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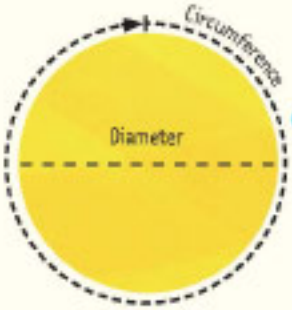
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DID YOU

If you divide the circumference of any circle by its diameter you get 3.1415... This number is known by the name of the Greek letter pi, which looks like this: π.



For lots more facts visit the
SCIENCE LAB
on pages 6-7.

Your right lung is slightly larger than your left lung.

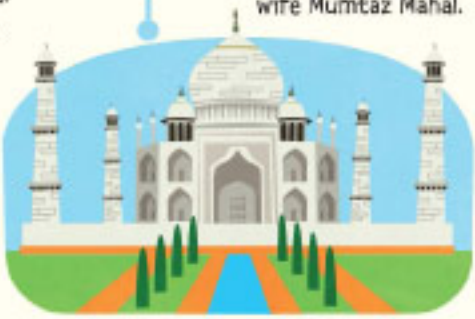




Jets of boiling water sporadically erupt from hot springs known as geysers. There are more than a thousand active geysers across the world.

Find out more about
THE WORLD
on pages 2-3.

The Taj Mahal in India was completed in 1653. It contains the tomb of Mughal emperor Shah Jahan's wife Mumtaz Mahal.





Visible light splits into red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet light when it passes through a triangular chunk of glass called a prism.

The world's first newspaper was launched in 1605 in Strasbourg, now in France. Its title – *Relation aller Fürnemmen und gedenckwürdigen Historien* – means 'Record of all notable and memorable news'.



The best-selling novelist of all time is Agatha Christie. Four billion copies of her detective novels have been sold around the world.



Learn all about
ENTERTAINMENT
on pages 8-9.



Between 850 and 650 million years ago, most of the Earth's surface was covered in snow and ice. This period is sometimes known as Snowball Earth.

Find the answers to
WHEN DID IT HAPPEN?
on pages 12-13.

The international organization, the United Nations (UN), was founded in 1945.



The UN flag

US boxer Muhammad Ali was the first man to win the world heavyweight boxing title three times.





The largest type of insect is the weta bug. It can be heavier than a sparrow.

You always see the same side of the Moon from Earth.



There are many more wonderful

LIVING THINGS

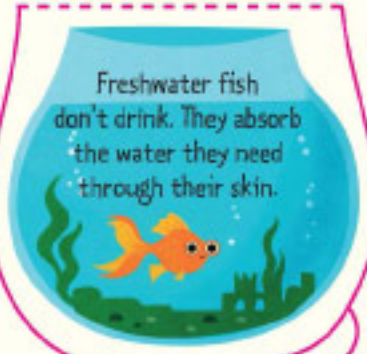
on pages 4–5.



Trees grown in pots and pruned to keep them very small are known as *bonsai*.

Flamingoes turn pinker and pinker the more shrimp and algae they eat.





Freshwater fish don't drink. They absorb the water they need through their skin.

KNOW?

Explore the

TREASURE TROVE

on pages 10–11.



Pavlova, a dessert named after a Russian ballet dancer called Anna Pavlova, was first made in the 1920s.

The first violins were made in northern Italy over 450 years ago.





The largest cut and polished diamond in the world is a brown diamond called the Golden Jubilee.

True or false?
Louis XIV, who was King of France for 72 years and 110 days, is the longest-reigning monarch in history.





The largest pancake ever made needed a crane to flip it. True or false?

For more fantastic facts, ask yourself

TRUE OR FALSE?

on page 14.

And there's a

CAN YOU MATCH...?

picture quiz on page 15 too.

THE WORLD

White, fluffy *cumulus* clouds form when it's warm and sunny.

Planet Earth is 4.6 billion years old.

The most northerly point on Earth is called the North Pole.

In 2002, American businessman Steve Fossett made the first non-stop, solo flight around the world in a balloon.

He was in the air for almost 15 days.

The Earth is home to over seven billion people living in almost two hundred countries.

NORTH AMERICA

The equator is an imaginary line around the Earth's middle.

Water covers 71% of the Earth, but only 1% of it is drinkable.

EUROPE

Waves form when wind blows across the sea.

AFRICA

SOUTH AMERICA

The Earth is not a perfect sphere. It bulges at the equator.

Less than 12% of the world's population lives in the southern half of the planet.

Trails of light can be seen in the sky near the South and North Poles. They're known as the Southern Lights and Northern Lights.

The South Pole

The highest temperature ever recorded on Earth was 56.7°C (134°F), in Death Valley, North America, over 100 years ago.

In December 1911, an expedition reached the South Pole for the first time. It was led by Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen.

In 1983, scientists working near the South Pole measured the lowest ever temperature: -89.2°C (-128.6°F).

7 The Great Pyramid of Giza was built more than 4,500 years ago.

Rainforests are made up from different layers.

8 The Amazon Rainforest in South America is bigger than all the other rainforests put together.

9 The highest mountain in the world is Mount Everest. It's part of the Himalayas mountain range.

10 The Great Lakes are in North America.

Lake Superior
Lake Huron
Lake Ontario
Lake Michigan
Lake Erie

11 The rainiest spot on Earth is Mount Waialeale in Hawaii. It rains there almost every day.

13 The longest river in the world is the Nile.

15 The world's largest hot desert is the Sahara.

Total area: 9,400,000km² (3,600,000 square miles)

The first submarine to reach the deepest part of the ocean was the *Trieste*, in 1960.

