

SMART FUN FOR COOL KIDS

Kid Scoop News[®]

MAY 2022

ALLIGATORS AND CROCODILES

Our handy guide tells you the difference between an alligator and a crocodile. But don't get close, these creatures can move faster than you might imagine.

SUNBURNS!

Summertime is no fun if you have a sunburn. Discover what happens when you burn your skin and what you must do to avoid it.

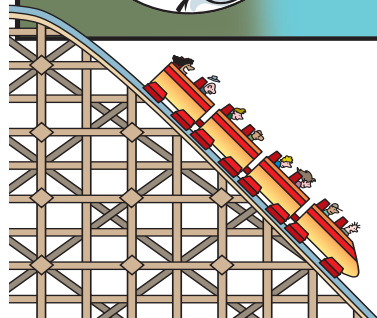
How many moths can you find flying around in this swamp?



AMUSEMENT PARK VACATION

In anticipation of a fun summer vacation, our feature is packed with "amusing" games and puzzles.

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Kid Scoop News
belongs to:



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Kids Bring Hope and Healing with Art ... and a Phone Call

Peptoc is a helpline phone number created by students in Healdsburg, Calif. set up to help people during stressful times. When people call they can get some positive advice, or just listen to children laughing!



Peptoc started when Jessica Martin, the Lead Teaching Artist at

West Side School in Healdsburg and visiting artist, Asherah Weiss, asked students to create fliers that would offer people in their community advice and hopeful thoughts.

"Children and adults alike are feeling a lot of stress these days," said Martin. "Everyone is feeling a lot of grief from the last few years."

Martin and Weiss wanted to give children a chance to use art to make people feel better. And it's really working!



Friendly Fliers

The students first made fliers with little messages of hope that could be torn off and kept for those moments when someone needs a little "pep talk."

The fliers were popular. Then they came up with another idea to try — a telephone helpline.

The helpline launched on February 26, 2022. In the first three days, the minutes they had paid for maxxed out. On the next Wednesday, they had 800 calls in one hour. It's expensive to have a hotline that now gets almost a million calls a day, so they are now raising money to keep it going!

It's back up and at this point, thousands of callers have dialed in to be cheered up. There are tens of thousands of articles about the project online. Calls from reporters are coming in daily.

And if you are feeling sad or angry or scared or frustrated, give Peptoc a call!

You Can Help: Make fliers with hopeful messages and post them around your school and community!

To reach Peptoc, call **707-8PEPTOC**. Then choose the help you want!

If you are feeling mad, frustrated, or nervous, **press 1**.

If you need words of encouragement or advice, **press 2**.

If you need a pep talk from kindergartners, **press 3**.

If you need to hear kids laughing with delight, **press 4**.

For encouragement in Spanish, **press 5**.

Some advice from Healdsburg Students:

- Be grateful for yourself.
- The world is a better place with you in it.
- Try it again.
- Feeling mad? You can always go to your bedroom, punch your pillow or cry on it and just go scream outside.
- If you are mad or frustrated you can do what you want to do best or you can do flips on the trampoline.

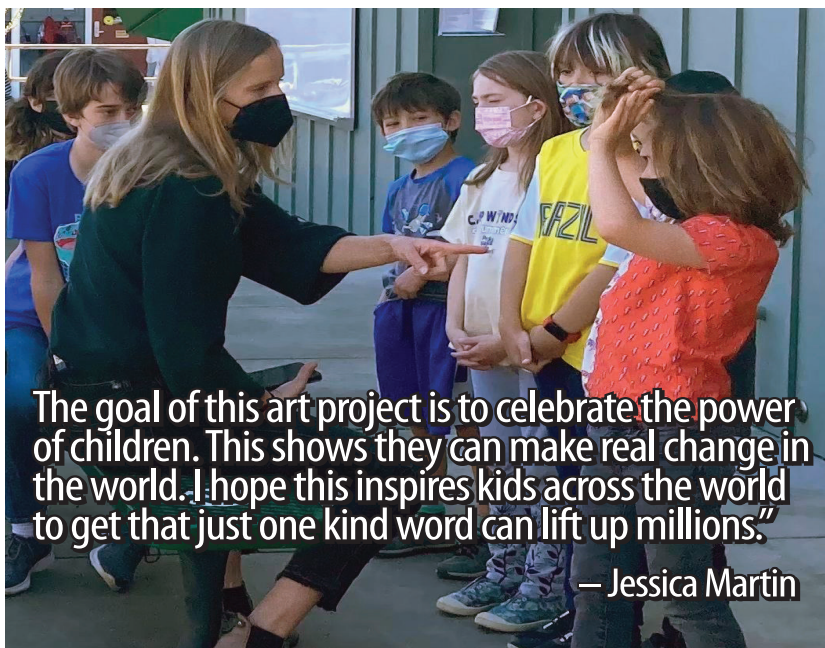
What advice would you give?



The goal of this art project is to celebrate the power of children. This shows they can make real change in the world. I hope this inspires kids across the world to get that just one kind word can lift up millions."

— Jessica Martin

Photos: Jessica Martin/West Side School





Laughter Around the World

Did you know that it takes more muscles to frown than it does to smile?

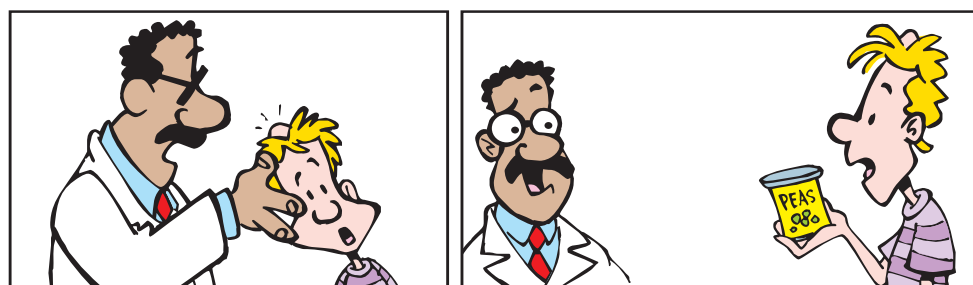


So, smile and the whole world smiles with you!



Just What the Doctor Ordered

Doctors even tell us that laughter can help sick people heal more quickly. All in all, a smile is very powerful.



Cut out the word balloons below and paste them in the correct order on the comic strip above.

They were still in the can!

How did you get this bump on your head?

How could some little peas hurt you?

I got hit by some peas.

Standards Link: Health: Identify activities and actions that promote or enhance emotional health.

Laughter! The Universal Language!

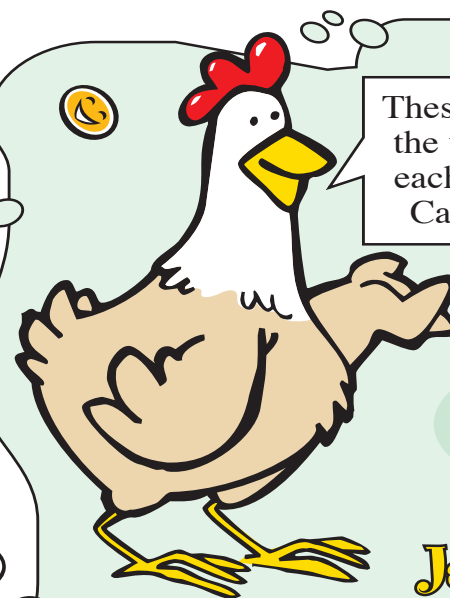
There are jokes from all over the world. What can you learn about people by reading their jokes? Draw your own comic strip using this joke from Martinique.

