TANITOLUWA ADEWUMI

FROM REFUGEE TO CHESS MASTER

“I thank God for everything that he’s done for our family.”
It’s a trick of the eye. We call it an optical illusion. The French say, “trompe l’oeil.” (trohmp luh-yuh) This is an art installation in Trocadero Square in front of the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. French artist and photographer known only as JR created the tricky image. When a visitor stands—or jumps—at just the right spot, the artwork and the tower line up with each other. That creates the realistic perception that a ravine has opened up before the famous landmark.

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Puzzling Times?

 WHICH X MARKS THE SPOT?

The sneaky pirates put multiple X’s on the treasure map. To find out which X marks the true spot, unscramble the letters below to spell four pirate-related words.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{OHYA} & \quad \text{ROTRAP} \\
\text{KALPN} & \quad \text{NONCAN}
\end{align*}
\]

Now solve the last jumble: Take the six circled letters and unscramble them to reveal where the treasure is located!

The treasure is by the

Answers on page 5
A woman in Mali was expecting seven beautiful babies. To keep them all as safe as possible, she went to Morocco for the delivery.

Morocco has better healthcare than Mali does. A big team of doctors and nurses were there to help. Surprise! When the time came, there were not only seven babies. There were NINE! Halima Cissé and her husband Kader Arby have made history with their big family.

The babies were all premature. They were born in early May. That was about 10 weeks early. But several weeks later, all nine babies were growing with lots of care at the hospital.

Khalil Msaif is a pediatric neonatologist. That’s a doctor for newborn babies. He says all the babies needed to stay in the hospital for more weeks. But he also said that they were “stable.” That means there were no immediate threats to the babies’ health. Praise God! Children are a blessing and a reward from Him! (Psalm 127:3)
Four FREE lighthouses? You bet! The federal government announced the fun giveaway. Each of the four lighthouses has an amazing waterfront view. Only government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and community development groups can apply to win one, though. The National Park Service gets to decide who is a good fit for lighthouse life.

Built in 1910, the Duluth Harbor North Pierhead Light sits at the tip of Lake Superior in Minnesota. It is on the National Register of Historic Places. The Beavertail Lighthouse is in Jamestown, Rhode Island. It was built in 1749. In 1779, British soldiers burned the beacon. It was rebuilt in 1856.

Rhode Island’s Watch Hill Light is a three-story tower with a glass lantern on top. It also has an attached house for the keeper to live in.

Every winter, the Cleveland Harbor West Pierhead Light turns into a beautiful ice castle. When temperatures drop below freezing, the surf sprays the lighthouse and covers it with icicles. Which one would you choose?

Will WOODSAT Hold Up?

A satellite made of... wood? Yes, according to Arctic Astronautics! The Finnish company plans to use a rocket in New Zealand to launch a wooden satellite into space later this year. The project will test the wood in the tough conditions of space.

The WISA WOODSAT is a cube-shaped satellite. It is made of lightweight, strong, coated plywood. It measures about four inches tall and wide. The makers say that plywood survives well in harsh environments. Space is a very harsh place! The satellite will experience heat, cold, vacuums (places with very low pressure), and radiation. If it holds up, the plywood might work in other space structures. Imagine a wooden space station or spacecraft!

One of the cube’s cameras is on a “selfie stick.” It can take pictures of the satellite in space. That will answer questions like “Will the color change? Will the layers crack?” God made humans to be curious and ask questions about how His world works. And He gave us the ability to explore!
A new bridge in Portugal is not for the faint hearted. In fact, children under six years old are not even allowed on this bridge! Take a deep breath before looking down from 574 feet in the air. The Arouca Bridge hangs across a roaring river. That river is far below in a canyon. The suspension bridge wobbles when people walk across it. It is now the world’s longest pedestrian (walker) bridge.

The Arouca Bridge spans almost 1,700 feet from one side of the canyon to the other. The metal walkway grid is easy to see through. That can be frightening! The walkway hangs from two steel cables that run to tall towers on either end of the bridge. More than 500 feet below, the Paiva River flows through a waterfall.

The town of Arouca is north of Lisbon, the capital of Portugal. Gutsy local residents got to walk across the bridge in May. Many were thrilled. Others admitted that it was unnerving to stroll across the wiggly sky bridge. They held on tight!

According to the Guinness World Records website, the former world’s longest suspension bridge for pedestrians is in Japan. It is the 1,280-foot-long Kokonoe Yume Bridge. That bridge opened in 2006. In 2017, the Charles Kuonen Suspension Bridge in the Swiss Alps broke the record. It spans 1,621 feet. How much longer is Portugal’s new pedestrian walkway? The Arouca Bridge is almost 79 feet longer!

Portugal spent $2.8 million dollars to build the breathtaking bridge. Suspension bridges make it possible to cross long open spaces. They don’t require as much material as bridges that are built from the ground up. They also sway. Though scary, that’s good design. The swaying helps in high winds and even earthquakes! Solid bridges might break under those conditions.

In a lush canyon like the one in Arouca, a suspension bridge lets pedestrians enjoy a bird’s-eye view of God’s beautiful creation. Psalm 104:8 says, “The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place that you appointed for them.”

Jesus, Our Keystone: The keystone is a wedge-shaped stone at the very top of an arch bridge. It is the final stone laid into place when an arch bridge is built. The keystone locks all the other stones into place. It presses outward, making
BRIDGE BASICS

For centuries, bridges have gotten people from here to there. Craftspersons and designers have developed seven popular types of bridges to carry our loads.

Suspension Bridge: This type of bridge can stretch longer than any other bridge. Its deck hangs from strong wires called cables. The cables are anchored to large towers which carry the weight to the ground. These bridges wiggle. That’s because the cables move when the bridge meets pressure from wind.

Arch Bridge: This bridge is often made from stones or bricks. Arch bridges have supports on each end called abutments. Arch bridges are simple but can carry heavy weight. A masonry arch always has a center stone or brick at the very top. It’s called a keystone.

Beam Bridge: This is the simplest and oldest type of bridge. Beam bridges are horizontal and level. They have a support on each end. They cannot span very great lengths because they may begin to sag in the middle without additional support.

Cable-Stayed Bridge: For this kind of bridge, towers called pylons hold the bridge’s weight. Cables connect the bridge deck to the towers. The bridge’s cables create a fan-like pattern.

