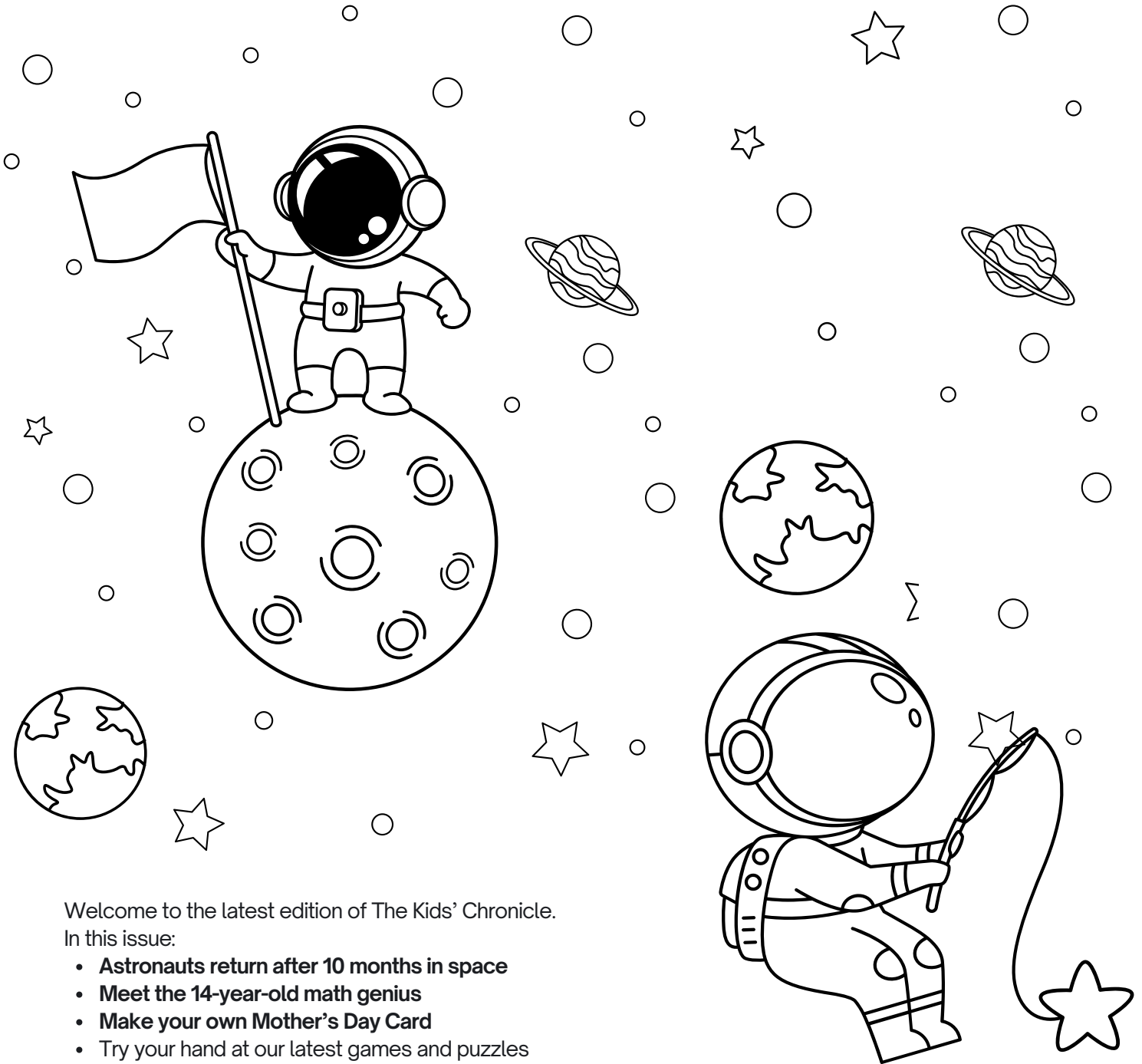


THE KIDS' CHRONICLE

21 March 2025

Edition 21



Welcome to the latest edition of The Kids' Chronicle.

In this issue:

- **Astronauts return after 10 months in space**
- **Meet the 14-year-old math genius**
- **Make your own Mother's Day Card**
- Try your hand at our latest games and puzzles

If you have any feedback, or just want to say 'Hi!', write to us at:
Thekidschronicledubai@gmail.com.



