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TIDBITS® INVESTIGATES REPTILES by Kathy Wolfe

October 21 was Reptile Awareness Day, and this week, Tidbits is digging into the details of several unusual species.

- In order to be classified as a reptile, an animal must have five characteristics. It must have a backbone, be covered with scales, breathe with lungs, be cold-blooded, and lay eggs (although a few reptiles give birth to live young). Their skin has no hair or oil-producing follicles. Most reptiles are carnivores, with a very few herbivore types. There are four basic groups of reptiles: snakes and lizards, crocodiles and alligators, turtles and tortoises, and two species of tuatara.
- Tuatara are found only in New Zealand, and although they resemble lizards, they are their own species. This curious creature measures about 30 inches (80 cm) long, weighs 3 lbs. (1.3 kg), and has a spiny crest along its back. If caught by its tail by a predator, it has the ability to break off its tail and regenerate a new one. A tuatara will be between 10 and 20 years old before it is mature enough to reproduce. One record-breaking 111-year-old male reproduced for the first time with an 80-yearold female. Although the average lifespan is about 60 years, some believe tuatara could live up to 200 years in captivity.

turn the page for more





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REPTILES (continued):

- The frilled-neck lizard makes its home in Australia. It takes its name from the large pleated skin flap around its neck. Normally the frill stays folded against the lizard's body, but when the lizard feels threatened, it unfurls its bright orange and red frill, opens its mouth wide, exposing a bright yellow interior, and hisses. The lizard also displays this behavior during courtship. When the frill is folded against the body, this lizard is a non-descript brown or gray with splotches of darker color, giving it the appearance of tree bark, enabling it blend in and hide from predators. It's a large lizard, with the average adult reaching a length of about 3 feet (0.9 m).
- The Chinese water dragon, native to the rainforests of Thailand, Indochina, and China, is a colorful lizard that can grow up to a length of 3.3 feet (1 m). Although some are green, others are purple with an orange stomach and diagonal stripes of turquoise on the body. Their throats might be blue, purple, or peach, with either a solid color or with stripes. This carnivorous reptile likes to dine on mice, goldfish, quail chicks, and earthworms. In captivity, a Chinese water dragon might live to the age of 20.
- A gecko lizard's long toes have tiny adhesive pads that are forked at the ends, which enable them to cling to any surface, includingceilings, glass, and other smooth vertical surfaces. The flying gecko, found only in southeast Asia, has an intricate system of membrane flaps along its side, tail, and feet. Although they don't truly fly, they can glide from tree to tree, using their webbed feet and flaps to generate lift. This little lizard, about 7 inches (17.8 cm) long, can "fly" up to 200 feet (60 m).
- There are nearly 180 different species of chameleons, members of the iguana order, that are found primarily in Africa, with many species on



- of rattlesnakes?
- 2. What does an ophiologist study?
- 3. How often does the average snake shed its entire skin?
- 4. How much does the world's largest reptile, the saltwater crocodile, weigh?
- 5. What is considered the most beautifully colored of all snakes?

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Monthly Financial Planning Tip From Kailee And Chandra:

Planning for the succession of your business early on is important. Often times when we see an owner of a business unexpectedly pass away or become disabled there is a financial loss and a reorganization of the business. This reorganization may include bringing in an heir or an outsider, or selling or buying a portion of the business from an heir. Having a succession plan in place beforehand can save a lot of time, money and emotional stress between heirs and shareholders; guaranteeing heirs the full value of their shares, as well as guaranteeing surviving shareholders full ownership of the business. If you need help developing a succession plan for your business, give us a call.

the island of Madagascar. A few others are native to India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. They don't live naturally anywhere in North or South America, and if any are found on those continents, they're the offspring of escaped pets from their native habitat. Although we might think that chameleons can change color to match their surroundings, what really happens is that they live in an environment that matches their normal color. They don't change to whatever color they are sitting on. However, the skin does change color when they are frightened, angry, or stressed, or as a reaction to changes in light, temperature, or humidity. A male can change color to make himself more attractive to a female, and that female can use her color to accept or reject his advances. Her color can also reveal a pregnancy. In addition to changing color, chameleons have another exclusive ability no other animals have. Their eyes move independently of each other, and can look in two different directions at the same time, giving them a full 360-degree view. The smallest chameleon in the world is just half an inch (16 mm) long, tiny enough to sit on the head of a match.