Do you want a cookie, Pierre?



Pierre! Do you want a cookie? Why must I ask you twice?

Because I want TWO cookies!



These jokes are from all over the world and the answer to each joke is the same thing. Can you guess what it is?

Spain

What is a small, white chest that all know how to open and nobody knows how to close?

Jamaica

What is more useful when it is broken?

Peru

In a pot there are two kinds of food. What is it?

Zambia

What is an entire little house without a door?

Malawi

I have built my house without any door. What is it?

Afghanistan

In a bowl of china fixed, two liquids with colors unmixed. What is it?

Have you figured out the answer? If not, color all the boxes with odd numbers. Read the letters that are left and you will know the answer.

2	7	9	6	5	8	4	3	2
A	H	T	N	W	E	G	P	G

Standards Link: Social Science: Compare life in different places and recognize that some aspects of cultures are similar.

Comedy Cafe

How many silly things can you circle in this picture?



How many smiles can you find on these pages?

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Kid Scoop® Puzzler

Why does a crane raise one leg when he stands in the water?

Put the words in the right order to discover the answer to this joke from Poland.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

OPEN
CRANE
SMILE
LAUGHTER
FOOD
JOKES
WORLD
QUICKLY
GUESS
ORDER
PEOPLE
SILLY
FUN
LEARN

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

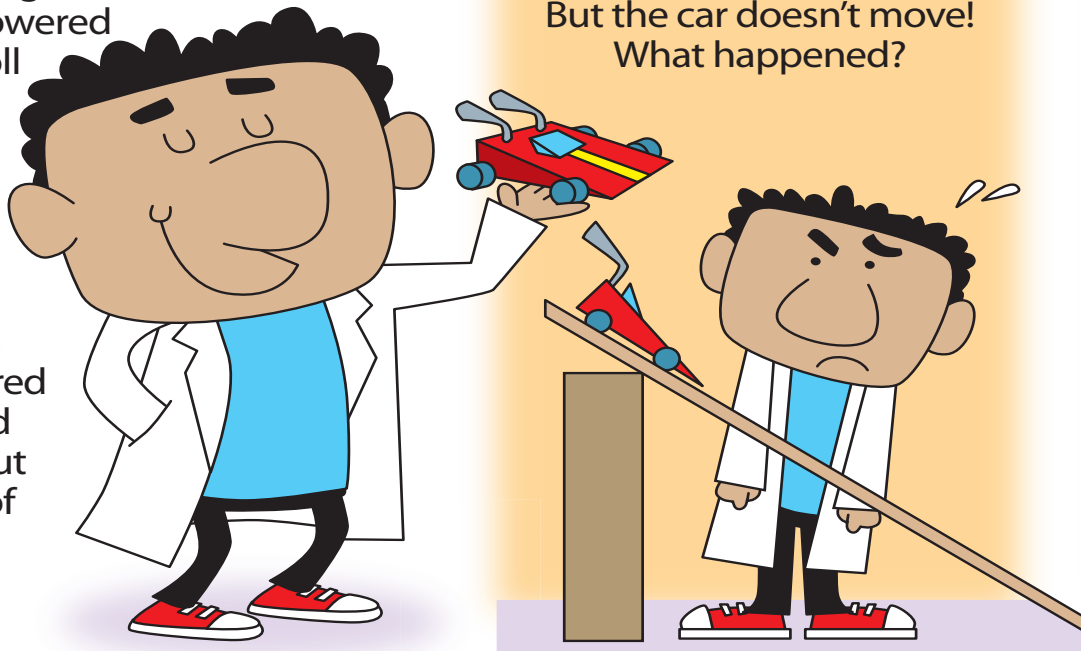
W	O	D	O	O	F	E	R	A	W
Y	C	P	T	V	L	D	A	C	V
L	O	Q	E	I	A	O	E	R	N
K	R	M	M	N	U	Y	L	A	R
C	D	S	P	S	G	L	P	N	A
I	E	A	S	Z	H	L	O	E	E
U	R	E	W	C	T	I	E	N	L
Q	U	J	O	K	E	S	P	U	U
G	B	F	D	L	R	O	W	F	Q

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

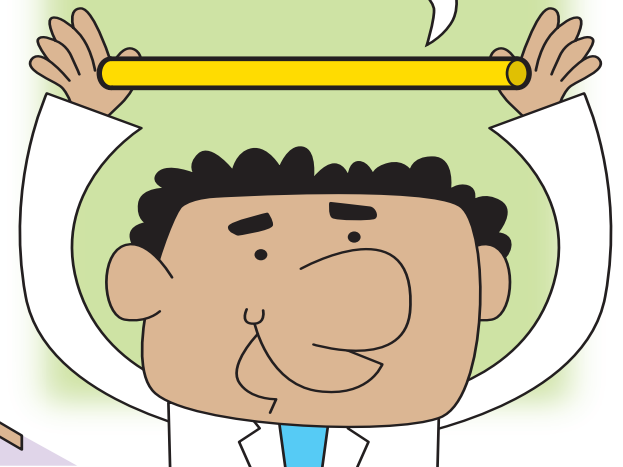
AS THE AXLE TURNS

When making a gravity-powered car that will roll quickly down a ramp, you usually add wheels to the vehicle.

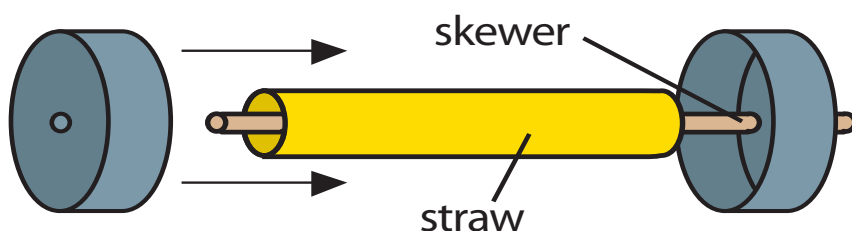
Gerry built his gravity-powered racecar, added wheels and put it on the top of the ramp.



Oh, man! I glued the wheels to the side of my car and they can't move.
An axle will solve this problem!

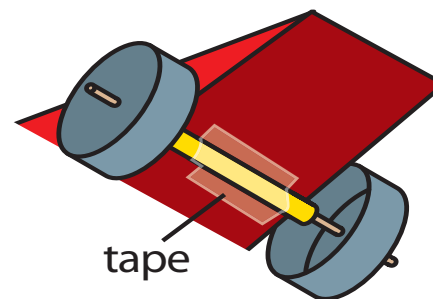


An **axle** is a long cylinder, or rod, that runs through the car to connect the wheels.



Gerry uses a straw and a skewer to make an axle for his gravity-powered racecar!