ASTRONAUTS RETURN FROM SPACE AFTER 286 DAYS IN SPACE!

NASA astronauts Sunita Williams and Barry "Butch" Wilmore have safely returned to Earth after an extended mission aboard the International Space Station (ISS). Originally scheduled for a brief eight-day stay, their mission was prolonged to 285 days due to technical issues with Boeing's Starliner spacecraft.

The astronauts returned aboard SpaceX's Dragon capsule, which splashed down safely off the coast of Tallahassee, Florida, on March 18, 2025, at 10:57 PM. The return journey from the ISS to Earth took approximately 17 hours, including preparation and descent.



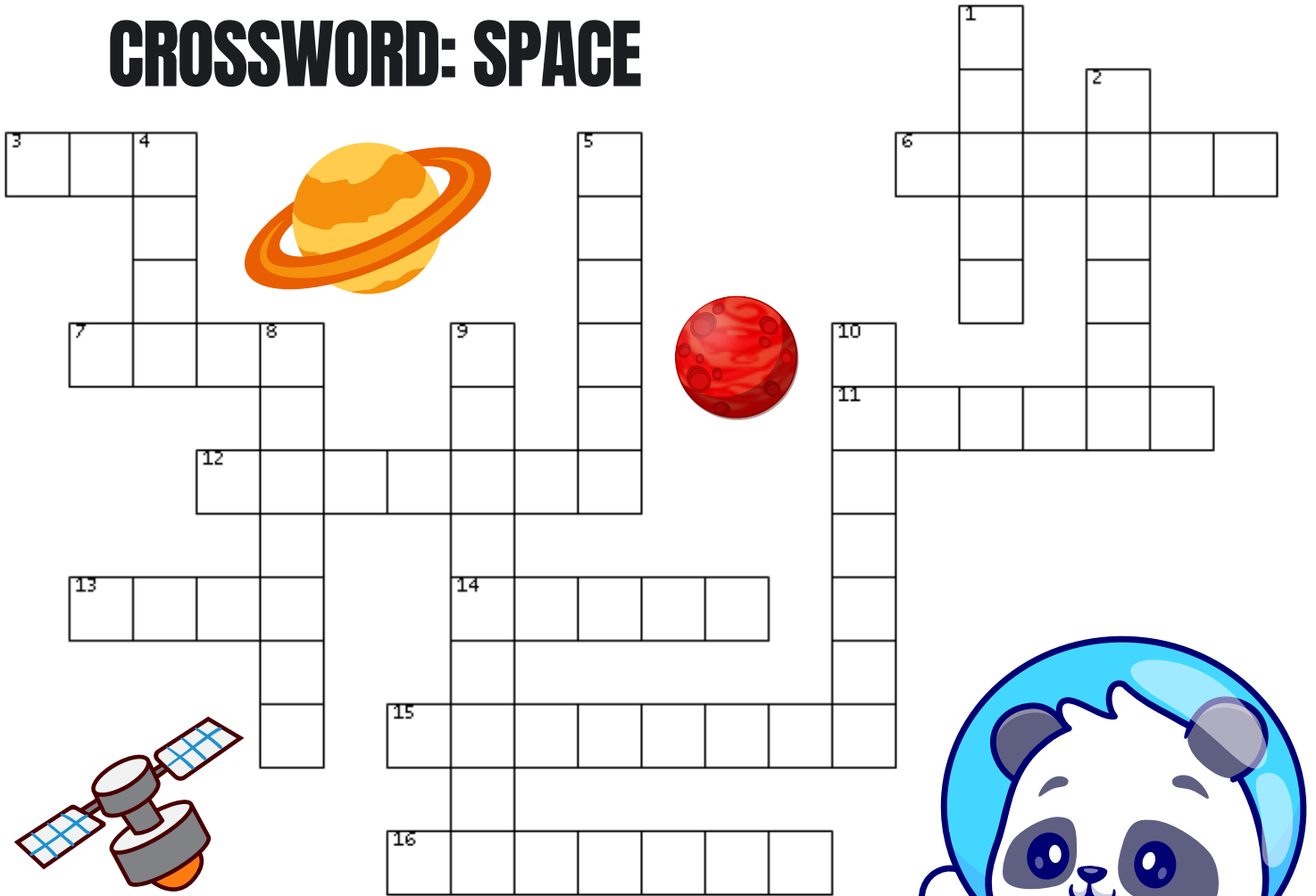
After spending extended periods in space, astronauts often experience changes in their bodies. These can include muscle loss, fluid shifts, vision issues, and balance problems upon returning to Earth's gravity. It typically takes several weeks of rehabilitation and exercise for astronauts to reacclimate and regain their normal physical condition.

