

animal planet™

KIDS

CELEBRATE
WORLD
ANIMAL
DAY!



WALK ON THE
WILD SIDE!

ALSO INSIDE... GIRAFFES ● TURTLES ● WOLVES ● GORILLAS ● SLOTHS

HOW SLOTH ARE YOU?

Circle your choices and add up your score!



Your nightly snooze is...

- 1 ————— 2 ————— 3 ————— 4 ————— 5
- Just a formality A power nap Relaxing Fave time of the day Ama-zzz-ing!

You suit the colour...

- 1 ————— 2 ————— 3 ————— 4 ————— 5
- Blue Yellow Brown Red Green

When you need to get things done, you're...

- 1 ————— 2 ————— 3 ————— 4 ————— 5
- Quick as a flash! Speedy! Not in a rush! Laidback, dude! Going to take a looong time!

Your favourite weather would be...

- 1 ————— 2 ————— 3 ————— 4 ————— 5
- Snowy Fresh and crisp Summery Rainy Hot & humid

Your ideal meal would involve...

- 1 ————— 2 ————— 3 ————— 4 ————— 5
- A classic roast dinner Steak and chips Mac & cheese Crunchy veggies Fruit salad

Fast & Fun 5-11

You're quite the life and soul – always on the go and living life at top speed! You're the one to lead the way and show everyone how to do things. It's not quite the laidback way of doing things, so you'll have to try to relax once in a while if you want to unleash your inner sloth!



In Training 12-18

You have the best of both worlds. Speedy when you need to be, but no stranger to kicking back and watching any drama from a safe and chilled-out distance! You're not at the stage of fully-fledged sloth, but you're giving it your best go – some extra naps and some lazy days could take you all the way!



Super-Sloth! 19-25

You've got this sloth life down to a T, and there's nothing you don't know about how to slow down and take things easy. You're a snooze-loving, fruit-munching, cool customer and we should all take a leaf out of your book and learn how to chill!





Hello animal lovers!

Welcome to another action-packed issue of *Animal Planet* magazine! It's Christmas! Well, not really. But it feels like it for us, because on October 4 it's World Animal Day! Come and celebrate animals with us on page 15.

Have you ever wondered what the difference between a turtle and a

tortoise is? Flip to page 10 to find out.

Dive into page 11 to see the incredible underwater world of shipwrecks and meet the creatures who call them home. before taking a dive to incredible shipwrecks and meeting the creatures who call them home.

Don't forget to join The Dolittles on page 30. This month, they come face to face with gorillas – yikes!

Happy exploring!

Meghan McCormack,
Editor

08

AWESOME GUINEA PIGS!



ALL ABOUT ME!

TRUE OR FALSE?

Cockroaches have three brains.



A. TRUE.

B. FALSE.

ANSWER: A

False – they have two! One in their skull and one in their abdomen.



20

JOIN THE WOLF PACK!

47

PYGMY FLYING MOUSE!



WATCH OUT, SUPERMAN!

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PLUS!

- NEWS
✓
- REVIEWS
✓
- POSTERS
✓
- PUZZLES
✓
- COMIC STRIPS
✓
- CRAFTS
✓

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YOU WON'T BEE-LIEVE THIS!

It seems incredible, but in California, bees are considered to be fish! Yes, you read that correctly – our fuzzy friends are given more protection by the state if they're classified as fish and not general invertebrates. In a quirk of language, invertebrates – organisms that don't possess a spine – don't receive the protection of the California Endangered Species Act, because

the term only covered mammals, reptiles, fish, amphibians, or plants. Not great news for our busy buzzers, which are vital pollinators. However, a California court recently ruled that the classification 'fish' would include invertebrates and just like that, the bumble bees, which are already facing serious decline, were protected.

PLANET



BIRD VACATION

Scientists were baffled recently when a wandering oystercatcher swapped the peace and tranquility of Orkney, for the bustle and smog of London. A satellite tag on the bird first tracked it from Ireland to Orkney, but the GPS device fell off on the island of Sanday.

It continued to transmit a signal when it started to move again, and began pinging locations from a campsite, a pizza restaurant and then a residential street in Ealing, London! Talk about touring!

It's thought the device was picked up by a tourist on Sanday, who then returned home to London. The device itself is worth about £1000, so a reward of £100 has been offered for its return. So while it's unlikely an oystercatcher has ordered a stuffed crust in a pizza diner in London, it just goes to show the power of GPS tracking for our migratory seabirds.



KEEPING YOU IN THE KNOW!



NEWS



FANCY SOME SPACE FOOD?

Humans are always dreaming of life in space, on another planet, and we've already tried growing plants – but what if we could 'grow' our own meat? Meat grown from cells isn't a new concept, but Israeli company

Aleph Farms is the first to try it in space. Their aim is to keep it sterile and to work out how to transport it up there whilst keeping costs down. You never know – maybe there will be a Fly-Thru burger joint for astronauts one day!

CAR CONUNDRUMS

Can cars ever be environmentally friendly? Scientists aren't convinced. In fact, they've declared that far from being climate friendly, electric vehicles are only a little less climate unfriendly than petrol and diesel cars! By the time we take into account the electricity used to charge them, the mining needed for battery components and pollution after battery disposal, they're not quite the pal of the planet we think! The solution? For now, we're being encouraged more and more to get on our bikes...



CHIMP-TASTIC DISPLAY!

London had a new look recently, when 28 chimps appeared overnight. They're part of a new exhibition by internationally-renowned artists **Gillie and Marc Schattner** in support of WWF-UK.

The Chimps Are Family exhibition was unveiled to coincide with May's World Endangered Species Day, and was designed to highlight the importance of chimpanzee conservation.



MAKE MINE A PAINT POT!

An incredible organisation based in Appalachian Ohio in the US is transforming mining pollution into vibrant pigments for paint. Rural Action had the aim of reducing pollution in the Appalachian waterways and hit upon a brilliant enterprise they've called True Pigments. Iron oxide is a toxic residue left behind from mining that has been running into water supplies. Water is collected, the acidity is neutralised, oxygen is added, and what's left is clean water that's passed back into the waterways and the separated iron oxide. It's ground down into pigment granules and then added to paint.





WHAT'S THE DEAL?

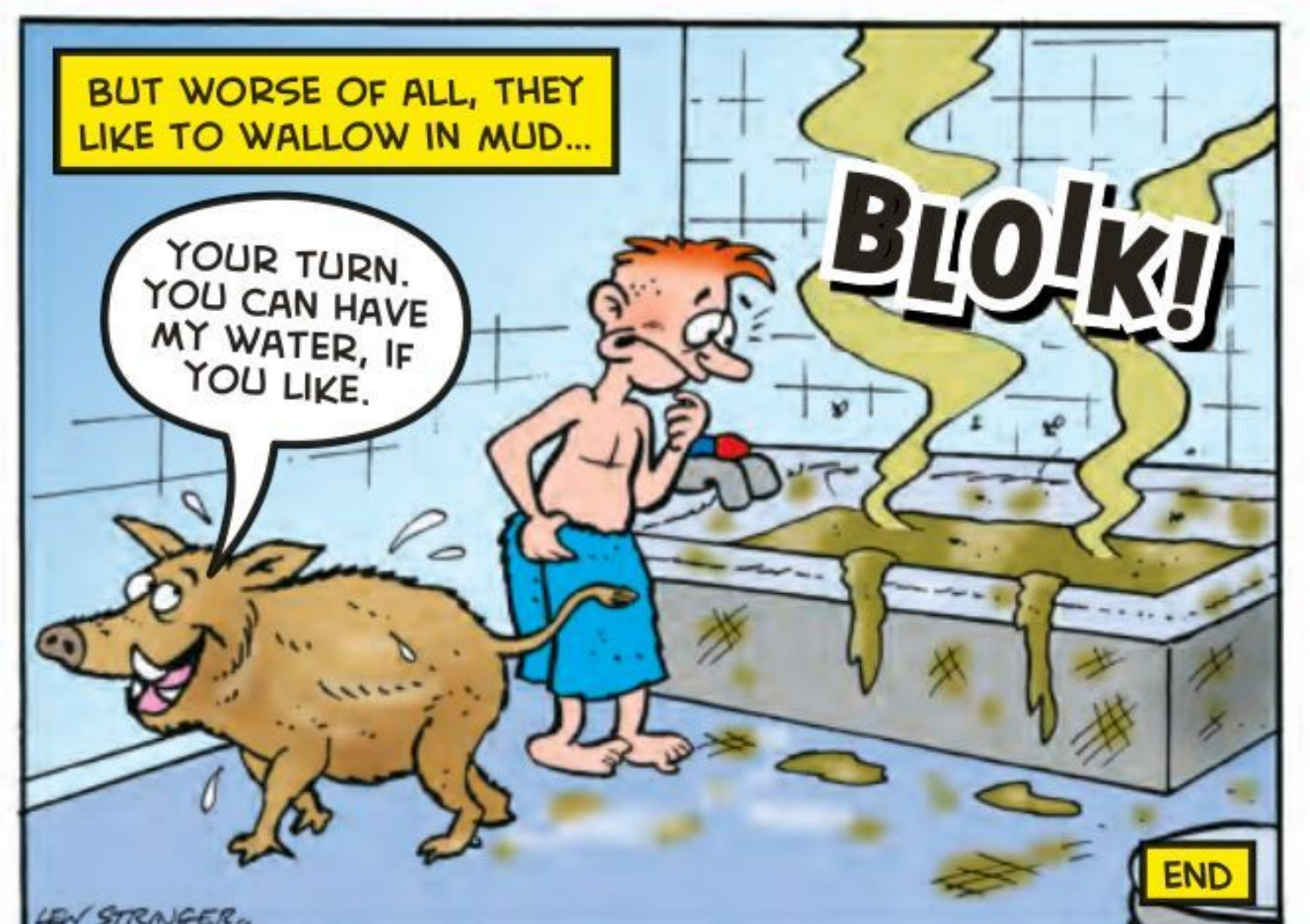
Did you know your favourite meal deal may be massively harmful to our planet? Believe it or not, there are some worrying statistics behind your sandwich, drink and crisps combo! Recent research has revealed that the carbon footprint of these tasty packed lunches is far worse than we

ever thought. Coming in as the biggest villain was the prawn mayo sandwich, with emissions matching those of a lightbulb that's on constantly for 343 hours! Not far behind was the humble ham and cheese – this equalled a lightbulb burning for 200 hours. Time to rethink lunch?



BAD PETS

WORDS: Nigel Auchterlounie
ART: Lew Stringer



SECRET LIFE OF PETS:

GUINEA PIG

This little piggy is the cutest pet rodent around!

TWO
GUINEAS
ARE BETTER
THAN ONE!

● Guinea pigs are social animals which is why they should always be kept in groups of two or more. In the wild, guinea pigs live in family groups of up to 10 and spend most of their day working together to find food.



● Peruvian guinea pigs have an impressive long coat that trails the ground and grows over its head to create a cute quiff. They need a lot of grooming and care to stop their coats from becoming tangled and matted.



S



YOU TALKING TO ME?!

TRUE OR FALSE?

Guinea pigs are very vocal.

● **TRUE!** They make all kinds of noises to show how they're feeling. Guinea pigs will purr, squeak or grunt when they feel happy and squeal when they're hungry, scared or want to be held close. When they get excited, guinea pigs make a 'wheeking' sound – a long squeal combined with a whistle.



Zzzzzzz



FAST FACTS!

- Guinea pigs are awake for up to 20 hours of the day.
- They have odd toes – four on each of their front feet and three on each of their back feet. This helps with burrowing!
- Guinea pigs will suddenly start leaping and hopping in a crazy little dance. This is called 'popcorning' because they look like corn popping in a hot pot!

DID YOU KNOW?

There are over 13 breeds of guinea pig, and each is as cute as the next! They come in a variety of colours and patterns. Some have short hair while others have long, glossy coats.

WILD FACT!

The guinea pig's natural habitat is the mountains of South America where the climate is harsh and predators like coyotes and hawks lie in wait.

TURTLE OR TORTOISE?



ARE YOU TURTLEY CONFUSED? HERE'S OUR CHEAT SHEET TO TELL THEM APART!

TURTLE

- Aquatic, spending most of their time in the water.
- They're like Olympic swimmers. Leatherback turtles can hit speeds of 22 miles per hour.
- Flipper-like feet with long claws to grab floating logs or climb riverbanks.
- Heart-shaped top shell.
- Live 20-40 years.