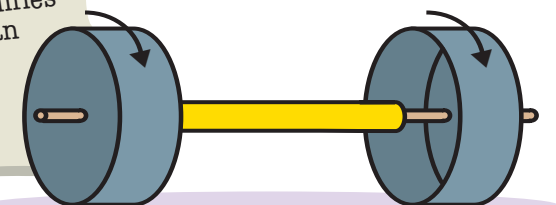
The inside of the straw has low friction, so the skewer can spin easily as gravity pulls the car downward and the tires spin.



Gerry used tape to attach the axle to the underside of the car.

Wheel: a round tool that simplifies work by rotating. They need an axle to work efficiently.

Axle: a rod or bar that runs through a hole in a wheel.



THE RED PLANET

Long ago, people marveled at a light in the sky that was different from the others. It glowed reddish orange. The ancient Romans named this light Mars, their god of war.

Standards Link: Earth Science: Students know there are planets that orbit the sun.

How old would you be on Mars?

The time it takes a planet to orbit the sun is called a year. The Earth takes 365 days to orbit the sun, making our year 365 days long.

Mars is farther away from the sun and it takes longer to orbit. A Martian year is 687 days long.

Here's how to figure out how old you would be on Mars:

- 1** Multiply your age in years by 365. This will tell you how many days old you are.
- 2** Divide that number by 687 days. That will tell you how many Martian years old you are!

Standards Link: Number Sense: Students solve problems involving multiplication and division of whole numbers.

The Grandest Canyon of All

An enormous canyon near Mars' equator stretches one quarter of the way around the planet. Some people call it the Grand Canyon of Mars, after Earth's famous canyon in Arizona. Its real name is **Valles Marineris**. If Valles Marineris started in Los Angeles, California, where would it end? To find out, follow the maze!

Standards Link: Earth Science: Students know there are similarities and differences among the planets.

LOS ANGELES

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NEW ORLEANS

LAS VEGAS

Amaze your friends! Stump your teachers!

Be a Mars Expert!

Use the code to find out amazing facts about Mars!

How Big Is Mars?

If Earth was the size of a baseball, Mars would be about the size of a
4873 2977.

Why Is Mars Red?

It is covered with reddish
1★56 and rock.

MARTIAN CODE:

9 = A	3 = F	8 = O	★ = U
2 = B	4 = G	5 = S	● = V
1 = D	7 = L	6 = T	■ = Z

Out Of This World Volcano!

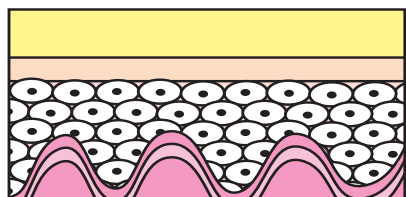
The largest volcano in the solar system is on Mars. It is called **Olympus Mons**. It rises 17 miles (27 km) above the surrounding land—that's three times higher than Mt. Everest, Earth's tallest mountain. If Olympus Mons was on Earth, its base would cover the entire state of Washington and nearly half of Oregon.

SUNBURNS!

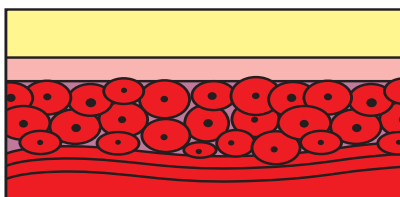
OUCH! Hot fun in the summertime can be painful! Too much fun in the sun can burn your skin.

How does the sun burn skin?

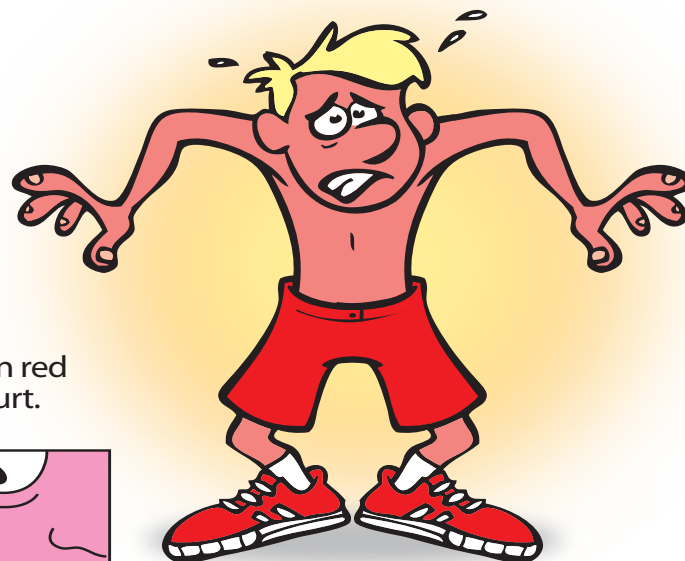
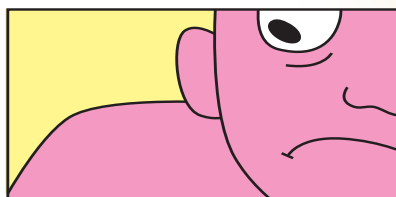
Normal skin cells.



Cells that get too much sunlight swell and fill with blood.



This turns the skin red and makes it hurt.



Find: • banana • watermelon • moon • dolphin • car
• bat • bowling ball • crocodile • ice cream • octopus

To burn or not to burn?

