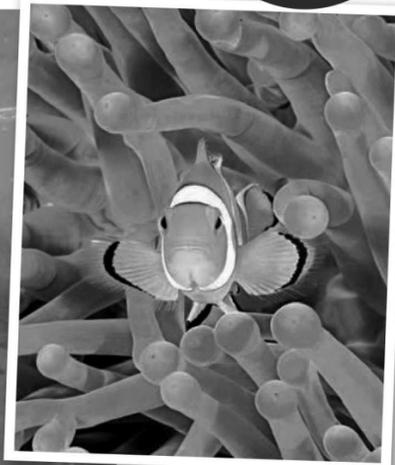


## Let's work together!

From birds that pick crocodiles' teeth to shrimp that dig homes for fish, meet some of nature's most unlikely partners – and discover what each one gets out of the deal.

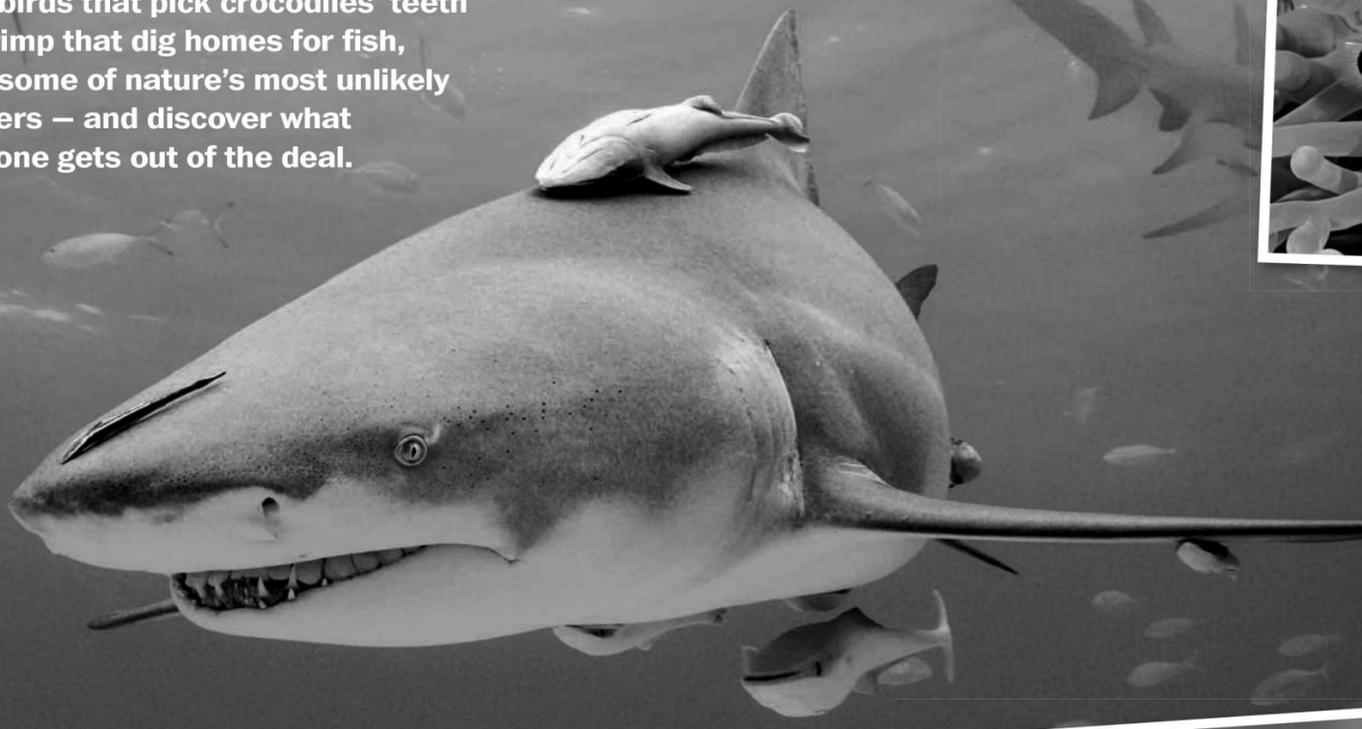


fish. Thanks to a slimy coating on their skin, the clown fish aren't harmed. In return, the clown fish chase away the anemone's main predator: butterflyfish.

**Ants and aphids**  
Some species of ant eat honeydew, a substance that tiny insects called aphids make from plant sap. To protect their honeydew supply, ants guard aphids from predators. As you can see at left, ants also herd aphids to new plants so they can tap fresh sap.