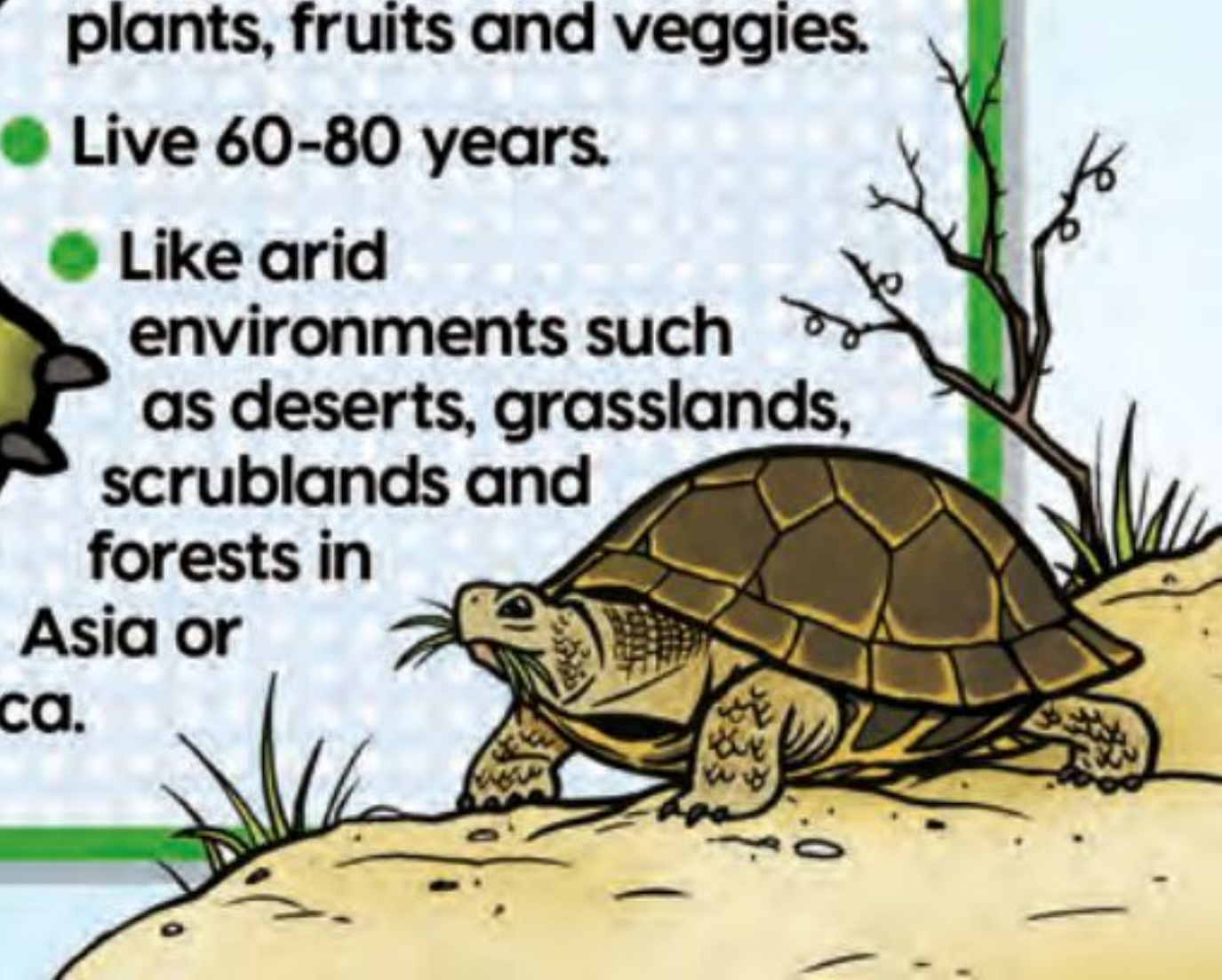
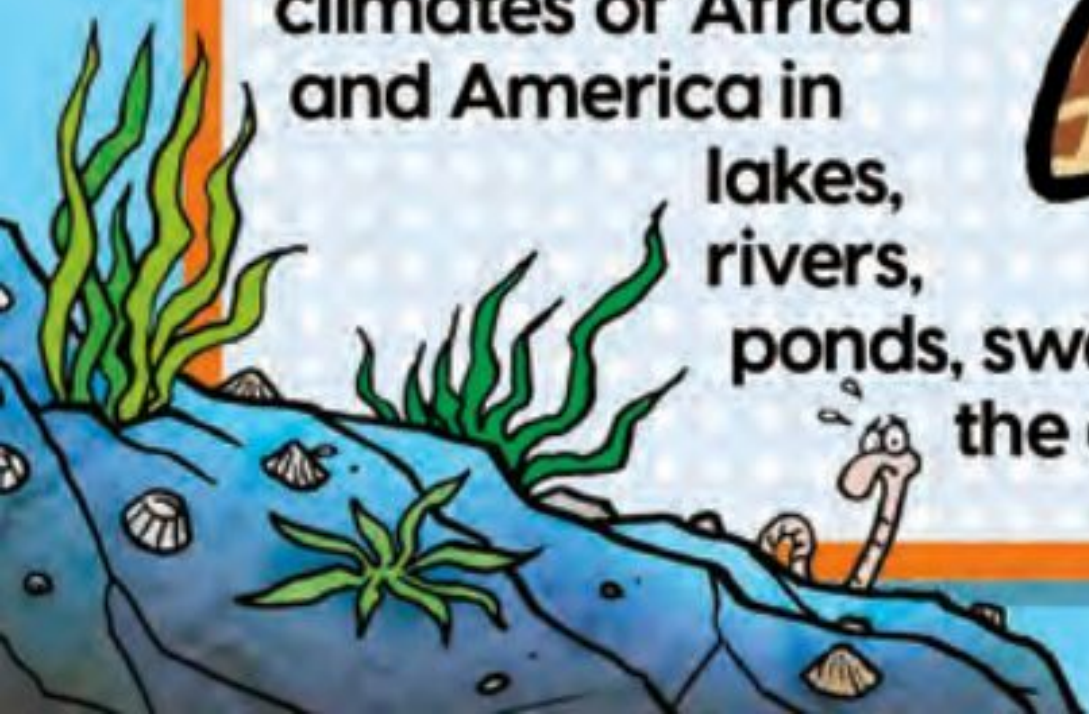
TORTOISE

- Live on land. They only go to water to drink or bathe.
- Can't swim. They'd drown if they fell into water higher than them.
- Short, stumpy, bent legs with horny, scaly toes that look like elephant feet.
- Egg-shaped top shell.
- Their shell is domed and very thick to protect them from predators.
- Never shed, their shell is constantly growing which is what gives it that layered look compared to a turtle.
- Can completely hide their head inside the shell.
- Herbivores – only eats plants, fruits and veggies.
- Live 60-80 years.
- Like arid environments such as deserts, grasslands, scrublands and forests in Asia or Africa.

DID YOU KNOW?

A tortoise is actually a type of turtle that lives on land!

- Most have flatter, streamlined shells to help them swim faster.
- Shed the layers on their shell to stay light so they don't sink. They sunbathe to flake them off or scrape them away using trees and rocks.
- Can only partially withdraw its head inside its shell.
- Omnivores – eating plants, fish, worms and jellyfish.
- Prefer the tropical climates of Africa and America in lakes, rivers, ponds, swamps, marshes and even the open sea.



SHIPWRECK CITY

Meet the underwater inhabitants who seek shelter in the shadows of a shipwreck!

SAND TIGER SHARK

● They may look ferocious, but tiger sharks rarely attack humans, except in self-defence. As the name suggests, sand tiger sharks like to swim close to the sandy floor of the ocean, searching the shallows for a bite to eat. They often gather in groups at shipwrecks and females will return to the same wreck again and again.



GOLIATH GROUPER

● Goliath groupers are underwater giants who like to stay close to craggy caves and shipwrecks. Despite their intimidating size, they're actually pretty relaxed. The largest groupers can grow up to 2.4 metres long – that's taller than a grown adult! The goliath grouper may look big enough to swallow a human whole, but they prefer to feast on large fish and even small sharks.

BARRACUDA

● These torpedo-shaped predators are super-speedy, darting through the warm shallow water with ease. Barracuda are attracted to shiny reflective things, so silvery flitting fish are top of the menu! Barracuda can often be found lurking at shipwrecks as they wait to strike an unsuspecting school of fish.



FRIENDS,
NOT FOOD!

CONGER EEL

● The biggest conger eels live out in deeper water and love to hide in the shadowy darkness of a shipwreck. Their strong jaws, filled with rows of razor-sharp teeth, and agile, snake-like bodies make them top predators. Conger eels are practically blind, so they rely on scent to hunt their prey.



ANIMALS BEHAV

THE WORLD'S FUNNIEST ANIMAL

SNAPPER SQUIRREL

This squirrel is taking nature photography to a whole new level...

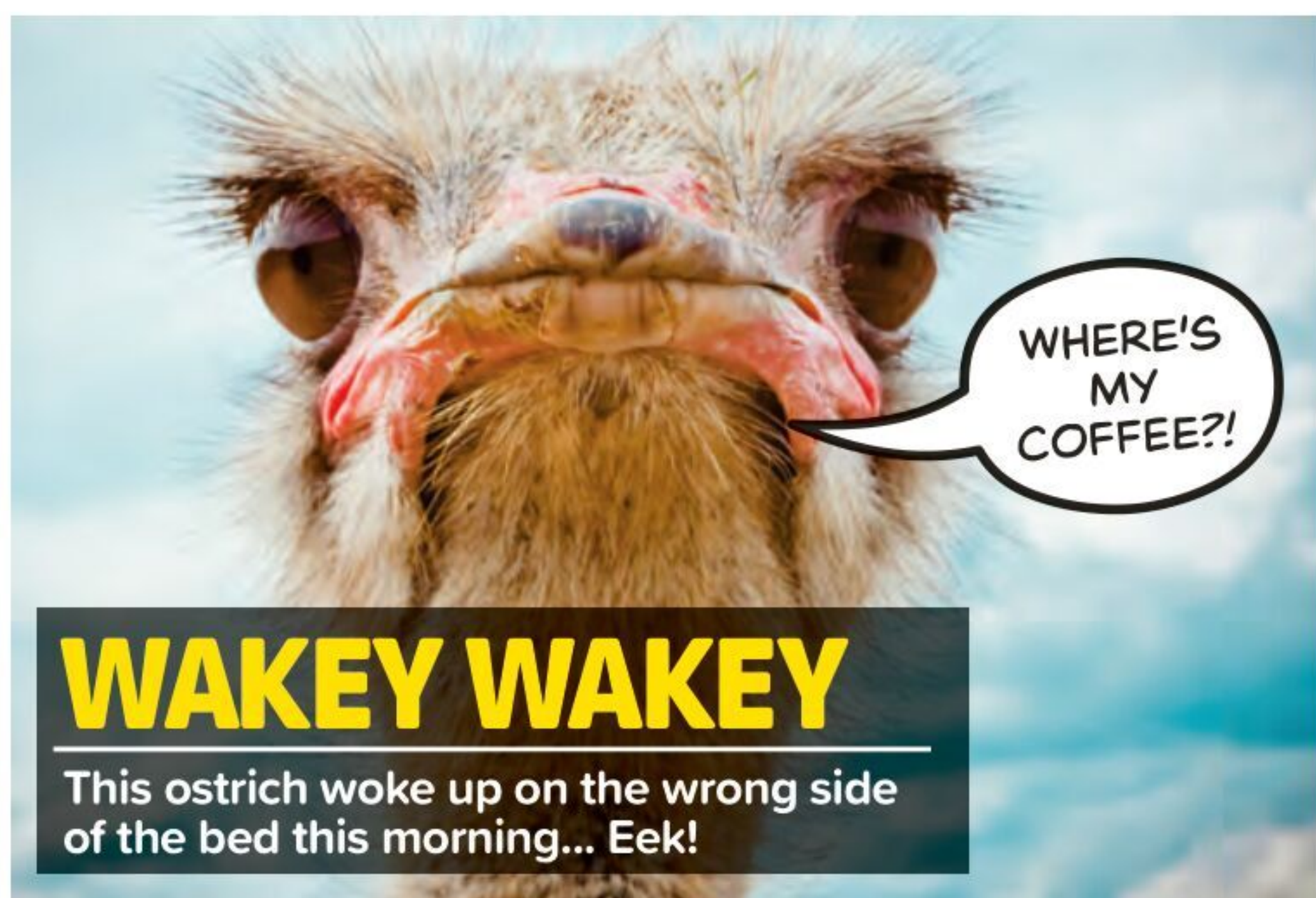
I'M READY FOR MY CLOSE UP!



WAKEY WAKEY

This ostrich woke up on the wrong side of the bed this morning... Eek!

WHERE'S MY COFFEE?!



MONKEY MINDER

Grabbing your little brother when your mum leaves you in charge for five minutes...

FREEDOM IS MINE!

NO, IT'S NOT.



BEST BUDDIES

When the teacher asks you to partner up with someone new for a task and you make a beeline for your bestie!...



...ING MADLY!

S CAUGHT ON CAMERA!



SAY WHAT?

When your friend tells you some gossip and you have to pretend you had NO idea... Even though you've known for weeks!



SNAIL SPEED!

Sports day turned into sports week...



TIGER TALES

Grabbing your sister when she tries to tell on you to your parents...



FEATHER FASHION!

This owl is strutting down the forest fashion week catwalk....

GIANT GIRAFFES

TRUE OR FALSE?

YOU'RE HAVING A GIRAFFE! CAN YOU TELL THE GIRAFFE FACTS FROM THE GIRAFFE FIBS?



1

Giraffes are the tallest living land mammals in the world.

TRUE
FALSE

2

They can be found roaming the jungles of South America.