There are more than 3,000 species of snakes worldwide, but the good news is that only about

Laugh a bit with pupears

Q: What kind of lizard tells jokes? A: A stand-up chameleon

375 are venomous. Of those, about 250 can kill their prey with one bite. When they strike, they have nearly a 100% success rate. However, most species are actually helpful since they keep the rodent population under control.

- The rarest snake is the St. Lucia Racer, an endangered snake that lives only on the tiny uninhabited Caribbean island of Maria Major. Once declared extinct, 11 of the small nonvenomous reptiles were discovered in 2012. Anywhere from 18 to 100 are believed to be in existence.
- Rattlers have heat-sensing pits on the sides of their head between the nostril and eye. These enable them to detect warm-blooded prey, (their favorites are rodents and lizards), and

Continued pg.4



- * If your razor has seen better days, try running it over a pair of jeans. The material can sharpen and realign the blades to get a little more life out of your razor.
- * Use a small, lidded plastic container to store the following items in your vehicle through the cold winter months: flashlight, portable USB battery pack (charged, with charging cable for your device), blanket(s), road flares, first aid kit, ice scraper, sand or other tractioncreating material, bottles of water and some snacks, a weatherproof poncho/jacket and a pair of walking shoes with socks.
- * The National Sleep Foundation says that exercise can contribute to better sleep. Work out at least 4-5 hours before you expect to hit the hay, though, because exercise can keep the heart rate elevated and give you energy for hours after you are done. Afternoon workouts are the best, but morning sessions are great, too.

TIPEITS GOES LONG......

Adult rattlers only eat about once every two weeks. It's not unusual for a rattlesnake to live 30 years.

- * "For a successful morning, prep breakfast and clothing, and go over your to-do list the night before. Have your kids do the same. Since we started doing this, mornings are so much easier to bear, and we all get to sleep in a little longer too!" -- N.L.
- * Hand-held heat. Fill an old sock (no holes) with uncooked rice and knot at open end. Pop in the microwave for no more than 2 minutes for a long-lasting heater-upper.
- * "Prevent outdoor padlocks from freezing up by covering the keyhole with a small piece of duct tape, and then put the whole lock in a sandwich-size baggie to seal." -- G.O.



"We need something that won't go



by Samantha Weaver

- * It was German dramatist, poet, philosopher and statesman Johann Wolfgang von Goethe who made the following sage observation: "Too many parents make life hard for their children by trying, too zealously, to make it easy for them."
- * At one time in Ireland, a traditional Halloween activity was predicting future romance. It was one of the few times of the year when young men and women could mingle, and fortune-telling games to predict who they would marry were popular.
- * Those who are experiencing money-related relationship issues might be interested to note the results of a survey conducted by TD Ameritrade. When asked who manages the household budget, 87 percent of women said they did, while 81 percent of men claimed that responsibility.

12

15

18

26

- * Until Alfred Hitchcock's iconic psychological horror film "Psycho" premiered in 1960, no American film had ever shown a toilet being flushed.
- * Buick is one of the oldest automobile brands in the world, so you might expect that the company's founder did pretty well for himself. Unfortunately for David Dunbar Buick, who incorporated the company in 1903, that wasn't the case. In less than a year, the company was sold. Buick stayed on as a manager and worked on engine development, but only for two more years. When he left his namesake company in 1906, he sold his one remaining share of Buick for \$100,000. That was a rather hefty sum at the time, but he lost it all in a series of unsuccessful ventures. At the time of his death in early 1929, he was virtually penniless.
- * It's been reported that a shaved guinea pig bears a remarkable resemblance to a tiny hippopotamus.

Thought for the Day: "Absolute faith corrupts as absolutely as absolute power." -- Eric Hoffer

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seller

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dude!"

8 Handed out

"Awesome,

"Born in the

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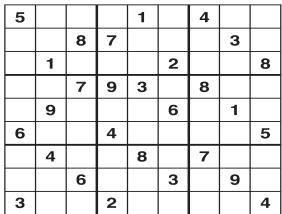


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Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Carlyne Lee lives in Author of 15 Cookbooks. For more information or to purchase your own copies of her books you can 250-836-3181 or 1-877-812-3181

CANDY CARAMEL APPLES

8 Red Delicious apples 8 (6 inch) candy sticks 1 1/3 cups dark corn syrup 1 1/3 cups white sugar 1 1/3 cups brown sugar 1 1/3 cups heavy cream 1/4 teaspoon salt 2/3 cup water

> 3 tablespoons butter 3/4 teaspoon vanilla

Take stems from apples and replace with sticks.

