



For Mercy's Sake

p.20





FOCUS ON THE FAMILY clubhouse

Editor: JESSE FLOREA
Senior Associate Editor: STEPHEN O'NEAR
Assistant Editor: RACHEL PFEIFFER
Copy Chief: SCOTT DENICO LA
Art Director: JENNY DILLON
Designer: SALLY DUNN
Imaging Specialist: JIM CAIL
Contract Coordinator: LAURA WILLIAMS
Circulation: SANDY GRIVY & KAY LEAVY
Print Production: GAIL WISE
VP Parenting & Youth: DANNY HUERTA
Cover Photo: APEX VISUAL



President: JIM DALY
Chief Operating Officer: KEN WINDEBANK

Focus on the Family Clubhouse magazine, MARCH 2020, Vol. 34, No. 3. Published monthly by Focus on the Family. Copyright ©2020, Focus on the Family. All rights reserved. International copyright secured. ISSN 0895-1136. Focus on the Family Clubhouse is a federally registered trademark of Focus on the Family, 8605 Explorer Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80920-1051, a nonprofit organization recognized for tax-deductible giving by the federal government. Annual U.S. subscription (12 issues): \$23.99; Canadian: \$23.99. For questions about magazine delivery, please call us at 800-232-6459. Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are taken from the Holman Christian Standard Bible, Copyright ©1999, 2000, 2002, 2003 by Holman Bible Publishers. Used by permission.

CLUBHOUSEMAGAZINE.COM
Mention of specific websites does not constitute blanket endorsement by Focus on the Family.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: By submitting letters and other materials to Focus on the Family, you agree that the materials submitted are the property of Focus on the Family and will not be returned, and you agree that Focus on the Family, its assigns and licensees, have been granted the non-exclusive right to use and/or reproduce the materials in any manner and for any purpose. Agreement is made in Colorado, and controlled by Colorado law.

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to Focus on the Family, 19946 80A Ave., Langley, BC V2Y 0J8, (604) 455-7900 or 800-661-9800; e-mail: info@focus.org
GST #R123123123

Printed in the USA
Paper manufactured by a mill that practices sustainable forestry.

What's in the Club?

Grow Your Faith

- 5 Lighthouse
- 8 Don't Blow Your Top
- 10 Superpowered Friendship

Things to Do

- 4 Silly Captions
- 12 Are You a Butterfly or a Bee?
- 15 St. Patrick's Oatmeal Cake

Top Stories

- 20 For Mercy's Sake
- 22 Lenny the Leatherback
- 24 The Juggling Act

Adventures in Odyssey

- 8 Jones & Parker Mystery
- 28 Wooton's Random Ramblings
- 30 Sleuth Family Robinson

Seek and Find

Search this issue for a harp, the planet Saturn, red roses, a crab and the words, "Sticks and rocks served as her toys."

Laugh It Up

- 11 Reader Jokes
- 14 Average Boy



THINK ABOUT IT:

Want to be a better friend?
Try to understand how others are feeling.

SPARKING CONVERSATION

Focus on the Family Clubhouse and Clubhouse Jr. magazines help parents walk alongside their kids, sparking conversations for lifelong growth. Keep the discussion going! Renew your subscription or sign up a friend at FocusOnTheFamily.com/kidsmags.

Call us: 800-A-FAMILY (232-6459)
In Canada: FocusOnTheFamily.ca or call 800-661-9800

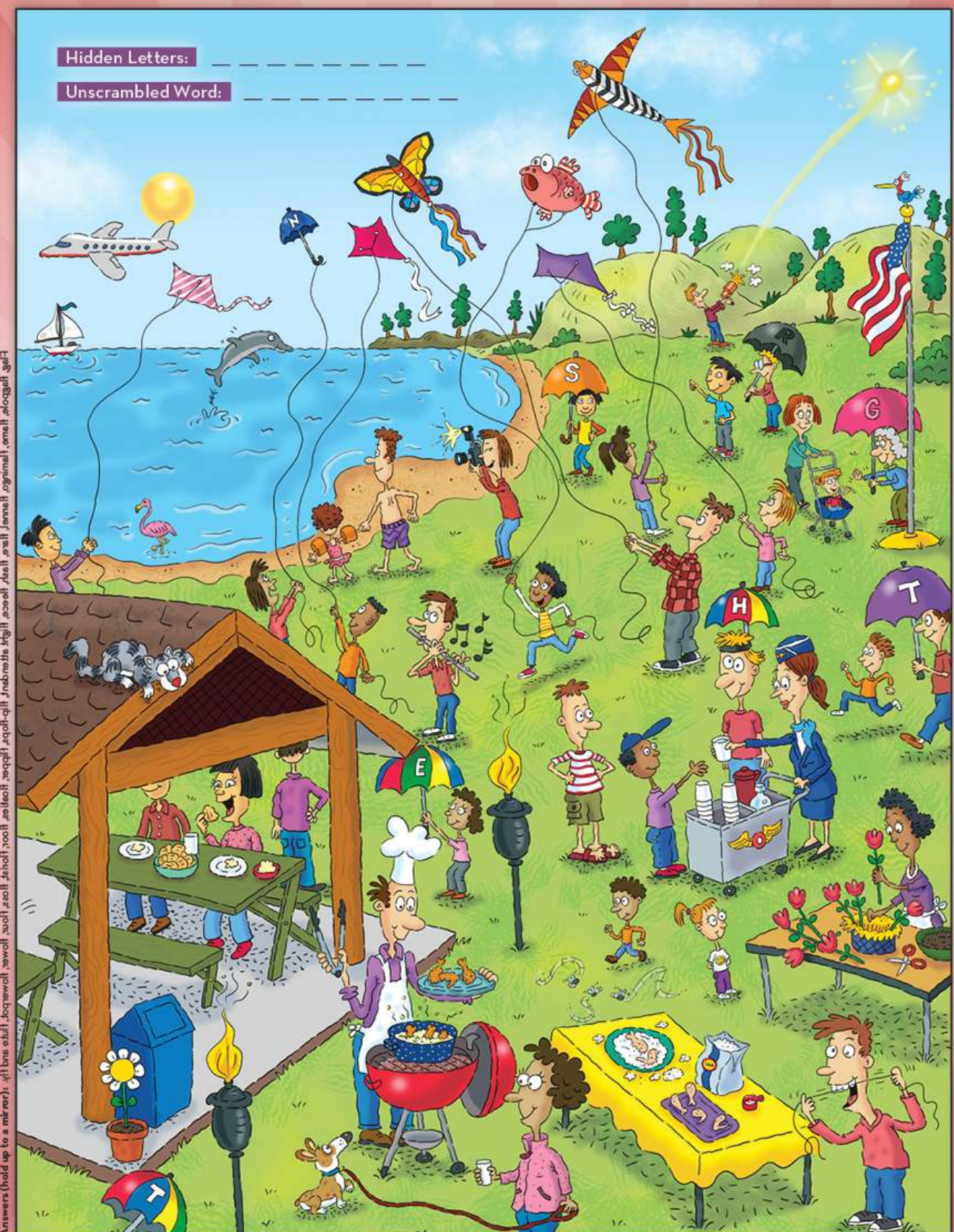
Choose either
magazine for \$23.99
and receive
12 monthly issues.

Go Fly a Kite

Find 12 things at this park that start with the letters FL. Then find eight umbrellas with letters on them and unscramble the secret word.

