











WOLF CHRONICLE

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From the Editor

Dear Members

I hope that you have had a fun filled summer and that some of you came to see the wolves looking sleek in their summer coats. Thank you for coming to the Trust to help us raise money to support the 19 projects abroad that work to keep wolves safe in the wild. So far we have been able to donate £330,000 to projects. We could not do this without your help.

Quirk's animal roadshow was on site during the holidays with exciting animals and reptiles to hold. The Nature trail and wolf quizzes were very popular and there were lots of fun things to do in the education room, such as



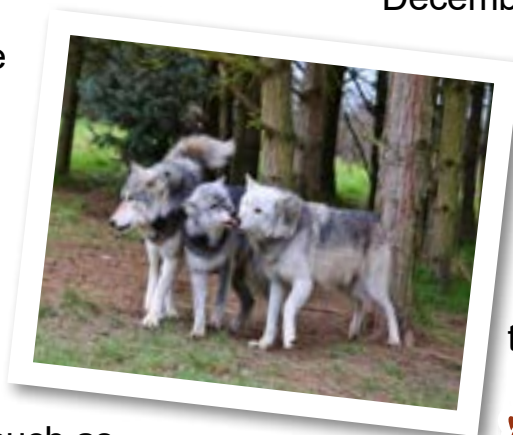
painting bird and insect boxes and making masks.

The wolves have enjoyed coconuts filled with hot dogs and tuna and raw eggs given to them. This is all good enrichment for the wolves. They love to roll on perfumed hessian sacks too. During the holidays we ran a Big Bug Bonanza where the children built a bug hotel & held insects, reptiles & invertebrates

The wolves are looking forward to the Halloween event when they have pumpkins filled with meaty treats and of course December when we will be doing the

Christmas cracker event. Hopefully Tala won't dig up the Beenham's tree and run off with it again this year! Book early as places on these events quickly get filled up. We wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year and hope that you enjoy this issue.

Wendy





THE EARLY LIVES OF THE ARCTIC WOLVES

As little 'uns, our Arctic wolves were brought up surrounded by squeaky toys, chew toys (including shoes!) like your average pup, having fun growing up whilst learning some manners along the way.

That's where the similarity ends though – they began life under very different circumstances. When they were born it was touch and go whether they'd survive at all, having been born to mum Roxy in the early hours of 8th March 2011 in a bitterly cold snowstorm at Parc Safari, Quebec, Canada. By the time their keepers had hurriedly dug them all out of the snow, the cubs needed CPR – rubbing their chests and blowing into their lungs, they were then wrapped up in warmed blankets for insulation and ongoing intensive care. Although their introduction to life was a sharp shock, our cubs blossomed. For the first six weeks of their lives they lived with their animal handler in a farmhouse with acreage. Their backyard was the remote Canadian wilderness, a 45 minute drive away from where they first came into the world. From day one the cubs retired each night to a large puppy playpen to sleep off another fun-filled day running around, until their socialisation skills began all over again the next day.



Those lessons, which began at four weeks old, included excursions down to the local cafe for breakfast – our young wolves, although not guide dogs were always welcomed. Arriving often on foot (paw!) but sometimes by chauffeur-driven car.



We needed to accustom these cubs to the human world with all its smells and sounds, such as a vehicle passing them on the road or walking on tarmac. Back at the homestead, daytime play involved chasing after each other tails, playing hide-and-seek behind the sofa, going up and down stairs and even climbing and sitting on the cats' scratching post. They also shared their environment with two mongrels, a Pyrenean mountain dog and a visiting golden retriever, two parrots, one frog and seven cats with kittens! Our cubs had to find their place in the pecking order. A dominant cat called Minnie Lion, who certainly lived up to her name, would chase the wolves off the food bowls. All too soon they had reached 12 weeks old where they were flown to Beenham to begin the next chapter in their lives.





THE EARLY LIVES OF THE BEENHAM PACK

The Beenhams' names were chosen by volunteers, so Tundra is named after the tundra regions of America, Tala means 'stalking wolf' and Nuka 'younger sibling'. The cubs were bottle fed by volunteers every three hours day and night and were burped like babies over our shoulders. They were tiny balls of dark fur with blue eyes, curled up ears, snub noses and razor sharp teeth and claws. Nuka used to get stomach ache, so I used to rock him to sleep in my arms rubbing his tummy to make him feel better. He still loves tummy rubs.

