



NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC

2019  
PHOTO  
COMP



WIN A FAMILY  
HOLIDAY TO  
MOROCCO!

# KIDS

HOW

# SEA OTTERS PROTECT THE PLANET!

HISTORY'S  
GREATEST  
HITS

ALBERT  
EINSTEIN



227  
PRIZES  
INSIDE



KEEP  
EARTH  
WILD





# 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:

or

### 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](http://adoptawhale.com)



## Hello!

How cute is this issue's cover star?! But sea otters don't just look adorable – they help save the planet, too! Find out how on page 12.



As a reader of Nat Geo Kids, chances are you're a fan of amazing photos. But how are your own picture-taking skills?! Turn to page 30 to learn how to enter this year's exciting **photo comp** and get top tips on taking super shots. You could scoop a holiday in **Morocco**! Take inspiration from our new photo comp judge **Ami Vitale** on page 34, and go behind the scenes with an NG photographer who's on a mission to snap every species in captivity! Plus, don't forget we've got the usual comps, posters and puzzles – so get stuck in!

Editor, Tim

## FREE this issue...



## 4 POSTERS!

## Write to NG KIDS

Email [kids@ngkids.co.uk](mailto:kids@ngkids.co.uk)

Post National Geographic Kids, Third Floor, 12-14 Berry Street, London EC1V 0AU

Website [natgeokids.com](http://natgeokids.com)

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Oi, no cheating!

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**Weird But True** Fantastic facts that'll astound you and your friends!



# INSIDE SCOOP

The latest news from around the globe...

## From bus stops to *buzz* stops



Bus shelters in **Utrecht, the Netherlands**, have been transformed into bee havens to help Dutch bee populations!

The **roofs** of **316 regular bus stops** have been planted with **grass** and **wildflowers** so bees and other pollinators have more places to feed! The blooming bus stops not only benefit the insects, but also **improve the city's air quality**, **capture fine dust** and store **rainwater**. Bee-ril-liant!

What's more, if Utrecht's residents want to create extra '**bee stops**' on their own roofs, the city's council will help **fund** them! Now that really is the *bee's knees*!



## Kakariki karaka recovery!\*



At least 150 kakariki karaka chicks have hatched in the wild so far this year!



Happy news from **New Zealand** – numbers of the country's **rarest bird** – the **orange-fronted parakeet** – have almost **doubled** so far this year. Hooray!

Once thought to be extinct, the beautiful green birds, known locally as **kakariki karaka**, are **critically endangered**, with an estimated population of just **100–300**. Their decline was due to **habitat destruction** and introduced **predators**, such as rats and cats. But thanks to an abundance of **beech seed** this year, they've been breeding in record numbers. *Squawk-some!*

\* Try saying the headline three times!

# 3

## FAST FACTS!

## FLYING ANT DAY

Have you been caught up in a swarm of flying black ants this summer? Or seen the ground crawling with the winged things? Find out why!

**1** The ants we're most used to seeing are female **black garden ants**, marching around collecting food. But during summer, **males** and **mature queens** of the same species **take flight**! The **queens** are **larger** than the males – up to **15mm** in length!

**2** The ants take flight so queens can mate with males from different colonies, and set up **new nests** of their own. After mating, queens **chew off** their wings and crawl around looking for a place to dig a new nest. Look out for **discarded wings** on the floor!

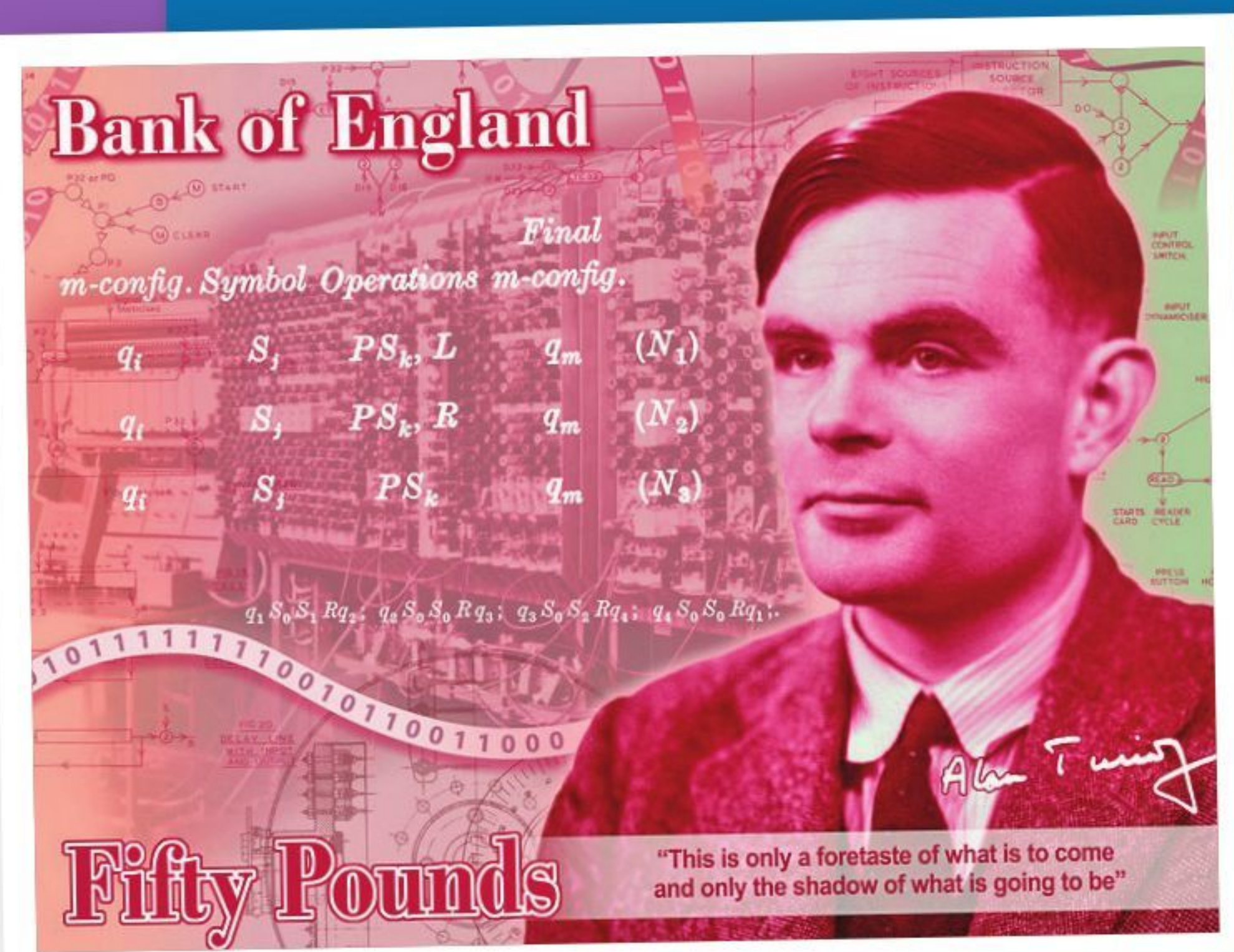
**3** For a **swarm** to happen, conditions must be **just right** – usually triggered by **hot and humid weather**. As so many ants appear at the same time, the phenomenon is often known as '**flying ant day**', but it's really more of a short season! Flying in big numbers **protects ants from predators** and gives them a better chance of **finding mates**.



Flying ants might be annoying, but they won't hurt you. Plus they provide loads of extra food for birds!



# New face of the fifty!



A friendly face is set to appear on the new **£50 bank note** – **Alan Turing**, the **maths genius** who laid the groundwork for **modern computing**.

The English **mathematician** (1912-1954) is most famous for his work during **World War 2**, where he helped unscramble the **Enigma code** – the **Nazis'** secret messaging system. His complex code-breaking work is thought to have **shortened the war**, saving millions of lives!

Alan had ideas about Artificial Intelligence and computing that were way ahead of his time, paving the way for modern computers. Without him there'd possibly be no Nat Geo Kids and certainly no **natgeokids.com** – can you even imagine?!

## Medi Teddy



A 12-year-old girl has invented something to make hospitals friendlier places for children – a smiley **stuffed bear** called **Medi Teddy**!

**Ella Casano** from **Connecticut, USA**, has a rare illness that means she has to visit the hospital every eight weeks to get treatment through a drip. However, Ella found all the tubing and **medical equipment** a bit scary. So, to make the treatment feel friendlier, Ella decided to make a cute cover for her **IV bag** out of a stuffed toy! It was such a hit with nurses that she's patented the design and is now setting up her own charity called Medi Teddy, so that other poorly kids can enjoy her **invention**. Nice work, Ella!



A cuddly carer!

## Onion-Eating Competition

SEPT

14

Fans of **terrible breath** and **weeping eyes** should get down to **Newent Onion Fayre** in **Gloucester** this September, for the annual **onion-chomping comp**. Bleurgh!

Contestants must munch an **apple-sized onion**, then hold their mouths wide-open and their hands outstretched to prove to the **judges** it's all been gobbled. Last year's champ **Alex Navari** set a new record by swallowing the stinky veg in an eye-watering **45 seconds**! But don't worry if you *don't* fancy devouring an onion – there's plenty more onion-themed fun at the Fayre, including **onion cooking contests**, onion-growing awards, and, randomly, a **dog show**. Hot dog with onions anyone?

CRAZY  
EVENT

# MAKE IT A DATE

Things to take part in this month!

GET INVOLVED SPECIAL

UNTIL SEPT  
30



### Mammals on Roads Survey

Download the free app and help track populations of British mammals! Head to **ptes.org/mor**

SEPT  
16-20



### Jeans for Genes Day

Wear jeans, saves lives! Find out how your school can raise money at **jeansforgenesday.org**



SEPT  
20-23

### Great British Beach Clean

Help keep the sea litter-free for wildlife! Find an event near you at **mcsuk.org/beachwatch**



SEPT  
23-29

### Recycle Week

C'mon – let's rinse, crush, squash, sort and separate! Learn more about recycling at **recyclenow.com**



# WACKY WORLD!

Check out the planet's strangest pictures...



## Rodent rescue



Frefighters in **Dortmund, Germany**, got a wild surprise in June when they responded to a call about an animal in difficulty. They discovered a **red squirrel**'s head poking out of a **manhole cover**! Unable to free the unfortunate rodent, they took the **entire drain cover** to a nearby vet's clinic, where the squirrel was safely **removed**. Phew!

## Flying fun

Check out this crazy **Japanese** hotel room! The **Haneda Excel Hotel Tokyu** has installed a hi-tech **flight simulator** in one of its rooms, so guests can experience piloting a plane. A night in the **Superior Cockpit Room** including a 90-minute stint behind the controls will set you back a cool **£407**. Whoosh!



## Bonkers building

With its **wobbly windows** and strange curved angles, this odd-looking **medical centre** in **Lancaster, California, USA**, really stands out from the crowd. No wonder thousands of tourists **flock to see it** each year!



## CRAZY STATION

The **weird entrance** to **Bockenheimer Warte station** in **Frankfurt, Germany**, is a tram car that looks like it's **crashed** into the pavement. *Tram-tastic!*



## WOODEN WONDERS

This epic **animal sculpture** is the work of **Spanish** artist **Gerard Mas**. The **Barcelona**-based sculptor **carves** huge tree trunks to create **super-realistic** cuties. So clever!



## WOOFY WEAR

Could colourful **leotards** be the next big thing in doggy **fur-shion**?! The **Shed Defender** catches **molting fur** and helps keep dogs **calm, clean**, and **safe from bugs**. *Paw-fect!*







# GROW A FOREST FROM THIS MAGAZINE

At Yorkshire Tea we've planted millions of trees over the years  
- and we want to plant a million more by 2020.

Scan the Shazam code to see trees grow out of this page  
and discover why trees are proper important.



DOWNLOAD / OPEN SHAZAM



TAP CAMERA



SCAN THIS CODE





THE

# BIG

PICTURE

NAT GEO KIDS'  
image of the month







## Dramatic dancing!



Are these **great blue herons** fighting or flirting? Turns out their elaborate **mating ritual** is a bit of both – with moves including **neck stretching** and **bill duelling**! Photographer **Melissa Rowell** snapped this striking shot on a stormy day at **Wakodahatchee Wetlands** in Florida, USA, scooping her an honourable mention in this year's **Audubon Photography Awards**.

"I was fascinated by their **intense expressions** as they sparred," says Melissa. "The drama was further heightened as the **wind picked up**, accentuating their long, flowing **plumes**." Great composition, Melissa!

● Check out the other winners over at **[audubon.org](https://audubon.org)**



# WHAT'S UP?

Films, events, TV and books to get excited about this month...

ENTER ALL COMPS ON PAGE 47!

## Step Up To The Plate

Famous **maitre d'** (head waiter) **Fred Sirieix** and star chef **Allegra McEvedy** are on the hunt for the **best young restaurateurs** in this new **TV talent show**!

Contestants must work in teams to run a themed restaurant. One 'front of house' group is set challenges by Fred to learn all about providing **great service**. Meanwhile, Allegra dishes up foody missions for the **kitchen-based** team!

Who will have the talent and skills to make it through the heats and secure a place in the semi-finals?!

● On **CBBC** weekdays at **9:30am** and **4:30pm**. Catch up on **iPlayer**.



Allegra and Fred put foody teens to the test!

## Asterix: The Secret of the Magic Potion

The year is **50 B.C.**, and **Asterix** and his big pal **Obelix** live in the only **Gaulish** village still undefeated by the invading **Roman** army. And it's all because of a **magic potion** that gives them

**superhuman strength**! Trouble is, the druid that makes the potion is getting very old, and he needs someone to **learn his recipe**. So Asterix and Obelix set off on a quest to find a young druid worthy of learning the magic formula.

● In **cinemas 30 August**

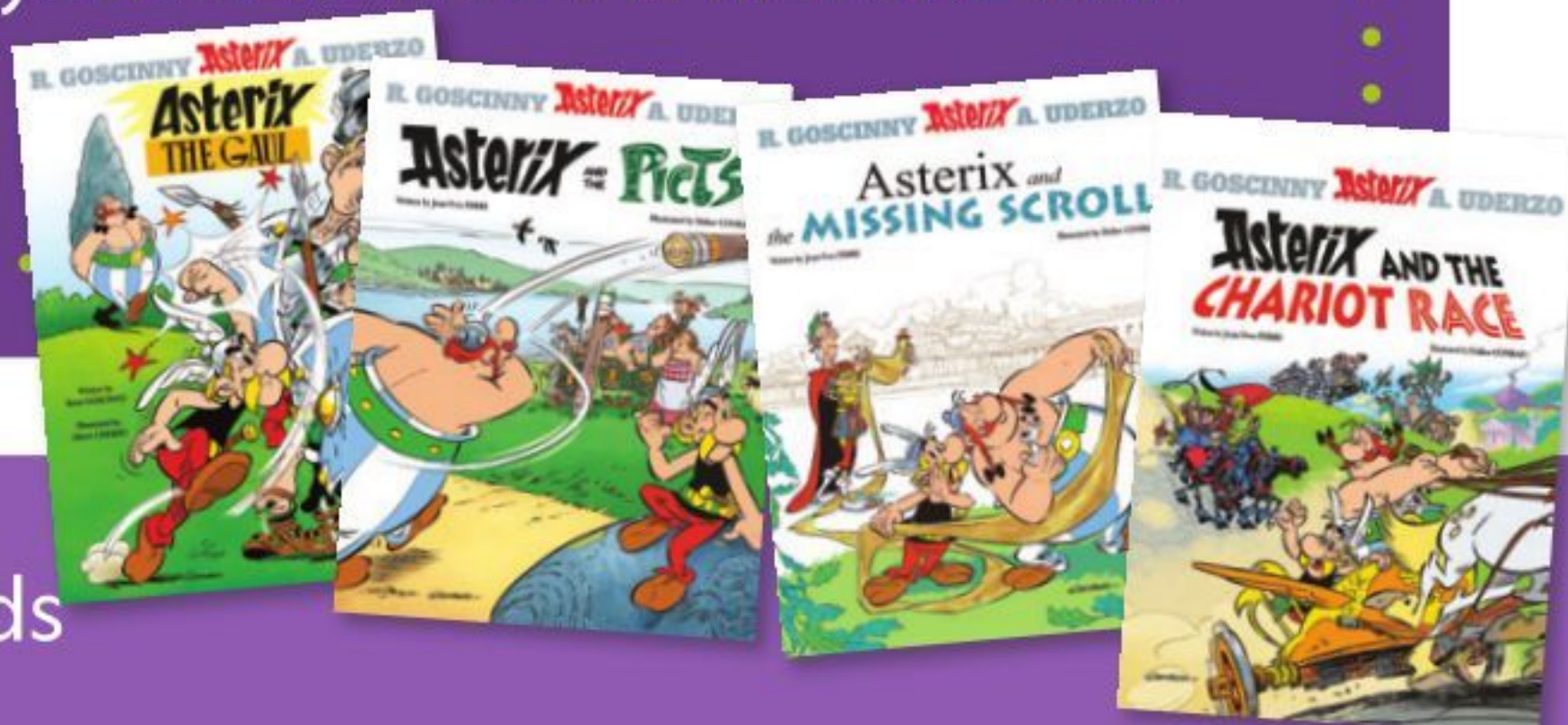


Can Asterix (left) and Obelix find someone new to make their secret potion?!

**WIN!** Five readers will scoop four fantastic **Asterix and Obelix** comic books!

**Q** This year is the anniversary of the **Asterix and Obelix** comics. But how many years is it since the first one was published in France?

a) 6 b) 60 c) 600



## Ocean Film Festival



Get ready for awesome ocean adventures!

Dip your toes into the wonders of the **big blue** – from the comfort of a **cinema seat**! The **Ocean Film Festival World Tour** hits **UK** and **Irish** shores this autumn with a collection of spectacular **short films**. Featuring **surfers, fishermen, marine scientists, artists** and **wild adventurers**, these mini movies showcase fascinating characters who have **dedicated their lives** to the **sea**. Splashing stuff!

● **Screening at 35 venues** around the **UK** and **Ireland** in **September** and **October**. Find a **venue near you** at **oceanfilmfestival.co.uk**

## National Trust



See off summer as a medieval knight!

Make the most of the last days of summer by visiting some of the **National Trust's 500** special places! Simply **explore** the sights, or take part in **special events** and **activities** – from **camping** on a **remote island** to learning **bushcraft skills**, or experiencing life as a **knight**! And we didn't even mention the **I-Spy** trails, **pond dips**, **archery classes** and **escape rooms**!

● Find an event near you at **nationaltrust.org.uk**

**WIN!** Five winners will scoop **family day passes** for a **National Trust** property of their choice.

**Q** How long ago was **Corfe Castle** in **Dorset** (see pic above) built?

a) 10 years b) 1,000 years c) 100,000 years



KEY



Event



Movie



DVD



App



Book



TV

## STAR CHAT

We chat to landscape artist **Tony Plant**, whose work features in the **Ocean Film Festival!**

**TONY PLANT**

Hi Tony, you draw huge circular patterns on beaches which get washed away by the waves! Do you get upset when your beautiful artworks are erased by nature? Absolutely not! These drawings are made in the understanding that they will soon be rearranged by the **tide** and the **weather**. Living in **Cornwall**, I have a huge selection of beaches to draw on, like pages in a **massive, sandy sketchbook**. With every new tide comes another opportunity.

What equipment do you use?

A **rake** and a **sunhat** is all you need, although to film and document them takes a rucksack full of **drinking water**, **paints**, **sketchbooks**, **pencils**, **cameras**, **tripods**, **spare batteries**, **memory cards**, **energy bars** and **fruit!**

How do you know when a drawing is done?

**Tides** control everything. I usually draw on a **dropping** tide, and it's finished when it's finished. Often I **don't actually** see the drawings – by the time I get back up the cliff they are gone – but if I've set up cameras, there's a good chance I might get to watch a recording of the piece.

The short film you've made for the Festival is called **Forever**, even though your drawings only last for a few hours!

Why did you choose that title?

That's the point – what does '**forever**' mean? The film's title points towards the fact that **nothing lasts forever**.

Finally, do you have any advice for kids who'd like to give beach drawings a go?

Try it, **you really can't get it wrong**, because there is **no right**. Grab a stick, get to the beach and start walking!

Thanks Tony! Send us your summer beach drawings, readers!

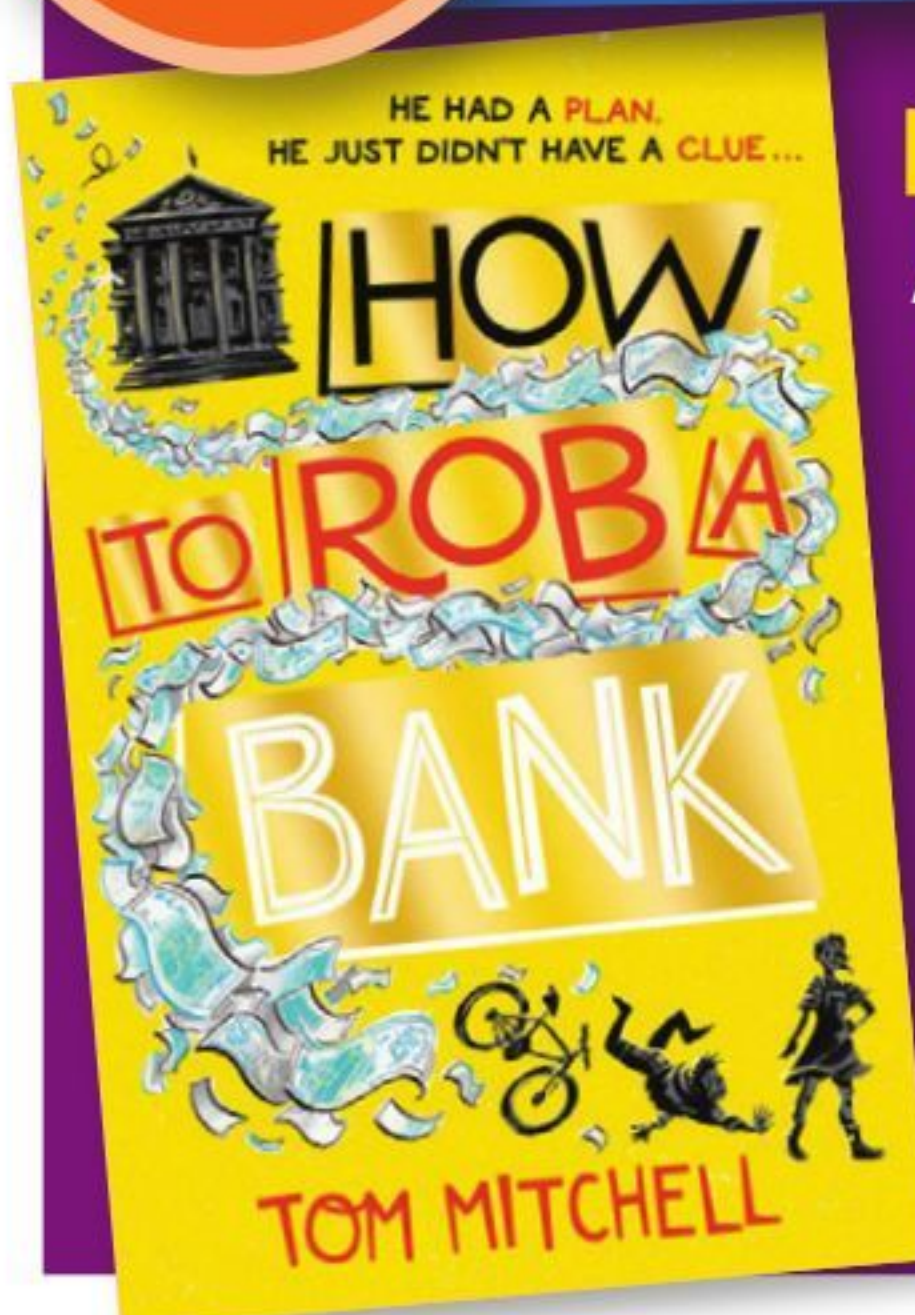
● See more cool seashore art at [tonyplant.co.uk](http://tonyplant.co.uk)



Check out Tony's super sand work!



## Your book reviews



### How to Rob a Bank Tom Mitchell

After 15-year-old **Dylan** accidentally burns his best friend's house down, he spends the rest of the summer trying to rob a bank to make it up to her!

One of the best things about this **gentle book** is that it really conveys what it's like to be a **teenager** today. The story **flowed well** and I laughed a little in places, but it wasn't very gripping – there were no strong emotions and it didn't transport me into the story. I personally prefer a bit more adventure.



Euan, 12

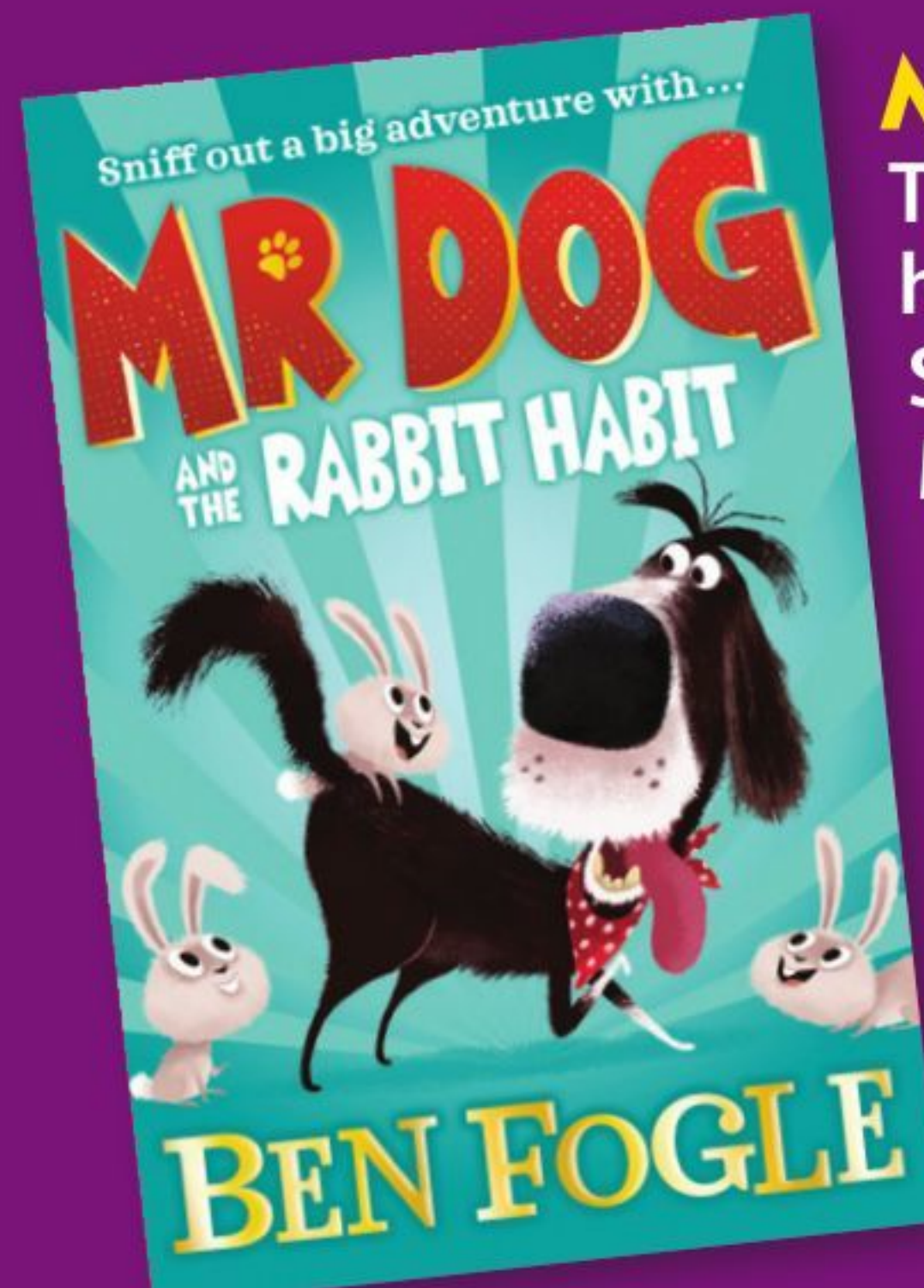
### A Pinch of Magic Michelle Harrison

In this 'must read' book, **three sisters** are **imprisoned under a curse**. They have **three magical items** – a **bag**, a **mirror** and a set of **nesting dolls**. Will they be able to use these enchanted objects to **break the curse** and **survive**?

