F., 6  
Little Silver, New Jersey

Move it a little more to the left.

Alyssa K., 9  
Bedford, Pennsylvania



# Art Zone

## CHANNEL SURFING

Tune in for these imaginary TV shows thought up by NG KIDS readers.



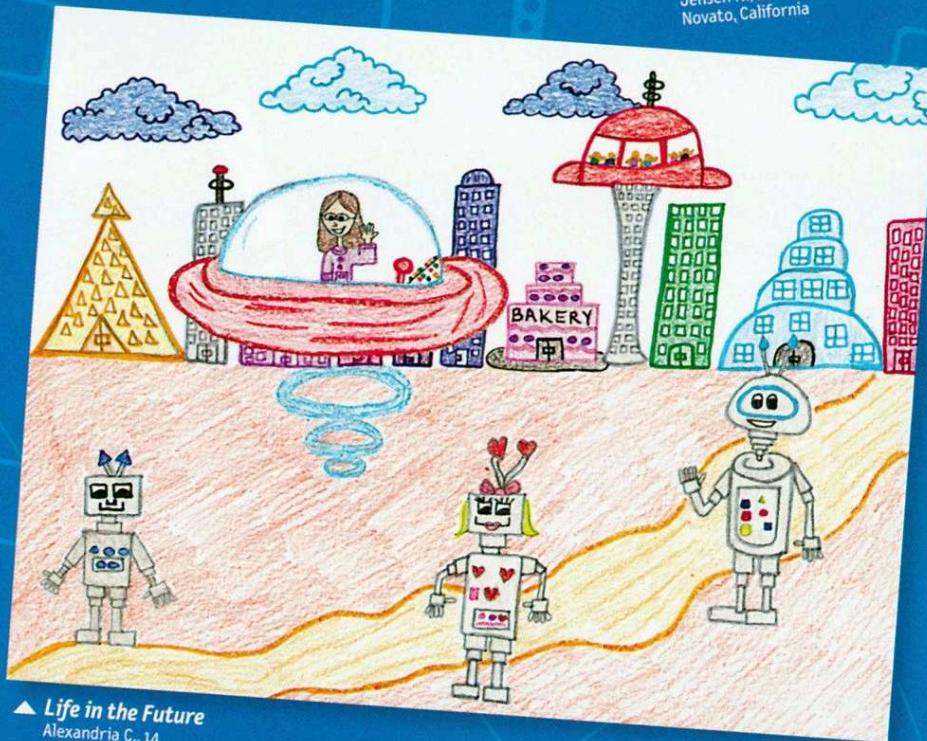
▲ American Villain Idol  
Devon J., 12  
Baltimore,  
Maryland



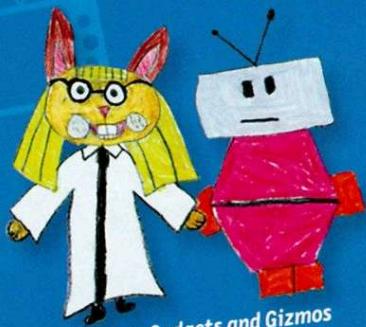
▲ My Baking Channel  
Jensen N., 12  
Novato, California



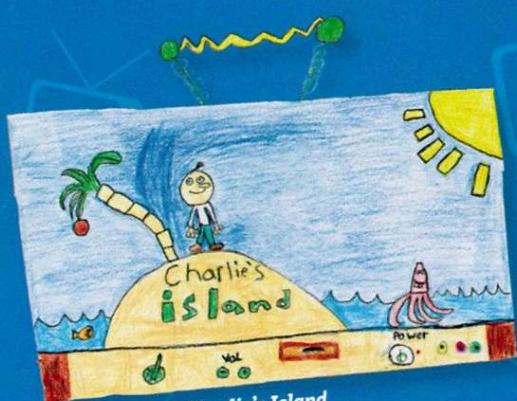
▲ Attack of the Rats  
Candace C., 11  
Ocala, Florida



▲ Life in the Future  
Alexandria C., 14  
Bayside, New York



▲ Gadgets and Gizmos  
Cassidy E., 8  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina



▲ Charlie's Island  
Charlie M., 8  
Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada

## Draw a cool dream you had!

Send your original drawings to  
NG KIDS—Dream Art Zone  
P.O. Box 98002  
Washington, DC 20090-8002

Include your name, address, phone number, date of birth, a title for your drawing, a statement that it is your own work, and the name of your parent or guardian. Your parent or guardian must sign a release for publication of your illustration if selected. Submissions become the property of the National Geographic Society, and all rights thereto are transferred to the National Geographic Society. Submissions cannot be acknowledged or returned. Selection will be at the discretion of NG KIDS.

Create a flag design for National Geographic's Ocean Now expeditions! For details, go online.  
[kids.nationalgeographic.com/contests/sweepstakes](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/contests/sweepstakes)

## Answers



"Double Take" (page 34):

row: underbelly, cornmeal, location.

eyelash viper, sloth, jaguar. Bottom

poison dart frog. Middle row:

Top row: leaf-cutter ant, bats,

New York cheesecake, buffalo wings.

Philadelphia cheesesteak, English

muffins, bolognese, french fries.

million lire, Brussels sprouts.

Swiss cheese, Belgian waffles.

"Let's Talk Turkey!" (page 30):

A CARTOON NETWORK ORIGINAL EVENT



# BEN 10

## ALIEN SWARM™

WORLD PREMIERE MOVIE  
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 25, 7P E/P



TV  
PG  
V

BEN10.COM  
TM & © 2009 Cartoon Network

## **Full Citation**

- Title National Geographic Kids
- Publication Date Sunday, Nov. 2009
- Pages 1
- Language English
- Document Type Cover
- Source Library National Geographic Society
- Gale Document Number GALE|GPFUCV484555611