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 NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC



# Little Kids

Have fun  
and learn  
about our  
world!

Supports  
Early Years  
learning

Full of  
facts and  
games

SUMMER 2025 ISSUE 32



£4.99

Meet a

Meerkat!



PLAYFUL  
SEA LIONS



# Explore Together

## Welcome to the latest edition of *Little Kids*

This magazine has been designed to inspire **meaningful interactions** between caregivers and young learners, helping you **discover the world side by side** – both on the pages and off.

Research shows that **shared moments are crucial for children's development, building their brains** as you read, chat, laugh and play. And by reading with a child, you can **expand their vocabulary and understanding of the world**, too.

*Here are some tips to help you enjoy Little Kids together...*

## Look out for these prompts...

Colour-coded circles are dotted throughout the mag to inspire further discussions and activities.

### TIME TO CHAT

Questions in the blue blobs are **conversation starters**, helping you discuss what children notice, remember and feel. You might talk about your surroundings, experiences or the wider world.

### ACTION PROMPT

Time to get silly! These orange circles suggest **physical activities** – from animal impressions to dancing. Having fun together is a vital part of learning.

### ON-PAGE ACTIVITY

The green circles contain **bonus games** to play on the pages. They might encourage further observation, counting or exploration.

If you're a *Little Kids* subscriber, check your inbox for our monthly newsletters which provide more top tips and a sneak peek inside the upcoming issue.

## Make it a habit

Figure out a dedicated daily 'reading time' that fits your routine – whether it's before bed or after a meal. Make this special time something to look forward to. As little as ten minutes a day can make a big difference.

## Get cosy!

Put away the devices, find a comfortable spot, snuggle up and start the adventure...

## Let the child lead

Allow your young learner to hold the magazine and/or turn the pages, going where their interest takes them. Sticker pages first? No problem!

## Read aloud

Reading out loud to early learners, pointing at the words and pictures as you go, is proven to develop literacy. And if your child is an independent reader, they'll take great pride in following the engaging text and completing the activities without assistance. Maybe they could read to you?

## Encourage interaction

As you're flicking through the magazine and playing the games, talk about the pictures on the pages and ask questions (see our prompts, left). Or if your child enjoys reading independently, ask what facts they've discovered inside their magazine.

## Activity stickers

Our stickers aren't just cute – they also help develop physical dexterity and fine motor skills. Encourage numeracy by asking children to find the sticker that matches the page.

Look for the numbers by the stickers

Page 26



Page 29



We'd love to hear from you! Send an email to [littlekids@ngkids.co.uk](mailto:littlekids@ngkids.co.uk) with your comments and suggestions.

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Look out for sticker activities throughout the magazine!

Sticker page

# What's Inside?



8

Why is my nose so big?

**SAIGAS** Little antelopes with large noses!



10

We can swim fast!

**SEA LION FUN** Playing in the water!



16

I love hugs!

**SQUIRREL MONKEYS** Hang on, baby!



22

I am hungry, mum!

**MEERKAT MEALS** Scorpion snacktime

**4 CLOWNFISH**  
Why do they hide?  
Plus, more funny fish!

**6 BATHROOM BINGO**  
Guess what the objects are!

**7 WHAT IS DIFFERENT?**  
A spot-the-difference game

**14 SILLY SENTENCES**  
Try some tongue twisters

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Help the elephant find its food

**24 RIVER WILDLIFE**  
A watery search-and-find!

**26 WHERE DO BIRDS SLEEP?**  
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**28 LET'S VISIT... GEORGIA!**  
Secret caves, fairytale towns  
and tasty treats

**32 LITTLE KIDS BIG QUIZ!**  
Get ready to play...

**34 WEATHER FUN**  
What should you wear today?

PLUS  
stickers  
and fact  
cards!



**National Geographic Little Kids** magazine is designed to enhance your child's education, with activities to develop their skills in numeracy, literacy, geography, science, communication, physical development, and personal, social and emotional development.



# Why?

Why do you think clownfish hide?



Sea anemone  
(Say "uh-NEH-moh-nee")

Tentacles

Clownfish are covered in a special slime so the anemone's sting can't hurt them!

