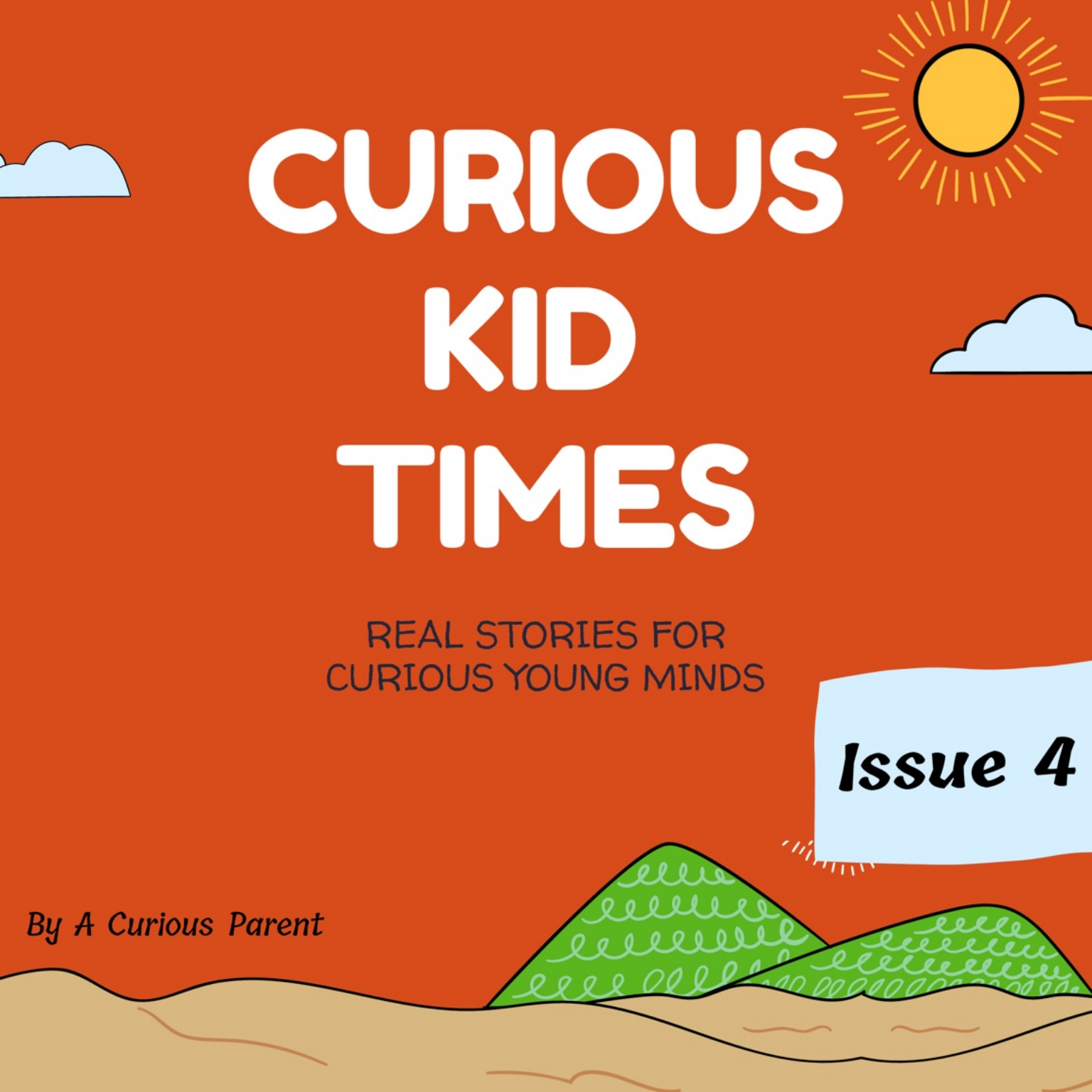




CURIOUS KID TIMES

REAL STORIES FOR
CURIOUS YOUNG MINDS

Issue 4

By A Curious Parent

A SCHOOL JUST FOR GRANDMAS





NEWS CONTEXT FOR PARENTS

In a small village called Phangane in Maharashtra, India, many elderly grandmothers never had the chance to go to school when they were young. A kind young teacher named Sheetal More noticed this and decided to do something about it. She started Aajibaichi Shala – "Grandmothers' School" – where women aged 60 to 90 come every afternoon in matching pink sarees to learn reading, writing, and math. Today, these grandmothers can write their own names, recite the alphabet, and do multiplication. Their families and village are incredibly proud of them.