Cantilever Bridge: Two beams stretch toward one another to form a cantilever bridge. The beams look like diving boards. Cantilever means to stick out. One end of a cantilever is anchored in the ground. The other end reaches out away from the support to form the bridge.

Truss Bridge: This strong bridge has a support at either end. A frame connects the two ends of the bridge. The frame is usually made up of lengths of wood or metal that forms several triangles. Triangles make a structure sturdy. The frame forms a tunnel.

Tied Arch Bridge: These bridges are usually metal. Ties hold the bridge support in an arch shape. The deck is sometimes the tie that holds the support in its curved shape.

BUILD AN ARCH

Supplies: Cardboard or card stock, scissors, tape, marker, and two rocks

Step 1: Cut seven identical strips from the cardboard. Divide each into sections for bending. They must have three equal sections. The fourth section must be ½ the length of the other three. (ex: 2 inch x 2 inch x 2 inch x 1 inch). Tape the ends together to make blocks.

Step 2: Cut out two eight-inch by three-inch strips. Fold one in four equal parts to make a cube. Tape the cube together. Repeat with the second strip. (You should have two cubes.)

Step 3: Place a rock in one of the cubes. The cubes are called abutments. They hold the pressure sent out from the keystone. They support the bridge.

Step 4: Stack the seven blocks together to form an arch. (You will probably need help with this step!) Use the abutment to hold one side in place. Place a rock in the other abutment and put it at the other end. The block in the middle is the keystone. It is at the very center and top of the arch.

the other stones press equally into each other. There is only one keystone in an arch bridge. Jesus is our keystone. He holds all things together perfectly. Colossians 1:17 says, “And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.”
Spit it out! That liquid in your mouth doesn’t only help you swallow or gross others out. Now doctors may be able to use saliva to diagnose a concussion.

A three-year research project called SCRUM studied 1,028 professional men’s rugby players. Players tackle or run into each other. That can cause concussions. A concussion is an injury to the brain. Getting hit in the head or taking a hard fall during sports can cause those injuries.

The researchers looked at 14 biomarkers in saliva. Biomarkers are signals in the human body. They found that those markers can show if a player has a concussion. Scientists think signals from nerves in the mouth and throat affect saliva. That’s how it can quickly show an injury.

“The body knows that something has happened upstairs,” says Antonio Belli. “So every part of the body begins to adapt and respond to that injury, including saliva.” Dr. Belli is a professor who studies brain injuries and surgery. He helped lead the study.

God made the parts of your body to work together. Psalm 139:13 says, “You knitted me together in my mother’s womb.” Paul used the unity of the human body as an example for the whole church of God in 1 Corinthians 12.

People who get concussions need to rest. Their brains need to heal. Sometimes it’s hard to tell if someone has a concussion. Often a doctor isn’t around. This test could help!

A company called Marker Diagnostics wants to sell the saliva concussion test. The saliva must be sent to a lab. But the researchers say they could develop a game-side test in a few years. Players could take that test right away.

A saliva sample is taken with a swab.
God designed saliva to play an important role in our bodies. Organs called salivary glands around our mouths and cheeks make saliva. It's mostly made of water with a few other chemicals. It helps keep teeth clean by washing away bits of food. (But you still need to brush and floss!) You'd find it hard to talk without saliva to let your lips, cheeks, and tongue slide around your mouth.

When you chew, the saliva doesn't only help you swallow food. Digestive enzymes in your spit start breaking your food down—even before it gets to your stomach! And saliva carries food molecules to your taste buds so you can enjoy that delicious recipe.

Your saliva can tell a lot about you. DNA tests use your spit to find where your ancestors came from. Other saliva tests can show whether you have some types of cancer, parasites, or allergies.

Dog saliva is less acidic than human saliva. That means that it’s less common for dogs to get cavities than humans. It’s a myth that dogs’ mouths are cleaner than humans’. Both people and dogs have lots of different kinds of bacteria in their mouths.

A type of bird called the edible-nest swiftlet makes nests completely out of solidified strands of its saliva. The nest is shaped like a bowl cut in half, and it can be white, yellow, or red. In Chinese culture, soup made from these bird-spit nests is considered a delicacy.

Venomous snakes make venom in a type of salivary gland. Like human saliva, the venom has enzymes in it. But these are toxic enzymes that kill or paralyze prey. Most of these snakes inject their venom through hollow fangs.

1. What type of bridge is the new Arouca Bridge in Portugal?
   a) an arch bridge
   b) a truss bridge
   c) a suspension bridge
   d) a covered bridge

2. What is the center stone of an arch bridge called?
   a) the cornerstone
   b) the keystone
   c) the truss stone
   d) the tie stone

3. What does Professor Antonio Belli say about concussions?
   a) Every part of the body reacts to the injury.
   b) They change saliva’s color.
   c) They strengthen the brain.
   d) They happen for no reason.

4. Which thing does your saliva NOT do?
   a) carry food to your taste buds
   b) help you talk
   c) clean your teeth so well that you don’t need to brush
   d) start breaking food down

5. Name three uses God gave saliva in your body.
A Captain’s Coins!

Sweet Berry Farm: Come to pick fruit. Leave with pirate coins.
Wait, what?
Let’s begin at the beginning . . .
Once upon a time—on September 7, 1695, to be exact—an English pirate named Henry Every robbed a ship. The vessel was carrying Muslim pilgrims home to India. Captain Every and his crew killed the people on board. The brigands also stole tens of millions of dollars’ worth of gold and silver before escaping. Government officials sought to bring the criminals to justice. But no one ever found Captain Every. The case went cold.

The case warmed up again more than 300 years later. In 2014, amateur historian Jim Bailey took his metal detector to Sweet Berry Farm in Middletown, Rhode Island. With it, he found a dime-sized coin. Peering closer, he spotted Arabic text. The coin was oooold . . . from the 17th century. Eureka! That pocket change is the oldest ever found in North America!

Indeed, the coin was minted in 1693 in the Middle Eastern country of Yemen. There’s no evidence that American colonists traveled to anywhere in the Middle East to trade until decades later. So who left the coins? Maybe pirates. Maybe Captain Every.

Since then, others have unearthed 15 more Arabian coins from the same era in New England. Another was found in North Carolina. Records show that some of Captain Every’s men first came ashore there.

Mr. Bailey says the coins he and others have found are evidence. They show that the pirate made his way to the American colonies. There, he and his crew spent the stolen treasure while on the run.

