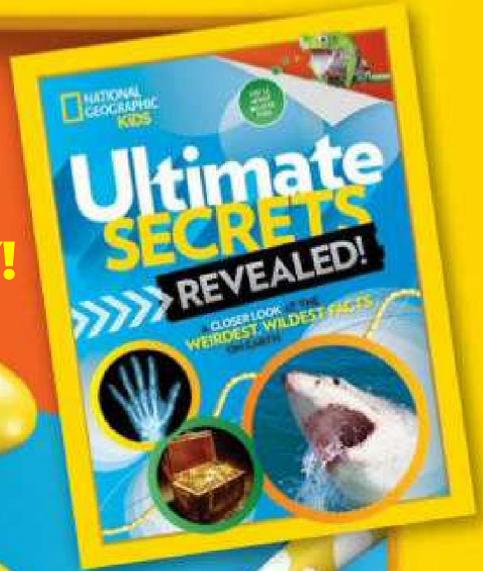


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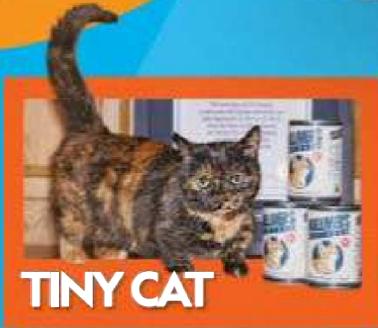
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but
true!**

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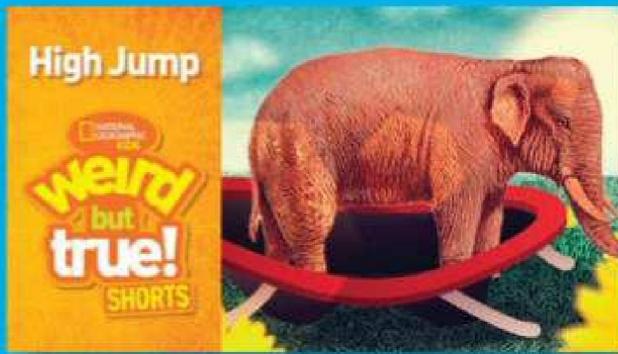
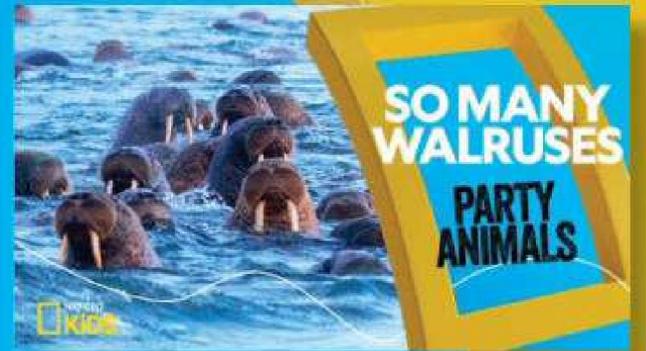


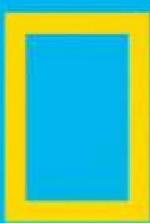
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SPECIAL ISSUE

16 pages of wacky, wild,
crazy-cool facts on pages 10-27

weird but true!

10 Totally Wild Facts About Animals

Pounce on these amazing
facts about critters.



12 Weird Weather

These exciting
weather conditions
will blow you away.



16 Crazy Laws About Food

Get the scoop on some
unbelievable rules.



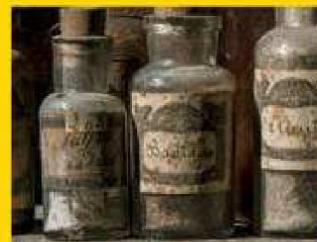
22 Cool Facts About Cash

Discover a wealth of fun
facts about money.



26 Icky Cures

Prepare to be grossed
out by some seriously
strange medicine.



DEPARTMENTS

- 4 Weird But True!
- 5 Guinness World Records
- 6 Bet You Didn't Know!
- 8 Amazing Animals
- 28 Fun Stuff

COVER: WILLEECOLE / SHUTTERSTOCK (DOG); JAMES ELLERKER / GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS (CAT); STRIKA ENTERTAINMENT (COMIC); MILFORD ROAD ALLIANCE (PARROT); PAGE 3: ERIC ISSELEE / SHUTTERSTOCK (ANTEATER); JOHN LINDSAY-SMITH / SHUTTERSTOCK (GIRAFFE); KAREN ANDERSON PHOTOGRAPHY / GETTY IMAGES (WATER-SPOUT); AFRICA STUDIO / SHUTTERSTOCK (GUM); ELAD CARIN / ISTOCK (LOOSE CHANGE); PEPMIBASTOCK / SHUTTERSTOCK (BOTTLES)

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Check out these outrageous facts.

BY MARILYN TERRELL

Grab a parent to watch *Weird But True! Weirdest, Bestest, Truest* for even more crazy-fun facts. [youtube.com/natgeokids](https://www.youtube.com/natgeokids)



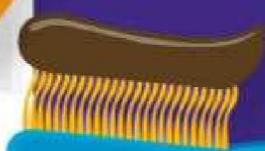
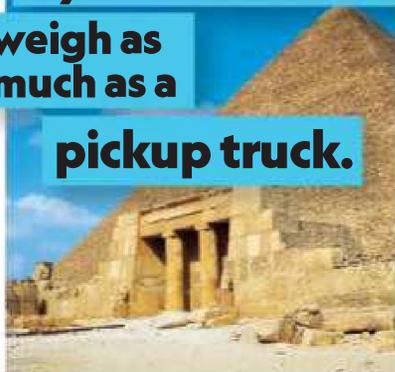
Young gorillas play tag



like human kids do.

Each of the **2.3 million stones** in **Egypt's Great Pyramid at Giza**

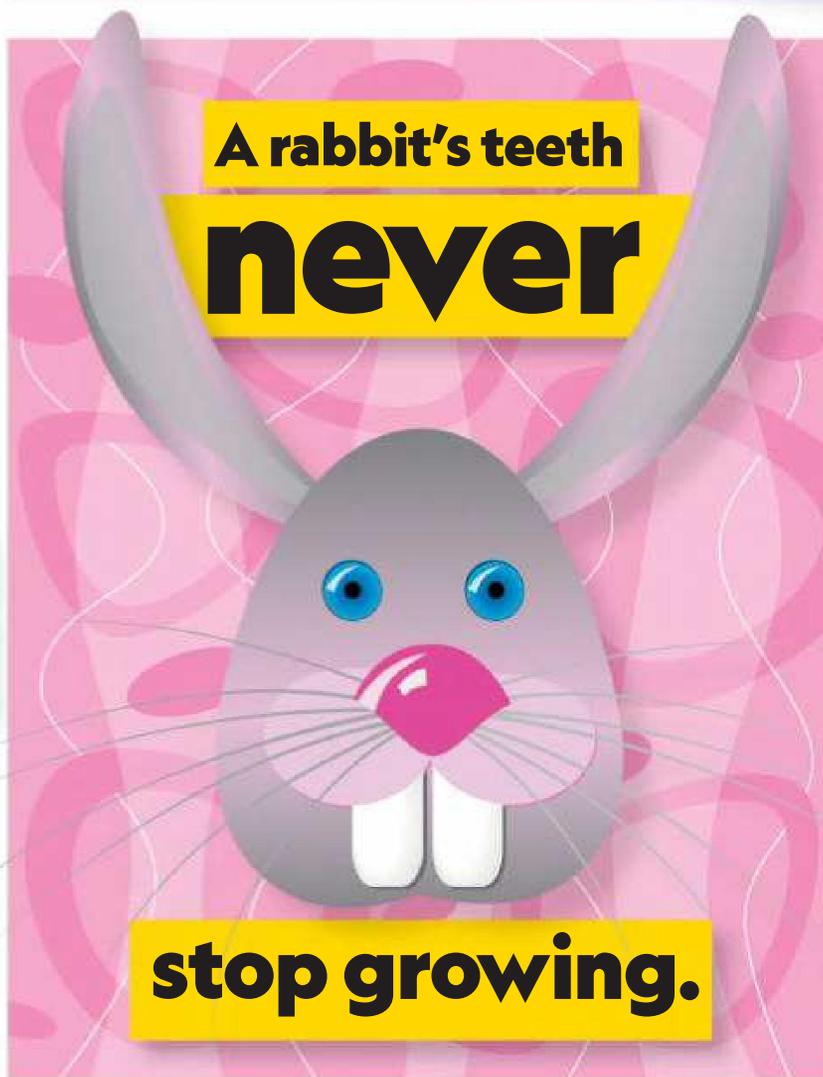
weigh as much as a **pickup truck.**



You can buy

chocolate-flavored toothpaste.

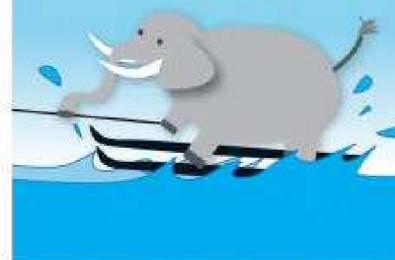
A rabbit's teeth never



stop growing.