Initially we put them to bed after feeding, but as they grew older they waddled off when tired, scrambled over the hay bales and plopped into bed all by themselves, snuggling together for warmth and comfort under their heat lamp.

Our young cubs were conditioned to have weekly health checks through play such as fondling ears, lifting feet and feeling all over the body for lumps or ticks. They are comfortable to have weekly health checks now.

Nuka had a toy rubber squeaky chicken as a tiny cub which he loved. On his first walk Nuka refused to move



and sat stubbornly in the field. In the end Pat, his handler, had to carry him to catch up with Tala and Tundra!



When he was older he used to go into the pond on walks and eat snails crunching them noisily. Tala loved to undo the Velcro on my shoes and let it close making a scratchy noise. One night she found the bookcase and we heard ripping noises as the covers of books were torn off. Next it was the floor mop-pieces of mop everywhere. She really was a destructive little cub. Tundra broke her leg as a very young cub and soon learnt that a plastered leg made a good weapon when her brother or sister annoyed her.



Turn over for more!

The wolf keeper took her home until her plaster set and she would only stop howling if the T.V was on 24 hours a day!! At a very young age the trio learnt instinctive behaviours such as hunting, howling, growling, food guarding and caching, eating wild fruit and food and territory marking with urine. It all comes naturally. I feel very proud to have been part of their early years. Written by Wendy Brooker

CAPTIVE RED WOLF CUBS BORN IN USA

The Museum of Life and Science, at Durham, North Carolina, is howling with excitement! The Red Wolves living at the Museum are a part of the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Red Wolf Recovery Program as well as the Red Wolf Species Survival Plan (SSP), a collaborative breeding and management program developed by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. The museum's first litter of cubs since 2002, three males and three females was born to a 6yr old Red Wolf on April 28th. Once a top predator throughout the south-eastern U.S.A, and one of only two apex predators native to North Carolina, the Red Wolf (*Canis Rufus*) is classified as "Critically Endangered", with captive and wild populations totalling less than 300 individuals.



FUNDRAISING FOR ARCTIC WOLVES



Fundraising for Animals.



I DECIDED TO SELL SOME OF MY THINGS AT ST GILES PRIMARY SCHOOL SUMMER FAYRE. I COULDN'T BEAR TO SELL MY STUFF ALONE, SO I GOT MY MUM AND MY FRIEND (SCARLET) TO HELP ME.

HOPE YOU LIKE THE POST I SENT TO YOU?

LUCY HOPKINSON
AGED 9 YEARS OLD.

I AM A CHRISTIAN, SO I BELIEVE GOD CREATED ANIMALS AND EARTH.
MY CLASS WERE LEARNING THINGS ABOUT ARCTIC'S.
WHEN I LOOKED AT THE COMIC MISS HANDED TO ME, I WAS ASTONISHED TO FIND OUT ARCTIC WOLVES WERE DYING!



WE RAISED AROUND £45.39, BUT MY MUM MADE IT UPTO £50.

Well done Lucy & Scarlet - Thank You



Turn over for more!

ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT WOLVES? EMAIL US AT info@ukwolf.org



TIGER LAND SNAIL - (ACHATINA ACHATINA)

The Dartmoor Wildlife Park kindly donated 5 of these unusual West African Tiger snails to the wolf keeper so that children could learn about them when they visit the Trust. They have a shell length of 18 cms and the diameter is 9 cms. The largest snail recorded in the wild was 30cms x15cms and are the largest land snail species known. The snails are hermaphrodites, having both male and female sex organs. They can lay 500 eggs at a time and up to 1,200 eggs a year. The eggs of the tiger snail are the size of pigeon's eggs.



They are native to West Africa where they are a valuable source of protein for forest dwelling ethnic groups and are often farmed for food.

In the western world the snails are kept as pets, where owners prize them for their exquisitely marked shells and large size. They have to be kept in secure tanks with high humidity and temperatures and special loam soil and they also benefit from baths. (Not the soapy kind!) When they are picked up they make a squeaky noise which sounds weird.

The snails are mostly active at night and during the day often bury themselves in the loam to stay safe from predators. Their diet is mostly vegetarian and they eat a wide variety of fruit and vegetables. They also need some form of calcium to make hard shells. Sadly they are one of the most invasive species on the planet and could be a potentially serious threat to agriculture, natural eco-systems and human health if released into a non-native environment. Imagine how many lettuces one snail that size could eat in your vegetable garden!!!



