

Ask Stink

Get all the dirt on your favorite character . . . right here.

STINK E. MOODY

Q. What's your real name?

A. James Edison Moody.

Q. Who are your best friends?

A. Webster, Sophie of the Elves, and Skunk.



Q. What's your favorite book?

A. The *S* encyclopedia.

Q. What's your favorite food?

A. Silver-dollar pancakes.

Q. What would you say is your proudest moment?

A. Rescuing 101 guinea pigs.



Ask Stink

Q. What's your favorite candy bar?

A. It's a three-way tie between PayDay, 100 Grand, and Milky Way.

Q. Who is your favorite president?

A. James Madison.



Q. Do you have any pets?

A. Mouse, my cat; Toady, my toad; Astro, my guinea pig; and I used to have a newt named Newton before Judy flushed him down the drain.

Q. What pet do you wish you had?

A. A stick insect or a blue-tailed skink.



I BRAKE FOR SKINKS

Q. What's your best super-galactic idea?

A. Saving Pluto.



Ask Stink

Q. Are you a member of any clubs?

A. I am a member of the
Toad Pee Club.



Q. Do you have any hobbies?

A. Drawing comics and bugging my sister.

Q. What do you hope to be when you grow up?

A. A professional smeller.



Astronomical Animals

Stink likes to think that when class 2D's pet newt slipped down the drain (oops!), it went on to great adventures. And what greater adventure is there than a trip into outer space?

The United States, the Soviet Union, France, Japan, and China have all sent animals to outer space. Some of the lucky (?) animalnavts:

- ★ The very first creatures ever sent into space were fruit flies.
- ★ On June 14, 1949, Albert II, a Rhesus monkey in a U.S.-launched V2, became the first monkey in space.
- ★ The first animal sent into orbit was the dog Laika, launched aboard the Soviet *Sputnik 2* spacecraft on November 3, 1957. The longest space flight by a dog is twenty-two days.
- ★ The first fish in space was a mummichog.



Astronomical Animals

★ Ten newts with cut-off limbs were aboard *Bion 7* in 1985. Scientists studied the limbs as they grew back to understand how humans might recover from injury in space. Ouch!

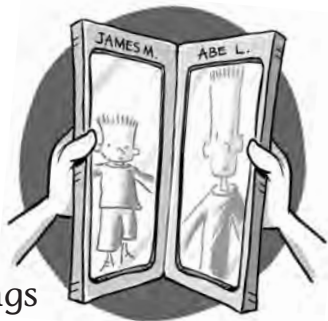
★ Arabella and Anita are the first spiders to go to space. They got to eat filet mignon!

★ Japanese tree frogs visited the Mir space station in December 1990.

★ Mice, guinea pigs, stick-insect eggs, Mexican jumping beans, crickets, and Madagascar hissing cockroaches have all been sent into space, too.



B Big and Little



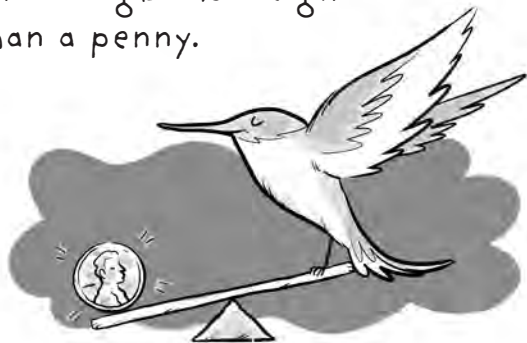
Good things come in small packages. Just ask Stink! And big things come in, er, big packages.

- ★ The world's smallest mammal is the bumblebee bat.
- ★ Will the real World's Largest Spider please stand up? *Megarachne servinei*, the World's Largest Spider, is a fake. It's more like a crab or sea scorpion. That's **GOOD** news for the Goliath birdeater, the **TRUE** world's largest spider.
- ★ Some hummingbirds weigh less than a penny.



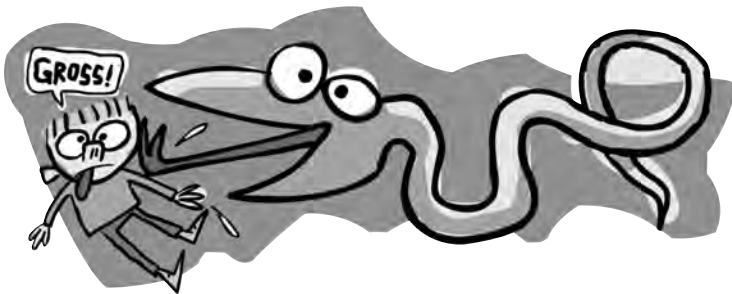
DID YOU KNOW?

