READY, SET, SOLVE!

Discover how the twisting, turning Rubik’s Cube became the world’s most popular puzzle p12
Art stolen by Nazis is returned

Seven works of art by Austrian painter Egon Schiele were returned to the family of Fritz Grünbaum, an art collector who died during the Holocaust. The Holocaust was the mass killing of 6 million Jewish people and millions of others by the German Nazi party in the 1930s and 1940s. The art was returned on September 20 by private collectors and well-known US museums, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, after 25 years of legal battles by Grünbaum’s family.

Grünbaum lived in Austria and owned a collection of more than 400 works of art, including 81 by Schiele. It is believed that the Nazis stole the collection after Grünbaum was sent to a concentration camp (place where Nazis imprisoned and killed people) in 1938. The value of each painting is between $780,000 and $2.75 million.

Timothy Rief was one of four Grünbaum family members who attended the ceremony in New York where the paintings were handed over. “I love these works because recovering them allows me to honor the memory of this man,” he said.

Who is T.A. Barron?

The Barron Prize founder, T.A. Barron, has written more than 30 best-selling books for children and young adults and received the de Grummond Medal in 2021 for his contribution to young people’s literature. Barron, who lives in Colorado, has also received awards for his efforts to protect nature and the environment.

“Young Hero” prize winners named

On September 19, 15 young people from the US were named top winners of the 2023 Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes. The award recognizes children and teens who have made a significant positive impact on their community or the environment. The winners were chosen from among 25 finalists.

What happened?

The 15 winners range in age from 13 to 18. Each will receive $10,000, which they can use to further their service project or to help pay for college. The 15 remaining finalists, ages 10 to 18, were named honorees and received recognition for their exceptional efforts.

What is the prize?

The prize was created by children’s book author T.A. Barron in honor of his mother, Gloria Barron, a teacher who died at age 92. She also volunteered at the Colorado School for the Blind, where she spent 20 years creating a nature museum in which all the exhibits can be touched. In honor of what T.A. called his mother’s “quiet heroism,” the award recognizes a diverse group of “public-spirited” young people from North America who “best demonstrate heroic character qualities like courage, compassion, and perseverance.” Since the Barron Prize was created in 2001, a total of 575 young people from Canada and all 50 US states and the District of Columbia have been awarded more than $500,000 in prize money.

Who are some of this year’s winners?

The 15 prize winners were honored for a wide range of projects. Matis Habib (shown above, middle row, far right), age 18, of Illinois, developed an environmentally friendly pesticide to combat the Japanese beetle, an invasive species that attacks crops in the US. Grace Sun (top row, second from left), age 17, of California, founded Melodies for Remedies, a nonprofit that provides music therapy to senior citizens and people with Alzheimer’s disease. Rory Hu (middle row, center), age 13 of California, researched ways to prevent Colony Collapse Disorder, a problem facing beekeepers and bees. Jonah Larson (bottom row, center), age 15 of Wisconsin, has raised $75,000 through his nonprofit, Jonah’s Hands, which buys books and supplies for children in the Ethiopian village where he was born.

Who are some of the finalists?

The finalists included Paisley Elliott, age 10 of Texas. She founded Paisley’s Pals, an organization that has raised thousands of dollars to support refugee children around the world. Sawyer Anderson, age 13 of North Dakota, created Water Works, a nonprofit that delivers clean water to people in Zambia, Africa. Maanit Goel, age 17 of Washington, founded the Washington Youth Ocean & River Conservation Alliance. The organization helps protect Pacific Northwest orca and salmon. Jason Stan, age 17 of New York, launched Tutor Partnerships, which provides free local tutoring to students in 28 schools across several states.

What will happen next?

In addition to the cash prize, top winners will receive a plaque and certificate, a signed copy of T.A. Barron’s book The Hero’s Trail, and a copy of Dream Big, a documentary film about past Barron Prize recipients. They will also connect with other winners, many of whom have gone on to successful careers related to their service efforts. Over the years, the winners of the prize “have inspired countless people by their example,” prize officials said.

Striking writers reach deal

Leaders of the Writers Guild of America (WGA) reached a tentative agreement with Hollywood studios and streaming services in a deal that will end a 146-day strike. The deal is expected to end a strike (refusal to work as a form of protest) that lasted for 146 days, one of the longest in Hollywood history.

The WGA is a labor union with more than 11,500 members who write for movies and TV shows. They walked off their jobs in May after nearly 98% of members voted to strike. They were demanding higher pay and other changes from the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP), which represents the studios.

The proposed contract would be in effect for three years. Under its terms, studios will have to hire a minimum number of writers for shows. Writers will receive higher payments for material on streaming services. The contract also addresses the use of artificial intelligence, which writers were concerned would take work from them.

“We can say, with great pride, that this deal is exceptional—with meaningful gains and protections for writers,” WGA leaders said in a statement.

Any production will remain on hold, however, due to a different strike. The union representing Hollywood actors, SAG-AFTRA, went on strike on July 14. Talks are set to continue soon.

The Week Junior October 6, 2023

EMBRACING A CLASSIC

In May, hot dog maker Oscar Mayer changed the name of its famous Wienermobile to the Frankmobile—the first name change since the company changed it back. “Everybody loves the Wienermobile,” a spokesperson said.

SPREADING JOY

Natalie Gilliard and Jonathan Yacko were tired of mowing their land in Vermont, so they planted wildflowers instead. Now their colorful meadow is a local attraction that adds beauty to the landscape, provides a habitat for bees, and brings the community together. “It’s been wonderful on so many levels,” Yacko said.

IT’S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

A seafood company in France caught a blue lobster that is so rare there’s one in 2 million chance of finding one. It was released into a no-fishing zone, where the company said “it can live a long, peaceful, and happy life.”

A RARE CATCH

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IT’S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...
Banned Books Week is observed

From October 1 to 7, the US will observe Banned Books Week, an annual event sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA). The observance comes as a new report released by PEN America, a group focused on free expression, showed that attempted book bans in the US increased by 33% during the previous school year.

What is Banned Books Week?
The week was created in 1982. Its goals are to promote the right to choose what to read and to bring authors, teachers, librarians, and readers together to support the freedom to express ideas. In particular, the event highlights the benefits of information that can help them form their own opinions. This year’s theme is “Let Freedom Read!”