In a little village called
“Phangane”

lived many loving grandmothers. They
cooked, told stories, and gave the warmest
hugs. But when grandchildren brought home
books, the grandmothers felt sad.

“They couldn't
read a single
word.”



When they were young girls,
nobody sent them to school. Now
they were very old! They sighed,
and said



*"It's too late
for us now."*

But was it really?

A young woman named Sheetal visited the village.

She sat with the grandmothers and listened to their stories. She thought for a moment... and then an idea popped into her head! She smiled and asked,

"Aajis, shall I open a school just for you?"



Sheetal set up a cozy little classroom.
She gave every grandmother a bright pink
saree as a school uniform.

Every afternoon, six days a week, the
grandmothers walked to class with their
bags, bangles clinking, and big smiles on
their faces. Class had begun!



Day by day, the grandmothers learned
letters, numbers. Then
came the magic moment — each one
wrote her own name for the first time!
Kamal whispered with happy tears

A woman wearing a pink sari and a pink headscarf is smiling and writing on a tablet. She has a bindi on her forehead and is wearing a watch on her left wrist.

*"I wrote MY
name!"*

*Q. What will you
teach
your grandma?*

Today the
grandmothers walk a
little taller. Their
grandchildren cheer.
Their village celebrates.
Because they all proved
—
it is NEVER too late to
learn!



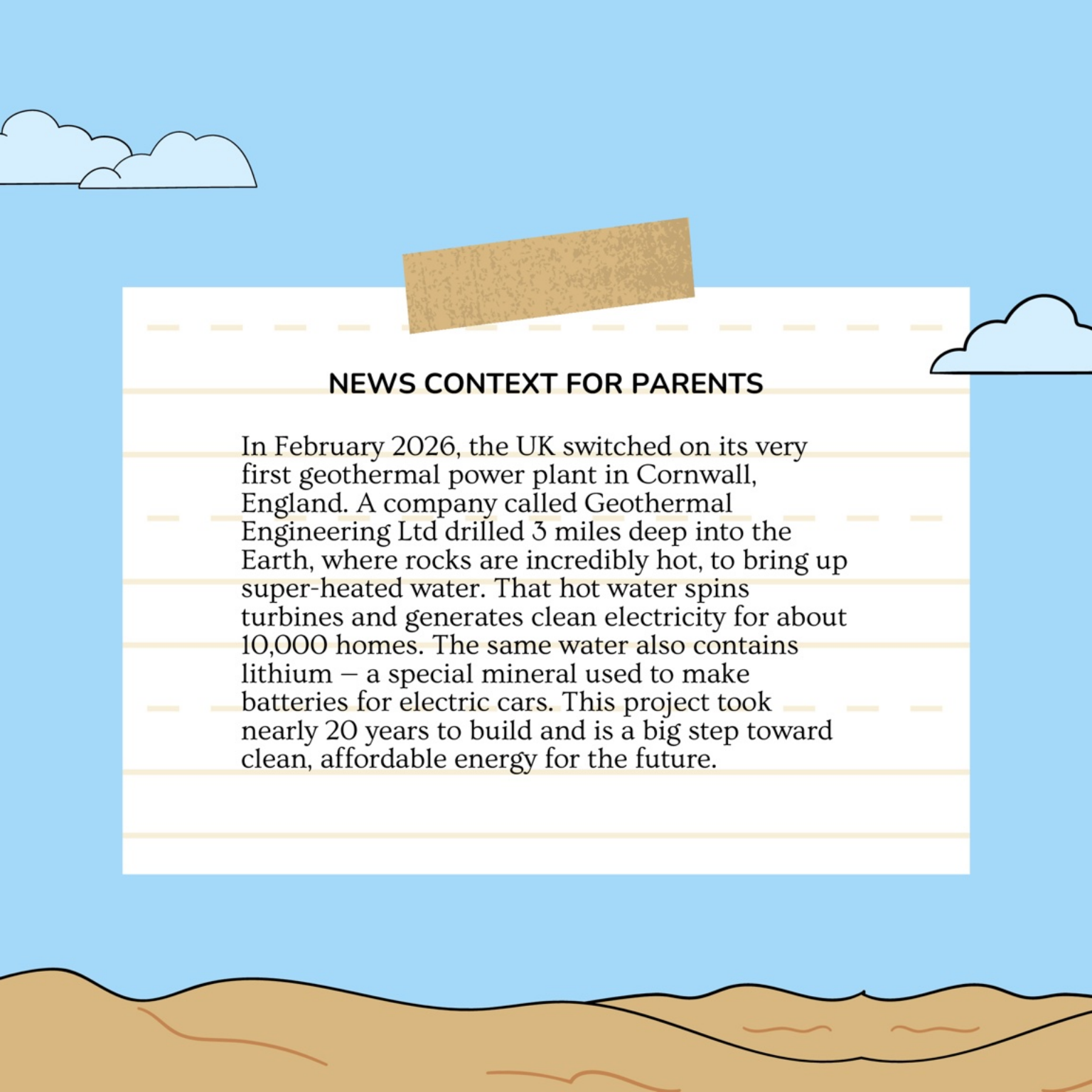
Did you know?

