

The world's favourite children's magazine

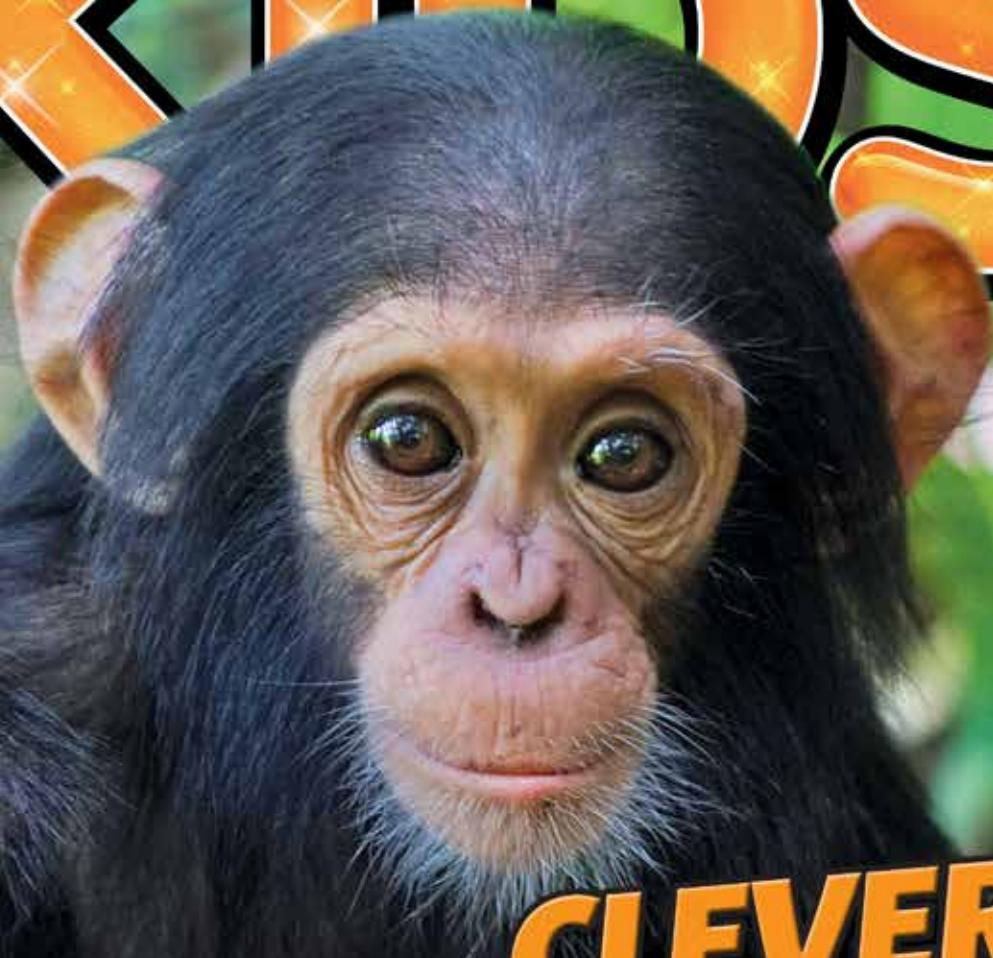


NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

JOIN US ON OUR
**ARIZONA
ADVENTURE!**



KIDS



CLEVER CHIMPS!

HOW TO
SPOT
FAKE
NEWS!



**126 PRIZES
INSIDE!**



BABY
BADGER
RESCUE



FROM THE CREATOR OF PERCY JACKSON

My name is MAGNUS CHASE.

I'm orphaned and living rough on the streets of Boston. And things are about to get

MUCH WORSE.



NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC
KIDS

Hey, gang!

Happy Autumn! To keep you cosy in the cold, we've got a heartwarming badger rescue tale on page 20. Plus, things heat up on our visit to Arizona, where we learn how desert animals cope with the heat!

Turn to page 14 to meet eight smart species who've learned to make and use their own tools. And see if you can tell the tall tales from the hard facts on page 22! Don't forget, Nat Geo Kids is bursting with all the usual laughs, perplexing puzzles, sensational posters and incredible prizes – so enjoy the mag!

See you next month, TM



FREE this issue...



6 POSTERS!

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NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

What's inside...



14

Clever creatures

Meet the super-smart animals who can make and use tools!



20

Badger Rescue!

A baby badger is saved after a rainstorm floods its home

22

Real or fake?

Can you spot the phoney tales in this unlikely story selection?



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Arizona Adventure!

We find out how creatures and cacti beat the heat in the Sonoran Desert!

PLUS!

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INSIDE SCOOP

The latest news and fantastic facts from around the globe...

STUNNING SNAPS

Check out some of the finalists in this year's Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition! Judges have been poring over a whopping 50,000 entries from 92 different countries and the final winner will be chosen on 17 October!

Our favourite photo is *Surfer* by Justin Hofman (right), which was taken off the coast of Sumbawa Island in Indonesia. Seahorses ride currents by grabbing hold of floating objects, such as seaweed. But in Justin's startling image, the tiny 3.8-cm-long creature has grabbed hold of a discarded plastic cotton bud. Indonesia is the world's second biggest contributor of ocean plastic waste, so the photo is a sad reminder of the problem.

* The Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition opens on 20 October at London's Natural History Museum, before going on a nationwide tour. Cool!

A tiny estuary seahorse glides gracefully through the polluted ocean



3 FAST FACTS

Remembrance Day

On 11 November, people across the country remember those who lost their lives in wars...

1 Sadly, nearly 17 million people died as a result of the First World War. The last surviving veteran, Harry Patch, passed away on 25 July 2009 (aged 111). He was lovingly known as the Last Fighting Tommy.

2 The war ended on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. A year later, King George V announced that those who died would be honoured with a two-minute silence every year at 11am on 11 November.

3 Around this time of year, people wear paper poppies as a way to raise money for war veterans and remember those who died. It's said poppies were the first flowers to bloom on battlefields after the war.



Remembrance Sunday takes place this year on 12 November. The Queen will lay a poppy wreath at the Cenotaph war memorial in London.

KITTY CUP!

A silly study claiming that cats are both solid and liquid has won a 2017 Ig Nobel Prize – an award given to scientific research that make you laugh and think! It argues that, like fluids, moggies can adopt the shape of the containers they lie in (above). Other winners include a study about why old men have big ears, and the discovery that didgeridoo playing reduces snoring!

I'M PURR-ECTLY COMFY, THANKS!



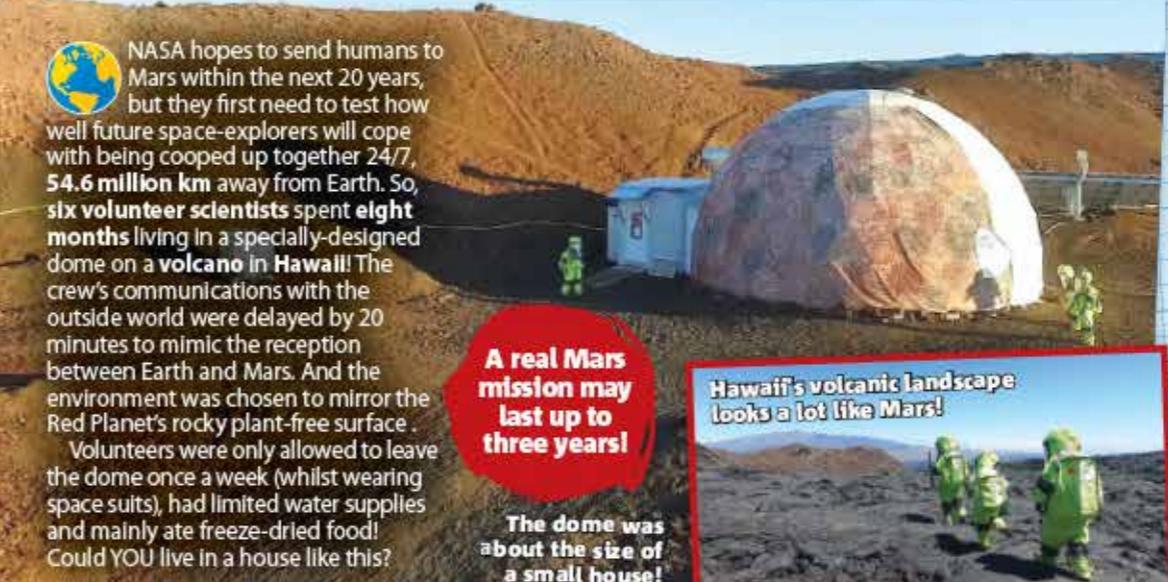
MISSION ISOLATION!

NASA hopes to send humans to Mars within the next 20 years, but they first need to test how well future space-explorers will cope with being cooped up together 24/7, 54.6 million km away from Earth. So, six volunteer scientists spent eight months living in a specially-designed dome on a volcano in Hawaii! The crew's communications with the outside world were delayed by 20 minutes to mimic the reception between Earth and Mars. And the environment was chosen to mirror the Red Planet's rocky plant-free surface.

Volunteers were only allowed to leave the dome once a week (whilst wearing space suits), had limited water supplies and mainly ate freeze-dried food! Could YOU live in a house like this?

A real Mars mission may last up to three years!

The dome was about the size of a small house!



Hawaii's volcanic landscape looks a lot like Mars!



DEMOCRATIC DOGS!

It turns out that humans aren't the only animals that vote. African wild dogs do it too – by sneezing! Zoologists working at the Botswana Predator Conservation Trust have found that when these endangered dogs gather for greeting ceremonies called social rallies, they use sneezes to decide when to all go hunting. The more sneezes there are, the more likely it is that the pack moves off to hunt. Wow! Just don't expect to see these pooches at a polling station any time soon...

All those in favour, say "Achoo!"



CRAZY EVENT

BONFIRE NIGHT

Lots of people love this night of fireworks, treacle toffee and, of course, bonfires! But do you know why we 'Remember, remember the 5th of November'? Well, it's the anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot, a failed attempt to blow up Parliament in 1605.

Back then, England was ruled by King James I, who followed the Protestant form of Christianity. Angry with the way he was treating Catholics, a group of men – including Guy Fawkes – hatched a plot to destroy the Houses of Parliament, with the King inside!

But before the attack could happen, Guy Fawkes was caught red-handed – along with fuses, matches and 36 barrels of gunpowder. Oops! Since then, people have made bonfires on which they burn the 'Guy' – a dummy made to represent Mr. Fawkes. The event is also known as Guy Fawkes Night!

MAKE IT A DATE

What's going on this month?

10 November



WORLD SCIENCE DAY

Celebrate how science can lead to peace!

13 November



WORLD KINDNESS DAY

Do something nice for a stranger today!

20 November



UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY

It's your day, gang. Yay!

20-26 November



ROAD SAFETY WEEK

Take part at roadsafetyweek.org.uk

30 November



ST. ANDREW'S DAY

It's Scotland's national day!

Wacky WORLD!

Check out the planet's
strangest pictures...



Paper puck!

Have you ever tried origami? Well, this amazing ice hockey scene, on display at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto, is an incredible example of the art. Sheets of paper were folded into the cool figures without any cutting or glueing. Amazing eh?!

Sweet stop

Inspired by the famous pumpkin carriage in *Cinderella*, a team of artists have created 14 different fruit-shaped bus stops in Konagai, Japan. The juicy shelters look so good we might actually be tempted to miss the bus!



GRAY GRAPPLE

These mucky folk were snapped at the recent World Gravy Wrestling Championships in Bacup, Lancashire. Wonder which of them got licked?!



EYE CONDITIONERS!

This bizarre building in Chongqing, China, looks like it's watching you. But the 'eyes' are just air-conditioning units underneath balconies. Cool!



GERMANY

Sand-sational!

Summer may be over, but we still love a good sandcastle, whatever the weather. So check this beauty out! The record-breaking Sandburg sandcastle, built in Duisburg, Germany, was sculpted out of 3,500 tonnes of sand and stands 16.68m high – the tallest in the world. Wow!



JAPAN



PARTY TRUCK!

Look at this lorry! Like a disco on wheels, the Japanese 'dekotora' truck is decorated with lights and even chandeliers. Top customisation!

Do you love Pets or Want to Be a Vet?

Join the Club!

Members get:

- A year's subscription to *Animal Antics* magazine
- A fantastic welcome pack



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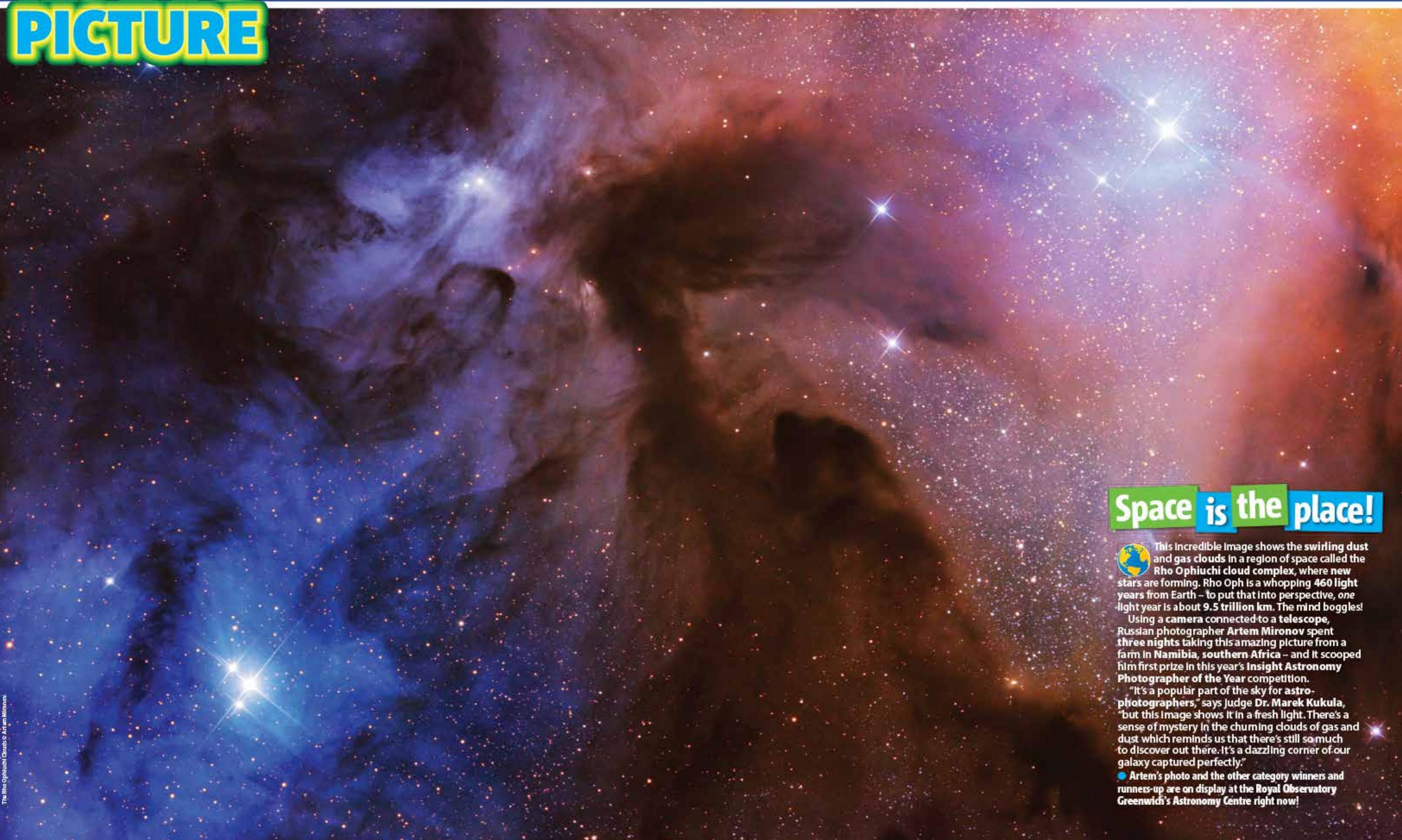
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The BIG PICTURE

NG KiDS' image of the month



Space is the place!