So where was Captain Every hiding until his death? In plain sight—pretending to be a slave trader.
Once a pirate, always a pirate. Maybe... and maybe not. The truth is, pirating was so unsafe that some lasted only a few years on pirate ships before being killed. And many got into pirating with the hope of soon getting out of it. These sailors wanted to get rich quick by thievery on the high seas. Some wasted the treasure right away in seaports around the world. Others made a home in the American colonies. These used their gold and silver to buy chickens and pigs and start farms.

Pirating is ancient history. Right? Wrong! Pirates still exist—and they’re more tech-savvy than they used to be. The Bible encourages us to “mark the blameless and behold the upright, for there is a future for the man of peace.” (Psalm 37:37) That does NOT describe pirates. Pirates roaming the sea now still steal from ships and hold them for ransom. They use sophisticated weapons and location tech in their work. Real piracy, then as now, is nothing to be laughed at. It’s a violent, dangerous, and dishonest business.
Stand in the middle of the Colosseum. Imagine the roar of the crowd. Look down. What’s under your feet?
It’s a floor. Unlike the original Colosseum floor, though, this one can move.

The Colosseum is a gigantic, round, outdoor theater in Rome, Italy. In ancient times, as many as 50,000 people packed into it at a time. They focused their eyes on the stage in the center. There, fighters called gladiators struggled to the death. Sometimes these warriors faced dangerous animals such as lions and bears. At other times, they battled against each other. These bloody sights kept the people of Rome glued to their seats.

In the 1800s, archaeologists wanted to dig beneath the Colosseum. Underground tunnels there connected parts of the arena. One led to the gladiator school where fighters learned their craft. Another ran to a place where ferocious animals were kept. To explore all this, archaeologists had to take out the floor.

The Colosseum has been floorless for two centuries. People have finally decided to replace the missing stage. The new floor will be high-tech and lightweight. Visitors will get to walk on it. They’ll see the whole Colosseum from the gladiators’ point of view.

The project should be completed by 2023. The platform will quickly cover or uncover the underground structures below. This will protect the tunnels from rain. It will allow them to be aired out too. If needed, the floor can be taken out again.

The new floor may eventually be used as a stage—though not for gladiator fights. That’s too barbaric! Roman entertainment is one part of history we don’t want to repeat.

Do not envy a man of violence and do not choose any of his ways.
— Proverbs 3:31

Gladiators prepared for fights and animals were caged in the underground structures.

The platform gives visitors a new perspective and protects the structures below the Colosseum.
The Colosseum was built in Rome between A.D. 72 and 80. Just a few years before that, the apostles Paul and Peter were killed for their faith in the very same city.

The Colosseum was as tall as a 12-story building. And what a grand opening it had! People celebrated with 100 days of games. These games cost nothing for the public. Sometimes the spectators (people who watched) got free food too. Food and a show? Sounds like a great recipe to get people to like you if you’re the emperor!

The Romans even pumped in water from nearby aqueducts. This filled the bottom of the arena with about five feet of water. Little versions of ships acted out famous battles at sea. Then, pull the plug! Time for the next spectacle.

These games were held for hundreds of years. But for some people in the arena, they were anything but fun. Criminals were used as actors. They played parts in famous old stories where people died. But during the play, the prisoners were actually killed by wild animals. Some of those who died were new Christians. Early Roman emperors did not want Christianity to spread. So when an emperor found out a person was a Christian, he sometimes put him or her to death. But not just any death. Some Christians faced animals in the amphitheater. Why? Emperors hoped this would make others not want to follow Jesus.

Did that work? Not at all! The Christians confronted death with courage and humility—and everyone watched. Instead of turning away from Christianity, many Romans asked, “Just who is this Jesus?” Christianity grew and grew. Isn’t that like our God? He uses evil to bring about good.

I am a citizen of Rome. I’m also a theologian—a person who studies God. I was born long after the Colosseum was built. But Romans still enjoyed gladiator games during my lifetime. In fact, my friend Alypius used to watch and love the games. No sin is too great for God to forgive, and God had better plans for Alypius. You can read his story in book 6 of my writings, The Confessions.
Watch out, Jackson Hole News & Guide. There’s a new kid in town.

Well, maybe not in town, but in nearby Kelly, Wyoming.

The vernal (youthful) newspaper belongs to Charlie von Maur-Newcomb (a literal kid). He’s just 11. He titled his newspaper Kelly Out Loud!

Kelly isn’t a town . . . or even a village. Only about 120 people live there. But that doesn’t mean Charlie doesn’t have anything to write about. He covers everything from local news in Kelly to world news. People pick up physical copies of his paper at the Kelly post office. Subscribers can also get a digital version emailed from charlievmn@icloud.com.

Charlie does the writing and reporting for Kelly Out Loud! himself. His parents help with a little copy editing. “I edit for grammatical errors and things like maybe a few redundancies,” says his mom. (Redundancies are unnecessarily repeated bits of information.) She adds: “I do not edit his voice.” (Voice refers to the specific way a person writes. Each writer has his or her own vocabulary, tone, and point of view. Every person arranges sentences uniquely.)

Charlie works away at the paper each week. What drove him to start publishing a newspaper? He was reading another local paper, the News & Guide. He realized: News writers tell people important information about the world. He wanted to do that too.

Charlie gets his ideas from many places, including listening to news radio in the car with his dad. Charlie says, “I think about who lives in Kelly and what they might be interested in.”

Charlie’s readers wonder what he will do when he grows up. Will he try a career in journalism? He hasn’t decided for sure. He’s still only 11, after all!

Charlie uses his computer to create Kelly Out Loud! Want to try it? Here are some tips.

**TITLE YOUR PAPER**

| Make headlines big and bold to grab attention. |
| Format your stories into columns like this. The word processing program on your computer might even have a newspaper template! |

Choose images or take your own.

Don’t forget captions!
Charlie von Maur–Newcomb doesn’t know what he wants to do with the rest of his life yet. But that doesn’t stop him from acting right now.

What about you? What do you think your calling will be?

Calling is an old idea. Way back in the 1500s, church reformer Martin Luther talked about calling a lot. He called it vocation. Do you see some letters from “voice” hidden in that word? A vocation is a spiritual calling. Whose voice is doing the calling? God’s! You might not hear His voice audibly. But He is always calling people to do good work—even kids.

Right now, Charlie von Maur–Newcomb has many callings. He’s a son and a student. If he has siblings, he’s a brother. He’s even called to be a neighbor to the people of Kelly, Wyoming. And now he’s a journalist too.

