



EASY ENGLISH TIMES

"A world of information for adult learners"

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February, 2006

Activities

I. A quick look at the contents—find the answers:

1. Where will the Winter Olympics be held?
2. Where was Gloria Estefan born?
3. What is the Civil War called?
4. Where can you write to get answers about life, customs and holidays in the USA?
5. What is the number one killer of women in the United States?
6. What is a complaint that Janet Gonzalez-Mena often hears from parents?
7. What is the highest mountain in the "lower 48" states?
8. How many pounds did Christopher Howell carry in his backpack?
9. When was George Washington born?
10. What do Girl Scouts do on World Thinking Day?

II. More careful reading—find these answers:

A. "Winter Olympics open in February" (pages 1 and 7)

1. Which Winter Olympic events are modern?
2. How do riders race on a luge?
3. When will the closing ceremony be?

B. "Gloria Estefan is the "Queen of Latin Pop" (pages 1 and 2)

1. How many records has Gloria Estefan sold?
2. Who was the head of the band that Gloria and her cousin joined in 1975?
3. When and where did she perform at the Olympic Games?

C. "March of the Penguins" (page 5)

1. Where was the film made?
2. How many miles do the penguins march to their inland breeding grounds?
3. What do the birds look like as they waddle across the ice?

D. "Remembering the Spring Festival" (page 7)

1. What did Huilian's mother make for her children?
2. What kind of dinner did the family prepare for the Spring Festival eve?
3. What did they do before the special dinner?

III. Writing suggestions

1. Please send questions to our new "Dear Teachers" column. See the story on page 2 for ideas. You can e-mail questions to easyenglish@aol.com
2. For the March issue, send stories about how learning to read has enhanced your life. (by 2/17)
3. For the April issue, send stories about taking care of the environment. (by 3/24)
4. For any issue: send stories about successful immigrants, your job, your hometown, special people, memories, book or DVD reviews etc.

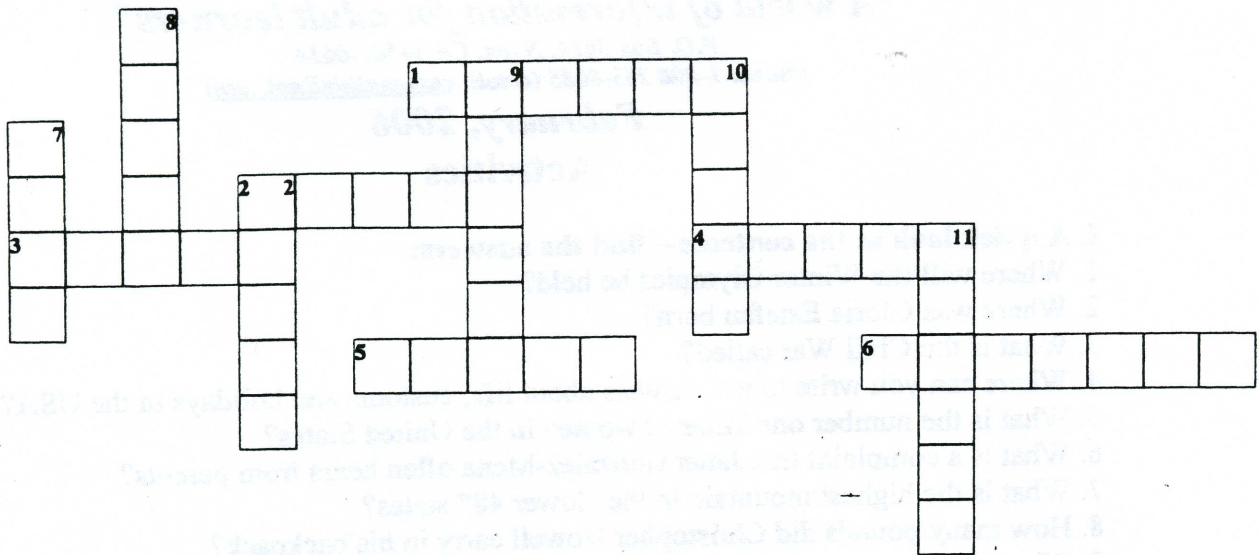
Crossword Puzzle answers in alphabetical order: Across: after, chicks, plump, relieve, sneak, wiped Down: fear, huddle, joint, peeled, shape, wreck

Crossword Puzzle

(Words are from VOCABULARY HELP)

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Across

1. The _____ look like little balls of gray fur. The baby penguins are gray and white.
2. She _____ the chairs and tables. She rubbed away the unwanted dirt.
3. My older sister looked _____ me when our mother was working. She took care of me.
4. The Chinese family pasted Spring Festival pictures on the front door. One of the pictures was of a _____ boy. He was round in shape and chubby.
5. The Civil War submarine was invented to _____ up on enemy ships. It was supposed to go quietly and not be seen.
6. The mother penguins come back after two months to _____ the fathers. They take their places.

Down

2. The _____ of the Hunley submarine was discovered in 1995. The ruined submarine was recovered and carefully studied.
7. According to Janet Gonzalez-Mena, ruling by _____ is not a good way to get children to cooperate. It's not good to make your children worry that something bad will happen.
8. Do you have a _____ checking account? Is your account used by more than one person. Is the account shared?
9. The male penguins _____ together to protect themselves and their eggs from the winter storms. They press closely together.
10. Our hearts are muscles. We need to keep them in _____ with regular exercise.
11. To prepare for the Chinese New Year, Huilian _____ and washed vegetables. She took the skin off of the vegetables.