

STARS AND STRIPES

dandelions

Finding DINOSAURS in Europe



Also Inside:

- 👉 Cool Kids Doing Cool things
- 👉 How to Make a Time Capsule
- 👉 & Much More!



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Spring
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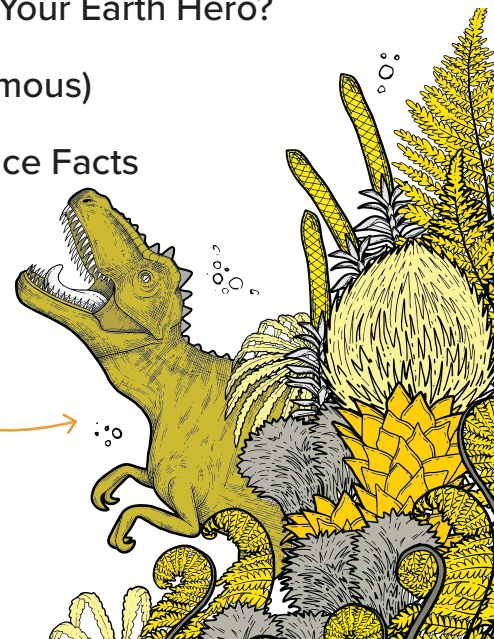
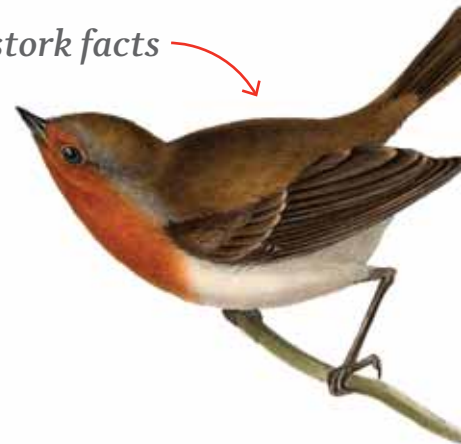
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Why the Dandelion?

By Tamala Malerk

In 1998, the dandelion was chosen as the official flower of the military child. **But why the dandelion?**

They are not beautiful like roses. They are less well-known than the sunflower. They are not popular like daisies. So, why was this flower picked to represent military kids? **Because the dandelion is a very special flower.**

Dandelions are **adaptable**. The wind blows their seeds all over the world. Those seeds can grow no matter where they land. This is also true for military kids.

Dandelions have **strong roots** that can grow almost anywhere. So do military kids. While they may move a lot, their tenacity and strength helps them thrive.

Dandelions are **hard to destroy**. Despite deployments and changes, military kids are strong enough to get through it.

Dandelions come in different sizes and **have many uses**. Military kids are unique and have lots of skills and talents.

Dandelions are also known as "**pioneer plants**" because they are often the first to sprout in different kinds of land. In the same way, military kids go through a lot of "firsts": the first day at a new school, the first time in a new home, or, even the first step into a new country. ●

Al appreciates all the designs you sent us for his tie! They look amazing when he wears them to meetings. Read what he likes about the submissions below.



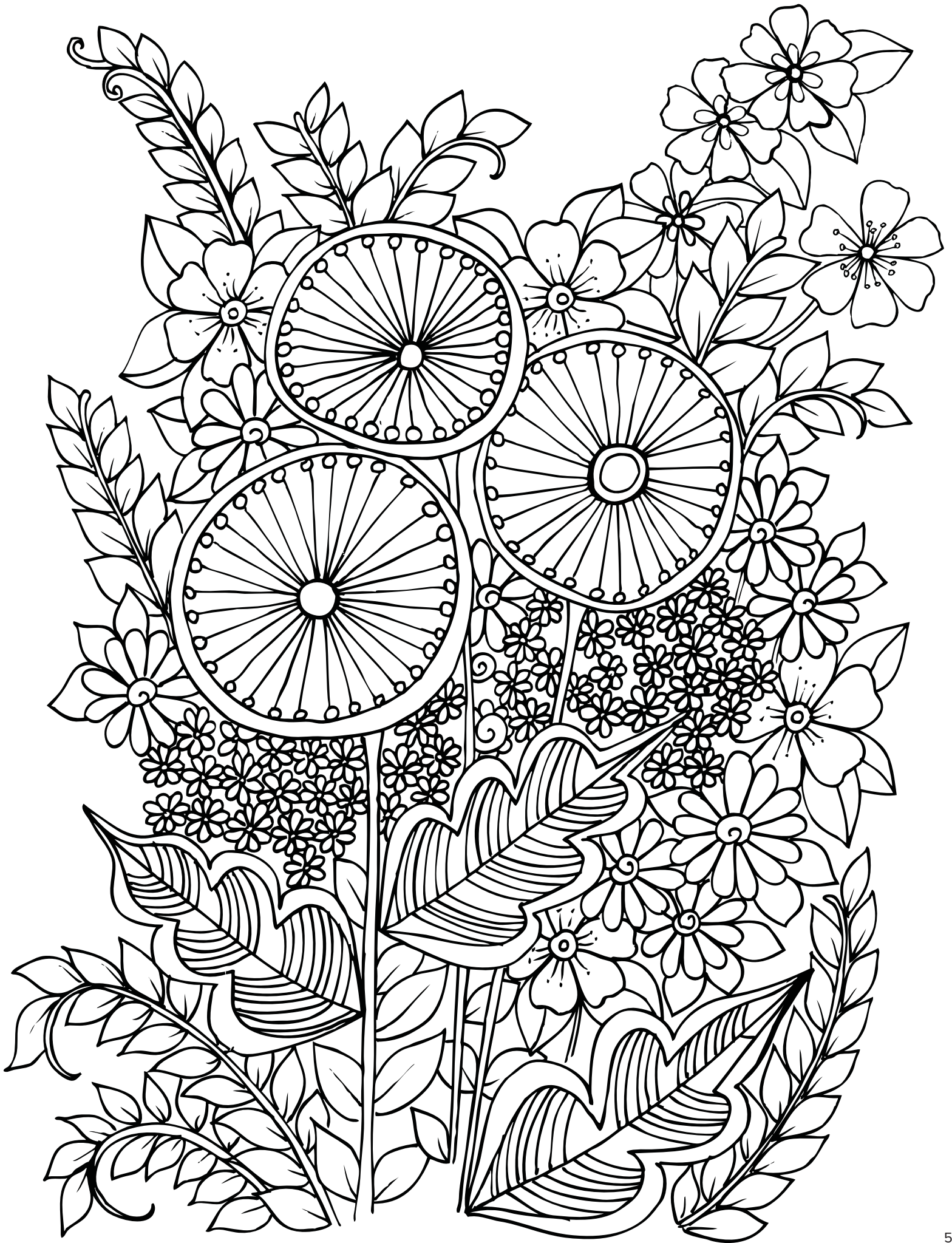
I love the **pattern** in this tie drawn by **Esmerelda!**



I go completely bananas for this **complementary color scheme** created by **Claire**.



