



This week's big news

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A need for truck drivers



Trucks move about 72% of all products across the US. But in the past two years, the number of truck drivers dropped by 22,000. About 68,000 more drivers are needed to keep up with demand. Many drivers have retired, and too few people want to replace them, due in part to safety concerns.

World faces product shortages, delays

Deople in the US and around the world are waiting weeks or months for products they purchased to arrive. Many items are also in short supply. These growing problems are due to disruptions to what is called the global supply chain and are a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. The US government has stepped in to help.

What is the global supply chain?

The supply chain is a system of moving goods from one country to another country to be sold or used. The chain begins where products are made, which is often in Asia. For example, bicycles made in China are built at a factory, then

loaded into a shipping container. The container is put on a huge ship with thousands of other containers and travels across the ocean to the US. Once the ship arrives, the bikes are taken out of the container and loaded onto a truck, train, or plane that carries them to stores around the US, where they are bought by consumers.

What is happening and why?

The time it takes for products to travel from China to their final US destination has increased by 83% in the past two years—from 40 days in 2019 to 73 days in 2021. In California, the Port of Los Angeles

and the Port of Long Beach receive 40% of the shipping containers sent to the US. Ships holding thousands of containers full of products, such as sneakers and computers, are stuck at sea there, waiting to dock. At the same time, thousands of full containers are sitting on the docks, waiting to be emptied. This is happening because the Covid-19 pandemic caused shutdowns and worker shortages in factories, at ports where ships load and unload, in warehouses, in the trucking and hauling industries, and in retail stores. That means there aren't enough people to make the products and move them along the supply chain.

There was also a shortage of shipping containers, causing backups in rail yards and shipyards. Meanwhile,

during the pandemic, Americans bought more goods than usual, increasing demand. In August 2021, Americans spent about \$900 billion more than they did in August 2019.

How are Americans being affected?

have raised prices.

While people wait for products to arrive, many retailers, like grocery stores, have raised their prices because of higher shipping costs and other expenses. Retail experts say the backlog could delay important items, such as medications and medical supplies. Ongoing shortages and delays

could lead to empty store shelves and affect holiday sales of toys and other gifts. Elected officials are concerned about inflation (a decrease in people's ability to buy things due to rising prices) and the possibility that the nation's economy could slow down.

What is being done to help?

On October 13, President Joe Biden announced a plan to keep the Port of Los Angeles open around the clock. (The Port of Long Beach had already begun a pilot program in September to remain open overnight.) Some companies, including Costco and Walmart, have hired their own cargo vessels rather than waiting for ships. Three of the nation's largest shippers—Walmart, UPS, and FedEx—said they would operate around the clock. Target, Samsung, and Home Depot also said they would transport more products at night.

What will happen next?

Some products should begin to move onto shelves more quickly as a result of these changes, but officials are concerned that some delays could last for months. What happens will depend on how Americans spend money in the coming months. If people buy less, the system could start to move more quickly. But companies will still need time to fill orders that have already been placed, which may take until 2022.

Space telescope preps for launch

NASA, the US space agency, announced the successful arrival of its James Webb Space Telescope in French Guiana, on the coast of South America, on October 12. It marks the start of final preparations for the launch of the world's largest and most powerful telescope.

Since the telescope was first envisioned in the 1990s, a team of 1,200 scientists across the US, Canada, and Europe have worked on the \$10 billion project. The telescope's job will be to orbit space and record footage. Scientists will use that data to explore the history of space and answer questions about how galaxies formed as far back as 100 million years ago.

Over a 16-day journey at sea, the telescope, which weighs nearly 14,000 pounds, traveled 5,800 miles from its testing site in Southern California to French Guiana. It was transported on a French cargo ship in a custom-built case, designed to hold up against extreme or unexpected weather conditions. Following two months of preparations, the telescope is set to launch on December 18.



Oprah Winfrey. A family photo of Henrietta Lacks Woman's scientific legacy honored

The World Health Organization (WHO) has honored Henrietta Lacks, a Black American who unknowingly made it possible for scientists around the world to make important discoveries. The WHO

is an agency run by the United Nations (group of 193 nations working for peace and cooperation).

Lacks, who lived in Maryland, was diagnosed with cancer in 1951 at age 31. During her treatment, doctors removed samples of her cancer cells without her—or her family's—knowledge or permission. At the time, it was common for white doctors to do this to Black patients. Lacks died eight months after her diagnosis, but her cells lived on. They became known as HeLa (short for Henrietta Lacks) cells and were the first human cells ever to be cloned (copied in their exact form)

Copies of her cells have been sold to scientists worldwide and used in almost 75,000 studies. They have helped researchers create vaccines. including one for polio, and develop treatments for serious illnesses. They are now being used in studies aimed at halting the Covid-19 pandemic.

The WHO recognized Lacks on October 13 with a special posthumous (after death) award for her "world-changing contribution to medical science." WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said, "In honoring Henrietta Lacks, WHO acknowledges the importance of reckoning with past scientific injustices."

Lawrence Lacks, age 87, said, "My mother's contributions, once hidden, are now being rightfully honored for their global impact."



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IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

FEEDING A COMMUNITY

A restaurant fighting food insecurity has served its 100,000th meal. Taste Community Restaurant in Forth Worth, Texas, lets diners pay what they can so that no one goes hungry. "It's been an amazing ride," said founder Jeff Williams.



A BIG CLIMB

Rustam Nabiev became the first person without legs to reach the top of Mount Manaslu in Nepal. "I wanted to show that anything in this life can be accomplished through action," said

Nabiev, who is from Russia and used his arms to propel himself up the mountain. Manaslu, at 26,781 feet, is the world's eighth tallest peak.

A HEARTWARMING SIGHT

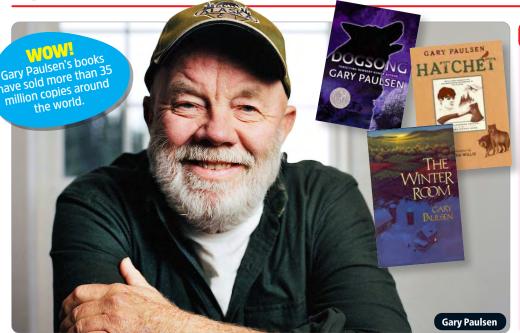
A Florida man spotted a surprise when his drone camera captured a school of fish forming a heart shape in the ocean. Paul Dabill said the school of crevalle jack fish held the shape for several seconds before moving into other shapes. "It was a special and beautiful moment," Dabill said.



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National news



A final book from Paulsen

Gary Paulsen's final novel, titled NORTHWIN Northwind, is set to be published in January 2022. It tells the story of a young boy who escapes a deadly plague (infection) in his community and must navigate the Pacific Northwest coastline in a canoe. The survival tale unfolds in a dramatic setting where rugged ocean meets coastal wilderness.

Children's author Gary Paulsen is remembered

Gary Paulsen, the author of more than 200 books for young people, died on October 13 at age 82. He entertained and inspired thousands of children with his adventure stories about surviving in the wilderness. He also won many awards, including the Newbery Medal.

Who was Gary Paulsen?

Paulsen was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1939, to parents who often struggled to care for him. At one point, he was sent to live with an aunt and uncle in northern Minnesota, which is where he learned to fish, hunt, and live outside. He said the wilderness and libraries were his escape. As an adult, Paulsen worked as a ranch hand, on a sailing crew, and on a dogsled in Alaska. These experiences eventually inspired his writing.



The word "ghost" has a silent "h," and there's a story behind it. Until printing was introduced to England by William Caxton in 1476, the spelling was "gost." But Caxton's printing team included Flemish speakers, whose word for ghost was gheest.

The printers decided to add an "h" to the word, and the spelling stuck.

How did he get his start?

Paulsen published his first book—*Mr. Tucket*, about a 14-year-old pioneer on the Oregon Trail—in 1968. Over the next 12 years, he wrote more than 40 books. In 1985, he published *Dogsong*, which was inspired by his time in Alaska and earned him his first Newbery Honor. Two years later, he wrote what is considered his most famous book, *Hatchet*, which won the Newbery Medal. The main character is a boy who survives a plane crash in the Canadian wilderness. *The Winter Room*, published in 1989, was also named a Newbery Honor book.

What was the reaction to his work?

Paulsen's stories encouraged children to take care of themselves. *Hatchet*, which taught readers how to survive in the wilderness with nothing but the

tool the book is named after, became the standard for survival novels. His books also inspired a love of reading. "If I have...a reluctant reader, all I have to do is hand him one of Gary Paulsen's books," teacher Teri Lesesne told *The New York Times*.

How will he be remembered?

