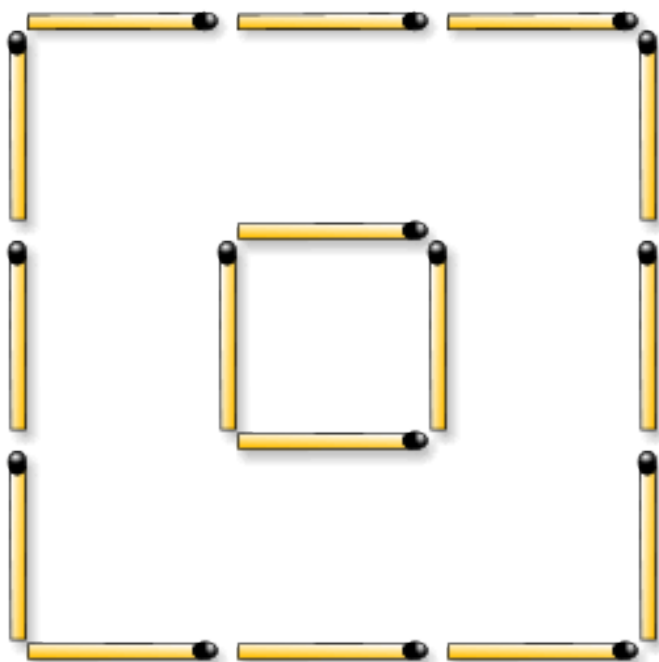


How were your tests? Did you have a lot of fun? In Japan teachers have to give the tests back with the test scores¹ hidden². In England the whole grade's³ scores are posted⁴ on the wall outside of that department's office. For example, "The math scores are up! Let's go and see!" And the scores go from 100 at the top of the page to 0 at the bottom of the page. And I would always start looking at the top, and as my eyes fell further and further⁵ down the page I would get more and more depressed⁶, until I found my name, somewhere near the bottom.

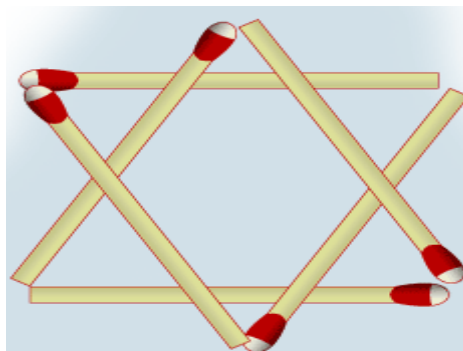
Something You Didn't Know (Panda)

1. There are only about 1,600 giant pandas left in the wild⁷. There are 300 in zoos.
2. Pandas have an extra⁸ finger, like a thumb, to grip⁹ bamboo¹⁰ while the eat.
3. Pandas have very strong teeth and jaws¹¹ to bite and chew bamboo.
4. A panda has to eat almost 20kg of bamboo every day.
5. Pandas are carnivores¹² but they don't eat meat. Animals that eat plants are called herbivores¹³. It is difficult to take nutrients¹⁴ from plants so they have long intestines¹⁵ so the food spends longer inside them. Pandas are carnivores so they have short intestines. They can only digest¹⁶ 17% of the bamboo they eat. To avoid¹⁷ using energy they move very slowly.
6. Pandas usually live on their own. Panda cubs¹⁸ will stay with their mother until they are about three years old and then head off¹⁹ on their own.

There are 2 squares. Can you move 4 matchsticks and make 3 squares?



Last Week's Answers



6 small triangles and 2 large triangles

Announcements

4th grade elective explanation on Monday, 7th period. Hokusei University people coming to watch classes on Wed. Music course no PM classes from Thurs.

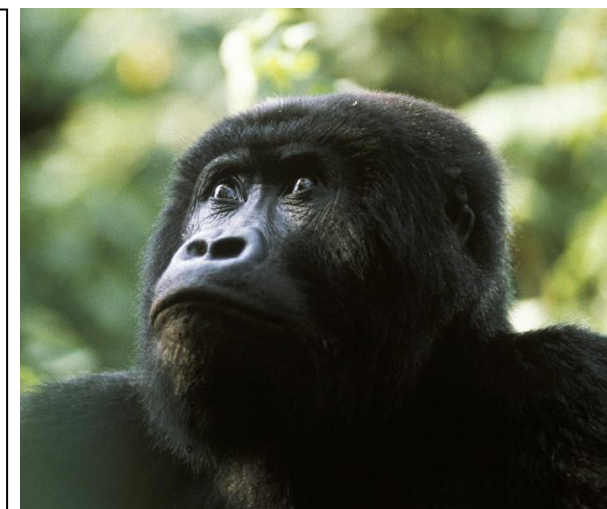
Pandas Are No Longer Endangered

As of last week, Giant Pandas are not considered²⁰ an endangered species²¹ anymore. Now they are known as "vulnerable to extinction"²². It still doesn't sound like they are completely²³ safe and climate change²⁴ could pose a threat²⁵ to them. In the next 80 years climate change could destroy²⁶ 35% of bamboo forests. As pandas only eat bamboo this is going to be bad for them.



The Chinese government²⁷ first noticed²⁸ that the number of pandas was declining²⁹ in about 1960. They set up panda reserves³⁰ and controlled illegal hunting³¹. Thanks to these conservation measures³² the number of pandas in the wild has risen to 1,864. This is still a very small number but it is increasing year by year. Now we need to stop climate change.

Some critics³³ say that too much attention³⁴ is given to the panda because they are cute. The WWF uses a panda on their logo and pandas receive³⁵ a large percentage of³⁶ conservation money. There are many other species that are endangered or have very nearly become extinct³⁷. For example, the eastern gorilla, the largest living primate³⁸, is now critically endangered³⁹ and there are only about 880 of them left!



- 1.Score 点数 2.Hide 隠す 3.Grade 学年 4.Post 貼る 5.Further さらに遠くに 6.Depressed 鬱 7.Wild 野生 8.Extra すいか 9.Grip 掴む 10.Bamboo 竹 11.Jaw 顎 12.Carnivore 肉食 13.Herbivore 草食 14.Nutrient 栄養物 15.Intestines 腸 16.Digest 食べ物を消化する 17.Avoid ~するのを防ぐ 18.Cub 子 19.Head off 出発 20.Considered 思われる 21.Endangered species 絶滅危惧種 22.vulnerable to extinction 絶滅に対する脆弱性 23.Completely とても 24.Climate change 気候変動 25.Pose a threat 脅威を与える 26.Destroy 破壊する 27.Government 政府 28.Notice 気が付く 29.Decline 減る 30.Reserve 保護区 31.Illegal hunting 違法な狩猟 32.Conservation measure 環境保全手段 33.Critic 批評家 34.Attention 注目 35.Receive 受ける 36.A large percentage of ~の大部分 37.Extinct 絶滅した 38.Primate 霊長類の動物 39.Critically endangered 絶滅危険