It’s fun to imagine what our future vocations might be. But you can also make a list of the callings you have at this moment. Are you a Christian? A friend? A brother or sister? A pet caregiver? Through each of your callings, you serve God and show His love to your neighbors. Can you believe God is loving the world through you?

Jesus declared, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” — Matthew 22: 27-39

How does a journalist love his or her neighbor? Here are a few ways.

• People need to know the truth about what’s happening in the world—but readers can’t be everywhere at once. They’re busy with their own callings! Journalists can help bring important information to everyone quickly.
• All people are made in God’s image. Because of this, they deserve respect. A good journalist treats everyone with dignity—even people he or she disagrees with.
• Good journalists interview people and write about events with fairness. They try hard to get the facts right. They are honest and humble in their work.
• Even when news sounds scary, Christian journalists do not have to be afraid to tell the truth. Why? Because they know the biggest truth of all: God is in control of everything! Christian journalists can also tell readers where all truth comes from: God.

This year, journalists at WORLD News Group (which includes WORLD-kids) are celebrating 40 years of good work loving their neighbors through reporting the news.
Brandy’s hooves stir up dust as she races around the arena. Rider Adison Wright holds Brandy’s reins in one hand. She has a giant flag in the other. Cactus with rider Elly Rainey isn’t far behind. A dozen other riders on horses follow them in formation. The horses are fast. Their riders are skilled. Ridin’ on Faith Ministries is an equestrian flag team. It performs at rodeos and other events. The team uses horses, music, skits, and flags to tell about Jesus.

Lisa Searcy founded Ridin’ on Faith Ministries in 2011. The riders on her team love horses. But they love Jesus even more! The Ridin’ on Faith team’s key verse is Colossians 3:17. It says, “And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

These athletes are excellent horseback riders. They range in age from six to 32. Each has her own horse. Just like the riders, the horses audition for their place on the team. They are not afraid of big flags or loud music. The riders work hard to teach their horses how to move to music. The songs and skits they perform are carefully chosen to tell people about Jesus and the hope we have in Him.

The riders and their horses meet weekly to learn new routines and practice old ones. “I don’t think people realize what goes on behind the scenes,” says Coach Jennifer Ingle. First, the riders learn each routine on foot. They may look silly galloping around the arena—but not for long! Soon, the riders mount their horses and slowly ride them through the choreographed steps. With each practice, the routines get better and faster. Coach Ingle loves watching her riders grow year after year. Older teammates encourage younger ones. Ridin’ on Faith is a family.

Ella Womack is new to the team this year. “Even on hard days, my friends and coach cheer me up. I love Ridin’ on Faith,” she says.

The team performs across the southeastern United States. They do routines at fairs, rodeos, prisons, nursing homes, summer camps, churches, and orphanages. “It doesn’t matter if there are 10 people or 1,000,” says Mrs. Searcy. “We reach people that may not ever go to church. We have a simple message. It is the gospel of Jesus Christ.”

RIDIN’ ON FAITH
In the middle of busy south London, England, is a school where children get to, well—horse around. The Ebony Horse Club is a riding school for children. It's located in the hustle and bustle of the busy city, only a 10-minute walk from a subway station. The club gives children an opportunity to learn important life skills through horseback riding. Every week, volunteers provide 140 rides to children from poor backgrounds. The club is a charity. It depends on fundraising. Lesson fees are based on how much families are able to pay.

The program's eight horses recently came off a long rest. That's because the club stopped meeting during virus lockdowns. They spent some months in a country setting. But now they're back in London, ready to work. Splash, Molly, Bailey, Joe, Rose, Eddie, and others are getting saddled up weekly.

Shaddai McLeod is one of the club's youngest riders. He is nine years old and thrilled to be back in the saddle. Shaddai rides after school on Thursdays. But he's spotted at the stable on weekends too. Shaddai helps measure horse feed, groom the animals, and clean out messy stalls. Shaddai's hard work is paying off. He received his first award—a Pony Club badge for horse grooming. His older siblings also ride. His 13-year-old sister Zion always chooses Eddie for her horse if she can. She knows it's a privilege to be a member of the club.

“You would never think this was here in the middle of Brixton,” says Zion. The London neighborhood of Brixton was once known for crime and violence. God is using the Ebony Horse Club to help families there. Only God can take a hard place and change it into something safe and good. Ecclesiastes 3:11 says, “He has made everything beautiful in its time.”

1. In writing, voice is ________.
   a) something repeated unnecessarily
   b) someone’s unique style of writing
   c) a type of newspaper
   d) the plot of a story

2. Calling is another word for ________.
   a) location
   b) vocation
   c) locomotion
   d) innovation

3. Why are the Ridin’ on Faith team’s songs carefully chosen?
   a) they tell people about Jesus
   b) they have a good beat
   c) they are easy to learn
   d) they are loud

4. Where did the Ebony Horse Club’s horses go during the pandemic?
   a) to give rides at the beach
   b) to the middle of Brixton
   c) to rest in the country
   d) to work in the mountains

5. Think of three things you might enjoy doing for your job one day. Explain what you like about each.

Answers on page 5
The future is bananas. Just ask Kimani Muturi.

Bananas have been a staple food in Mr. Muturi’s country, Uganda, for a long time. A staple food is a main food a people group eats. The average Ugandan eats more than 400 pounds of bananas every year! But Mr. Muturi asks a good question: What about the rest of the banana plant?

Imagine this. A farmer lops bananas from his plants. What’s left? The plants’ bulbous trunks. Farmers usually either burn these or throw them away. Could those “extra” parts be of use?

Mr. Muturi’s start-up company is called TexFad. At TexFad, young men pile the trunks of banana plants in a heap. Next, they split them in half with machetes. They feed them into a machine, until . . . out come long, leathery, moist fibers. The workers hang these on lines to dry. Later, they use them to make carpets, placemats, and hair extensions. (Hair extensions are fake hair. They make a person’s hair appear fuller or longer.)

“The hair extensions we are making are highly biodegradable,” says Mr. Muturi. “After using, our ladies will go and bury them in the soil and they will become manure for their vegetables.”

TexFad is also experimenting with the fibers. The company hopes to soften them. Perhaps the fibers will become as cozy as cotton. Then people could wear banana trunks as clothes!