*In Assamese, you call a
grandmother "Anaideo."*



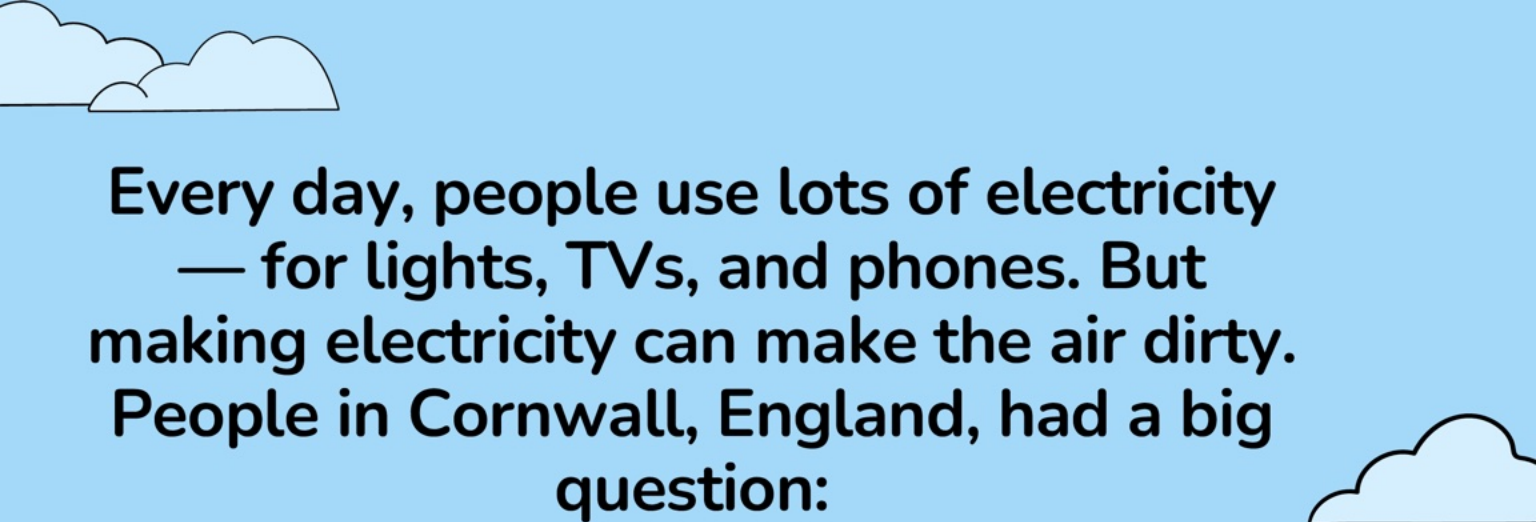


THE SECRET HEAT BENEATH OUR FEET



NEWS CONTEXT FOR PARENTS

In February 2026, the UK switched on its very first geothermal power plant in Cornwall, England. A company called Geothermal Engineering Ltd drilled 3 miles deep into the Earth, where rocks are incredibly hot, to bring up super-heated water. That hot water spins turbines and generates clean electricity for about 10,000 homes. The same water also contains lithium – a special mineral used to make batteries for electric cars. This project took nearly 20 years to build and is a big step toward clean, affordable energy for the future.



Every day, people use lots of electricity
— for lights, TVs, and phones. But
making electricity can make the air dirty.
People in Cornwall, England, had a big
question:



*Can we make clean
electricity without hurting
our planet?*

They looked at the sun. They looked at the wind. Then someone said, "Wait — what about what's UNDER our feet?" Deep, deep inside the Earth, rocks are burning hot. Could that heat help?

