

NEWS ENGLISH LESSONS.com

Giant meat-eating plant found

MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:

<http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0908/090812-plants.html>

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

12th August, 2009

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0908/090812-plants.html>

Botanists have found a new type of plant. It is a giant meat-eating plant called a pitcher plant. This kind of plant usually eats insects which fall inside it. The new pitcher plant is not an ordinary one. It is so big it can eat rats and lizards. Small children and pet dogs are probably safe. They are too big for this new plant. Botanists found this new species in the Philippines. It was on a mountain about 1,600 metres above sea level. It has a special name – ‘Nepenthes attenboroughi’. This is because it is named after a famous British botanist called David Attenborough.

This is an amazing and exciting discovery. It’s great that we keep on finding new plants and animals. I always thought we knew everything about life on Earth. This find in the Philippines shows we don’t. We might even find a dangerous pitcher plant in the future. Can you imagine a really giant one? One that is so big it could swallow an elephant. We’re lucky there aren’t so many plants that are dangerous. It would be a very different world if more plants ate meat. I wonder if meat-eating plants can be vegetarian.

PHRASE MATCH

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0908/090812-plants.html>

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. a new type | a. species |
| 2. This kind of plant usually | b. British botanist |
| 3. pet dogs are | c. eats insects |
| 4. Botanists found this new | d. of plant |
| 5. 1,600 metres above | e. sea level |
| 6. it is named after a famous | f. probably safe |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. an amazing and | a. one |
| 2. we keep on | b. different world |
| 3. life | c. that are dangerous |
| 4. imagine a really giant | d. exciting discovery |
| 5. there aren't so many plants | e. finding new plants |
| 6. It would be a very | f. on Earth |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0908/090812-plants.html>

Botanists have found _____ plant. It is a giant meat-eating plant called a pitcher plant. This kind of plant usually eats insects _____ it. The new pitcher plant is not an ordinary one. It is so big it can eat rats and lizards. Small children and pet dogs _____. They are too big for this new plant. Botanists found this new species in the Philippines. It was _____ about 1,600 metres above sea level. It has a special name - 'Nepenthes attenboroughi'. This is because it is named _____ British botanist called David Attenborough.

This is an _____ discovery. It's great that we keep on finding new plants and animals. I always thought we knew everything _____ Earth. This find in the Philippines shows we don't. We might even find a dangerous pitcher plant in the future. _____ a really giant one? One that is so big it could swallow an elephant. We're lucky there aren't so many plants that are dangerous. _____ very different world if more plants ate meat. I wonder if meat-eating plants _____.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0908/090812-plants.html>

Botanists have found a new (1) _____ of plant. It is a giant meat-eating plant called a pitcher plant. This (2) _____ of plant usually eats insects which fall inside it. The new pitcher plant is not an ordinary one. It is so big it can eat rats and lizards. Small children and pet dogs are (3) _____ safe. They are too big for this new plant. Botanists found this new species in the Philippines. It was on a mountain about 1,600 metres above sea level. It has a (4) _____ name – ‘Nepenthes attenboroughii’. This is because it is named (5) _____ a famous British botanist called David Attenborough.

This is an amazing and exciting (6) _____. It’s great that we keep on finding new plants and animals. I always thought we knew everything about (7) _____ on Earth. This find in the Philippines shows we don’t. We might even find a dangerous pitcher plant in the future. Can you (8) _____ a really giant one? One that is so big it could swallow an elephant. We’re lucky there aren’t so many plants that are (9) _____. It would be a very different world if more plants ate meat. I (10) _____ if meat-eating plants can be vegetarian.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) type | (b) typist | (c) typed |
| 2. | (a) kindness | (b) kind | (c) kindly |
| 3. | (a) probable | (b) probably | (c) probability |
| 4. | (a) species | (b) special | (c) specialize |
| 5. | (a) later | (b) then | (c) after |
| 6. | (a) discovery | (b) discover | (c) discovers |
| 7. | (a) live | (b) lives | (c) life |
| 8. | (a) imaginative | (b) imagine | (c) imagination |
| 9. | (a) dangers | (b) danger | (c) dangerous |
| 10. | (a) wonder | (b) wonderful | (c) wonders |

SPELLING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0908/090812-plants.html>

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. a new tepy of plant
2. usually eats stnesic
3. not an rrdaoyni one
4. opbralby safe
5. 1,600 metres above sea elvel
6. named after a omfsau British botanist

Paragraph 2

7. znaaigm and exciting
8. we keep on ifgidnn new plants
9. a ousagrned pitcher plant
10. ianmieg a really giant one
11. We're uklcy
12. be naiertgave

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0908/090812-plants.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () This is an amazing and exciting discovery. It's great that we keep on finding new plants and
- () insects which fall inside it. The new pitcher plant is not an ordinary one. It is so big it can eat rats and lizards. Small children and
- () even find a dangerous pitcher plant in the future. Can you imagine a really giant one? One that is so big it could swallow an
- () animals. I always thought we knew everything about life on Earth. This find in the Philippines shows we don't. We might
- () pet dogs are probably safe. They are too big for this new plant. Botanists found this new species in the Philippines. It was on
- () named after a famous British botanist called David Attenborough.
- () be a very different world if more plants ate meat. I wonder if meat-eating plants can be vegetarian.
- () a mountain about 1,600 metres above sea level. It has a special name – 'Nepenthes attenboroughii'. This is because it is
- () elephant. We're lucky there aren't so many plants that are dangerous. It would
- (**1**) Botanists have found a new type of plant. It is a giant meat-eating plant called a pitcher plant. This kind of plant usually eats

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. Botanists type have of found plant a new.

2. kind This insects eats usually plant of.

3. big it It can is eat so rats.

4. sea above metres 1,600 about mountain a On level.

5. named botanist after a It famous is British.

6. is This discovery exciting and amazing an.

7. always we everything I thought knew.

8. a imagine you Can one giant really?

9. There that aren't are so dangerous many plants.

10. meat-eating plants can be vegetarian I wonder if.

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

WRITING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0908/090812-plants.html>

Write about plants for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other's work.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about pitcher plants. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about a giant meat-eating plant. Include imaginary interviews with people who saw it eat strange things. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to a botanist. Ask him/her three questions about plants. Give him/her three of your opinions on plants. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.