10-QB6

Shortcuts

by jeff harris

This cartoon is cheesy.

This edition of Shortcuts is sponsored by Pizza-Chew.

Pizza-Chew, I chew you!

DELIVERING THE FACTS ABOUT

Pizza

Ask any kid about his or her favorite foods, and you are probably going to hear the word "pizza." Pizza-like foods have been enjoyed by young and old alike for a very long time. While the style of pizza we eat today was invented only around a hundred years ago, people have been making pizzalike foods for thousands of years.

With the popularity of this international dish showing no signs of decline, it is safe to assume that pizza will continue to be around for many years to come.

More than 3 billion pizzas are sold in the U.S. each year.

Why do mathematicians like Sicilian pizza? Because the pi's-r-squared.

SLICES OF HISTORY

A form of pizza called "focaccia" doesn't use tomatoes and has been around for more than 3,000 years.

For centuries, nearly every culture has had a form of food that resembles pizza.

The first pizzeria in North America was opened in New York City in 1905, by Gennaro Lombardi.

For more information on pizza, check out these websites.

pizza.com/fun-facts

giftofcuriosity.com/books-about-pizza-for-kids/

Squid is a common topping on pizzas in Japan.

Where do pizzas live? In pizza huts.

Some say the white mozzarella, red tomato and green basil represent the colors of the Italian flag.

Why did the pizzeria go out of business? It wasn't making enough dough.

FIT FOR A QUEEN

Our modern style of pizza can be traced to a baker named Raffaele Esposito. In 1889, he created a pizza for the visiting Queen Margherita. Even today, pizza Margherita is a widely recognized style of pizza.

In North America, pizzas are consumed at a rate of about 350 slices per second.

For hundreds of years, pizza was considered food for peasants.

PIZZA PIZZA PIZZA PIZZA PIZZA PIZZA

Italy

PETE'S A PIZZA

TOMATO PASTE

What do you use to hold the toppings on your pizza? Tomato paste.

Tomato seeds were brought to Italy from Peru in the early 1500s.

WORD SEARCH

Can you find the hidden words? Search carefully because some words are backward or diagonal.

MARGHERITA	CHEESE	CHEW
PEPPERONI	SQUID	FOOD
FOCACCIA	ITALY	MILK
TOPPINGS	BASIL	BOB
BUFFALO	PIZZA	EAT
TOMATO	SLICE	PIE

E B P E P P E R O N E E E
E U M A R G H E R I T E E
E F E E K L I M D I U Q S
E F O O D E E S E E H C G
B A S I L E P I Z Z A E N
S L I C E B O B Y L A T I
F O C A C C I A E A T E P
C H E W I N O R E P P E P
M A R G H E R I T A E E O
E E E E E I P O T A M O T

SAY CHEESE

In the 7th century, mozzarella cheese was made from water buffalo's milk. Buffalo mozzarella is still made today, in small factories located south of Naples, Italy, by methods that have been used for hundreds of years.

What is an aardvark's favorite pizza topping? Ant-chovies.

The first pizzerias opened in Naples, Italy, during the early 1800s. Many are still in business.

What do you get when you cross a pizza with an angel? A slice of heaven.

Email us at: jeff@shortcuts.com

PIE IN THE SKY

Oh, no! James has slipped, and now pizza slices are flying everywhere. Can you match the customers to the slices they ordered?

More than 300 million tons of frozen pizza are consumed in North America each year.

GAME ANSWERS
Monkey - Banana Pizza
Anteater - Ant Pizza
Cat - Fish Pizza
Dog - Bone Pizza
Cow - Grass Pizza

HOLD THE ANCHOVIES?

Pepperoni is North America's favorite topping.

Tuna is a popular topping in many European countries.

Saturday is the most popular night for eating pizza.

The average American kid's favorite meal is pizza.

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THE BIG WORLD OF Shortcuts by jeff harris 10-QB6

Hippos

This cartoon is a big, fat joke.

Everything about the hippopotamus is big. Hippopotamuses are the third-largest land animals in the world, and have the biggest mouths of any other land animal. A large male hippo stands almost 5 feet tall and can weigh nearly 8,000 pounds.