Paulsen's books changed readers' lives, said book editor Wesley Adams. Publisher Jon Anderson told *Publishers Weekly*, "Gary knew how to show children the untapped strength hidden within themselves." Paulsen, who believed that the most important thing children can do is read, once said, "Read... with a flashlight under the covers, read on the bus, standing on a corner, waiting for a friend, in the dentist's waiting room. Read every minute you can. Read like a wolf eats. Read."

THE WEEK IN HISTORY

October 27, 2004

Red Sox Win historic World Series
On October 27, 2004, the Boston Red Sox
won Major League Baseball's World Series
championship for the first time in 86 years,
beating the St. Louis Cardinals. It was the first
time the Red Sox had won since 1918. For
years, some people said the team was cursed
because it had traded baseball star Babe Ruth
to the New York Yankees in 1920. The Red Sox
have won three more World Series since 2004.



THE REST OF THE PERSON OF THE

Plan for wind farms announced

A wind farm

The Biden administration announced on October 13 that it plans to develop large wind farms along nearly the entire coastline of the US. Wind farms consist of wind turbines that use the power of the wind to produce electricity. The US government hopes to use federal waters in the Gulf of Maine, in the Gulf of Mexico, and off the coasts of Oregon, California, North Carolina, and South Carolina. One energy leader called the plan "ambitious but achievable."



McDonald's to test veggie burger

McDonald's, the world's largest fast-food chain, said it will begin testing its first vegetarian burger. The McPlant will be available for a trial period in eight US locations starting November 3. The patty, which is made with ingredients like peas, rice, and potatoes, was developed with Beyond Meat, a company that produces meat substitutes. Burger King and other chains also offer plant-based burgers.



Artist reveals portrait on grass

Landscape artist Stan Herd has revealed his latest "earthwork," a massive portrait of US astronaut Stephanie Wilson. The grass mural, 70 feet by 90 feet, is displayed in a park in Atlanta, Georgia. Herd, 71, chose Wilson, the second Black woman to go into space, to honor the 2021 World Space Week theme of Women in Space. His past earthworks include a portrait of pilot Amelia Earhart.



California law to change toy aisles

Lego said it will sell toys

On October 9, California became the first US state to pass a law requiring large retail stores to have a section of toys that are gender neutral (when something is meant for any gender, not just for boys or for girls). Governor Gavin Newsom signed the bill into law after it passed the state legislature (the part of government that makes laws).

National news

Stores in California can still have separate toy sections for boys and girls. But under the new

law they must also have a section of toys for everyone. Stores will also need a section of non-gendered child care items, such as toothbrushes. The law does not apply to clothing.

The law is meant to reduce gender bias, said state assembly member Evan Low, the Democrat who sponsored the bill. Gender bias is when a person is stereotyped based on their

sex. One example is when dolls are advertised to girls and trucks are advertised to boys. Another example is when pink items are marketed to girls and blue items are marketed to boys.

Many groups expressed approval of the new law. The Consumer Federation of California, for example, is an organization that advocates for consumers (people who purchase things). It said that separating toys by gender is inappropriate because children should feel like they are able to play with all toys, regardless of type or color.

Others objected to the law. Some said it could interfere with a business owner's right to display

products the way they want to. State senator Melissa Melendez, a

Republican, voted against the law, saying that toy sections organized by gender are convenient for parents.

In addition to the
California law, some toy
companies are deciding to
make their products nongendered. Lego, the world's
largest toymaker, recently

announced that it would eliminate gender stereotypes from its products. The company said it also plans to include more diverse characters to help all children feel represented.

THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Bear spotted wrestling with display pumpkin" ABC 7 Chicago



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Around the world

Around the world





▼ London, United Kingdom Shredded painting auctioned

A work by the British street artist Banksy sold at an auction for \$25.4 million. The painting, of a girl with a balloon, had been sold in 2018 for \$1.4 million. But once that sale was completed, a shredder hidden in the frame turned on and shredded half the painting. The stunt was a criticism by Banksy of the role of money in the art world.





ancient poop

Hallstatt salt mines, Austria Poop reveals surprising diet

A sample of 2,700-year-old poop from a salt mine in Austria has revealed that the workers there enjoyed blue cheese and beer. The finding has surprised the scientists who studied the samples, as it was not known that people at that time knew how to make cheese. It is the earliest evidence of people making cheese in Europe.



Negev Desert, Israel Astronauts train for Mars in desert

Israel's Negev Desert is being used as a training ground for six analog astronauts (people who help simulate life on other planets) to see what life would be like on Mars. The astronauts will spend a month living on a small base and conducting experiments. The red, rocky terrain resembles the landscape on Mars, but the temperature is much warmer than the freezing cold red planet.



Shanxi. China **Heavy flooding affects millions**

Nearly 2 million people have been affected by flooding in China's Shanxi province. Shanxi's capital, Taiyuan, experienced an average rainfall of more than seven inches in one week. The average rainfall there in October from 1981–2010 was less than one inch. Approximately 17,000 homes have been destroyed by the floods. Shanxi is also home to ancient monuments that are at major risk due to the severe rainfall.



Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso Africa's biggest film festival begins

On October 16, the 27th edition of Africa's largest film festival started in Burkina Faso. The Fespaco festival features 239 films from 50 countries. It celebrates films mainly made in Africa by Africans. A selection of 17 films will compete for the festival's grand prize, the Golden Stallion of Yennenga, which is named after a beast in Burkinabé mythology.

Dingle, Ireland **Town honors beloved dolphin**

About 1,000 people attended a memorial in Dingle, Ireland, for one of the town's most beloved residents, a bottlenose dolphin named Fungie. Fungie had lived in Dingle for 37 years but had not been seen in about a year and was presumed to have died. He had become a tourist attraction for the town. Locals also credited him with raising awareness of the importance of taking care of marine environments.



Mexico City. Mexico Columbus statue to be replaced

A statue of explorer Christopher Columbus is expected to soon be replaced with one of an Indigenous (first people known to have inhabited a place) woman in Mexico's capital of Mexico City. The Columbus statue was removed last year after Indigenous rights activists threatened to tear it down. The new statue is said to represent the fight of Indigenous Mexican women for equal rights.



Liberia

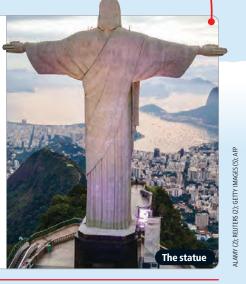
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■ Teen called a hero for returning lost cash

An 18-year-old motorcycle taxi driver was called a hero for returning \$50,000 to its owner. Emmanuel Tuloe found the money in a plastic bag on the road. He contacted Musu Yancy after she made a plea on the radio for anyone who found the money to come forward. The country's president praised Tuloe and gave him a \$10,000 reward and a scholarship.



On October 12, people in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, celebrated the 90th birthday of the city's famous Christ the Redeemer statue. A religious ceremony was held to mark the anniversary. and Brazilian composer Moacyr Luz wrote a song about the 125-foot-tall statue that towers over the city. In 2007 the statue was declared one of the seven wonders of the modern world.



Somalia/ Kenya **World court rules on**

water ownership The International Court of Justice

(ICJ), also known as the World Court, has ruled that Somalia owns most of an area of ocean off the coast of East Africa. The waters in the Indian Ocean are the subject of a long-running disagreement between Somalia and neighboring country Kenya. The part of the ocean that was in dispute is believed to be rich in oil and gas. Kenya said it rejected the ruling.



demonstrating

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The big debate

Are road tests necessary for teen drivers?

Some say new drivers should be able to get a license without taking a road test.

What you need to know

- The minimum age to get a driver's license in most states is 16. Teens must complete a driver's education course, pass a written test, and take a road test.
- Since the pandemic, Wisconsin has waived road tests for drivers ages 16 and 17. The state is considering making this change permanent. Iowa and Nebraska have similar waivers.
- Studies show that teens ages 16–19 are at the highest risk of any age group to be in a motor vehicle crash.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the state of Wisconsin has allowed qualified 16- and 17-year-olds who have completed their driver's education requirements, which include 50 hours of supervised driving, to skip taking a road test and go straight to a probationary license (a license issued to a new driver). At the end of 2021, the state will decide if it will make this change permanent. Iowa and Nebraska have already adopted similar waivers for teens. Some agree with these changes and say the other steps teens have to take to get a license are sufficient, but others say it's dangerous. What do you think? Are road tests necessary for teen drivers?

Three reasons why road tests are necessary for teen drivers

- The road test puts teens in real driving situations before they get a license.
- A road test not only tests teens' driving skills but also whether they understand and can follow the laws of their state.
- There needs to be a uniform way to grade teen drivers to make sure they are ready to drive independently.



