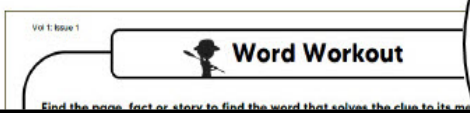




News Mag Media



News Flash Teacher Resource Pack



Teacher Resource Pack
April 2026
Issue #103

Word Search

All the words in this word search are hidden in the word factory. When you find the word, write it in the box below.

D W K V A X
I U I V N E
N C N Q D L C
F Z A G Y M A R I E
O F R J B G O D Q N O V
R A K B D E L I B A G P U Z S
M N H C P I T D N E G T X T I O
A G B F U W A T E S A U C J W D J
T T O B L A I F L E E A E F A Y J
I O D K E D F H R E F C T U T A P
O O Y G I A M C I Y D B T N Z R E
N T Z E R S E X I S N A S U K N
U H H I S T O R Y T U N Q U O I B
A L G M O N H A W Z I R R Q N F
L O U V R E S T F V Z I R R Q N F
P K H F U Y Y M S F Z B B A H Z
S R W C V V O Z J W Y W J D Z W O

Brody's Body Shop

Brody
Body
Brain
Giraffe
Dung beetle

Andy
Izzy
Animals
Insects
Heidi

History
Sayid
Creatures
Brooke
Buildings

Fangtooth
Louy
M...

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Crossword Time

How well have you read or listened to this month's magazine? Here in Crossword Time, we're testing your memory and retention skills. Can you complete the puzzle?

Across

4 A fast-growing tree that can be found in many hot countries around the world. (6)

7 An animal that hunts other animals is called another for food. (4)

9 Animals that are hunted and killed by the world and takes up nearly a third of the African continent. (6)

10 This desert is the largest hot desert in the world. (6)

11 The tallest building in the world. (10)

12 The largest city in the world. (10)

Down

1 Something that is connected to a religion or god and is treated as very important or holy. (6)

2 A part or area of something that is divided off as a section of the whole. (11)

3 A large stone building that is used to keep things safe. (10)

4 A large stone building that is used to keep things safe. (10)

5 A large stone building that is used to keep things safe. (10)

6 A large stone building that is used to keep things safe. (10)

7 A large stone building that is used to keep things safe. (10)

8 A large stone building that is used to keep things safe. (10)

9 A large stone building that is used to keep things safe. (10)

10 A large stone building that is used to keep things safe. (10)

11 A large stone building that is used to keep things safe. (10)

12 A large stone building that is used to keep things safe. (10)

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New 68-PAGE AG MAG OUT!

We're delighted to let you know that AG MAG, Ireland's brand-new farming magazine for children, has just launched! Packed with stories, facts, interviews and safety tips, AG MAG is created especially for pupils who are curious about farming life and the world of agriculture.

Want to find out more? Visit www.agmag.ie

Visit www.agmag.ie

For queries relating to resources, email stephen@newsmagmedia.ie



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20% OFF



Also available in Ukrainian

The Fact Factory Reading Kit Available to SETs

Having collaborated with the Dyslexia Association of Ireland (DAI) and the National Council for the Blind of Ireland (NCBI), News Mag Media have proudly created the world's first audio-print magazine for children with print disabilities - dyslexia, visual impairment, reluctant readers, children with ASD and EAL being the most common. The purpose of the kit is to empower marginalised readers, inspire engagement with text, instil a love of reading and, ultimately, help every child, regardless of needs, feel included when it comes to reading. We hope (and believe) you will see the potential that the kit and magazines hold for print-disabled children.

“ We love *The Fact Factory* magazine and pen kit! It's a fantastic child-friendly resource. We have children with reading difficulties and dyslexia, as well as children with visual impairments, who absolutely love this resource! ”

Catherine, SET, Athlone

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Fill in the Blanks #1

Read through the words in the Word Bank first and make sure you understand them. Then, read the article. Make sure you think about the best place to put a word, not the first place. Careful as you go, as some words may fit in more than one place, while other words will only suit one.

The Oscars

presenters

honours

Director

Hollywood

industry

grabs

world

statuette

1929

The Oscars, officially called the Academy Awards, are the most famous movie awards in the world. They celebrate the best films, actors and filmmakers each year. The awards are chosen by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, an organisation made up of thousands of people who work in the film _____.