Why are books banned?
When people object to a book being available for others to read, they can try to get it removed from their community’s schools and libraries. This year, the ALA reported nearly 700 attempts to ban more than 1,900 titles, the highest number since the ALA began tracking the data more than 20 years ago. Most of the challenged books were written by or about people of color or LGBTQ people, the ALA said. Books with language and political views that showed that attempted book bans in the US increased by 33% during the previous school year.

What happened this year?
School libraries received the most challenges, the ALA said, but public libraries received more challenges this year than they usually do. Nearly half of the book challenges tracked by the ALA between January and August took place in public libraries, up from 16% during the same period the year before. The ALA said this is a concern because many books challenged at public libraries have already been removed from school libraries, which reduces the availability of books in a community.

What is the ALA doing?
The ALA released a list of the top 10 books that were challenged in schools and libraries in 2022. Libraries, bookstores, and schools are being asked to welcome every reader in their community and to provide something in the collection for everyone,” said Emily Drabinski, the ALA president.

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Some of the books that were frequently challenged by communities in 2022

Heritage site selected in Ohio

Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks, a network of Native American ceremonial and burial mounds spread across 80 miles in Ohio, has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is the first site in Ohio and the 25th in the US to receive the recognition. Earthworks was selected for its contribution to understanding ancient people. Built more than 1,600 years ago, the mounds were used for elaborate ceremonies to celebrate the universe.

Giant pandas first arrived at the National Zoo in 1972 as part of an arrangement between the US and China. Mei Xiang and Tian Tien arrived in 2000 under an agreement that they would eventually return to China. The pandas will travel to China aboard a specially arranged plane, with National Zoo staff members accompanying them.

A dress code requiring suits and ties for men and pant suits or dresses for women will no longer be enforced on the floor of the US Senate. Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, a Democrat from New York, made the change and said senators can choose what they want to wear. While some lawmakers welcomed the decision, others said dressing in casual clothing on the Senate floor is disrespectful.

Mei Xiang at the National Zoo

The Smithsonian’s National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute in Washington, DC, is celebrating its three giant pandas before they leave for China in December. Known as Panda Palooza, the series of events from September 23 through October 1 honors 26-year-old Tian Tian, 25-year-old Mei Xiang, and their cub, 3-year-old Xiao Qi Ji.

Celebrating pandas before they depart

The panda trio arrived in China in 2022 in a loan agreement with the National Zoo that runs for 15 years and could be extended for another five if both sides agree.

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United Kingdom

Delilah the gorilla turns 60

Delilah, the oldest gorilla in human care in the UK, has turned 60. A resident of Belfast Zoo, Delilah arrived there in 1992 and is now a “grandparent figure” in her gorilla troop. She is a western lowland gorilla, a highly endangered species from West Africa. Delilah celebrated her birthday by opening a birthday box filled with vegetables.

United Nations

World leaders meet

The General Assembly of the United Nations (UN, a group of 193 countries that takes action on human rights, peace, and climate change) gathered at its headquarters in New York City to set the UN’s agenda for the year ahead. In a speech, Ukraine’s president, Volodymyr Zelensky, argued that Russia’s war against his country was a war against all nations and urged unity and action. Other issues discussed included global inequality and climate change.

Denmark

Lego commits to sustainability

Lego announced it remains “fully committed” to finding sustainable materials to make its colorful bricks, after an initial effort to make them with recycled bottles didn’t work. In 2021, the toymaker said it would move away from oil-based plastics to reduce carbon emissions, which harms the environment.

Nepal

Schools close during teacher strike

Tens of thousands of teachers in Nepal went on strike (refused to work as a form of protest) for several days, closing schools for more than 5 million students. Teachers were protesting a plan for schools to be controlled by local governments, which they said could lower the quality of education for students. After a tentative agreement to address teachers’ concerns was reached, they said they would return to their classrooms.

Brazil

Long-lost tree species rediscovered

A holly tree species that hadn’t been seen for nearly 200 years has been rediscovered. The Pernambuco holly tree, which can grow nearly 40 feet tall, was found by researchers in northeast Brazil. The find suggests that ancient people weren’t nomads (people who traveled from place to place), but were part of a platform used as a walkway, a place to live, or a store. The find suggests that ancient people weren’t nomads (people who traveled from place to place), since they had settled to build.

Thailand

Plankton bloom hits coast

A dense plankton bloom off the eastern coast of Thailand is threatening the jobs of fishers who farm mussels (an edible shellfish) in the water there. A plankton bloom occurs when numbers of the tiny organism suddenly increase in an area and kill other marine life by taking oxygen and blocking sunlight. Some areas in the Gulf of Thailand currently have more than 10 times the usual amount of plankton.

Around the world

Orléans, France

Electric bike goes battery free

A French company has designed the first battery-free electric bike. Other e-bikes have electric motors powered by batteries. The batteries are usually made with lithium, a material that is taken from the ground and can damage the environment. The French invention, called the Pi-Pop, has a supercapacitor instead. This device charges when riders pedal on flat surfaces, go down hills, or brake.

Niger

French ambassador and troops to leave

President Emmanuel Macron said France will withdraw its ambassador immediately and pull 1,500 troops from Niger, a former French colony, by the end of 2023. (An ambassador represents their country’s government in another country.) The move comes after a military group overthrew Niger’s democratically elected president, Mohamed Bazoum, and thousands of people protested to demand France’s departure.

New Delhi, India

Vote for more women in government

Members of parliament (similar to Congress) in India have voted to reserve one third of its seats for women, which is more than double the current number. After India’s most recent national election, 104 out of 788 representatives were women. The law, which was first proposed in 1996, must now be approved by at least 14 of India’s 28 state legislatures. It is expected to pass.

Around the world

Kalambo Falls, Zambia

Significant structure found

Archaeologists (scientists who study objects left by people long ago) have found the world’s oldest wooden structure beside a river. The two logs, crafted to fit together, are nearly 500,000 years old. Experts believe they were part of a platform used as a walkway, a place to live, or a store. The find suggests that ancient people weren’t nomads (people who traveled from place to place), since they had settled to build.

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The big debate

Should homework be eliminated?

Some say extra work after school makes a difference. Others argue it’s a waste of time.

