



Terrific Trivia Tidbits



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Did you know that spies have a **code of ethics** that was developed in 1982?
Yep. Spies have rules to live by.

RULES

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



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Code-crackers, also called **cryptologists**, do more than crack codes. They also create codes. Have you ever created a code?





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Ha ha! When a spy walks past
another spy and secretly hands him
a document, it's called a **brush pass**.
Sometimes spies actually pass a real
hairbrush, just to be funny.





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What's the oldest code? Well, it just might be the **Julius Caesar code**. To use it, substitute one letter of the alphabet for another (for example: A for Z, B for Y, C for X, etc.).

SVOOL!
=
HELLO!





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Ever heard of a **microdot**?
It's a tiny photograph about the
size of a period that contains a
hidden message so small that
you have to use a high-powered
magnifying device to see it.

Your mission, should you
choose to accept it, is to decode
the clues, unmask the fakes,
and discover the one true God.
Report to headquarters, cadet!
We need you on this mission.

microdot



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Heads up! In ancient Greece, some spies would be asked to **shave and tattoo messages on their heads. Then they had to wait until their hair grew and covered the message to go on their mission. After they arrived safely, it was time for another haircut so the message could be read.**





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Rabbits, bugs, and moles,
oh my! In spy speak, all these
words have special meanings.
Rabbits are people that spies are sent to
watch; **bugs** are tiny, secret recording
devices; **moles** are agents who work
for the enemy agency undercover.





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Doctors aren't the only ones who
operate. A spy mission is also
called an **operation**.





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Check out these **code names**
of real spies: Snow, Garbo,
Blinker, and Zigzag.





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Don't scratch that itch! During World War II, British spies would sprinkle itching powder on their captors. When the captors started scratching, the spies quickly escaped.





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Smile, you're on **secret camera!**
Spy cameras can be hidden in
buttons, book covers, belt buckles,
buttons, book covers, belt buckles,
watches, and pens. One time,
a camera was hidden on a bee.





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Spy shoes can also be used as **radios**. So if you ever see a spy tying his shoe, he may be up to something sneaky.





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Some spies are robots . . .
or satellites. **Satellites** in space
can be used to detect objects on
earth as small as an orange.





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Night vision goggles are useful
when a spy needs to see in the dark.
But even though these goggles help spies
see, the spy still can't see
normal colors because everything
is tinted green.





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Spies sometimes carry a few items with them in case they need to **change their appearance quickly**.
Sunglasses, hats, makeup, and even changes of clothes may come in handy.





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What do Boy Scouts, butterflies, and spying have in common? The answer is **Robert Baden-Powell**. He spied for the British secret service by hiding sketches of Eastern European forts in pretend drawings of butterflies. Later, he founded an international scouting club that became the Boy Scouts.





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Don't forget!

Good spies should always empty their pockets before they wash their clothes. One spy forgot this rule and left a secret note in the pocket of a suit he sent to the dry cleaner. He was arrested after the dry cleaner found the secret note and called the FBI.





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Canes can be used for more than walking. About 1,600 years ago, Emperor Justinian sent spies to China to learn more about silk. The spies stashed silkworm moth eggs in their canes and brought them back to Rome.





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Spies dug a **tunnel** under the Berlin Wall that was almost as long as four football fields, just so they could listen to Russian conversations.





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Dolphins have been used by the US Navy for many years. They are trained to locate and mark mines in the ocean, and also to find suspicious swimmers and divers.





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We all know dogs can be special pets.
But did you know **dogs have also
been used in espionage?** Dogs serve
as guards, sniff out bombs, and even
carry an attached small camera or
microphone to gather information.





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You think double agents are sneaky?
What about **triple agents**? Agnes
Smedly was a triple agent who
worked for Russia, China, and India!





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Sometimes, spies are so tricky that they **trick each other**. Once, a spy made a fake brick with money hidden inside and left it for another agent. The agent found the brick but thought it was real so he didn't open it. Later, he went back and discovered the money inside the fake brick.





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Not all spies work out in the field.
Some spies sit at home all day reading
the newspaper and watching TV.
Public information is important
intelligence too!