This great book is full of **adventure**, **fantasy** and **MAGIC!** I recommend it if you love **danger** and **mystery**, of course!



Harriet, 10



### Mr Dog and the Rabbit Habit Ben Fogle

This is a **sensational book** about how **Mr Dog** has an adventure trying to save a **family of rabbits**. Someone has **caught the rabbits' mother** and Mr Dog needs to get her back.

I love Mr Dog because he is **kind**, **helpful** and has a smart **handkerchief** around his neck. There are lots of bits that made me **laugh** – like when they are **soaked** by a **sprinkler** or when Mr Dog runs away with the **sausages!** I now want to read all the books in the series!



Rory, 7

## FACT BOOK OF THE MONTH

### Beano: How to Make a Comic (Studio Press)

If you've ever wondered how **comic artists** come up with such **funny stories**, or how they draw **iconic characters**, then this is the book for you! Learn to **create** your own **comic strips**, **invent cool characters**, and find out how to generate amazing adventures! With step-by-step **drawing guides** and **top tips** from real **Beano** artists, you'll be making your own strips in no time. Let the comic chaos begin!



Beano is the **longest-running British children's comic**. There have been **3,990 issues** to date!

## WIN!

All four of these books are up for grabs! Which of these is NOT a breed of rabbit?

a) Fuzzy lop b) Mini rex c) Chihuahua



# PLANET PROTECTORS

FIVE WAYS SEA OTTERS ARE SAVING THE EARTH...



Sea otters aren't just *otter-ly* cute – these amazing marine mammals also help protect the environment! Read on to find out some surprising ways sea otters are saving our planet.

1

## POLLUTION PREVENTERS



A sea otter watches a crab scuttle across a mud bank at the **Elkhorn Slough Reserve**, an estuary\* in **Monterey Bay, California, USA**. The otter uses its forepaws to move across the mud, then... **snatch!** It grabs the crab and starts to devour its lunch.

Believe it or not, the sea otter's

Sea otters use their stomachs like plates as they eat!

\* An estuary is the wide part of a river where it joins the sea.

Munching on a Dungeness crab



I've got your  
back, Planet  
Earth!

2



An otter in pickleweed

## SEASHORE DEFENDERS

A sea otter wiggles out of the water in the **Elkhorn Slough estuary**, and goes to the toilet near some **pickleweed**, a flowering plant that **helps keep the banks strong**. It sounds gross, but this mammal's **poo** is great for the environment.

"Sea otter faeces is an excellent **fertiliser** for the pickleweed," explains **Michelle Staedler**, the sea otter program manager at **Monterey Bay Aquarium** in California.

"**Harbour seals** poop near pickleweed too," she says. "But because they're **heavier** than otters they end up **flattening** the plants. Pickleweed grows faster and is healthier when fertilised by **otter poop**."

Healthy pickleweed **roots strengthen** the mud banks. "Without the plants, the banks could collapse when water rushes in," Michelle says. That could lead to **coastline erosion**, which is when the ocean washes away chunks of land. So while a pile of sea otter poo might not seem appealing, it makes for a more **stable habitat**. Hooray!

meal helps **prevent pollution** in this **finely balanced** estuary **ecosystem**.

A type of **seagrass** called **eelgrass** grows in this habitat, **filtering out pollution** from water flowing into the estuary. But the eelgrass needs **just the right amount of algae** in its environment – **too much** algae can **smother** it.

Fortunately, the estuary's intricate **food chain** comes to the rescue – with the otters at the top! The sea otters **eat crabs**, which eat the **sea slugs** that eat the **algae**, keeping the whole **ecosystem** in a **delicate balance**, with just the **right amount of algae** for seagrass to thrive. (Did you get all that?!) Brilliant!





3

Sea otters often wrap themselves in kelp so they don't drift away while sleeping!

## HABITAT HEROES

Darting through a leafy underwater kelp forest off the coast of western Canada, a sea otter swims past yellow rockfish, colourful starfish and spindly sea urchins. "Diving into a kelp forest feels like being in a bustling city," marine ecologist Douglas Rasher says. "Seals, sea lions and fish are swirling around everywhere."

But this rich environment would look *totally different* if sea otters weren't there. The proof? "Centuries ago, sea otters in the Aleutian Islands, off the southwest coast of Alaska, were nearly hunted to extinction," Douglas says. "Today it's a barren landscape. Much of the kelp forest-dwelling life is gone."

So how did the disappearance of one animal practically kill off an entire habitat? Well, sea otters eat a lot of urchins, up to 1,500 in a day! And urchins eat kelp. So when the sea otters disappeared, the urchin population exploded – and removed entire kelp forests. This is why biodiversity – a mix of different species in an area – is important for a healthy habitat.

The Aleutian Islands' kelp forests may be gone, but other kelp forests around the world still provide homes to thousands of species – and they depend on sea otters to keep the urchins under control so the forests can thrive.

The thick tail steers the otter through the water as it chases its prey.

Webbed back feet help the otter swim and dive for food.

4

## GLOBAL WARMING WARRIORS

Scientists think that otters may decrease some of the effects of global warming! That's because, like trees, their kelp forest habitats absorb carbon dioxide, then release it back into the atmosphere as oxygen. That means there's less carbon dioxide in the atmosphere to trap heat.

Areas of the ocean with kelp forests can absorb more than double the amount of carbon dioxide than areas without kelp. And so because a kelp forest's ability to thrive depends heavily on sea otters, these cute critters are indirectly helping to keep our planet healthy. Brilliant!



## BUILT FOR HUNTING

A fully-grown sea otter is about the size of an **11-year-old child** – but a lot tougher! Find out how this marine mammal's body is perfect for finding food in the water...

### Nostrils

close underwater to keep out salt water while it dives for prey.

Excellent **eyesight** allows the otter to find food below the water's surface.

Its strong **mouth** can crack open a mussel shell, while razor-sharp teeth tear off bits of food.

On average, a sea otter eats **4.5kg of food each day** – that's the same weight as **11 footballs!**

## A NEW SEA OTTER PREDATOR?

### THE PROBLEM

**Great white sharks** are an increasing threat to California's sea otters!

### THE QUESTION

Otters *aren't* normally on a shark's menu. So why have they been taking a bite recently? "We think most of these interactions are just '**investigative bites**,'" says **Mike Harris**, a senior **environmental scientist** at the **California Department of Fish and Wildlife**. But unfortunately for the otters, a nip from a shark can be deadly. Experts think these bites are on the rise because – among other reasons – great whites have been a **protected species** in California since 1994, so more roam the area than in the past.

### THE SOLUTIONS

Experts like Mike are working on ways to **protect the sea otters** from great whites. In the meantime, you can help protect the otters, too. "Kelp forests **camouflage** sea otters from sharks," Mike says. "So keeping these forests **healthy** helps."

So, no matter where in the world you live, **recycling** and **reusing items** will keep **pollution out of the ocean** – and out of the otters' habitat.



5

## LIFE SAVERS

Sea otters are sometimes called **indicator species** because they're among the first creatures to **react to environmental changes**. This means they can **help scientists** solve environmental mysteries.

For example, when a group of sea otters in the **Pacific Ocean** became ill, scientists were able to examine them in their

central California coastal habitat. They found that a **dangerous toxin**, produced by an **increase in algae**, was making the otters poorly.

"Thanks to the otters, we knew about the extent of the toxic algae in coastal waters and could look into its impact on other animals, too," says **Christine Kreuder Johnson**, a researcher at the **University of California**.

Sea otters **eat a lot** – and they consume many **different types of foods** – so they're more likely than other animals to ingest something dangerous. And, because the otters don't travel much, scientists like Christine can keep a close eye on any odd behaviour. Good news!

Sea otters live in colonies that can include over a thousand individuals.

A pup rests on its mother's tummy



# ANIMAL SHOWDOWN

Both of these animals are known for their **cuddly coats**. But which truly deserves the title of the **fluffiest**?



## ARCTIC FOX

The Arctic

WHERE THEY LIVE

Pacific Ocean

## SEA OTTER

The **arctic fox's** coat has **two layers** – beneath the **long, outer hairs**, there's another layer of **soft hairs** tightly packed together. This system **traps a layer of warm air** next to the **skin** to keep the fox **toasty** in the **winter**.

DOUBLE FLUFF

A **sea otter's** coat is also made up of **two layers** – an **inner** one that **traps air** to keep it warm, plus an outer **water-repellent** layer that keeps its **skin dry** when it's in and around the chilly ocean.

In **summer**, the Arctic fox's fur is **brown or grey** to match the **rocky ground**. But when winter comes, it changes colour, turning pure **white** to blend in with the snow.

COAT NOTES

To keep their coats **waterproof**, otters spend about **5-6 hours** each day grooming their fur.

An Arctic fox has a very **dense** coat, with about **20,000 hairs per square centimetre**.

THE HAIR THERE

Sea otters have an incredible **140,000 hairs per square centimetre** on their coat. Us humans only have **100,000 hairs** on our whole head. Wow!



### WINNER: SEA OTTER

Sure, **Arctic foxes** are fluffy... but **sea otters** undoubtedly have the **thickest coat in the animal kingdom**. They take the crown in this showdown!





# HISTORY'S GREATEST HITS

After his death, many of Einstein's more extraordinary claims were proven to be correct – including **black holes**!

ALL ABOUT

## ALBERT EINSTEIN

Described as the greatest mind of the 20th century, Albert Einstein's work revealed the answers to some of the great mysteries of the universe...

1879–1895

Albert Einstein was born in **Ulm, Germany** on **14 March 1879**. As a child, his fave toy was a **compass**, and he enjoyed solving **maths riddles** and building **towers** out of **playing cards**. Some of his card creations were **14 storeys tall**! Einstein was such a prodigy that at **age 16** he wrote his first scholarly paper on the force of **magnetism**. Bet that *pulled* in a lot of readers!



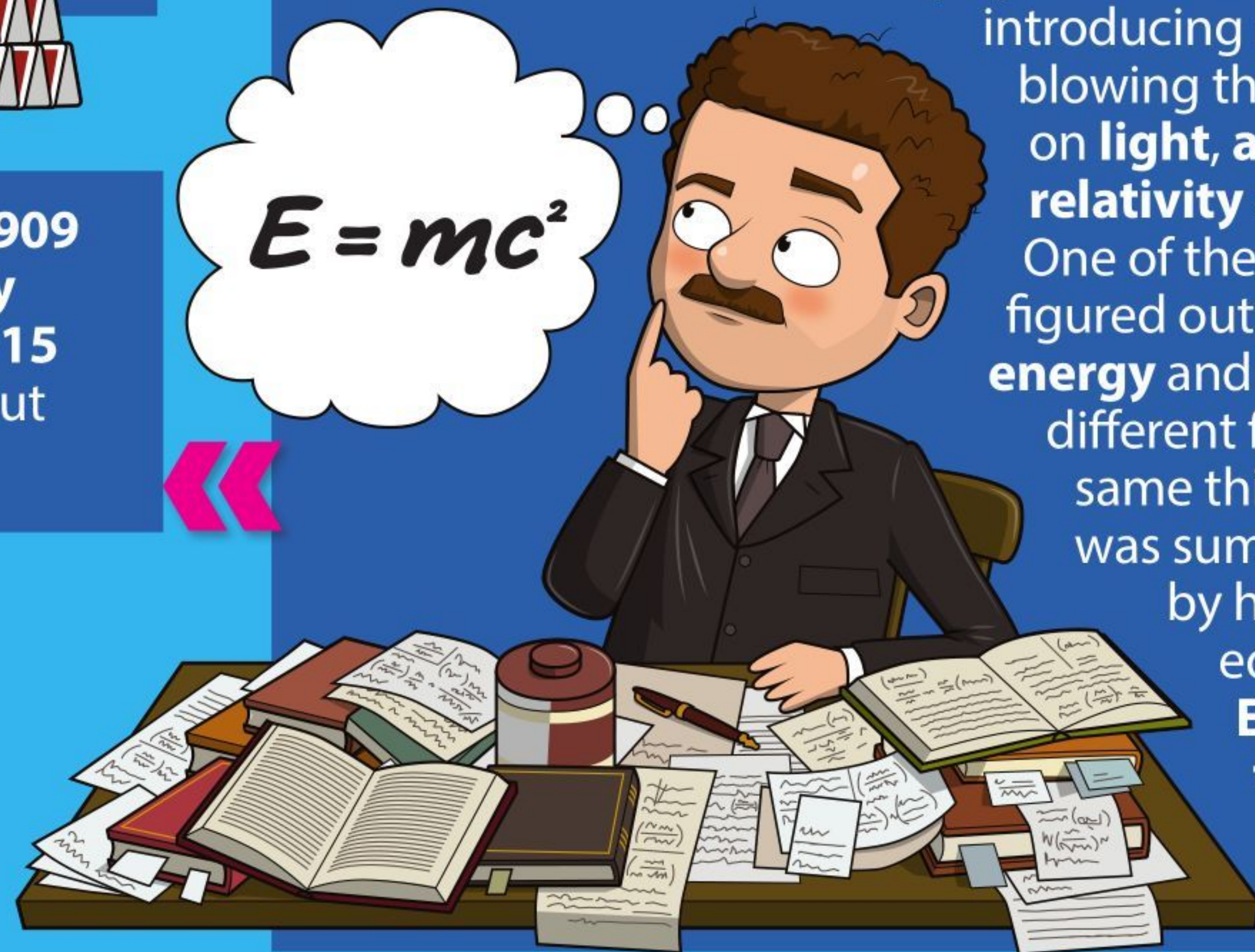
DON'T SNEEZE!

1896–1905

Despite being **super brainy**, Einstein did **badly** at school – probably because he found it so **boring**. One teacher even said he'd "**never amount to anything**"! He **ran away** from Germany to avoid military service and ended up at college in **Switzerland**. Average grades meant he struggled to get a job after college, but a friend found him work at a **patent office**. It was dull, but gave Albert time to do his own **calculations**!

1905

Albert had an extraordinary year in **1905**, publishing **four scientific papers**! His work turned modern **physics** on its head, introducing mind-blowing theories on **light, atoms, relativity** and **energy**. One of the things he figured out was that **energy** and **mass** are different forms of the same thing. This was summed up by his famous equation  $E = mc^2$ , his **theory of special relativity**.



$E = mc^2$

1909–1915

Not everyone liked (or understood) his ideas, but in **1909** Albert was finally made a **professor**, at the **University of Zurich**. He continued tweaking his work, and in **1915** he published his **theory of general relativity**, all about **gravity**, and how **time** and **space** can bend. Whoa!

1919–1922

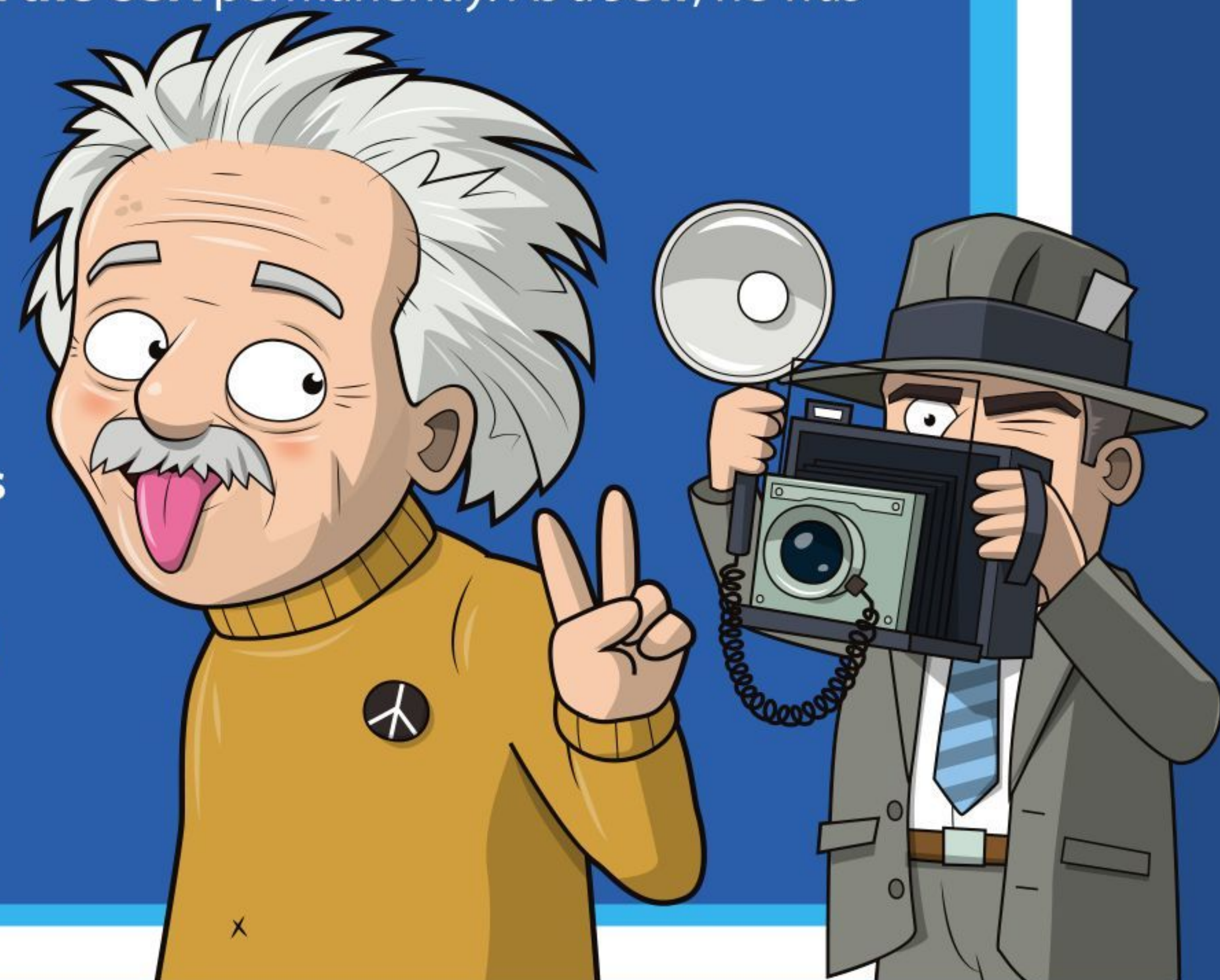
In **1919**, one of Albert's theories (that **gravity can bend light**) was proved during a **solar eclipse**, making him the **most famous scientist alive**! During **world tours**, thousands would come to watch him speak, and he was awarded the **1921 Nobel Prize for Physics** – an honour for major scientific accomplishments. His work revolutionised the way we think about **time and space**, and also paved the way for developments like the **television** and **nuclear energy**.

SCIENCE GETS ME STARRY-EYED!



1933–1955

Albert spent lots of time in **America** where he was adored for his **eccentricity** – he once famously **stuck his tongue out** to ruin a serious photo! But when **Hitler** came to power in **Germany** in **1933**, Albert decided to **stay in the USA** permanently. As a **Jew**, he was in **danger** back home, and so he became a **US citizen** in **1940**. Tragically, Einstein's work with atoms led to the invention of the **atomic bomb**, a terrible weapon which claimed **hundreds of thousands of Japanese lives** in **World War 2**. Albert was horrified and spent the rest of his life campaigning for **world peace**. He died in **1955**.





# PLASTIC PIONEERS!

Find out who won Covestro's cool school competition!



Back in January, we asked you lot to **design a poster** that would inspire people to use **less single-use plastics**, and also to tell us what **your school** is doing about **plastic pollution**.

Now it's time to reveal the champs...

## MEET THE WINNERS!

Brothers **Benjamin** (7) and **Aiden** (6), from **Blundell's Prep School** in **Devon**, were crowned **joint champions** for their striking '**Iceberg**' design. They beat more than **300 other entries**. Congrats, boys!



## SUPER SCHOOL

Our champs told us that **looking after the environment** is a "way of life" at their school, **Blundell's**.

When they joined Year 2, they made a **Plastic Pledge** to **avoid single-use plastic** and become **Plastic Pioneers!** In class, they learned about the devastating impact single-use plastic has on **marine life**, and created an '**Octofish**' out of **recycled plastic** to remind others of the issue.

They made **recycled greetings cards**, took part in **beach clean-ups**, and collected school kids' **single-use plastic** over the course of a **week** so they could see how much they used. Great work!

## THE PRIZE!

As well as winning **£150 of toy vouchers** for themselves, Ben and Aiden scooped **£400 STEM funding** for their school. But best of all, **Covestro scientist Dr. Karolin Schenk** (see circular pic below) visited their **Year 2 class** to do a fun workshop all about plastics!



**Dr. Karolin Schenk** taught the kids to create '**polymer worms**' – an awesome experiment to show how **molecules** found in **algae** can be used to make **slimy solids**. Cool!

The whole class took part in a fun **plastics and climate change quiz** and asked **Dr. Schenk** lots of questions about being a scientist.



Showing off their copies of **NG Kids mag!**



"It's been a delight to meet **Benjamin, Aiden** and their classmates! They're potential **scientists** in the making!"



Dr. Schenk with the boys!

Head to [natgeokids.com/uk/all-about-plastic](http://natgeokids.com/uk/all-about-plastic) to learn more about plastics!

## WHO IS COVESTRO?

Covestro produces innovative plastic materials to make the world a brighter place.





# Keep Earth Wild

Newborn  
giant pandas  
weigh as little  
as a pouch of  
cat food!

## Nat Geo photographer Joel Sartore gives us a behind-the-scenes look at his quest to save animals...



Joel Sartore has **made funny noises**, **suffered a stink attack** and **protected his camera** from a parakeet – all to help **save animals** through photography. “I hope people will look these animals in their eyes and be **inspired to protect them**,” he says.

Joel’s aim is to make portraits of all **12,000 animal species** living in zoos or wildlife parks for his project, the **National Geographic Photo Ark**. During each photo shoot, he works with **zookeepers**, **aquarists** and **wildlife rehabilitators** to keep his subjects safe and comfortable. But things can still get a little, well, wild! Read on for some of Joel’s most **memorable moments**.

Joel uses **black or white backgrounds** for his photos because **he wants the focus to only be on the animals**. That way a mouse is as important as an elephant. Clever!

## Moment of HUH?

**ARCTIC FOX**, native to the Arctic regions of Eurasia, North America, Greenland, and Iceland  
*Great Bend Brit Spaugh Zoo, Kansas, USA*

“Todd the **arctic fox** wanted to sniff everything, but he was moving **too quickly** for me to get a good picture. I needed to do something **surprising** to get his **attention**, so I squealed like a pig! The weird sound made the fox stop, sit down and **tilt his head** – as if he were thinking, ‘What’s the matter with you?’! Good thing I was fast, because the **pig noise** only worked once. The next time I squealed, Todd **completely** ignored me.”

Some  
arctic fox  
dens are 300  
years old.



NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC

PHOTOARK  
JOEL SARTORE

## BY THE NUMBERS

Joel is on a **mission** to photograph each and **every animal species** in captivity – all **12,000** of them. Here’s how he’s getting on...

Species photographed:  
**More than 9,850**

Institutions visited:  
**450**

Countries visited:  
**50**

Time spent so far:  
**13 years**

Cameras used:  
**At least 15**





## Moment of **SNOOZE**

**GIANT PANDAS,**  
native to China

*Zoo Atlanta, Atlanta, Georgia, USA*



These **giant pandas** were just a few months old when I put the **rugby ball-sized twins** in a small, white photo tent and **snapped** some pics as they tumbled on top of each other. But the youngsters were tiring out, and I knew I was **losing my chance** to get a memorable photo before they **drifted off** to sleep. One cub put his head on the back of the other, and I managed to **capture an awesome shot** just seconds before the two cubs **fell asleep!**



A single colony of grey-headed flying foxes can include a million bats!

## Moment of **SWEET!**

**GREY-HEADED FLYING FOX,** native to southeastern Australia  
*Australian Bat Clinic, Advancetown, Australia*



When I arrived at the **clinic**, I was amazed to see all sorts of bats just **hanging from laundry racks** all over the rescue centre. They **sleepily** watched me as I walked through the room and asked a staff member for a **friendly flying fox** to photograph. She scooped up a **sweet bat** and placed its feet on a wire rack in front of my backdrop. The **calm bat** didn't seem to mind being in front of the camera. The best part? This clinic **rehabilitates bats** that have torn their wings, and my subject was eventually **released** back into the wild.



## Moment of **EWV!**

**PALAWAN STINK BADGER,**  
native to the Philippines

*Avilon Zoo, Rizal, Philippines*

Palawan stink badgers also use their scent to mark their territory.



This **stink badger** really earned her name. Right after walking into the photo enclosure, she lifted her tail and released **globbs of smelly goo** from her bottom! It was like a skunk smell, but *much* worse. (Since these animals are **slow movers**, the stinky smell is their **best defence** against predators.) We took the photos as fast as we could, and then the **zoo staff** treated her to some **extra worms**. But I made a big mistake in photographing her **first** that day. The **binturong** that I was supposed to shoot next took **one whiff**, walked out, and **refused** to come into the photo enclosure for the rest of the day!





## Moment of **AWW**

### **BORNEAN ORANGUTAN,** native to Borneo, an island in Southeast Asia

*Avilon Zoo, Rizal, Philippines*

I knew **Trixie** was special when she walked into the room **holding her keeper's hand**. Since this orangutan grew up with her keepers, she was totally **relaxed** around us. I pointed to the corner of the room where I wanted to do the photo shoot, and Trixie **walked right over**. Then she lay down and **looked at me through the lens** of the camera. I felt like she could **understand everything I said**, so I just told her to strike a pose. As you can see, she did it **perfectly!**



Orangutans sleep in giant nests they create in the forest canopy.

**More WILDNESS!** Photo Ark spotlights all kinds of animals. Meet some of Joel's strangest subjects...



#### **BUDGETT'S FROG**

Native to Argentina,  
Bolivia and Paraguay  
*Baltimore Aquarium,  
Baltimore, Maryland, USA*



#### **ORANGE SPOTTED FILEFISH**

Native to Indo-West  
Pacific Ocean  
*Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium,  
Omaha, Nebraska, USA*



#### **MEDITERRANEAN RED BUG**

Native to the  
Mediterranean region  
*Graham's Quinta dos  
Malvedos Vineyard, Portugal*



#### **NORTH AMERICAN PORCUPINE\***

Native to North America  
*Nebraska Wildlife Rehab,  
Omaha, Nebraska, USA*  
\*The critter above is  
a rare albino porcupine!





