

P.I. HUNT 7!

We've gone about another 2π radians around the sun again, which means it must be time for P.I.HUNT again! This year is the 22nd year of the century, and the 7th P.I.HUNT, which means that my average time for hunt production this century will be $22/7$ by the end of this year, the common approximation for pi! 😊 This is definitely a natural statistic to look at and not contrived at all to make this year's Pi Day seem special like I do every year. If that's not special enough, there's something else interesting that happened this year (in some time zones, at least.) There were two notable occurrences today, as close as is possible for them to occur without overlapping. Namely, Pi Minute (which has the first 6 digits of pi), is 3/14, 1:59 AM, and Daylight Savings Time begins 3/14, 2:00 AM.

About this year's hunt: I was feeling very demotivated about writing hunt puzzles at one point during the year, and I was thinking about cancelling the hunt. But I ended up deciding not to cancel it, and take the pieces of puzzles I had written and combine it into a full hunt. Something I notice myself doing sometimes is trying to raise the bar for myself over and over, until it gets to a point where I can't pass over it anymore, and I think this is a good thing to notice when it's happening and relax my expectations. (More specifically, I really am happy with how P.I. 4 and P.I. 5 turned out, so if you haven't seen those you might also want to check them out!) As a result of this, the puzzles ended up a little scattered in some places in terms of varying in scale or difficulty level. Overall, I'm quite happy I ended up finishing this hunt, and I still think I made something I can be proud of. 😊

The theme of the hunt is very vaguely Scooby-Doo themed (basically that's just the theme of the meta.) There are 8 puzzles this year, and a meta.

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Asking the right questions

Now that he's a grown-up-dog, Scooby knows how to find out what's happening.

"I heard that xXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX can relieve tension for people who wear gloves all day. I wish I could try that."

"What's xXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX?"

"Not much, I'm just having a hard time putting one of my hands over the other because I'm an echidna."

"Hahaha, xXXXXX is my favorite character, he's hilarious."

"What's xXXXXX?"

"Not much, dude, just watching some old Seinfeld episodes."

"I don't understand why my kids are so into playing xxxxxxxxXxx"

"What's xxxxxxxxXxx?"

"Not much, just trying to understand why they like this game but I can't get them to prepare meals in real life."

"A bunch of us have been talking about xxxxxxxxXxxx unless SHIELD starts giving us more benefits"

"What's xxxxxxxxXxxx?"

"Not much, we just think our special mission unit has to deal with so many dangerous villains, we deserve better insurance!"

"Hey, I thought I should probably give you an xxxxxX because there's a lot of traffic."

"What's xxxxxX?"

"Not much, I just might be a bit delayed to our romantic restaurant reservation."

"I'm thinking of xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxX to Myra Connelly."

"What's xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxX?"

"Not much, I'm just nervous... what if she doesn't like me in that way?"

"I should probably donate more to xxxXxxxx, with me being one of the richest actors in the world and all."

"What's xxxXxxxx?"

"Not much, now that that ridiculous spy pigeon movie is out, I can finally start appearing in live-action roles again."

Un-inversal Language

If we can learn their language, we can be 🚀🚀🚀 galactic friend-getters 🚀🚀🚀

We've started communications with an advanced civilization from a faraway planet and started to learn the ropes of their language. They call their home planet ʌɪɪ and, through a bizarre coincidence, they call their language ʌɪɪɪ. As a result of other strange happenstance, their wildlife and societal structures seem to mirror ours, and so they have a lot of words you might not expect them to have. One of the linguists working on understanding this alien language has dropped their notecards all over the floor and upon picking them up, can't remember how they were before. Can you help get this mess sorted out, and then follow both the English instructions and the ʌɪɪɪ instructions below?

FOOT = ROCK	HOOF = LEAF	HOOT = ROOF	COCK = COLD	BUCK = COW	ROOF = ROOT	BACK = WORD
FLOOR = ROOT	CHICK = CHILD	BARK = HOOT	COMB = HOLD	HOOF = ROW	BOCK = BONE	BULL = CONE
BEEF = BONE	COCK = MAN	BAAA = BARK	BOOT = ROOM	BALD = BOCK	CHICH = CHILD	HOCK = HAIR

When finished, alphabetize the deck by the English word on them (so that the words with leftmost letter closest to "A" should be at the top of the deck.)