These **country flags** inspire me to travel! When I wear this tie, I wonder if **Robin** has been to these places.



Finding DINOSAURS in Europe

By Kat Nickola



Archaeopteryx

The first dinosaur feather ever found was from an archaeopteryx in Solnhofen, Germany. The archaeopteryx was a flying dinosaur about the size of a raven. It probably ate bugs, seeds and fruit. When it lived, during the late Jurassic era, the land was at the edge of a prehistoric sea.

See it for yourself: The Museum Solnhofen has tons of fossils from the local limestone and a special Archaeopteryx room.

Find your own: In the Altmühltal Nature Park in Germany there are quarries that allow you to dig and find your own small fossils to keep.

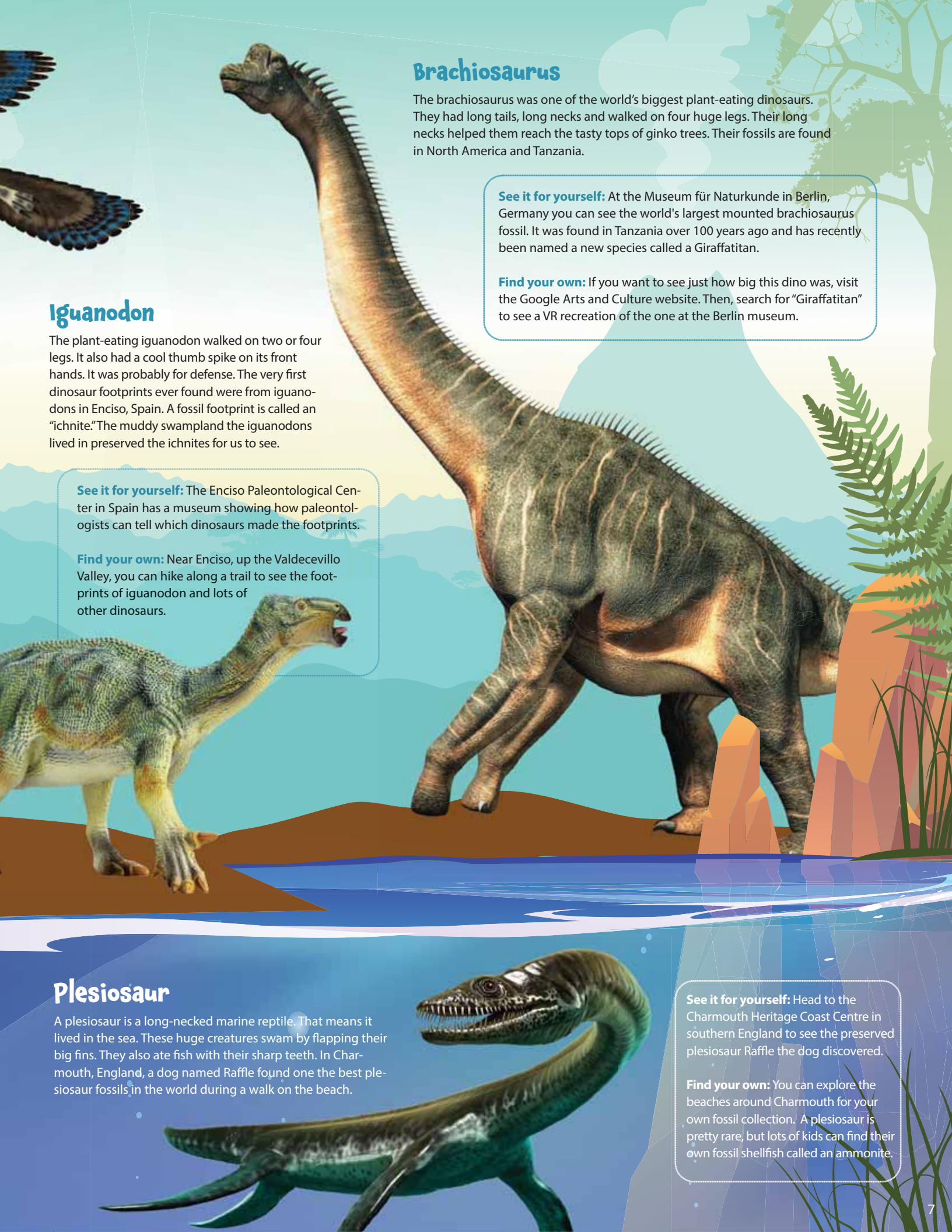


Spinosaurus

The Spinosaurus was the biggest meat-eating dinosaur in Europe. It lived by the water and probably fished for food. The sail on its back may have been for staying cool or for swimming. Maybe the sail was just for showing off.

See it for yourself: Last year, the biggest Spinosaurus fossil was found on the Isle of Wight in England. There, you can visit the Dinosaur Isle Museum.

Find your own: You can take the Red Funnel Ferry to the Isle of Wight. Go search one of the five known fossil locations. Hint: The ferry has a guide to fossil hunting.



Brachiosaurus

The brachiosaurus was one of the world's biggest plant-eating dinosaurs. They had long tails, long necks and walked on four huge legs. Their long necks helped them reach the tasty tops of ginkgo trees. Their fossils are found in North America and Tanzania.

See it for yourself: At the Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin, Germany you can see the world's largest mounted brachiosaurus fossil. It was found in Tanzania over 100 years ago and has recently been named a new species called a Giraffatitan.

Find your own: If you want to see just how big this dino was, visit the Google Arts and Culture website. Then, search for "Giraffatitan" to see a VR recreation of the one at the Berlin museum.

Iguanodon

The plant-eating iguanodon walked on two or four legs. It also had a cool thumb spike on its front hands. It was probably for defense. The very first dinosaur footprints ever found were from iguanodons in Enciso, Spain. A fossil footprint is called an "ichnite." The muddy swampland the iguanodons lived in preserved the ichnites for us to see.

See it for yourself: The Enciso Paleontological Center in Spain has a museum showing how paleontologists can tell which dinosaurs made the footprints.

Find your own: Near Enciso, up the Valdecevillo Valley, you can hike along a trail to see the footprints of iguanodon and lots of other dinosaurs.

Plesiosaur

A plesiosaur is a long-necked marine reptile. That means it lived in the sea. These huge creatures swam by flapping their big fins. They also ate fish with their sharp teeth. In Charmouth, England, a dog named Raffle found one the best plesiosaur fossils in the world during a walk on the beach.