This incredible image shows the swirling dust and gas clouds in a region of space called the Rho Ophiuchi cloud complex, where new stars are forming. Rho Oph is a whopping 460 light years from Earth – to put that into perspective, one light year is about 9.5 trillion km. The mind boggles!

Using a camera connected to a telescope, Russian photographer Artem Mironov spent three nights taking this amazing picture from a farm in Namibia, southern Africa – and it scooped him first prize in this year's Insight Astronomy Photographer of the Year competition.

"It's a popular part of the sky for astro photographers," says Judge Dr. Marek Kukula, "but this image shows it in a fresh light. There's a sense of mystery in the churning clouds of gas and dust which reminds us that there's still so much to discover out there. It's a dazzling corner of our galaxy captured perfectly."

• Artem's photo and the other category winners and runners-up are on display at the Royal Observatory Greenwich's Astronomy Centre right now!

CULTURE VULTURES!

This month's top Blu-rays, DVDs, movies, events and books!



Here comes Wonder Woman!

MOVIE

Earth: One Amazing Day

Calling all young naturalists! This breathtaking film follows the fascinating lives of different species over the course of one day. Get up-close and personal to some truly incredible creatures – including a baby zebra desperate to cross a dangerous river, a penguin who must face a death-defying journey to feed his family, and a sloth on the hunt for love. Aww! If you love wildlife, *Earth: One Amazing Day* is an absolute must-see!

● Out 20 October. Cert U



Come face to face with penguins...



... and pandas!

MOVIE

National Pet Show

EVENT

Give it up for our pet pals! Taking place at the NEC Birmingham, the National Pet Show is back with hundreds of awesome animals, talks from animal experts, hands-on activities and exciting celebrity guests. Yay! This year's event also features *Noel's Ark*, where kids can learn how to care for all kinds of creatures, from hens and owls to reptiles and mini beasts! You'll have heaps of fun!

● The National Pet Show takes place 4-5 November. For more info and tickets, head to [the nationalpetshow.com](http://nationalpetshow.com)

Get ready for the purr-fect day out!

WIN!

We have three family tickets to the National Pet Show up for grabs!

- Q Which of these is a breed of dog?
a) German farmer b) German shepherd
c) German chef

EVENT



WIN!

READER OFFER

Use the code NATGE020 to get 20% off tickets to The National Pet Show!



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THE WORLD OF SUPERSAURS

RAPTORS OF PARADISE

Imagine if dinosaurs had survived and evolved, and now lived side-by-side with humans. Welcome to the exciting world of Supersaurs...

 Bea Kingsley's parents vanished 11 years ago. But when Bunty, Bea's grandma, suddenly decides to take her on an exotic journey to the remote Islands of Aru in Indonesia to see the elusive Raptors of Paradise, 13-year-old

Bea starts asking questions – big questions that even her wise godfather Theodore can't answer. And the more questions Bea asks, the more trouble comes her way. Was the trip to Aru a dangerous mistake, or is it the beginning of the adventure of a lifetime?

Unlock more adventures!

Bring your copy of *Supersaurs* to life with the free Interactive *Supersaurs* Augmented Reality app!

To access all the exclusive content, download and launch the free app, point your device's camera at the book's illustrations and watch as the pictures pop out of the page. You'll see Supersaurs as you've never seen them before. Awesome!



Supersaur search!

Ten creatures from the book are hidden in this grid. Can you find them all?

- ALLOSAUR
- BLUEPAN
- CASSABANJI
- GOLDEN FANTAIL
- HADROSAUR
- KYLOSAUR
- MIMUSAUR
- OVIRAPTOR
- RAPTOR
- RHIPHTUS RHAT



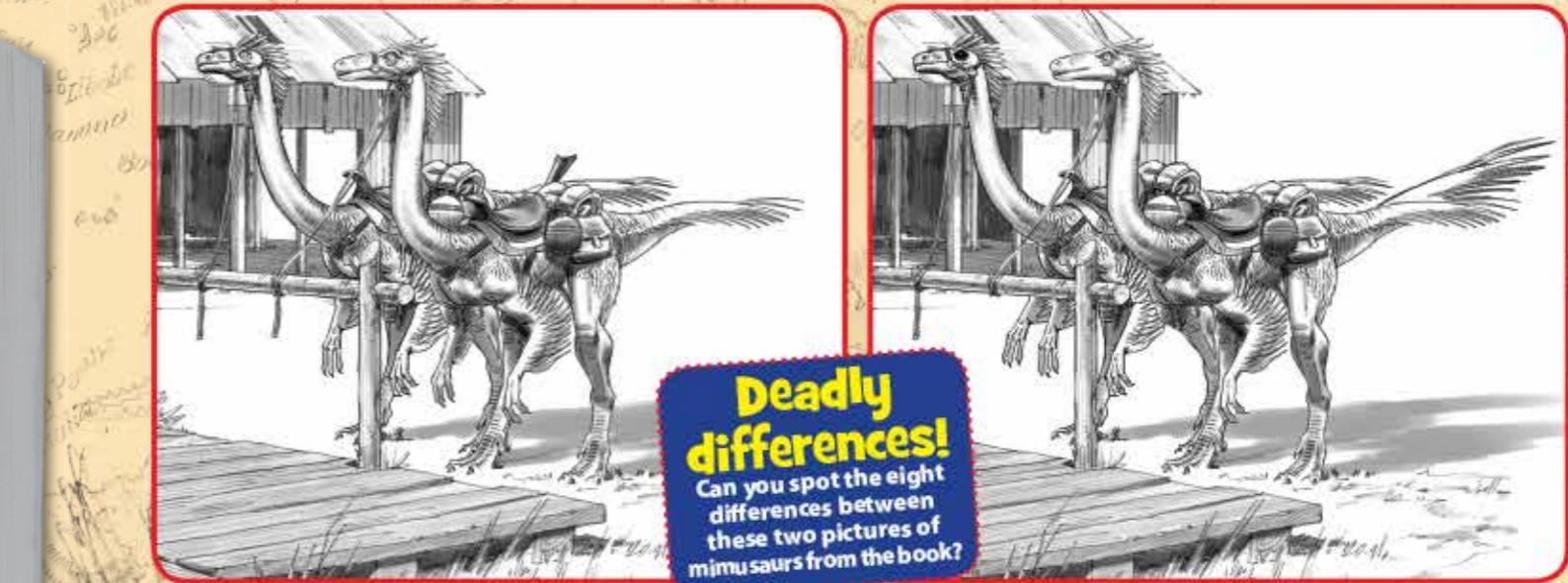
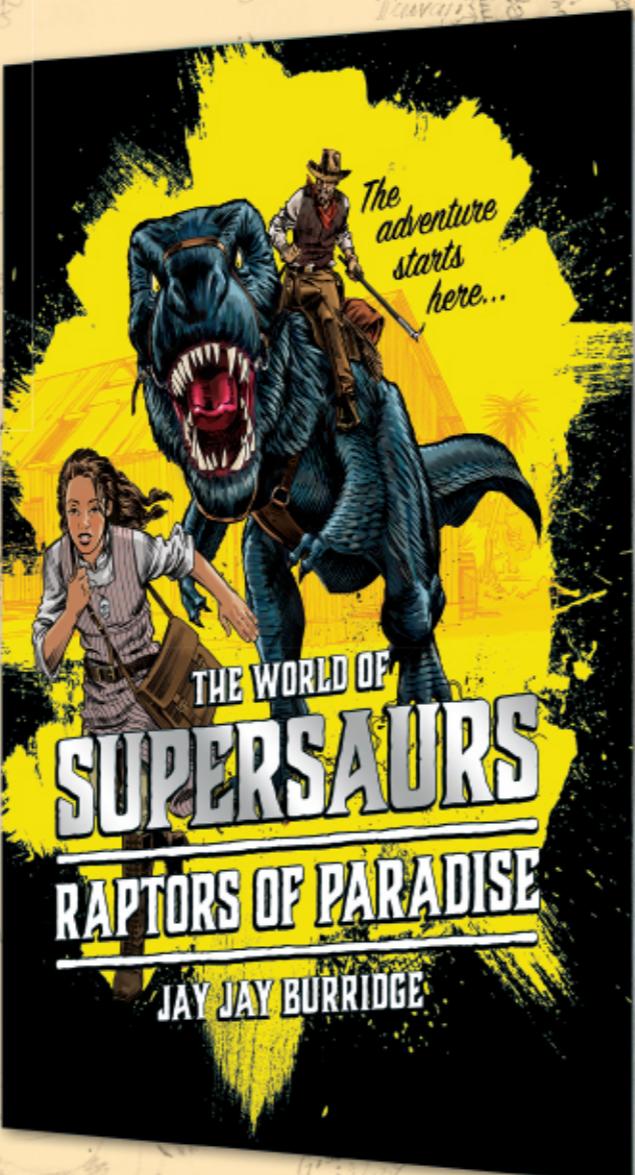
Answers on page 56

Dino ladder

Write a letter in each of the blank spaces to create a word either side. Do it correctly and the letters will spell out a type of dinosaur...

STA		ISK
ARE		LPS
WRA		LOT
KNO		ART
HER		OZE
FEA		UDE

Join the world of Supersaurs at supersaurs.com



Deadly differences!

Can you spot the eight differences between these two pictures of mimusaurs from the book?

5 Fearsome facts!

Get your teeth into this incredible info about REAL dinosaurs...

1 *Tyrannosaurus rex* had 60 saw-edged gnashers in its mouth, each up to 20cm in length – the monster meat-eater's bite was so powerful it could crush through bone. Yikes!



2 Amazingly, *T. rex* is more closely related to a SPARROW than it is to fellow dino *Triceratops*! And it lived closer in time to YOU than *Stegosaurus* (below, right). Whoa!



3 Although it was a whopping 9m in length, hefty herbivore *Stegosaurus* had a very small head – its tiny brain was the size of a plum!

4 So far, 108 species of dinosaurs have been unearthed in the UK and Ireland. The oldest one found was *Thecodontosaurus* (left), which lived 227 million years ago, during the Late Triassic period!

5 A fossil of *Bambiraptor*, a small feathered dinosaur (right), was discovered in 1995 by a 14-year-old American school boy. Cool!



WIN!

Supersaurs books!

We've got five copies of *Supersaurs* to give away! For your chance to run off with a copy, just answer this question...

Q Approximately how many years ago did dinosaurs die out?
a) 65 b) 65,000 c) 65 million

Enter on page 55

What if dinosaurs hadn't died out?

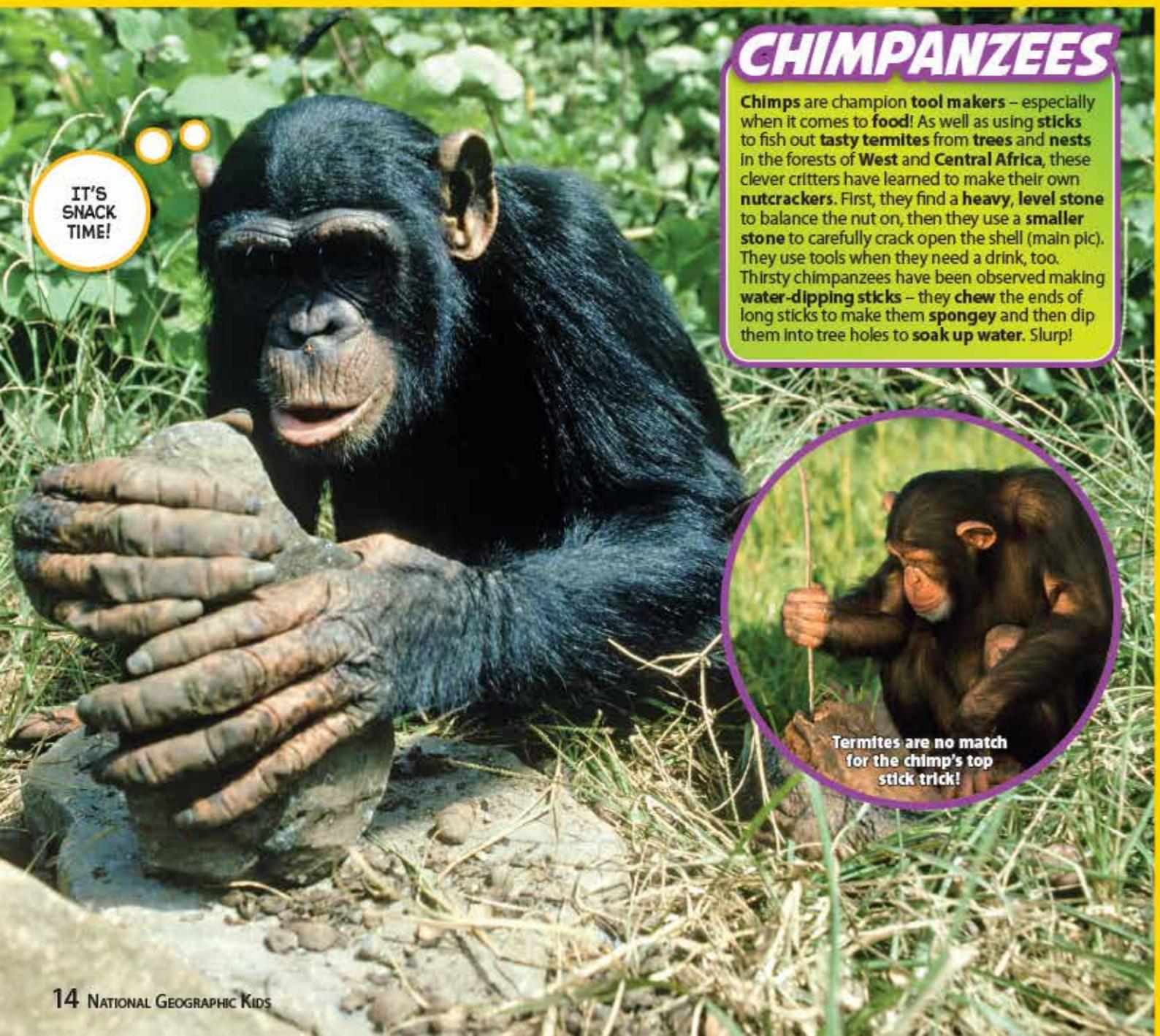
In *Supersaurs: Raptors of Paradise*, the Saus are kept at home as pets and used by people for work or transport. But what would these creatures be like if they really were alive today? Well, no one knows for sure. Some scientists have argued that they would resemble two-legged crocodiles. Others have wondered whether they might look a bit like humans! Remarkably, though, theropods (two-legged dinos) really ARE alive today – because they evolved into birds. How dino-like does this cassowary (right) look?



