







Balloon Hovercraft

AIR CAN BE USED TO POWER a mini-hovercraft that floats and GLIDES above the ground. Here's how to make one!

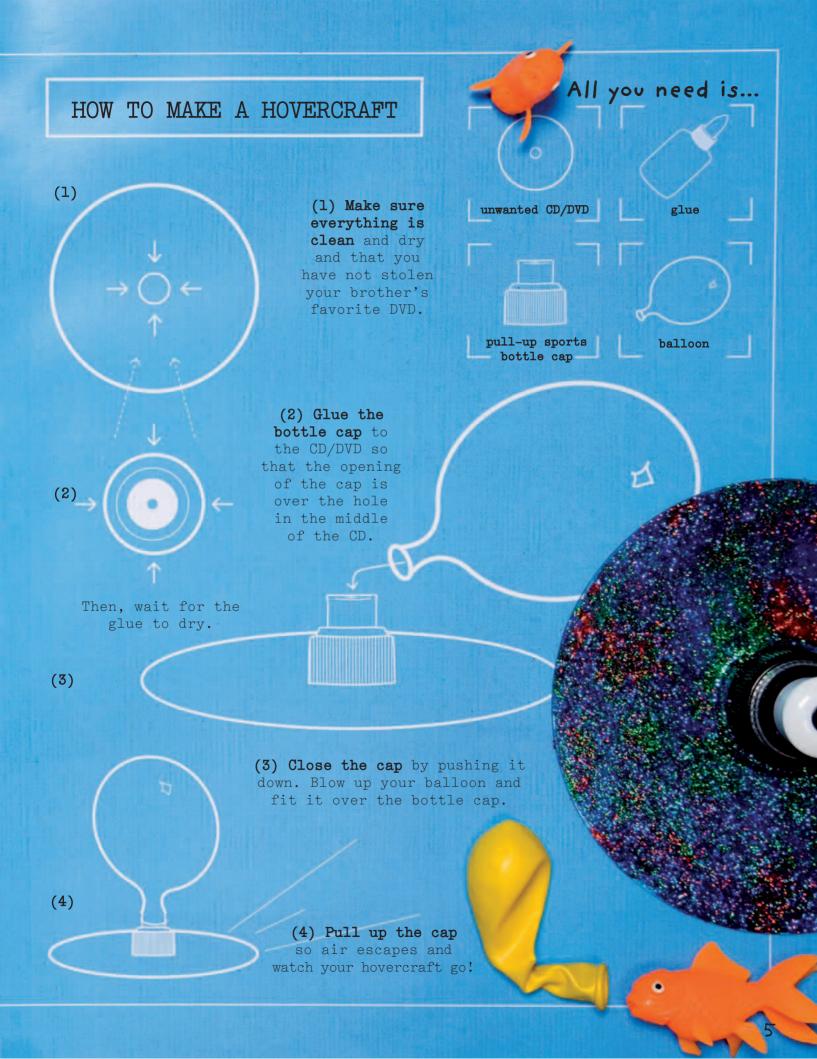
A hovercraft BLOWS air under itself, making a kind of air cushion. This cushion has enough pressure to support the weight of the craft and any passengers.

In a large hovercraft, a fan blows air under the hovercraft's platform, and the AIR IS TRAPPED between the platform and the ground by a piece of material called the skirt. A small amount of air leaks out from under the skirt, creating the cushion of air.

On the water

A hovercraft works best on a smooth surface, where there is LESS FRICTION to slow it down. Large hovercrafts are often used on water as ferries or boats. The world speed record for a large hovercraft is 85.75 mph (137.4 km/h).





Racing Spool

With a rubber band as a POWER SOURCE, you can turn a spool of thread into a racer that zooms along at TOP SPEED!

How does it work?

When you twist the rubber band on a racing spool, you STRETCH THE BAND, which stores energy to do work at some future time.

This is called potential energy.

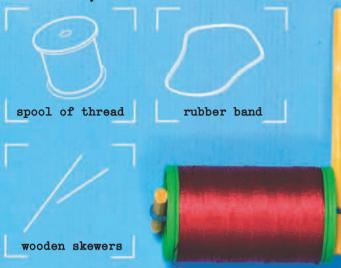
The more
you twist the
rubber band, the
more POTENTIAL
ENERGY it has.
As the rubber
band unwinds, the
potential energy
changes into
moving, or kinetic,
energy, making the
spool turn and
move forward.

Rubber-band energy

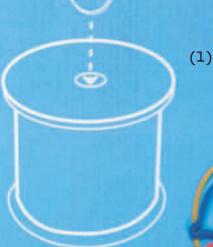
Here's something to try: make a rubber-band-powered car! You'll need a lightweight material (such as cardboard) for the car's body, and SPOOLS FOR WHEELS. And you'll need a really large rubber band to power the car. Experiment and see what happens.



All you need is ...



(1) Slip the rubber band through the center of the spool.

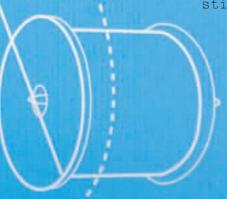


(2) Put a wooden skewer through one loop of the rubber band. Tape it in place. Break off the ends so they don't stick out.



(2)

(3) Push another skewer through the other end of the rubber band. Break it off so one end is flush with the edge of the spool and the other sticks out.



(3)

Wind the long skewer a few times and put the spool on the table. Let it go and... zoom!

Off it races.



Boomerang

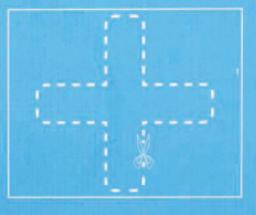
It spins as it FLIES.
But will it come back
to you? Make one and see.

MAKE A SPINNING CROSS

All you need is ...



(1) Draw a shape like two adhesive bandages overlapping in a cross.



pen

cardboard

(2) Cut out the boomerang, and slightly bend all four arms upward.

Now launch your boomerang!

(3) Put your boomerang on the edge of a book. Then flick the boomerang with your finger so that it spins into the air.

You can make this Flying "L" BOOMERANG from cardboard or an expired credit card (but ask Mom or Dad first!).

MAKE A FLYING "L"

All you need is ...



(1) Cut the card(board) into an L shape like the ones on this page.

(2) Hold the boomerang at the bend, then flick it with your finger.

Now make it fly!

(3) If it doesn't fly back to you, try angling one wing upward a bit more when you flick. And keep on practicing!

How does it work?

As the boomerang spins, air flows faster over one wing than the other. This produces UNEVEN LIFT, which tries to tip the boomerang over and gives it a curving flight.

Flying Crown

IT LOOKS MORE LIKE A HAT than a plane, but this flying crown is king of paper gliders. You might need a little practice... then you can make it fly a really long way!

