



News Mag Media



# News Flash Teacher Resource Pack



**Teacher Resource Pack  
May 2026  
Issue #104**

**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 S N A S U K N  
N T Z E R Z E S 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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**Word Workout**

Find the page, fact or story to find the word that solves the clue to its mystery.

**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**

- A fast-growing tree that can be found in many hot countries around the world. (6)
- An animal that hunts other animals is called another for food. (4)
- Animals that are hunted and killed by the world and takes up nearly a third of the African continent. (6)
- The tallest building in the world. (10)

**Down**

- Something that is connected to a religion or god and is treated as very important or holy. (5)
- A part or area of something that is divided off as a section of the whole. (11)
- A large stone building that is used to keep things safe. (10)
- Something old - usually a building - that has been repaired, restored or renewed. (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](http://www.agmag.ie)

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# NF Notice Board

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“ 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**

**IDEAL FOR CHILDREN WITH ...**

-  **DYSLEXIA**
-  **VISUAL IMPAIRMENT**
-  **EAL**
-  **RELUCTANT READERS**

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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.

### Country Music

rhythm

radio

rural

struggle

sound

tradition

fiddle

style

UK

Country music is a popular style of music that began in the \_\_\_\_\_ areas of the United States. It often tells stories about everyday life, love, and hard work. Many songs use simple instruments like the guitar, banjo, and \_\_\_\_\_. One famous country singer is Dolly Parton, who is known for her strong voice and kind personality. Another well-known artist is Johnny Cash, who sang songs about life and \_\_\_\_\_.

Country music is easy to recognise because of its clear lyrics and steady \_\_\_\_\_. Some songs are happy and make people want to dance, while others are slow and tell sad stories. The music is often performed at concerts, festivals, and even on the \_\_\_\_\_.

Instruments are very important in country music. The fiddle is often used to create a lively \_\_\_\_\_. Singers sometimes wear cowboy hats and boots, which are part of the country \_\_\_\_\_.

Today, country music is enjoyed all over the world, including in the \_\_\_\_\_. It has changed over time, mixing with pop and rock styles. Even so, it still keeps its strong storytelling \_\_\_\_\_.



## 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.

### The Boston Marathon

warm

event

distance

world

history

atmosphere

line

endurance

runners

The Boston Marathon is one of the oldest and most famous races in the \_\_\_\_\_. It takes place every year in the city of Boston, in the United States. The race began in 1897 and has a long and proud \_\_\_\_\_. Thousands of runners from different countries travel to take part in this exciting \_\_\_\_\_.

The marathon is about 42 kilometres long, which is a very long \_\_\_\_\_. Runners train for many months to build their strength and \_\_\_\_\_. On the day of the race, people line the streets to cheer and support the \_\_\_\_\_. This creates a friendly and lively \_\_\_\_\_.

The race is usually held in April, when the weather can be cool or sometimes a bit \_\_\_\_\_. Even though it is challenging, many runners dream of crossing the finish \_\_\_\_\_.

The Boston Marathon is not just a race, but also a celebration of effort, determination, and community spirit.



## 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.

### Claude Monet

nature  
 colour  
 seasons  
 garden  
 name  
 studio  
 ways  
 paint  
 people

Claude Monet was a famous French artist who helped start a style of painting called Impressionism. He was born in 1840 and loved to paint scenes from \_\_\_\_\_, such as gardens, rivers, and the sea. Instead of painting tiny details, he used quick brush strokes to show light and \_\_\_\_\_.

Monet often painted the same place many times to show how it changed during the day or in different \_\_\_\_\_. One of his most famous series shows water lilies floating on a pond in his own \_\_\_\_\_. He also painted a well-known picture called Impression, Sunrise, which helped give the Impressionist movement its \_\_\_\_\_.

Monet enjoyed working outdoors rather than in a \_\_\_\_\_. This helped him capture real light and colours. He used bright paints and liked to show shadows in interesting \_\_\_\_\_.