Moment of  
**WOW!**

**RED-MASKED  
PARAKEET,**  
native to Ecuador and Peru  
*Kamla Nehru Zoological  
Garden, Ahmedabad, India*

Parakeets are loud, active, **supersmart** birds. When I brought this **red-masked parakeet** into the photo tent, he first climbed up on to the **equipment** and **nibbled** at my lens. But then something caught the bird's eye – his **own reflection** in the camera lens! He didn't try to **fight the reflection**, so I thought maybe he understood he was looking at himself, or perhaps at **another bird** he knew wasn't a threat. Instead, he **posed** for the camera! I felt like the clever bird could tell I was there to **take his picture** and help him.

Red-masked  
parakeets  
sometimes nest in  
mounds made by  
termites.

Giraffes  
sometimes use  
their tongues  
to clean their  
ears!

Moment of  
**YUM**  
**RETICULATED  
GIRAFFE,**  
native to Africa  
*Gladys Porter Zoo,  
Brownsville, Texas, USA*

You definitely can't make a giraffe do **anything** it doesn't want to do. So to get this animal to be part of our photo shoot, we **combined** the activity with one of the giraffe's **favourite** things – lunch! First, we hung a **huge** black backdrop in the part of the **giraffe's enclosure** where it gets fed. Then the enormous animal ambled in – not minding me at all – and I could take all the pictures I wanted for about **ten minutes**, while the animal munched on **bamboo leaves**. However, as soon as its lunch was over, the giraffe walked out, and our photo shoot was done.



Joel placed the black  
backdrop behind the  
giraffe's lunch to get  
these shots!



**ALAOTRA  
REED LEMUR**

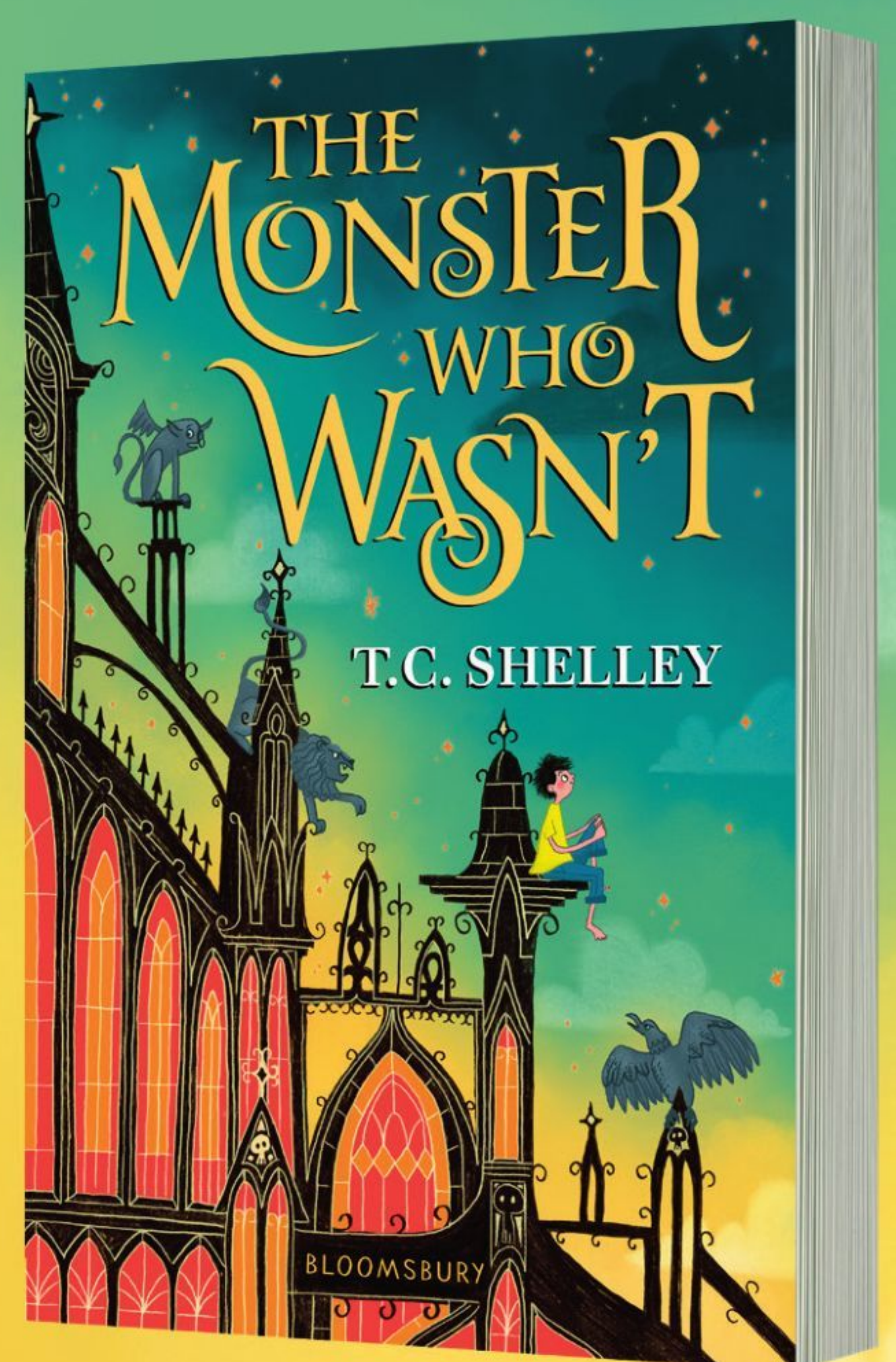
Native to Madagascar  
*Plzeň Zoo, Plzeň,  
Czech Republic*



It is a well-known fact that fairies are born  
from a baby's first laugh. What is not as well  
documented is how monsters come into being...

T.C. SHELLEY

# THE MONSTER WHO WASN'T



BLOOMSBURY





**RACCOON**





# WHAT IS AVAXHOME?



# AVAXHOME-

the biggest Internet portal,  
providing you various content:  
brand new books, trending movies,  
fresh magazines, hot games,  
recent software, latest music releases.

Unlimited satisfaction one low price

Cheap constant access to piping hot media

Protect your downloadings from Big brother

Safer, than torrent-trackers

18 years of seamless operation and our users' satisfaction

All languages

Brand new content

One site



# AVXLIVE ICU

AvaxHome - Your End Place

We have everything for all of your needs. Just open <https://avxlive.icu>

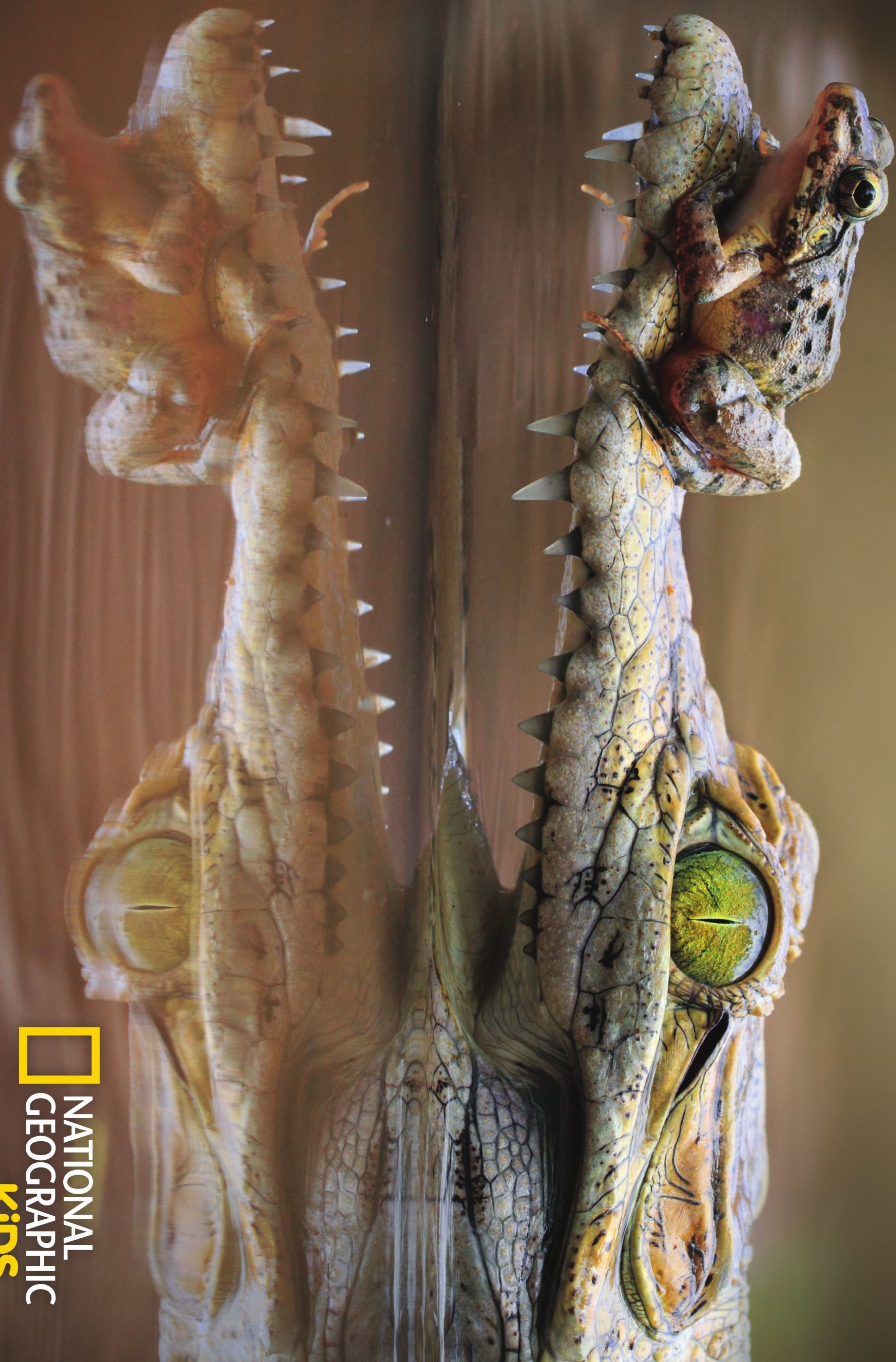










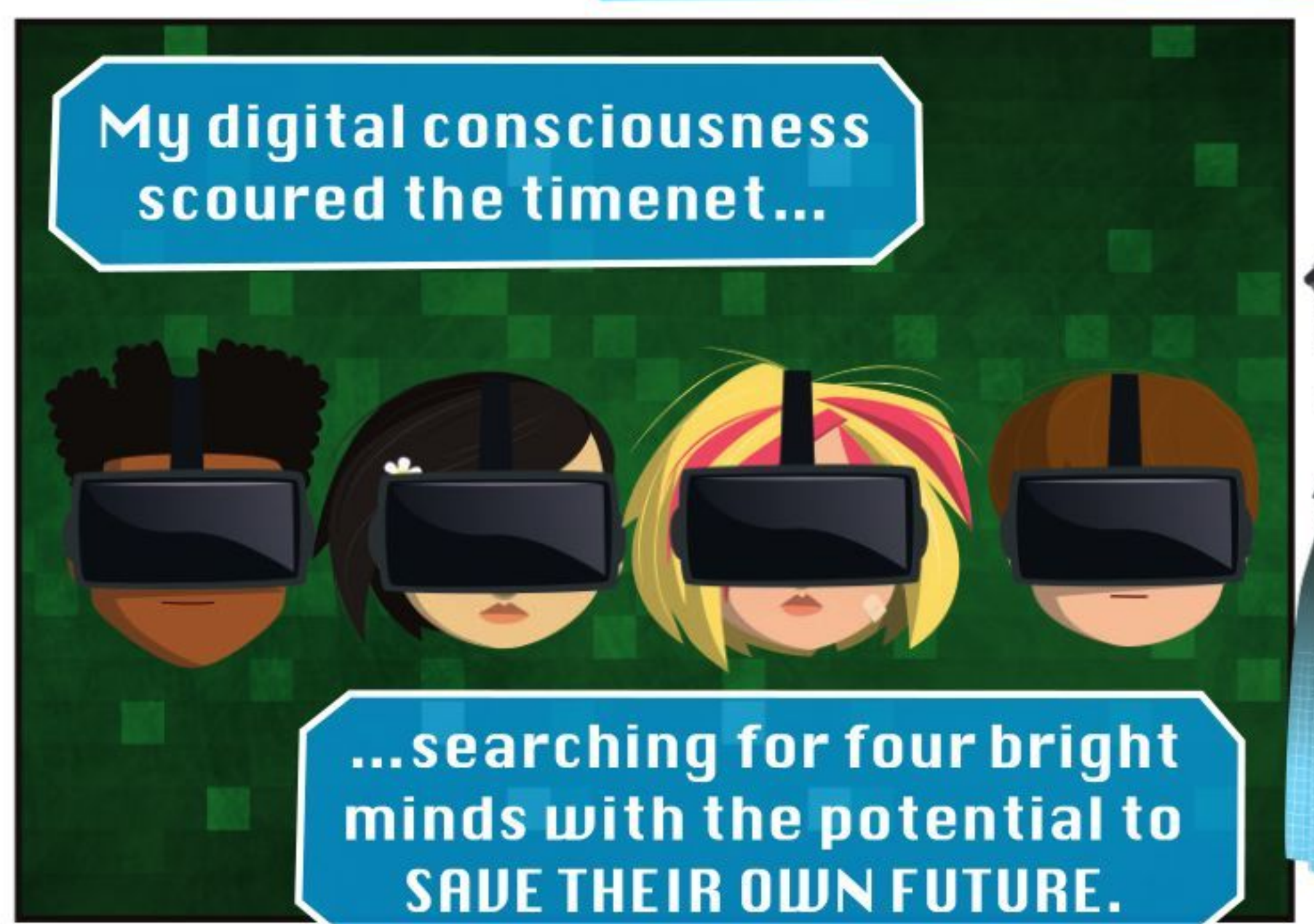
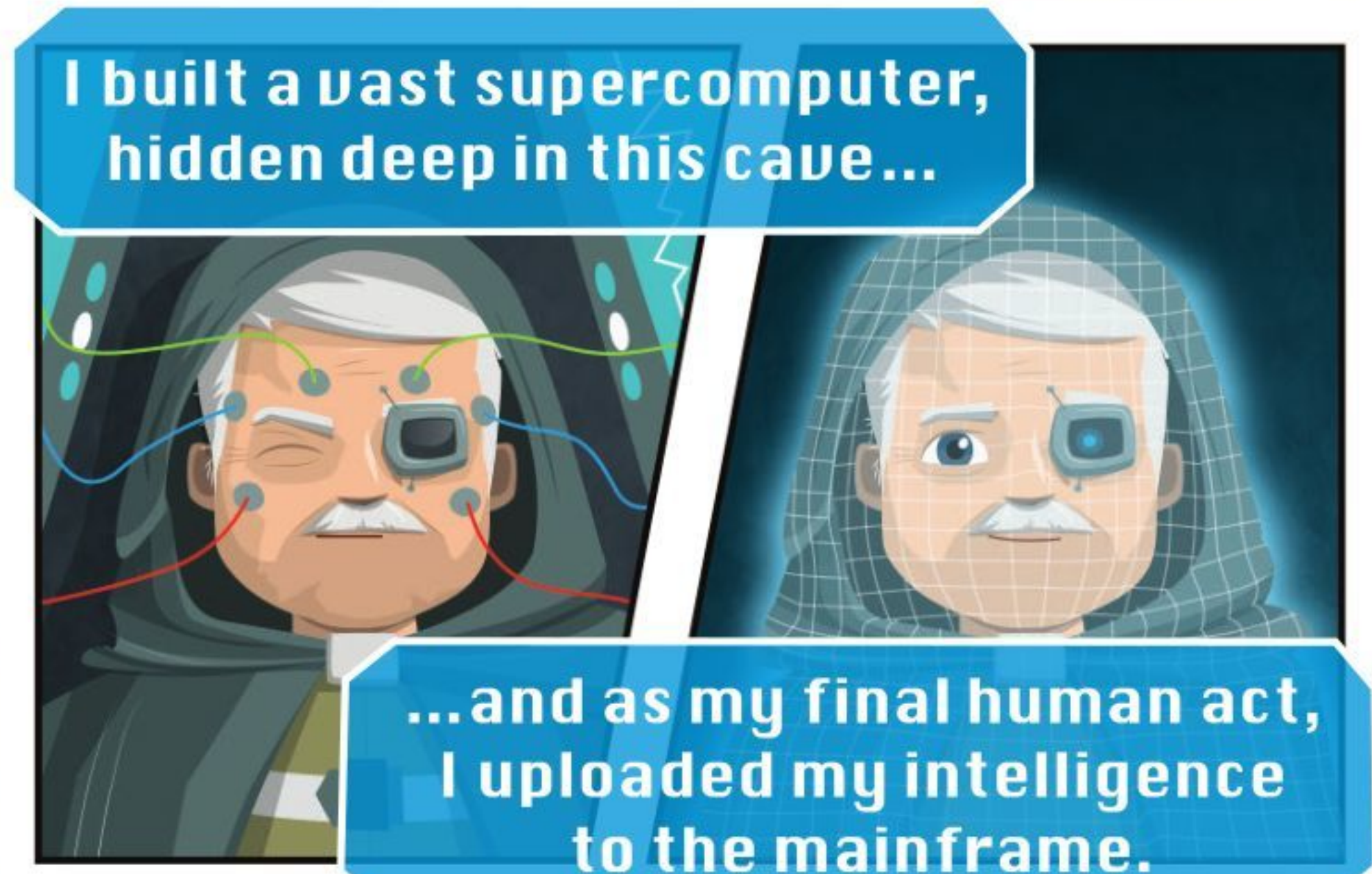
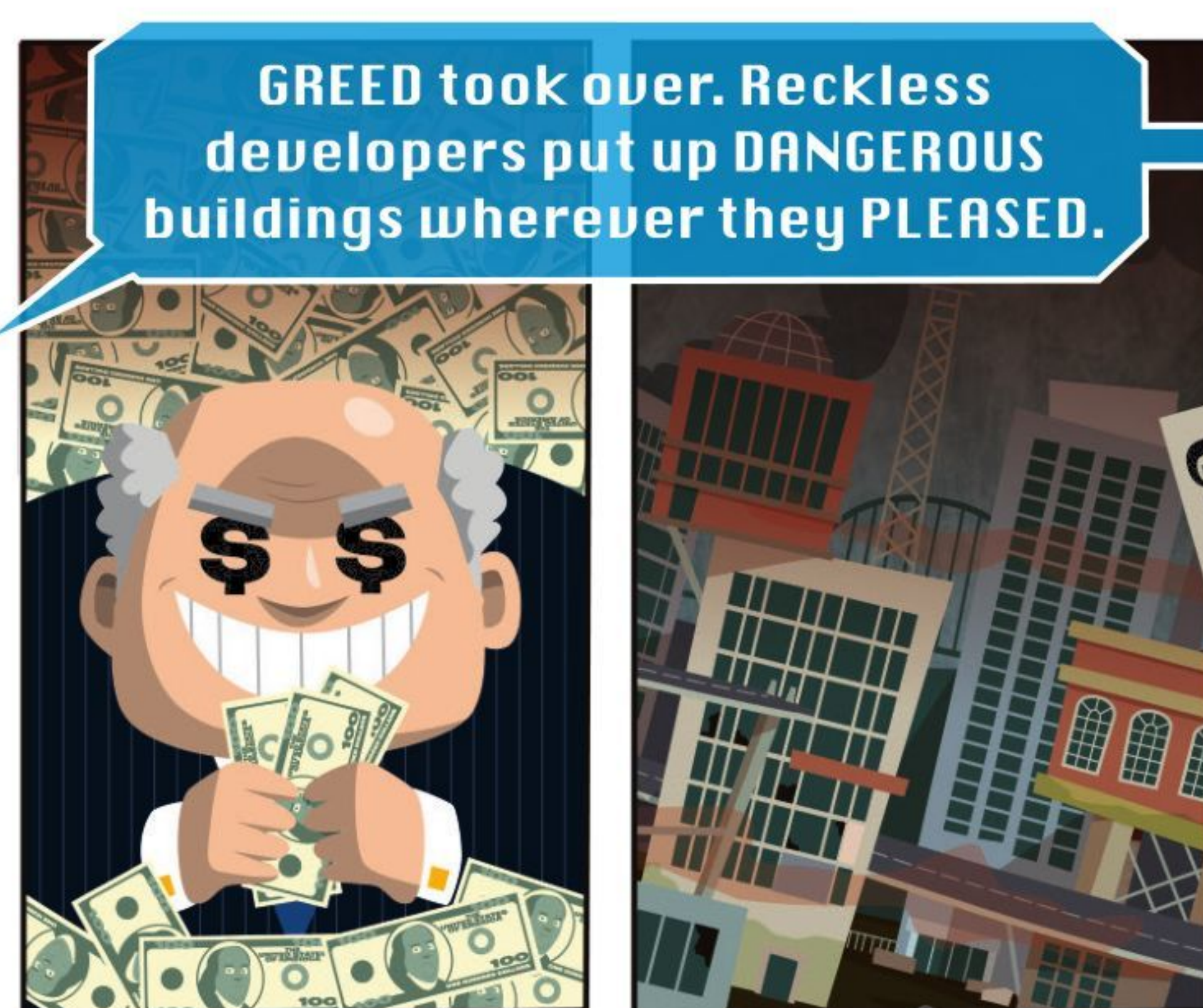
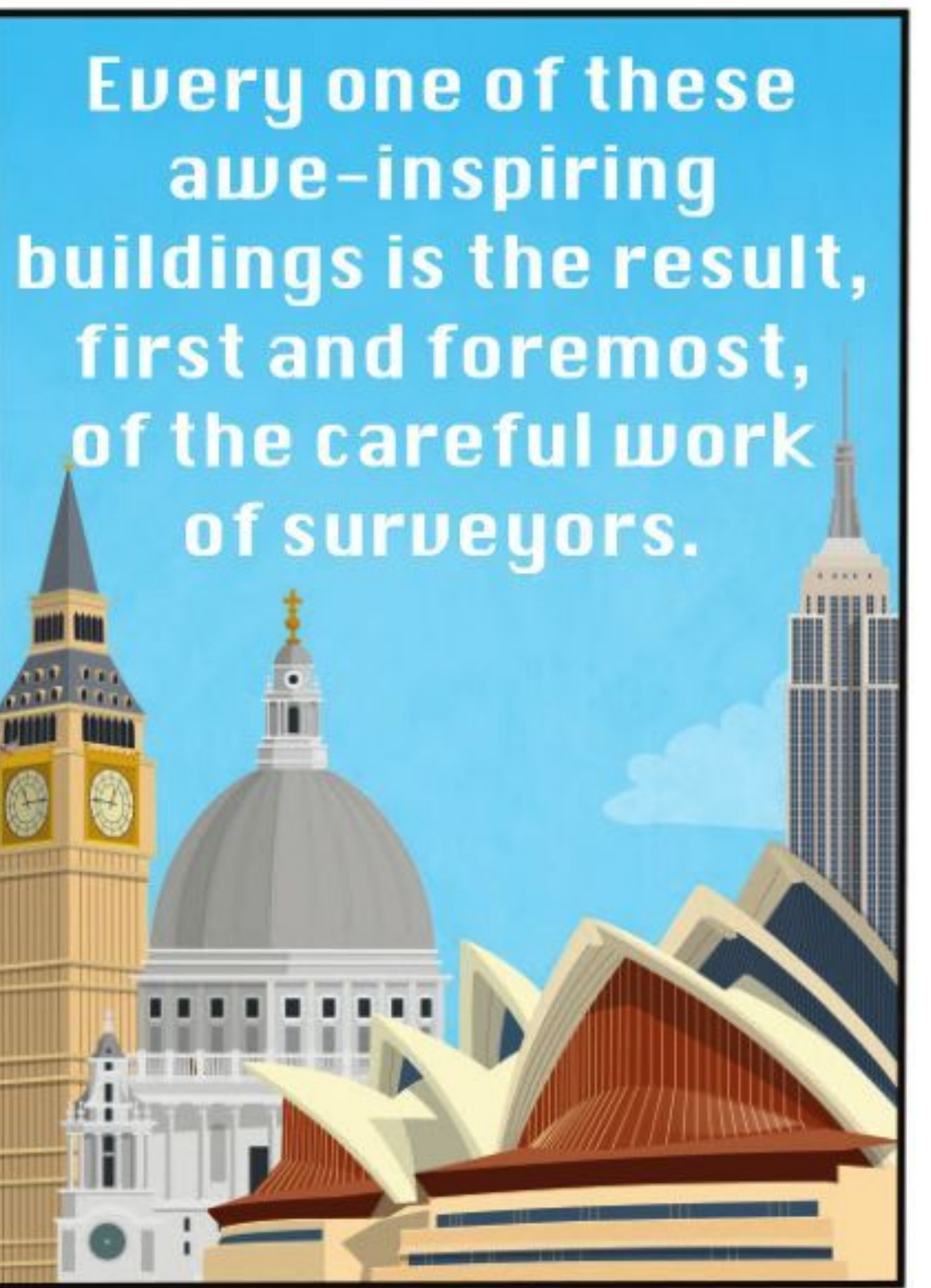
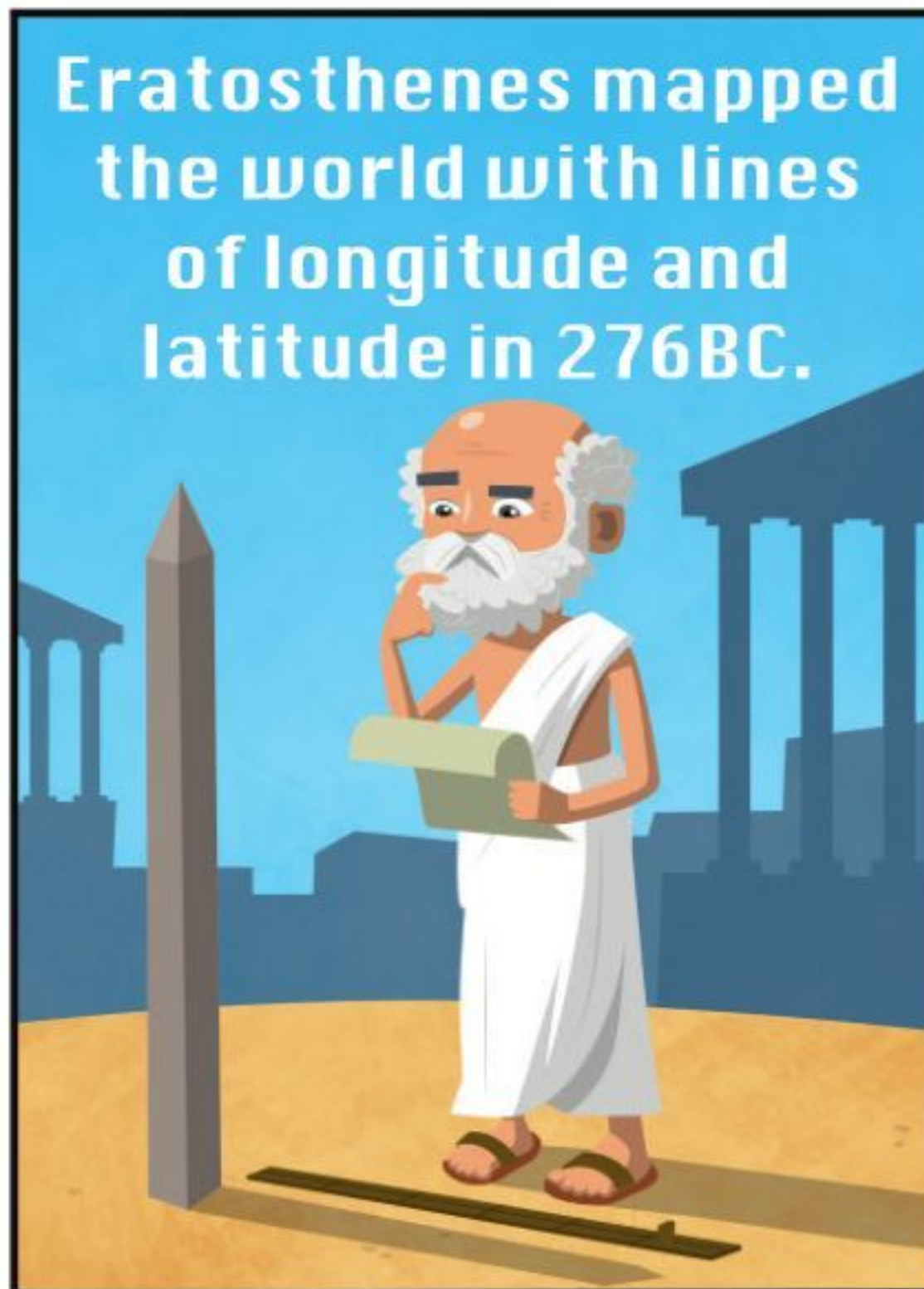
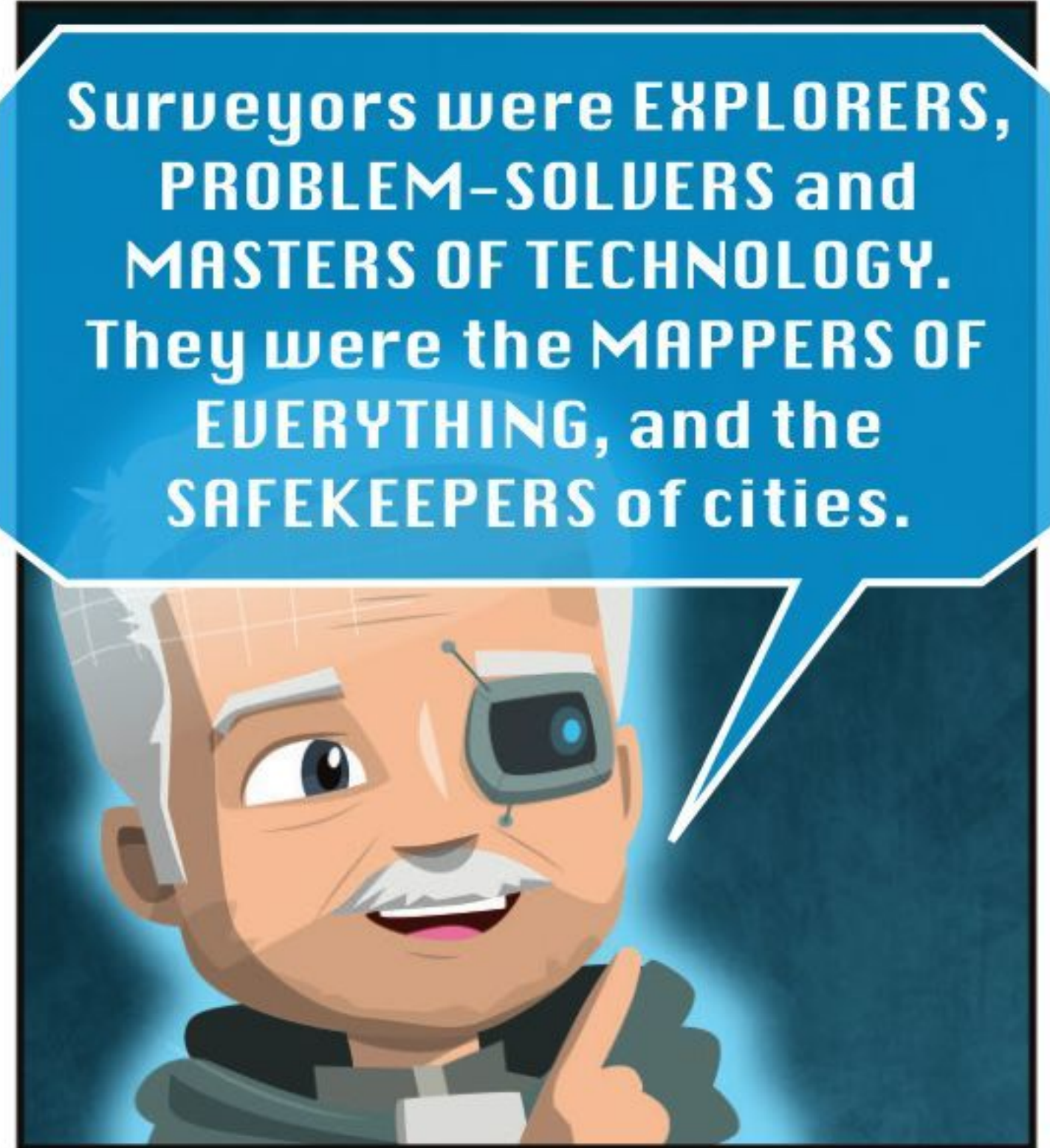
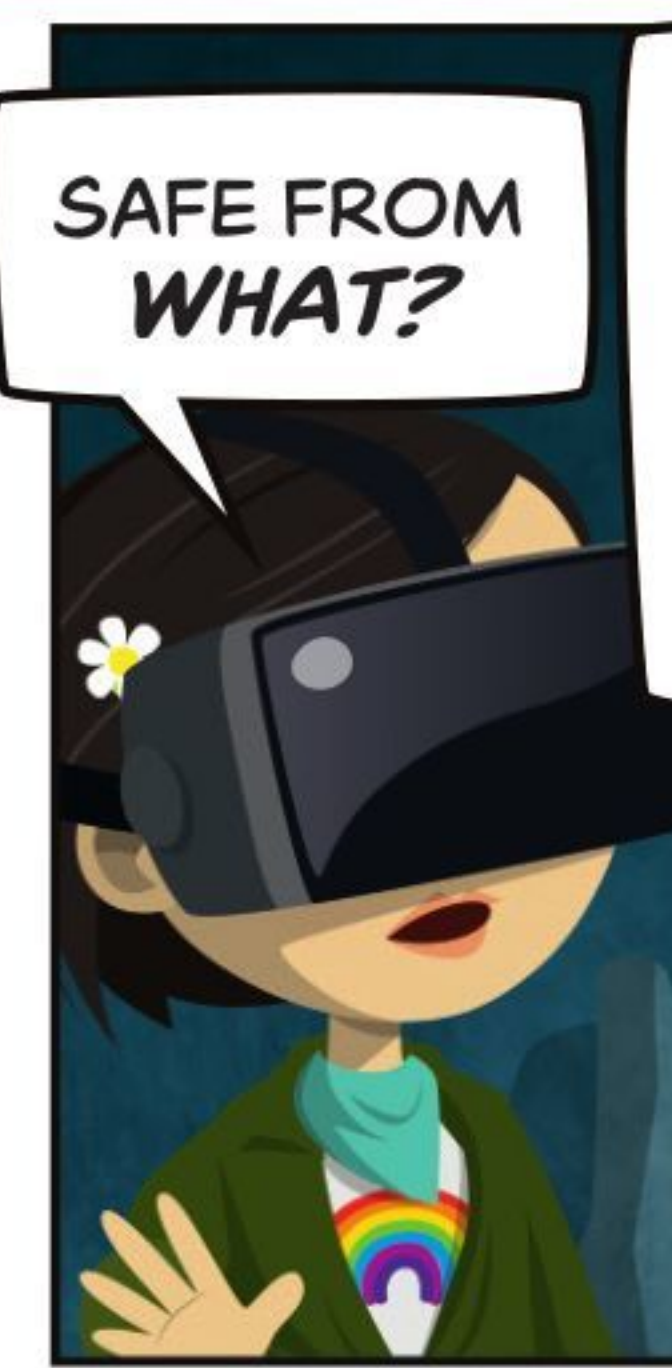
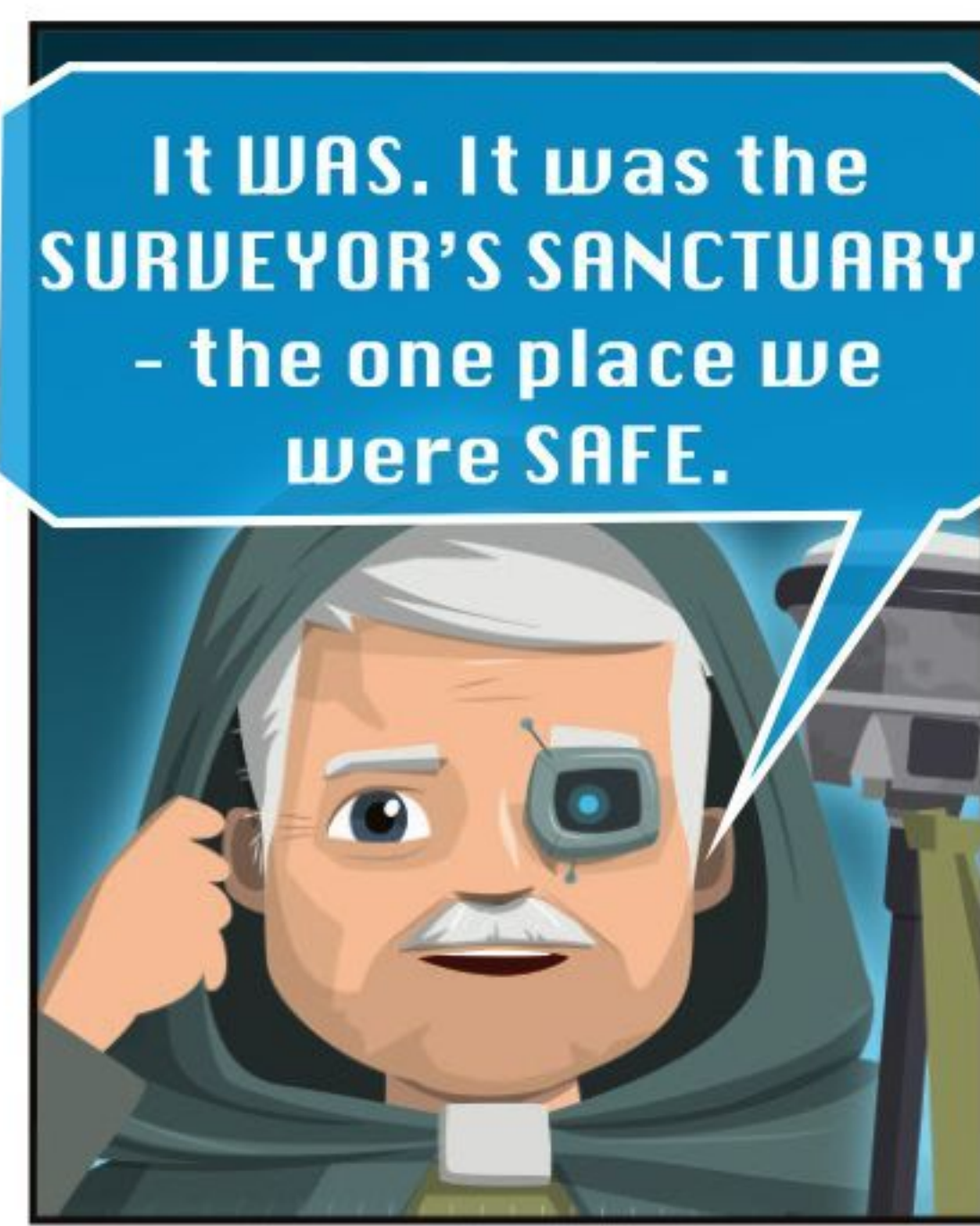


NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC

KIDS

CROCODILE  
AND FROG





TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH...



# 2019 PHOTO

Woohoo! Get your cameras and smartphones at the ready, because it's time

## THE CATEGORIES

You can enter as many categories as you like – but just **ONE** photo per category!

### 1 ANIMALS

Pictures of the planet's non-human inhabitants! Beloved **pets**, **incredible insects**, foraging **park life** or **exotic creatures** – we want to see the world's wildlife in *all* its shapes and sizes. You could capture animals in their **natural environment**, in a **zoo** or **wildlife park** – or somewhere completely unexpected.

#### TOP TIP\*

Most people take photos from **head height**, which can be boring as we see the world from that angle **all the time**. So try taking images from an **animal's view point**! Imagine how different the world must appear – everything must seem so **big** or **small**!



The criss-crossing trees add an interesting element to Ami Vitale's cute panda pic!

### 2 PEOPLE

Will you choose to take a stylised **portrait** of someone you know well, carefully choosing the **backdrop** and **lighting**? Or will you **capture** a more **candid** shot, with a **natural expression**? You could show someone at work, at play, daydreaming, or in action. **Group shots** can be entered into this category, too. Whichever you choose, try to **reveal something** about the **character** and **emotion** of the person or people in the picture.

\* Tips taken from *Be A Super Awesome Photographer* by Henry Carroll

An interesting backdrop makes Ami's picture of these women very intriguing! What do you think they're talking about?

#### TOP TIP\*

Rather than simply asking your subject to say "cheese!", try some **tricks** to make them forget they're being snapped! You could ask them to **hold their breath**, **jump in the air** or even **eat something**. You can tell a lot about a person from how they react!

### 3 ENVIRONMENT

NEW!

We've launched a **brand-new eco-friendly category** this year – and for this one, we want you to take an image that **inspires people to protect our planet**! You may want to show images demonstrating the **damage** humans can do to the environment – such as **litter** or **pollution**. Or maybe you could capture **positive things** that are being done to help, such as **animal rescue centres**, **eco homes**, **climate change protests** or **beach clean-ups**! Or your picture could simply capture a beautiful, **natural scene** that you want to protect. We can't wait to see your **inspiring shots**!

#### TOP TIP

**Researching** your subject can make all the difference! And be **patient**! If you take lots of shots of the same thing, at different times of day, you can have fun picking out the best one. And finally, don't be afraid to **experiment with angles and focus**!

Ami visited a wildlife sanctuary to capture this tender moment between an orphaned elephant and its human carer





# PHOTOCOMP!

**WIN!**  
A FAMILY  
HOLIDAY TO  
MOROCCO,  
COOL CAMERAS  
AND MORE!

for this year's NG KiDS photography competition...



## THE JUDGE

A top National Geographic Photographer is our judge this year – the amazing **Ami Vitale**!

*An image should provoke thoughts and questions. It should have a story.*

**AMI VITALE**

Read more about Ami on page 34!

## HOW TO ENTER

- This year, all entries are via our **website**. If you're not already **registered**, you\* or your parent / guardian will need to do so at [natgeokids.com/uk/photocomp](http://natgeokids.com/uk/photocomp) – it will only take a minute to do!
- You can upload **ONE** photo for **each** of the three categories. Photos should be in JPEG format, between **1MB** and **5MB** in size. Enter at [natgeokids.com/uk/photocomp](http://natgeokids.com/uk/photocomp)
- Before you upload your photo, make sure you rename the image file with your **full name** and the **category** you are entering. For example: **Joe\_Bloggs\_Animals.jpg**
- Don't forget to tell us your **full name**, **date of birth** and the **title of your photo**!

The deadline is **21 October 2019!**

You must be age **7-14** to enter!

**Terms and Conditions:** Contest is open only to legal residents of the **UK** and **Ireland** who are between the ages of **7** and **14** at the time of entry. Employees of Creature Media, National Geographic Partners, the National Geographic Society, the prize providers, their affiliates and subsidiaries, and their immediate family members (spouse, parent, child, sibling and their respective spouses, regardless of where they live) or persons living in the same households of such individuals, whether or not related, are not eligible to enter or win a prize. The deadline for entries is **23:59 (BST) on 21 October 2019**.

The competition **Entrant** must be the photographer. Entries must be uploaded by the Entrant's parent or guardian at [natgeokids.com/uk/photocomp](http://natgeokids.com/uk/photocomp). Each photograph must be between **1 megabyte** and **5 megabytes** in size, must be in **JPEG** format and **300dpi** resolution. Entries need not be taken with a digital camera; scans of negatives, transparencies, or photographic prints are acceptable. Original transparencies and negatives or, in the case of digital images, a minimum **12.7cm x 17.8cm (5" x 7")** 300dpi JPEG of the winning photographs must be available so the picture can be published. Minor burning, dodging and/or colour correction is acceptable. Cropping is acceptable, as are fish-eye lenses. Any changes to the original photograph not itemised here are unacceptable and will render the photograph ineligible for a prize. Photographs must be taken not more than one year before the date of entry. Limit is **one entry per person per Category**.

NB: By uploading the Entrant's entry to [natgeokids.com/uk/photocomp](http://natgeokids.com/uk/photocomp), the Entrant's **parent or guardian** is giving **permission** for their child to enter the **NG KiDS Photography Competition 2019** and for National Geographic Kids to **contact them** in the event of their image being longlisted. Winning images will be printed in the magazine and winners may be required to take part in promotional activities. All other entries will be erased once the winners are chosen to protect privacy. All Entrants retain the copyright of their images, and winning images will only be used within NG KiDS magazine, on [natgeokids.com](http://natgeokids.com) and to promote the competition. Full terms and conditions at [natgeokids.com/uk/photocomp](http://natgeokids.com/uk/photocomp)

\* Children who register will need to have their account approved by a parent or guardian before they can enter.

Turn over to find out more about the awesome prizes!

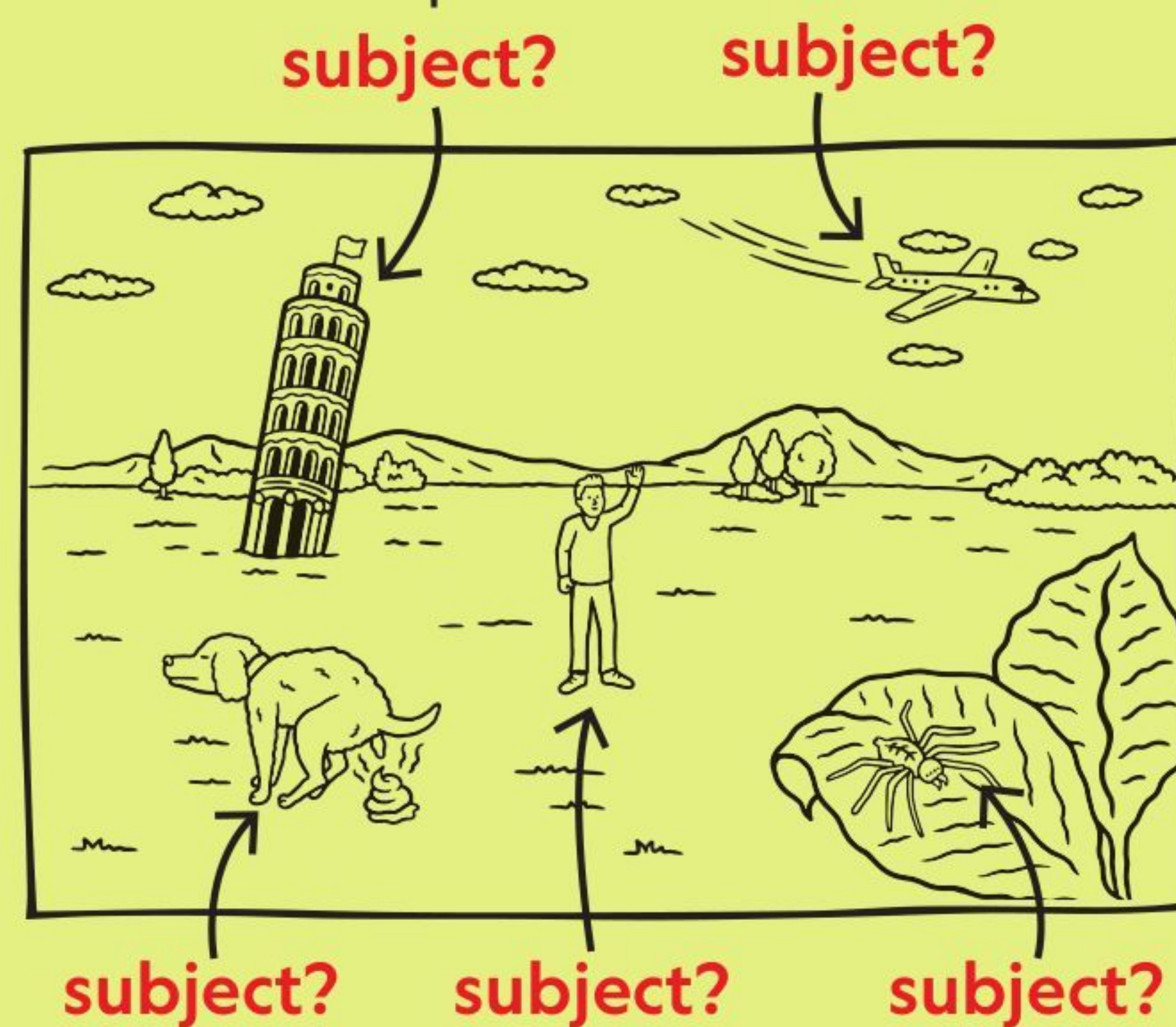
## Nifty know-how

### COMPOSITION

This means how you choose to arrange, or 'compose' everything in your photo. There's a fair bit to think about, so here are some handy hints...

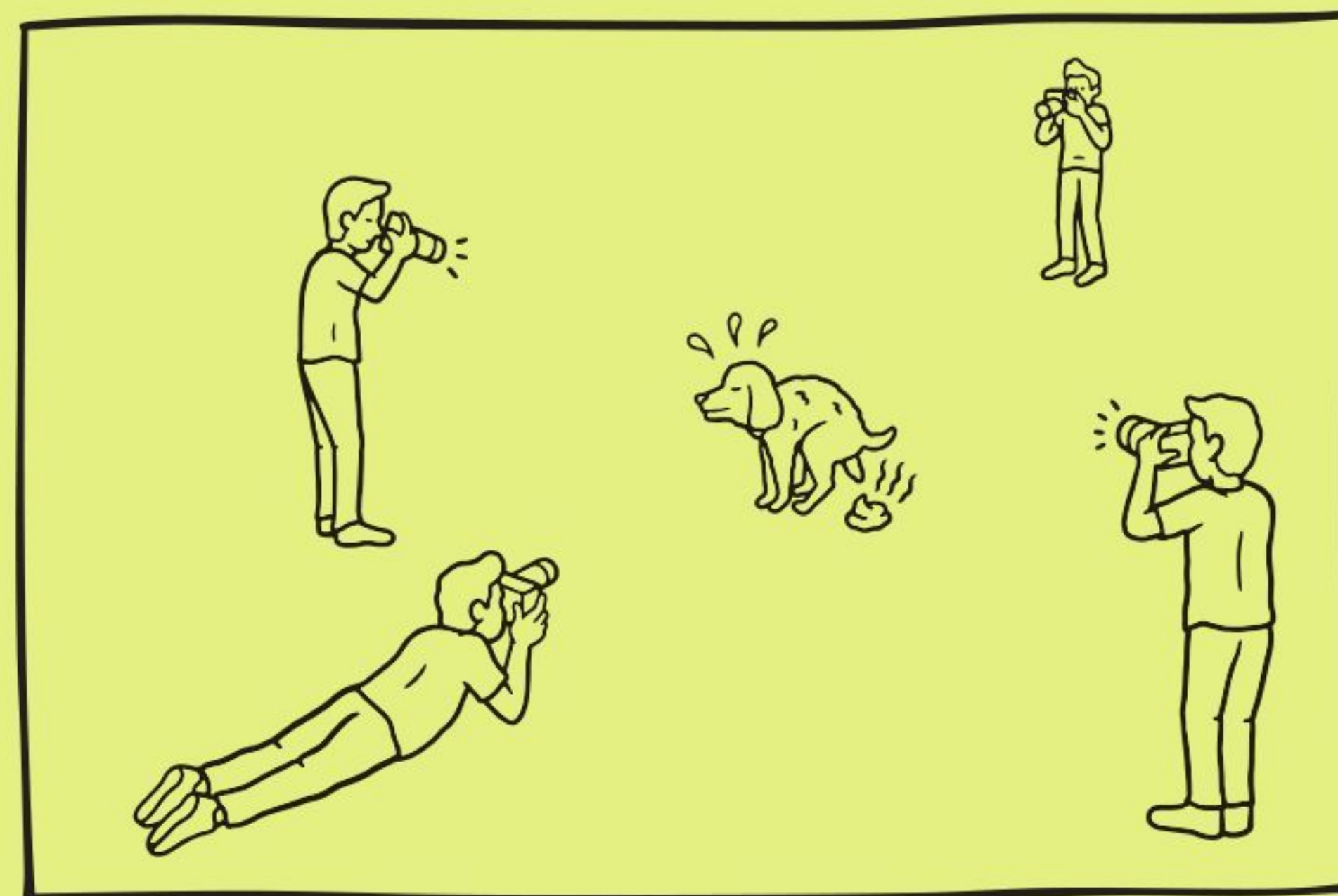
#### What's your subject?

First, you need to decide on the **subject** of your photo, because photos need to be *about* something. The subject is the **main point of interest** in the picture.



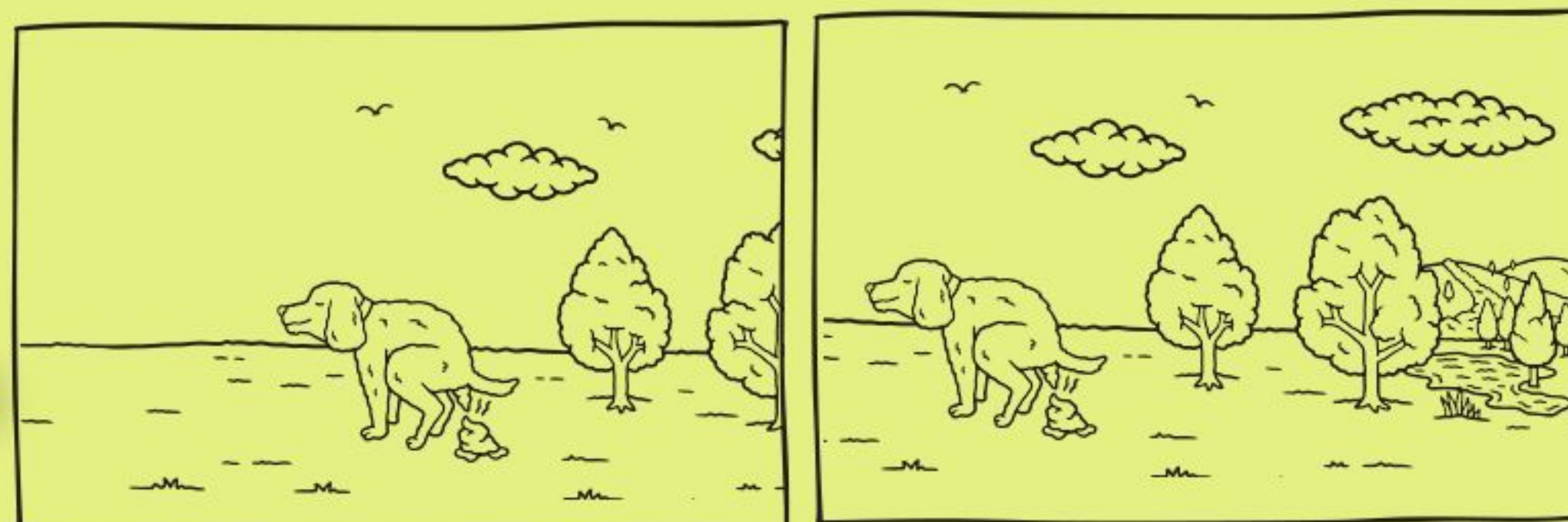
#### Where are you standing?

