

get curious about

KNOWLEDGE SERIES

the WORLD

Vol. - 3

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Welcome to an initiative by Greycaps!

'get curious about' is a knowledge series aimed at igniting curiosity among our young minds and encouraging them to explore further in the world of knowledge. The book chronicles amazing facts which we do not come across in our day-to-day lives.

This third volume of the 'WORLD' edition of the book, contains topics ranging from interesting places to diversified culture that will enrich your knowledge of the world around us. It captures fun-filled facts with colourful pictures, a great way to discover the world.

Let's read. Let's 'get curious about the WORLD'.

PinkBella

Aurora Borealis, Norway



ABOUT THIS BOOK

Each page in this book has special features that will show you how to grab on to as much information as possible! Look out for these.

GET CURIOUS ABOUT THE WORLD

This section has exciting information about the World around us.

All colour images that bring the topic to life.

TWIST N' TURN



Twisting and turning a Rubik's cube is a challenge. It's a game of logic and strategy. The cube is made of smaller cubes that can be moved around. The goal is to get all the faces to be the same color.

Did you know? The first Rubik's cube was invented in 1974 by Ernő Rubik, a Hungarian architect. It was originally called the Magic Cube.

QUICK FACTS

QUICK FACTS

This section gives you detailed information about the topic.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Gives you facts on how a name was coined.

STORY IN TIME

Gives details regarding the history of the topic.

BRAIN-LESS

Have you ever heard of a brainless animal? Well, there are! Some animals, like jellyfish and hydra, don't have brains. They have a simple nervous system that allows them to move and respond to their environment.



SPONGE



SEA URCHIN



STARFISH



CORAL



CLAM

ACCIDENTAL INVENTION



A nautilus is a small, spiral shell. It's made of a material called nacre, which is the same material that makes up pearls. The nautilus is a mollusk, and it's known for its ability to change the color of its shell.

WHY'S IN A NAME?

The name 'nautilus' comes from the Greek word 'nautilus', which means 'shell'.



STORY IN TIME

The nautilus has been known to humans for thousands of years. It was first described by the ancient Greeks. The Romans used nautilus shells to make jewelry. In the 16th century, a Spanish explorer named Juan Ponce de León discovered the nautilus in the Caribbean. He was the first to bring a nautilus back to Europe.

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MISSION TO MARS



The Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM), also called Mangalyaan, is a spacecraft orbiting Mars, since 24th September 2014. It was launched on 5th November 2013 by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

The mission is a 'technology demonstrator' project, to develop the technologies for design, planning, management and operations of an interplanetary mission. It carries five instruments that will help advance knowledge about Mars to achieve its secondary,

scientific, objective. It is India's first interplanetary mission and ISRO has become the fourth space agency to reach Mars, after the Soviet space program, NASA and the European Space Agency. It is also the first nation to reach the Mars orbit on its first attempt, and the first Asian nation to do so.

The spacecraft is currently being monitored from the Spacecraft Control Centre at ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC) in Bangalore, with support from Indian Deep Space Network (IDSN) antennae at Byalalu.



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

'Mangalyaan' literally translates to 'mars-craft' in the Sanskrit language.

Timeline of the Mars Orbiter

Date	Event
05-11-2013	PSLV-C25, in its twenty-fifth flight, successfully launches Mars Orbiter Mission Spacecraft from Sriharikota.
04-12-2013	Spacecraft reached beyond Earth, extending about 9,25,000 km at around 1:14 hrs (IST) on Dec 4 th , 2013.
11-02-2014	100 days of Mars Orbiter spacecraft.
09-04-2014	Mars Orbiter spacecraft crossed the half way mark of its journey.
22-09-2014	Test firing of main liquid engine of Mars Orbiter spacecraft was successful.
24-09-2014	Spacecraft successfully entered the martian orbit.

TWIST N' TURN



Rubik's Cube is a 3-D combination puzzle invented in 1974 by Hungarian sculptor and professor of architecture Ernő Rubik.

The puzzle was licensed by Rubik to be sold by Ideal Toy Corp. It won the German 'Game of the Year' special award for 'Best Puzzle' that year. It is widely considered to be the world's best-selling toy.

An internal mechanism enables each face to turn independently, thus mixing up the colours.

For the puzzle to be solved, each face must be returned to consisting of only one colour. Similar puzzles have now been produced with various numbers of sides, dimensions, and stickers, not all of them by Rubik.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Rubik's cube was initially called the 'magic cube'.

QUICK FACTS

- ❖ The World Cube Association, the Rubik's Cube's international governing body, has organised competitions and kept the official world records.
- ❖ Erno Rubik has also designed the Rubik's Snake, Rubik's Magic, Rubik's Magic: Master Edition.
- ❖ 350 million cubes had been sold worldwide making it the world's top-selling puzzle game.
- ❖ The first Rubik's Cube was sold in a Budapest toy shop, in 1975.
- ❖ The best 'speed cubers' can solve the cube in less than six seconds.

COLOURED SEAS

You must have all heard of the Red Sea, the Black Sea and the Yellow Sea. Let us find out why they are named so.



Red Sea

Sometimes called the Erythraean Sea, the Red Sea is a seawater inlet of the Indian Ocean, lying between Africa and Asia. The name of the sea may signify the seasonal blooms of the red-coloured *Trichodesmium Erythraeum* bacteria near the water's surface.

A theory favoured by some modern scholars is that the name red is referring to the direction south. The basis of this theory is that some Asiatic languages used colour words to refer to the four main directions. Historically, it was also known to

western geographers as 'Mare Mecca' (Sea of Mecca), and 'Sinus Arabicus' (Gulf of Arabia).

Yellow Sea

The Yellow Sea is the name given to the northern part of the East China Sea. It is located between mainland China and the Korean Peninsula.