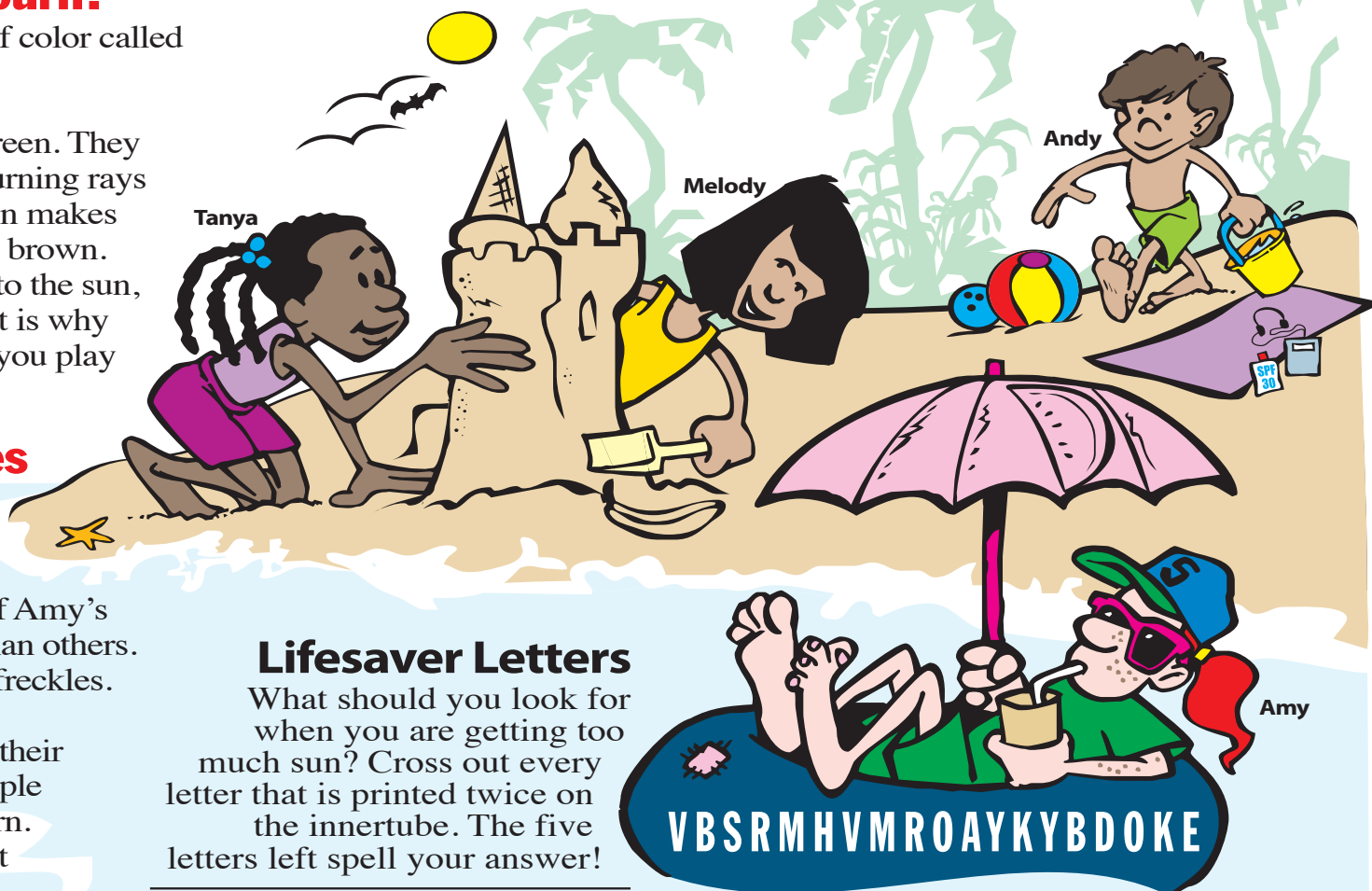
Everybody has tiny grains of color called **melanin** in their skin.

Melanin grains are like a screen. They protect the body from the burning rays of sunlight. Everybody's skin makes melanin. Melanin grains are brown. When your skin is exposed to the sun, it makes more melanin. That is why your skin gets darker when you play in the sunshine.

Different skin types

Tanya has a lot of melanin in her skin. Andy and Melody have a little. Amy has very little. Some parts of Amy's body make more melanin than others. These dark spots are called freckles.

Everybody needs to protect their skin from the sun. Even people with lots of melanin will burn. Their skin won't burn as fast as Amy's, but it will burn.



Lifesaver Letters

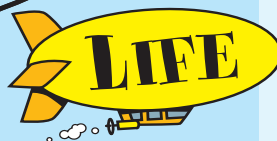
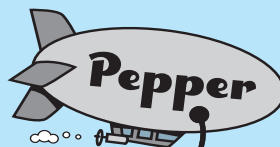
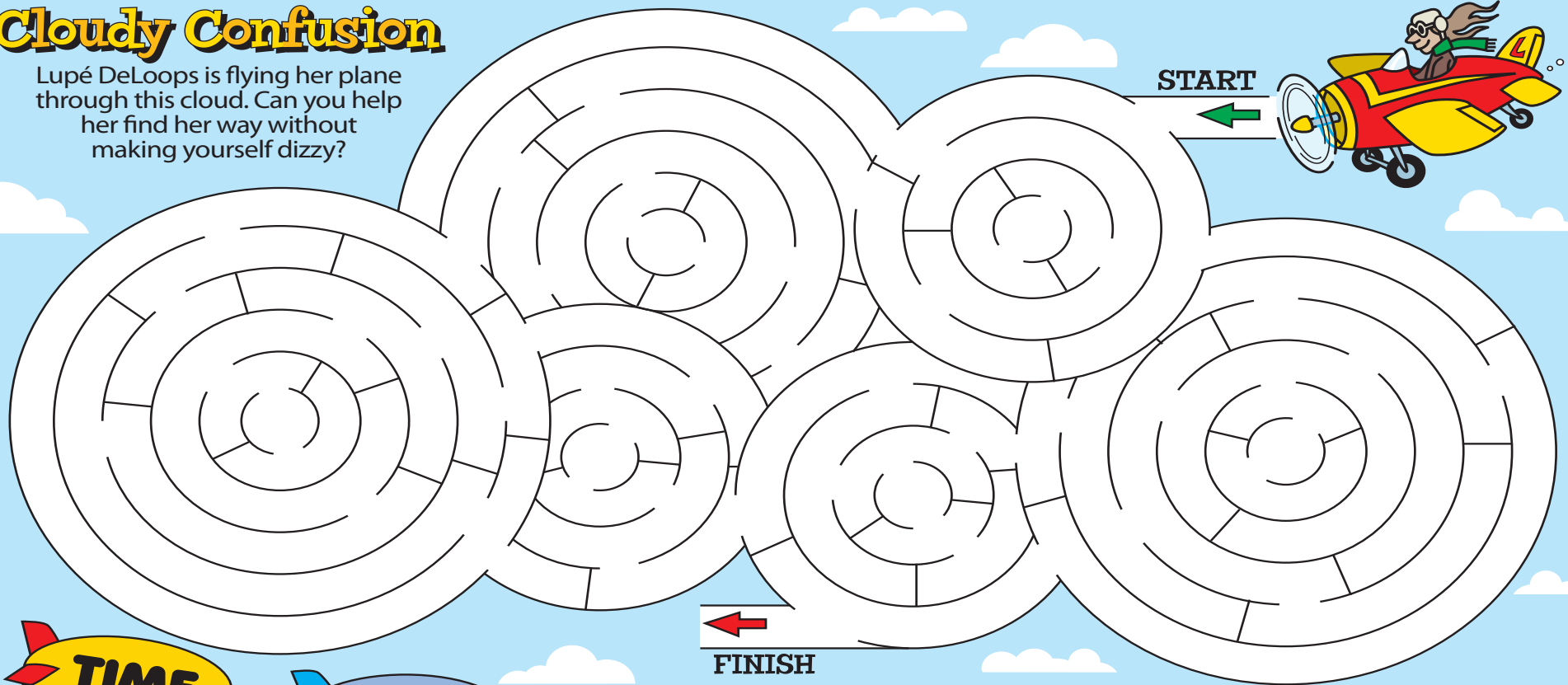
What should you look for when you are getting too much sun? Cross out every letter that is printed twice on the innertube. The five letters left spell your answer!

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple directions; identify common sight words.

VBSRMHVMROAYKYBDOKE

Cloudy Confusion

Lupé DeLoops is flying her plane through this cloud. Can you help her find her way without making yourself dizzy?



Standards Link: Spelling:
Spell grade-level words correctly.



What bird is good at making bread?