What you need to know

- US students spend an average of 6.1 hours a week on homework. Kids in Finland, whose education system is ranked higher than America’s, have less than half as much homework.
- Research has shown that time spent on homework in elementary school doesn’t achieve. In middle and high school, homework has a slight positive effect on test scores.
- A Florida district banned homework for elementary students. Instead, they read for 20 minutes a day.

Yes—kids need downtime

Kids spend a big part of their day on schoolwork. Why should they have to do homework, too? It’s tiring and means you have less free time for family or hobbies. Homework can be stressful and lead to arguments—your parents may have to nag you to do it. If you get stuck, they may be too busy to help or could confuse you by using different methods than your teacher does. That can turn you off to learning. There’s little evidence that homework helps children—in fact, some research shows it actually increases stress in young students. Meanwhile, students who get very little homework in other countries still get good test results.

No—homework helps you

Homework allows you to practice what you learned in school, make sure you understand it, and learn more about the material. There is research showing that some homework, particularly in math, helps students remember the information and perform better on tests. Having homework teaches you how to work independently and encourages you to be organized because you have to turn it in on time. The assignments also prepare you for the increased workload you’ll have in upper grades. Finally, homework is a good way for parents to see what their kids are doing in school.

DID YOU KNOW?


What do you think?

Now that you’ve read a bit more about this issue, visit kids.theweekjunior.com/polls so you can vote in our debate. Vote YES if you think homework should be eliminated or NO if you don’t. We’ll publish the results next week.

Passing the ball

Damien Wilkins is helping to shape the careers of young basketball players.

Damien Wilkins, age 43, has spent a lifetime playing basketball, including several seasons in the NBA (National Basketball Association). Now he is helping to guide the next generation of players as the general manager of Overtime Elite, a new basketball league focused on developing young players. The league is the subject of a documentary series called One Shot: Overtime Elite. The six-part series, now streaming on Amazon Prime, follows some of Overtime Elite’s players as they pursue their basketball dreams. It features twins Amen and Aasar Thompson, who were top-five picks in the 2023 NBA Draft, and Somto Cyril, who has committed to play basketball at the University of Kentucky in 2024.

Singer is honored

Colombian singer-songwriter Shakira received the Video Vanguard Award at the MTV Music Video Awards on September 12. She is the first singer from South America to win the prize, which recognizes an artist’s contributions to the music video art form. Shakira, age 46, rose to fame in the late 1990s, singing hits that mixed Spanish and English while performing her signature dance moves. “I want to share this award with my fans, who have always supported me through thick and thin,” Shakira said in her acceptance speech.

People

Teen’s focus on politics

Quinn Mitchell, age 15, has captured national attention with his interest in politics. Since age 10, he has attended more than 80 political rallies and seen about 35 Presidential candidates when they have visited Mitchell’s home state of New Hampshire, an important state in the process of selecting a political party’s Presidential nominees. He discusses his interactions with candidates on his podcast into the Tizzy. When Mitchell was asked by NBC News what he plans to do when he turns 18, he said he wants to attend political events, he said he wants to be part of “history being made in my backyard.”

OVERHEARD

“Go home and read to your adult.”

Best-selling children’s book author Kate DiCamillo on the advice she gives young readers of her book events.

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Animals and the environment

Fat Bear Week returns for 10th year

Fat Bear Week is kicking off on October 4 through 10. It will be the 10th annual celebration of the bears living in Katmai National Park in Alaska as they put on weight before they begin to hibernate (go into a deep sleep) during the winter.

Bears do not eat or drink when they hibernate. During that time, they can lose up to one third of their body weight, so it’s important that they have plenty of fat to spare when they hibernate. During Fat Bear Week, bears are sorted into pairs in a bracket (a type of chart), and fans vote online for the bear in each pair that they think is fatter. The bears with the most votes move on to semifinal and final rounds to decide the one fattest bear. Fat Bear Junior is held before the main event, giving the younger generation its time in the spotlight as people vote on their favorite chubby cub. A “giant among bears,” as Fat Bear Week creator Mike Fitz called him, 747 was last year’s winner.

The hiker

A bear-cam rescue

Fat Bear fans who tuned into a livestream from Katmai National Park on September 5 saw a lost hiker mouthing, “Help me.” Concerned viewers notified the people managing the video stream, and they told park rangers. Three hours later, a search and rescue team brought the hiker to safety.

A “before” photo of the 2022 Fat Bear Junior champion

Birds in India

A new report has identified 178 wild bird species in India that urgently need help, including 14 that were thought to be in better condition. The report said their populations are falling, in part because of climate change and pollution.

Why cats like tuna so much

Scientists have figured out why even the fussiest felines love tuna. According to a new research study, cats’ tongues are the key to enjoying the fish. Cats, like humans, have taste buds on their tongues that sense certain flavors, such as bitter, sour, and salty. However, cats don’t crave candy because they do not have a receptor that recognizes sweetness. Instead, they adore umami, a savory or meaty flavor. Eating meat makes sense for cats, which originally lived in the desert. But fish are not usually found in the desert, so researchers wondered why it’s now a feline favorite.

The team examined a cat’s tongue and discovered that its taste receptors attach to two chemicals that are found in high amounts in tuna, enhancing the umami flavor. When the researchers added about one eighth of a teaspoon of each chemical to the food of 25 cats, most preferred the bowls containing those chemicals. Now that they know the science behind the flavor cats love, experts can design foods and medicines that taste better to our feline friends.

PLACE OF THE WEEK

Savanna Portage State Park, Minnesota

Spread across 15,818 acres, this state park has open grasslands, lakes, bogs, and hills. The park is named for the Savanna Portage Trail, which was historically used by Native Americans and, later, by European fur traders. Visitors to the park can also hike the Continental Divide trail. Water on one side of the divide flows to the Mississippi River, while the other side flows to Lake Superior. Animals such as moose, coyotes, skunks, and wolves can be found roaming the park, and birdwatchers can spot loons, Canada geese, warblers, and a variety of other songbirds.

Why do dolphins have a love language?

Dolphins have many ways of communicating, such as by making whistles, squawks, and clicking noises. They also show affection by swimming together, playing, touching fins, and doing other kinds of nuzzling. Maybe some of those behaviors are part of their love language!

Sasha Winkler

Biological anthropology expert, UCLA

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Animal of the Week

African egg-eating snake

A new study found that this small, non-venomous snake can gulp down prey five times the size of its head, thanks to stretchy skin near its jaws. The nearly toothless snake swallows an egg, then uses its spine to crush the shell and eat the inside.

