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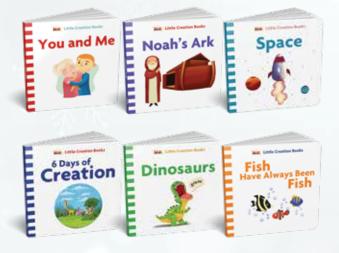
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[Jesus Christ] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. (Colossians 1:15-20)

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Front cover: Polar bear cub Image credit: BigstockPhoto

Just for Kids!

i, kids! When's the last time you stopped to marvel at our beautiful world and beyond? This kids' edition of *Acts & Facts* examines creatures across the animal kingdom and unique features God gave them that inspire human inventions. Underground aquifers, distant stars, dwarf planets, and even dinosaur art glorify the Creator, too. And the Lord Jesus blessed us with intricate eyes so we can admire the works of His creation and praise Him for it! We at ICR also praise Jesus for placing you in His incredible world. Most of all we want you to know how much He loves you.



Want more copies? Scan the QR code to download and print the *Acts & Facts* PDF. Or go to ICR.org/Creation-Kids for the printable PDF. You can also find Creation Kids activity pages there.

Merry Christmas from ICR!







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20

Bears

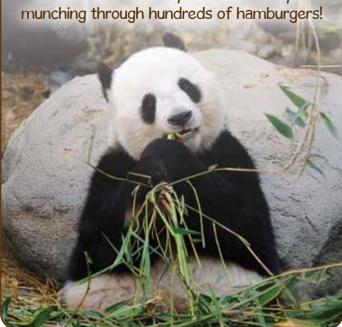
From the giant grizzly to the cuddly looking panda, there's bear-y much to discover about these furry mammals! While some bears live in cold, icy places, others prefer forests or more open spaces. But don't let their fluffy exteriors fool you—bears are mighty creatures with strong paws and powerful jaws. The Lord Jesus created each with special traits to survive and thrive! Did you also know . . .

- Bears love snacks! Their favorite treats include fish, honey, and even insects.
- In the winter, many bears find a cozy den and sleep for months. These long naps are called hibernation.
- Even though they look big and slow, some bears can run 35 miles per hour—faster than an Olympic athlete!
- A bear's sense of smell is seven times stronger than a bloodhound's. They can smell food from miles away.

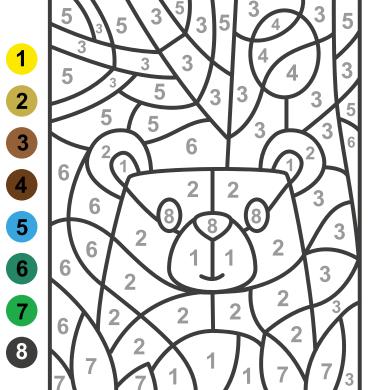


Did you know?

Giant pandas can eat up to 100 pounds of bamboo in one day. That'd be like you munching through hundreds of hamburgers!



Color by number using the color code on the left.



Can you name each type of bear?

North American black bear Asiatic black bear



brown (grizzly) bear panda bear



polar bear sloth bear



spectacled bear sun bear











Did you know?

While on a hunting trip, Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt, the twenty-sixth president of the United States, refused to hurt a black bear that had been tied up. The teddy bear is named after him because of this act of compassion.



Gummy Bear Science Project

Supplies: gummy bears, water, salt, sugar, three bowls, and a spoon *Note: Do NOT eat the gummy bears after you place them in the bowls of water







plain water

Find the 12 differences between the pictures below.





- 1. Ask a grown-up to heat 1 cup of water on a stove. Stir in salt until it stops dissolving.
- 2. Pour the solution into a bowl and let cool. Repeat with sugar instead of salt.
- 3. Fill the third bowl with regular water, then add a few gummy bears to each bowl.
- 4. After 12-72 hours, examine the bears. How do they look? What things changed or stayed the same? How are they different from each other?



American black bear

Ostriches & Emus

The Lord Jesus created many eggs-traordinary birds—like ostriches and emus! Ostriches are native to Africa, while emus are from Australia. Neither can fly, but with their long, strong legs, these avian athletes can run at super fast speeds. They're also some of the heaviest birds on Earth. Even their eggs weigh over a pound—that's at least a dozen chicken eggs! Did you also know . . .