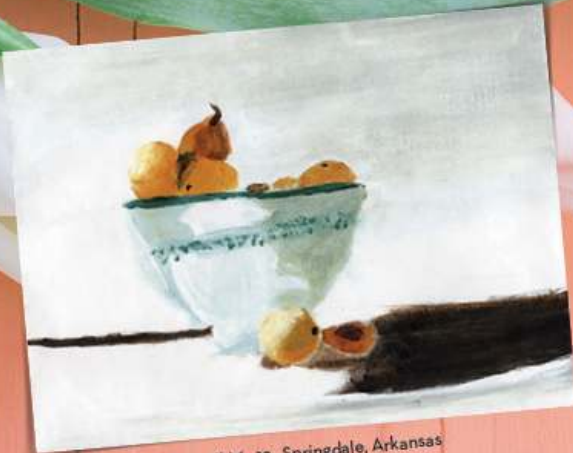
Hidden Letters: _____

Unscrambled Word: _____



Answers (hold up to a mirror): 1. fly, 2. kite, 3. lake, 4. sail, 5. boat, 6. dolphin, 7. flamingo, 8. chef, 9. grill, 10. picnic, 11. table, 12. people, 13. dog, 14. cat, 15. bird, 16. fish, 17. flower, 18. tree, 19. grass, 20. sand, 21. sun, 22. moon, 23. stars, 24. clouds, 25. water, 26. air, 27. earth, 28. sky, 29. ground, 30. horizon, 31. mountains, 32. hills, 33. valleys, 34. fields, 35. forests, 36. rivers, 37. streams, 38. ponds, 39. lakes, 40. oceans, 41. seas, 42. bays, 43. gulfs, 44. fjords, 45. canyons, 46. plateaus, 47. deserts, 48. tundra, 49. taiga, 50. deciduous forest, 51. coniferous forest, 52. grassland, 53. savanna, 54. steppe, 55. prairie, 56. marsh, 57. wetland, 58. swamp, 59. bog, 60. fen, 61. meadow, 62. pasture, 63. field, 64. plain, 65. valley, 66. gorge, 67. canyon, 68. ravine, 69. gully, 70. ditch, 71. stream, 72. river, 73. lake, 74. sea, 75. ocean, 76. bay, 77. gulf, 78. fjord, 79. canyon, 80. plateau, 81. desert, 82. tundra, 83. taiga, 84. deciduous forest, 85. coniferous forest, 86. grassland, 87. savanna, 88. steppe, 89. prairie, 90. marsh, 91. wetland, 92. swamp, 93. bog, 94. fen, 95. meadow, 96. pasture, 97. field, 98. plain, 99. valley, 100. gorge, 101. canyon, 102. ravine, 103. gully, 104. ditch, 105. stream, 106. river, 107. lake, 108. sea, 109. ocean, 110. bay, 111. gulf, 112. fjord, 113. canyon, 114. plateau, 115. desert, 116. tundra, 117. taiga, 118. deciduous forest, 119. coniferous forest, 120. grassland, 121. savanna, 122. steppe, 123. prairie, 124. marsh, 125. wetland, 126. swamp, 127. bog, 128. fen, 129. meadow, 130. pasture, 131. field, 132. plain, 133. valley, 134. gorge, 135. canyon, 136. ravine, 137. gully, 138. ditch, 139. stream, 140. river, 141. lake, 142. sea, 143. ocean, 144. bay, 145. gulf, 146. fjord, 147. canyon, 148. plateau, 149. desert, 150. tundra, 151. taiga, 152. deciduous forest, 153. coniferous forest, 154. grassland, 155. savanna, 156. steppe, 157. prairie, 158. marsh, 159. wetland, 160. swamp, 161. bog, 162. fen, 163. meadow, 164. pasture, 165. field, 166. plain, 167. valley, 168. gorge, 169. canyon, 170. ravine, 171. gully, 172. ditch, 173. stream, 174. river, 175. lake, 176. sea, 177. ocean, 178. bay, 179. gulf, 180. fjord, 181. canyon, 182. plateau, 183. desert, 184. tundra, 185. taiga, 186. deciduous forest, 187. coniferous forest, 188. grassland, 189. savanna, 190. steppe, 191. prairie, 192. marsh, 193. wetland, 194. swamp, 195. bog, 196. fen, 197. meadow, 198. pasture, 199. field, 200. plain, 201. valley, 202. gorge, 203. canyon, 204. ravine, 205. gully, 206. ditch, 207. stream, 208. river, 209. lake, 210. sea, 211. ocean, 212. bay, 213. gulf, 214. fjord, 215. canyon, 216. plateau, 217. desert, 218. tundra, 219. taiga, 220. deciduous forest, 221. coniferous forest, 222. grassland, 223. savanna, 224. steppe, 225. prairie, 226. marsh, 227. wetland, 228. swamp, 229. bog, 230. fen, 231. meadow, 232. pasture, 233. field, 234. plain, 235. valley, 236. gorge, 237. canyon, 238. ravine, 239. gully, 240. ditch, 241. stream, 242. river, 243. lake, 244. sea, 245. ocean, 246. bay, 247. gulf, 248. fjord, 249. canyon, 250. plateau, 251. desert, 252. tundra, 253. taiga, 254. deciduous forest, 255. coniferous forest, 256. grassland, 257. savanna, 258. steppe, 259. prairie, 260. marsh, 261. wetland, 262. swamp, 263. bog, 264. fen, 265. meadow, 266. pasture, 267. field, 268. plain, 269. valley, 270. gorge, 271. canyon, 272. ravine, 273. gully, 274. ditch, 275. stream, 276. river, 277. lake, 278. sea, 279. ocean, 280. bay, 281. gulf, 282. fjord, 283. canyon, 284. plateau, 285. desert, 286. tundra, 287. taiga, 288. deciduous forest, 289. coniferous forest, 290. grassland, 291. savanna, 292. steppe, 293. prairie, 294. marsh, 295. wetland, 296. swamp, 297. bog, 298. fen, 299. meadow, 300. pasture, 301. field, 302. plain, 303. valley, 304. gorge, 305. canyon, 306. ravine, 307. gully, 308. ditch, 309. stream, 310. river, 311. lake, 312. sea, 313. ocean, 314. bay, 315. gulf, 316. fjord, 317. canyon, 318. plateau, 319. desert, 320. tundra, 321. taiga, 322. deciduous forest, 323. coniferous forest, 324. grassland, 325. savanna, 326. steppe, 327. prairie, 328. marsh, 329. wetland, 330. swamp, 331. bog, 332. fen, 333. meadow, 334. pasture, 335. field, 336. plain, 337. valley, 338. gorge, 339. canyon, 340. ravine, 341. gully, 342. ditch, 343. stream, 344. river, 345. lake, 346. sea, 347. ocean, 348. bay, 349. gulf, 350. fjord, 351. canyon, 352. plateau, 353. desert, 354. tundra, 355. taiga, 356. deciduous forest, 357. coniferous forest, 358. grassland, 359. savanna, 360. steppe, 361. prairie, 362. marsh, 363. wetland, 364. swamp, 365. bog, 366. fen, 367. meadow, 368. pasture, 369. field, 370. plain, 371. valley, 372. gorge, 373. canyon, 374. ravine, 375. gully, 376. ditch, 377. stream, 378. river, 379. lake, 380. sea, 381. ocean, 382. bay, 383. gulf, 384. fjord, 385. canyon, 386. plateau, 387. desert, 388. tundra, 389. taiga, 390. deciduous forest, 391. coniferous forest, 392. grassland, 393. savanna, 394. steppe, 395. prairie, 396. marsh, 397. wetland, 398. swamp, 399. bog, 400. fen, 401. meadow, 402. pasture, 403. field, 404. plain, 405. valley, 406. gorge, 407. canyon, 408. ravine, 409. gully, 410. ditch, 411. stream, 412. river, 413. lake, 414. sea, 415. ocean, 416. bay, 417. gulf, 418. fjord, 419. canyon, 420. plateau, 421. desert, 422. tundra, 423. taiga, 424. deciduous forest, 425. coniferous forest, 426. grassland, 427. savanna, 428. steppe, 429. prairie, 430. marsh, 431. wetland, 432. swamp, 433. bog, 434. fen, 435. meadow, 436. pasture, 437. field, 438. plain, 439. valley, 440. gorge, 441. canyon, 442. ravine, 443. gully, 444. ditch, 445. stream, 446. river, 447. lake, 448. sea, 449. ocean, 450. bay, 451. gulf, 452. fjord, 453. canyon, 454. plateau, 455. desert, 456. tundra, 457. taiga, 458. deciduous forest, 459. coniferous forest, 460. grassland, 461. savanna, 462. steppe, 463. prairie, 464. marsh, 465. wetland, 466. swamp, 467. bog, 468. fen, 469. meadow, 470. pasture, 471. field, 472. plain, 473. valley, 474. gorge, 475. canyon, 476. ravine, 477. gully, 478. ditch, 479. stream, 480. river, 481. lake, 482. sea, 483. ocean, 484. bay, 485. gulf, 486. fjord, 487. canyon, 488. plateau, 489. desert, 490. tundra, 491. taiga, 492. deciduous forest, 493. coniferous forest, 494. grassland, 495. savanna, 496. steppe, 497. prairie, 498. marsh, 499. wetland, 500. swamp, 501. bog, 502. fen, 503. meadow, 504. pasture, 505. field, 506. plain, 507. valley, 508. gorge, 509. canyon, 510. ravine, 511. gully, 512. ditch, 513. stream, 514. river, 515. lake, 516. sea, 517. ocean, 518. bay, 519. gulf, 520. fjord, 521. canyon, 522. plateau, 523. desert, 524. tundra, 525. taiga, 526. deciduous forest, 527. coniferous forest, 528. grassland, 529. savanna, 530. steppe, 531. prairie, 532. marsh, 533. wetland, 534. swamp, 535. bog, 536. fen, 537. meadow, 538. pasture, 539. field, 540. plain, 541. valley, 542. gorge, 543. canyon, 544. ravine, 545. gully, 546. ditch, 547. stream, 548. river, 549. lake, 550. sea, 551. ocean, 552. bay, 553. gulf, 554. fjord, 555. canyon, 556. plateau, 557. desert, 558. tundra, 559. taiga, 560. deciduous forest, 561. coniferous forest, 562. grassland, 563. savanna, 564. steppe, 565. prairie, 566. marsh, 567. wetland, 568. swamp, 569. bog, 570. fen, 571. meadow, 572. pasture, 573. field, 574. plain, 575. valley, 576. gorge, 577. canyon, 578. ravine, 579. gully, 580. ditch, 581. stream, 582. river, 583. lake, 584. sea, 585. ocean, 586. bay, 587. gulf, 588. fjord, 589. canyon, 590. plateau, 591. desert, 592. tundra, 593. taiga, 594. deciduous forest, 595. coniferous forest, 596. grassland, 597. savanna, 598. steppe, 599. prairie, 600. marsh, 601. wetland, 602. swamp, 603. bog, 604. fen, 605. meadow, 606. pasture, 607. field, 608. plain, 609. valley, 610. gorge, 611. canyon, 612. ravine, 613. gully, 614. ditch, 615. stream, 616. river, 617. lake, 618. sea, 619. ocean, 620. bay, 621. gulf, 622. fjord, 623. canyon, 624. plateau, 625. desert, 626. tundra, 627. taiga, 628. deciduous forest, 629. coniferous forest, 630. grassland, 631. savanna, 632. steppe, 633. prairie, 634. marsh, 635. wetland, 636. swamp, 637. bog, 638. fen, 639. meadow, 640. pasture, 641. field, 642. plain, 643. valley, 644. gorge, 645. canyon, 646. ravine, 647. gully, 648. ditch, 649. stream, 650. river, 651. lake, 652. sea, 653. ocean, 654. bay, 655. gulf, 656. fjord, 657. canyon, 658. plateau, 659. desert, 660. tundra, 661. taiga, 662. deciduous forest, 663. coniferous forest, 664. grassland, 665. savanna, 666. steppe, 667. prairie, 668. marsh, 669. wetland, 670. swamp, 671. bog, 672. fen, 673. meadow, 674. pasture, 675. field, 676. plain, 677. valley, 678. gorge, 679. canyon, 680. ravine, 681. gully, 682. ditch, 683. stream, 684. river, 685. lake, 686. sea, 687. ocean, 688. bay, 689. gulf, 690. fjord, 691. canyon, 692. plateau, 693. desert, 694. tundra, 695. taiga, 696. deciduous forest, 697. coniferous forest, 698. grassland, 699. savanna, 700. steppe, 701. prairie, 702. marsh, 703. wetland, 704. swamp, 705. bog, 706. fen, 707. meadow, 708. pasture, 709. field, 710. plain, 711. valley, 712. gorge, 713. canyon, 714. ravine, 715. gully, 716. ditch, 717. stream, 718. river, 719. lake, 720. sea, 721. ocean, 722. bay, 723. gulf, 724. fjord, 725. canyon, 726. plateau, 727. desert, 728. tundra, 729. taiga, 730. deciduous forest, 731. coniferous forest, 732. grassland, 733. savanna, 734. steppe, 735. prairie, 736. marsh, 737. wetland, 738. swamp, 739. bog, 740. fen, 741. meadow, 742. pasture, 743. field, 744. plain, 745. valley, 746. gorge, 747. canyon, 748. ravine, 749. gully, 750. ditch, 751. stream, 752. river, 753. lake, 754. sea, 755. ocean, 756. bay, 757. gulf, 758. fjord, 759. canyon, 760. plateau, 761. desert, 762. tundra, 763. taiga, 764. deciduous forest, 765. coniferous forest, 766. grassland, 767. savanna, 768. steppe, 769. prairie, 770. marsh, 771. wetland, 772. swamp, 773. bog, 774. fen, 775. meadow, 776. pasture, 777. field, 778. plain, 779. valley, 780. gorge, 781. canyon, 782. ravine, 783. gully, 784. ditch, 785. stream, 786. river, 787. lake, 788. sea, 789. ocean, 790. bay, 791. gulf, 792. fjord, 793. canyon, 794. plateau, 795. desert, 796. tundra, 797. taiga, 798. deciduous forest, 799. coniferous forest, 800. grassland, 801. savanna, 802. steppe, 803. prairie, 804. marsh, 805. wetland, 806. swamp, 807. bog, 808. fen, 809. meadow, 810. pasture, 811. field, 812. plain, 813. valley, 814. gorge, 815. canyon, 816. ravine, 817. gully, 818. ditch, 819. stream, 820. river, 821. lake, 822. sea, 823. ocean, 824. bay, 825. gulf, 826. fjord, 827. canyon, 828. plateau, 829. desert, 830. tundra, 831. taiga, 832. deciduous forest, 833. coniferous forest, 834. grassland, 835. savanna, 836. steppe, 837. prairie, 838. marsh, 839. wetland, 840. swamp, 841. bog, 842. fen, 843. meadow, 844. pasture, 845. field, 846. plain, 847. valley, 848. gorge, 849. canyon, 850. ravine, 851. gully, 852. ditch, 853. stream, 854. river, 855. lake, 856. sea, 857. ocean, 858. bay, 859. gulf, 860. fjord, 861. canyon, 862. plateau, 863. desert, 864. tundra, 865. taiga, 866. deciduous forest, 867. coniferous forest, 868. grassland, 869. savanna, 870. steppe, 871. prairie, 872. marsh, 873. wetland, 874. swamp, 875. bog, 876. fen, 877. meadow, 878. pasture, 879. field, 880. plain, 881. valley, 882. gorge, 883. canyon, 884. ravine, 885. gully, 886. ditch, 887. stream, 888. river, 889. lake, 890. sea, 891. ocean, 892. bay, 893. gulf, 894. fjord, 895. canyon, 896. plateau, 897. desert, 898. tundra, 899. taiga, 900. deciduous forest, 901. coniferous forest, 902. grassland, 903. savanna, 904. steppe, 905. prairie, 906. marsh, 907. wetland, 908. swamp, 909. bog, 910. fen, 911. meadow, 912. pasture, 913. field, 914. plain, 915. valley, 916. gorge, 917. canyon, 918. ravine, 919. gully, 920. ditch, 921. stream, 922. river, 923. lake, 924. sea, 925. ocean, 926. bay, 927. gulf, 928. fjord, 929. canyon, 930. plateau, 931. desert, 932. tundra, 933. taiga, 934. deciduous forest, 935. coniferous forest, 936. grassland, 937. savanna, 938. steppe, 939. prairie, 940. marsh, 941. wetland, 942. swamp, 943. bog, 944. fen, 945. meadow, 946. pasture, 947. field, 948. plain, 949. valley, 950. gorge, 951. canyon, 952. ravine, 953. gully, 954. ditch, 955. stream, 956. river, 957. lake, 958. sea, 959. ocean, 960. bay, 961. gulf, 962. fjord, 963. canyon, 964. plateau, 965. desert, 966. tundra, 967. taiga, 968. deciduous forest, 969. coniferous forest, 970. grassland, 971. savanna, 972. steppe, 973. prairie, 974. marsh, 975. wetland, 976. swamp, 977. bog, 978. fen, 979. meadow, 980. pasture, 981. field, 982. plain, 983. valley, 984. gorge, 985. canyon, 986. ravine, 987. gully, 988. ditch, 989. stream, 990. river, 991. lake, 992. sea, 993. ocean, 994. bay, 995. gulf, 996. fjord, 997. canyon, 998. plateau, 999. desert, 1000. tundra, 1001. taiga, 1002. deciduous forest, 1003. coniferous forest, 1004. grassland, 1005. savanna, 1006. steppe, 1007. prairie, 1008. marsh, 1009. wetland, 1010. swamp, 1011. bog, 1012. fen, 1013. meadow, 1014. pasture, 1015. field, 1016. plain, 1017. valley, 1018. gorge, 1019. canyon, 1020. ravine, 1021. gully, 1022. ditch, 1023. stream, 1024. river, 1025. lake, 1026. sea, 1027. ocean, 1028. bay, 1029. gulf, 1030. fjord, 1031. canyon, 1032. plateau, 1033. desert, 1034. tundra, 1035. taiga, 1036. deciduous forest, 1037. coniferous forest, 1038. grassland, 1039. savanna, 1040. steppe, 1041. prairie, 1042. marsh, 1043. wetland, 1044. swamp, 1045. bog, 1046. fen, 1047. meadow, 1048. pasture, 1049. field, 1050. plain, 1051. valley, 1052. gorge, 1053. canyon, 1054. ravine, 1055. gully, 1056. ditch, 1057. stream, 1058. river, 1059. lake, 1060. sea, 1061. ocean, 1062. bay, 1063. gulf, 1064. fjord, 1065. canyon, 1066. plateau, 1067. desert, 1068. tundra, 1069. taiga, 1070. deciduous forest, 1071. coniferous forest, 1072. grassland, 1073. savanna, 1074. steppe, 1075. prairie, 1076. marsh, 1077. wetland, 1078. swamp, 1079. bog, 1080. fen, 1081. meadow, 1082. pasture, 1083. field, 1084. plain, 1085. valley, 1086. gorge, 1087. canyon, 1088. ravine, 1089. gully, 1090. ditch, 1091. stream, 1092. river, 1093. lake, 1094. sea, 1095. ocean, 1096. bay, 1097. gulf, 1098. fjord, 1099. canyon, 1100. plateau, 1101. desert, 1102. tundra, 1103. taiga, 1104. deciduous forest, 1105. coniferous forest, 1106. grassland, 1107. savanna, 1108. steppe, 1109. prairie, 1110. marsh, 1111. wetland, 1112. swamp, 1113. bog, 1114. fen, 1115. meadow, 1116. pasture, 1117. field, 1118. plain, 1119. valley, 1120. gorge, 1121. canyon, 1122. ravine, 1123. gully, 1124. ditch, 1125. stream, 1126. river, 1127. lake, 1128. sea, 1129. ocean, 1130. bay, 1131. gulf, 1132. fjord, 1133. canyon, 1134. plateau, 1135. desert, 1136. tundra, 1137. taiga, 1138. deciduous forest, 1139. coniferous forest, 1140. grassland, 1141. savanna, 1142. steppe, 1143. prairie, 1144. marsh, 1145. wetland, 1146. swamp, 1147. bog, 1148. fen, 1149. meadow, 1150. pasture, 1151. field, 1152. plain, 1153. valley, 1154. gorge, 1155. canyon, 1156. ravine, 1157. gully, 1158. ditch, 1159. stream, 1160. river, 1161. lake, 1162. sea, 1163. ocean, 1164. bay, 1165. gulf, 1166. fjord, 1167. canyon, 1168. plateau, 1169. desert, 1170. tundra, 1171. taiga, 1172. deciduous forest, 1173. coniferous forest, 1174. grassland, 1175. savanna, 1176. steppe, 1177. prairie, 1178. marsh, 1179. wetland, 1180. swamp, 1181. bog, 1182. fen, 1183. meadow, 1184. pasture, 1185. field, 1186. plain, 1187. valley, 1188. gorge, 1189. canyon, 1190. ravine, 1191. gully, 1192. ditch, 1193. stream, 1194. river, 1195. lake, 1196. sea, 1197. ocean, 1198. bay, 1199. gulf, 1200. fjord, 1201. canyon, 1202. plateau, 1203. desert, 1204. tundra, 1205. taiga, 1206. deciduous forest, 1207. coniferous forest, 1208. grassland, 1209. savanna, 1210. steppe, 1211. prairie, 1212. marsh, 1213. wetland, 1214. swamp, 1215. bog, 1216. fen, 1217. meadow, 1218. pasture, 1219. field, 1220. plain, 1221. valley, 1222. gorge, 1223. canyon, 1224. ravine, 1225. gully, 1226. ditch, 1227. stream, 1228. river, 1229. lake, 1230. sea, 1231. ocean, 1232. bay, 1233. gulf, 1234. fjord, 1235. canyon, 1236. plateau, 1237. desert, 1238. tundra, 1239. taiga, 1240. deciduous forest, 1241. coniferous forest, 1242. grassland, 1243. savanna, 1244. steppe, 1245. prairie, 1246. marsh, 1247. wetland, 1248. swamp, 1249. bog, 1250. fen, 1251. meadow, 1252. pasture, 1253. field, 1254. plain, 1255. valley, 1256. gorge, 1257. canyon, 1258. ravine, 1259. gully, 1260. ditch, 1261. stream, 1262. river, 1263. lake, 1264. sea, 1265. ocean, 1266. bay, 1267. gulf, 1268. fjord, 1269. canyon, 1270. plateau, 1271. desert, 1272. tundra, 1273. taiga, 1274. deciduous forest, 1275. coniferous forest, 1276. grassland, 1277. savanna, 1278. steppe, 1279. prairie, 1280. marsh, 1281. wetland, 1282. swamp,