Clownfish hide among an anemone's stinging tentacles to stay safe. To say thanks, clownfish scare away other fish that want to eat the anemone.

Clown fish poop helps anemones to grow!

Clownfish © Fred Bavendam / Minden Pictures; Anemone © Mathieu Foulquie / Biosphoto / Minden Pictures.

Make up a silly name for a new fish. Then draw it!

# Funny Fish!

These fish have funny names, too!  
Can you match them to their shadows?



Butterflyfish



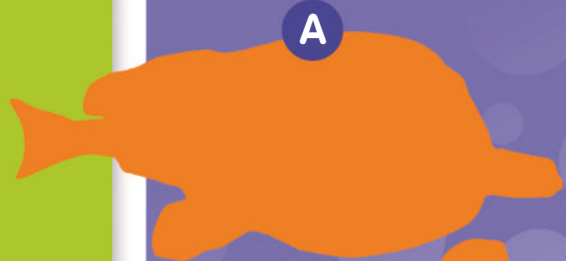
Pufferfish



Boxfish



Blobfish



**Sticker activity**

Stick the fish on their shadows.

Angelfish

Stick

Parrotfish

Stick

Parrotfish have big front teeth for nibbling coral.

# NAMING

Can you name these things? What letters are missing?



\_oap



\_owel



\_oat



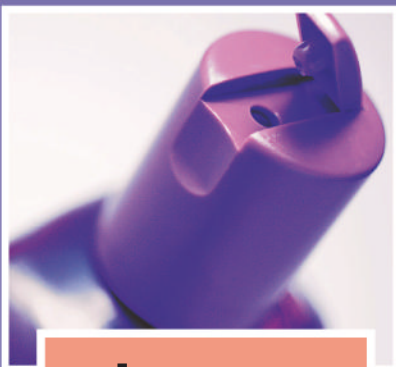
\_ubbles



\_uck



\_oothbrush



\_hampoo



\_ressing  
gown



\_ap

Name some other things that are in a bathroom.

Top row (left to right): Comstock / Getty Images; Ingram Publishing / Getty Images; Mike Harrington / Getty Images.  
Middle row (left to right): Lawrence Lawry / Photodisc / Getty Images; Photodisc / Getty Images; Kosmos 111 / iStock / Getty Images Plus.  
Bottom row (left to right): © Photonic 6 / Alamy; BananaStock / Getty Images Plus; Peter Dazeley / Getty Images.

## SORTING

# What Is Different?

Look at each picture in the top row.  
Find the differences between it and the one below.



Find one  
difference.

Find two  
differences.

Find three  
differences.

# That's Cool!

Sticker page

Meet the saiga.

Say my name:  
"SY-guh"

A saiga eats shrubs, grass and herbs.

This small antelope lives in the grasslands and deserts of Central Asia.

Nose

Its big, floppy nose helps a saiga remove desert dust from the air. It also warms the air in winter and cools it in summer!

During winter, male saigas' noses swell even bigger. Males wobble them to impress females!

Stick

Sticker activity

Stick a big-nosed male here!

# Who Knows Whose Nose?

These animals' noses are missing! Match the nose with the animal it belongs to.



Pig

Star-nosed mole



Star-nosed moles' eyes are so tiny they are hard to spot!



Mandrill



Rabbit



Brown bear

Answers: A-Brown bear; B-Star-nosed mole; C-Pig; D-Rabbit; E-Mandrill.

All images © Adobe Stock.

ANIMALS

# SEA LION FUN

Sea lions flip, jump, spin and race. It looks like fun! But it also helps them live.



Sea lions are very clever creatures. They can learn to communicate with humans!



Spin and jump like a sea lion!

An underwater photograph of a group of sea lions swimming in clear blue water. The sea lions are of various sizes and are captured in different swimming poses. Some are in the foreground, while others are further back, creating a sense of depth. The water is bright and clear, and there are some bubbles visible near the surface. The sea lions have dark, sleek fur and prominent whiskers. One sea lion in the foreground is looking towards the camera, while others are swimming away or towards it.

How many  
sea lions can  
you count in  
this big  
picture?

Answer: There are 12 sea lions in this picture. Did you spot them all?