Q. Why is the ground deep below so hot?



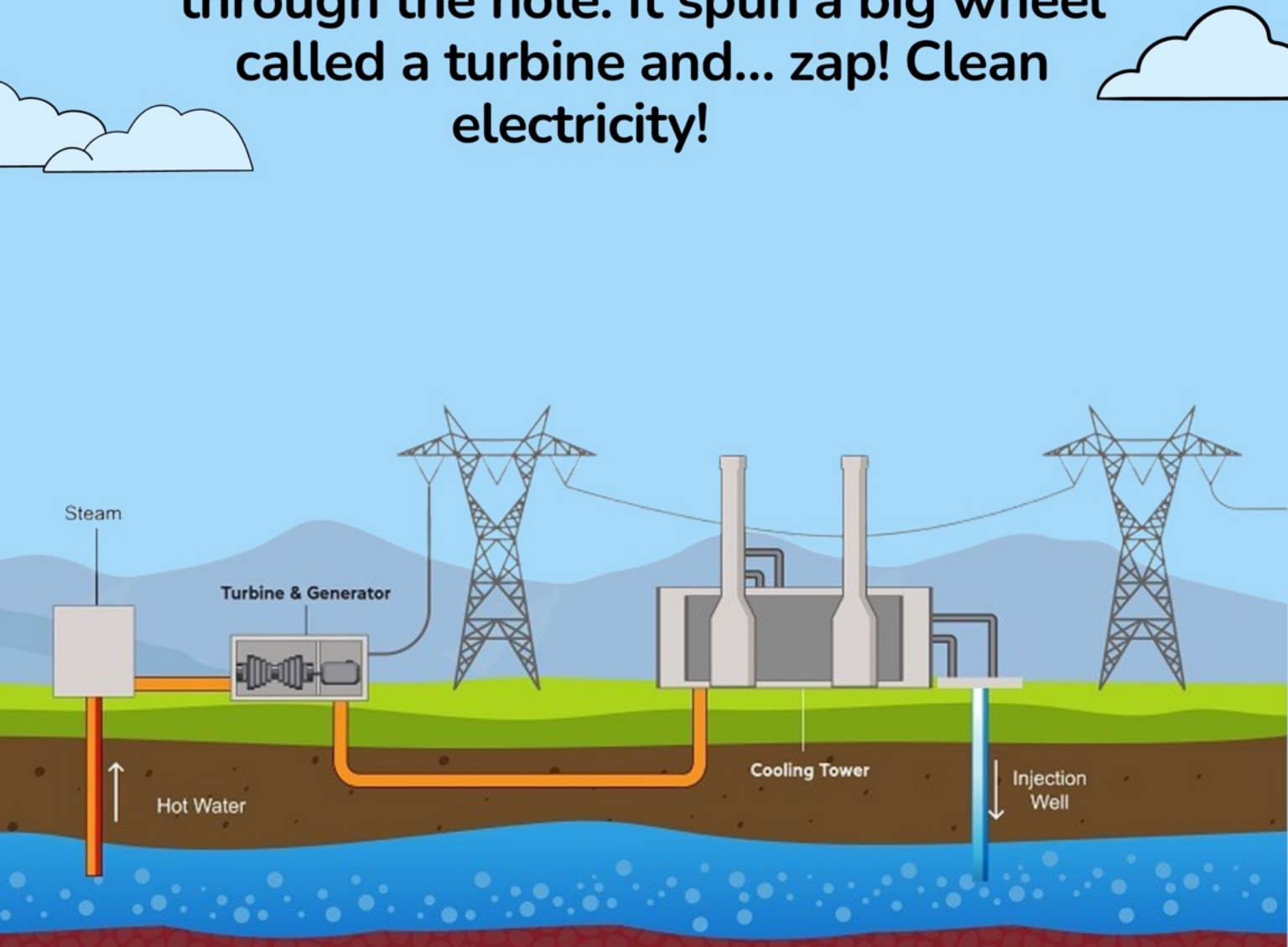
A man named Ryan had a sparkling
idea!

"Let's dig really deep into the Earth, find
the hot water hiding in the rocks, and
use it to make electricity!"

Everyone said it was too hard. But Ryan
believed. He worked on his dream for
nearly 20 years!



Ryan's team drilled a deep hole into the Earth — deeper than any hole ever made in the UK! Boiling hot water — hotter than your oven at home — rushed up through the hole. It spun a big wheel called a turbine and... zap! Clean electricity!



On a bright morning in
February 2026, the plant
switched ON! Clean
electricity flowed into
10,000 homes.



Cornwall had done something no one in the UK had ever done before. The Earth had been quietly holding this gift for millions of years — just waiting to be found! Now people know: clean energy isn't just above us in the sky. Sometimes, it's right beneath our feet.



This kind of energy is called "geothermal," which means "earth heat."

The background is a deep purple color. It features several white stars of varying sizes and shapes, some with four-pointed starburst patterns. There are also large, soft, white nebula-like shapes that swirl and flow across the background, creating a cosmic atmosphere.