Available at all good bookshops!

CLEVER CREATURES!

It's not just us humans who have the brains to invent handy gadgets. Check out eight other incredible animals that make and use tools...



OCTOPUSES

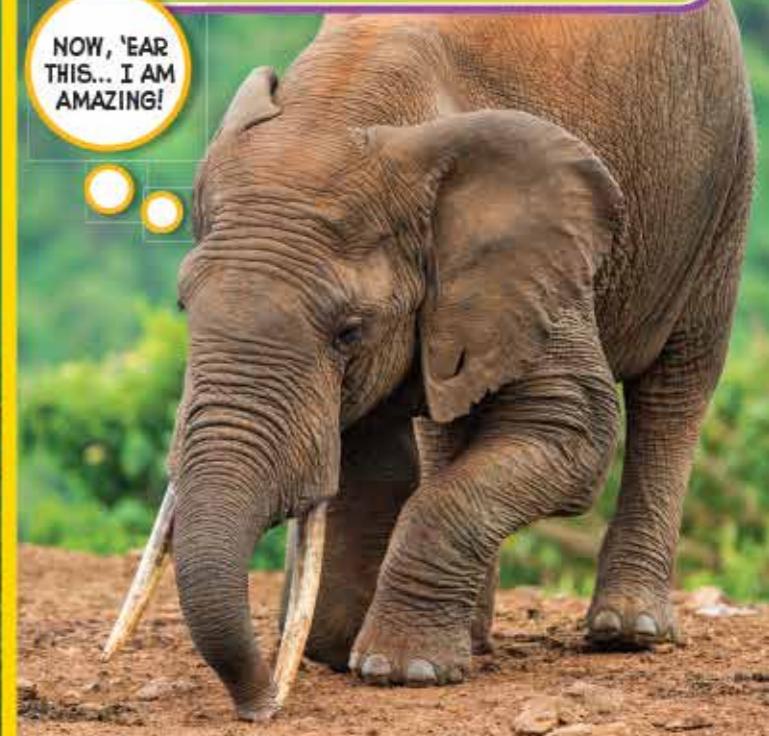
The kings of hide and seek, octopuses (or octopi) can change their shape, colour and even skin texture to blend in with their surroundings. But some of these incredible invertebrates have another trick up their, errr... tentacles! In the waters off Indonesia in Southeast Asia, veined octopuses make portable hiding places – from coconut shells! Scientists have observed the super swimmers carrying halved coconut shells that they've collected off the ocean floor. Then, when they sense danger, they hide under them or assemble the shells around their bodies to make safe shelters. Peekaboo!



ELEPHANTS

Elephants are super-strong animals, equipped with muscular trunks and bulky bodies. But did you know they have brilliant brains as well as brawn? These massive mammals have a special way of storing water – they dig water holes, which they fill with chunks of chewed-up tree bark and cover with sand. This stops the water from evaporating, so the elephants can return to the hole whenever they fancy for a cheeky drink! The nifty nannies make other tools, too – they use long sticks to scratch those hard-to-reach itches, and bushy branches to swat away pesky flies. Swish swish!

NOW, 'EAR THIS... I AM AMAZING!



SEA OTTERS

Allow us to introduce you to the tool-making pioneers of the animal kingdom – super sea otters. Scientists believe these cute critters have been using tools for thousands or even millions of years – long before other marine mammals! Found in the Pacific waters off North America, Japan and Russia, sea otters like to munch on shellfish, such as clams and sea snails. When they fancy a bite, they can be spotted swimming on their backs, with rocks on their chests and the shellfish in their paws! Then, it's crunch time – the otters hammer open the shelled snack before tucking into the fishy flesh inside. Yum!



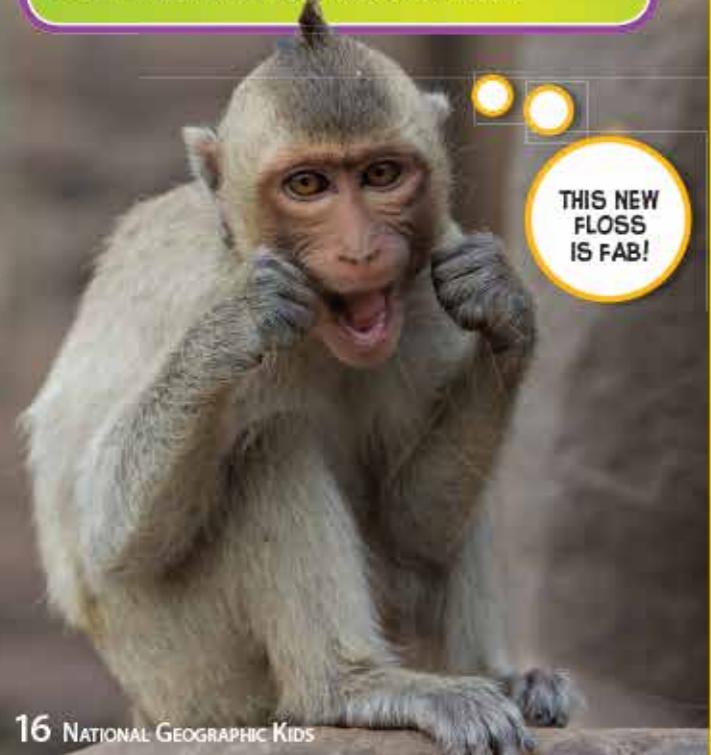
NEW CALEDONIAN CROWS

Meet some fab fliers who prove our feathered friends can be expert tool-makers, too! Native to New Caledonia in the South Pacific, these cool crows use sticks to extract scrummy bugs hiding in cracks and crevices in logs. But here's the really impressive bit – the brainy birds use their feet and beaks to bend twigs into a hook shape, making them more effective grub-grabbers! The crows insert their well-crafted tools into the insects' hidey holes and then shake them about until the prey latch on. Then, they pull out the twig with the bug attached. Voilà, it's creepy-crawly kebabs for dinner!



LONG-TAILED MACAQUES

It turns out humans aren't the only ones who take dental hygiene seriously. So do Thailand's long-tailed macaques, who've found the perfect tool to clean their teeth with – human hair! Some of the cheeky critters living by a Buddhist shrine in the city of Lopburi have been seen flossing their teeth with strands of hair they've snatched from passing people. Ouch! What's more, the macaque mums sit face to face with their youngsters, teaching them how to floss. No hair within reach? The mischievous monkeys make do with coconut fibres and twigs instead. Say cheese!



BOTTLENOSE DOLPHINS

Bottlenose dolphins from Shark Bay, Western Australia, have come up with a cunning tool that protects their 'noses' while they're hunting for fish hiding on the rocky seabed. They rip sea sponges (see above) from the ocean floor, and fit them over their delicate beaks! The marine mammals then push their sponged-up snouts along the seabed, disturbing the sand and scaring prey out into open water. Gulp! Job's a good'un – without even a scratch!



DID YOU KNOW...?

Sea sponges are marine animals that have spongy bodies and no organs. Some deep-sea species can live for thousands of years!



ORANGUTANS

Our final great gadget maker is from the islands of Borneo and Sumatra in Southeast Asia – the orangutan! During heavy rainfall, these amazing apes keep dry by sheltering under enormous umbrellas made from rainforest leaves. But they have another, more 'musical' use for the leaves, too. Usually, the tree-top dwellers ward off potential predators by pursing their lips and producing a high-pitched sound called a kiss squeak. But if they want to appear extra aggressive, some orangutans press leaves against their lips as they squeak, making the call deeper and more intimidating. Crafty, eh?

History's Greatest Hits!

ALL ABOUT

JOAN OF ARC

French heroine Joan of Arc was one of the world's first female military leaders. Find out more about the life of this legend...

CA 1412

Jeanne d'Arc (or Joan of Arc in English) was born into a family of farmers in the village of Domrémy, France. She probably spent her early years taking care of animals and sewing.

START



1415-1425

English troops invaded France and forced French king Charles VI to name England's Henry V as France's next king. But in 1425, three years after Henry V's death, young Joan began to have visions telling her she could save her country by restoring the throne to Charles VI's son, Charles VII.

APRIL 1429

Teenage Joan – dressed like a man – visited Charles VII, demanding that he let her fight on his behalf. Even though he realised she was a woman, he agreed, allowing her to lead his soldiers in battle. Oui, Joan!



JULY 1429

After months of fighting, Charles VII was crowned King of France – thanks in large part to Joan's efforts.

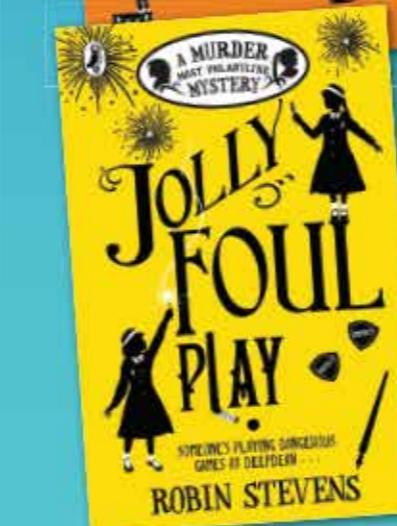
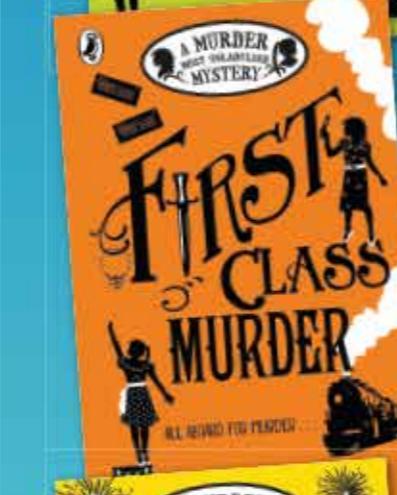
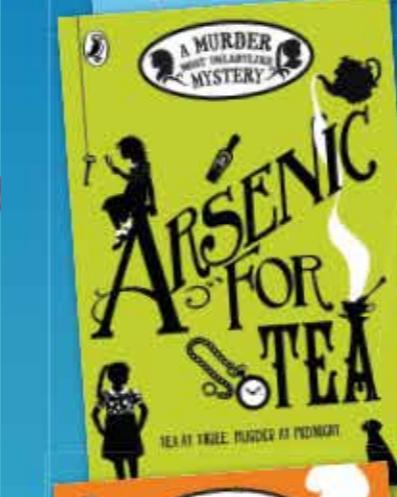
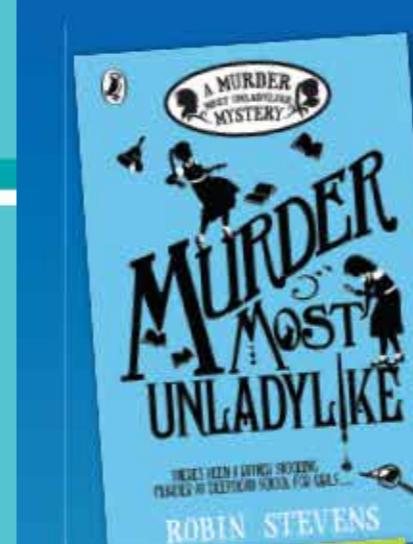
1430

Joan was captured and sold to the English. They accused her of lying and dressing like a man, among other charges. She was thrown in jail to await trial.

1431

Found guilty, Joan was burned at the stake, aged just 19. Nearly 500 years after her death, the Roman Catholic Church made her a saint, and she's still seen today as a fearless leader who changed the course of her country's history.

Historians don't always know the exact dates of events from ancient times. That's why you'll see a 'ca' next to the years listed below. It stands for 'circa,' meaning 'around.'



ADVERTISING PROMOTION



Calling all super sleuths! Get ready to tackle this thrilling series of detective stories by Robin Stevens...

When Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong set up their very own secret detective agency at Deepdean School for Girls, they struggle to find any truly exciting mysteries to investigate.

Until, that is, Hazel discovers a dead body in the school gym! It's not long before their Detective Society is solving real-life murder mysteries better than any police officer could...

Sleuth secrets!

Become a crime fighter by following the girls' top tips...

1 Create a code

Keep your notes and messages secret with this clever detective's trick!

- Take the first letter of the word you want to write and move it to the end of the word.
- Add the letters 'ay' to the end of the word as well.
- But if the word begins with a vowel (A, E, I, O or U), just add 'yay' to the end of the word instead.
- Use these rules on every word you write to create your coded message!

This is a secret = Histay isyay ayay ecretsay

Follow me = Ollowfay emay



2 Write in invisible ink

Got the secret code cracked? Now scribble it down using this awesome 'ink'..

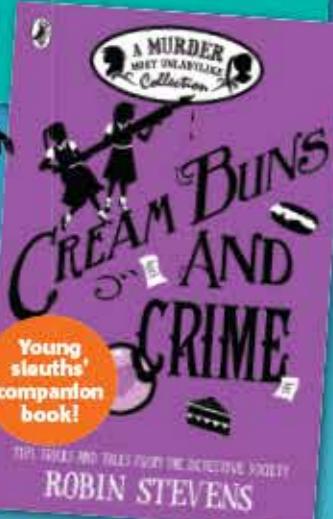
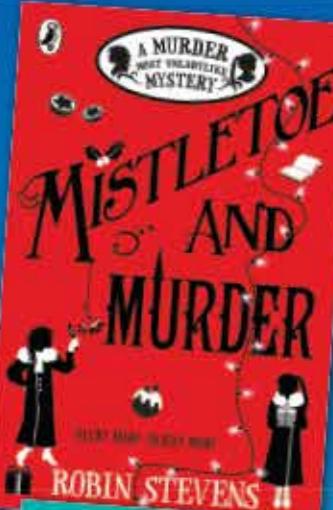
- Squeeze some lemon juice into a bowl and then add a few drops of water.
- Mix the water and lemon juice together with a spoon.
- Dip a cotton bud into the mixture and write your message on to some white paper.
- Wait for the juice to dry so it becomes completely invisible.
- When you're ready to read your secret message or show it to someone else, gently heat the paper by holding it close to a lamp or torch – your message will appear. Amazing!

WIN!

The entire book series!

One lucky reader will win the whole set of Robin Stevens' books and nine runners-up will scoop a copy of *Murder Most Unladylike*. Cool! To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question...

- Q Which of these is NOT another word for detective?
 a) Sleuth
 b) Investigator
 c) Robber



Find out more about the author at robin-stevens.co.uk
 Follow Robin on Popjam @RobinStevens

Enter on page 55!

NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

KIDS
**MISSION
ANIMAL RESCUE**

Save ANIMALS >>
Save the WORLD

 During a torrential rainstorm in Somerset, a farmer heads outside to check on his sheep. The flock is safe, but he stumbles across another animal in serious trouble. Lying motionless on the ground is a tiny, almost furless badger cub. The farmer notices a flicker of life, so he tucks the tiny creature into his pocket and drives to a nearby animal rescue centre.

ROAD TO RECOVERY

By the time the cub arrives at Secret World Wildlife Rescue, it's wriggling and making a badger's distinctive chirping sound. The staff are pleased to see that the female cub has no wounds or parasites. "She's so perfect," says Pauline Kidner, founder of Secret World. "But she's very young." Less than 48 hours old, the little animal is vulnerable to many serious health problems.