Yes—of course teen drivers need a test

Motor vehicle crashes are the second leading cause of death in teens. Even after taking a driving course and practicing for hours, teens do not have enough real-world experience to start driving on their own. It's important to test a teen's knowledge of the rules of the road—and not just with a written test. Can they follow their state's driving laws while operating a car? Only a road test, taken behind the wheel with an examiner who will pass or fail them, can determine that. Plus, a road test includes a uniform list of requirements, which ensures that every driver who passes has a certain level of knowledge. Nothing can substitute for a road test.

No—it's not necessary for safe driving

After 50 hours of supervised driving plus a driver's education course, teens are more than prepared to get a license. In fact, 16- and 17-year-olds are likely to have much more driving practice than adults over 18 who seek a license. And think of the time that will be saved. Waiving the road test for teens who meet the standards opens up slots for adults who need one and also lets busy motor vehicle departments complete work that piled up during the pandemic. Experts agree that practice is the best way to reduce car accidents. Skipping the road test and letting teens drive earlier gives them time to get better.

Three reasons why road tests are not necessary for teen drivers

- Teen drivers have many required hours of supervised driving. They have had plenty of practice without taking a road test.
- Waiving the road test for younger teens opens spots for adults who must take it.
- A test is still just that—a test. The best way to improve the ability to drive is by actually doing it.

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week we asked whether emojis help enrich people's language. Most of you said yes,

but some of you gave emojis a thumbs-down.

What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, have a parent or guardian visit theweekjunior.com/polls with you so you can vote in our debate. Vote YES if you think road tests are necessary for teen drivers or NO if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.

TY IMAGES

People

A life in the arts

Actress Sonia Manzano has spent her career creating for young people.

at an awards ceremony

Sonia Manzano loves that most of her life has been spent with puppets. Having played Maria on Sesame Street since the 1970s, Manzano has acted with some of the most famous Muppets of all time, from Big Bird to Elmo. She began as a performer but then started writing for the show, too. She earned 15 Emmy Awards (a top award in television) as a part of the writing staff.

Now Manzano is working on a new show for young kids, an animated

series on PBS called *Alma's Way*. The show centers on Alma Rivera, a confident Puerto Rican girl living in the Bronx, New York. In each episode, Alma learns how to speak up for herself, make tough decisions, and help friends. Manzano, 71, is one of the show's writers and executive producers. "The goal of the show is that kids know they

have a brain and they can use it," she told PIX11 News. The message is that "the way you see the world is just as valid as the way anybody else sees the world," she said.

Manzano, like Alma, grew up in the Bronx. She went to the High School of

the Performing Arts in New York City. In 1971, at age 21, she won the part of Maria, the first leading Latina role in a national series. For 44 years, children grew up with Maria. Manzano retired in 2015.

She is also an author of several books. In her 2015 memoir, she said she had a difficult childhood. She once said that watching TV was a comfort, and when she played Maria on Sesame Street, she "never forgot that feeling. I wanted to be a comfort by being sincere and somebody who [kids] could relate to, and Alma, I think, is going to do the same thing."



Teen runs for office

Raymond Adderly of South Florida is running to be the first student elected to a seat on the Broward County School Board. Adderly, 17, served as class president at Fort Lauderdale High School in 2019 and 2020 and is currently the student representative to the board (which means he can speak publicly, but not vote, on issues that affect students). "I decided to run for the board because my voice opens up the door for more young people," Adderly told Good Moming America, adding that he hopes his candidacy will inspire other teens to get involved in local politics.



Linda Yuen Lambrecht

Saving her language

awaii native Linda Yuen Lambrecht, 76, is fighting to save Hawaiian Sign Language (HSL) from extinction. A teacher of American Sign Language (ASL) for more than 40 years and born profoundly deaf, Lambrecht learned HSL from her older brothers, who were also deaf. HSL dates back to the 1820s, but now fewer than 100 Hawaiians know it. Lambrecht offers free HSL classes to the public and films herself using HSL to tell Hawaiian stories, including the legend of the demigod Maui, the basis for the Disney film *Moana*. HSL "is one of our culture's greatest treasures," Lambrecht said.



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Animals and the environment



Top predators

Orcas are considered the apex (top) predator of the ocean. This means orcas have no natural predator above them. (They even eat sharks!) On land, there are several apex predators that dominate their respective food chains. They include the polar bear (below), snow leopard, golden eagle, and lion.



Pregnant orcas spotted in the wild

Researchers in the Pacific Northwest are thrilled to have discovered that three southern resident orcas, also called killer whales, are pregnant. When pregnant, orcas have a distinctive bulge under their rib cage, similar to humans. Currently, there are only 73 of these mammals living freely in the wild.

Since 2005, this
community of orcas has been
listed as endangered under the
Endangered Species Act, which
means they are in danger of
extinction (dying out). Researchers are
excited about these potential new calves,
since the only way to increase the orca population
is to have more births than deaths.

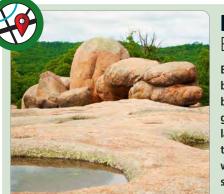
Orca mothers give birth to one calf at a time, usually every three to 10 years. They can have as many as five calves in their lifetime. Orcas also have one of the longest pregnancies of

any mammal — 17 months. Over the past two decades, more southern resident orcas have died than been born, bringing their population to its lowest number since the 1970s.

There are about 90 different species of whales, dolphins, and porpoises. Orcas are the largest member of the dolphin

family. They eat everything from salmon to sharks to whales. Male orcas can live up to 60 years, and females can live more than 90 years. The community of orcas off the coast of the Pacific Northwest live in three pods (families). They feed mainly on wild salmon in the area. The US government and wildlife organizations monitor the salmon population to make sure there is plenty of food. Food shortages are one of the main reasons the southern resident orca population has been in decline.

Besides food problems, pollution and vessel noise also affect the orcas' population size and birth rate. Last year, at least five orcas became pregnant, and three of those calves survived childbirth. Researchers are hopeful that the new pregnancies will result in more healthy calves. "It's positive news for sure," researcher John Durban told *The Washington Post*. "We can't have a recovery without calves, so it's really exciting."



PLACE OF THE WEEK

A mother and calf

Elephant Rocks State Park, Missouri

Elephant Rocks State Park in Missouri gets its name from its giant boulders that resemble a circus train of elephants. The rocks began forming from magma 1.5 billion years ago. Today, gray-green lichens grow on the granite surfaces of the rocks. The largest boulder, named Dumbo, is 27 feet tall and weighs 680 tons. The Braille Trail, which is designed to be accessible to people with visual impairments, winds through the park. Visitors have spotted more than 100 bird species, including eagles, blue jays, red-shouldered hawks, and American goldfinches.



Animals and the environment





Research shows giraffes fight fair

Giraffes like to take part in sparring, a sort of mock fighting, and when they do, they fight fair, according to new research from a private reserve in South Africa. The behavior also appears to be safer than real fighting, as the researchers did not observe any injuries from these sparring matches.

Older giraffes will fight over mates or territory—but only rarely because of the danger involved. During fights, they thrust their necks, and the ossicones (the horn-like objects on top of their heads) can cut flesh and cause real damage.

Sparring is mostly done by young males. Researchers believe they do it to test their potential in more intense fights. When choosing a sparring partner, they tend to pick males of a similar size rather than smaller giraffes.

Researchers also noted that the giraffes attacked from the same side, either right or left, every time. If, during a match, one animal ended up on the side he did not like to fight from, the pair would stop sparring and reposition themselves. "There was no cheating," the study's lead author said.



A southern white rhinoceros was born at Whipsnade Zoo in the UK. The calf, named Nandi (which means "sweet one" in the Zulu language), is one of eight southern white rhinos at the zoo. Southern white rhinos are at risk of going extinct.

- LIFE SPAN: 35 years in the wild, 40 in captivity
- SIZE: Up to 6 feet tall and 7,920 pounds
- HABITAT: Grassy areas in savannas in Africa
- DIET: Grass (as much as 120 pounds a day)
- **FUN FACT:** Southern white rhinos are the world's second-largest land mammal after the elephant.

Good week / Bad week



Eastern quoll joeysA breeding facility in

Australia announced the birth of 28 eastern quoll babies, called joeys. More than 150 eastern quoll joeys, which are endangered, have been born at the facility, Aussie Ark, since 2017.



Western chimpanzees

Roads in West Africa are a threat to critically endangered western chimpanzees, a new study shows. Speeding vehicles and other problems have led the population to decline. A single major road can harm chimps for up to 10 miles.