Butter a sheet of waxed paper or cookie sheet. Combine sugars, corn syrup, cream, salt and the 2/3 cup of water in a pan and bring to a boil, stirring often. Cook until candy thermometer reaches 240 degrees. Remove from heat. Stir in butter and vanilla. Work quickly while caramel is hot. Dip apples in, turning to coat evenly. Place apples on sheet. NOTE: You can chop 2 cups peanuts and put on the buttered sheet. Roll apples in nuts and let stand on sheet. (This nummy, gooey recipe is from my "LUSCIOUS BERRY AND FRUIT

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This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: ${\bf P}$ equals ${\bf B}$

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FXQETXIYUBF?

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King Crossword

13

35

16

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46

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ACROSS

- 1 Chevy Equinox, e.g.
- 4 The enemy
- Pharmaceutical
- 12 Corroded
- 13 Wise one
- 14 Simple
- 15 Guard of a sort
- 17 Leading man?
- 18 Unlikely loser
- 19 Every crumb
- 21 Illustrations
- 22 Frank
- 26 Pamphlet
- 29 Peruke
- 30 Regret
- 31 Kind of mark or tag
- 32 A welcome sight?
- 33 Bouquet
- holder 34 Guitar's cousin
- 35 "Monkey suit" 55
- 36 Feelings, informally
- 37 Old salt
- 39 Shell game need
- 40 Affirmative
- Yellow-flowered herb
- 45 New Zealand- 5 er, informally
- 48 Elvis hit
- 50 Green land
- 51 Approx-

- 31 34 37 45 50 53
 - imately 52 Ostrich's COUSIN
 - 53 Rumble faction
 - 54 Adolescent
 - Witness
 - **DOWN**
 - Cutting tools 2 Hexagonal state
 - Kill a bill
 - Unisex garment
 - "I Anyone Till You" Id counter-
 - part Billion-dollar
- 27 Croupier's
- 11 Workout site 16 Trainer 20 Journal 23 Colorless
- 24 English river 25 The Bee -26 So
 - tool 28 On the bring 29 Candle
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- 33 Article of food 35 Placekicker's pride 36 Lillian of mailorder fame 38 Losing power,
- like a battery 39 Obey a comma 42 Mid-month
- date 43 Arrive
- 44 Chills and fever
- 46 George's brother
- 49 Raw rock

matter 32 Suspect's pic

55

52

10

24

25

44

43

- 45 Small barrel
- Be victorious

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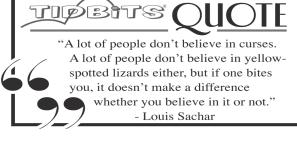


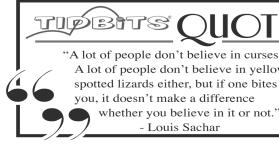
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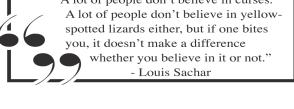
REPTILES (continued):

they can detect differences in temperature to a fraction of a degree. When the rattlesnake shakes its rattles, it's trying to warn or scare away predators. Every time the snake sheds its skin, another ring is added to its rattles. Beware, because even though young rattlesnakes don't yet have rattles, they are just as dangerous as the adults.

- · A turtle's shell, which is made up of 60 different bones, has two parts, the upper section, called the carapace, and a lower part, known as the pastron. The two parts are joined together by a bony ridge, and covered with plates that offer strength and protection.
- The African spurred tortoise is also known as the sulcata tortoise, the third-largest species of tortoise in the world. This unusual reptile lives in the southern edge of the Sahara desert and reaches a length of 33 inches (83 cm) and a weight of more than 230 lbs. (105 kg). In an attempt to reach levels of higher moisture than the arid desert provides, the tortoise engages in aestivation, a process of excavating 30-inch-deep (76 cm) burrows in the ground, connecting to an underground tunnel system extending more than 10 feet (3.05 m). Here the tortoise spends the hottest part of the day. Because the sulcata has a pleasant disposition, it is popular as a pet, and can live more than 50 years in captivity.