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Did you know there are estimated to be about 100,000 people who work for **US intelligence**? And did you know that US intelligence costs over \$70 billion every year? That's a lot of people and a lot of money.





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Clean up! Spies must be very tidy and organized so they can notice if anything is missing from their desk or bookshelf. They also must have good memories to remember all their papers and books and where everything belongs.





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There are two British intelligence agencies: **Mission Intelligence 5** (MI5) and **Mission Intelligence 6** (MI6). MI5 agents work on domestic security, and MI6 agents work on foreign intelligence.





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Teamwork! Although each country has its own spies, there is an international police organization called **INTERPOL that helps countries work together to fight crime.**





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The fictional character **James Bond** was created by Ian Fleming, an actual spy who became a writer. Many of Bond's daring feats were based on Ian Fleming's experiences!





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In the 1960s, the CIA used **dead rats** to pass important materials to operatives in Russia. Materials were stored inside a cavity in their body, and they were left on the street to be picked up by an agent. To deter cats from eating them, they were sometimes doused in hot pepper sauce!





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In the twelfth century, Japan trained ninjas as masters of disguise and physical fitness. The word **ninja** comes from a Japanese word meaning "to make yourself invisible."





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In the past, foreign spy agencies
analyzed **James Bond films**
to help them develop their
country's spy technology!





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One scientist turned a lightbulb into a **listening device**, making it capable of picking up all the conversations taking place close to it. Creative, huh?





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The **CIA (Central Intelligence Agency)** was established by President Harry Truman in 1947. That means it's not even 100 years old!





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Toilet paper holders
have been used in dead drops—
quite an unlikely location for someone
to snoop around, don't you think? One
agent would place an important message
or item inside what looked to be an
ordinary toilet paper holder, but the
other agent knew to unscrew
it and look inside!





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Click! **Cameras** are an important tool for spies to have, and many ingenious ways of concealing them have been developed over the years. They've been sewn into gloves and belts and hidden within wristwatches, sunglasses cases, cuckoo clocks, handbags, umbrellas, matchboxes, eyeglasses, glue sticks, pens, and even tubes of lipstick!





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One special surveillance tool developed in France was a pair of **binoculars** that had an angled mirror inside one of its lenses. This made it appear as if the viewer was looking straight ahead, when really they were spying on something to the right. Sneaky!

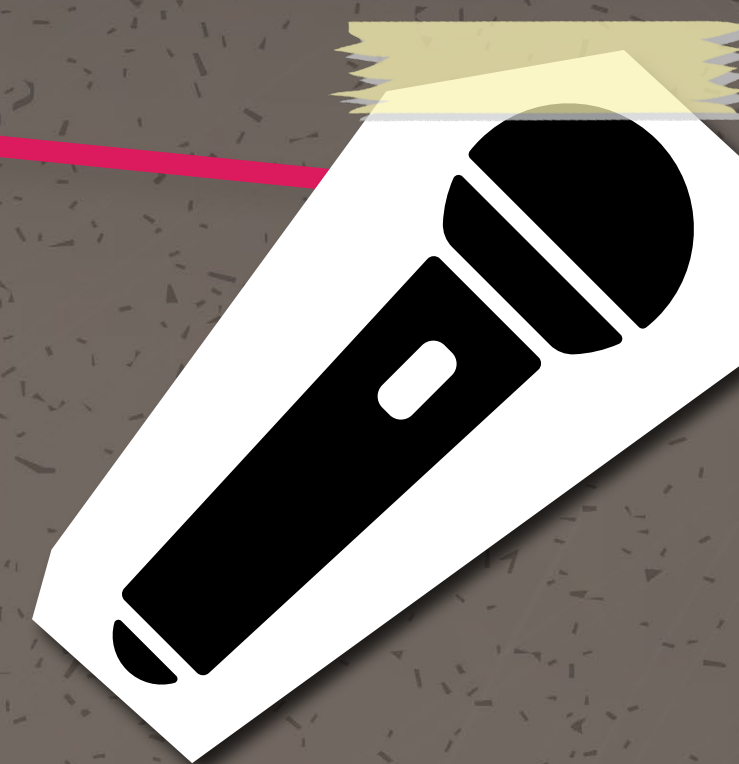




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Acoustic kitty:

Animals of all kinds can be used in spy operations because they seem less suspicious than human agents. The CIA trained a cat to wander into spaces while having a microphone and transmitter attached to its body. This allowed the CIA to hear what was going on around the cat.





