# Jokes

1. Why aren't dogs good dancers?

They have two left feet.

2. What did the Dalmatian say after lunch?

That hit the spot!

3. What do you call a duck that gets all A's?

A wise quacker.

6. Where would you find an elephant?

The same place you lost her!

7. What animal is always at a baseball game?

A bat.

8. How do you get a squirrel to like you?

Act like a nut!

9. What do you call two birds in love?

Tweethearts!

10. What's worse than finding a worm in your apple?

Finding half a worm.

11. Why don't elephants chew gum?

They do, just not in public.
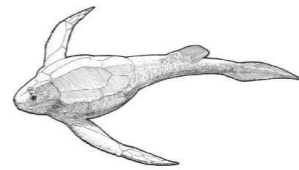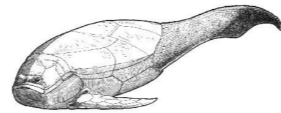
12. What was the first animal in space?

The cow that jumped over the moon.

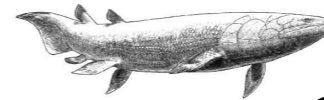13. What did the banana say to the dog?

Nothing. Bananas can't talk.

14. Why did the dinosaur cross the road?

Because the chicken wasn't born yet.

We would love your input. Send your colouring in, questions, or even photos to us via our snail mail address (P.O Box 216 Canowindra NSW 2804) or by email (fish@cabonne.nsw.gov.au). We can't wait to hear from you.

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# Little Fossils Kids Club

## Christmas 2024

Welcome to our Christmas 2024 newsletter.

Our topic is Biomimicry- inventions, architecture, and materials that have been inspired by nature.

These include Velcro, silk, highway reflectors and flippers.

Unscramble the names of the inventions below:

1 _ranos_____

2 _frzeeanite_____
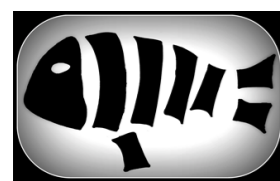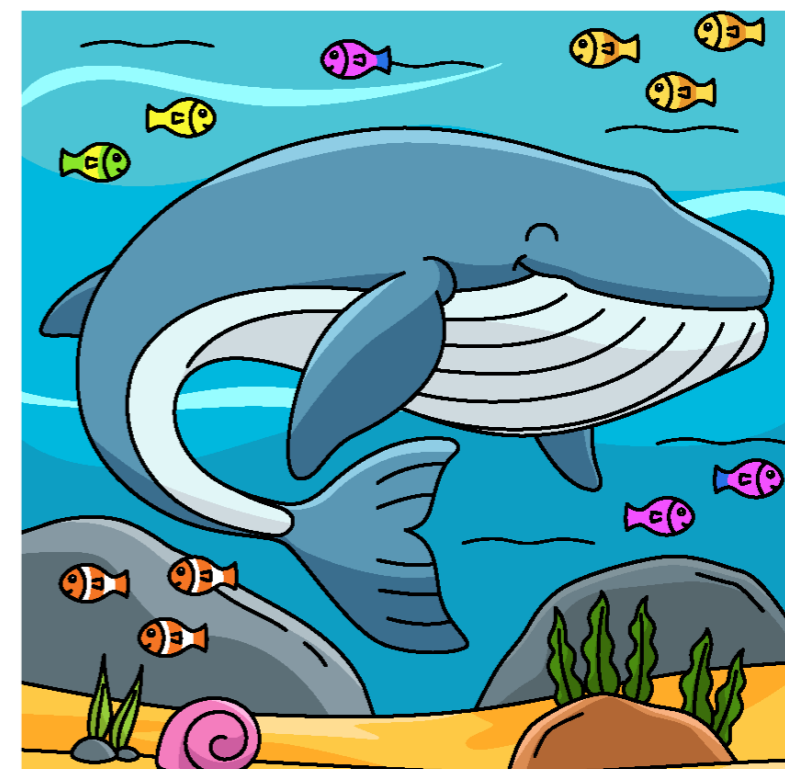
3 _wtestuis_____

4 _rondse_____

5 _ltaniovneti_____

Answers 1. Sonar 2. Antifreeze3. Wetsuits 4. Drones 5. Ventilation.

Name five careers relating to animal inventions e.g. Marine Biologist.

