



NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC



COOL

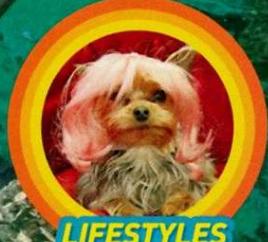
PHOTO
CONTEST

KIDS

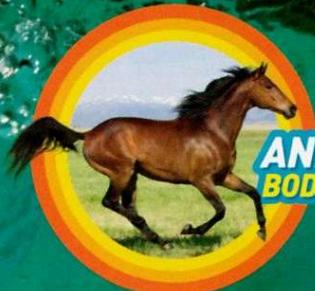
HOW TO
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ANIMALS

DARE TO EXPLORE
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Awesome
Animals
ISSUE!



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Games,
Jokes, and
More!



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AUGUST 2009
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08>

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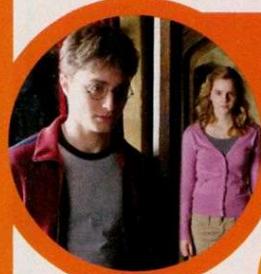
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SPECIAL AWESOME ANIMALS ISSUE!

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18 Animal Talk

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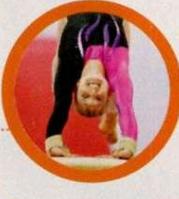


24 Lifestyles of the Rich and Furry

Pools shaped like bones and limousines for cats and dogs are everyday treats for pampered pets.

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Just for KIDS online!

Go online to play jigsaw puzzle games, watch cartoons, and comment on the "Green Scene" and "DogEared" book blogs. kids.nationalgeographic.com



On the Cover

Bottlenose dolphins always look like they're smiling.

COVER PHOTOGRAPH © STUART WESTMORLAND / AGE FOTOSTOCK

COVER INSETS: JAAP BUITENDIJK / HARRY POTTER; © CAROL WALKER / NATURE PICTURE LIBRARY (HORSE); RUTH REGINA / WIGGLES (DOG IN WIG).
PAGE 3: © CAROL WALKER / NATURE PICTURE LIBRARY (HORSE); JAAP BUITENDIJK / HARRY POTTER; TIM FLACH / GETTY IMAGES (CAT WITH TIARA);
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HOW BIG IS YOUR BACKYARD?

IT'S BIGGER THAN YOU THINK.



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FIND OUT.



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Prices good through August 31, 2009.

Check out these 9 outrageous facts.

The air around a lightning strike is five times hotter than the sun.

ALL THE MINED GOLD IN THE WORLD CAN FILL TWO OLYMPIC-SIZE SWIMMING POOLS.

The average dream lasts about 20 minutes.

IF THE LONGEST BLUE WHALE COULD STAND ON ITS TAIL, IT WOULD BE AS TALL AS A TEN-STORY BUILDING.

A group of jellyfish is called a smack.

A BRITISH CANDY-MAKER ONCE CREATED A NINE-AND-A-HALF-FOOT-TALL BILLBOARD MADE ENTIRELY OF CHOCOLATE.



Americans eat seven billion hot dogs between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

Texas is the only state that allows residents to



vote from space.

THE LONGEST RAW EGG TOSS WAS 107 YARDS—LONGER THAN A SOCCER FIELD.



JONATHAN HALLING / NGS STAFF (LIGHTNING), VOTE BUTTON, JELLYFISH, SOCCER FIELD AND EGG, MICHAEL ROSENFIELD / GETTY IMAGES (CHOCOLATE)

NOT SO TALL TALES FROM THE DIRECTOR OF 'SPY KIDS'



SHORTS

THE ADVENTURES OF THE WISHING ROCK

IN ASSOCIATION WITH IMAGENATION ABU DHABI AND MEDIA RIGHTS CAPITAL
PRODUCED BY JON CRYER, WILLIAM H. MACY, LESLIE MANN

CASTING BY MARY VERNIER, C.S.A. AND JC CANTU ADVISOR ROBERT RODRIGUEZ
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MRC

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PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED
Some material may not be suitable for children under 10 years of age.
MILD ACTION AND SOME FUZZY LANGUAGE

ASTONISHING
STORIES FROM
THE FILES OF

Guinness World Records

Go online for more information about Guinness World Records! kids.nationalgeographic.com/Videos

STRETCHY SKIN

Garry "Stretch" Turner holds the record for the stretchiest skin. Besides stretching out his cheeks, Turner can pull skin from his neck over his mouth, and catch a half-size basketball in the stretched-out skin from his stomach. Turner was born with Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, a rare condition that makes his body's collagen—sort of like a glue that holds skin cells together—defective, resulting in stretchy skin. But Turner doesn't see his condition as a disease. He sees it more like a talent that he loves to show off.



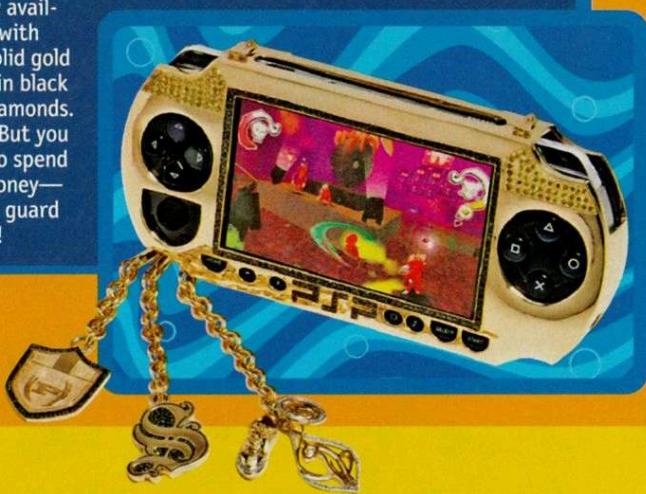
GIGANTIC DUCK



A duck in the water isn't surprising—unless it's 82 feet tall. *Canard de Bain* (loosely, "Rubber Ducky" in French) is the largest plastic duck. Created by artist Florentijn Hofman, it was one of 30 art installations along the Loire River in France. Tourists could view the art, but the duck wasn't always there. If the wind blew more than 37 miles an hour, a computer instructed the duck to deflate!

NO JACKET REQUIRED

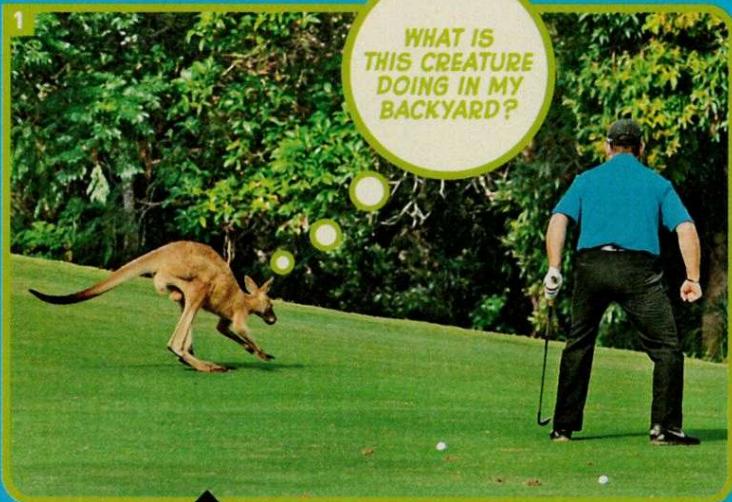
No one blames you for wanting a PlayStation Portable (PSP). But craving a \$35,000 PSP jacket might be a bit much. The most expensive PSP cover commercially available is made with a pound of solid gold and covered in black and yellow diamonds. Sounds cool. But you might have to spend even more money—on a security guard to protect it!



RANDI MACKENZIE / GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS (TURNER); MAXPPP / LANDOW (DUCK); WENN (PSP JACKET). INFORMATION PROVIDED BY GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS LIMITED.

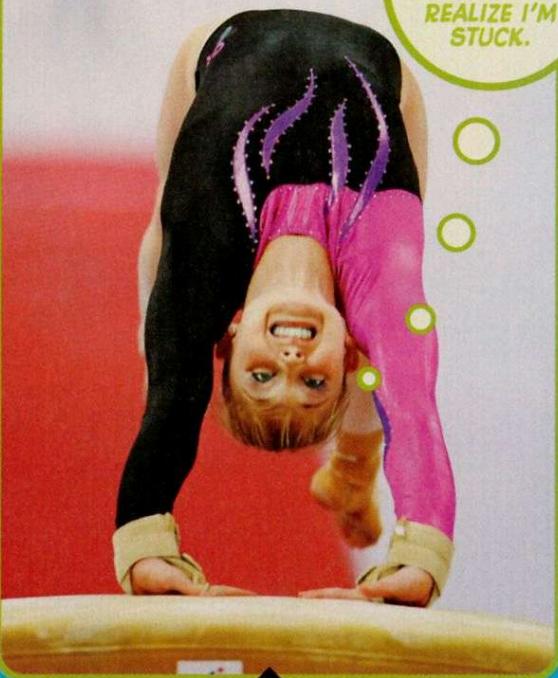
sports funnies

uh-oh!



Golfer Rory Sabbatini of South Africa shoos off an uninvited kangaroo during the 2007 Australian PGA Championship.

2



7

Australia's Daria Joura competes in vault during a 2007 artistic gymnastics tournament in Beijing, China.

Evil Prowls the Cliffs of Dover



An ancient prophecy.

A buried treasure.

Two orphans lie at the heart of a quest to save the world.

Visit
DelphiKeep.com
and get to know the
characters in the book.



