



## BIG NEWS

# IT'S DADDY LONGLEGS TIME



### DID YOU KNOW

- Daddy longlegs only live for about 10-15 days.
- The larvae (young form) of the insect are called leatherjackets.
- Leatherjackets live in the soil all winter.
- In the summer, each larva turns into a pupa (a bit like a butterfly's chrysalis) and the adults emerge in the late summer – this is why all the daddy longlegs appear in the autumn!

**Billions of daddy longlegs are set to hatch this autumn, creating a “boom of food” for wildlife.**

Have you seen a daddy longlegs yet? It's that time of year when these large, bumbling flies pop up all over the house. The insects – also known as crane flies - come in our homes to find shelter from the colder nights. Children don't like them in their bedrooms, but the flies are completely harmless.

In fact, according to the insect charity Bug Life, daddy longlegs provide an autumn feast for wildlife such as birds and spiders just before the winter comes.

This autumn is thought to be a particularly good year for daddy longlegs. 200 billion are expected to hatch out because of the warm summer and recent rain. The late September sunshine will help them to spread about.

You may even spot a larger kind of the insect, which has a leg span of 10cm! This insect is spreading north because of warming temperatures.



# BIG NEWS – IT'S DADDY LONGLEGS TIME!

1) What sort of creature is a daddy longlegs?




2) What is an alternative name for a daddy longlegs?

3) Why do these flies come in to our houses?

4) Why might you see more daddy longlegs this year?

5) All of the following are meanings of the word '**boom**'. Which is the correct meaning of the word as it has been used in this story?

- a loud deep noise
- an increase in something – a time of plenty
- a long pole at the bottom of a sail

6) True or false?

- Daddy longlegs live for 10 -15 months. **T / F**
- The larvae of the fly are called leatherbacks. **T / F**
- Bug Life is an insect charity. **T / F**
- A larger crane fly is spreading south because of warming temperatures. **T / F**

7) Why do these insects suddenly appear in the autumn?

- They have migrated here from hot countries.
- This is when the adults hatch from their pupae.
- The flies have been living in the countryside all summer and come in to escape the cold.

8) Why is it very helpful to wildlife that the daddy longlegs appear in the autumn?



## BIG NEWS

# WINNING GOLD AT JUST 15!



## DID YOU KNOW

- The Paralympics started in 1948 when a sports competition was organised for soldiers who had been injured in the Second World War.

### Ellie Robinson has won gold in the Rio Paralympics – and she hasn't even left school!

It was Ellie's first appearance at the Games – at the young age of just 15. She won her gold medal swimming the 50 metres butterfly race (S6). Her swim of 35.58 seconds was a record at the Games.

The Paralympics is an international sports competition for people with a wide range of disabilities. It is held after the Olympics.

Ellie was born with a form of dwarfism which means she is much shorter than the average person. She was inspired to become an athlete by seeing her hero, Ellie Simmonds (who has the same condition), swimming at the London Paralympics in 2012.

"I keep looking around to check that I actually won, it's so weird," Ellie said after her victory.

"I put everything I have done in training into that race. It's going to be weird to go back to school as a Paralympic champion."



# BIG NEWS – OLYMPIC CHAMPIONS CALL FOR MORE CYCLE LANES

1) What has Ellie Robinson just won?

- the 50 metres butterfly race at the Paralympics
- the 50 metres backstroke race at the Paralympics
- the 50 metres butterfly race at the Olympics

2) How long did it take Ellie to swim 50 metres?

3) What makes Ellie’s performance so amazing?

4) Who is Ellie Simmonds?

- Ellie Robinson’s headteacher, who inspired her to swim
- a British swimmer who competed at the Paralympics in 2012
- the person who started the Paralympics in 1948

5) What inspired Ellie Robinson to take her swimming seriously?

6) How did the Paralympics start?

7) What two things does Ellie say are “weird”?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

8) Why are the Paralympics such a great competition?



## CRAZY BUT TRUE



# IN THE PINK



taidejamuseokeskus -  
sinleka via instagram



**CHECK** out this 100-year-old house in Finland wrapped up in a super-snuggly coat!

We all like to make our houses cosy, but an artist known as Olek has taken that idea one step further! The bright pink cover is made out of crochet (similar to knitting).