A BIG WALK IN SPACE



NEWS CONTEXT FOR PARENTS

NASA astronauts Jessica Meir and Chris Williams stepped outside the International Space Station for Spacewalk 94 on March 18, 2026. They worked for six and a half hours to prepare the station's power system for new solar arrays. A second spacewalk, number 95, was also planned for the same upgrade. These were the first spacewalks of 2026, originally delayed from January due to crew scheduling changes.

High above Earth floats a giant home called the International Space Station. Astronauts live and work there — in space! It needs electricity to keep its lights on and experiments running.



One day, the station's old power system wasn't strong enough anymore.

- It needed bigger, stronger solar wings to catch more sunshine. Without enough power, things might stop working! So, it was time to fix it.



Two brave astronauts, Jessica and Chris, had a plan!

They would go *outside* the space station and fix the power cables to get ready for shiny new solar arrays.

"Let's do this!" they said.



• They put on big puffy spacesuits and floated out into space. Earth glowed blue below them. Stars sparkled all around. Chris smiled wide — it was his very first spacewalk ever!



For six and a half hours, they
twisted, turned, and carefully
worked on the power cables. A
team on Earth guided every single
step.



"Great job, you two!" cheered the
flight directors.



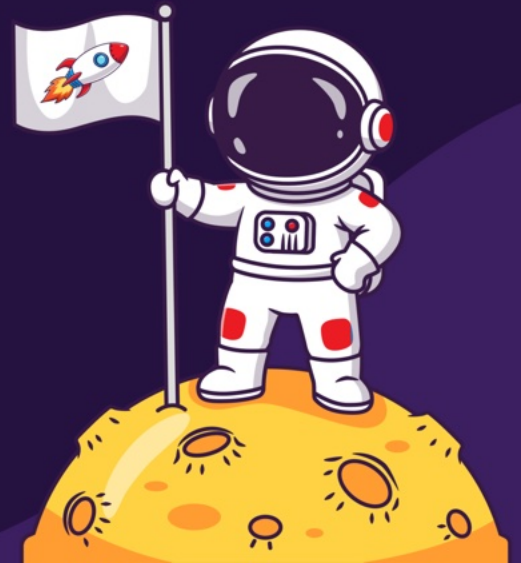
Did you know?

*In space, astronauts float
instead of walk*

Mission complete!

Jessica and Chris floated back inside to cheers and hugs. The station was now ready for its new solar wings. More power, more light, more science — up in space!

