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SAVE the EARTH

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**FREE PULLOUT POSTER**

p.18



A TIGER'S SKIN IS STRIPED LIKE ITS FUR.

# Inside



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Check out how ordinary cars are transformed into wacky works of art.



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Go online to vote in the Ocean Flag contest, play a water adventure game, and watch animal videos. [kids.nationalgeographic.com](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com)



## On the Cover

Cool computer tricks make Taylor the cat and Mac the dog seem like BFFs.

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**HELP  
FOR  
HAITI**

# Be a Star, Save a Life!

A MAN PASSES A BUILDING THAT COLLAPSED AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE IN PORT-AU-PRINCE, THE CAPITAL OF HAITI.



Go online for more information about Haiti.  
[kids.nationalgeographic.com/Places](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/Places)

A SEARCH-AND-RESCUE DOG FROM CHINA SNIFTS FOR SURVIVORS.



On January 12, a devastating earthquake shook Haiti, a country about 700 miles southeast of Florida. Tens of thousands of people have lost their lives so far, and millions are without shelter, food, and safe drinking water.

Without safe water, survival becomes a serious matter because of the diseases that drinking unclean water can cause. In fact, **every day 6,000 kids die of water-related illnesses worldwide**.

Even before the earthquake, more than half of all Haitians did not have access to clean drinking water. But now you can help save lives. Just 50 cents will help global health organization PSI provide safe drinking water for a family of four in Haiti for a month.

## DONATE TODAY (with a parent's permission)

Just think—for six dollars you could help provide clean water for a family for a year. But any amount—50 cents, one dollar, five dollars, whatever—will help save someone's life. **Make checks payable to PSI** (cash works, too!) and send to:

PSI: Be a Star, Save a Life  
1120 19th Street NW, Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20036

OR: [psi.org/BeAStar](http://psi.org/BeAStar)



# Bet you didn't know

BY ERIN WHITMER

## 9 cool facts to color your world

**1** A red **flag** was a **signal** for **battle** in ancient Rome.

**3** More **men** are **color-blind** than **women**.

**5** The word **purple** comes from a **Greek word** for a type of **shellfish**.

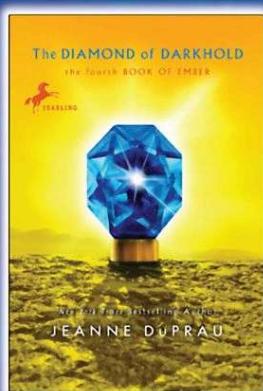
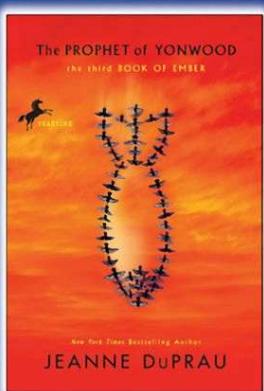
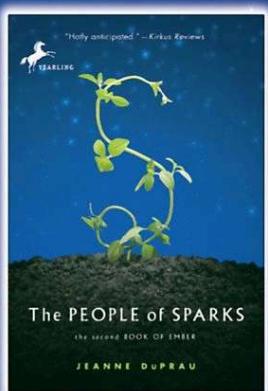
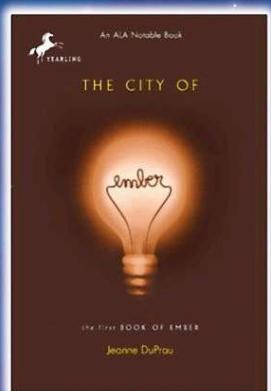
**2** **Chromophobia** is the extreme **fear** of **colors**.

**4** Butterflies can see **more colors** than humans can.

**6** You **see** color **differently** from the **person** next to you.



# When the world ends, escape to Ember.



Journey through the Books of Ember from bestselling author  
**JEANNE DUPRAU!**

Illustration © 2008 by Chris Rely

Visit [BooksofEmber.com](http://BooksofEmber.com) to play the game.



**7**  
There is a  
**crayon color**  
called  
**“macaroni**  
**and cheese.”**

**9**  
**Red diamonds**  
are some of the  
**rarest stones**  
in the world.

**8**  
**Studies show**  
that painting your room  
**blue** could make you  
**more creative.**



# stupid

BY ELISABETH DEFFNER

# WHICH ANIMAL ATHLETE ARE YOU?



Hi boys and girls! I'm Xtreme, and I'm here to tell you that joining Team Xtreme is a great way for you to get up, get out, get active, and play fun games every day!

Take this quiz now to find out which animal you resemble most when you play. Then Xtreme will recommend some games he thinks you'll be absolutely wild about!