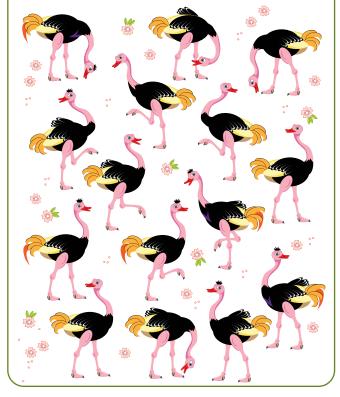
Both ostriches and emus have mostly plant-based diets.

They're social animals that live in large groups called flocks.

Ostriches are the tallest birds in the world, and emus are the second tallest. The average human is shorter than they are!

These birds have special feathers that can trap air close to their bodies, helping them to maintain their body temperature in extreme weather. This ability is called thermoregulation.

Circle the two identical ostriches.

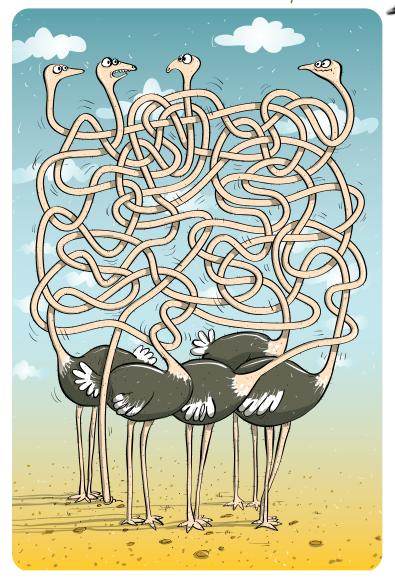




a hen egg (front) and an emu egg

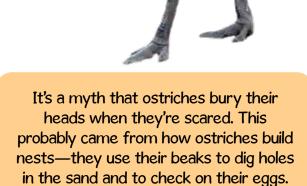
(right)

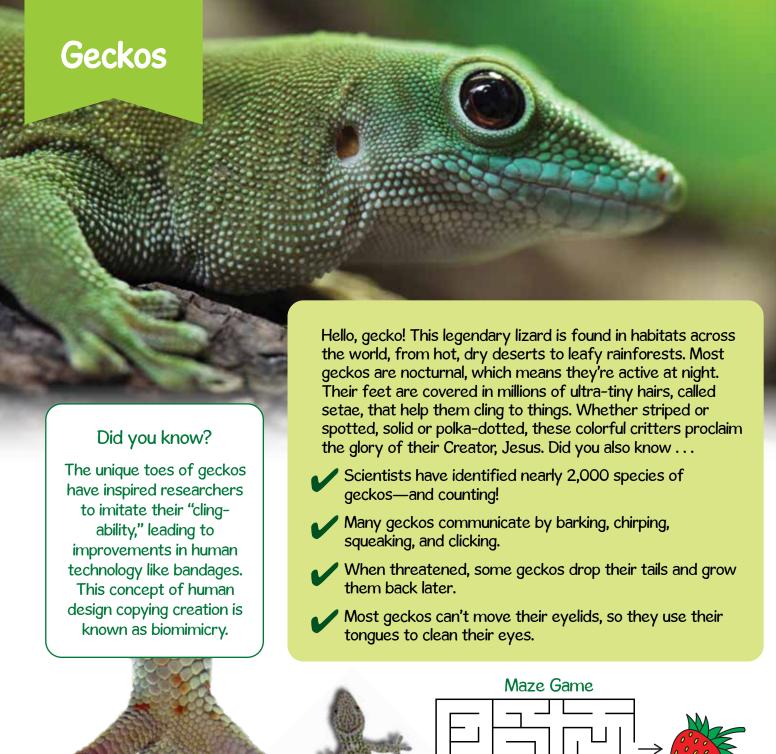
Untangle the ostriches' necks to match each head to its body.



Did you know?