Its name comes from the sand particles from Gobi Desert sand storms, that turn the surface of the water golden yellow. Into it flow both the Yellow River and Hai He. Deposits of sand and silt from those rivers contribute to the sea colour.

Black Sea

The Black Sea is a sea in South-eastern Europe. The Black Sea was given that name because the lack of oxygen in the water prevents the development of microorganisms, making it appear black. The intense fogs, which develop over the Black sea absorb the light, also making the water appear black. The colour black, is also the ancient colour for the direction 'north', thus maybe contributing to the sea's name.

DID YOU KNOW?

There are four seas named in English after common colour terms - the Yellow Sea, the Black Sea, the Red Sea and the White Sea.



WATERWHEEL PLANT

Waterwheel plants are entirely aquatic. They have no roots and float freely just below the surface of the water. Whorls of tiny 'snap-traps' string together to form little plants, 3-4 inches long. The snap-traps shut on all kinds of aquatic creatures, but they are prone to catching mosquito larvae by the head. They are extremely endangered in the wild. They are native to Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia.

They use traps similar to those of the Venus Flytrap. The traps are arranged in whorls around a central, free-floating stem, giving rise to the name. This is one of the few plant species capable of rapid movement.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

The scientific name given to the waterwheel plant is 'Aldrovanda vesiculosa'.

The actual traps consist of two lobes which fold together to form a snap-trap similar to that of the Venus fly trap, except that they are smaller and under water. These traps, which are twisted so that the trap openings point outward, are lined on the inside by a fine coating of trigger hair, snapping shut in response to contact with aquatic invertebrates and trapping them.

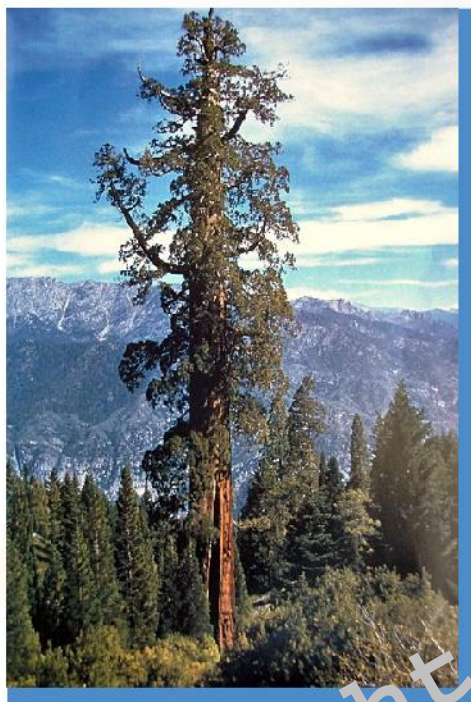
DID YOU KNOW?

If no prey is captured, the trap reopens in ten to twenty hours.

The closing of this trap takes 10-20 milliseconds, making it one of the fastest examples of plant movement in the kingdom. This trapping is only possible in warm conditions. Each trap is surrounded by 4-6 long bristles of the length 6-8 millimetre, which prevent triggering of traps by debris in the water.



TRY CLIMBING THIS!



Hyperion is the name of a coast redwood in Northern California that was measured at 379.3 feet. It ranks as the world's tallest known living tree. It is mostly a single stem redwood with very slight fire charring on parts of the trunk. Despite its great height, Hyperion is not the largest known coast redwood; that distinction belongs to the Lost Monarch tree, based on the trunk volume. Researchers stated that woodpecker damage at the top prevented the tree from reaching 380 feet.

In 2012, Hyperion was featured in a documentary by BBC.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Hyperion is vastly taller than the 'Big Ben', in London and 'The Statue of Liberty', in New York!

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

The tree is named after the Greek deity who was Earth's child and fathered the Sun, the Moon and the Dawn.

QUICK FACTS

- ❖ Hyperion was discovered on August 25, 2006, by two naturalists.
- ❖ The tree was verified as standing 379.3 feet tall by Stephen Sillett.
- ❖ The tree was found in a remote area of Redwood National and State Parks, California, USA.
- ❖ The exact location of the tree has not been revealed to the public for fear that human traffic would upset the ecosystem the tree inhabits.
- ❖ The tree is estimated to be roughly 700–800 years old.

LUXURY AT A LAKE

Udaipur Lake Palace is situated amidst the scenic Pichola Lake, offering a heavenly view to the onlooker. The imposing Aravalli Hills on one side and soaring palaces on the other, make the perfect background to this beautiful Lake Palace.

Raised in white marble, the Lake Palace was constructed by Maharana Jagat Singh II in 1746. The magnificent Palace stretches across a four-acre island creating a dream-like impression.



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

The Palace was originally named as 'Jag Niwas' after the name of the Maharana.

Jag Niwas was conceived to offer a summer resort to the royalty of Udaipur. In the later years, the Palace was used as the summer resort by the descendants of Jagat Singh. The amazing exteriors would make you crave to peep once, inside the beautiful Lake Palace.

Lake Palace has a series of courtyards that are aligned with numerous columns, terraces, beautiful fountains and well laid gardens. It also comprises of several rooms by the name of Bada Mahal, Khush Mahal, Ajjan Niwas, Phool Mahal and Dhola Mahal, that add to the beauty of the graceful palace. These exotic rooms are decked with carved arches, paintings, crystal work, stained glass work, inland stones of pink and green lotus leaves.

In the last few years, this palace has been transformed into a hotel that is managed by the Taj Group of Hotels. This five-star hotel provides world-class amenities with immaculate hospitality to its guests. The hotel operates a speed boat, which transports guests to the hotel from a jetty at the City Palace.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Lake Palace was popularly featured in a scene of the James Bond movie, 'Octopussy'.