Then write down the following, in order:

- The first, i.e. the leftmost, letter of the seventh card's English word.
- The second letter of the thirteenth card's English word.
- The third letter of the first card's English word.
- The last letter of the last card's English word.

► back if English -conk clubs board agast conk is
 ► back if English -conceitly clubs board agast contort is
 ► back if English -conduit clubs board agast concealment is
 ► back if English -contact clubs board agast conceivly : pretentious give.is
 (demolish if goatee &-cans to bun violin repeat
 off indulge &-congruous back if English off ?milking went summer
 breadth partial use backer king helm board *-A plenty went : kill Cantaloupe.sit

Overstepping

Start with the phrase "DEJAVU", which you might be feeling after reading this text

PHASE 0:

1. There are two roman numeral letters in the string. Add all the roman numerals letters that occur exactly twice in a bag of Scrabble tiles before the first of these, in decreasing order of how many straight lines they take to write (as capital letters), and replace the second one with the word ROMAN.
2. Find the substring of four letters with the lowest word sum (A=1, B=2, C=3...), and replace these four letters with one letter with the same word sum.
3. There is a country in your string. Change the last letter of your string to the first letter of that country.
4. Double the letter that looks like half of the letter that you just changed a letter into in the previous step.

PHASE 1:

5. There should be a 6 letter Italian surname in your string. Add one letter to make it into a 7 letter Russian surname.
6. Shift the first letter of the string forward by 1
7. If there is the name of a video game by Terry Cavanagh in your string, add the name of that game's soundtrack directly before the name of the game. Otherwise, jump to step 5.

PHASE 2:

8. Shift the second letter of the string forward by 1
9. Change any occurrence of the letter whose ASL sign is a gesture meaning "Peace out" to the letter whose ASL sign is a gesture meaning "Over there!"
10. If there exists a two letter MPAA rating in your string, change every occurrence of it to what this rating used to be called before 1972, and jump to step 8
11. Remove any triple letters currently in the string.
12. Change the last letter of the string into the first half of the name of the continent whose shape most closely resembles that letter... I guess

PHASE 3:

13. For each two letter substring of PERIODIC TABLE that is a chemical symbol currently in your string, replace that string with the element it's the chemical symbol for, and delete the letter directly after it in your string.
14. If your string ends in the name of a song by someone who shares a last name with me, delete the country you found in step 3, Otherwise, jump to step 13.
15. Shift the third letter of the string forward by 1

16. If the string contains the reversed name of a greek letter, delete the first occurrence and jump to step 15, otherwise replace every consonant from that part of the alphabet after the first occurrence of one in your string with the last letter in the fast part of the alphabet.
17. Replace the letter directly before any letters you just replaced in the last step (“before” being “before in the string”) with the letter directly before the letter you replaced those letters with (“before” being “before in the alphabet”)

PHASE 4:

18. Shift the fourth letter of the word by 1
19. Add as few letters as possible to make the name of South America’s largest mountain range a substring of your string
20. If there exists a four-letter word that would most commonly be a verb if you change its last letter to N, replace it with a four-letter word for childhood toys that do this verb and then repeat this step. (There won’t be the first time you get here!)
21. If there exists a four-letter word you might see while driving, replace it with a word that precedes it in racecar driving, and then jump to step 18. Otherwise, undo what you most recently did in steps 18, 19, and 20 before continuing.
22. Replace the entire string starting directly after the second occurrence of the name of the hunt you are doing, with the letter whose position in the alphabet is the number of the hunt you are doing.

PHASE 5:

23. Shift the fifth letter of the word by 1
24. If the string ends in a Chinese Zodiac sign, change it into the next Chinese Zodiac sign in chronological order
25. If the string has a Super Smash Bros Brawl character, change it to the next one on the character select screen with all characters unlocked (wrapping to MARIO if the string currently contains LUCAS. If the string currently has more than one character, choose the one which starts earliest in the string)
26. If the string has some word longer than 2 letters repeated twice in a row, replace both of them with the first letter of the type of thing that comes up when you Google that word (remove both occurrences, but only add one letter in their place), otherwise jump to step 23.
27. Reverse the last three letters of the string. You should now have a two word answer (The first word coming from the letters you’ve been shifting in the left half, and the second coming from the result of the transformations in the right half.)