JUST WARMING UP

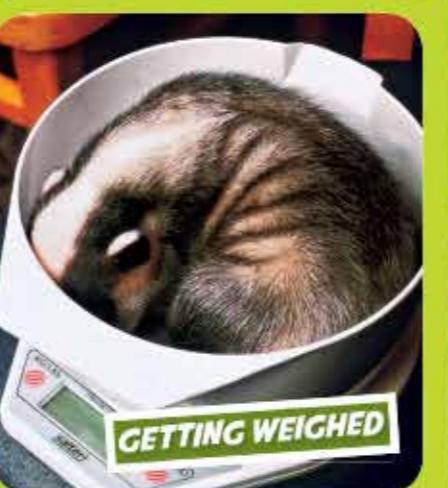
The tiny baby badger's mother would not have willingly abandoned her cub. Badgers live underground in family burrows called setts. Pauline believes the cub's home flooded during the storm and the mother lost the newborn while moving her other cubs to a dry, backup sett.

The biggest concern for Gale – named after the windy storm she was found in – is her low body temperature. The staff place the orphan in a warm incubator and give Gale a hot water bottle wrapped in a towel and a teddy to snuggle up to. Once the baby badger has warmed up, Pauline starts feeding her milk. Newborn badgers eat very little, very often – about once an hour, 24 hours a day – so Pauline sleeps on a chair with Gale on her lap, feeding her with a medicine syringe throughout the night.

Picture © Richard Austin / Secret World Wildlife Rescue

BADGER RESCUE!

An orphaned baby gets a second chance...



BACK TO THE WILD

When Gale is six weeks old she opens her eyes for the first time. At ten weeks she begins to crawl around on her shaky legs, and once the little badger starts scoffing solid foods, she's moved into a small pen where human contact is minimised. "Otherwise they grow up thinking they're human beings," Pauline says. Two weeks later, Gale joins a group of other badgers. During four months of preparation for release, the badgers live in an artificial sett, learn survival skills, and get their first taste of wild badger food – earthworms. Yum!

When Gale is eight months old, she and five other badgers are transported to the countryside. Here, a temporary sett has been built and sectioned off with a circular fence. A month later, after the badgers have learned to forage and dig their own

sett, the fence is removed. Pauline admits that she's a little sad to see Gale go. "It's fantastic, though," she says, "because the whole point is to get that badger back into the wild." Aww-some work, Pauline!



Traffic is the biggest threat to badgers in the UK. Sadly, 50,000 are killed each year by cars – so ask any drivers you know to slow down on country roads! Find out more at badger.org.uk

REAL OR FAKE?

 These may be some of the most bizarre stories you've ever read – but only three of them are actually true. Can you tell the difference between the real-life headlines and the phony-baloney? (ANSWERS BELOW)

1 COUNTRIES BATTLE OVER BIRD POOP

CHINCHA ISLANDS, PACIFIC OCEAN
Battles have been fought over many things – taxes, oil, spices... poop? Yep. A two-year battle over islands covered in bird poo, or guano, broke out between Peru and Spain during the 1860s. Why the fuss over faeces? At the time, guano was in high demand as a fertiliser. And it turns out the dry climate of the Chincha Islands in the Pacific Ocean perfectly preserves the guano left by seabirds. In fact some guano piles reportedly stood 45m tall! Spain wanted to take control of the islands from Peru, a former colony. But the Peruvian government refused – and fighting broke out. Peru won the war, and to this day remains the owner of the precious poop.

Illustration © Tom Niki Cocos



2 SEAFLOOR CITY

CHINA

In 2015, China surprised the world when it announced it had secretly set up a 'city' of 1,000 people on the seafloor off the country's southeastern coast. Encased in a see-through dome, Seafloor City is protected from the ocean elements by a 335-m-thick transparent material developed in a lab in the city of Shanghai. At 5km², the city is small but it's packed with the nation's smartest scientists. The government has tasked them with studying how people might live on other planets, and how the human body can adapt to life underwater. Seafloor City is set to become a major tourist destination next year, but only expert divers will be able to reach it.



3 ROBOT HITCHHIKES ACROSS CANADA

VICTORIA, CANADA

Would you give a ride to a talking, hitchhiking robot? Well, 19 carloads of Canadians did exactly that during the summer of 2014, helping the child-sized hitchBOT travel 6,000km from Halifax to Victoria. Anyone who offered hitchBOT a ride had to lift it in and out of the car because only its hitchhiking arm moved. But hosts were rewarded with a robot that could chat with its companions and share facts about the region the car was travelling through. The bot had tons of 'fun' along the way, sightseeing, making new friends, riding a ferry and even attending a wedding!

4 PLANTS MAKE MUSIC

LOS ANGELES, USA

Did you know that plants can be 'musical'? Technology developed by a company called Data Garden translates the electrical currents moving across a plant's surface into sounds. The company have organised 'concerts' and installations, and they've even created a radio station, Plants FM, which live-streams plant 'music'. So what does this tell us about the secret life of plants? Scientists still aren't quite sure. But thanks to a successful fundraising campaign, anyone with a computer can now find out whether their houseplants can 'sing'!



5 ASTRONAUT INFESTATION

OUTER SPACE

In what was dubbed the 'out-of-this-world itch' half the astronauts aboard the space shuttle Triumph were ordered to return to Earth after an epic outbreak of head lice struck in 1994. At first the astronauts tried to live with the lice, making jokes while scratching their scalps during video conference calls with NASA. When things got worse, all shaved off their hair. But over time the lice proved too powerful. The astronauts couldn't get rid of them and were distracted from their high-stakes duties. So they were sent home to recover. NASA says it's unsure whether the extra-persistent pests were extraterrestrial. Yikes!

HOW TO SPOT FAKE NEWS!

This page may just be a fun game, but can you always believe everything you read? Sometimes it's hard to tell the difference between real-life headlines and made-up ones – especially on the internet. Some people are trying to trick you on purpose. Follow these tips for sniffing out fake news...

Does the story come from a newspaper, magazine or website you've never heard of?

"Well-known news sources aren't likely to try to fool you," says Eric Carvin, social media editor for the Associated Press. "If you haven't heard of a publication, do some research on how trustworthy they are before you take what they say as fact. Have they been accused of publishing fake news before? If so, they may not be reliable."

Is just one newspaper, magazine or website reporting the story?

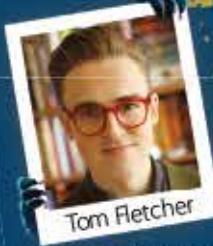
"If a story is real, then many newspapers and magazines will cover it," Eric says. "Big stories worth reporting on are usually featured in more than just one or two publications."

Is the story missing key information?

"If no experts or eyewitnesses are mentioned in the article, that's a warning sign," Eric says. "Most publications try to speak with at least two sources to back up a story."



THE CREAKERS



Discover a ghastly world under your bed in this magical new tale from the bestselling author of *The Christamasaurus*, Tom Fletcher, and illustrator Shane Devries...

Have you ever heard a creaking noise in your house at night? If you have, then you've probably got Creakers living under your bed! They're the disgusting stars of Tom Fletcher's newest, spookiest and smelliest book!

See that awesome girl on the front cover in the dungarees? That's Lucy Dungston, she's the hero of this story – she just doesn't know it yet! She's smart, brave and maybe a little messy from time to time. But she's exactly who you need when the Creakers start making

CREepy CReAtUReS!

Which of these four Creakers do you think looks and sounds the most disgusting?

Grunt



Messiness: 68
Scariness: 52
Icky-stickiness: 75

Sniff

Messiness: 20
Scariness: 34
Smelliness: 37
Icky-stickiness: 81



Messiness: 31
Scariness: 89
Smelliness: 60
Icky-stickiness: 95

Messiness: 84
Scariness: 74
Smelliness: 39
Icky-stickiness: 68

OUT NOW!

The magical new tale from bestselling author
TOM FLETCHER

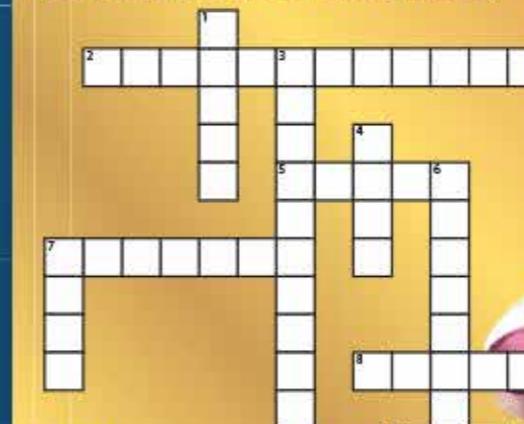
THE CREAKERS
Illustrated by SHANE DEVRIES

ADVERTISING PROMOTION

CREAKERS CROSSWORD!

Can you work out which words from the book are in this puzzle?

Answers
on page
56



ACROSS

- 2 The Creakers illustrator (5, 7)
- 5 A noise people make when they're feeling grumpy. Pigs do it too (5)
- 7 What's Lucy wearing on her head? (7)
- 8 They could be living under your bed (8)
- 9 Feeling itchy? Then have a good _____ (7)

DOWN

- 1 What you may do when you have a cold or are upset (5)
- 3 Yucky (10)
- 4 Hero of this story (4)
- 6 Author of *The Christamasaurus* (3, 7)
- 7 Another name for a fart (4)

DRAW YOUR OWN CREAKER!

Felt-tips out, gang! Because it's time for you to create your own Creaker. Draw it in the space below and don't forget to give it a rot-some name and some rancid ratings, like the ones on the left. Will yours be spiky, slimy or smelly?!



Name: _____
Messiness: _____
Scariness: _____
Smelliness: _____
Icky-stickiness: _____

THINGS THAT HIDE UNDER THE BED!

Meet some fascinating wild beasties that creep while you sleep...



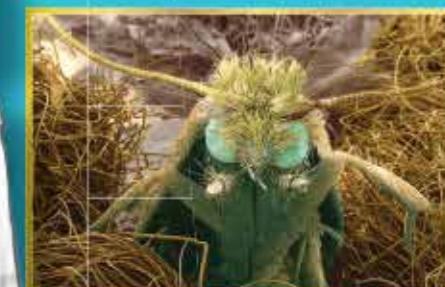
Cardinal spider

This awesome arachnid is the largest species of spider found in the UK – its legspan can be over 12cm! But don't let it frighten you. The super spider, found in homes around southern England, is an amazing natural pest controller, chomping on loads of insects each year. Yay!



Dust mite

Less than 0.5mm in length, this tiny chap has survived on Earth for more than 20 million years. Wow! Feeding on dead skin that's fallen onto carpets and furniture, its poo contains chemicals that some people are allergic to – so get the vacuum cleaner out and suck up this nifty nibbler!

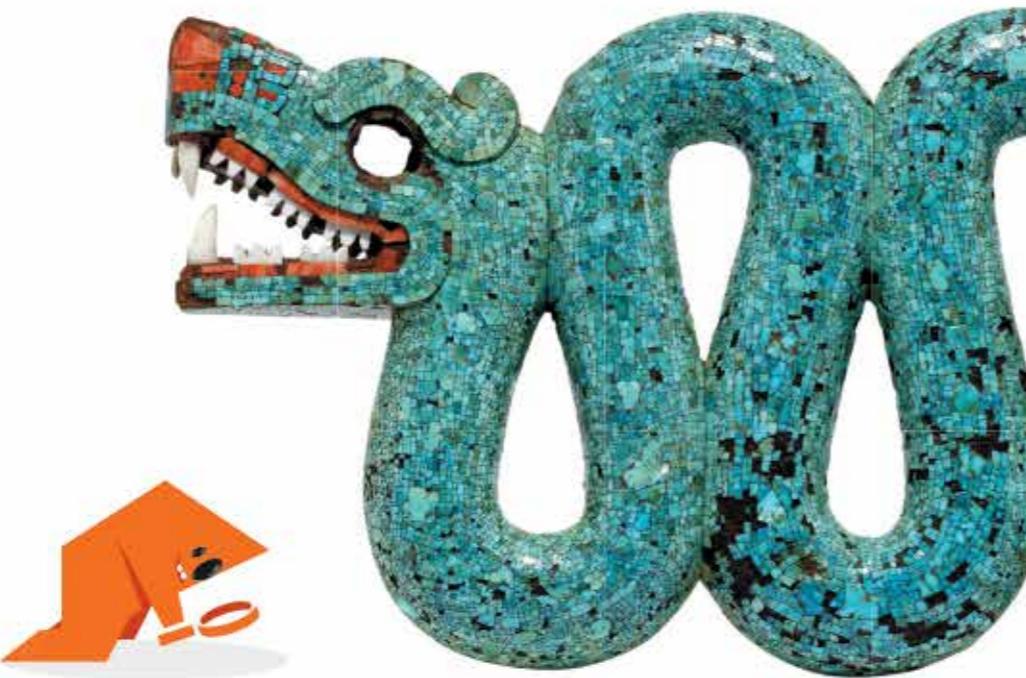


Common clothes moth

This mischievous moth lives in dark attics, wardrobes and carpets in homes around the UK – its larvae eat the keratin found in natural fibres such as wool and silk. Yum! They love warmth, and find sweat and food stains extra tasty – so turn radiators off in empty rooms and wash your clothes!

Discover the world together at the British Museum!

Make the most of your visit
with our digital guide for families.



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KINGFISHER







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KIDS



**Do you know
someone
who loves
orcas?**

From £4
a month

Adopting an orca helps protect their future...

Orcas are amazing but too many are dying. Poisoned by polluted seas. Accidentally caught in fishing nets. Some are even taken into captivity. **By adopting an orca with Whale and Dolphin Conservation you can help us give orcas the protection they need to survive.** Your support will help us protect them from activities such as industrial development, fish farming,

logging and pollution. We'll send you your very own adoption pack, including, a personalised certificate with a picture of your orca, a set of fun stickers and a colourful WDC badge. We'll keep you up-to-date on their daily lives through a great quarterly magazine, a monthly e-newsletter and you'll receive an email birthday and Christmas card.

You can adopt:



Bend

Bend was a surprise from the time she was born. No one had ever seen an orca quite like her. On the front edge of her dorsal fin was a deep cut and it grew lopsided taking on a comical look. She became a mother for the first time in 2013.



Fife

Fife was born in 1992 and is the younger brother of Corky. Tragically, Fife has never met his sister as she has been held in captivity by SeaWorld since 1987. He is quite a character, extremely handsome and gaining stature within his community.



To find out more visit adoptawhale.com

ADVERTISING PROMOTION

THE ROYAL RABBITS OF LONDON

ESCAPE FROM THE TOWER

Watch out, world! It's time for a wild new Royal Rabbits' adventure...

Shylo Tawny-Tail is proud to call himself one of the Royal Rabbits of London, a secret society who live under Buckingham Palace, battling baddies around the world.