TONGUE TOOLS

A cat’s tongue is covered with tiny spines, called papillae, which it can use to convey its fur.

DIET: Bird eggs

SIZE: Up to 40 inches long

FUN FACT: These snakes can use their tongues to “smell” if an egg is rotten.

“Do dolphins have a love language?”

Sasha Winkler, Biological anthropology expert, UCLA

Dolphins have many ways of communicating, such as by making whistles, squawks, and clicking noises. They also show affection by swimming together, playing, touching fins, and doing other kinds of nuzzling. Maybe some of those behaviors are part of their love language!

Find out more about Sasha Winkler’s research at sashawinkler.com.

Do you have a question for an animal expert? Send it to hello@theweekjunior.com. Print out more about Sasha Winkler’s research at sashawinkler.com.
A puzzle toy beloved by generations

The Rubik's Cube has challenged and thriled players for nearly 50 years. A small cube with colorful sides that began as a math lesson became the most popular puzzle toy in history.

Who invented the Rubik’s Cube?
The cube was created by a Hungarian sculptor and professor of architecture, Ernő Rubik, in 1974. He was interested in geometry (a branch of math focusing on measurement) and wanted to find a way to demonstrate 3D (three-dimensional) movement to his students. Using wood blocks, Rubik built a “Magic Cube.” Once he showed the invention to his students, Rubik said he found it “nearly impossible to put down.”

A toy takes off
In 1975, Rubik obtained a Hungarian patent (exclusive rights held by the inventor of something) for his creation. In 1977, he started selling the cube, eventually renaming Rubik’s Cube, as a toy in local stores in Hungary’s capital, Budapest. The game was played the same way it is today: Players begin with a cube that is 2¼ inches by 2¼ inches and features nine colored squares on each side. Each side comes set to one of the solid colors—which are red, green, yellow, orange, blue, and white—and the player shuffles the cube to mix them up. The challenge is to return each side to its original solid color. The game may sound simple to play, but there are more than 43 quintillion combinations. Excitement about the brain-teasing toy spread quickly, and Rubik found it “nearly impossible to put down.”

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World records with a twist
Fastest
Blink and you might miss it. In 2023, Max Park of California set a new world record for solving the rotating cube while blindfolded. He unscrambled it in 12.78 seconds.

Blindfolded
In 2023, a teenager from Florida named Tommy Cherry set a new world record for solving the rotating cube while blindfolded. He unscrambled it in 3.13 seconds.

Largest
The largest cube on the planet, according to Guinness World Records, is in Hong Kong. It’s about 8 feet wide by 8 feet tall and spins. The giant cube was displayed in a mall in 2021.

Smallest
The tiniest cube in the world is so small that players use tweezers to move its squares. It was created in the UK with a 3D printer and, at .22 inches wide, is about the size of a fingertip.

Variations on the original
In the years after the introduction of the original Rubik’s Cube, new versions of the toy followed. Rubik’s Color Blocks have challenged players with cubes in various sizes, while the Rubik’s Twist is made of triangles. One of the hardest versions, Rubik’s Impossible, changes colors depending on the angle at which it’s held. Another cube, Rubik’s Future, uses motion sensors to switch colors, plays music, and allows users to play opponents. The newest cube is the Phantom, with colors fading in and out under the heat of a player’s touch. Rubik, now age 79, released a book, Guled, in 2020 about his world-famous creation. “If you are curious, you’ll find the puzzles all around you,” he wrote. “If you are determined, you will solve them.”

The cube goes global
In September 1979, Rubik reached a deal with a US company to release his puzzle internationally. The Rubik’s Cube made its debut at toy fairs in Paris, London, and New York City—and was a major hit. Between 1980 and 1982, more than 100 million Rubik’s Cubes were sold around the world, and it won many Toy of the Year awards. In 1981, the Rubik’s Cube appeared on the cover of Scientific American magazine, and an animated series titled Rubik, the Amazing Cube followed in 1983.

While other hit toys came and went over time, the Rubik’s Cube captivated players for generations. The toy has even inspired scientists, who have built robots that can solve the puzzle in milliseconds. Since its launch, more than 450 million Rubik’s Cubes have been sold worldwide, making it the best-selling puzzle game in history.

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The Week Junior - October 6, 2023
Laughter proven to be good for us

N ew research has found that comedy doesn’t just make us feel good—it actually has the power to improve health. A recent study set out to test whether or not “laughter therapy” could help people who have heart disease.

The study involved 26 adults, with an average age of 64. They all had coronary artery disease, which is when the supply of blood to the heart is blocked or held up by plaque (fatty substances) that grow in the coronary arteries. Coronary arteries are the big tubes that send blood to the heart.

Over three months, 13 of the adults were asked to watch two hour-long comedy shows every week. The other 13 were asked to watch two documentary films on serious topics like politics and the Amazon rainforest. After this, the participants were compared with the comedy group.

Researchers analyzed the laughter and sound of how much time had been spent laughing. They saw that the comedy group had laughed nearly 3,400 times. They compared this with the films being watched.

The research was carried out by a team of scientists at the University of Virginia. Participants were asked to watch three types of videos and were recorded laughing nearly 3,400 times. Researchers analyzed the laughter and compared it with the films being watched.

Films that were funny in a typical “straightforward” way led to a feel-good, infectious kind of laughter. Amusing videos that showed scenes that would be considered “cute” produced quieter, shorter laughs. Clips featuring something going wrong led to people gasping more loudly and letting loose a trumpet-like blast of laughter.

The different types of giggles

There are many different kinds of laughter, and the sound of it changes depending on what people are laughing about, a study has found. The research was carried out by a team of scientists at the University of Virginia. Participants were asked to watch three types of videos and were recorded laughing nearly 3,400 times. Researchers analyzed the laughter and compared it with the films being watched.

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Laughing and chocolate

Laughter is a natural way for the body to release stress hormones (chemicals that occur naturally in the body). Stress hormones are the body’s natural alarm system, which kicks in if a person is in a tense situation. They’re great for helping people cope with danger, but they can put a strain on the heart if they stay in a person’s system for too long.