TRUE
FALSE

3

A giraffe's diet is made up of plants, insects and fish.

TRUE
FALSE

4

Giraffe's tongues are red

TRUE
FALSE



5

A group of giraffes is known as a tower.

TRUE
FALSE

6

Male giraffes are called bulls.

TRUE
FALSE

7

Baby giraffes take weeks to walk.

TRUE
FALSE

8

A giraffe's patterned coat is as unique as our fingerprints.

TRUE
FALSE

9

An adult male can be three times as tall as a human.

TRUE
FALSE

10

Giraffes need to drink water every day.

TRUE
FALSE



ANSWERS: 1. True, 2. False - they live in the savanna of Africa, 3. False - they only eat plants, 4. False - they can be black, blue, or even purple in colour, 5. True, 6. True, 7. False - baby giraffes stand within 30 minutes, 8. True, 9. True, 10. False - they only need to drink once every few days.



WALK ON THE WILD SIDE!

● We think animals are always amazing, but every year on World Animal Day, humans across the globe celebrate a little extra! Let's join in this paw-some party!

MALAYAN TIGER

This incredible creature is the national animal of Malaysia, but is sadly critically endangered. It's listed as Totally Protected under the Wildlife Conservation Act and organisations such as the WWF are working with governments to increase patrols and find long-term, sustainable solutions to secure their habitat and future!



WORLD
ANIMAL
DAY

OCTOBER 4

● Okay – so we don't have time to celebrate them all, but we can tell you all about some special species that humans around the globe are working hard to protect!

TURN OVER FOR...

- FEEL-GOOD FACTS!
- ANIMAL ART!
- PAW-SOME PETS!
- FIND YOUR HAPPY HABITAT!

CELEBRATE CONSERVATION!

WHAT IS CONSERVATION?

Conservation means to protect and care for something, to ensure their survival!

● FACTS TO MAKE YOU FEEL GOOD!

TICK OFF ALL THE SPECIES YOU KNOW!



SIBERIAN TIGER



LOCATION: MOUNTAIN FORESTS OF ASIA

● In June, a Siberian tiger at the Hengdaohezi Feline Breeding Center in China gave birth to quadruplets! That's FOURsome news for this endangered species!

I'M MUM'S FAVOURITE!

NO I'M HER FAVOURITE!



DID YOU KNOW?

Siberian tigers are the largest cats in the world, and the only tiger that can survive in the snow!

SEA TURTLE



LOCATION: OCEANS ACROSS THE WORLD

● A nest containing 107 of the most at risk sea-turtle species in the world was recently discovered in Texas! Scientists are now looking after the rare Kemp's Ridley turtles, massively improving their chances of survival.



BURROWING PARROT



LOCATION: OPEN TERRAINS OF SOUTH AMERICA

● Just 35 years ago, these incredible creatures were on the brink of extinction. An intense conservation programme in Chile has been a huge success, seeing numbers rising from 217 in the 1980s to over 4000 today.

HONEY, I'M HOME!

DID YOU KNOW?

These parrots live in huge groups and - as their name suggests - nest in burrows!



PHAYRE'S LEAF MONKEY

LOCATION: FORESTS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA



● No, this monkey isn't wearing glasses! The Phayre's leaf monkey is one of China's most endangered wild animals, but after strong conservation efforts, the populations of this rare creature are steadily increasing, with more being spotted every year!

PANGOLIN

LOCATION: TROPICAL ASIA AND AFRICA

● Despite their scales, pangolins are actually mammals. Also known as 'scaly anteaters' they are sadly victims of illegal trade in Africa. Amazingly, African giant pouched rats (often nicknamed 'hero rats') are being trained to sniff out illegal pangolin shipments to help bust the illegal wildlife trade.



RATS TO THE RESCUE!

GOLDEN MANTELLA FROG

LOCATION: FORESTS OF AFRICA

● These tiny frogs, measuring up to just 3cm, are the second smallest in the world! In Madagascar, a huge community project is underway to protect these sensitive frogs from industry and pollution, with volunteers combing forests to find them before mines are built in their habitat. As of 2017, over 1500 of these frogs have been rescued, proving there's still HOP!



DID YOU KNOW?

Mantella frogs are often called the 'jewels of Madagascar' because of the beautiful colours of each variety.

WHITE-TAILED EAGLE

LOCATION: COASTLINES AND WATERWAYS OF EUROPE



CHECK THOSE CLAWS!

● White-tailed eagles became extinct in the UK in the 1800's, but scientists have been working hard to reintroduce them to the country! There are now more than 100 territorial pairs in Scotland alone, and the population is now considered to be self-sustaining!

ANIMAL ARTISTRY!

● Grab a pencil and draw your favourite animal!

Flip over to continue this party with the wild in your home!

● Tell us a fact about it!

Send your drawings to editor@animalplanetmagazine.com



10

REASONS WHY OUR PETS ARE AWESOME

LOCATION: HAPPY HOMES

● All animals should be invited to this party – and that includes our pets at home! Having a pet is hard work, but they make our lives SO much better!

1. HEALTH HELPERS!

Having a pet can make us happier and reduce stress – scientists have proved it!

2. UNCONDITIONAL FRIENDSHIP!

They're always there for a comforting hug! Even if we don't want to talk to other people, our pets are there to listen.

3. IMPROVED IMMUNITY!

Your pets bring in lots of different kinds of dirt and germs... which sounds scary, but is actually a good thing! Being introduced to these germs can raise your immunity to colds and other mild illnesses.

4. KEEPING ACTIVE!

Dogs need to be walked every day to stay fit and healthy, just like us! Even when we don't want to go out, it's hard to say no to a pair of puppy dog eyes!



5. FEELING SECURE!

If we're ever home alone or feeling anxious, a pet can help us feel much safer.

6. UNLIMITED ENTERTAINMENT!

We'll never get bored of watching our pets! Whether we're playing fetch or teaching them tricks, they're a joy to interact with. Even if you don't have one of your own, watching videos or pet-sitting for friends is just as entertaining!

7. CONFIDENCE BOOSTING!

Did you know that pets can even give us a confidence boost? Scientists think people who have close relationships with their pets have close relationships with humans too!



8. TEACHING RESPONSIBILITY!

From feeding and watering, walking, washing and playing with our pets, there's a lot to remember – it's a great way to learn more responsibility!

9. ALLERGY BUSTERS!

Research suggests that if you're exposed to animals early in life, you're less likely to have allergies as adults. It's really important to remember that this isn't the case if someone's allergic to the pets themselves though!



10. INSPIRING GREATNESS!

Pets can inspire us in amazing ways! Did you know that **Albert Einstein** would watch his cat **Tiger** as he worked through his theories?

HOW DOES YOUR PET INSPIRE YOU?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

HAPPY HABITAT!

● If you were an animal, where would you make your home?

1. Your favourite season is

- Autumn
- Summer
- Spring
- Winter

2. Your ideal holiday destination would have...

- Lots to explore!
- So much sunshine!
- Water sports!
- Lots of quiet time!

3. You would describe yourself as...

- Loud
- Independent
- Mysterious
- Brave

4. If you weren't human, you would be a...

- Mammal
- Fish
- Bird
- Reptile

5. Pick an active hobby

- Swimming
- Climbing
- Skiing
- Running

6. What weather are you most comfortable with?

- Hot and dry
- Wet and cold
- Warm and humid
- Dry and cold

7. Pick a drink

- Fruit juice
- Fizzy juice
- Water
- Hot chocolate

8. What's your favourite film?

- The Jungle Book
- Finding Nemo
- The Lion King
- Happy Feet

MOSTLY GREEN = RAINFOREST

The rainforest is your perfect playground. Whether swinging from trees or exploring in the heart of the jungle, you'd never get bored of the adventure!



MOSTLY ORANGE = DESERT

You're a wild one – your ideal habitat is the desert! You think the desert, and the creatures in it, are totally ROARsome! Just remember your sunblock!



MOSTLY BLUE = OCEAN

The mysteries of the deep appeal to your curious nature, making the ocean your perfect home. You'll need to be a strong swimmer to keep up with the ocean life... or escape from sharks!



MOSTLY RED = ARCTIC

Bundle up, explorer – you belong in the arctic! You're no stranger to the cold or the quiet, and the ice caps are the perfect place to test your endurance. Brrr!



WORLD OF

● Although the true figure is unknown – and often debated – some people believe that there are close to 40 subspecies of wolf found living on our planet. Let's take a look at a few of them!



ARABIAN WOLF

● One of the smallest species of grey wolf, the rare Arabian wolf lives in small pockets of Western Asia and Northeast Africa. They tend to live in groups to increase their chances of finding food and have adapted to survive in dry, desert terrain.

ARCTIC WOLF

● Also known as the polar or white wolf, the Arctic wolf gets called all of these names because of the colour of their fur... and, of course, where they live! Their survival relies on the teamwork of their pack – after all, they couldn't take down a fully-grown musk ox on their own.



F WOLVES

VANCOUVER ISLAND WOLF

● It's believed that there are around 350 of these wolves living on Vancouver Island – a large landmass located between New Zealand and western North America. Some of these animals are considered to be coastal wolves as a result of their marine diet, which includes seal pups and river otters.



EURASIAN WOLF

● The Eurasian wolf is the most common subspecies of grey wolf. Although they mainly survive on livestock and rubbish left behind by humans, they are also known to hunt in packs, preying on the likes of red deer, moose and wild boar.



HIMALAYAN WOLF

● Found living in the Himalayas and the Tibetan Plateau, these wolves are perfectly adapted to life in the high-altitude mountains. Very little is known about these animals, but they're believed to be an ancient wolf that evolved before the more common grey wolf that we know today.



WHY ARE WOLVES SEEN AS NATURE'S VILLAINS?

● In fairy tales, the wolf is often seen as the ultimate baddie – just ask *Little Red Riding Hood* and *The Three Little Pigs*! The idea of wolves as villains may come from the 1800s, when settlers arrived in America. They saw wolves as a threat to humans, as well as their livestock, but wolves very rarely show aggression towards humans, so they definitely don't deserve the reputation of *Big Bad Wolf*!



HAPPY WORLD RHINO DAY!

Celebrate World Rhino Day on September 22 with these fascinating facts.

HOW MANY?

● There are five species of rhinoceros found on our planet. There are two types of African rhino (black and white) and three Asian rhinos – Sumatran, Javan and the greater one-horned rhino, which is also known as the Indian rhino.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

● There are five species of rhinoceros found on our planet. There are two types of African rhino (black and white) and three Asian rhinos – Sumatran, Javan and the greater one-horned rhino, which is also known as the Indian rhino.

DID YOU KNOW?

A rhino's horn is made out of the same material as our fingernails! This protein is called keratin and can be found in our hair and nails.

RHINO TALK

● Not only do they communicate through growls, trumpet calls and sneezes, rhinos also send messages to one another through their poo and wee – their clever placement is used to let others know they're in the area.

SMALLEST RHINO

● Even though the Sumatran rhino is the world's smallest species of rhino, they can still weigh as much as 600kg!



LARGEST RHINO

● In comparison, white rhinos can weigh a whopping 3,500kg!

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

● The word 'rhinoceros' means 'nose horn' in Ancient Greek.

FUN FACT!

A group of rhinos is known as a crash!



WHAT'S INSIDE...

A COW'S STOMACH!

● COWS EAT UP TO 100 POUNDS OF FOOD A DAY! SO HOW DO THEY DIGEST IT ALL?

THE RUMEN

Cows only have teeth on the bottom of their mouth, so they don't chew their food enough. When they swallow it, it goes into the rumen which is like a chamber filled with good bacteria. It mixes the food with saliva to soften it and turns it into little balls called cuds.

RETICULUM

The cud balls move to the reticulum which burps them back up into the mouth so the cow can chew it again – gross! Belching happens every 90 seconds. The honeycomb texture of this compartment also filters out any bad stuff the cow shouldn't have eaten like stones or metal.

ABOMASUM

Now the food goes to the final part of the stomach, the abomasum. This is more like a human stomach where nutrients are absorbed and stomach acid and digestive enzymes break down the food.

OMASUM

After chewing the cud to make it smaller, it is swallowed again and goes into the omasum which absorbs all the water from it.

DID YOU KNOW?

Cows are one of the biggest causes of global warming. Their burps and plops release 100 million tons of methane into the atmosphere every year.

