

Some winter sun? We'd butter-fly to Mexico!

Many people enjoy some extra sunshine in the winter and often go on holiday in search of warmer temperatures. This is the same for monarch butterflies!

At the end of summer, monarch butterflies fly up to thousands of miles, from North America and Canada to the forests in Mexico. They remain there until winter is finished. They then fly north again, in search of the milkweed plant – the only plant they will lay their eggs on, and the only leaf caterpillars will eat once they have hatched from their eggs. Residents in North America are being encouraged to plant milkweed plants, to help the monarch butterflies even more.



Pictured: A Monarch butterfly.
Source: Canva.

Scientists have discovered that this year, the number of monarch butterflies migrating to Mexico has doubled from last year's record low number. 'It's now time to turn this year's increase into a lasting trend!' said Jorge Rickards of WWF Mexico.

Did you know that butterflies can taste their food through their feet?

What a feeling! Dancing on the ceiling!

Upside-down houses have become a fun day out for many people in recent years, after the first one was opened in England in 2018. There are now 12 in the UK, with the latest one opening in Bristol. 'Each location is unique, with its own identity' says the Upside-Down House UK website. Visitors to these topsy-turvy houses get to walk around a variety of rooms, with it looking as though they are walking on the ceiling! Hanging above their heads, the wrong way around, is all the furniture you would find in a room such as tables, chairs



Pictured: An upside-down house!
Source: Canva.

and beds! The best part is revealed when a photo is taken and rotated, where it looks as though the person is on the ceiling with everything else the right way up below them! ***Have you ever been to an upside-down house?***

Is it important to have a morning routine?



Yes, my mummy helps me get ready for the day.

Luca

Rusty-spotted cat

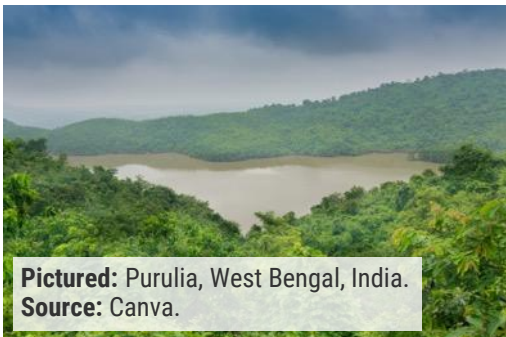
One of the world's smallest cat species has been captured on film for the first time ever, in its home of West Bengal, India. The Human & Environment Alliance League, an organisation working on biodiversity conservation in the country, released their video footage. They also posted on social media, saying, 'Intrigue. Disbelief. And an overwhelming rush of excitement! These were the emotions we felt when we first came across this clip while reviewing footage from our camera traps. The moment small cat specialist Dr. Shomita Mukherjee confirmed our suspicion—that the feline in the video



Pictured: A Rusty-spotted cat. **Source:** Canva.

was none other than the rare and elusive Rusty-spotted cat—our excitement knew no bounds!' The very rare, tiny wildcat species measures 35-48cm in length, has a long 15-30cm tail, and weighs only 0.9-1.6kg. The Rusty-spotted cat has short, reddish-grey fur over most of the body, with rusty spots on the back and flanks. The smallest wildcat in Asia is 200 times lighter than a lion, but still an excellent hunter. It uses its brilliant eyesight to catch prey in the forest undergrowth, and eats mostly rodents and birds but also lizards, frogs, and insects. The miniature cats are historically only found in the deciduous forests of Sri Lanka and India.

Do you know any facts about wildcats?



Pictured: Purulia, West Bengal, India. **Source:** Canva.

Aspiring Artist

Eight-year-old, prize-winning artist, Kevin Kovacs from Wellington in Somerset, England, was recently invited to hold his first solo exhibition, and has sold his first paintings! The exhibition is being held at the Tacchi-Morris Arts Centre until 29th April. Kevin is very passionate about his art and uses watercolours to paint old buildings and boats, inspired by family trips to the coast. He taught himself to be an artist with encouragement from his parents, who are both keen photographers. His mum explained, 'We bought him all kinds of mediums – paints, watercolours, and all kinds of art supplies – and I could see he was enjoying it when he was around two.' In 2023, aged 7, he won the Termly Copley Prize, with a painting entitled, 'Gentleman Looking at Something in Kevin's Eyes!' The painter also came



Pictured: Artwork by Kevin Kovacs. **Source:** Tacchi-Morris Arts Centre on Facebook.

first in his age group when he entered The Sun Christmas Card Competition. Kevin says his other interests, outside of school, include Lego, Airfix Kits, and vintage cars. Kevin is hoping to put together more exhibitions of his artwork, saying, 'I am happy that people can see my art on the walls—and I hope for another exhibition in London.'

Do you enjoy painting with watercolours? What are your favourite things to paint?

Is it important to have a morning routine?



I think it's good to have a morning routine for a fresh start for the day.
Pip

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