Trust Wolves



Mosi & Torak in their 11th year still look stunning, with Torak a palette of browns and creams and Mosi a regal silvery colour tinged with black.

Torak is a very aloof wolf and likes to be left in peace to snooze at the top of the enclosure or simply keep a watchful eye on what is going on. (Especially noting where Mosi buries food). Mosi wanted to get Torak's attention one afternoon when he was enjoying a sleep in the sun, so she jumped on him. Needless to say he was NOT amused!

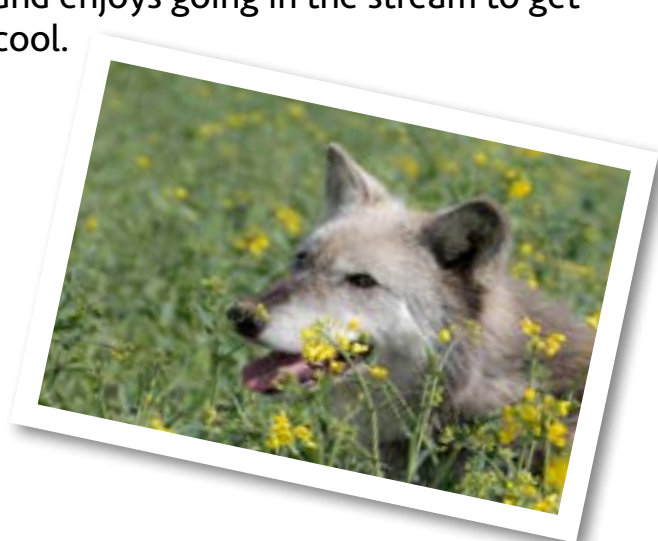
One day during feeding Mosi had tossed a piece of beef on the path whilst she ate some chicken and suddenly a large Red Kite landed on her back, leant over and snatched the beef before flying off. I don't know which upset Mosi more, the bird's weight on her back or the theft of her beef!

The enrichment walks are very popular with both Torak and Mosi. Mosi dashes about at the start and then slows down a little making sure she has over scent marked any other animals' scents. Torak ambles along enjoying all the recent scents from any other users of the fields and enjoys going in the stream to get cool.

On an Open day, pieces of deer are thrown over to the wolves. Torak will eat most of his own and then nonchalantly stroll past Mosi who growls to warn him off her food. He waits until she has a mouth full and therefore can't bite him, snatches some of her meat and dashes off with Mosi in hot pursuit. One afternoon Torak caught a pheasant and was proudly walking round with it in his mouth. Predictably, Mosi snatched it once he laid it on the ground and then lay guarding it, even refusing her dinner. They are so funny to watch.

The wolves' birthdays were all celebrated in June and children coloured boxes to fill with treats of black pudding, hotdogs, cheese and fish. There were also little beef mince birthday cakes for the children to write names on with tubes of cream cheese. The event was a great success enjoyed by both children and of course the wolves.

Both Torak and Mosi are truly iconic wolves and I hope will be with us for many more years.



Mosi: Mike Collins Torak & Mosi : Mike Collins

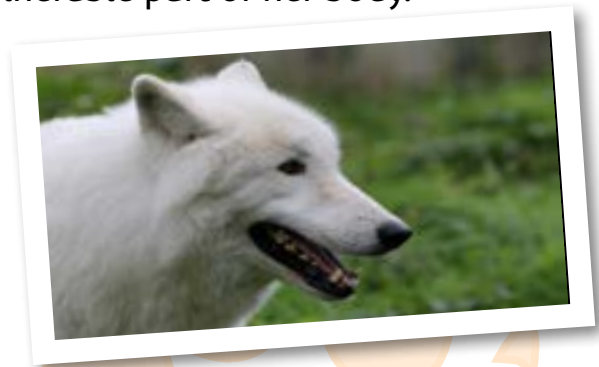
Turn over for more!



Trust Wolves

Within the Arctic pack, siblings **Massak** and **Sikko** remain the dominant male and female, with **Pukak** as the lower-ranking male. As with their wild counterparts, conflicts do arise in captivity and as with all packs, dominance plays a major role. Massak uses his grand stature to its full potential to exert his authority when necessary, particularly when it comes to the cheeky Pukak. Pukak will continually 'challenge his arm' with Massak, fully aware that it is a pointless task - but it is still fun to try. Sikko takes great pleasure in teaming up with Massak to dominate Pukak.

