

Nature Olympics!



Elephants are trumpeting and cows are mooing! Put your hooves, claws, flippers and paws together... It's the opening of the Nature Olympics! The crowds roar as the animals enter the arena, wave to their fans, bow to the queen bee and salute the king cobra. Can you guess who some of our winners will be?

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conservation!

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For many animals speed is crucial for survival! Speed can help you catch your prey or run away from a predator!



The medal for the **fastest animal on earth** goes to the...

Peregrine Falcon

Peregrine falcons can reach speeds of up to 200kph (124mph) Peregrine falcons like to eat small birds and can catch them while in flight. This record breaking bird reaches these speeds while it 'stoops' to catch its prey. A stoop is when the bird points its head to the ground and tucks its wing into its body. In this position they hurtle down towards their prey and take it by surprise. Nice catch!

The trophy for the **fastest animal on land** goes to...

Cheeta

Cheetahs are built for speed. At full sprint they can reach a blistering 100kph (65mph)! Other big cats can chase for just a few hundred meters but these spotted creatures can run for over three miles at an average of 72kph (45mph). But, like all fast animals, being fast doesn't always mean you will catch your prey!





Now to the **fastest fish in the sea**. This prize goes to the...

sailfish

Oceans are where powerful tails and fins propel some very slippery speedy creatures. Sailfish are reported to be the fastest fish on the planet reaching speeds of up to 110kph (68mph). With their spear like upper jaws and colourful fins that stretch out like sails they make a fearsome predator in the water.

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High Jump

Froghoppers and fleas

Fleas have long been considered to be the best jumpers in relation to their tiny size but the froghopper has recently leapt into the spotlight. Will they steal the fleas' title? Let's find out...

Froghoppers can be found all over the world, there are over 850 species. They are the ones that create 'cuckoo spit' on plants which is why they are also known as 'spittlebugs'. Tiny froghoppers are 6mm long but can jump a whopping 70cm into the air. The equivalent of a person jumping over a 210m tall skyscraper! Fleas are so little that pictures of them are usually taken under a microscope. These mini minibeasts can jump 18cm high and 33cm long which, for their size, makes them a hot contender for 1st prize. If humans could do the same they would be able to clear more than four football pitches in one jump!

Flea

Boing!
Froghopper

Long Distance

Long distance running or flying requires great stamina and efficiency. Migratory birds are top of the list when it comes to long distance traveling - some scientists say that their only limit is the size of the world!

But, the bird that tops the poles (literally!) is the Arctic tern. Every year this bird will fly from the top to the bottom of the world - and back again! The record for the longest distance was a whopping 81,600km over twice around the world!

> From as high up as the Arctic all the way to Antarctica this bird is believed to see the most sunlight of any animal on earth!

Longest, Tallest, Largest

Tallest mountain: Mount Everest Location: Himalayas, China/Nepal Height: 8,850 meters / 29,035 feet





Longest river: The Nile Location: Egypt, Africa Length: 6,825 km / 4,238 m

<u>Largest desert: Antarctica</u> Location: Antartica, South Pole Size: 13 million square kilometers



Did you know? Deserts are dry areas characterised by having very little rainfall (less than 25.4cm a year). The Sahara desert in Northern Africa is the largest hot desert with an area of 9 million square kilometers.



Biggest sea: All The World's oceans! Location: Earth

Size: 361.9 million square kilometers

There is only really one sea on Earth but we divide them up into four: Atlantic, Pacific, Indian and Arctic of which the Pacific is the largest at 155 million square kilometers. HYPERION is the tallest tree in the world at 115.5m tall. That's over two times taller than Nelson's Column in London! It is a coast redwood. The exact location of this and the oldest tree is kept a secret to protect them from vandals.

Torrine troos

METHUSELAH IS BELIEVED TO BE NOT ONLY THE OLDEST TREE ON EARTH BUT ONE OF THE OLDEST LIVING ORGANISMS! THIS TREE IS A GREAT BASIN BRISTLECONE PINE AND HAS BEEN ESTIMATED TO BE 4,840 YEARS OLD.

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General Sherman

General Sherman is 83.6 meters tall, has a circumference of 31.3 meters and has a volume of 1,486.6 cubic meters. The tree is a giant sequoia and it is believed to be the **largest living organism on earth!**

The tallest, oldest and largest trees on earth are all found in California, USA



WHO EATS THE MOST?



The shrew

Shrews are believed to be the biggest eaters on earth, relative to their body size. The shrew must eat **80-90% of its own body weight** in food to survive!