The winners receive a small golden _____ called an Oscar, which is officially known as the Academy Award of Merit. The first Oscars ceremony took place in _____ at a hotel in Hollywood. Over time, the awards grew bigger and more glamorous. Today, the ceremony includes music performances, comedy, emotional speeches and famous _____. Winning an Oscar is considered one of the greatest _____ in filmmaking.

The 98th Academy Awards took place on 15 March 2026, at the Dolby Theatre in _____, Los Angeles. During the event, 24 awards are up for _____ in various categories, including Best Picture, Best Actor, Best Actress and Best _____. The ceremony is watched by millions of people around the _____.



Fill in the Blanks #2

Read through the words in the Word Bank first and make sure you understand them. Then, read the article. Make sure you think about the best place to put a word, not the first place. Careful as you go, as some words may fit in more than one place, while other words will only suit one.

Birdwatching

hobby

binoculars

time

guide

quiet

sounds

nest

sky

day

Birdwatching is a fun and peaceful _____ that many children enjoy. It can be done in a garden or park, or even from a window at home. To get started, you need a pair of _____ to see birds clearly from far away. A notebook is also useful so you can write down what you see and hear.

Early morning is the best _____ to watch birds because they are most active then. You might spot a blackbird singing or a sparrow hopping along the ground. Some people use a bird _____ to help them identify different species. These guides show pictures and give information about size, colour and sound.

It is important to stay very _____ so you do not scare the birds away. Wearing dull colours can also help you blend into your surroundings. Listening carefully is just as important as looking, as birds often make unique _____.

Birdwatching teaches patience and helps you learn about nature. You may even see birds building a _____ or feeding their young. With practice, you will become better at spotting birds in the _____ and trees. It is a hobby you can enjoy every _____.



Fill in the Blanks #3

Read through the words in the Word Bank first and make sure you understand them. Then, read the article. Make sure you think about the best place to put a word, not the first place. Careful as you go, as some words may fit in more than one place, while other words will only suit one.

Apollo 13

emergency

spacecraft

home

ground

lifeboat

return

ocean

thinking

danger

Apollo 13 was a famous space mission launched by NASA in 1970. Three astronauts set off to travel to the Moon, but their journey quickly turned into a dangerous _____. After two days in space, an oxygen tank exploded, causing serious damage to the _____. The crew had to stop their plan to land on the Moon and focus on getting _____ safely.

The astronauts – Jim Lovell, Jack Swigert and Fred Haise – worked closely with engineers on the _____. Together, they solved many difficult problems using limited tools and supplies. They moved into the lunar module, which became a kind of _____ to keep them alive.

The temperature inside the spacecraft became very cold, and water was limited. The astronauts had to be calm and careful as they followed instructions. People around the world listened to updates and hoped for their safe _____.

After several tense days, the spacecraft re-entered Earth's atmosphere. The parachutes opened, and the crew landed safely in the _____. Their survival was seen as a great success for teamwork and quick _____.

Today, Apollo 13 is remembered as a story of courage, science, and never giving up even in a time of great _____ and challenge.



All the Mistakes #1

Read through the article taken from this month's issue and see if you can spot the nine spelling mistakes.

Off to the Moon

3 ... 2 ... 1 ... For the first time in more than 50 years, humans are heding back around the Moon.

NASA's Artemis II mission is set to send four astronauts on a 10-day journey aboard the Orion spacecraft. The crew – Americans Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover, Christina Koch and Canadian astronaut Jeremy Hansen – will loop around the Moon before splashing back down on Earth.

At their furthist point, the astronauts could travel more than 380,000 km from home at speeds of almost 40,000 km/h. They are expected to see the far side of the Moon up close and watch the Earth shrink to the size of a marbel through their window.

The mission was delayd after engineers spotted problems with the rokcet but, after months of repairs and testing, it is now back on the launch pad. NASA is aiming for an early April liftoff, although final checks, wether and safety reviews will decide the exact date. Before departure, the astronauts enter quarantine and carry out their final training. The Moon is roughly 384,400 km from Earth.

Flashy Fact: The Orion spacecraft is designed to travell further than any crewed mission in history, reaching nearly 10,000 km beyond the farr side of the Moon!

Correct spelling

Choose three of these words and put them into sentences.