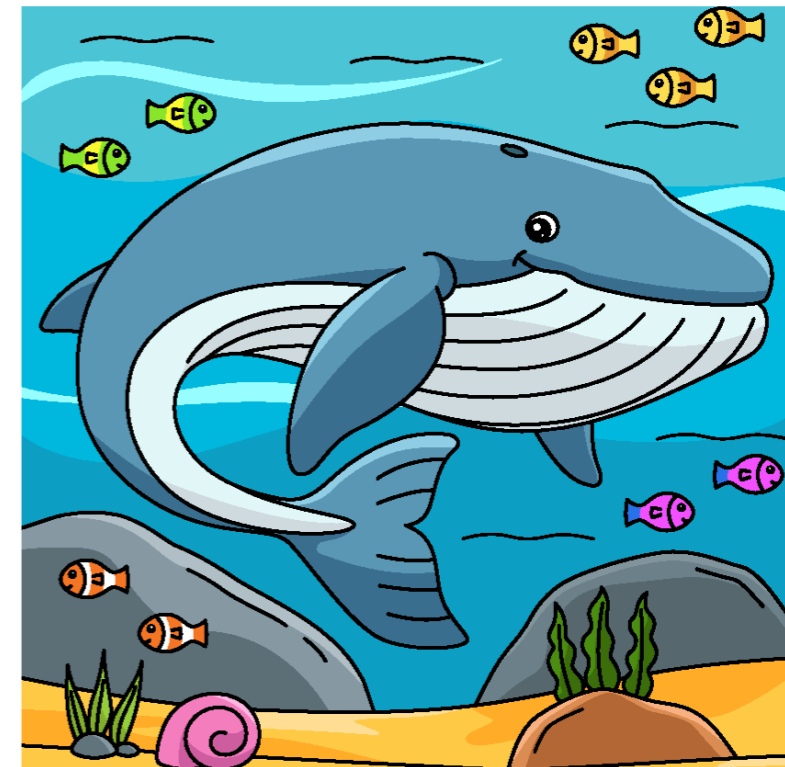..........................................................................

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AGE OF FISHES MUSEUM

# DID YOU KNOW?
# BIOMIMICRY FACTS

- Velcro was invented by a dog owner who studied how burrs stuck to his dog's hair. He looked at the burrs under a microscope and found that they had little "hooks".

- Scientists have studied the way whales move and leap, and this is helping in the design of wind turbines.

- A material similar to sharkskin is being used to help prevent marine growth, such as barnacles, from growing on ships.

- Animals such as bats and dolphins use echolocation– this involves sending high-frequency sounds and interpreting the echoes that bounce back. Humans have developed SONAR on this principle.

- The reflectors on our roads are based on the eyeshine reflecting from the eyes of a cat.

- New surgical needles are based on the biting ability of mosquitos.
- Studies of firefly eyes have made LED lightbulbs more efficient.

- The tiny hairs on the bottom of gecko feet, which enable them to stick on any surface, have inspired extra strong adhesive tape.

- Studies of the amazingly strong skull of woodpeckers is helping scientists develop protective head gear and sporting equipment.

- The coat of polar bears has taught us about insulation– we have taken the natural idea of hollow fibres from the polar bear and used this to create materials that better retain heat.

- The Japanese bullet train is known for its efficiency and speed, but did you know that the design for this transportation method came from the kingfisher?

- The warmth of beaver fur has been replicated in the form of a rubber-lined wetsuit with hairs that mimic those found in beaver pelt.