in our inbox



Abigail M., 12, Springdale, Arkansas

Princess

I am God's little princess.
He made me.
Since God is the King,
Then I am royalty.

I don't yet have the prize,
But I'm still a princess
In God's own eyes.

Mariah E., 9, Fort Worth, Texas

Spring

Spring is for flowers,
Birds and rain showers.
Would it be spring
Without these things?

Flora M., 11, Oregon City, Oregon



Anayah C., 10, Panama City, Florida



© FOTF / SALLY DUNN

Ham Cannon

Gather

- sliced ham
- string cheese

Go

1. Roll ham around cheese stick.
2. Microwave on a plate for 30 seconds. Enjoy!

David W., Nowthen, Minnesota

WHAT IS THIS TURTLE SAYING?

Send your funniest caption by April 1 to:

"Shell Air," Clubhouse magazine,
8605 Explorer Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80920.
Or in Canada: Focus on the Family,
19946 80A Ave., Langley, BC V2Y 0J8.



© SHUTTERSTOCK

Light HOUSE

"Let everything that breathes praise the LORD.
Hallelujah!" —Psalm 150:6

Trouble With Pneumonia



Millee Jo's recovery was an answer to prayer.

When I was 4 years old, I caught pneumonia. I was very sick. My mom took me to the doctor's office. The doctor said the infection was in one of my lungs, so they put me on medicine and breathing treatments.

My mom took me to her cousin's house, because he was a nurse. He listened to my lungs and said they did not sound right.

The next day we went to the doctor again. My pneumonia had gotten worse. Now it was in both lungs! My mom's cousin said my symptoms would last for at least a week.

That night while I slept, my mom and dad prayed. They did not know what each other prayed for.

The next day, my dad didn't feel good. My mom and I went back to the doctor, and my lungs were completely clear!

I was healed overnight. Praise God! My dad got sick, but just for three days. Then he recovered.