Sea lions splash through tall waves and dash through sea plants. They jump out of the water and flip in the air, too.

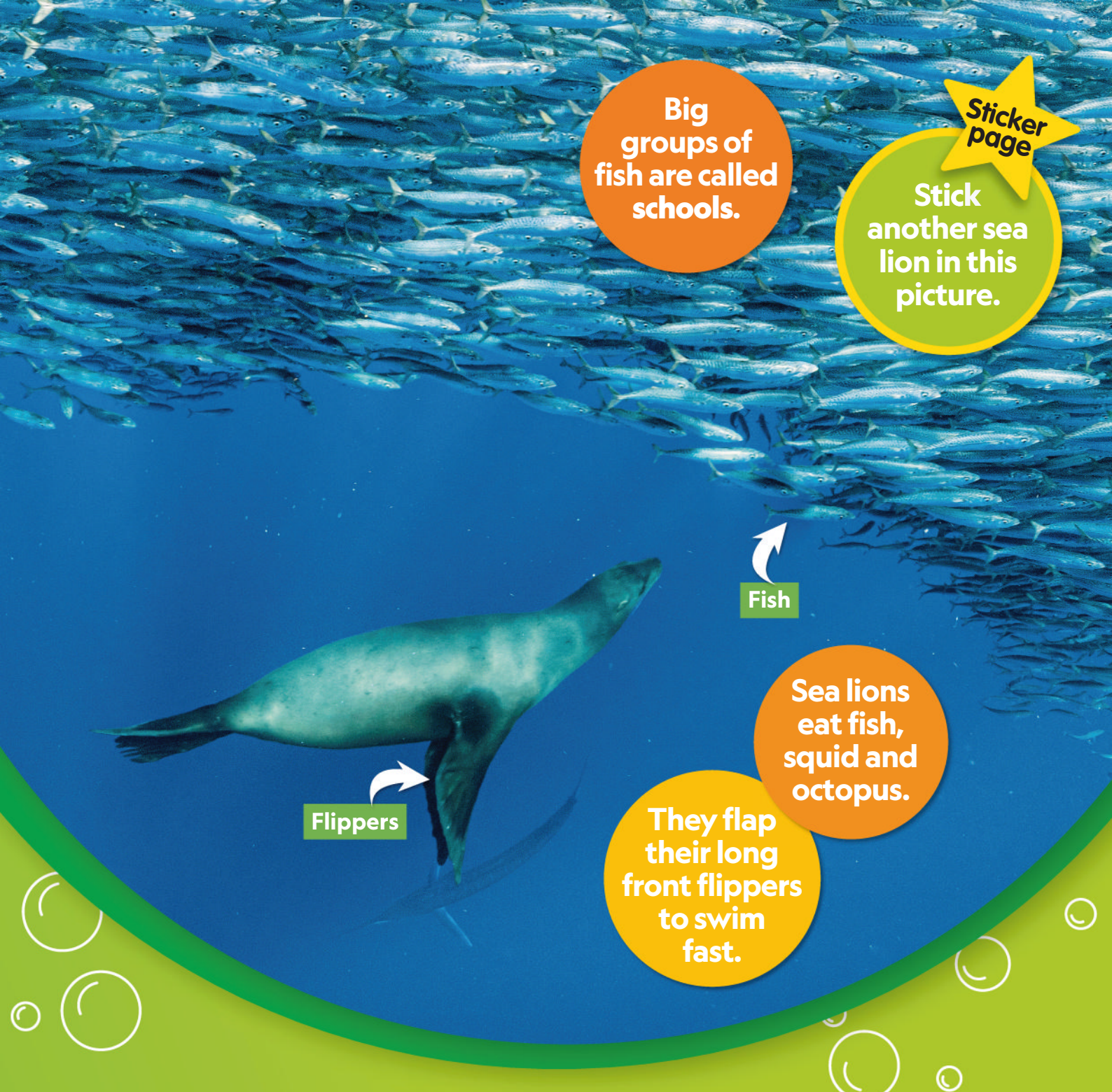


Sea plant

**Baby sea lions are called pups. They can swim as soon as they are born.**



Pup



**Big groups of fish are called schools.**

**Stick another sea lion in this picture.**

**Sticker page**

**Fish**

**Sea lions eat fish, squid and octopus.**

**They flap their long front flippers to swim fast.**

**Flippers**

Swimming like this helps sea lions catch fish and get away from sharks. But it can also be fun!

