

# THE JOPLIN GLOBE

# NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION

**Shortcuts** by jeff harris

## GETTING ALONG WITH Guinea Pigs

This cartoon is gnawing at my patience.

No one is certain how the guinea pig got its name, but it is not really a pig and it does not come from Guinea.

Guinea pigs are mammals that belong to the "Caviidae" family. "Cavies" are small, tailless rodents that are native to South America.

**A PIG's Life**  
Domestic guinea pigs live for about 5 to 10 years.

Guinea pigs often make a loud whistle-like sound when they are frightened.

Guinea pigs do not like food that is too sweet or too bitter.

Guinea pigs are very vocal and make a variety of noises.

Guinea pigs eat for about six hours each day.

Wild guinea pigs were domesticated hundreds of years ago by the Inca Indians of Peru.

In South America, guinea pigs are often raised as a source of meat.

Unlike some other pets, guinea pigs can see color.

A guinea pig's head is about 1/3 the length of its body.

For more information on guinea pigs, go to your local library and check out these books: "My Guinea Pig and Me" by Immanuel Birmelin (Barron's Educational Series) or "Guinea Pigs" by Mark Evans (Dorling Kindersley).

Another name for a guinea pig is "cavy" (cay-vee).

Guinea pigs need to eat foods that contain vitamin C or they will become sick.

WON'T You Be MY NeIGHBOR?  
Guinea pigs are social animals and prefer to be around other guinea pigs. When kept as pets, they often lead happier and less stressful lives when they have at least one other guinea pig as a companion.

Where do cavies keep their money? In a piggy bank.

Guinea pigs do not have tails.

Why did the boy buy 1,000 guinea pigs? He wanted to be in the guinea book of world records.

There are about 20 different species of guinea pig.

Guinea pigs were brought to Europe by traders during the 1500s.

A guinea pig's teeth continue to grow throughout its life. Guinea pigs control the length of their teeth by gnawing on wood or other hard objects.

Baby guinea pigs are born with open eyes and a full coat of fur. They can run within a few hours of being born.

Baby guinea pigs are called "pups."

Why don't you hear fables about guinea pigs? Because guinea pigs don't have tales.

Guinea pigs make great pets because they are awake during the day, like to be held and tend not to bite.

WORD SEARCH  
Can you find the hidden words? Search carefully because some words are backward or diagonal.

AMERICA	SOCIAL	CAVY
MAMMAL	INCAN	PUPS
RODENT	WOOD	BOB
TAILLESS	GNAW	PETS
GREENS	SOUTH	PIGS
GUINEA	TEETH	FUR
A L B E R T E I N S T E I		
N O S E Y I N C A N E U P		
P U P P S D S U M M E R C I		
E D P O E M T A E W A N G		
A R O C K L M G R E E N S		
A W E I A M L O I P N F S		
A R F A A V D I C P I U G		
S E A L C E Y T A E U R B		
S H O W N H T E E T G O P		
S O U T H A T A P S B O P		

ANSWERS: 1. Rope is missing 2. Spike is missing 3. Chin is different 4. Mouth is different 5. Letter is missing 6. Hand is moved

Answers: 1. Rope is missing 2. Spike is missing 3. Chin is different 4. Mouth is different 5. Letter is missing 6. Hand is moved

Email us at: info.jeffreyharris@gmail.com

View past issues at: www.shortcutscomic.com

© Jeff Harris 2006 11/9 Dist. by Andrews McMeel for UFS

THE JOPLIN  
GLOBE

NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION  
**TOP SPONSORS**

To support newspapers in our local classrooms, call 417-627-7288 or email nie@joplinglobe.com

**TAMKO**  
BUILDING PRODUCTS LLC



Robert S. Thurman Post 13

LAZENBY EYECARE  
A MEMBER OF *VISUAL SOURCE*

**Brilliant**  
CLEANING & RESTORATION

**WHATABURGER**

**LEGACY**  
CREDIT UNION

**CB**  
COURTNEY BECK  
Accounting & Tax

**EMPATHI**

**SMB**  
Southwest Missouri Bank

**Habitat for Humanity ReStore**

**Independent Living**

**25<sup>th</sup> fosteradopt connect**

**COMMERCIAL**  
Gutters & Metal

**MUSKET ROOFING**  
417.402.7663  
COMMERCIAL • METAL • RESIDENTIAL  
MUSKETROOF.COM  
HICKORY • PARKERSON • OLAKEHOMA • KANSAS