Massak also enjoys a game of chase and is usually the initiator, encouraging his siblings to join in the game. Recently this behaviour by Massak was observed with him trying to 'bounce' on Sikko, who in return displayed submissive behaviour towards him by rolling on her back and sides, a movement that reveals the most vulnerable part of her body.

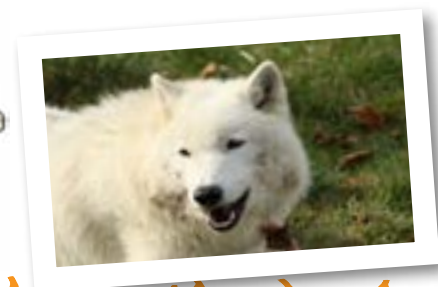


Massak then ran in the opposite direction, which was just the encouragement needed for Sikko to chase him and vice versa. Pukak at this point was not getting involved and left the other two to their game of chase. However, once the chase turned into a hide and scratch game behind their newly structured log enrichment, Pukak could no longer observe and joined in by 'jumping' and 'hopping' around the other two, to which a chase between all three commenced. Any visitors who have watched all the packs being hand-fed through the fence



will know that the Arctic pack rapidly devour their food as if they were starving, especially Pukak. He will challenge both siblings to gain extra food, so the volunteers have to make sure they all finish at the same time.

To deter insects from irritating the wolves, hessian sacks are coated with essential oils such as citronella and garlic. These strong smells encourage the wolves to roll and rub their bodies on the sacks and this enrichment is very much enjoyed by the pack.



Turn over for more!

Massak, Sikko & Pukak: Mike Collins



Trust Wolves

The Beenham's spend much of their time in the top corner of their enclosure, shaded by pine trees but observing the site, particularly the door to the food shed! Fortunately there are plenty of shady spots in their enclosure and a pond to wallow in if things get too hot.

On walks **Nuka** is invariably the leader, always wanting to see what's new, **Tala**, follows behind and **Tundra** – though the dominant female – watches from a reserved distance. Tundra hates narrow gaps/passages and gates – preferring to see what are ahead and go through in her own time. We ask visitors to move forward and give her a clear space whenever there's a narrow gap. Tundra is also reassured if Tala and Nuka have already gone through.



Nuka recently showed his ability as an alert and efficient hunter – whilst walking in the top field he suddenly turned through 90 degrees, froze and adopted a 'pointer'



pose (ears forward, one front paw raised, nose directed at prey). Milliseconds later he'd killed a nesting pheasant in the undergrowth but was more interested in the hen's eggs than the dead pheasant. Wolves love eggs and for the next few minutes Nuka and his sisters spent a happy time licking, nibbling, cracking open and eating the protein-rich eggs, a great supplement for a wolf. Once egg-eating was complete, all three wolves had to roll on the eggshells!

It's always intriguing to see how the Beenham's respond to their environment. To a wolf, any changes could be a threat. Recently, Nuka was wary of the clanking chains of the lorry collecting the skip on site. Tala doesn't like wheelbarrows being pushed around the site, or having to walk past a 'parked' wheelbarrow. Tundra occasionally limps on her left foreleg – a legacy of an injury sustained as a cub. This is kept under observation and if needed, the vet will prescribe the necessary medication.





Trust Wolves

Both **Mai** and **Motomo** are looking fit and slender and have turned slightly lighter with Motomo retaining the silver stripe down his back.

Mai is one of the last wolves to shed winter fur, so to keep cool in the summer she spent the hottest parts of the days sheltering in shady spots at the top or bottom corner of the enclosure. Motomo slept in the shade under the two-level platform. If he stands on the bottom level the edge of the top level is at precisely the right height to fit between his shoulders so he can get a really good back scratch.

Recently Mai had a weeping eye and the vet thought it was an ulcer, prescribing antibiotics. The eye improved, but there was a mark on the cornea and it wept on sunny days. After a close examination, vet Julian diagnosed an inflammation of the cornea and recommended no further treatment. We were all relieved with this news, as giving eye drops to wolves isn't possible.

The benefits of our wolves being socialised is that our vet can get a really close look at any problems without needing to tranquilise the patient.

Motomo – who is not socialised – injured his left forepaw, scraping the skin on one of his 'knuckles'. It looked sore but didn't slow him down in his regular fence-running with the Arctic wolves in the next enclosure. We kept Motomo under observation and the skin and fur regrew and completely healed helped by Motomo licking the wound. Wolf saliva is antibacterial and contains an enzyme that promotes healing.