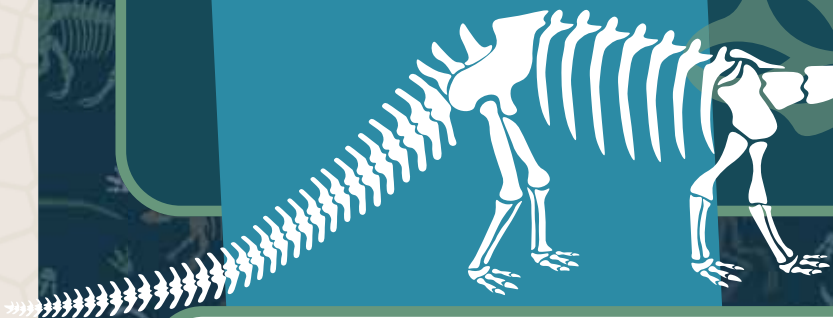
See it for yourself: Head to the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre in southern England to see the preserved plesiosaur Raffle the dog discovered.

Find your own: You can explore the beaches around Charmouth for your own fossil collection. A plesiosaur is pretty rare, but lots of kids can find their own fossil shellfish called an ammonite.

DINO DISCOVERIES



Subtract the numbers.
Then match the answers
with the letters below to
complete the message.



Y $8 - 7 = \underline{\quad}$

U $14 - 7 = \underline{\quad}$

L $10 - 7 = \underline{\quad}$

A $12 - 2 = \underline{\quad}$

D $16 - 8 = \underline{\quad}$

R $7 - 3 = \underline{\quad}$

N $15 - 3 = \underline{\quad}$

M $9 - 3 = \underline{\quad}$

B $19 - 4 = \underline{\quad}$

E $6 - 4 = \underline{\quad}$

I $8 - 3 = \underline{\quad}$

G $18 - 5 = \underline{\quad}$

13 2 4 6 10 12 1 10 12 8 15 2 3 13 5 7 6

are the two European countries where
the most dinosaur fossils have been found.

ANSWERS: Y=1, A=10, N=10, E=2, U=7, D=8, M=6, I=5, L=3, R=4, B=15, G=13



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Plesiosaurus

Pronunciation: PLEH-see-oh-SAWR-us

Name means: Almost lizard

Named by: William Conybeare, 1821

Lived: 200 million years ago

Length: 10-16 feet

Weight: 1,000 pounds

Diet: Fish, ancient squid-like animals





SPOT



Common European

BIRDS

By Kat Nickola

Common Buzzard

If you are on a road trip and see a bird of prey soaring beside the road, it is probably a Common Buzzard. In America, the word "hawk" is used instead of "buzzard." It has multi-colored feathers that look orangish brown. The underside of its wings and belly are mostly white feathers. They hunt for small creatures like mice. Hunting birds are called raptors, just like their dinosaur ancestors!



European Robin

If you put bird food in your backyard, you will likely see a European Robin! These cute little birds have brown feathers on their back, a lighter color on their belly and reddish faces. They eat insects, berries and seeds. Robins are especially fun to see in the winter. They do not migrate. Robins like to claim areas, so if you put seeds out for them they may become loyal to visiting your yard all year.



Crows

In western Europe, in places like Germany and England, the Carrion Crow is most common. It has all-black feathers, black eyes and a black beak. In eastern Europe, in places like Italy or Poland, the Hooded Crow is most common. It has gray feathers on its body, with a black head and wings. Ravens are also a type of crow, but much larger. Ravens roost in pairs while crows like to be alone.



Mute Swans

Swans are amazing water birds. They have big bodies and long necks. The most common species in Europe is the Mute Swan. It has white feathers, a bright orange beak, and a small black 'mask' around its eyes. It is not actually mute, which means something is silent. It is simply quieter than other swan species which are really loud. Swans stay with the same partner for their whole lives. Baby swans are called "cygnets" and are gray, like "The Ugly Duckling."





SCIENTIFIC NAMES

Scientists use special names to help sort all the living creatures on Earth. The system is called “binomial nomenclature.” It uses the creature’s genus name, which is like a name for its closest relatives. That is followed by the species name, which is special to that kind of creature. Below you can see that crows and ravens are all in the same genus, “Corvus,” but are different species.

Mute Swan – CYGNUS OLOR

Common Buzzard – BUTEO BUTEO

Carrion Crow – CORVUS CORONE

Hooded Crow – CORVUS CORNIX

Raven – CORVUS CORAX

European Robin – ERITHACUS RUBECULA

Great Spotted Woodpecker – DENDROCOPOS MAJOR

Wood Pigeons – COLUMBA PALUMBUS

Wood Pigeons

These common birds can be seen swooping everywhere. They have gray feathers and a pinkish belly. Wood pigeons only migrate south from the coldest parts of Europe. They don’t go very far, either. That means that in places like Germany, you may get new birds from Scandinavia in the winter. In places like Italy, though, you can get to know your local Wood Pigeons because they don’t go anywhere.



Great Spotted Woodpecker

Woodpeckers live in forests. They use their bill to break apart tree bark. Inside they find insects and larvae to eat. The Great Spotted Woodpecker is common all over Europe. Its feathers mostly look like white and black patches, but they also have a red patch on their head and belly. When you hear a woodpecker drumming loudly, it may be sending messages to other woodpeckers.



STORK FACTS

STORKS ARE HUGE BIRDS

They can get as tall as a first grader (45 inches or 114 cm). When their wings are stretched out from tip to tip, the wingspan can be as wide as a sofa (85 inches or 216 cm).

STORKS ARE CARNIVORES

They eat other small animals, and they are not picky! Storks will eat mice and bugs from fields, or they will hunt for frogs and fish in the water.

STORKS PAIR UP

Once they choose a partner, storks will usually stay together for the rest of their lives. They share duties like building nests and feeding babies.

STORKS MIGRATE TO EUROPE

In the spring, you may see storks fixing their huge round nests. They have just returned from their winter homes in Africa.

STORKS BUILD MASSIVE NESTS

Storks craft their big round nests with sticks. Their nests are almost the size of your bed! In Europe, having a stork nest nearby is considered good luck. People will put platforms on tall poles or on roofs hoping a stork will use it for a nest.

STORKS MIGRATE TO AFRICA

In September when school starts, storks leave Europe. They take a month to travel thousands of miles south. Some storks fly the “western route” over Spain. Most storks take the “eastern route” over the Middle East. Then, they meet up again south of the Sahara Desert in countries like Nigeria and Kenya. Some even go as far as South Africa!