Saffi thinks the results show that laughter therapy could be used to treat patients at risk of heart problems. He said, “It does not have to be TV programs—people with heart disease could be invited to comedy evenings or encouraged to enjoy fun evenings with friends and family.”

Neptune’s dark spot seen from Earth

F or the first time, researchers studying Neptune, the farthest planet in our solar system, detected a dark spot on its surface using an Earth-based telescope. These spots are swirling storms in the planet’s atmosphere. They’ve been seen before from space telescopes. In 1989, a NASA (US space agency) space probe called Voyager 2 saw what’s known as the “Great Dark Spot” while flying by Neptune. Later, the Hubble Space Telescope saw dark spots too. The spots are common but disappear quickly, making them hard to study.

The team was using a telescope in Chile called the Very Large Telescope. They saw a bright, red dot on the spot, which has never been seen before. Observing these things from Earth could greatly advance knowledge about Neptune. “Finally, technology has advanced to enable this from the ground,” said Michael Wong, a study author.

An airless bike tire inspired by NASA

A new airless bicycle tire is flexible and sustainable and will never go flat. Instead of pressurized air, the METL tire, made by Smart Tire Company, has a spring inside. It’s made using a mix of metals that NASA is testing for use on future missions to the Moon and Mars.

The special metal allows the tire to stretch and bend under pressure, then quickly bounce back to its original shape. It’s covered by a replaceable tread that the company said uses about half as much rubber as a regular bike tire. That’s helpful for the environment.
Apply to join Junior Council!

We’re now accepting applications for the Spring 2024 program. We’re conducting a national search for 12 students, ages 8 to 14, who want to have their voices heard about the issues and causes that matter to them. This will be The Week Junior’s fifth session of Junior Council. During previous sessions, council members attended virtual meetings with The Week Junior editors, interviewed guest speakers, and completed writing activities. Use the information below to find out more about Junior Council and apply for the Spring 2024 program.

Speak up and speak out! Junior Council members will dive into turning their ideas into action. Kids ages 8 to 14 will discover how to be heard by local, state, and national leaders — and how to share big ideas for a big impact — directly from The Week Junior editors and mentors. A project created by council members may appear in a future issue of the magazine.

How it works The Week Junior staff and mentors will guide Junior Council members through regular video calls and virtual workshops from January through May 2024. There will be about six sessions, with a guest speaker at some meetings. Other sessions will focus on helping council members produce content for the magazine. The council will meet during weekday evenings (Eastern Time) to accommodate members in different time zones.

Apply today! With an adult, go to juniorcouncil.theweekjunior.com to download the application and fill it out. A parent or guardian must review and sign the form. The completed application, along with a photo of yourself (school picture or similar), should be emailed by a parent or guardian to juniorcouncil@theweekjunior.com. The deadline to submit the application is October 23, 2023. See the official rules at juniorcouncil.theweekjunior.com/rules. Send an email to juniorcouncil@theweekjunior.com with any questions.

NO PURCHASE OR SUBSCRIPTION NECESSARY. Void where prohibited. Open to legal residents of the US, DC, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands, 8–14 years of age. Begins 9/26/23 at 12:00:01 am ET and ends on 10/23/23 at 11:59:59 pm ET. Odds of being selected will depend on the total number of eligible entries received and adherence to the judging criteria. Subject to Official Rules at juniorcouncil.theweekjunior.com/rules. Sponsor: FUTURE PLC and its division named THE WEEK JUNIOR, 135 West 41st Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10017.
New hockey league holds draft

Excitement is building for the first season of the Professional Women’s Hockey League (PWHL), which will begin in January. It is made up of three Canadian teams and three US teams, which do not have names yet. Veteran players signed with teams in early September, and the PWHL held its first draft on September 18. At this event, teams selected players from colleges and other hockey leagues.

The PWHL was created because many top female hockey players did not have a professional league to compete in. A total of 90 players from 10 different countries were selected in the draft. They will be joining stars from other hockey leagues.

An early promoter of women’s ice hockey was Lady Isobel Stanley, who lived in Canada in the late 1800s. Her father was a government official who also liked hockey. The first women’s game on record took place at their home in 1891. The Stanley Cup, the oldest prize in men’s hockey, is named for her father.

The Professional Women’s Hockey Players Association, a union that fights for players’ rights, put together a competing league that included big-name stars, but in June, the leagues agreed to merge to form the PWHL.

One famous athlete involved in the new league is former tennis champion and women’s sports advocate Billie Jean King. She attended the draft and announced Heise’s name. In a speech beforehand, King recognized the work of the PWHL and announced Heise’s name. In a speech beforehand, King recognized the work of the PWHL and announced Heise’s name. In a speech beforehand, King recognized the work of the PWHL and announced Heise’s name.

From September 22 through September 24, men’s tennis stars competed at the 2023 Laver Cup in Vancouver, Canada. It is an annual team event featuring six top European players and six top players from the rest of the world. It includes singles and doubles matches, with teams getting points for each win. Team World won, 13–2, and claimed the Cup for the second year in a row. The Laver Cup was first held in 2017. The event is named after Rod Laver, an Australian who is considered one of the best tennis players of the 20th century.

The first match of the tournament was a singles match between Team World’s Taylor Fritz and Team Europe’s Stefanos Tsitsipas. Fritz won the match in straight sets, 6–3, 6–4. Team World went on to win the opening doubles match as well, 4–2.

In the second day of the tournament, Team Europe bounced back and won the third doubles match, 4–2, to level the score at 2–2. However, Team World went on to win the next two matches, winning the singles match 6–2, 6–2, and the doubles match 6–3, 6–4, to win the tournament.

On September 24, Ethiopia’s Tigist Assefa made history by winning the 26.2-mile race in 2:11:53, more than two minutes faster than the previous record. It was her first marathon victory.

In recognition of this achievement, Assefa was honored as the number one draft pick of the PWHL. She will play for the PWHL’s Minnesota Franchise. Heise grew up in the state and played college hockey for the University of Minnesota. She said she was inspired by the success of other female athletes.

Tennis stars compete for Laver Cup

The Miami Dolphins scored 70 points in a win over the Denver Broncos on September 24, the most points scored in a win since 1966.

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Happy surprise

I started track and field when I was about 15. I wasn’t as fast as I am now. It was to spend time with my friends. At my first practice, I tried the high jump. I enjoyed it because I used to do gymnastics and it had a bit of that. When I started winning national championships in Venezuela, where I’m from, I realized I was good at it.