An elephant once water-skied

on the Hudson River in **New York City.**

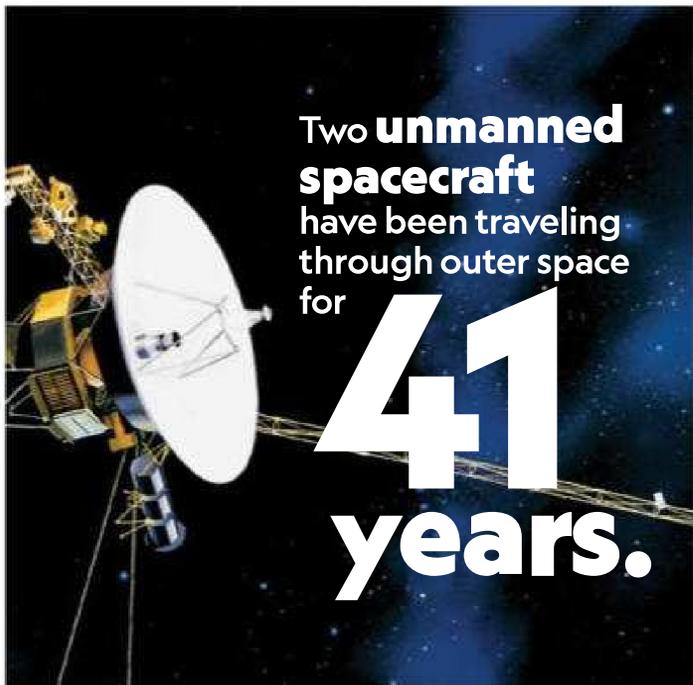


There's a **bicycle** that folds up small enough to **fit inside a backpack.**



Two **unmanned spacecraft** have been traveling through outer space for

41 years.



HAMMERHEAD SHARKS

can give birth to **40** babies at once.



Lightning strikes men

more often than **women.**



GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS

CART TAKES OVER PARKING LOT

You'll never run out of room for groceries again. This vehicle holds the record for the world's largest motorized shopping cart. Taller than an African elephant, the cart can carry more than 360 grocery bags. Driver and creator Frederick Reifsteck maneuvers the cart using a car's steering wheel while perched in the "baby" seat. Just don't take this for a joyride down the store aisles—the cart can zoom legally on highways at up to 60 miles an hour.

—Molly Marcot



TEENY TINY CAT

Lilieput may be the world's shortest cat, but she doesn't let her other feline friends get in her way—she just runs right under them! Lilieput, which is a breed of cat known as a munchkin, is less than six inches tall at her shoulders. That's barely taller than a soda can!

—Angela Modany



ANIMALS ON THE PROWL

Nope, these aren't escaped animals from the weirdest zoo ever. They're just contestants in the largest two-person costumed animal race. Each costume—everything from a camel to a cow to a donkey—was worn by two people, who raced almost 330 feet to the finish line.

—B.F. Summers

**Bet You
Didn't
Know!**

7 Thanksgiving facts you'll gobble up

BY ERIN WHITMER

1 Some **WILD TURKEYS** can run up to **25 MILES AN HOUR.**

2 Two turkeys—named **Flyer and Fryer**—moved to **DISNEYLAND** after they were officially pardoned by a **United States president.**

3 A ripe **CRANBERRY** will **bounce.**

4 The first Thanksgiving celebration lasted for **THREE DAYS.**

5 More **Native Americans** than pilgrims attended the first Thanksgiving feast.

6 **CANADIANS** celebrate Thanksgiving every **OCTOBER.**

7 The largest **PUMPKIN PIE** ever made weighed **3,699 pounds.**



For more fun facts, grab a parent to watch *Things You Wanna Know!*
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AMAZING ANIMALS

BEWARE OF BIRD!

Naughty Parrots!

THIS TYPE OF PARROT, CALLED A KEA, LIVES ONLY IN NEW ZEALAND.

THE KEA CAUSED TRAFFIC JAMS AFTER PLAYING WITH SAFETY CONES.

Fiordland, New Zealand

Cruise down this twisty highway, and you'll spot mountains, lakes, and ... parrots playing on a jungle gym?

Bird experts created the playground just for local kea, a type of parrot that lives only in New Zealand. The feathered fliers can swing on an ocean buoy, make noise on metal triangles, and even knock each other off a see-saw. But it's not just for fun—the jungle gym keeps the birds out of trouble.

The mischievous birds had been moving safety cones across the road, forcing cars

to make dangerous turns and eventually holding up traffic. "Kea are naughty and really smart," says Sue Streatfield, a ranger with the New Zealand Department of Conservation. "You have to lure them away with something way more fun." Now instead of causing trouble, the kea can play on the structure.

Next, conservationists want to add a slide and toys to the structure, and scientists hope to use the roadside gym to study the birdbrains. So if you happen to be driving by, honk if you love kea!

—Aaron Sidder



SCIENTISTS HOPE TO USE VIDEO FOOTAGE OF THE JUNGLE GYM TO STUDY HOW KEA THINK, COMMUNICATE, AND PLAY.

Doggy

High Dive

I'M LIKE SUPERDOG!



East Sussex, England

Poppy the English springer spaniel was just doing what she loved when she chased a seagull at a seaside park. But when the gull flapped away,

Poppy kept chasing it—right over a 300-foot cliff!

Her horrified dog walkers rushed to the edge and looked down. Poppy had fallen straight

into the English Channel. She was alive but helpless in the chilly waves.

As the humans called for help, the clever canine paddled to a tiny beach about 30 feet away. For 10 minutes she huddled there until a rescue boat from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution reached the soaked-but-safe dog.

Spaniels are great swimmers, says Ginnie Klein of the Golden Gate English Springer

Spaniel Association. But surviving such an ordeal is "pure dumb luck," she says. Poppy might've wished she could fly as well as swim!

—Elisabeth Deffner

DOG
East Sussex,
England



PARROTS
Fiordland,
New Zealand

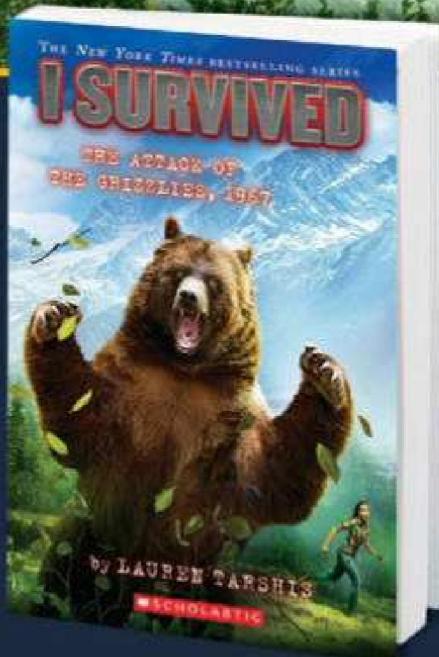
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weird
but
true!

16 PAGES OF
WACKY, WILD,
CRAZY-COOL

TOTALLY WILD FACTS ABOUT ANIMALS



A **CROCODILE**
GROWS up to
3,000 TEETH in its **LIFETIME.**

AN **ANTEATER'S**
TONGUE
IS **2 FEET LONG—**

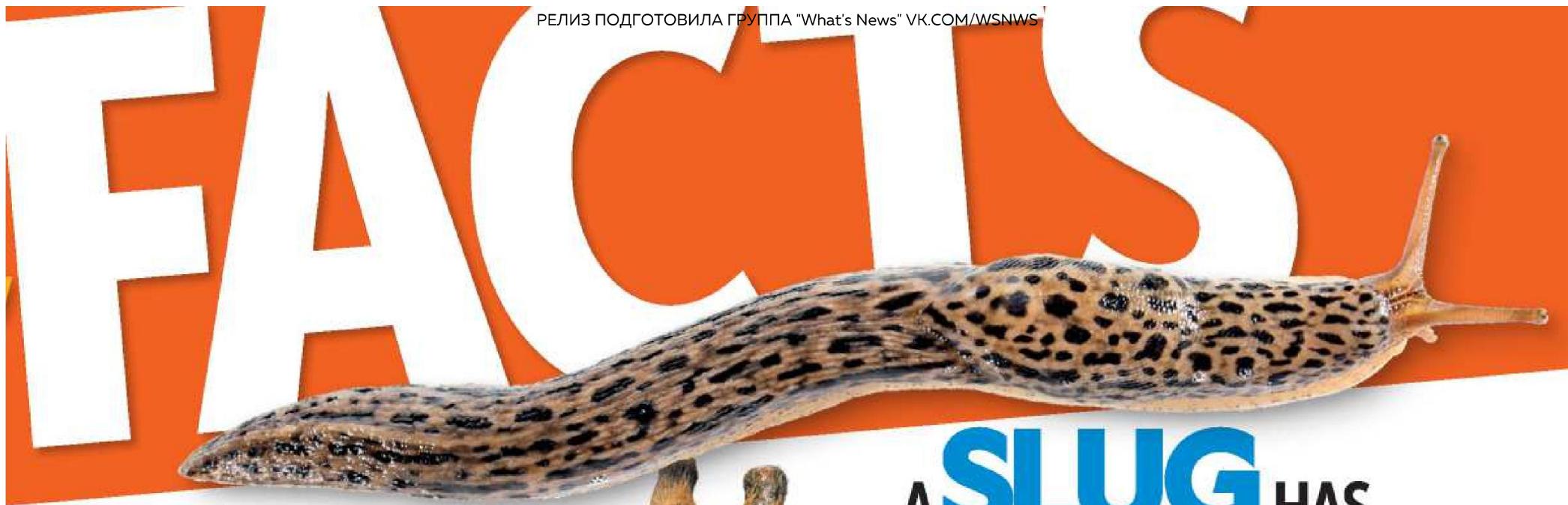


that's
about
the

LENGTH
of a **TENNIS**
RACKET!

