



HAPPY NEWS



Poo power: Another use for nature's no2!

It feels like every week we're finding new uses for poo, and here's another one... Scientists at the University of Leicester think droppings from exotic animals could help fight deadly infections. They've asked a local zoo and safari park for donations from elephants, giraffes and even tigers, so they can search the poo for tiny viruses called phages. These phages might one day be used to treat serious diseases, proving that poo may be gross, but it's also pretty important!



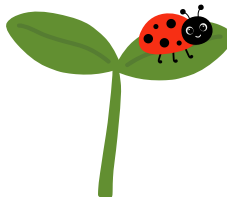
Spotting more spots

Have you noticed more ladybirds around this year? Experts say their numbers have boomed thanks to the warm spring and summer. The Species Survival Fund project even spotted three rare types in the New Forest, including the 13-spot and the tiny arboreal ladybird!



LEGOLAND's first Mayor

Skye Shepherd, 13, from Canterbury, has been crowned the first-ever Mini Mayor of LEGO's Miniland London. She won a nationwide competition to design a new addition to the display with her idea for a greener, more sustainable city, combining her love of LEGO with her passion for the environment. Her eco-design is now part of the LEGO city at LEGOLAND Windsor. Skye said: "I love LEGO and am very passionate about the declining state of our planet."



USA

Wacky science wins big

Scientists have been honoured with this year's Ig Nobel Prizes, the silly science awards that make you laugh, then think. Winners included researchers who suggested a Teflon-filled diet to make people feel full, scientists who solved why cheesy pasta sauce goes lumpy, and a team who painted cows like zebras to stop flies biting them. It may sound wacky, but it's all real science, and that's what makes it brilliant!

There's not 'mushroom' for anyone else!



USA



The Mushroom Moana

An American artist has pulled off an amazing adventure - kayaking 26 miles from Catalina Island to San Pedro, near Los Angeles, in a boat made of mushrooms! Like Disney's Moana, Sam Shoemaker is chasing new horizons, but with a twist: Sam wants to show how mushrooms could replace plastic as a planet-friendly material. His kayak, made from a special mushroom fibre called AquaFung, dries into a tough, cork-like surface that's strong enough to take on the ocean!