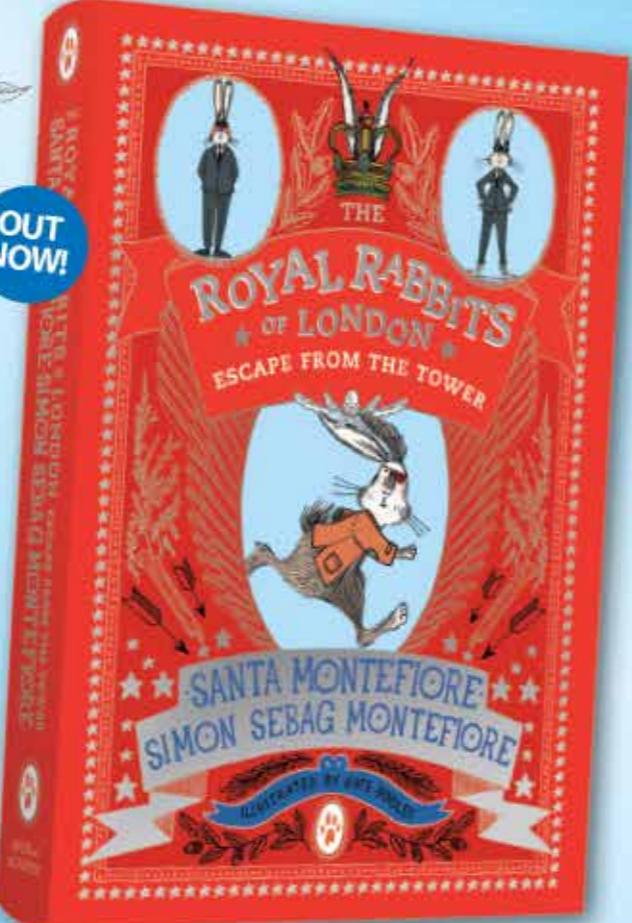
Across the River Thames, high up in London's famous skyscraper The Shard, the evil Ratzis are plotting to cause chaos during a visit from the President of the United States. And when Shylo is kidnapped following an attack on the Royal Rabbits' Grand Burrow, it looks as



though they might just manage it! Can Shylo escape in time to save the day? Anything in the world is possible, as long as you have will, luck, a moist carrot, a wet nose and a slice of mad courage!

Escape from the Tower is the second book in the exciting series from writers Santa Montefiore and Simon Sebag Montefiore, and awesome illustrator Kate Hindley.

It's gnaw-some!



OUT NOW!

BATTLE OF THE BUILDINGS!

In the book, the Royal Rabbits' Grand Burrow is hidden underneath London's most famous home, Buckingham Palace. Their enemies, the Ratzis, are held up in The Shard. Check out these four phenomenal facts about both brilliant buildings...

THE PALACE!

1 Buckingham Palace has a whopping 775 rooms – including 240 bedrooms, 78 bathrooms, a cinema, swimming pool, post office and police station!

2 Home to the Queen, the palace has the largest private garden in London – four times the size of Wembley Stadium!

3 Buckingham Palace contains 350 clocks and watches! Two full-time staff are paid to wind them up each week. What a job!

4 There really are tunnels hidden underneath Buckingham Palace! It's rumoured that the royal warren extends all the way to the Houses of Parliament.



THE SHARD!

1 Towering 309.6m over London, The Shard is the tallest building in the UK. On a clear day, you can see the sea from the top. Whoa!

2 The skyscraper's exterior is made out of a whopping 11,000 panels of glass – enough to cover eight football pitches!

3 The Shard's lifts travel at six metres per second or nearly 21 kmph. Hold tight!

4 In 2011, construction workers found a fox living on the building's 72nd floor! Named Romeo, it's thought it had survived by eating scraps of food left behind by the builders. Wow!



DID YOU KNOW...?

Rabbits were first introduced to Britain by the Romans. Today, more than 38 million of them live in the wild in Britain!



For more furry fun, hop over to theroyalrabbitsoflondon.co.uk

GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS



You's lashes are enormous!

LOOOOOONG LASHES!



Ever had a tiny eyelash in your eye that you can't quite fish out? Well, that's one thing this lady doesn't have to worry about, because You Jinxia has the longest eyelashes in the world! Measured back in June 2016 in Jiangsu, China, her lengthiest lashes dangle from her left upper lid, growing to an incredible 12.4cm. Eww!



Try getting your teeth into this tasty treat!

DOUGH MY GOSH!



Here's a snack sure to fill you up – it's the world's largest pretzel! Made in October 2015 by a company called Industrias La Constancia in El Salvador, Central America, the super-sized snack measured 8.93m long, 4.06m wide and weighed almost 784kg – that's as heavy as a cow! Wonder how long it took to eat?!



MOVE OVER, GREEN GOBLIN!

HOVERBOARD HERO!



Meet superhero Franky Zapata! OK, he might not actually have superpowers, but in April 2016 he soared through the sky and smashed a world record. Pow! Franky took the title for the farthest flight on a hoverboard when he travelled over 2.2km on his jet-powered device off the coast of Sausset-les-Pins in France. Air-mazing!

Information provided by GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS 2018

SONORAN SUNRISE

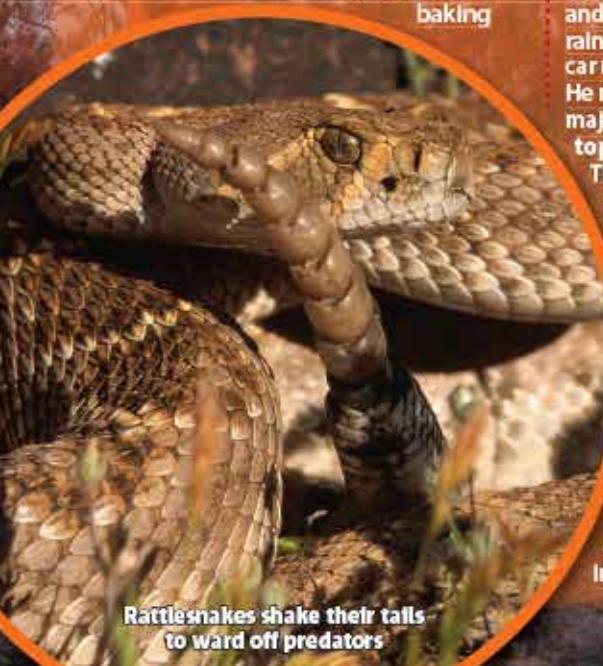
Join us as we travel to Arizona in the USA to see some cool cacti in the hot, hot desert!

We picked a toasty time to visit – it's July, and Arizona is right in the middle of an almighty heat wave! The temperatures are so extreme (up to 48°C) that some planes have been unable to take off, and brave fire crews have been battling wildfires across Arizona and all over western USA.

To beat the heat, we're visiting Saguaro National Park at 5am, before the temperatures get dangerously high. "We recommend that visitors complete their outdoor activities by 9am," explains Park Ranger Cam Juarez, as we trek through the dusty landscape. This protected park is in the vast 260,000km² Sonoran Desert, which stretches across southwestern USA and into Mexico.

It's Ranger Cam!
Cacti have a surprising way of keeping cool, too – their spines! Not only do the spikes provide protection, they also cast slender shadows, keeping the surface shaded. Of the 25 types of cacti that grow in the Sonoran Desert, the most famous is the mighty saguaro (say 'sa-war-oh'), which the park is named after (see main pic). These giant green columns tower over us, their 'arms' held aloft as if they're waving! The tallest can grow 16 metres, and they weigh up to ten tonnes during the rainy season – so don't park your car next to one!" laughs Cam. He might be joking, but these majestic plants do occasionally topple over in strong winds. That's because their roots – which stretch out as far as the cacti are tall – are remarkably shallow, just 10-15cm in depth!

KEEPING COOL
"Listen for rattling sounds and keep scanning the ground," warns Cam. "This is about the time that the rattlesnakes start slithering back to their underground burrows – it's too hot for them in the day." To avoid the baking



Rattlesnakes shake their tails to ward off predators



temperatures many desert animals, such as scorpions or tarantulas, are nocturnal, and others, such as snakes and rodents, are only active in the early morning or late evening when it's cooler. Black-tailed jackrabbits, who are out and about all day, have huge ears which help disperse heat (see bottom), and Harris's antelope squirrels hold their tails above their heads for shade. Clever!

COLOSSAL CACTI

Cacti have a surprising way of keeping cool, too – their spines! Not only do the spikes provide protection, they also cast slender shadows, keeping the surface shaded. Of the 25 types of cacti that grow in the Sonoran Desert, the most famous is the mighty saguaro (say 'sa-war-oh'), which the park is named after (see main pic). These giant green columns tower over us, their 'arms' held aloft as if they're waving! The tallest can grow 16 metres, and they weigh up to ten tonnes during the rainy season – so don't park your car next to one!" laughs Cam. He might be joking, but these majestic plants do occasionally topple over in strong winds. That's because their roots – which stretch out as far as the cacti are tall – are remarkably shallow, just 10-15cm in depth!

SAGUARO HOTELS

Gazing up at the saguaros, we notice little birds darting in and out of holes in their sides. "Gila woodpeckers peck nests into the cactus flesh", explains Cam. "A kind of 'scab' forms on the inside, which stops the cactus oozing liquid and creates a dry, insulated cavity." Once the original



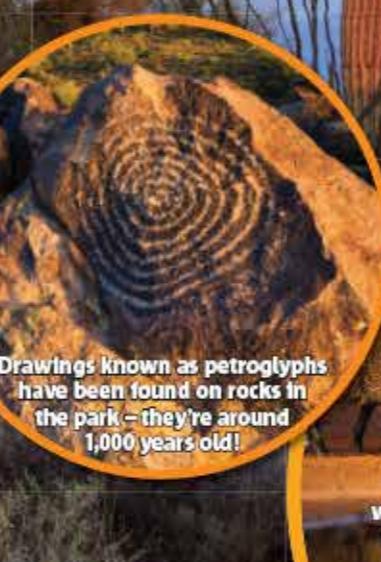
Jackrabbits' ginormous ears help keep them cool!

Accordion-like pleats expand when it rains, so the cactus can swell up and hold more water!

The Sonoran desert has a short, summer rainy season with violent thunderstorms. It even snows sometimes!

Extreme temperatures, such as frost, can cause cactus arms to flex and bend downwards.

Saguaro cacti can live for up to 200 years! Their 'arms' don't appear until they're at least 75.



Drawings known as petroglyphs have been found on rocks in the park – they're around 1,000 years old!



Javelinas (say 'have-a-leenas') look like wild boars. They love to eat prickly pear cacti, but will also scoff dead lizards and rodents!

Turn over to meet some more amazing animals from the Sonoran Desert...



AWESOME ANIMALS OF ARIZONA!

Meet five freakishly ferocious species from the Sonoran Desert...

ROADRUNNER

"Forget snakes and scorpions – I'd say this little bird is one of the most vicious, cold-blooded killers in the Sonoran Desert!" marvels **Ranger B**. He's a ranger at **Usery Mountain Regional Park**, one of Arizona's many protected parks, and he knows a thing or two about the species here! The super-speedy bird, Ranger B explains, can run along the ground at up to **30kmph** – outrunning most humans – and it has top **hunting skills**, too. "If it sees prey, such as a **rattlesnake**, it quickly grabs it, then smashes the head against the ground to kill it," he says. "I've even seen roadrunners **carrying** dead prey around all day in their mouths like a **packed lunch**. They take chunks when they're feeling peckish." Nom!



GRASSHOPPER MOUSE

Meet another surprising Arizona assassin – the **grasshopper mouse**! This 12-16-cm-long rodent might look cute, but it's a fearsome and aggressive hunter. As well as eating other mice and stealing their burrows, this fury fighter can take down terrifying **tarantulas** and scary **scorpions** with ease. Scientists think it could even be immune to a scorpion's sting! But the coolest thing about this creature? It will often throw its head back, stand on its hind legs and **howl**, just like a wolf. Wow!

MARICOPA HARVESTER ANT

"Did you know the **most venomous creature** in the state of Arizona is actually an ant?" asks Ranger B. "The **Maricopa harvester ant** is 65 times more toxic than the **diamondback rattlesnake**. But luckily, it delivers thousands of times **less venom per bite** than the reptile! Drop for drop, though, this ant is the most toxic insect in the entire world!" Its **bee-like stinger** can inject victims repeatedly, too. The venom is mainly for defence, however, and the ant mostly eats **seeds**!



GILA* MONSTER

(*Say 'heela') It might be the **biggest lizard** in the USA but this 60-cm pink and black venomous monster is tough to spot! "That's because the **Gila monster** spends around **95% of its life** underground in **burrows**," explains Ranger B. "It **hibernates** through the winter, but during summer it hunts for **eggs, baby birds and rodents** in the morning and evening to avoid the scorching midday sun. The Gila monster doesn't have to eat very often, though, because it **stores fat** from its food in its **chunky tail**." Clever!



REGAL HORNED LIZARD

To avoid being gobbed by desert predators, such as **hawks** and **coyotes**, the **regal horned lizard** can keep remarkably still, camouflaging itself against the desert floor. But if that doesn't work, the bonkers beast has another, horrifying, trick up its sleeve... it **squirts blood** at its attackers – from **its eyes**! The foul-tasting red liquid shoots for up to a metre, and is usually enough to make a predator scamper off in disgust. We're not surprised!

Postcards from ARIZONA!



TOMBSTONE
THE TOWN TOO TOUGH TO DIE

Howdy, pardners! Today we travelled to the historic 'Wild West' town of Tombstone, whose dusty main street looks like the set of a cowboy movie! After the discovery of silver here in 1877, thousands of people arrived to seek their fortune in the mines. But it was a tough life, with lots of violence and crime. In fact, the oldest surviving building, The Bird Cage Theatre, still has 140 bullet holes in the walls! One of the most famous shootouts ever had a film made about it, called *Gunfight at the O.K. Corral*. We watched a re-enactment of the fight, with 30 shots fired in 30 seconds. You'll be relieved to know the bullets weren't real!

Love, NG KIDS

THE GRAND CANYON

Colorado River!

Greetings from one of the seven wonders of the natural world - the Grand Canyon! We peered way down to the bottom of this immense canyon, and could just spot the Colorado River. Over two billion years, its waters have slowly carved out the 1.6-km-deep crevice, revealing different layers of rock from the Earth's history.

Today it's a popular spot

for visitors - over six million tourists visit every year to hike, raft and snap selfies!

Wish you were here!

Nat Geo KIDS xxx

Archaeologists think people have been living near the Grand Canyon for around 10,000 years!

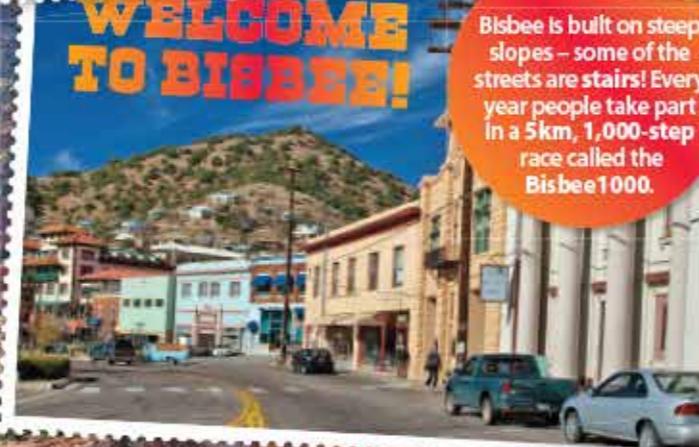
During our Arizona Adventure we stayed at the Loews Ventana Canyon Resort, Eldorado Suites Bisbee, Residence Inn Phoenix Mesa, Enchantment Resort, Holiday Inn Express Flagstaff and Arizona Grand Resort and Spa. With special thanks to Jon Donahue. For more information about Arizona, head to visitaz.com.