Despite the unexpected extension, both Williams and Wilmore remained committed to their mission, contributing to various experiments and maintenance tasks aboard the ISS. Their safe return marks the successful conclusion of a challenging yet productive mission in space exploration.

NASA



CROSSWORD: SPACE



ACROSS

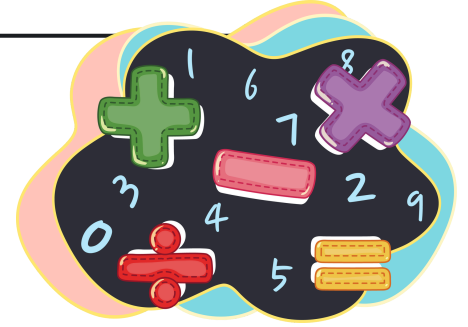
3. A huge ball of burning gas that gives us heat and light
6. The planet with beautiful rings around it
7. The red planet in our Solar System
11. A vehicle that astronauts use to travel into space
12. The largest planet in our Solar System
13. The name of Earth's only natural satellite
14. The first dog to go to space
15. The name of the galaxy where our Solar System is located
16. The planet closest to the Sun

DOWN

1. The International _____ Station, where astronauts live and work in space
2. The famous telescope that orbits Earth and takes pictures of space
4. The place astronauts train before going to space
5. A flying object that enters Earth's atmosphere and burns up, sometimes called a "shooting star"
8. The name of the first satellite launched into space by humans
9. A natural object that orbits a planet, like the Moon
10. The force that keeps us on the ground and stops us from floating into space

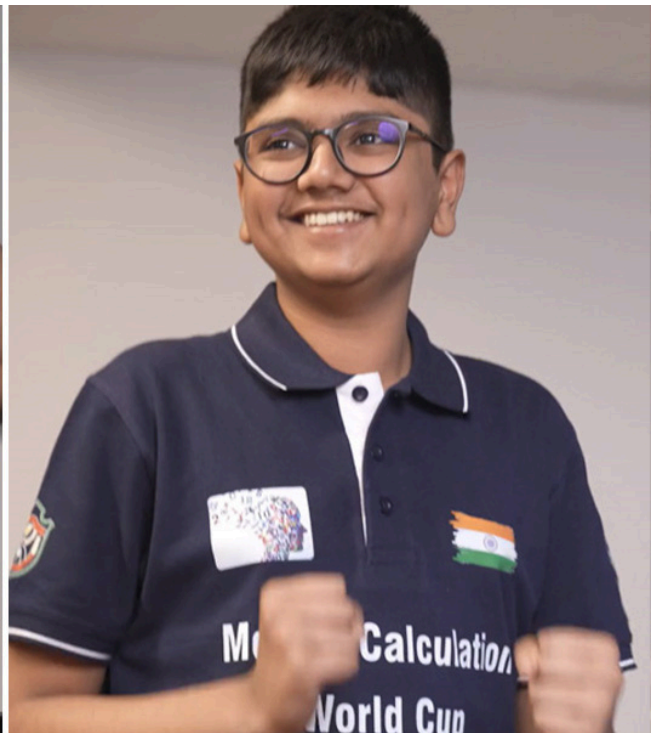


MEET THE 14-YEAR OLD HUMAN CALCULATOR



At just 14 years old, Aaryan Shukla from Maharashtra, India, has earned the nickname "Human Calculator" for his extraordinary ability to perform complex mathematical calculations at lightning speed. His remarkable skills have led him to break multiple world records and win international accolades, inspiring young math enthusiasts worldwide.

Aaryan's fascination with numbers began when he was just six-years old. He was always naturally good with maths, so his parents encouraged him to participate in mental calculation competitions.