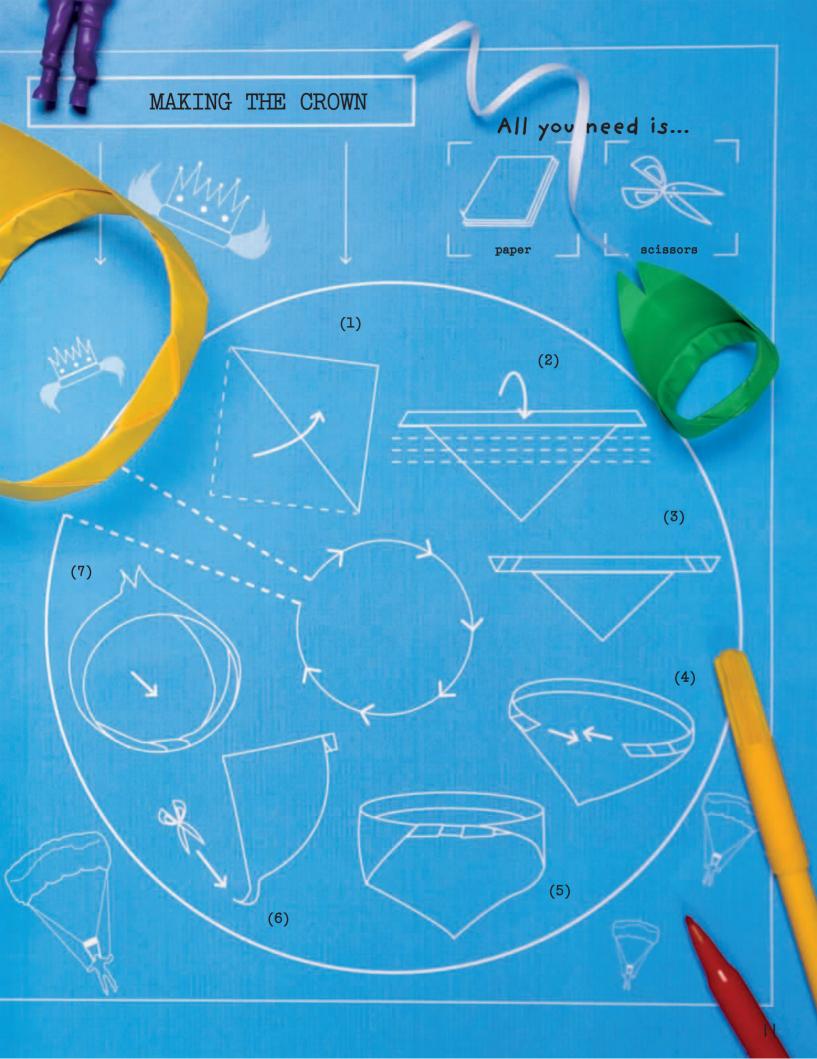
How does it work?

As the crown moves through the air its top surface ACTS LIKE A WING. Some of its forward movement is turned into lift—a force that pushes the plane upward.

- (1) Fold a square piece of paper diagonally to make a triangle.
- (2) and (3) Now fold over the longest edge by about $\frac{1}{2}$ in (1 cm). Fold it over 3 more times.
 - (4) Twist around the long edge to make a circle. Make sure the folded part is on the inside of the circle.
- (5) Join the circle together by pushing one end of the folded edge inside the other.
- (6) Roll the point of the crown around a pencil, then unwind it so that it curls outward. Cut a slit 1 in (2 cm) long into the curled point.
- (7) Now throw your plane—hold it so the thin part of the circle faces downward, and the point is to the back.

On the fly

The curve of the crown is the same kind of shape as a paraglider's wing. And paragliders are EXCELLENT at flying—they can travel as far as 100 miles (160 km) without an engine.



Cone Rocket

THREE, TWO, ONE, BLAST OFF!
Here's how to make your own
rocket—and launch it using a
clever trick with air pressure.

HOW TO MAKE A ROCKET

- (1)
- (1) Draw a half circle on paper.
- (2) Cut it out.
 Then twist it around into a cone shape (leaving a teeny hole at the tip).
 Tape it together.

(3)

- (2)
- (3) Push the skewer through the hole and secure with modeling clay. Now decorate your cone.

(4)

(4) Put the straw into the plastic bottle so it sticks out 3 in (8 cm) or so. Secure with modeling clay, making sure the opening is sealed.

All you need is ...

paper

scissors

tape

wooden skewers (points broken off)

straw

plastic bottle

modeling

modeling clay

(5) Slide the wooden skewer into the straw in the bottle. Squeeze the bottle firmly...

How does it work?

Even though you can't see air, you know it's there. Although air molecules are INVISIBLE, they still have mass and take up space—this means air has PUSHING POWER. In this rocket, the straw is the only way for air in the bottle to get out. When you squeeze the bottle, more pressure is put on the air inside. The air is forced out through the straw, making the rocket take off.

Are you under pressure?

The air in Earth's atmosphere is PRESSING against every little bit of you with a force of 15 lbs per square inch (1 kg per square centimeter). So why doesn't it squash you? Remember that you have air inside you, too, and that air BALANCES OUT the pressure outside so you stay firm and not all squishy.

THE ROCKET FLY!

WhOOSH! ... and WATCH

cRash:

ZZAPP!



At the movies

The films you see at the movie theater are made up of thousands of pictures joined together in long strips. These strips are wound up on FILM REELS. If you unwind a whole movie it will probably be more than 2 miles (3 km) long.

Moving Pictures

WHEN YOU WATCH A FILM, you're looking at a moving image, right? WRONG! What you're actually seeing are lots of still pictures one after another.

The images change so quickly that your brain is tricked into thinking you're seeing a moving picture.

MAKE A MOVING-IMAGE FLICK BOOK



Find a pad of paper with at least 20 pages in it.



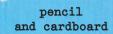
Draw a picture on the last page. Trace it onto the previous page, with a few small changes (or use the stickers on pages 54 and 59).



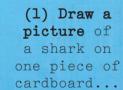
Keep tracing from page
to page until you've
made a kind of cartoon
story. Flick through
the pages and your
cartoon will look like
it's moving!

PICTURE SPINNER

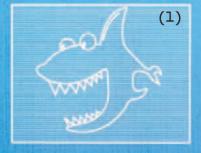
All you need is ...







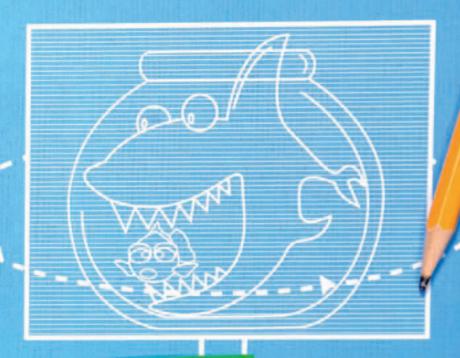
straw



(2)

(2)... and
a picture of
a fish in a
bowl on
another.

How does it work?
The spinning pictures
CHANGE SO FAST that
your brain can't
separate them! So it
merges them into one.



(3)



(4)

(3) Stick
the backs of
your pictures
together,
sandwiching
the straw in
between.

(4) Spin the straw backward and forward between your palms, as fast as you can. It will look like the shark is eating the fish!