Millee Jo C., 12, Gardendale, Texas

Archie's Close Call

In 2018, my parents took me to a pet store for my 10th birthday. I picked out a parakeet. We named him Archie.

On a sunny Sunday morning, my dad put Archie outside in his cage. At first, Archie enjoyed being outside with other feathered friends. He sat under the big patio umbrella, shielded from the sun and predators . . . or so we thought!

Suddenly I heard Archie flapping his wings and screeching loudly. I ran outside. To my utter surprise and horror, I saw a hawk clinging to Archie's cage!

I rushed forward, waving my arms. The hawk got scared and flew away. Archie was bleeding from his left wing. We brought Archie inside and cared for him. My parents called several veterinarians.

We prayed and left Archie in a quiet room. After about four hours of silence, Archie finally began to chirp. He hopped around and ate his food.

Now our parakeet is doing much better. (Although he no longer goes outside.) We are so grateful that God protected Archie!

Caden C., 11, San Carlos, California



God protected Caden's parakeet.

Bring It. Share It. Live It.

Focus on the Family challenges students to live out their faith. In October, we sponsor Bring Your Bible to School Day. But you can take a bold stance for God this month with the Live It challenge.



March: Kindness often goes unrecognized. With your family, look for ways that people act kindly at home, school or church. See who can find the most examples!



© GETTY IMAGES

Check out more challenges at BringYourBible.org/LiveIt.

DON'T BLOW YOUR TOP

by Andrea Chatman

BOOM!

Nearly 140 years ago, an explosion shattered the quiet on August 27, 1883. Krakatoa, a volcano in Indonesia, blasted miles of rocks and debris into the air. People living 2,000 miles away heard the eruption. Thick ash filled the sky, plunging the surrounding area into darkness for two days. Tsunamis crashed into nearby islands.

The devastation was incredible.

Scientists think a smaller explosion the day before created the conditions for the massive burst. Just 24 hours earlier a small amount of rock shot into the air and might have fallen back into the volcano, acting like a plug. This caused the pressure inside Krakatoa to build.

The next morning, a crack on the side of the volcano opened beneath the ocean surface. Cold seawater hit molten rock, rapidly creating scorching hot steam. The steam, plus the pressure, blew the island to smithereens.

FULL VENT

Have you ever felt like you wanted to explode like Krakatoa? Maybe a kid at school spread lies about you, a friend blabbed your secret or you were

punished for something you didn't do.

When things like these happen, you'll probably get angry. That's OK. Anger isn't a sin. Even Jesus got angry. What you do with your anger makes it right or wrong.

The Bible says, "A fool gives full vent to his anger, but a wise man holds it in check" (Proverbs 29:11). *Full vent* sounds like a volcanic explosion: hot, volatile and destructive. When Krakatoa erupted, the blast created tsunamis that wiped out entire cities. Clouds of ash fell thousands of miles away, damaging crops and polluting drinking water.

Similarly, when you give your anger full vent, it can have serious consequences. Your anger probably hasn't caused a massive wave, but have you ever broken something when you were upset? You might have hurt someone's feelings by yelling at your siblings or snapping at your best friend.

Instead of letting the pressure of your emotions build up and explode, it's important to learn how to express your anger in a healthy way.



TEMPER TIPS

When you get angry, try these ideas to remain calm instead of letting your emotions explode.

- Take a deep breath and count to 10. Repeat as many times as you need to.
- Walk away from the situation and spend quiet time alone.
- Exercise to burn off your anger.
- Eat a snack. Hunger can make everything seem worse.
- Explain what happened to a parent or teacher, then listen to their advice.
- When you are calm, talk to the person who made you angry.
- Pray. God is always listening, and He wants to help you express your emotions in a healthy way.

COOL YOUR RAGE

You should never act out of anger. Cool your head before you do something destructive. Take control of your emotions instead of letting them control you. That doesn't mean that you bottle them up, but it does mean that you need to calmly talk about them.

The Bible provides lots of good ideas for handling your anger without sinning. One important way is to try to understand other people.

James 1:19 says,

"Everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger."

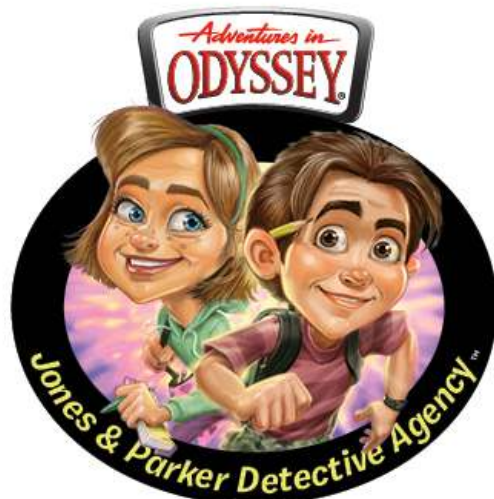
When you listen more than you speak, you'll learn to look at situations from other people's

perspectives. Plus, you'll avoid misunderstandings that come when you don't pay close attention.

Discuss your feelings sooner rather than later. You shouldn't "let the sun go down on your anger" (Ephesians 4:26). Instead, once you're calm enough to talk without yelling, approach the person who made you angry. Talk through what happened and why it made you angry. The longer you wait to discuss what happened, the harder it will be.

Finally, let go of your anger, no matter what. Colossians 3:13 says, "Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive." Even if you don't get an apology or you feel like someone still doesn't understand, you need to forgive them. If you let your anger simmer in your heart, it could explode like a volcano.

The truth is, some things that seem important in the moment aren't really all that important. Relationships with your friends and family mean more than winning an argument. So the next time you feel yourself getting angry, remember Krakatoa. Take a deep breath, and don't blow your top. **R**



AT FACE VALUE

An Emily Jones Solve-It-Yourself Mystery

When Priscilla has an allergy attack, can Emily soothe as she sleuths?

by
Stephen O'Rear

A good detective absorbs the facts. That's why a tricky case can get under your skin.

My older brother, Barrett, and I visited a commercial shoot for Idyll Eyes makeup. Barrett went to support his friend, Priscilla. I went to make sure he didn't embarrass himself. So far, I was failing.

"That eye shadow makes your face look so much better, Priscilla!" Barrett said.

"Uhh, thanks... I think," she replied.

"I mean, it hides your nose," Barrett blurted.

"What's wrong with my nose?" Priscilla asked, staring anxiously at the mirror.

"Nothing, sweetie," Valerie teased. "It just belongs on a circus clown."

The makeup company had hired four teenage models: Valerie, Priscilla, Janae and Brooklyn. As usual,

Valerie wanted the spotlight for herself.

The girls modeled Idyll Eyes lipstick, blush and mascara. Frankly, I thought they looked just as pretty without the makeup. But I guess that wouldn't make for a very good commercial.

"OK, my lovelies," the director announced. "Our next product is Bed-to-Beautiful hydrating moisturizer."

"Huh?" Janae said.

"It's face cream," Priscilla offered.

The director clapped. "That's my star!"

An assistant handed out tubs of moisturizer. Each one had a model's name clearly labeled on the side.

"Rub that rejuvenating formula all over your face," the director said. "Aaaand, action!"

The girls followed his instructions. They flashed big smiles for the camera, as if smearing cream on their cheeks and foreheads was more fun than playing with puppies.

A minute later, their smiles disappeared.

"I feel weird," Brooklyn muttered.

"Yeah," Janae agreed. "Is it hot in here? 'Cause my face feels itchy."

Priscilla didn't say anything... because her lips had swollen.

"They're having an allergic reaction!" Barrett cried.

"Quick, remove that face cream."

Valerie scoffed. "No way! I feel fine."

"Allergens only affect certain people," I clarified.

"But if you have an allergy, it can be dangerous. Even deadly!"

The assistant rushed over with damp cloths. Brooklyn, Janae and Priscilla all washed their faces. Janae's once-flawless skin looked blotchy. Meanwhile, Brooklyn wheezed with each breath.

Barrett knelt beside Priscilla. "Do you need your EpiPen?" he asked.

She shook her head. "I'll be OK. Thanks, Barrett."

Valerie smirked. "Well, I guess these three need a break. You can keep filming me, if you'd like."

"Not today," the director replied. "We need to figure out what happened."

"Can I see the face cream?" I asked.

The director handed me a jar. "We tested it in the lab. The formula is hypoallergenic, so it shouldn't cause a reaction. Especially not to three girls at once!"

"Besides," the assistant added, "we also made a careful list of the models' allergies. We would never endanger someone."

"So you wrote down each girl's vulnerability?" I said.

Barrett glanced at me nervously. "You make it sound like this was deliberate, Em."

"I think it was," I announced. "May I investigate backstage?"

With the director's permission, I searched everywhere. I checked the snack table. I dug through the models' jackets and purses.

"What about the vanity?" Brooklyn suggested.

"Hey, it's not vanity if you're actually gorgeous," Valerie huffed.

"She means the makeup desk," I said.

We walked over to the mirror. The makeup had been pushed aside. Three unusual objects sat in plain view: a crab, two-thirds of a chocolate bar and a bottle of almond extract.

"Eek, shellfish!" Janae cried. "Keep it away from me."

"Well, that explains one allergy," I said.

"I can't be around nuts," Brooklyn said.

"And Priscilla is allergic to chocolate," Barrett offered.

"Remember the case with the malted milkball falcon?"

"Of course," I replied. Then I turned to Valerie. "Your brother, Nelson, was at that case. Did he ever mention Priscilla's chocolate allergy?"

Valerie rolled her eyes. "I don't listen to my little brother's stories."



"I just think it's suspicious that everybody had an allergic reaction except you," Barrett said, glaring at her.

Valerie laughed. "Sorry, tough guy. I don't have any food allergies. My body is flawless!"

"OK, kids, that's enough," the director said. "We're gonna postpone the remainder of the shoot. Go home and get some rest."

"Why wait?" Valerie said. "I'm here, healthy and fabulous."

"Isn't that convenient," Janae grumbled. "They should fire you for poisoning us."

"I'm innocent," Valerie insisted. "Besides, I don't need to cheat to look better than you."

Barrett looked around. "What do you think, Emily?" I bit my lip, then announced, "I think the allergy attacker is in this room."

MYSTERY DECODER

Go to ClubhouseMagazine.com to find Matthew's decoder #2020-03, so you can read this secret word.



Who tampered with the face cream?

What were the clues?

Turn to page 19 to read the solution!



© GARY LOCKE / DAVID LEONARD

SUPERPOWERED FRIENDSHIP

by William Welch with Lisa G. Welch

God creates every child valuable and unique. He loves each one. As they grow, some kids face special challenges, but they're still cool people. They have likes and talents. They smile, laugh and cry. Like anyone else, they enjoy having friends.