All the Mistakes #2

Read through the article taken from this month's issue and see if you can spot the nine spelling mistakes.

Irish Star Wins Oscar

Jessie Buckley has made histry – the Killarney actress is the first Irish woman eva to win the Oscar for Best Actress.

She won the award for her role as Agnes in *Hamnet*, a movie about the familie of the famous playwright William Shakespeare, based on the bestselling book by Irish author Maggie O'Farrell.

Since 1929, there have been 98 Oscar award ceremonys and only two other Irish women – Saoirse Ronan and Ruth Negga – had been nominated in this catagory before. Buckley herself was nominated in 2022 for Best Supporting Actress.

Accepting her award, Jessie thanked her family and spoke proudly about being Irish, ending her speach with the words '*Go raibh míle, míle maith agat*'.

There was more Irish success on the night, as Dublin-born visual effects artist Richard Baneham won his third Oscar for his work on *Avatar: Fire and Ash*.

Flashy Fact: The famous golden statuee is officially named the Academy Award of Merit, but nobody calls it that!

Correct spelling



All the Mistakes #3

Read through the article taken from this month's issue and see if you can spot the nine spelling mistakes.

A Very Lost Bird

Last month a wouldpecker, now this ... the bird news just keeps coming! A rare bird that had never been scene in Ireland before turned up in a housing estate in Lisburn, Co Antrim – and no one realised how rare it was for munths.

The oriental turtle dove was first spotted by locals back in December, but it was only when a birdwatcher shared photos that experts confirmed it was the first of its kind ever recorded on the island of Ireland.

The dove is about the size of a street pigeon, with a dark, dotted patern on its back, a pinkish chest and a grey head. It also has a small black-and-white patch on each side of its neck.

So how did it end up in Lisburn? Niall Hatch from BirdWatch Ireland said the speshees normuly breeds in places like Russia and Korea and migrates to southern Asia for winter. But sometimes a bird's sense of direction goes wrong, sending it thousands of kilometres off course.

'Most of those birds wouldn't survive,' said Hatch. 'But this bird seems to have travelled across two continants to arrive in Lisburn.'

Correct spelling

Choose three of these words and put them into sentences.



Word Workout #1

Find the page, fact or story to find the word that solves the clue to its meaning. The number of letters and the starting letter of the word are in brackets after each clue.

Page	Article/Paragraph	CLUE (number of letters, first letter)
2	. . . Forgetful Flashy?	Hungry (7, p)
3	The Nature Notebook	To like or look up to someone or something (6, a)
4	Off to the Moon	Something that happens later than planned (7, d)
4	Irish Star Wins Oscar	Chosen for a special job or prize (9, n)
5	. . . With No Charge	To make someone very tired (7, e)
8	This Month in History	Right away, without waiting (11, i)
9	Art to Heart	Very special or amazing (10, r)
10	An Occupational Therapist	The answer to a problem (8, s)





Word Workout #2

Find the page, fact or story to find the word that solves the clue to its meaning. The number of letters and the starting letter of the word are in brackets after each clue.

Page	Article/Paragraph	CLUE (number of letters, first letter)
12	Happy Earth Day	Very important or necessary (9, e)
13	Happy Earth Day	A light, shiny metal (9, a)
14	Mega Machines	Can stretch or extend far (10, t)
15	Feel Good!	To focus all your attention (11, c)
18	Türkiye	Large landmasses on Earth (10, c)
20	World of Science	Going straight up or down (10, v)
21	Amazing Animals	Animals that hunt other animals (9, p)
24	Wacky World of Sport	Extremely hot or burning (9, s)





Quiz 24

This month's 24-question quiz is based on the 24 pages of *News Flash*. The question number corresponds to the page it is taken from. For example, the answer to Q.7 can be found on page 7 and the answer to Q.14 can be found on page 14.