Seeing in 3-D

These glasses use the fact that you have TWO EYES to make pictures jump off the page. Try them out on these pictures.

HOW TO MAKE 3-D GLASSES

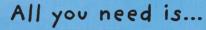


(1) Cut out two
rectangles of
cardboard big enough
to cover your eyes.
Glue them together
around three edges,
leaving one long
edge open.

(2) Cut out two square eyeholes and a nose hole.



(3) Cut out two acetate squares, one red and one blue, big enough to cover the eyeholes.





cardboard



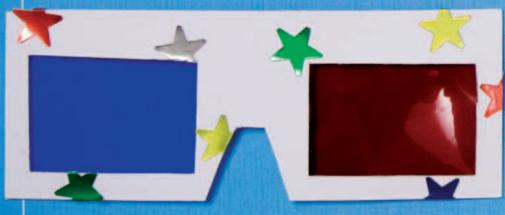
scissors

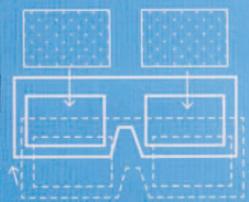


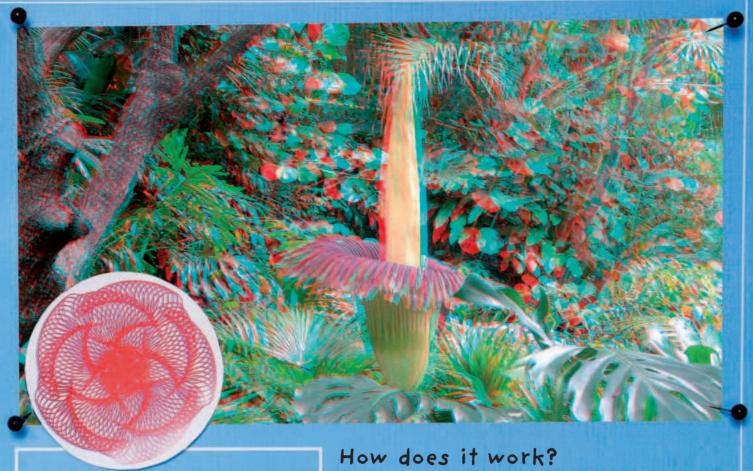
red and blue acetate



(4) Slide the acetate between the cardboard rectangles and glue in place—make sure the red square will cover your left eye.







3-D IMAGE MAKER

All you need is ...



tracing paper

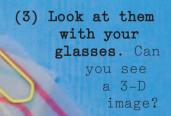
red and blue markers



(1) Draw a simple picture in red marker on a piece of tracing paper.

When you look at the image above through 3-D glasses, each eye sees a slightly different picture, just like when you're looking at a scene in the real world. This fools your brain into thinking the image is 3-D.

(2) On another piece, trace your image in blue. Put the red image on the blue one.





Möbius Magic

Want to make some SURPRISING SHAPES? Then twist a strip of paper and see what happens!

MAKE A MÖBIUS SQUARE

All you need is ...

scissors

(1)

(1) Take two strips of paper and make one Möbius strip and one normal loop (no twists).

How to make a Möbius strip

Cut a strip of paper about 1 in (2 cm) wide. Twist the paper into a loop, but before you tape it down, flip one end over. This will give you a strip of paper with a half-twist in it. This is a Möbius strip.



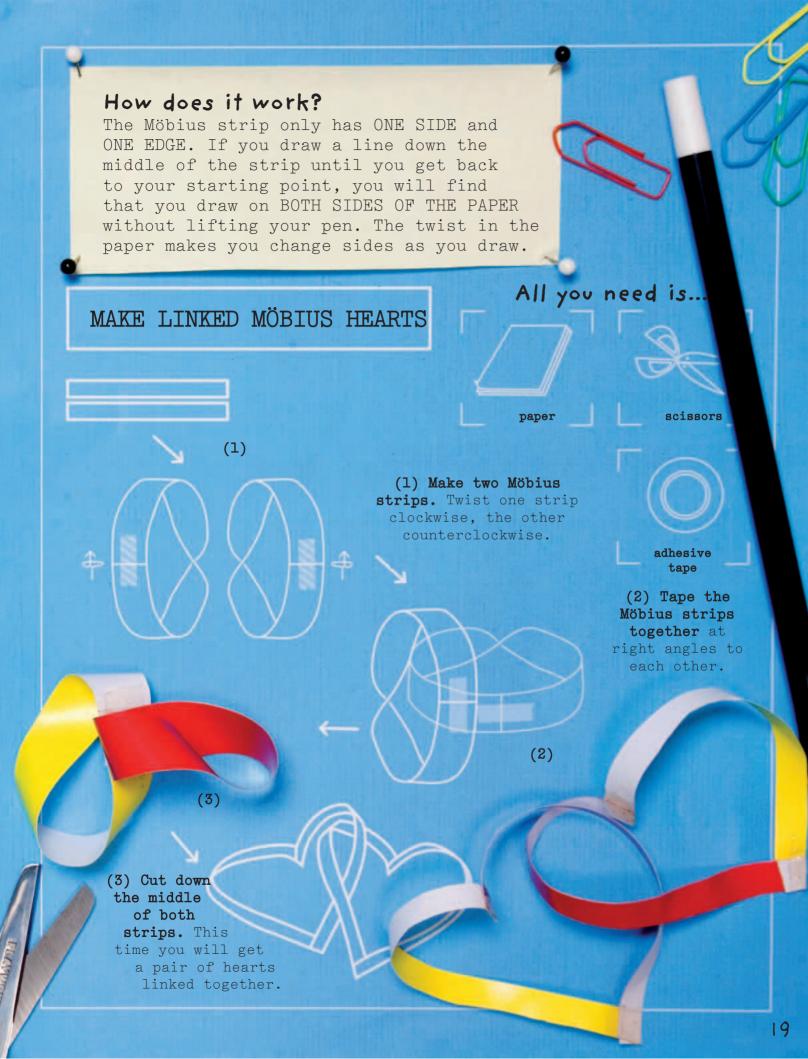
paper

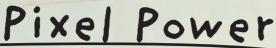
(2) Tape them together at right angles to each other.



(3) Cut down the middle of both strips. You will get a square.