- Where do you like to play most?
- On the grass in my backyard or at a park
  - In water like a pool or the ocean
  - Anyplace where there's a lot of snow
  - On swings and slides
  - On a sports field playing team games

**1**



- Which of these describes you best?
- I can run so fast no one can catch me
  - I can swim so well you might think I have fins
  - I'd rather have a snowboard on my feet than a pair of sneakers
  - I can easily climb up any tree I see
  - I'm one of the strongest kids in my class

**2**



- What's your favorite time of the year to go outside and play?
- Summer
  - Spring
  - Winter
  - Fall
  - All year

**3**

- What would be your favorite place to take a vacation?
- A national park where I can go hiking
  - A beach where I can play in the waves
  - Snowcapped-mountains where I can speed down the slopes
  - Someplace where I can go on a jungle adventure
  - Wide open places where I can see hundreds of stars at night

**4**

- Which one of these would you like to win most of all?
- 100-meter dash
  - Belly-flop contest
  - Snowball fight
  - Rock-climbing competition
  - Tug of war

**5**



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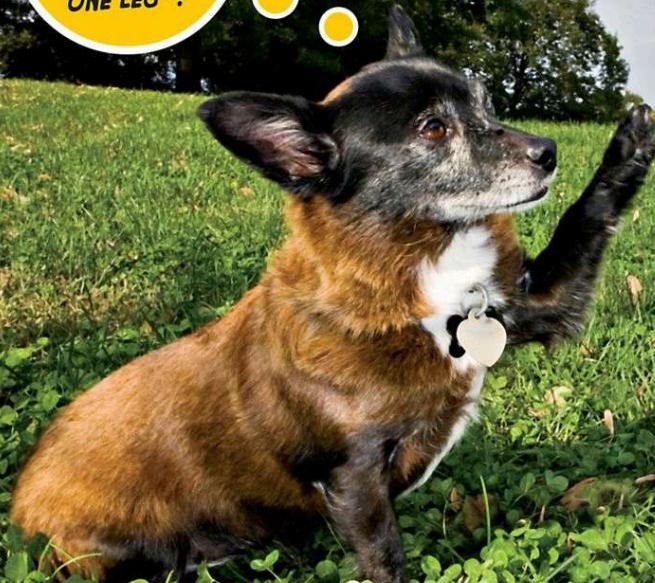




# Amazing Animals

HOW ABOUT SOMETHING A LITTLE MORE CHALLENGING, LIKE "HOP ON ONE LEG"?

WAVE



Willow also can "count." Owner Lyssa Howells holds different numbers of rocks, pennies, or treats in each hand, then asks the dog which is more or less. She always paws the correct answer.

## DOG CAN READ

### New York, New York

Willow once had her own pet ferret named Walnut.

Scientists believe that dogs have the same mental capabilities as most 2- to 2½-year-old children.

Willow the English terrier doesn't just hear commands from her owner—she also reads them. The pooch raises her paw when she sees the word "wave," lies down when she reads "bang," and gets on her hind legs at the sight of "sit up."

Lyssa Howells first used voice commands to teach Willow the tricks. Then she wrote each command on a flash card to hold up while she said the word at the same time. Soon the dog connected each written command with the right trick, without any vocal cues. "Willow is really intelligent," Howells says. "But I believe there's no such thing as an untrainable dog."

Animal behaviorist Bonnie Beaver thinks Willow doesn't read like you do. Instead, the dog probably recognizes the different shapes of each word. "Still, this is one special dog," she says. "Most people are lucky to have dogs that listen to you at all!"

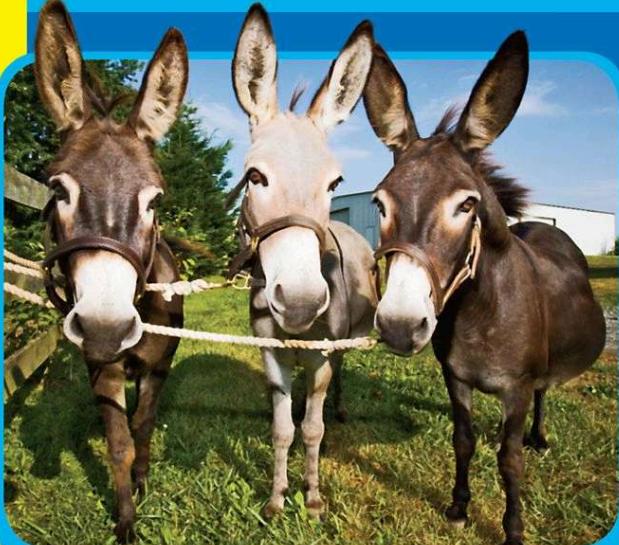
—Allie Benjamin



For more photos of Willow and the donkeys,  
go online. [kids.nationalgeographic.com/Photos](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/Photos)

WITH THOSE  
EARS, HOW  
COULD THEY  
NOT HEAR MY  
WHINNIES FOR  
HELP?

