

Amazing creatures

This page is from an encyclopedia.



A fantastic leap
The common flea, a tiny wingless insect, can jump 20 centimetres into the air. This means it jumps more than 130 times its own height. Fleas jump on to animals to feed on their blood.



Pouncing puma
Pumas are very agile. They bound from rock to rock, pounce on their prey and spring up into trees. They can cover 18 metres in a single leap. Most pumas now live in the western part of America.



Jumping giant
Frogs have strong back legs for jumping. The biggest frog in the world, the Goliath frog, is also the best high-jumper. It can leap 3 metres into the air. In America, competitions are held to find the best long-jumping frogs.

Champion Jumpers

In a high jump or long jump contest between animals and humans, there is no doubt who would win. The highest any athlete has ever jumped is less than 2.4 metres, but kangaroos, and even the Goliath frog can clear 3 metres. The human world record for long jump stands at under 9 metres, while the puma leaps 18 metres at a time. If a man could jump as high as a flea in comparison to his height, he would clear the tallest office block in Great Britain.

Animals that glide have no real human equivalent. They include the flying squirrels with their wing-like flaps of skin, and the flying fishes with their extra large fins. Each glide may last hundreds of metres.



Unique glider
A few animals, like the flying squirrel, have a flap of skin between their front and back legs which helps them glide from tree to tree. The colugo has a bigger cloak of skin, and it can glide twice as far – up to 100 metres.

A

- 1 Why do fleas need to jump?
- 2 Why can't fleas fly?
- 3 Write down **two** words used in the piece on the puma that mean **jump**.
- 4 Why do pumas need to be able to jump so far?
- 5 The Goliath Frog is a **double** record-breaker! What are the **two** records the Goliath Frog holds?
- 6 What is unusual about the **colugo**?
- 7 Why is the Goliath Frog able to jump so far?

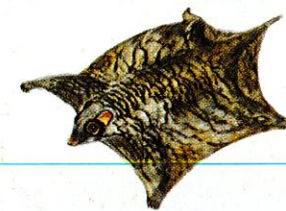
B

- 1 Why can the calugo glide twice as far as the flying squirrel?
- 2 a) Find another creature mentioned on the opposite page, not the calugo or the flying squirrel, that also glides.
b) What does this creature use in place of the cloak of skin?
- 3 a) Which one of the animals on the opposite page do you think would be the most difficult to keep as a pet?
b) Give **two** good reasons to explain why this animal would cause more problems than the others.

C

You are the main **commentator** at the Animal Olympics. It is your job to tell the people watching the events on television exactly what is happening and especially who is winning!

- 1 Write down what you would say in the **commentary** for the long jump. There are three competitors: a puma, a human and a flying squirrel.
- 2 Write down what you would say in the **commentary** for the high jump. There are three competitors: a flea, a Goliath Frog and a human.



1 (a) Start here.

Calculate 9×6 .
Look for the answer
54 and colour the
answer box.

54
3×5

- Now calculate 3×5 .
Look for the answer
and colour the box.
- Continue until you
colour

8
9×6

8	36	32	24	50	15
9×6	5×7	7×7	3×4	6×5	2×9
81	9	7	60	64	14
4×7	5×10	9×1	3×7	3×9	5×9
21	16	40	20	54	12
8×6	7×8	6×10	7×2	3×5	2×8
27	63	45	56	80	18
10×8	8×8	9×9	8×1	1×7	6×6
72	28	35	49	30	48
8×4	6×4	9×8	4×10	7×9	4×5

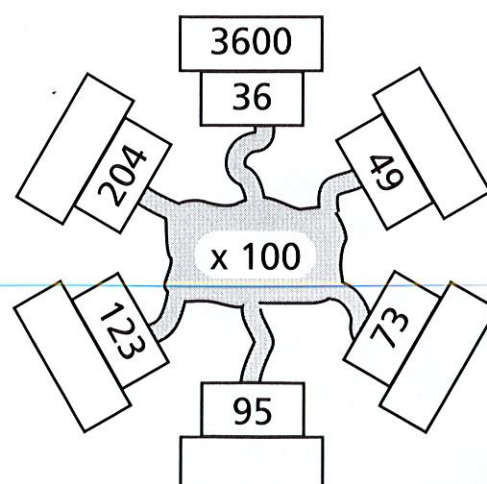
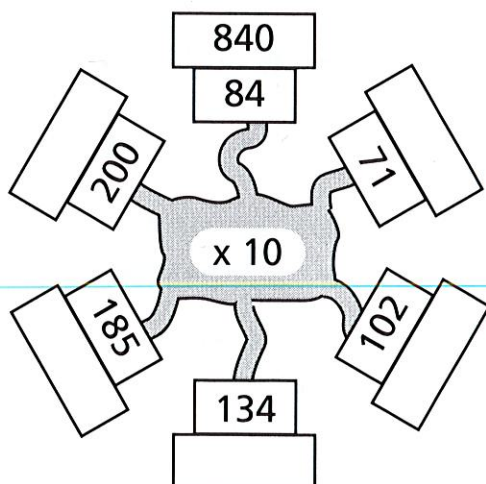
(b) What do you notice about the pattern of the coloured boxes?

2 Complete each pattern.

$9 \times 8 = \underline{\quad}$
 $8 \times 7 = \underline{\quad}$
 $7 \times 6 = \underline{\quad}$
 $\underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$
 $\underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$

$9 \times 1 = \underline{\quad}$
 $8 \times 2 = \underline{\quad}$
 $7 \times 3 = \underline{\quad}$
 $\underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$
 $\underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$

3 Multiply to find the missing numbers.



better words

Rewrite these sentences using a better word than **got**.

- 1 The workman **got** down the ladder very quickly.
- 2 By using a file they **got** out of prison.
- 3 I **got** a nice present on my birthday.
- 4 "At last he's **got** what I'm trying to explain to him," said the teacher.
- 5 John has **got** many stamps since he started the hobby.
- 6 Sharon **got** her homework finished quite early.
- 7 Since school closed for summer, he's **got** very silly.
- 8 Michael has **got** the puppy upstairs.

Rewrite these sentences using a better word than **nice**.

- 1 Skiing is such a **nice** experience.
- 2 My medicine has not a very **nice** taste.
- 3 We saw a **nice** film about diving for treasure.
- 4 Those strawberry cream tarts were **nice**.
- 5 It's a change to see you looking so **nice**.
- 6 Kim is a **nice** dog, and in no way is she silly.
- 7 I hope the weather is **nice** so that we can sit on the beach.
- 8 After finishing the cross country we had a **nice** drink of orange.