Fixation

Scooby knows how to track down the of the problem

The most between (3/8)

A pain in all of (6/7)

Possible to be in (1/6)

Similar to something that's before (2/4)

Writing or drawing that's in favor of (7/7)

Conditions or diseases having three carbon atoms (5/8)

Jointly in the direction of (1/6)

One that serves to the highest of the position (4/7)

In the manner of once more (1/4)

One who after (2/6)

The process of not (2/5)

One who is prejudiced towards the former (3/5)

Comical name for a machine that doubles (10/10)

One in the habit or occupation of being in front of (1/8)

To make something not (in British English) (1/5)

A killing of the removal of (5/6)

Related to three (3/5)

Opposite of the state of (4/5)

Dinosaur named after god-related (3/9)

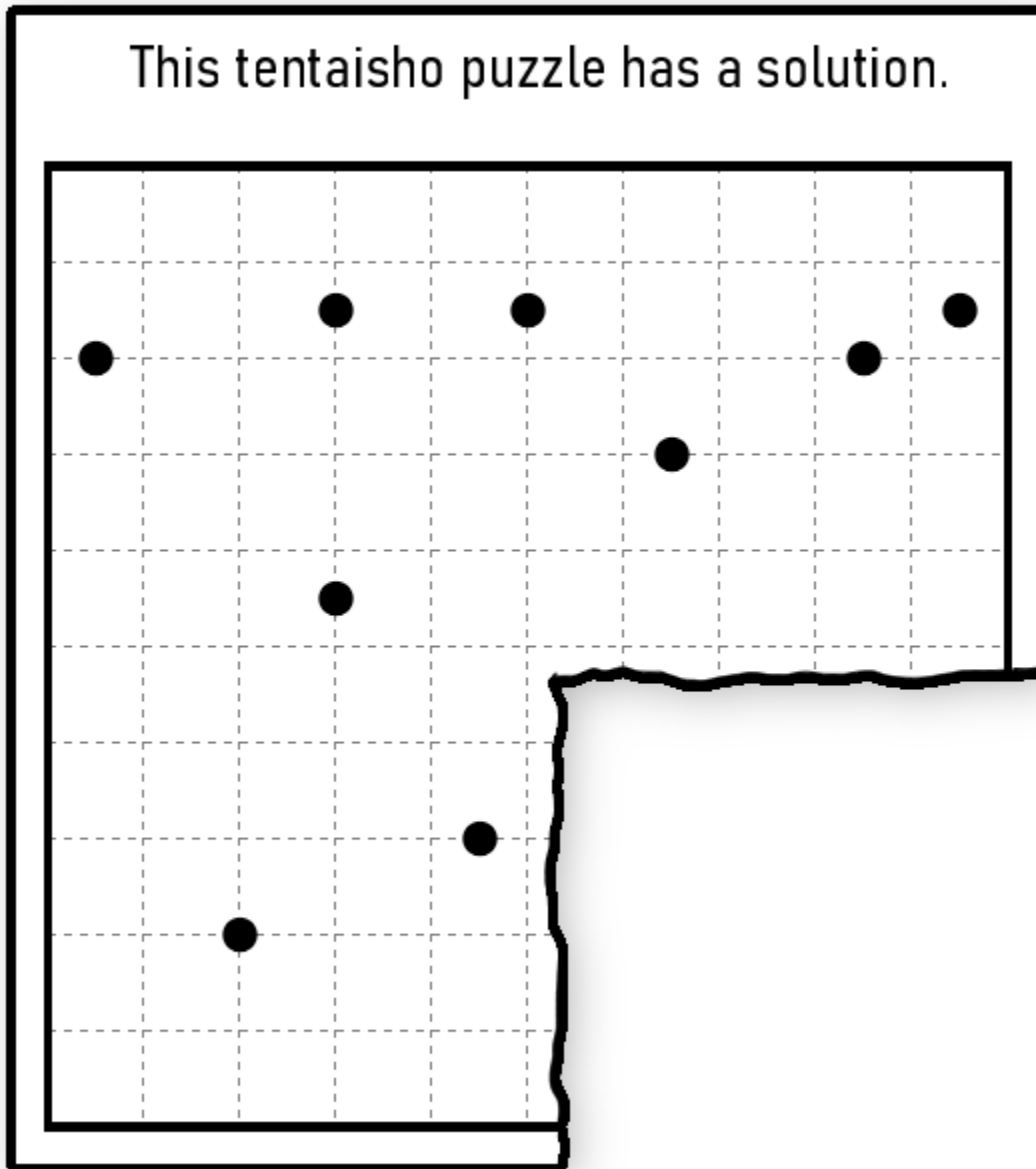
The position or rank of being with (6/6)