Even when his eyesight became weak as he got older, Monet continued to \_\_\_\_\_. Today, his artwork is displayed in museums around the world and is admired by many \_\_\_\_\_. His paintings are known for their beauty and peaceful feeling.



# All the Mistakes #1

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

## Tomb Treasure Find

Deep beneath a famous burial site in Panama, archaeologists have uncovered one of the most remarkable tombs found in the countrie in years.

The discovery was made at El Caño Archaeological Park in Central America. Inside Tomb 3, reserchers found the remains of a powerful individual buried alongside gold jewelry, decorated ceramic bowls and striking simbols – including bats and crocodiles – that represented power and the afterlife.

Experts believe this person may have been an important cheif or ruler from the Gran Coclé civilisation, a group of people who lived in the region more than 1,000 years ago. Several others were buried alongside him – possibly family members, servents or companions chosen to join their leader in the afterlife.

El Caño is sometimes called Panama's 'Valley of the Kings' because so many important leaders were laied to rest there. Researchers say Tomb 3 adds a remarkable new chapter to that story.

### Flashy Fact

Gold never rusts or fades – which is why so many ancient civilisations beleived it was a symbol of power, the gods and eternal lif.

#### Correct spelling

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Choose three of these words and put them into sentences.

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# All the Mistakes #2

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

## World's Longest Wild Snake!

A giant python from Indonesia has officially become the longest wild snake ever measured. Nicknamed 'The Baroness', the enormous reticulated python stretches an incredible 7.22 metres from head to tail. That is up to three metres longer than a giraffe is tall – and twice as long as most family cars.

People living near the forrest had known about her for years. When word of her size spred, wildlife experts travelled to investigate – carefully mesuring and weighing her without causing stress to the animal.

She came in at around 96 kilograms, much heavier than most adult humans.

As she began moving closer to nearby villages – where large snakes can be killed out of fear – conservationists stepped in. She was moved to a protected enclosure on private land in Maros County, where she is now safe.

Guinness World Records has officially confirmed her titel.

### Flashy Fact

The longest snake ever kept in captivity was also a reticulated python – called Medusa – who measured an astonshing 7.67 metres long.

### Correct spelling

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# All the Mistakes #3

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

## Irish Running Hero

With just metres to go and a personal best within reach, Aaron Beggs stopped running – because someone needed help more than he needed the record.

The Co. Down athlete, who runs for North Down Athletic Club, was near the finish line of the Boston marathon when he spotted fellow competitor Ajay Haridasse collapsing on the road ahead. Haridasse had fallen several times and could barely stand. Most runners passed by. Beggs didn't.

Another runner, Robson de Oliveira, also stopped, and together the two men lifted Haridasse and helped him together over the finish line.

Beggs completed the marathon in two hours, 44 minutes and 36 seconds – outside his personal best, but inside everyone's good books. His club called him a 'phenomenal sportsman'. Haridasse later said he had been 'ready to crawl' before they reached him.

### Flashy Fact

The Boston Marathon is the world's oldest annual marathon, first held in 1897 – making this year's race the 129th edition.

#### 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? | a member of the cat family (6, f)            |
| 3    | Nature Notebook       | powder from flowers for reproduction (6, p)  |
| 4    | Farther Than It Looks | people who travel into space (10, a)         |
| 5    | ... Wild Snake!       | carefully <u>look into</u> something (11, i) |
| 5    | Irish Running Hero    | extremely impressive or amazing (10, p)      |
| 6    | ... Day Special       | person who studies old remains (13, a)       |
| 7    | ... Day Special       | written words for plays or films (7, s)      |
| 8    | ... the Lusitania     | able to be seen clearly (7, v)               |





# 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)        |
|------|-------------------|---|
| 9    | Art to Heart      | How someone feels (4, m)                      |
| 10   | ... Broker        | Something people decide together (9, a)       |
| 11   | Movie Magic       | Moving pictures or drawings (9, a)            |
| 12   | ... of Bees       | Belly area of body (7, a)                     |
| 13   | ... of Bees       | Least common or hardest to find (6, r)        |
| 14   | Mega Machines     | Totally, with nothing left out (10, c)        |
| 15   | Feel Good!        | Make something clear or understandable (7, e) |
| 16   | Puzzler Pages     | Making something look bigger (10, m)          |