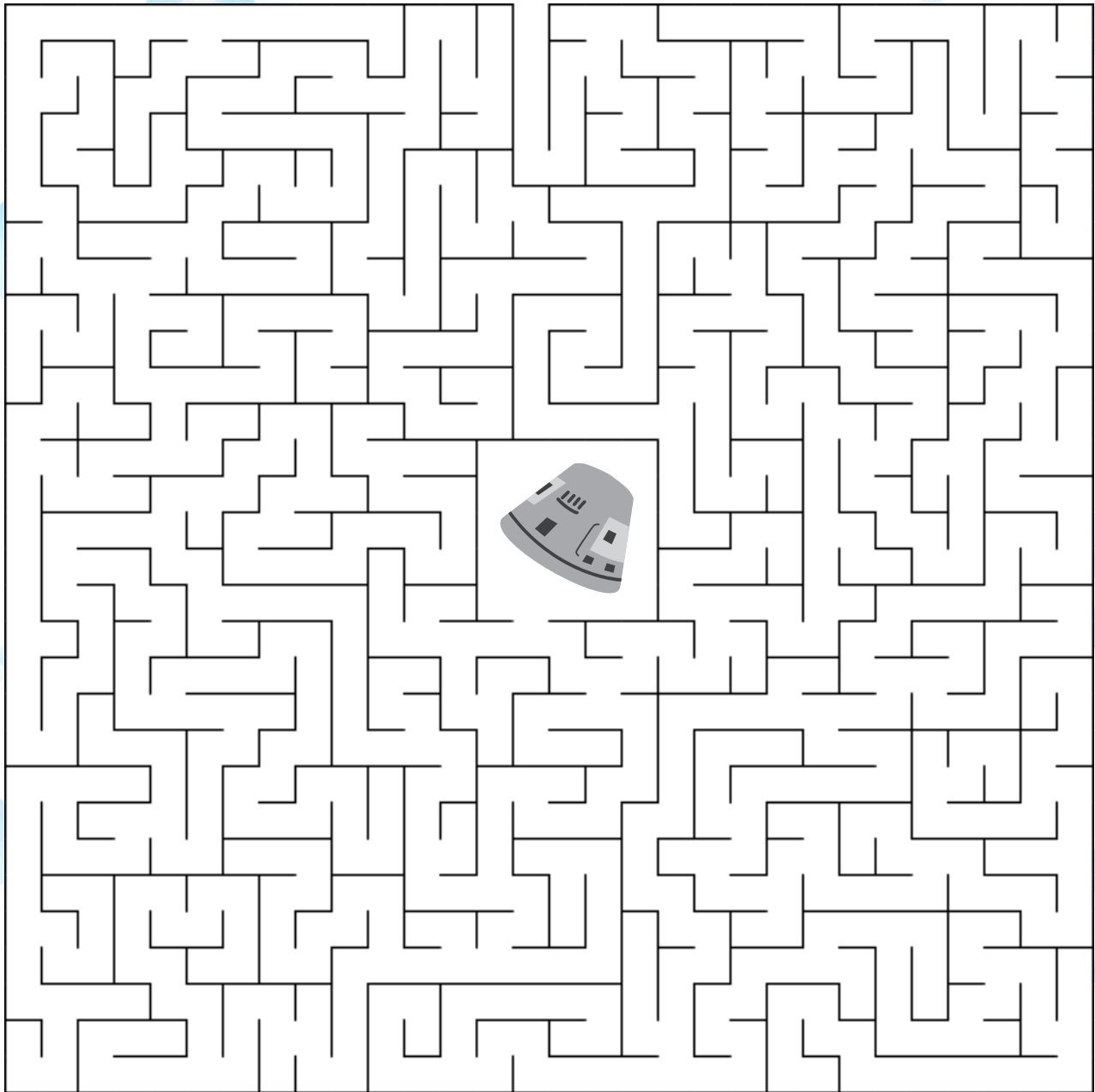


In December 2024, during a showcase event in Dubai, Aaryan set six new Guinness World Records in a single day. His achievements included:

- **Fastest time to mentally add 100 four-digit numbers:** 30.9 seconds
 - **Fastest time to mentally add 200 four-digit numbers:** 1 minute, 9.68 seconds
 - **Fastest time to mentally add 50 five-digit numbers:** 18.71 seconds
 - **Fastest time to mentally divide a 20-digit number by a 10-digit number (set of 10):** 5 minutes, 42 seconds
 - **Fastest time to mentally multiply 10 sets of two five-digit numbers:** 51.69 seconds
 - **Fastest time to mentally multiply 10 sets of two eight-digit numbers:** 2 minutes, 35.41 seconds
-
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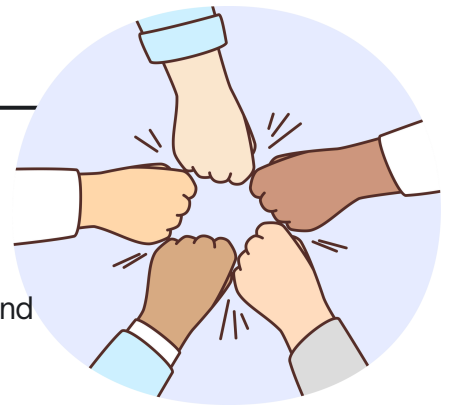
MAZE

Can you help find the rescue divers find their way to the space capsule?



CULTURE CLASH

This week we continue our exploration of different cultures and holidays from around the world.



NOWRUZ: THE PERSIAN NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Every year on 21 March, millions of people around the world celebrate Nowruz, the Persian New Year! This ancient festival marks the first day of spring and is all about new beginnings, joy, and togetherness.

WHAT IS NOWRUZ?

Nowruz (pronounced "No-rooz") means "New Day" in Persian. It has been celebrated for over 3,000 years, dating back to the ancient Persian Empire. Today, it is observed in many countries, including Iran, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, and parts of Central Asia and the Middle East.

HOW IS NOWRUZ CELEBRATED?

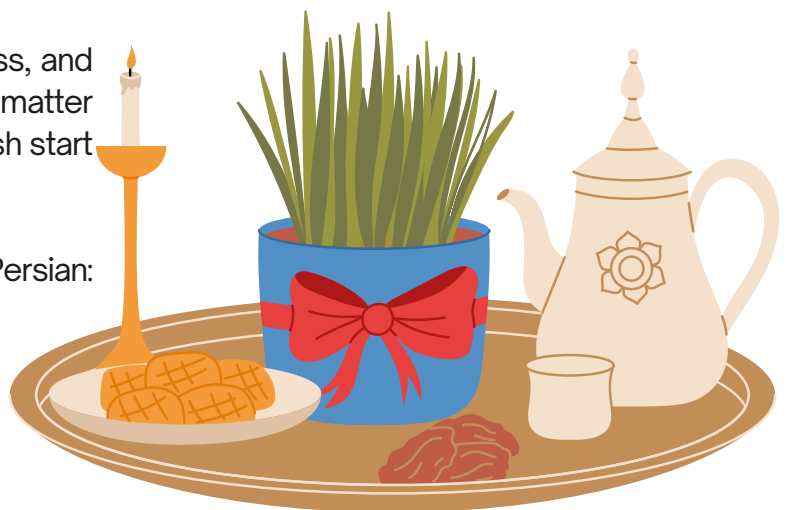
Nowruz is full of fun traditions! Here are some of the most exciting ones:

- **Spring Cleaning** (Khaneh-Tekani) – Families clean their homes before Nowruz to get rid of the old and welcome the new.
- **The Haft-Seen Table** – A special table is set with seven symbolic items that start with the Persian letter "S" (Seen).
- **Jumping Over Fire** (Chaharshanbe Suri) – Before Nowruz, people jump over small bonfires, saying, "Give me your warmth, take away my pain!" It's a way to let go of bad luck and start fresh.
- **Family Gatherings & Feasts** – Families and friends get together to eat delicious foods like Sabzi Polo (herb rice with fish) and Aash Reshteh (noodle soup).
- **Eidi** (Gifts and Money) – Children often receive small gifts or money from elders as a sign of good luck for the new year.

WHY IS NOWRUZ SPECIAL?

Nowruz is a time for happiness, kindness, and hope. It brings people together, no matter where they are from, to celebrate a fresh start and the beauty of the new season.

Happy Nowruz! Or as people say in Persian:
Nowruz Mobarak!