The company will ship carpets to countries outside Uganda for the first time this June. Mr. Muturi says customers in the United States, Canada, Australia, and many parts of Africa want to buy. But the little company has only 23 people on staff. It isn’t ready for that much business quite yet. Banana fibers are light. They’re organically produced. Mr. Muturi can picture many future uses for them—including “paper” money.
BANANAS IN TROUBLE

Will people everywhere soon be wearing banana clothes? Will they be walking on banana carpets? Will they trade banana money for banana hair extensions? Maybe...if banana plants hang around long enough.

People love bananas. This favorite fruit is sweet, portable, and cheap. But banana farmers know something most people don’t. A fungal disease called Tropical Race 4 (TR4) moves across continents. It’s looking for banana patches to destroy.

TR4 starts in soil. It can hide there for decades. Then—surprise—it starts to choke banana plants. Green banana leaves turn yellow. Their edges get brown. The leaves fall. That might be okay for a maple tree in October. But it’s not okay for a banana plant. Ever.

A similar fungus wiped out bananas once before. Panama disease attacked the “Big Mike” banana. Before the 1950s, everyone was eating Big Mikes. Have you ever noticed that banana-flavored candy doesn’t taste much like bananas? That’s because that flavoring is likely based on Big Mike. You’re probably not used to that banana. Ever since Panama disease, people have been eating mostly Cavendish bananas instead.

Cavendish bananas can resist Panama disease. But they can’t fight TR4. They have the same problem Big Mikes had. Every single Cavendish banana plant is genetically identical to every other Cavendish banana plant. When a disease comes through, it can destroy all the plants at once. Scientists scurry. They need to grow a new banana variety that can resist TR4.

God made people in His image. They’re creative like Him. Thinkers like Kimani Muturi show their creativity by using every part of the banana plant. And cultivators watching bananas show another kind of inventiveness. They’re planning to solve big problems even before they happen.

The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance. — Proverbs 21:5
Journey to the center of the Earth and you’ll find molten iron and other metals swirling around the planet’s solid core. As liquid metal spins around solid, it conducts electricity. That electricity creates a magnetic field.

Sound complicated? Here’s a simpler breakdown. Most metals, like iron, are magnetic. Churning iron particles send out magnetic fields around them. They’re kind of like a forcefield that attracts or repels (pushes away) other metals. Earth’s “forcefield” is hundreds of miles wide. The Earth’s magnetic field originates in the Earth’s core, passes through Earth’s crust, and shoots out into space.

This magnetic field is massive. But it isn’t very strong. For its great size, Earth’s magnetic field seems relatively weak. Scientists have found that the magnetic field is strongest at Earth’s poles.

Sea water conducts electricity. The motion of the water across the Earth’s magnetic field creates energy. As this energy flows through the water, many marine animals sense it. Biologists are pretty sure that God made turtles and whales, snails, frogs, and even lobsters able to detect the magnetic field. Not only do they sense it—they use it!

Sharks orient themselves in the ocean like birds do in the sky. They use the magnetic field for assistance. These animals can feel differences in the magnetic field in different places. Re-routing! Re-routing! That’s how they know when to shift direction. Earth’s magnetic field helps people find their way too—but with a compass. North. South. East. West. The flow of energy shifts the compass needle toward the north. Without the magnetic field, compasses wouldn’t work. For many marine animals, using Earth’s magnetic field is like swimming inside an ocean compass. They go with the flow—of energy! It guides them exactly where they need to go.

Psalm 48:14 tells us that God promises to lead His people. It says, “That this is God, our God forever and ever. He will guide us forever.”

Scientists made a remarkable discovery about sharks. Apparently, the marine animals use the Earth’s magnetic field as a natural Global Positioning System (GPS). Hang a left. Swerve right. Straight ahead! The magnetic field helps sharks navigate the world’s oceans.

A magnetic field is the area around a magnet that pulls and pushes other magnetic objects. Sharks certainly aren’t magnetic! So how does the Earth’s magnetic field guide them?

“We know that sharks can respond to magnetic fields,” says Bryan Keller. He is a shark researcher. “We didn’t know that they detected it to use as an aid in navigation. . . . Sharks can travel [12,427] miles and end up in the same spot.”

For years, scientists have wondered how sharks migrate such long distances. They travel in the open ocean where there are few landmarks like coral reefs to guide them. But they keep coming back to the same place. Over and over again. Why don’t they get lost?
Looking for answers, scientists from Florida State University studied bonnethead sharks. That’s a kind of hammerhead that lives on both American coasts. Bonnetheads return to the same coastal inlets every year.

The scientists exposed 20 sharks to magnetic conditions like they would experience in the ocean. Could they feel a pulse? Did the water move? Could they see the magnetic clues? The scientists watched each shark carefully. They noticed that the sharks began to swim north when the magnetic cues made them think they were south of where they should be. It’s as if their bodies could tell they weren’t where they needed to be. *Flip around. Swerve left. Onward!*

More studies are necessary. *How do sharks detect magnetic fields? How much does the field tell them about their location? Do all sharks find their way around the ocean in the same way? Probably. After all, great whites make cross-ocean journeys just like bonnetheads. It makes sense that God might use the same design for both. Isn’t the usefulness of God’s design amazing? He created the magnetic field. And He gifted marine animals with a sensitivity to it to help them survive. That’s truly magnificent!*

**Bryan Keller**

*holds a bonnethead shark on the North Edisto River in South Carolina.*

*A dusky shark swims off the coast of South Africa.*

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**QUICK**

1. bulbous
   a) toxic
   b) rounded
   c) paper-thin

2. resist
   a) assist
   b) fight
   c) persist

3. navigate
   a) carefully travel
   b) get lost at sea
   c) ask for directions

4. detect
   a) create
   b) run away from
   c) discover

*Answers on page 5*

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**The outer core is filled with liquid metal that generates electricity as it spins. That is what creates Earth’s magnetic field.**

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*There is a difference of 11.7 degrees between the magnetic pole and the geographic pole. The North Magnetic Pole moves over time due to magnetic changes in the Earth’s core.*

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*The magnetic field is a shield against the harmful particles in solar wind. Solar wind hitting the magnetic field causes the Northern and Southern Lights to appear.*

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*The magnetic field acts as a protective shield against harmful particles in the solar wind.*

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*The magnetic field helps guide marine animals in their travels.*
Juliet is looking for love. No wonder! She’s the last wild blue-and-yellow macaw left in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Once, birds like her flew far and wide in that city. Now Juliet has to visit the zoo to find a friend.