## 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 World Bee Day?
2. When is the next issue of News Flash out?
3. How many tulips do Dutch farmers sell throughout the year?
4. What never rusts or fades?
5. When was the first Boston Marathon held?
6. When was the first soldier of the Terracotta Army discovered buried underground?
7. What do some people call 'Ireland's greatest treasure'?
8. How many passengers boarded the Lusitania in New York on May 1, 1915?
9. How many versions of his famous Waterlilies painting did Monet create?
10. What is a policy?
11. Who wrote the book, *The Magic Faraway Tree*?
12. How many types of bumblebee are there in Ireland?
13. Do bees fly at night?
14. What are round bales designed to do?
15. What happens to children who regularly talk about their feelings?
16. What is the picture of in the 'Eye Spy' puzzle?
17. How many jokes are on page 17?
18. When did Livraria Bertrand first open?
19. What is Portugal the oldest European country to do?
20. What is completely normal?
21. In which country would you find the pink fairy armadillo?
22. What did Rory McIlroy celebrate on May 4?
23. How many caps does Christian Pulisic have?
24. Out of the 32 runners who started the 1904 Olympic marathon, how many made it to the finish?



# 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.

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# 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.

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

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



## Poster Print Time

For this month's poster challenge – and in honour of World Museum Day – we want you to create a poster advertising a museum and all it has to offer. It can be a real museum, either local to you or a museum that you have visited elsewhere – or it can be a museum that you have made up! Remember to be both informative and creative – you want people to know about it AND to want to go to it!

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for students to draw and write their museum posters. 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.

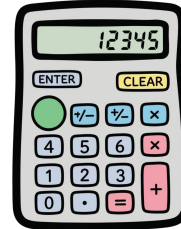
A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to draw an illustration related to the joke.



# 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.

The guidance computer used for the Apollo 11 Moon Landing in 1969 had less computing power than a modern calculator.



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. Country music is the best music!

2. Snakes are beautiful creatures.

3. It is more important to show good sportsmanship than it is to win.

4. The Mona Lisa is overrated.

5. Talking about our feelings should be encouraged at school.



## 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. Which county is Jesse Sludds from?

2. What song did he sing to win The Late Late Show's Opening Act competition?

3. Where is Panama?

4. What is El Caño sometimes called?

5. How many Earths could be fitted into the gap between the Earth and the Moon?

6. What has the giant python been nicknamed?

7. How much does she weigh?

8. How long did it take Aaron Beggs to complete the Boston Marathon?



## 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 did Galway beat in the Division 1A final?

2. When did Troy Parrott join AZ on a permanent transfer?

3. How many times has Rory McIlroy won The Masters?

4. When is the final of the 2026 World Cup?

5. Which club does Moises Caicedo play for?

6. What age is Lamine Yamal?

7. Which two teams go against each other in Munster SFC final?

8. Who do Ireland face in the Women's World Cup qualifiers on June 5?



# Word Search

This word search contains words to do with Portugal. Can you find them all ... including the secret term not listed below. Clue: *'Best Summer Destination' at the Irish Travel Industry Awards 2026.*

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

Atlantic Ocean

Empires

Iberian Peninsula

Porto

Surfing

Bacalhau

Explorers

Lisbon

Ronaldo

Trams

Benfica

Fado

Livraria Bertrand

Rooster

UNESCO

Cork

Guitar

Pastel de nata

Serrada Estrela

Vasco da Gama

# News Flash

NEWS

NM



Cover designed by:





# Answers

## Fill in the Blanks #1

1. rural
2. fiddle
3. struggle
4. rhythm
5. radio
6. sound
7. style
8. UK
9. tradition

## Fill in the Blanks #2

1. world
2. history
3. event
4. distance
5. endurance
6. runners
7. atmosphere
8. warm
9. line