Illustrations © 2009 by Antonio Javier Caparo



Bet you didn't know

BY ERIN WHITMER

7 wacky facts about science

1 Some clouds are more than 10 miles tall.

3 Astronomers have discovered a star that is made of a 10-billion-trillion-trillion-carat diamond.

5 There are volcanoes inside glaciers in Iceland.

2 Humans and slugs share more than half of their genes.

4 A storm on Neptune was as wide as the entire Earth.

6 A battery can be made out of a potato.

7 Chewing gum can make your heart beat faster.



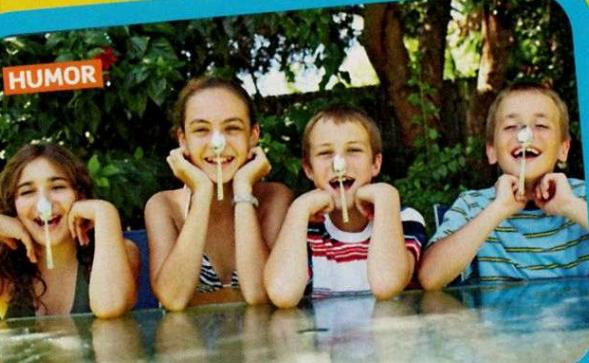
PROMOTION

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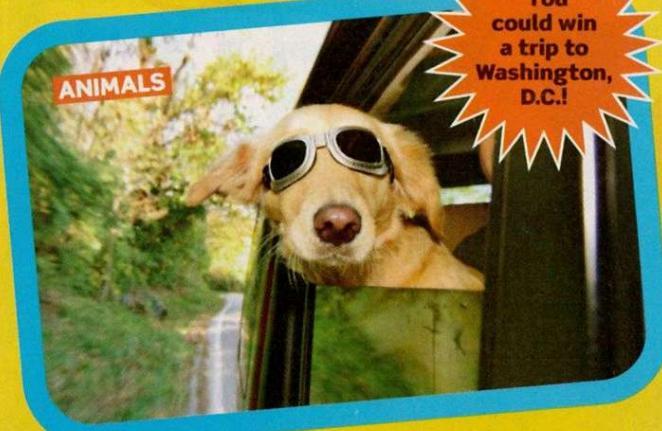


INTERNATIONAL
PHOTOGRAPHY
CONTEST 2009
FOR KIDS

Grab your camera! Take a photograph of something in your world that fits one or more of these four categories: humor, animals, scenery, or people. The First Place Winner in each category will go on to compete against other First Place Winners from other National Geographic photography contests being held internationally. The best photo will win the photographer a Grand Prize trip to Washington, D.C.



HUMOR



ANIMALS

You
could win
a trip to
Washington,
D.C.!



SCENERY



PEOPLE

CONTEST PRIZES

Four First Place Winners (one for each category) will win a National Geographic Kids Pet Cam, a copy of the *National Geographic Kids Almanac 2010*, a National Geographic 1,000-piece puzzle, and entry into the Worldwide National Geographic Society International Photography Contest for Kids for a chance to win the Grand Prize trip. The Grand Prize Winner (selected from First Place Winners around the world) will win a five-day, four-night trip to Washington, D.C., plus a special tour of National Geographic Society headquarters.

Four Second Place Winners (one for each category) will win a National Geographic Kids Ant Farm Gel Colony, a copy of the *National Geographic Kids Almanac 2010*, and a National Geographic 1,000-piece puzzle.

Entries must be postmarked by November 2, 2009, so enter today!

Go online for official rules and entry requirements.
kids.nationalgeographic.com/contests/Photos

IMPORTANT ENTRY INFORMATION

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. A PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. To obtain Official Rules, go to kids.nationalgeographic.com/contests/Photos. Open only to legal residents of the United States (excluding Puerto Rico) and Canada (excluding Quebec) ages 6 to 14 on November 2, 2009. Employees of Sponsor National Geographic Society and related parties are ineligible. Entries must be postmarked by November 2, 2009, and received by November 9, 2009. Limit one entry per person per Category. Categories are Humor, Animals, Scenery, and People. To enter, take a photograph in any of the four categories (the "Photograph"). Entry must comply with Entry Requirements described in Official Rules. Four (4) First Place Winners (one per Category) will win a National Geographic Kids Pet Cam, a copy of the *National Geographic Kids Almanac 2010*, and a National Geographic 1,000-piece puzzle (ARV: \$60 USD each) and be automatically entered into the Worldwide National Geographic Society International Photography Contest for Kids, in which the winners from this Contest and other National Geographic Society local contests being conducted in other countries around the world will compete. For the Official Rules governing the Worldwide National Geographic Society International Photography Contest for Kids, see nationalgeographic.com/iph. Four (4) Second Place Winners will win a National Geographic Kids Ant Farm Gel Colony, a copy of the *National Geographic Kids Almanac 2010*, and a National Geographic 1,000-piece puzzle (ARV: \$50 USD each). CONTEST IS VOID IN PUERTO RICO, QUEBEC, AND WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW. Odds of winning depend on number of entries received per Category and skill of entrant.

green scene

OCEAN ALERT!

BY ENRIC SALA, MARINE ECOLOGIST,
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FELLOW



It may seem as if the world's oceans are so vast that nothing could hurt them. Unfortunately, that's not true. The oceans suffer from people dumping stuff that they don't want (**pollution**) and taking too much from the ocean that they do want (**overfishing**). You can help turn this problem around.

You probably already know how to help fight pollution: **Participate** in stream, river, and beach cleanups; don't litter; and don't dump things into storm drains. But you may not realize that too many fish—including the bluefin tunas at left—are taken from the sea. Some overfished species are disappearing—such as **sharks**.

People kill 100 million sharks every year. The desire for **shark fin soup** is one big reason so many sharks die. These fish are caught, their fins cut off to be sold, and the rest of their bodies are thrown back into the sea.

Many fish are **slow growing**, and live decades or even centuries. **Orange roughies** can live to be more than 100 years old. **Rockfish** can live to be 200! And **Chilean seabass** live 40 years. When there aren't enough of these slow-growing fish, it **threatens the species** because the fish often are taken from the sea before they are old enough to reproduce. These species could **disappear**.

Use the pocket guide below to help protect the ocean's creatures.

 TO USE YOUR POCKET GUIDE, CUT ALONG THE DOTTED WHITE LINE AND FOLD ON THE BLACK LINES LIKE AN ACCORDION.

BE AN OCEAN HERO!

You can be part of the solution if you choose carefully what fish to eat. Some are OK to eat; others you should avoid because they're overfished or caught in ways that harm the ocean. Cut out this take-along guide and ask your parents to consult it when they buy fish at the market or order at a restaurant. Ask the grocer or chef where and how the fish was caught. Saving marine life is hard, but if everyone helps, it will make a difference.

BEST CHOICES

abalone (farmed)
barramundi (U.S.)
catfish (U.S.)
caviar/sturgeon (farmed)
char, Arctic (farmed)
clams (farmed)
crab, Dungeness
crab, stone
crawfish (U.S.)
halibut, Pacific
lobster, spiny (Australia, Baja, U.S.)
mackerel, Atlantic
mahimahi (U.S. troll)
mullet (U.S.)
mussels (farmed)
oysters (farmed)
pollock, Alaska
sablefish/black cod (Alaska, Canada)

WORST CHOICES

salmon (Alaska wild)
salmon, canned pink / sockeye
sardines (U.S.)
scallops, bay (farmed)
shrimp, pink (Oregon)
shrimp (U.S. farmed)
spot prawn (Canada)
squid, longfin (U.S.)
striped bass (farmed)
tilapia (U.S.)
trout, rainbow (farmed)
tuna, albacore (Canada, U.S.)
tuna, yellowfin (U.S. troll)
monkfish
orange roughy
rockfish (Pacific trawl)
salmon (farmed or Atlantic)
shark

DEFINITIONS

FARMED: fish raised commercially in enclosures

LONGLINE: fishing with a long line (up to 50 miles long) that has short lines attached with baited hooks

TROLL: to fish with lines towed by a boat

TRAWL: to fish with a cone-shaped net dragged behind a boat



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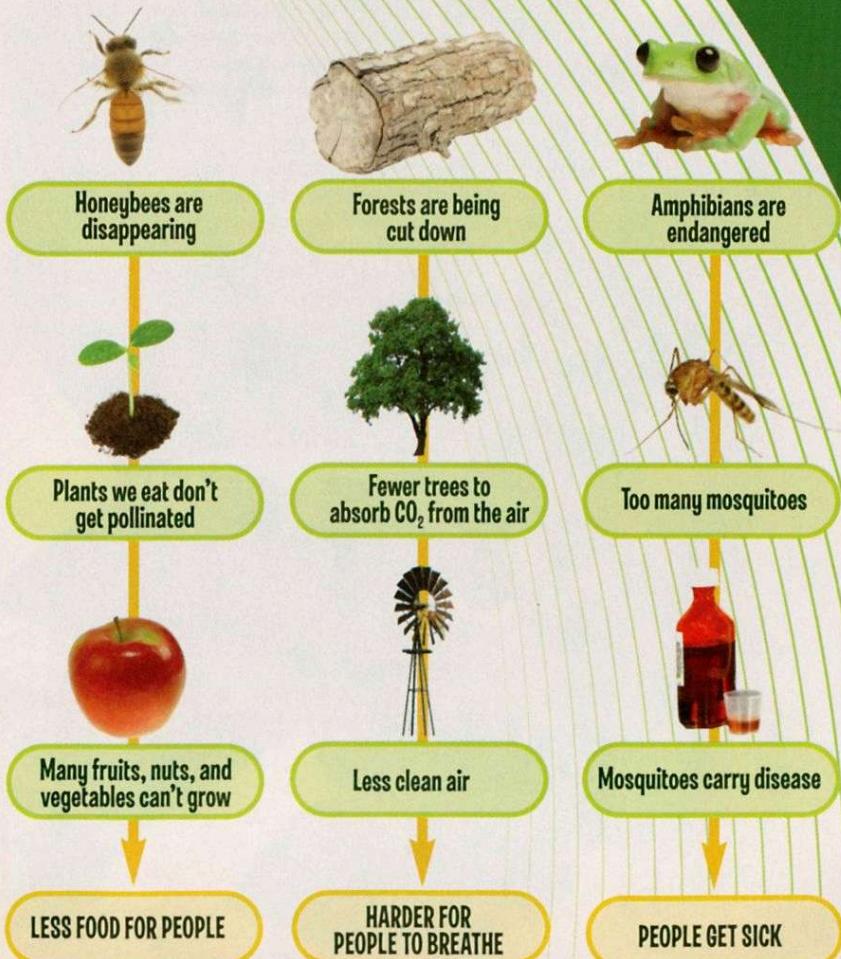
ADAPTED FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND "POCKET SEAFOOD SELECTOR"

See the Bigger Picture

A World of Amazing Connections



**Follow the connections
from the species to you.**



Biodiversity is the huge variety and complexity of life on Earth. All the different plants and animals on the planet, including us, are connected in amazing ways. This means that even a small animal has a big part to play in keeping nature in balance—that's the bigger picture.