If you want to make a super friend, use your superpowers! You might not be able to fly or lift a car, but you can still save the day.



★ X-RAY VISION

I was born with epilepsy. A random zap in my brain can short-circuit my thinking. It makes my body do things I cannot control. When that happens, people see me differently. I often sit alone during recess or lunch. Some kids are afraid because they don't understand my condition. —William

Before you sit, look around the room. Find a kid who feels invisible. She might stare back awkwardly or hide her head.

Ask if you can sit together. (If she says no, try again in a few days.) Talk about her favorite animals, games or movies. Give her a nice smile. The next time you see her, wave and greet her by name.

★ BULLETPROOF SKIN

I get picked on. I need a friend who sees value in me and will stand up for me.

Everybody needs a sidekick. If you see a bully picking on your friend with special needs, go offer support.



Just standing next to him makes a huge difference.

If the situation gets too big for you to handle, ask an adult for help.



★ SUPER STRENGTH

A task that seems easy to you might challenge me.

Some kids face physical obstacles. A boy might need someone to steady him as he walks. Maybe he struggles to learn as quickly.

Ask if you can help. (Always ask first.) Your

new friend might have an adult assistant at school. But it's more fun to do things with kids their own age.

★ STRETCHY ARMS

I get left out. People think kids with special needs cannot play a game or are not smart enough to participate.

Reach out and grab kids from the sidelines. Anybody can participate in their own way. Adjust the rules, or team up and work together. You'll find your new friend can do some things you can't! (They've got superpowers too.)

The best thing you can do for your friend is pray. Pray for her doctors, health and family. You can also pray for other kids to understand her daily challenges better.

Superheroes inspire everyone. Your classmates may be waiting for you to lead the way. So grab your cape and be the best friend you can! 



Why did the boy eat his money?

His mom said it was for lunch.

Sarah D., 11, Meade, Kansas

Where do sick kids go to eat pizza?

Little Sneezers.

Travis G., 10, Calcium, New York

What is a spider's favorite book?

Webster's Dictionary.

Halle R., 11, Vass, North Carolina

Why is a stable like a wedding?

Because it has bridles and grooms.

Elizabeth H., 12, New Haven, Michigan

What is a hot dog's favorite hairstyle?

A bun!

Isabelle T., 10, Palmyra, Virginia

What did the nostrils say during the concert?

"It's nosey in here!"

Lorena H., 10, Kalona, Iowa

What is a chicken's favorite vegetable?

Bock-oli.

Moriah R., 12, Quesnel, British Columbia

laughing matters

What does a dog put on pasta?

Arf-fredo sauce.

Ava K., 10, Reed City, Michigan

What did six say to seven?

"You're odd."

Teagan H., 12
Spearfish, South Dakota

How do fish pay for toys?

With sand dollars.

Carlton S., 9, Gansevoort, New York

Why didn't unicorns make it on the ark?

I don't Noah.

Lydia Y., 11
Peach Bottom, Pennsylvania

Why did the basketball player go to the doctor?

To get a shot.

Carson L., 9
Prinsburg, Minnesota

How many ears does Captain Kirk have?

Three: his left ear, right ear and the final front-ier.

Nathan C., 14, Chewelah, Washington

What did one wall say to the other wall?

"Why the straight face?"

Joseph C., 12, Rio, Wisconsin

Who leads the orchestra at the zoo?

The boa conductor.

Kelsey M., 12, Knoxville, Tennessee



© TRAVIS FOSTER

Are YOU a Butterfly or a Bee?

by Tez Brooks

Some kids float through life like a gentle butterfly. Others let their emotions take over like an angry bee. Take this quiz to see which one you're most like.

1. You got a new bike for your birthday, so you:

- a. brag about your bike to everyone at school.
- b. thank your parents and let your little sister take a turn riding it.
- c. immediately take it outside for a spin.

2. You studied for your test but still feel worried. You:

- a. bite your nails down to the nubs.
- b. pretend you're too sick for school.
- c. eat a good breakfast and pray for God to calm your nerves.

3. Your neighbor's dog barks every time you pass the yard. You:

- a. kick the fence, throw sticks and bark back.
- b. toss sandwiches over the fence so he'll like you.
- c. ask if you can take the dog for a walk.

4. Your family can't go to the theme park because your brother is sick. You:

- a. play quietly in your room.
- b. stomp around the house and yell, "He ruins everything!"
- c. ask how you can make him feel better.

5. Your parents announce your family is moving. You:

- a. plan a goodbye party with your friends.
- b. stay busy so you won't think about it.
- c. hide the suitcases and refuse to pack.



© STEVE GRAY



6. Your friends play a game you're bad at. You:

- a. ask, "Can we switch games after this round?"
- b. cross your arms and give them the silent treatment.
- c. quietly slip away to watch TV.

7. You finish eating school lunch early, so you:

- a. ask the kids at your table about their weekend.
- b. help the cafeteria workers wipe down the tables.
- c. grab leftover sloppy Joes and start a food fight.

8. Your parents host a fancy graduation party for your sister. You:

- a. slouch in the corner with your headphones until someone notices you.
- b. celebrate your sister. After all, it's her big night!
- c. stand on the buffet table and tell jokes.

9. Your baseball coach hardly lets you play in the game, so you:

- a. ask your teammates for practice tips.
- b. slam your glove on the ground and quit the team.
- c. sneak a pillow into the dugout for a nap.



Add Up Your Score

- 1. a=0; b=2; c=1
- 2. a=1; b=0; c=2
- 3. a=0; b=1; c=2
- 4. a=1; b=0; c=2
- 5. a=2; b=1; c=0
- 6. a=2; b=0; c=1
- 7. a=1; b=2; c=0
- 8. a=1; b=2; c=0
- 9. a=2; b=0; c=1

If you scored 13-18, you're a BUTTERFLY.

The way you handle your emotions makes others feel valued and loved. Continue to show gentleness, patience and thoughtfulness. Most of all, keep living Romans 14:19—"We must pursue what promotes peace and what builds up one another."



If you score 7-12, you're a CATERPILLAR who needs a little more growth.

"Be strong; don't be discouraged, for your work has a reward" (2 Chronicles 15:7). Ask God to help you learn to manage your emotions and express them in a good way no matter what's happening around you.



If you scored 0-6, you might be a BEE.

The buzz you make pushes people away... or even stings! Pray that you can gain a new perspective. Philippians 2:5 says, "Make your attitude that of Christ Jesus." Bees can hurt people, but they also make honey. With hard work, you can bring sweetness to everyone around you. 🐝



Why Knott Be Friends

I think they call it spring break because the time off from school springs forward so fast. It feels as if the school bell announcing our vacation rang like an hour ago. Now I'm back in social studies and realize my spring break is also history. The worst part is I didn't even get to enjoy my time off. I was doing chores the whole time!

On Monday I put my socks in my sock drawer. Tuesday meant emptying the dishwasher. On Wednesday I had to take out the trash. All that work around the house left me with only about 11 hours a day to play video games or basketball.

"When did World War II start?" my teacher asked, interrupting my thoughts.

"After World War II!" I said.

I was pretty sure it was the correct answer, but everyone ignored me and stared at the new kid standing by the classroom

door. He walked in and handed our teacher some paperwork.

"Class, we have a new student named Yale Knott," the teacher said. "That's an interesting name."

"You're not allowed to Yale in class," Clint shouted.

The class giggled while Yale turned red. Clay then pointed out that "Y. Knott" was standing in front of us. This got more giggles and made Yale turn even redder. He looked at the ground and trudged to the desk beside me.

That's when my attitude changed about being back in school. God sometimes puts us in a place so He can use us to help others. I knew I was here to help Yale . . . whether I was ready or Knott.

"Hi. My name's Bob, but everyone calls me Average Boy," I said. "Do you have a nickname you like?"

Get an earful of Average Boy!

Listen to the "Official Average Boy" podcast. Find out more at AverageBoy.org.



Yale stopped doing his impression of a lava pit and said, "My friends call me 'Ham.' Short for Knottingham . . . another nickname I had."

"Well, I ham glad to meet you," Billy said.

Yale . . . I mean Ham, smiled.

"If you sit by me, try not to hog all the answers in class," I added.

Our teacher gave me an exasperated look. "Settle down. I don't want to hear any more pig puns uttered oink loud in my classroom."

The entire class laughed, including Ham.

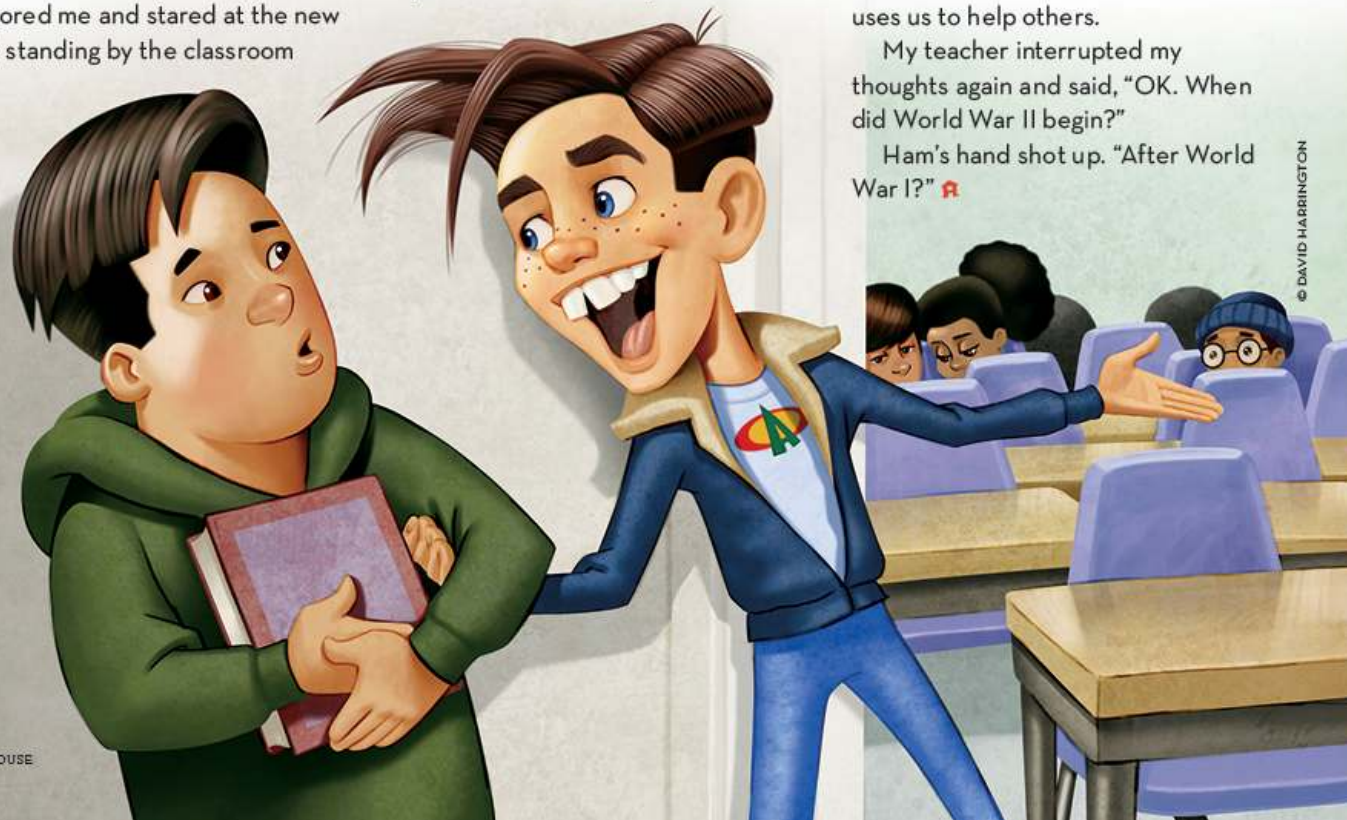
"Thanks, AB," Ham said. "This is the fourth school I've moved to, and people usually pick on me because of my name."