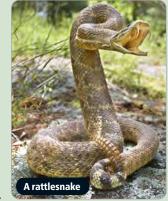


"What is the best way to outrun a hungry snake?"

Galit, 14, New Yor

Jasmine Rosario Zookeeper, Sacramento Zoo

Generally, snakes do not want to eat people or chase them. They do not want to spend the energy or take the risk. But if you accidentally encounter one outdoors, a startled snake may flee or may try to defend itself. To avoid being bitten, the best thing to do is to back away and let it be.



Do you have a question for a zookeeper? Send it to hello@theweekjunior.com. Find out more about the Sacramento Zoo at saczoo.org.

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SHUTTERSTOCK



A fun night of ghouls and goodies

Find out why we dress up. eat candy. and get spooky on Halloween.

Every October, people carve pumpkins, decorate their homes, and prepare their costumes for the spookiest day of the year. Take a look at the stories behind some classic Halloween traditions.



Halloween history

The origins of Halloween go back about 3,000 years to the Celts, a collection of tribes who lived across much of Europe. November 1 was their new year's day and the end of the harvest. The night before the new year, the Celts thought the worlds of the living and the dead overlapped and ghosts returned to Earth. On October 31 they held a festival called Samhain (pronounced SOWin), in which they dressed up in animal skins, lit bonfires, and left offerings to their ancestors. About 1,000 years ago, the Christian church replaced the November 1 holiday with All Saints' Day. In medieval England this was known as All Hallows, which made October 31 All Hallows' Eve. That name later became Halloween.

Tricks and treats

At this time of year, medieval Christians made "soul cakes" to honor the dead. Children went "souling," visiting families and offering prayers in exchange for cake. In Scotland and Ireland, people dressed up in costumes and sang or read poetry. Irish immigrants brought these and other traditions to America in the 1800s. Americans started dressing up in Halloween costumes, telling ghost stories, and playing pranks. By the 1930s, people gave out sweets or toys to stop kids from their "tricks." Before long, costumed children were walking door-to-door and asking, "Trick or treat?"



Creepy creatures

Ghosts

Stories about the spirits of people who have died exist in many cultures. Ancient Egyptians were among the first to tell spooky ghost stories.



The zombie originated in folklore from Haiti. In popular culture, the mindless body of a person brought back from death (or infected by another zombie's bite) usually hungers for brains.



Vampires

These fanged folks evolved through hundreds of years of stories, mainly in Eastern Europe. Bram Stoker's 1897 novel Dracula first linked them with another Halloween favorite: bats.



Beastly beings like mummies and werewolves have filled screens and pages for centuries. The earliest known mention of men turning into wolves was in the poem The Epic of Gilgamesh in 2100 BCE.



also originated in Europe. The Celts carved faces into turnips, potatoes, and beets to scare away evil spirits. An 18th-century Irish folktale about a man named Stingy Jack, who placed a burning coal in a carved-out turnip, inspired the nickname Jack-of-the-Lantern, or jack-o'-lantern. Immigrants to the US found it easier to carve pumpkins, a crop grown in the Americas. In 1820, Washington Irving's short story "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" featured a scene in which the Headless Horseman throws a pumpkin—but many Americans pictured him holding a fiery jack-o'-lantern. The glowing gourd became a symbol of Halloween.



Haunted houses

In the early 1800s in England, artist Marie Tussaud shocked people by opening an exhibition of creepy wax figures called the Chamber of Horrors. A public taste for terror began to grow. In 1915, a carnival ride company in the UK created a darkened funhouse with shaking floors and scary screams—an early haunted house. During the Great Depression (1929–1939), Americans started throwing haunted house parties, decorating their front lawns, homes, and basements with spooky scenes. Disneyland opened its Haunted Mansion attraction in 1969, and visitors loved its realistic projections of ghosts and ghouls. Within a few years, the country was hooked on haunted houses. Today anyone looking for a Halloween scare can visit haunted hotels, theme parks, and corn mazes.

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Potty training cows to help the planet

People typically become toilet trained when they are toddlers, but humans aren't the only animals who can learn how to go to the bathroom in a particular place. Dogs and cats can be trained, and horses are also capable of it. Recently, scientists in Germany showed that young cows can learn this behavior too.

The scientists studied 16 calves at a farm animal research facility. They trained the animals to pee on a pad inside a pen by rewarding them for good behavior, similar to the way many adults potty train children.

The calves were held in an area that included the pee pen, which the scientists called the MooLoo ("loo" is a word for bathroom in some other countries). When the calves did their business in the right place, they got a sweet molasses treat. When they didn't, the scientists sprayed them with water for three seconds. Over time, 10 of the 16 cows learned to find the pen and use the pee pad when they had to relieve themselves. This is about as successful as kids are when they are learning to use the toilet.

Why potty train a cow? Doing so can help the environment. There are 1.4 billion cows on Earth, and each one pees a lot—up to 8 gallons a day. When this urine mixes with wet soil, it can produce a gas called nitrous oxide. Nitrous oxide is a type of greenhouse gas, which traps

heat in the atmosphere and warms the planet over time. Nitrous oxide

accounted for 7% of greenhouse gases in 2019, which is far less than gases like carbon dioxide and methane, but it is still enough to have an effect.

Cow urine also contains a gas called nitrogen. When nitrogen is mixed with cow poop, it becomes a gas called ammonia.

Ammonia can affect air quality and harm soil and plants. Cow waste can also affect water quality, which can cause health problems for people who drink it, including headaches, stomachaches, and more serious issues like an increased heart rate.

The research team who conducted the study said they hope potty training cows can help experts collect and dispose of the animals' urine before it causes harm.

Researching burps and poop



It's not just cow pee that has an effect on the environment—their burps and poop do too.

When cows burp, they release huge amounts of methane, a harmful greenhouse gas. Scientists are testing changes to their diet that could reduce the amount of gas the animals release.

Seaweed and garlic are among the most promising ingredients so far.

When cows poop, bacteria feed on the waste, creating more methane. Researchers are getting creative with that as well. They are putting the poop into large tanks called biodigesters, which capture the methane. The gas can then be burned to create electricity. At a power plant in Oregon, researchers are doing the same with human waste.

Science and technology



The world's whitest paint helps cool surfaces

The world's whitest paint is also the coolest. Developed by scientists at Purdue University in Indiana, the ultra-white paint has the potential to cool its surroundings and reduce the need for air-conditioning. It even recently won a Guinness World Record

When light
hits a surface, it is
either absorbed or
reflected, depending
on the color of the
surface and what it is
made of. A surface with a dark col

for being so white.

made of. A surface with a dark color absorbs light, and when it does that, it heats up. A light-colored surface reflects light, which prevents it from warming up. White surfaces reflect the most light of all, and the whiter they are, the more they do so.

To make the new paint as white as possible, the scientists used a highly reflective chemical called barium sulfate. They included particles of the chemical at different sizes, which made it even more reflective. Their

formulation reflects up to 98% of sunlight, more than any paint currently

on the market.

When the team
tested their superwhite paint, they found
that it kept the surface it was

applied to cooler than its surroundings by almost 20° F at night and 8° F at midday. If a roof about the size of a classroom was painted this whitest white, it would be "more powerful than the central air conditioners used by most houses," said Xiulin Ruan, one of the paint's creators.





Telescope peeks into space cloud

ASA's Hubble Space Telescope continues to reveal the secrets of our universe. The large space observatory has peered into a distant gas cloud, offering insight into how stars like the Sun are born.

The "star nursery" is called AFGL 5180 and is located in the Gemini constellation (a group of stars in a pattern). It's so far away that its light has taken 4,900 years to reach Earth. This means scientists are peering 4,900 years into the past.

Stars are created when clouds of gas and dust collapse in on themselves. The material inside heats up and becomes a young star called a protostar. Over millions of years, it grows into a full-size star.

Most of AFGL 5180's glow is powered by the bright and powerful young star at its center (near the center of the image above), which weighs much more than the Sun. Other parts of the cloud appear as dark shadows and silhouettes.



Two teams are using spider silk, one of the strongest materials on Earth, as inspiration for new designs. Scientists at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, created a synthetic (artificial) spider silk that is stronger than the real thing. The fiber could be used to

make bulletproof vests, surgical stitches, or other inventions.

A UK design team spent eight years collecting silk from about 2 million golden orb-weaver spiders in Madagascar, turned it into fabric, and made four items of clothing from it. Three are now on display in London.