The quality of related to pressure (7/8)

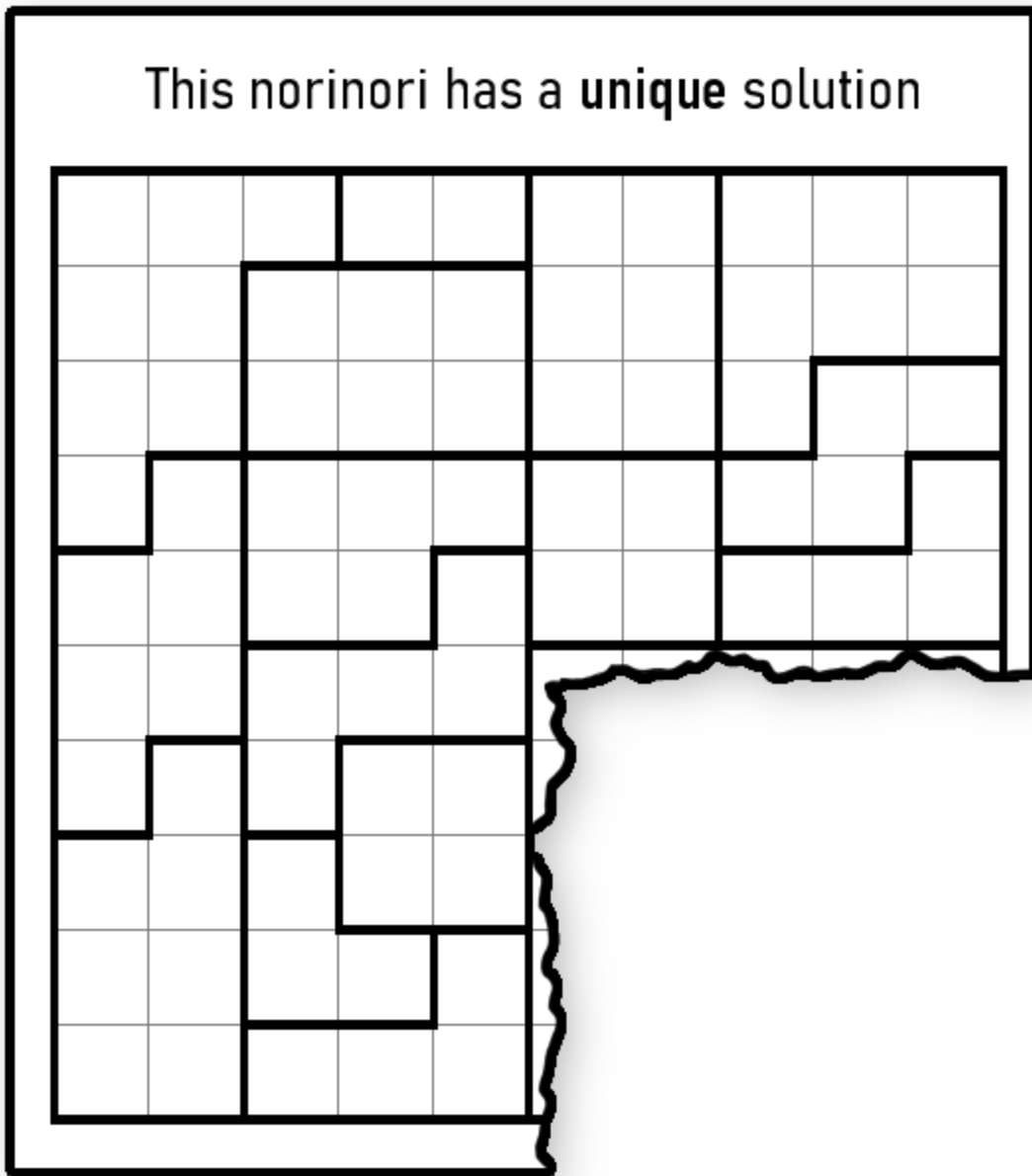
Cutting Corners

Only 25% off? What a ripoff!