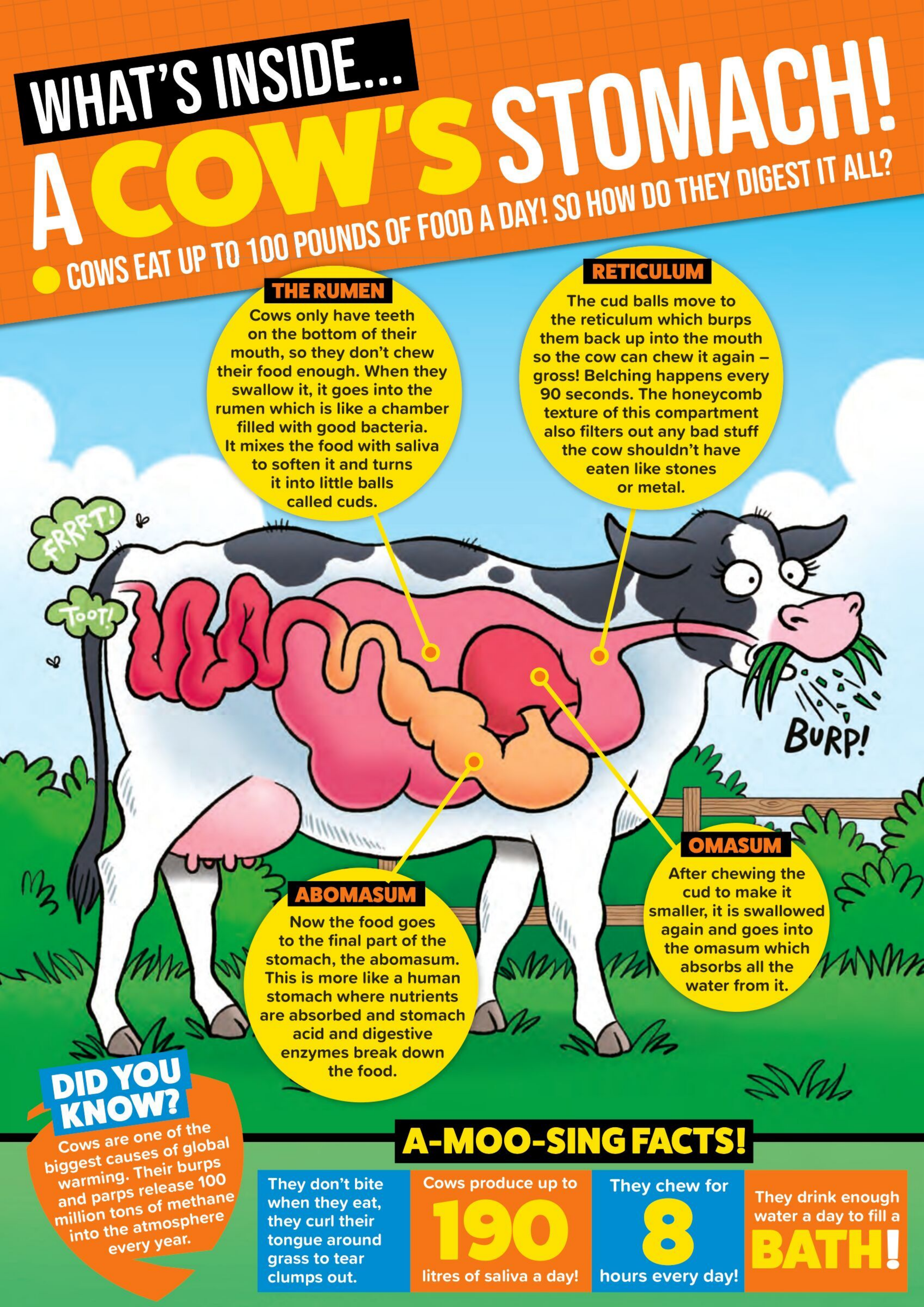
A-MOO-SING FACTS!

They don't bite when they eat, they curl their tongue around grass to tear clumps out.

Cows produce up to
190
litres of saliva a day!

They chew for
8
hours every day!

They drink enough water a day to fill a
BATH!



MINI

MARVEL!

● IS IT A BIRD? IS IT A PLANE? NO, IT'S THE PYGMY FLYING MOUSE!

● Don't let the name fool you – the pygmy flying mouse doesn't actually fly! These tiny creatures have a thin membrane of skin, known as a patagium (pa-fa-gee-um), which stretches from their elbow to their knee. When it launches from a tree, this special skin fold stretches open like a parachute, allowing the little mammal to glide through the air. It can 'fly' for an astonishing 28m!

FUN FACT

Despite its name, the pygmy flying mouse is not a mouse. It's actually a marsupial – like a kangaroo or a wombat – and is native to eastern Australia.



These miniscule pilots are just 6.5 - 8cm long!

● The pygmy flying mouse is also known as the pygmy feathertail glider. It uses its fringed tail to steer during the glide, just like a rudder on a ship!

MEASURE UP!

Discover how the pygmy flying mouse measures up to the world's smallest animals.



5.5 cm

BEE HUMMINGBIRD

The male bee hummingbird is just 5.5 cm long!



6-8 cm

SPECKLED PADLOPER TORTOISE

This tiny tortoise could fit in your pocket!



5-7 cm

HARVEST MOUSE

The UK's smallest rodent can weigh as little as a 2p piece!

WHITE JELLYFISH



animal planet
KIDS





■ Famous for their polka-dot fur, Dalmatians make for popular pets across the world! Over 200 years ago, these special dogs were regularly spotted guarding people in horse-drawn carriages — fancy!

Dalmatians are known to be super-friendly and playful. They need lots of attention and exercise to keep them happy and healthy. They're also very intelligent and need training, otherwise they might think they're in charge!

DALMATIANS

animal planet
KIDS



DAMSELFLY

TOP OF THE CLASS



Follow the arrows to see how you measure up against these clever creatures!

START

You love finding your way through a maze.

You like living with lots of people.

You're really good at learning tricks.

You're sociable and friendly.

You can use all sorts of tools!

You and your pals speak your own special language.

You're good at sign language.

You love your reflection in the mirror!

You're the problem solver in your group.

RATS

Wow! Welcome to the Rat Gang! You're one smart cookie. You love finding your way through mazes – and remembering the route for the next time! – and you're good at doing little jobs. You can feel lonely on your own, so keep your chums close.

ORANGUTANS

You don't get much smarter than an orangutan! Not only can they perform tasks, they know why, so they can apply their knowledge to solve other problems like building shelters. They can even use sign language to communicate!

DOLPHINS

You'd fit in well with a pod of bottlenose dolphins. They're super-smart and can learn tricks easily, recognise themselves in the mirror, and remember mates from 20 years previously! They have their own special language of clicks and noises – so clever!

THE DOLITTLES!

THEY TALK TO THE ANIMALS!



GENTLE GIANTS!

Quit monkeying around and read these facts!



TIME TO FIND OUT MORE!

Mountain gorillas live in Africa but there are just over 1,000 left in the wild making them critically endangered.

A silverback gorilla can weigh up to 180kg — that's as heavy as a refrigerator!

Much like human fingerprints, gorillas each have a unique nose print!

Gorillas can eat all day! Roughly 85% of their diet is made up of leaves, shoots and stems but they also add in the odd snail or ant.

Males aged between 8 and 12 years old are called blackbacks. At 12, a section of hair on their backs turns silver, giving them the name silverbacks.

Gorillas live in family groups of about 10 gorillas. These groups are called troops.

THIS IS MY SNACK!



ASK THE EXPERTS

● Be a #PlanetWarrior and ask our experts your burning questions about animals, trees, and the planet!

Q What's your favourite koala fact?

Ffion, 9



NATALIE SAYS:

Koalas have a very special diet (you could say they are a bit picky!) and are able to eat a plant that is poisonous to most animals called eucalyptus! They're able to do this because they have a very special organ to help their bodies cope with all this plant material which would be toxic to us and most other animals. You thought that was picky enough... they also prefer the eucalyptus leaves at the very top of big trees because they are healthier!



HELLO WORLD!



Q Do birds have accents or their own language, and if they do, can all species of birds understand each other?

Elisha, 12



DAVID SAYS: Each different species of bird has its own distinctive call and songs. This enables them to recognise individuals of their own kind, especially if they can't see each other due to being hidden by thick foliage in a wood or if they are flying high overhead.

Some species, like the Chaffinch, are found over huge areas. Their vast distribution means that birds in the eastern part of their range may have a slightly different accent to the ones found in the west.

Similarly, birds in the north and south may also sound slightly different. But, they will all still understand each other!



WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

Email editor@animalplanetmagazine.com with your question, name and address. Your questions could feature in a future issue!

● Scribble your question down here, snap a pic and send it in! Don't forget to include your name, and where you're from.

ERTS!

MEET THE PANEL



Dr Jess French

Presenter, veterinarian and author



Nick Baker

Naturalist and TV presenter



David Lindo

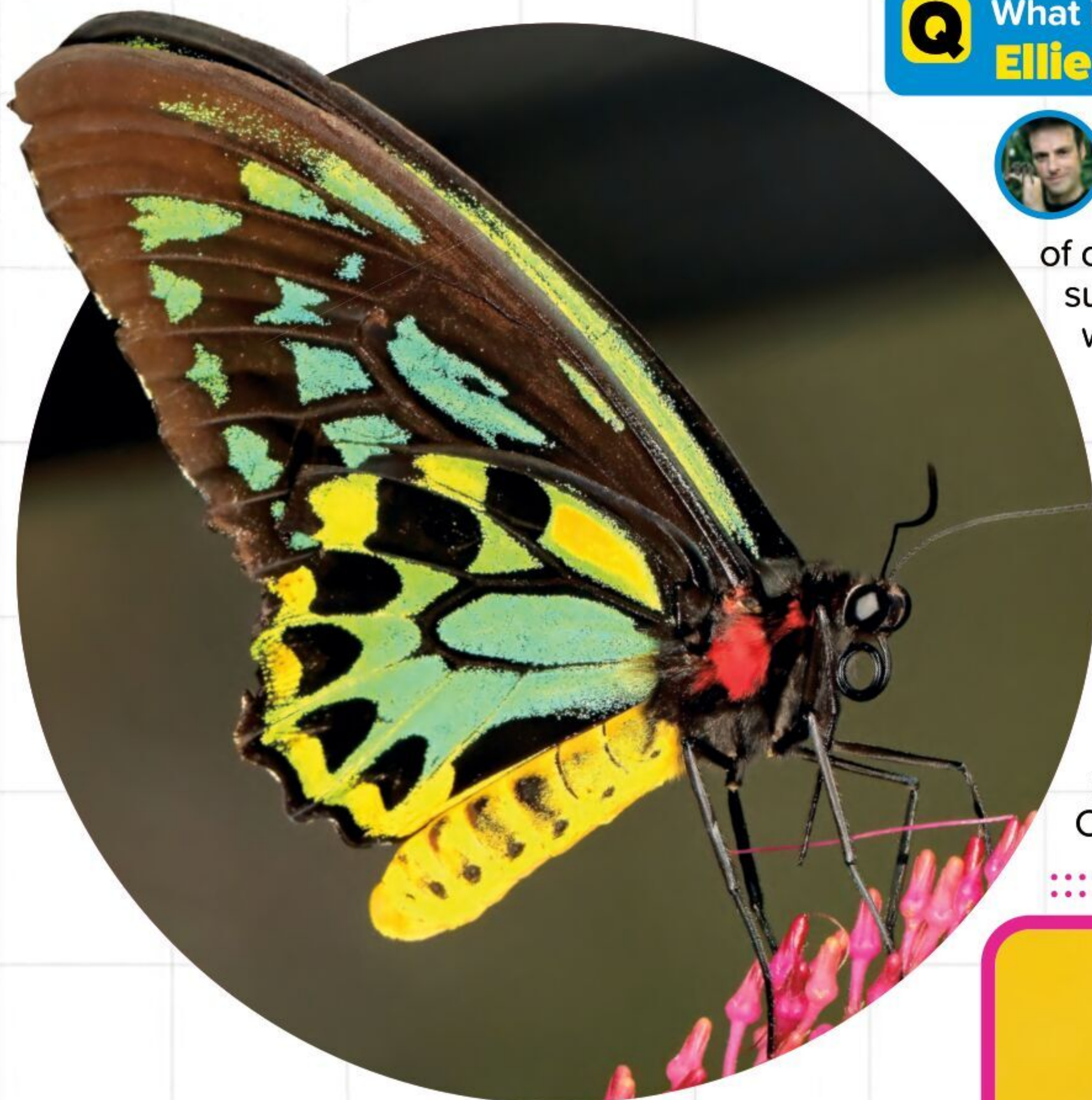
Bird Expert, Naturalist, Author and Broadcaster



Natalie Sinclair

Marine Biologist and Conservationist

the environment and much more!



What is the biggest kind of butterfly?

Ellie, 6



NICK SAYS: Well, the problem with 'biggest' is that you could mean different things! It could be the largest wingspan (the distance from the tip of one wing to the other) or it could be the largest surface area of the wings, or you might be asking what is the heaviest butterfly? However, in this case, I would think the answers all refer to just one species which is handy.

To call Queen Alexandra's Birdwing a monster seems a little unfair, but it is huge. This massive butterfly from Papua New Guinea spends its time zipping around in the high forest canopy. They've reached a record wingspan of 27.3 cm — that's almost the size of a ruler! Other members of the Birdwing family get close though, as does the Giant African Swallow tail and the Owl butterflies from South and Central America.

SNAAAACKS!



Why does my dog bark when I'm eating?