# Silly Sentences

Read each silly sentence aloud. Then look at the pictures. Find the animal that starts with the same letter as the other words in the sentence.

A laughing \_\_\_\_\_ leaps over logs licking lemons.

A dear \_\_\_\_\_ dances through desert daisies.

The king \_\_\_\_\_ kisses a kind key.

The red \_\_\_\_\_ reads riddles in the rain.

A pair of \_\_\_\_\_ plop into a pile of pears.

An odd \_\_\_\_\_ orders oodles of oranges.



Can you say a word that starts with the same letter as your name?

Sticker activity

Stick the last thing from each sentence next to the animal that starts with the same letter.

Sticker page



Kangaroo



Leopard



Orangutan



Parrots



Racoon



# ANIMALS



Baby



Mum

# HANG ON,

# BABY

# MONKEY!

What does it feel like to ride on someone's back?

Squirrel monkeys live in the forests of Central and South America. This baby is riding on its mum's back as she looks for food.

Can you ask someone to give you a ride on their back? (Only if they're not too tired!)

Squirrel monkeys eat fruit and insects.



The baby holds on with strong arms and legs. Then Mum leaps from branch to branch.



Long tails help the monkeys balance as they move on tree branches.

Staying close keeps the baby safe. It also means big hugs all the time!

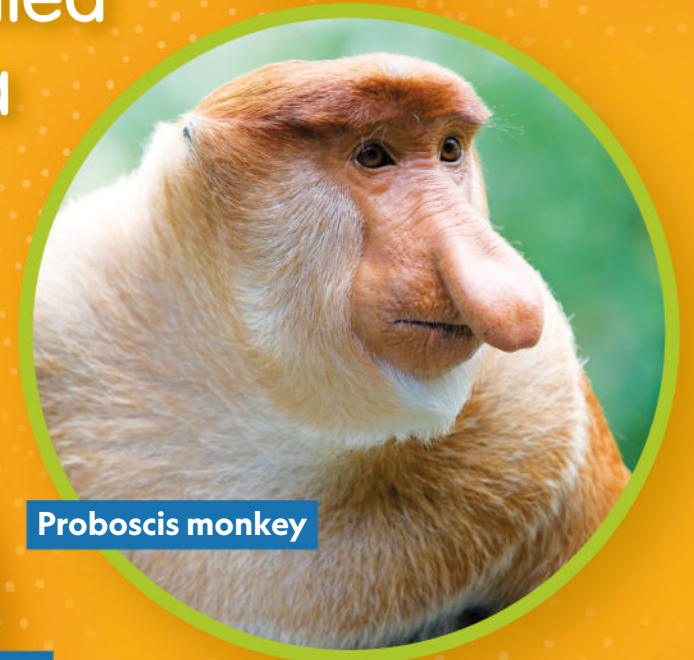
Can you give someone a big monkey hug?

# OTHER PRIMATES

Monkeys are in a group of animals called primates. Here are a few other primates.



Golden lion tamarin



Proboscis monkey



Gorilla



Saki

Stick another primate here!

Sticker activity



Mandrill

## DIRECTIONS

# LOOKING FOR LUNCH

Elephants eat grass, flowers and fruit. With your finger on the path, follow the directions to find some tasty grass.



**START**

Go around the wild **boar**.  
Step in between the **beetles**.  
Walk through the **plants**.  
Step away from the **tiger**.  
Move towards the **deer**.  
Go under the **bird**.



**Beetles**



**Boar**

What did you have for lunch yesterday?



Plants



Tiger

How many steps does it take to get from your bedroom to your kitchen?



Bird



Deer



Start eating!

END

# A Meerkat

**1**

A meerkat eats insects, spiders and scorpions. It sniffs the sand where they are hiding.



Sniff like a meerkat. What can you smell?