BIRD APPS

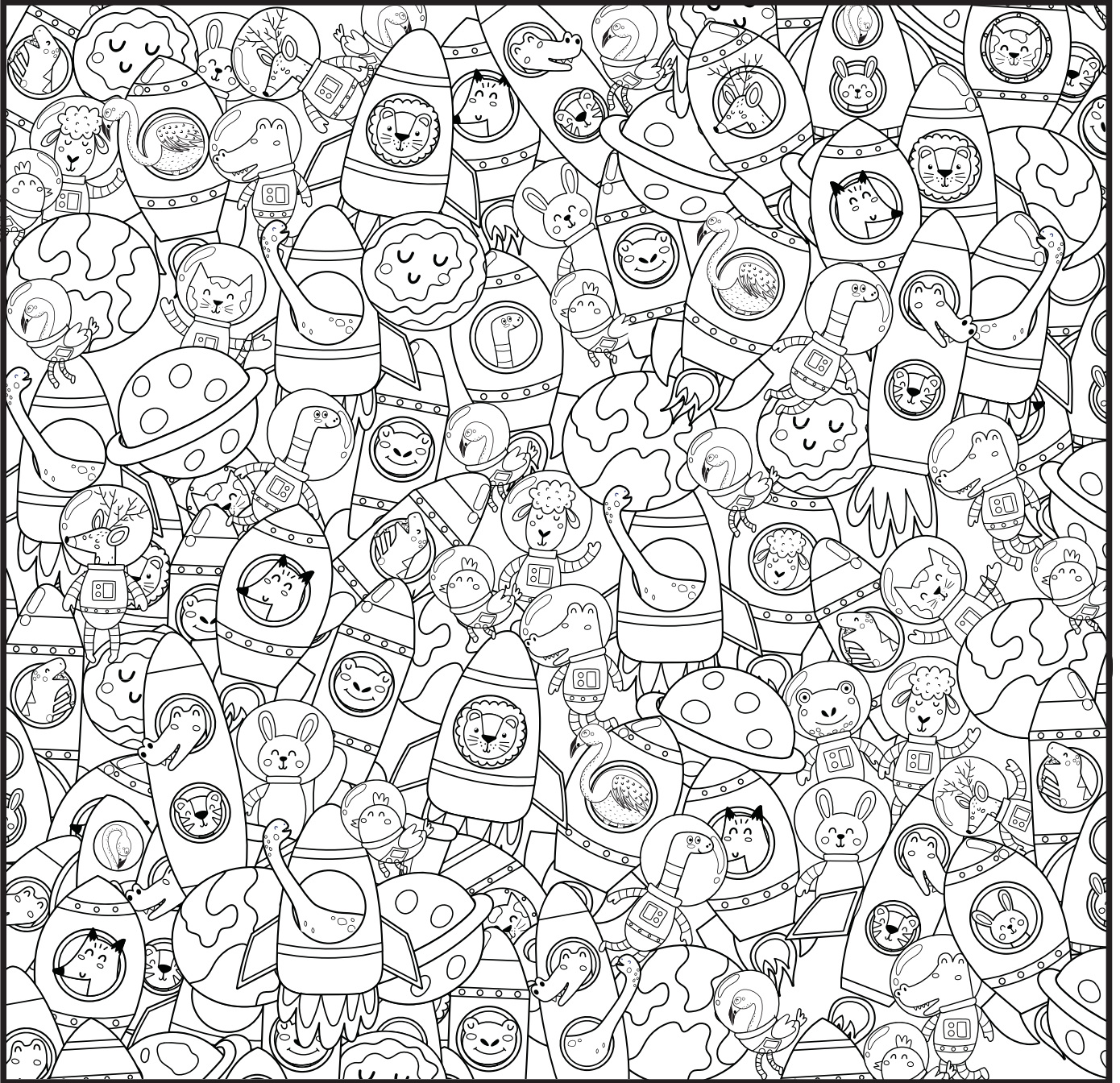
SEEK APP

Get outside and identify organisms! The Seek App by inaturalist.com is a fun way to get outside and find birds, plants and other organisms. You can aim your phone camera at a bird and the app will help you identify it. The app also lets you store all your nature finds and has fun badges and challenges.

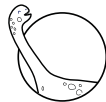
EURO BIRD PORTAL

Follow bird migrations online! At the eurobirdportal.org you can select from over 100 bird species to see how they migrate in Europe. The daily data from scientists and bird watchers all over the continent is displayed on a time-lapse map.

I SPY



Count the animals as you color! Write how many you find below.



Frog 8

Cat 5

Tiger 6

Alligator 12

Camarasaurus 4

Brachiosaurus 6

Flamingo 11

Rabbit 9

Bird 6

Deer 4

Dentistry 4 Kidz

in Mediceum Landstuhl



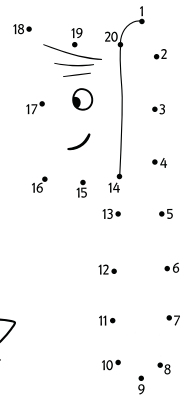
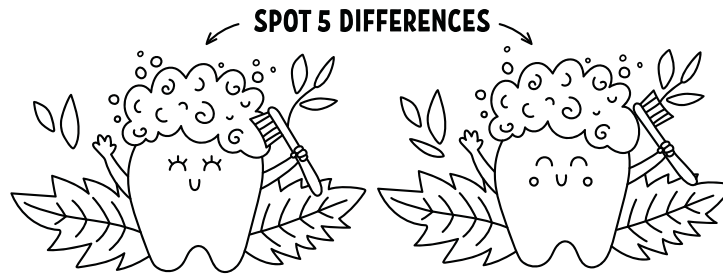
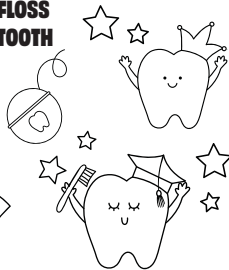
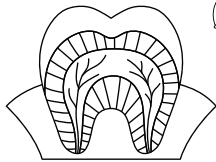
W	U	B	P	W	D	I	F
H	R	K	R	B	K	K	L
P	R	C	E	U	U	L	O
S	Q	X	M	X	S	T	S
A	M	T	O	O	T	H	S
T	S	I	T	N	E	D	N
H	E	A	L	T	H	V	F
U	L	I	G	E	O	B	Z