*Q. How does
sunshine turn into
power?*



THE RIVER COMES BACK TO LIFE

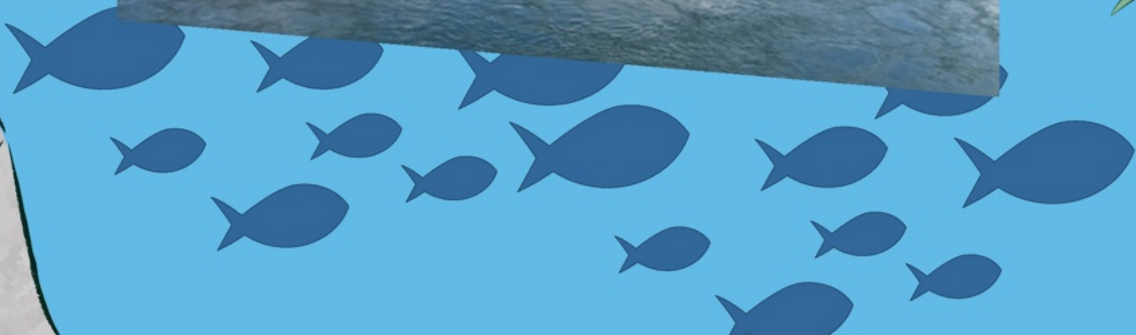




NEWS CONTEXT FOR PARENTS

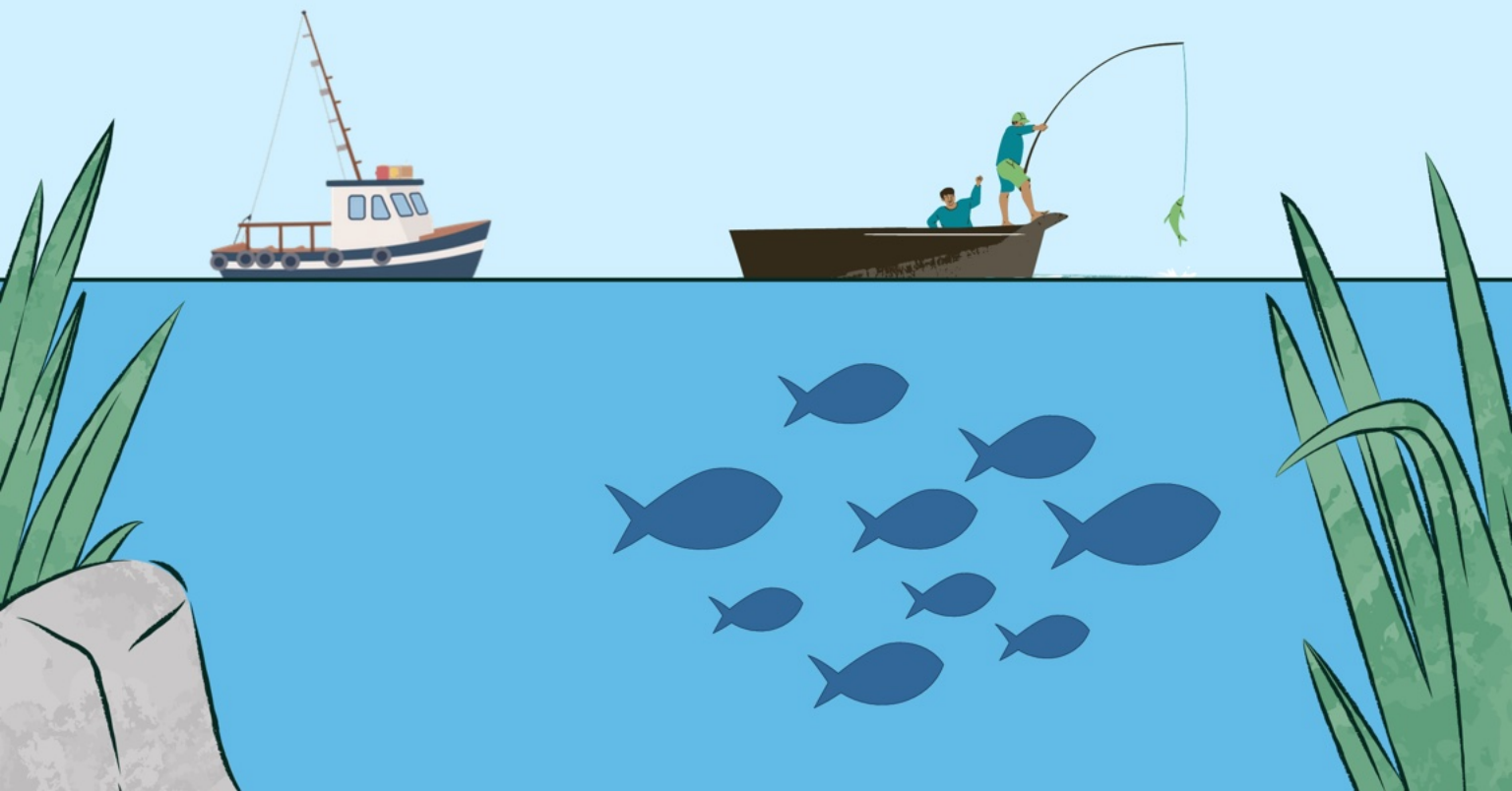
China's Yangtze River – Asia's longest river – suffered 70 years of severe overfishing that caused fish populations to drop by 85%. In 2021, the Chinese government introduced a bold 10-year, river-wide fishing ban and helped over 230,000 fishermen find new jobs on land. A study published in the journal “Science” in 2026 confirmed the results are remarkable – fish numbers have doubled and biodiversity has grown by 13%. Even the endangered Yangtze finless porpoise – a freshwater dolphin-like animal – has bounced back, growing from 400 to 600 individuals. Scientists call this one of the most hopeful freshwater conservation stories in the world in the last 20 years.

The Yangtze River in China is one of the longest rivers in the whole world. It is home to thousands of fish, river dolphins, and water creatures. For a long time, it was a happy, splashing, busy river!



But slowly, things changed. Too many boats came every day to catch fish. More and more fish disappeared. The river grew quieter and quieter.

A little porpoise named Ping looked around sadly. "Where did everyone go?"



**Then one day, China government
made a big, brave decision.**

**All fishing boats had to stop — for
ten whole years!**

**The fishermen were helped to find
new jobs on land.**



At first, the river was very still. But
slowly, tiny fish began to return.
Then bigger fish. Then whole
schools of fish dancing together!
The water filled with life again,
little by little.