17 The Great Wall of China is the longest man-made structure in the world.

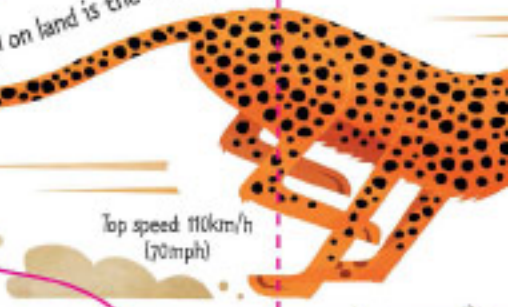
Total length: 21,196km (13,171 miles)

Icebergs are huge chunks of freshwater ice floating in the sea.

22 The largest system of coral reefs is the Great Barrier Reef, off the coast of Australia.

Insects buzz because they make the air around them vibrate when they beat their wings rapidly.

The fastest animal on land is the cheetah.



Top speed 110km/h (70mph)

A woodpecker drums its beak against a tree trunk up to 20 times a second, to attract a mate.

Blue whales are the largest animals ever.

Jellyfish aren't fish. They belong to a group of creatures known as cnidarians.

LIVI THIN

A male seahorse has a pouch to carry the eggs a female lays until they're ready to hatch.

Some blue whales are over 30m (100ft) long.

This plant has the scientific name *Helianthus giganteus*. It means 'giant sunflower' in Latin.

Some chimpanzees use sticks as tools. They use them to break open termite and honey bee nests so they can eat the termites or honey inside.

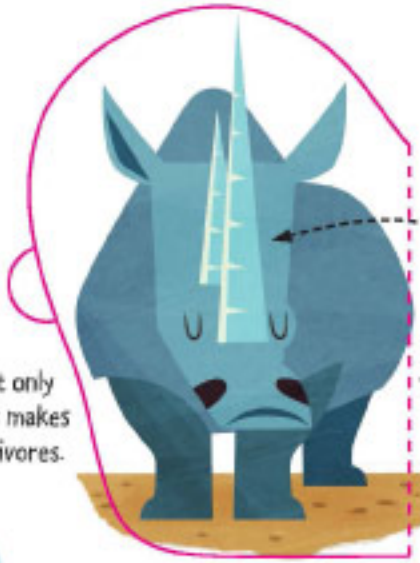
The most poisonous animal is the golden dart frog.

Oysters, clams and mussels can all make pearls.

The world's largest snakes are green anacondas.

They can weigh more than three people combined.





Rhinos eat only plants. This makes them herbivores.

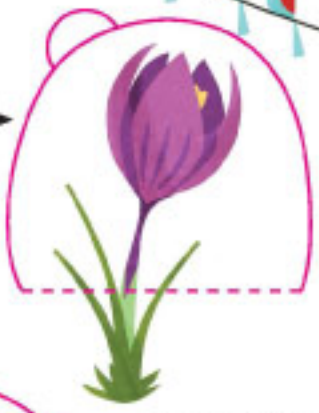
A rhino's horns are made of keratin – the same material as your hair.

The smallest known insect is a type of wasp known as a fairyfly.



Birds resting on a wire will always face into the wind.

Saffron is a spice that comes from saffron crocus flowers.





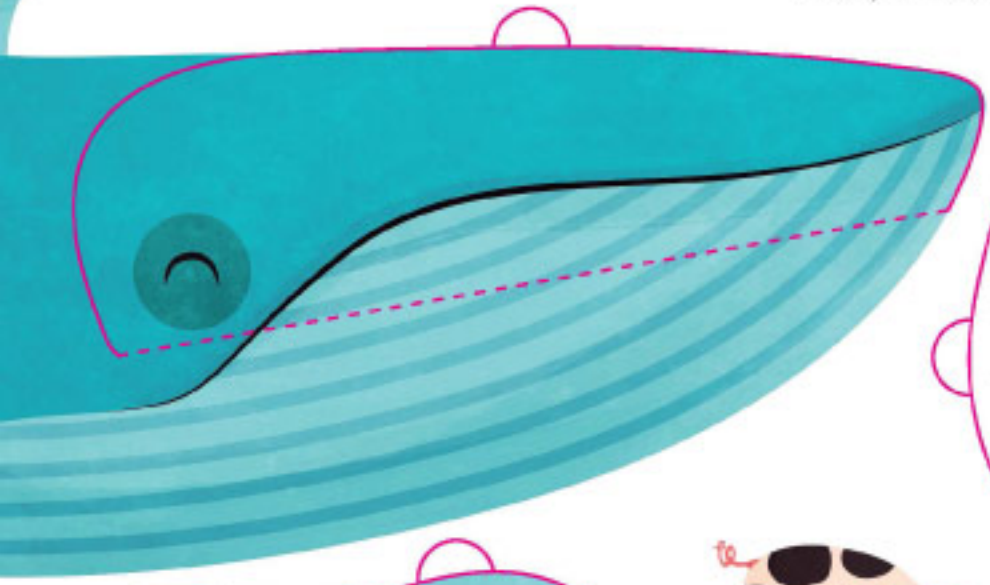
Dormice spend more than six months asleep in their nests each winter, in hibernation.



Vampire bats are hematophagous. This means they eat other animals' blood.

The titan arum plant has the tallest flower.





All crocodiles are carnivores – animals whose diet consists of meat.