## DONKEY HEROES



### Frederick, Maryland

Curly, Charlotte, and Jennifer the donkeys knew something was wrong. Virginia the pony was about to have a baby, but she had fallen on her side and couldn't get up. Panicked and thrashing, the pony risked hurting herself—or her foal.

The donkeys dashed to their owners' farmhouse, braying like a crazy donkey alarm. "When I heard all three of them, I came running," owner Lisa Carr says. She quickly delivered Virginia's foal but couldn't get the terrified 1,000-pound pony up. Once again, the donkeys sensed danger. While Curly stayed behind to lick and comfort the newborn, Charlotte and Jennifer rushed back to the house to alert Carr's husband.

Soon the two humans got Virginia back on all four hooves, and she began to nurse her foal. "Donkeys look out for their herd, and Virginia is part of that herd," says agriculture expert Jon Gersbach. Carr agrees. "Curly, Charlotte, and Jennifer are like the very best watchdogs ever."

VIRGINIA (FRONT)  
AND HER FOAL VIOLET

—Kitson Jazynka



Willow

Curly, Charlotte, & Jennifer

DON'T  
MESS WITH  
ME!

## SQUID BLOWS UP!

### Most Deep Oceans

Just call this creature the Incredible Hulk. No, the piglet squid doesn't turn green when it's angry. But when it feels threatened, it *does* nearly double in size. Usually about the size of a dill pickle, the squid sucks in water through its snout and blows itself up like a water balloon when a predator is looking for lunch. If a squid the size of an orange doesn't scare off attackers, it can shoot the water back out and dart away. The piglet squid may not be as scary as the Hulk, but we give it points for trying.

This piglet squid may look like it has a face. But that "smile" is really a line of freckle-like spots. The locks of "hair" are actually arms and tentacles the squid uses to snatch food.

—Allie Benjamin

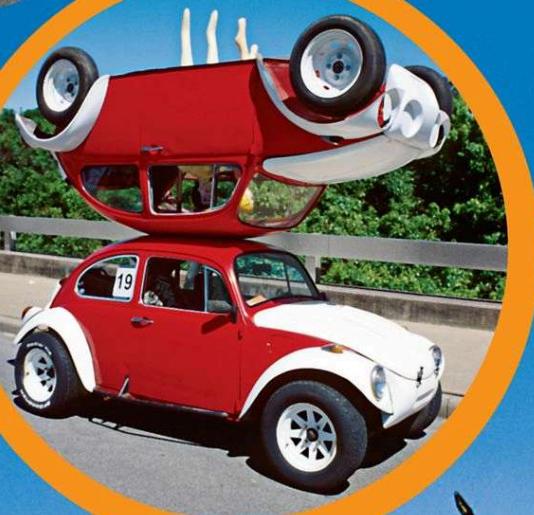


PRE-PUFFY PIGLET SQUID



## DOUBLE TROUBLE

What do you do if you have an extra VW Beetle lying around? Dennis Clay created an art car. The upside-down car is just the car's shell welded around a big pipe. The legs sticking out are mannequins'. "It's only for parades," Clay says. "Above 30 miles an hour, it gets all wiggly."



## ROAD SHOW

Wonder what Piet Mondrian, a modern artist, would have thought about this car, which was inspired by the Dutchman's distinctive style? Artist Emily Duffy painted the patterns on the vehicle, then made a matching roof sculpture and clothing. "I want to show people that nothing in life has to be boring," Duffy says.



## CRUISE CONTROL

Where other people saw a broken-down junker, artist Rick Worth saw a shipwreck: the *Titanic*. Using plywood and paint, Worth re-created the passenger liner that struck an iceberg and sank in 1912. But this craft has been good luck for some: One couple was married on the "bow" of the car!











# Tricky

Secrets revealed about these  
funny photos

BY JAMIE KIFFEL-ALCHEH

## PIECE OF CAKE

These party animals were never together. "We photographed the animals and their body parts separately, then pasted them all into the positions we wanted," Lund says. Whisper, the cat on top, was first photographed lying on his back, and his head was removed with an extract tool and saved. Then Whisper's back was photographed. That shot was merged with the head shot. "For the outstretched arms, we photographed Whisper standing with his front feet on the edge of a table," Lund says.



YU  
K  
8

Why are the cat and dog at the top of the page laughing? Because if you believe their pic is real, the joke's on you! Our pet pranksters look like they're yukking it up thanks to photo manipulation: Start with real pictures, then use a computer program to make crazy changes. Images can look wackier (like our cat and dog), better (like a model whose body has been changed), or real when they're not (like a toy made to look like a monster).

For the picture above, which is also on our cover, photographer John Lund took separate pictures of Taylor the cat and Mac the dog.