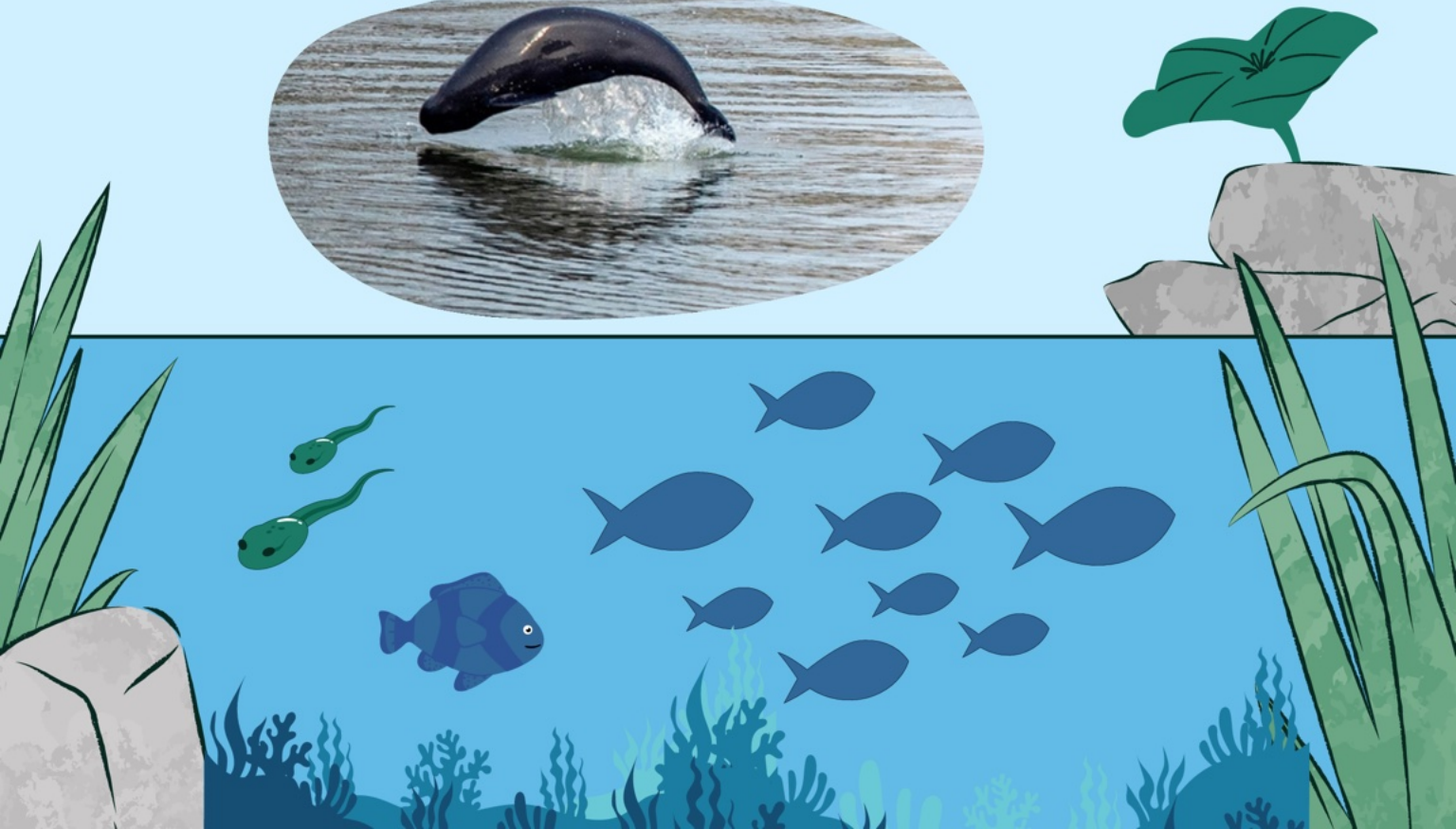
*The Yangtze finless
porpoise is nicknamed
the "smiling angel"*