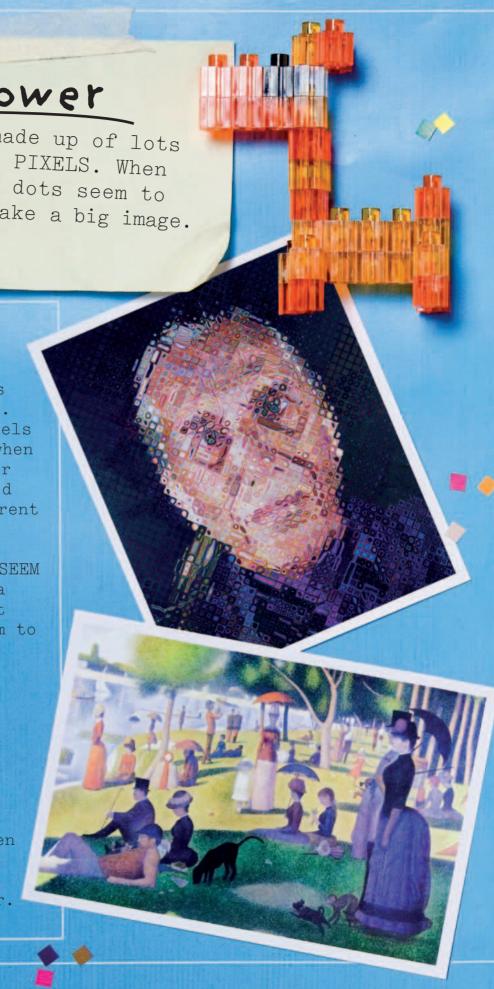
Some pictures are made up of lots of TINY DOTS CALLED PIXELS. When you stand back, the dots seem to MERGE together to make a big image. That's PIXEL POWER!

How does it work?

The screen of a COMPUTER MONITOR or television contains many tiny pixels. Because the pixels are so small, when we stand farther awav we see solid images. When different colored pixels are placed next to each other, their colors SEEM TO BLEND together. So a green dot and a red dot next to each other seem to be yellow.

Pixel Art

Painter Georges Seurat (1859-1891) created a type of painting style called pointillism.
Instead of painting in brush strokes, he used tiny dots of color. When you look at one of his paintings, your eyes blend the dots together.



HOW TO MAKE PIXEL ART

All you need is ...

pixel stickers



(1) First draw a fairly simple picture on the grid here.



markers



- (2) Use the small square stickers from the sticker sheet to color in your image.
- (3) You can also make pixel art on graph paper. Draw your outline, then color in your picture by filling in the squares with colored markers, one color per square.

Pixels are popular!
Artist Chuck Close
turns photos of
his friends and
family into largescale grid pictures
(center left). And
a creative team
called eBoy makes
pixel art on
computers (right).





Optical Illusions

Sometimes your brain has difficulty MAKING SENSE of what difficulty was see. So what does it your eyes see. So what does it think of the OPTICAL ILLUSIONS on this page?

At first glance, these triangles look like regular 3-D shapes. But are they?

THE BOX TRICK

What are these?

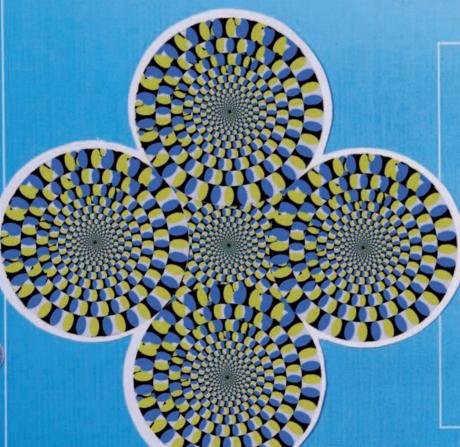
They look different... ... But they are all 3-D boxes.



The colorful illusions (left and right) are called moving-image illusions, because as you look at each picture, it SEEMS TO BE MOVING (to see this better, put the sticker versions on white paper).

How do they work?

Optical illusions are clever combinations of LINES, SHAPES, AND COLORS. You could say they work by letting your eyes confuse your brain!





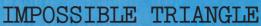
This is an impossible triangle, also called a Penrose triangle. Its sides look as if they move away and toward you at the same time.



MAKE A PENROSE TRIANGLE

- 1. First photocopy or trace the pattern onto a sheet of heavy paper and cut it out.
- 2. Fold along the dotted lines. You should end up with a shape that looks a little like an L, with one extra leg sticking out.
- 3. Put this shape on a table and move around it until it looks like a Penrose triangle.









1. All the animals here have been sent into space. But which went first?

Cricket, mice,
rats, frogs, newts,
fruit flies, squirrel,
snail, carp, monkey, dog,
silkworms, toadfish, sea
urchin, swordtail
fish...

2. What's the world record for the flight of a paper airplane?

- a. 20 ft (6 m)
- b. 54 ft (16.5 m)
- c. 112 ft (34.14 m)
- d. 20 miles (32 km)





- 3. What is the land speed record for a wheeled vehicle?
- a. 127 mph (205 km/h)
- b. 351 mph (565 km/h)
- c. 600 mph (970 km/h)
- d. 763 mph (1,228 km/h)

4. The oldest known boomerang is from which country?

- a. Australia
- b. Poland
- c. India
- d. China

FORMULA

ANSWERS: (1) Fruit flies were first, launched aboard a V2 rocket in 1947. (2) c-In 2007 Lucas Tortors set the record for distance and hang time of a paper airplane. His plane stayed up for 83 seconds. (5) d-763 mph (1,228 km/h). Answer "a" is the fastest steam-powered vehicle, answer "b" is the fastest motorcycle speed, and answer "c" is the speed of the first wheeled vehicle to break the sound barrier. (4) b-The oldest known boomerang was discovered in a cave in Poland. It was made of mammoth's tusk and is believed to be about 30,000 years old.

Brain Busters Quiz

1. 3-D glasses
work because of
the distance between
your pupils. Everyone's
pupils are about the same
distance apart. What's
this distance?

a. l in (2.5 cm) b. 2 in (5 cm)

> c. 3 in (7.5 cm) d. 4 in (10 cm)

3. The picture spinner (on page 15) was invented in 1824 by Dr. Mark Roget. What was it first used for?

a. a toyb. scientific research

c. an early type
of movie

d. an unusual type of book

2. When
you look
at a TV
you see an
image made
up of pixels.
About how many

pixels are on an average 24 in (61 cm) TV screen?

a. 500

b. 1,200

c. 480,000

d. 1,200,000

4. Optical illusions are designed to confuse your brain—something that can be put to practical use. Which one of the following does not use optical illusion?

a. art

b. architecture

c. cooking

d. stick insects



ANSWERS: (1) b-Human pupils are about S in (5 cm) apart. (2) c-There are as a many as 50 cabout 480,000 pixels on a normal TV. High-definition TVs have as many as 50 million pixels. (3) b-Called a thaumatrope, it was used in scientific research to prove something called persistence of vision. This is the way your brain sees fast-moving images as if they were overlapping. The thaumatrope was also used as a toy and is the first type of animated movie. (4) c-Art and architecture use perspective, and stick insects use camouflage. These are types of perspective, and stick insects use camouflage. These are types of perspective, and stick insects use

Nose Your Flavors

YOU TASTE with your tongueeveryone knows that. But do you also sense flavors with your nose? Here's a little game that puts TASTE to the TEST.

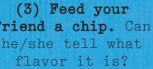
A FEAST FOR THE SENSES This test works best when you use chips of the same size and texture. The way food looks, feels, and even sounds has a big impact on our sense of taste.

HOW TO TEST TASTE



(1) Get a friend to cover his/her eyes with the blindfold.