JOHN LUND / KIMBALL STOCK (REFRIGERATOR); JOHN LUND (DOG AND CAT); NICK VEDROS & ASSOC. / GETTY IMAGES (DOG AND GIRL). ALL IMAGES DIGITALLY COMPOSED.



**MOUNTAIN DOG**







# NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS

FUNNY  
FILL-IN:  
**BEACH  
CLEANUP**



special

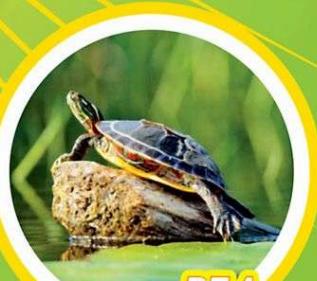


# SAVE the EARTH

Section



PROTECT  
YOUR  
PARKS



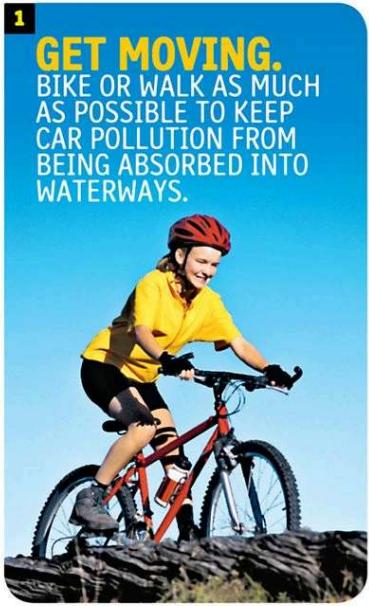
BE A  
WATER  
HERO

BACKYARD  
SAFARI

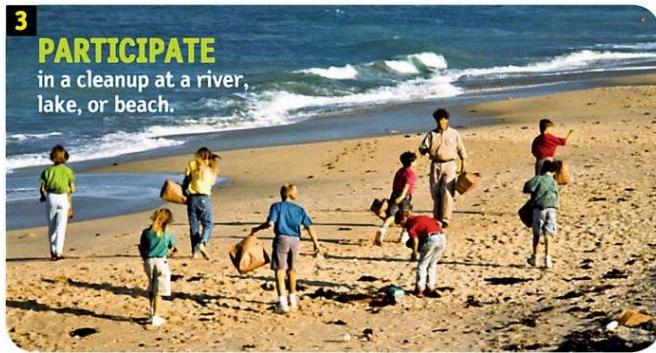


NATIONAL  
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**2** Don't release pets such as fish or snakes into rivers, lakes, or streams. Nonnative animals can totally mess up the ecosystem.

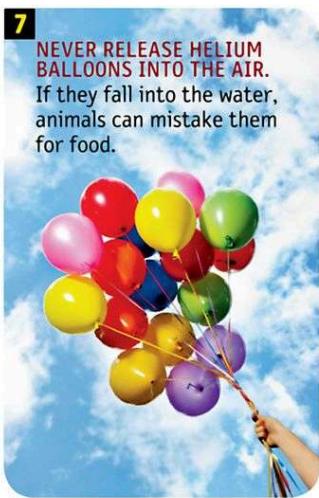


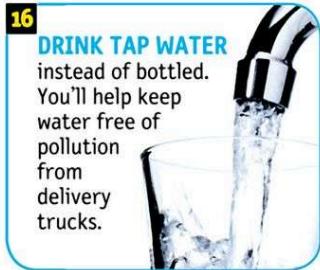
**4** **BE A WATER MONITOR.**  
Report leaks and drips at home and school.



# WAYS YOU CAN BE A W

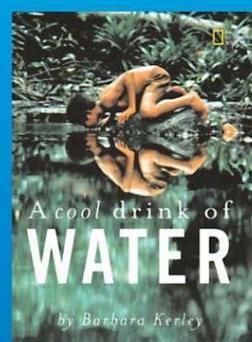
You can make a big difference when it comes to protecting the planet. These 25 tips help conserve





# WATER HERO

water; keep pollution out of oceans, rivers, and streams; and protect the animals that live there. You're being blue to be green!



You can also go online for more tips, plus navigate through a crazy river rapids game.  
[kids.nationalgeographic.com](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com)

# STUMP YOUR PARENTS

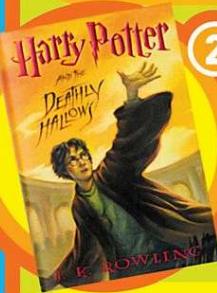
BY MADALINE DONNELLY

How eco-friendly are your parents? If they can't answer these questions, maybe they should take a lesson in going green.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 35



- 1** Which of these items can be composted, or turned into natural fertilizer, for your garden?  
 A. eggshells  
 B. golf balls  
 C. aluminum foil  
 D. all of the above



- 2** What alternative form of transportation does not appear in the *Harry Potter* book series?  
 A. a broomstick  
 B. a hippogriff  
 C. a skateboard with wings  
 D. a flying motorcycle

- 3** What uses the most energy in U.S. homes each year?  
 A. lighting  
 B. heating and air-conditioning  
 C. refrigeration  
 D. heating water



- 4** In your lifetime, you will throw away enough trash to fill...  
 A. the Empire State Building.  
 B. about five trash trucks.  
 C. six bathtubs.  
 D. the Grand Canyon.