**Ping the porpoise couldn't
believe it!**

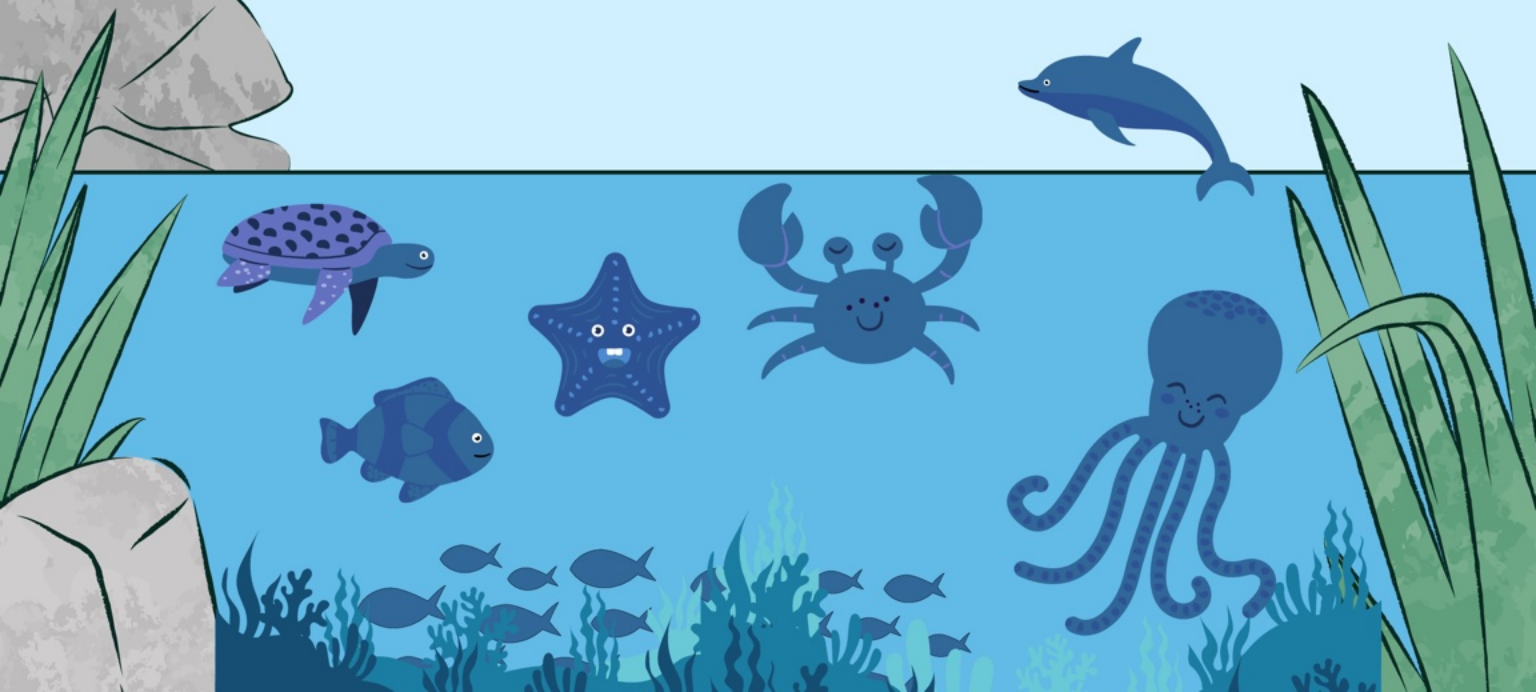


**More friends were swimming
beside her every day.
Scientists counting porpoises
went from 400 to 600!**



Scientists call this one of the
greatest river rescue stories
ever! Fish numbers doubled,
new species returned,
and the
river
smiled again.

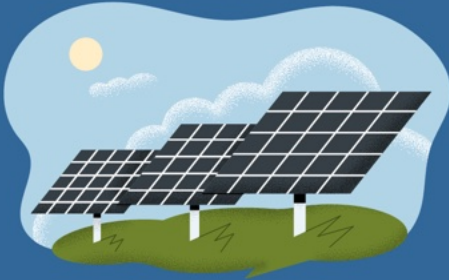
*Q. Can you find
all fishes in
the sea?*



A graphic with a blue background. In the center is a white square with the text "ACTIVITY TIME" in bold black letters. To the top right of the square is a pink sheet of paper with horizontal lines and a green pen with a yellow nib. To the bottom left is a stack of four books with blue, yellow, green, and orange spines, and a green leaf-like shape behind them.

ACTIVITY TIME

TYPES OF RENEWABLE ENERGY



Wind
Energy



Geothermal
Energy



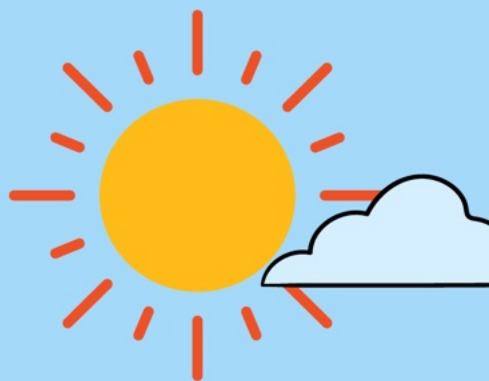
Solar
Energy



Hydropower

STAY CURIOUS





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