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If you want to be a spy for the CIA, your career might start at **Camp Peary**, a spy school in Virginia also known as "the Farm." Here, wannabe agents learn typical spy skills like mastering disguises, surveillance, and how to live a double life. They also learn some more unusual skills like skydiving, how to drive around obstacles, and how to not get lost. Would you want to go there?





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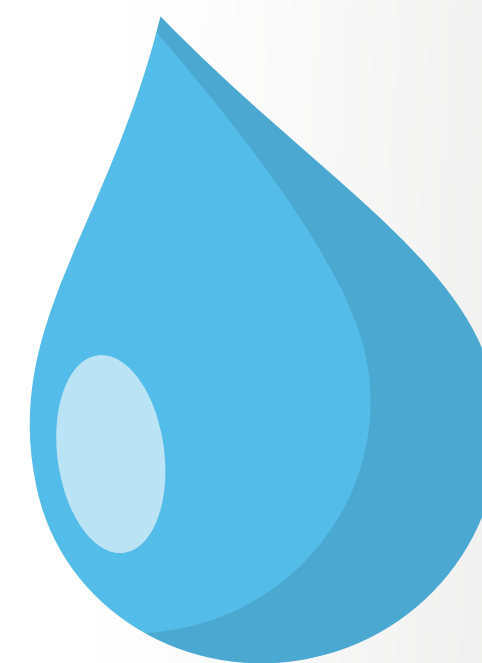
Mimic octopuses are known as **shape-shifters**. God gave them the amazing ability to detect predators and quickly change shape, color, and texture to disguise themselves. They can even make themselves look like venomous animals, causing predators to want to steer clear!





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Did you know that all octopuses have **blue blood**? God designed them with a specific ingredient in their blood that makes it blue instead of red.





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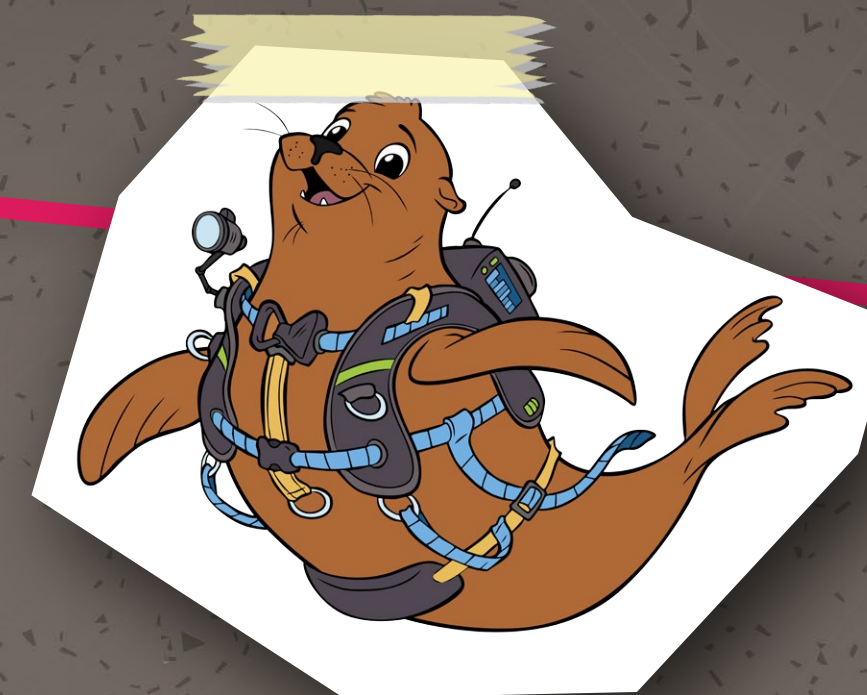
Short but sweet: It's believed that the mimic octopus only lives to be about **nine months old.**