Tarni-Mai, 5



JESS SAYS: Dogs can be very noisy, can't they Tarni-Mai? Dogs bark for all sorts of reasons; it could mean they are excited, frightened, bored or in pain – or it could be to get your attention. If your dog is giving out a string of single barks, with slight pauses between them, it's likely they are asking you to share your food. Be careful how you respond to your dog's request! If you give in to their barking and feed them when they bark, they are likely to repeat the behaviour in the future. It's also important not to give your pets too much human food to eat, some things that are fine for us to eat, such as chocolate, onions and raisins, can be dangerous for our furry friends. Too much fatty food can also give dogs tummy upsets and cause them to gain weight.

FIND US ONLINE!

You can also send your questions to us on social media. Always ask an adult for permission.



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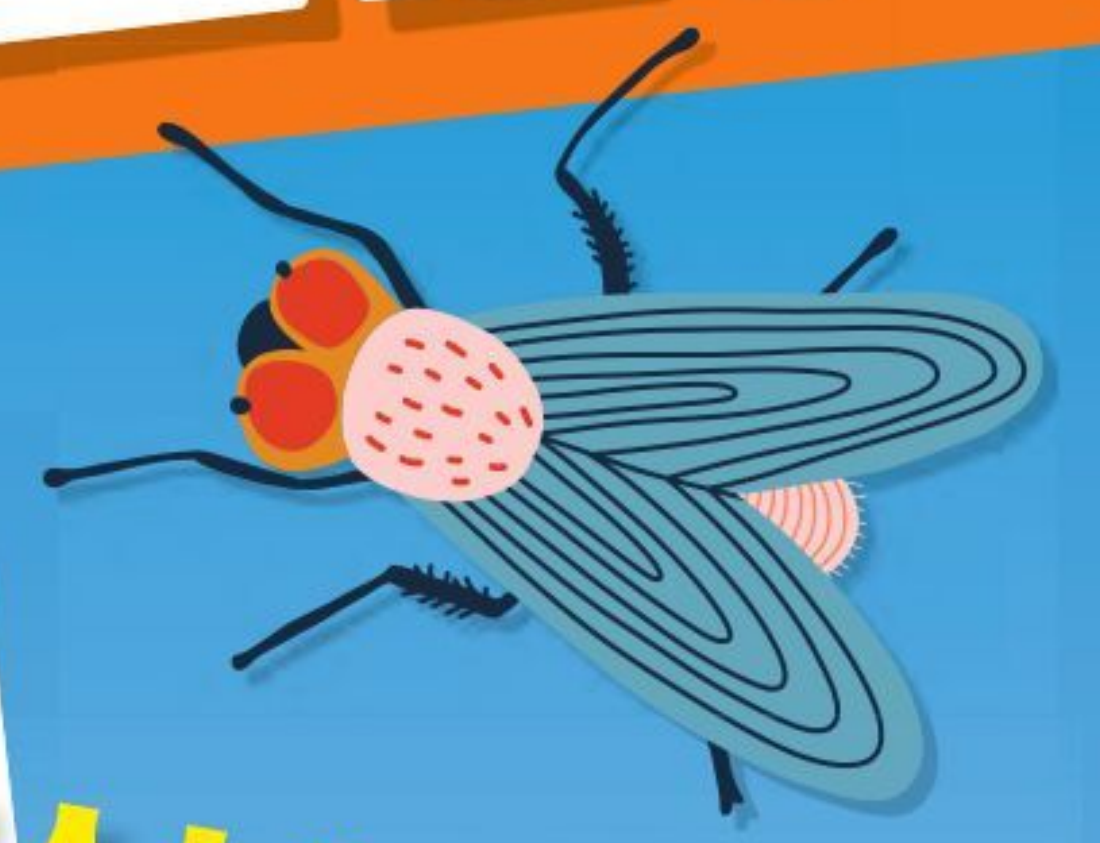


@animalplanetmagazine.com

3-STEP

BUG HOTEL!

Make a cosy home for our insect friends!



You'll need:

- An empty, clean food tin
- Pinecones
- Bamboo or sticks

Why not collect some on your next woodland walk?

ASK AN ADULT TO HELP

STEP ONE

Carefully open the food tin so that both ends are open and you can peek through it!

STEP TWO

Gather your pinecones, bamboo and sticks and carefully place inside to pack the tin up. Make sure you trim or snap your bamboo and sticks to size!

STEP THREE

Find a sheltered spot in an outdoor area to place your bug hotel. Now all you have to do is wait and see which critters 'check-in'!



DID YOU KNOW?
MOST CATERPILLARS HAVE 12 EYES!

For a super simple bug hotel, tie a handful of bamboo together with string. Easy!



AWESOME PRIZES!

Check out P3 for full competition details.

WIN!



A FALCONRY EXPERIENCE

Learn about birdsong, migration, beaks, nests and the science of flight in Dara McAnulty's *A Wild Child's Book of Birds*. Discover the secret world of the birds in Britain and Ireland throughout the different seasons. One reader will win the book and a Red Letter Day kids introduction to birds of prey for two in Knutsford, Cheshire.

TO ENTER, ANSWER THIS QUESTION...

WHICH OF THESE IS A BIRD OF PREY?

- A. ROBIN
- B. MAGPIE
- C. RED KITE

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION ARE NOT INCLUDED. PARTICIPANTS MUST BE AGED FIVE OR ABOVE.



WIN!

A TELESCOPE

Calling all young scientists! Get ready to explore the natural wonders of Earth with the *GeoSafari® Vega 360 Telescope* from Learning Resources. Take it animal and bird watching or study the stars in the night sky. Three readers will win it and a *GeoSafari® Stereoscope* that lets you view 3D objects up close and comes with 12 rock samples.



ENTRANTS MUST BE AGED 8 OR ABOVE!

TO ENTER, ANSWER THIS QUESTION...

WHAT IS THE FURTHEST PLANET FROM THE SUN?

- A. EARTH
- B. MARS
- C. NEPTUNE



TO ENTER GO WWW.ANIMALPLANETMAGAZINE.COM AND TELL US THE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS BY OCTOBER 12, 2022.

XIYE BASTIDA

Learn all about this incredible climate justice

PROFILE:

Name: **Xiye Bastida**
Born: 2002
From: San Pedro
Tultepec, Mexico



● **Xiye Bastida** grew up in the Otomi-Toltec Indigenous community in Central Mexico. With environmentalist parents and a community that believes strongly in living harmoniously with Mother Earth, **Xiye** has always understood the importance of protecting the planet. **Xiye** has had first-hand experience of the effects of climate change as her small

town suffered three years of drought, followed by devastating heavy flooding. Shortly after the floods, when **Xiye** was 13 years old, she and her family moved to New York City where her parents began working for the Center for Earth Ethics.

YOUTH CLIMATE STRIKE MOVEMENT

It was also around this time that **Xiye** started to get more involved in climate activism and in 2017 she attended her first

United Nations climate change conference. Since then, she has become an organiser for Fridays for Future, the youth climate strike movement which was started by **Greta Thunberg**. One of **Xiye's** strikes saw a whopping 300,000 people take to the streets of New York City to demand climate justice.

In 2020, **Xiye** co-founded the Re-Earth Initiative, a campaign group that strives to make the climate movement more inclusive and accessible to all. Over the last two years she has also spoken at climate change events around the world, including COP26 and, in 2021 she addressed the world's leaders at a White House Climate Summit!

Xiye is now 20-years-old and currently studying Environmental Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.



Xiye with Greta Thunberg.



DA

ce activist!



Illustration by The Sharp Brothers

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LOVERS!



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MISS OUT!**



FOR PARENTS

● Filled with amazing animals and natural wonders, *Animal Planet Magazine* brings children up close to wildlife in every way.

Every issue we take readers on an adventure, captivating them with spectacular photography, facts, activities, experts and stories that spark a feeling of joy and wonder on every page.

SO MUCH TO ENJOY

- Animal kingdom
- Vets and pets
- Conservation
- Our weird and wonderful world
- Wildlife warriors
- Science



LOTS STILL TO COME!

SPIDERS SPECIAL!



STEVE IRWIN FACT FILE!



BEAUTIFUL BATS!



CAT DIARIES!



THE MAGAZINE FOR CURIOUS KIDS



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GOBLIN VALLEY STATE PARK, UTAH

■ These incredible rocks aren't man-made pieces of art, they're actually naturally formed by the elements!

The rock in the area has eroded over time from wind and water, however because the stone is harder in some areas than others, these unique monuments have been left behind.

Do you think they look like goblins?



Tear this page out
and take on a walk!

IF YOU GO DOWN TO THE WOODS...

... YOU WON'T BELIEVE YOUR EYES!

TICK THE
BOXES WHEN
YOU MAKE A
DISCOVERY!

1



BROWN LEAF

2



SPIDER'S WEB

3



ANIMAL TRACKS

4



SQUIRREL

5



WORM

6



EVERGREEN TREE

7



TREE STUMP

8



ANT

DID YOU KNOW?

Woodland clears our
air of carbon dioxide
and is a great
natural flood
defence!

9



BIRD

10



Y-SHAPED STICK

20 EPIC FACTS ABOUT

SOME TREES ARE IMMORTAL! WELL, ALMOST... THERE ARE SOME VARIETIES OF TREE THAT WILL NEVER DIE OF OLD AGE, LIKE THE BRISTLECONE PINE.

Around **70 MILLION ACRES** of forests disappear from the Earth every year.



Trees didn't exist for the first **90%** of our planet's history and only appeared on Earth around **400 MILLION** years ago. Sounds like a long time until you remember that our world is **4.54 BILLION** years old!

There are 422 times as many trees on Earth as people! That may sound like a lot but, sadly, about **15 BILLION** trees are lost each year due to deforestation.

An incredible **1.6 BILLION** people rely on forests for their livelihoods.

There are **over 60,000** tree species in the world.



Ancient Pagan cultures believed that spirits and gods lived in trees and could be summoned for protection by knocking on the tree trunk. We still use the phrase "knock on wood" today!

YOU CAN COUNT THE RINGS IN A TREE'S TRUNK TO WORK OUT HOW OLD IT IS. EACH RING EQUALS ONE YEAR!



The world's tallest tree is nicknamed Hyperion and can be found in the Redwood National Park in California. It stretches to a **whopping 115m** – that's taller than Big Ben!



Trees in a forest can 'talk' to one another, thanks to soil fungi hidden deep underground. The fungi links the trees, allowing them to share nutrients and even help younger trees!

OUT TREES!

Who knew trees were so amazing?!

A large oak tree can 'drink' around **100 gallons** of water per day – that's a serious thirst!

A single large oak tree can drop **10,000 acorns** in just **one year!**



TREES FART!
They release methane and carbon dioxide from their trunks, just like we release gas. Gross but so cool!

The rainforest canopy can be more than **40 feet thick.**

Xylem (zai-lum) sap is a sticky liquid which carries water, sugar and nutrients through the tree's trunk and branches.

One single tree in a rainforest can have more than **40** different ant species in it!

EVERGREEN

is the name given to trees that keep their leaves all year round.

DECIDUOUS

trees lose their leaves every year.

The tradition of decorating Christmas trees came to the UK thanks to **Queen Charlotte!** She set up the first known Christmas tree in the UK in 1800 after being inspired by the tradition while in southern Germany.



This tree in California is a whopping **4843 YEARS OLD** and has been standing since the time of woolly mammoths!

Bonsai trees are miniature ornamental trees grown in pots. Bonsai is a Japanese art and these tiny trees need careful cultivation. One particularly fine bonsai tree sold for **\$1.3MILLION!**