The best photographers are **constantly moving** about trying to find the best **angle** of their subject, whether it's a **landscape**, a **person** or an **object**.



#### Where do you position your subject in the picture?

The subject is usually positioned in the **middle** or to the **side** of a photo. Placing it in the middle means the subject **dominates** the image. Having it at the side gives a **sense of the surroundings**.





# 2019 PHOTO COMP

NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC | FAMILY  
JOURNEYS  
with **G Adventures**

# THE PRIZES

Check out what you could win!

**STAR  
PRIZE!**

## A FAMILY HOLIDAY IN MOROCCO!

If you're crowned **NG KiDS' Photographer of the Year**, you'll travel with **National Geographic Family Journeys** to **Morocco** in **North Africa**, courtesy of **G Adventures**! The awesome **nine-day tour** will take you from bustling markets to soaring desert dunes. You'll even get a tour around the film studio where scenes from **Star Wars** were filmed!

You'll discover the magic of **Morocco** on this exciting journey of **sights, smells and sounds**, meeting enchanting **musicians** and **storytellers** while exploring places steeped in **Berber heritage**. Head off on exhilarating **hikes** past stunning **rock formations**, climb windswept **sand dunes**, and uncover **ancient secrets** in **green oases** and **grand palaces**. It's the **adventure of a lifetime!**

Flying in to the city of **Marrakech**, you and your family will then travel south through the stunning valleys of the **High Atlas Mountains**, arriving in **Ouarzazate** – known as the '**gateway to the Sahara**'. There you'll step behind the scenes at the **Atlas Film Studios** to see how the surrounding **desert** has starred in movies such as **Star Wars** and **Gladiator**. Cool!

You'll go **star-gazing** in the desert, hop aboard a **4x4** to ride across the breathtaking **Erg Chebbi** dunes and search for **fossils** left behind by an **ancient sea**! Visit a **Berber village** to dine on **yummy local food** (including **Berber pizza!**), and then learn about the wonderful **rock formations** at **Dades Gorge**. You could even go camel riding! Explore the ancient fortified village of **Aït Ben Haddou**, a **UNESCO World Heritage site**, and impress your folks with your culinary skills at the **tagine cooking class**! Then, immerse yourself in the '**red city**' of **Marrakech**, touring its **maze** of tiny streets, alleyways, markets and museums.

**Ready for adventure? Get snapping!**

- To find out more about this amazing trip, head to [tinyurl.com/GAdventuresMorocco](https://tinyurl.com/GAdventuresMorocco)
- To learn about other **National Geographic Family Journeys** with **G Adventures**, trek over to [tinyurl.com/GAdventuresNatGeoFamily](https://tinyurl.com/GAdventuresNatGeoFamily)

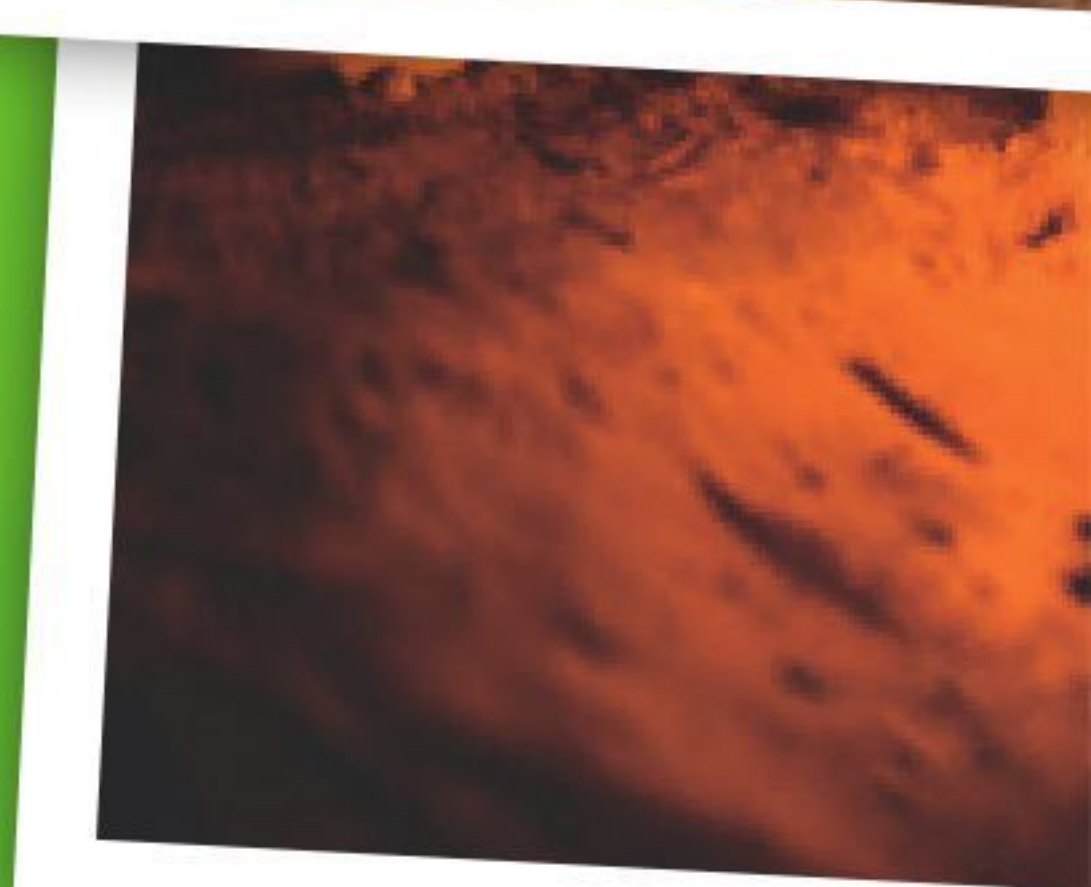
Visit Aït Ben Haddou



Explore Marrakech's many markets



Fancy a camel ride?







## CATEGORY PRIZES!

## Cool cameras!

All three category winners will shoot off with one of these amazing **Nikon COOLPIX W150 cameras**, that are built to go anywhere! The compact **waterproof**, **shockproof**, **freeze-proof** and (handily for the desert) **sand-proof** adventure camera is so easy to use, anyone can capture superb photos and videos with it! Plus, it comes in five awesome colours and features an array of fun shooting modes – perfect for your photography adventures!

● Find out more at [tinyurl.com/nikoncoolpixw150](http://tinyurl.com/nikoncoolpixw150)



## Goody bags!

And that's not all! Each of our winners – along with one runner-up in each category – will scoop a bumper bunch of goodies, including a pair of **National Geographic kids' binoculars** from **Bresser**, three **National Geographic Mini Dig Kits** from **Bandai** and the **Be a Super Awesome Photographer** book by **Henry Carroll**!

● Find out more about the binoculars at [bresseruk.com](http://bresseruk.com) and visit [tinyurl.com/bandaiNG](http://tinyurl.com/bandaiNG) to check out the Dig Kits! Learn about the book at [laurenceking.com/childrens](http://laurenceking.com/childrens)



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people

For full terms and conditions go to [natgeokids.com/uk/photocomp](http://natgeokids.com/uk/photocomp)



# THE BIG INTERVIEW

NG KIDS asks award-winning photographer **Ami Vitale** about her life and career – and she shares some top tips!

*I used to be painfully shy until I picked up a camera!*

**"Photography has this instant ability to connect people without language."**

## WANT TO BE A PHOTO JOURNALIST?

**STUDY:** Languages, art, photography and politics

**WATCH:** Ami's TED talks at [amivitale.com](http://amivitale.com)

**READ:** Ami's book *Panda Love: The Secret Lives of Pandas* and *Nat Geo Kids Guide to Photography*

**Name:** Ami Vitale  
**From:** Florida, USA  
**Job:** National Geographic photographer, filmmaker, storyteller and explorer  
**Mission:** To tell stories that connect people to all of life on this planet  
**Countries visited:** Over 100!  
**Projects include:** Saving elephants and rhinos from poaching, reintroducing giant pandas to the wild





### Hi Ami! Why did you first become interested in photography?

As a young woman, I was painfully **shy**, gawky and introverted. But when I picked up a camera, aged **13**, it gave me a reason to interact with people, and, later, it became my passport to engage with the world around me.

### What research do you do to create a meaningful image?

I try to **learn** as much as I can about the **places I'm travelling to and the people there** before I even get off the plane. Once I arrive, I **listen, watch** and **ask questions**. After I earn their trust, people will usually reveal something special that creates more than just a pretty image!

### Do your projects take a lot of time to complete?

My best work has taken years to make! **Time** is really the most important aspect to making great images. I go back to the same places for years, and that's how I was able to capture the final moments when the **last male white rhino**, named **Sudan**, passed away last year.

### That must have been so sad!

Personally witnessing an **extinction** affected me deeply. This is not *just* a 'story' to me. If the killing continues, it's possible that **all species of rhinos** will be extinct within our lifetimes. If that happens, we suffer more than loss of ecosystem health. We suffer a loss of imagination, a loss of wonder, a loss of beautiful possibilities. Saving nature is really about **saving ourselves**. Sudan the rhino taught me that.

### When you travel to a new place, how do you decide who and what to photograph?

I take time to get to know the community there and establish **strong bonds**. Only then, do the people and stories emerge.



Rhino conservation in Kenya!

It's really about people learning to **trust you**, and believing that you will **tell their story** with **respect** and **honesty**. **Some people don't like having their photo taken. How do you get around that?** You don't! If they really don't want their photo taken, **never be pushy** or **sneaky**. **Respect** is **essential**. I wait for people to open up their lives to me and reveal what they want to share.

### Do you have any tips for taking great pictures of people?

*Don't* have your camera pressed up against your face the whole time. And **long lenses** might be great for wildlife but they're

very intimidating to people! **What are the important things to think about when taking animal photos?**

Always **respect wildlife**. I think people can often forget the '**wild**' in '**wildlife**'. **Learn** as much as you can about the creatures and their **habitats** before you go out to photograph them. Don't get too close, or chase or bait them. **Good advice! Your new project, Panda Love, is an adorable and funny photo**

"The survival of all species is intertwined with our own."

### series of baby giant pandas being prepared for release into the wild in China. Tell us more!

I nearly died of **cuteness overload** but, surprisingly, it was one of the most challenging stories I've ever worked on.

### What was the hardest part?

The biggest challenge was getting access! This is a **very rare, finicky, vulnerable** animal with teeth and claws. With only a **few thousand** in the world, the Chinese treat it as a **national symbol**, and each panda is **closely protected** and watched.

### So how did you do it?!

I had to learn to **blend in** and **think like a panda**! So, to get close enough to take these photos, I had to **wear a panda costume** that was scented with **panda urine**, just like the staff would wear!

### Haha! Are the babies doing well now?

Yes, they're finally having **success**! The slow and steady **increase** in the population of giant pandas is thanks to the efforts of **Chinese scientists** and **conservationists**. China is investing billions into creating more habitat – it's one of the few countries where **forest coverage is growing**!

### Great news! Apart from dressing up as a panda, are there any other crazy things you've had to do to get an image?

Um yes... many! I've dressed as a **tree**, dodged **grenades**, climbed into **glacial crevices**, scaled **14,000-foot (4,200-m) mountains**, been **underwater**, and ridden **elephants, horses, camels, balloons** and **bikes**. The list is endless.

### Wow! Finally, have you ever been in danger on an assignment?

I took **war** photographs for **ten years** which led to some extremely **dangerous, near-death experiences**. But I told my parents I was doing **travel** stories – I didn't want to worry them!

**Brave stuff! Thanks for sharing your stories and pictures with us, Ami!**

"I nearly died of cuteness overload!"



An orphaned baby elephant cuddles up with its human helper



Ami had to wear one of these costumes!



# JUNIOR EXPLORERS' CLUB

## HERO OF THE MONTH

Hey NGK! I'm passionate about the **planet** and making sure it's a safe place for all the animals and people who live on it! I strike each Friday outside **Manchester Town Hall** for '**Fridays For Future**', and I also called for **Manchester City Council** to declare a **climate emergency**. I've taken part in every youth climate strike, in fact! I know some children cannot strike so I wanted to say that every small change they make to help the planet is worth it. **Don't give up!**

**Lillia, 10**

Well done, Lillia! We're so proud of all the young people doing their bit for the future of our planet!



Lillia's an eco-hero!

## ART ZONE!

HA  
HA

LOLZ

HA  
HA

Q What do you call a chicken that looks at a lettuce?

A Chicken sees-a-salad!

Joke sent in by John

HA  
HA

HA  
HA

I drew this picture of a **tiger**. I love the combination of its orange and black fur and its **sharp teeth**! I hope you like it, too. Tigers are beautiful creatures!

**Arlo, 8**

We think your drawing is fierce, Arlo. Well done!



Arlo



## WILDLIFE WATCH



Hi NG KIDS!

I recently went on a trip to the **Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust** in **Slimbridge, Gloucester**, where I saw **otters** and lots of different types of **birds**. I also fed the **ducks** and **geese**! My favourite part of the day was the talk on **amphibians**. I got to see a **natterjack toad**, which is a **really rare species**, and hold this cool **tiger salamander**!

**Seren, 9**

What a wild day, Seren! Did you know that tiger salamanders can live for 25 years?!



It's Seren!



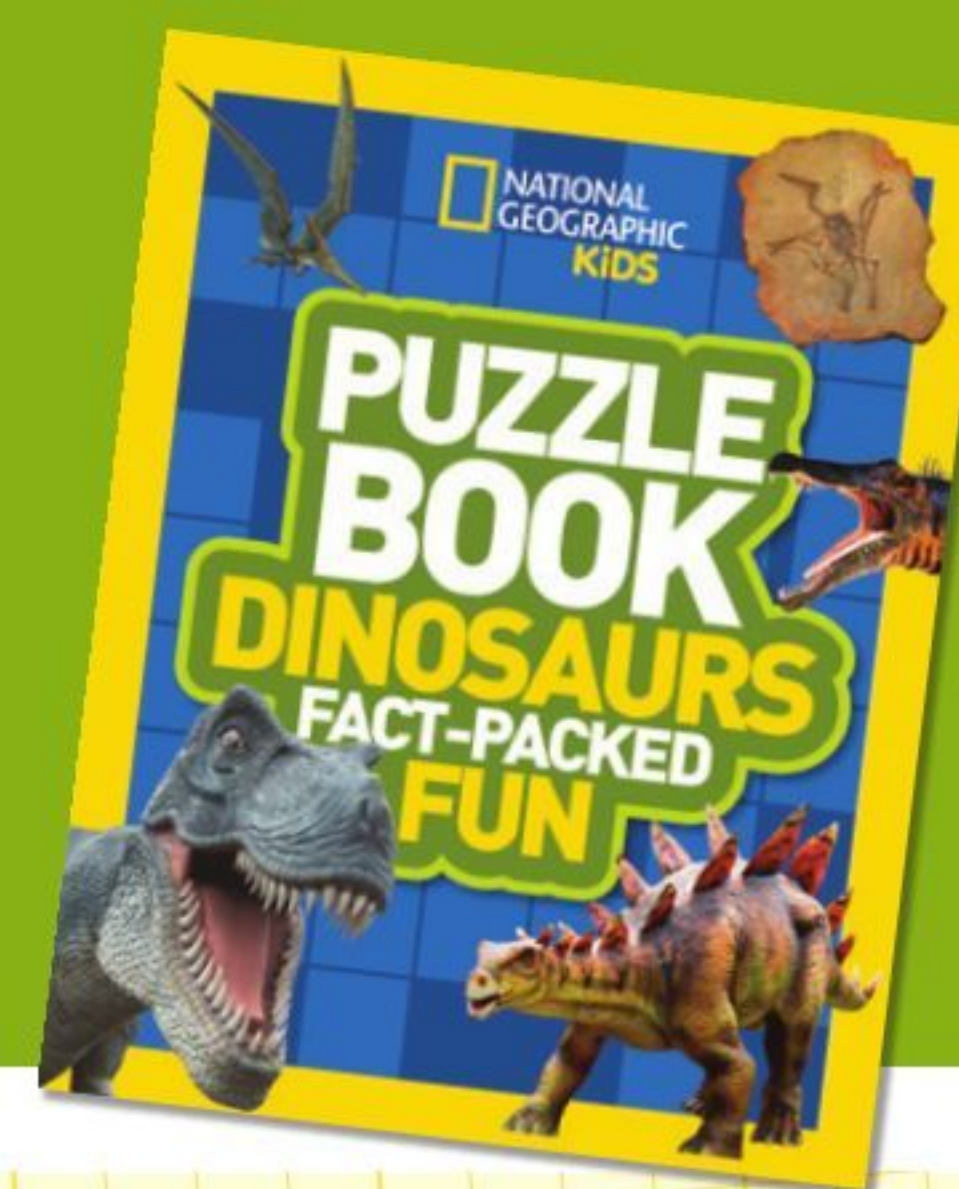
Tiger salamanders live in North America



We want to hear from YOU! Send in your artwork, jokes, craft pics and pet photos; tell us about your wildlife sightings, hobbies and interests, and share your opinions! Head to [natgeokids.com/uk](http://natgeokids.com/uk), email [kids@ngkids.co.uk](mailto:kids@ngkids.co.uk) or write to the address on page 3. A selection will be printed here. Every reader on these pages will receive a copy of the **Puzzle Book of Dinosaurs** from NG KiDS Books!

Available at [natgeokidsbooks.co.uk](http://natgeokidsbooks.co.uk)

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



## LAST YEAR'S PHOTO COMP WINNER!

I won last year's **National Geographic Kids Photography Competition** – the prize was a family holiday to **Borneo** in **Southeast Asia**. We stayed at the **Shangri-La's Rasa Ria Resort & Spa**, and it was such a memorable experience. I saw wildlife I would never even have dreamed of seeing in the wild, including **tarantulas**, **fireflies**, **bearcats** and many incredible varieties of **snake**! I also got to see **orangutans** at the **Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre**. Thank you so much, NG KiDS, for the **best holiday of my life!**  
**Anna, 12**

It's great to hear that you had such a fantastic time, Anna!



Anna won the 2018 comp with this picture

Turn to **page 30** to enter this year's **photo comp**! You could win a **holiday to Morocco**!



Hi **Coco**

**Coco**  
the long-tailed  
chinchilla, sent  
in by Boe, 8

**COVER  
STAR!**

## HOBBY TALK

Dear NG KiDS,  
I love heading out **exploring**! This year my family and I went to **Dartmoor National Park** to practise a new activity which I really enjoy – **orienteering**! I was given a lesson by my **dad**, who is a **pilot**, on how to **read a map**. Then we went on an adventure where I was the guide! We walked five miles to the local pub then walked back – no car, so no pollution!  
**Enzo, 9**

Impressive stuff, Enzo. Keep exploring!



Enzo getting to grips with his compass and map!



Before heading to Borneo, Anna and her brother Tom raised money for orangutans and then met the rehabilitation centre's staff!

## POETRY CORNER

### **And then they were gone**

*Centuries ago, the world was still here,  
But then along we came, with an axe and a spear,  
Down to the ground again and again,  
I can't even imagine the pain.*

*Animals were dying, and even worse today  
Plastic is polluting and killing our bay,  
No words can be said unless we stand up,  
Together, forever so strong and united we stand.*  
**Phoebe, 10**

Interesting poem, Phoebe – and a really important message!



