

HAPPY NEWS TEENS

Poland bans fur farming – saving 3 million animals



Poland

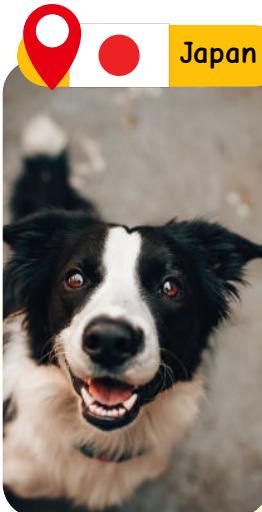
Poland has become the 18th country in the European Union to ban fur farming, saving more than three million animals like mink, foxes, raccoon dogs and chinchillas every year. The new law was signed this week by President Karol Nawrocki and says that all existing fur farms must close by 2034. Poland was Europe's biggest fur producer, so campaigners are celebrating the move and hoping it inspires more countries to follow suit. Meanwhile, in the US, New York Fashion Week also announced that it will ban fur from its shows this week.

Quote of the Week

You don't need a lot of friends, just the right ones.

Gary Goodridge

Japan



Dogs make teens kinder, say scientists

More happy dog news this week – Scientists have found that having a pet pooch can be a big boost to teenagers' mental health, and it's all to do with microbes! A study in Japan of more than 300 teens discovered that those who owned dogs were kinder, less aggressive and less likely to break rules. Researchers think one reason might be that living with dogs changes the bacteria – or microbes – in our bodies in a positive way, helping support happier, calmer behaviour.

Mindful Minute

Spend the next 60 seconds noticing three things around you that you've never noticed before. Do this a few times throughout your day!



Students build 3D printed hand for classmate

A group of students in Australia have made a 3D-printed hand for their classmate, 13-year-old Lois Agnello, who was born without part of her left hand. Lois asked her science teacher if she could try making her own hand using the school's 3D printer, and her friends quickly joined in. They used a free open-source design – meaning anyone can download and improve it – from the charity Free 3D Hands. After months of testing and tinkering, the team created a working hand that Lois can now use for everyday tasks.



Australia



Image Credit: ABC Mid North Coast: Sophia McCaughan

World record? Woof a shot!

A giant golden retriever meet-up in Buenos Aires, Argentina, is hoping to break the world record for the biggest gathering of the fluffy dog breed. More than 2,000 golden retrievers, many looking very festive in Santa hats, bow ties and Christmas bandanas, packed into a city park for a giant play date, in a bid to beat the current record of 1,685. Organisers say they counted 2,397 fluffy friends, but they'll have to wait for official confirmation to see if the record is broken!



Argentina



Financial help for homeless teens

A state in the US has launched a new programme that pays high school students experiencing homelessness \$500 (£375) a month to help them stay in school. New Mexico plan to support 330 students who struggle to attend classes because they don't have a safe place to live or enough food. Officials hope the programme will give teens more stability and the chance to focus on their education and future.



USA



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