



# GOOD NEWS GRAM!

MONDAY, APRIL 13TH, 2026

## THE HUGEST HAPPINESS BLANKET BRINGS WARMTH AND JOY

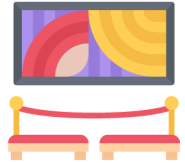
In March of this year, thousands of crocheted and knitted blankets formed the “Hugest Happiness Blanket” at Nelson Mandela University in South Africa. Created by volunteers known as “KnitWits,” the giant smiley-face centerpiece and surrounding sea of color celebrated the UN’s International Day of Happiness and honored Nelson Mandela’s legacy.

The handmade blankets were later donated to care centers and families in need, offering warmth and dignity ahead of winter. Founder Carolyn Steyn called it “spreading warmth and happiness”—a global act of love stitched together, one square at a time.

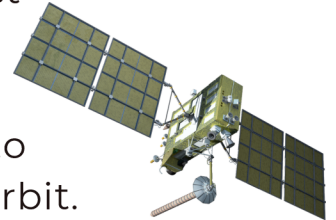


### TODAY IN HISTORY

**1870:** The Metropolitan Museum of Art was founded in New York City.



**1960:** The first navigational satellite was launched into the Earth's orbit.



### INTERESTING FACT

The longest crochet chain in the entire world is 80.78 miles long and was made by Frenchwoman Anne Vanier-Drüssel.



### HAPPY-HEARTY-LAUGH

What did one yarn end say to the other?

**"No, I'm a frayed knot."**



### DID YOU KNOW?

The name crochet comes from a French term meaning 'small hook'.



**"Find happiness in making others happy."**

- MARY MACKILLOP

# CROCHET WORD SEARCH



**Alcester**

**Cotton**

**Craft**

**Crochet Hearts**

**Delighted**

**England**

**Fun**

**Hobby**

**Hook**

**Incredible**

**Joy**

**Mistry**

**Queen of Hearts**

**Residents**

**Roses**

**Thankful**

**Town**

**Unknown Person**

**Uplifting Notes**

**Wool**

## SCHOOL WORD SEARCH ANSWERS





# GOOD NEWS GRAM!

TUESDAY, APRIL 14TH, 2026

## RARE BIRD SPECIES REAPPEARS IN RAINFOREST AFTER 170 YEARS

The Black-browed Babbler is one of Asia's most iconic birds. This black, gray, and brown bird was first chronicled by ornithologists around 1850 but has been missing for close to two centuries until it was recently spotted in Indonesia.

Panji (Peter) Gusti Akbar, a leading ornithologist, was thoroughly overwhelmed by this sighting. Once he got confirmation of the bird's identification, he even bowed down to say a prayer. "I felt excitement, disbelief, and a lot of happiness," said Peter. Bird watchers from around the globe are hoping to travel to see the bird in person.

No doubt this recent discovery will boost curiosity and tourism within the region.



### TODAY IN HISTORY

**1889:** The first Conference of American States took place in Washington, DC.

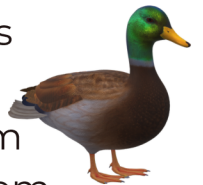


**1981:** Space Shuttle Columbia, the first space shuttle, returned to Earth.



### INTERESTING FACT

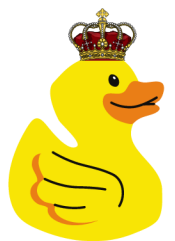
When sleeping in groups, ducks on the perimeter keep one eye open and half their brain awake. Ducks sleep this way to stop predators from sneaking up on them.



### HAPPY-HEARTY-LAUGH

Where does bird royalty live?

**In the Duckingham palace, of course!**



### DID YOU KNOW?

Penguins' distinct black and white colors serve as camouflage within the ocean.



**"No bird soars too high if he soars with his own wings."**

- WILLIAM BLAKE

# RARE BIRDS WORD SEARCH



**Bengal Florican**  
**California Condor**  
**Congo Bay Owl**  
**Cuban Kite**  
**Dwarf Olive Ibis**  
**Egyptian Vulture**  
**Eskimo Curlew**  
**Forest Owlet**  
**Giant Ibis**  
**Junin Grebe**

**Kagu**  
**Kakapo**  
**Kokako**  
**Maleo**  
**Palila**  
**Philippine Eagle**  
**Secretarybird**  
**Shoebill**  
**Siberian Crane**  
**Sulu Hornbill**

## CROCHET WORD SEARCH ANSWERS





# GOOD NEWS GRAM!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15TH, 2026

## PHILADELPHIA DIMS LIGHTS TO PROMOTE SAFER BIRD MIGRATION

Each year, a voluntary initiative by the Bird-Safe Philly coalition known as “Lights Out Philly Initiative” dims the city lights to assist birds during migration, as it's estimated millions of birds die each year due to collisions with buildings.