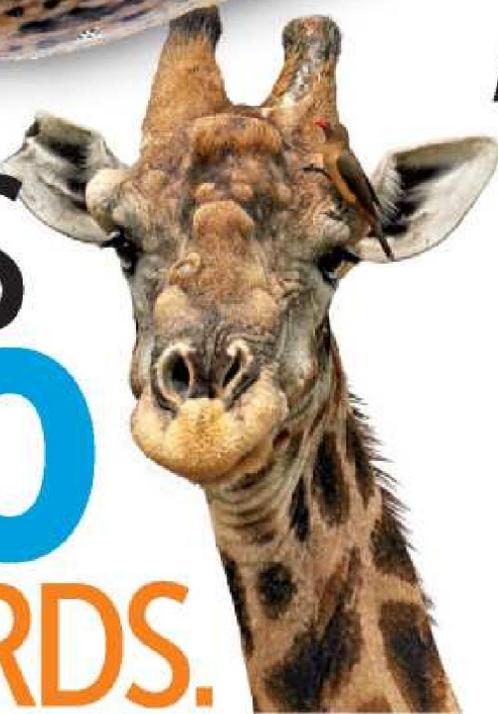


A **SQUID**
HAS **3 HEARTS.**



A **SLUG** HAS **4 NOSES.**

GIRAFFES HAVE **ZERO** VOCAL CORDS.



ABOUT **10 PERCENT** OF A **CAT'S** BONES ARE IN ITS **TAIL.**



A **HUMMINGBIRD'S** WINGS can beat up to **200** TIMES a second.



A **POLAR BEAR'S** PAW CAN BE **12 INCHES** ACROSS— THAT'S AS **WIDE** AS A **FRISBEE!**



THE WORLD'S **LEGGIEST CREATURE**— a TYPE of **MILLIPEDE**—HAS **750 LEGS!**



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weird
but
true!

WEIRD

WEATHER

Red Sprite

Red sprites are still a bit mysterious to scientists. They happen in the upper atmosphere, miles above thunderstorms that are ending. After much of the electric charge is removed from a storm through lightning strikes, these glowing streamers may appear. Red sprites are rarely seen from Earth.



Haboob

A haboob is a giant desert dust storm. The thick blanket of dust can swallow up a city, knock over power lines, and cause traffic accidents because of reduced visibility. Cover your mouth and nose and run for cover if a haboob comes your way.



Double Rainbow

Light reflecting inside water droplets causes one rainbow, but it's actually possible for light to be reflected more than once inside a raindrop. The rare secondary rainbow is formed above the first and is usually fainter—and the colors are seen in the reverse order. Intense!

GET MORE **WEIRD BUT TRUE!** FACTS.
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IER

TIRED OF SUN, CLOUDS, AND ALL THE USUAL STUFF WHEN YOU PEEK OUT YOUR WINDOW? CHECK OUT THESE EXCITING WEATHER CONDITIONS THAT WILL BLOW YOU AWAY!

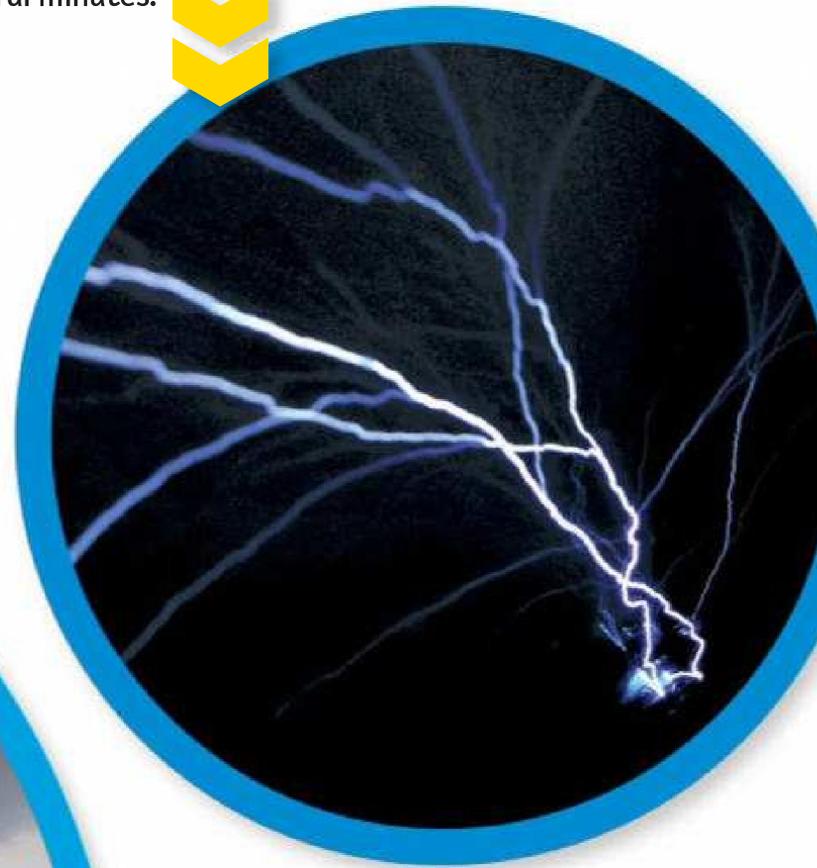


Sky Punch

Sometimes you'll see a stretch of clouds across the sky, and then a few minutes later there's a hole punched right through the clouds! This phenomenon is caused when supercooled clouds float in a blanket-like layer across the sky before an airplane flies through them. The broken cloud section then falls as snow.

St. Elmo's Fire

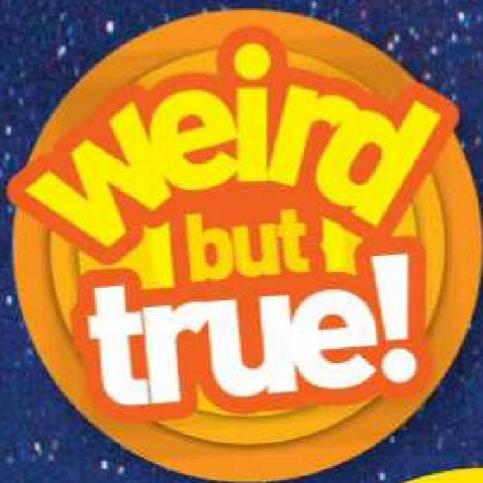
It's not actually fire at all—it's a gas called plasma. Metallic or pointy objects often become supercharged during thunderstorms. When the charges are high enough, the air around the object also becomes charged, or ionized. The nitrogen and oxygen in the air cause the glow to be blue or violet, and the St. Elmo's light can continue for several minutes.



Waterspout

These water funnels form in two ways: when a tornado moves over water, or when wind is light but cumulus clouds have begun to develop. (Cumulus clouds are the white, fluffy-looking clouds.) The second kind starts swirling at the surface of the water and moves upward. They'll fall apart quickly if they reach land.





Ancient artists moved
more than 1,000

GIANT

STONE STATUES across Easter Island



The largest statue
weighed 82 tons—
more than a couple of fully loaded cement trucks.

STONE-COLD MYSTERY SOLVED?

These statues, called *moai*, were built at least 800 years ago by the Rapa Nui people on Easter Island, in the South Pacific Ocean. Once carved, the stones had to be moved as far as 11 miles from their quarry into place. The prehistoric people who built them had no metal tools or wheels. Their method was a mystery until 2012, when researchers built a replica of one of the figures to crack the case.

The scientists showed that just 18 people with three strong ropes could've moved the statues. Pulling one statue at a time, they could've "walked" the statues on their large, rounded bases. Since the islanders didn't write down their technique, scientists can't be sure this is the method. But it's the most likely answer. Maybe the old legend—which says the statues walked into place—was the truth all along!

with no machines to help them.

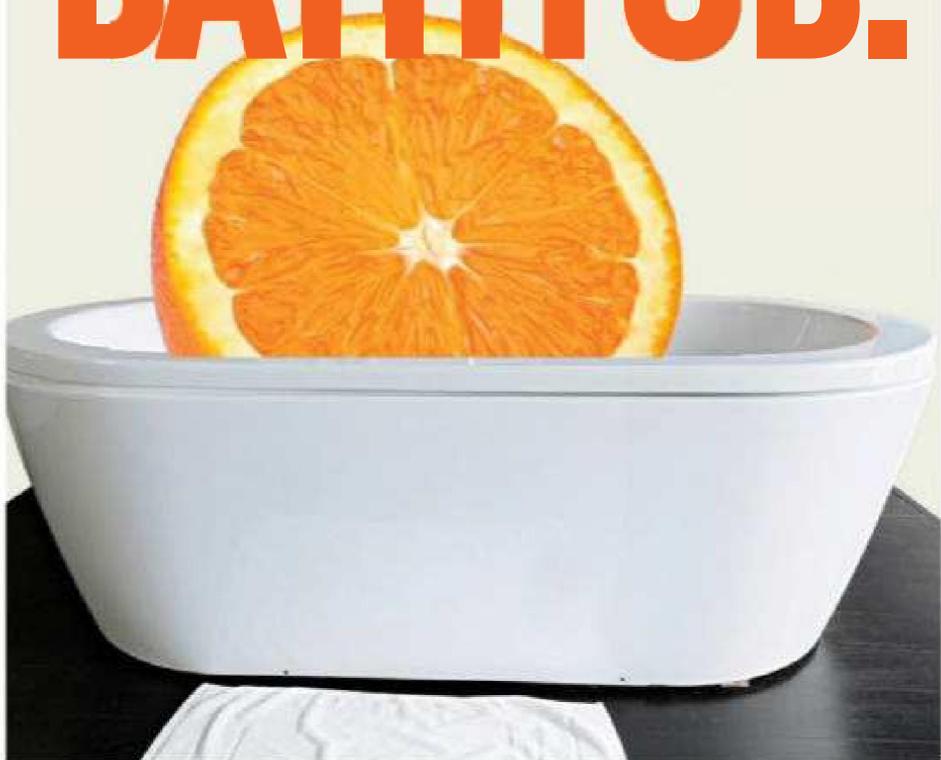


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CRAZY

IN CALIFORNIA,
IT'S ILLEGAL TO EAT AN
ORANGE
IN THE
BATHTUB.