- 5** Which of these species are threatened by global warming?  
 A. koala  
 B. clownfish  
 C. arctic fox  
 D. all of the above



- 6** In the futuristic movie *Wall-E*, what is Wall-E's job?  
 A. cleaning up trash left behind by humans  
 B. planting trees in parks  
 C. designing eco-friendly tourist destinations  
 D. sorting bottles at a recycling plant

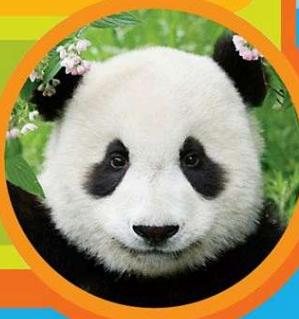
- 7** How many degrees has the Earth warmed up in the past 100 years?  
 A. 20°F  
 B. 30°F  
 C. 1°F  
 D. 12°F



- 8** Which statement about recycling aluminum is true?  
 A. More than half of all aluminum cans produced in the United States are recycled.  
 B. Approximately 100,000 aluminum cans are recycled every minute in the United States.  
 C. Recycling one aluminum can saves nearly the same amount of energy that it takes to power a 100-watt lightbulb for four hours.  
 D. all of the above

- 9** What is most frequently found in beach cleanups?  
 A. glass  
 B. pieces of plastic  
 C. shoes  
 D. jewelry

- 10** Paper can be made from which of these materials?  
 A. panda excrement  
 B. hemp  
 C. wood  
 D. all of the above



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# CHANGE THE WORLD!

BY B.F. SUMMERS



## PARK IT!

Just like rivers and trails, community parks need people like you to care about them so that everyone has a nice place to play. Here are some fun ideas to get you started.

### LITTER PATROL

Every park could use a little pick-me-up—trash pickup, that is! Hand out trash bags and latex gloves to friends, and get that garbage off the ground. Use separate bags for paper, plastic, and aluminum cans so you can recycle.



### PARTY IN THE PARK

Throw a huge blowout to celebrate your park. Pick a theme—Earth Day, Summer Vacation, Global Safari—and invite all your friends and family. Come up with games and activities that match your theme, and ask people to bring food related to the idea.

### GIVE A SHOUT-OUT

Let everyone know how cool your favorite place to play is so they can play there, too. Upload your pictures to [playspacemarker.kaboom.org](http://playspacemarker.kaboom.org). It has locations of more than 88,500 playgrounds. You can even list the fun things you can do. (Get a parent's permission first.)

### PAINT PALS

Get your BFFs together to paint a mural on a park wall or games such as hopscotch on the black-top. You can even paint benches crazy colors. Make sure to first get permission from whoever is responsible for the park. (Start with your city's parks and recreation department.)

### BUILD YOUR OWN

Want to create your own place to play? Team up with an adult and check out KaBOOM!, an organization that provides support to help people design and build playgrounds in their communities. Learn more online. [kaboom.org](http://kaboom.org)

### SPEAK UP!

If your local parks are run-down, dreary, or just plain unsafe, tell someone. Call, write, or email your mayor, city council, or parks and recreation department to ask them to make parks a priority. Better yet—get your friends to join a letter-writing campaign.



