

ANIMAL NEWS

SIPHONO-WHAT?

If you think this is a bit of string floating in water, think again! It could actually be the longest animal ever recorded. This is a siphonophore (“sigh-fon-o-fore”) – a long, stringy, stingy creature related to jellyfish. It was discovered by scientists exploring the deep sea off the coast of Australia. It’s thought to be around 150 feet long (46 metres), which would make it three times as long as a humpback whale.



FLAMINGO FRIENDS

New research has shown that flamingos are friendly and loyal birds. Scientists from Exeter University studied four flamingo flocks for four years. They found that, even though they live in giant flocks of up to two million, flamingos have buddies! They make small friendship groups, and help each other with feeding and nesting.

THE SMELL OF LOVE

Male ring-tailed lemurs like to smell nice for the girls! A new study has shown that when males want to impress the females, they release a fruity-smelling perfume from a patch on their wrists. They then rub their tails against the patch and wave their tails around so that females can get a good whiff of their “perfume”! The behaviour is known as “stink flirting”. Yes, really.



Questions on: 'Animal news'

1) Which **three** animals are in the news this week?

- flamingo gibbon pipefish
 siphonophore lemur emu

Look at the story 'Siphono-what?'

2) This strange creature is related to which other sea creature?

3) Where are you likely to find it?

- In tropical seas In the deep ocean In rock pools

4) "a long, stringy, stingy creature"

Why do you think the writer chose these words to describe the animal?

Look at the story 'Flamingo friends'.

5) Use information from the story to answer these questions:

Why are flamingos a bit like humans?

Why are flamingos different to humans?

Look at the story 'The smell of love'.

6) How do the male lemurs impress the females?
What are the three steps?

- Step 1
 Step 2
 Step 3

7) Can you find **two** adjectives (describing words) that are made by combining two words?

_____ - _____
 _____ - _____

What is each adjective describing?

Consider all the stories.

8) Imagine you are a scientist. Which of these animals would you like to know more about? What would you like to investigate?

My chosen creature:
 I would like to know:

CRAZY BUT TRUE

TOILET ROLL ART

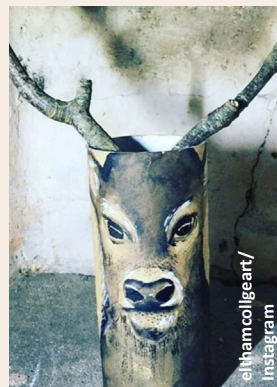
A GALLERY owner who challenged people to make art out of toilet roll tubes has been overwhelmed by the number of entries.

Sarah Whittle runs Pinkfoot Gallery in Norfolk. The gallery has had to close because of the lockdown, but a few weeks ago Sarah asked people to paint or decorate a loo roll and send her a picture.

The response has been astonishing. Sarah told the BBC: "We didn't expect it to go quite so bonkers! I think every single one is incredible."

"When people are at school everyone paints and draws, then as they get older life takes over, but people love painting and everyone has words to express, pictures to paint."

"They haven't always had the time but now they have".



DON'T WIPE YOUR BUM WITH THIS!

TOILET rolls seem to have become a symbol of the coronavirus pandemic around the world. In Finland, a bakery has created toilet roll cakes!

Saana Lampinen, the owner of the bakery, explained that in March the bakery was at risk of closing. All their orders had been cancelled because of the coronavirus.

But, in a moment of inspiration, they came up with the idea of a loo paper cake! It is made out of oat batter, passion fruit mousse and white fondant icing. The crazy cake has been such a hit, they have had to employ two more people to keep up with the orders!



Questions on: 'Crazy but True'

1) What links these two news stories? Choose all correct options.

- toilet rolls food the coronavirus outbreak
 the BBC creative ideas Finland

2) Fill in the gaps.

Sarah Whittley runs a _____ in _____.

Saana Lampinen runs a _____ in _____.

Look at the story 'Don't wipe your bum with this!'

3) Why did Saana's bakery almost close in March?

4) What type of batter, mousse and icing are in the cake?

_____ batter
_____ mousse
_____ icing

5) In March, Saana's business almost closed. How is it doing now?

Look at the story 'Toilet roll art'.

6) Which sentence tells you Sarah was surprised by the number of people who sent in artwork?

7) Which of the options below explain Sarah's opinions correctly?

- At school, all children do junk modelling.
 Adults often stop painting and drawing, even though they like it.
 The lockdown has given people the time to be creative.
 Children like painting more than adults.

8) Look at the photos. What have people turned toilet roll tubes into?

How would you decorate a toilet roll tube, if you were going to try Sarah's challenge?

BIG NEWS

MOORE AND MORE AND MORE MONEY RAISED!

WHEN 99-year-old Captain Tom Moore decided to try to raise £1,000 for the NHS by walking round his garden, he could never have imagined that he would end up raising over £26 million!

Captain Tom – as he is now known to millions of people – thought he'd raise some money to help the doctors and nurses who are working so hard in the NHS.

The World War Two soldier set himself a goal of walking 100 lengths of his garden before he turned 100. This was no small challenge for someone of his age, especially as he has to hold on to a frame as he walks.

