



Whale shark has 'armoured' eyes

Marine biologists from Japan's Okinawa Churashima Research Center, have discovered that the whale shark's eyes are covered with up to 3000 tiny teeth! They are called eye denticles and scientists think they are there for protection as whale sharks have no eyelids. The researchers also demonstrated that the whale shark can retract about 50 percent of its eyeball into the socket. It was previously thought that whale sharks did not rely on their eyes, which are located on the side of the shark's square-like head, but this new study suggests that their eyesight is important. The whale shark, the largest fish in the world, is an endangered species found in most of the world's tropical oceans. The females are larger than the males and can measure up to 19 metres long and weigh as much as 30 tonnes!



Pictured: A whale shark. Source: Brian Gratwicke.

Hot dog eating champions



Pictured: Joey Chestnut, at the Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest, taken from the Nathan's Famous Twitter page.

The Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest is an annual American hot dog eating competition held on Independence Day, where competitors eat as many hot dogs and buns as they can in 10 minutes. The 104th annual contest was held this year with no fans present but this didn't stop the winners from setting new records! Joey Chestnut wolfed down 75 hot dogs (roughly 21,750 calories) in 10 minutes to win the men's competition for the 13th time in 14 years. The person who came second ate 42. The women's title was won for the seventh time in a row by Miki Sudo. She broke the all-time women's hot dog eating record with 48.5 hot dogs ingested. She ate 32 more hot dogs than her nearest challenger. Both winners receive a grand prize of over £8,000 and a coveted "bejewelled" mustard yellow or pink belt.



Could you help design a 'Lunar Loo'?

NASA's Lunar Loo Challenge has been launched to help astronauts to go back to the Moon in 2024! NASA is seeking novel design ideas for compact toilets that can operate in both microgravity and lunar gravity. Space toilets that are already in use, like those on the International Space Station, only work in microgravity. NASA are already working on their own designs but think that others will look at the problems differently to their space engineers and could come up with new, alternate answers to the problems that they are trying to solve. They are also inviting ideas from younger entrants in the Junior category, where your thoughts could win you public recognition and an item of official NASA-logoed merchandise.



Pictured: The image being used to promote the Lunar Loo Challenge taken from the NASA STEM Engagement Twitter page.

Your thoughts on the news...

I think zoos shouldn't be opened yet because it is too soon, and there is a risk of the virus being spread amongst large numbers of visitors.

Oliver - Age 10



I think yes, they could have opened sooner, people could spread out and keep the social distance. Face mask and gloves would be needed by all visitors. Limited attractions to be able to control peoples' movement through the zoo better, and no food sales inside, only picnics allowed.

Ben Fox- Age 9

I don't think zoos should've opened earlier because zoos aren't somewhere we have to be at, and though many children may miss it, I think it is a good idea to keep places like this closed just to be safe.

Claire - Age 10

What was your opinion on this week's news? Visit our discussion area, found here:

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss
to share your thoughts!

Yes, i think they should open but have rules and not let as many people in at a time or have one way you have to go in.

Kirsten - Age 10



YOUR COMMENTS

Share your thoughts on our online discussion board:
www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

Email: help@picture-news.co.uk Tweet: [@HelpPicture](https://twitter.com/HelpPicture)
or post to: **Unit 3, Phoenix Business Park, Ripon, North Yorks, HG4 1NS**