



WWF

NEWSLETTER

IND

2018

WISDOM NUGGETS

Wild Wisdom Prep Series One
to help you become a Wild Wisdom Champion



ODD ONE IN

Dear Quizzer,

Welcome aboard!

As you read through the first edition of Wisdom Nuggets, you will find yourself amidst enchanting facts on a journey that will unravel many mysteries to you. This newsletter is a sneak peek into what lies ahead when you enter Asia's biggest and India's only national level wildlife quiz. Buckle up for the mesmerizing ride to discover nature's secrets! Make sure you take the online quiz at the end to know your wild wisdom quotient!

Happy reading!



ODD ONE IN



UNLIKE FRIENDS



LOST AND FOUND



WHO TAUGHT US THAT?



WHERE ARE WE GOING?

Crack the quiz - click [here](#) to explore **ONE PLANET ACADEMY**

Powered by



THE ODD ONE IN

All life forms consider planet Earth their home. Science says life first began on Planet Earth in the form of microscopic bacteria that came into existence billions of years ago. So, all creatures great and small (you and me included) share this common origin.



© U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service From Wikimedia Commons, the free media repository

Wonderful and different though all life forms are, there are always threads of similarities – perhaps in structure or maybe even in behaviour as well. For instance look at the image above – it shows swarming behaviour of ...

Are they bees? They could be birds. Or bacteria? Or even fish perhaps?

All these forms of life and so many more display this type of flocking or aggregating or crowding behaviour, and we Humans do it too. So just in case we thought our species was really different, or better than the rest, let's think again.

Are we so different? Are we the ODD ONES OUT or the ODD ONE IN? Well let's read on to discover.

We've picked an animal that seems really different from us (you could look for others too)

It has three hearts,
Has arms, but no legs,
Has a beak!
It changes colour,
Is blue-blooded,
Has no backbone,
And it lives underwater.
So which animal are we talking about here?
It's the OCTOPUS!

Beautifully adapted to its ocean home, it looks like it belongs to an alien world! Yet we share so many features with this animal. Highly intelligent, octopuses too have a complex nervous system and are very good at learning and solving problems. And would you believe that like us, octopuses have individual personalities, large brains, camera-like eyes (with lens, iris and retina) and a complex closed blood circulatory system – octopuses and people share all of these and more.

So now can you decide - are we the ODD ONE IN or the ODD ONES OUT?

MEET THE SPECIES



Photo © Rajesh Kumar Mohapatra

Meet India's only toothless land mammal - the Pangolin! Out of the 8 species of Pangolins in the world, the Indian and Chinese Pangolin can be found in India- the former throughout peninsular India and the latter in some parts of Northeast India.

But how do these toothless mammals eat? With a big slurp! They locate termite mounds and ant nests, using their claws to dig and their long sticky tongue to gobble down the insects stuck on it.

These shy creatures are hard to spot, and are also being hunted, leading to a decline in their numbers. In fact, they're said to be the world's most trafficked mammal.

[READ MORE](#)

SPOT THE ANIMAL - THE ODD ONE OUT



Of all the animals, I'm the only one not found in India. They think I am closely related to the scaly one, but I live only in the Americas. In my name, you'll find that I share my love of a certain type of food with the other toothless guy! Who am I?

YOUR PLANET, YOUR CHOICE TO : GIVE UP

Give Up - the single use straw!

Did you know that by 2050, there may be more plastic than fish in our oceans? Straws – like all plastic products - cannot degrade naturally and are one of the most polluting single use items found in oceans and landfills. More than 100000 mammals, one million sea birds and other marine aquatic life die because of the plastic they ingest or get entangled in it! Moreover, a single plastic straw can take over 200-300 years to decompose. When they do eventually break down, they release really harmful toxins while breaking into these tiny bits of plastic. Lots of animals, especially marine animals, think these itty bitsy pieces of plastic is food so this plastic goes and clogs up their system. And

what's more – all these plastic pieces make it right back into our bodies through the sea food we eat!

But you can change the story by joining the movement to GIVE UP the plastic straw and other single-use plastics like plastic spoons, forks and knives, bags and bottles. All you have to do is tell your parents or server to not put a straw in your drink the next time you go out and you can ask your friends to do the same. If you absolutely must, ask your parents to get reusable straws made from bamboo or steel.

Show them that you choose to protect the environment and other life forms in it!

Answer for 'spot the animal' : Anteater



DO-IT-YOURSELF : RE-PURPOSING PLASTIC

It's summer time, and you're trudging back home in the unbearable heat after a long day at school. Imagine how parched our furry and feathered friends in the streets and the skies must be!

You've already made the choice to give up the plastic straw, but what will you do with those single use plastic bottles that we all inevitably collect? Why, make them into bird water bowls, of course! Here's a [simple instructional video](#) that you can safely execute. You can use a bigger two-litre bottle for bigger bowls for other animals.

Put up multiple water dispensers/bowls outside your house, in your school and your locality. Don't be disheartened if birds don't immediately flock to your bowl. It might take a day or so for them to get used to the new water source and trust it.



- Make different sizes for different birds
- Add stones for good footing
- Place away from predators
- Keep it clean
- Add a perch

NEWS ALERT!

- [Salman Khan to feature in list of most notorious wildlife criminals in India](#)
- ["Snake man of India" wildlife conservationist Romulus Whitaker gets the Padma Shri](#)
- [Wildlife conservation efforts have gharials making a comeback in Chambal Sanctuary Area](#)
- [School-Bus-Sized Dinosaur Discovered in Egypt](#)
- [New plant species found in Western Ghats](#)
- [Rhino census 2018: Kaziranga now has 2,413 rhinos](#)
- [Essential Wildlife Apps For Your Phone: Download these pocket conservation hacks to keep you app-to-date](#)

For more study material, check out this [link](#)

SET A NEWS ALERT

Want to make sure you get your news before our next newsletter comes out? On Google, you can now set an alert to help you keep track of whatever species you like! Here's a [step by step tutorial](#) by Google to help you with that.



WILD WISDOM QUOTIENT

What type of animal is the 'Springbok', the national animal of South Africa?

Take the quiz and start prepping for Wild Wisdom Quiz 2018!

Click [here](#) to play !