(2) Put a clothes pin on vour friend's nose.



friend a chip. Can he/she tell what

All you need is ...



potato chips

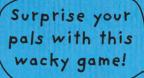




blindfold



cup of water





(4) Let your friend have a sip of water, ready for the next chip.



(6) Keep going with different chips. Remember to keep score.
A correct flavor gets one point!
Run out of flavors? Well, now it's your turn.
Can you beat your friend's score?

What's happening?

The TASTE BUDS on your tongue can only sense five basic flavors: sweet, salty, bitter, sour, and umami (a meaty flavor).

About 70 percent of what you "taste" is actually SMELLED. Food smells drift into your nose through passages at the back of your mouth. When you pin your nose, you are blocking off your sense of SMELL. This makes it hard to tell the difference between flavors.

Choose just one shape of chip, or they'll guess the flavor from the texture.

Toothpaste Taste

After eating you should always BRUSH YOUR TEETH. Here's a teeth-brushing experiment. After the chip test brush your teeth and then try drinking some ORANGE JUICE. What happens?

WHY DOES IT TASTE SO DISGUSTING? Well, to be honest, scientists aren't totally sure. One opinion is that an ingredient in toothpaste, which makes it foamy, dulls the SWEETNESS DETECTORS in your taste buds. This gives the orange juice a BITTER flavor. Yuck!





Sick Trick

This pretend vomit is perfect for a PRACTICAL JOKE! You can even gross out your friends and family by eating it. But don't blame us if it tastes a bit weird...

~

Don't eat your trick vomit if it gets dirty. Keep it in the fridge until it's time for your practical joke.

The art of a good practical joke is to make sure the person you play it on will also find it funny...

Your digestive system protects itself from danger by emptying the stomach. Vomit is just partially digested food.

WHAT MAKES US SICK?

Real vomit is very acidic, because it contains gastric acid from your stomach. This acid is strong enough to kill germs, and can even dissolve an iron nail!

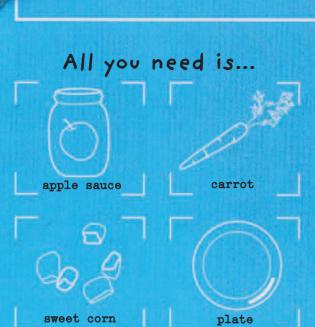
Why do we throw up?

The digestive system is very vulnerable to attack because it is where your body absorbs most of the nutrients you need to grow, repair, and energize.

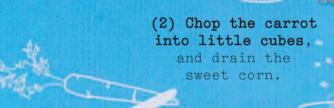
Vomiting is actually one of the digestive system's main defense mechanisms. The body rejects food when you feel unwell or if you eat something that might hurt you.





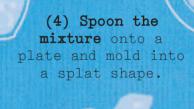


(1) Scoop three tablespoons of apple sauce into the cup.
Add one teaspoon of cocoa powder.





(3) Add some pieces of carrot and sweet corn to the apple sauce. Stir in three teaspoons of gelatin.





(5) Leave it in the fridge overnight to set. Then use the spatula to place it on a clean surface. Don't put it on the floor!

Crazy Crackers

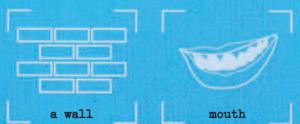
WHEN YOU SWALLOW, food falls down into your BELLY, doesn't it? Here's an experiment that tests how food travels through you.

NESIDE DOMN TAE OT WOH

All you need is ...



crackers



(3) Now eat the piece at a time.

(1) Take the cushion and place it on the floor next to the wall.

*WARNING!

Eating upside down is

perfectly safe-but

food goes down

the wrong way.

make sure you

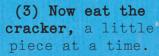
have a friend

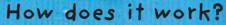
around, just in case

you get the giggles and

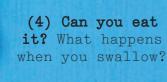
(2) Place your head on the cushion and do a headstand. You can lean against the wall for stability.

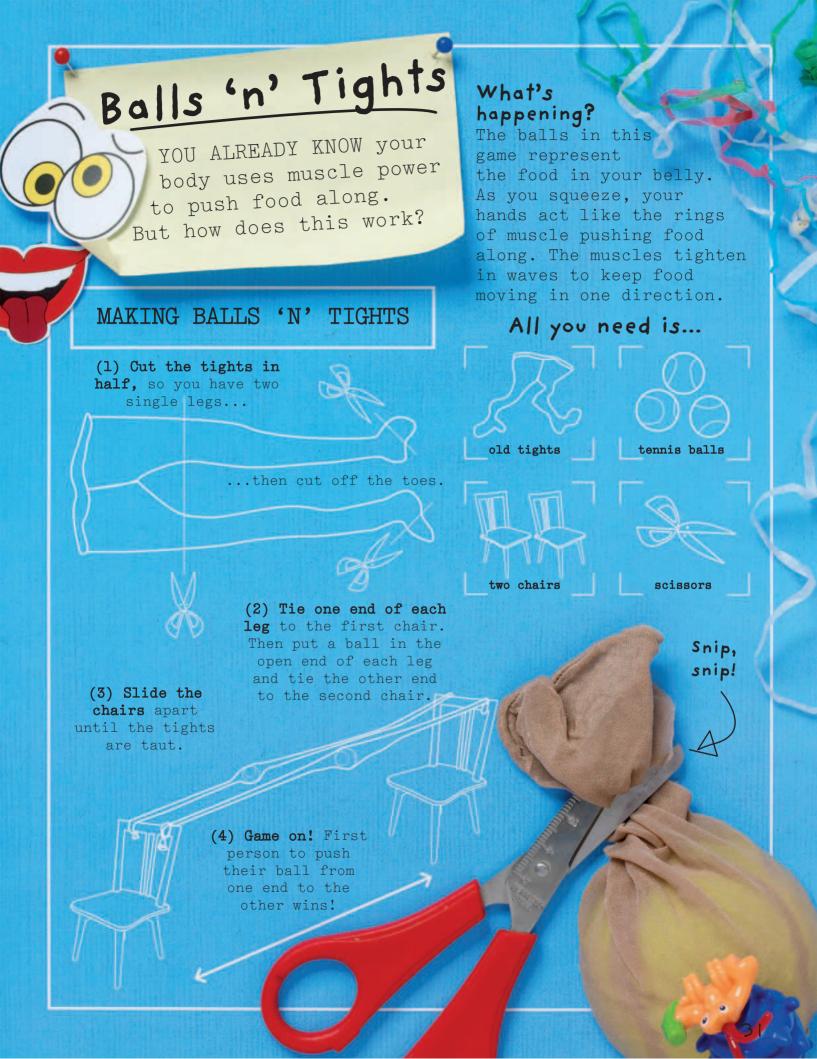






Your digestive system doesn't need gravity to move food through your body. Muscles push the chewed food into your stomach and through your intestines.





Breathing Bottle

What can a PLASTIC BOTTLE tell us about the way we breathe? A surprising amount, actually. It all has to do with AIR PRESSURE.