Self reflection

It’s not about the results. I have a deep passion for track and field. I used to be a 400m runner. I started running when I was 14. I felt like I had potential to be a 400m runner. I think I can win medals in the future.

Wise words

Sports are not always about the performance. I’m not the best high jumper, but I gained so much because of track. My advice is to get out there, move your body, and make friends.
Outdoor art with sound and light

Listening Forest at the Crystal Bridges Museum in Arkansas is made up of eight interactive installations in the woods.

“A popular immersive art exhibit is on display on the woods next to the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas. Listening Forest has eight large installations by artist Rafael Lozano-Hemmer that use light and sound and undergo changes based on the way people interact with them. It is open through December 31.

Lozano-Hemmer was born in Mexico and has had his work shown in cities around the world. This is the biggest display of his outdoor installations and contains a mix of old and new pieces that use technology including artificial intelligence, sensors, microphones, thermal cameras, and digital projections. “The sound and light experience will surprise and delight guests,” said Lozano-Hemmer.

Pulse Forest, visitors’ heartbeats can control 3,000 light bulbs extending from the ground. Because the show is outdoors, Lozano-Hemmer was mindful of the impact it would have on plants and animals. There are computers connected to a system that tracks bird migration, and the intensity of the lights from the installations are lowered when flocks fly overhead.

The museum believes Listening Forest delivers a sense of wonder and magic. It also helps connect people visually and symbolically. “By combining art and technology, we are able to share our stories, create intimacy, and strengthen our sense of community,” Lozano-Hemmer said.

3 more light-filled shows

Gleam

The Olbrich Botanical Gardens in Madison, Wisconsin, features this light installation exhibit through October 28. One piece (at right) has moths made of glass and acrylic.

Georgetown Glow

This annual outdoor event is held in the oldest neighborhood of Washington, DC. Last year’s show had five pieces of light artwork. This year, the event begins December 1 and runs until January 7.

Canal Convergence

“The Power of Play” will be the theme of this public art event in Scottsdale, Arizona, from November 3–12. It will include swing sets under light rainbows and a piece inspired by video games.

The next Power Rangers series

For the past 30 years, the teen superheroes known as the Power Rangers have been battling on-screen villains. Now the franchise is expanding in more ways than one. Netflix has just released the new series Power Rangers: Cosmic Fury, which features nine core Rangers—more than in past series.

The Power Rangers are based on the Japanese TV program Super Sentai. In 1983, the Mighty Morphin Power Rangers premiered in the US and introduced kids to a group of teen heroes who morphed into superheroes. They each wore a different-colored suit and used dinosaur-like robots and martial arts to fight off evil threats in the galaxy. It is one of the longest-running live-action series for kids.

Cosmic Fury picks up from the events in the recent Netflix film Mighty Morphin Power Rangers: Once & Always. It begins with three new Rangers who are sent to the planet earth to protect it from evil forces. The Rangers must use their powers to battle against the evil forces and save the world.

The Cat Returns Max

“Do you have a film or TV show to recommend to other kids? Send your review to hello@theweekjunior.com”
Farm in an enchanted land

Harvest Moon: The Winds of Anthos is a new fantasy farm life game. It is out now for the Nintendo Switch, Xbox systems, PlayStation platforms, and the PC. The game is part of the Harvest Moon franchise, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

The story in the game takes place in the enchanted land of Anthos, where people lived and farmed in peace. They were protected by the Harvest Goddess and the Harvest Sprites, who let you see inside sliced fruits, vegetables, and other items. Behind-the-scenes videos will help you learn about the complex filming process.

Once you arrive in Anthos, you get right to work, starting up a farm and filling it with crops, animals, and barns. There are vegetables to grow and cows, chickens, horses, and sheep to raise. It can be hard work, but your character can also fish, go horseback riding, or spend time training dogs.

Each village in Anthos has a different environment, such as the beach or mountains. Your character can get to know bachelors and bachelorettes who live there and then marry one. Among the game’s most important supporting characters is Doc A, a mad genius who creates different technologies you can use. One of his inventions helps players move their farms throughout Anthos, which will help you slowly reunite the communities that have been split apart for so long.

During his time at the school, he makes friends and many enemies. This charming story includes recipes for chicken soup, sweet and sour meatballs, and other Jewish favorites. A subplot about a new girl at school makes the story even more appealing and relatable.

Ellie’s Deli: Wishing on Matzo Ball Soup!

by Lisa Greenwald
Illustrated by Gala Bernstein
(Andrews McMeel Publishing)

Business at the Jewish American deli that’s been in Ellie’s family for four generations is slow. When Ellie, 11, overhears her parents’ discussion about closing the deli and moving, she makes a wish over her grandmother’s pot of matzo ball soup for sales to pick up. She and her best friend, Ava, decide to brainstorm ways to make the restaurant more modern. They come up with a plan to add a website and delivery service. Just as Ellie starts to feel optimistic about the fate of the family business, her grandfather gets sick and a restaurant group offers to buy the deli for a large sum of money. Ellie’s parents seem tempted by the offer. Will she be able to convince them that the business needs to stay in the family? Resourceful and determined, Ellie creates goals, which are listed before each chapter. This charming story is designed for kids ages 7 to 12. You can use it for different types of requests, such as asking how something works.
Explore your family’s history

Learning more about your relatives’ past can be fun and rewarding.

Genealogy (the study of family history) is a popular hobby in the US and around the world. Finding out about your close relatives as well as your ancestors (family members who lived in past times) can help you learn more about your cultural background, feel closer to your family, and strengthen your sense of identity.

Here’s how you can get started.

Make a family tree
One fun way to begin is by making a family tree. This is a chart that lists people you’re related to. (There are many templates online that will give you an idea of how the tree could look.) On a large piece of paper, write the names of the people in your immediate family (your parents and siblings) across the bottom. With help from a parent or other relative, fill in additional family members and draw lines to show how they’re connected. Include grandparents, great-grandparents, aunts and uncles, and cousins. Keep adding names as far back as you or your relatives can remember.

Learn your traditions
One way many families honor their heritage is by passing down traditions, such as how you celebrate holidays. This may include food customs that might have originated in a country or region where your relatives once lived. Ask a relative to show you how to make some of your family’s special dishes, and write down the recipes for safekeeping. Other traditions that may be passed down are family stories and sentimental items. You and your immediate family can also create new family traditions together.