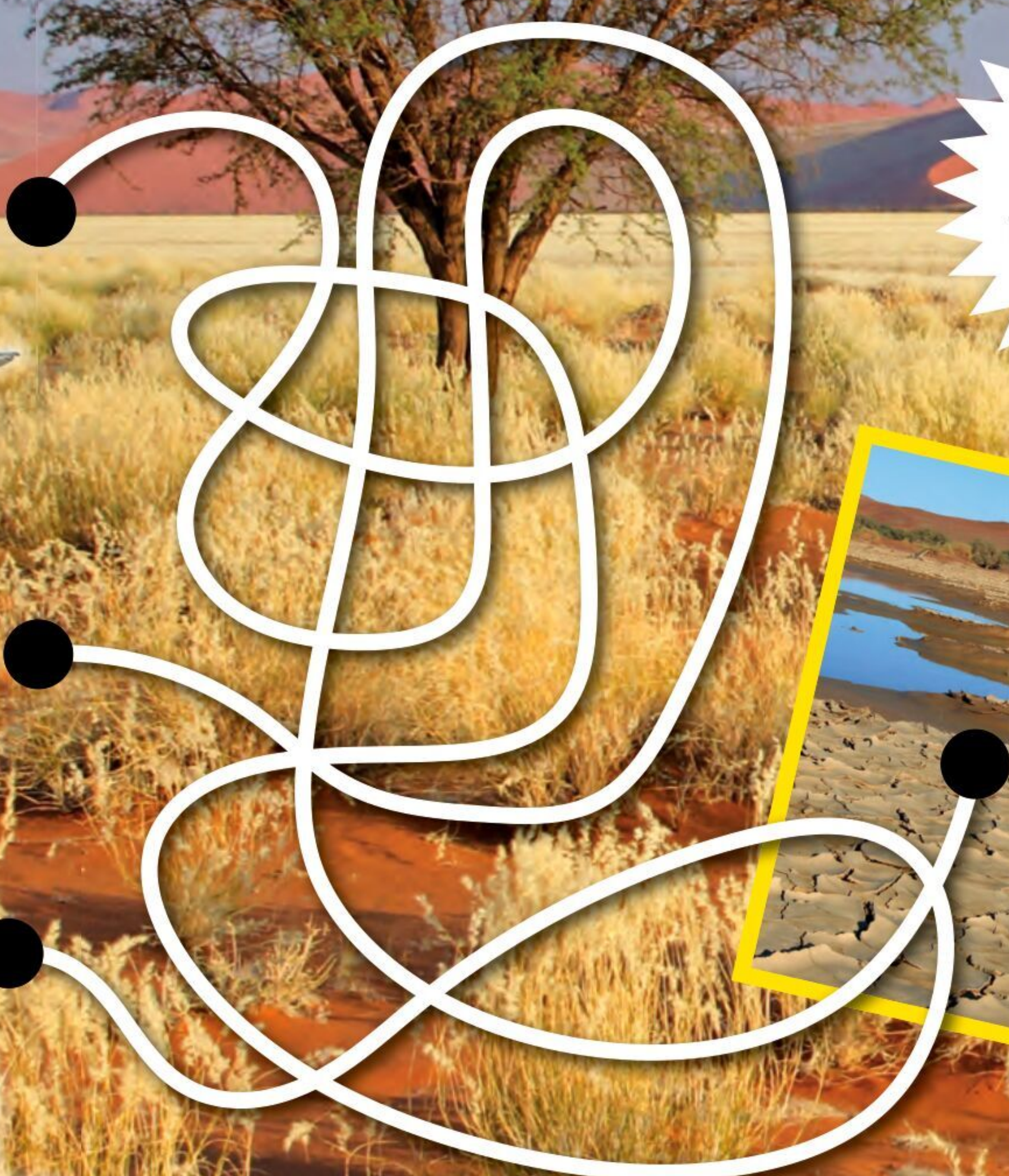
MEEKKAT

THIRSTY WORK!

These little meerkats have been playing all day in the sunshine – but who makes it to the watering hole first?

FUN FACT!

AN OASIS IS AN AREA IN A DESERT THAT HAS A SOURCE OF FRESH WATER!



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

These handsome fellas seem identical, but look closely and see if you can spot the five differences between the pictures.



MAYHEM!

Flex your brain with these boredom busters!

DESERT DUDES

Can you find the hidden words all about these little sand-dwelling mammals?

- MEERKAT
- MONGOOSE
- OMNIVORE
- STRIPED
- SENTRY
- FORAGE
- CLAWS
- GRASSLANDS

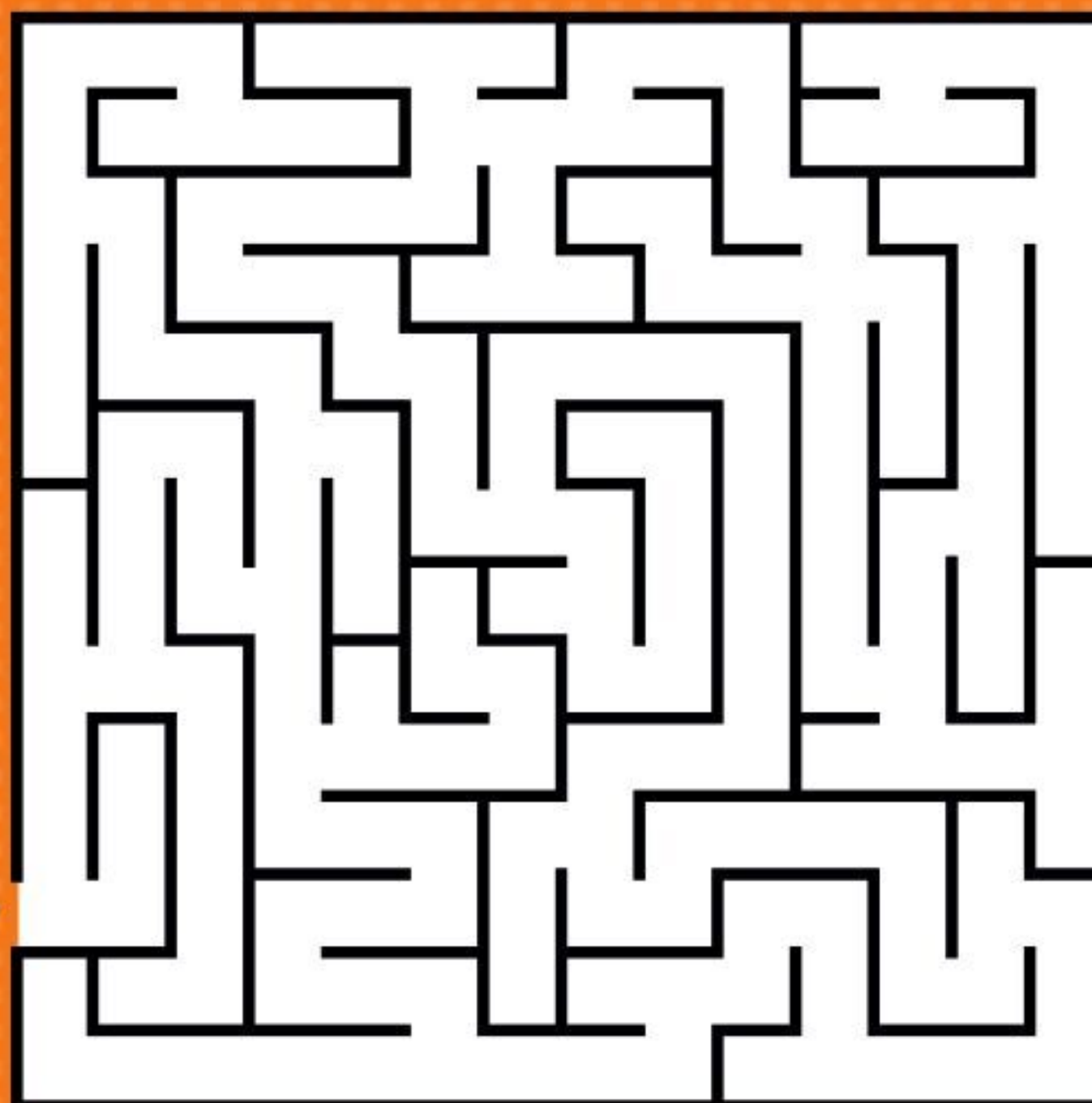
DID YOU KNOW?
A SINGLE MEERKAT CALLED A SENTRY KEEPS WATCH FOR ANY DANGER!

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

BURROW BUDDIES

These pals have lost each other at opposite sides of the burrow – can you reunite them?

DID YOU KNOW?
ONE MEERKAT BURROW CAN HAVE AS MANY AS 15 ENTRANCES AND EXITS AND BE OVER 2 METERS DEEP!



ANSWERS:

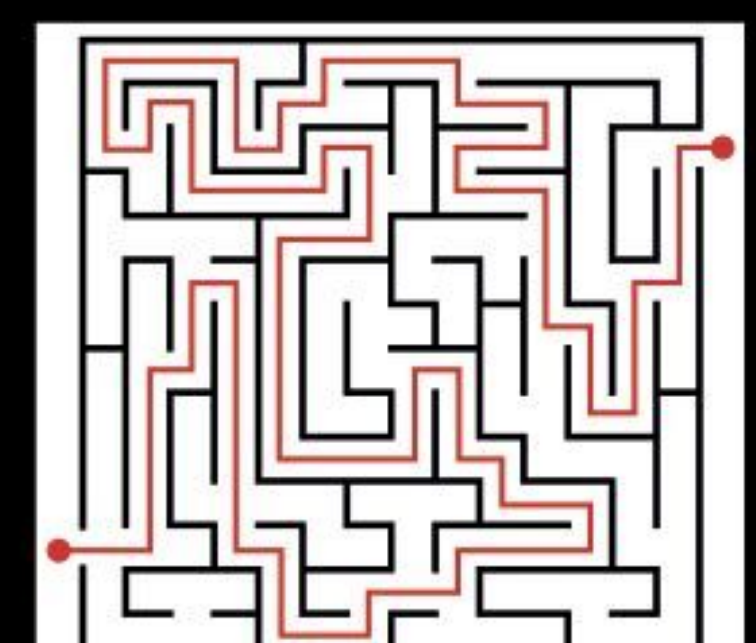
THIRSTY WORK
LINE B



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



DESERT DUDES



BURROW BUDDIES

#PLANETWARRIORS @HOME!



HAZEL, 6
 "My favourite thing about the magazine was Meet the Super Pets because I like that pets can keep you company and some are very friendly, some are relaxed and cute, and some have lots of energy. I've drawn a picture, but it is not my cat Chippy because she is black and white."

JOKE OF THE MONTH

What do you call a lazy baby kangaroo?

A POUCH POTATO.



O!



WE LOVED SEEING YOUR POSTERS!

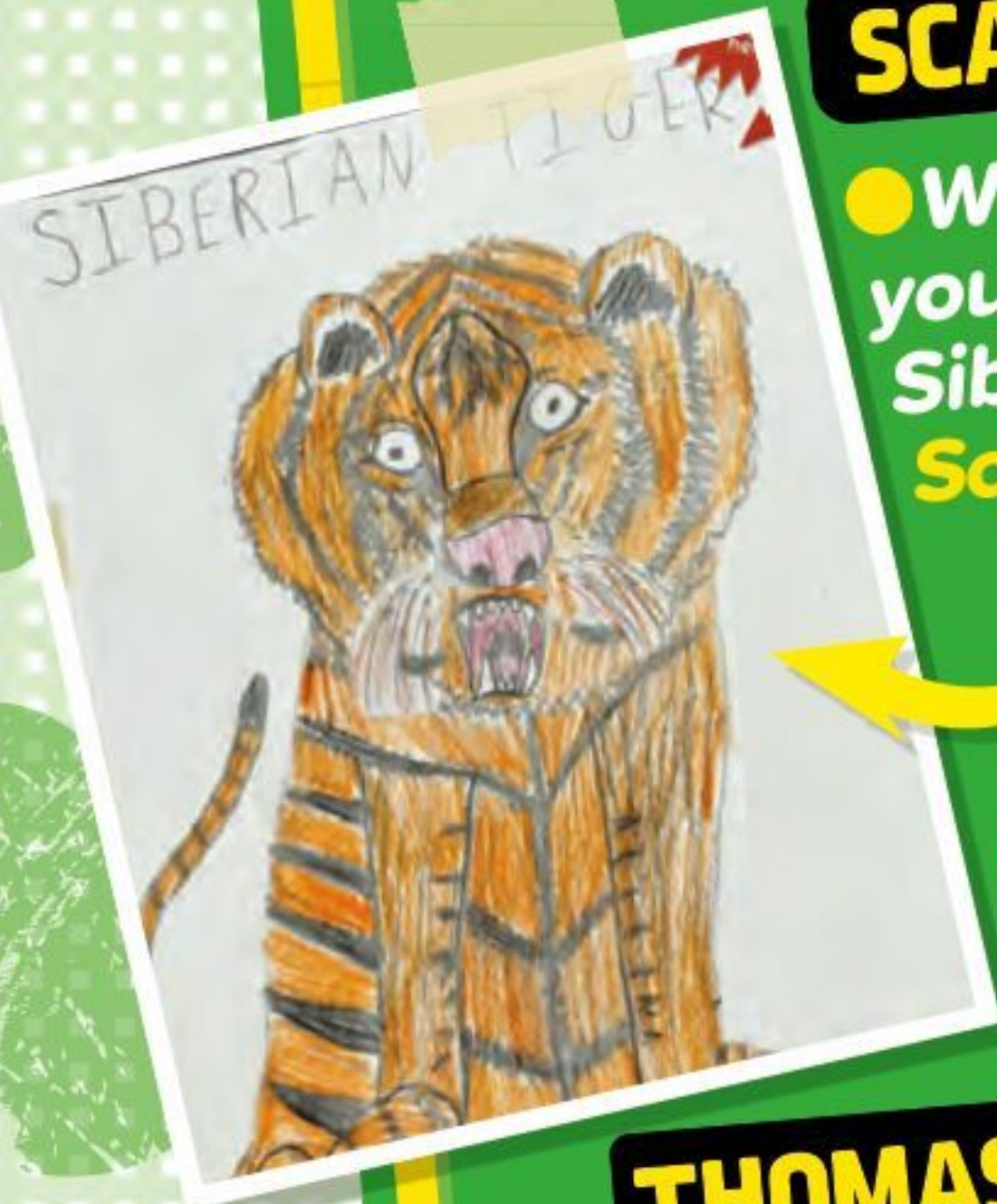
STANLEY, 8

This is TURTally awesome, Stanley!



SCARLETT, 9

We love your realistic Siberian tiger, Scarlett!



THOMAS, ?

Looks like Thomas is all set for World Bamboo Day on September 18!



#PLANETWARRIOR CHALLENGE



CLEAN UP CREW!

September 17 is World Cleanup Day, where volunteers across 191 countries get together to clean up their patch. If you go on a litter pick, send us a picture, or tell us about it!