# LOVE OUR PLANET

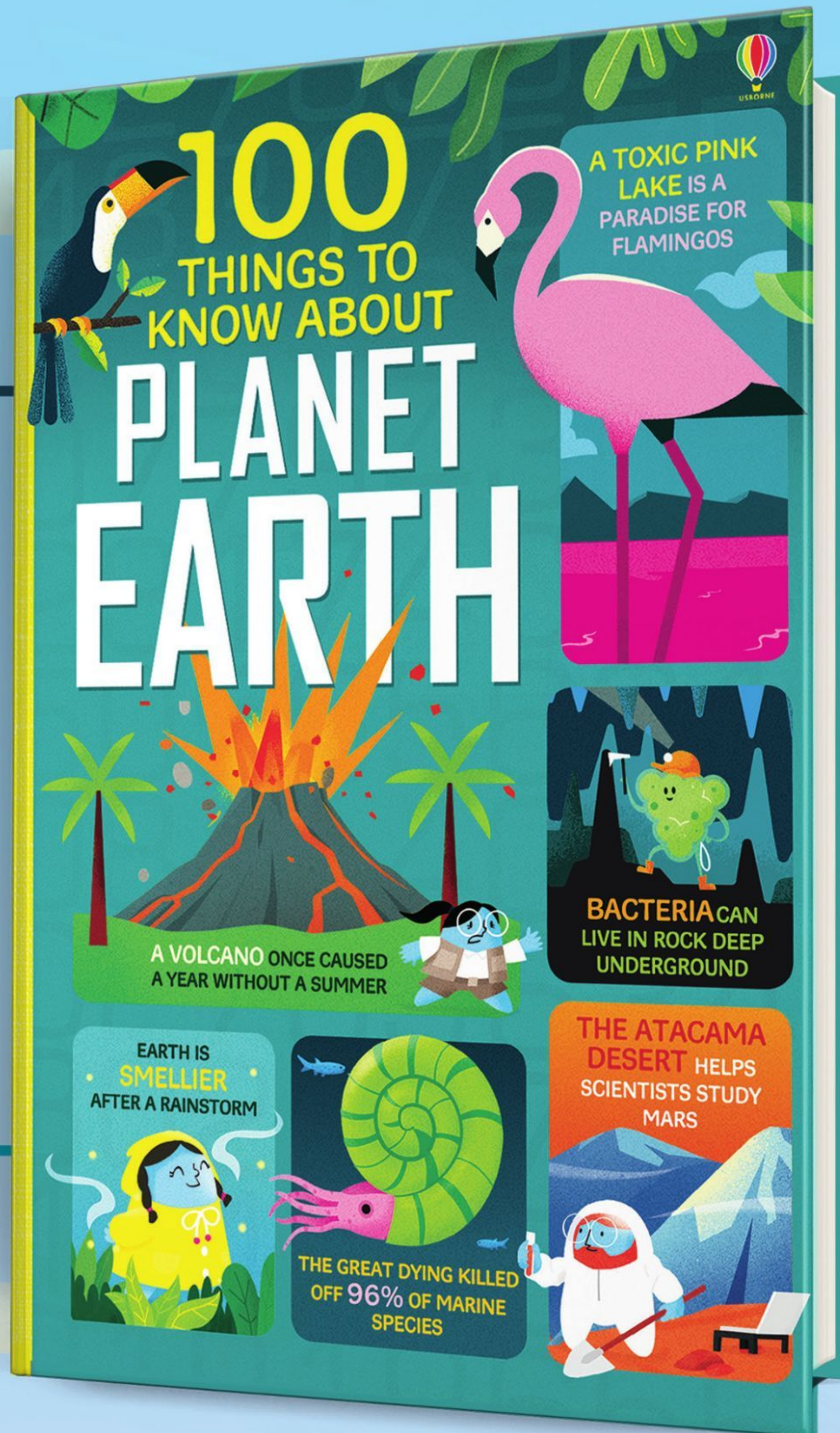


PREPARE TO BE AMAZED BY OUR  
WONDERFUL WORLD

SHYNESS  
PREVENTS SOME  
TREES FROM  
TOUCHING

ONE TRUCKLOAD  
OF PLASTIC IS  
**DUMPED**  
IN OUR OCEANS  
EVERY MINUTE

WE'RE CURRENTLY  
LIVING IN AN ICE AGE

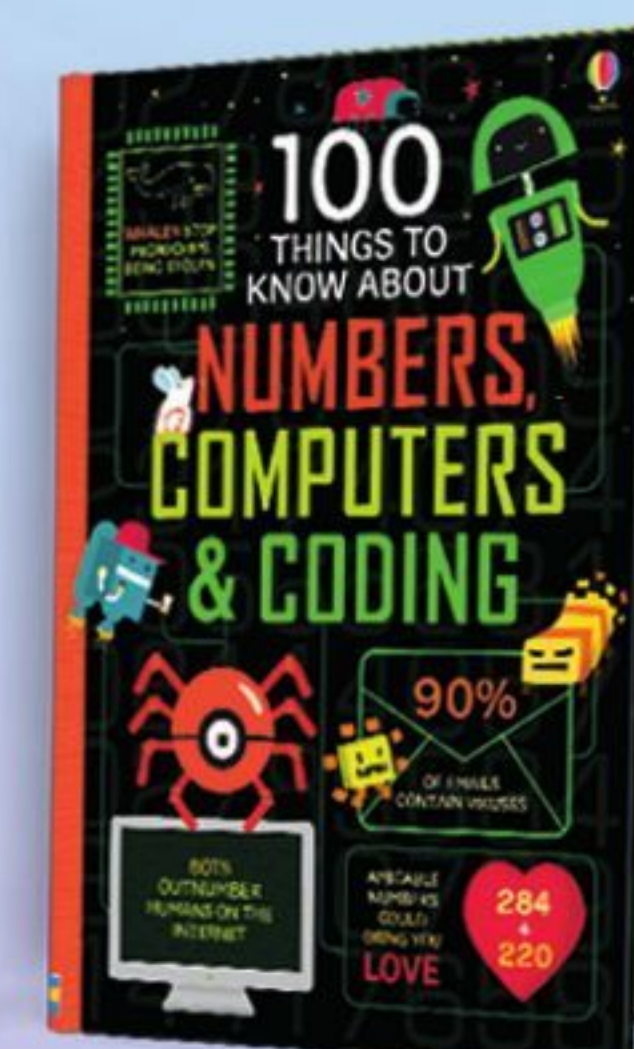
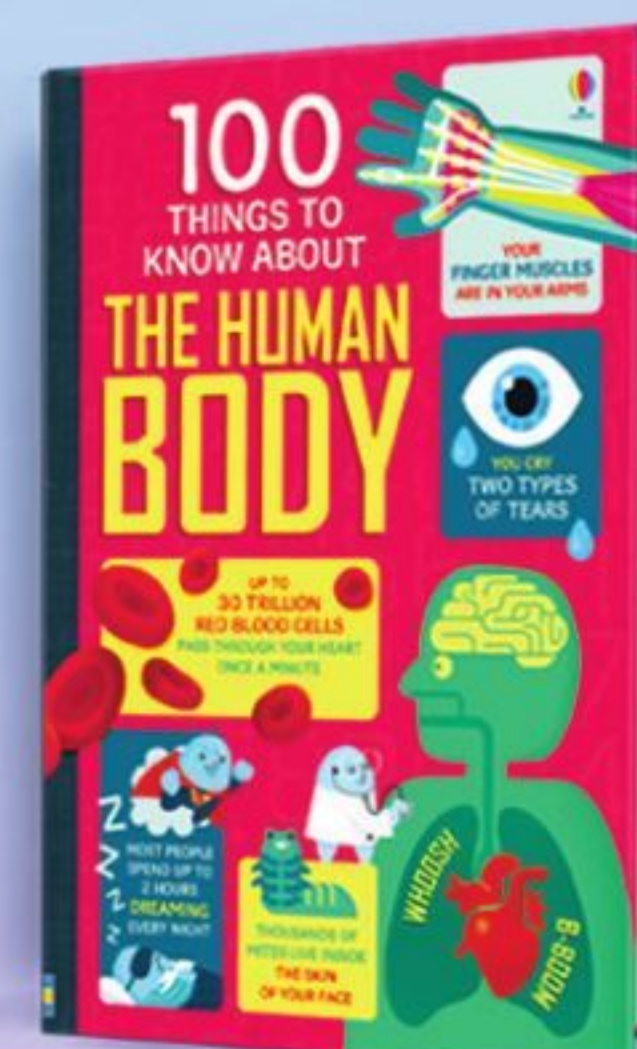
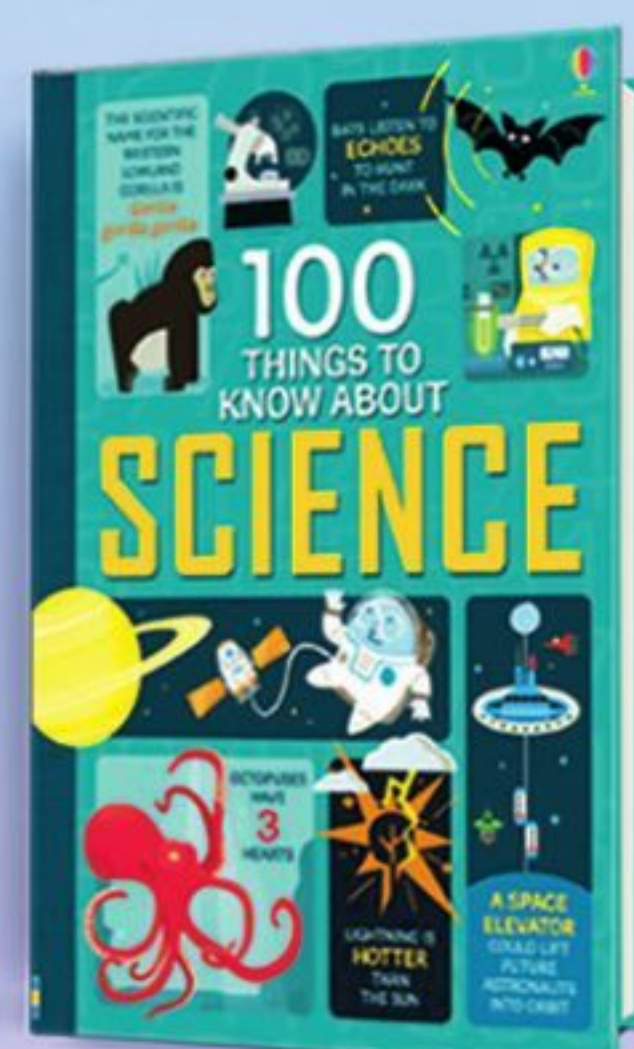
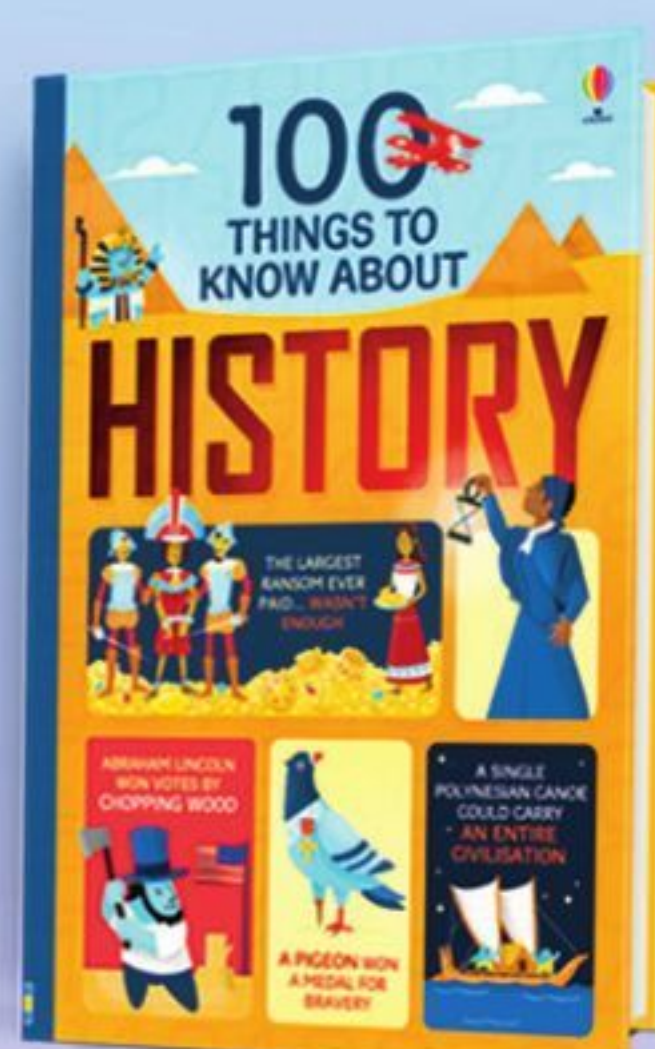


THE WORLD'S  
BIGGEST  
WATERFALL  
IS UNDERWATER

RAIN SOMETIMES  
FALLS RED

DISCOVER  
SIMPLE WAYS  
YOU CAN  
PROTECT OUR  
PLANET

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**Bet You  
Didn't  
Know!**

# 7 crazy facts about the world

**1** Italy's famous  
**Leaning  
Tower of Pisa**  
used to tilt in the  
**opposite  
direction.**

**2** About  
one-tenth of the  
**Earth's surface**  
is covered  
with **ice.**

**3** New  
Zealand  
has more  
**sheep**  
than  
**people.**

**4** Australia's  
**Great Barrier  
Reef** can be  
seen from  
**space.**

**5** Death  
Valley,  
California, is the  
**hottest place** in  
**North  
America.**

**6** The  
**Nile River**  
is about the  
**same length** as  
**65,000 football  
pitches.**

**7** It's  
possible to  
**snow ski**  
in **Hawaii.**





# IN IT TO

# WIN IT!

Enter on page 47 or online at [natgeokids.com](http://natgeokids.com)

## WIN! RAVENSBURGER 3-D PUZZLES

Discover the wonder of our solar system with these awesome **3-D puzzles** from **Ravensburger**.

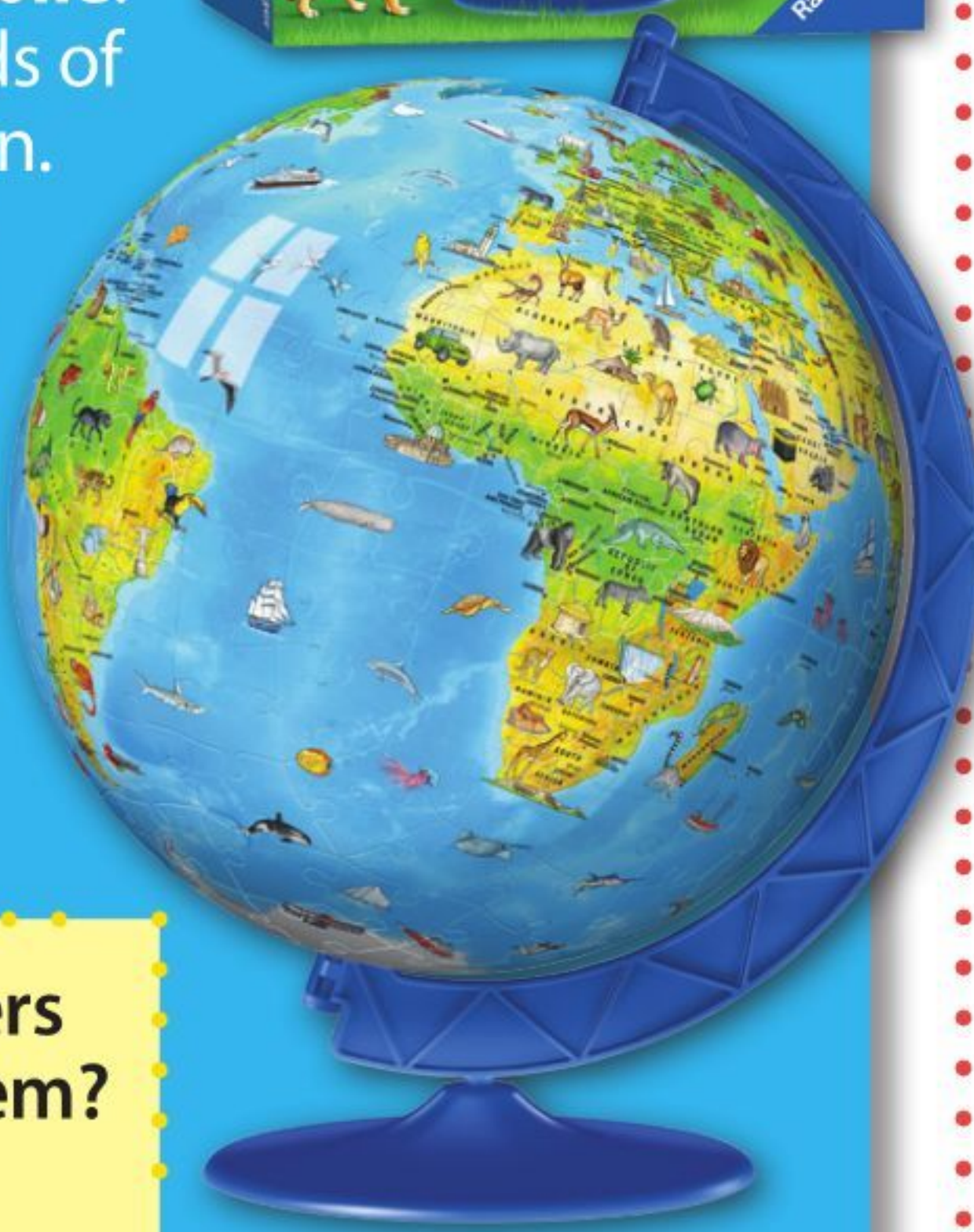
Puzzling takes on a new dimension with the **Planetary Solar System 3-D Puzzle** (below) which includes **eight** scaled planets. Use the **stands** and **display poster** to show off your creations – or try using the kit to create an epic **Sun mobile!** This **informative** set also includes loads of facts for budding astronomers to learn.

The **World Map 3-D puzzle** (right) lets you explore our very own planet in amazing detail. With **180 pieces** and its very own **stand**, this great globe is out of this world!

**Six** space-mad readers will scoop **both puzzle sets**.

● Available from [amazon.co.uk](http://amazon.co.uk)

**Q** Can you unscramble these letters to reveal a planet in our solar system?  
**RPJEUTI**



## WIN! THAMES & KOSMOS DETECTIVE KITS



Get set for some super sleuthing with these cool **detective kits** from **Thames & Kosmos**. The **Master Detective Toolkit** is a briefcase filled with everything you need to **gather evidence** and **solve crimes**.

**Multi-Spy** features epic **detective essentials**. **Cryptex** lets you **hide clues** from prying eyes, and if someone still tries to sneak a peek, **Alarm-System** will emit a noisy **warning signal**. **Listening-Spy** is an awesome **eavesdropping** device, and **UV-Light Code** lets you **communicate** using **invisible ink**!

**Six** readers will win **all six kits**!

● The **Master Detective Toolkit** is available from **Smyths**. All other sets from **Amazon**

**Q** Which of these is a fictional detective created by Arthur Conan Doyle?

- a) Padlock Holmes
- b) Sherlock Holmes
- c) Bikelock Holmes

## WIN! THE MURDER MOST UNLADYLIKE BOOK SERIES

In **Top Marks for Murder** – the latest book in **Robin Stevens'** gripping **Murder Most Unladylike** series – **Daisy** and **Hazel** are finally back at **Deepdean**, as their school prepares for its **50th anniversary festivities**.

But all is not well, and soon something shocking happens in the woods close by. As parents descend upon the school, old grudges, rivalries and secrets begin to surface, and soon **Deepdean's future** is at stake. Can the girls

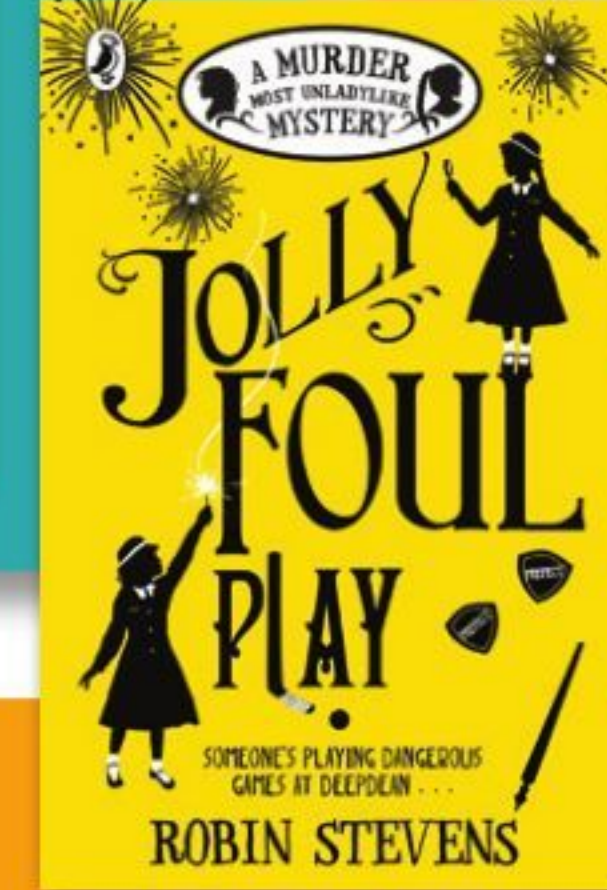
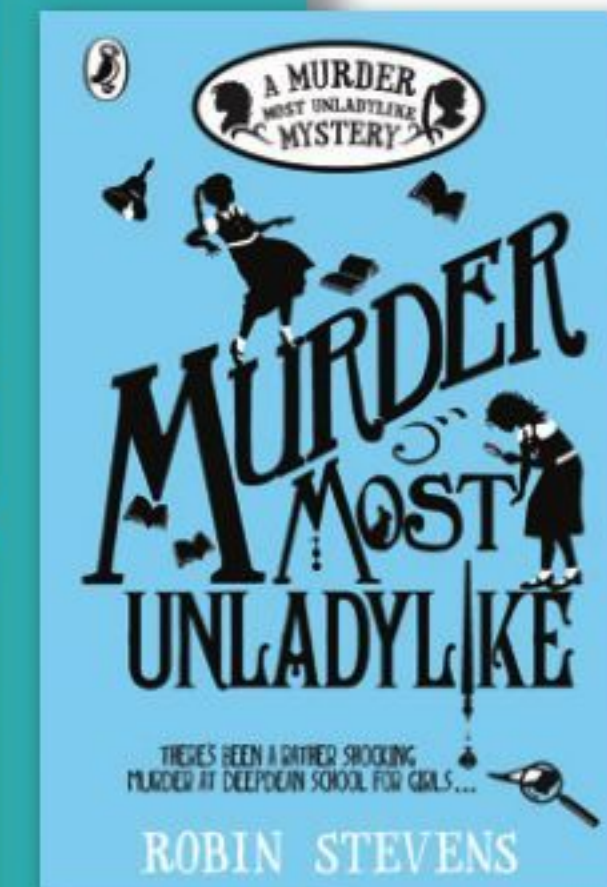
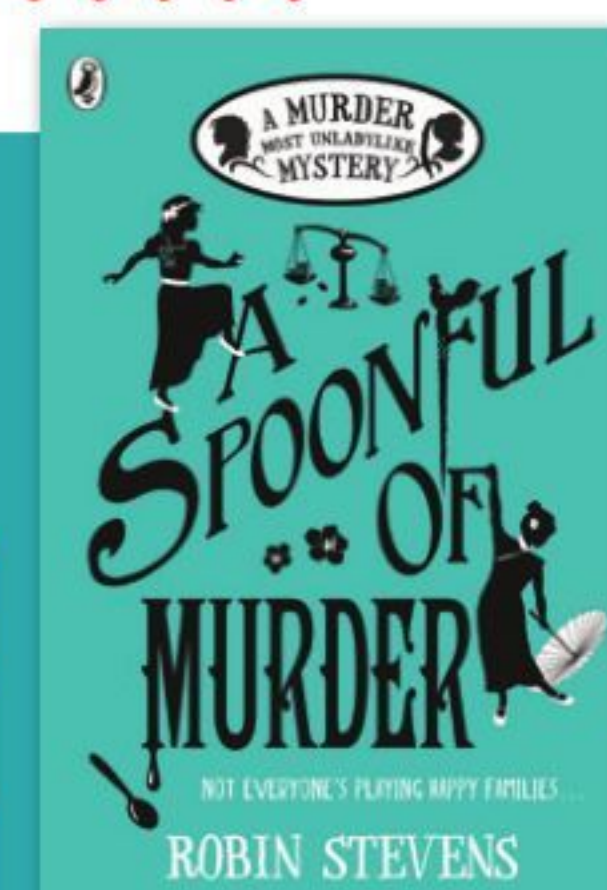
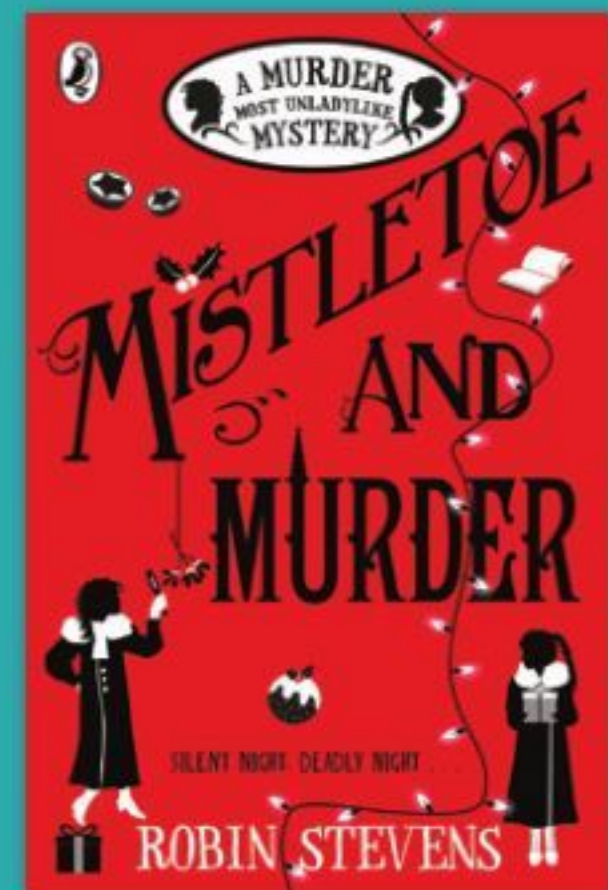
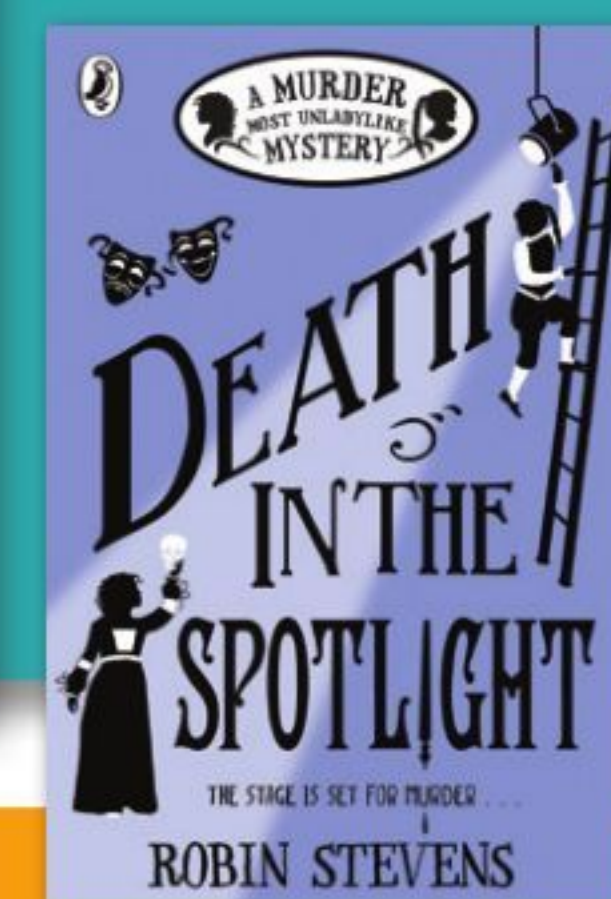
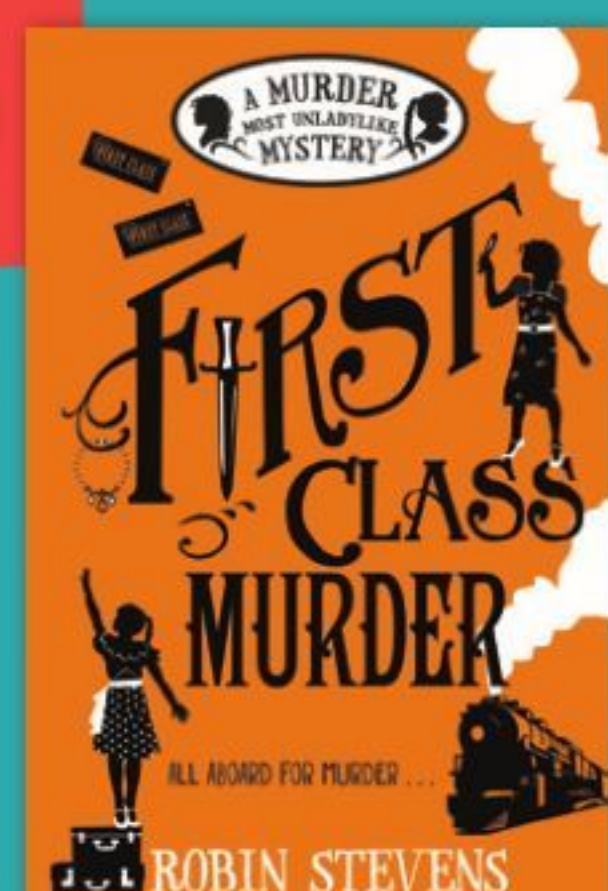
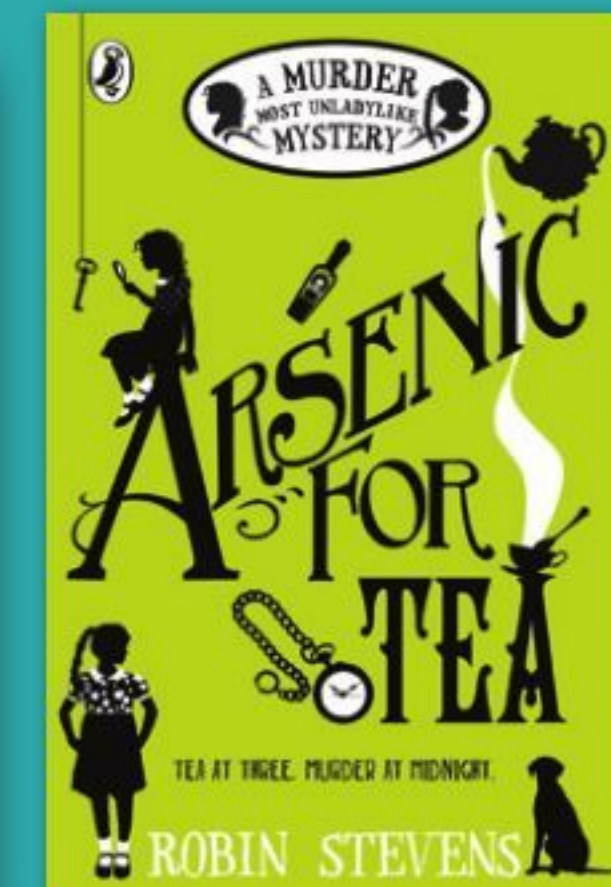
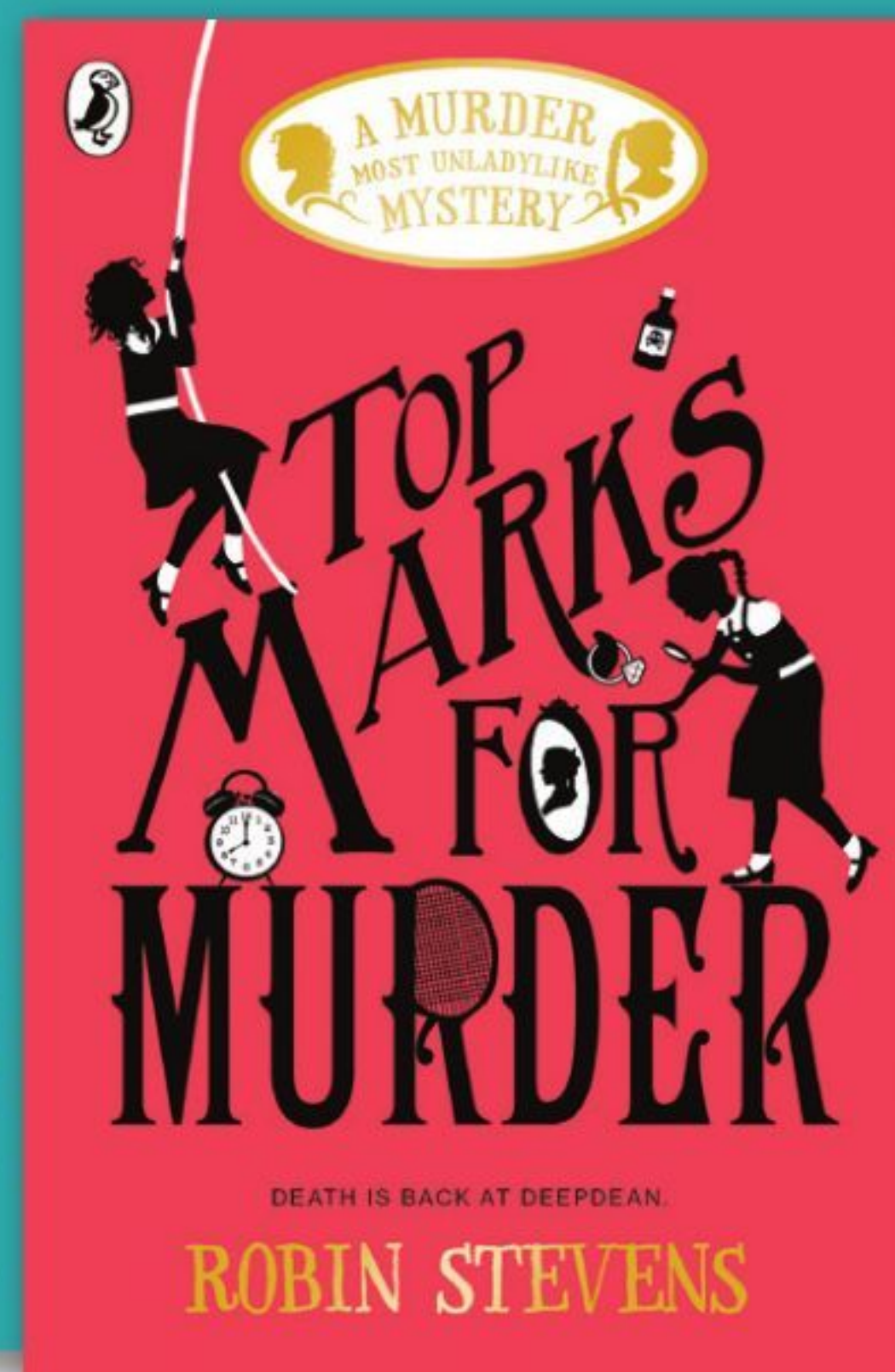
solve the case and **save their school**?