Right now, biodiversity is being threatened and species lost. But we can preserve biodiversity if we all act wisely. There's still time for us to save endangered plants and animals if we work together to protect the places where they live. We just have to help everyone see the bigger picture.

Joel Sartore Sees the Bigger Picture with his Camera

He's a fantastic National Geographic photographer who travels the world photographing endangered species. Joel's photos help people to understand the problem and to care about protecting biodiversity.



YOU CAN HELP & WIN!



Grab your camera and enter our photo contest for a chance to win a trip to the home of National Geographic in Washington, D.C. Take a photo of what biodiversity means to you, submit your shot, and learn more at

www.seethebiggerpicture.org

Airbus Sees the Bigger Picture in the Sky

Airbus is a company that is fully engaged in continuous improvement of its processes to better protect the environment. They design and build aircraft that are quieter, greener, and cleaner. Together Airbus and National Geographic support the UN backed project, *The Green Wave*, in the world's most far-reaching biodiversity program for families and kids.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. A PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. MANY WILL ENTER, FEW WILL WIN. To obtain Official Rules, go to www.seethebiggerpicture.org. Open only to legal residents of the United States (excluding Puerto Rico) and Canada (excluding Quebec) ages 6 to 14 as of August 31, 2009. Employees of Sponsor National Geographic Society, Airbus, and related parties are ineligible. Entries must be postmarked by August 31, 2009, and received by September 8, 2009. Limit one entry per person. To enter, take a photograph of what bio-diversity means to you. Entry must comply with Entry Requirements described in Official Rules. Two (2) Grand Prize Winners will win a trip to Washington, DC for each Winner and his/her parent or legal guardian. CONTEST IS VOID IN PUERTO RICO, QUEBEC AND WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW. Odds of winning depend on number of entries received and skill of entrant.

THE GREEN WAVE
UNEP One school, one tree, one gift to nature

AIRBUS

Amazing Animals

WHAT AM
I SUPPOSED
TO DO? MY
FRIDGE IS
FULL.

CHIPMUNK GOES NUTS

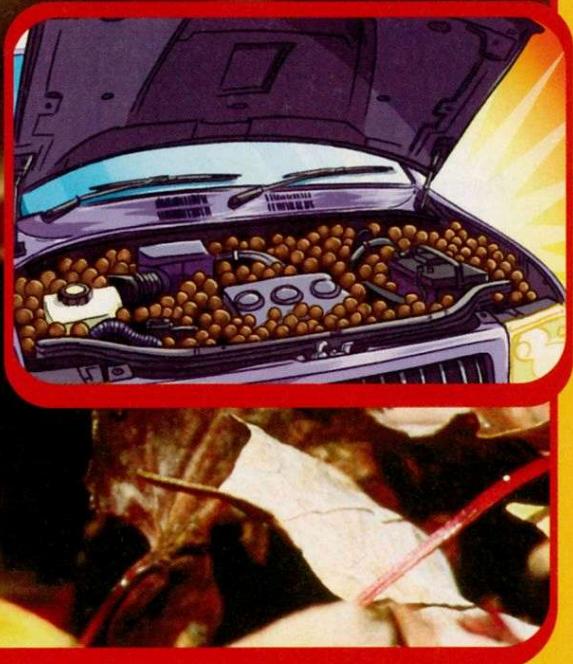
DeMotte, Indiana

When Hope Wideup spotted a chipmunk scurrying off with her gardening glove, she later found it under her car's hood. So when her car wouldn't start a few weeks later, she figured the chipmunk was to blame. Only this time it wasn't a glove. The chipmunk had hidden his winter hoard of black walnuts—hundreds of them—under the hood.

It's not so weird for a chipmunk to store lots of nuts and seeds in a single place. During the winter, they take frequent naps lasting several days, called torpor states. "And they're going to be looking for a snack when they wake up," says wildlife expert Judy Loven. But Loven thinks this chipmunk is unique. Almost all the cases of nuts hidden in cars involve sneaky tree squirrels. "Hopefully this chipmunk doesn't give his friends any ideas," she says.

—Johnna Rizzo

A chipmunk can store about a teaspoon's worth of seeds or nuts in each cheek pouch.



PUPPIES SAVE LOST KID

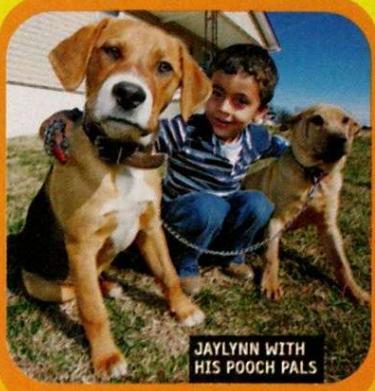
Virgilina, Virginia

Jaylynn Thorpe's family was terrified when the 3-year-old wandered off into the woods on a frigid 17°F night. Thankfully, Bootsy and Dipstick the puppies wandered off with him—and probably saved his life.

While rescue workers searched for Jaylynn with scent-sniffing dogs and a heat-seeking helicopter, the puppies nestled around the shivering boy. They pressed against him all night and kept him warm—and alive. "They treated him like another puppy in their litter," says veterinarian Emily Kinnaird. "They snuggled to keep warm."

Twenty hours later, rescuers were nearby. But a scared Jaylynn hid beneath a pile of leaves. Once again, the puppies played the heroes, barking to alert the rescue team. Jaylynn soon was reunited with his family, cold and hungry but unhurt. "The puppies were very important to his survival," says fire chief Chad Loftis.

—Johnna Rizzo



JAYLYNN WITH HIS POOCH PALS



BOOTSY (LEFT)
AND DIPSTICK

TORTOISE LUVS 2 SK8

Jerusalem, Israel

No one expects tortoises to be speed demons. But when Arava the African spurred tortoise got a "skateboard" for her back legs, she became speedier than most.

Arava had arrived at the Jerusalem Biblical Zoo unable to move her hind legs. "She wouldn't eat and tucked her head inside her shell," says veterinarian Nili Avni-Magen. "She seemed so sad." The medical staff couldn't find a reason for the paralysis, but they had a solution: wheels!

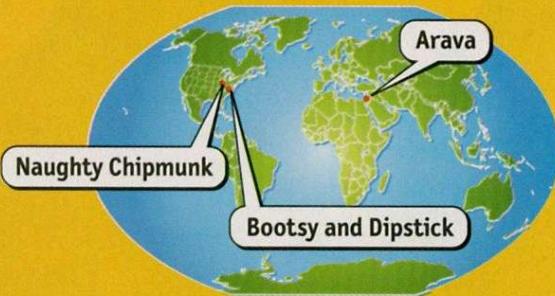
Arava could still use her front legs, so a metalworker built a two-wheeled metal platform with straps to go around Arava's shell. When Arava first tried out her "skateboard," she took a few steps with her front legs and started rolling. Now she zips around her enclosure on her board, "outrunning" the other tortoises. Arava has a long life to look forward to—unless she tries to ollie out of a ramp.

—Marinell James

HEY, WHERE
ARE THE
BRAKES
ON THIS
THING?