SNAIL ACTIVITIES

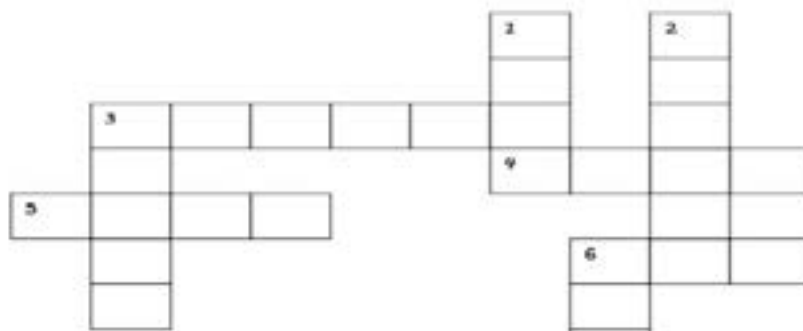


1 - dark green 2 - green 3 - yellow 4 - orange
5 - brown 6 - pink 7 - light blue

SNAIL MAZE



Mini Beast Crossword



ACROSS

- 3. I have eight legs and spin a web
- 4. I look a bit like a butterfly only not as colourful and I like to make holes in clothes
- 5. I fly around, am yellow and black and sting, but I am not a bee
- 6. I make honey and live in a hive

DOWN

- 1. I live in the soil and wriggle. People like to charm me out of the ground
- 2. If you mix these letters up "ELETBE" you get my name and also the name of a car
- 3. I carry my home on my back
- 6. I turn from a caterpillar into this



ACROSS: 3. Spider 4. Moth 5. Wasp 6. Bee DOWN: 1. Worm 2. Beetle 3. Snail 6. Butterfly

Fill in the grid with numbers 1 to 4 making sure no number is repeated in every row, every column and within each mini grid.



1			4
3		1	
4		2	
			3



1	2	3	4
3	4	1	2
2	1	4	3
4	3	2	1

1			4
	4		2
	1	4	
		2	1

3	4	1	2
1	2	3	4
2	1	2	3
4	3	4	1



Book Reviews



The Wolf in the Wardrobe by Susan Broucker



The Wolf in the Wardrobe is an exciting story aimed at 8-12 year olds about Finn, a boy who will do anything he can to protect his friend – a pregnant wolf that has escaped from a circus, and is hiding from a cruel sinister clown called Cackles. Why does Cackles want the wolf so much when he hates wolves? When Finn was involved in a car accident on his bike, he little realised that his life was about to change forever. The large injured animal that was hit by the car is not a dog at all but a wolf from the circus. Finn recognised the beautiful golden yellow eyes and they were full of pain. He knows he must protect the wolf he names Lupa and stop the wicked clown Cackles from taking Lupa back to the circus.

Finn gives up things he loves to save money and help Lupa and learns all about wolves so that he can take care of her. Finn's grandma, who suffers from Alzheimer's and has a poor memory, helps Finn, even though she sometimes forgets who he is, and together they have some amazing adventures in order to protect Lupa from Cackles.

The story has a poignant but happy ending for Lupa and her cubs that will have you in tears.

This story is informative and conveys an important message about conservation and also helps to explain Alzheimer's disease to children. RRP £5.99

Polly & The Stupid Wolf by Catherine Storr



This delightful anthology is a pleasure

to read and the amusing stories have the reader feeling more than a little sorry for the stupid wolf. The black wolf wants to eat Polly but she manages in each funny adventure to outwit him. Their relationship is very sweet and she often rescues him from trouble. In one story the wolf wants to reach Polly's bedroom window so that he can creep in and eat her whilst she is asleep, so, like Jack and the Beanstalk, he buys some beans to plant. 'Oh poor wolf', said Polly pityingly. 'You haven't read "Jack and the Beanstalk" at all. Don't you know it is only a magic bean that grows up to the sky in a night, and you can't buy magic beans. You have to be given them in exchange for a cow'. Two large tears dropped from the wolf's eyes.' but I haven't got a cow' he cried.' 'You could eat it instead of me if you had' said Polly. 'It's no good wolf you aren't going to get me this time'. I hate beans' the wolf sighed 'and I have nearly a half pound at home'. The book does have an unexpected ending and it just goes to show that wolves aren't stupid after all. At the end of the book are quizzes, recipes for cakes the wolf likes, writing tips and all sorts of interesting facts. An excellent book for children of all ages. RRP £8.99



TRUE OR FALSE ?