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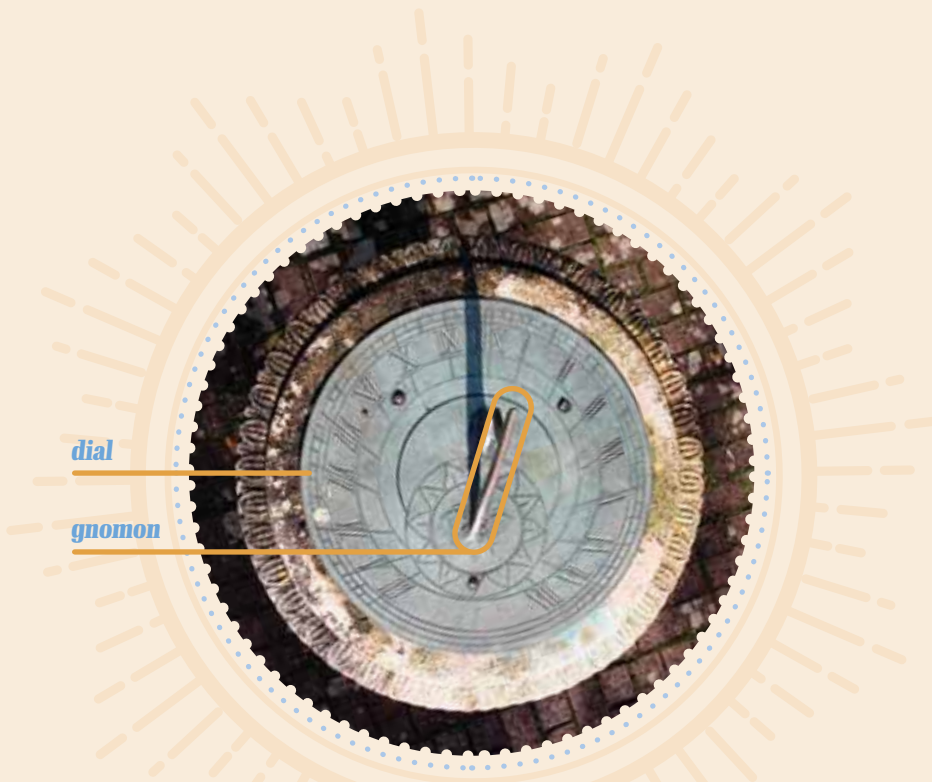
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dial

gnomon

SUNNY

SUNDIALS

By Kat Nickola

A **sundial** is the oldest way people measure time. It uses a shadow cast by the sun to tell the time.

Sundials have a flat plate with markings that show the time of day. It also has a tall piece to make a shadow. The plate is called the **“dial,”** and the tall piece is called a **“gnomon.”** As the sun moves across the sky it casts a shadow that points to the correct time on the plate.

DID YOU Know?

Before there were clocks, **every town would set its own sundial.** In one village it might be 2 p.m. while down the road it was 1:30 pm.

MAKE YOUR OWN Sundial



It is easy to make a sundial in your backyard. Choose a day when you will be home from dawn until dusk.

You will need:

- A straight stick or pencil
- 12 Rocks
- Paint or chalk
- A clock

1. Choose a **sunny location!**
2. **Place the stick firmly in the ground.** This is your gnomon. Make sure it can't fall over.
3. **Paint each of your rocks with the numbers from 1 to 12.** These will mark the time.
4. When your clock reads the hour, like 7 a.m., **put the correct numbered rock where the shadow from your stick is pointing.**
5. **Repeat this at the “top of the hour”** until the sun sets.

You can also do this with chalk on a sidewalk. Use some clay to keep your gnomon straight.

COOL Sundials

The **oldest sundial** in the world was found in a worker's hut in Egypt. The people who used it built tombs for Egyptian mummies.

In Florence, Italy there is a sundial with a **half-lizard half-viper on the gnomon.** It is outside of the Museo Galileo. The sundial tells time and tracks seasons.



There are more sundials and cool time-telling devices inside the museum.

Along the Mosel River in Germany, there are many sundials in vineyards. **The first one was made in 1620.** It is high on the hill between the grapevines in Zeltlingen-Rachtig. You can still read the time on it today.

The biggest sundial in the world is in Zaragoza, Spain. It is in a city park and so big you may not realize it's a sundial! The gnomon is as tall as a three-story building.

There are 12 different sundials you can read along the sundial trail at Horniman Gardens in England. **One of them even uses your shadow to tell time!**

HELP THE KNIGHT REACH THE SUNDIAL

ROMAN NUMERALS

Numbers in ancient Rome looked different than ours. Their numbers were based on ones and fives. They used seven letter symbols to write the numbers. We call them **numerals**. You sometimes add or subtract to read the numbers.

Here are all the Roman numerals!

I=1 X=10 C=100 M=1000
V=5 L=50 D=500

How to use Roman numerals:

First, **ADD** a numeral on the **RIGHT** side that has less value.

You can't add more than three of the same numerals.

Next, **SUBTRACT** with a numeral on the **LEFT** side that has less value.

Some examples:

IV → V - I LIV → L + (V - I)
5 - 1 = 4 50 + (5 - 1) = 54

VIII → V + I + I + I CCC → C + C + C
5 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 8 100 + 100 + 100 = 300

XXII → X + X + I + I
10 + 10 + 1 + 1 = 22



Can you figure out these Roman numerals?