**Honeyguides and humans**  
Honeyguide birds are very good at finding wild bees' nests. They use a special chattering call to attract humans' attention, then fly ahead to lead people to the nest. Humans can use fire or tools to subdue the bees and open the nest, allowing them to take the honey while the birds feed on the beeswax.

**Impalas and oxpeckers**  
Impalas allow oxpecker birds to perch on them to eat ticks, flies and other insects that live on their skin. The impalas get their pesky parasites removed, and the oxpeckers enjoy a free lunch!



**Above:** A shark swims with helpful remoras.

**Sharks and remoras**  
Remoras are small fish that attach themselves to sharks and other marine animals. The remoras keep the sharks' skin free of parasites and are even allowed to swim around the sharks' teeth to eat bits of food that might otherwise become breeding grounds for harmful bacteria.

**Crocodiles and plovers**  
Would you stick your head in a crocodile's mouth? That's what the plover bird does in this unlikely partnership. First, the crocodile holds its jaws wide open. A plover then flies in and perches there,



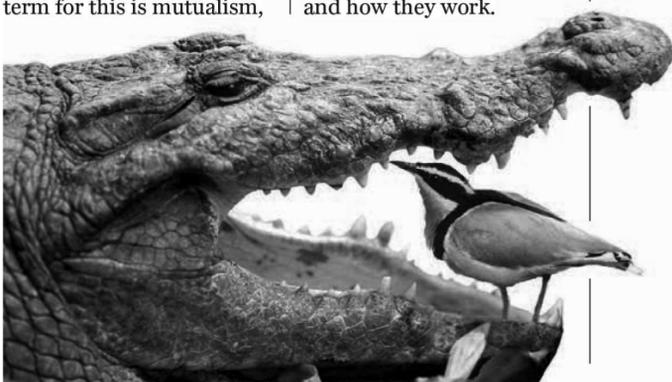
**Above:** Ants 'herd' aphids to plants so they can collect fresh sap.

picking out bits of food, parasites, and leeches stuck between the crocodile's teeth and gums. The plover gets a meal and the croc gets a free dental checkup!

**Clown fish and sea anemones**  
Clown fish are often found among the tentacles of sea anemones (pictured above), which sting nearly all other

**D**o you sometimes work together with a friend to do something that benefits both of you? Well, it might surprise you to know that in the animal kingdom, different species have evolved to help each other out, too. The scientific term for this is mutualism,

and it is used to describe relationships between two organisms in which both species benefit. So, from hitchhiking fish to a bird that's brave enough to be a crocodile's dentist, read on to learn about some of the most astonishing partnerships in nature and how they work.



## PUZZLES & JOKES

Stumped? Don't worry, you can find the solutions to all the puzzles at: [whatonearthmag.com/answers](http://whatonearthmag.com/answers)



### SPACE WORD SEARCH

Can you spot the names of 12 planets and moons hidden in our word search puzzle? Good luck!

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

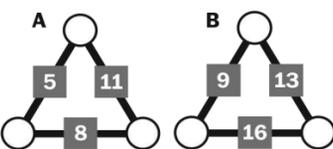
- |          |        |        |
|----------|--------|--------|
| CERES    | MARS   | RHEA   |
| EARTH    | PHOBOS | TITAN  |
| GANYMEDE | PLUTO  | URANUS |
| JUPITER  | PUCK   | VENUS  |

### NUMBER TRIANGLES

In the triangles below, the numbers inside the squares are the sums of the two numbers in the connected circles. For example:



Can you figure out which number should appear in each of the circles? All the numbers in the circles are between 1 and 10, and a number can only be used once in each triangle.



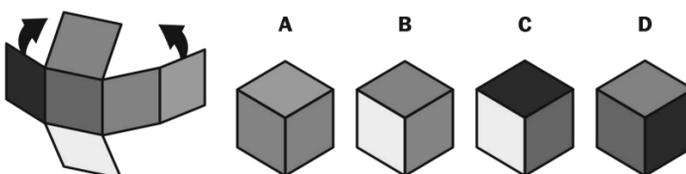
### SUDOKU

Fill all the empty squares so that every row, column and 3x2 box contains each of the numbers 1 to 6.

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

### CUBE IT!

The six-sided shape on the left can be folded up to form a cube. Only two of the cubes on the right can be made by it. Which are they?



Roman ruler always carries a handkerchief?



Julius Sneezer!

What game do sharks like to play?

Swallow the leader!

## What on Earth! Magazine

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