Plan a family reunion
One of the best ways to celebrate your family history and learn more is to get together with your relatives. Consider asking a parent or grandparent if they could help you plan a family reunion. Discuss a convenient location for everyone, whether it’s at someone’s home, a hotel or restaurant, or a local park. If it’s not possible to have a reunion in person, you could plan a time for your relatives to join a video call. This could be a great opportunity to ask people to show photos, add to your family tree, or share their favorite traditions.

Craft animals from recycled cardboard

What you need

- Pieces of corrugated cardboard, such as from delivery boxes (check your recycling bin)
- Pencil and marker
- Scissors
- Craft paint
- Paintbrush
- Toilet paper tube
- White glue or hot glue (optional)
- Pipe cleaners

Instructions

1. Pick which animal you want to make, then draw the orangutan, polar bear, or tiger body on cardboard with a pencil. For the orangutan, be sure to include the arms. Use the photo above as a guide. Cut out your shape with scissors.

2. Using a separate piece of cardboard, draw the animal’s legs with a pencil and cut those out. For the tiger and polar bear, draw two pairs of legs—one for the front and one for the back.

3. Using scissors, cut two slits at the bottom of the animal’s body where you want the legs to go. Cut a slit at the top of each of your animal’s legs in the middle. At the end, you’ll use these slits to fit your animal’s body and legs together.

4. Paint your animal. You can follow the designs and colors in the photo above or create your own look. Let dry. Use a marker to draw on eyes, a nose, and a mouth.

5. To turn your orangutan into a pencil holder, add a toilet paper tube to the back. Trace one end of the tube onto cardboard and cut out the circle. Glue the circle to one end of the tube. Glue the tube to the back of the orangutan with the cardboard end of the tube at the bottom. Let dry.

6. Assemble the body and legs of your animal by fitting them with the slits you made.

7. Use a pipe cleaner to make a tail. Cut it to the size you want and glue it to the back of your animal, curving it if desired.

4 creative ways to use family photos

Display and reminisce over favorite old pictures with these fun ideas.

Create a collage
Before your next family gathering, ask everyone to bring copies of old family photos. Use them to create a group collage on posterboard.

Match baby photos
Another fun thing to do at a family gathering:

Put a baby picture of each person on the table, and write a number beside each. Have attendees guess who’s who. The person with the most correct guesses wins!

Assemble a scrapbook
A scrapbook is a great gift for a special family member. Ask relatives to share photos, keepsakes, and memories to include.

Make your own gift tags
When you exchange gifts with your family members, print out current or old photos of the recipients and use double-sided tape to attach them to wrapped presents. Everyone can quickly identify their gifts by checking out the photos!

DID YOU KNOW?

About 4.9 million tons of cardboard—the most recycled packaging material in the US—were recovered for recycling in 2022.
Sweet tribute to London landmark

An artist has created a magnificent sculpture of the Tower Bridge in London, in the UK, using 55 pounds of sugar. Michelle Wibowo spent more than 150 hours producing the nearly 2.5-foot-tall copy of the famous landmark. It was one of several pieces of art made from sugar or salt that were on display at an exhibition in London in September. Wibowo said she “jumped at the chance” to sculpt the iconic bridge and found it “really fascinating” to look into its design history in order to re-create every detail for her piece.

That’s unbelievable!

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Epic tomato battle in Spain

The annual Tomatina festival in Spain is like the ultimate food fight. For one day, the streets of the town of Buñol become a battleground, using overripe tomatoes that would otherwise be thrown away. The festival was inspired by a food fight among local kids in 1945, but it has now become a major event that draws tourists to the town. This year, more than 15,000 people hurled 1.2 tons of tomatoes at one another. Participants wore goggles to protect their eyes from flying fruit, then hit the showers after the fight ended.

Mystery thief unmasked at last

Humphrey Herington’s plant nursery in Australia had a problem: Young seedlings kept disappearing. For months, staff watched visitors carefully, trying to spot the plant burglar. The losses mounted until one day when Herington came to work to find the thief, a koala, dozing in the sun. The evidence? Stems without leaves and a belly so stuffed the creature couldn’t move. Herington took the koala, who he named Claude, to some nearby trees. Is this story real, or is it a koa-lie?*

Athletic bird scoots to success

A cockatoo in Bulgaria has beaten his own world record for riding a bird-sized scooter. Chico rides by holding the handlebars in his beak while pushing off with his foot. Last year, the sporty bird achieved the Guinness World Records title for the fastest 5 meters (16.4 feet) on a scooter by a parrot in 17.79 seconds. Now he has scooted past his own record and completed the course in 14.58 seconds. Chico can also pedal a tiny bicycle and dunk mini basketballs. “He is a natural talent,” his owner said.

Crisscross

Each of these types of fabrics fits into this grid. Can you find where each one goes to complete the grid?

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<tr>
<td>LEATHER</td>
<td>OILSKIN</td>
<td>CANDY</td>
<td>TOILE</td>
<td>VELOUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OILSKIN</td>
<td>SPANDEX</td>
<td>SALT</td>
<td>TWEEDE</td>
<td>VELVETEEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPANDEX</td>
<td>CANDY</td>
<td>TOILE</td>
<td>VELOUR</td>
<td>FLEECE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Take five**

Five 5-letter things on a breakfast table are hidden in this grid. For each one, the first letter is somewhere in the first column, the second is somewhere in the second column, and so on. Can you find all five?

```
M O G C N
B Y A U E
J E R E T
T A I O P
S U L S L
```

**SUDOKU**

To complete the grid, place the numbers from 1 to 6 exactly once in each row, column, and 2x3 bold-lined box.

```
2 5 6
3 1 4
6 1
1 6 3
```

Puzzles

Spot the difference

These two pictures of a Rubik’s Cube parade appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?

REAL OR fake?

Was a koala caught green-handed?