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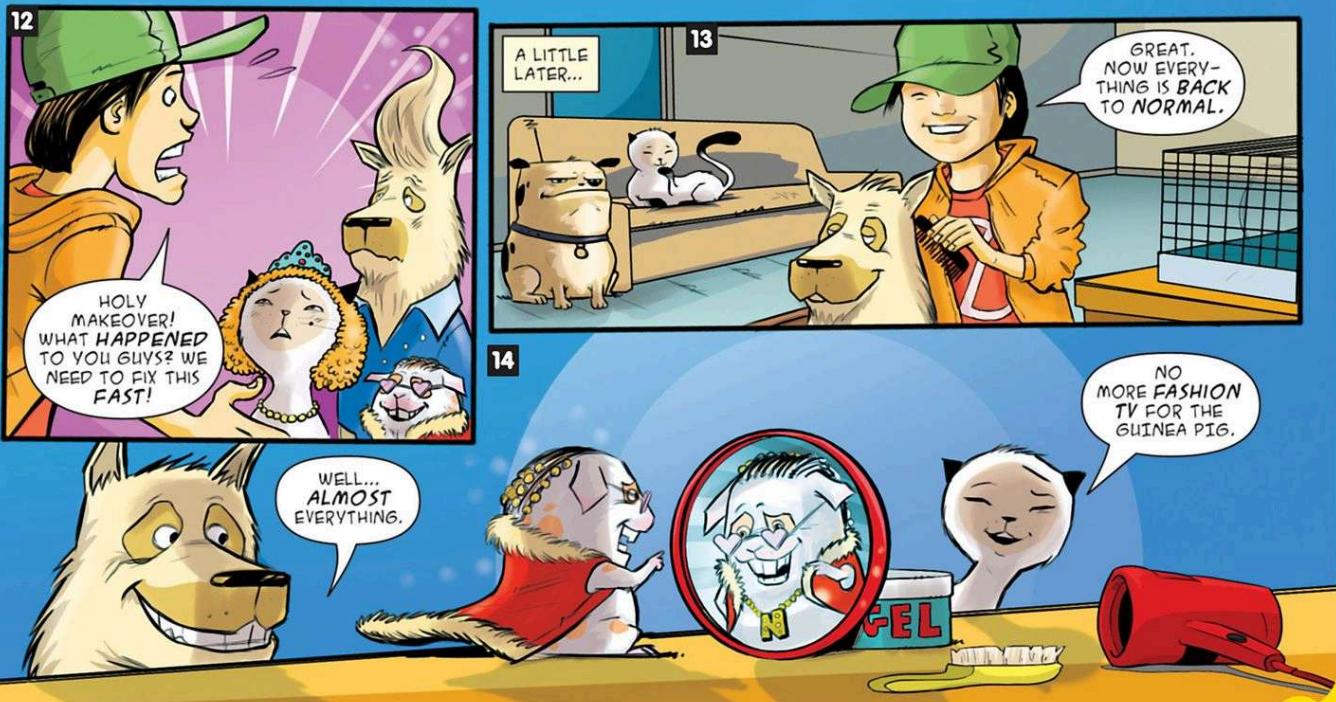


# Unleashed



STRIKA ENTERTAINMENT





# What in the World?

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

## HELLO, YELLOW

These images show views of things that are yellow. Unscramble the letters to identify what's in each picture.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 35