This was turning out to be a great day! It always feels good when God uses us to help others.

My teacher interrupted my thoughts again and said, "OK. When did World War II begin?"

Ham's hand shot up. "After World War I?" **A**

© DAVID HARRINGTON



St. Patrick's Oatmeal Cake

So moist and delicious, this treat takes the cake!

by Lydia E. Harris

Gather

- 1 1/2 cups hot water
- 1 cup quick oats
- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/3 cups flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg

For Topping:

- 6 tablespoons melted butter
- 1/4 cup whipping cream
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 3/4 cup chopped walnuts or pecans
- 1/2 cup flaked coconut

Go

1. Preheat the oven to 350° F. Grease a 9-by-13-inch baking pan.
2. In small bowl, combine hot water and oats. Cover and let stand for 20 minutes.
3. In a separate bowl, cream butter and sugars. Mix in eggs.
4. When oatmeal is soft, add to second bowl. Mix well.
5. Sift flour, baking soda and spices. Mix into batter.
6. Pour batter into greased pan. Bake 30 to 35 minutes.
7. While the cake cools, make the topping. Mix melted butter, cream and vanilla.
8. Stir in sugar, then add nuts and coconut.
9. Set oven to broil. Raise oven rack 6 inches from the top.
10. Spread topping over warm cake.
11. With a parent's help, broil for 2 minutes or until the topping bubbles.
12. Remove cake from oven. Serve warm or cool. **A**



Make the cake extra festive!

Trace shamrock (right) onto wax paper. Melt green candy melts according to package directions and place in piping bag. Pipe candy over shamrock shape, then cool until firm.



In Ireland and Scotland, oatcakes are crispy crackers instead of dessert. Find the recipe at ClubhouseMagazine.com.

An underwater photograph featuring a large sea turtle in the foreground, swimming towards the left. Its head is in focus, showing its eye and patterned scutes. Behind it, a large school of silver fish, possibly mackerels, swims in the same direction. The water is clear and blue, with sunlight filtering through from the surface, creating a shimmering effect. The seabed is visible at the bottom, covered in sand and some rocks.

**“You rule
the raging
sea; when
its waves
surge, You
still them.”**

— Psalm 89:9



Odyssey INSIDER

News Club Members Can Use

March 2020

CHEMICAL REACTION

© GARY LOCKE



When Renee falls behind in chemistry class, Eugene's laboratory assistant, Horus, emerges as an eager tutor.

Desperate to improve her chemistry grade, Renee turns to Eugene's accident-prone assistant, Horus, for help. But what will she do when that relationship gets complicated? Meanwhile, Jay has been scoring free food all over town. What's End is next on his list. What's he up to? And will Connie play along? Find out the answers March 1 in "Out of Her Element," exclusively at aioclub.org... where the Great Adventure Awaits™!



COURTESY OF BOB SMITHOUSE

ASK THE PRODUCER

How far in advance do you film the monthly Adventures in Odyssey Club videos? —Max 15

We get lots of questions in the Club and especially liked this one from Max 15. Videos are usually shot about two weeks before they appear in the Club. Some clips are recorded earlier, but most of the filming, editing and production gets done really fast. One exception was our amazing trip to New Zealand. We shot all of those incredible experiences months before the audio dramas were even written.

VERSE OF THE MONTH

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves."

—Philippians 2:3 (ESV)

It's great to work hard and make your dreams come true. But some people get so focused on their own success that they become selfish, using others to get what they want. The Bible warns us not to do that. Instead, we should examine our motives, stay humble and put other people first—even if it slows us down. That's success God wants to bless.

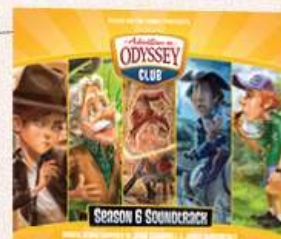
A GAME FOR YOUR EARS

Can you identify a Club show simply by hearing the music? Gather your friends for an audio version of Name That Episode when the Season 6 soundtrack arrives in the album library on March 19.

Just take turns clicking on clips from all six soundtracks—more than 70 episodes in all. The first player to get five right wins!



GRACE B. 12, CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA



© GARY LOCKE

Adventures in ODYSSEY

perplexing puzzlers

Eugene's Mystery Math Squares

Fill in the grid so each row and column includes every number from 1 to 4. (That means no repeats, either horizontally or vertically.) The number pairs in the shaded rectangles form simple equations. For example, the clue 3^- could point to 4 and 1 or 1 and 4, since $4 - 1 = 3$. Try to solve the harder puzzle using numbers 1 to 6.

12x		2/	2-
3+	2		
	3x	5+	
4		1-	

5	2/		3+		12x
5+		10x		5-	
2/	1-		10+		5
	8x			4-	
2x	11+	3/		4	3/
		4	2-		

For the solutions, check out ClubhouseMagazine.com.

Eye to Eye

Which two faces are wearing identical makeup?



© GETTY IMAGES

Answer (hold up to a mirror): 2 bna 2

... continued from page 9

SOLUTION TO

AT FACE VALUE

"Valerie had a strong motive," I admitted. "However, she wasn't the model who tampered with your cream."

"But it has to be her!" Barrett said.

I turned to Brooklyn. "You said you're allergic to nuts, right?"

"Yeah," she replied.

I grabbed the bottle. "So this almond extract must have really messed you up."

"It did," she insisted. "I can barely breathe."

"Well, that's strange," I said. "Because most almond extract, including this bottle, contains no trace of nuts. It's made from

Biblical evidence:

"Are you jealous?... Then your life will be a mess. You will be doing all kinds of evil things."

—James 3:16, NIRV

peach pits or apricots."

Everyone stared at Brooklyn.

"OK, fine," she confessed. "The other girls were so pretty, I had to make them uglier."

"That's awful!" Priscilla said. "You could've really hurt us."

"I'm sorry," Brooklyn mumbled.

The director looked puzzled. "Wait, Emily. Why didn't you suspect Valerie?"

I gestured at the vanity. "The clues were too obvious. Brooklyn wanted us to find them. She knew Valerie didn't have an allergy to exploit. But if Valerie was framed for the attack, then maybe she'd get fired."

"I almost did fire her," the director said.

"Thanks for defending me, Emily," Valerie said. "As a reward, let me give you a makeover."

"No, thanks," I said. "I like my face just the way it is." ✨

—Stephen O'Rear

To learn more about Adventures in Odyssey, go to WhitsEnd.org.

For Mercy's Sake

by Kelsey Poole



Mercy's heart to help makes a big difference at Heart Ranch.

A gentle breeze blows through the palm trees. Mercy D. squints in the sun. Since the volcano on the Big Island of Hawaii isn't spewing ash, the ocean shines in the distance.

The 11-year-old girl hurries down a cinder path toward a corral full of horses. Green pastures spread out around her. The horses seem especially active this morning, eager for the children to arrive.

Just another hot day at Heart Ranch, Mercy thinks. Hawaii has a long tradition of hard-working paniolos (pan-E-O-los), or cowboys. But Heart Ranch isn't that kind of ranch. It's a place of healing, where kids and teenagers can build confidence as they grow physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Not Horsing Around

As a participant at Heart Ranch, Mercy has work to do. She quickly does her chores: scooping horse manure and pulling weeds. Then she hustles over to Abe, her favorite horse.

The kids at Heart Ranch gave Abe the nickname "the gentle giant." He's so big that most kids need to use a stepstool to get on him. Despite his size, he has the gentlest nature. He lives to make kids happy. That's what Mercy likes most about Abe.

Mercy gently brushes Abe's soft, brown coat.

"It's nice to help Aunt Fronda and Uncle Tony [founders of Heart Ranch] with the not-so-fun jobs," she whispers in Abe's ear. "But now it's time for fun. Let's go on a ride!"

Mercy goes to the barn and grabs a saddle. Kids walk toward the riding arena. All 12 rideable horses are tied up,



waiting to be loved on by one of the kids.

Mercy has just finished putting the saddle on Abe, when Aunt Fronda approaches her.

"Mercy," Aunt Fronda says, "I know you were about to ride Abe, but I wanted to see if you could give up your time so this little girl could try to ride him."

Mercy stops and leans her head against Abe. She can feel his belly move with each breath. This is Mercy's only chance this week to ride Abe. She has already put a lot of time into chores, brushing and saddling him. But all Mercy thinks is, *What would Jesus do?*

Her parents taught her that phrase. She knows Jesus was asked by His Father to do a lot harder stuff than what Aunt Fronda is asking of her. And she's learned a lot about servant leadership from Aunt Fronda.

"Servant leadership is leading by sacrificing your will to help someone else," Mercy remembers Aunt Fronda saying in one of their Friday night youth meetings.

Mercy smiles a big smile as she hands the purple lead line to the little girl.

"I know you will love him, and I know he will love you," Mercy says.

Mercy watches as the little girl leads Abe out to the arena to begin her lesson. As the little girl climbs the

stepstool and slowly swings one leg over the saddle, Mercy smiles. Instead of feeling disappointed for not being the one in the saddle, Mercy feels an overwhelming sense of joy. The little girl is smiling ear to ear. Abe's ears are turned forward too (a sign of contentment for a horse). Mercy stands in the sun, her heart full.



There's always work to do at Heart Ranch.



Mercy loves riding her favorite horse, Abe.

State of Grace

Mercy loves seeing God take care of others, just like He has always taken care of her.