## Fill in the Blanks #3

1. nature
2. colour
3. seasons
4. garden
5. name
6. studio
7. ways
8. paint
9. people

## All the Mistakes #1

1. Country
2. Researchers
3. Jewellery
4. Symbols
5. Chief
6. Servants
7. Laid
8. Believed
9. Life

## All the Mistakes #2

1. Officially
2. Enormous
3. Stretches
4. Forest
5. Spread
6. Measuring
7. Stepped
8. Title
9. Astonishing

## All the Mistakes #3

1. Metres
2. Athlete
3. Athletic
4. Marathon
5. Competitor
6. Collapsing
7. Road
8. Together
9. Phenomenal

## Word Workout #1

1. Feline
2. Pollen
3. Astronauts
4. Investigate
5. Phenomenal
6. Archaeologist
7. Scripts
8. Visible

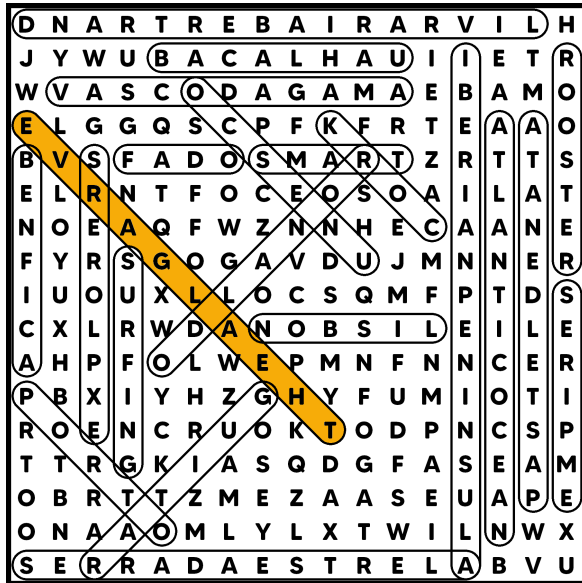
## Word Workout #2

1. Mood
2. Agreement
3. Animation
4. Abdomen
5. Rarest
6. Completely
7. Explain
8. Magnifying



# Answers

## Word Search (Resource Pack)



## Word Search (Magazine)



### Quiz 24

1. May 20
2. June 5
3. Three billion
4. Gold
5. 1897
6. 1974
7. The Book of Kells
8. 1,959
9. Over 250
10. A document that explains what your insurance covers
11. Enid Blyton
12. 21
13. No
14. Roll
15. They tend to do better in school and find it easier to make friends
16. A big dig
17. Five (including the hidden joke in 'Crack the Joke')
18. 1732
19. To have maintained the same borders throughout its history
20. That everyone is a farty pants!
21. Argentina
22. His 37th birthday
23. 84
24. 14

### In the News

1. Wexford
2. 'Fast Car' by Tracy Chapman
3. Central America
4. Panama's 'Valley of the Kings'
5. Around 30
6. 'The Baroness'
7. Around 96kg
8. Two hours, 44 minutes and 36 seconds

### Know Your Sport

1. Waterford
2. 2024
3. Twice
4. July 19
5. Chelsea
6. 18
7. Cork and Kerry
8. The Netherlands



# Answers

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

### TRUE OR FALSE

1. Honey never goes off. TRUE! Archaeologists have found 3,000-year-old honey in Egyptian tombs that was still safe to eat.
2. Bananas grow on trees. FALSE! Banana plants look like trees but they're actually giant herbs.
3. It rains diamonds on Saturn and Jupiter. TRUE! Scientists believe carbon is crushed into diamonds by the extreme pressure in their atmospheres.
4. Cows always face north or south when they eat. TRUE! Satellite studies have shown cattle tend to align with Earth's magnetic field, though scientists aren't sure why.
5. The Eiffel Tower grows taller in summer. TRUE! Heat causes the iron to expand, adding up to 15 cm.

### 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

### Crack the Joke

What do Alexander the Great and Kermit the Frog have in common?  
The same middle name!

### Sudoku

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

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