Almost every morning for the last two decades, Juliet has appeared at the BioParque zoo. She swoops onto the enclosure where macaws are kept. She sits there, enjoying the presence of other macaws. Blue-and-yellow macaws like Juliet live about 35 years. And Juliet is no spring chicken. She should have found a lifelong mate years ago. But she hasn’t. She hasn’t built a nest or had chicks.

“They’re social birds, and that means they don’t like to live alone, whether in nature or captivity. They need company,” says Neiva Guedes, president of the Hyacinth Macaw Institute.

Blue-and-yellow macaws can be found in other parts of Brazil. But not in Rio de Janeiro. If you don’t count Juliet, no blue-and-yellow macaw has been seen flying free in Rio since 1818. That’s more than 200 years! Macaws are noisy. This, plus their bright feathers, helps the birds find each other in dense forests. But it also makes them easy for hunters and animal traffickers to spot.

Where did Juliet come from? She may have escaped from captivity. Is Juliet even a she? Zoo biologists aren’t sure. To know for certain, they would have to test her feathers or blood or get a closer look at her than they’re able to. The animal caretakers are curious. But that’s not enough reason for them to interfere with the wild bird. They also would not consider placing Juliet in an enclosure. She seems to be getting enough food in the wild. She also loves soaring overhead. And she should! Macaws are used to flying more than 20 miles each day!

So God created every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.
— Genesis 1:21
Macaws are a type of parrot. How can you tell?
All parrots have curved beaks. They also have zygodactyl (zy-go-DACT-uhl) feet: four toes on each foot with two pointing backward and two pointing forward. Cockatoos, lovebirds, parakeets, and cockatiels are all parrots too. So are many, many more bird species—more than 350!

Sadly, some of these birds have lately become extinct or nearly extinct. Parrots you can expect not to see in the wild: Glaucous macaws, Spix’s macaws, New Caledonian lorikeets, and Carolina parakeets.

Care and Keeping
Why keep macaws in the forest?
They’re happiest there. Plus, they’re pretty hard to live with in the house!

• Macaws are smart. They’re curious. They’re busy. They need lots of toys to pick up, examine, taste, and toss around. A bored macaw may harm itself.

• When God created Adam, He said, “It is not good for the man to be alone.” (Genesis 2:18) It’s not good for macaws to be alone either. If you bring a macaw into your home, you’re its new flock. It will need to spend a lot of time with you.

• Macaws are made for volume. How would your neighbors—or your mom—feel about living next to a pet as loud as a lawnmower?

• Macaws can and will bite. Enough said!

Back to the Wild
The macaws at BioParque zoo in Rio de Janeiro flit and flutter inside a 10,700-foot aviary (bird enclosure). The macaws sail along beside green parrots and golden parakeets. Look up! It’s a technicolor swirl!
Workers at BioParque have a big project ahead. They’re bringing blue-and-yellow macaws back to the wild. Here’s the plan: Zoo macaws will raise about 20 chicks. These babies will receive training. In “macaw school” they’ll learn to . . .
• find food in the forest.
• watch for predators.
• stay away from dangerous power lines.

Once the chicks “graduate,” they’ll be released into Tijuca Forest National Park. This massive forest is probably where our pal Juliet goes to sleep at night. If the project works, she may finally have the chance to fly with friends.

There are still some Spix’s macaws in captivity, but they are extinct in the wild.

A pair of macaws perches on top of a passageway as people visit the aviary at BioParque in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Chew, chew, chew! God designed the macaw’s powerful beak to crack through tough nuts. But it can also do impressive damage to the stuff in your house.

JULY/AUGUST 2021 • worldkids
“Go get ‘em.” Well, a few of them. That’s what Florida wildlife officials may soon say about Atlantic goliath groupers. Is it time to loosen the state’s 30-year ban on catching and killing the giant fish? The species almost died off in the 1980s. But many believe the fish family’s population is finally growing again.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission thinks some sport fishers would love to land a goliath. So the commission could choose to allow a fisher with a license to catch one goliath. Just one.

The gentle giants are easy to find and hook. Young ones hide among trees growing in shallow coastal waters. Adults linger near reefs and shipwrecks off the Florida coast. These fish may be gentle, but they are also HUGE! Adults weigh between 400 and 800 pounds. They can grow to be a little more than eight feet long.

Florida officials aren’t sure how many goliaths swim the surrounding seas now. But they think there are enough to allow limited catch. They say the species is “recovering” from the hard years when it was overfished.

Not everyone thinks lifting the goliath fishing ban is wise. Some biologists worry that the goliath population is still too small. Others point out that goliath meat contains high levels of dangerous mercury. The beasts live for decades—absorbing mercury over time. The larger the fish is, the less safe it is for humans to eat. But no one wants to see the big beauties go to waste if caught.

Goliath Grouper

A scuba diver gets a closer look at a goliath grouper off the coast of Florida.
Instead of taking goliaths from the sea, some people think Florida should use the fish in a different way. They suggest that the photogenic fish could lure more scuba divers to Florida. That could boost tourism business for the state. Goliaths are very popular with divers and underwater photographers.

At the beginning of creation, God gave man authority over all other living things. That includes fish! Genesis 1:28 says, “And God said to them, ‘Have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the Earth.’”

It is our responsibility to pay careful attention to fish species that need care. People put laws in place to protect the goliath species. Those laws seem to have worked. Now, maybe it’s time to let people enjoy catching some of those fish for fun and, if safe, for food.

For years, the element mercury was a part of many everyday items. Light bulbs, paint, thermometers, and batteries used the substance. It even found its way into medicine used for cuts, scrapes, and burns. Then, scientists realized that mercury could be harmful.

Mercury is a natural metal. It is present in rock, soil, and water. Pollution from coal-burning power plants sends mercury into the atmosphere. In the air, mercury molecules can travel thousands of miles. Eventually, most land in water. In the ocean, bacteria attach to the mercury. This new form of mercury is called methylmercury. It is poisonous. Most ocean fish will contain some mercury.

Here’s why: Microscopic marine algae called phytoplankton absorb methylmercury from ocean water. Tiny marine animals gobble up phytoplankton. That means those marine animals ingest the methylmercury too. Small fish scoop up the little marine animals. Uh oh! Now the small fish have methylmercury in their systems. Larger fish eat the small ones. At the same time, the big fish are slurping up their own share of methylmercury.