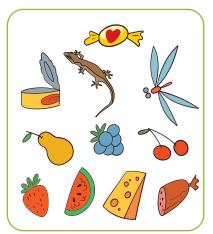
Since they don't have teeth, ostriches and emus swallow pebbles to help grind up and digest their food.





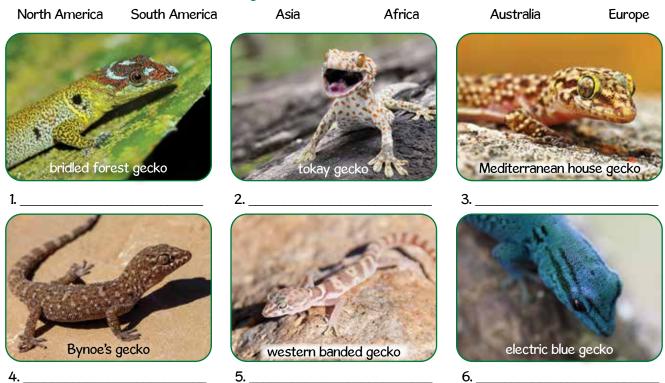


Find the hidden images in the picture on the left.



"Then God said, 'Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind'; and it was so." (Genesis 1:24)

Match each gecko below to its native continent.



Biomimicry

Did you know?

Biomimicry comes from the Greek words bios, which means "life," and mimesis, "to imitate." Biomimicry (bye-oh-MIH-mik-ree) is when people take a great idea from God's design in creation and use it to solve a problem or invent something. The teeniest-tiniest details found in every created thing reflect His incredible wisdom. When we study the world He made, there's so much we can learn. Let's check out some awesome examples of biomimicry today!

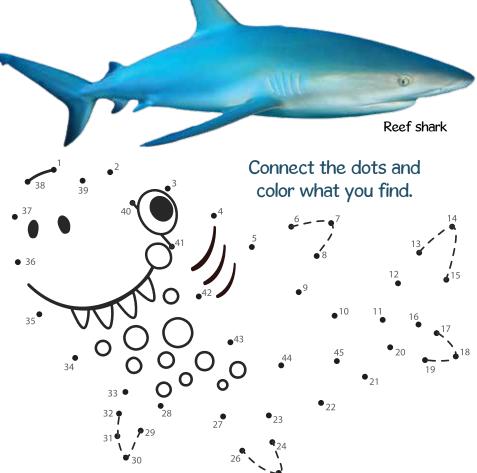
Plant Burrs and Self-Fasteners

In 1941, George de Mestral was walking outside when he noticed burrs attached to his clothes and even his dog's fur. He later used a microscope to discover that their tiny hooks clung to the loops in his fabric. This led him to develop the popular hook-and-loop fasteners that you've probably used on your shoes, jackets, and more!

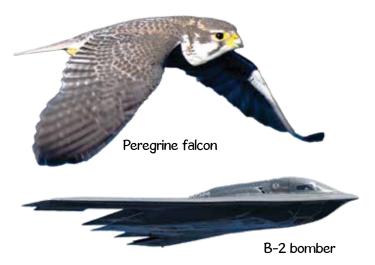


Sharks and Swimsuits

God created sharks with special skin to navigate the seas. It's lined with tiny scales called dermal denticles that help them swim really, really fast. In recent years, scientists have designed Olympic swimsuits inspired by this fin-tastic shark feature.