# Spot the differences- can you find all 10 differences?

# Science at Home

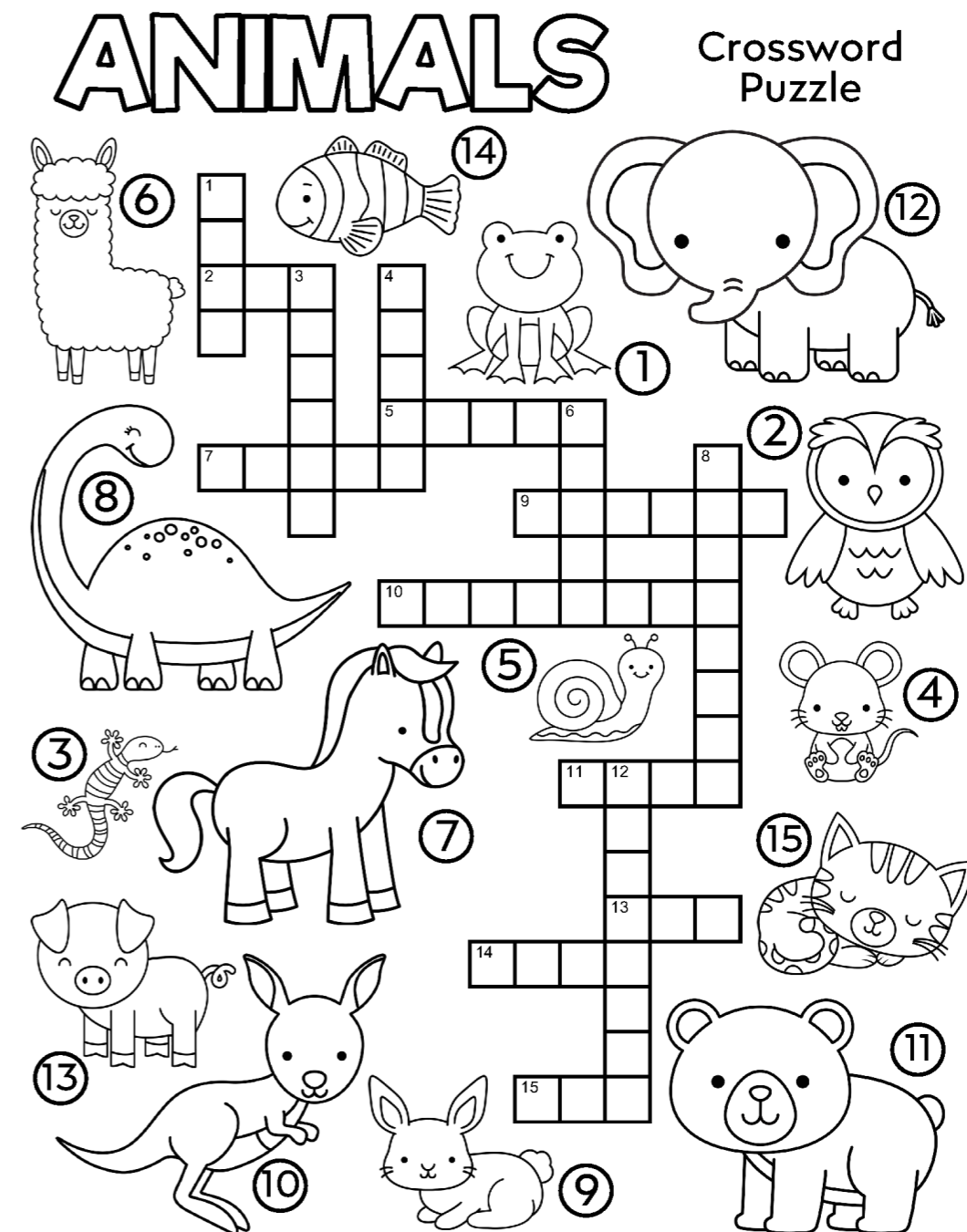## Make a DIY smartphone projector.

You will need:

- a small cardboard box
- a magnifying glass or camera lens
- scissors
- smart phone

To make the projector:

- Place the magnifying glass on the front of the box and trace it.
- Use the scissors to cut a hole in the box slightly smaller than the traced circle.
- Use a spare piece of cardboard and fold it to make a stand for the phone and secure it with a piece of tape.
- Slide the phone stand into the box, under the a cardboard flap in the bottom of the box.
- Next tape the magnifying glass inside the box so that the lens lines up with the hole in the box.
- Add the smart phone on the stand.
- Turn on the phone and focus the picture on a white wall or sheet by moving the phone away from or toward the lens until the picture looks clear.
- When the picture is focused, tape up the box, turn down the lights, and start the show.

## Can you complete this crossword puzzle using the pictures as clues?



ANIMALS Crossword Puzzle

Free printable courtesy of PrintitFree.net

# CHALLENGE SPACE

## Challenge yourself

- **Go bird watching.** Take photos and keep track of your sightings. Then, use an app or guidebook to identify the birds.
- **Grow fresh herbs in containers.** Use old coffee cans, milk jugs, plastic cups, or anything else you have around the house to plant your herbs.
- **Look for shapes in the clouds.** Put a blanket in the grass and stare up at the sky. Then, take turns talking about what you see in the clouds.
- **Make a bird feeder.** Watch birds visit your yard and add to your list of bird sightings.
- **Make fairy houses.** Use moss, bark, and leaves to make a tiny home.
- **Pick your own plants.** Find a farm with blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, vegies, or flowers and get picking.
- **Plant a butterfly garden.** Create a backyard wildlife habitat and watch these fascinating creatures enjoy it all summer.
- **Break out your movie collection.** Have a movie marathon complete with popcorn.
- **Build a fort.** Put pillows in the living room or cardboard boxes in the yard to create a hideaway.
- **Build a Lego castle.** Clear off a table and make Lego castle-building a family project. You can even add to it or work on it all summer.
- **Camp in.** Put the sleeping bags on the floor and have a family slumber party.
- **Experiment with new hairdos.** Try out non-permanent colours, braids, or a spiked, gelled look.
- **Get an origami book and fun paper.** Create fun animals and shapes and give them to friends or family members as gifts.
- **Have breakfast in bed.** Take turns being the server and the served.
- **Hold marble races.** Use an old pool noodle as the track-cut it in half, to make two tracks. Then, race the marbles down the tracks.
- **Spring clean your bedroom.**

## Drawing Challenge

Colour in this Summer image and send it to the Age of Fishes Museum for a chance to win a prize.