I'M FULL OF HOT AIR! Air pressure is
the pushing
force of
air against
other materials.
When a lot of air
is forced into a
small area—
like when
you're blowing
up a balloon—
this increases
the air pressure.

This bottle helps explain air pressure and its role in helping us breathe. Gas moves from areas of higher air pressure to areas of lower air pressure.



What's happening?

The balloon acts like the muscle below your lungs, called the diaphragm. As the balloon expands, it increases air pressure in the bottle, pushing air out of the small hole. As the balloon deflates, the air pressure drops and air enters through the hole. Something similar happens in your lungs. As the diaphragm lengthens, it increases the air pressure in your lungs, making you breathe out. When the diaphragm shortens, it lowers the air pressure, drawing air in.

MAKE A BREATHING BOTTLE

(1) Remove the lid
 from the bottle—
you don't need it.

(2) Use the pencil to make a small hole 2 in (5 cm) from the bottle's base.

(3) Keep hold of the balloon and carefully

feed it into the bottle.

(4) With the balloon still inside the bottle, stretch the mouth of the balloon over the opening of the bottle.

pencil

(5) Try blowing up
the balloon first
with, then without,
your finger over the
hole. It won't inflate
if you have your
finger over the hole!

TRY HARDER!

5

(7) Then ask your friend to try—but "help" them hold the bottle, and secretly cover up the hole.

balloon bottle

All you need is ...

(6) Here's a good trick. Show your friend how easy it is to blow up

a friend

Remember to keep the hole uncovered.

the balloon.

Your friend won't be able to blow the balloon up!

Farting Fun

Surely, there's NO REAL SCIENCE in farting? In fact, there's plenty—just try these experiments.

MAKING A FART WHISTLE

All you need is ...



(1) Lay the balloon flat, and measure about 4 in (10 cm) up from the mouth of the balloon.



(2) Draw a line and carefully cut along it. The balloon should now be funnel-shaped.



(3) Now blow into the balloon whistle—it will make a noise just like a real fart!

Parp!

Rasp!

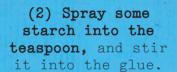
Fart!

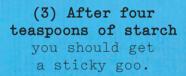
The fart whistle

works in the same way as a whoopee cushion.



(1) Put 1 teaspoon
of craft glue into
 the bowl and mix
 in a few drops of
 food coloring.





(4) Pour the goo
 into the small
jar. Then pop it
 in the fridge
 for 30 minutes.

Toot!

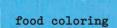
Honk!

(5) Move your finger in and out of the goo. The trapped air will make a farting noise!

All you need is ...

small jar

craft glue



bowl



teaspoon

spray starch

What's happening?

Farts are caused by
the buildup of gas
in your intestines.
The gas mostly comes
from the chemical
reactions that break down
food. This gas is pushed
through your intestines
during digestion, and comes
out of your bottom.

The fart noise depends
on a muscle in your bottom
called the sphincter—the
faster the gas exits and
the tighter the muscle,
the louder
the noise.

Eye See You

AS A SECRET AGENT, you'll need to keep an eye on the enemy, using clever GADGETS. Fear not—here's how to make your own SPY-EYE PERISCOPE.



Can you see around corners?



Periscopes help you see above high obstacles like fences and walls. You can even use them sideways and peer around corners!

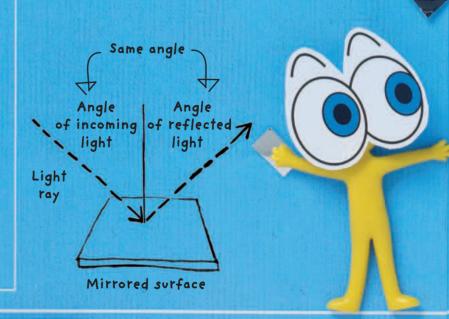


Periscopes are used by submarines to look above the waves without giving away their position to enemy ships. The first periscope was used on a submarine in 1902.

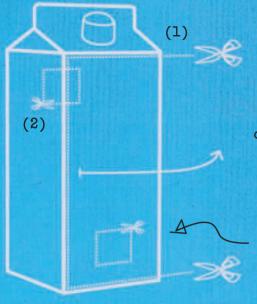
Spy science explained!

LIGHT RAYS always travel in straight lines.
Mirrored surfaces, like the pieces of cardboard in our periscope, bounce light rays back out at EXACTLY THE SAME ANGLE that they arrive, so that you see a reflection.

The mirrors in the periscope are angled at 45 degrees, which is the perfect angle to bounce light from one mirror onto the other, and then into your eye.



HOW TO MAKE A PERISCOPE



(1) Cut along three sides of the carton to open it up.

(2) At the top of one side, cut an eye-sized hole. This is the viewhole.

Then cut another hole at the bottom of the opposite side. This is the eyehole.

All you need is ...

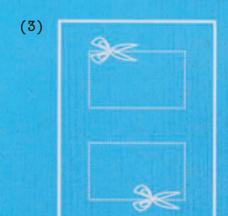


juice carton

mirrored cardboard



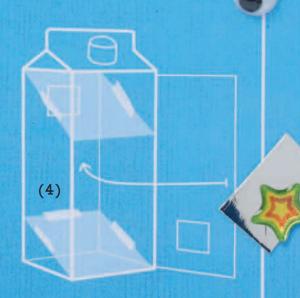
scissors



(3) Cut two
rectangles of
mirrored cardboard.
Don't cut them
too small.

(4) Place a rectangle of mirrored cardboard

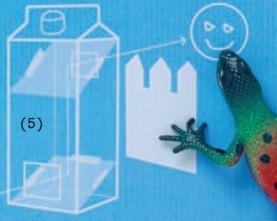
into the bottom of
the carton at a
45 degree angle and
do the same for
the mirrored
cardboard at the top
of the carton.



(5) Close up the carton with tape. If your angles are correct, you can look in the eyehole and see out of the viewhole!

If not, change the angles of the cardboard until you can.



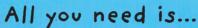


Note: Don't use permanent markers!

Guilty Pen!

SOMETIMES SPIES SEND secret messages to each other. Here's how to find out WHOSE PEN was used to write the secret note.

HOW TO CATCH THE CULPRIT



(1) Ask a friend to secretly write "SECRET..." on a piece of blotting paper with one of the three felt pens. Remember the periods!

(2) Cut three strips of blotting paper, about the depth of the tub.

(3) Take a pen and make

a dot near the bottom of

each strip. Use a

different pen for each.

(4) Cut a strip out of the "SECRET..." note. Use a period as your dot for the test.

plastic tub

blotting paper

3 black felt pens



friends

Evidence strip

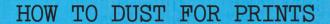
paper clips

Suspect pen strips



Finding Prints

A CARELESS CRIMINAL can leave clues at a crime scene. A fingerprint can be a key piece of EVIDENCEso start dusting!



All you need is ...

blusher brush

plate



talcum powder

black cardboard



This one's been dusted already.

> (1) Press your finger firmly on the mirror.

(2) Dip the brush in talcum powder, shake off the excess powder, then use the brush to dust the mirror.

> Make sure you dust carefully, so you don't smudge the print.