**2**

The meerkat digs out a scorpion with its front paws. The meerkat digs so fast that the scorpion cannot escape.



Scorpion

Meerkats live in southern Africa.

# Eats

3



Scorpion

The meerkat grabs the scorpion with its mouth.

Then it bites off the scorpion's dangerous stinger.

4

It shares the scorpion with a baby meerkat to teach it what to eat. The baby chews its crunchy meal.



Baby

Sticker activity

Stick some more meerkat food to the page!

# River Wildlife

Look at all the animals by the riverside!

Tick off these things when you find them in the big picture.

1 butterfly



2 toads



3 kingfishers



1 moorhen



Sticker  
page

Stick some  
more wildlife  
in this  
picture.

Have you  
seen any of  
the animals in  
this picture?  
Where?

Beavers cut  
down trees  
with their sharp  
teeth. Can you  
find the beaver  
family?

Jump like  
a toad, flap  
your arms like  
dragonfly wings,  
and glide like  
a swan!



# WHERE DO BIRDS SLEEP?

Birds sleep in many different places. They might sleep high up in a tree, low in a bush, on the ground, or even in shallow water.

To get ready for sleep, many birds fluff up their soft feathers and pull one leg in to keep it warm. Then they tuck their beak against their body.

How do you get ready to go to sleep?

Flamingos often stand on one leg while they sleep.

Sticker page

Owls hunt at night, so they sleep during the day.



Northern saw-whet owl

Flamingos sleeping



Scientists think frigatebirds can nap while they fly! They rest half their brain at a time as they glide.

Sticker activity

Stick

Stick a magnificent frigatebird here.

WORLD CULTURE

Let's visit...

**GEORGIA!**

Georgia is a small country between Europe and Asia. It has big snowcapped mountains, and a coastline along the Black Sea.



Vardzia cave city

Speak Georgian

Hello in Georgian is **Gamarjoba**.

Can you try? Say:  
"ga-mah-jo-bah"

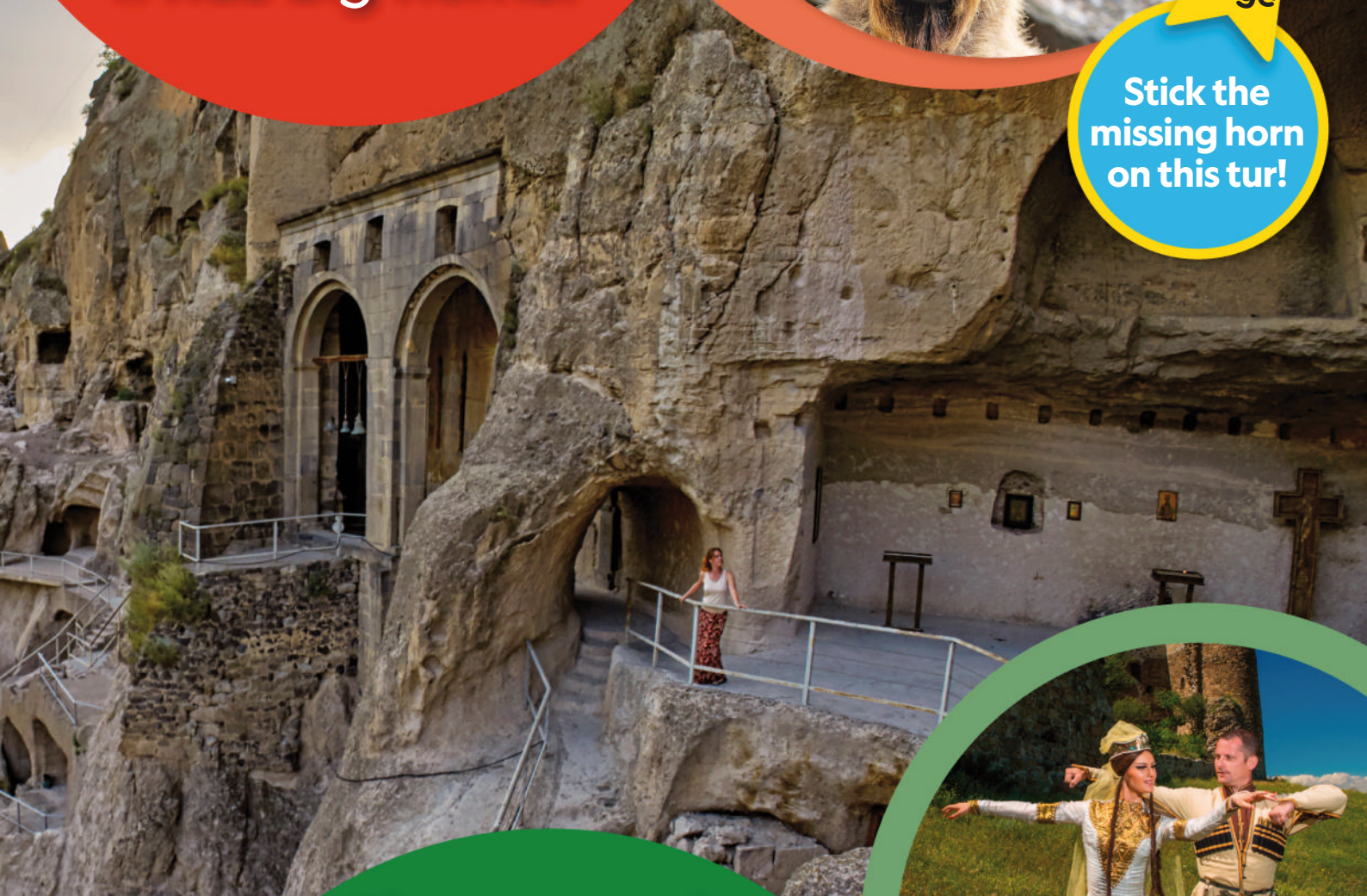
An ancient cave city is carved into a mountain in Georgia. Inside there are old homes, churches and secret tunnels!