**ALL THE SAME**

Each answer contains the letters B-A-R. Those letters have been placed for you. Can you figure out the words? (NEED A HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

1. Famous doll and 2023 movie that people dressed in pink to see
2. You grip these to steer a bicycle
3. “Old Mother” in a nursery rhyme
4. Without shoes
5. Make someone feel too self-conscious

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

1. **BAR**
2. **BAR**
3. **BAR**
4. **BAR**
5. **BAR**

SUDOKU

To complete the grid, place the numbers from 1 to 6 exactly once in each row, column, and 2x3 bold-lined box.

```
2 5
3 1 4
6 1
1 6 3
```

Mystery thief unmasked at last

Humphrey Herington’s plant nursery in Australia had a problem: Young seedlings kept disappearing. For months, staff watched visitors carefully, trying to spot the plant burglar. The losses mounted until one day when Herington came to work to find the thief, a koala, dozing in the sun. The evidence? Stems without leaves and a belly so stuffed the creature couldn’t move. Herington took the koala, who he named Claude, to some nearby trees. Is this story real, or is it a koa-lie?*

Athletic bird scoots to success

A cockatoo in Bulgaria has beaten his own world record for riding a bird-sized scooter. Chico rides by holding the handlebars in his beak while pushing off with his foot. Last year, the sporty bird achieved the Guinness World Records title for the fastest 5 meters (16.4 feet) on a scooter by a parrot in 17.79 seconds. Now he has scooted past his own record and completed the course in 14.58 seconds. Chico can also pedal a tiny bicycle and dunk mini basketballs. “He is a natural talent,” his owner said.

He scoots, he scores (a record)!

M O G C N
B Y A U E
J E R E T
T A I O P
S U L S L
someone very special, and I like to think that all the awards are named for her. I imagine she was honored for their service projects finals, all ages 10 to 18, were (p2). The 15 winners and 10 recipients of the Gloria Barron I am so impressed with the page 16. The deadline to enter is October 23. out more about it, including how to apply to join, on January, and applications are open now. You can find The next session of our Junior Council will begin in people who want to make a difference in the world. We sponsor our own contest to bring together young this meaningful prize. At The Week Junior, we want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give The Week Junior consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian’s permission before sending anything to us. What makes your grandparents special? Everett—who is 9 years old and from Tennessee—said his grandparents are always looking after him and caring for him. They are kind and gentle, and a favorite memory is going to Disney World with them. To celebrate your grandparents or any special elder person, go to kidstheweekjunior.com/activities to print out a form (like the one at right). Fill it out, then have an adult email it to us at hello@theweekjunior.com. We’ll feature some of the responses in future issues. It’s Your Turn Email your news, views, and photos to hello@theweekjunior.com. "The salmon BLT was so good. We added avocado to make it California-style!" Henrik, 8, California "Here is a picture of me reading The Week Junior while bouncing on the trampoline." Ben, 12, Maine "I made my strawberry smoothie recipe and it was delicious!" Avanti, 8, Alabama "Mrs. Hitch is the best principal I could ever ask for. I have known her since I was in kindergarten and she hasn’t changed a bit. She comes to class and reads us books and is always the nicest, even when we are having bad days. I am in fourth grade, so I will miss her when I go to fifth grade in a new school." Finley, 9, Indiana Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week! Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school’s name and address to hello@theweekjunior.com. "We brought the hiking issue of The Week Junior to read during our trip to Yosemite National Park!" Tommy and Ben, 9, Massachusetts We’d love to see pictures you’ve taken or pictures with you in them! Have an adult email them to us at hello@theweekjunior.com, and please include a sentence or two describing anything you would like us to know about what’s happening in the photo. Puzzle answers (from page 26) Quiz answers (from page 30; 1) B 2) C 3) A 4) D 5) A 6) B 7) C 8) B 9) A 10) A Take five: 1. Olympics 2. Food 3. Soccer 4. Baseball 5. English All the same: 1. 2. false 2. 3. false 3. 4. false 4. true 5. false 6. false 7. false 8. true 9. false 10. true
Quiz of the week

1. Which big chunky bear was the winner of Fat Bear Week 2022?
   a) 480 Otis   b) Bear 747   c) Bear 901
   b) Bear 747
   2. What labor union was on strike for 146 days before reaching an agreement with Hollywood studios and streaming services?
   a) International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees   b) Actors Equity Association   c) Screen Actors Guild
   c) Screen Actors Guild
   3. How many core Power Rangers will there be in the new series Power Rangers: Cosmic Fury?
   a) Five   b) Seven   c) Nine
   a) Five
   4. True or false? The giant pandas Mei Xiang and Tian Tian arrived at the Smithsonian National Zoo in 1972.
   True
   5. A teenager in Alabama discovered a fossil of which prehistoric creature?
   a) A whale   b) Crocodile   c) Shark
   b) Crocodile
   6. Who was the first pick in the Professional Women’s Hockey League draft?
   a) Hilary Knight   b) Taylor Heise
   b) Taylor Heise
   7. How much of this week’s news can you remember?
   5
   8. What kind of tree sprouted new leaves after a volcanic eruption.
   a) Oak   b) Pine   c) Maple
   c) Maple
   9. True or false? A UK artist created a sculpture of London’s Tower Bridge using 55 pounds of salt.
   True
   10. What was the name of the first Earth-based telescope to see a dark spot on Neptune’s surface?
   True
   11. In which US state is artist Rafael Lozano-Hemmer’s Listening Forest being exhibited?
   a) Alabama   b) Arkansas   c) Alaska
   c) Alaska
   12. True or false? Cute cats don’t have taste buds that allow them to recognize sweet flavors.
   True
   13. Damien Wilkins began his professional basketball career with which team?
   a) Detroit Pistons   b) Seattle SuperSonics   c) Indiana Pacers
   b) Seattle SuperSonics
   14. True or false? In the video game Harvest Moon: The Winds of Anthos, Anthos was split into different villages by a volcanic eruption.
   False
   15. A coda leaf named Dodo has set a world record for the fastest five meters by a parrot riding which type of vehicle?
   a) Bicycle   b) Scooter   c) Skateboard
   b) Scooter

Give a sweet treat to inspire young minds

Reading sparks a lifetime love of learning, gets kids on track for success, and helps them identify and follow their passions. There are stories in The Week Junior that speak to every child and inspire them to keep reading.

Give The Week Junior and save 66% off the cover price. For less than $2 an issue, less than the cost of a full-size candy bar, your child can be inspired to read every week! Plus, if you subscribe today, your child will receive a free puzzle book!
The colorful sandstone formations of The Wave near the border of Arizona and Utah were formed by wind and erosion thousands of years ago.