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Photos of the week

Photos of the week



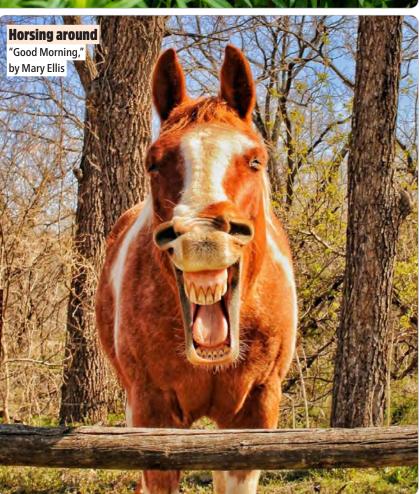












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Sports



The WNBA trophy



The sterling silver WNBA championship trophy was designed by Tiffany & Co., a famous jewelry company. The trophy, which was first given out in 1997 and depicts a seven-inch basketball on three pillars, is 19 inches tall and weighs 12 pounds.

Chicago wins WNBA championship

game throughout the series.

elimination games in the first and second round of

postseason runs, making it through single-

Allyson Felix

the playoffs, then eliminating the league's top

Chicago and Phoenix both had impressive

On October 17, the Chicago Sky won the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) championship. They defeated the Phoenix Mercury, 80-74, in Game 4 of the best-of-five finals. It is the Sky's first title in their 15-year history. This is also the first time that one of the top two playoff teams did not win the championship. Chicago had finished the regular season in sixth place, with a 16-16 record.

The Sky secured their Game 4 victory with an incredible comeback in the fourth quarter. During that time, the Sky outscored the Mercury 26–11. The guarter began with Phoenix leading 63–54. With less than five minutes left to play, they were up 72–65. But then

teams in the semifinals. Chicago knocked out the Chicago's Allie Quigley started a scoring run that included a game-tying three-pointer by Connecticut Sun, who had finished the season in teammate Candace Parker, two consecutive first place, while Phoenix eliminated the second-seeded (ranked) Las Vegas Aces. layups by Stefanie Dolson, and successful

> free throws by Courtney Vandersloot. The first two games of the finals were Quigley scored 26 points in the played in Phoenix. Chicago won Game 1, game, and Parker had 16 points, 91–77. Game 2 was a hard-fought battle that 13 rebounds, and five assists. went into overtime. Phoenix eventually won, After the game, Sky guard 91–86, and evened up the series. The action Kahleah Copper was named then moved to Chicago. The Sky dominated WNBA Finals MVP. She averaged Game 3, outscoring the Mercury in every 17 points and 5.5 rebounds per guarter on their way to a blowout 86-50 win.

> > The championship title was extra special for the Sky's Parker, who grew up outside Chicago and joined the team this season. In an interview after the final game, she said, "We are champions for life now."

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

FEMALE ATHLETES

At an event on October 13, the Women's Sports Foundation (WSF) named Olympic track star Allyson Felix and Olympic volleyball gold medalist Jordan Larson its Sportswomen of the Year. The WSF also gave a courage award to tennis champion Naomi Osaka and a leadership award to Miami Marlins general manager (GM) Kim Ng, the first female GM of a major American sports team.



On October 17, the Portland Thorns (NWSL) in the regular season.

The Seattle Kraken, a new team in the NHL, got their first win on October 14, with a 4-3 victory over the Nashville Predators. Kraken goalie Philipp Grubauer made 27 saves.

defeated the Houston Dash, 1-0, to claim the 2021 NWSL Shield, the trophy given to the best team in the **National Women's Soccer League**

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE





MLB playoffs down to four teams

Major League Baseball (MLB) is getting closer to the World Series, with four teams remaining in the playoffs when The Week Junior went to press. The Boston Red Sox and Houston Astros are playing in the American League Championship Series (ALCS), and the Los Angeles Dodgers and Atlanta Braves are competing in the National League Championship Series (NLCS).

In the ALCS Game 3 on October 18, the Red Sox beat the Astros, 12–3, to take a 2–1 lead in their best-of-seven series. The big moment of the game came in the second inning, when Boston's Kyle Schwarber hit a grand slam (a home run with the bases loaded). It was the third grand slam in the playoffs, an MLB record. In Game 2, which Boston won 9–5, Red Sox players J.D. Martinez and Rafael Devers each hit grand slams. That was

the first time in MLB history that two players from one team hit grand slams in a postseason game.

and Rafael Devers

In the NLCS, Atlanta led the series, 2–0, at press time. Game 2 was played on October 17, with Atlanta winning 5–4 after storming back from a 4-2 deficit. The Braves' Austin Riley hit a run-scoring double in the bottom of the eighth inning to tie the game 4–4. In the bottom of the ninth inning, Braves outfielder Eddie Rosario hit a walk-off single that brought in the winning run.

One day earlier in Game 1, the Braves beat the Dodgers 3–2. In another thriller, Riley hit a solo home run in the bottom of the fourth inning to tie the score, 2–2. After neither team scored for five innings, Riley was the hero again with a gamewinning single in the bottom of the ninth inning. The World Series begins on October 26.

SPOTLIGHT ON...



Garret Greenfield

AGE: 22 SPORT: FOOTBALL TEAM: SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Having a ball Growing up, my family always watched football on TV. I also saw my big brother play in a youth league and it looked like a lot of fun. He played in college and is a big influence on me.

Major growth lused

to feel a little undersized. Our strength coach helped me get

bigger, faster, and stronger. We also have a mental performance coach. I talk to him about forgetting bad plays and being a better player in every way.

Regular rituals Before a game, rock music from the 1980s gets me going. I also always eat a steak and cheese sub. I've done it since high school.

Favorite fans My family always comes to the games. After home games, I like to go out to eat with them. It's always nice to see them, and having some downtime with family helps me relax.

Balancing act I try to stay scheduled so that when I'm doing stuff for football I'm not stressing about my assignments. And when it's time to do my schoolwork, I'm not worried about football.

Big game This past spring, my team made it to the college championship. We didn't win. It's tough to come so close to something and then fall a little bit short. You've got to look at a loss as an opportunity to get better.

Role models I'm a Minnesota Vikings fan. I like players Brian O'Neill and Taylor Lewan. They spend a lot of time working to be the best they can be.

Best advice Play as many sports as you can when you're young. It's a lot of fun, you make good friends, and it helps you in all aspects of your life.



Coach's name: CJ Ingersoll

Team: The Texas Sports Team (softball)

"My coach helps me whenever I have trouble with something. She pushes me to do well in sports and school and encourages me to do better. She always focuses on whatever we are doing, and when she sets a goal, she won't stop until she completes it. I am very glad I have her as a coach. My teammates and I do well because of her, and we have a lot of fun. We also **learn about things that are new and different."** Grace, 11, Texas

To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to hello@ theweekjunior.com. Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.

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Arts and entertainment



New series in classic sci-fi world

n October 28, the new animated series Star Trek: Prodigy arrives on Paramount+. The series is part of one of the most popular science fiction franchises in the world.

The original Star Trek was a live-action television series that began airing in 1966. It was created by Gene Roddenberry, a former pilot. The series was about the crew on a Starfleet spacecraft. Their mission was to seek out and explore other worlds in the galaxy. It spun off more than 20 films and TV series.

Prodigy is the first *Star Trek* series aimed at younger viewers. It was made for newcomers and existing fans. The main characters are young aliens who discover a Starfleet ship and use it to find a better future. A hologram of a character

> from the Star Trek: Voyager series helps them. The show mixes adventure, humor, and heart. An expert in astrophysics (the science of the physical makeup of stars, planets, and other objects in outer space) made sure details in the show were scientifically accurate. Brothers Kevin and Dan Hageman

created Prodigy. They were fans of Star

Trek films as kids. Kevin said Star Trek's vision of the future is inspiring. "Our world comes together, unites with alien species and other planets, then we all go into space doing great things," he told The Week Junior. Dan added, "Through diversity, we find strength to solve problems."

One of the *Prodigy* characters is Rok-Tahk, a sensitive, animal-loving 8-year-old girl who looks like a giant rock monster. She is voiced by actress Rylee Alazraqui, age 10. She told The Week Junior that viewers can learn a lot from the show. "I know it's going to inspire many people to work together and use cooperation. It really is kind of magical and will make kids feel like they can do anything!"

3 fun Star Trek facts

Devoted fans

Star Trek fans, known as Trekkies, gather regularly at conventions around the world. The first one was held in New York in 1972. Trekkies often attend dressed as their favorite characters.

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Fictional language

Klingon, a language spoken by some aliens in the Star Trek franchise, is the most widely spoken fictional language in the world. There are even websites that translate **English to Klingon**



On October 13, 90-year-old actor William Shatner, a star of the original Star Trek series and some films, became the oldest person to ever travel to space. He was a passenger on a Blue Origin

rocket.