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UNUSUAL PLANTS:

CHERRY BLOSSOMS

In 1912, Japan gifted the United States with 3,020 cherry blossom trees. This week, Tidbits focuses on these beautiful trees' characteristics and history.

- Japan's gift in 1912 weren't the first cherry blossom trees to hit the North American continent. In 1906, Dr. David Fairchild, an official with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, imported 100 flowering cherry trees from a Japanese nursery and planted them on his own property in Chevy Chase, Maryland. After two years of testing the trees' hardiness in the area, Fairchild ordered 300 more trees, which were given to the schools in the District of Columbia to plant in their yards to honor Arbor Day..
- In 1909, trees were planted along the Potomac River beginning at the Lincoln Memorial. The following year, the City of Tokyo donated 2,000 cherry trees to be planted along the River. However, upon the trees' arrival, it was discovered they were infested with insects and disease, and all the trees were burned. The 1912 gift was a replacement for the diseased
- In the Spring of 1912, First Lady Helen Taft and the wife of the Japanese Viscountess Ambassador, Chinda, planted two cherry trees on the northern bank in Washington, D.C.'s East Potomac park, trees that still stand in their original site.
- Washington, D.C.'s first annual Cherry

Blossom Festival was held in 1935, coinciding with the trees' early spring full bloom. There are now 11 different varieties of cherry blossom trees in the Park.

- In 1965, Japan donated another 3,800 trees, the first two again planted by the First Lady, Lady Bird Johnson, and the wife of the Japanese ambassador, Ryuji Takeuchi.
- There are close to 4,000 cherry trees in D.C.'s park, but it's not the nation's largest collection. That honor belongs to Newark, New Jersey's Branch Brook Park, the oldest county park in America, where about 4,300 trees are planted. Philadelphia also has more

than 2,000 flowering cherry trees, half of which were gifted by the Japanese government in 1926 to honor the 150th anniversary of America's independence.

The streets and parks of Vancouver, BC are lined with an estimated 50,000 flowering cherry trees, many of which were also gifts from Japan. But the title of Cherry Blossom Capital of the World belongs to Macon, Georgia, a city with more than 300,000 trees scattered throughout its streets and parks. A local realtor discovered a tree in his Macon backyard in 1949, and made it his mission to bring more of the trees to the community.

Continued pg.6



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Community Events

Sorrento Lions Club Meat & 50/50 Draw, Fridays 5-7 pm from Sep 15, 2017 to Jun 22, 2018 at the Copper Island Bar & Grill Pub, Sorrento Inn, Sorrento, BC. FMI Call Wayne 250-675-2616.

UKRAINIAN DINNER \$12 (under 12 \$6) Saturday Oct. 28th. Doors open 5:30! Sunnybrae Seniors 3585 Sunnybrae Canoe Pt. Rd. All Ages Welcome!! Info: sunnybrae.srs@gmail.com

South Shuswap Health Services Society. Everyone is invited to attend our Open House on Thursday October 26, 2:30 to 5:00 at the Copper Island Health and Wellness Centre.

Eagle River Secondary School 28th Annual Christmas Craft and Trade Fair Saturday, November 18th Eagle River School Gym Sicamous 9:30am–3:00pm Over 70 tables: Christmas crafts, jewellery, woodworking, baking, all kinds of unique items and gifts for everyone. Vendors Welcome Contributions for the Food Bank accepted at the Door. Information: Kathy - 250-836-3267

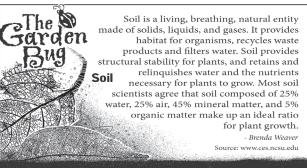
The Shuswap Writers' Coffee House challenges you to enter the "5 Minute Story Contest." Book prizes for the scariest stories to be read in 5 minutes or less at the Writers' Coffee House, Friday, October 27 at the Blue Canoe Cafe from 7 – 9 pm. Light supper available at 6:30.