1. When is Earth Day?
2. On what page is 'Feel Good!'?
3. In which culture is cherry blossom very important?
4. What was the name of Jessie Buckley's character in the movie Hamnet?
5. Which movie won the top prize at the Annecy Animation Festival?
6. One full day on the Moon (sunrise to sunrise) takes about this many Earth days.
7. How many astronauts walked on the Moon between 1969 and 1972?
8. What were the names of the three astronauts on board Apollo 13?
9. What was the name of Heinrich Hirschsprung's daughter?
10. What is the goal of an occupational therapist?
11. What percentage of children in Ireland now attend school?
12. How old is the Earth?
13. How many countries now celebrate Earth Day?
14. In which country is the Liebherr LTM 11200-9.1 made?
15. What is the 20-20-20 rule?
16. How many hidden items are in the Eye Spy puzzle?
17. What is this month's wordsearch theme?
18. What is the population of Türkiye?
19. When did the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul open?
20. When did the first powered flight take place?
21. What can a kākāpō not do?
22. How many of their first 19 games did Wolves win this season?
23. How much did Manchester City pay to sign Marc Guehi?
24. Which country was Abdel-Kader Zaaf from?



Word Search Maker

Here's your chance to create a word search for your friend or classmate to complete. Fill in the 12 words in the word search grid (they can go backward, forward or diagonally) and then list them in the word boxes underneath the puzzle. Fill in all the other squares with random letters so your words become hidden. Perhaps you could include a secret word (not in the list) that your friend must try and find on their own.



Sudoku Time

Each of the 9 boxes must contain the numbers 1 – 9. When you fill them in, you will then see that each line going across and each line going down also contains the numbers 1 – 9.

			8			5	7	1
				5	7			
		1	6			9		
	7				9	1		
6	3							7
							5	
		4	9		8			3
				2				
	1	6			3			9

9	5			8				
3		7				8	9	5
			2	9		4		
	3							
		6		5		3	2	
				3	7		5	9
2					4		8	7
		3	9	1	8			
		9		7				6



Poster Print Time

For this month's poster challenge, we want you to design a poster based on the Earth Day theme for 2026 'Our Power, Our Planet'. Remember to be both informative and creative – you want people to know about it AND to be interested in it!

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the student to draw and design their poster. The box occupies most of the page below the instructions.



Crack the Joke

In this month's Crack the Joke on Page 17, a funny joke is waiting to be cracked. When you solve the code and reveal the gag, see if you can come up with a drawing/illustration that you think best captures the joke.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to draw an illustration related to the joke.



My Favourite Facts

Every issue of **News Flash** is packed full of facts and figures. Why not record the top four things that you learned from this issue? When you do, make sure to draw an illustration to go with each one. When you are finished, share and discuss your choices with your classmates. We have added one of our favourite ones below.

When Apollo 13 swung around the far side of the Moon, the astronauts were 401,056 kilometres from Earth – the farthest any human has ever travelled from our planet.



1

2

3

4



Talk Time

Based on articles from this month's magazine, we want you to think about some of the issues that arise. Remember, when you are trying to put forward an opinion, or an argument, make sure you know your facts and figures and be clear in how you feel about a certain topic and why. Here are some questions and statements you and your class might like to consider thinking about and discussing. Some you will agree with, some you clearly won't!

1. Gardening should be a compulsory subject in schools.

2. It should be Earth Month instead of Earth Day so that there can be more awareness about how to help our planet.

3. Ireland has the best acting talent in the world.

4. KPop Demon Hunters is not the best animated film of the past year.

5. Except for watching TV, screens should be banned for all children under 16.



What's in the News?

How well have you read this month's paper? Here in 'What's in the News', as well as testing your memory and retention skills, we also test your imagination and creative skills. We base this activity on our News Desk section on pages 3, 4 & 5. Read the articles and answer the following

1. How long is Artemis II's mission set to last?

2. How far away from the Earth is the Moon?

3. Where is Jessie Buckley from?

4. What is the official name of the Oscar statue?

5. How many buses are sitting in bus depots in Dublin due to them having no charging points?

6. How many electric buses does Ireland have?

7. Where was the oriental turtle dove found?

8. What are 'twitchers'?



Know Your Sport

How well have you read this month's sports news? Here, in Know Your Sport, we're testing your memory and retention skills. We base this activity on the pages from our sports section. Read the articles and answer the following questions.