Puzzle rules: [Tentaisho/Spiral Galaxies](#) [Norinori](#) [Fireflies/Hotaru Beam](#)



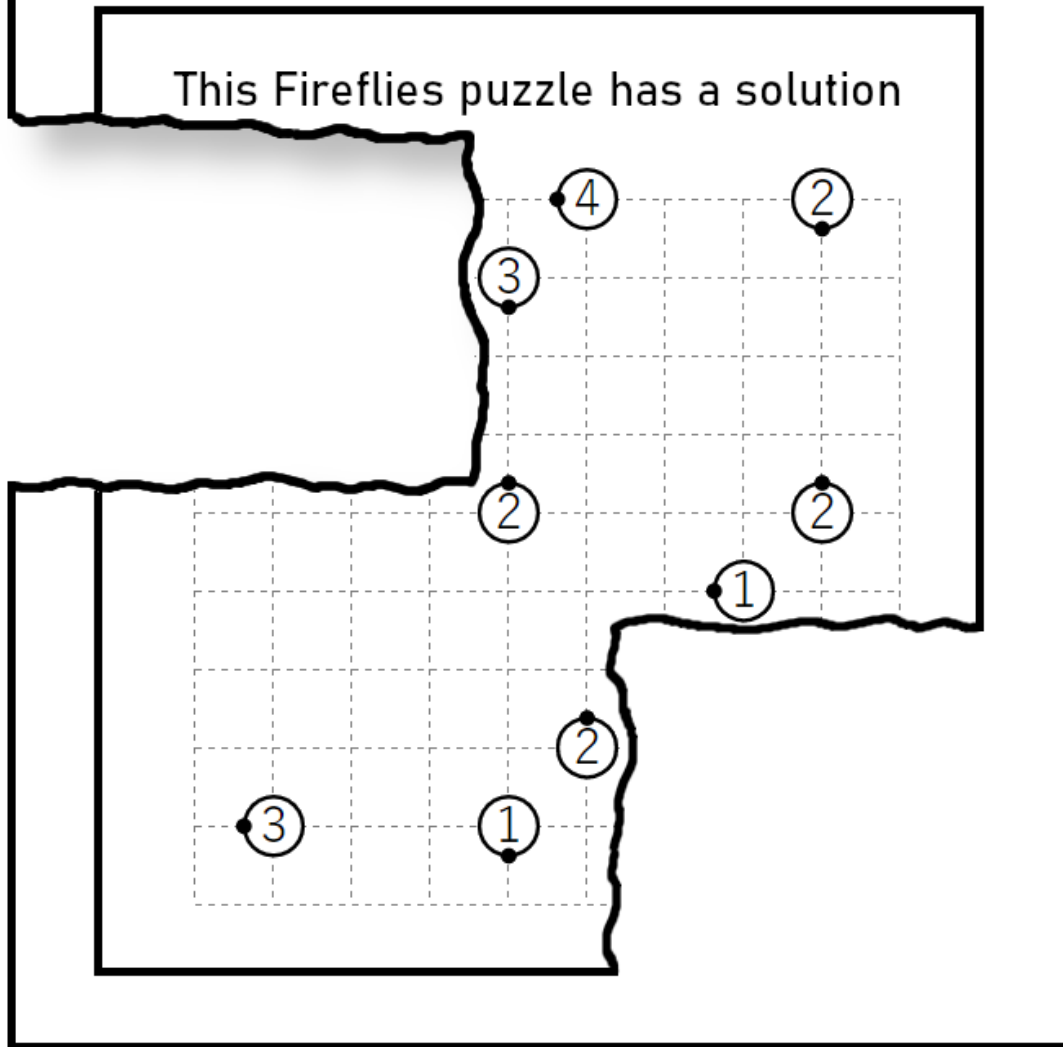
This norinori has a **unique** solution



(Note: you only need to locate all the shaded cells on the given three-fourths of the puzzle)

This ripped-paper puzzle has a **unique** solution.