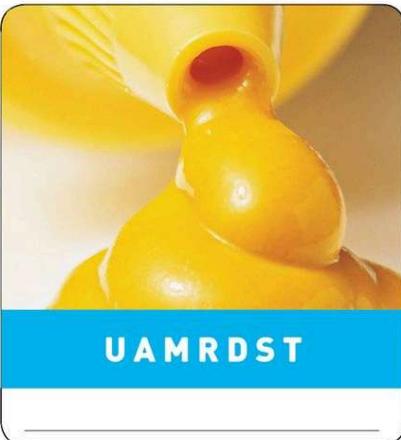
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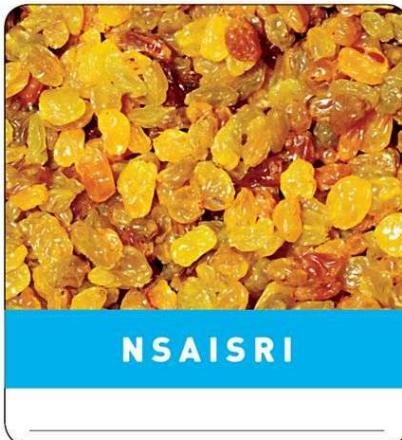
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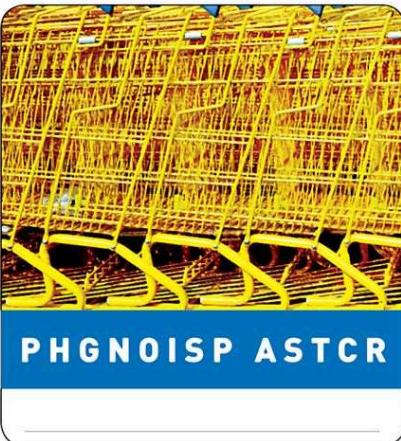
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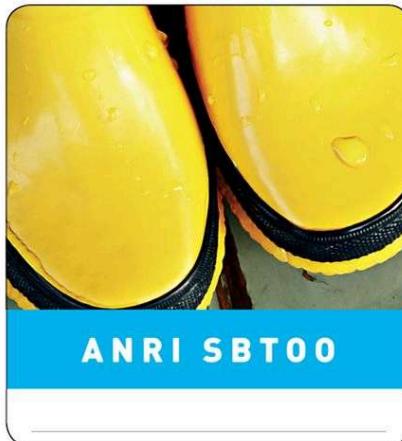
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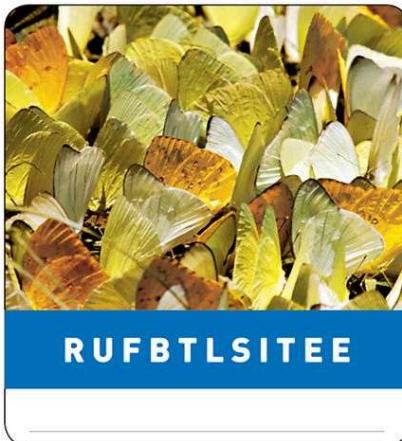
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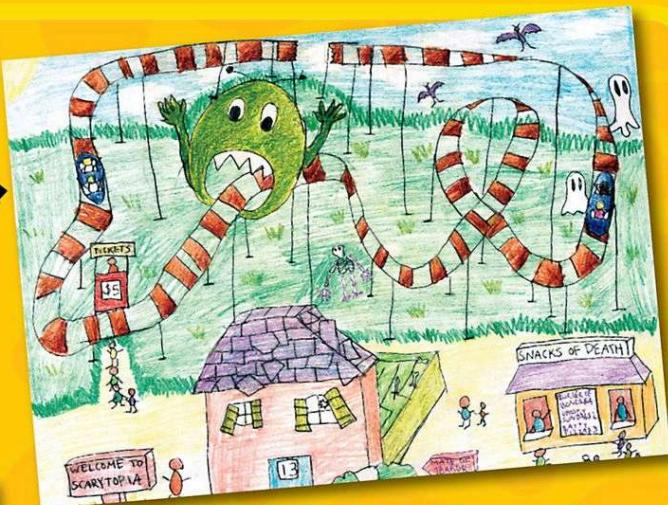
TOP ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT) © MARK HARRIS / GETTY IMAGES; WILFRED KEECH / GETTY IMAGES; FOOD COLLECTION RF / GETTY IMAGES. MIDDLE ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT) © STEVEN MARK NEEDHAM / ENVISION; CURBIS; JOEL SARTORE / NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC STOCK; KEN LUCAS / VISUALS UNLIMITED, INC / GETTY IMAGES. BOTTOM ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT) © RADIUS IMAGES / ALAMY; SANDY JONES / GETTY IMAGES. © MICHAEL & PATRICIA FOGDEN / MINDEN PICTURES

# Art Zone

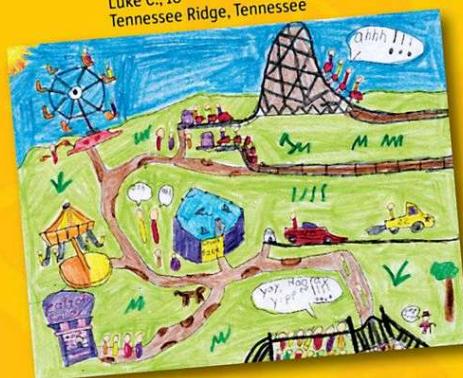
## WAHOO!

Hold on tight and check out these awesome amusement parks drawn by NG KIDS readers.

**Scarytopia**  
Olivia C., 11  
Potomac,  
Maryland



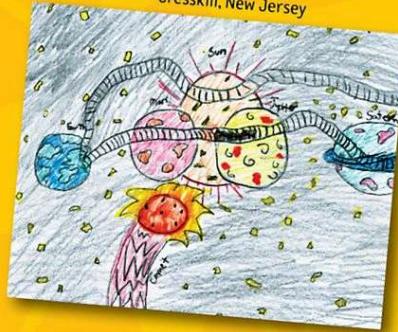
**Funland**  
Luke C., 10  
Tennessee Ridge, Tennessee



**Best Amusement Park Ever!**  
Sarah M., 10  
Lewellen, Nebraska



**Space Glow**  
Rohini D., 8  
Cresskill, New Jersey



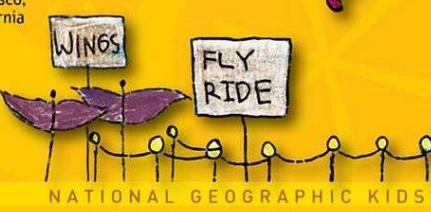
## Draw how you would save the environment.

Send your original drawings to  
NG KIDS—Save the Environment 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.