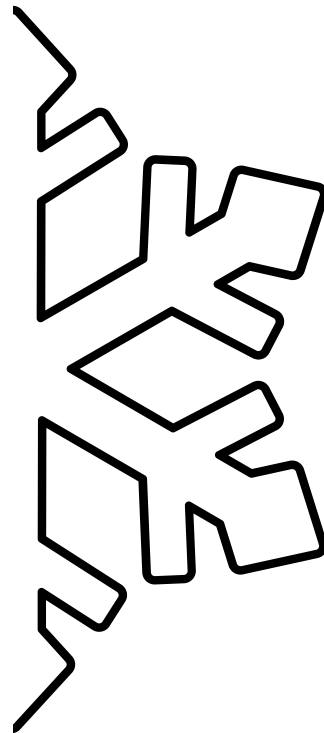


Think outside the box

Put your imagination to the test, and see what you can create from the shape below:

This is not a snowflake

This is a _____





MOTHER'S DAY

WHY DO WE CELEBRATE MOTHER'S DAY?

Mother's Day is a special day to honour and appreciate mothers, grandmothers, and mother figures for their love, care, and hard work. It is celebrated in many countries around the world, though the date may vary. In the UK it's celebrated on the fourth Sunday in Lent, and in the UAE on Friday, 21st March.

THE HISTORY OF MOTHER'S DAY

The idea of honouring mothers goes back thousands of years! In ancient Greece and Rome, people held festivals to celebrate mother goddesses. In England, "Mothering Sunday" was a tradition where people visited their home church and spent time with their mothers.

The modern Mother's Day was started in the United States by Anna Jarvis in 1908. She wanted a day to recognise the sacrifices mothers make for their children. Thanks to her efforts, Mother's Day became an official U.S. holiday in 1914, and the tradition spread worldwide.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO CELEBRATE YOUR MUM?

People show their appreciation for their moms in different ways, including:

- Giving flowers and gifts.
- Writing heartfelt cards and letters (design your own card using the template on the next page).
- Preparing a special meal or breakfast in bed.

BREAKFAST IN BED FOR MUM: BERRY & YOGURT PARFAIT

Ingredients:

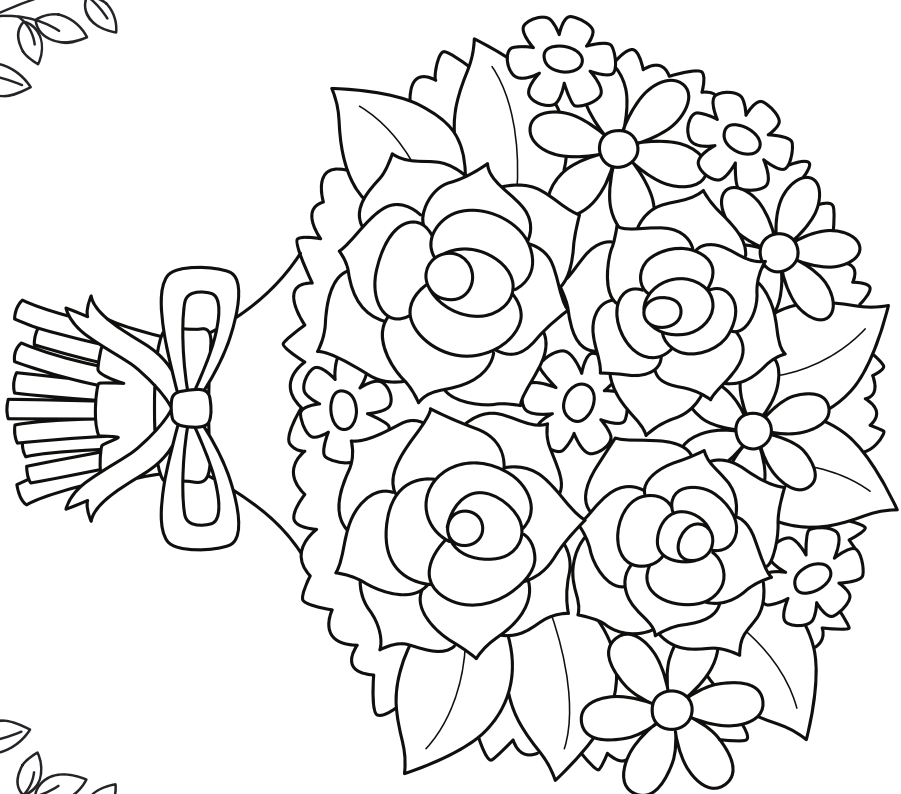
- 1 cup yogurt (vanilla or any flavour Mum likes)
- ½ cup granola or crushed cereal
- ½ cup fresh berries (strawberries, blueberries, or raspberries)
- 1 teaspoon honey (optional)



How to Make It:

1. Take a tall glass or a bowl.
2. Spoon some yogurt into the bottom.
3. Add a layer of granola or crushed cereal.
4. Add some berries on top.
5. Repeat the layers until the glass is full.
6. Drizzle with honey if you want extra sweetness.