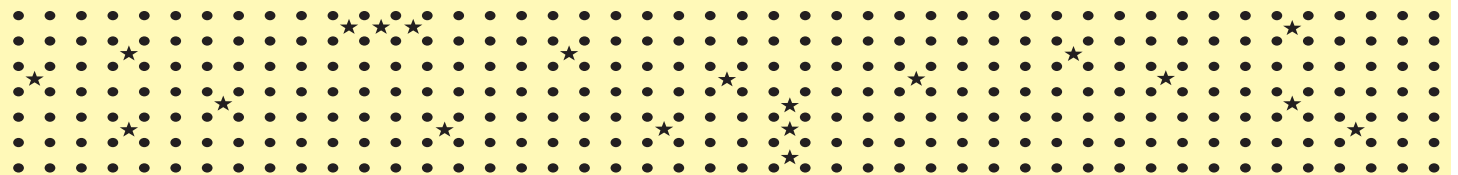
Circle every third letter. Then write the circled letters on these spaces to reveal the punchline to this riddle.

A _ _ _ _ _

RTA WBDJSONM
UTPGWAHZFDK
LOMPUVWGELH

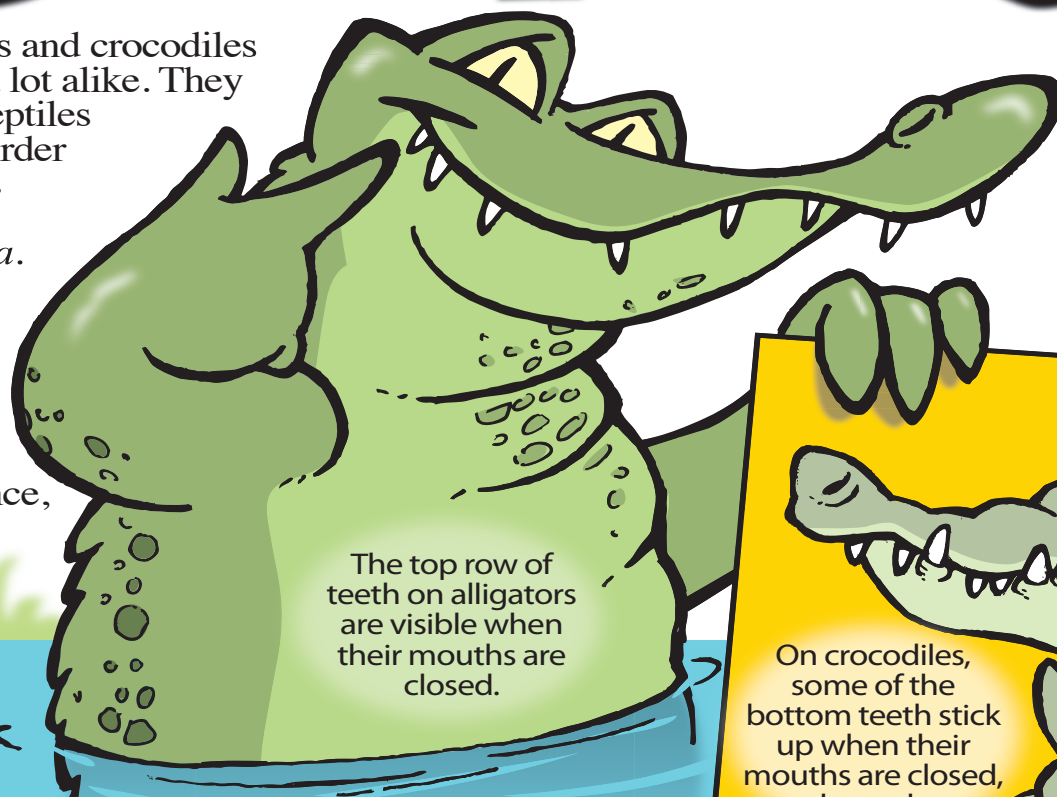
Standards Link: Reading Comprehension:
Follow simple written directions.

Grab a red crayon and give a blue crayon to a friend. Take turns drawing a line between two dots. If you draw the line that encloses a box, you get **ONE POINT**. If there's a star in the box, you get **THREE POINTS**.



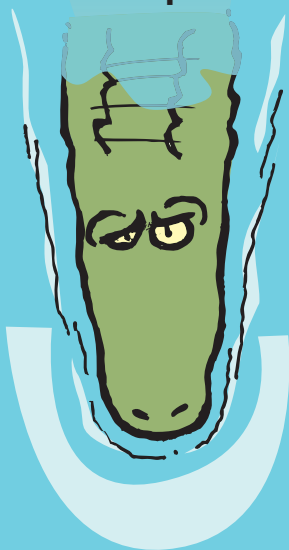
GATORS and CROCS

Alligators and crocodiles look a lot alike. They are both reptiles from the order of animals named *Crocodylia*. But there are ways to tell them apart — from a safe distance, of course!



The top row of teeth on alligators are visible when their mouths are closed.

From above, an alligator's snout is U-shaped.



A crocodile's snout is V-shaped.



Don't bother trying to outrun a crocodile or an alligator. They have a swimming speed of 20 miles per hour and a running speed of 11 miles per hour for short distances.

Dangerous Neighbors

They're potentially dangerous animals to humans. And they're carnivores so they will catch and eat almost any creature. They don't chew and swallow, they just tear off chunks and swallow whole.

But humans are also dangerous to these creatures.

Habitat destruction and over-hunting have made these ancient reptiles endangered species.



On crocodiles, some of the bottom teeth stick up when their mouths are closed, as shown here.

Crocodiles swallow stones to help them digest their food.

That rocks!

How do alligators and crocodiles sweat?

TSHNERYP SDWMEJ
ADTHTVHFRGOHUS
GQHP TSHBEMIKRS
M TOPULTWHVSC

Circle every other letter for the surprising answer!

Standards Link: Life Science: Animals have different features that help them survive in different environments.




Pool of Facts



Use the secret code!

The largest recorded alligator:

 feet long.

The largest recorded crocodile:  feet long.

Alligators have  to  teeth. They grow new ones to replace broken teeth. One alligator can have as many as  teeth in a lifetime!

Crocs can stay underwater for  to  minutes. They close their nostrils when they swim underwater.

SECRET CODE

	= 0		= 4		= 7
	= 1		= 5		= 8
	= 2		= 6		= 9

Standards Link: Life Science: Animals have different features that help them survive in different environments.

What do you call
an alligator
in a vest?



ANSWER:
An investigator!

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An American Original

The American alligator is the largest reptile in North America and has been here since the time of the dinosaurs—over 80 million years ago and it still looks the same.

Unscramble the letters to reveal the names of the two U.S. states where most American alligators live.

IOLASUANI
ODARLIF

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

CROCODILE
ALLIGATOR
NOSTRILS
SWALLOW
ANCIENT
DIGEST
REVEAL
RHYMES
SWEAT
ROCKS
SPEED
HAIKU
TEETH
CHEW
SAFE

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

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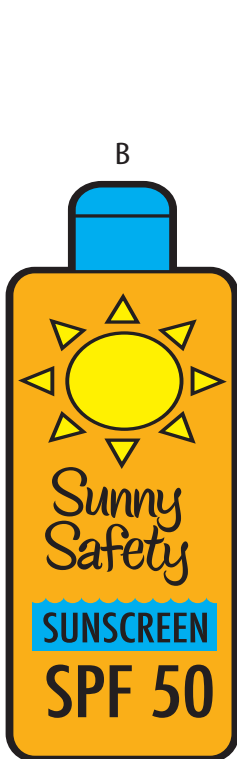
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Which two bottles of sunscreen are exactly the same?