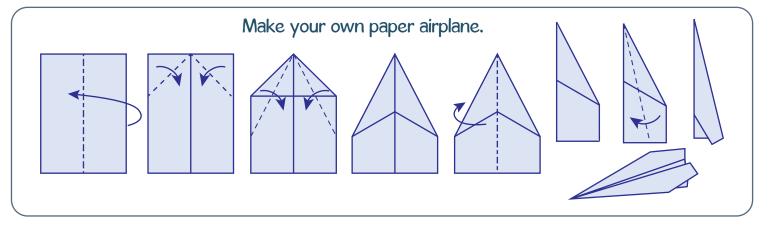




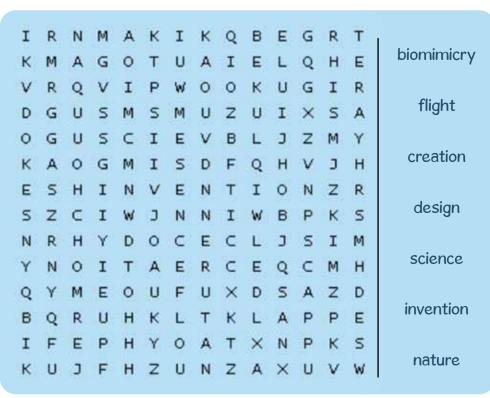
Peregrine Falcon and the B-2 Bomber

Jesus created the peregrine falcon to be the fastest creature on Earth. He designed the Falcon's aerodynamic shape that allows it to dive at over 200 miles per hour!

Human engineers studied the bird's shape and applied it to the cool-looking B-2 Spirit bomber. The B-2 bomber is super fast, stable, and quiet. Its top speed is over 620 miles per hour, and from the side it looks like a diving falcon!



Word Search





Scavenger Hunt

Go on a walk outside. Note any animals, plants, or other things you see in creation. What makes them unique? How could their design be adapted to help solve human problems?



Did you know?

Cuttlefish are masters of camouflage! They can change both their color and texture to match rocks, sand, or coral. It's no wonder they're called the "chameleons of the sea"!

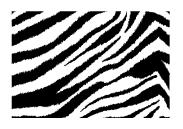


What's the coolest thing about camouflage? It's like hide-and-seek—but in plain sight! Camouflage is a special feature that equips many animals and plants to blend in with their surroundings. This helps them stay hidden from danger or catch their next meal. Whether it's stripes, spots, or changing colors, the Lord Jesus created each animal and plant with unique ways to adapt. Did you also know . . .

- One bug called the leaf insect looks exactly like—you guessed it—a leaf! It even rocks back and forth when it walks, as if it were moving in the wind.
- Certain animals that live in arctic climates, such as polar bears, foxes, and hares grow white fur before winter to match the snow.
- Even though many tigers are orange, their pattern helps them camouflage. To other animals, the stripes look like moving grass.
- The stone plant, also called "living stones," looks just like pebbles. This helps prevent animals from eating it!

Match the animal name to the pattern.

cow tiger zebra jaguar giraffe leopard



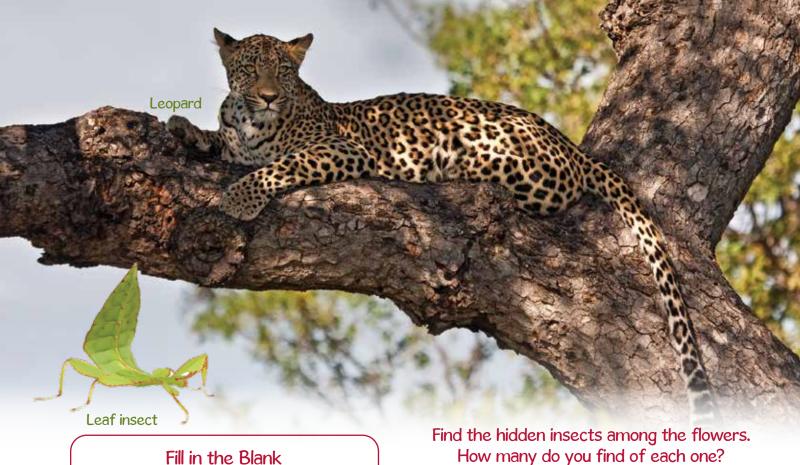












"You are my _____ place and my_____; I hope in Your _____." (Psalm 119:114)

Color the chameleon.



How many do you find of each one?



Answers to hidden insects: 5 of each

Aquifers

Color the well below.

If you pour syrup on your pancakes, what happens next? Everything on your plate gets soaked! That's like how aquifers work. Aquifers are empty areas beneath Earth's surface that become saturated with groundwater. As precipitation fills the oceans, rivers, and lakes, it also enters surrounding rocks. This creates huge storehouses of water—sometimes at depths of over 6,000 feet! Did you also know . . .