The **West Caucasian tur** is a goat-antelope that lives in the mountains in Georgia. It has big horns!



**Sticker page**

Stick the missing horn on this tur!



These people are wearing traditional Georgian clothes. Look at the fancy golden embroidery!



**Choka coat**

Sticker page

# Fairytale Town

In Georgia's colourful capital city, Tbilisi, there is a higgledy-piggledy clock tower!

The tower is part of a puppet theatre.

Every hour, an angel comes out of the tower to ring the bell!



Sticker activity

Look closely at the clock tower on the left. Then rebuild it with stickers.



Are these statements about the clock tower true or false?

1 The clock face is gold.

True	False
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2 Every hour, a clown rings the bell.

True	False
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3 The tower is spotty.

True	False
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Answers: 1) True; 2) False - an angel rings the bell; 3) False.

**Churchkhela** is a Georgian sweet treat. It is made by putting nuts on a string, and dipping them in thick grape juice.

# Rainbow Treats

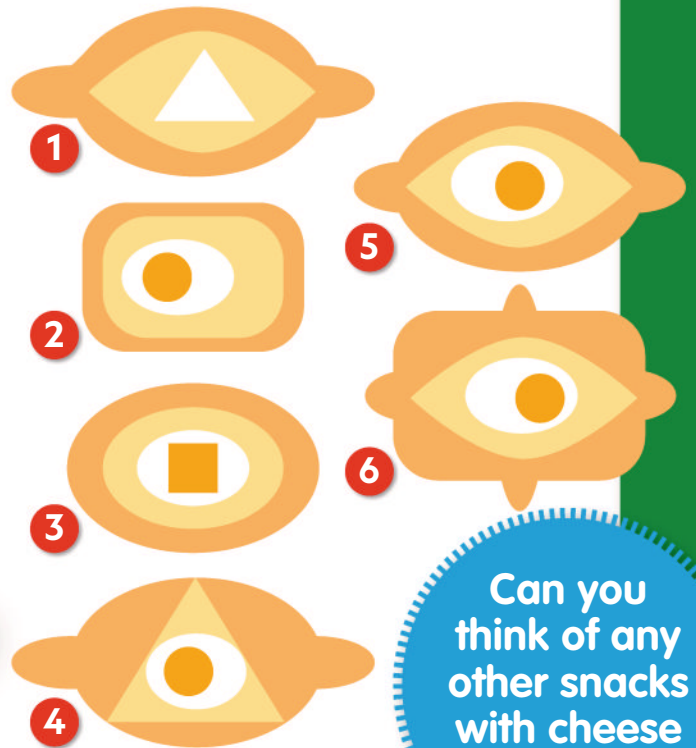


Can you find four differences between these pictures of a churchkhela market stall?