A



B



C



D



E



F



G

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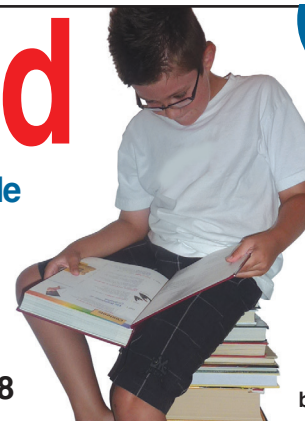
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Written in 1876, this book about a young boy growing up along the Mississippi River is full of adventure, mischief, wit and wisdom.

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

by Mark Twain

Whoops! Tom's friends whitewashed over some of the words. Find where each word belongs.

FIGHT
TROUBLE
BORING
FIGURES
QUALITIES

Tom is full of fun, adventure and imagination. Sometimes these _____ are useful and sometimes they get him in _____.

One day, he plays hooky from school and gets his clothes dirty in a _____. As punishment, Tom has to whitewash a fence. Tom soon _____ out how to trick his friends into whitewashing the fence for him by making the _____ job seem like a lot of fun!

Tom and Becky

In the book, Tom falls for the new girl in town, Becky Thatcher. He talks her into getting "engaged" to him. At first she likes the idea and agrees. But then, something happens to change her mind.

Replace the missing vowels to find out why Becky ended her "engagement" to Tom.

T_m h_s b_ _n
" _ng_ g_d" t_ _n_th_r
g_rl n_m_d Amy.

Unscramble the letters to discover what Tom gave Becky as an engagement gift.

D _____ B
K O X O R X O N

School Scramble

Schoolmaster Dobbins challenged Tom to spell every state in the union. What was Tom's answer?

To find out, write the letter of the alphabet that comes before each letter below.

F W F S Z T U B U F

J O U I F

V O J P O

Design a pirate flag for Tom Sawyer.



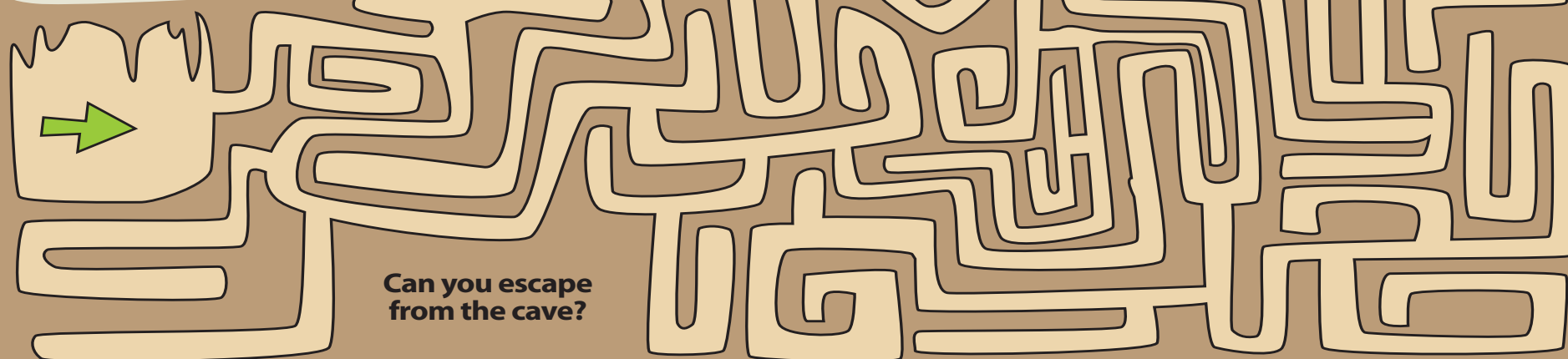
Playing Pirate

Tom and his friend Huck and Joe run away to an island to become pirates. They stay away so long that the townspeople think they have drowned in the river. Imagine the surprise and joy when the boys show up at their own funerals!

Standards Link: Visual Arts: Know how subject matter, symbols and ideas are used to communicate meaning.

Lost!

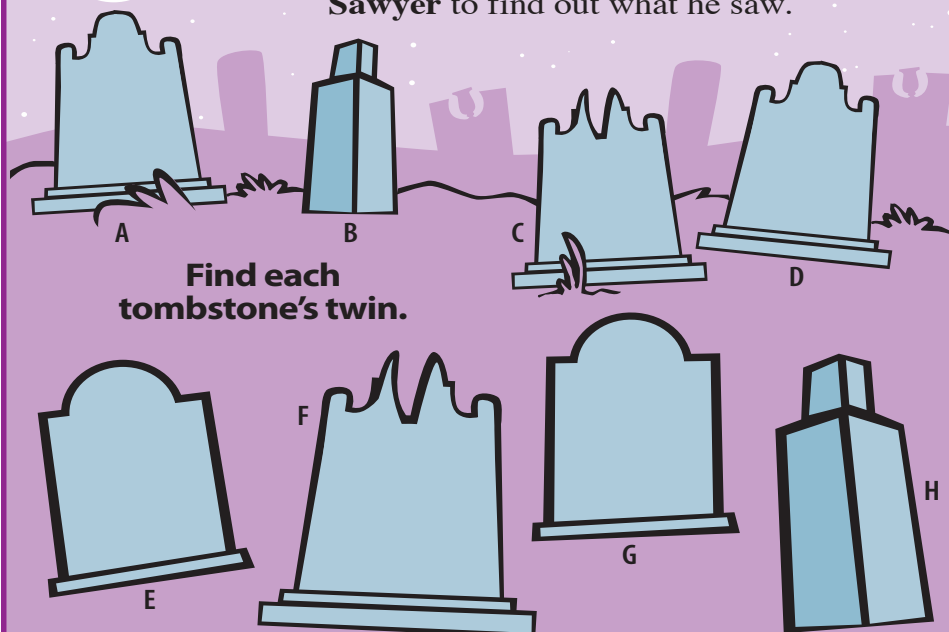
Tom and Becky go on a picnic to McDougal's Cave with their classmates. Tom and Becky get lost in the cave. They run out of food and candles and, if that is not bad enough, they run into a murderer who is using the cave as a hideout.



Can you escape
from the cave?

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Tom witnesses a horrible crime one night in a graveyard. Read **The Adventures of Tom Sawyer** to find out what he saw.



Standards Link: Investigation: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

Double Double Word Search

ADVENTURES
THATCHER
ENGAGED
WHITEWASH
HOOKY
PIRATE
ESCAPE
CRIME
WITNESSES
CAVE
BECKY
TOM
DOBBINS
UNION
SKIP






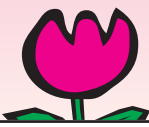
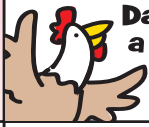



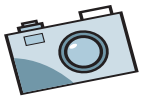







Find the words by looking up,
down, backwards, forwards,
sideways and diagonally.