Even their name is big, which is probably why most people simply refer to them as hippos.

PRETTY IN PINK

Hippos secrete a pink-colored oil from glands under their skin. This oil is used to protect their sensitive skin from drying out in the hot African sun. Because of this pink oil, people once believed hippos were sweating blood.

THE BIG LIFE

Hippos travel through water by swimming or walking on the river bottom.

Hippos can stay under water for more than five minutes.

Hippos are social animals that live in herds consisting of as many as 50 animals.

Archaeologists have found evidence of ancient hippos living as far north as Central Europe.

HOT HEAD

Hippos are considered by many to be peaceful, but because of their size, they are extremely dangerous when angered.

A mother hippo will aggressively defend her baby and has been known to kill crocodiles and even lions.

Every year, hundreds of people are killed by hippos.

Why couldn't the young hippo sit still? He was hippo-active.

What do you call a hippo who doesn't do as he says? A hippo-crite.

This edition of Shortcuts is sponsored by Harry Potter-mus.

I'm a wiz when it comes to eating.

How do you put a hippo to sleep? Hippo-nosis.

HIPPO PARTS

A hippo's eyes, ears and nose are located high on its head, enabling it to see, hear and breathe while the rest of its body is underwater.

The canine teeth of a hippo can be over a foot long.

The mouth of a large hippo is nearly 2 feet wide.

A hippo can rotate its ears, which helps it locate the source of a sound.

For more information on hippos, go to your local library and check out these books:

"Hippos" by Sally M. Walker (Carolrhoda Books, Inc.) or "The Life of the Hippopotamus" by Bradley Smith (The World Publishing Co.).

Hippos live along rivers found in East and West Central Africa.

Besides humans and other hippos, an adult hippo has no enemies.

LIVIN' LARGE

Can you spot all six differences between these two scenes?

DIFFERENCES: 1. Cane is different. 2. Eyes are different. 3. Mooch is different. 4. Cranium is missing. 5. Vest is longer. 6. Diamond is different.

An adult hippo eats around 100 pounds of grass each night.

Despite their large size, hippos can run as fast as humans.

Scientists used to think hippos were related to pigs. Recently, they have been noticing genetic similarities between hippos and aquatic mammals like whales and dolphins.

LITTLE BIG GUY

The pygmy hippo is much smaller than other hippos, with adults weighing only around 500 pounds. They are not as social as the common hippo, preferring to live in pairs or alone in the thick jungle swamps of West Africa.

What is a hippo's favorite type of music? Hippo Hop.

Why shouldn't you tell a secret to a hippo? They have big mouths.

AMAZING GRAZE

A hippo may travel as far as five miles in a single night while grazing on grasses.

Hippos are herbivores. They eat only grasses, roots and other plants.

Hippos use their lips, not their teeth, to bite off grass.

Hippos rest in the water during the day and forage for food on land at night.

BIG BABY

Baby hippos are sometimes born underwater and can swim and walk soon after they are born.

Baby hippos sometimes nurse underwater and must surface frequently to breathe.

A baby hippo can weigh as much as 100 pounds at birth.

Email us at: jeff@shortcuts.com

WORD SEARCH

Can you find the hidden words? Search carefully because some words are backward or diagonal.

AFRICA	PYGMY	PINK
HIPPOS	LARGE	BOB
MOUTH	GRAZE	EAT
WATER	RIVER	EAR
SWEAT	BABY	BIG
GRASS	SWIM	OIL

L A B A L A L A S H K O L
L O A L A L A L W I N I A
B A L A L A R E E P I L L
A L A L A E G A A P P W G
L A A L A A E T T O H A I
A L C A L R Z S P S T T B
L A I L A E A W Y S U E A
A L R A L V R I G A O R B
L A F L A I G M M R M L Y
L A A L A R L A Y G L A L

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10-Q86

Shortcuts

by jeff harris

LIFE IN THE Desert

This cartoon isn't so hot.

This edition of Shortcuts is sponsored by Neve Camel.

