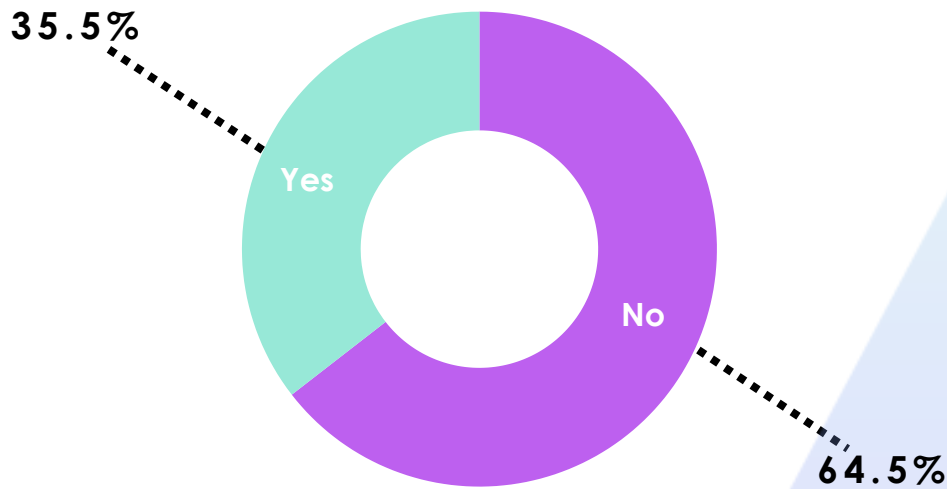


VOTESFORSCHOOLS AT HOME

YOUR LATEST RESULTS

Would you know how to support a friend who came out as trans or non-binary?



This VoteTopic received 42,157 total votes.

THIS WEEK'S BIG QUESTIONS

Would you like to see more wildlife brought into your built-up areas?

- How many plants and animals do you see in your local town or city?
- How could more wildlife help people in towns and cities?
- What changes would you like to see in your towns and cities to encourage different types of living things?

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

- *"It is surely our responsibility to do everything in our power to create the planet that provides a home not just for us, but all life on Earth."* - Sir David Attenborough, Broadcaster & Biologist.
- *"We've all been reminded of how important access to nature is, which is why I'm committed to creating greener, more liveable communities."* - Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester.

A CLOSER LOOK: BUDGET BALCONY GARDENS



You might be thinking about how you can increase plant life in your area, but this can be tricky if you only have a small space available to you. Here are some top tips on how you can grow greenery on a budget.

Firstly, get creative with containers. Cut a plastic bottle in half and you've made two great planters - just make sure you pierce a few holes in the bottom for drainage. Empty yoghurt pots? Don't throw them away! These could be fantastic for growing seeds. Got some old shoes which are about to be thrown out? Fill them with soil, pop a plant in there, and then put it on your windowsill.

Of course, you'll need something to plant. Wildflowers like bluebells and poppies can provide seeds for free on streets near you. If you want to grow some food, you can recycle the off-cuts from celery, onions and potatoes. Just plant them in your new pots and watch them grow!

YOUR COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

- Explain what the word "budget" means.
- How can you make a planter from a plastic bottle?
- Which other items could be turned into planters?
- Name two wildflowers that provide seeds.
- Which vegetables can be grown from off-cuts?

THIS WEEK'S OTHER NEWS STORIES

Post Office Horizon trial continues

Alan Bates, who pushed for justice for postmasters, spent seven hours giving evidence in the court case about the Post Office scandal. As part of his evidence, he said he believes the Post Office should be sold.



A changing climate...

The European Court of Human Rights has decided that the Swiss Government have not done enough to tackle climate change, and that this has affected the human rights of people there. The ruling is likely to be the first of many more.



France's fast fashion hung out to dry

France has become the first country in the world to officially place limits on ultra fast fashion. Politicians in France's Parliament voted for several new rules, including an extra "environmental charge" added to low-cost clothes.



Hardest Geezer defies all odds

Russ Cook, from East Sussex, has become the first person to run from the tip of southern Africa to the tip of northern Africa. He covered 9,940 miles in 352 days, taking in 16 countries. He has raised over £600,000 for charity.



For more news stories, check out CBBC Newsround, First News, The Week Junior and Simple Politics.

BONUS REPORT: ANIMAL UPDATES

A secret plant takes root...

Chester Zoo has announced the success of a secret mission: somewhere on an isolated cliff face in North Wales, they have planted 30 critically endangered cotoneaster cambricus. The species is unique to this area!



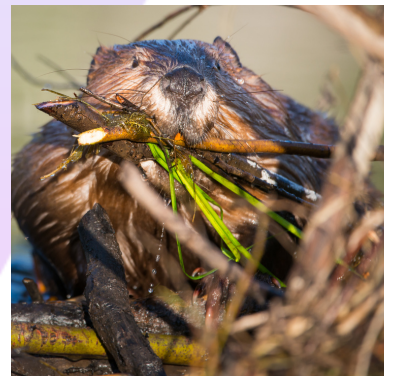
Tiger, tiger burning bright?

Conservationists in Indonesia are seeking more proof that the Javan tiger is not extinct after all... A study published in March found that a strand of tiger hair located in 2019 matched some of the tiger's characteristics.



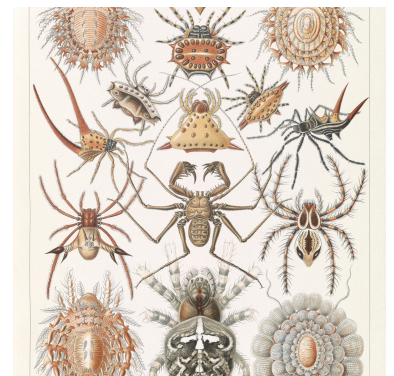
Dam, that was close!

Beachgoers in Sandwich, Kent, got a surprise when they found a beaver washed up on the beach. The animal is said to be making a good recovery after being picked up by the RSPCA. Click the image for some footage!



Who bugs you?

The Guardian newspaper has launched a new competition: Invertebrate of the Year 2024! The aim of the competition is to raise awareness of the extinction crisis facing these creatures, which make up 95% of species on Earth.



For more news stories, check out CBBC Newsround, First News, The Week Junior and Simple Politics.