JOIN THE #PLANETWARRIORS CLUB!

WE WANT TO SEE YOUR:

- DRAWINGS AND PICTURES
- AMAZING WILDLIFE OR TRAVEL SNAPS
- INSPIRING STORIES

Include the subject line 'Planet Warrior Club' and the following details: full name, date of birth, address, postcode, parent/guardian's name and email/contact number. Our editorial team will pick the entries that make them smile the most to feature on this page! Please see P3 for full info.

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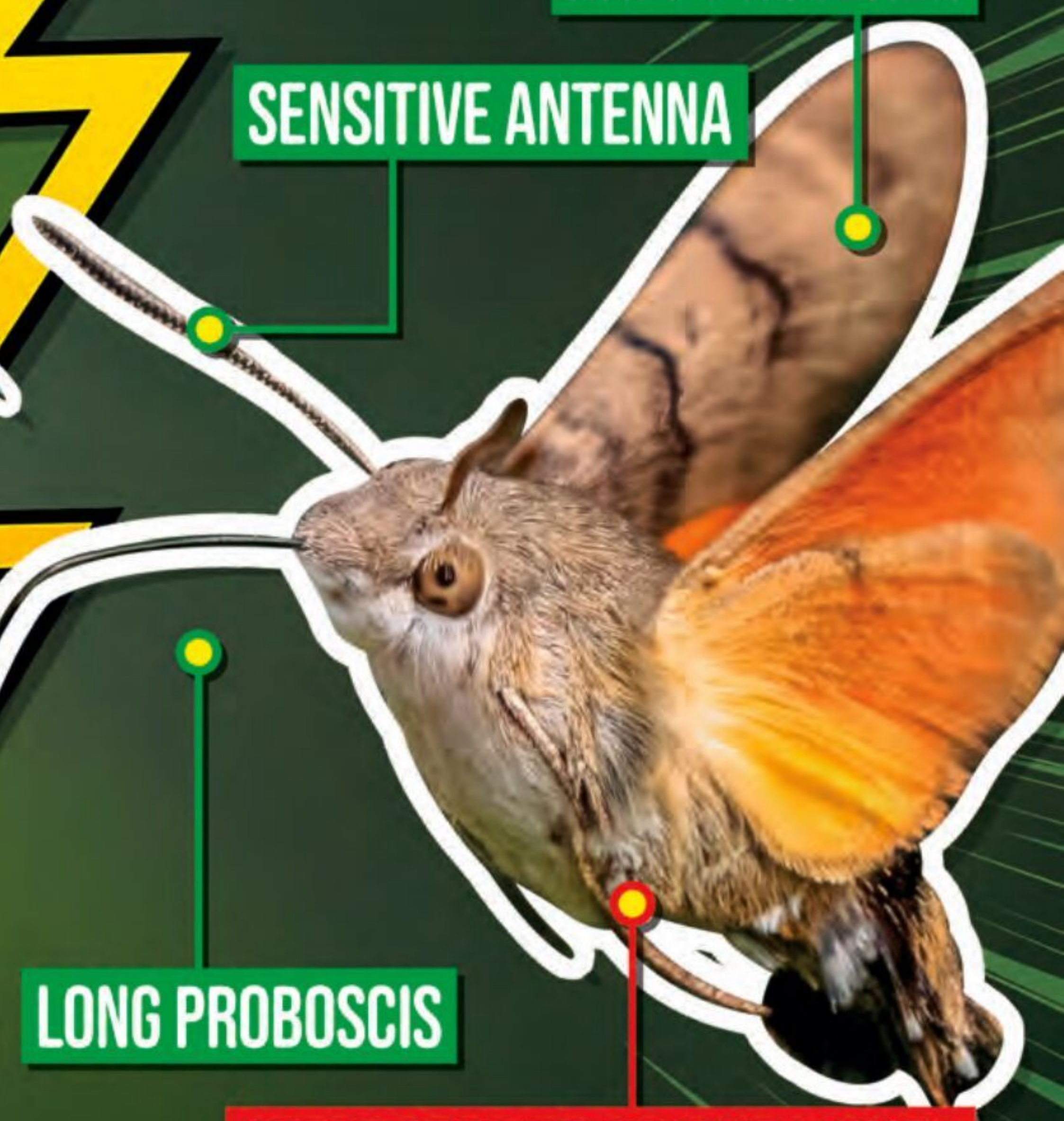
ASK AN ADULT TO SEND US YOUR DRAWINGS, PHOTOS AND REVIEWS!

WHO WILL WIN?

HUMMINGBIRD VS. HUMMINGBIRD HAWKMOTH

SHIMMERING BEAUTY
HUMMINGBIRD!

MINIATURE FLUTTERER
HUMMINGBIRD
HAWKMOTH!



LONG FORKED TONGUE

SILENT FLYERS

HAPPY HOVERER

SENSITIVE ANTENNA

YOU'RE
A RIGHT
HUMMER!

ENLARGED HEART

LONG PROBOSCIS

STRONG "FINGER" BONES

ATTRACTED TO BRIGHT LIGHTS

WINNER!

HUMMINGBIRD

★ Hummingbird hawkmoths are pretty cool creatures, however, hummingbirds being the only species of bird that can fly backwards certainly earns this winged wonder the top prize!



EPIC EVOLUTION!

Both species are amazing examples of a phenomenon called 'convergent evolution.' This means they have similar traits to help them solve problems! For example, both of these species hover in front of plants, allowing them to collect nectar while staying in the air!

AMAZING SPIDERS!

● Discover their webs of wonder!



● SPOTLIGHT ON...
STEVE IRWIN!



● BEAUTIFUL BATS!



● CAT DIARIES!



● WORLD'S FREAKIEST
FUNGUS!

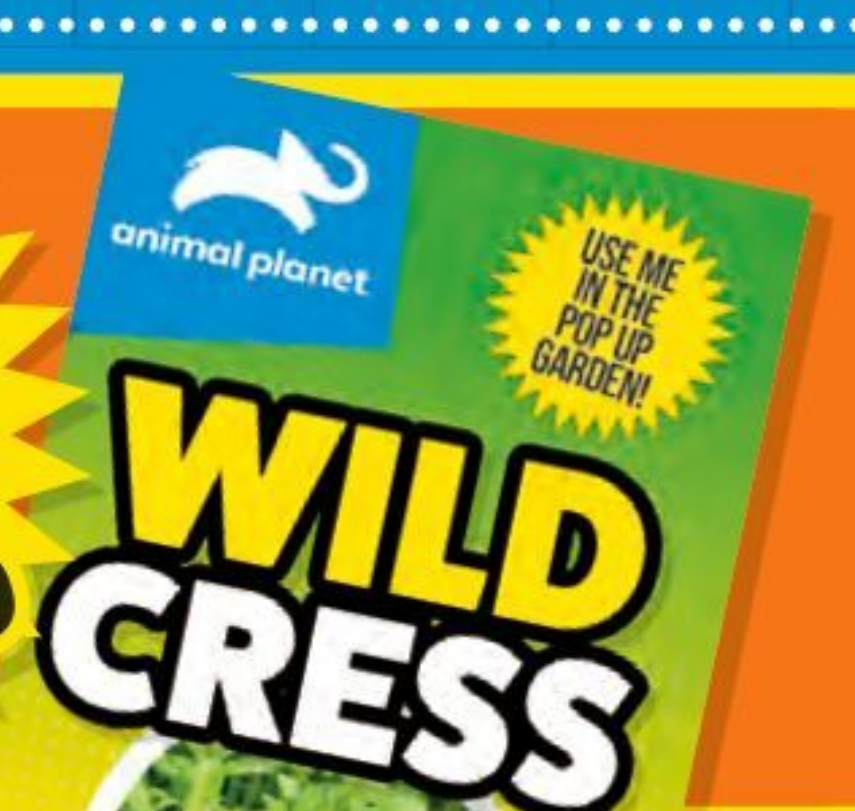


PLUS!

**POP UP
JUNGLE KIT**



**+
CRESS
SEEDS**



WHY?

...ARE OSTRICHES FASTER THAN HUMANS?

OSTRICH FACT FILE

DIET: MAINLY PLANTS, SEEDS AND ROOTS AS WELL AS SOME INSECTS AND SMALL LIZARDS.

LOCATION: AFRICA

LIFESPAN: 30-40 YEARS

FUN FACT!

Ostriches have the biggest eyes of any living land animal, which are bigger than their brains!

OLYMPIC OSTRICHES

Ostriches may not be able to fly, but they can certainly move! These gigantic birds can reach speeds of up to 70 kilometres per hour when running – that's around 25 kilometres per hour faster than Usain Bolt's record!

WHY SO SPEEDY?

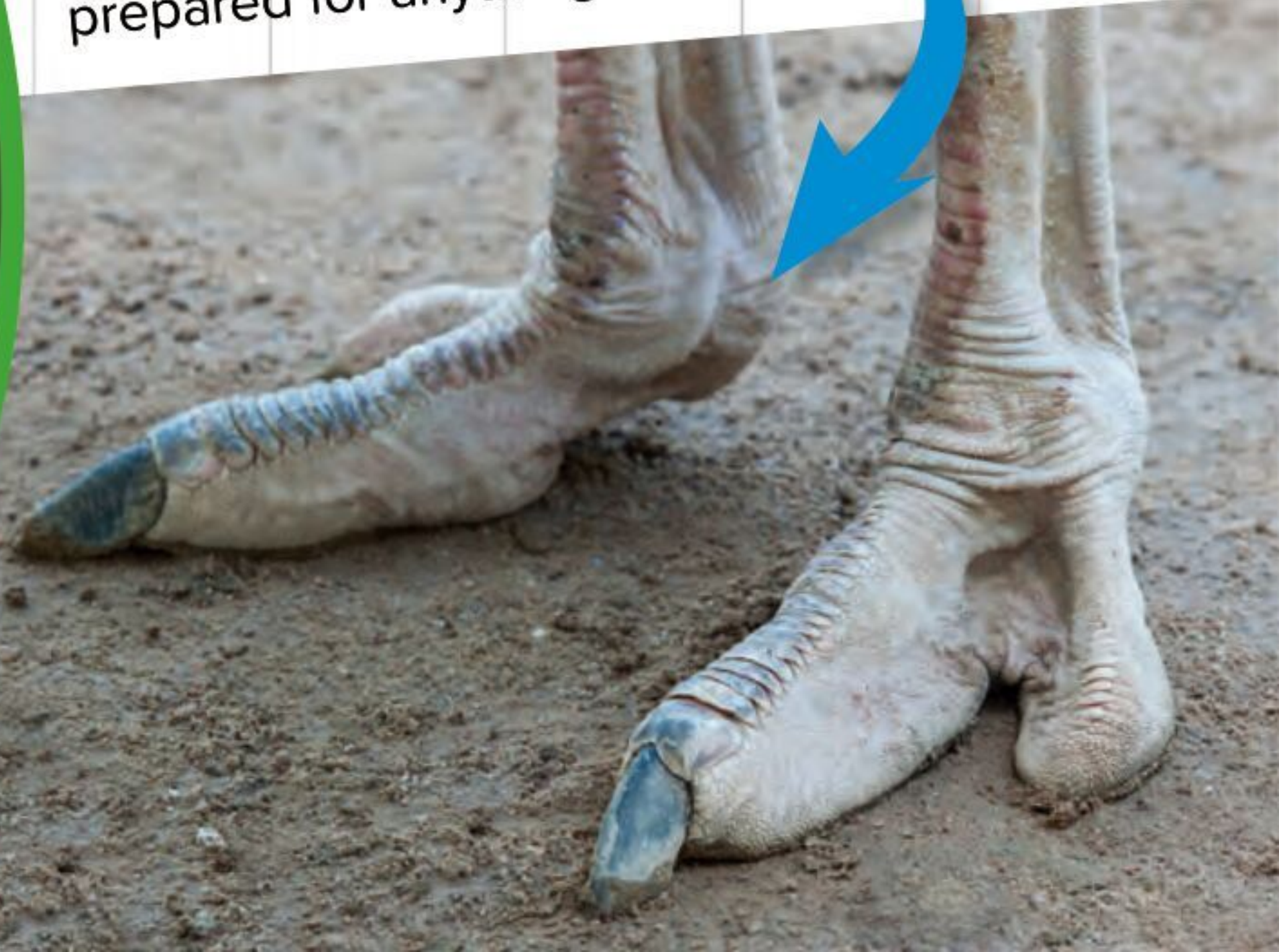
Ostriches have long, muscular legs and they can cover up to five metres in a single stride! However, it's not just the length of their legs that helps ostriches to run at such super speeds. Research shows that ostriches can store double the amount of 'elastic energy' in their tendons compared to humans, meaning they can run much faster while using far less energy!

PREDATORS BEWARE!

As well as helping them to make a quick getaway from predators, an ostrich's legs can be lethal, too! Their powerful limbs are able to deliver an almighty kick and each of their two-toed feet are tipped with a sharp claw that could injure any would-be predators. They're toe-tally prepared for anything!


DID YOU KNOW?

Ostriches have three stomachs!