Seniors Activity Centre is having our monthly pancake breakfast Sunday Nov. 12. 8-11:30am. Adults \$7 Children (5-10yrs) \$2. 170 - 15th ave SE, Salmon Arm

PLEASE SEND ALL CURRENT EVENTS FOR NOV 10TH ISSUE BY SUNDAY OCT. 29TH

non profit event info

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CHERRY BLOSSOMS

(continued):

- Although there are more than 200 varieties of blossoming cherries, the most popular variety in Japan is the Yoshino. The Japanese call the cherry blossoms "sakura." The trees belong to the rose family, with the average tree about 25 feet (7.62 m) tall. With special care, they can reach upwards of 50 feet (15.2 m), with a 40-foot-wide (12.2 m) canopy. It's primarily Yoshinos that line D.C.'s National Mall and the Potomac waterfront.
- The date for the peak blossoming in Washington, D.C. is around April 4. The blooming period lasts about two weeks.
- Cherry blossoms and leaves are frequently used as food ingredients in Japan. Blossoms are pickled in salt and vinegar and used in a sweet bun called anpan. Salt-pickled blossoms are also boiled in water, a beverage called sakurayu, served at festive events



The devout cowboy lost his favorite Bible while he was mending fences out on the range. Three weeks later, a lizard walked up to him carrying the Bible in its mouth. The cowboy couldn't believe his eyes. He took the precious book out of the lizard's mouth, raised his eyes heavenward and exclaimed, "It's a miracle!" "Not really," said the lizard. "Your name is written inside the cover."

REPTILES GALORE

• The smallest turtle is the 4-inch (101 cm) Bog Turtle. The largest, the Leatherback Sea Turtle, averages about 4 to 6 feet (1.2 to 1.8 m) in length, with a weight of 1,100 lbs. (500 kg). However, the largest Leatherback ever recorded was almost 10 feet (3.05 m) long and weighed 2,019 lbs. (916 kg). For all its immense size, the Leatherback has very delicate jaws that are easily damaged by anything other than soft-bodied animals. Their diet is made up almost entirely of

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jellyfish, which are composed mostly of water and are a poor source of nutrients.

- North America's biggest freshwater turtle is the alligator snapping turtle, a reptile that is 2.5 feet (0.76 m) long and weighs 200 lbs. (90.7 kg). Its powerful jaws, sharply-hooked beak, and powerful bearlike claws make this creature a formidable predator for fish, frogs, snakes, clams, crayfish, and smaller turtles. A remarkable characteristic makes its hunting easier its tongue has an appendage that, when wriggled, closely resembles a worm, fooling its prey into swimming directly into range of the snapping turtle.
- If you're listening to a turtle or tortoise, you'll hear some interesting noises. Generally, males grunt, while females hiss. But South America's red-footed tortoise clucks like a chicken, while male Travancore tortoises of southeast Asia seeking a mate make a high-pitched whining sound much like an electric motor. Central America's giant musk turtle yelps like a dog when it is startled or under attack.
- Early Spanish explorers and settlers in Florida gave the alligator its name. This scaly reptile takes its name from the Spanish word largarto, meaning "the lizard." The menacing-looking mouth of an American alligator holds between 74 and 80 teeth at a time, but it might go through 2,000 to 3,000 teeth over its lifetime. Although they seem to have a reputation for attacking humans, alligators are actually quite

Continued pg.7



By Mick Harper

1. Which artist released "What's New Pussycat?"

2. Who wrote and released "Somebody's Baby" and when?

3. How long was the first "Tubular Bells"? (There were two on the first album.)

- 4. Which group released "We Are Detective"?
- 5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "I could hardly believe it, When I heard the news today, I had to come and get it straight from you."

Answers

him a Grammy.

4. The Thompson Twins, in 1983. 5. "How Am I Supposed to Live Without You," first recorded in 1983 by Laura Brannigan. The ballad, co-written by Michael Bolton, was supposed to be recorded by Air Supply. Bolton released his own version in 1989, which went to No. I and also won version in 1989, which went to Mo. I and also won

at Ridgemont High." 3. "Tubular Bells," by 19-year-old Mike Oldfield, consisted of two 20-minute instrumentals. Oldfield played all the instruments himself. The music was used in the film "The Exorcist" and the 2013 Olym-

Original Song in 1966. 2. Jackson Browne, in 1982, for the film "Fast Times

1. Tom Jones, in 1965. The song was used in the film of the same name and got the nod for Best

- Carring regions	SCRAMBLERS Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!					
Indian meanward	CHANUL					
Volente Inc. Al	TROUPS					
LEWONADE CONTINUES S	TOPIC					
	GRAYN					
" He's part of the ' Hour.'"	TODAY'S WORD					