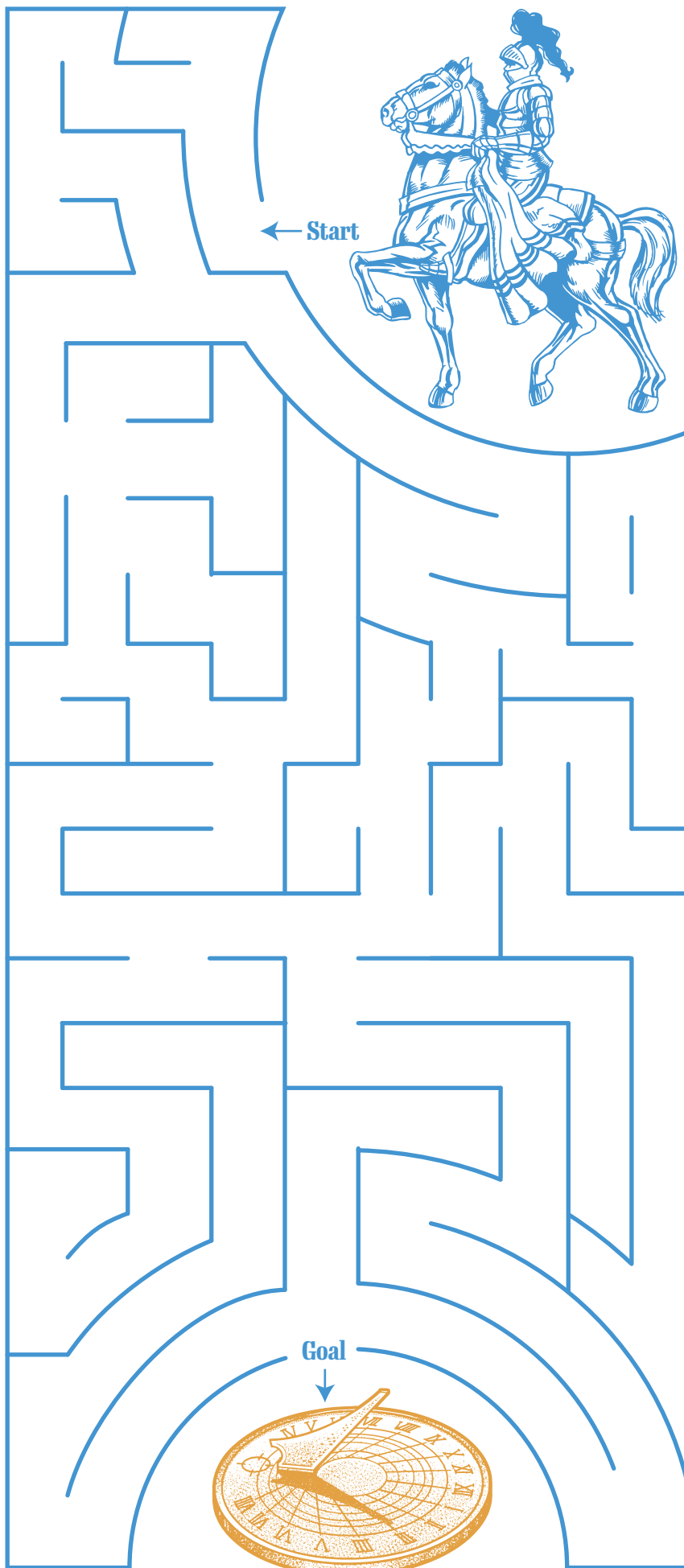
III = _____ XL = _____

IX = _____ LXXIV = _____

XV = _____ MMXXIV = _____

ANSWERS: III = 3, IX = 9, XV = 15, XL = 40, LXXIV = 74, MMXXIV = 2024

Try writing your age in Roman numerals!





hiking fun

Spring and summer are great seasons to get outside and go hiking. Here are some tips for your next hike.

By Tamala Malerk

- **Pick out the trail with an adult:** There are so many places to go hiking. Have your parent or guardian show you a few and pick the ones you want to try.
- **Wear the right shoes:** Flip-flops are fun for the beach, but they aren't good hiking shoes. Make sure you've got your strong and comfy sneakers or boots on.
- **Choose your best hiking outfit:** Find your brightest shirt and comfortable pants to go with your shoes. Wear a jacket or sweater if it is chilly.
- **Look for hidden treasures on the trail:** Have a contest with your family and friends to see who can spot the most birds or different types of leaves.
- **Always make sure you can see your adult:** It is fun to find new things on trails, but always make sure you can see at least one adult that came with you.
- **Bring a bag for your trash and recyclables:** Trails are beautiful places, and you want to make sure you leave it like (or even better than) you found it. Put your trash in your bag, not on the ground.
- **Wear a whistle:** Make sure you have a whistle around your neck in case you get separated from your group. If you don't see an adult, stop; stay where you are and blow your whistle.
- **Drink water:** Whether you've got a cool water bottle or an awesome reservoir (a backpack that stores water that you wear on your back), drink water so that you can stay hydrated on your hike.
- **Eat your trail mix:** Trail mix is a great and tasty way to stay fueled while you hike. We've got a great trail mix recipe for you to try. ●



trail mix

Try making this trail mix for your next fun hike. The best thing about trail mix is that you can put in (almost) whatever you want! Make sure to keep a good mix of salty, sweet and protein-filled ingredients.

Pick one or two ingredients from each list to make your own trail mix.

Salty

- Mini pretzels
- Cheese crackers (like Goldfish®)
- Dried meat (like Slim Jim)
- Crackers
- Popcorn
- CheX™ cereal
- Corn chips

Sweet

- Dried fruits (cranberries, apples, pineapple, mango, blueberry)
- Raisins
- Breakfast cereal (Apple Jacks®, Cinnamon Toast Crunch™, Lucky Charms™)
- M&M's
- Granola
- Animal crackers
- Mini marshmallows
- Coconut flakes
- Graham crackers

Protein

- Pumpkin seeds
- Peanuts
- Chia seeds
- Crunchy chickpeas
- Almonds
- Sunflower seeds
- Walnuts
- Crunchy edamame
- Cashews



COOL KIDS DOING COOL THINGS

By Tamala Malerk

Kids are amazing. All over the world, every day, there are kids making a difference. Check out some of these cool kids who have done cool things.

ABBEY FLECK

Abbey Fleck was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, USA. In 1993, eight-year-old Fleck noticed her parents having issues with leftover bacon fat after a great bacon breakfast. She invented the "Makin Bacon." It lets people hang bacon to cook in the microwave. This method creates less mess. In 1994, Makin Bacon was featured in Parade Magazine as a "hot new food item." Fleck became a millionaire by the time she was a teenager.



RAFAT BIROS

12-year-old Polish tween Rafat Biros holds the Guinness World Record for "youngest person to discover a comet." Within two years of finding his first comet, he discovered 10 more! He first became interested in astronomy (the study of the universe and everything in it) in kindergarten. His first comet is named "SOHO-4094."



LOUIS BRAILLE

In 1824, 15-year-old French teen Louis Braille created a series of raised dot sequences that became an alphabet used by blind people. It makes it much easier for them to read. He named this new alphabet after himself, calling it "Braille." He became blind at age three. Before he created the new alphabet, blind people had to read using raised versions of the letters from the regular alphabet. It was hard and took a long time.



MICAÏLA ULMER

From Austin, Texas, Micaïla Ulmer was only 10 years old when she appeared on the popular TV show, "Shark Tank," with her "BeeSweet Lemonade" in 2015. She began her lemonade business with one stand at four years old. Today, she has made more than 10 million dollars in sales. You can find her products in stores like Target, Whole Foods Market and Publix.



MALALA YOUSAFZAI

Malala Yousafzai is a Pakistani activist (someone who raises awareness about important topics). In 2012, when she was only 12 years old, she survived an attack on her bus ride from school by people who did not think that girls should be allowed to go to school. Now, she teaches people about the importance of education. She works to ensure that girls all over the world can receive 12 years of education. In 2014, she won the Nobel Peace Prize. She is the youngest person to win this prize.



FAST RECYCLING FACTS



Recycling is a great way to help save the planet, but it can be complicated sometimes. In Germany, we have yellow bags for plastic, blue bags for paper and cardboard, green bags for compost and clear bags for glass. That's a lot of sorting. Here are some fast facts about recycling you may not know.

RECYCLING is taking trash and turning it into new things for us to use.



COMPOSTING

is the breaking down of organic materials (like banana peels and egg shells) to make soil.



More than **111,000,000** aluminum cans were recycled in 2023. "Recycling just one aluminum saves enough energy to light a 100-watt light bulb for 20 hours and a TV for two hours," according to This World Counts. That's a lot of Netflix.



It requires

70% less energy to recycle paper than to make it from new materials.



ALL types of **PLASTIC** are recyclable in the U.K., according to Entire Recycling.



It takes **88%** less energy to make plastic from recycled plastic than from new materials.

You can even recycle **CLOTHES!** Textile banking/recycling is reusing, repurposing, or re-making clothes, fabrics and yarns.