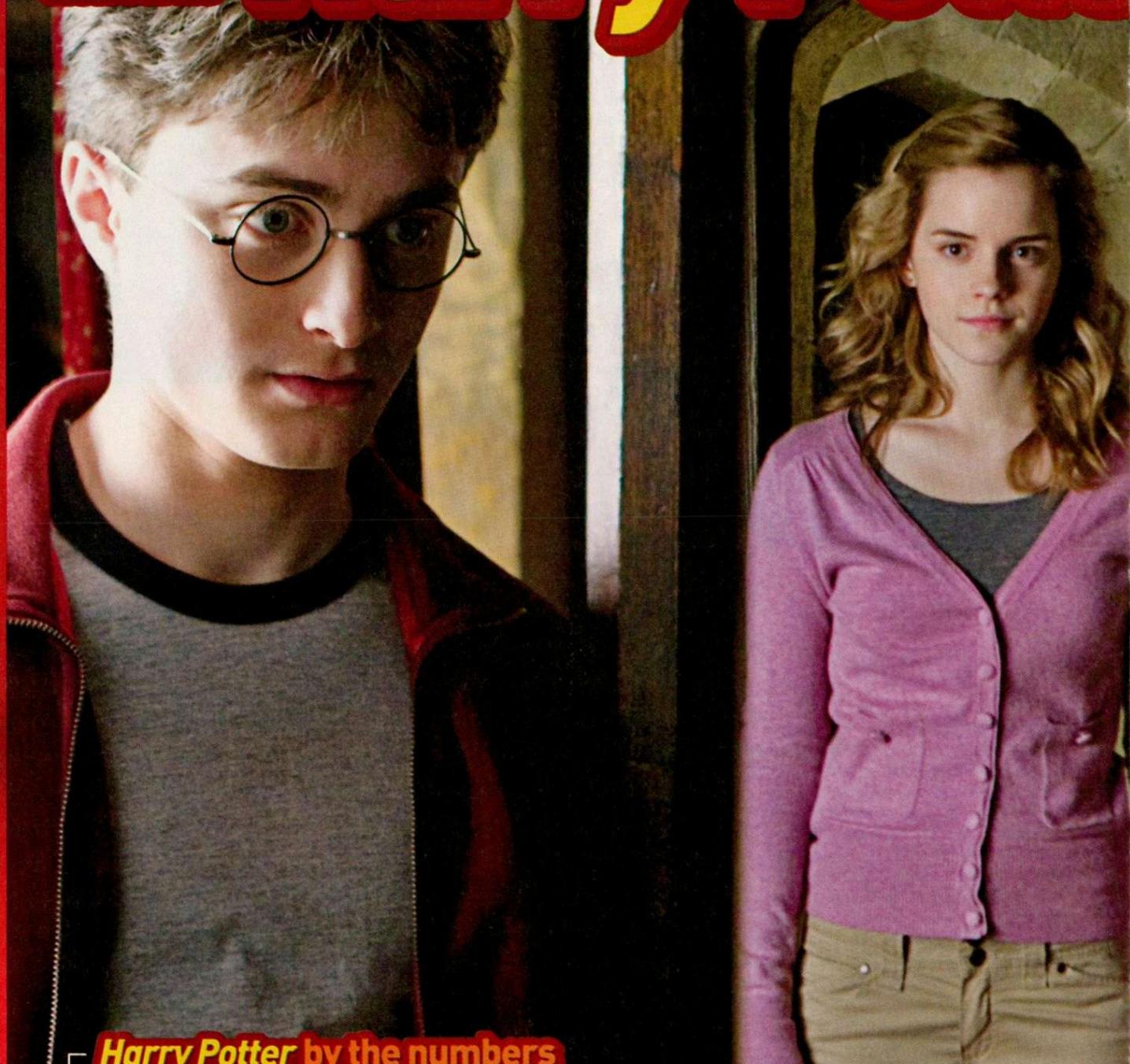


Arava is
11 years old.
Tortoises like
her can live to be
70 years old.



Behind the
Scenes
of the
New Movie

Harry Potter



Harry Potter by the numbers

4,169

total number of pages in
the seven *HP* hardcover
books sold in the U.S.

\$4.5 billion

approximate amount of
money that *HP* movies have
made worldwide

\$15 billion

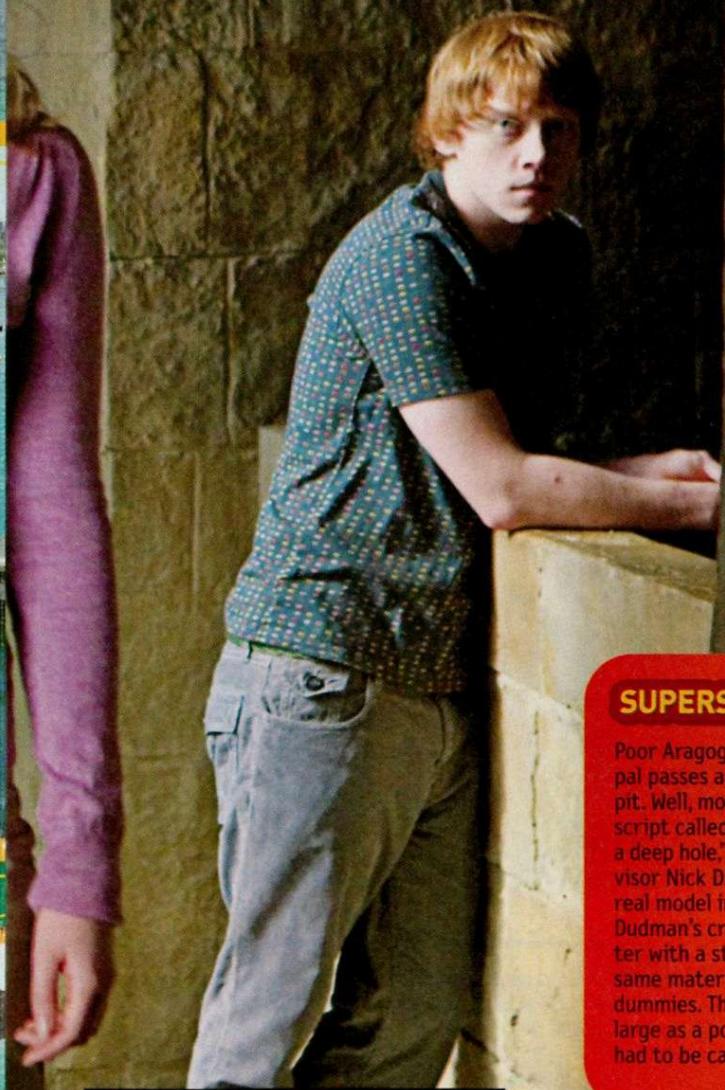
estimated amount the *HP* brand—
including DVD sales, video games, toys,
and clothing—has made worldwide

400 million

number of *HP* books
sold worldwide

WE KNOW YOU LOVE THE HARRY POTTER MOVIES, BUT SINCE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE WILL BE RATED PG-13, MAKE SURE TO GET YOUR PARENTS' PERMISSION BEFORE YOU SEE IT.

er and the Half-Blood Prince



AS RON LOOKS ON, HERMIONE TELLS HARRY THAT IT'S TIME TO LEAVE TO START SEARCHING FOR VOLDEMORT'S HORCRUX, WHICH CONTAINS PART OF THE VILLAIN'S SOUL.

BY SARAH WASSNER FLYNN

With new spells, new friendships, and new mysterious secrets, the latest *Harry Potter* movie is more intense than ever. Based on the sixth book in the series by J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* follows our favorite wizard on a quest to take down evil Lord Voldemort by unraveling the villain's puzzling past. NG KIDS went behind the scenes of this new film to reveal the magic behind the movie.

SUPERSIZE SPIDER

Poor Aragog! When Hagrid's eight-legged pal passes away, he's laid to rest in a huge pit. Well, more like tossed to rest: "The script called for Aragog to be thrown into a deep hole," says creature effects supervisor Nick Dudman. "We decided to use a real model instead of computer graphics." Dudman's crew created the colossal critter with a steel skeleton covered by the same material used to make crash-test dummies. The result? A spider nearly as large as a polar bear that was so heavy it had to be carried by a crane.

ACTOR PROFILES

DANIEL RADCLIFFE

(HARRY POTTER)

AGE: 20

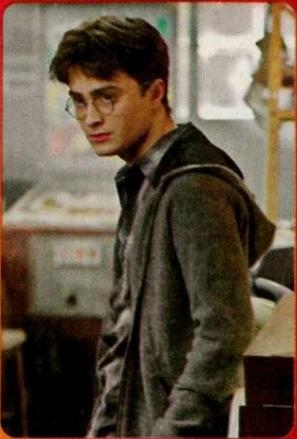
QUALITIES HE SHARES WITH HARRY: Loyalty, curiosity, and getting into trouble

FAVORITE BREAKFAST: Toast with chocolate spread

MAGICAL ABILITY HE'D LIKE TO HAVE: Invisibility

FAVORITE TV SHOW: *The Simpsons*

FAVORITE HP CHARACTER: Hagrid



EMMA WATSON

(HERMIONE GRANGER)

AGE: 19

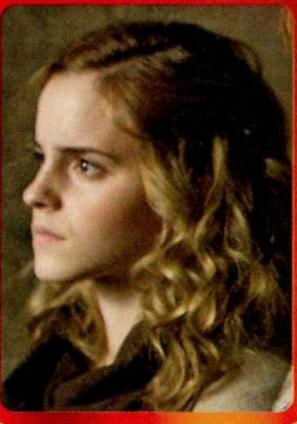
IDEAL PLACE TO APPARATE: France, where she lived till she was 5

FAVORITE DRINK: Orange juice mixed with lemonade

WHOSE MEMORIES SHE MIGHT EXPLORE IN A PENSIEVE: Johnny Depp's (her favorite actor)

REAL-LIFE HP MOMENT: Attending an elementary school called the Dragon School

NUMBER OF TIMES SHE AUDITIONED TO PLAY HERMIONE: 8



ACTOR PROFILES

RUPERT GRINT (RON WEASLEY)

AGE: 21

CLASS HE'D TAKE AT HOGWARTS:
Transfiguration

LEAST FAVORITE FOOD: Celery

HP CREATURE YOU'D THINK HE'D
FEAR BUT DOESN'T: Aragog—
"Even though I'm superscared
of spiders."

ITEM HE CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT:
His pickup truck

IDEAL PLACE TO APPARATE:
Any golf course, anytime



JESSIE CAVE (LAVENDER BROWN)

AGE: 22

CLASS SHE'D TAKE AT HOGWARTS:
Flying

FAVORITE FOOD: Coffee ice cream

IDEAL PLACE TO APPARATE:
Top of Peak Tower in Hong
Kong, China

DREAM VACATION SPOT: Fiji

THE "UNBREAKABLE VOW" SHE
LIVES BY: To be noble and kind



HP around the world

A traveling HP museum exhibit—showcasing costumes and props from the films—opened this spring. The exhibit will travel throughout the United States for five years, so chances are good that it will come to a city near you.

HAIR-WOLF

There may not be any goats in *Half-Blood Prince*, but there's plenty of goat hair. Just ask Dave Legeno, who plays werewolf Fenrir Greyback. Makeup artists spent three hours each day gluing thousands of individual goat hairs to Legeno's face, arms, and legs. "We dyed white goat hair black to make it look more authentic," Dudman says. "The result is a realistic-looking werewolf, better than any computer could create."