Even E	xchan	ge by Do	nna Pettman				
Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from $MASTER$ for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.							
1. Actress Bacall	N	Evergreen shrub	L				
2. Decelerate	A	Out of funds	0				
3. Pebble	s	Make amends	A				
4. Chew potato chips	N	Walking aid	T				
5. Promenade	B	Plenty	P				
6. Short knife	G	Peril	N				
7. Leisure pursuit	н	Hotel entrance	L				
8. Bleak	R _	Wistful	M				
9. Hatchling	'	Chess maneuver	E				
10. Nun	s	Child caregiver	т				

REPTILES GALORE (continued):

solitary and very rarely do they go after humans, usually only when provoked or when protecting their young. Their diet consists of fish, turtles, snakes, birds, and small mammals. Occasionally they eat other alligators. An alligator's jaws can clamp shut with enough force to break a person's arm. But the muscles that open its mouth are very weak, so much so that a man can hold a fullgrown alligator's mouth closed with one hand. And although they move very quickly through water, alligators are slow-moving on land.

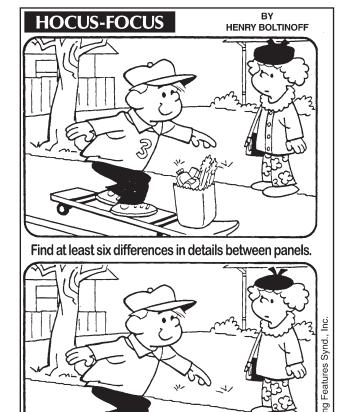
· Although alligators and crocodiles belong to the same order, Crocodilia, there are distinct differences in their appearance and habitat. Crocodiles have long, narrow, V-shaped snouts, while alligators' snouts are wider and U-shaped. This is related to the diet of each, with the alligator having more crushing power to capture prey such as turtles. The narrower snout of the croc is better suited for fish and small mammals. The color of a crocodile is an olive brown shade, while an alligator is darker, almost black in color. Their environments differ as well. Alligators dwell in fresh water, such as ponds, rivers, wetlands, lakes, and swamps, while crocs make their home in salt water.



To add your voice & become a member of the Shuswap SPCA.

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Forms for new or renewing members are at the shelter, 5850 Auto Rd. SE and on the display boards in the Piccadilly Mall.



Differences: 1. Fence is smaller. 2. Number is missing. 3. Arm is mo grocenes is missing. 5. Hat is different. 6. Button strip is missing. 24 HOCUS FOCUS puzzles \$3.50 • 24 Volumes • Order at: rbmamall.com



PAW'S CORNER By Sam Mazzotta

Housetrained Puppy May Need a Refresher

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: My new Beagle puppy, "Socks," keeps peeing in the same spot on the carpet every day. I thought he was housetrained when I adopted him from the shelter, and I've been careful to take him out each morning. But his third day here he peed on that spot and he's gone there every day since. What can I do? -- Wits' End in Maryland

DEAR WITS' END: This can happen with any dog at just about any age, even if it is well-housebroken. There are a number of reasons why -- from health issues to anxiety.

First, get Socks checked out at the vet to rule out any issues, like a urinary tract infection, that might cause a lapse in housetraining. This is something you should do anytime there's a sudden change in a pet's behavior.

Then you'll need to clean the area thoroughly to remove as much of the pee smell as possible -not just for your nose, but to stop Socks from identifying the area so easily as a place to pee. If he's peeing on carpet, you will likely need to replace that section as well as the padding underneath. Next, reintroduce a stricter routine for a while. That doesn't mean punishing Socks for a housetraining mistake; rather, it means a tighter training routine for both of you. If you know the approximate time that he peed on the carpet, put him on a leash at that time and take him outside. Give him lots of praise when he pees outdoors.

If you're not sure when he pees there, or can't be at home at the time, crating Socks during periods you're away may be helpful. Don't keep him in the crate for more than a couple hours at a time.

Send your questions, comments and tips to ask@pawscorner.com. (c) 2017 King Features Synd., Inc.



Clover is a 1 and 1/2 year old indoor cat who is on the quieter side, and would suit a cat experienced home with no other animals or small children. She is an affectionate girl who enjoys a bit of play, but mostly would like to be pampered and loved. If clover sounds like your cat please come meet her at our shelter.



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10. Sister, Sitter

Amble, Ample

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