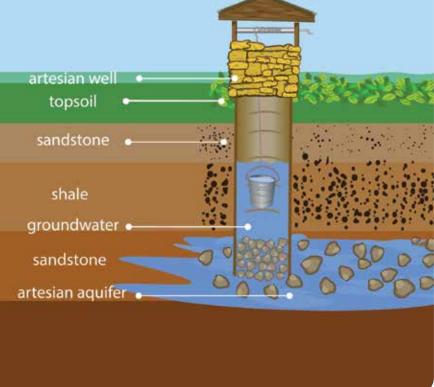
- Our earth has both freshwater and saltwater aquifers.
- For thousands of years, people have dug or drilled wells to access groundwater.
 - Aquifers are sometimes called underground rivers or lakes, but that's not the best way to describe them. The water doesn't move freely like it does at the surface.
 - The biggest aquifer in the U.S. is the Ogallala Aquifer. It spans about 112 million acres across eight states, from South Dakota to Texas.



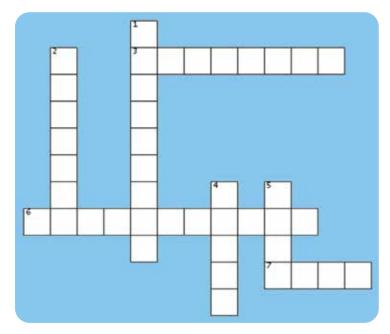
Aquifer

Did you know?

Groundwater provides about half of the world's drinking water. Usually, it's fresh water that's filtered naturally, but sometimes it can be contaminated. For people with wells, safety measures are taken to prevent chemicals, germs, and other pollutants from reaching the water.



Aquifer Crossword Puzzle



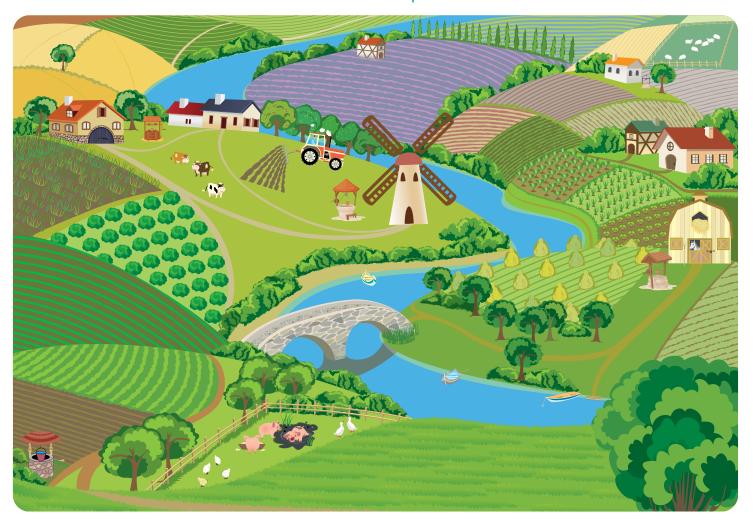
ACROSS

- 3. The largest U.S. aquifer
- 6. The water found below Earth's surface
- 7. A large surface body of fresh water

DOWN

- 1. A substance that ruins something
- 2. A storehouse of groundwater
- 4. The planet you inhabit
- 5. A structure drilled to access water

Find all the wells in the picture below.



Answers: J. pollutant, Z. aquifer, 3. Ogallala, 4. earth, 5. well, 6. groundwater, 7. lake

The Sun & Stars

In the beginning, the Lord Jesus filled the universe with dazzling wonders that proclaim His glory—like stars! The sun is the closest star to Earth. It provides the light and heat that sustain life on our planet. Then at night, thousands of twinkling stars, from trillions or more miles away, shine across the sky. And the best part? The same God who "counts the number of the stars" and "calls them all by name" created you, too (Psalm 147:4)! Did you also know . . .

- The Bible says that God made the sun and stars on Day 4 of the creation week.
- Like other stars, the sun is made of extremely hot gas—mostly hydrogen and helium.
- Stars can be different colors. They shine blue, red, white, or yellow, depending on how hot they are. Blue stars are the hottest.
- From Earth, stars look like tiny, bright dots. But they're actually huge! One of the largest known stars in the universe, UY Scuti, is over 1,700 times wider than the sun.