Tip: You can decorate the top with a few extra berries and a sprinkle of granola to make it pretty!



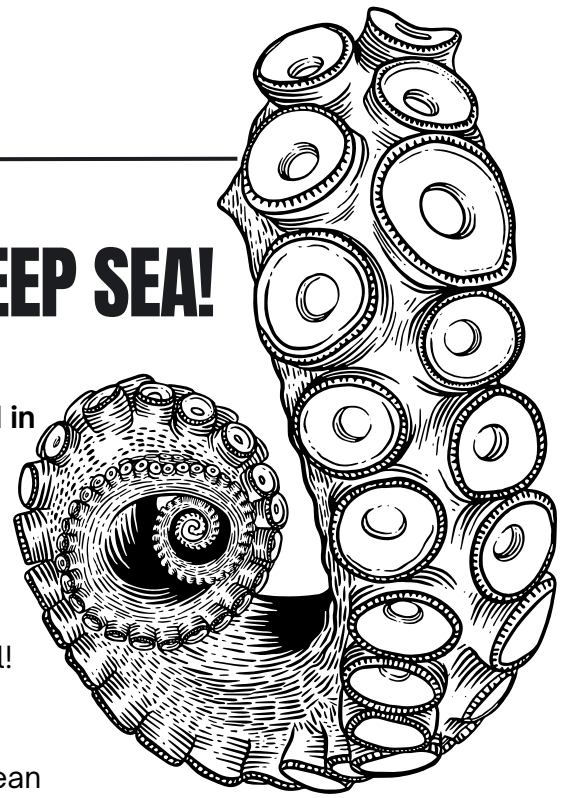
HAPPY
MOTHER'S
DAY

YOU'RE THE BEST

THE ULTIMATE MUM OF THE DEEP SEA!

A deep-sea octopus (*Graneledone boreopacifica*)—found in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans) has taken the prize for being nature’s ultimate mum!

This beautiful creature was observed in Monterey Canyon (Monterey Bay, California) brooding over her clutch of eggs for a record 4.5 years—longer than any other known animal!



WHAT MAKES HER THE ULTIMATE MUM?

Throughout this time, the female octopus kept her eggs clean and guarded them from predators. This amazing feat represents an evolutionary balancing act between giving the young plenty of time to develop within their eggs and the mother’s ability to survive for years with little or no food.

AMAZING EGG CARE

An octopus’ eggs are tear-drop-shaped capsules, about the size of small olives. As the young develop inside, they need plenty of oxygen. The mother octopus constantly bathes them in fresh, oxygen-rich seawater and keeps them free from silt and debris.

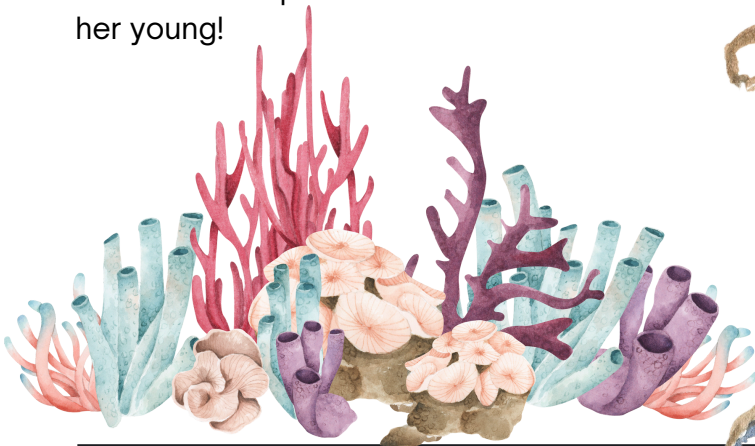
READY TO EXPLORE!