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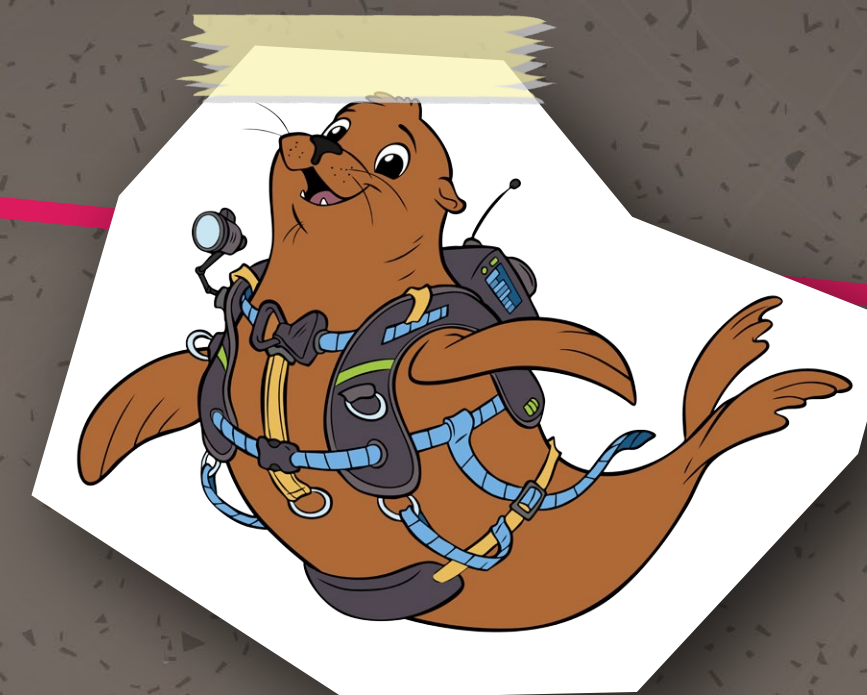
Did you know **sea lions** can sleep
while floating in the water?





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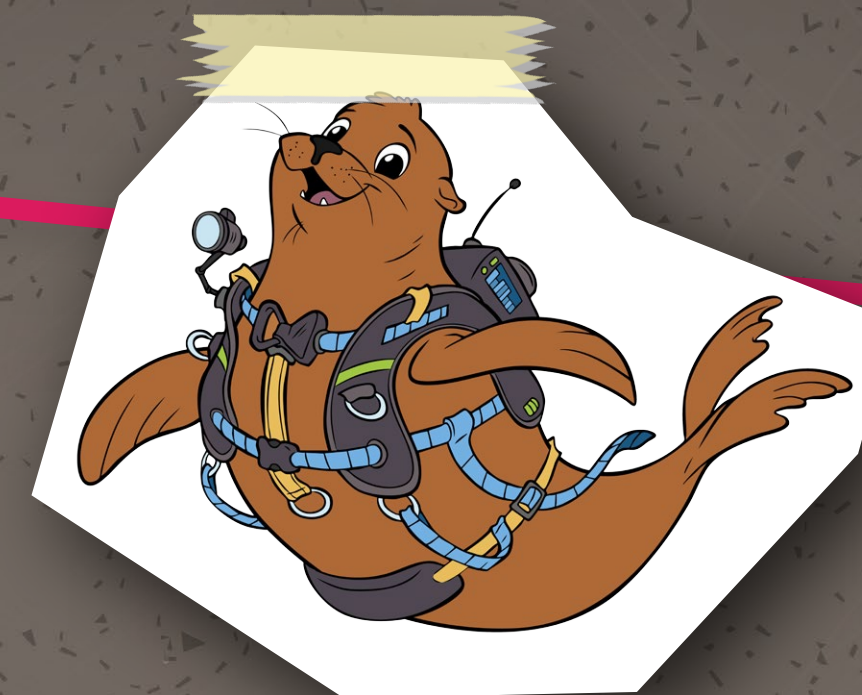
The sea lion has **special muscles** that seal its nostrils, larynx, and esophagus shut while its mouth is open underwater, allowing it to capture prey without swallowing a load of water. God thought of everything!