A **LAW** limits
MOURNERS
at **FUNERALS** in
MASSACHUSETTS
to just **3 SANDWICHES**
EACH.

EATING **FRIED CHICKEN**
with anything other
than your fingers is
OUTLAWED
in Gainesville, Georgia.



IN SINGAPORE,
chewing gum
IS ONLY AVAILABLE WITH A **PRESCRIPTION.**



LAWS ABOUT FOOD

IN **MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE**, A LAW MAKES IT **ILLEGAL** TO TAKE HOME **LEFTOVER PIE**



FROM A **RESTAURANT.**

IT'S AGAINST THE LAW IN **KENTUCKY** TO CARRY AN **ICE-CREAM CONE** IN YOUR **POCKET.**

In **WISCONSIN**, it's **ILLEGAL** to serve **MARGARINE** in **SCHOOLS** and **HOSPITALS.**



IN **FRANCE**, **KETCHUP** IS **BANNED** IN **ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.**



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NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. Contest begins at 12:01 a.m. EST on October 15, 2018, and ends at 11:59 p.m. EST on January 15, 2019. Open to legal U.S. residents who are 6-14 years old at the time of entry. Void where prohibited by law. To enter, visit www.natgeokids.com/wbtusa. See Official Rules for complete details.





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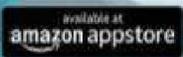
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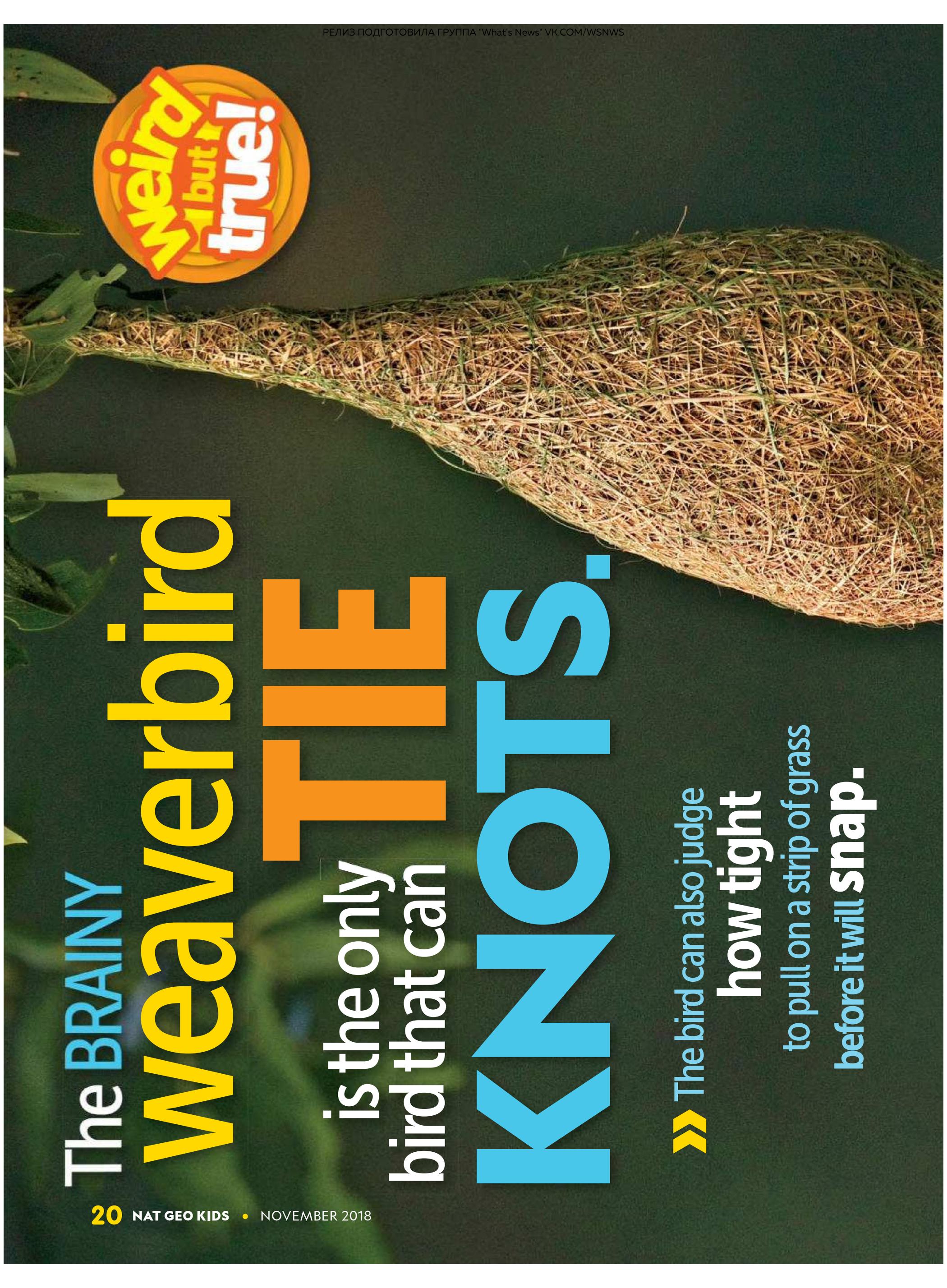
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The BRAINY Weaverbird

is the only bird that can TIE KNOTS.

» The bird can also judge
how tight
to pull on a strip of grass
before it will **snap.**

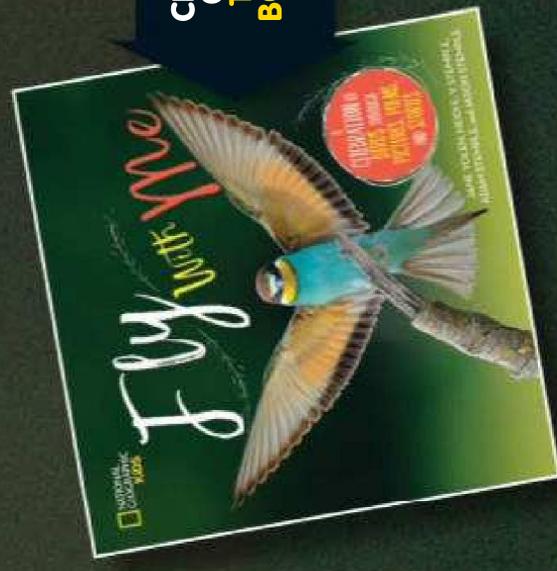


»» **Male birds** often build several nests, and the **female** picks her favorite.

»» **Weavers** are **quick learners**, making a better nest every time.

»» **Weavers** build nests that weigh over **2,000 pounds** and house over **100 mini-nests** inside.

»» **Weavers** build their nests using **dozens** of different **knots** and **loops**—even while **hanging upside down!**

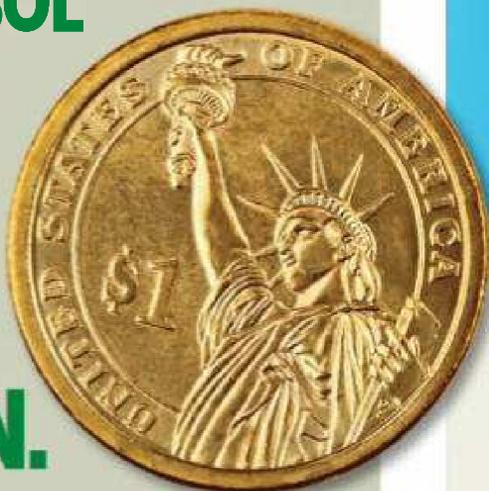


CHECK OUT THIS BOOK!



COOL FACTS

THE **DOLLAR SYMBOL** APPEARED ON **U.S. CURRENCY** FOR THE **FIRST** TIME IN 2007—ON A **DOLLAR COIN.**



AUSTRALIA was the first country to use plastic bills.