Because these baby octopuses spend so much time in their eggs, by the time they hatch, they are fully capable of surviving on their own and hunting for small prey.

OCTOPUSES: SMART AND CURIOUS CREATURES

Believe it or not, octopuses are some of the most intelligent, curious, and gentle sea animals. They love to play and are excellent at solving complex tasks—like opening bottles, navigating mazes, and even escaping from their tanks!

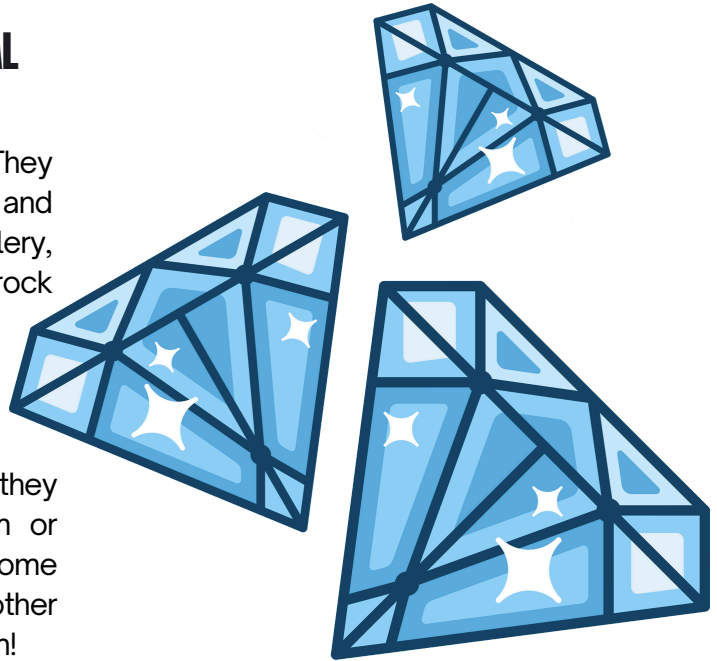
Next time you think about octopuses, remember this incredible deep-sea mom and her dedication to protecting her young!



What have you always wanted to know about? Send us your questions and we'll find the answers. Email us at TheKidsChronicleDubai@gmail.com with your questions.

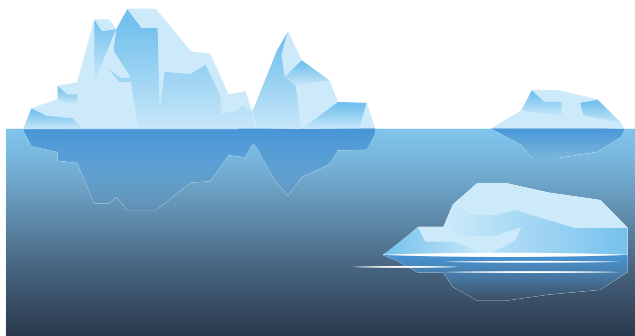
WHAT IS THE HARDEST NATURAL MATERIAL ON EARTH?

Diamonds are the hardest natural material. They form deep underground under extreme heat and pressure. Some diamonds are used in jewellery, but others help cut through metal and rock because they're so tough.



CAN PLANTS FEEL PAIN?

Plants don't feel pain like humans do, but they can sense when something touches them or when they're being eaten by insects. Some plants even release chemicals to warn other plants about danger, like a silent alarm system!



WHY DOES ICE FLOAT ON WATER?

Most things get smaller when they freeze, but water expands and becomes less dense, making ice lighter than liquid water. That's why ice cubes float in your drink and why frozen lakes have ice on top instead of sinking to the bottom!

WHY DO WE HICCUP?

Hiccups happen when your diaphragm (a muscle under your lungs) suddenly tightens by mistake. This causes air to rush into your throat very quickly, and when your vocal cords close, you hear the "hic" sound. Hiccups can happen if you eat too fast, drink fizzy drinks, or even if you laugh too much. Usually, they go away on their own, but some people try holding their breath or drinking water to stop them.



RIDDLE ME THIS!

1: What can you catch but never throw?

A: _____



2: Why did the banana go to the doctor?

A: _____



3: What kind of room has no doors or windows?

A: _____

4: Why did the astronaut break up with the star?

A: _____

5: What has hands but can't clap?

A: _____