WOW! | IT REALLY EXISTS!

Each month, we take a look at the strangest animals on the planet. Say hello to the **TORTOISE BEETLE!**

 Tortoise beetles are members of the leaf beetle family, and these little bugs are fascinating! These beautiful beetles are named after their specially adapted wing covers, which look a little bit like tortoise shells.

Different types of tortoise beetles are found in many countries all around the world, usually living on plants and foliage. As members of the leaf beetle family, they prefer to make their homes on plants and foliage.

Tortoise beetles come in all sorts of sizes and colours, including green, blue and glamorous gold – some can even change colour!

The tortoise beetle's clever wing covers help to protect them from predators! They can clamp them down to cover their legs and head, making them harder to pick up.

THIS IS A YELLOW TORTOISE BEETLE!

Some kinds of tortoise beetle larvae can create stinky "umbrellas" out of their poop and dead skin! It's thought that the larvae carry these around to help ward off predators – yuck!

Tortoise beetles primarily eat leaves and plant foliage, with different varieties favouring different kinds of plants.





**crikey!
it's the irwins**



**the zoo:
san diego**



**dr jeff: rocky
mountain vet**



the zoo

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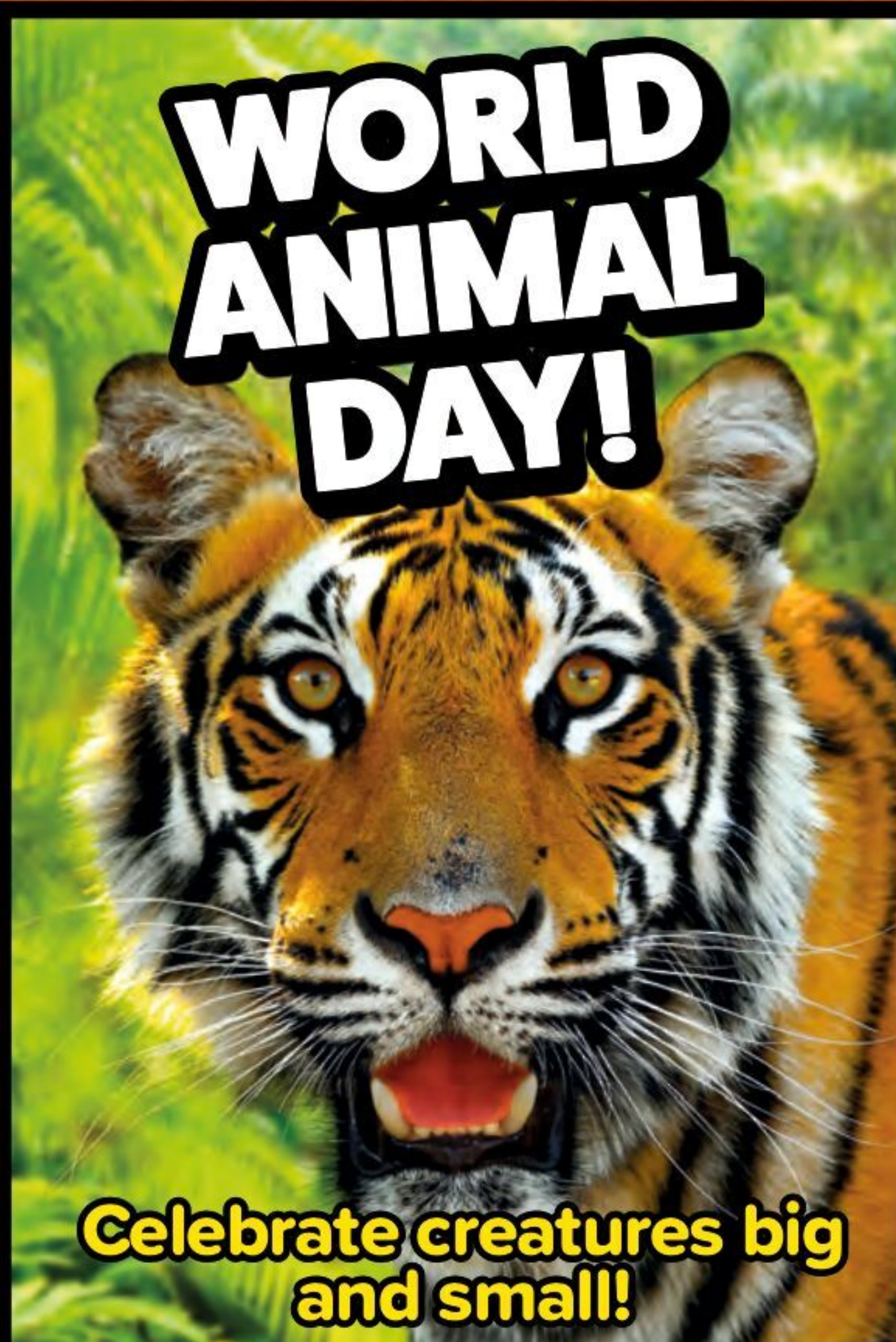
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LET IMAGINATIONS RUN WILD!

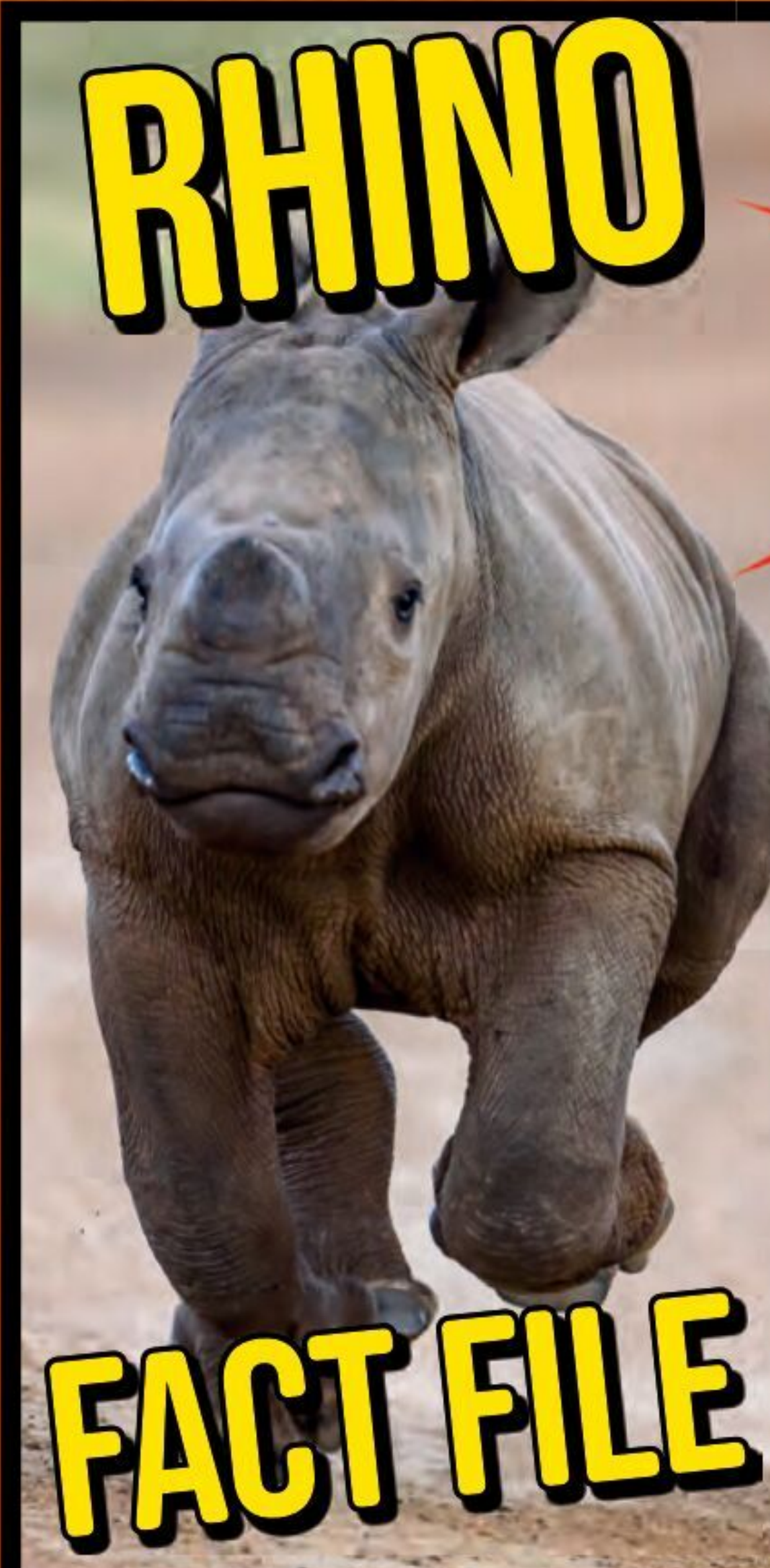
● GET UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH THE ANIMAL KINGDOM, LEARN LOADS OF FACTS, EXPERIMENT, COMPLETE PUZZLES AND MUCH MORE!

WORLD ANIMAL DAY!

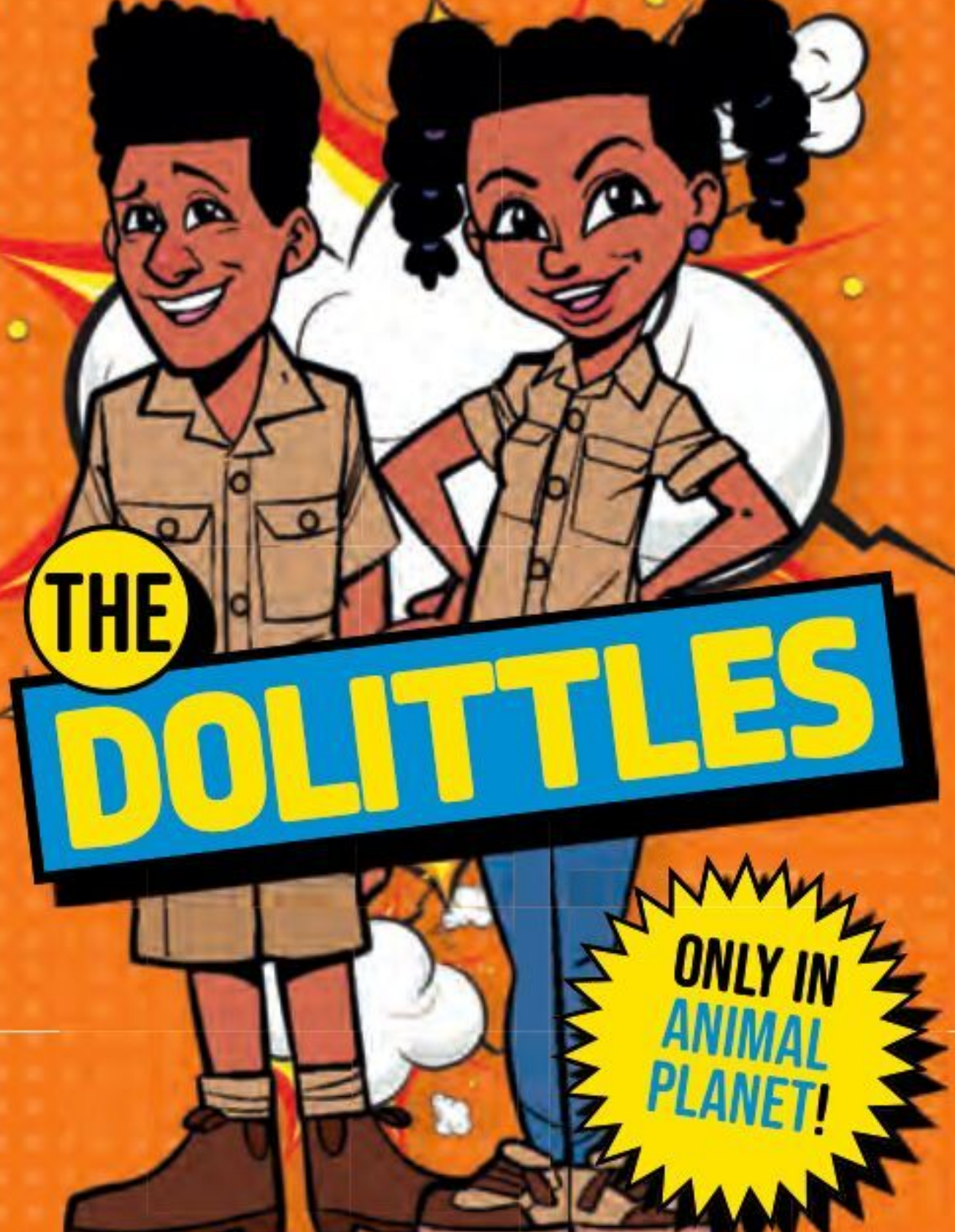


Celebrate creatures big and small!

RHINO



FACT FILE




THE DOLITTLES

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#21

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20 Epic Tree Facts



DID YOU KNOW? THEY FART!

PARP!

PACKED WITH BOREDOM BUSTING FUN!



JOIN THE WOLF PACK

WITH THIS ISSUE...




WIN!