Check out more of the weird and wonderful places we visited on our terrific tour of the state...



Magic Kenny Bang Bang!

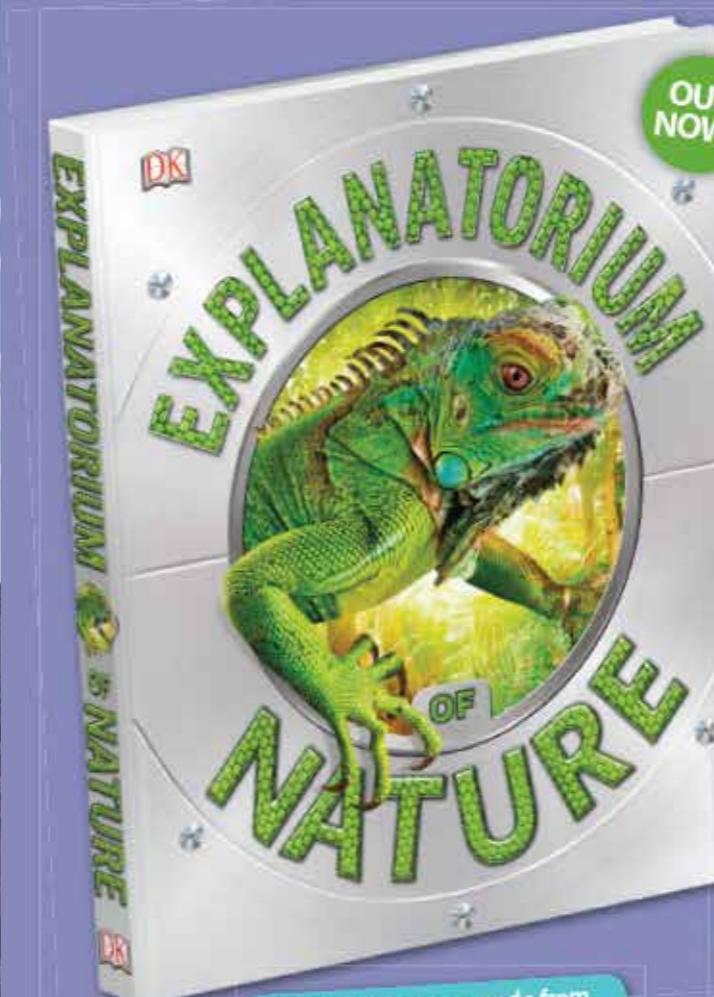
**WELCOME
TO BISBEE!**



Bisbee is built on steep slopes - some of the streets are stairs! Every year people take part in a 5km, 1,000-step race called the Bisbee1000.



Gunfights not your thing? Tombstone is also home to the world's biggest rosebush!



OUT NOW!

EXPLANATORIUM OF NATURE

Get ready to see the world as you've never seen it before with this wild new book!

From fruit to flowers, shells to sharks and ants to elephants, this extraordinary new encyclopedia is the perfect way to find out how everything in nature works.

Did you know that the sphinx moth caterpillar pretends to be a snake to scare off predators?

Or that houseflies have very blurry vision? Discover how sharks hunt, learn how ducks float, see how spiders spin webs, find out how flying works, and much, much more!

Investigating every aspect of the natural world using cross-sections and cool close-up photos, *Explanatorium of Nature* brings you face to face with nature's most fascinating creatures. It's mind boggling!



EAGLES

Spider silk is stronger and tougher than steel!



HERBIVORES

Scientists think the giraffe's tongue is bluey-black to protect it from sunburn as it eats!

Spot the difference

See if you can spot the eight differences between these two pictures of an iguana...

Answers on page 56



WIN!

Explanatorium encyclopedias!

We've got TEN copies of this brilliant book up for grabs. To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question...

- Q** SEM is a type of close-up photography. But what do the letters SEM stand for?
 - a** Scanning Electron Microscope
 - b** Stinkingly Enormous Microscope
 - c** Silly Elephantine Microscope

Enter on page 55

Find out more at dk.com

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS Junior Reporters' CLUB

IT'S YOUR PAGE!



The Junior Reporters' Club is YOUR page and we want to hear from YOU! Send your messages, reports, photos and pictures to kids@ngkids.co.uk



All togged up and ready to go!

Ronnie (right) and his friend Shaun had a ace day out on the 'Moon'!

BLAST OFF!

I went on a space adventure called Kids on the Moon at The Glades shopping centre in Bromley. When we arrived we got into our astronaut costumes and went on to a 'space shuttle' that took us to the 'Moon'. We then pretended we were in a dust storm and lay on the floor to avoid the dust. It was a really fun day and we learned lots of new things about space, the stars and the Moon!

Ronnie Humphreys, 7

• It sounds like you had an out-of-this-world day, Ronnie!

Quick question

This month, we ask NG KIDS readers...

What's your favourite thing about Bonfire Night?



Joe, 7
I love the toffee apples because they're so sweet!



Clodagh, 12
The fireworks - they're so pretty!



Adam, 6
Catherine wheels. They spin around but don't make you dizzy.



Ella, 13
Hot chocolate and sparklers. I can write my name in the air.



James, 9
Toasting marshmallows. They're yummy and I get warm by the fire.

Write to us!

Every reader on these pages will get a copy of the brilliant new *Weird But True Annual 2018*! Amaze your mates with the planet's wackiest facts and strangest true stories!

Post us a letter

NG KIDS, Third floor, 12–14 Berry Street, London, EC1V 0AU

Send us an email

kids@ngkids.co.uk

We're sorry, but we won't be able to return your art or photos.

Try to make your pictures as bright and colourful as you can.

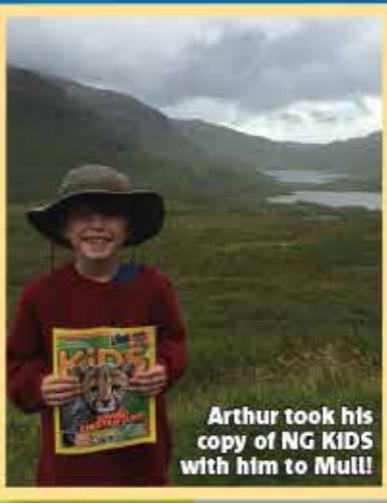


Available wherever books are sold

LOVELY LOCHS

We visited the Isle of Mull in Scotland. I spent lots of time exploring and trying to spot eagles, otters, seals, dolphins and whales! I enjoyed bird watching – even in the rain! Here I am at a famous landmark called the Three Lochs. See how low the clouds are! When I grow up I would love to be an explorer and live on a small island.

Arthur Green, 7
• What will you discover next, Arthur?!



Arthur took his copy of NG KIDS with him to Mull!

TINY TOURISTS

My daddy and I decided to see how far we could send my LEGO Minifigures around the world. The characters are Manny, Danny, Sammy, Cardo Charlotte and Mario, and we sent them on holiday with friends and people from daddy's work. We put the photos in scrap books. This summer they visited India, Belgium, Cyprus, Cephalonia, Hong Kong, Holland, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, USA and Gibraltar! So far they've been to 18 countries and spent 225 hours travelling 115,948km. I've learnt so much doing this project!

William Pugsley, 7
• Your project is very cool, William. It won't be long until they've seen the whole world!



While William has stayed at home in 'Mission Control'...



... his LEGO characters have visited the Grand Canyon in the USA...



... and even Singapore in Southeast Asia!

SUPER SWITZERLAND

My sisters and I went on our first alpine hike up Schynige Platte in Switzerland. We did a lot of reading about the Jungfrau mountain and were very excited! We then took a cog-wheel train up to the top. It was the most beautiful mountain we had ever seen! My sister Daisy even got to hold an Alpine horn. Then we looked at all the plants in the garden at the top. We felt on top of the world!

Lily Chambers, 8
• Wow! Bet the view from up there was amazing, Lily!



This horn is huge!



All aboard the mountain railway!



Tommy's a fun feline!

MISCHIEVOUS MOGGIE

I've got a cat called Tommy, he's black and white. He's four and from the RSPCA. He's very cheeky and poos in the bath if you don't clean out his litter tray! But he's really fun to cuddle.

Theo Sami Champion, 8
• Oh no! Hope no one's in it at the time, Theo!



Wildlife lovers Alexe (left), Chloe (far right) and their friends Alice and Flori!

CARING FOR CUTTLEFISH!

We were with our friends at Camber Sands in East Sussex and were lucky enough to find cuttlefish eggs on the beach. We looked after some of the eggs to watch them hatch and then put the babies back in the sea. If we hadn't found them the seagulls may have eaten them and they wouldn't have survived. We love searching for and looking after animals, and both want to be vets when we're older!

Alexe and Chloe Etienne, 8
• Cuttlefish are amazing, guys! Did you know that they can change their colour to hide from predators or attract mates?!



Seren got up close to some cool...



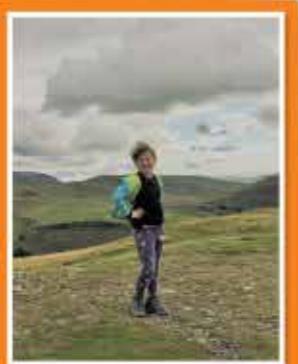
... creepy-crawlies!

I THE LAKE DISTRICT

Write in and tell us what YOU love!

"I visited the Lake District and went fell-walking. Here I am on top of Scafell Fell. I also visited the Pencil Museum in Keswick and saw the world's largest colouring pencil. It was HUGE, way too big to fit in a photo!"

Katie Pool, 8
• We love the Lake District, too, Katie!



A BUG'S LIFE

I went to the bug farm in St Davids, Pembrokeshire, in Wales. I saw lots of interesting insects and met Jasper the cockroach and Jessica the stick insect. I also went to the bug café – but didn't eat any bugs!

Seren Hopkins, 7
• Those insects you handled were enormous, Seren!

40
CHANCES
TO WIN!

Follow in Paddington's paw prints!

Paddington is happily settled with the Brown family in London, spreading joy (and marmalade!) wherever he goes. In new film *Paddington 2*, the famous bear is searching for a present to buy his Aunt Lucy for her 100th birthday when he sees a pop-up book in Mr. Gruber's shop. But when the pop-up book is stolen, it's up to Paddington to catch the thief!

To celebrate the film's release on 10 November, we're giving one winner the chance to explore Paddington's London! Visit Mr. Gruber's antiques shop, Portobello market, and the home of Paddington at Windsor Gardens, then head to Paddington Station to snap selfies with the Paddington statue. Cool!

One winner will get a Paddington Tour of London for their family, a night's luxury accommodation, up to £100 towards travel, plus a *Paddington 2* goody bag. Four runners-up will get goody bags!

- Q** Where is Paddington originally from?
a) Peru b) Portugal c) Poland
● Find out more at paddington.com

Prize is for two adults and two children under 12. Paddington Bear Tour of London lasts 2.5 hours and includes professional guide and transport by mini coach. Accommodation is one night in a family room at a four-star hotel in London.



Bounce off with King Pong prizes!

Can you conquer King Pong? This frantic game of speed, skill and sheer determination pits up to four players against each other in a bouncy battle to see who's best. Boing!

Each player gets a set of five coloured balls. The aim of the game is to get rid of them as quickly as you can by bouncing them into the plastic cube faster than your opponents. But be warned, the pyramid within the cube pings them back out into your tray almost as quickly.



The first player with no balls of any colour left slams their tray door shut and wins.

Twenty readers will win a King Pong game!

- Q** What's another name for ping pong?
a) Table tennis
b) Table football
c) Table cricket

● For more action-packed games visit drumondpark.com



Get building with K'NEX Thrill Rides!

Calling all adrenaline junkies! Now you can create your very own theme park with K'NEX Thrill Rides!

The Web Weaver rollercoaster (above) includes a glow-in-the-dark track and a motorised spider-themed coaster car. Once built, you can flip it between horizontal and vertical without stopping the cool car from zooming around the track!

With 559 pieces, the Lunar Launch rollercoaster (below) is a monster 1.2m tall once built. It has a stomp launcher mechanism, so you can send the coaster's car on an out-of-this-world trip around the space-themed track. Awesome!

The kits include full-colour building instructions, and you can visit knex.co.uk to download free alternate instructions which allow you to build both sets in two different ways!

Four lucky winners will claim both these cool coasters!

Q Can you unscramble these letters to reveal something you might eat at a theme park?

DANCY SLOFS

● Available from knex.co.uk and toy stores nationwide



PRIZE PLANET!

Enter on page 55 or online!
Just head to natgeokids.com



Land some sweet Lightseekers goodies!

Get ready for *Lightseekers*, an action and adventure role-playing game that connects smart action figures, accessories, augmented reality trading cards and more. Epic!

Download the game on to your mobile or tablet and play for free. Then, connect a smart action figure to take your gameplay to the next level. The 17-cm characters talk, vibrate and use different coloured lights to show levels, status, warn of danger and guide your gameplay. Attach weapons and use flight packs to turn your figure into a game controller, too. Woah!

Five winners will bag a **starter pack**, **weapon** and **flight pack**.

- Q** Like *Lightseekers*, which of these animals can change colour?
a) Giraffe b) Chameleon c) Badger

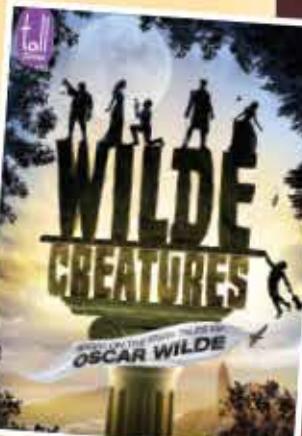
● Get the free game and find out more at lightseekers.com. Find *Lightseekers* toys and cards at Toysrus.co.uk and Amazon.co.uk

Bag Wilde Creatures theatre tickets!

Experience the magical mind of famous author, poet and playwright Oscar Wilde, as Tall Stories, the producers of *The Gruffalo*, present a sparkling new musical adventure – featuring hauntingly beautiful fairytales with a generous dash of comedy. Ace!

Brought to life by a live band of storytelling musicians, *Wilde Creatures* takes you on a fantastical journey through palaces, forests and beyond. Laugh along with characters from Oscar Wilde's classic children's fairy stories as they try to choose a new statue for the town square. Will it be the pompous Mayor, the arrogant Princess or the love-sick student?!

One star-prize winner will scoop a family ticket to see *Wilde Creatures* at the Vaudeville Theatre in London, plus £100 towards travel. Three runners-up will win a family ticket. Great!



Zoom away on a RazorX skateboard!

Get ready to be the coolest kid in town with the **RazorX Cruiser Electric Skateboard**! The Cruiser may look just like a normal skateboard, but its 125-watt motor zooms you along at up to 16kmph. Plus, it comes with an awesome wireless remote for super speed control. Gnarly!

The rechargeable battery provides up to 40 minutes of continuous ride time and a handy row of LED lights under the deck helps you keep track of your juice. Then simply charge it up so you're ready to roll next time. Ace!

