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# Welcome to Cyberspace

C'mon in. Take your shoes off and leave everything you think you already know at the door. You're about to embark on a wonderful journey through a world without boundaries. It's a world where anything can happen and anyone can appear. It's a world that you, along with millions of other people around the globe, will call home. With some help from us, of course.

This guide is chock full of resources that will help you to:

- Find out just what the Internet, World Wide Web and Cyberspace are. (Hint: they're pretty much the same thing.)
- Communicate with friends and relatives anywhere in the world (yes, unfortunately, even Uncle Bernie).
- Find friends who are interested in the same things you like.
- Learn everything from astronomy to zoology from thousands of information databases and libraries (where you can talk as loud as you want).
- Download games, books, information, articles and even computer programs for free.
- Hear news and sport practically as it happens.
- Play the latest games against the computer or people hundreds of miles away.
- Shop in a range of unique stores to buy everything from paintball guns to football cards.
- Research every subject you could possibly dream of – including dreams.
- Build your very own web site (where you finally get to make the rules).
- Visit zoos and museums around the globe.
- Take a virtual trip to every imaginable spot on earth (including that biggest ball of twine).
- Take classes from online schools, universities or organisations.
- Chat with people from next door or across the continents.
- Access organisations or find that special shoelace-collecting group.
- Read full-length books (or even short ones).
- Listen to historical speeches or your favourite tunes.
- Watch live video and animation.
- Have more fun than you could possibly imagine.

Travelling through cyberspace is an exciting adventure with no speed limits. But, like those family trips, you're going to need to bring a few things along for the journey: a willingness to learn and an adventurous spirit; a sprinkle of wisdom to know where to click and when to skip; an ability to evaluate what is a time stealer and what is a time stopper; and, snacks, plenty of snacks – hey, it's a great big virtual world out there and virtual food is about as appetising as last night's liver (yuk).

Keep in mind, though, that travelling the Internet is like wandering through a foreign country. You're going to encounter a new language and become overwhelmed with all of the new things to see and do. But soon, you'll be a veteran traveller and be able to enjoy all the sights and sounds of this new frontier. And don't be surprised if you get lost. (Sometimes, that's half the fun.) So, remember, don't get discouraged.

We've carefully selected the best of the best web sites for kids just like us. And believe us, if it kept this tough group interested long enough to write down the web site, then it's definitely worth checking out. But before you start with all of these places to see in cyberspace, take a walk through our chapters to find out what the Internet is, how it got started, and the many ways you can use it. And, as always, remember to have fun.

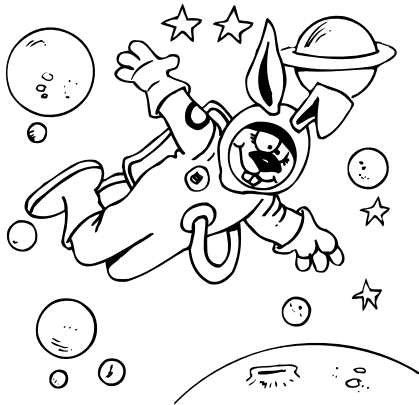
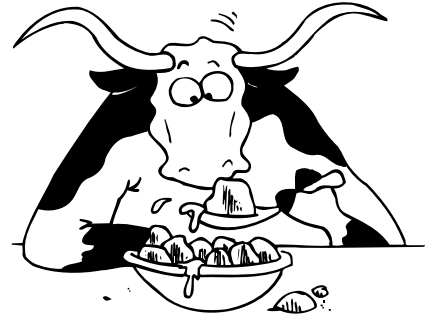


# Magazines to Maths

## Stone Soup Magazine

<http://www.stonesoup.com/>

This online magazine is professionally done and contains stories, poems and artwork from kids around the globe.



## Welcome to Weekly Reader Galaxy!

<http://www.weeklyreader.com/>

Neatly broken up into all the primary-level stages, this magazine covers science topics that are interesting for kids.

## Aunty Maths

<http://www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org/aunty/index.html>

So you can add faster than a calculator and out-multiply a rabbit? But are you up for a challenge that will test every maths skill you've ever learned? How about tackling a new one each week? It's maths gone wild.



## Royal Mint Learning Vault

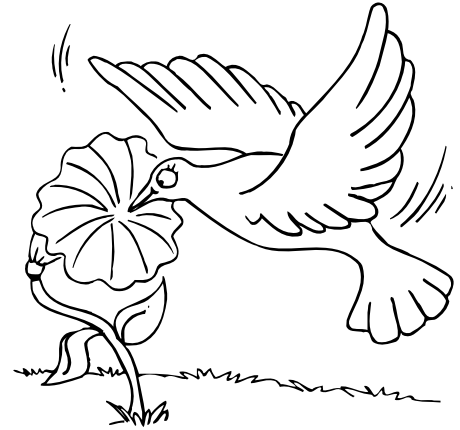
<http://www.ramint.gov.au/>

Do you know when the first dollar coin appeared? Or the metal composition of the coins clinking in your pocket? The Royal Australian Mint will tell you anything you've ever wanted to know about money – except, of course, how to get a whole lot of it.

## Nature and Science

<http://www.microweb.com/nature/index.html>

Why do leaves fall and flowers bloom? Why do animals hide and birds migrate? Answers to questions like these abound at this site. Come and discover the world.



## Kaboom!

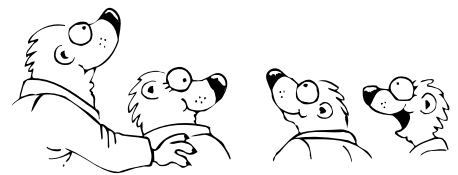
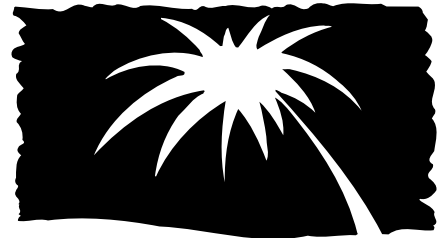
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/kaboom/>

Think fireworks are all fun and games? See how fireworks operate and how they can, literally, bring the house down.

## The Art of Fire

<http://cc.oulu.fi/~kempmp/pyro.html>

Ever watch fireworks and wonder how they did that? The answer is simple: pyrotechnics. Find out how science and art combine at this brilliant and colourful site.



## Reeko's Mad Scientist Lab

<http://www.spartechsoftware.com/reeko/>

Warning: Protective goggles required to enter this site. A whole load of free and fun educational experiments online.