Birds migrating tend to rely on celestial cues to figure out their migration path. Unfortunately, due to the bright city lights, birds become confused and crash into windows and buildings. For the program to be successful, the majority of towering structures in Philadelphia have decided to dim their lights. This disciplined act has allowed millions of birds to migrate safely. Philadelphia is definitely the city of brotherly love!



### TODAY IN HISTORY

**1912:** The Titanic sank after striking an iceberg during its maiden voyage.



**1955:** Ray Kroc opened the first McDonald's franchise.



### INTERESTING FACT

Hummingbirds are so light that their average weight is around four grams, less a single nickel.



### HAPPY-HEARTY-LAUGH

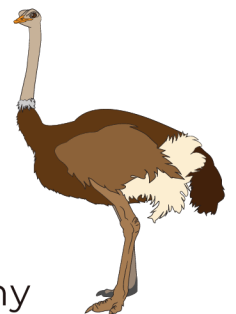
Which bird has the worst manners?

**The Mockingbird!**



### DID YOU KNOW?

The eyes of an ostrich have a diameter of 2 inches and are the biggest of any land animal in the world.



"The bird who dares to fall, is the bird who learns to fly"

- UNKNOWN

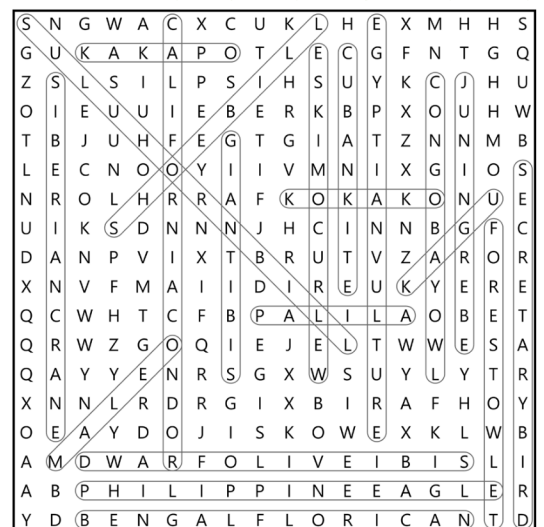
# MIGRATION WORD SEARCH



**Assist**  
**Buildings**  
**Celestial Cues**  
**City Lights**  
**Coalition**  
**Collisions**  
**Confused**  
**Crashing**  
**Deaths**  
**Dimmed Lights**

**Good Cause**  
**Initiative**  
**Lights Out Philly**  
**Migrate**  
**Philadelphia**  
**Safety**  
**Successful**  
**Timely Manner**  
**Voluntary**  
**Windows**

## RARE BIRDS WORD SEARCH ANSWERS





# GOOD NEWS GRAM!

THURSDAY, APRIL 16TH, 2026

## SCIENTISTS BREED ENDANGERED TOAD SPECIES SUCCESSFULLY

The Harlequin toad is a critically endangered toad that resides deep in Panama and Costa Rica's rainforests, but, as it turns out, we've just made a breakthrough in saving this species.

Thanks to the efforts of scientists at the Manchester Museum, this toad has been bred in captivity for the first time. To pull off this incredible feat, the scientists went to the amphibians' native habitat, recorded it, and recreated it to the best of their ability. After three years of work, they were finally successful in breeding this rare frog in captivity.

Thanks to this breeding program, if this species goes extinct in its natural habitat, tadpoles could still be bred in captivity and reintroduced into the wild.

It's genuinely heartwarming to see humanity take steps to save the animals that reside on this planet alongside us.

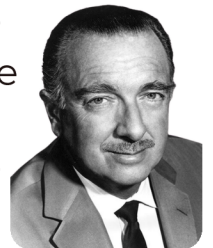


### TODAY IN HISTORY

1912: Harriet Quimby became the first woman to fly across the English Channel.



1962: Walter Cronkite became anchor of the CBS Evening News, a position he held for nearly two decades.



### INTERESTING FACT

Toads do not have teeth, so instead of chewing their food, they swallow it whole.



### HAPPY-HEARTY-LAUGH

What does a frog order at McDonald's?

**French fries and a diet croak!**



### DID YOU KNOW?

The cane toad was introduced in Australia to combat pest beetles but is now seen as a widespread pest itself.