**Ten** bookworms will win **Top Marks for Murder**, along with the other **seven** books in the brilliant **Murder Most Unladylike** series.

● Available in all good bookshops

**Q** Which of these represents a 50th anniversary?

- a) Gold
- b) Coal
- c) Plastic





ENTER  
ALL  
COMPS  
ON PAGE  
47!

55 chances  
to win!

WIN!

## NAT GEO RECYCLED DUVETS!

Help the environment while you snooze with these super new **National Geographic single duvet and pillowcase sets** from **Dreamtex!**

To help promote **National Geographic's Planet or Plastic** mission, every duvet is made from a **special material**, containing **recycled plastic bottles**. Up to **12 bottles** are in each **single duvet set**. How amazing is that?!

The reversible **Ocean Life** design features a **glow-in-the-dark jellyfish** and facts about

**deep sea creatures**, and the **Raptor** duvet is perfect for any **dino lovers** out there!

**Nine winners** will bag both these **eco-friendly duvet sets!**

● Available **online** and at **major UK retailers**

**Q** Which of these creatures might you find in the deep sea?

- a) Giant squid
- b) Giant panda
- c) Pygmy hippo

Both covers are reversible!



## A ROBO ALIVE BUNDLE

Imagine owning your very own robot pet. Well with **ROBO ALIVE** from **Zuru**, you can!

The **Lurking Lizard** (right) has big **reflective eyes** for spotting 'prey'. Using its **motor and motion tilt sensor**, it scurries along at impressive speeds to chase down grub.

The **Slithering Snake** catches critters to 'eat', too. Watch as this master of stealth **silently slithers** along the ground, flicking its **tongue** as it hunts for its next meal.

The mighty **Dragon** walks, roars, gnashes its teeth, rotates its head, moves its wings and, mostly importantly, **'breathes fire'**. Whoa!

**Nine lucky readers** will win all three **ROBO ALIVE** pets.

● Head to **roboalive.zuru.com** for more awesome animals!



**Q** Which of these is NOT a type of lizard?

- a) Gecko
- b) Chameleon
- c) Tortoise



WIN!

## RSPB MONOPOLY

Forget expanding your pretend property empire and try your hand at **conservation** instead, in the brilliant new **RSPB Monopoly** board game. What a tweet!

In this **egg-citing** new version of the classic family game, players must work their way around the board, collecting the sites of stunning **UK-native birds** and visiting habitats such as **woodlands, wetlands** and **coastal regions**.

The **Community** and **Chance** cards will leave you feeling chirpy, too, as they've been replaced with lovely **nature-related activities!**

**Fifteen readers** will fly off with **RSPB Monopoly**.

● Flap over to **shopping.rspb.org.uk**

**Q** Which of these birds is native to the UK?

- a) Ostrich
- b) Penguin
- c) Robin





ADVERTISEMENT



# JOIN THE ADVENTURE!



COMING  
SOON!

For thousands of years, an ancient city has kept its secrets sealed within stone walls. Who knows what dangers lie beyond the towering pillars and carved symbols of the past? Cruz Coronado is about to find out in **The Double Helix**, book three of the thrilling seven-book adventure series **Explorer Academy**. Aboard their classroom at sea, Cruz and his team Cousteau classmates continue their education and their secret mission. And the stakes get even higher when Cruz receives a warning that someone close to him is working for the enemy!

“The exciting mystery, the secret puzzle, and the breathtaking adventure made me read it again and again. I can hardly wait for the next one.”

—MARIAM, AGE 11

ALSO CHECK OUT THIS  
EXPLORER ACADEMY  
ACTIVITY BOOK!



AVAILABLE FROM ALL GOOD BOOKSHOPS  
and online at [www.natgeokidsbooks.co.uk](http://www.natgeokidsbooks.co.uk)

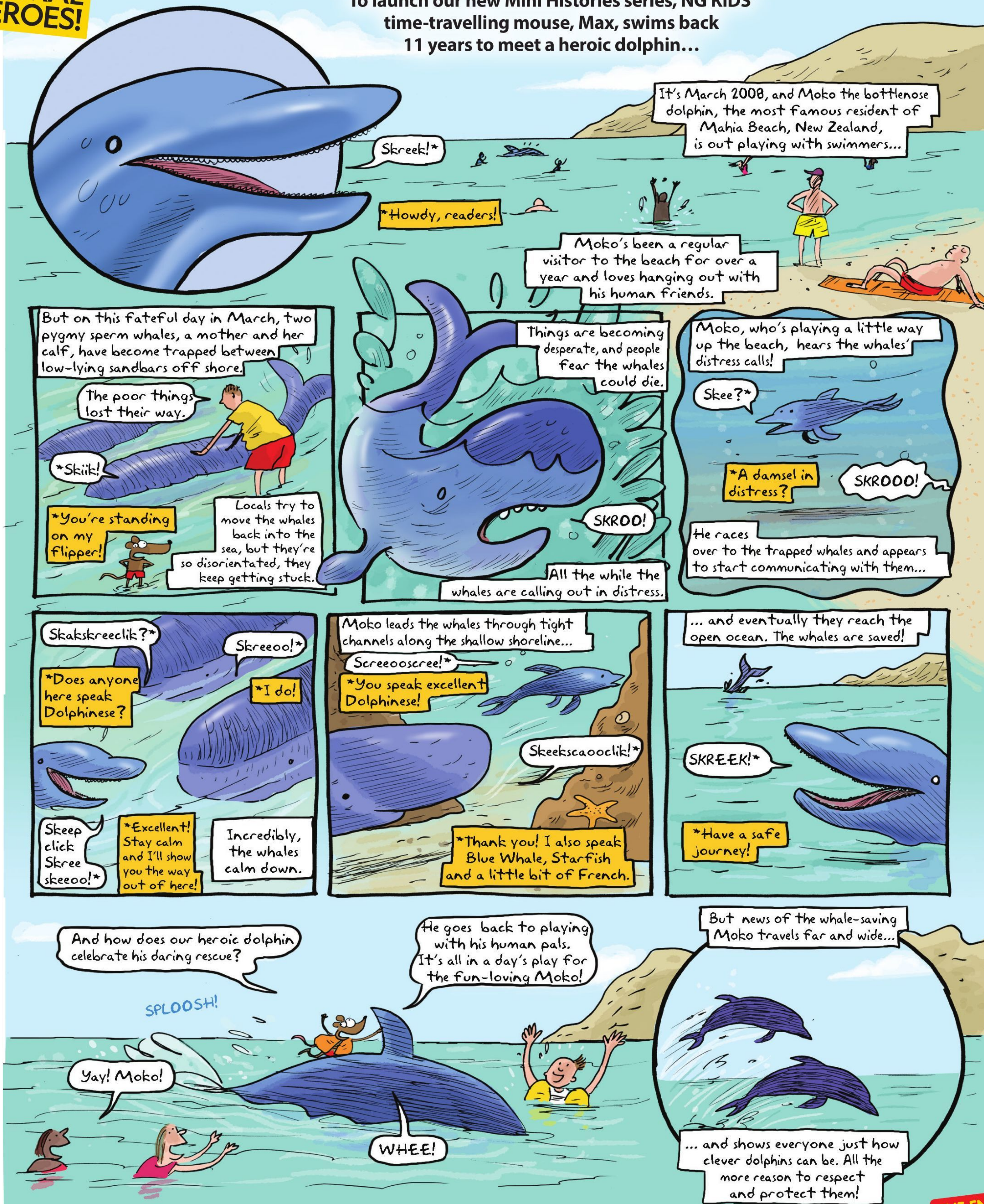
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NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC

UNDER THE Stars



To launch our new Mini Histories series, NG KiDS' time-travelling mouse, Max, swims back 11 years to meet a heroic dolphin...





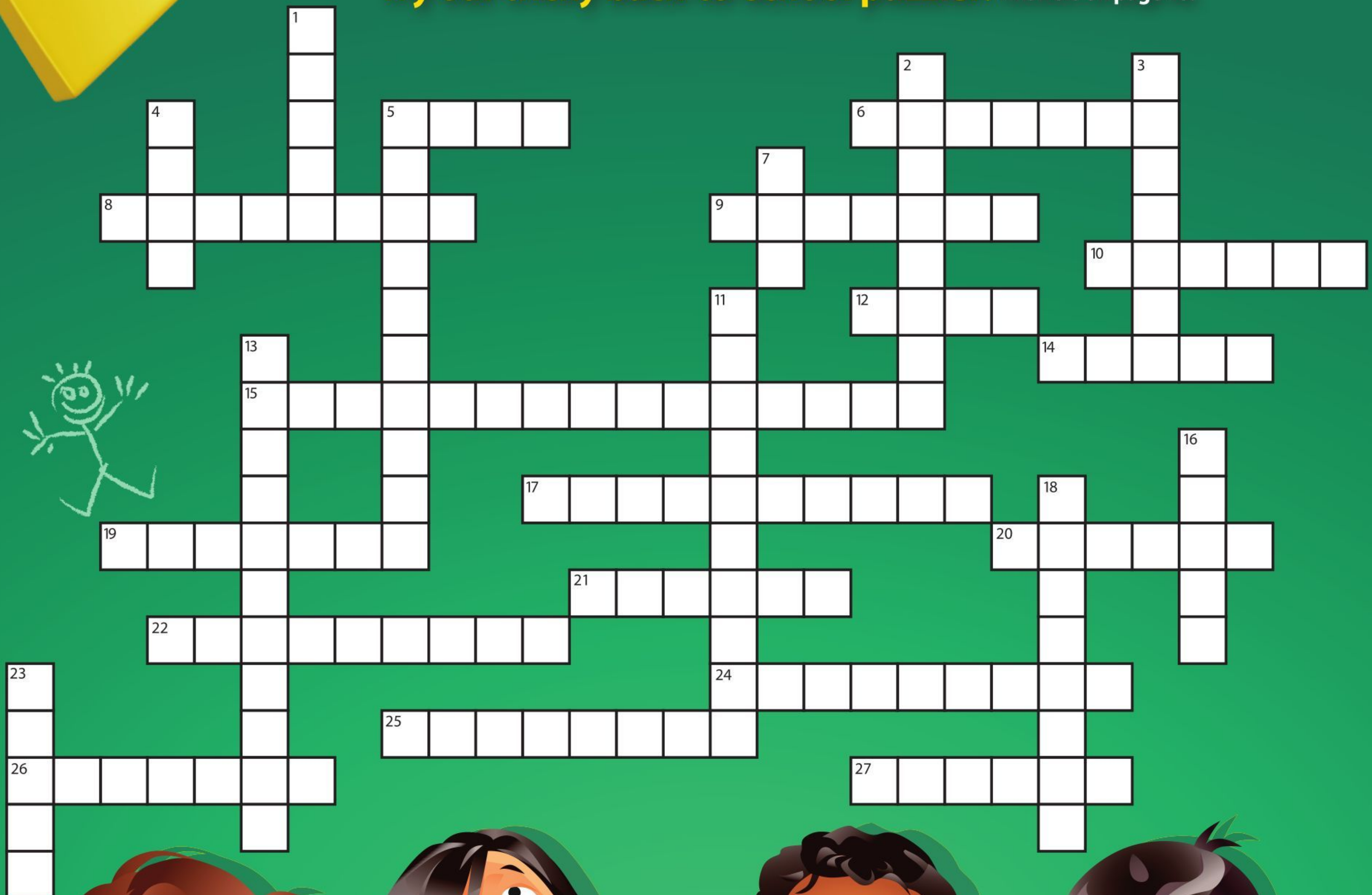
# FUN

# STUFF

GAMES, LAUGHS, AND LOTS TO DO!

## COOL SCHOOL CROSSWORD

Try our tricky back-to-school puzzler! Answers on page 48.



### ACROSS

- 5 A doing word (4)
- 6 Name of a six-sided shape (7)
- 8 When you take away from a number (8)
- 9 Another word for an uppercase letter (7)
- 10 The letters A, E, I, O and U are all \_\_\_\_ (6)
- 12 Something you read (4)
- 14 Punctuation mark to show a pause (5)
- 15 Punctuation mark to show surprise (11, 4)
- 17 Book that helps you spell words (10)
- 19 The study of the past (7)

- 20 Popular online search engine (6)

- 21 You can sharpen this writing tool (6)
- 22 Where your lessons are usually held (9)
- 24 Transport to and from lessons (6, 3)
- 25 A three sided shape (8)
- 26 Person who's in charge of a class or subject (7)
- 27 Use this to rub out a mistake on paper (6)

### DOWN

- 1 You can write, draw or paint on this (5)
- 2 A schoolbook containing information (8)

- 3 Smart school outfit (7)
- 4 An object or thing is a \_\_\_\_ (4)
- 5 The range of words you use (10)
- 7 Use this to find countries (3)
- 11 Where you keep your writing tools (6, 4)
- 13 Person who's in charge of the school (4, 7)
- 16 Use this to measure short distances (5)
- 18 It has a keyboard, a mouse and a screen (8)
- 23 Numbers are studied in this subject (5)



# FUNNY FILL-IN

## SPRAY 'N' WASH

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

### 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



This weekend, my mother, sister and I \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_  
past-tense verb
adjective
type of transportation

to a car wash. As a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ waved us in, we heard a(n) \_\_\_\_\_. A huge  
type of job
funny sound

\_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ cars! " \_\_\_\_\_!" we yelled. Using its  
animal
verb ending in -ing
exclamation

\_\_\_\_\_, it wiped the back of the \_\_\_\_\_ in front of us. \_\_\_\_\_ dripped from  
body part
noun
something gross

a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ strapped to its hoof as it sprayed \_\_\_\_\_ with its trunk. Then the creature  
noun
noun

\_\_\_\_\_ the cars with its ears. Everyone was covered in \_\_\_\_\_. Who knows where that  
past-tense verb
type of liquid

\_\_\_\_\_ came from – but our car has never been so \_\_\_\_\_!  
same animal
adjective





# FUN STUFF MAKE IT

# WATERMELON &

Sweet juicy watermelon and salty cheese are an unusual but very tasty combo!

## What you'll need

### FOR THE SALAD:

- ½ small watermelon (around 500g)
- ½ cucumber (use tomatoes if you prefer!)
- About 10 mint leaves (use basil if you prefer!)
- ½ block of feta cheese

### FOR THE DRESSING:

- Lime
- Olive oil
- Honey
- Salt

Serves  
4-6 as a side  
salad or 2-3 as  
a meal with  
crusty bread.

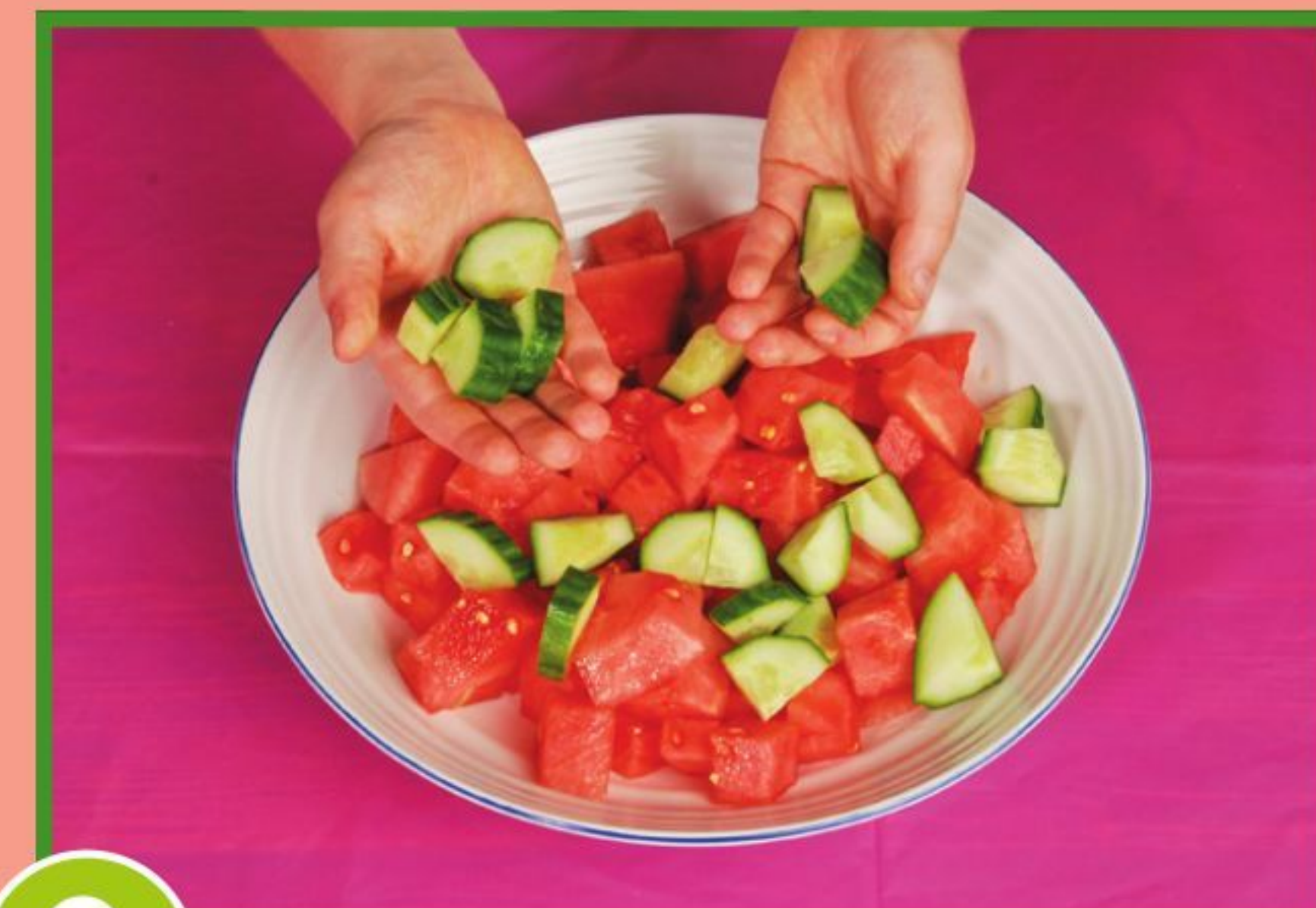
Instead  
of feta, you  
could use **grilled  
halloumi**  
cheese.



## Start here!



- 1 Cut up the watermelon into bite-sized chunks and remove any big pips. Put in a large serving bowl.



- 2 Chop up the cucumber and add to the bowl.



- 3 Tear or chop the mint leaves into small bits and then add to the bowl.



- 4 For the dressing, mix up 2-3 **tablespoons** of olive oil with the juice of **half a lime**, **two teaspoons** of honey and a little salt. Drizzle over your salad and gently mix.

**TOP TIP**  
To choose a **ripe watermelon**, give it a **tap**. If it sounds a bit **hollow**, it's ready! And the markings on its 'belly' should be **yellow** not white.



- 5 Finally, chop or crumble the feta cheese into small bits and sprinkle over the top. Tuck in!





# FETA SALAD



## Get Experimental!

### SINGING WINE GLASSES

Find out how to make a musical instrument out of a glass...

**1** Ask an adult to find you a selection of **glasses with stems**. First try tapping them **gently** with a **pencil** or **spoon**. Listen to the **sounds** they make.

**2** Now try a different way of making sounds. **Dip your fingers** in some **water**, and holding the base steady, **run your fingers** around the **rim** of a glass. Start **gently**, and then **apply more pressure** until you get a good **note**.

**3** Try the same thing with **different types** of **glasses**. Do they make different notes? Next, try **pouring water** into a glass. What do you notice? Can you try and make a particular note?

Get ready to make music!



#### TOP TIPS

Don't hit or press the glasses too hard, and have a towel on hand for any spills!

#### EXTRA!

You could try and put together a **collection** of glasses that let you play a tune!

#### What's going on?

All sounds are made by making something **vibrate**. As you move your fingers around the rim of the glass, they repeatedly **slip and slide off the glass**. And it's this that makes the **glass vibrate** and produces the notes.

Changing the amount of water in the glass **changes the way it vibrates** and this alters the sound you hear. The **more** fluid in a glass, the **lower** the pitch of the note. If you try it with a **really full** glass and look closely you can see **ripples** on the surface of the water. Cool!

This fun home science experiment is from our pals at the **Royal Institution**. Check out more exciting activities at [rigb.org/families](http://rigb.org/families) and head online to take a look at their amazing family theatre shows.



NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC  
KIDS

Send us  
your entries  
by 26 September 2019

## COMPETITION ENTRY COUPON

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

### PAGE 10-11 WHAT'S UP?

#### Asterix goodies

This year is the anniversary of the Asterix and Obelix comics. But how many years is it since the first one was published in France?

6 ☐ 60 ☐ 600 ☐

#### National Trust day passes

How long ago was Corfe Castle in Dorset built?

10 years ☐ 1,000 years ☐ 100,000 years ☐

#### Book bundle

Which of these is NOT a breed of rabbit?

Fuzzy lop ☐ Mini rex ☐ Chihuahua ☐

### PAGE 40-41 WIN IT!

#### Ravensburger 3-D puzzles

Can you unscramble these letters to reveal a planet in our solar system? **RPJEUTI**

#### Thames & Kosmos detective kits

Which of these is a fictional detective created by Arthur Conan Doyle?

Padlock Holmes ☐ Sherlock Holmes ☐  
Bikelock Holmes ☐

#### The Murder Most Unladylike book series

Which of these represents a 50th anniversary?

Gold ☐ Coal ☐ Plastic ☐

#### Nat Geo recycled duvets!

Which of these creatures might you find in the deep sea?

Giant squid ☐ Giant panda ☐ Pygmy hippo ☐

#### ROBO ALIVE bundle

Which of these is NOT a type of lizard?

Gecko ☐ Chameleon ☐ Tortoise ☐

#### RSPB Monopoly

Which of these birds is native to the UK?

Ostrich ☐ Penguin ☐ Robin ☐

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

Now turn over and answer  
some easy questions!



# 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
- ☐ The cover photo (sea otter) ☐ 227 Prizes Inside!
- ☐ How Sea Otters Protect The Planet! ☐ Keep Earth Wild
- ☐ Albert Einstein ☐ Win A Family Holiday To Morocco!

## What's the best thing about this issue?

## What's your least favourite thing about this issue?

## What are you doing to help the planet?

## WRITE TO US!

Do YOU want to appear on our Junior Explorers' Club pages? Ask your parent or guardian to email your letters, drawings and photos to us at [kids@ngkids.co.uk](mailto:kids@ngkids.co.uk) or post them to the address below – and we could print them in Nat Geo Kids!

## YOUR DETAILS!

Name ..... Date of birth .....

Address .....

Postcode .....

If you are under the age of 13, please ask a parent or guardian to complete this section:

Parent/guardian's name .....

Parent/guardian's signature .....

Telephone .....

Email .....

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

We like to stay in touch with our readers to tell them about all of the latest cool offers and awesome news from Nat Geo Kids. We won't share your information with third parties – unless you've won a comp!

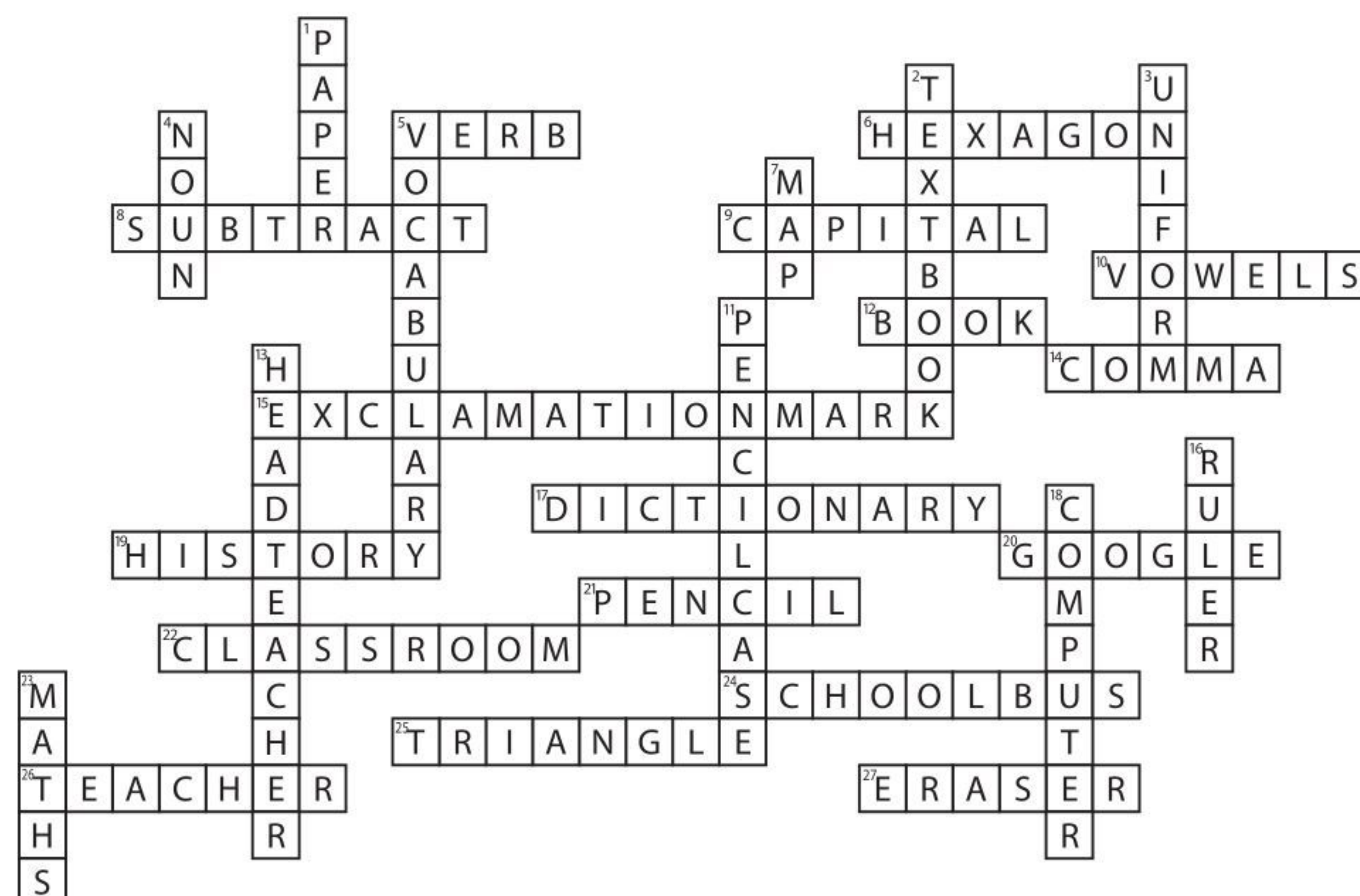
- ☐ Ask your parent or guardian to tick this box if they're happy for us and prize providers to contact you regarding comp entries and your appearance in the mag
- ☐ Ask your parent or guardian to tick this box if they'd like to receive our email newsletter

Cut along the dotted line and send this entry coupon to:  
NG KiDS Competitions September 2019 issue, Third Floor,  
12-14 Berry Street, London, EC1V 0AU  
**Hurry – the closing date for entries is 26 September 2019!**

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS competitions are open to residents of the UK, Eire and the Channel Islands, except employees of Creature Media Ltd, National Geographic Society, and their families, or any associated companies. Entrants to NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS contests must be 16 or under. No purchase necessary. Only one competition entry per person. Winners will be the first correct entries drawn after the closing dates. The editor's decision is final. No responsibility can be taken for entries lost or damaged in transit. A list of winners will be available by contacting National Geographic Kids no earlier than six weeks (unless otherwise stated) after the close of the competition. Only the surname and county of the winners will be disclosed. Prizes subject to availability. No cash alternative for any prizes will be offered. Winners may be required to partake in media activity relating to the competitions. We will only share winners' personal details with third parties if they have won a competition, in order for your them to receive their prize. These details are to be used for prize-giving only and not marketing purposes. For full details of our privacy policy, please go to [natgeokids.com/privacy](http://natgeokids.com/privacy)

# FUN STUFF ANSWERS

## COOL SCHOOL CROSSWORD (page 44)



## THE LAST LAUGH

Q. What's an otter's favourite kind of car?

A. A Furr-ari!

Q. What did the otter say to Justin Beaver?

A. Can I get your otter-graph!

Q. Why did the sea otter apply for a job at NASA?

A. It wanted to visit otter space!

Q. Did you hear about the otters that got in a fight?

A. It was otter chaos!

Q. Why did the photo get arrested?

A. It was framed!

Q. What do you call a photo taken by a cat?

A. A paw-trait!

Q. What do you call a tired photographer?

A. Shuttered!

Q. Why did the photographer quit his job?

A. He'd lost his focus!



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**12**  
 September.  
 Don't miss  
 it!