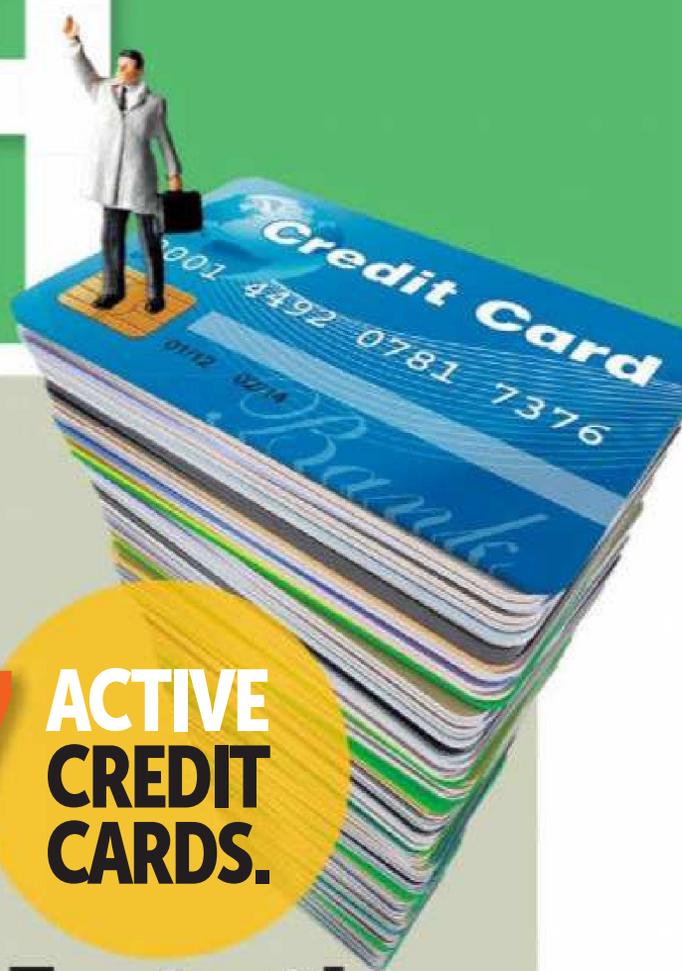
ONE-THIRD OF ALL U.S. CURRENCY WAS **COUNTERFEIT** BY THE END OF THE **CIVIL WAR.**

ONLY 8% OF THE WORLD'S CURRENCY EXISTS AS **CASH.** THE REST IS **ELECTRONIC.**

THE **U.S. Treasury** ESTIMATES THAT **AMERICANS** HAVE A TOTAL OF ABOUT **\$15 BILLION** in loose change.



CTS OUT CASH

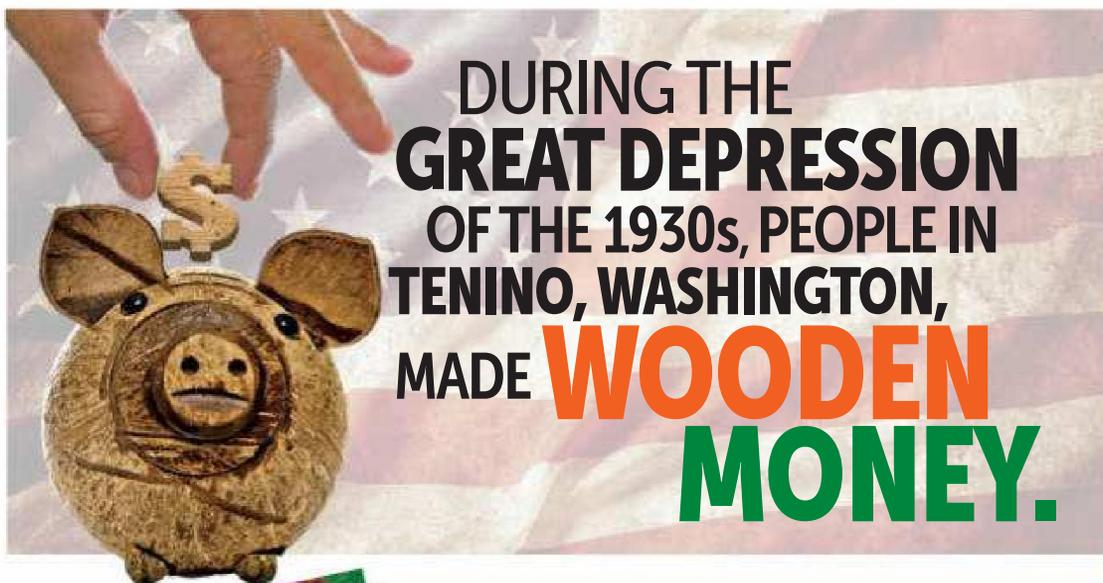


CUSTOMS POLICE
TRAIN
DOGS
to SNIFF OUT
COUNTERFEIT
CASH
AT **BORDER**
CROSSINGS.



A MAN IN
CALIFORNIA
HAS
1,497 **ACTIVE**
CREDIT
CARDS.
HE'S KNOWN AS
Mr. Plastic Fantastic.

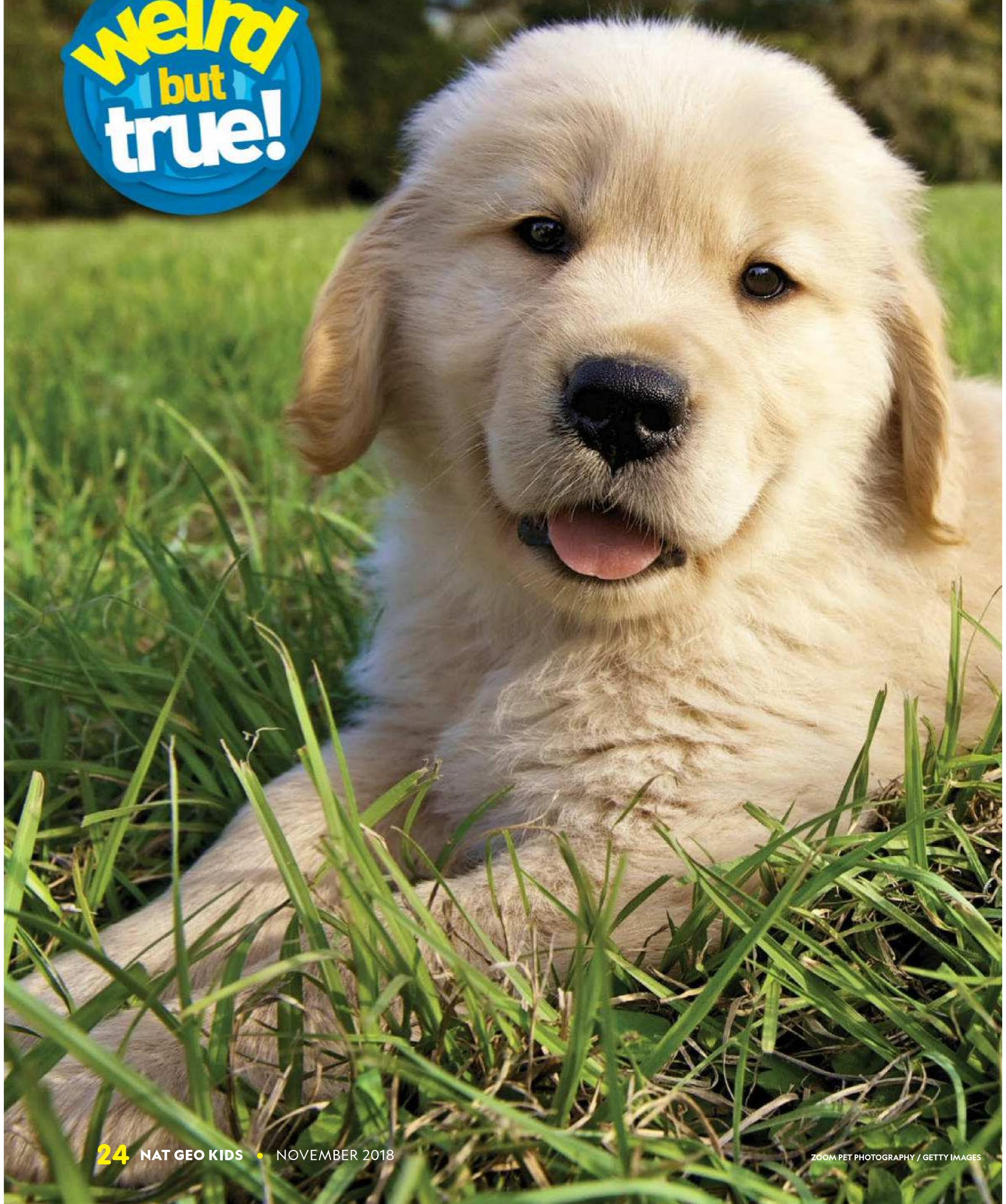
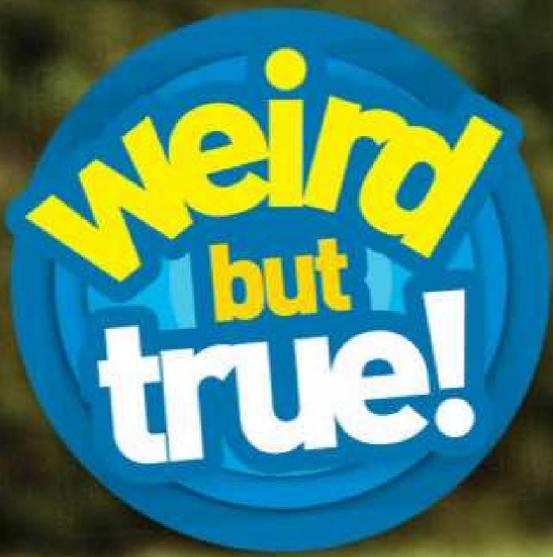
IT'S **ILLEGAL** **\$5**
FOR TRAVELERS TO TAKE MORE THAN
IN **PENNIES** OUT OF THE **UNITED STATES.**



DURING THE
GREAT DEPRESSION
OF THE 1930s, PEOPLE IN
TENINO, WASHINGTON,
MADE **WOODEN**
MONEY.