Did you know?

The very, very slow spin of the earth gives the illusion of the sun rising and setting beyond the horizon. The sun doesn't actually go anywhere!

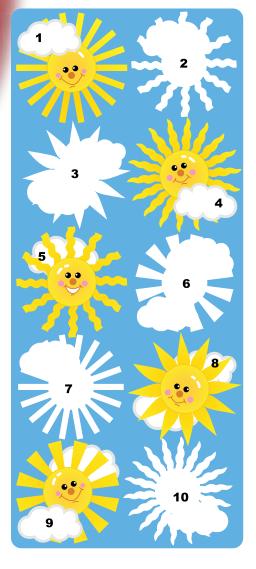
The sun

Find six differences between the pictures.





Shadow Match



A group of stars that make up a recognizable pattern in the sky is called a constellation.

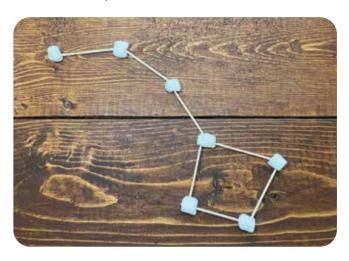
There are dozens of constellations that can be seen at different times of the year in differet places. Constellations are usually named after mythological figures, animals, or objects like Aquila the eagle or Orion the hunter. Can you find the Big Dipper? It's part of the constellataion Ursa Major.

"Then God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He made the stars also." (Genesis 1:16)

Marshmallow Constellation

Supplies: mini marshmallows and toothpicks

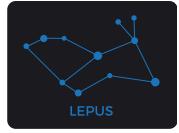
Connect the marshmallow "stars" with toothpicks to make a constellation.



Match the constellation with the animal that describes it.

bear dog dragon hare





. 2.





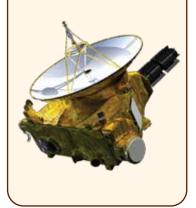
3. 4.

Answers: 1. dog, 2. hare, 3. dragon, 4. bear

Pluto & **Dwarf Planets**

Did you know?

The first spacecraft to visit Pluto was NASA's New Horizons. which arrived on July 14, 2015, after a nine-and-a-half-year journey of over three billion miles.

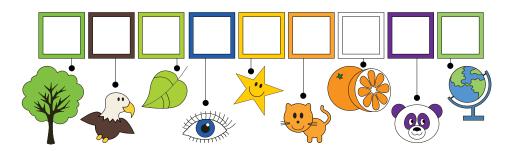


Is Pluto a planet? Well, technically no. Once the ninth planet in our solar system, this distant icy sphere was reclassified as a dwarf planet in 2006. A dwarf planet is a mostly round object that orbits a star. Unlike regular planets, it hasn't cleared its orbit of debris, or stuff floating in space. But being a dwarf planet isn't too bad. Each one reflects the awesome power of its Creator, Jesus! Did you also know . . .

- Five known dwarf planets orbit the sun: Ceres, Pluto, Haumea, Makemake, and Eris.
- ✓ Most dwarf planets are found in the Kuiper Belt—a region of icy objects beyond Neptune's orbit.
- Even though all known dwarf planets are smaller than Earth's moon, some have moons themselves. Pluto has five, and the largest, Charon, is half Pluto's size.
- Pluto has an average temperature of -387°F!

Hidden Word Puzzle

Use the first letter of each object to find the secret word below.