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Kid Scoop ACTIVITY CALENDAR

MAY 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <input type="checkbox"/> Celebrated around the world, this day marks a celebration of spring and the coming of summer. May Day	2 <input type="checkbox"/> Tell your sibling how much you care for them. If you don't have a brother or sister, choose someone who could be your pretend sibling. Brothers and Sisters Day	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Take time today to honor your teacher and show how much you appreciate all their hard work. National Teachers Day	4 <input type="checkbox"/>  Children's Book Week Celebrate the joy of reading. Children's Book Week	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Make red, white and green paper chains and decorate your room.  Cinco de Mayo	6 <input type="checkbox"/>  Clean your bicycle today and make sure it is in good condition. Check your helmet, too. Bike Month	7 <input type="checkbox"/>  Visit a pet shelter this week and spread a little kindness. Be Kind to Animals Week
8 <input type="checkbox"/> Make a special homemade gift for your mom or another special lady. Draw her portrait and give her this perfect gift. Mother's Day	9 <input type="checkbox"/> Write a poem about lost socks. Where do they go? How will they ever find their way back to their match? Lost Sock Memorial Day	10 <input type="checkbox"/> The first newspaper cartoon was published in 1754. See if you can make a copy of a newspaper cartoon character.	11 <input type="checkbox"/>  Thank your school nurse today and give her a token of your gratitude. National School Nurse Day	12 <input type="checkbox"/> Compose a limerick today. Five lines, the last words of the 1st, 2nd and 5th lines rhyme, and the 3rd and 4th are a separate rhyme.	13 <input type="checkbox"/> Can you draw a cross section of a tulip? Label the different parts of a tulip. Tulip Day 	14 <input type="checkbox"/> Put your thumbs in your armpits and "flap your wings."  Dance Like a Chicken Day
15 <input type="checkbox"/> Go for a hike today in the countryside. Wear good, sturdy shoes and make sure to take some water. 	16 <input type="checkbox"/>  Using a black marker, draw an alien. Now exchange your drawing with a friend to color in the drawing.	17 <input type="checkbox"/> Take a jump rope outside and skip as fast as you can for ten minutes and then slowly for another ten minutes. 	18 <input type="checkbox"/> Museums are important places. Gather your family and visit a museum today. International Museum Day	19 <input type="checkbox"/>  Celebrate by finding a good photograph and describe why you chose it. National Photo Month	20 <input type="checkbox"/> On this day in 1927, Charles Lindbergh flew alone across the Atlantic to Paris. Find out the name of his plane and quiz a friend.	21 <input type="checkbox"/> The American Red Cross was founded on this day in 1881. Check your first aid supplies and make sure they are up to date.
22 <input type="checkbox"/> Play a musical instrument today. If you don't own one, invent your own. 	23 <input type="checkbox"/>  Start to collect loose change today in a jar. It's amazing how much you'll save if you add a little each day.	24 <input type="checkbox"/> Invent a code and use it for the answer to a joke. Give your code to a friend to see if they can figure it out.	25 <input type="checkbox"/> Put on some music and get everyone dancing. Dancing is great exercise so keep it up for 20 minutes at least.	26 <input type="checkbox"/> List three reasons why a good night's sleep is important. Better Sleep Month 	27 <input type="checkbox"/> Ask your parents if you can take over a section of the garden. Dig it over and plant some flowers, vegetables or seeds. 	28 <input type="checkbox"/> Start a science experiment today such as growing a crystal. Follow the scientific method: question, hypothesis, method, data, observation and conclusion.
29 <input type="checkbox"/> Invent a dessert using fresh fruit and a little ice cream or frozen yoghurt. Share it with your family at dinner tonight. 	30 <input type="checkbox"/>  This is the day to remember those who gave their lives for freedom and country. Memorial Day	31 <input type="checkbox"/>  Get a large sheet of paper and a crayon and make a rubbing today—from a coin, or any indented surface you can find.	Tick the box on each day when you have completed 20 minutes of reading. Children who develop a love of reading will become better students and build a better future. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

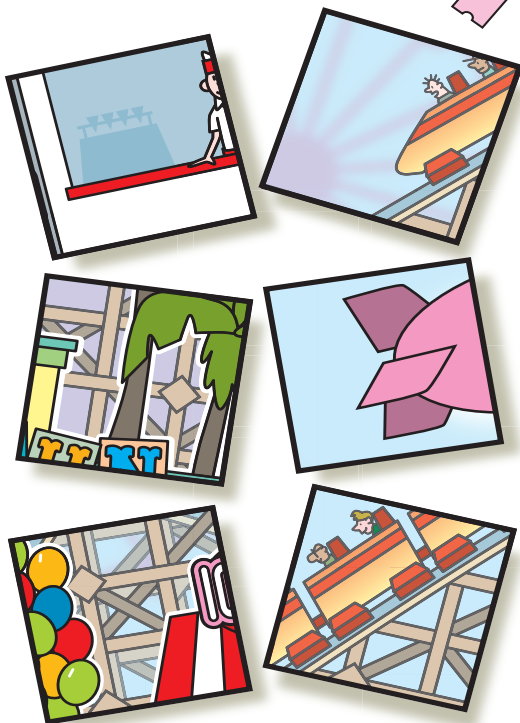
How many flowers can you count on this page? Have a friend try. Who found more?

Amusement Park Vacation

Can't make it to a real amusement park this summer? *Kid Scoop News* brings the amusement park to YOU.