1. Who were Atletico Madrid playing when the pigeon stopped play?

2. Who does Josh Cullen currently play for?

3. When did Ireland last win the Women's Six Nations?

4. When will the 2026 World Cup be held?

5. Which position does Daichi Kamada play?

6. Which county does Leona Maguire come from?

7. Who do Munster play on April 25?

8. How many All-Ireland titles has Kerry won?



Word Search

This word search contains words to do with Türkiye! Can you find them all ... including the secret term not listed below? Clue: *Türkiye's highest peak.*

E	C	O	N	S	T	A	N	T	I	N	O	P	L	E	H	M
K	T	E	N	E	H	T	F	O	S	N	A	T	L	U	S	R
A	E	N	L	J	S	K	W	I	C	V	K	L	Q	X	A	M
U	L	M	O	U	N	T	A	R	A	R	A	T	I	A	Q	U
Q	T	R	H	X	V	Y	L	L	C	P	X	S	Z	Q	A	J
H	S	P	A	M	U	K	K	A	L	E	T	A	I	N	D	R
T	A	B	E	G	J	A	K	T	A	A	B	U	A	B	L	Y
R	C	Y	A	K	B	R	X	I	N	D	R	T	L	B	M	A
A	N	T	Y	S	A	Y	C	B	N	O	O	B	L	I	Y	R
E	O	V	J	S	M	O	U	A	P	L	E	A	R	G	P	A
I	T	X	H	I	D	L	R	I	I	T	C	C	S	A	Q	S
T	T	A	N	A	E	G	E	A	U	K	N	H	G	U	K	A
B	O	S	P	H	O	R	U	S	S	T	R	A	I	T	X	T
N	C	P	J	Z	U	E	Y	E	L	I	V	E	I	D	C	A
F	A	W	N	A	E	N	A	R	R	E	T	I	D	E	M	L
C	B	Y	Z	A	N	T	I	N	E	E	M	P	I	R	E	A
C	A	H	O	T	A	I	R	B	A	L	L	O	O	N	S	G

Aegean

Byzantine Empire

Evil eye

Mediterranean

Anatolia

Cappadocia

Galatasaray

Noah's Ark

Baklava

Constantinople

Grand Bazaar

Pamukkale

Black Sea

Cotton Castle

Hot air balloons

Sultans of the Net

Bosphorus Strait

Earthquake

Istanbul

Tulips

News Flash

NEWS

NM



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Answers

Fill in the Blanks #1

1. industry
2. statuette
3. 1929
4. presenters
5. honours
6. Hollywood
7. grabs
8. Director
9. world

Fill in the Blanks #2

1. hobby
2. binoculars
3. time
4. guide
5. quiet
6. sounds
7. nest
8. sky
9. day

Fill in the Blanks #3

1. emergency
2. spacecraft
3. home
4. ground
5. lifeboat
6. return
7. ocean
8. thinking
9. danger