She was born in Uganda. After a few years, her parents couldn't care for her, so she spent several years in an orphanage. Sticks and rocks served as her toys. A typical meal was a bowl of beans and rice. Mercy enjoyed playing hopscotch with her friends and learning about animals, especially elephants.

Workers at the orphanage not only took care of Mercy, they also taught her about Jesus. At an early age, she understood how much Jesus loved her and that He died on the Cross for her sins.

By God's grace, Mercy was adopted when she was 6 years

old. She moved with her new parents from Africa to the United States.

"My life would have been very different had I not learned about Jesus," Mercy says.

Because Mercy continually puts aside her desires to help others, Aunt Fronda asked her to be a volunteer. She is the youngest servant leader at Heart Ranch. For about a year, Mercy has even helped raise money for the ministry. She makes bracelets, which are sold online and at a local store in Hawaii. In just that amount of time, she's brought in over \$500.

"It costs a lot of money and takes a lot of time to run a ranch like this," Mercy says. "God has given me so much that I love giving back. No matter what your age, you can make a positive difference." 🌟

COURTESY MERCY'S FAMILY



Mercy's Favorites

Food: Sushi

Animal: Elephant

Bible verse: 1 Timothy 4:8

Color: Turquoise

School subject: Art or History

Lenny the Leatherback

by Mike Hamel

A leatherback named Lenny
Swam off the Florida Keys,
A carefree teenage turtle
Just doing as he pleased.

Bold ridges on his top side,
Strong flippers and sharp beak
Gave Len a stunning profile
And powerful physique.

He liked to brag to others
That no one was as strong,
Until the day he woke up
And everything felt wrong!

"My underside is itchy.
My sturdy shell is sore.
My flippers ache like crazy,
And swimming is a chore."

Where could he find answers?
Or share about his grief?
His friends might have ideas
Of how to get relief.

His pals lived by the coastline,
So Lenny took a trip
Into the shallow waters
Along the Coral Strip.

Gray groupers John and Jimmy
Were proud of being twins,
A pair of deep-sea fishes
With matching tails and fins.

"Oh, there you are," said Lenny.
"I could really use a friend."
"Get back!" shouted Jimmy,
"We'll see you when you mend."

"Consider us off-limits,"
John added with a shrug.
"You might be contagious
Until you beat this bug."

Lenny paddled southward,
Discouraged and alone,
No one would come near him
As his friends had shown.

He drifted through a kelp field,
Got tangled in a heap,
Sank into a depression
And cried himself to sleep.

That's where Danny found him,
All wrapped up in his woes.
Then Lenny felt a nudge from
This friendly bottlenose.


"I heard you're having trouble
And came to lend a fin.
It's nothing we can't handle,
So where shall we begin?"

"You make it sound so easy—
Look closer, I'm a mess."
Len slowly turned, expecting
He'd bolt like all the rest.

**"Share with the saints in their needs. . . .
Rejoice with those who rejoice;
weep with those who weep."
—Romans 12:13,15**



"True friendship's more than skin-deep;
I'll stick by you, so relax.
No matter what," said Danny,
"I've always got your back."

A dolphin and a turtle
Together in the Keys.
Though Len still has problems,
His spirit is at ease. 



Here to Help

Do you have friends who are struggling with an illness or feeling down? Think of ways to cheer them up. Just listening, hanging out or playing games can be a big encouragement.

Adapted from a February 2012 story.



The Juggling Act

Miguel craved the spotlight, until he took a closer look in the shadows.

by Jonathan Friesen | art by David Leonard

Miguel! Please stop juggling," my science teacher insisted. I let my markers fall to the ground. "Yes, Mrs. Johnson," I said. "Show's over I guess."

"Do it again," one of my friends whispered.

I peeked. Mrs. Johnson was busy helping kids measure dry ice. My group had finished the experiment early.

Time to blow everyone away, I thought.

I grabbed five glass test tubes. "All right," I said. "This time—"

"Hey, everyone!" Olivia shouted. "Check out the frogs. They're having a gymnastics tournament."

My audience disappeared.

"Wait!" I cried, starting to juggle. "I'll do it with my eyes closed."

Too late. The other kids couldn't stop looking at the frogs.

"Do you think we could make them backflip?" somebody asked.

I bit the inside of my cheek. *It's just a dumb frog,* I thought.

"They are amazing!" Olivia babbled. Her crowd-stealing mouth would not stop.

I'll show you amazing! I thought.

I pushed my way to the terrarium and snatched up the frogs. Four frogs pinwheeled through the air, all arms and legs. Everyone gasped.

"Ladies and gentlemen," I announced, "no animals were harmed, thanks to my expert juggling hands."

"Miguel!" Mrs. Johnson thundered.

I lost concentration and missed catching the last frog. It flopped on a lab table and hopped away.

Mrs. Johnson glared. "I hope this was worth it," she said, grabbing the rogue frog. "You'll be staying after school, young man."

Everyone stared at me . . . and not in the good way.

Blame Game

I slipped in the back door so no one would notice how late I got home. Unfortunately, the door was squeaky. So was Camilla, my 6-year-old sister.

"Where ya been, Miguel?" Camilla asked.

"Shh! Nowhere you need to know about." I held a finger to my lips.

"I'm naturally curious," Camilla replied. "That's what my teacher says.

So where were you?"

"Really, Miguel?!" Mom's voice rang down the hall. "Frogs?!"

I slipped to the living room, where Mom and Dad sat.

"OK," I started. "I can explain—"

"How do you explain traumatizing defenseless animals?" Mom steamed.

"So, Olivia . . ." I paused. My reason wouldn't make sense to my parents. It barely made sense to me. *Why does her constant yapping annoy me?* I wondered.

Dad cleared his throat. "Miguel, you're a talented kid. But no juggling during school. Recess is one thing; class is quite another."

"Yeah," Camilla added. "And don't juggle frogs!"

"Camilla, you're not helping." Dad's smile disappeared. Camilla did too.

"You have to fix your behavior," Mom said. "If you disrupt class again, we won't let you audition for 'Kids Got Talent.'"

I was speechless.

The "Kids Got Talent" TV crew was in town next week. In front of all the lights and cameras, I planned to unveil my newest trick: eight-ball juggling. I was sure the producers would choose me for the show.

My anger returned. Olivia got me in trouble at school and at home. I was just glad that I had stopped short of juggling the class fish.

Overlooked

"Did every kid in the state show up?" I asked, scanning the hotel ballroom.

There were singers, dancers and a few too many jugglers for my liking. Everyone was getting ready to dazzle the "Kids Got Talent" judges.

On the far wall, a large screen gave a glimpse of the action behind the doors. I couldn't watch. Instead, I juggled frantically, hoping to catch the attention of the camera crew that walked around interviewing kids and their families. Nobody noticed me.

"What do I have to do?" I asked, pinning No. 245 to the front of my

"I say more with my hands than I can with my mouth," Olivia said.



shirt while I juggled one-handed.

"Patience," Mom whispered.

Sure. *Patience*, I thought. Just then, a dancer ran out of the audition room, his tap shoes *clack-clacking* with each step. He was in tears.

"I watched that guy practice," I said. "He was really good. The judges must be brutal in there!"

Mom squeezed my shoulder. "It hurts when you work hard, only to realize someone might still be a little bit better."

I took a deep breath. Then I started a furious routine. Five, six, seven balls flew through the air. I would wait to juggle eight balls until I was performing for the judges. No sense giving away my talent too soon.

I'm not worried, I tried to tell myself. *None of these kids can do what ... what is she doing here?!*

Olivia walked past me with a No. 251 pinned to her dress.

"You've got to be kidding," I blurted out. "Olivia's here."

"Frog Olivia?" Dad asked.

I nodded. *She won't steal my spotlight*, I added silently.

I pushed through the crowd, my stomach on fire. Tormenting me at school was one thing. I couldn't let Olivia's nonstop chatter disrupt my concentration today.

I squeezed through a clump of singers ... and froze.

A camera crew hovered next to Olivia and her parents.

Behind the Scenes

No way! I thought. *Olivia gets an interview?*

I snuck behind the cameraman.

"I do interpretive sign language," Olivia said quietly. She never said anything quietly.

The interviewer leaned closer. "And why are you showcasing this talent?"

Olivia smiled at her parents. "My mom and dad are both deaf." She signed to them, and they nodded.

"It's how we communicate at home. In a lot of ways, I say more with my hands than I can with my mouth."

"Do you have any siblings performing with you?" the man asked.

Olivia shook her head. "I'm an only child, so home is really quiet. I go days without speaking to anyone else." She shrugged. "I guess that's why I talk so much at school. Too much, probably."

The interviewer laughed and ruffled Olivia's hair. Olivia glanced around the room. I wondered if she felt uncomfortable talking about her family.

Her gaze caught mine. We stared at each other, and the fire in my stomach disappeared. I wouldn't have been so annoyed by her voice if I'd known about her parents.

Then again, I never gave her a chance to tell me.

"Anyway," Olivia said, looking back toward the camera, "my parents are

amazing! They've taught me so much. I try to share their love through music and dance."

"We'll be watching you closely."

The interviewer paused. "Tell your folks they have a special daughter."

Olivia signed to her parents. Her mom blushed.

"One last thing," the interviewer said. "Can you sign, 'We'll be right back,' for the commercial break?"

Olivia smiled shyly. Her fingers danced through the air.

"Perfect!" the host said. "Now that's television."

I wandered back to my parents.

"What's wrong?" Dad asked.

"I've been so—"

"Number 245," a producer called. "You're up next."

I grabbed my juggling balls and entered the audition room. *From now on, I'll treat Olivia differently*, I thought.

"Please state your name and act," one judge said.

I took a deep breath. "I'm Miguel Robles, and I'd like to juggle for you."

Misjudged

I tossed the balls high in the air. Five. Six. Seven! I could feel the judges' approving stares. I spun and sent the eighth ball in a high, lazy arc. My hands were flying!

Then a ball fell to the floor.

I dropped to one knee and grabbed the stray ball, pretending it was deliberate. But soon another fell.

Trying not to panic, I changed my pattern. I juggled five balls behind my back. I closed my eyes and added a sixth. I was really good, but I couldn't get eight.

A judge motioned for me to stop.

"Truly amazing, Miguel," she said. "Unfortunately, we have several jugglers. We aren't going to be able to put you through."

I felt the fire in my stomach flare up again, but I took a deep breath.

"Thanks for the chance," I said. I walked to the exit, then stopped

and looked over my shoulder. "Just wait for No. 251."

I spotted my parents by the exit.

"Oh, Miguel. I'm so sorry," Mom hugged me.

"It's OK, I'm good." I looked across the room. "Can we pray for Olivia?"

Mom's eyebrow raised. "The frog girl?"

I laughed. "Trust me. You're gonna love her."