News of his project spread. People were so touched by his kind gesture and determination that money flooded in. Celebrities and stars chipped in and he has so far raised over £26 million!

He completed his challenge on Thursday 16th April, 14 days before his 100th birthday on 30th April. The prime minister is now looking at a way to honour him.

His fundraising slogan is 'Tomorrow will be a good day'. It will be an even better day, thanks to Captain Tom.



Questions on: 'Moore and more and more money raised!'

1) Why is 30th April a special day for Captain Tom?

- It's when he finishes his challenge.
- It is his 100th birthday.
- It is when he meets the prime minister.

2) Explain what Captain Tom decided to do in order to raise money for the NHS.

3) Why was this a difficult challenge for Tom?

4) What was Captain Tom's original goal?

5) Which word would you choose to fill the gap?

- achieved
- missed
- smashed

He has _____ his target.

6) Find two words that mean...

a friendly or helpful action _____

to have given money and helped to pay _____

7) Tom chose a **slogan** to help his fundraising project. Which word describes his slogan?

- funny
- hopeful
- shocking
- thankful

8) Why do you think people were so moved by Captain Tom's effort and he ended up raising so much money?

BIG NEWS

NASA NEWS

NASA has plans for a massive telescope on the moon that would be able to see objects created at the birth of the universe.

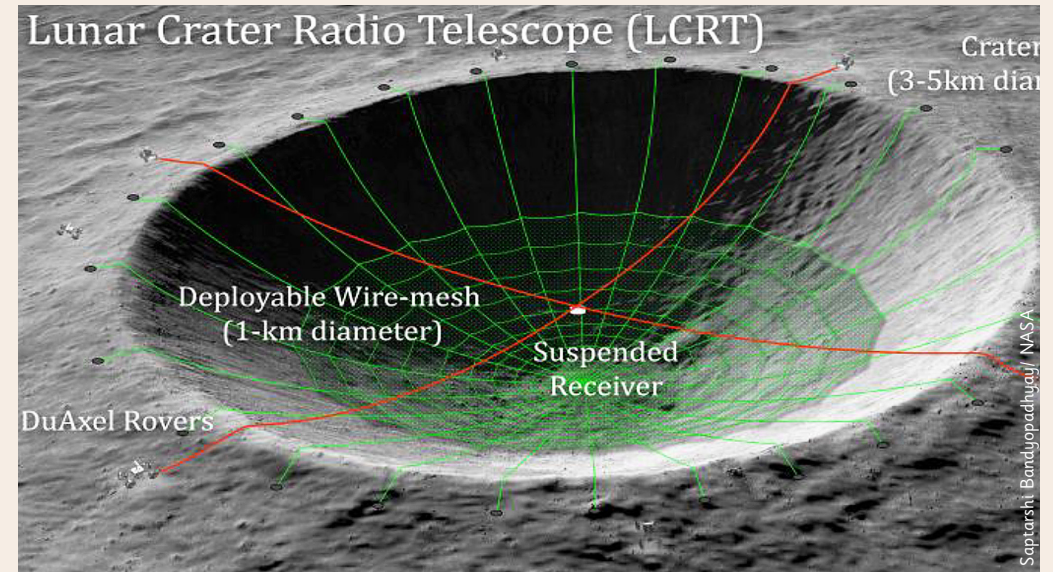
The plans are at a very early stage, but we can't help but get excited by the high-tech and, yes, slightly crazy idea!

The plan is for the telescope to be built in a huge crater on the moon by robots. It would be 1,000-metres wide and sit inside a 3-5 kilometre crater.

Crucially, the crater would be located on the dark side of the moon. This is the side of the moon that never faces Earth. So, the telescope would be shielded from the 'noise' from Earth and would be able to pick up tiny signals from space, giving it a spectacular view of the universe.

In other NASA news, the experts who control the Curiosity Rover on Mars are working from home, like many of us. But trying to control a billion dollar space robot that is 149 million miles away isn't easy from home!

What will happen to Curiosity when someone's cat walks across a keyboard? Don't worry, NASA experts, hopefully it will never happen!



GLOSSARY

NASA – The part of the US government responsible for space exploration (The National Aeronautics and Space Administration)

Questions on: 'NASA news'

1) This news report mentions **two** NASA projects. What are they?

1:

2:

Look at the first sentence closely.

"The plans are at a very early stage, but we can't help but get excited by the high-tech and, yes, slightly crazy idea!"

2) Here are the stages of a project. At which stage is the lunar telescope project?

- an idea
- ready to build
- in progress
- testing
- completed

3) What does the term "high-tech" tell you about the project?

4) What **opinions** does the writer have about this project?

5) If it is ever built, this would be the biggest telescope in the universe (we think). How wide is the telescope and how wide is the crater?

The telescope: _____ metres

The crater: _____ kilometres

6) Why does the telescope have to be built on the dark side of the moon?

7) Which **word** tells you that building the telescope on the dark side of the moon is a **very important** part of the plan?

8) Have you had any accidents or problems that have stopped you working at home?