Arts and entertainment





Funny film about a boy and a bot

non's Gone Wrong, a new animated film from Disney and Locksmith Animation, is now playing in theaters. The heartwarming comedy deals with themes of friendship and the influence of technology on people's lives.

The film is about Barney Pudowski, a seventhgrader who has a hard time connecting with other kids. All of his classmates have B*Bots, which are like walking, talking iPads that also observe each owner's behavior and act like a friend. Barney gets his own B*Bot named Ron, but Ron isn't programmed properly. He doesn't know Barney's personality, says the wrong things, and does things that embarrass Barney at school.

In order for them to bond, Barney must overcome his own awkwardness and teach Ron about himself. Kylie Cantrall, who voices Ron's schoolmate Savannah, told The Week Junior, "The story is about embracing your quirks and all the things that make you, you."

Director Sarah Smith said the film was inspired by "the difficulties that kids have with friendship and the feeling that everyone else has got it down and they haven't." Ron ends up teaching Barney a lesson about what it means to be a friend. "Ron just wants to help you and wants to learn," said Peter Baynham, the film's co-writer and executive producer.



MOVIE NIGHT

Halloween is October 31, making now a perfect time to watch this spooky animated musical.

The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993) PG (Disney+)

This story begins on a Halloween night "in the holiday world of old." Citizens of Halloweentown have just finished scaring children around the world. The beloved pumpkin king, Jack Skellington, is always the star of the show, but he's grown bored of it. On a stroll that evening, he ends up in the town of Christmas, where he's dazzled by the warm spirit and widespread joy. Back in Halloweentown, Jack shares what he's discovered. He soon develops a plot to take over Christmas, kidnap Santa Claus, and steal his job. But as everyone prepares for the mission, a Halloweentown resident named Sally gets a vision of the plan going terribly wrong. Is it too late for her to stop Jack? This movie was made by Tim Burton, who created Frankenweenie and other popular films.





Karma's World (Netflix)

This new series is about 10-year-old Karma Grant, a gifted rapper who dreams of changing the world with her music. Each episode finds her coping with a different issue, such as feeling insecure or arguing with her friends. Songwriting helps Karma solve her problems.



Season of the Osprey (PBS) October 27 at 8 pm ET

A pair of ospreys (a type of sea hawk) have just flown 4,000 miles home from South America to a Connecticut salt marsh. Follow the birds up-close over the course of one summer as they battle enemy raptors, catch hundreds of fish, and raise their young.



Scaredy Cats (Netflix)

Willa Ward gets a charm for her 12th birthday that unlocks a world of witchcraft. This series follows her and her two best friends as thev shape-shift into cats and go exploring. Willa's charm has a dark history, so they must keep it from getting into the wrong witches' hands.

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On screen



No ordinary chess game

Currently available for iPhones and iPads and will be available soon for Android devices.

The company that developed the game was founded by world chess champion Magnus Carlsen, but this is no ordinary game of chess. In Knight Runner there are explosions and teleportation, and it's possible to smash enemy pieces.

In the game, you play as a knight chess piece. Just like the knight in any chess match, the piece can only move two squares forward and one to the side or one square forward and two to the side. As you jump around, you'll meet other pieces that also behave like they do in real chess. Helpful pop-ups tell you about

them. For example, a pawn tries to capture you by hopping one square forward diagonally. Your knight can jump on other pieces to destroy them. As you play, you collect coins and keys, which can unlock new areas and

levels. It helps to look ahead on each level and plan your moves to avoid enemy pieces. You start each game with three hearts (lives), and when

> they run out you have to wait for them to refill. Knight Runner is free, but buying a subscription gets you unlimited hearts and access to extra levels. You should always check with a parent or guardian before paying any money.

Knight Runner will end up teaching you moves and strategies you can use on a real chessboard. When you're done playing, you may be surprised by how much you've mastered.

PODCAST # WEEK

WEBSITE 能 WEEK

EVERYDAY MYSTERIES

loc.gov/everyday-mysteries/ Have you ever wondered how fortunes get inside

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cookies - or why camels have humps? One of the largest libraries in the world, the Library of Congress in Washington, DC, has the answers to those questions and more on this site. Click around and discover what else you can learn.



ALL OF YOU

Apple App Store

Play as a mother hen who has to rescue her chicks after they escape from a farm. The game is a blend of platform action and puzzle solving. In each level, you help the mother avoid dangerous obstacles across three panels by carefully starting, stopping, and moving the panels around the screen.

APP OF THE WEEK

THE SHOW ABOUT SCIENCE

theshowaboutscience.com

Sixth-grader Nate started hosting this show in 2015, when he was 5 years old. In each episode, he interviews different types of scientists. In a recent show, he took a trip to a nature center and a biological field station. The podcast is especially great for animal lovers and aspiring astronauts.



BOOK OF THE WEEK

Pony

By R.J. Palacio

(Alfred A. Knopf for Young Readers) It's the middle of the night in Ohio in 1860. Silas, age 12, is awakened by Mittenwool, a teenage ghost who is his friend. Silas looks out the window and sees three men riding on horseback. They're aiming rifles at Silas's father. To keep Silas safe, his father agrees to go with the men. The next day, Silas sees a pony in front of his house. The pony belongs to the outlaws who took off with his father. Even though Silas has never ridden a horse, he sets out on a harrowing journey on the horse to find his dad. Mittenwool and a US marshal help him. You may find the ending surprising and satisfying. This fast-paced adventure set in the Wild West is a different genre than the author's previous bestseller, Wonder. In both books, you'll recognize themes of bravery, courage, and friendship.

NIN A BOOK! We're giving away five copies of Pony, by R.J. Palacio.

For a chance to win, send your name and address to contests@theweekjunior .com with Pony in the subject line. Enter by midnight on November 12. See theweekjunior.com/ terms for complete rules.

Do you have a favorite What would you do if you lived in the 1800s?

I'd like to think I'd be writing. Maybe I'd be selling my stories to a publisher the way Jo March does in Little Women.

ASK THE AUTHOR

R.J. Palacio

If you had a pony, what

Arion—that's the name of a

who had wings and could talk.

horse in Greek mythology

would its name be?

We spoke to the author of *Ponv*.

What is the key to being courageous?

I think breaking things down

fall activity? I like walking my dogs in the park when the leaves

into steps helps. Instead of

focusing on the big picture,

think about the next step of

what you have to do.

Book club //

Where do you stand on candy corn?

start piling up.

I hate candy corn! I actually have never liked candy. I'm a salty snack person. Give me a bag of chips and I'm happy.

4 comic books that feature superheroes

Surprising twists and adventures await the characters in these picks.



Miles Morales: Shock Waves

By Justin A. Reynolds, illustrated by Pablo Leon

Miles is juggling school and being Spider-Man. When an earthquake strikes Puerto Rico, where his mother was born, he starts a fundraiser. A student's father goes missing, and the clues Miles discovers are unsettling. *Ages 8–12*



Shuri: A Black **Panther Novel**

By Nic Stone

The Black Panther's younger

sister, Shuri, is the star of this first book of a new series about her life. Shuri, a martial artist, princess, and science whiz, leaves her homeland to find out what's killing the herb that Black Panther relies on for power. The story is full of humor and action. Ages 9–12



Metropolis Grove By Drew Brockington

(DC Comics)

This graphic novel is set in the hometown of the legendary

superhero Superman. When three friends discover a fort in the woods decorated with Superman posters, one of them is convinced the fort belongs to Superman. Can they prove it? The art makes the story even more fun to read. Ages 8–12



Flash Facts

Curated by Mayim Bialik (DC Comics)

Actor, scientist, and Jeopardy! host Mayim Bialik put this book

23

of short stories together featuring DC Comic characters. Written and illustrated by different creators, each story highlights how a superhero uses science to solve problems. The book also contains instructions for science experiments. Ages 7 and up



The Sisters Grimm: The Fairy-Tale Detectives

By Michael Buckley

"This story is funny, adventurous, and amusing. It is about two sisters and their funny grandmother who go on detective trips. There are story characters who live normal lives in Ferryport Landing but get into trouble. I recommend this book for people who like The Land of Stories series and the Grimm series." Sage, 9, New Hampshire

Do you have a book to recommend? Send your review to hello@theweekjunior.com.

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How to...

Make a music video

Play an instrument

in your video.

Get ready to channel your inner rock star with this fun project.

If you enjoy singing or dancing, there are many ways you can put those skills to use. You could try out for your school's musical or sing in a choir, for example. But one thing you may not have thought of is creating a music video. This can be fun to do on your own or with a sibling or friends. You can choose one of your favorite songs and then put your own dance moves to it. Here's how to get started.