Amusing Photos

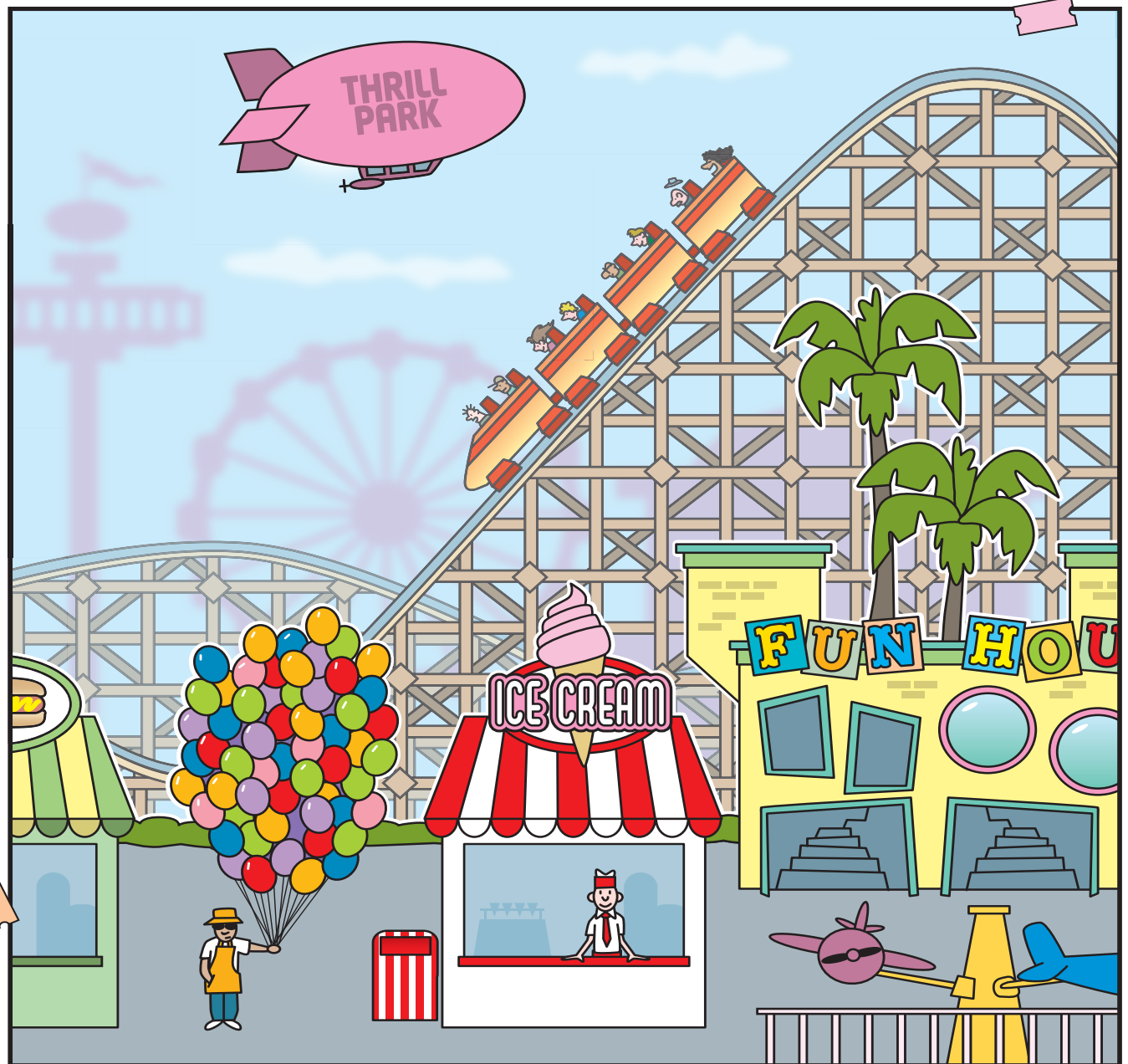
Luna de Loop has enjoyed herself at the amusement park and has taken lots of photos! Look at each photo below. Can you draw a square on the big picture at right where each photo was taken?



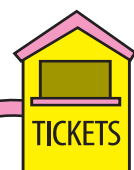
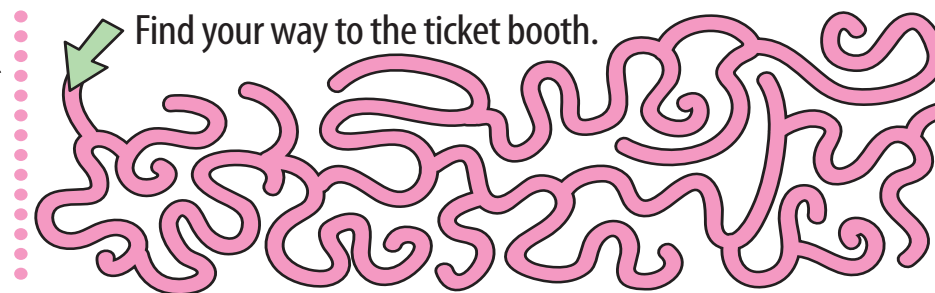
What is a Dyrehavsbakken?

This is the name of the world's first and oldest operating amusement park. It opened in 1583 in Denmark. But just what does **Dyrehavsbakken** mean? Hold this page up to a mirror to discover the answer.

The name translates
"The Animal Park's Hill"



Find your way to the ticket booth.



How many tickets can you find on these pages in two minutes?

Preschool Story Time!



LUDINGTON
Wednesday 10 am
SCOTTVILLE Friday 10 am

Indoor Service & Curbside

9:00 am to 6:00 pm Mon-Fri
Until 8:00 pm Wed
9:00 am to 1:00 pm Saturday

Librarians Shop the Shelves!

Library staff will be happy to choose books and DVDs for you to enjoy. Simply fill out the form on our website, <http://www.masoncounty.lib.mi.us/librarians-shop-the-shelves/>, click "submit", or email to reservations@mcdlibrary.org, and we will inform you when your items are ready for check-out. You can contact the Mason County District Library by phone, 231-843-8465 Ludington and 231-757-2588 Scottville, email circulation@mcdlibrary.org, text 231-244-1128, or Facebook.

TUMBLEBOOKS

for Children and Teens (and adults)

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SUMMER READING
PROGRAM
JUNE 10-AUG 26

Mason County District Library

217 E. Ludington Avenue, Ludington 231-843-8465 www.MCDLibrary.org 204 E. State Street, Scottville 231-757-2588

LEARNING TIP OF THE MONTH

Grow a Citizen

5 Ways to Teach Your Child About Democracy

A democracy is a government run by the people. Each citizen has a say (or vote) in how the government is run. This is different from a monarchy or dictatorship where one person (the king or dictator) has all the power.

Start early talking to your children about democracy and the importance of participating!

1. Take your child with you when you vote and talk about why you've chosen to vote for particular candidates.
2. As a family, write a letter to an elected official. Talk about something your family cares about and let your elected representative know. Explain that elected officials *represent* the people.
3. Explain to your child what it means to be elected.
4. Encourage children to ask questions and share their views even when they might disagree with yours.
5. Talk about examples of democracy in action.
6. Read and discuss books about voting, democracy, freedom of speech and citizenship.

KIDS—SHARE THIS PAGE WITH YOUR PARENTS.

Celebrate Memorial Day

Memorial Day is about remembering those who gave their lives defending democracy, America, and other free nations in wartime.

Create A Sign of Respect

Make a large sign saying, "WE ARE THANKFUL" and display it in a window facing the street where passersby will see it.

Perhaps some of those people who pass by and see the sign will be people who have served in the Armed Forces and fought to protect democracy.

Let them know you appreciate their service and dedication to keep our way of life safe and secure.



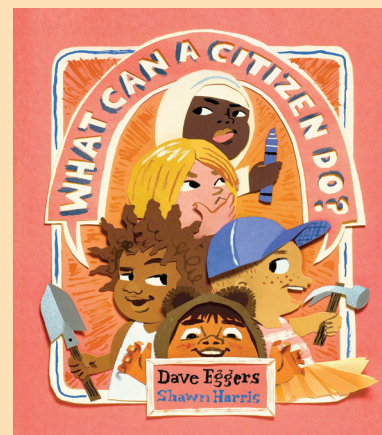
EDITOR'S PICK by Vicki Whiting, Kid Scoop News

What Can a Citizen Do?

By Dave Eggers Illustrated by Shawn Harris



With beautiful illustrations and rhyming text, this is a book about what citizenship — good citizenship — means. Across the course of several seemingly unrelated but ultimately connected actions by different children, we watch how kids turn a lonely island into a community — and watch a journey from what the world should be to what the world could be.



"[This] charming book provides examples and sends the message that citizens aren't born but are made by actions taken to help others and the world they live in."
—The Washington Post

"Obligatory reading for future informed citizens."
—The New York Times

Vicki