The artist chose this house for a particular reason. In 1939 bombs fell in the garden during the Winter War between Russia and Finland. Its original owners had to move out, but they and the house survived.

Olek decided to use the house as a story of hope for the millions of refugees around the world who have been forced to leave their homes because of war.

So, she got together a team including refugee women from Syria and Ukraine. Together, they created this amazing pink cover for the house.

It is decorated with flower and skull patterns, but Olek says that the house is not just something eye-catching and pretty to look at. She hopes it will make people think about a bright future in which everybody has a home.

**HOW DO I SAY 'CROCHET'?**

**"crow-shay"**



# CRAZY BUT TRUE

1) In which country can you find this pink house?

Finland

France

Fiji

2) Why is it pink?

- It's wrapped up in pink paper.
- It has been painted in pink wall paint.
- It has been covered in pink crochet

3) Why did the artist choose this particular house?

- It was small enough to cover in crochet.
- Its original owners had to leave it because of war.
- It is the artist's own house.

4) Why were bombs dropped in its garden?

5) The artist wants this house to be a story of hope. Who for?

6) Who helped her create the crochet cover?

- schoolchildren from Finland
- a team from a local refugee charity
- refugee women from Syria and Ukraine

7) What dream does the artist have for the future?

8) Do you think this is a good way for the artist to get her message across?



# HOME NEWS

## CARDIFF

### Expect the unexpected

This week (17-19 Sept) Cardiff will be celebrating the birth of author Roald Dahl – who was born in the city 100 years ago – with a series of unexpected events. Be prepared to be surprised because there will be lots of weird and wonderful sights, performances and pop-ups appearing all over the city centre. It's going to be bonkers, it's going to be fun and most of all, it's going to be unexpected. Find out more at [www.cityoftheunexpected.wales](http://www.cityoftheunexpected.wales).



## NORFOLK

### Puzzled over missing pieces

It took Graham Andrew and a team of 200 people almost two weeks to finish a jigsaw for charity. It has over 33,000 pieces. So you can understand how they felt when they discovered that four pieces were missing! Graham came up with the idea of a giant jigsaw challenge to raise money for a hospital and nursery in Norfolk. Cleverly, Graham bought two copies of the jigsaw, for just this emergency, but his back-up plan didn't work. The jigsaws had the same picture but were cut to a slightly different pattern! Luckily, Graham got in touch with the puzzle maker in Spain who re-cut the missing pieces. Now the jigsaw - which is on display at the hospital - won't have four holes in it.

## UK

### Missing birds

Many people have been calling the RSPB, worried about the lack of birds on their bird feeders. The wildlife charity has had to reassure people that this is perfectly normal for the time of year. Our birds haven't disappeared! The reason we aren't seeing so many birds is that some have already left on their migration to Africa. Also, birds that live in the UK all year round are taking advantage of the number of insects and bugs around.





# HOME NEWS

1) Match the headline to the story subject.

Puzzled over missing pieces

Roald Dahl celebrations

Expect the unexpected

Calls to a wildlife charity

Missing birds

A giant jigsaw puzzle

Look at the news from Norfolk.

2) Which facts tell you that this was a very large jigsaw?

- A team of 200 people worked on it.
- Graham Andrew came up with the idea.
- It has over 33,000 pieces.
- It was a challenge for charity.
- The missing pieces were recut.
- It took two weeks to complete.

3) Why did Graham buy two copies of the jigsaw?

4) Why didn't his clever plan work?

Look at the news from Cardiff.

5) Why do you need to be "prepared to be surprised" if you visit Cardiff this week?

6) What are these events celebrating?

- Roald Dahl's 100th birthday
- 50 years since *Charlie & the Chocolate Factory* was written
- St David's Day

6) Which of these **adjectives** does the writer use to **describe** the experience?

fun

splendiferous

spooky

unexpected

barmy

bonkers

6) Do you think Roald Dahl would like these birthday celebrations?