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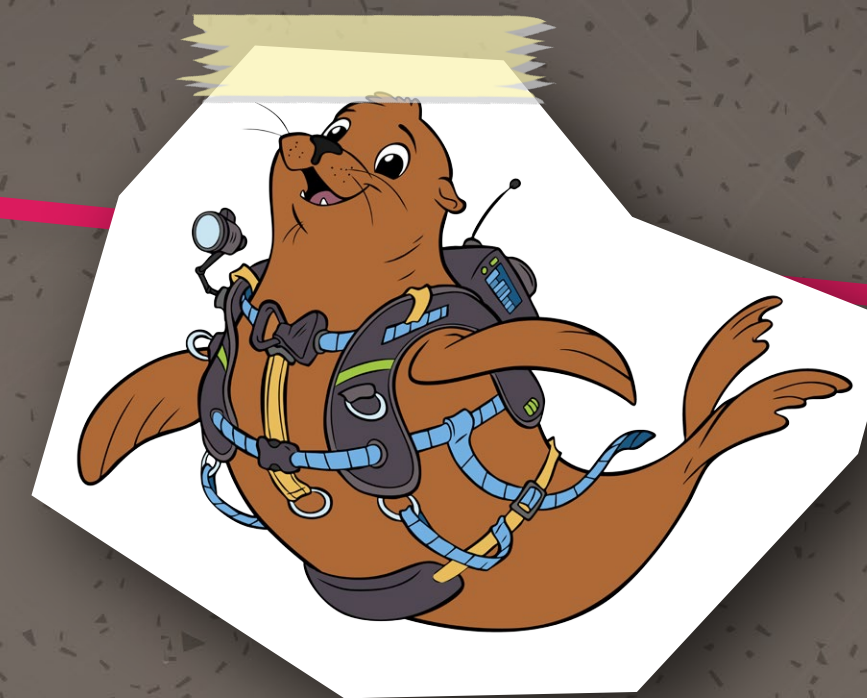
Did you know California sea lions
can **rotate their back flippers** to
enable them to walk on land?





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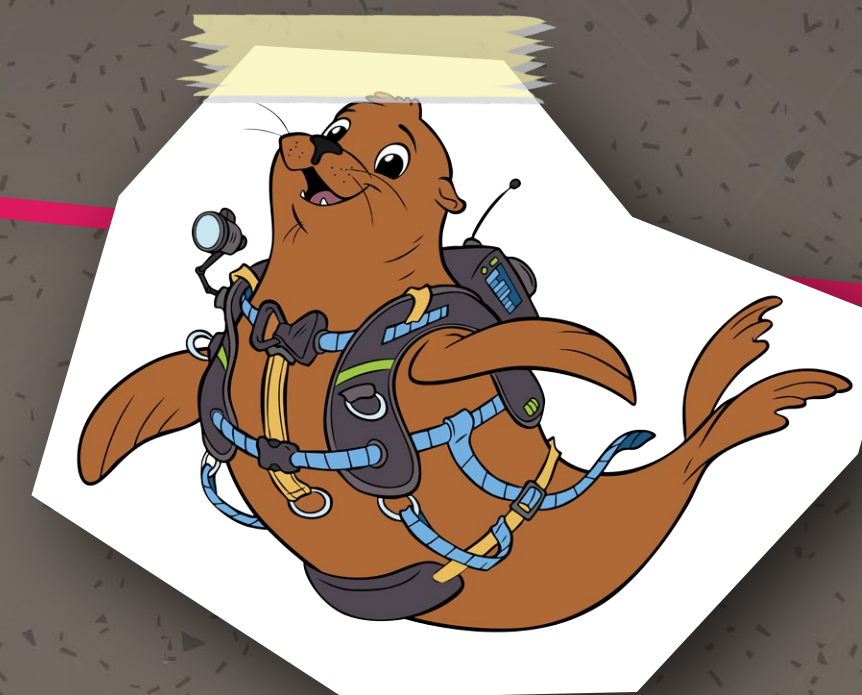
Sea lions have **special barks** or calls they use to locate each other. A mother sea lion can find her baby in a crowd or from a distance using their special call. She then smells her baby for one final check to confirm that it's hers.