Now, 'ear  
 this! I'm  
 fluffy AND  
 ferocious!

In next month's  
**NG KIDS...**

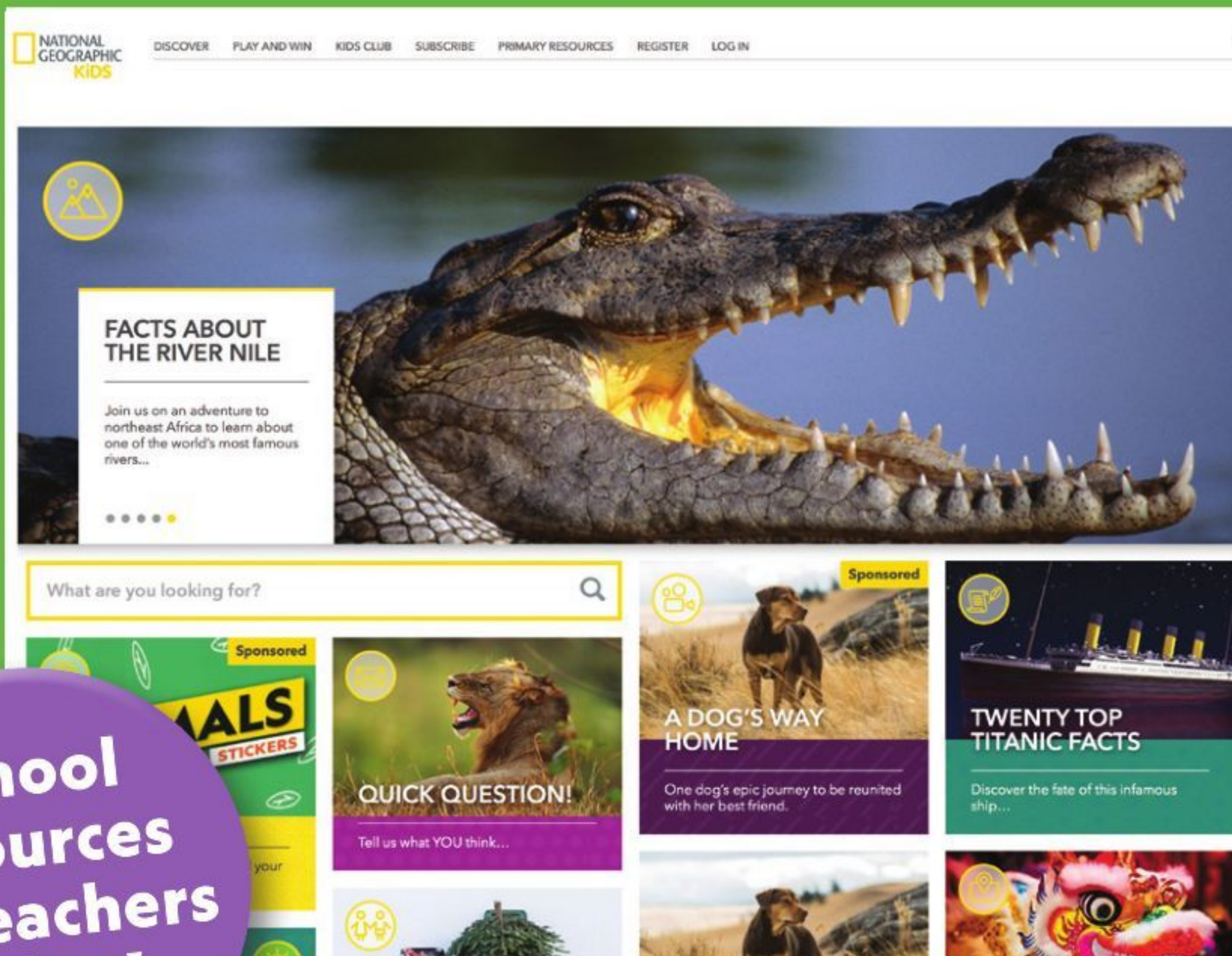
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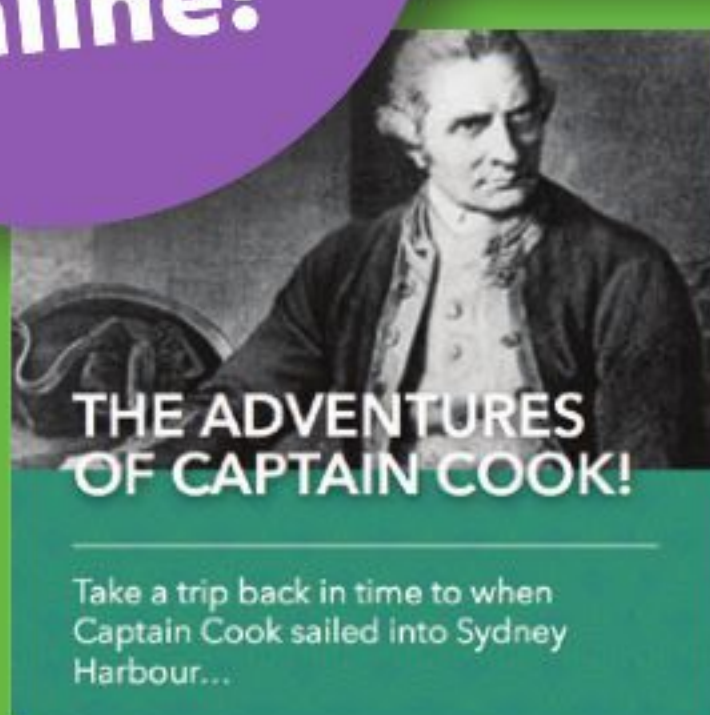
**Puzzles,  
 posters  
 and prizes!**

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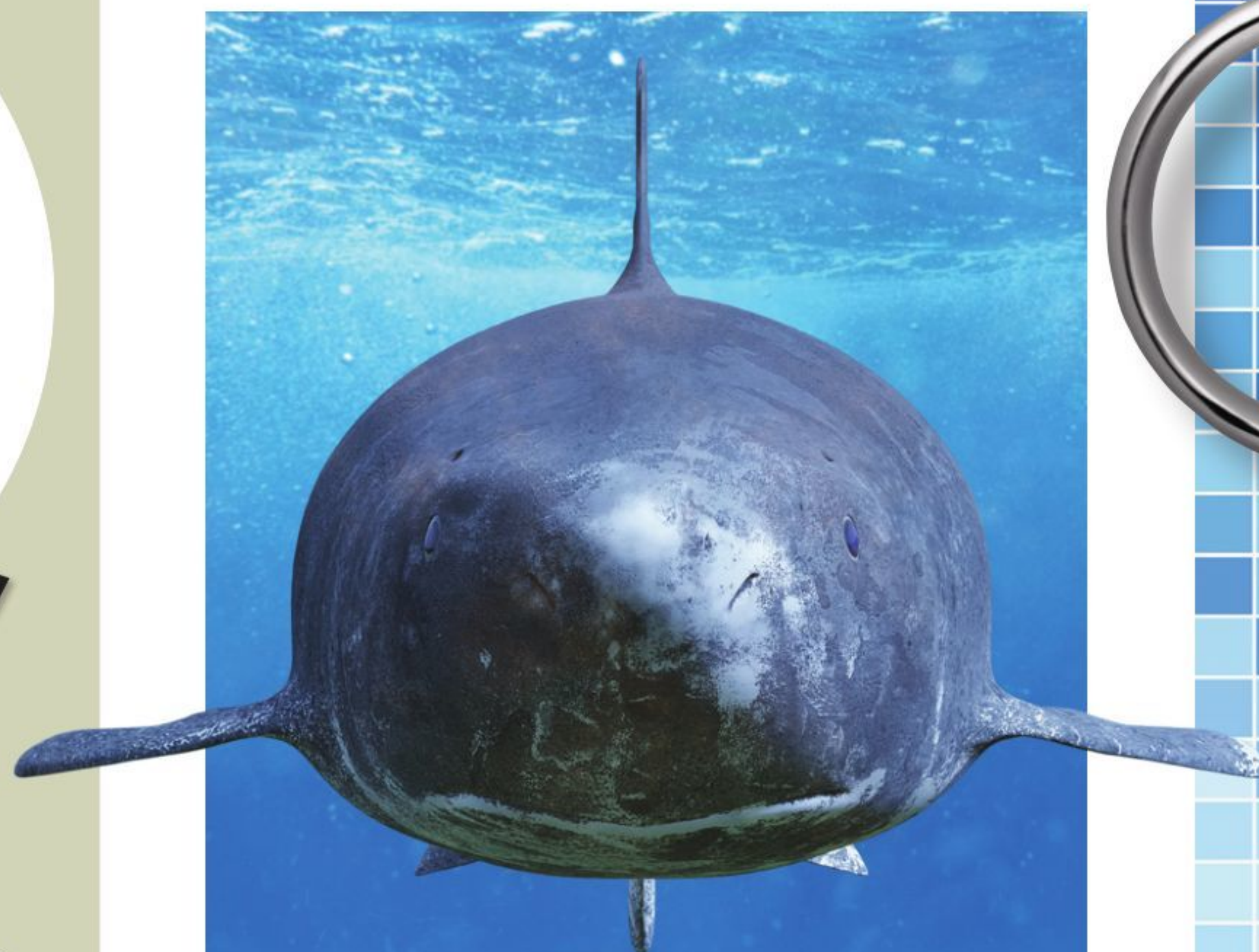
Check out these  
outrageous facts...

**Porphyrophobia**  
is the fear of **purple**.

You can buy **soap** that smells like  
**bacon frying.**



**A glass eye,**  
three sets of false  
teeth and a wig  
fell into a lake under a  
**rollercoaster** at  
Blackpool Pleasure Beach.



**The  
Greenland  
shark**  
can live for  
**400 years.**



People  
flush about  
**27,000**  
trees' worth of  
**toilet paper**  
down the **drain**  
**every day.**



A **geep** is  
part  
**goat,**  
part  
**sheep.**



**A Norwegian man grew a**  
**5.3-metre-long**  
**beard.**  
That's longer than  
an ice-cream van from  
bumper to bumper.



An Iowa teenager  
made her  
**prom dress**  
out of  
**chewing gum  
wrappers.**



Saucer-shaped  
**lenticular clouds**  
have been mistaken for  
**UFOs.**



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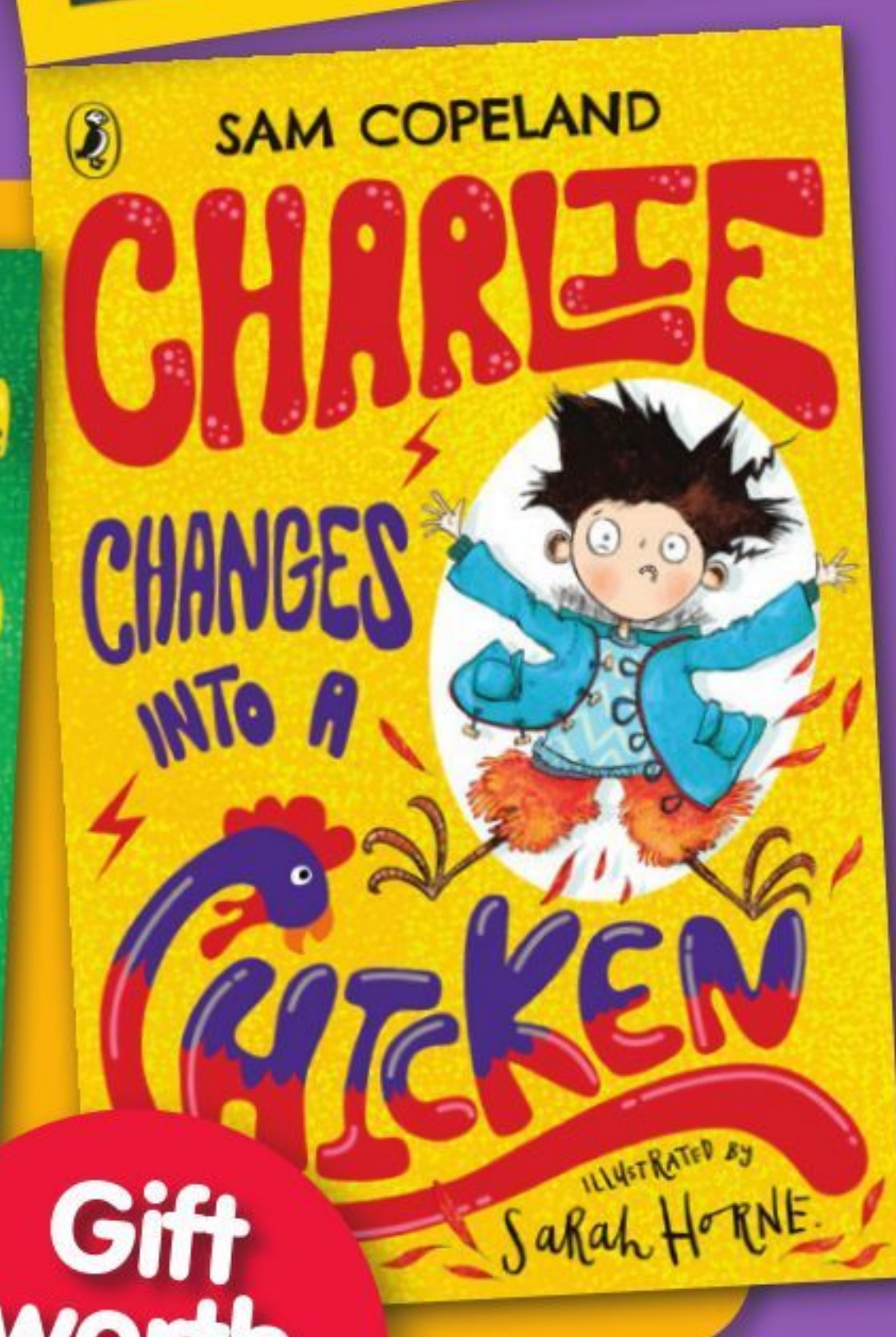
Get ready to giggle with this pair of brill books by author **Sam Copeland**. Charlie McGuffin is a kid with a cool **secret power** - he can change into crazy creatures! The trouble is, Charlie has absolutely **no control** over when he changes into a flea or a pigeon - or even a rhino!

In *Charlie Changes into a Chicken*, Charlie tries to get to grips with his

**new abilities**, while he worries about a mean bully, the school play and his hospitalised brother. And in the sequel, *Charlie Turns into a T-Rex*, things don't get any easier, as he sets out to recover some **stolen gold** and save his dad's business.

The first **50 new NG KIDS subscribers** this month will receive **both books!**

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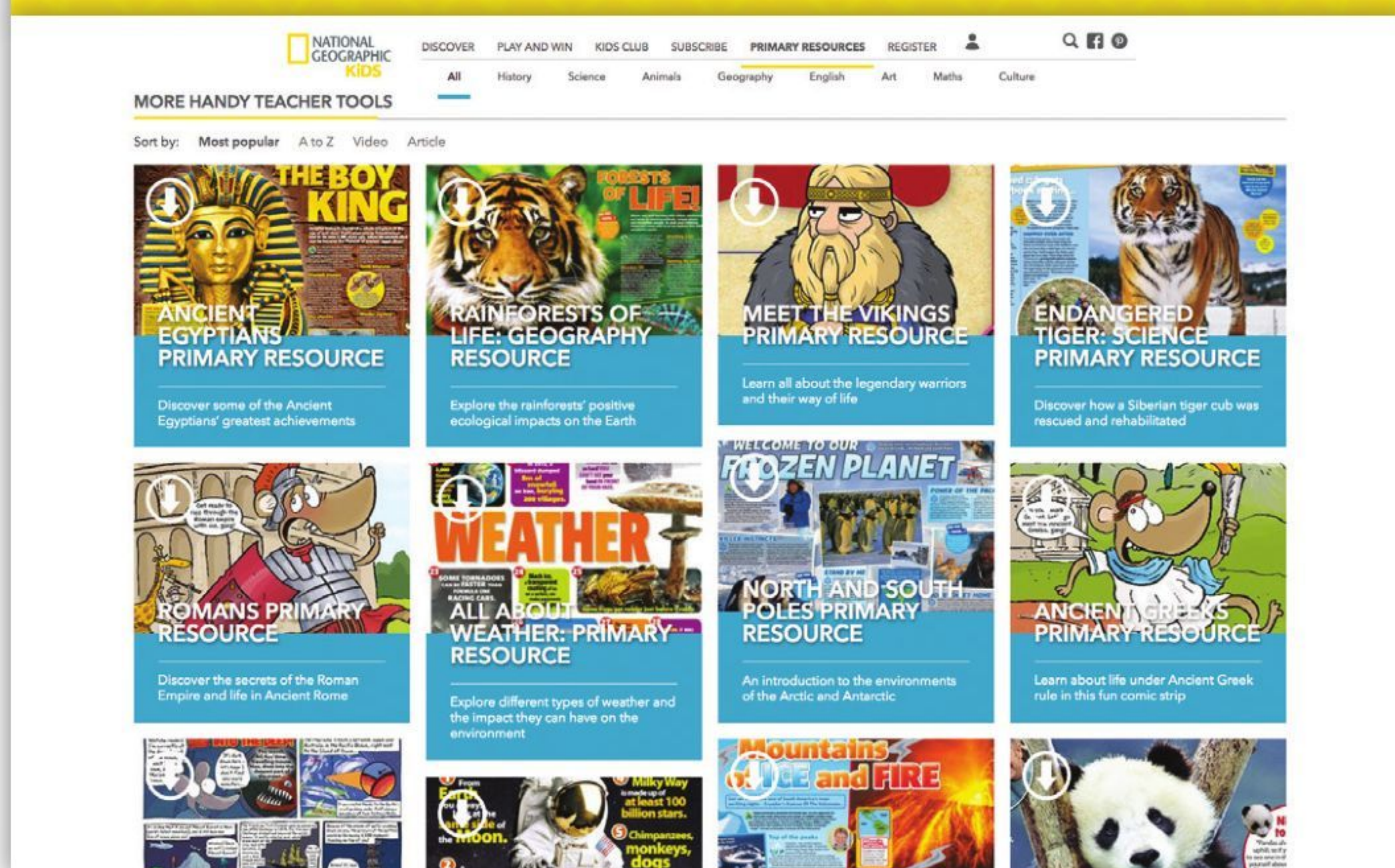
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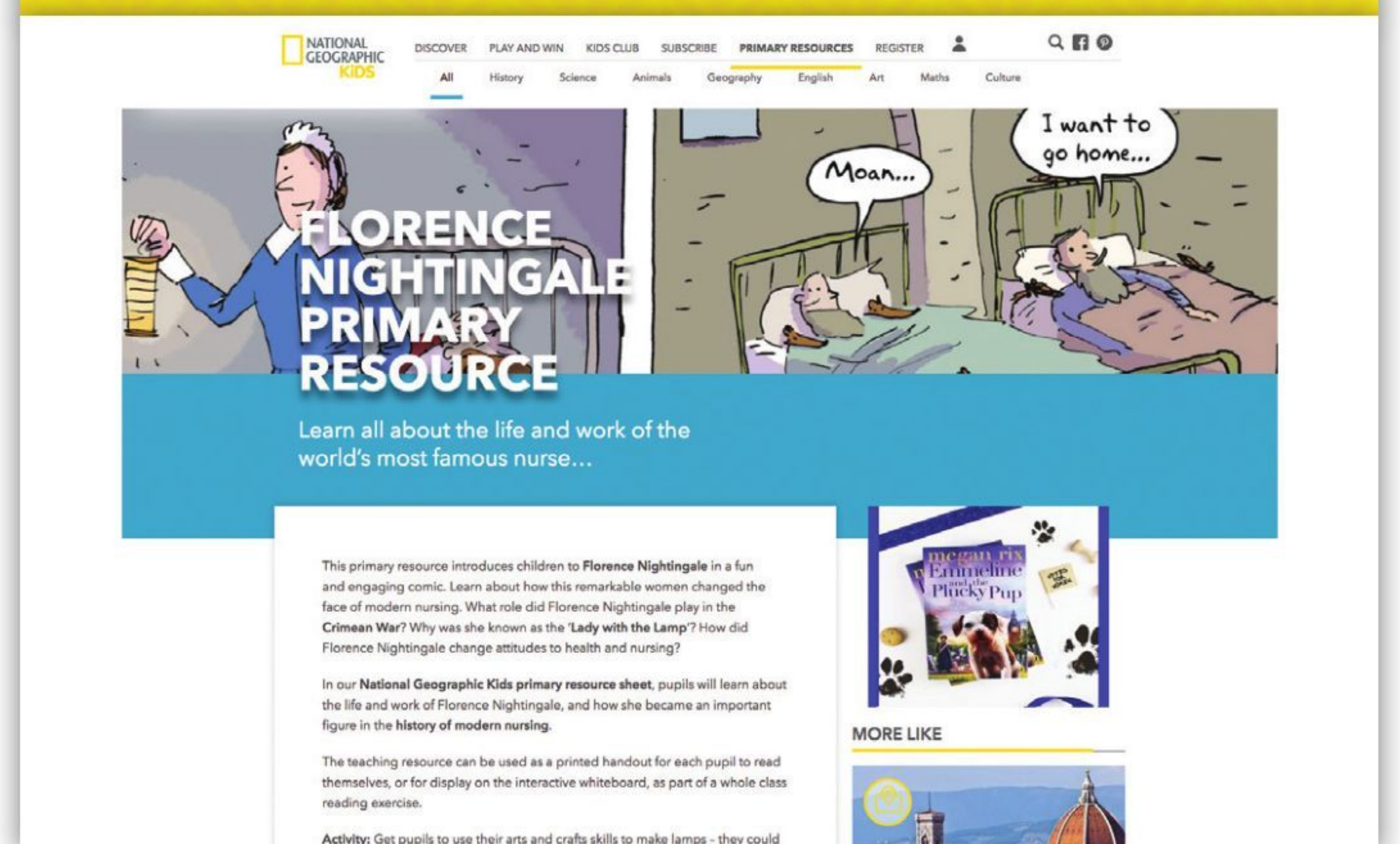
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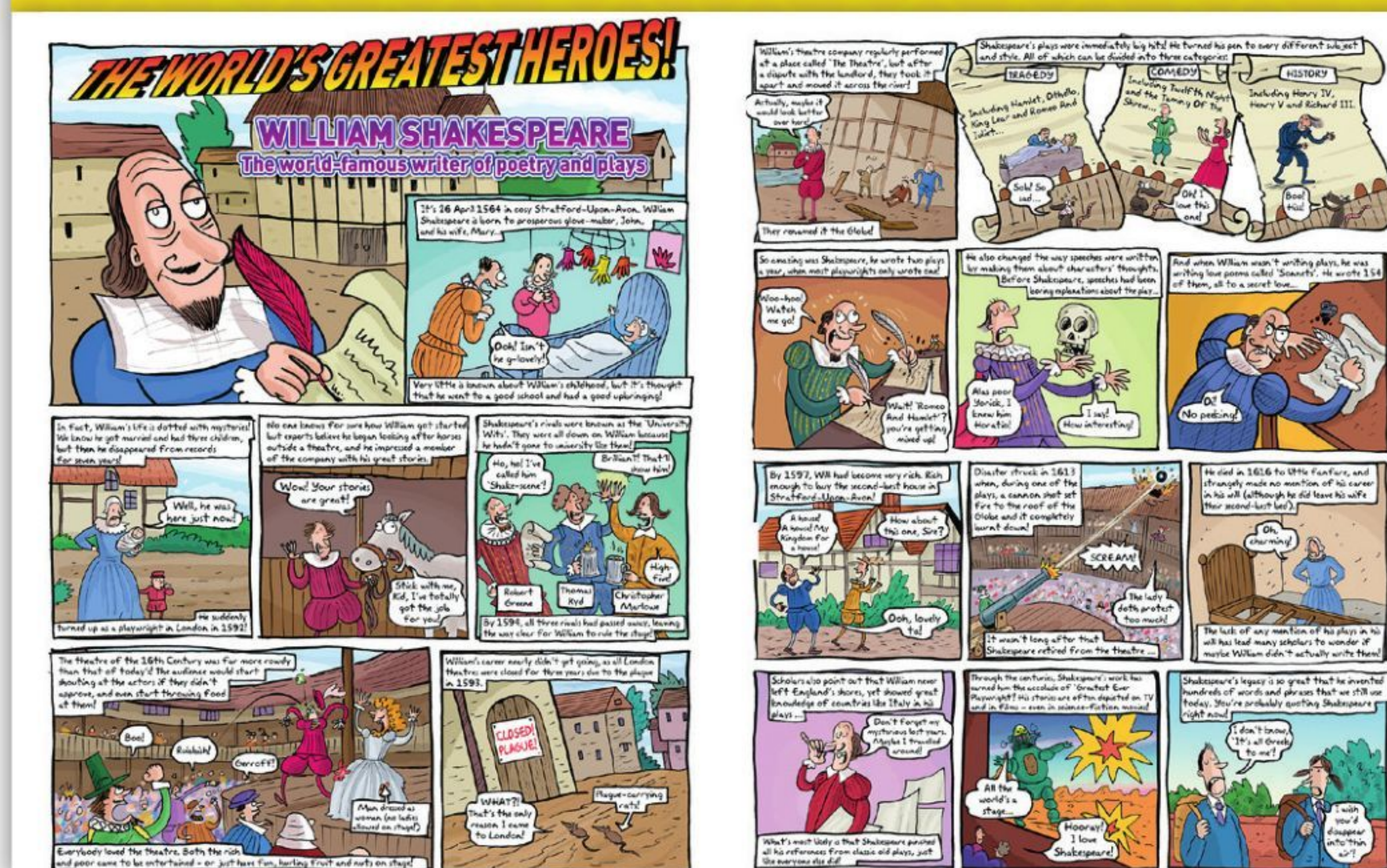
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