We crammed beneath the screen next to Olivia's parents. She danced gracefully, her expressive hands every bit as impressive as my fast ones. When the song ended, the judges were quiet. But only for a moment.

"Congratulations, young lady. You are moving on!" they announced.

"Yes!" I shouted, throwing my hands in the air. Juggling balls flew everywhere.

Olivia stepped through the audition door. I rushed to meet her.

"You were amazing!" I said. "I'm sorry I acted so obnoxious in class. I mean, I should have asked or been more patient or—"

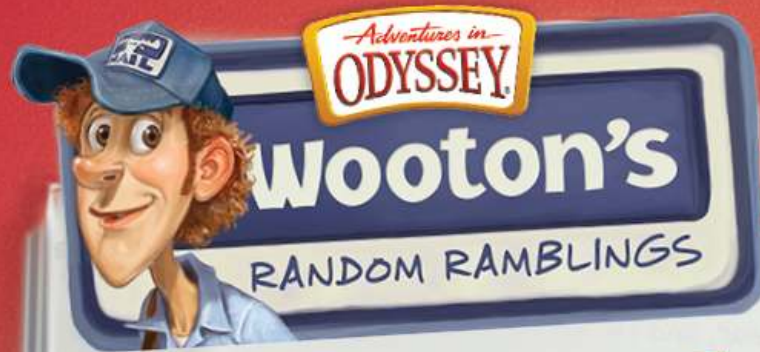
Olivia held up her hand to stop me. "Miguel, has anyone told you that you talk too much?" She beamed a smile. "You were awesome too. Maybe we could do an act together for the school talent show."

"Yeah!" I returned her smile. "How about something with frogs?"



Miguel shined a spotlight on someone else's story. Cut out the columns, then "juggle" the order so the frogs overlap with the grid below. One column has been done for you. When you finish, you'll see what the Bible says about getting along.





by Torry Martin

Flatbeds and Fuzzy Blankets

I love to recycle garbage. At my old house, I built a trash can chandelier and a surfboard coffee table. Refurbishing furniture reminds me how God restores people. He takes all the messed-up stuff we do, changes our hearts and transforms us into masterpieces!

My all-time favorite do-it-myself project was a bed I built from an old pickup truck. It took a year to redo the interior, fix the dents and paint it candy apple red.



My dog, Sam, and I used to sleep in the truck. Our neighbor sewed us a blanket covered with friendly forest animals. I installed a piano so I could write songs in bed. There was also a desk so I could draw comics.

Unfortunately, I didn't install a fire extinguisher.

After my house burned down, I started over. Penny and I got married and we looked for a new house.

"Any requests?" the realtor asked.

"A green slide," I said.

Her mouth replied, "I'll see what I can do."

But her eyes said, "Whaaaaat?!"

In the end, we found a cute little house. Penny painted murals on the walls, and I built a spice rack with an extendable hand. But I still missed my old bed.

Then I saw it. I was working my mail route when I walked past a 1938 pickup abandoned in Mr. McCready's field.

"How much for the truck?" I asked.

He scowled. "I'll pay you \$100 to tow it away."

The truck barely fit inside our guest bedroom. I grabbed my tools and got to work.

First, I ripped out the dashboard so I'd have room for a piano. Then I scraped away the rust. This was going to be the coolest truck/bed ever!

I was so busy, I didn't hear Penny enter.

"Wow!" she said. "What a surprise."

"I know!" I replied. "We can build it together."

Penny squeezed her way around the room. "I love your creativity, Wooton," she said. "But this truck is too big. We can't open the closet."

"No problem," I replied. "Our guests will hang their clothes from the ceiling fan!"

Penny sighed. "You can't make decisions on your own anymore. We need to discuss it—as a family."

I stopped scraping. Penny was right. It wasn't my bed, or even my house anymore. It was ours! When I asked Penny to marry me, that meant sharing our whole lives. I needed to consider how my choices would affect her.

"Sorry," I told Penny. "I'll take this heap to the junkyard."

"Not so fast," Penny replied. "We can still find a place for it. Maybe a puppet theater in the backyard."

My eyes sparkled. "With headlights for shadow puppets!"

She giggled. "I love it." 🐾

Q When people do special things for me, it seems like I have to do it back. Do I?

Equal Exchange, 9, London, Ohio

Kindness is contagious. When you do nice things for people, it makes them feel good. They'll want to treat you nicely too. Proverbs 18:16 says, "A gift opens doors for a man"—doors to friendship, inclusion and favors.

That said, kindness is a gift, not a trade. You don't owe anyone . . . especially people who try to manipulate you or buy a favor. Talk to a parent if you feel unfairly pressured.

Instead of worrying about paying people back when they treat you nicely, simply smile and thank them. Then pass along that kindness to someone else.

Q Whenever I get sick, I feel really sad. Is there anything I can do?

Blue With the Flu, 10, West Linn, Oregon

Clubhouse readers had great advice for this question from August 2019:

When I feel sick, I like snuggling my mom.

Addyson B., 12, Mason, Ohio

I have six siblings, so we get sick often. We usually follow the BRAT diet: Bananas, Rice, Applesauce and Toast. These foods go easy on your stomach.

Jesse S., 11, Garland, Texas

I like to read my Bible when I'm sick. Psalm 34:18 says, "The LORD is near the brokenhearted; He saves those crushed in spirit." I also drink lots of tea.

Georgia J., 12, Langley, British Columbia

When I get sick, I just want to cry—but that doesn't help. Close your eyes and try to rest. Most of all, trust God to take care of you.

Kayden N., 10, Auburn, California

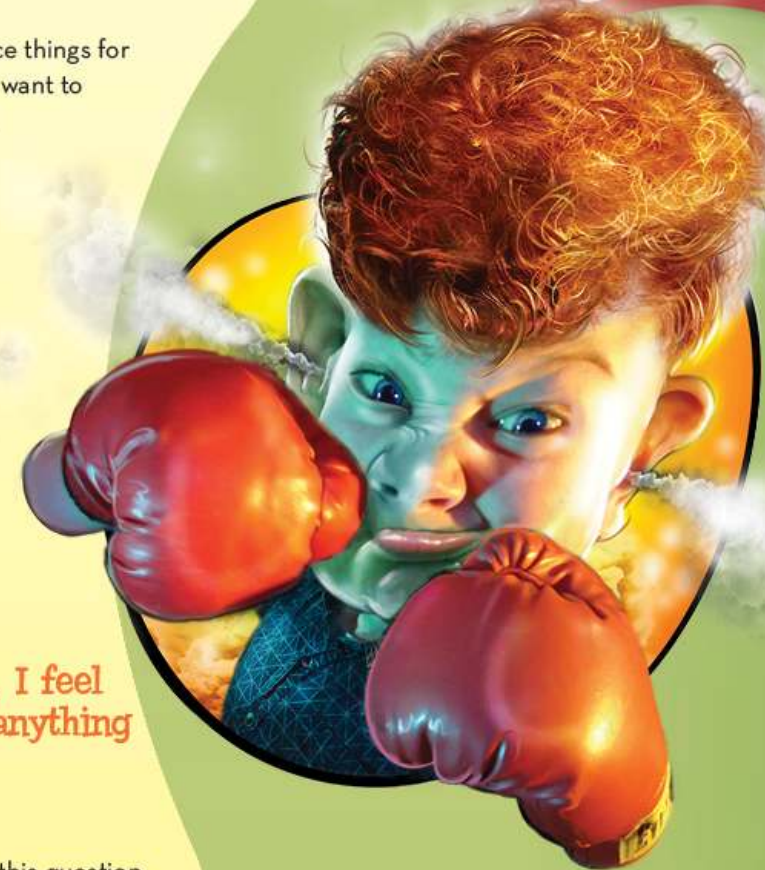
Listen to upbeat Christian music like TobyMac or Mandisa. Do simple chores like tidying your room. You'll feel happier and better.

Hannah B., 11, Gainesville, Virginia

Try not to worry. It makes you feel worse. (I know from experience.)

Praise G., 9, Elk River, Minnesota

ask away



Q I get angry and can't stop. But if I run away to cool down, I miss fun stuff. Please help!

All the Rage, 10, Lexington, South Carolina

Walking away is a good first step. You should compose yourself before things get heated. But don't stay away too long. Once you feel calm, return to the room.

Try to figure out what helps you cool down quickly. You can take deep breaths or count to 10. Thinking about nice things helps too. The Bible says, "Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely . . . dwell on these things" (Philippians 4:8).

Whatever you do, don't smother your feelings or pretend everything is OK. You got upset for a reason. Deal with your anger in healthy ways, such as talking with your parents. 🐾

SLEUTH FAMILY

ROBINSON
CREATED BY WOOTON BASSETT

PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

Check for cameras, Christie.

Don't you mean Czech?

Be serious. It could be dangerous.

This feels oddly familiar.

It's our best chance to find Dad.

Then there's no time to waste!

Slow down, little bro. That knockout gas will leave you drooling on the floor.

Maintain pursuit, kids. She's heading for the roof.

No way . . .

Hello, Nadia.

Robinson family? What a relief. I thought the Blue Tigers had caught me.

Is that why you attacked us with knockout gas—again?

That wasn't knockout gas. I just burned my lunch.

We need to find the hand that crushed this phone . . . and hopefully the body that goes with it.

Why Prague, Nadia?

People here don't ask questions about my "skills."

You're still hacking?

I'm still working. I can't rely on my parents like you can.

You always have a family with us.

Yeah. You're like the sister we never wanted.

Nadia found **THE CRUSHER**!

I sent his coordinates to your plane.

Hmm, that's interesting.

What is it?

An encrypted transmission. I'll look into it.

Come with us. You don't have to be alone.

Yeah, I do. Anyone close to me gets hurt.

I'll see you later, Robinsons.

Mission Accomplished:
"Even if my father and mother abandon me, the LORD cares for me." —Psalm 27:10

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

www.clubhousemagazine.com

CH0320

MISSIN' KITTEN



Help Maggie find her lost cat. Start at 17, then move to a number in any direction (except diagonally) that solves one of these equations:

+1 x2 /3 -4



START!

17	36	31	62	69	23	19	6	24	72	36	54
13	26	27	8	73	71	38	76	80	75	25	50
39	42	9	26	72	36	40	77	78	74	27	46
30	10	5	7	12	14	44	84	85	10	14	42
21	20	24	3	33	66	22	28	3	6	2	21
7	11	8	9	32	31	27	29	4	5	3	9
14	28	27	42	16	8	7	13	9	8	4	2
13	24	48	19	20	12	6	26	18	72	11	7
26	18	49	45	15	11	10	20	36	37	33	3

"What man among you, who has 100 sheep and loses one of them, does not leave the 99 in the open field and go after the lost one until he finds it?"
-Luke 15:4

END!

Answer (hold up to a mirror): 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

