



Youngest solo pilot of a hot air balloon

JT Head, from Georgia, has become the youngest person ever to take a solo ride in a hot air balloon! He was 8 years old when he rose to an altitude of 122m, during a 20-minute flight, before landing safely. JT has been taking trips in hot air balloons with his parents since he was 2 weeks old. He trained on a computer simulator, in a remote-control balloon and in the basket with his dad. "My dad owns a hot-air balloon company, so I got really interested in hot air balloons, and so I decided that I wanted to do a solo flight one day," J.T. said, "You have to be really prepared! 'Cause you have to know what all the handles and buttons do, like some turn on the propane tank and some turn on the burner." Describing the view on his flight, he added "I saw the sun setting. I saw a lot of cows. My favourite thing was probably seeing the back of Yonah Mountain."



Pictured: A typical hot air balloon. Source: Wildcat Dunny.

Singing dog rediscovered in the wild



Pictured: A New Guinea singing dog singing at Toronto Zoo. Source: R.G. Daniel.

The New Guinea singing dog, which was considered to be extinct in the wild for over 50 years, has been spotted by researchers in the remote highlands of Papua, Indonesia. The rare dog was believed to only exist in captivity; there are only around 200 of these dogs living in conservation centres and zoos. The team of scientists took more than 140 photographs of the wild dogs, which showed adults of both sexes, pregnant females, and pups ranging in age from about three to five months. The dogs are unique in that their high-pitched vocals can produce harmonic sounds; the dogs are able to vary the pitch of their howl in combination with various yips and whines, which makes it sound like they are singing. This has been described as 'wolf howl with overtones of whale song'.



Pilots report seeing 'guy in a jet pack'

Two airline pilots have contacted air traffic control to report they have seen a "guy in a jet pack" flying in alongside their planes, during their approach to Los Angeles International airport. The first pilot said the person wearing the jet pack was spotted 275 metres away, on the left side of the plane, which was flying at a height of 915 metres. The FBI is investigating this flying man mystery, following the sighting from the two pilots. "We just passed a guy in a jetpack," the first pilot said. A second pilot, on a different flight, also confirmed the sighting. The shocked control tower operator replied, joking: "Only in LA." Other aircraft were then immediately warned to use caution because of a man wearing a jetpack, flying in the path of planes.



Pictured: A person operating a jet pack Source: Samuel Johnson.

Your thoughts on the news...

I think there should be more toys that reflect differences so that everyone feels valued.

Quinn - Age 10



We think it is very important that toys should reflect everyone's differences and yes, there should be more toys to represent that.

Evie & Tessa - Age 10

There should be more toys to represent disability.

Will - Age 8

What was your opinion on this week's news? Visit our discussion area, found here:

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I think there is too much plastic but there should be more toys to represent us.

Leon - Age 11

/ think...



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