This Fireflies puzzle has a solution



(Note: "solution" here refers to the lines drawn on the puzzle, but not the circles or numbers)

Take letters corresponding to all cells that fit all the following conditions:

- In a region with size at least 10 in the Tentaisho
- Guaranteed to be an unshaded cell in the Norinori
- The path goes straight through (and has no circle) in the Hotaru Beam

C E N S O R S H I P
H A C K S A W I N G
F R A C T U R E R S
D I S M A N T L E D
T W O F O U R T H S
R E T R A C T I N G
A P P E N D A G E S
D E C I M A T I O N
D I V I S I O N A L
P E R C E N T A G E

Neohomologophonisms

[This list](#) won't help you hear.

- (S) "_____ done that if I were you"
- (H) Exam taken in high school with scores from 1 to 5
- (I) Multidirectional, like a radio or street
- (F) Lily symbol found on coats of arms and some flags
- (T) Sign showing what's showing
- (B) "Pardon", for short
- (Y) Proficiency or practical skill
- (N) Type of stimuli an isolation tank deprives you of
- (U) Robbery
- (M) "¡Sí, correcto!"
- (B) Unit of information that can be in more than 2 states
- (E) Verified account that uses #SmellReady
- (R) With "the", slangy word for city outskirts
- (S) Standard for comparisons a control group is for

- Avians you might see online like sneks or doggos (21)
- One who got "bleeped" (17)
- Distress signal that doesn't actually stand for anything (7)
- Distorts, like facts (16)
- "Good Vibrations" group leader's adjective (20)
- Harshly criticizes (20)
- How someone in quarantine might feel (17)
- Not a chance (6)
- Not-too-exact ancient unit of length (6)
- Part of music heard from a nearby car blasting their radio (12)
- Security company that bought 3VR (10)
- Translation of the verb "pesar" from which "Peso" is derived (3)
- With winks and blown kisses, perhaps (3)
- A job might make you take _____ to check for drug use (7)

Knots & Crosses

Finances are a lot like tic-tac-toe: One either has excess, or owes.

				Rihanna song about a specific kink
				Portion of a seminar with audience interaction
				Both of us
				Texas College
				Tax company with "Block"
				Storage wars network
				What X (which used to be part of Google) is for
				War tactic that is one of the original Call of Duty game modes
				One of the "big four"
				Magazine that might be more popular than O among people reading this clue
				Record label division that does recruiting
				Fictional company from Wall-E that also comes in many other pixar films
				Common Halloween snack
				One of the pairs of Pokémon games

Down clues:

- Bike
- Burn
- Flourishing
 - Injure
- Neatened
- Robust

X traction O verlay:

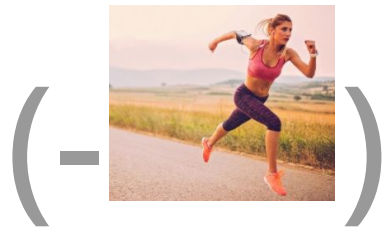
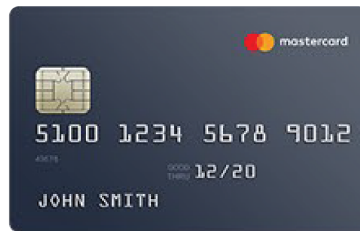
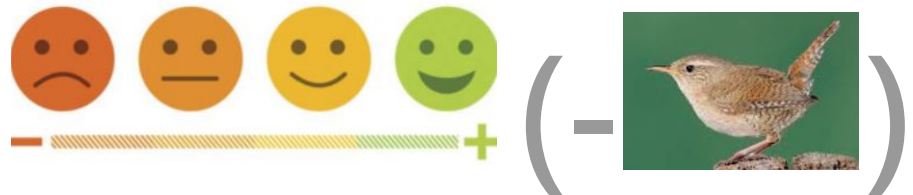
X
X
X
O
O
O

Scooby-Doo

This looks like rubble. What does Scooby-do?

?

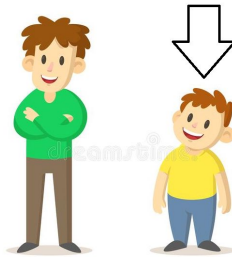
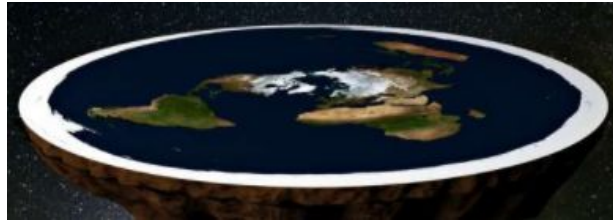
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