WEREWOLF
FENRIR GREYBACK
STARES OUT AT
KNOCKTURN ALLEY.

LUNA LOVEGOOD
AND HARRY ARE
OFF TO PROFESSOR
SLUGHORN'S
CHRISTMAS PARTY.

MINI ME

When a cursed opal necklace hexes Hogwarts student Katie Bell, she's flung into the air like a rag doll. But that's actually a lifelike mannequin—not a real girl—flying over the set. "It was freaky to see this fake Katie lying around," says Rupert Grint, who plays Ron. "It looked so much like her." The only difference? The mannequin is just a little smaller than the actress. That way, Katie looks even tinier in the arms of extra-large Hagrid, who comes to her rescue by carrying her back to the castle.

For about \$1,100 a night, you can stay in the hotel room where J.K. Rowling finished writing *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, the last book in the series. Room 552 in the Balmoral Hotel in Edinburgh, Scotland, contains a statue signed by the author that says, "JK Rowling finished writing *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* in this room (552) on 11th Jan 2007."

Until they were stopped, a company in China illegally published fake HP sequels, with titles such as *Harry Potter and*

ACTOR PROFILES

TOM FELTON

(DRACO MALFOY)

AGE: 21

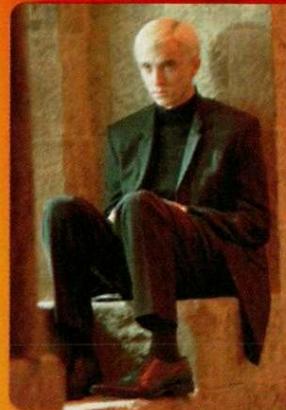
CLASS HE'D TAKE AT HOGWARTS:
Potions

FAVORITE FOOD:
Chocolate ice cream

WHOSE MEMORIES HE'D EXPLORE
IN A PENSIEVE: Beatle Paul
McCartney's—"I'd watch him
write his most famous songs."

DREAM VACATION SPOT: Turtle
Island in Fiji

THE "UNBREAKABLE VOW" HE LIVES
BY: Don't forget to feed
the dog.



SNEAKY ATTACK

The scary Sectumsempra spell Harry casts on Draco Malfoy inflicts gashes on Malfoy's chest. But Tom Felton, who plays Malfoy, didn't lose any blood in this gory scene. Instead, the movie crew taped long, skinny tubes to Felton's body that led off-camera and were filled with fake blood. (The tubing was later removed using a computer.) With the flick of a switch, the blood was pumped out of the tubes, soaking Felton's clothes. "Things got so messy, one day I had to change costumes at least seven times," Felton says.



YOUNG TOM RIDDLE
MEETS DUMBLEDORE
AT WOOL'S ORPHANAGE.

DUMBLEDORE CASTS A
SPELL TO SAVE HARRY
AFTER INFERI—LIVING
CORPSES—DRAG HIM
UNDER A LAKE.

Tell the world what you think about the *Harry Potter* book series on DogEared,
NGK's book blog! kidsblogs.nationalgeographic.com/dogear

BONNIE WRIGHT

(GINNY WEASLEY)

AGE: 18

IDEAL PLACE TO APPARATE:
Any island in the Caribbean

FAVORITE FOOD: Salad

THE "UNBREAKABLE VOW" SHE LIVES
BY: Always be a loyal friend.

DREAM VACATION SPOT: Africa

WHOSE MEMORIES SHE'D EXPLORE
IN A PENSIEVE: Her parents', to
unearth secrets from their
childhoods

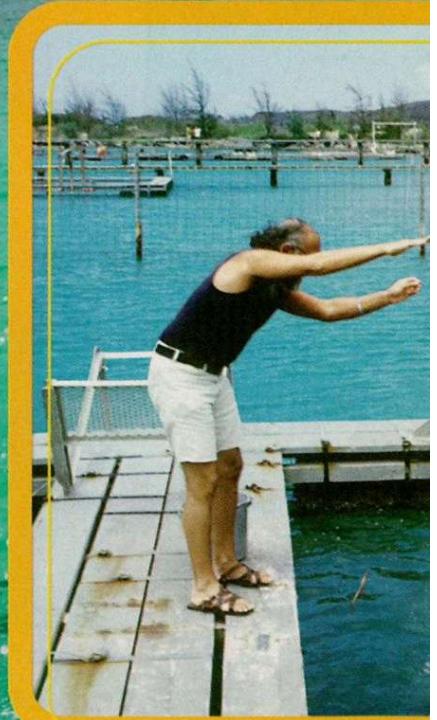
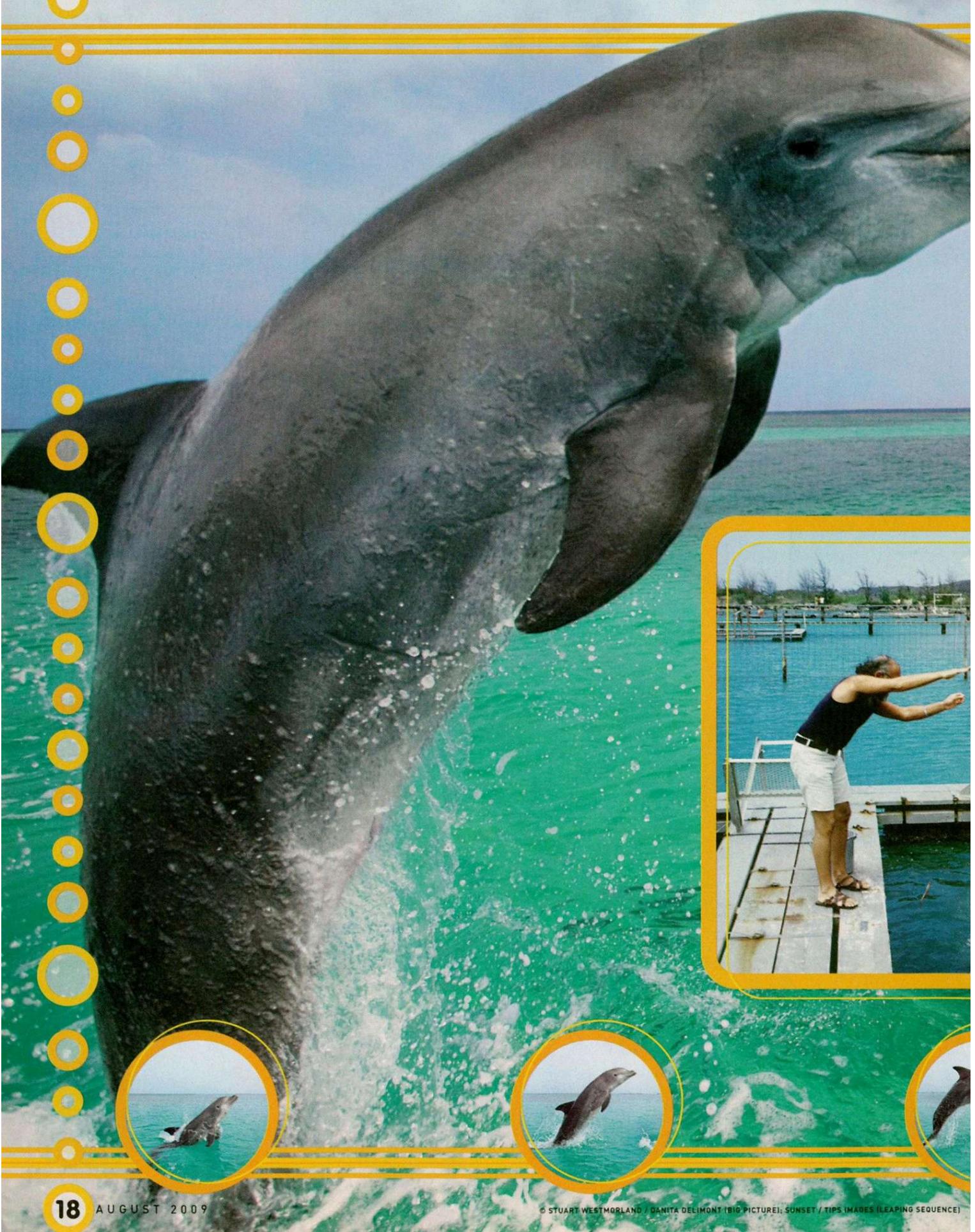


RING OF FIRE

As Death Eaters descend on the Weasleys' Burrow, the dwelling appears to catch on fire. But no homes were harmed to film this scene—rather, the crew constructed a flammable ring around the Burrow set. Surrounded by 20-foot flames, the Burrow appears to be engulfed in the fire, when actually it was completely untouched. "They lit the ring, and the flames jumped so high!" says Bonnie Wright, who plays Ginny Weasley. "It really did look like the house was on fire, even though it wasn't."

In the real King's Cross Station in London, England, there is a sign marking Platform 9 1/4, the fictional platform for the Hogwarts Express train Harry and the gang ride.

the Golden Turtle.



Animal Talk

7 surprising ways animals and humans communicate

BY ALINE ALEXANDER NEWMAN

Can you speak monkey? How about hippopotamus or squirrel?

Talking to animals is not just for Dr. Dolittle. In fact most people can learn to do it. Reading animals' body language is one way. Another trick is to teach animals humanspeak—in the form of words, symbols, sounds, or gestures. It's generally far easier to get animals to understand what we're telling them than it is to get them to say things to us. But sometimes, such a close bond develops that an actual two-way conversation takes place. Keep reading for true stories about chatting with animals.

1

Fish Fry

Josephine the bottlenose dolphin (left) likes her fish frozen. Taught to press a paddle whenever she hears a certain sound, she earns 25 fishy treats in a row. But one day something happens. Josephine ignores 25 straight *dings*. She doesn't jump into the air or flap her tail. She just stubbornly refuses to participate. "I didn't know what was wrong," says Ronald J. Schusterman, a marine biologist at the University of California at Santa Cruz. Finally, he asks a

student to check the fish machine. It's working fine, but...ewww! The fish it is dispensing are sunbaked and about as appetizing as warm ice cream.