(3) Take a strip of tape, and gently stick it over the white fingerprint. Slowly peel it off.

(4) Stick the tape on the black cardboard. Now you can see the fingerprint in detail!

Making Prints

YOU'VE FOUND FINGERPRINTS. But they are only useful if you can compare them. That means INKY fingers!





There are THREE types of fingerprint.



WHORL

HOW TO INK PRINTS

(1) Gently place the tip of your finger onto the ink pad.



All you need is ...



ink pad



white cardboard

Spy science

Your hands are covered in tinv grooves, which provide friction and help you grip. To add extra grip, skin oils are channeled along the grooves. It's these oils that leave the outline of the fingerprint on shiny surfaces.



magnifying glass

(2) Now gently press your finger on the white cardboard. Don't smudge it!

We all have unique fingerprints-even identical twins. So fingerprinting is a foolproof way of identifying the culprit!





(3) Use the magnifying glass to look at the hoops and loops of the print.

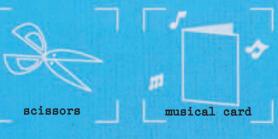


AS A SPY, you'll need to keep top-secret files from ENEMY AGENTS. Protect your bedroom with an INTRUDER ALARM!



HOW TO MAKE AN ALARM

All you need is ...





(1) Peel back the piece of cardboard that is hiding all the electrical parts in the musical card.

You can feel where the circuit is in the card.

(2) There should be a small plastic strip in the crease of the card. Carefully detach it. Tie the fishing wire around the end of the strip.

Fishing wire

KEEP OUT! SUPER-SPY TOP TIP
You have to position the intruder alarm just right.
Make sure that when the door opens it tugs on the fishing wire and pulls the plastic strip out of the pincer.

(3) Cut away the rest of the card so you are left with just the circuit board and speaker.

(4) Attach the loose end of the fishing wire to your bedroom door handle.

Spy science explained!

The mechanism in the card is an electrical circuit connecting a battery to a speaker. When the plastic strip is in the pincer, it stops the flow of electricity, so the buzzer doesn't sound. But when the door opens, it pulls the strip from the pincer, and this completes the electrical circuit. The speaker converts

electricity
to sound:
INTRUDER ALERT!

(5) Locate the metal pincer on the circuit board.

Pincer

(7) Now hide the circuit board and speaker in a heavy book, and make sure the fishing line is taut. You're ready for any intruders!

(6) Carefully, hook the hole on the plastic strip under the pincer.

DNA Extraction



Spy missions can be challenging. Do you want to SEE WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF? Now you can—let's EXTRACT some DNA.

Your DNA is completely unique to you, unless you're an identical twin.



All you need is ...





nail polish



dishwashing liquid



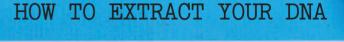
pitcher of water



(2) Take a clean glass and add three teaspoons of tap water...

You can keep your DNA in a jar or a test tube and show it to your friends!

wooden kebab sticks



(1) Put the nail polish remover in the freezer for 10 minutes.



... then add one teaspoon of dishwashing liquid.









Body Bits Quiz

1. Food travels a long way through your body. How long are the average adult's intestines in total (large and small together)?

a. 3 ft (1 m)

b. 15 ft (5 m)

c. 32 ft (10 m)

d. 320 ft (100 m)

3. Farting—everyone does it, even movie stars. But how many times, on average, does a person fart a day?

- a. Never!
- b. Once
- c. 14 times
- d. 14,000 times

2. Smell something bad? If you were a dog it would smell worse, because dogs are more sensitive to odors than humans. But by how much?

a. 2 times

b. 10 times

c. 1,000 times

d. 10,000 times

4. Eating dinner can take a matter of minutes, especially if it's your favorite meal. But how long, on average, does it take for the food to be digested?

a. 5 minutes

b. l hour

c. 24 hours

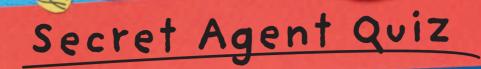
d. 80 hours



(S m). (S) d. Dogs are very sensitive to because they have about 1 billion smell receptors. (3) c. This is an average—some days it will be more, other days fewer. (4) d. 80 hours—that's just over three days:

Your small intestine is about 26 ft (8 m) long and your large intestine is slightly smaller, only 6 ft (8 m). (8) d. Dogs are very sensitive to smells

ANSWERS:



1. The code for human DNA consists of four letters—A, C, G, and T. But how many letters long is the human genetic code?



- b. 3,000 letters
- c. 3 million letters
- d. 3 billion letters

- 2. The curves and creases in a fingerprint are given names relating to their shape. Which of the below is not a type of fingerprint?
- a. Arch
- b. Loop
- c. Hoop
- d. Whorl

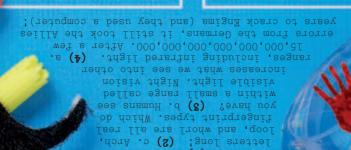


3. Night-vision goggles are a must for any spy. But what type of light do they detect to help spies see in the dark?

- a. Twilight
 - b. Infrared light
 - c. Cosmic light
 - d. Ultra-blue light

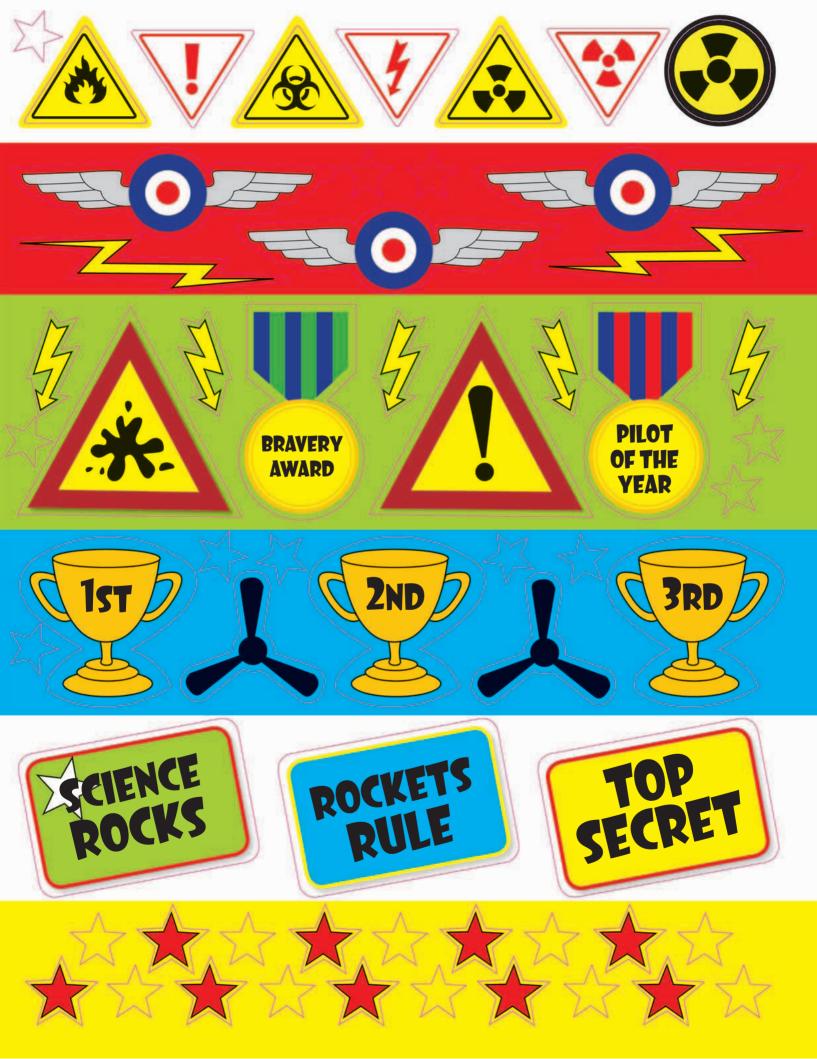
4. During World War II, the Germans developed a code machine called Enigma. It was really hard to crack. How many different ways could each letter in a message be encoded?

