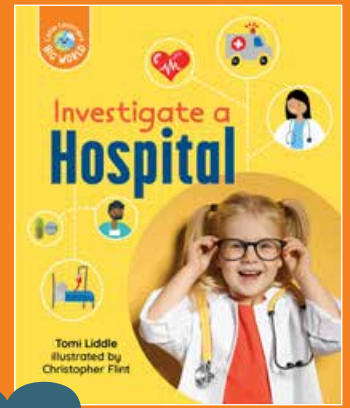


# Stage 7.4: Investigate a Hospital

Read this page to children (it is not decodable). Use the questions and prompts to talk and write about the topic. Read more: it is important to read a range of other books to children to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. What other books could you read to children about hospitals? Or perhaps you might read some more information texts to children and compare them with this book.



Did you know?

## More about hospitals

In some cities, there are hospitals just for children. **Children's hospitals** are specially designed to make you feel welcome, happy and safe. Some have amazing art, cinemas, animals to look at and playgrounds.

An **occupational therapist** (or 'OT' for short) helps people to do the everyday things they want or need to do. This can include looking after themselves, doing school or leisure activities or getting around more easily.



An x-ray is a picture of the inside of your body and is taken by an **x-ray machine**. It doesn't hurt to get an x-ray – you just need to keep still so the picture isn't blurry. Doctors often use x-rays to look for broken bones.



They say 'laughter is the best medicine'. Some hospitals take this very seriously and have special workers to bring the laughs – **clowns**! Hospital clowns can improve the wellbeing of patients and their families.



## Talk about it

- If you had to go to hospital, how would that make you feel? What things might make a hospital visit easier?
- Who are some of the people that work in a hospital? What do they do?

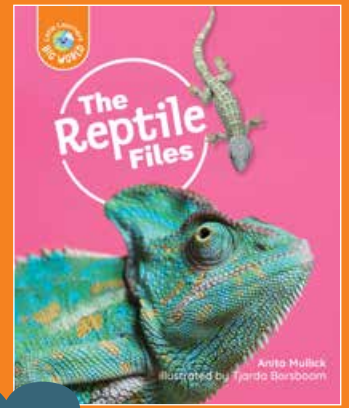
## Write about it

Children can draw a picture of a particular place in the hospital and show what happens there. They can label the place and write about it.



# Stage 7.4: The Reptile Files

Read this page to children (it is not decodable). Use the questions and prompts to talk and write about the topic. Read more: it is important to read a range of other books to children to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. What other books could you read to children about reptiles?



## More about reptiles

**Galapagos tortoises** loves to eat their greens! They eat leaves, grasses, tree bark – and even prickly pear cactus! How do they munch the tough stuff? They don't have teeth, so they use the bony outer edges of their mouth to bite and mash food. Then they quickly gulp it down.



**Chameleons** have lots of skills, such as changing colour and catching food with their long, sticky tongues. But did you know a chameleon can rotate each of its cone-shaped eyes separately to look at two different objects? Now that's seeing double!



When people grow, their skin grows with them. That's not the case with reptiles! All reptiles **shed their skin** as they grow. Some reptiles, such as lizards, shed their skin in pieces. Other reptiles, such as snakes, shed their skin in one go.



Lying in the sun helps reptiles raise their body temperature. The sunlight also helps them to produce **vitamin D**, which keeps their bones strong.



### Talk about it

- Have you seen any reptiles near where you live or on TV? What facts do you know about them?
- Have you seen any teeny tiny animals or any giant animals? Were they reptiles? How do you know?
- What reptile would you most like to make a fact file on? Why?

### Write about it

Children can draw a picture of one of the reptiles from the book and write a fact about it. They can also state its size (for example, 'teeny' or 'giant').

# Stage 7.4: Stanley's Theme Park

Read this page to children (it is not decodable). Use the questions and prompts to talk and write about the topic. Read more: it is important to read a range of other books to children to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. What other books could you read to children about theme parks? Or perhaps you might read some more brochures or other persuasive texts to children and compare them with this book.



Did you know?

## More about theme parks

The theme park **Bakken** in Denmark started nearly 500 years ago. People used to go to Bakken in the summer to drink water from a special spring. Performers and sellers soon followed them. In time a fair developed, which today is a theme park.

Florida, USA, is famous for its theme parks, but **Snowcat Ridge** was the first one with a snow theme! The park includes a tubing hill, a snow dome and an ice-skating ribbon and brings some much-needed cool to a very hot place!



## Talk about it

- What kind of themes do you find at theme parks? And what kind of rides?
- How does a theme park map come in handy? What kind of other information could help you plan your visit?
- Why do you think theme parks are so popular? Would you like to visit one?



Some theme parks are indoors. The world's biggest indoor theme park is **IMG Worlds of Adventure** in Dubai. It's as big as 28 soccer pitches. With six different zones, you can choose your own adventure!

Some theme parks are made of bricks – **LEGO®** bricks! The first **LEGOLAND® park** was built in Denmark over 50 years ago and now there are eight in the world. While some attractions are made of LEGO®, most rides just look like they're made of toy bricks!



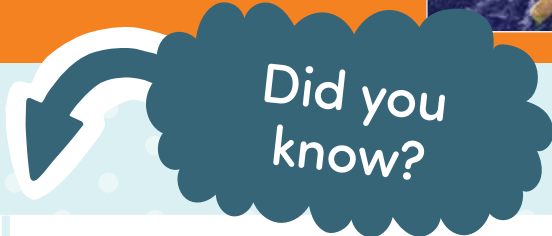
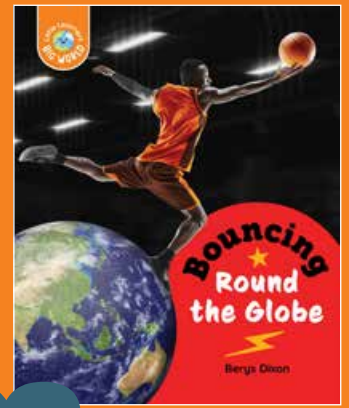
## Write about it

Children can draw a picture of a ride at a theme park and then rate it with a sentence and a 'star rating' (from one star to five stars, with one being the lowest score and five the highest).



# Stage 7.4: Bouncing Round the Globe

Read this page to children (it is not decodable). Use the questions and prompts to talk and write about the topic. Read more: it is important to read a range of other books to children to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. What other books could you read to children about basketball? Or perhaps you might read some more information texts to children and compare them with this book.



## More about basketball

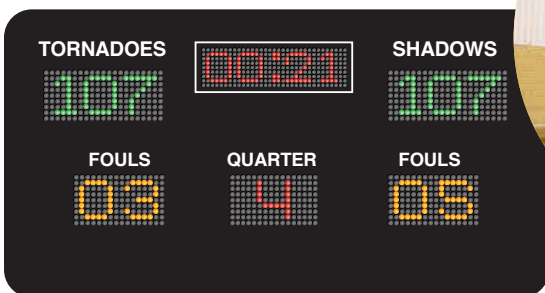
We've learnt that **peach baskets** were used for goals, but for almost ten years, no one thought of cutting a hole in the bottoms! Every time a goal was scored, the players had to stand around while someone went up a ladder and got the **ball** out of the basket!



In the early days of basketball, spectators sat up in the balcony behind the goals. Some fans tried to interfere with the ball as it was heading for goal, and that's why **backboards**, originally made of chicken wire, were introduced!



The team that scores the most points in the four quarters of a game of basketball wins. If the teams are tied at the end of the game, they play five minutes of **overtime** to see who can get the most points.



**Wheelchair basketball** was played at the first **Paralympic Games** in 1960. It is a very popular sport, and hundreds of thousands of people play it around the world.

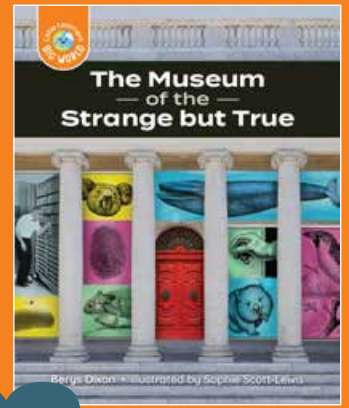
**Write about it**  
Children can write about the Tornadoes v Shadows basketball game in the book. They could use the pictures and captions on pages 22–27 as a guide and illustrate their favourite part.

**Talk about it**

- What was the most interesting fact you learnt about basketball?
- How is basketball different now to how it was when it was invented by James Naismith?
- If someone wanted to be good at basketball, would they need to be really tall? Why or why not?



# Stage 7.4: The Museum of the Strange but True

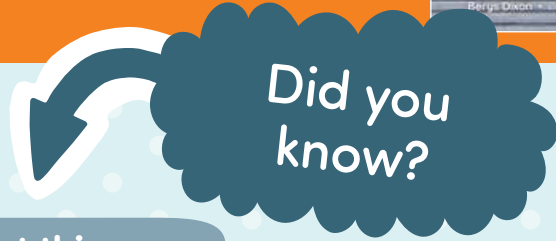


Read this page to children (it is not decodable). Use the questions and prompts to talk and write about the topic. Read more: it is important to read a range of other books to children to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. What other books could you read to children about things that are strange but true?



## More about things that are strange but true

Despite being six-legged, springtails are **not insects**. They are **collembolas** (*kol-em-boh-las*). As well as being champion jumpers, springtails are also good for the environment, breaking down the soil to help plants grow healthy and strong.



Museums are a great way to learn about the world. Some museums focus on unusual subjects, like **toilets** or **dog collars**!



In Japan, there's even a museum for **instant noodles**! You can learn all about the invention of cup noodles and even create your own concoction.



**Strange statues!** If you thought the statue of the cow in the tree was unusual, how about this giant spider statue? Huge and spooky! Have you ever seen an unusual statue?

## Talk about it

- What sort of strange and wonderful museum would you like to see? Think of the things you are interested in – perhaps you'd like to see a museum about unicorns, lollies or cake, or how about a museum of cubby houses?
- What might people do and see in your museum?

## Write about it

Using the book 'The Museum of the Strange but True', children can turn the factual sentences into questions. Use quiz question words like What, Which, How, When, Where, Why.

For example, change the sentence 'Koalas have fingerprints!' to 'Which Australian animal has fingerprints?'