Josephine watches as the student replaces the warm fish with frozen. Schusterman hits the sound button, and she zooms right over and presses the paddle.

"It takes a very bright animal to figure out how to signal the experimenter that something is wrong," Schusterman says.



2

Say Again?

Boring. That's what most kids think when somebody asks them the same question over and over. Apparently, Alex the African gray parrot (right) agrees.

Behavioral psychologist Irene Pepperberg, of Brandeis and Harvard universities, presents a tray of different-colored blocks. Two are green, three blue, and six red. "What color three?" she asks, expecting Alex to say "blue."

But Alex has been there, done that. He seems to want Pepperberg to ask a different question—one that requires a brand-new answer. So he deliberately gives a wrong answer. "Five," says the parrot, stating a number instead of a color.

Surprised that Alex gives the wrong answer, the psychologist asks again, "What color three?"

"Five," repeats Alex. He keeps giving that wrong answer until Pepperberg grows frustrated.

"OK, smarty-pants," she finally blurts. "What color five?"

This is it—the question he's been waiting for.

"None," squawks the brainy bird.

C'MON,
GIVE ME
SOMETHING
HARDER!



3

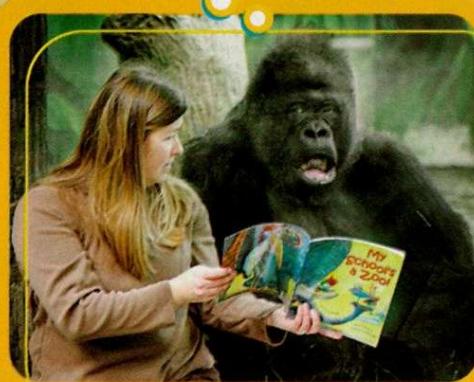
Manners First

Suppose you could tell a gorilla what to do. Carol Trimmer, of Dublin, Ohio, can boss around a handsome silverback named Mac. But it takes lots of time and effort to build their relationship. Since 2004, Trimmer has averaged three hour-long visits to the Columbus Zoo each week.

While there, she entertains the lowland gorillas Mumbah (right) and Mac by blowing bubbles, playing with puppets, or showing them pictures in books. Plus, she talks constantly, using the same high-pitched, sing-song manner of speaking that people use with babies. Mac now recognizes her voice.

When Trimmer packs up her bag of tricks to leave, she calls, "Come walk me out." Even if he's sitting on the far side of his enclosure, Mac rises and ambles toward her. She beckons with one hand, and he follows her on his side of the fence—seeing his guest to the "door" like a proper primate.

NEXT WEEK
CAN WE
READ ABOUT
KING KONG?



4

Panic Attack

I USED TO BE
A WILD CHILD,
BUT NOW
I'M A MELLOW
FELLOW!

Horses talk with their bodies. Knowing that helps Dennis Wright, a horse communicator from Arlington, Washington, calm a wild-eyed, rampaging thoroughbred.

On entering the arena, Wright expects the horse to charge. When it does, he throws up his arms to mimic a rearing stallion and yells. Spooked, the thoroughbred thunders away, and Wright moves into his spot. This makes Wright the alpha horse, or leader.

As the panicked horse circles, Wright doesn't chase or lasso him. Instead, he repeatedly steps in front of him, forcing the horse to change direction. That wins respect. Last, Wright raises one hand and turns his back, showing trust.

"That horse isn't crazy," says Wright, "He's afraid, and lonely for his herd." By acting the way horses do with each other, Wright makes him feel secure.

Twenty minutes after their first meeting, the thoroughbred approaches Wright, and man and horse walk together, as friends.

5

NOTHING
SCARES
ME!

In Touch

An alert dog "hears" everything we say, even when our message is unspoken. At the age of 13, radio pit show host Harrison Forbes had a mysterious problem

with his American Staffordshire terrier, PJ. Whenever Forbes's mom walked the dog, PJ would pick a fight with a neighbor's Rottweiler. But if Forbes walked PJ along the same route, the two dogs would sniff and play. Forbes never knew why, until he was an adult.

He had a long talk with his mom and discovered she was terrified of Rottweilers. Weighing about 100 pounds, with large heads and powerful muscles, Rottweilers can look scary. Without even knowing it, his mother tensed every time she met one. PJ picked up on that fear. "A leash is like an electric power cord," says Forbes. "Your feelings, whether of confidence or anxiety, travel straight to the dog."

So remember: If your dog misbehaves, maybe changing your own behavior could help.



NOBODY
FORGETS
MY FRIENDS
IF I HAVE
ANYTHING TO
SAY ABOUT IT!

6

Timely Reminder

Every night, Panbanisha the bonobo (below) and the other bonobos living at the Language Research Center in Atlanta, Georgia, watch a DVD or listen to someone read from *Harry Potter*. Program director and scientist Bill Fields hands out blankets and glasses of milk. The apes smoosh their blankets into nests on the floor and curl up inside. Then Fields turns off the light.

On Friday, Mari the orangutan sleeps over. Mari prefers sleeping outside, so Fields lets her out early and forgets about her later, when he hands out milk and blankets. But it can get chilly at night, and Panbanisha is concerned for her friend. Grabbing a large, laminated paper chart covered with symbols, she points to the signs for blanket, milk, and Mari.

"Oh, I forgot," Fields exclaims.

"Yes," Panbanisha agrees. She actually utters that word out loud!

PANBANISHA



Open Sesame!

Kids wanting to go out to play simply ask their parents for permission. But of course Shanthi (right), the young zoo elephant, can't talk. And she's locked in a cage with bars that reach to the roof. What can she do?

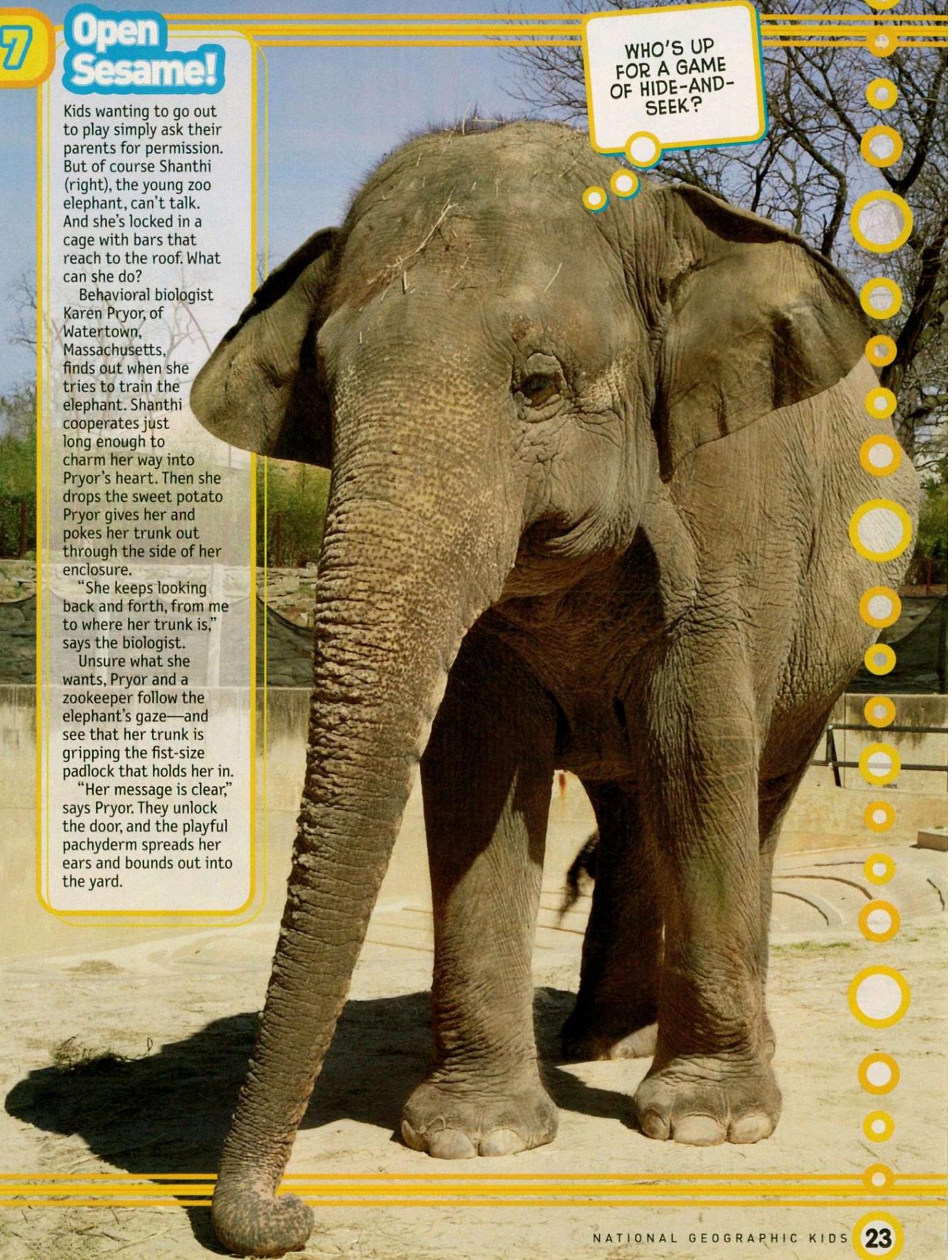
Behavioral biologist Karen Pryor, of Watertown, Massachusetts, finds out when she tries to train the elephant. Shanthi cooperates just long enough to charm her way into Pryor's heart. Then she drops the sweet potato Pryor gives her and pokes her trunk out through the side of her enclosure.