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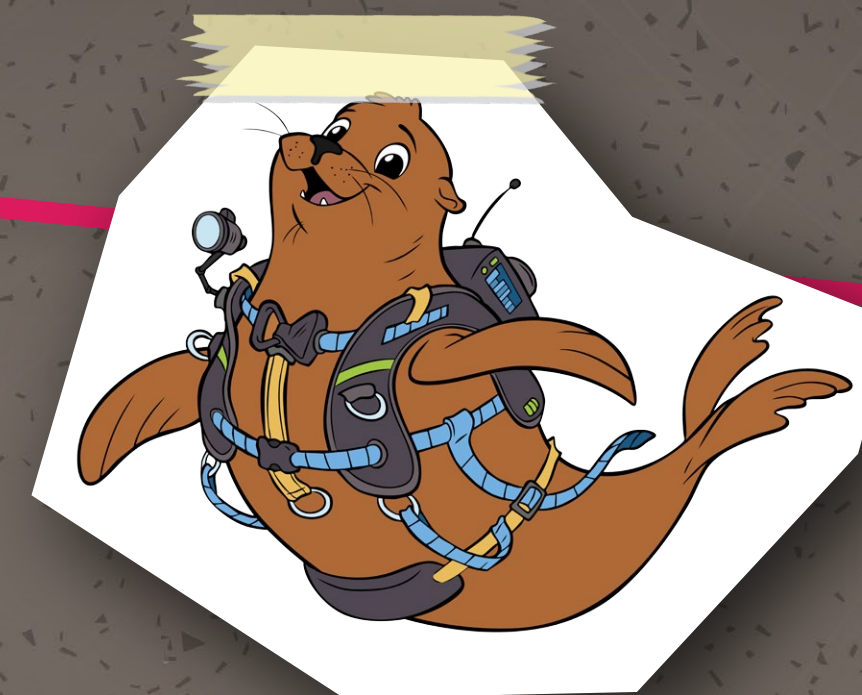
Even though they have teeth,
sea lions prefer to swallow their
food whole. **Gulp!**





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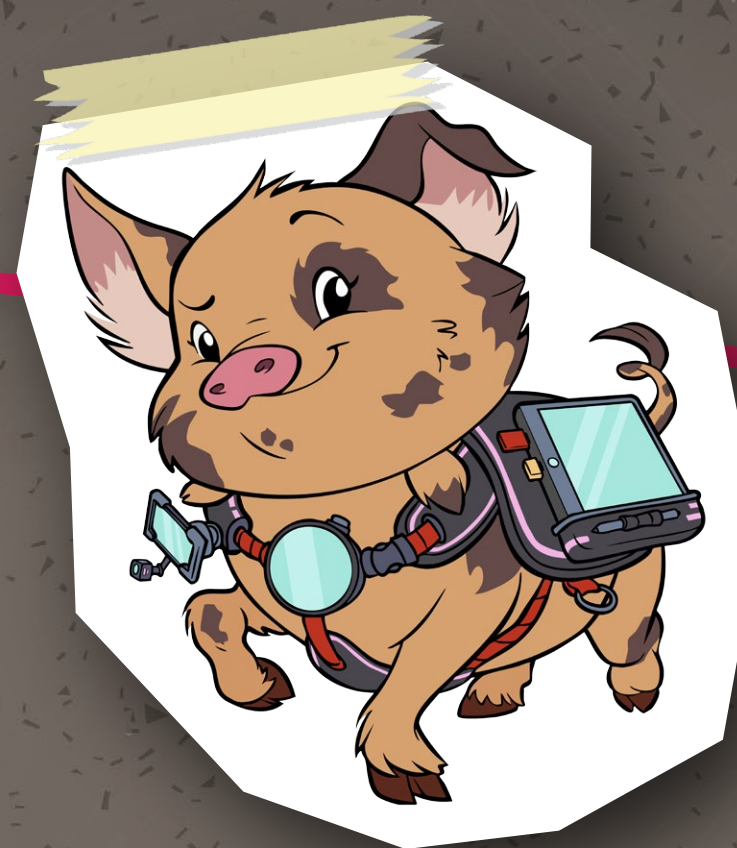
People often confuse seals and sea lions—**so how can you tell the difference?** If it has ear flaps that turn downward, you're looking at a sea lion. Seals just have tiny holes for ears. If it can turn its flippers and walk on them, it's a sea lion. Seals don't use their flippers to walk; instead, they just wriggle along on land.