## Answers

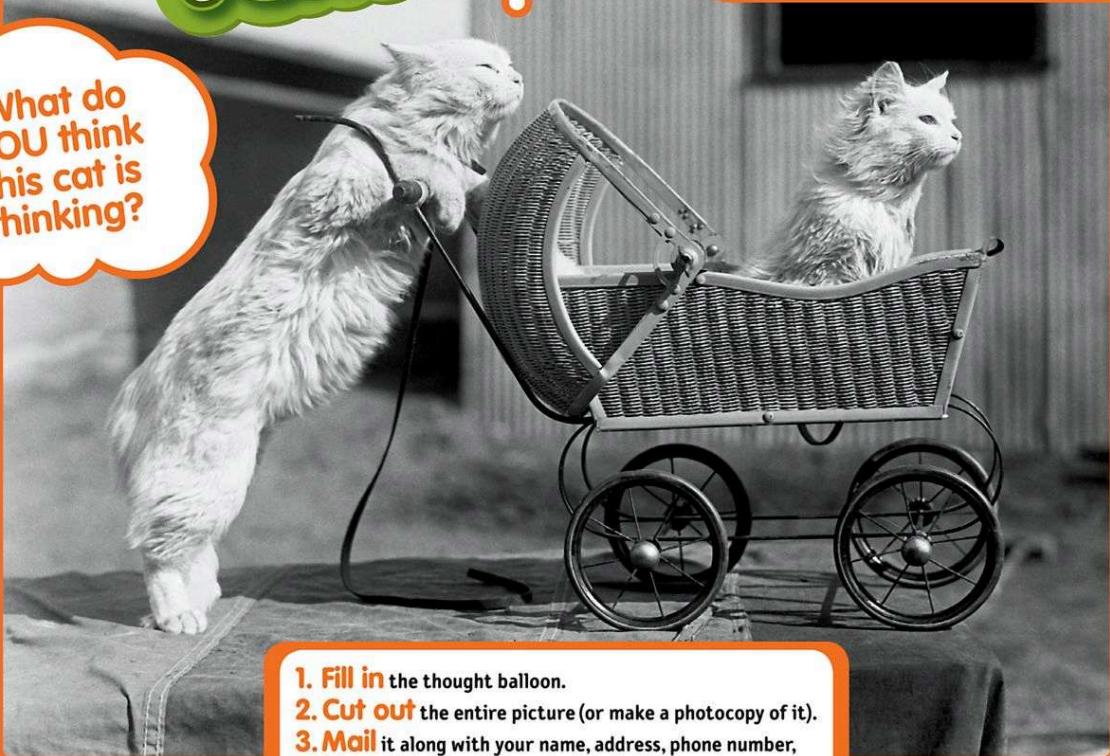
"Shump Your Parents" (page 28):  
1. A, 2. C, 3. B, 4. B, 5. D, 6. A.  
7. C, 8. D, 9. B, 10. D.  
"Windy Jumble" (page 31):  
Eleonor, A; Sam, J; Nicolle, E; Steve, H; Carlos, F; Zora, B; Avi, C; Jill, I; Isobel, G; Daniel, D.  
"What in the World?" (page 34):  
"Sky Park" ▶  
Samantha S., 11  
San Francisco,  
California



# Back Talk

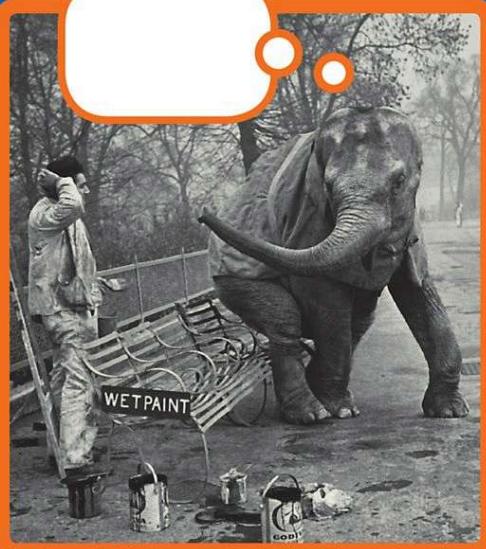
What do  
YOU think  
this cat is  
thinking?

Is there  
room for me  
in there?



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.

© BETTMANN / CORBIS (CATS); © HULTON-DEUTSCH COLLECTION / CORBIS (ELEPHANT)



## From the November Issue

I guess this is how  
zebras get their stripes.

Ahuva S., 12  
New York, New York

If you come any  
closer, I'll sit!

Sam F., 13  
Carlsbad, California

I thought I'd break  
the seat in for you.

Julie S., 12  
Canandaigua, New York

I wonder what that  
sign says...

Elle A., 13  
Morton, Indiana

Care to join me?

Sarah P., 12  
Peterborough, Ontario, Canada

Face it. We both work  
for peanuts.

Patricia M., 11  
Gardner, Massachusetts

Well, at least the  
paint was gray.

Lena S., 10  
Riverside, Pennsylvania

You're going to need  
a lot more than just  
paint when I'm done.

Ashley R., 11  
Antrim, New Hampshire

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