All the Mistakes #1

1. Heading
2. Furthest
3. Marble
4. Delayed
5. Rocket
6. Weather
7. Training
8. Travel
9. Far

All the Mistakes #2

1. History
2. Ever
3. Family
4. Playwright
5. Bestselling
6. Ceremonies
7. Category
8. Speech
9. Statue

All the Mistakes #3

1. Woodpecker
2. Seen
3. Months
4. Oriental
5. Confirmed
6. Pattern
7. Species
8. Normally
9. Continents

Word Workout #1

1. Peckish
2. Admire
3. Delayed
4. Nominated
5. Exhaust
6. Immediately
7. Remarkable
8. Solution

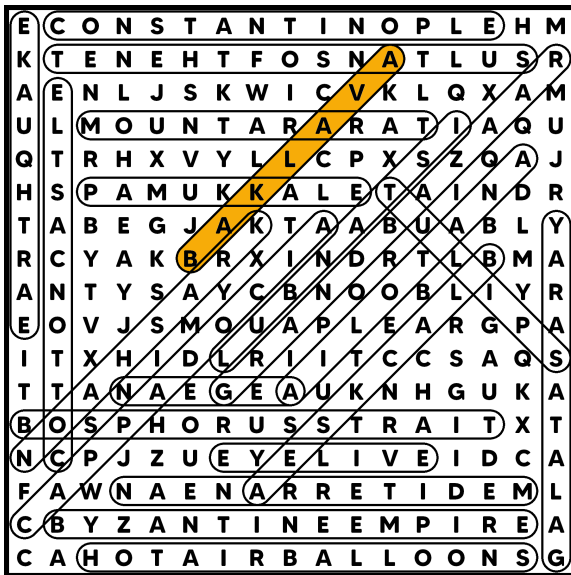
Word Workout #2

1. Essential
2. Aluminium
3. Telescopic
4. Concentrate
5. Continents
6. Vertically
7. Predators
8. Scorching

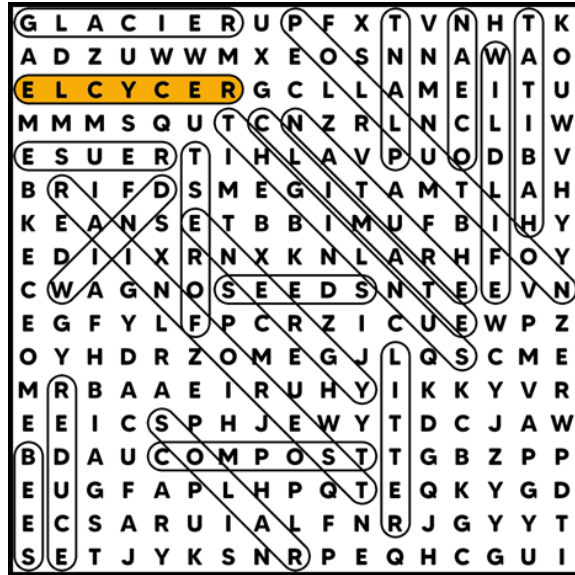


Answers

Word Search



Word Search (Magazine)



Quiz 24

1. April 22
2. Page 15
3. Japanese
4. Agnes
5. Arco
6. 29.5
7. 12
8. Jim Lovell, Fred Haise, Jack Swigert
9. Ellen
10. To help people live as independently as possible
11. More than 99%
12. 4.5 billion years old
13. 190+ countries
14. Germany
15. Every 20 minutes, look at something 20 feet away for 20 seconds
16. 12
17. Earth Day
18. About 86 million
19. 1461
20. 1903
21. Fly
22. None
23. €23 million
24. Algeria

In the News

1. 10 days
2. Roughly 384,400 km
3. Killarney
4. Academy Award of Merit
5. 85
6. More than 250
7. A housing estate in Lisburn, Co. Antrim
8. Birdwatchers who travel long distances to see rare birds

Know Your Sport

1. Real Sociedad
2. Burnley
3. 2015
4. June 11 to July 19
5. Midfielder
6. Cavan
7. Ulster
8. 39



Answers

From Puzzler Pages (pages 16 & 17 of News Flash)

TRUE OR FALSE

1. True. Antarctica receives very little precipitation, which makes it technically the largest desert on Earth.
2. False. Astronauts have confirmed that the Great Barrier Reef is not easily visible from space with the naked eye.
3. Scientists estimate around 100 lightning strikes every second worldwide.
4. True. Earth bulges slightly at the equator due to its rotation.
5. Thousands of years ago the Sahara had lakes, rivers and grasslands during wetter climate periods.

EU MAP CHALLENGE

1. Ireland
2. Portugal
3. Spain
4. France
5. Belgium
6. Netherlands
7. Luxembourg
8. Germany
9. Poland
10. Czechia
11. Austria
12. Slovakia
13. Hungary
14. Slovenia
15. Italy
16. Romania
17. Bulgaria
18. Greece
19. Malta
20. Croatia
21. Lithuania
22. Latvia
23. Estonia
24. Finland
25. Sweden
26. Denmark
27. Cyprus

Can EU Crack the Code?

We hope you have enjoyed our Europe Day special. Happy Europe Day on May the ninth, from all of us at News Flash.

Crack the Joke

What's the difference between weather and climate? You can't weather a tree, but you can climate.

Sudoku

4	6	3	8	9	2	5	7	1
9	8	2	1	5	7	6	3	4
7	5	1	6	3	4	9	2	8
2	7	5	3	4	9	1	8	6
6	3	8	2	1	5	4	9	7
1	4	9	7	8	6	3	5	2
5	2	4	9	6	8	7	1	3
3	9	7	4	2	1	8	6	5
8	1	6	5	7	3	2	4	9

9	5	4	7	8	3	2	6	1
3	2	7	1	4	6	8	9	5
8	6	1	2	9	5	4	7	3
5	3	8	6	2	9	7	1	4
7	9	6	4	5	1	3	2	8
1	4	2	8	3	7	6	5	9
2	1	5	3	6	4	9	8	7
6	7	3	9	1	8	5	4	2
4	8	9	5	7	2	1	3	6