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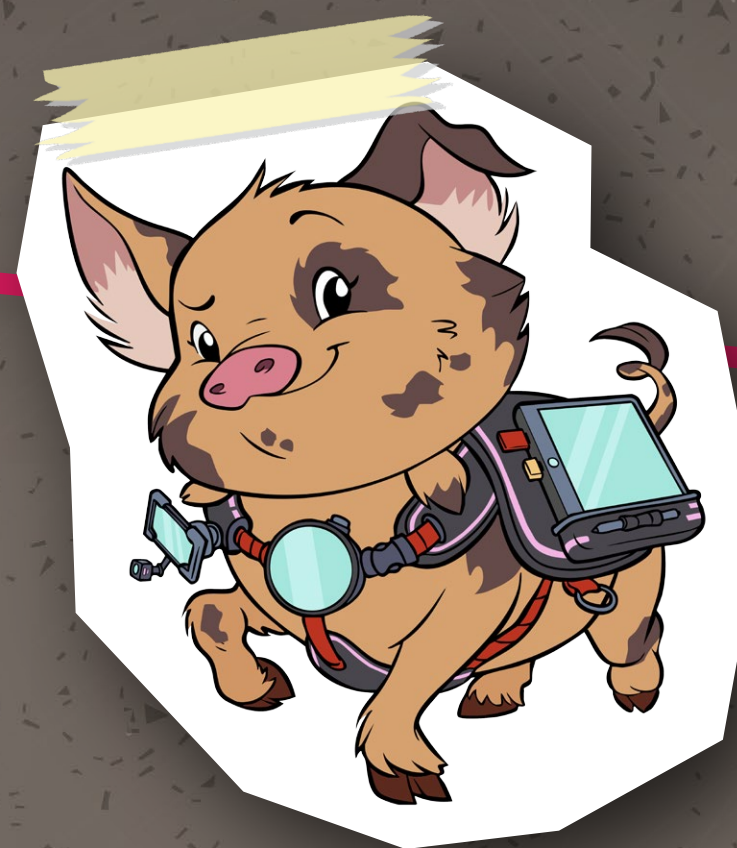
Most kunekune pigs have fleshy tassels that hang from their lower jaw and are known as **piri piri**.
How . . . cute?





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A cute lawn mower: Instead of rooting around in dirt like most pigs, kunekune pigs prefer to munch on grass and other plants. God gave them short snouts that make them great at grazing in pastures.





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A sugar glider's "wings" (called **patagia**) are made of a very thin, stretchy membrane that connects their wrists and ankles. They also use their tails as rudders to guide them along as they glide through the air.





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Sugar gliders are **marsupials**,
whose young develop mostly inside
a pouch on the mother's body.
They're a member of the
gliding possum created kind.





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Sugar gliders get their name because of their love of sweet foods like sap, fruit, and nectar, and because of their ability to glide impressive distances between trees.





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Shocker: Though generally plant-eaters, sugar gliders have also been known to eat lizards and small birds!





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Though they don't fly, sugar
gliders can glide distances almost
as wide as a football field **(150+ feet)**
using their excellent aviation skills.





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Over **half a million** homing pigeons were used to carry messages during World War I. Some also had tiny cameras attached to them that revealed the location of enemy forces.





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Have you ever heard the saying
"A little birdie told me"? During World
War II, homing pigeons carried
messages, photos, and maps to
military leaders. The messages were
put in tiny tubes strapped to the birds.
So it's actually true that a little
birdie was used to tell them!