We see heroes in our books, movies and television shows all the time. But heroes are not just in our imaginations. There are real heroes here on Earth.

FOR EXAMPLE, Greta Thunberg is a Swedish activist. When she was 15, she staged her first climate protest outside the Swedish parliament in 2018. Since then, she has helped create the "Fridays for Futures" movement. She is known for bringing attention to climate change to kids all over the world. This is known as "The Greta Effect." In 2019, she became the youngest person to win Time's Person of the Year. She also published a book called "No One is Too Small to Make a Difference."

WHO IS YOUR HERO ON EARTH AND WHY?

SCIENTISTS

(who should be famous)

By Kat Nickola



Mary Anning

(1799–1847)

Paleontologist

Mary Anning grew up on the coast of England. She and her brother found the first skeleton of an Ichthyosaurus. She also found the first Plesiosaurus and a Pterosaur. Her fossils helped support the new sciences of paleontology and geology.

DID YOU KNOW? You can see Mary Anning's fossils at the Natural History Museum in London.

Ynés Mexía

(1870–1938)

Botanist



Ynés Mexía (Ee-nez meh-Hee-uh) traveled all over North and South America collecting thousands of plants and taking pictures. She discovered 500 new species. They were used to understand ecosystems. Her adventures were sometimes dangerous. She would camp and traveled alone by canoe and horseback.

DID YOU KNOW? She was a member of the Sierra Club, the first environmental group in the U.S.



Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar

(1910–1995)

Astronomer

Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar (Sue-bruh-mun-yun Chun-dra-shay-ker) started studying physics in college when he was only 14. He discovered the end of a star's life cycle. The Chandrasekhar Limit is the theory he created to explain why stars become white dwarfs, neutron stars or black holes. He won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1983.

DID YOU KNOW? The Chandra X-ray observatory is named for him. See its beautiful pictures at chandra.harvard.edu.



Edward Bouchet

(1852–1918)

Physicist

Edward Bouchet (Boo-shay) studied physics at Yale University. He studied light as it bends going through glass. Then, he taught physics and chemistry at the oldest historically Black university in America. He was the first Black person to earn a Ph.D. in America. A Ph.D. is the highest degree awarded at any college.

DID YOU KNOW? There are many scholarships and awards named after Edward Bouchet.

Rosalind Franklin

(1920–1958)

Chemist



Rosalind Franklin studied how things like viruses and carbon are made of small molecules. She was part of the team that discovered how our DNA is structured. DNA is the code inside your body that makes you unique. She used x-rays to take the very first clear pictures of DNA.

DID YOU KNOW? There is an asteroid named for Rosalind Franklin, the 9241 Rosfranklin.



Nianshuang Wang

(1986–)

Biologist

Nianshuang Wang (Nyahn-shwahng Wahn-g) works in a lab in the U.S.A. He researches how our bodies fight off illness. To do this, he studies how viruses are structured. That information is used to make vaccines. His research helped his team of scientists figure out how to create the vaccine against coronavirus.

DID YOU KNOW? He is from a small town in China where his parents are farmers.

YOUR FAVORITE SCIENCE MUSEUMS

Kids and parents alike agreed on these top choices for the best science museums in Europe.

The **Copernicus Science Centre** in Warsaw, Poland has 400 hands-on exhibits and workshops, plus a planetarium.

At the **Euro Space Center** in Libin, Belgium you can experience a moonwalk, visit a Mars habitat, and take a VR space flight.

The **Leonardo Interactive Museum** in Florence, Italy allows you to test Leonardo da Vinci's famous machines.

At the **Technik Museum** in Speyer, Germany you can explore hundreds of vehicles like trains, airplanes, submarines and even a space shuttle.

NEMO Science Museum in Amsterdam, The Netherlands is a massive place full of hands-on science demonstrations and fun activities.

At the **Energia avastuskeskus** in Tallin, Estonia everything is interactive and there is a flashy lightning demonstration done with Tesla coils. ●



Walking Rainbow

By Kat Nickola

You will need:

- 6 glass jars or glasses
- Red, yellow and blue food dye
- Water
- Paper towels

Procedure:

1. Place your jars in a small circle. They should touch each other.
2. Fill three jars with water. Leave an empty jar between each of them.
3. Put food dye in the water. Make one jar red, one jar blue and one jar yellow. It takes a lot of dye to get good colors.
4. Fold 6 paper towels into strips. Place the paper towels around the circle. One end goes in a water jar and the other end goes in an empty jar. Make sure they are folded over the edges of the jars, not high in the air.
5. Watch as the colored water wicks itself up over the paper towel and drops into the empty glasses. As it mixes, the secondary colors will appear.

This experiment shows **TWO** different scientific principles!

The capillary action of water.

This means that water will defy gravity and wick itself up the paper towel. It happens because water molecules bond to each other, which is called cohesion. It also helps that water molecules bond to the paper, which is called adhesion.

The visible spectrum and color theory.

There are three primary colors: red, blue and yellow. Each one has a special wavelength of light. You see red on a paper towel because the red dye bounces back red's wavelength. When two primary colors are mixed, a mix of wavelengths bounces back and you see a new color. These are the secondary colors: purple, green and orange. ●



SCIENCE FACTS

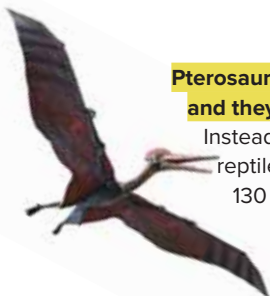
The most common fossils in Antarctica are wood and leaves

because it had been covered in forests millions of years ago.



Pterosaurs are not birds and they aren't dinosaurs!

Instead, they are winged reptiles and there are over 130 different varieties.



Modern birds evolved from the Theropod dinosaurs.

Theropods walked on two legs like birds and had small arms that eventually grew feathers.



Earth is the only planet in our solar system that has rainbows. It is thanks to the water vapor in our atmosphere.



Ancient Egyptians and Babylonians based their number system on 12.

That is why we still have 12 hours on our clocks and 12 months in a year.



On the gas giant planets of Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune, **diamonds can form in the atmosphere and fall like rain.**



In medieval China and Japan, time was kept by burning incense sticks.

Different smells meant different times of day.



In 1884, **Greenwich, London was chosen as the baseline for time-keeping around the world.** All other time zones are based on Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). ●

DINOS at the WATERING HOLE

By Kat Nickola



Ask a friend for a word with the correct part of speech to fill in this story!