Grab a parent and watch *Weird But True!*
Shorts for more amazing facts.
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Looking at a

CUTE baby

animal activates the same part of your brain as

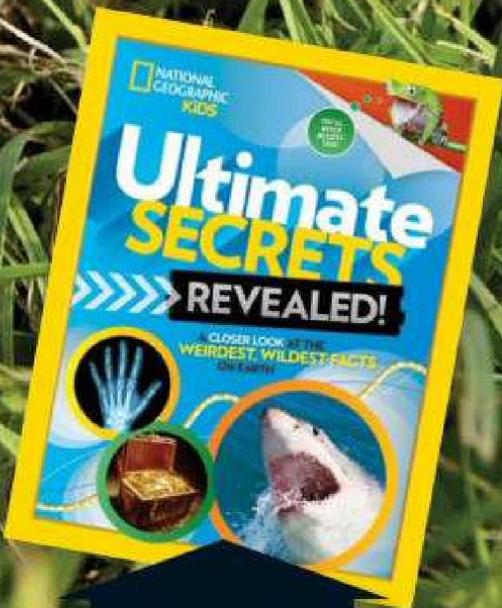
falling in

LOVE

»» SAY "AWW!"

Scientists have found that humans are drawn to animals that have facial features similar to a human baby's. When we see creatures with large eyes, chubby cheeks, or big foreheads, our brain sends a chemical called dopamine through our body. This dopamine makes us experience the sensation of reward. It's the same chemical released when we eat a super-sugary treat, hit a home run, or fall in love.

Looking at baby animals might even boost your brainpower—sort of. For an experiment, a team of psychologists had students play one round of a game that took a lot of concentration. Then they had half the students look at pictures of puppies and kittens. On the second round, this group did better than another group who *didn't* look at the adorable critters. So looking at photos of cute baby animal isn't just fun—it might help you think!



WIN THE BOOK!
TRY ONLINE
NOVEMBER 1-8.
natgeokids.com/november

weird
but
true!

ICKY CURES

ANCIENT EGYPTIANS GROUND

DEAD MICE

INTO A
PASTE FOR
TREATING

TOOTHACHES.

IN THE

1600s

SICK PEOPLE

IN BATH, ENGLAND,
DRANK HEALTH-GIVING
WATER THAT SMELLED
LIKE

ROTTEN EGGS.

IN THE
MIDDLE
AGES,
PEOPLE PASSED

GAS

INTO

JARS

AND TOOK

SNIFFS

TO WARD OFF
PLAGUE.

VICTORIAN

DOCTORS ADVISED **MEN** TO GROW
BEARDS TO PREVENT ILLNESS.

17TH-CENTURY
HOME REMEDIES FOR BURNS
INCLUDED **GOOSE DUNG**
FRIED IN BUTTER.

IN THE FUTURE,
GROUND-UP
COCKROACH
BRAINS
COULD BE USED
TO TREAT **INFECTION.**

A TRADITIONAL **CHINESE** RECIPE FOR SOOTHING
SORE JOINTS
INCLUDES **SNAKE OIL.**

RED, SLIMY HIPPO
SWEAT CAN BE
USED AS
SUNSCREEN.

CHECK
OUT
THE
BOOK!

FUN STUFF

GAMES,
LAUGHS, AND
LOTS TO DO!MY FAVORITE
SMELL?
STINKY FEET!

DOG SCIENCE

BY JODI
WHEELER-TOPPEN

FIND YOUR DOG'S FAVORITE SMELL

Take your science experiments out of the lab and into your backyard! We bet you know your dog's fave toy, but do you know what smell it likes best? Use this experiment to discover your pup's preference.

YOU NEED:

- hammer and nail
- 4 plastic containers with lids
- 4 unusual odors (some ideas: mint mouthwash, soy sauce, a strong spice, or even a toy that a friend's dog has used)

INSTRUCTIONS



1 Ask an adult to help you use the hammer and nail to punch 10 holes in the lid of each container.



2 Place some of each scent into its own separate container and snap on the lid. Shake the container, then wipe off any spills on the lid.

3 With your dog out of the room, place the containers in a row with a few inches between them.

4 Let your dog into the room. Record how long your pup spends with each container. Your dog will spend the most time with the scent that's most interesting to it.



SAFETY NOTE

Don't leave your dog alone during the experiment—your pet might get so interested in a smell that it eats the container, which could make your pooch sick.



MATTHEW RAKOLA (ALL)

EXPLORER ACADEMY

In the new book *Explorer Academy: The Nebula Secret*, 12-year-old Cruz Coronado breaks secret codes in order to fight dangerous villains and solve mysteries. Test your own skills by cracking the code on this page, then check out more about the book at ExplorerAcademy.com.

TEXT AND PUZZLE BY GARETH MOORE

THE CODE: POLYBIUS SQUARE

This cipher puts the alphabet on a square-shaped grid and turns each letter into a number. Check out the Polybius square on the right. The row number to the left of the letter is the first digit, and the column number above the letter is the second digit.

So you write **D O G**
like this: **14 34 22**

This cipher is named after the ancient Greek historian Polybius (puh-LIH-bee-uhs), who is thought to be the first person to use this system.

The table has only 25 spaces, so the letters *i* and *j* share a square. When you're decoding a message with the number 24, use your judgment to decide if the letter should be an *i* or a *j* based on the rest of the word.

	1	2	3	4	5
1	A	B	C	D	E
2	F	G	H	I/J	K
3	L	M	N	O	P
4	Q	R	S	T	U
5	V	W	X	Y	Z

CRACK THIS CODE!

Using the Polybius square, decode the message below.

ANSWER ON PAGE 33

12

15

13

11

42

15

21

45

31

52

23

34

54

34

45

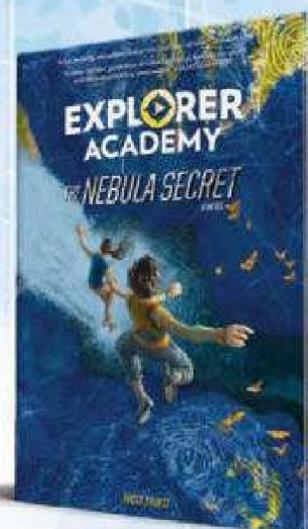
44

42

45

43

44

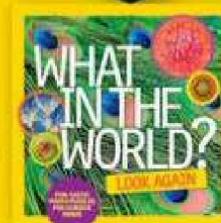


CHECK OUT THE BOOK!

BREAK MORE CODES!
ExplorerAcademy.com

WHAT IN THE WORLD

CHECK OUT THE BOOK!



SEEING SPOTS

These photographs show close-up views of things with spots or dots. Unscramble the letters to identify each picture. Feel like you're on the spot? **ANSWERS ON PAGE 33**



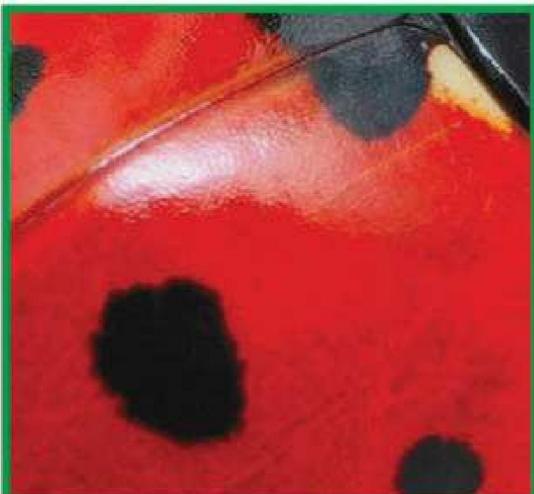
SWRTITE



HERAFTE



COGEK



YAGBDLU



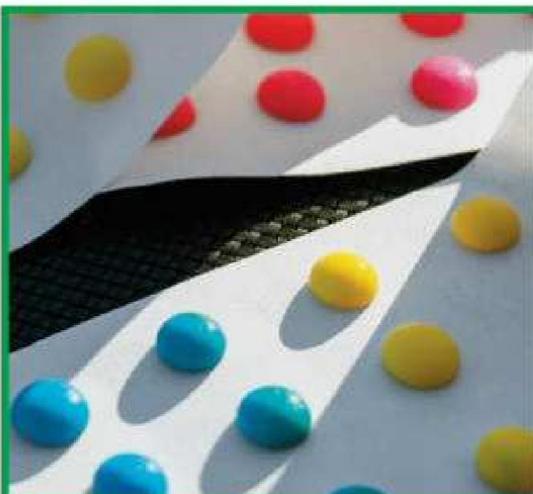
TANAMLADI



MDOOINSE



SHFI



AYDNC TSBTONU



UHRMOMOS

TOP ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): REBECCA HALE / NG STAFF; LCSWART / SHUTTERSTOCK; NATALIA FEDOSOVA / SHUTTERSTOCK. MIDDLE ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): IRIN-K / SHUTTERSTOCK; DORA ZETT / SHUTTERSTOCK; NITO / SHUTTERSTOCK. BOTTOM ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): LEVENT KONUK / SHUTTERSTOCK; GRACIEZZO / SHUTTERSTOCK; W59 / SHUTTERSTOCK.