"She keeps looking back and forth, from me to where her trunk is," says the biologist.

Unsure what she wants, Pryor and a zookeeper follow the elephant's gaze—and see that her trunk is gripping the fist-size padlock that holds her in.

"Her message is clear," says Pryor. They unlock the door, and the playful pachyderm spreads her ears and bounds out into the yard.

WHO'S UP
FOR A GAME
OF HIDE-AND-
SEEK?



Lifestyles of the

OUTRAGEOUS WAYS TO PAMPER YOUR PET

BY SARAH WASSNER FLYNN

Showing love for your pet doesn't cost a thing. Still, pet owners last year spent more than 40 billion dollars on their pets—including about \$250 a year just on food and treats for each cat and dog. "We like to reward our pets for always being there for us," says Bob Vetere of the American Pet Products Association. NG KIDS takes a look at some very posh pets.



GETTIN' WIGGY

When Romeo the Yorkshire terrier wants to step out in style, he slips on a hot-pink wig. Lenny the Cavalier King Charles spaniel dons dreadlocks when he cruises the park. The price of the \$40 hairpieces may cause some people to, uh, wig out. "But some owners spare no expense to keep their pets posh," says Ruth Regina, founder of the doggie-wig company Wiggles. "The dogs and the owners love how much attention they get when they wear the wigs."



TIGGER
SNOOZES
IN STYLE.

DREAM DECOR

Forget curling up on ratty blankets—Tigger the tabby takes catnaps on a fancy four-poster bed that's just his size. Honey the Bengal kitty keeps her clothes in a custom-built dresser fit for a princess. The fabulous felines are living in luxury with the \$600 hand-carved furniture set. "It's just like actual furniture, only pet-size," says Melissa Pearcy, owner of Not So Shabby Pets. One difference? "The bed's probably more comfy than most beds for people!"

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RICH and FURRY



THIS PAMPERED POOCH DOESN'T MIND BEING STALKED BY THE PAW-PARAZZI.



DOGS PADDLE ALL THEY WANT IN THE BONE-SHAPED POOL AT PARADISE 4 PAWS.

HOLY "MUTT-RIMONY"

Flowers: \$1,000. Satin bridal gown: \$500. "Pup-cakes": \$100. Watching two dogs get "married" at a fancy wedding? Priceless. At least that's what some owners think when they cough up major cash for a pet wedding. "It's a way to honor the puppy love and have fun," says pet party planner Alma Rose Middleton, who has "married" dogs such as Boo Boo and Mimi after they "fell in love" at a birthday party. The cost of a to-drool-for wedding? Up to \$8,000!



JAKE AND JILL MAKE A LOVE CONNECTION.

HOTEL FOR DOGS

Heading on vacation but just can't part with your pet? Don't worry—many hotels offer special services for furry guests. Las Ventanas al Paraiso resort in Los Cabos, Mexico, offers pooch-only pool cabanas so dogs can relax in shady comfort. The Little Nell in Aspen, Colorado, gives each dog a personalized ID tag and spring water. The James Chicago Hotel in Illinois brings up bones and sweet treats from the kitchen. Sounds like these hotels are really going to the dogs!

A PUP GETS A RUBDOWN AFTER A HARD DAY OF PLAYING AT LAS VENTANAS.

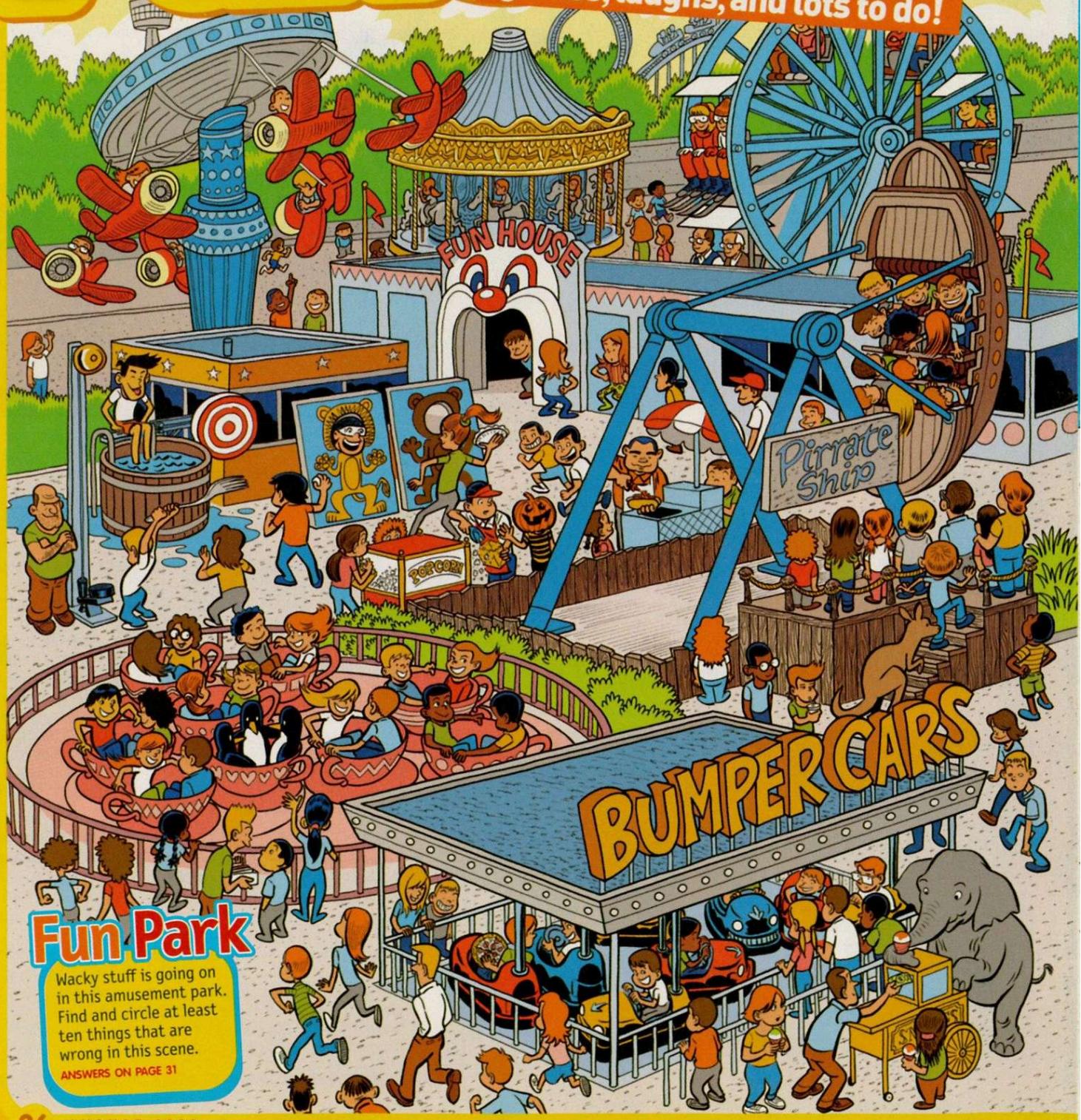


THE SUITE LIFE

A regular kennel just won't do for pets like Chloe the Mi-Ki dog. When her owners go out of town, they put her up at Paradise 4 Paws outside of Chicago, Illinois, one of many pet hotels opening around the country. There, Chloe can watch *Soccer Dog: The Movie* on a flat-screen TV, or check out the scene at the bone-shaped splashing pool. "She's just as spoiled there as she is at home," says owner Renee Miastkowski. At the Barkley Pet Hotel in Orange Village, Ohio, guests ride in a stretch "cat-illac" limousine and indulge in "paw-dicures."

FunStuff

games, laughs, and lots to do!



Fun Park

Wacky stuff is going on in this amusement park. Find and circle at least ten things that are wrong in this scene.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 31

What in the World?

Play interactive "What in the World?" and other games online.
kids.nationalgeographic.com

NATURAL WONDERS

These images show some of the world's most famous natural sights. Unscramble the letters to identify what's in each picture.

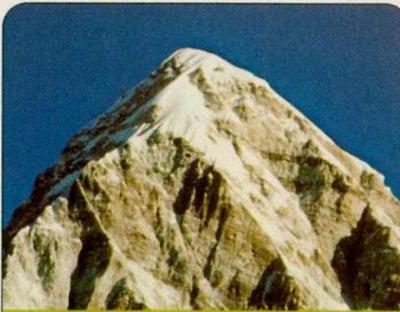
ANSWERS ON PAGE 31



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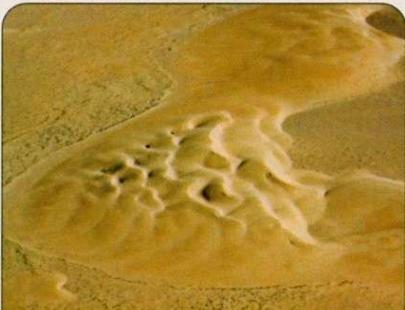
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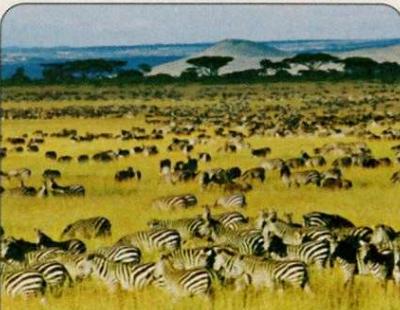
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Family Project

Memory Book

Create a FUN COLLAGE
about a FAVORITE
SUMMER memory.

1

COOL LETTERS

GIVE YOUR
MEMORY BOOK
A TITLE WITH
STICK-ON
LETTERS.

CAMPING TRIP 2009

This summer's camping trip was the best!



It was so funny how the tent fell on Dad's head
ten times before he finally got it to stand up.

Remember how we learned to make
breakfast over the campfire?