Math Game



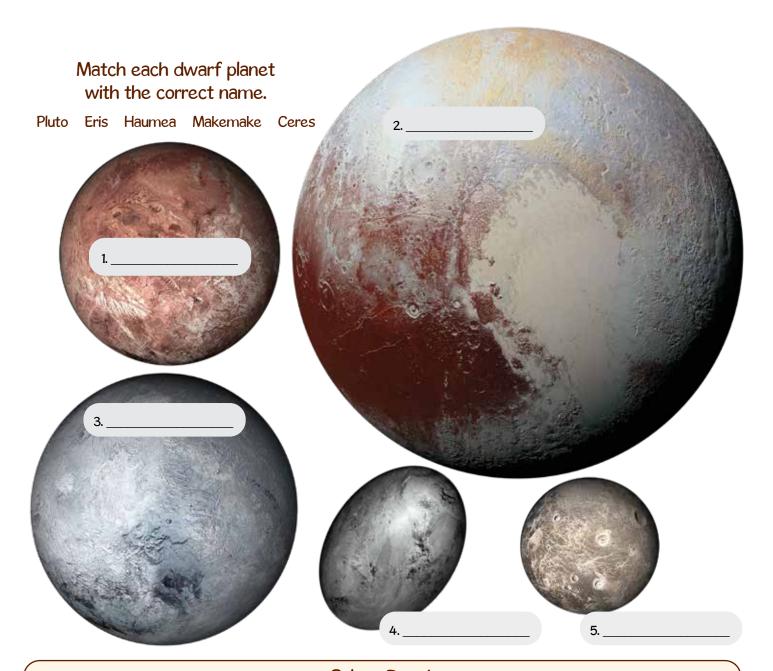








Many scientists claim that Pluto and other dwarf planets are billions of years old. But Pluto has evidence of recent, heat-driven geologic activity, like cliffs and canyons. This internal warmth makes sense if Pluto is just thousands of years old.



Galaxy Dough

Supplies: flour, salt, cream of tartar, vegetable oil, black gel food coloring, glitter, gloves, a glass bowl, and a fork

- With a parent's help, mix liquid ingredients in a large pan and heat the liquids.
- In a separate bowl mix dry ingredients. Then add the dry ingredients to the warming liquids.
- 3. Stir until the dough gathers and thickens. Remove from heat.
- 4. Let it cool slightly and then knead to bring proper consistency. Add glitter! Store in plastic container.



3. Eris, 4. Haumea, 5. Ceres

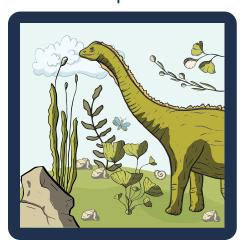
Dinosaur Art & Artifacts

"For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible.... All things were created through Him and for Him." (Colossians 1:16)

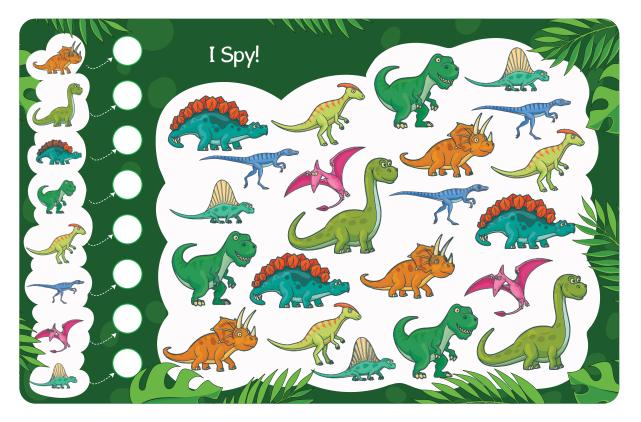
Imagine a *T. rex*. What does it look like? Is it scaly and green with ultra-sharp teeth? Maybe you've never seen a real-life dinosaur, but you can probably still picture one. That's because dino-inspired artwork is everywhere! From sculptures to drawings, paintings, and more, these mysterious creatures have left their tracks on culture today. Did you also know . . .

- Dinosaurs were made on Day 6 of the creation week. Most were buried by the Flood, but some were rescued on Noah's Ark. Their descendants roamed Earth for centuries.
- Ancient people likely illustrated the dinosaurs they saw or heard about. For example, one Cambodian carving looks like a *Stegosaurus*!
- Medieval artwork also features dinosaur-like creatures, including brass decorations that resemble sauropods in an English cathedral.
- Today, dinosaurs are depicted in cartoons, movies, and even on buildings like schools and libraries.

Find the eight differences between the pictures below.