## Snack Time

**Khachapuri** is a cheesy bread that sometimes has an egg on top.

Which picture best matches the shapes of this khachapuri?



Can you think of any other snacks with cheese and bread?

Answer: Number 5 is the best match!

# LITTLE KIDS

1

Which of these ice creams is chocolate flavoured?



A



B



C



D

2

What can you use to get dry after swimming?



Cat



Milkshake



Teddy bear



Towel

3

Who looks a bit bored?



A



B



C



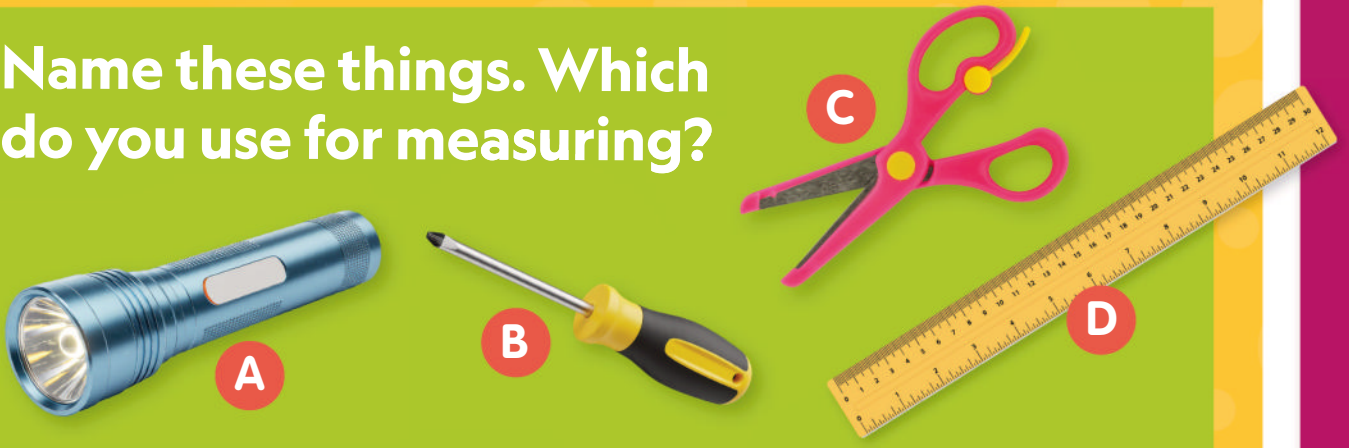
D

# BIG QUIZ!

4 Which of these vehicles can fly?



5 Name these things. Which do you use for measuring?



6 Which of these things starts with a 'Fr' sound?



Answers: 1) B; 2) Towel; 3) A; 4) Plane; 5) Torch, scissors, screwdriver and ruler. The ruler is used for measuring; 6) A-Frog and E-Frisbee.

# Weather Fun

Look at the three kinds of weather below. Then say which clothes or gear you might use during the different kinds of weather.



**Umbrella**



**Scarf**



**Shorts**



**Flip-flops**

What is the weather like today?





Sled

Can you think of something you wear to protect your skin in sunny weather? Stick some here!

Sticker page



Poncho

Sled © Petr Jilek / Shutterstock; Swimsuit © Michael Kraus / Shutterstock; Umbrella © AJT / Shutterstock; Flip-flops © Strela Studio / Shutterstock; Scarf © Natalia K / Shutterstock; Poncho © Crezaly Nierona Uratsuji / Getty Images; Rain © ND700 / Adobe Stock; Sun © Ed Connor / Shutterstock; Snow © Cunfak / Getty Images.

3



Snowy

Name some other types of weather.

# NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS

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Answer: 1-Umbrella and poncho; 2-Shorts and flip-flops; 3-Scarf and sled.

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