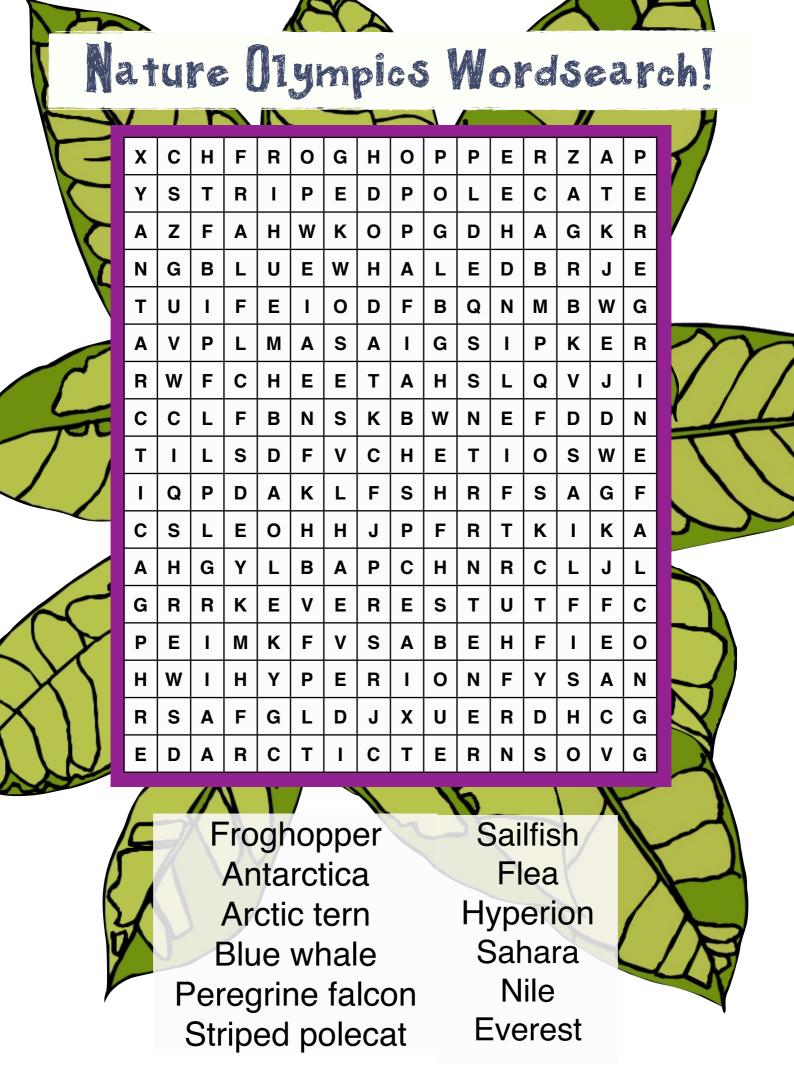
Blue whales

As this creature is so big it needs a lot of food to sustain itself, this is why blue whales eat around **3.6 tonnes** of tiny krill a day!

Blue whales win two golds in the Nature Olympics as they are also the **biggest** <u>animals on earth!</u>



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COMPETION Wing free

To enter answer these questions and send us your answers by 30 November 2012 - can you help us? Great!

- Q 1. Did you enjoy reading this issue of The Yippittee?
- Q 2. Have you read The Yippittee magazine before?
- Q 3. What do you like most about magazines?

There is no age limit and no limit to how little or how much you need to write.

Send your answers along with your name, age and address to 'Yippittee Comp' at:

info@ypte.org.uk

Terms and conditions 1. There will be five winners. 2. Closing date for entries is 30 November 2012. 3. Entries should be sent via email to <u>info@ypte.org.uk</u> with 'Yippitee Comp' in the subject line 4. Winners will be drawn at random from all entries received. 5. Winners will be informed by 7 December 2012 6. Each winner will receive a YPTE mug as their prize 7. Names of winners will be available on request from YPTE until 31 December 2012. 8. The decision of YPTE is final and no further correspondence will be entered into.



YPTE mug!

Crazy About Conservation!

Send in your letters, jokes, poems, stories or pictures. We'd also love to hear your ideas for future editions of Yippittee – please, let us know!

Crazy about Conservation! YPTE, Suite 29, Yeovil Innovation Centre, Barracks Close, Copse Road, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 8RN or e-mail it to us at info@ypte.org.uk



Written and designed by Emma Bricep8 Answer: 6. Striped polecatISSN 2042-2482 (online)Charity number 2884885 Page 8 - Young People's Trust for the Environment