Have you seen my party of five?

Was the man wandering the desert happy? No, mad.

Why did the cactus do well in school? He was pretty sharp.

When most people think of deserts, they think of a lifeless landscape filled with scorching sand dunes. While this scenario is true for some deserts, it is misleading because fewer than 20 percent of the world's deserts actually fit this description.

Most deserts are made of rock and stone and are home to a variety of plants and animals. Many of the deserts of the world are actually cold. The one thing that all deserts have in common is that they lack one of the most important elements for life - water.

FeeLiN' HoT, HoT, HoT

Most deserts are found in two regions that circle the earth like belts. These belts run parallel to the equator at latitudes of 30 degrees North and 30 degrees South.

Like all ecosystems, deserts are constantly being created and destroyed. Scientists believe the Sahara desert was once a lush area that was home to many animals such as giraffes, elephants and hippos.

Humans have been living in desert environments for thousands of years. People who live in the desert by moving from one area to another are called "nomads."

Deserts are some of the best places to look for fossils.

Some deserts are created by rain shadows. This happens when the moisture from clouds is depleted as it passes over a mountain range. The area on the other side of the mountain is left with very little rain and becomes a desert.

Scientists define deserts as places that receive less than 10 inches of rainfall per year.

The highest point of any desert in the world is the top of Mt. Everest.

Did you hear the joke about the desert? It was dry.

Sand dunes are formed in the desert in a way similar to how waves are formed on the ocean. Like waves, sand dunes are constantly moving across the desert.

The eastern Sahara and the Atacama Desert in South America are two of the driest places in the world.

WaTeR...WaTeR...

There are two main types of deserts: hot deserts and cold deserts. Hot deserts get their moisture from rain, while cold deserts get moisture from ice and snow.

Nearly all of the water found in a desert is located underground. An area where the groundwater is near the surface is called an "oasis" and is usually home to many plants and animals.

The North and South Poles are considered deserts because all of the water found there is frozen and is unusable by plants or animals.

Ghost rain is rain that falls in the desert but dries up before it hits the ground.

The Sahara Desert is the largest desert in the world. It covers more than 3.5 million square miles.

Knock, knock. Who's there? Hot. Hot, who? Bless you.

Nearly one-third of the Earth's land area is made up of deserts.

Cold ocean currents produce dry air that is responsible for the formation of coastal deserts. The deserts located on the southwestern coasts of Africa and South America are good examples of coastal deserts.

For more information on deserts, go to your local library and check out these books:

"Eyewitness Books - Desert" by Miranda Macquitty (Alfred A. Knopf) or "Ecology Watch - Deserts" by Clint Twist (Dillon Press).

ONe HUMP, oR TWo?

Can you spot all six differences between these two scenes?

ANSWERS: 1. Eyes are moved. 2. Tail is different. 3. Tie is missing. 4. Mouth is different. 5. Eyebrows are missing. 6. Cup is missing.

FUN iN THe SUN

Many plants that live in the desert appear fatter than normal plants. This is because they use their stems, roots and leaves to store water.

The Welwitschia plant, found only in the Namib desert of southern Africa, is believed to live for nearly 2,000 years.

The Creosote bush has adapted to desert life so well, scientists estimate some may be several thousand years old.

The Saguaro cactus, found in the Southwestern U.S., can grow to a height of nearly 50 feet.

Email us at: jeff@shortcuts.com

WORD SEARCH

Can you find the hidden words? Search carefully because some words are backward or diagonal.

SAGUARO	NAMIB	RAIN
SAHARA	STONE	HEAT
CACTUS	SAND	DUNE
DESERT	COLD	HOT
WATER	ROCK	BOB
NOMAD	WIND	DRY

R E P A P N U S D N I W O
B C A C T U S A E T C A C
Z O T H W A T N A E H A S
L A B E N O U D E S E R T
C O L D A D A R I H A A O
R M B I M A N U O I G H N
E O H A R M I T N X R A E
T L E D I O R A U G A S O
A L A M R N C Y T T I R G
W V T O E Y E K K R A D U

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