Then we hiked to an
amazing waterfall.

On the way,
we thought we
heard a bear in the woods.

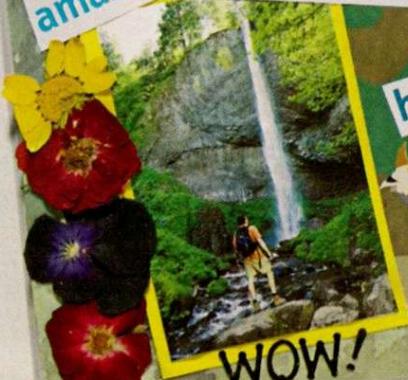
Luckily it was just a

cute fawn with its mom.

2

AWESOME PATTERNS

USE SCRAP-
BOOKING PAPER
TO CREATE A FUN
BACKGROUND.



3

CUT AND
PASTE

CUT PICTURES
OUT OF MAGAZINES
THAT RELATE TO
YOUR STORY.

TIPS FOR GETTING STARTED

- WRITE ABOUT A FAVORITE MEMORY** such as a vacation, family picnic, hiking trip, birthday party, or holiday. Hand-write neatly or use a computer. Use big letters and different colors.
- GATHER MEMORABILIA** related to the event, such as photos, postcards, foreign money, or ticket stubs.
- PICK OUT A SCRAPBOOK** or photo album.
- USE SCRAPBOOK INSERT PAPER** or construction paper as the base of the

collage. Make sure the paper fits the size of the book. (Or you can make a collage on a large piece of poster board.)

- ARRANGE EVERYTHING** exactly where you want it before gluing the pieces down.
- PLACE YOUR COLLAGE** in the front of your memory book. Add a new collage or two every year.

ALSO TRY THE OTHER FUN IDEAS ON THESE PAGES.

Ask for a parent's permission to use family photos before you get started.

8

GO WILD!

INCLUDE NATURAL ITEMS SUCH AS DRIED FLOWERS, A FEATHER, OR SMALL SHELLS.

7

GET CREATIVE

MAKE PICTURES OUT OF TISSUE PAPER AND CONSTRUCTION PAPER.

6

TAKE NOTE

WANT TO INCLUDE A SPECIAL NOTE OR POSTCARD? GLUE ON AN ENVELOPE AND TUCK YOUR NOTE INSIDE.

4

PICTURE PERFECT
INCLUDE PHOTOGRAPHS OF YOUR FAMILY AND/OR PETS.

5

FUN IT UP!
DECORATE WITH COOL STICKERS.

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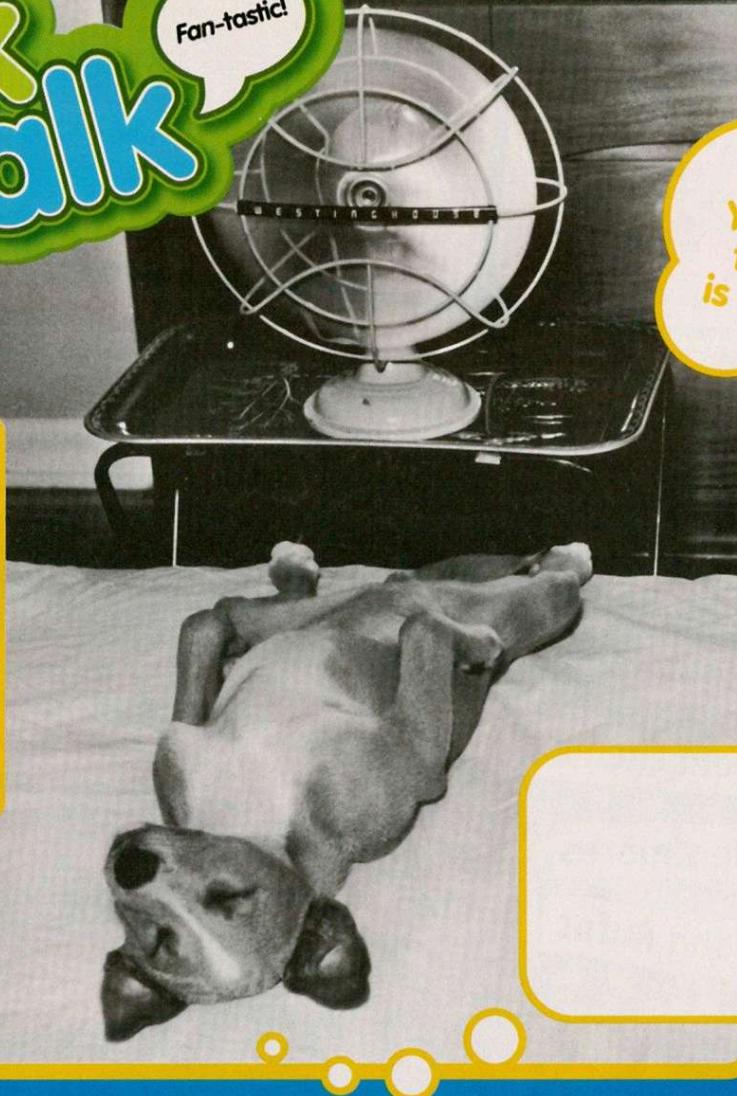
Back Talk

Fan-tastic!

1. Fill in the thought balloon.

2. Cut out the entire picture (or make a photo-copy 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 March Issue

Oh, man! I got it up my nose.

Allayna Brooke G., 14
Palmyra, Virginia

That was great!
What's for dessert?

Jacob R., 10
Highlands Ranch, Colorado

Got milk?

Ryan P., 9
Great Falls, Virginia

Finally, a chocolate-flavored facial.

Delaney W., 12
McMurray, Pennsylvania

I hope you pay us well for this.

Erin D., 8
Alexandria, Virginia

Who's up for seconds?

Cypress T., 10
Wilmington, North Carolina

Has anyone seen my fork?

Regan W., 9
Minster, Ohio

Will this help with my complexion?

Michael P., 12
Windham, New York

Art Zone

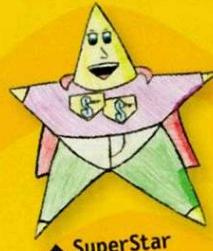
COOL CARTOONS

Move over, SpongeBob! There are some new 'toons in town. These characters were created by NG KIDS readers.

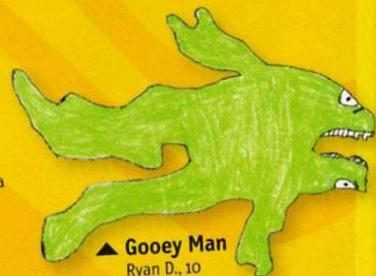


◀ Queen Snooty
Kelsie K., 13
Midwest City,
Oklahoma

▶ Mr. Hippo
in Happy Land
Nathaniel B., 14
Spokane, Washington



◀ SuperStar
Jaime M., 12
Little River, South Carolina



◀ Gooey Man
Ryan D., 10
Bloomsburg,
Pennsylvania

▲ Amanda
Hannah B., 14
Franklin, Tennessee



Answers

Top row: Grand Canyon (United States); Mount Everest (Nepal); Amazon rain forest (South America); Mount Fuji (Japan); Niagara Falls (U.S. and Canada); Mount Si (Helen Rock, Australia).
Second row: Uluru (also called Ayers Rock, Australia); Scherzer Point (Tunisia) and Shabqaq (Africa).
Bottom row: Great Barrier Reef (Australia); U.S.A.; Great Barrier Reef (Australia); Kenya; Uluru (also called Ayers Rock, Australia).



"Fun Park" (page 26)

Draw your favorite dinosaur.

Send your original drawings to
NG KIDS—Dinosaur 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. If your drawing is selected, your parent or guardian must sign a release for publication of your illustration. 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.



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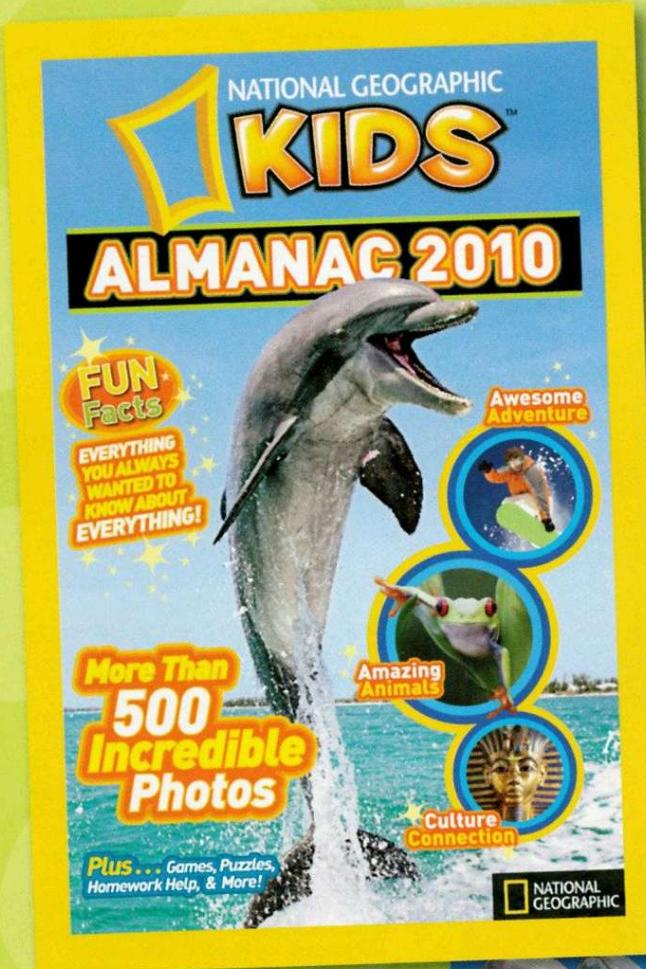
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