Guess whether the facts about wolves are true or false.

1. On average wolves weigh between 18 and 79kg.

2. Wolf mothers look after the pups all by themselves

3. An adult wolf can eat up to 10kg of meat in one sitting.

4. Wolves will howl in reply to a human howling.

5. Wolves hunt people for food.

6. Wolves make bad pets.

7. Wolves have cubs once per year.

8. On average a wolf in the wild will only live up to 4 years old.

9. Wolves stick together with their family their entire life.

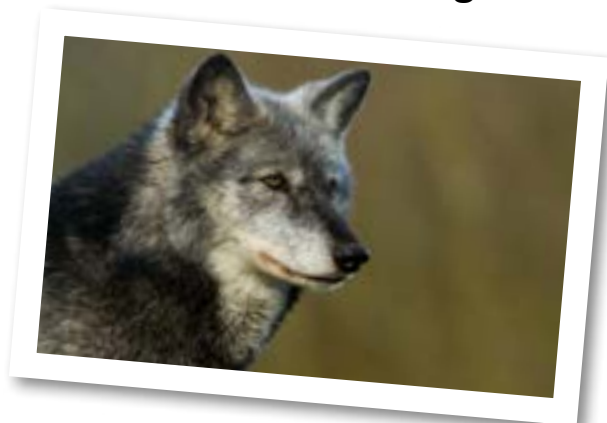
10. Only young wolves play.





True or False Answers

1. **TRUE.** Males also tend to weigh more than females.
2. **FALSE** The whole pack help to raise the cubs.
3. **TRUE.** It might seem like a lot but they can eat lots in one sitting. Most people would struggle to eat ½ kg of meat in at once !
4. **TRUE.** Not always but if wolves are around then they will often reply to a good human howl. The wolves at the Trust will often howl with us.
5. **FALSE.** Wolves do not hunt people for food. Wolves are very afraid of people in the wild.
6. **TRUE.** Wolves cannot be trained like a dog. They are extremely dangerous to have as pets. Captive social wolves can only be kept by places like the Trust with the knowledge, expertise and a special license to keep them.
7. **TRUE.** Wolves only have cubs once per year.
8. **FALSE.** Although in some places due to hunting by people wolves do not live very long in the wild. On average they will live 6 to 7 years.
9. **FALSE.** Wolves stay with the pack until they are 2-3 years, when they disperse and find a mate to form their own pack. Some may remain for life in the pack.
10. **FALSE.** Wolves of all ages love to play. Ours certainly do !



Events

Visit Wednesday

Every Wednesday 11am - 4pm
Come along & see the wolves & at 2pm and watch the wolves being fed. Additional children's activities will be held during school holidays. Pre booking not required. Junior member free entry on production of entry ticket. Adults £8, children 3-12 £5, under 3's free



Halloween Crawlies

Thursday 26th October

10.30 am – 1.30pm

£12 per person, Junior Members £10

A tour of the Trust seeing all ten wolves & learn how they howl, they might even howl back to you. Watch the wolves being given enrichment, 'Quirks Animal Roadshows' will be in attendance with his bugs & snakes for children brave enough to hold one !!! Halloween craft activities available. Pre booking required.

Childrens Christmas Cracker

Thursday 21st December

10.30am – 12.30

Pre booking required £10 per person. Junior Member £8.

Come and help us get the wolves Christmas presents ready and join us in celebrating a very wolfy Christmas. We'll give them their delicious surprises early and you'll be able to watch them all enjoy the treats that you have prepared. You will also get to see them being fed.

Snail Colour in Picture & Jokes



What happens when two snails get into a fight? They slug it out!

Why doesn't McDonald's serve escargot? Because it's not fast food.

How do snails get their shells so shiny? They use snail varnish!

Where do you find giant snails? At the end of giants fingers!

What does a snail wear to go dancing?? Escargogo boots.

Why is the snail the strongest animal? Because he carries a house on his back!

How do snails make important calls? On shell phones.

What happened when Turbo lost his shell? He began to feel sluggish.

What did the snail say to the other who had hit him and run off? I'll get you next slime!

What was the snail doing on the highway? About one mile a day!

What is the definition of a slug? A snail with a housing problem!

What did the snail say as he slipped down the wall? How slime flies!

How do you know your kitchen floor is dirty? The snails leave a trail on the floor that reads "clean me"!

source: <http://www.jokes4us.com/animaljokes/snailjokes.html>