Larger fish usually carry greater amounts of mercury. Why? Many live a long time. They eat and store mercury in their bodies all along. Scientists study mercury toxicity (how poisonous something is) in the goliath grouper. These fish live close to ocean shores where pollution can contaminate water. Goliath grouper live for decades—enough time to accumulate a load of mercury.

In the 1950s, factory workers dumped mercury into Japan’s Minamata Bay. People who ate fish from the bay got very, very sick. Mercury poisoned around 2,000 people! In 1972, 6,500 people in Iraq suffered poisoning after eating mercury-contaminated bread.

Mercury damages human nerves. Mercury poisoning causes memory loss, muscle weakness, numbness, and rashes. Some symptoms become very serious.

God made mercury for a good purpose—but that does not include eating it. Scientists have done a good job of educating people about the danger of too much mercury. God puts people in our lives to keep us safe from dangerous things. Proverbs 10:17 says, “Whoever heeds instruction is on the path to life.”

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Who will buy this old stone-and-brick house in France? If Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki gets his way, the country of Poland will become the proud new owner. He says the building is part of Polish history. Why? Because Madame Marie Curie spent her holiday weekends here.

Have you heard of Marie Curie? She was a Polish woman who worked endless hours in a leaky old shed. An incredibly gifted scientist, Mrs. Curie studied metals. She noticed: The metals she experimented with were releasing rays. These rays could pass through solid matter. They caused air to conduct electricity.

“Sometimes I had to spend a whole day stirring a boiling mass with a heavy iron rod nearly as big as myself,” she wrote. But that work paid off. After four years, Mrs. Curie and her husband had discovered a new element: radium. The Curies won a Nobel Prize for their discovery.

This historical leaky shed was in Paris. But it wasn’t here, at this house. This house was built in 1890. Pierre and Marie Curie visited it on weekends and holidays between 1904 and 1906 with their daughters Irene and Eve. There’s no evidence Mrs. Curie did any experimenting here.

The vacation house costs $950,000. That’s a big price tag for a home in disrepair. Whoever buys it will have to fix it up. That will cost about $240,000 more. But check out the peeling wallpaper. Inspect the fireplaces and floor tiles. All of these date back to the Curie times. Did Mrs. Curie paint some of the ceiling designs herself? Maybe. But there is no certain proof.

The Polish people feel proud of Mrs. Curie’s accomplishments. But should the Polish government spend taxpayers’ money to buy the house? Some Poles say, “No! Mrs. Curie didn’t even spend that much time there!”

Marie Curie was born in 1867 in Warsaw, Poland. She started out as Maria Sklodowska. Universities in Poland did not admit girls when she was young. So Maria moved to Paris in 1891 to study science. She married a French man, Pierre Curie. During her lifetime, Mrs. Curie won two Nobel Peace prizes. She discovered two elements: radium and polonium. She named polonium after her homeland, Poland.
Keep your seats in their upright and locked positions. We’re landing in . . . the place where mayonnaise was (probably) invented. The place where you can watch a 100-year-old bicycle race. The place where people eat snails and call it fancy. France, here we come!

WHAT: France is the largest country in the European Union. But it’s still smaller than Texas. Because of its six-sided shape, the French call their country “L’Hexagone” (the hexagon). A lot of France borders the sea, so make sure you visit the beach!

THE FAMOUS FRENCH
Painters: Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Edgar Degas, Paul Cezanne, Henri Matisse

Writers: Victor Hugo (Les Misérables), Alexandre Dumas (The Three Musketeers), Antoine de Saint-Exupery (The Little Prince)

Inventors: Louis Pasteur invented a process dubbed pasteurization, heating up food to kill pathogens that would cause it to spoil.

French stylist Alexander Godefroy invented the first hairdryer—a bonnet attached to the chimney pipe of a gas stove.

Brothers Joseph-Michel and Jacques-Étienne Montgolfier invented the hot-air balloon in Annonay, Ardeche, France.

PARLEZ-VOUS FRANÇAIS? (Do you speak French?)

Bonjour. (bohn-ZHOOR) Hello or Good morning/Good day.

Merci beaucoup. (MAIR-see BOH-coo) Thank you very much.

Excusez-moi. (EX-cue-say MWAH) Excuse me.

Au revoir. (OH reh-VWAH) Goodbye.

Je m’appelle. (ZHUU muh-PEL) My name is ______.

S’il vous plaît. (SEE voo PLAY) Please (literally, “If you please”).

CULTURE: Why all the visitors? It might be the bread. The writer of Ecclesiastes says to “Go, eat your bread with joy.” (Ecclesiastes 9:7) The French are very good at that! Many tourists come because France has earned a reputation for the best food in the world.

Get ready for baguettes (long, crusty bread loaves), coq au vin (chicken, wine, and mushrooms), chocolate soufflé (puffy dessert made from eggs), French onion soup (cheesy, bread-decked, brown broth), and flaky croissants (crescent-shaped buttered pastries).

Stop by the Eiffel Tower, a magnificent structure engineered by Alexandre-Gustave Eiffel—the same fellow who worked on the Statue of Liberty. Visit the Louvre museum to check out France’s renowned art and fashion. It’s the largest art museum in the world!

WHO: Who lives in France? The French do, of course—about 68 million of them. But believe it or not, more people visit France each year than actually live there. France is the most visited country in the entire world, followed by Spain and the United States.
Imagine you have to leave your home country. You’re going to a place totally unfamiliar. You won’t have a home there yet. What do you know for sure? Only one thing: God will take care of you.

That’s what has happened to Tani’s family and many other Nigerians. Right now, Nigeria is one of the most dangerous places to be a Christian. Islamic extremist groups kill Christians and take their land. No one brings these wrongdoers to justice.

Over 2.1 million Nigerians have been driven from their homes. More than 778,000 are living out of place in nearby Cameroon, Chad, and Niger. People have a name for this gigantic problem: refugee crisis. (A refugee is anyone who escapes his or her home country because of disaster, persecution, or war. A crisis is an emergency.) The Nigerian refugee crisis has been going on for more than six years. These displaced people need food, education, and—of course—homes! Thousands of families have been separated while running from danger. Many parents are searching for their children.

Some Nigerians find safety in the United States. That happened for the Adewumi family. Is life easy for them now? Probably not! Have you ever moved? That can be a sad experience if you have to...
Two years ago, Tanitoluwa “Tani” Emmanuel Adewumi was homeless. This spring, he became National Chess Master.

“I really love that I finally got it,” he says of his new title. Finally? Tani is only 10 years old!