FUNNY FILL-IN

PARADE BRIGADE

Ask a friend to give you words to fill in the blanks in this story without showing it to him or her. Then read out loud for a laugh.
BY MARGARET J. KRAUSS

PLAY MORE FUNNY FILL-IN!
natgeokids.com/ffi



It was the day of the _____ parade. My family and I got up at _____
 holiday small number
 o'clock in order to get a good _____ before the parade. Huge balloons that looked like things
 noun
 such as _____ and _____ were each held down by _____ people,
 animal, plural cartoon character large number
 and _____ floats covered in _____ jammed the street. When we saw an open
 adjective something slimy
 door in a float shaped like a(n) _____, we _____ through
 noun adverb ending in -ly past-tense verb
 it. But then the _____ began to move. We _____ up a(n) _____ to
 same noun past-tense verb noun
 the top of the float. Suddenly we were surrounded by _____ and the _____,
 pop star type of job, plural
 _____ and throwing _____ at the crowd. What could we do? We started
 verb ending in -ing type of food, plural
 _____ with the band!
 verb ending in -ing

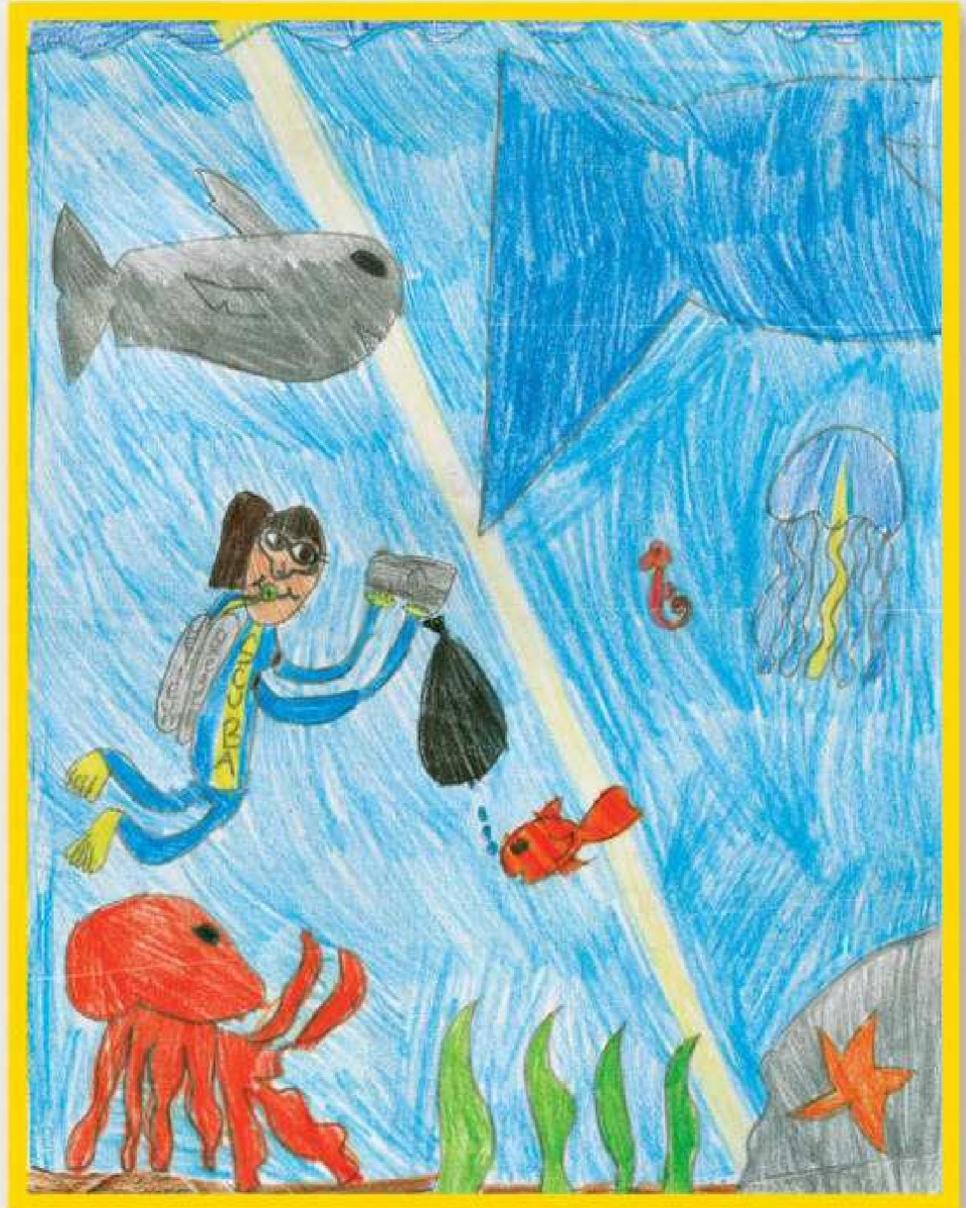


ART ZONE

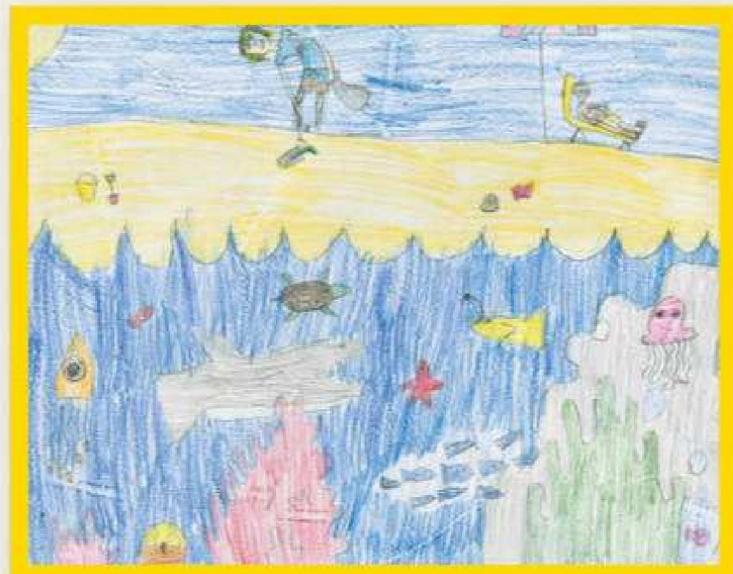
OCEAN CHAMPIONS
Check out all the ways *Nat Geo Kids* readers protect the ocean in these drawings.



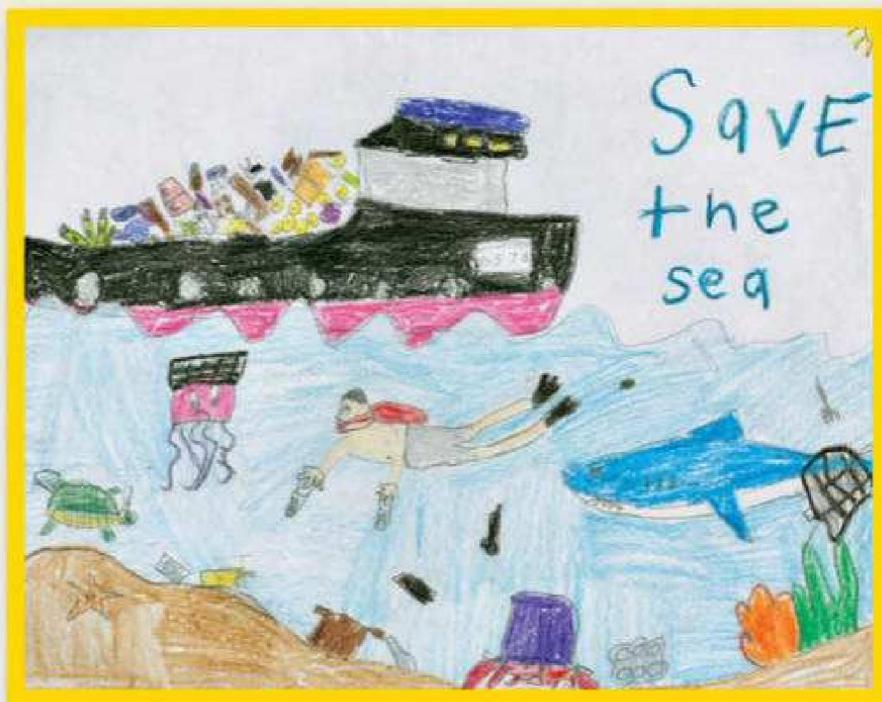
▲ **Recycle!**
Max B., 10, Ocala, Florida



▲ **Picking Up Trash and Taking Photos of the Animals**
Presley L., 10, Charlotte, North Carolina



▲ **Pick Up Cups and Straws**
Jordan H., 8, Boonton, New Jersey



▲ **Save the Sea From Pollution**
Bennett S., 7, West Paducah, Kentucky



▲ **Pick Up Pet Waste!**
Evey G., 10, Puyallup, Washington

Draw your favorite ocean animal.

