

Paws for a mystery



Photos by John Nordell – staff

(1) Suction-cup feet make it an excellent climber. Its big appetite for insects makes it popular as an environmentally friendly way to control cockroaches.



You've seen pictures of animals before, but not like this. Can you identify these creatures just by their feet? Look carefully at the pictures, then read the clues. Give up? The answers are at the bottom of the facing page.

We're grateful to Boston's Franklin Park Zoo for their generous cooperation and assistance in taking these photographs.

(4) These furry 'frugivores' (fruit eaters) hang out in the sun in the rainforests of Australia and Southeast Asia, unlike their much smaller cave-dwelling cousins. Their doglike faces give them their name.



(2) You've seen webbed feet, and you've seen furry feet. But webbed, furry feet? What do you expect from the world's largest rodent? Adults can be four feet long and two feet high.



(3) This 'horse designed by a committee' was domesticated in the Roman province of Bactria (Turkmenia and northern Iran) 4,500 years ago. Its use as a draft and pack animal spread to China, and it became the primary means of transportation along the ancient Silk Road.



(5) We had to give you at least one easy one, right? No, it's not named Donald. The name of this European variety sounds like something you'd collect on a seashore.



(6) Typical of its species, this animal has a carapace and a plastron to protect it from enemies. This South American variety is known for its red feet. Knowing that, can you guess its full name? (Its tail is red, too.)

(7) Its foot may look scary, but it can be quite friendly toward humans. Its name comes from the Malay word 'kakatua,' meaning 'old brother or sister.' This one has a crest that looks like an umbrella when it's unfurled.



(8) This looks like something right out of 'Jurassic Park,' doesn't it? This animal can grow to be eight feet tall, and can run at speeds of up to 40 miles per hour – for up to 30 minutes at a stretch. Would you stick your head in the sand if you saw one coming?



(9) This breed originated in the Alps, hence its name. Males of the species are referred to by a diminutive form of 'William.'

(10) Females do most of the hunting; males defend the hunting territory from other males. The males' most distinctive feature protects its throat in such battles.

(11) If we told you its most obvious characteristic, that would give it away. How about this instead: It has a purple tongue that's 20 inches long.

TODAY'S ARTICLE ON CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Bringing a spiritual perspective to daily life

Your youth ministry

JULY 23 TO 28 will mark World Youth Day, the eighth such international celebration since the Pope instituted it in the UN International Year of Youth in 1985. Some 350,000 young people from many countries will congregate in Toronto for a week of spiritual talks, events, and activities.

I remember a youth meeting that I attended in 1985 at The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, and how much it influenced me. The speakers and the presentations were inspiring. I met a well-known writer, who gave an excellent talk. I found it wonderful to be with other young people who, like me, were questioning and searching – strengthening their purpose and resolve for decades of service to others.

Such conferences can have a profound, even life-changing impact on a young person. But looking back, I think the quiet, simple kindnesses and example of some adults have left the greatest impact on my life.

I remember writing to a world-famous teacher in France when I was a young musician. To my surprise, he wrote back, and he took my aspirations as seriously as I did. I recall, too, the senior woman who was a published poet, who didn't know me well, but agreed to help me with an essay contest.

According to the Gospels, Jesus certainly helped and enjoyed young people, and he must have influenced them strongly. When a rich young man asked him how to have eternal life, Jesus didn't treat him like a kid but answered him honestly and directly, challenging him to go beyond the letter of the law (see Matt. 19:16-23).

When Jesus fed more than 5,000 people with five loaves and two small fish, the boy who volunteered the bread and fish must surely have noticed and been affected by it (see John 6:5-13). Consider Jairus's 12-year-old daughter, who was resurrected by Jesus (see Luke 8:41-56). The memory of that experience must have stayed with her during her entire life.

Perhaps the key vehicle for inspiring and guiding a young person is our own example. Though they wouldn't necessarily admit it, young people watch closely virtually every adult who comes into their lives. They watch the as-

sumptions that are behind their speech and actions. They notice consistencies and inconsistencies of words and behavior. An honest, selfless life devoted to serving others doesn't go unnoticed by youth.

Also at the heart of helping or mentoring young people is seeing them for who they are as children of God. In supporting them we can see that all of the Godlike qualities they express – the enthusiasm, energy, intelligence, courage – indicate their true character as children of God. These qualities are to be loved, cherished, and encouraged in all that they do.

On the other hand, any ungodlike qualities, such as meanness, insensitivity, impatience, or disrespect are not part of their true nature. Seeing this gives us a strong basis for disciplining and guiding.

The founder of this newspaper, Mary Baker Eddy, took a great interest in young people.

She spent time with them, corresponded with them, donated money to clothe them, and even provided for their education. She loved them because of their freedom and receptiveness. She wrote: "It is easier to incline the early thought rightly, than the biased mind. Children not mistaught, naturally love God; for they are pure-minded, affectionate, and generally brave" ("Miscellaneous Writings, 1883-1896," pg. 240).

Such events as World Youth Day deserve our support and prayer, as do all right efforts to guide the lives of young people. Whatever our station in life, helping a young person can be enriching, joy-giving, and inspiring.

At the heart of helping or mentoring young people is seeing them for who they are.

At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be an equality.

II Corinthians 8:14

(1) Madagascar day gecko; (2) capybara (it lives near water in South America); (3) Bactrian (two-humped) camel; (4) flying fox, a type of bat; (5) common shelduck; (6) red-footed tortoise ('Carapace' refers to its top shell, the 'plastron' is the bottom shell); (7) white-crested or umbrella cockatoo; (8) ostrich (Contrary to popular belief, they do not hide their heads in the sand); (9) Alpine goat; (10) African lion; (11) Masai giraffe.

ANSWERS

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