The blue whale can weigh as much as 150 tons. That's the weight of 1,500 adult men!



Big and Little

- ★ The blue whale's head is so wide that a team of 50 football players could stand on its tongue.
- ★ The baby blue whale drinks up to 100 gallons of milk per day.
- ★ The longest earthworm ever measured was 21 feet long, found in South Africa.
- ★ The longest species of snake is the reticulated python, which can grow to a length of more than 30 feet.



DID YOU KNOW?

If your tongue could do what the nectar bat's tongue does, you'd be able to lick your own toes while standing up.

Brainy Cat



You may not be able to tell just by looking at her, but the Moody family cat, Mouse, might just be a genius.

IS YOUR CAT A GENIUS?

Can your cat read a map?

Yes

No

Does your cat meow at the fridge when hungry?

Yes

No

Does your cat take cat naps?

Yes

No

Does your cat have a good memory?

Yes

No

Does your cat wake you up like an alarm clock?

Yes

No

Can your cat get you to let it outside?

Yes

No

Can your cat express emotions?

Yes

No

Brainy Cat

How many times did you answer YES?

1-3 Send your cat back to kitty kindergarten

4-6 Super Cat

7 Phi Beta Catta — Genius!



Takes after
me, I guess!

Turn to page 134 for more brainy cat facts!



C Carnivorous Plants

Jaws, the Venus flytrap that belongs to Stink's sister, Judy, has a taste for flies and raw hamburger. Pass the ketchup, please.

- ⌚ The snap "trap" on the Venus flytrap takes less than a tenth of a second to SNAP.
- ⌚ If a Venus flytrap doesn't like its prey, it will spit it out within 12 hours and start over.



DID YOU KNOW?

It was once thought that the first Venus flytraps caught a piggyback ride on meteors, crash-landing here from outer-space.

HEY, BIG MOUTH!

Other names for Venus flytraps:

Jaws

Fused Tooth

Sawtooth

Red Piranha



Carnivorous Plants



OTHER TRICKY TRAPS USED BY CARNIVOROUS PLANTS:

- ☉ **Pitfall:** prey falls into a pool of dew or nectar collected inside of a rolled leaf.
- ☉ **Flypaper:** prey gets stuck on sticky, mucus-like glue.
- ☉ **Bladder:** prey gets sucked into the vacuum-like trap.
- ☉ **Lobster pot:** easy to enter, but no way out!

Cars

Stink sleeps in a bed shaped like a car, but in his dreams he drives these for-real wacky wheels:



DID YOU KNOW?

Australian detectives investigated the theft of a car in Melbourne from a woman named Mrs. Carless.



Cars

- ★ The jet-powered Flatmobile is the world's flattest vehicle, reaching only 19 inches from the ground.
- ★ Who needs a house when you own the longest custom-built car in the world? With 24 wheels and measuring 100 feet long, the Cadillac limo has room inside for parties beneath its crystal chandelier. Head to the roof for a soak in the hot tub or a dip in the swimming pool.
- ★ What do Newton and Toady and the Surface Orbiter have in common? They can all travel on land and in the water. Rick Dobbertin of New York spent four years turning a shiny silver milk tanker into a funky amphibious ride.



DID YOU KNOW?

The U.S. has 200 million cars. That's 40% of the world's total, and the most of any country in the world.

D Dirty, Stinky, Yucky Jobs

Stink wants to be a professional smeller when he grows up. Here are some other jobs that really stink!

Bat Pee Club!

Guano may sound like a fruit, but it's bat poop! And your job, should you choose to become a bat cave scavenger, is to collect bat poop. You will need a raincoat, boots, and a willingness to get peed on all day.

Golf Ball Diver

At 9 cents a ball, you can make six figures a year by diving in lakes for golf balls and recycling them for reuse. You will need a tetanus shot, the ability to see in the dark, and a healthy fear of water moccasins and alligators.

Roadkill Cleaner

Three hundred thousand big-game animals are killed on U.S. highways every year. Somebody has to clean 'em up. Enter: Roadkill Cleaner.