In the box below, make your own dinosaur art. Don't forget to give it a name!



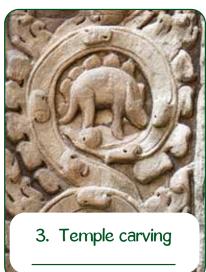
Match the dinosaur-like artwork with the places they were found. Cambodia Egypt England Iraq China



1. Jade sculpture



2. Narmer palette





4. Cylinder seal _



Human Eyes

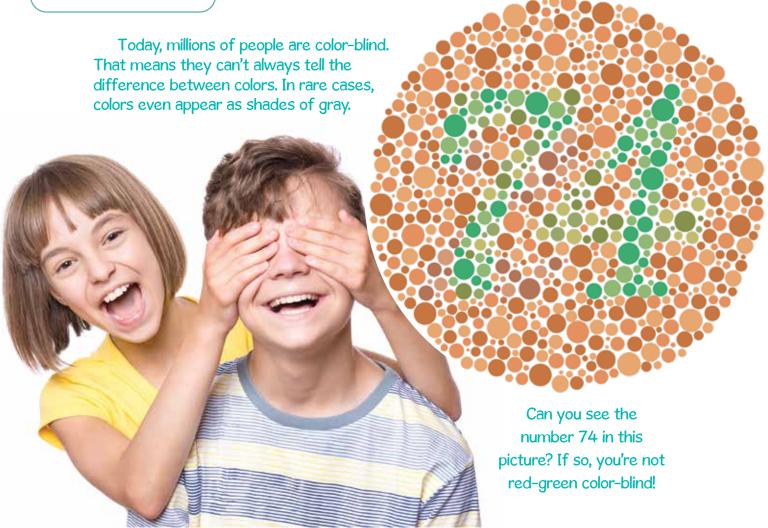
"For my eyes have seen Your salvation." (Luke 2:30)

Did you know?

When you were born, it's possible you had a different eye color! The eyes of many babies change color before their first birthday.

Your eyes are EYE-mazing! They're like tiny cameras that capture pictures of the world around you. As light comes into your eyes, it's processed in milliseconds by nerves that send signals to your brain. Our Creator, Jesus, designed humans with special eyes to convey emotion, recognize colors and shapes, and observe the wonders of His creation! Did you also know . . .

- Human eyes are usually one of six colors: amber, brown, green, hazel, blue, or gray.
- The black circle in each of your eyes is called the pupil. It gets bigger or smaller to control the amount of light that enters.
- Images at the back of your eye are upside-down and backward! Once these images reach your brain, they're flipped back to normal.
- Blinking protects your eyes and keeps them clean. The average person blinks about 12 times per minute!



Color Experiment

If you look at the color wheel, every color has an opposite! Red is the opposite of green, yellow is the opposite of purple, and blue is the opposite of orange. If you stare at an image in one color and then at a white page, you'll probably see the opposite color. That's because your eye gets tired of looking at that color. So, the signal from the opposite color becomes stronger.

Want to try? Stare at the dot in the middle of this red frog and count to 10, then look at the dot on the right. What color frog do you see?





Code Puzzle

















The human eye processes wavelengths







our brains convert into millions of colors.

Word Search



colors pupil human light eyes creation emotion

SCAN THE OR CODE

For upcoming ICR events and resources for the whole family!







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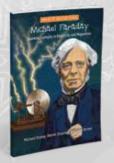
Project Artifact: The Spear

\$18.99 | 2197

Written by Trey Bowling | Illustrated by Lori Fausak

The year is AD 2257, and scientist Dr. Gideon Gates believes he's found the key to unlocking Earth's past: an Al-powered initiative called Project Artifact. But when he examines an ancient spear, the software provides an unexpected background, leading him to question everything he knows.

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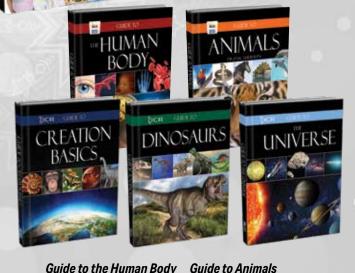
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