- a. 15 billion billion
- b. 15 million
- c. 15,000
- d. 15



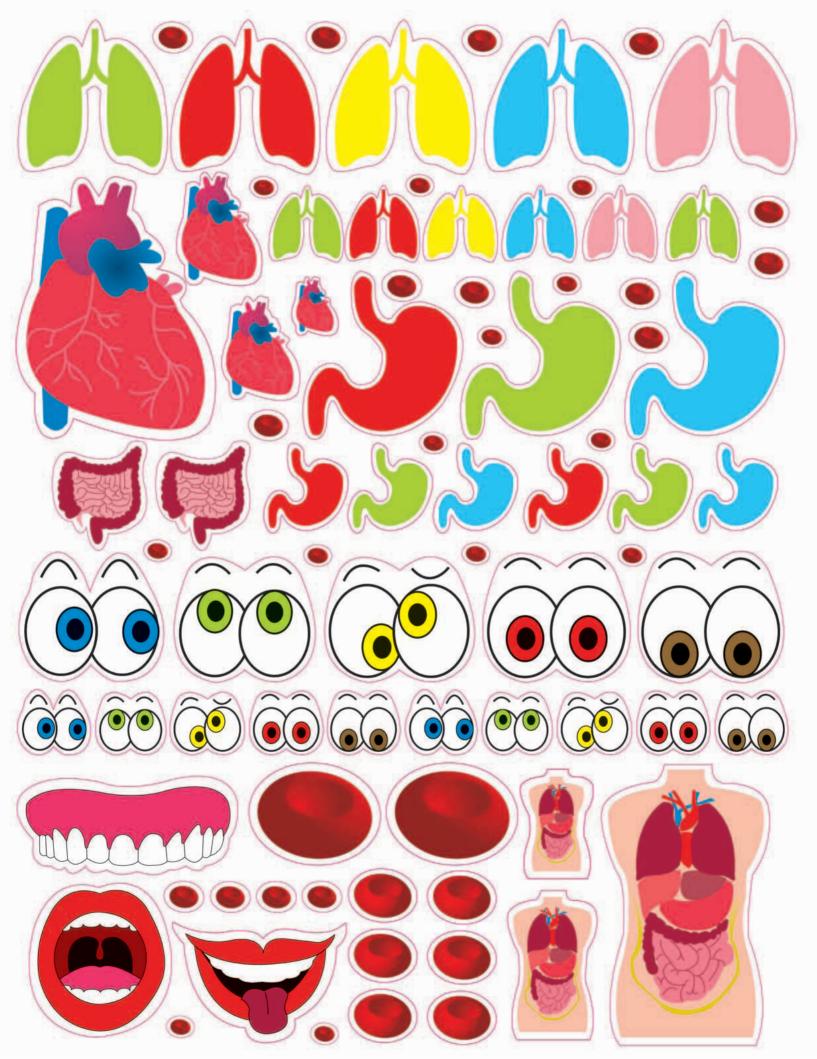
ANSWERS: (1) d. 5 billion

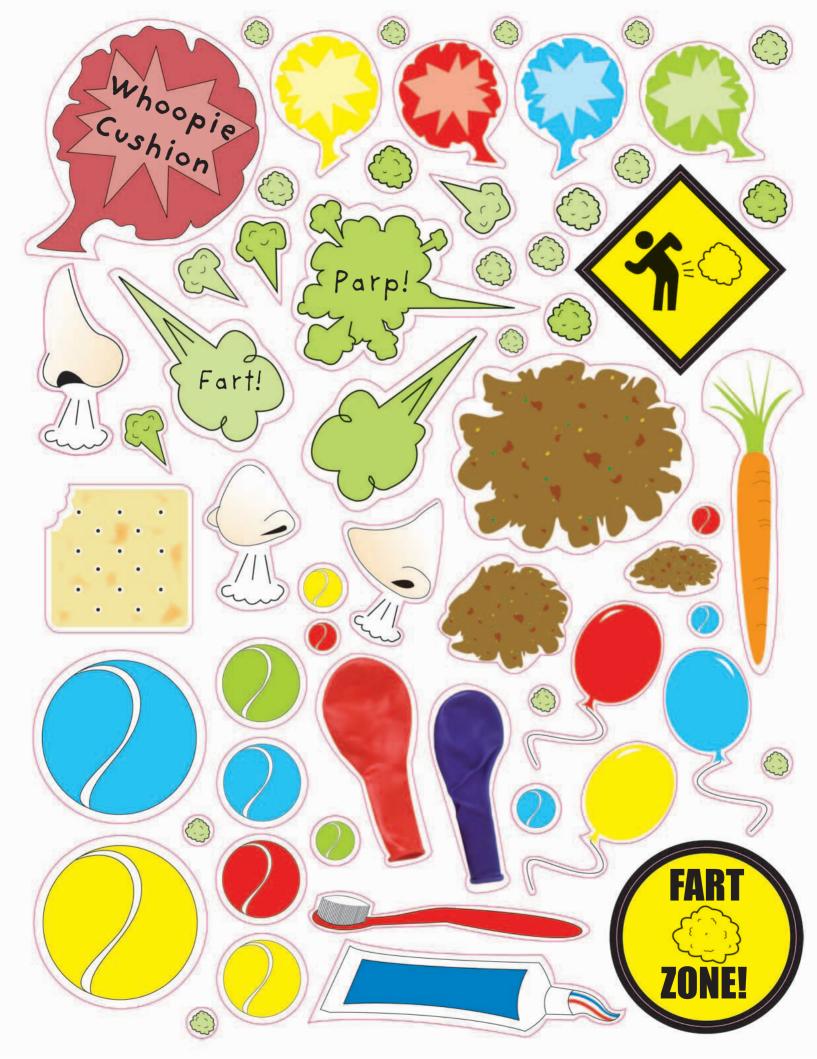














TOP SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET FILES



CRIME SCENE

CRIME SCENE

DO NOT CROSS

CRIME SCENE

DO NOT CROSS

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CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET FILES



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