538 7/1/2024 (#9 this year)

We are in to July! This year is whizzing by¹! And this week we have the high school festival. How is everyone doing? Are you ready? Are you making last minute adjustments²? Don't worry, you still have four days. I am pretty excited because the festival is always fun. The PS are always amazing and I am always impressed with how much talent you all have. I won't be here on Friday because the junior high students are going to different places and I am going to Upopoi with the 2nd grade, but I will be here on Saturday. The weather is looking pretty good! It is going to be a wonderful few days and I know you will all have a great time.



Something you didn't know about orangutans

- 1. There are three different species³ of orangutan. Bornean, Sumatran, and Tapanuli.
- 2. The word "orangutan" comes from Malay and it means "person of the forest".
- 3. Orangutans have very long arms. They have an arm span of 2.2 m, and they are only 1.5 m tall. Their arms are 1.5 times longer than their legs.
- 4. They live with their mother until they are 7. They learn many things from their mothers, including which leaves they can eat to heal a cut.
- 5. They can live for 50 years.
- 6. They are very strong animals. They are estimated⁴ to be 7 times stronger than a human. They have very strong arms and hands.

Wild Orangutan Uses Medicine

If you get sick, what do you do? You probably buy some medicine from Sapporo Drugstore, or, if you are really bad, maybe you go to hospital. The doctor will diagnose⁵ you and then give you some medicine. Do you know what is in the medicine? Do you know how it works or why it makes you better? No? Neither do I. However, I do know that a lot of our medicines come from plants. Scientists find plants that can kill bacteria⁶, or do different things. Then they isolate⁷ the part of the plant that does that and make it into medicines. Before we had hospitals and doctors, we ate the plants to get better. We knew which plants worked by trial and error⁸. Well, it seems that animals can do the same thing. Researchers were watching a group of orangutans in Indonesia. One of them was in a fight and had a deep cut⁹ under his eye. In a forest, it is very easy for cuts to get infected and that can easily kill an animal. The orangutan did something amazing, though. He tore leaves off a plant called Fibraurea tinctoria and he chewed them up. He then put the juice and chewed up leaf on the cut under his eye. He repeated this for three days and the wound was healed. We know that the fibraurea tinctorial plant is a pain-killer¹², and has antibacterial¹³ and anti-inflammatory¹⁴ properties. The fact that the orangutan knows that is amazing!



1.whiz by ヒューと飛ぶ 2.adjustment 調整 3.species 種 4.estimate 推定する 5.diagnose 診断する 6.bacteria 黴菌 7.isolate 分離する 8.trial and error 試行錯誤 9.deep cut 深い切り傷 10.infected 化膿した 11.wound 傷 12.pain-killer 痛み止め 13.antibacterial 抗菌効果のある 12.anti-inflammatory 抗炎症の









World record

This is kind of an odd record and it is not really one that will probably be beaten. You could beat it, but you would have set up the situation and it wouldn't be quite the same. Kively Papajohn of Limassol, Cyprus, has the world record for the longest time trapped¹ in an elevator. She was 76 years old and this was in 1988. On 28 December, Kively Papajohn went shopping to buy some things to eat over the New Year holiday. When she came back, he got in the elevator in her building to go home and the power in the building went out². It was the New Year, so there were not many other people in the building and nobody knew she was there. She was trapped in the elevator for 6 days before someone realized

and came to rescue her. 6 days sounds like a long time to be without food and water, but the granny had bought bread, fruit, and vegetables, which she ate over the 6 days. She was thirsty, but there was enough water in the fruit to stop dehydration³. We have an elevator here at school. Let me know if you want to try and break this record.



"There is nothing stronger than gentleness."— Han Suyin

An Unusual Job

Professional Ice Sculptor

This is a job that you need to have a lot of skill for, but it does pay very well. That is probably because there are not many people who can do it. A professional ice sculptor⁵ is someone who carves⁶ ice statues out of giant blocks of ice. You might have seen something like it before. There is sometimes one at the snow festival in Suskino. Ice sculptors carve things out of giant blocks of ice using chainsaws, knives, chisels⁷, and many other tools. You are probably wondering who would want to buy a sculpture made of ice because they melt very quickly. Well, a lot of companies buy them for events. A good ice sculpture is very novel⁸ and it makes the event look better. The company will usually ask for a design that fits with their event, or something that contains their company logo. It is not an easy job to do. You have to be very good at carving, but ice is much harder to carve than stone because it can break very easily. It also melts, so the carving has to be done inside a giant freezer. A famous ice sculptor can make a lot of money!





1.trapped 閉じ込められた 2.power go out 停電になる 3.dehydration 脱水症状 4.gentleness やさしさ 5.sculptor 彫刻家 6.carve 彫刻する 7.chisel 彫刻刀 8.novel 彫刻刀