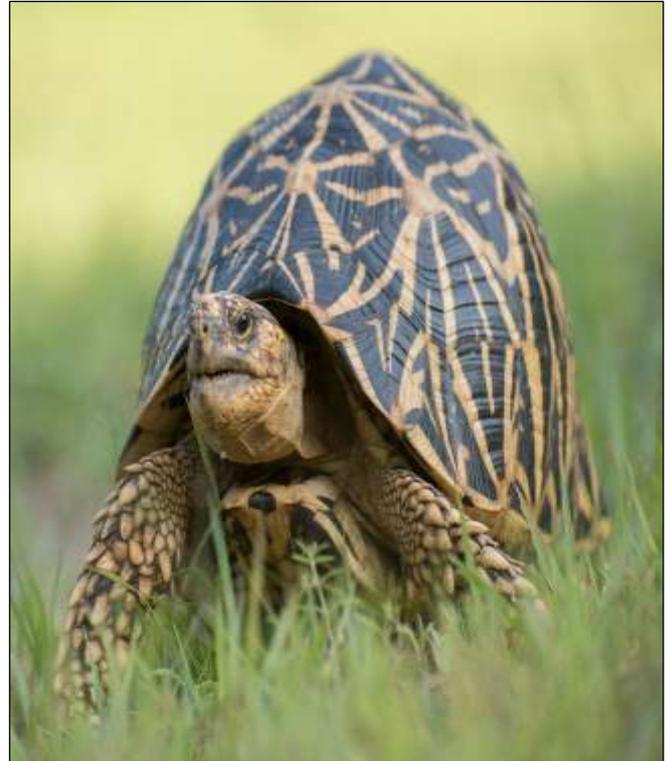




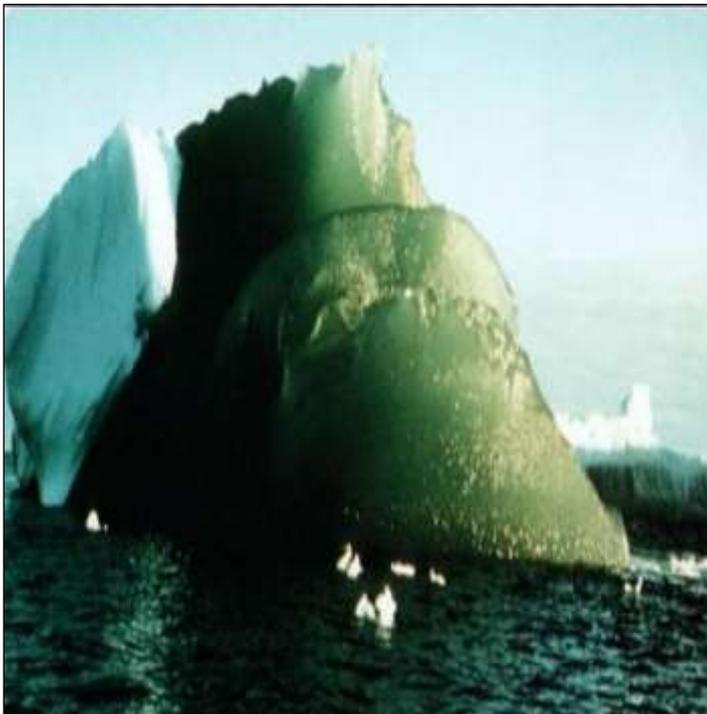
1,500 smuggled tortoises found alive in abandoned luggage!

The tortoises, worth around £66,000 were brought on a flight from Hong Kong by a passenger from the Philippines, police say. The 1,529 reptiles were discovered in four checked-in suitcases at an airport in Manila. Customs seized the cases and found they were filled with rare and protected varieties including star tortoises, red-footed tortoises, sulcata tortoises and red-eared sliders! Many were wrapped in tape or hidden inside plastic containers buried among clothes inside the suitcases. The tortoises have been transferred to a special unit for safekeeping. The Bureau of Customs said the would-be smuggler may have got nervous when seeing notices of the potential punishments for those caught smuggling.



Pictured: A typical Star tortoise.

Researchers may have discovered why some icebergs are green!



Pictured: A photo of green iceberg in the Antarctic taken from the Am Geophysical Union account's Twitter page.

A team of researchers believes they know why some icebergs in the Antarctic look emerald green in colour. According to a study published by the American Geophysical Union, the icebergs may look green because of iron oxides in rock dust from mainland Antarctica. The study says the iron carried by these glaciers could help feed organisms in the ocean as they float outward. The study suggests iron oxides melded with marine ice through a "glacial flour," a powder created when glaciers grind against bedrock. Researchers say if that flour is trapped under an ice shelf, it could mix with marine ice to create its green colour.



International Women's Day celebrations!



Pictured: The fearless girl statue.

International Women's Day (IWD) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women and calls for gender equality.

This year's official UN theme is Think Equal, Build Smart, Innovate for Change.

The first IWD was in 1911 and it is now celebrated every year on the 8th of March. The day is marked around the world with arts performances, talks, rallies, networking events, conferences and marches.

Just a few highlights from this year - women took part in a candlelit vigil in Dhaka, the fearless girl statue (which celebrating female leadership in business) will stand in London's financial district for three months, nine female innovators have been awarded grants from the government and the Women of the World foundation (WOW) was launched.

NASA astronauts to carry out first all-female spacewalk!

The first all-female spacewalk is to take place on the 29th of March, 35 years after a woman first took part in one!

The US space agency NASA said astronauts, Christina Koch and Anne McClain, will walk outside the International Space Station on a mission to replace batteries installed last summer. They will receive ground support from flight director Mary Lawrence, and Kristen Faccioli of the Canadian Space Agency in Nasa's Johnson Space Centre in Texas.

"I cannot contain my excitement!" Faccioli tweeted. Soviet cosmonaut Svetlana Savitskaya became the first woman to carry out a spacewalk on 25 July 1984. There have been 213 spacewalks at the ISS since 1998 for the purposes of maintenance, repairs, testing of new equipment or science experiments, according to NASA.



Pictured: Anne McClain (left) and Christina Koch (right) taken from their Twitter pages.

I think...



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