Noun: a person, place, thing or idea

Adjective: describes a noun

Verb: an action word

Adverb: describes a verb (often ends in -ly)



In the Cretaceous, there was a _____ (adjective) watering hole in the middle of a huge _____ (place). A _____ (adjective) group of triceratops were calmly _____ (verb, ending in -ing) on grass at the edge of the water. Nearby, a herd of duck-billed _____ (dinosaur noun) kept bobbing their heads into the _____ (noun) to eat _____. In the air, _____ (adjective) pterosaurs circled their nest. Suddenly, the _____ (same dinosaur noun) bellowed _____ (adverb) as a hungry _____ (proper noun)-Rex charged from the trees. It was heading toward one of the _____ (adjective) triceratops! Like magic, a herd of massive four-legged _____ (plural noun) crashed toward the watering hole and the hungry predator ran _____ (adverb) away.



FUNNY BONES



Why couldn't the pony sing the lullaby?

He was a little horse.

Why did the dinosaur cross the road?

Because the chicken wasn't born yet.

What did one volcano say to the other?

I lava you.

Why did the student eat his homework?

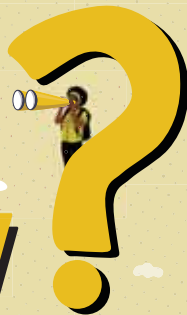
Because the teacher told him it was a piece of cake.

What did the left eye say to the right eye?

Between us, something smells.

From Parade (<https://parade.com/968634/parade/jokes-for-kids/>)

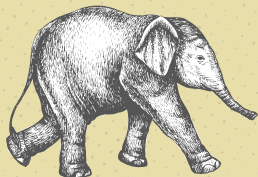
DID YOU KNOW?



An **OSTRICH'S EYE** is bigger than its brain.



A bolt of lightning is **5 TIMES** hotter than the sun.*



BABY ELEPHANTS suck their trunks like human babies suck their thumbs.*



RACECAR is a palindrome. This means it's spelled the same way forwards and backwards. Other palindromes include KAYAK, WOW, DEED and TACO CAT. Can you think of any?

You can buy **PYRAMID-SHAPED** watermelons in Japan*



The "sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep's sick" is believed to be the toughest **TONGUE TWISTER** in the English language.



A **DIME** has 118 ridges around the edge.

WORD SEARCH

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

BIRDS BRAT DANDELION DINOSAUR HERO HIKE SCIENCE SUN TIME TRAIL

*From the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (<https://kids.niehs.nih.gov/games/riddles/jokes/fun-facts-and-trivia>)

Why did the cell phone get glasses?

Because she lost all her contacts.

What's a math teacher's favorite winter sport?

Figure skating.

What's rain's favorite accessory?

A rainbow.

Why did the Genie get mad?

Because he was rubbed the wrong way.

What's a ballerina's favorite type of bread?

A bun.

TIME CAPSULES

By Kat Nickola

A time capsule is a sealed container that is supposed to be opened in the future. People put things inside it that represent themselves or their time. The items help to preserve the memory of that moment.



Coins and building documents found in the time capsule from Ziębice, Poland, dated 1797.



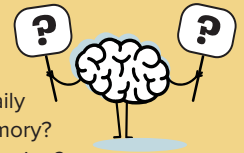
© Marcin Pachacz

HOW TO MAKE ONE!

1

Decide what your time capsule is for.

Does it show your daily life? Is it a family memory? Is it for a special occasion?



2

Choose what goes into it.

Here are some common ideas:

- Newspapers
- Pictures
- School work
- Coins
- Handprints
- Letters to the future
- Postcards



3

Find a container.

If you will bury it outside, a metal container is best. If you will keep it inside, a shoe box or plastic box will work.



4

Decide when it will be opened.

Next year? In three years? When you are a senior in high school? Write this on the outside of your container.



5

Have a sealing ceremony.

Gather your family to see the contents one last time. Then, seal it up. Now you can bury it or store it in your house!



The International Time Capsule Society (ITCS) keeps a record of all the time capsules in the world. They are stored in the "Not Forgotten Digital Preservation Library." You can see a map of the time capsules on their website: libraryrecords.not-forgotten.com. Anyone can register their time capsule with the ITCS library. Lots of school classes have made time capsules.

Hey Kids! Can you spot the differences?



Shopping fun close to Stuttgart

In Europe's largest outlet*, we pay close attention to detail so that your visit is always unforgettable. **Are you ready for Outletcity?** Spot ten changes in these pictures, and come see the difference for yourself at Outletcity Metzingen.

OUTLET/CITY
METZINGEN

ADIDAS / BOSS / CALVIN KLEIN / COACH / CROCS / DOUGLAS / GANT / HARIBO / JIMMY CHOO / LE CREUSET / LEVI'S / LULULEMON / MICHAEL KORS / NIKE / OAKLEY
PANDORA / POLO RALPH LAUREN / RAVENSBURGER / SWAROVSKI / THE NORTH FACE / TOMMY HILFIGER / TORY BURCH / UNDER ARMOUR / WOOLRICH and many more

*By sales area or size - Market report "Outlet Centres in Europe", p. 27 (December 2023) produced by ecostra GmbH, www.ecostr.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/outlet-centres-europe_2023-12.pdf "In comparison to the Manufacturer's Recommended Retail Price, where applicable.
Solution: building: railing at the top / facade with holes under the logo / logo on the store sign / mannequin / woman: logo on the shopping bag / handbag / child: button on the denim jacket / bird on the shoulder / color of the pants / man: wedding ring



Famous Time Capsules

● In 2011, the **Boy Scout Troop 11 Time Capsule** was opened in Wiesbaden, Germany. It was buried in 1961 on the 50th birthday of the Boy Scouts and was opened on the 100th birthday. A local Boy Scout troop met with the adults who had buried it. Inside were items that showed what life was like for military kids living in Germany at the time. The capsule was almost lost. It had been buried near an American military hotel on a military base. But that had changed over time. Luckily, the German hotel staff remembered where it was.

● The **Nickelodeon Time Capsule** is at the Nickelodeon Animation Studio in Burbank, California. It has moved twice since it was buried in 1992. Kids called in to vote on what went inside. Some items were a Nintendo Gameboy, rollerblades, a skateboard and a piece of the Berlin Wall. A local girl named Vicky recorded its burial with a "Kid Cam." It was the last thing placed inside. The capsule will be opened in 2042. You can watch the burial ceremony at www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1hxmfi_4J8



The capsule contained coins and building documents along with personal notes from two ladies who donated money for the building of the church.

● The **Ziębice Time Capsule** was found in the steeple of a church in Poland. It was buried when the church was built in 1797. It is the oldest time capsule in Europe. Inside were papers written in German. The town had been called Münsterberg and was in the Kingdom of Prussia when the capsule was hidden.

● The **Millennium Time Vault** in England is the largest time capsule in the world. It is the size of a garage. The vault was constructed in the side of a hill at Guildford Castle. It contains items representing the 20th century (the 1900s). There are photographs, videos, items from the World Wars and even an entire car. It will be opened in the year 3000. ●

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PUT IN A

TIME
CAPSULE?



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your response
in a future issue!



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