Pick a song

Watching a song's video may help you remember it better

than you would if you just listened to it.

If you want to, recruit other people to be in your video. Then decide on a song. While you can choose whatever type of song you want, consider going for one that is upbeat. This will make it easier to create dance moves. Next, get permission from an adult to use this song for your music video.

Learn the lyrics

You may already know most of the words to the song you chose if it's one you often listen to. However, it's still a good idea to read over the lyrics to make sure you have all the correct words. Ask a parent to print out the lyrics from a website, such as lyrics.com. Read through them, then begin memorizing a few lines at a time by speaking them out loud. (You might be surprised to learn that some of the words are different than you thought.)

Make up your dance moves

One option is to try to do the dance moves the singer of the song does. You and your friends can also make up your own moves. Get your group together to listen to the song and brainstorm ideas. Then divide the song into equal parts and have each person create moves for their part. Once you're finished, teach one another your moves. Be sure to film each part or write

the moves down so you can remember them later when you want to practice.

Decide what to wear

You and your friends could each choose an individual look, or you could all wear the same color top to give your video an official look. You may decide to add fun accessories, such as wigs, hats, or colorful socks, to your outfit.

Film it

The easiest way to film the video is to choose one area of your house or yard for shooting the whole thing. Ask an adult or a friend who is not in the video to be your camera person. (They can use a smartphone or tablet.) You will also need a Bluetooth speaker or another device nearby to play the song. Get into position, then have your camera person count down from five. Begin filming as they start the music. Then sing and dance your heart out!

4 record-breaking music videos

Besides cool music, these videos have qualities that set them apart from others.



A musician from Texas named The Big Bopper is said to have made the first-ever music video, recorded in 1958.



Set in 2020, "Level of Concern" by Twenty One Pilots is more than 177 days long. It beat the previous record of 24 hours for "Happy" by Pharrell.



In 2013, astronaut Chris Hadfield was the first person to film a music video in space when he sang a version of David Bowie's "Space Oddity."



A group of musicians filmed a video at the top of a mountain in Nepal in 2020.

How to...



WARNING!

Ask an adult's permission before

using the oven.

CREATE A CREST FOR YOUR FAMILY

A crest is a shield with pictures on it that represent a family's achievements and values. Here's how to make one.

- 1. Brainstorm symbols. The images you put on the shield could represent activities your family enjoys (such as a racket for playing tennis or a plane for traveling), your heritage (the flag of the country your ancestors are from), or shared values (like a heart for helping others).
- 2. Make the shield. There is no single crest shape, so you can be creative. Start with a basic rectangle shape. Then try adding diagonal lines to the top or soft rounded lines to the bottom. Once you have a shape you like, draw it onto poster board and then cut it out with scissors.
- 3. Draw on it. A crest can have one picture on it (see below), or you could split the shield into sections and draw two or more pictures. Display the crest in your home.



Bake up pumpkin blondies **Ingredients**

- 1 stick salted butter • 1 cup dark brown
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ½ cup canned pumpkin puree

sugar

- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon pumpkin pie spice
- ½ cup chocolate chips, semisweet or milk

- **1.** Preheat the oven to 350°F and line an 8-inch square baking pan with parchment paper, leaving an overhang on all sides.
- 2. In a large, microwave-safe bowl, melt the butter. Stir in the dark brown sugar and vanilla until incorporated. Stir in the pumpkin puree, eggs, flour, and pumpkin pie spice and mix until well combined. Fold in the chocolate chips.
- 3. Spread the batter into the prepared pan and bake for

25 minutes or until the blondies are just set. Let cool, then use the parchment paper to lift the blondies out of the pan and cut into squares.

Helpful tips

- Check to make sure you use a can of pumpkin puree in this recipe, not a can of pumpkin pie filling, which would make the final dish taste too sweet.
- You can swap in other mix-ins for the chocolate chips, like chopped nuts, if you'd like.



PROTECT THE RAINFOREST

Rainforests are a crucial part of the world's ecosystem (a group of plants or animals that affect one another). For example, they're home to more than half of the plants on Earth. These plants absorb carbon dioxide from the air and release oxygen that we need to survive. One of the best ways you can help to protect rainforests from being harmed is by raising awareness. Talk to family and friends about why rainforests need to be protected. Or you may decide to host a bake sale or lemonade stand and donate the proceeds to an organization dedicated to this cause, such as the Rainforest Alliance or Amazon Watch.



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Puzzles

phrases, like THREE-RING CIRCUS or SALT

WIDOW DEATH TO BLOOD SPIDER

RED BLACK CELLS SCARED

Hit or miss

Place an X or O in each empty square so there

are never more than three X's or O's in a row

across, down, or diagonally. Hint: If you find

three in a row of one letter, you can put the

other letter into the spaces at either end.

Keyword crossword

Once you have completed the crossword. transfer the letters in the yellow boxes, in order, into the boxes below to get the answer to the Keyword question.

ACROSS

- 1 Straw-filled guards in farmers' fields
- 7 Small, six-legged crawler
- 8 Grassland where bison once grazed
- 9 "____loves company"
- 10 Permanent reminder of stitches or a bad cut
- 13 Face covering, like a trick-or-treater or a healthcare worker might wear
- 14 Common sight in dusty corners of a haunted house
- 17 It might make you look like a pirate, ghost, ninja warrior, or witch
- 19 Charming place where vacationers can stay the night and have a meal
- 20 Large, hairy, eight-legged crawlers

DOWN

- 1 Thick cloud of bees or locusts
- 2 People whose work is displayed in museums
- 3 The ____ Strikes Back (movie with R2-D2 and C-3PO)
- 4 Street
- 5 The opposite of peace 6 Feeling that might make
- you tremble 11 She might compete in a rodeo
- 12 Heavily wooded area
- 13 Small, hairy, four-legged
- squeakers 15 Skeleton parts
- 16 Heavy instrument in a marching band



Keyword guestion: What Halloween treat was originally called "Chicken Feed" and sold with a rooster on the box?

CODE CRACKER

In this coded list of Halloween things, every letter has been replaced with a substitute. The same substitutions are used throughout the list. Hint: Every X here is an uncoded T. Use the letter patterns you find to crack the code. (NEED ANOTHER HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

VLGAGXRI	
TOOTOO	
XRZDVXRI	G
	T
D A N Q L Q N	X



That's unbelievable!



Jack Russell

terriers are speedy.



Hotel for house plants

A hotel for plants has reopened in a huge new space in London, in the UK. Patch Plant Hotel cares for greenery while their "plant parents" are away from home. Recent research found that house plant sales increased by 400% during the pandemic. Now that people can travel again, they don't want to leave their plants at home alone. The hotel has room for up to 200 plant guests and a spa where "spa technicians will keep your leafy friends hydrated."



Tennis star's stinky shoes

UK tennis star Andy Murray was reunited with his beloved "smelly" sneakers (and his wedding ring) on October 8, a day after they were lost. Murray was in California when he accidentally left the shoes—with his ring tied to the laces—outside. He posted on social media, asking fans to help in the search. "They still absolutely stink," Murray said of the returned sneakers. "But the shoes are back, the wedding ring is back."



Dog runs for a record

A Jack Russell terrier broke the Guinness

World Record for a dog running the bases

California, in just over 21 seconds. He had

popped as he passed the bases. "He was

perfect," his owner said. "He hit a grand

slam home run. I am so proud." Macho

was treated to prime rib as a reward.

at a Major League Baseball stadium.

After training for about 18 months,

Macho, age 5, achieved his goal at

balloons guiding his way, which he

Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles,

Meat-scented sweat suit sells out

The fast-food chain Arby's sold sweat suits that smell like smoked meat to promote its new Real Country Style Rib Sandwich. The clothing was dangled over a smokehouse pit in Texas to get its meaty aroma, then vacuum sealed to capture the scent. The sweatshirt was priced at \$65 and the pants at \$50, and they sold out almost instantly. Now scentminded customers are eagerly waiting for the next batch to go on sale. Does this sound true to you, or is there more than "meats" the eye?*



Turtle's trip delays flights

A turtle making its way across an airport runway delayed the flights of five planes - including one painted with a sea turtle design—from Narita Airport, near Tokyo, Japan. A pilot was preparing for takeoff when he spotted the four-pound turtle and informed air traffic control. Airport officials closed the runway while they removed the animal. They believe it came from a pond about 320 feet from the runway. Though the pond is nearby, turtle sightings at the airport are rare.

seated next to someone wearing Arby's Smoked Sweats on the plane." social media Joked, "New thing to worry about when traveling: that I might be *Real! The limited-edition sweat suits went on sale on October 4. One person on

Spot the difference These two pictures of a movie theater appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?