In 2017, Tani’s family ran away from a dangerous Islamist group in Nigeria. The group is called Boko Haram. These terrorists threatened Tani’s family, who are Christians. It is not always safe to be known as a Christ follower in Nigeria.

Before coming to the United States, Tani started playing chess with paper pieces. His opponent? His older brother Austin.

In New York, the Adewumis lived in a Manhattan homeless shelter. Tani played chess at school, online, and anywhere he could. His mother told him success takes “patience and prayer.” But Tani didn’t have to wait long.

Tani plays chess with a bold, risky style. In 2019, Tani won the New York State Tournament. He was eight years old then. When asked how he plays, Tani smiles. “Aggressive,” he admits.

Tani practices for hours every day. Imagine you’re playing a board game. Do you ever think ahead to a move you might make on your next turn? When Tani plays chess, he thinks up to 20 moves ahead!

Even when he doesn’t win, Tani enjoys chess. “I say to myself that I never lose, that I only learn,” he says, according to an interview at churchleaders.com.

In May, Tani won an important tournament. That gave him enough points to earn the ranking of National Chess Master.

Tani isn’t finished. He aims to become the world’s youngest Grandmaster. Grandmaster is the highest title a chess player can earn. The current record holder achieved his rank at 12 years, seven months. That gives Tani about 22 months to reach his goal.

“I thank God for everything that He’s done for our family,” Tani says.

Does someone in your neighborhood come from another country? Do you hear a family on the playground speaking another language? God loves sojourners. You can show His heart by welcoming foreigners into your life.

You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself. — Leviticus 19:34

Quiz

1. disrepair
   - a) good condition
   - b) bad condition
   - c) brand new condition

2. renowned
   - a) infamous
   - b) famous
   - c) unknown

3. aggressive
   - a) forceful
   - b) passive
   - c) peaceful

4. sojourners
   - a) travelers
   - b) performers
   - c) chess masters

Answers on page 5

Nigerians who escaped Boko Haram gather at a refugee camp in Maiduguri, Nigeria.

AP PHOTOS
Major Marker Move

A Belgian farmer thought the stone marker near the edge of his farm was in his way. So he moved it. A group of local history fans on a walk saw the stone. They knew it marked something important: the border between Belgium and France. They also noticed that it had been moved.

The stone’s new position gave Belgium about a quarter acre more land—for a little while. The mayor of the Belgian village of Erquelinnes reminded people that the stone’s location was important. He says, “You can’t just at will move boundary markers that have been there for a long time.”

“If it belongs to us, it belongs to us,” says a resident of a nearby French village. Officials contacted the farmer. They asked him to put the stone back.

Monet’s Gardens Reopen

Artist Claude Monet landscaped his property in Giverny, France, with brilliant flower beds. Today, those flowers continue to grow, creating a living artwork in Mr. Monet’s gardens.

Most years, visitors flock to the gardens at Giverny to enjoy the flowers that inspired Mr. Monet’s impressionist paintings. But not last year. The gardens were closed to the public due to the pandemic. Only garden caretakers got to see the beautiful blooms.

Finally, the public is welcome to visit the gardens again. People can wander around the pond and through its famous water garden. They can meander paths leading through brilliant summer blossoms. The prophet Amos gave this promise to God’s people: “They shall make gardens and eat their fruit.” (Amos 9:14)

Monkey Mystery

No one knew where the monkey colony in Dania Beach, Florida, came from. Until now. Researchers at Florida Atlantic University have traced the monkeys that live there to the Dania Chimpanzee Farm. The South Florida SunSentinel reports that monkeys escaped from the farm in 1948. Most of the monkeys were recaptured. But not all of them. Some disappeared into a mangrove swamp. That’s where their descendants live today.

Florida Atlantic University scientists estimate that the colony has about 41 remaining monkeys. They traced those critters’ genetics back to Africa. All appear to be vervets, or African green monkeys. Most likely, they were sold to the United States for medical and military research.

“The community still loves them. They care for them. They want them protected,” says the study’s lead author.
Residents of the John Knox Village senior community took a trip to the International Space Station—sort of. They traveled to the station by computer. Participants wore headsets with video and sound. They imagined floating through space as astronauts gave them a tour of the station. The seniors are part of a Stanford University study.

“Regardless of my age, I was right in the middle of it,” says Anne Shelby. The 77-year-old had fun virtually touring the space station.

In other programs, residents can take virtual visits to Paris, Venice, and Egypt. They can attend a car rally, skydive, or go on a hike. The program goal is to see if virtual reality can improve residents’ moods and teach them about technology. So far, it seems to be working!

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The Milky Way’s Busy Downtown

This picture is truly out of this world! NASA has released a stunning image of the Milky Way’s swirling, super-energized center. Scientists playfully call it the galaxy’s “downtown.”

The picture is a composite. That means it is made up of many images put together. A space telescope called the Chandra X-ray Observatory captured images from inside the galaxy. It took more than two decades to do so. Scientists pieced together 370 of those shots to form this image. It shows billions of stars and countless black holes in the heart of the Milky Way.

Astronomers say this busy galactic center is 26,000 light years away. The energy, light, colors, and features in the picture may make us say “Wow!” But considering the mind of God who created it all is even more wondrous!

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Shoo, Elephants!

Chinese authorities tried to stop a 15-elephant herd as it walked into the big city of Kunming. Authorities blocked traffic on roads while elephants crossed. They set up barriers. They used food as bait to keep the herd from stomping through busy streets. But the pachyderms kept moving. The elephants wandered the streets of Eshan. Residents waited inside buildings as the herd made its way through town. The big beasts tromped through Yuxi, a city of seven million people!

A task force of 360 people with 76 cars and nine drones tracked the elephants. Damage caused by the herd is estimated to be $1.1 million, according to the official Xinhua News Agency. Chinese wildlife authorities don’t know why the elephants left a nature reserve last year. So far, they have walked 300 miles together.

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Virtual Reality Helps Seniors

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WORD-MATH  You’ve reached the end of this issue. Way to go! Now see if you can solve these word-math problems. Each word/answer is taken from the articles in the issue.

1. opposite of she
   A
   opposite of off
   R
   fourteenth letter of the alphabet
   F

2. fifth letter of the alphabet
   B
   opposite of hi
   N
   sixteenth letter of the alphabet
   C
   happy cat sound
   T
   O

3. P
   third letter of the alphabet
   T
   R
   up

Answers on page 5