Two winners will ride off with a **RazorX Cruiser Electric Skateboard**.



- Q** Which of these people is a famous skateboarder?
a) Eddie the Eagle
b) Jack Sparrow
c) Tony Hawk

● Available at argos.co.uk

Suitable for age 9+, always wear safety gear when riding, never use in a public place or near traffic and always read the manual before use.

Enter ALL comps on page 55!

Terms & Conditions: One reader will win a family ticket (four tickets, minimum one adult) to see *Wilde Creatures* at the Vaudeville Theatre, between 15-31 December 2017, subject to availability, plus £100 towards travel. Three runners-up will win a family ticket only. No cash alternative. Accommodation not included.

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Worth
£29.98

BRILLIANT BLOOMSBURY BOOKS!
The first 50 new subscribers this month will each receive these two fantastic books from Bloomsbury – Simon Holland's beautiful *The Picture Atlas*, which features stunning illustrations by Jill Calder, and the fascinating *The Story of Tutankhamun* by Patricia Cleveland-Peck and illustrator Isabel Greenberg.
In *The Picture Atlas*, take a trip around the world to discover the planet's natural wonders, historical artefacts, amazing animals, fascinating cultures and much more.
In *The Story of Tutankhamun*, join Howard Carter on his quest to uncover the hidden tomb of famous boy king Tutankhamun, then learn about our continued hunt to unearth and understand the riches of Ancient Egyptian life. Cool!
Available from bloomsbury.com/uk

Please note, subscription copies of Nat Geo Kids magazine do not include cover-mounted gifts but do include collectable fact cards.
*The first 50 people to subscribe to either the magazine, iPad edition or both will receive the above free gift, subject to availability.
Thereafter, all new subscribers to the magazine or iPad edition will receive one free, random stock gift. Offer ends 15 December 2017.

For full T&Cs please visit natgeokids.com

ADVERTISING PROMOTION

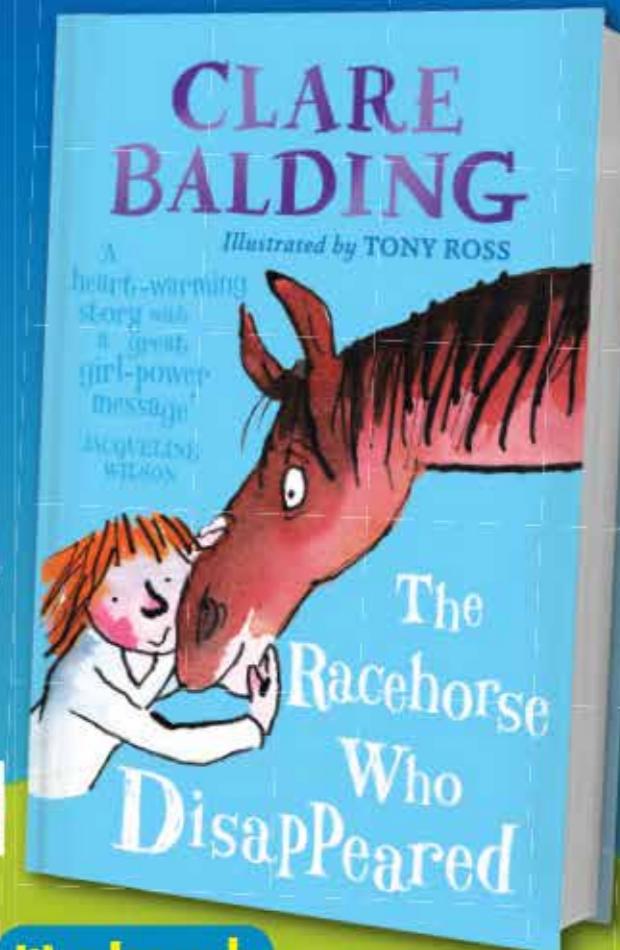
The Racehorse Who Disappeared

Where do you hide a stolen horse?
Find out in Clare Balding's galloping great new read!

Charlie Bass is a horse-mad ten-year-old. Her horse Noble Warrior won the derby and saved her family from financial ruin, but just as life is getting back to

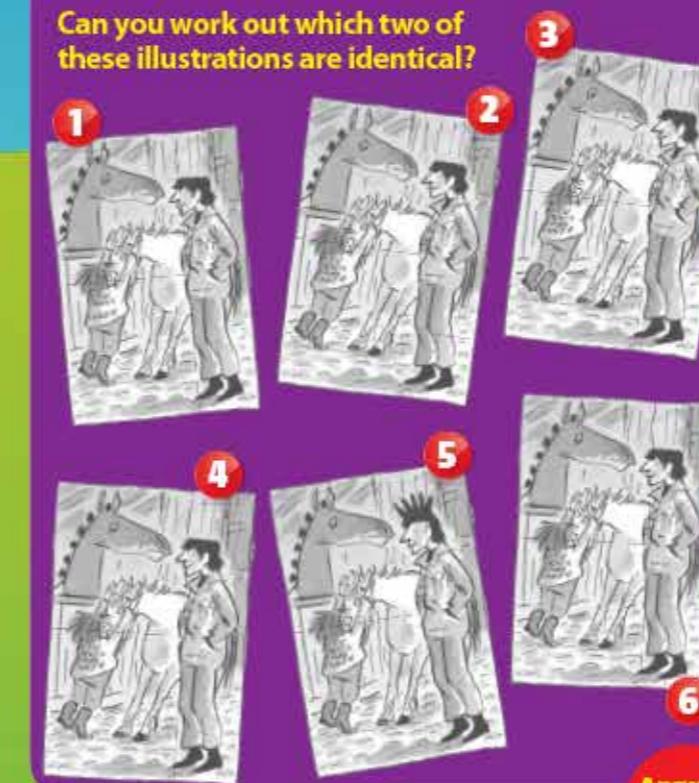
normal, Noble Warrior vanishes. The police are baffled. The clues are few. And if Charlie can't track down her beloved horse herself, she may never see him again...

Available at
TESCO
Every Little Helps



Noble match-up!

Can you work out which two of these illustrations are identical?



Wordsearch

Can you find all of these words from *The Racehorse Who Disappeared* in this grid?

- CHARLIE • DERBY • FOLLY FARM
- GALLOP • KIDNAP • NOBLE WARRIOR • POLICE

Y	M	L	K	Y	L	Y	X	R	S	D	N
S	K	L	G	U	J	E	P	P	O	O	X
U	E	Z	W	Y	X	P	F	P	B	N	Z
S	A	I	Y	Y	A	M	F	L	Z	H	I
H	I	S	L	N	U	U	E	P	N	M	U
F	Z	B	D	R	I	W	B	O	J	I	H
W	D	I	M	R	A	F	Y	L	L	O	F
V	K	U	Q	R	D	H	I	L	D	O	L
R	T	R	R	K	B	E	C	A	C	N	S
W	R	I	Y	C	Z	U	R	G	T	N	R
P	O	L	I	C	E	D	J	B	V	H	X
R	X	G	J	Y	E	M	V	L	Y	I	L

Answers
on page
56

5 fast horse facts!

- 1 Humans first domesticated horses about 4,000 years ago.
- 2 Horses can sleep lying down or trot within hours of being born.
- 3 A foal (baby horse) can trot within hours of being born.
- 4 The world's fastest horse was a young female called Winning Brew. She could run nearly 71kmph!
- 5 In 1983, a famous racehorse called Shergar really was kidnapped – sadly, he was never seen again.

Giddy up with this horse-some info...

BIRTHDAY BOY

What would it be like if your birthday was every day?
Find out in David Baddiel's hilarious new hardback book!

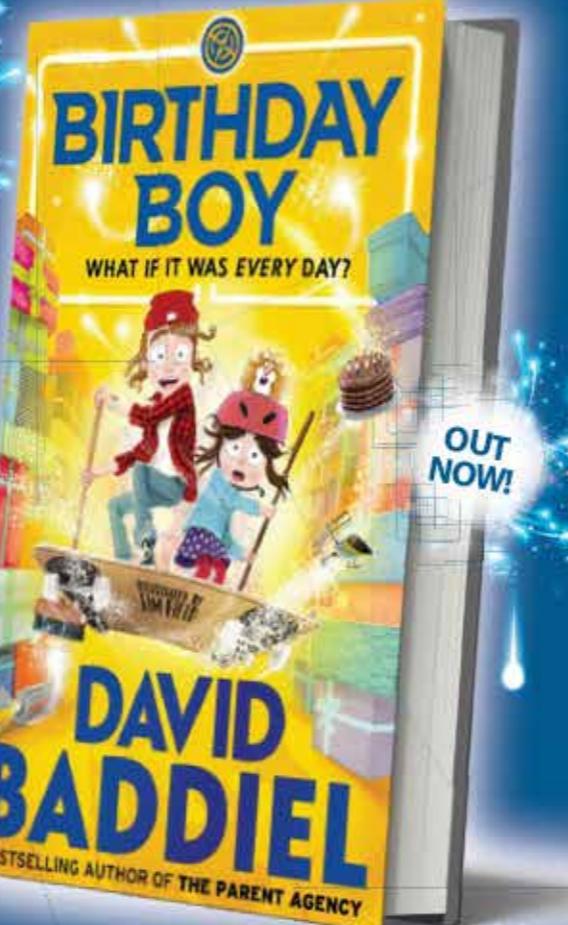
This is the story of Sam Green, who really, really, really loves birthdays.

He loves the special breakfasts in bed. The presents. The themed parties. Blowing out the candles on his cake. Everything.

Sam's so excited about his 11th birthday, he wishes it was his birthday every day. So, at first, he's

quite excited when he wakes up the next morning to discover it really is his birthday again! And again. And again. And again...

But it's not long before things start to go wrong. And soon, disaster strikes, threatening something Sam loves even more than birthdays. Sometimes you have to be careful what you wish for...

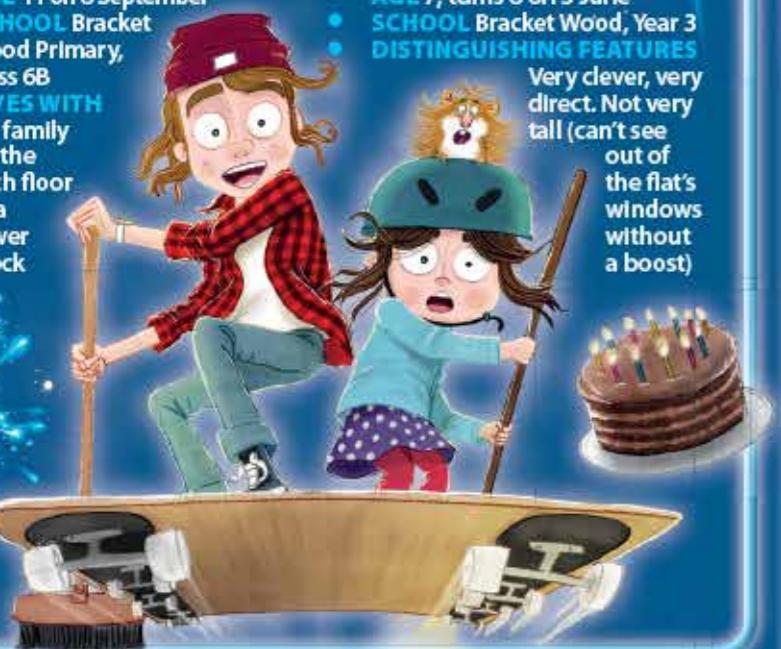


OUT NOW!

Meet the characters!

SAM GREEN
The birthday boy
AGE 11 on 8 September
SCHOOL Bracket Wood Primary, class 6B

LIVES WITH his family on the 17th floor of a tower block



- RUBY GREEN**
- Sam's younger sister
- AGE 7, turns 8 on 3 June
- SCHOOL Bracket Wood, Year 3
- DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Very clever, very direct. Not very tall (can't see out of the flat's windows without a boost)

Party puzzle!

Can you complete this wacky word sudoku so that every column, row and 3x3 box contains the letters of Sam's favourite word... BIRTHDAYS?

Answer on page 56

T	A	D		S	H
B	S	Y	T	H	R
H	I	B	A		Y
I	R	B		Y	H
D		I	B	H	Y
Y	S	A		T	I
A	D	R		B	T
B	T	Y	I	R	T
				B	A
				A	S
					D

WIN! Awesome David Baddiel book sets!

One lucky reader will scoop all four of David Baddiel's brilliant kids' books! To be in with a chance of celebrating yourself, just answer this question.

Q Unscramble these letters to reveal the word for an annual celebration... NERVYASRAIN



More brilliant blockbusters by Baddiel!

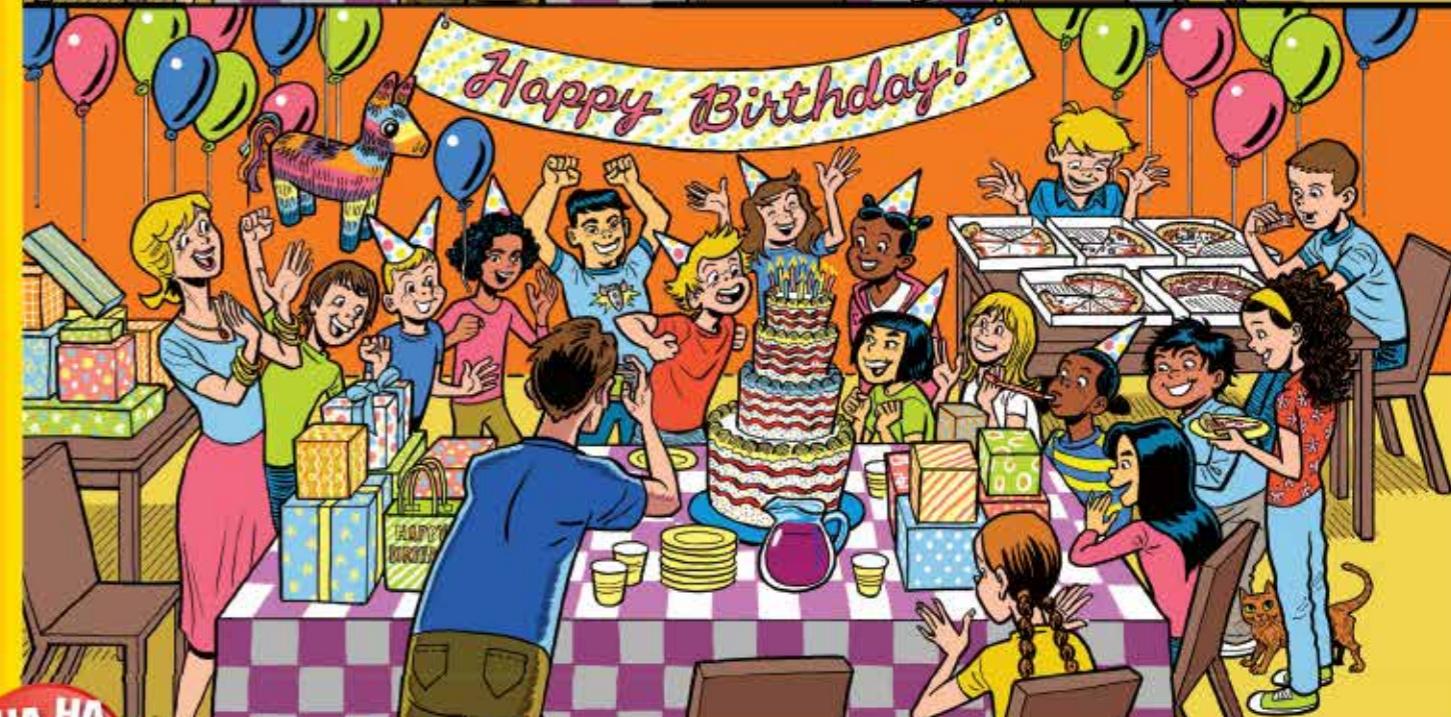


Find out more at booksbybaddiel.com

Fun stuff!

BIRTHDAY BASH!

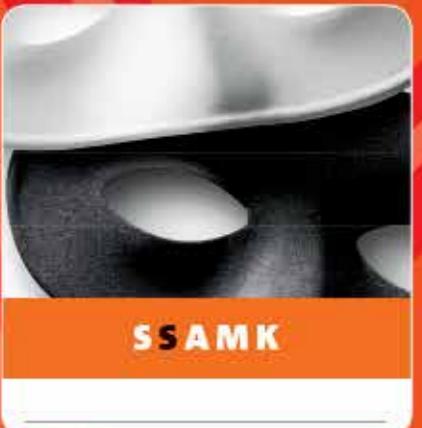
Puzzles, laughs and lots to do!



HA HA
JOKES!
HEE HEE

Q Why do you never go hungry in a desert? A Because of all the sand which is there!

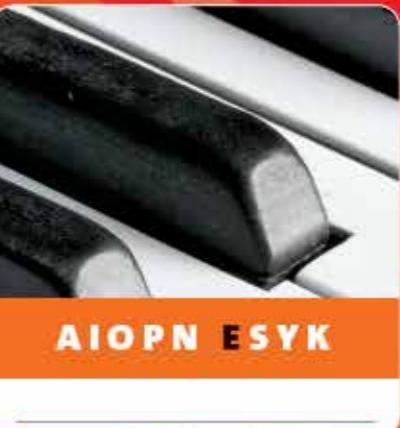
What in the WORLD?



SSAMK



ATC



AIOPN ESYK



SAERBZ



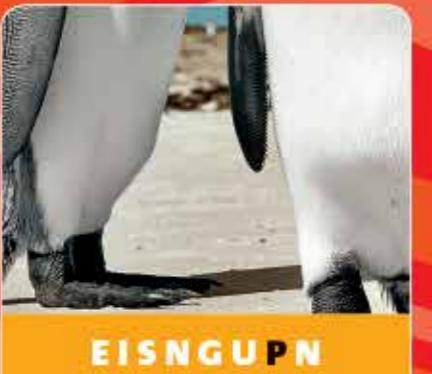
TFOALBLO



AGTN I NAAPD



RDRSOOSCW ZPELZU



EISNGUPN



OISNOMED

HINT : What's black and white and read all over?

ANSWER: E

- Q Did you hear about the two grumpy cacti? A They were a prickly pair! Q What do you get if you keep cows in a desert? A Evaporated milk! Q What did the woodpecker say to the cactus? A "You're lookin' sharp!"

BLACK-AND-WHITE

These photos show close-up views of things that are black-and-white. Unscramble the letters to identify what's in each picture. Bonus: Use the highlighted letters to answer the joke below.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 56

Funny FILL-IN

ALIEN INVASION

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



Halloween was finally here. I dressed as _____ man with a(n) _____ noun adjective article of clothing went as _____ Queen of the _____ body of water . We met up with _____ friend's name famous female mythical creature, plural body part, plural noun, plural on their heads and our friends, who were dressed as _____ . They had _____ . Plus, both of them had _____ . Had _____ their skin _____ colour . And had constructed a(n) _____ -looking _____ adjective type of transportation " _____ , the pair said – they had even made up a new language to go with their _____ noun, plural nonsense word ! Then they gave us a tour of their _____ . But when we _____ noun past-tense verb the vehicle, we were shocked to see our friends down the street. They were dressed as _____ , only with much same mythical creature, plural simpler costumes. _____ ! we said. Who were these creatures who'd given us the tour? We _____ exclamation looked behind us, but the creatures were gone. Suddenly something _____ adverb ending in -ly past-tense verb above us. Guess you could say Halloween was out of this world.

GRAMMAR TERMS!

- Noun – a person, place or thing
- Verb – an action word that describes what a person or thing does
- Adjective – a word that describes a noun
- Adverb – a word that describes a verb



Fun stuff! Make it

What you'll need

- Apples
- Bamboo sticks
- Milk chocolate
- Bowl
- Spoon
- Greaseproof paper
- Sprinkles



**Start
here!**



1 First, wash and dry the apples and pull the stalks off. Then push the bamboo sticks into the bottom.

Time to get messy!

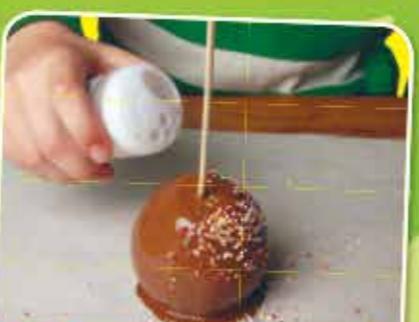
TOP TIP!
You could use a mix of white and milk chocolate for your apples to create a cool marble effect!



2 Next, break the chocolate into small pieces and place it in the bowl. Melt the chocolate in the microwave for 20-30 seconds at a time, stirring it each time until it's become a smooth paste.



3 Now, put greaseproof paper down on the table. Holding the apples by the sticks, dip them into the bowl and swirl them around to cover them in chocolate. Use a spoon to help you if needed.



4 Let the excess chocolate drip off into the bowl, then carefully place the apples on the greaseproof paper.

5 Finally, decorate your chocolate apples with sprinkles or finely chopped nuts, then leave to set. When they're totally dry, they're ready to munch... so tuck in!

Q What did the cops say when they arrested the saguaro cactus? A "Stick em' up!" Q What do you call a thirsty cactus? A Suck-ulent!

Winners will be chosen at random from correct entries. GOOD LUCK!

Now turn over and answer some easy questions!

Yummy chocolate apples!

This chocolate-covered fruit makes a great treat for Bonfire Night and beyond!

CHILLY CHALLENGES

The days may be getting colder, but you can still have some fun outdoor adventures! Check these ones out...

LEAF SAFARI

Grab your boots and take a trip into the woods to see how many different types of leaves you can spot. Gather them as you go and see if you can match them with the trees they've fallen from. Yay!



Head to the Woods!

Feathery fun!



FEED THE BIRDS

A garden bird feeder is easy-peasy to make! Simply cut a bagel in half (as if you were going to stick it in a toaster), spread it with peanut butter and roll it in bird seed. Then hang it from a tree with string and wait for the birds to feast!

GET SNAPPING!

Autumn is a great time for spotting wildlife. Why not take your camera into the woods or your garden and see what you can snap? You might see hedgehogs, bugs, birds or even badgers and foxes! Remember, to wrap up warm though!



Keep your eyes peeled!

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COMPETITION ENTRY COUPON

Just tick the orange box of any competitions you want to enter!

PAGE 10-11 CULTURE VULTURES!

Wonder Woman Blu-rays

Which of these countries does the Amazon river NOT run through? Brazil Colombia Mexico

Rock Dog DVDs!

Unscramble these letters to reveal a musical instrument... RUTGAI

National Pet Show tickets

Which of these is a breed of dog?

German farmer German shepherd German chef

Book bundles

Which of these women is known as the world's first computer programmer?

Ada Lovelace Amelia Earhart Michelle Obama

PAGE 12-13 SUPERSAURS

Supersaurs books!

Approximately how many years ago did dinosaurs die out?
65 65,000 65 million

PAGE 19 MURDER MOST UNLADYLIKE

The Murder Most Unladylike book series

Which of these is NOT another word for detective?
Sleuth Investigator Robber

PAGE 36 ROYAL RABBITS

Royal Rabbits books

Unscramble these letters to reveal a rabbit's home... WROUBR

PAGE 43 EXPLANATORIUM

Explanatorium of Nature encyclopedias

What do the letters SEM stand for? Scanning Electron Microscope
Stonkingly Enormous Microscope Silly Elephantine Microscope

PAGE 46-47 PRIZE PLANET!

Paddington 2

Where is Paddington originally from? Peru Portugal Poland

King Pong

What's another name for ping pong?

Table tennis Table football Table cricket

K'NEX Thrill Rides

Unscramble these letters to reveal something you might eat at a theme park... DANCY SLOFS

RazorX skateboard

Which of these people is a famous skateboarder?

Eddie the Eagle Jack Sparrow Tony Hawk

Wilde Creatures theatre tickets

Which of these was a famous Oscar Wilde book?

The Picture of Taylor Swift The Picture of Kim Kardashian

The Picture of Dorian Gray

Lightseekers goodies

Like Lightseekers, which of these animals can change colour?

Giraffe Chameleon Badger

PAGE 50 BIRTHDAY BOY

David Baddiel book sets

Unscramble these letters to reveal an annual celebration... NERVYASRAIN

Send us
your entries
by 15 November 2017

OVER TO YOU!

Your chance to tell us what you think

● What made you buy NG KiDS this month?

- If you subscribe, please tick this box
- Clever Chimps! 126 Prizes Inside!
- Baby Badger Rescue! How To Spot Fake News!
- Join Us On Our Arizona Adventure!

● What's the best thing in this issue of NG KiDS?

● What's your least-favourite thing in this issue?

● What animal would you most like to see on NG KiDS' cover?

● Now tell us why...

● What's your fave thing about the festive season?

● Now tell us why...

You must attach a photo of yourself for a chance of appearing on the Junior Reporters' Club pages!

● WRITE TO US!

Do YOU want to appear on our Junior Reporters' Club pages? Is there something you're passionate about? Then attach a letter about it to this form – or email it to us at kids@ngkids.co.uk – and we could print it in NG KiDS!

YOUR DETAILS!

Name _____ Date of birth _____

Address _____

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If you are under the age of 12, please ask a parent or guardian to complete this section:

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Parent/guardian's signature _____

I acknowledge my child's participation in entering these competitions and/or the reader survey.

Cut along the dotted line and send this entry coupon – plus a photo of yourself, if you like! – to:

NG KiDS Competitions November issue, Third Floor, 12-14 Berry Street, London, EC1V 0AU

Hurry – the closing date for entries is 15 November 2017!

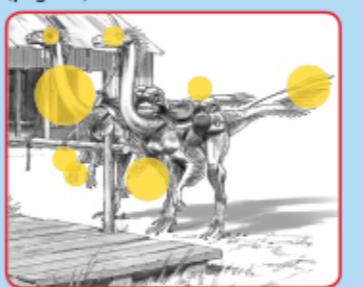
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Fun stuff!

Answers

SUPERSAUR SEARCH!

DEADLY DIFFERENCES!



CREAKERS CROSSWORD!



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



NOBLE MATCH-UP!

4 and 6 are the same

WORDSEARCH



PARTY PUZZLE



BIRTHDAY BASH!



WHAT IN THE WORLD

(page 52)
Top row: masks, cat, piano keys. Middle row: zebras, football, giant panda.
Bottom row: crossword puzzle, penguins, dominoes. Bonus: a newspaper.

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Cheetah
Lion

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7 surprising facts about **SPIDERS**

1 **Golden silk** orb-weaver spiders **vibrate their webs** to **distract predators.**

2 After a **large meal**, a tarantula may not eat for a month.

3 There are more than **40,000 species** of **spiders.**

4 The **oldest** known **spider fossils** are more than **300 million years old.**

5 A black widow spider's **venom** is stronger than a **rattlesnake's.**

6 A spider **eats** about **2,000 insects** a year.

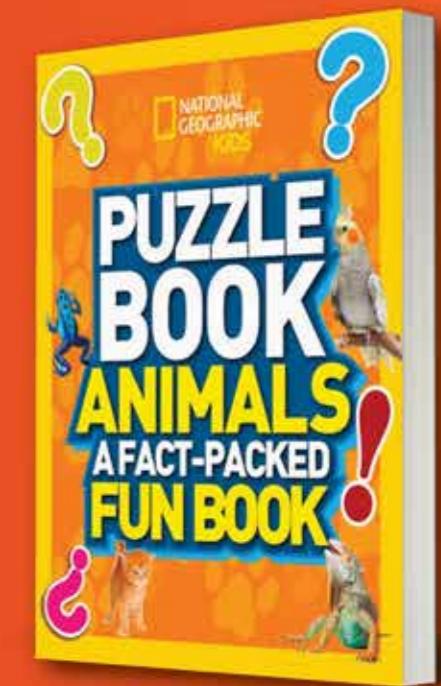
7 Crab spiders **change colour** to **blend in** with their surroundings.



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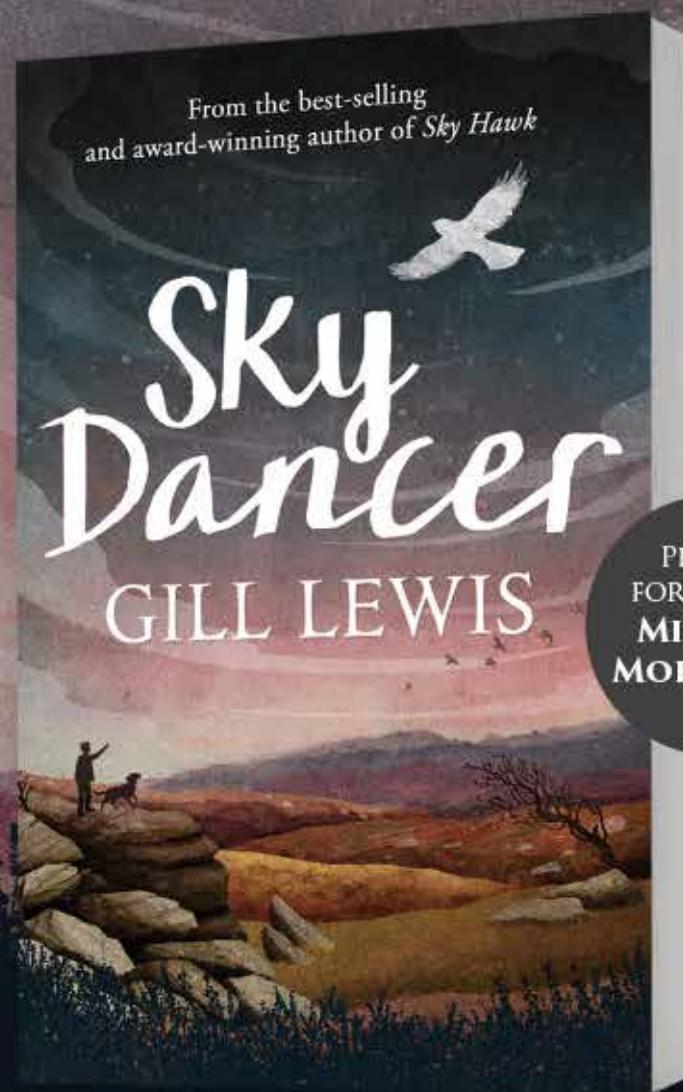


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