IN THIS PAGE: PATCH PLANTS; SHUTTERSTOCK (4); @ANDYMURRAY /INS JEWSCOM/ALAMY; ON LEFT PAGE: SHUTTERSTOCK; GETTY IMAGES (3)

Code cracker hint: Every L here is an uncoded K.

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Did the suit

smell smoky?

26



Your turn

Your turn



POPJAM

Editor's note

As always, this issue is packed with stories about amazing people who have done incredible things. To highlight a few examples, we report on a man without legs who completed an epic climb in Nepal (p3); a long overdue honor for Henrietta Lacks, who unknowingly made invaluable contributions to medical science over many decades (p3); and the meaningful career of Sonia Manzano, who played Maria on Sesame Street (p9). All of these stories inspired me. But my favorite may be the tribute to author Gary Paulsen. who wrote hundreds of books for middle-grade readers and died on October 13 (p4). Paulsen had a difficult childhood and said that reading books he checked out from his local library helped him through it. He believed that the world's hope was in children. Here at The Week Junior, we do too.

> Andrea Barbalich Editor-in-Chief

Inspiring Girls International

This organization aims to inspire girls ages 10 to 15 by connecting them with strong female role models. It began in 2013 and now operates in 26 countries across four continents. The group holds workshops, runs networking events, and creates online videos to help girls increase their confidence. It encourages girls to pursue the career they want when they are older. Find out more at inspiring-girls.com. Inspiringirls

Sending soccer equipment to Africa

Haley, 12, Riley, 12, Lily, 9, Connecticut **66** Last spring our family began helping my mom's college soccer coach and friend collect soccer equipment to donate to kids who can't afford soccer equipment in Asmara, Eritrea, in Africa. We got our soccer community in New Canaan, Connecticut, and nearby soccer clubs to donate equipment, such as soccer balls, cleats, and uniforms. By the end of the collection, we had four huge boxes. All summer we held Schlafman Sweet Stands to raise the money needed to mail the boxes overseas. To ship even one box was

\$700. With our efforts, we did it! We can't wait to do it all again this year! We made it onto Eritrean TV. They were so grateful for the boxes of equipment. 77

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care abou natever you're up to, we want to hear about it at hello@theweekjunior.com.

Why do you appreciate vour grandparents?

Grandparents can play a special role in children's lives, and they are always worth celebrating! We recently asked readers of The Week Junior to share their thoughts about a grandparent or another older person in their life. To participate, ask a parent or guardian to download the form (like the one at right) at theweekjunior.com/ activities. Fill it out and have an adult send it to us at hello@theweekjunior.com. We'll feature some of the responses in future issues.



CIEATS & BALLY FOR

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Send them to us at hello@theweekjunior.com, along with anything you'd like to tell us about what's in the photo.



"I made spooky spider bark with my mom and dad today. I took a picture for you to see. It was great!" Mason, 9, Pennsylvania

Junior while I wait for school to start." Sufvan. 8. New York

"I like reading *The Week*

"I made the apple dumpling recipe from the magazine! I read the magazine while eating my apple dumpling!" Natalie, 9, Maryland

Puzzle answers (from page 26)

Sign up and follow on PopJam, a social nedia platform for kids 7–12. Ask an the app from iTunes or Google Play. We asked: What are you dressing up as Hove animals and

"A pilot because I love airplanes.

xploring."

In the big debate, we asked: Do emojis enrich language

"Yes, if you're saying something that ends will know ou're talking

"Yes, because if there was someo ow they felt with ist words, there's

Now tell us: If you could have one superpower, what ould it be and why?

Teacher's Name: Mrs. Nulman

School: José Maria Amador Elementary School

"My teacher is very fun and kind. She helps us with our work and lets us have dance parties. She also volunteers for lots of things to help our school. I think Mrs. Nulman should be Teacher of the Week so everyone can appreciate everything she does for our school and us."

Ilyas, 8, California

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week! Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to hello@theweekiunior.com.

Quiz answers (from page 30)

Keyword answer:

candy corn

keleton

black cat

Three for all red blood cells

scared to death

XOXXXC

Code cracker

1 Giraffes 2 a) 2013 3 b) Trick-or-treating 4 True 5 California 6 c) South America 7 Chess 8 c) 17 9 False. They reflect the most light. 10 b) Aliens 11 B*Bots **12** a) 4 **13** True **14** Hawaiian Sign Language (HSL) **15** b) Plants

Email your news, views, and photos to hello@theweekjunior.com.

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give The Week Junior consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.

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Quiz of the week

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 Which animal has horn-like objects called ossicones on top of its head?

2 In what year did astronaut Chris Hadfield film the first music video in space?

a) 2013 b) 2015 c) 2017



3 Which of these Halloween traditions is related to the medieval custom of "souling"?

a) Carving pumpkins

b) Trick-or-treating

c) Visiting haunted houses



4 True or false? Currently, teens in Wisconsin who qualify can get a driver's license without taking a road test.



5 Which US state became the first to require large retail stores to have a gender-neutral toy section?

6 To which continent did the James Webb Space Telescope travel?

a) Europe b) Africa c) South America



7 What game is Knight Runner based on?

8 How many months does an orca's pregnancy typically last?

a) 9 b) 13 c) 17

30





Deputy editor: Mindy Walker Senior editors: Gail O'Connor, Jennifer Li Shotz Features editor: Joey Bartolomeo Research editor: Douglas Grant Staff writers: Felissa Allard, Alisa Partlan Assistant editor: Brielle Diskin Editorial assistant: Brandon Wiggins Creative director: Dean Abatemarco Senior art director: Victoria Beall Photo editor: Nataki Hewling



Contributors: Stephanie Abramson, Lily Alt, Stacy Cousino, Susie Dent, Truman Devitt, Erica Clark, Dave

Rothchild Liz Callahan Schnaholk Jordan Zakarin

Group senior VP. brand marketing: Lisa Boyars

Consumer marketing director: Leslie Guarnieri

Senior digital marketing director: Mathieu Muzzy

US manufacturing and distribution manager: Lori Crook

Head of growth marketing: Colleen Ho

Senior VP. finance: Maria Beckett

Editor-in-chief. The Week: William Falk

Chief executive: Kerin O'Connor

Editorial director: Anna Bassi

Special thanks to: UK editorial team

Howard Alexa Kurzius Ruth Margolis Rari Nan Cohen











9 Irue 0	r iaise? wiii	te suriaces adsor
the mos	t liaht.	
True	False	

10 What type of creatures are the main characters in the animated series Star Trek: Prodigy?

a) Elves

b) Aliens

c) Ghosts



11 In the film Ron's Gone Wrong, what is the name given to machine friends like Ron?

12 How many items of clothing did a design team make from the silk of 2 million spiders?

a) 4 b) 40 c) 400

al	l h	(
u	_ ~	

13 True or false? The Chicago Sky won the WNBA championship for the first

True False



14 What language is Linda Yuen Lambrecht working to save?

15 Which of the following are the "guests" at a recently reopened hotel in London?

a) Pets

b) Plants

c) Cars

b	С	

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Editor-in-chief, TheWeek.com: Nico Lauricella

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DESIGN A T-SHIRT!

r very day, Cotton's Blue Jeans Go Green™ denim recycling program helps save old denim from ending up in landfills, transforming old denim jeans, jackets, and more into useful products like insulation. How do you know if denim is made from cotton? Check the label!

Now it's your turn to get creative. The Blue Jeans Go Green™ program is inviting you to design your own T-shirt to represent your idea on what doing good in denim means or how old denim could be reused or recycled to help the planet.

WHAT YOU COULD

Draw your design in the center of this template and you could see it brought to life. Three winners will be chosen-one from the ages 8-9 category, one from the ages 10-11 category, and one from the ages 12-14 category. Winners will have their designs printed on limited-edition Cotton Blue Jeans Go Green™ T-shirts and featured in a 2022 issue of The Week Junior.



OUNDS of clothing and other textiles



The average American owns 6 PAIRS of jeans **

Name:

City, State:

Signature:

Parent/Guardian Name:

Parent/Guardian Email:

C Draw your design here

> 50% of people say they recycle their clothing to protect the environment**

SEND IN YOUR DRAWING

Draw your design on the template, complete the form, and have a parent/guardian email it to CottonDesignContest@ theweekjunior.com. The deadline to enter is Friday, December 3, 2021. Judging will be based on the following criteria: creativity, recycling (how well the design is related to the need to recycle), and execution. Find more forms at theweekjunior.com/cotton. For complete rules, go to theweekjunior.com/terms.

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Age:

I, the parent/guardian, give consent to submit this entry:

