



November 2011

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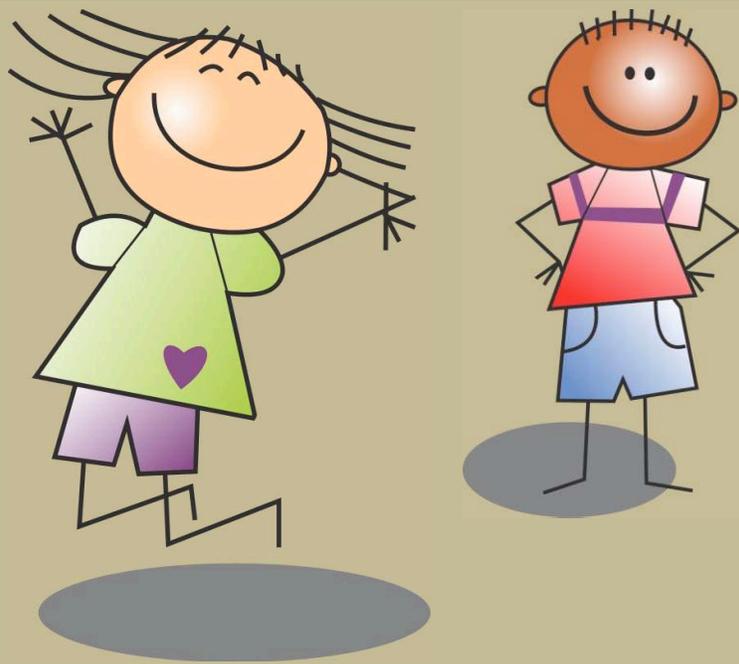
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Great Toys for Kids

The Leapfrog Scribble and Write is a great toy to teach writing. Just write over the lighted dots. Includes uppercase letters, lowercase letters and shapes.

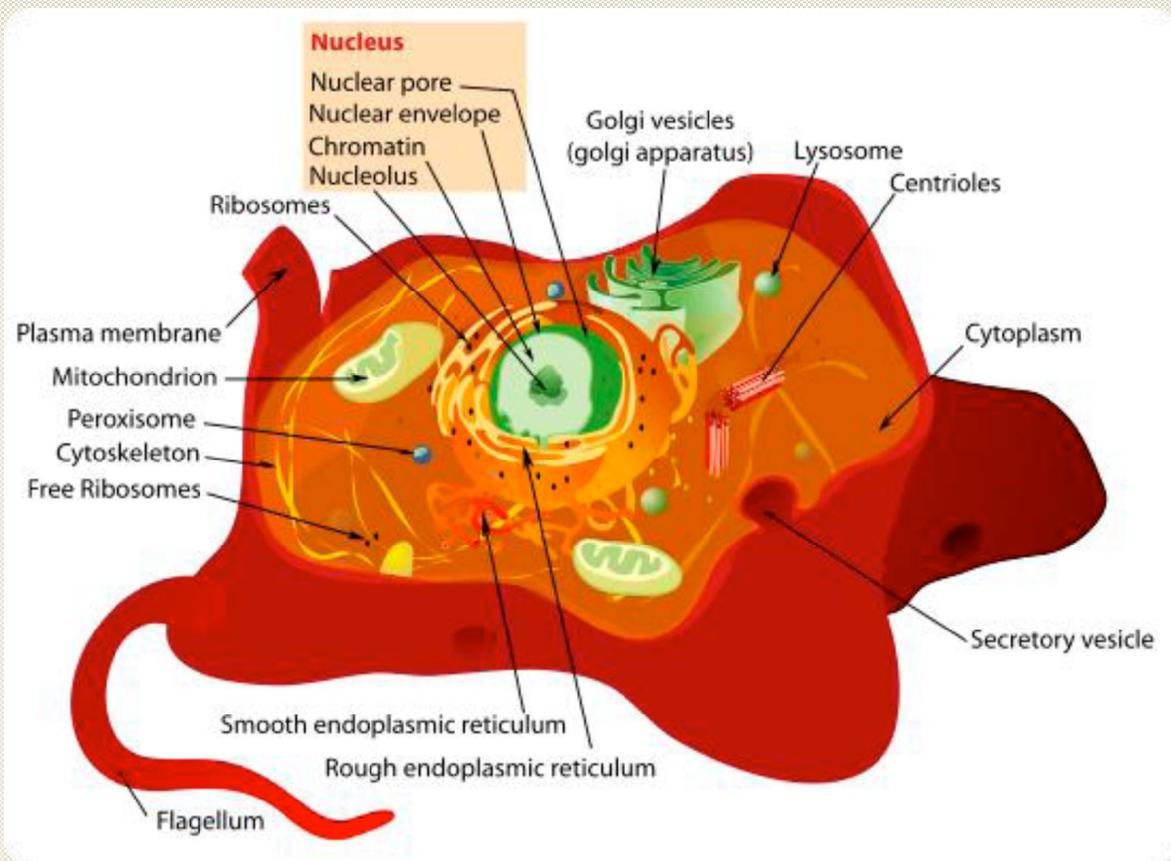
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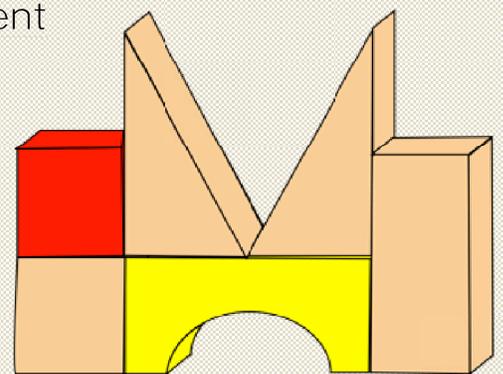
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PARTS OF A CELL



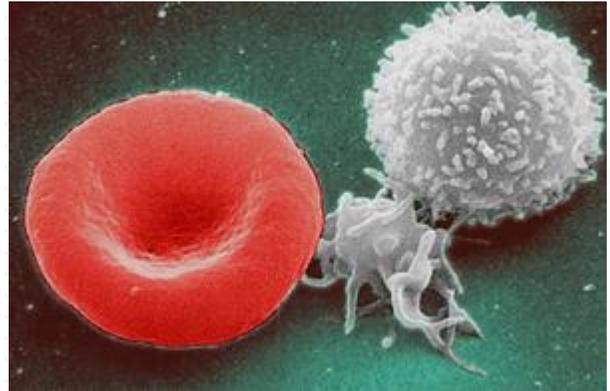
Your body is made up of cells. Cells are kind of like Lego blocks. Lego blocks can have different shapes and sizes. These different blocks can be put together to make different things: houses, cars or airplanes. Your body has lots of different cells that are put together to make different parts of your body. Cells are often called the building blocks of life. The various parts of the cell are called organelles.



Parts of a Cell: Lysosomes

Lysosomes are organelles that like to break things. But this is a good thing for the cell. Lysosomes break down materials that the cell can use. Or they break down things that the cell wants to get rid of.

They are also a little like soldiers. They protect the cell. They attack bacteria that try to get inside.



Red and White Blood Cells

Blood Cells

Blood takes oxygen and other things your cells need all around your body. Your blood is made up of red blood cells and white blood cells. They float around in liquid called plasma.

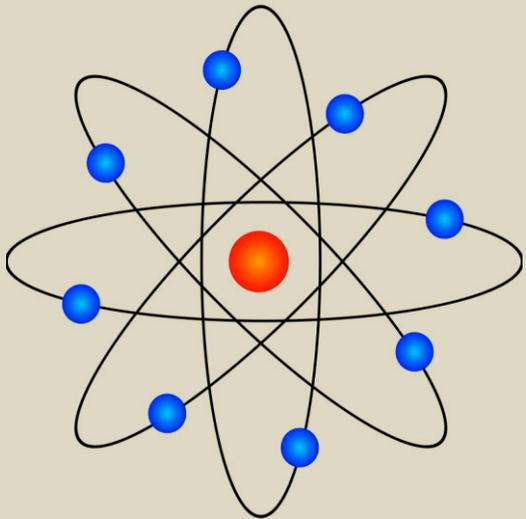
Your red blood cells are a little like delivery trucks. When you breathe in, your red blood cells take oxygen all around your body. They are also a bit like trash collecting trucks. Red blood cells carry carbon dioxide to your lungs, so it can leave your body.

White blood cells are like the soldiers of your blood. They fight germs that can make you sick.



Chemistry Corner

Hello. We're atoms. We may not look like much but we are the building blocks of everything. Yes, everything! We get together and make up something called matter. You are made of atoms. Your cells are made of atoms. Your toys are made of atoms. Your pets are made of atoms. Even the planet Earth is made up of atoms. We have three important parts: protons, neutrons and electrons.



We may be tiny but we're very important. And when we say tiny, we mean tiny! You can't even see us with a regular microscope. You need a special microscope called an electron microscope.

Animal Survival in Winter

Migrate, hibernate,
Gather and store
Forage for more.

Migrate



To where it's warm
Until winter ends her
storm.

Hibernate

Sleep all day long
'Til Spring sings
her song



Gather and store

Hide food away
Save for another day.



Forage

Find food where you may
'Til Winter snows melt away.



Physics Corner

Isaac Newton was a famous scientist and mathematician. When he was a child he liked to build things. He built a windmill to grind wheat and a sundial to tell time.

When he grew up he spent a lot of time learning and doing science experiments. One day he saw an apple fall to the ground. He thought a lot about this. He figured out that a force called gravity caused the apple to fall. A force is something that can make things move. He also realized that gravity keeps planets orbiting around the sun.

Newton did experiments with light. He used a prism to break up light. He found out that light is made up of the colors of the rainbow. This is called a spectrum.

He came up with a kind of math called Calculus. Calculus is often used for math problems that deal with moving objects.

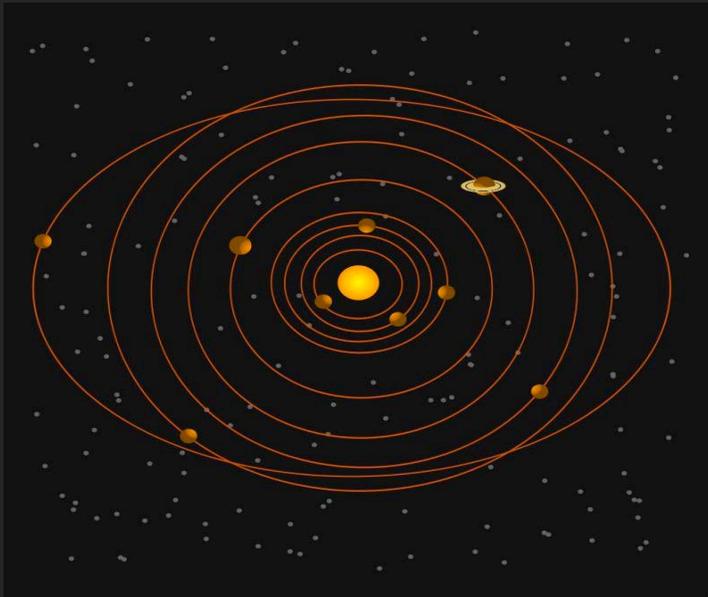


Sunlight, also called visible or white light, is made up of many colors. A prism is a triangle-shaped piece of glass, which bends and separates light into multiple colors. If you send this separated light through a second prism, it becomes white light again.

Rainbows are natural prisms. Water droplets can break up light to form a spectrum in the sky. The colors of the rainbow are red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. You can remember the colors using a **mnemonic device**. A mnemonic device is a trick to help remember something. Remember ROY G BIV. ROY is red, orange, yellow. G is green. BIV is blue, indigo, violet.

All About Orbits

The Earth is one of eight planets in the Solar System. All of the planets orbit the sun. Orbit means to go around and around. Why don't you orbit something? Put a stuffed animal on the floor and walk around it. You are orbiting your stuffed animals.

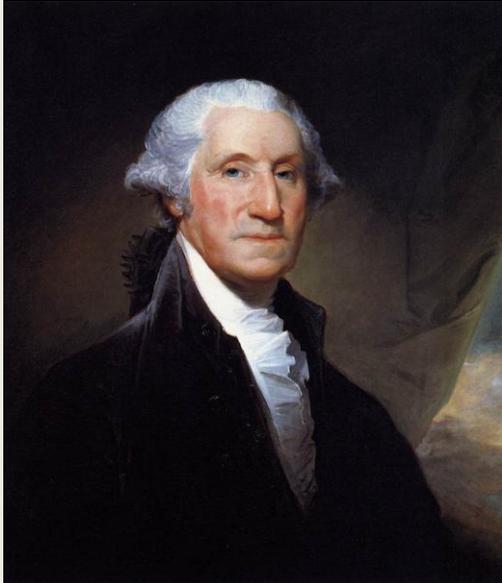


Some of the planets in the Solar System have moons. The moons orbit the planets. Our moon orbits around the Earth. Jupiter and Saturn have lots of moons. So, what does solar in Solar System mean? Solar refers to the

sun. Have you heard of solar panels? They can make electricity using energy from the sun. The electricity can be used to run lights, fans, televisions and computers. What is a system? A system is a group of parts that make up something. Think of a family. Parents, brothers and sisters are like the parts that make up a family. Our Solar System has many parts: the sun, planets, moons and asteroids.

Presidents

George Washington was the first president of the United States of America. There was a time when there was no United States. There were 13 colonies



ruled by a king who lived far away in England. George Washington wanted Americans to rule themselves. He led an army, called the **Continental Army**, against England. The war was called the **Revolutionary War**. The Americans won the war.

Washington was inaugurated first president of the United States in New York City on April 30, 1789. An inauguration is a special ceremony.

Washington loved his home in Virginia called Mount Vernon. He lived there with his wife Martha Custis. He had two stepchildren named John and Martha.



Mount Vernon in Virginia



A painting of a Revolutionary War battle. The American soldiers were called Patriots and the British soldiers were called Red Coats



The Starry Night by Vincent Van Gogh

The Starry Night is one of the most famous paintings. It was painted using oil paint on canvas. You probably paint on paper. Canvas is a kind of cloth. It is usually made of cotton or linen.

The Starry Night features swirling clouds, a bright crescent moon and big, bright stars above a peaceful town. There is a large black object in the picture. What do you think this large object is supposed to be? It is a large cypress tree. How does this painting make you feel?



Continents: There are seven continents on Earth. Continents are large areas of land. Five of the continents are made up of many different countries. They are:

Africa – lions and giraffes live on the Savanna in Africa. Nigeria is one of 54 countries in Africa.

Antarctica – penguins live in frigid Antarctica. No people live here.

Asia – the Great Wall of China is in Asia. It is the longest wall in the world. There are about 48 countries in Asia.

Australia – Australia is a country and a continent. It is also the smallest continent. Kangaroos and koalas live here.

Europe – there are a lot of castles in Europe. France is one of about 50 countries in Europe.

North America – the Grand Canyon is located in North America. The United States, Canada and Mexico are the largest of the 23 countries in North America.

South America – the Amazon Rainforest and the world's highest waterfall are here. Brazil is one of 12 countries in South America.

Which continent do you live on?

Aesop's Fable

The Fox and the Crow

A Fox saw a Crow with a piece of cheese in its beak on a branch of a tree. He went to the foot of the tree. "Good morning, Crow!" he said. "You look lovely today. What beautiful feathers. Your voice must be as beautiful. I would love to hear a song." The Crow was flattered by the



This story was featured on a postage stamp fox's words. She opened her mouth to sing. What do you think happened? The piece of cheese fell out of her mouth and was quickly gobbled up by the fox.

Moral: do not trust people who try to flatter you.

Musical Instruments: The Flute



Musical instruments fall into different groups: strings, woodwind, brass, percussion and keyboard. Which group do you think the flute should be in? A flute has a long tube with holes that are stopped by the fingers or keys. Stopping different groups of holes creates different sounds. The flute is a woodwind instrument. Early humans made flutes from bone and mammoth tusks 30,000 to 40,000 years ago.

HUNTER GATHERERS

People didn't always live in towns and cities. They didn't live in the kind of houses we live in now. They didn't farm or stay in one place.



They moved around and hunted wild animals. They ate fruits, nuts, honey and **berries**. They ate bird's eggs that they found. They even ate snakes and lizards. When they ran out of food in one area they moved to a new place.



These people were called hunter gatherers. They were also called nomads because they moved around a lot. Some lived in tents made from animal hides. Others lived in caves.

Famous Landmarks



The Eiffel Tower is a famous landmark in the city of Paris in France. France is a country in Europe. The Eiffel Tower was built in 1889. Visitors from all around the world use elevators or stairs to get to the top of the tower. Would you like to take the stairs? There are hundreds of steps, so you will probably get very tired.

Preschool Corner

Which does not belong and why?



What comes next?



Phonics Sight Words

bun

pun

fun

run

gun

sun

nun

stun

of this

his her

What are these numbers?

10

11

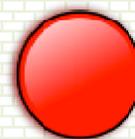
12

13

14

15

The Color Red



DECIDUOUS AND EVERGREEN TREES



Trees that have leaves that turn red, brown or yellow in the fall (or autumn) are called **deciduous** trees. New leaves grow in the spring.

Trees with big leaves are usually deciduous. Leaves help trees make food from the sun through a process called **photosynthesis**. **There isn't enough sunlight** for photosynthesis to provide enough energy in winter.

So, deciduous trees create a special chemical that causes all of the leaves to fall off. Trees store food to live during winter. Losing leaves means using less food to survive.



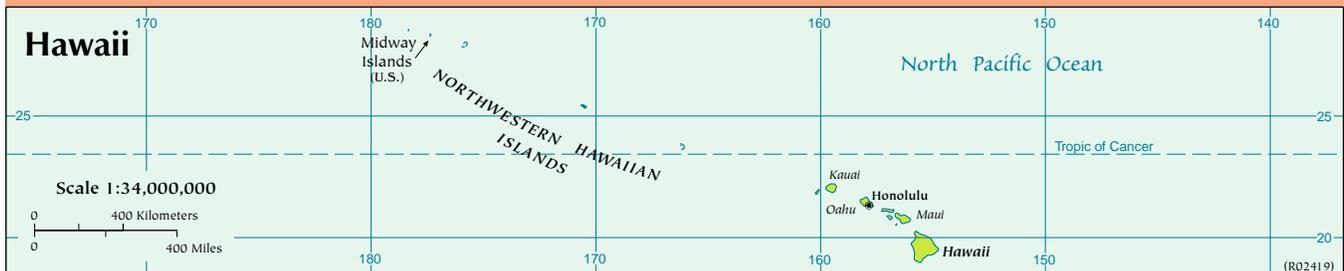
Trees that don't lose their leaves are called **evergreen** trees. Evergreens usually have thin needle-like leaves, like Pine trees. Or they have waxy leaves, like holly.

These special leaves don't lose moisture and can resist cold weather.

Alphabetical States

There are 50 states in the USA. Go to the next page and find all the states that begin with the letter A. Alabama, Alaska, Arizona and Arkansas.

UNITED STATES



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was a famous composer. He was born in Salzburg, Austria. He was composing music at the age of 5. Composing is writing music. He started travelling around Europe when he was 6 to play for kings and queens.

Many people did not believe that such a young child could compose such amazing music. He was locked in a tower in a castle for a week with a pen and paper to find out if he was really the one doing the composing. When someone checked on him he had written several pieces of music and there was no longer any doubt about his talent.

Mozart wrote 41 symphonies and 27 piano concertos. Symphonies are long pieces of music written for orchestras. Piano concertos are written for piano solos with an orchestra playing background music.

He also wrote vocal music (for singers), chamber music (for a small group of musicians) and operas, which are like plays with actors singing all of the words.



THINGS YOU CAN LEARN



Archaeological dig in Rome, Italy

History is the study of the past. In the past, there were no cars. People used horses, camels or elephants to travel. There were no electric lights, so people used **fires or candles to see at night**. People didn't have faucets. They got water from rivers. People lived in different kinds of houses and wore different kinds of clothes.

We can learn about the past in different ways. We can read the writings people in the past left behind. We can find ruins of cities or towns that people used to live in. We can find pots, tools, jewelry and toys they used. People who study history are called **historians**. People who look for ruined cities and dig for pots and tools are called **archaeologists**.

Herodotus is called the "father of history" because he was the first historian. He was a Greek who lived about 2500 years ago. He traveled to many places to learn about events that happened in the past. He talked to many people to learn about different places. When Herodotus lived the Persians and the Greeks fought a war. He wanted to know more about it. He also wrote about Egypt, Mesopotamia and India. We can learn a lot about history from past historians like Herodotus.



William Wordsworth was a Romantic poet. Romanticism was a movement that focused a lot on nature, feelings and imagination. You will find all of these in **Daffodils** by William Wordsworth. Read the poem and pick out the parts that relate to nature, feelings and imagination.

Poems are often hard to understand. You may have to reread them several times to understand what the poet is trying to say.

In this poem, Wordsworth is saying that he came across a field filled with daffodils. He thinks they are more beautiful than the lake. He loves the merry, jocund flowers. He says that when he lies on his couch to think, the daffodils come to his mind. This brings him bliss and happiness.

When Wordsworth is saying he wandered lonely as a cloud he is using a **metaphor**. A metaphor is saying that a person, animal or thing is something else. In this case, the poet is saying that he is a cloud. Can you think of a metaphor? These are some examples:

My little brother is a wild animal.
Mom is happiness today.
A blanket of snow covered the ground.

Daffodils

by William Wordsworth

I WANDERED lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed - and gazed - but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.



How the Camel Got his Hump

From Just So Stories by Rudyard Kipling

Yoke – a wooden beam put on an animal's neck to attach to a plow

Palaver – long discussion

Indaba and punchayet – a group of people who meet to discuss something important

Djinn – spirit in Arabic folklore

In the beginning of years, when the world was so new and all, and the Animals were just beginning to work for Man, there was a Camel, and he lived in the middle of a Howling Desert because he did not want to work; and besides, he was a Howler himself. So he ate sticks and thorns and tamarisks and milkweed and prickles, most 'scruciating idle; and when anybody spoke to him he said 'Humph!' Just 'Humph!' and no more.

Presently the Horse came to him on Monday morning, with a saddle on his back and a bit in his mouth, and said, 'Camel, O Camel, come out and trot like the rest of us.'

'Humph!' said the Camel; and the Horse went away and told the Man.

Presently the Dog came to him, with a stick in his mouth, and said, 'Camel, O Camel, come and fetch and carry like the rest of us.'

'Humph!' said the Camel; and the Dog went away and told the Man.

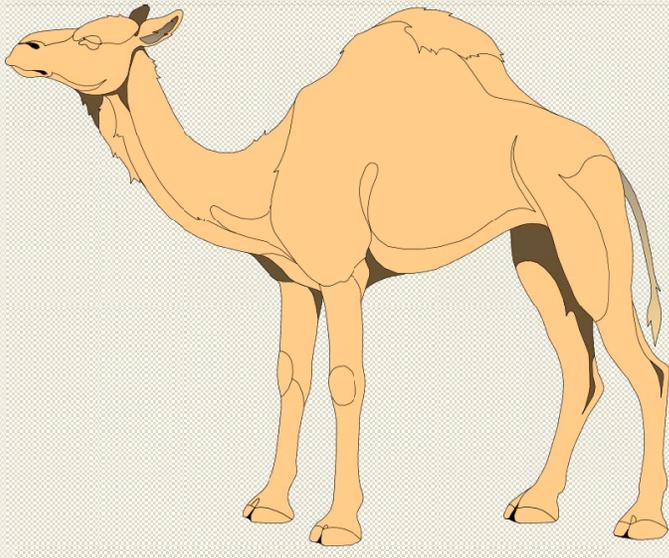
Presently the Ox came to him, with the yoke on his neck and said, 'Camel, O Camel, come and plough like the rest of us.'

'Humph!' said the Camel; and the Ox went away and told the Man.

At the end of the day the Man called the Horse and the Dog and the Ox together, and said, 'Three, O Three, I'm very sorry for you (with the world so new-and-all); but that Humph-thing in the Desert can't work, or he would have been here by now, so I am going to leave him alone, and you must work double-time to make up for it.'

That made the Three very angry (with the world so new-and-all), and they held a palaver, and an *indaba*, and a *punchayet*, and a pow-wow on the edge of the Desert; and the Camel came chewing on milkweed *most* 'scruciating idle, and laughed at them. Then he said 'Humph!' and went away again.

Presently there came along the Djinn in charge of All Deserts, rolling in a cloud of dust (Djinns always travel



that way because it is Magic), and he stopped to palaver and pow-wow with the Three.

'Djinn of All Deserts,' said the Horse, 'is it right for any one to be idle, with the world so new-and-all?'

'Certainly not,' said the Djinn.

'Well,' said the Horse, 'there's a thing in the middle of your Howling Desert (and he's a Howler himself) with a long neck and long legs, and he hasn't done a stroke of work since Monday morning. He won't trot.'

'Whew!' said the Djinn, whistling, 'that's my Camel, for all the gold in Arabia! What does he say about it?'

'He says "Humph!"' said the Dog; 'and he won't fetch and carry.'

'Does he say anything else?'

'Only "Humph!"; and he won't plough,' said the Ox.

'Very good,' said the Djinn. 'I'll humph him if you will kindly wait a minute.'

The Djinn rolled himself up in his dust-cloak, and took a bearing across the desert, and found the Camel most 'scruciatingly idle, looking at his own reflection in a pool of water.

'My long and bubbling friend,' said the Djinn, 'what's this I hear of your doing no work, with the world so new-and-all?'

'Humph!' said the Camel.

The Djinn sat down, with his chin in his hand, and began to think a Great Magic, while the Camel looked at his own reflection in the pool of water.

'You've given the Three extra work ever since Monday morning, all on account of your 'scruciating idleness,' said the Djinn; and he went on thinking Magics, with his chin in his hand.

'Humph!' said the Camel.

'I shouldn't say that again if I were you,' said the Djinn; you might say it once too often. Bubbles, I want you to work.'

And the Camel said 'Humph!' again; but no sooner had he said it than he saw his back, that he was so proud of, puffing up and puffing up into a great big lolloping humph.

'Do you see that?' said the Djinn. 'That's your very own humph that you've brought upon your very own self by not working. To-day is Thursday, and you've done no work since Monday, when the work began. Now you are going to work.'

'How can I,' said the Camel, 'with this humph on my back?'

'That's made a-purpose,' said the Djinn, 'all because you missed those three days. You will be able to work now for

three days without eating, because you can live on your humph; and don't you ever say I never did anything for you. Come out of the Desert and go to the Three, and behave. Humph yourself!'



Djinn or Jinn are spirits in Arabic folklore

And the Camel humphed himself, humph and all, and went away to join the Three. And from that day to this the Camel always wears a humph (we call it 'hump' now, not

to hurt his feelings); but he has never yet caught up with the three days that he missed at the beginning of the world, and he has never yet learned how to behave.

*THE Camel's hump is an ugly lump
Which well you may see at the Zoo;
But uglier yet is the hump we get
From having too little to do.*

*Kiddies and grown-ups too-oo-oo,
If we haven't enough to do-oo-oo,
We get the hump—
Cameelious hump—
The hump that is black and blue!*

*We climb out of bed with a frouzly head
And a snarly-yarly voice.
We shiver and scowl and we grunt and we growl
At our bath and our boots and our toys;*

*And there ought to be a corner for me
(And I know there is one for you)
When we get the hump—
Cameelious hump—
The hump that is black and blue!*

*The cure for this ill is not to sit still,
Or frowst with a book by the fire;
But to take a large hoe and a shovel also,
And dig till you gently perspire;*

*And then you will find that the sun and the wind.
And the Djinn of the Garden too,
Have lifted the hump—
The horrible hump—
The hump that is black and blue!*

*I get it as well as you-oo-oo—
If I haven't enough to do-oo-oo—
We all get hump—
Cameelious hump—
Kiddies and grown-ups too!*