Send us
your
original
drawings:

**Nat Geo Kids—
Animal Art Zone**
P.O. Box 98002
Washington, DC
20090-8002

Include your name, address, phone number, date of birth, a title for your drawing, a statement that it is your own work, and the name of your parent or guardian. Your parent or guardian must sign a release for publication if your illustration is selected. Submissions become the property of National Geographic Partners, and all rights thereto are transferred to National Geographic Partners. Submissions cannot be acknowledged or returned. Selection will be at the discretion of *Nat Geo Kids*.

See these and 20 other sea-saving pieces of art at **National Geographic Encounter: Ocean Odyssey** in New York City!



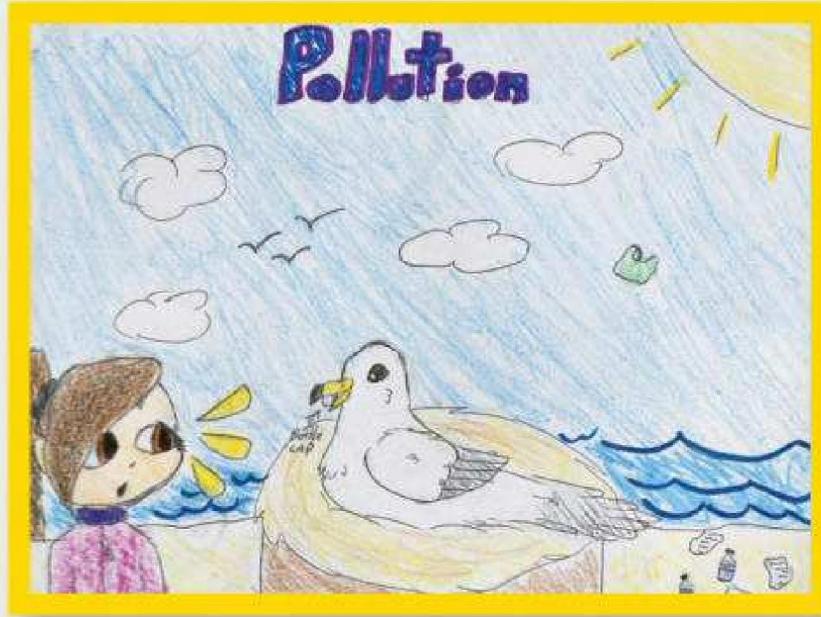
ENCOUNTER™ OCEAN ODYSSEY

For more information, grab a parent and go online.

natgeoencounter.com

Pick Up Trash

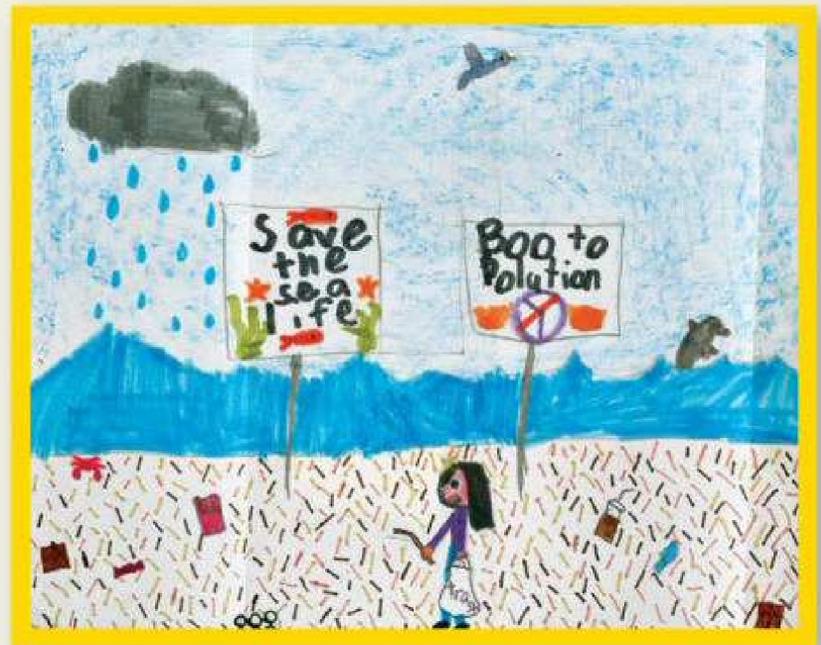
Dylan L., 9,
Thornton,
Colorado



**Clean Up
Pollution**
Maryanne G.,
11, Olathe,
Kansas



Fish Are Friends!
Mira U., 10, San Francisco, California



Beach Cleanup
Zinnia M., 9,
Warner, New
Hampshire



**Every Bit
of Trash
Picked Up
Helps**
Malia A., 12,
Manassas,
Virginia



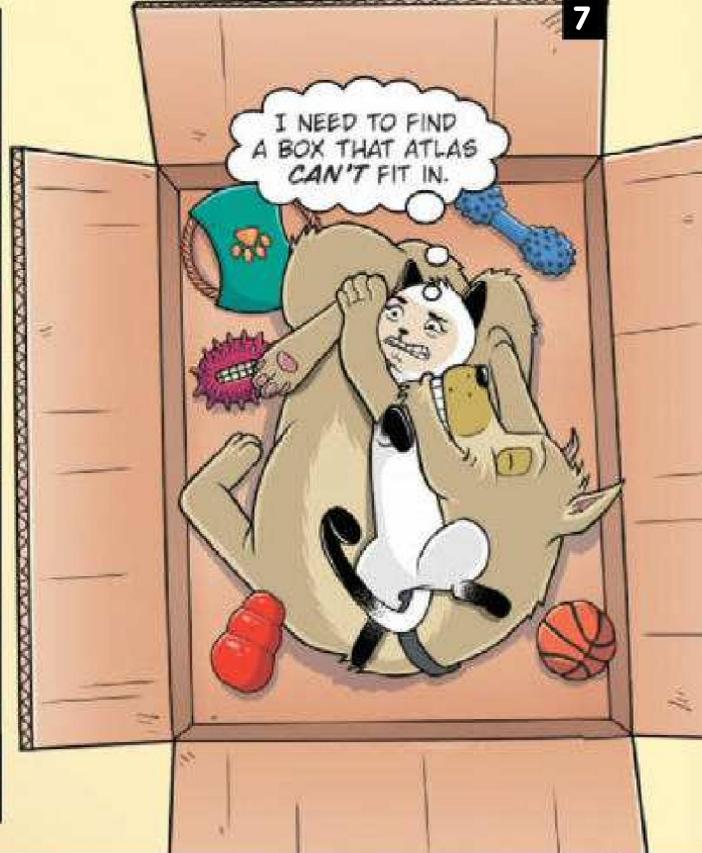
"What in the World?" (page 30):
Top row: Twister, feather, gecko. Middle row: ladybug, Dalmatian,
dominoes. Bottom row: fish, candy buttons, mushroom.

"Explorer Academy" (page 29): Be careful who you trust.

ANSWERS

STRIKA ENTERTAINMENT

Unleashed



زبانگده اوس

www.avasshop.ir



LULU FINDS A NEW BOX ...

AAAHHH ...
PURE BLISS!

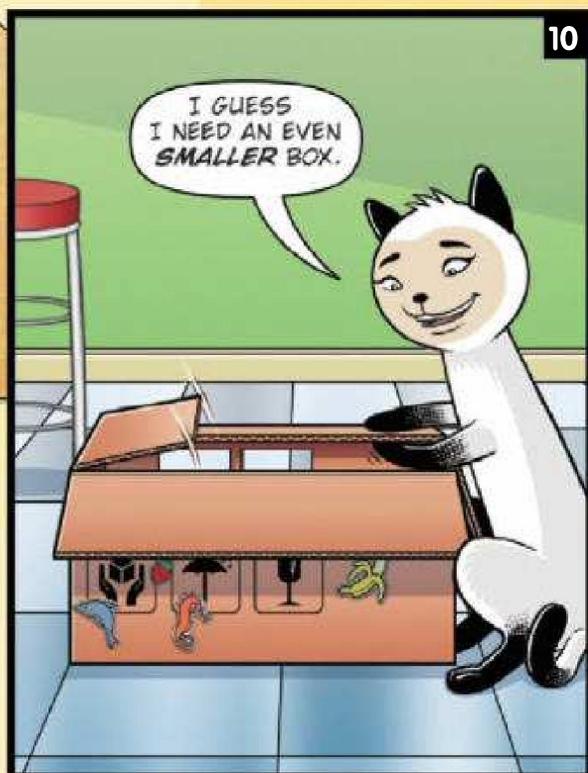
8



SUPER-YOU'VE FOUND
THE PERFECT NAP SPOT!
MAKE SPACE FOR THE
MAJOR!

I JUST WANT TO BE
ALONE!

9



I GUESS
I NEED AN EVEN
SMALLER BOX.

10



I'M GLAD YOU'RE
HERE! YOU CAN HELP
ME RENOVATE!

OH, NO!

11



THIS, IS, IT.
I'M GETTING A BOX
THAT NO ONE CAN
FIT INTO.

12



SOON ...

I DON'T
BELIEVE IT.

IS THAT EVEN
POSSIBLE?

PRINCESS
TALLULAH, HOW DID
YOU DO THAT?

13



IT'S JUST
LULU!

AS IN,
IT'S JUST LULU
ALLOWED IN THIS
BOX!

14

WHAT WILL THE PETS GET UP TO NEXT?
FIND OUT IN THE NEXT UNLEASHED!