"The Earth was made for all beings, not just human beings."

- VARIOUS QUOTES

# TOAD + LAKE LIFE WORD SEARCH



**Amphibians**

**Bred**

**Breeding**

**Captivity**

**Costa Rica**

**Creatures**

**Critically**

**Deep**

**Endangered**

**Extinct**

**Harlequin toad**

**Lake**

**Manchester Museum**

**Natural Habitat**

**Panama**

**Rain Forests**

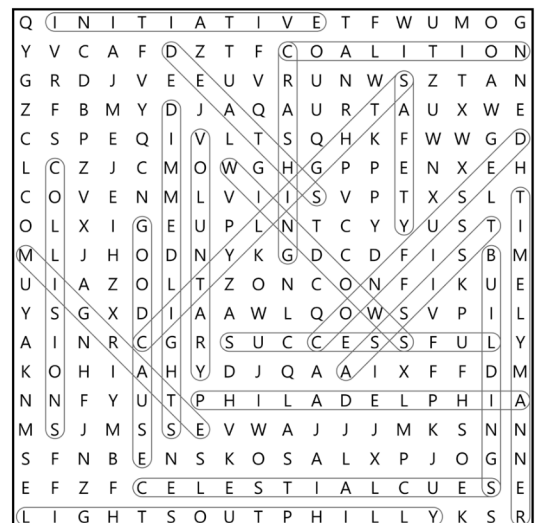
**Rare Species**

**Reintroduced**

**Scientists**

**Tadpoles**

## MIGRATION WORD SEARCH ANSWERS





# GOOD NEWS GRAM!

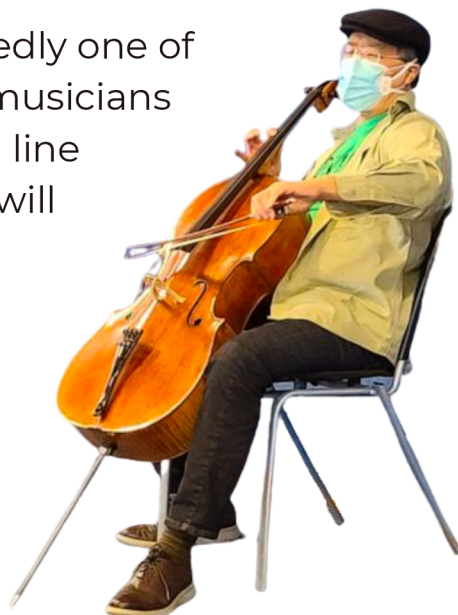
FRIDAY, APRIL 17TH, 2026

## CELLIST YO-YO MA CELEBRATES WITH IMPROMPTU PERFORMANCE

It's not often that you enjoy a free music performance by one of the most iconic musicians in existence. However, this unlikely scenario was the exact experience of those waiting in line at Berkshire Community College in Massachusetts.

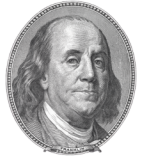
As it turns out, this site was also where internationally acclaimed Yo-Yo Ma was in line for an event. To help pass the time, he gave everyone waiting in line an impromptu performance that put everyone in awe. One staff member stated, "It was so weird how peaceful the whole building became, just having a little bit of music in the background."

Yo-Yo Ma is undoubtedly one of the most renowned musicians alive, and everyone in line behind him that day will undoubtedly cherish this memory for a long time to come.



### TODAY IN HISTORY

**1790:** Benjamin Franklin dies at the age of 84 in Philadelphia.



**1970:** Apollo 13 safely splashes down in the Pacific Ocean after a nearly disastrous mission.



### INTERESTING FACT

The word Cello is a shortened form of the Italian word violoncello, meaning 'small-large violin.'



### HAPPY-HEARTY-LAUGH

Someone keyed the music teacher's car.



Fortunately, the damage seems to be B-minor.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Yo-Yo Ma was named a United Nations Messenger of Peace in 2006.



"Music and rhythm find their way into the secret places of the soul."

- PLATO

# MUSIC WORD SEARCH



**Bass**  
**Beat**  
**Clef**  
**Compose**  
**Flat**  
**Harmony**  
**Key**  
**Lines**  
**Melody**  
**Musician**

**Natural**  
**Notes**  
**Orchestra**  
**Pitch**  
**Rhythm**  
**Spaces**  
**String**  
**Symphony**  
**Tempo**  
**Treble**

## TOAD + LAKE LIFE WORD SEARCH ANSWERS

