The Young Detectives

Technology to the Rescue

By **Tony and Pam**

Max and Wendy were walking to a nature park. They saw a boy flying a **drone** in a field.

"That must be fun," said Max to the boy.

"Yes," the boy replied. "I am helping my father. He is a farmer, and this is our land. I use the drone to find out how well our **crops** are growing. You get a better idea from the air than you do on the ground.* And it means I don't have so far to walk."

The friends said goodbye to the boy and walked through a wood to the nature park. There they met Jane, the manager. She was very **upset**.

"A pair of **swans** has made a **nest** on the far side of the lake," she said.

"Their eggs **hatched** last month, and they have seven baby swans. I have watched them get bigger and counted them every day. There is always a danger that baby swans will be eaten by other birds or by fish in the lake.* But, **so far**, all seven are still alive. This morning, however, I cannot find any of them. The parent swans are swimming

Words

detective /dɪˈtektɪv/
n. 侦探

rescue /ˈreskjuː/
n. 营救

drone /drəʊn/
n. 无人机

crop /krɒp/
n. 庄稼

upset /ʌpˈset/
adj. 沮丧的

swan /swɒn/
n. 天鹅

nest /nest/
n. 窝

hatch /hætʃ/
v. 孵化，破壳

so far
到目前为止

Notes

1. You get a better idea from the air than you do on the ground. 从天上看比在地上看得清楚。
2. There is always a danger that baby swans will be eaten by other birds or by fish in the lake. 天鹅宝宝经常会有被其他鸟类或者湖里的鱼吃掉的危险。

around looking for them. They are in great danger on their own. I have been looking for them in my small boat, but I cannot reach every part of the nature park."

Wendy raised her hand.

"I have an idea," she said. "Shall we ask the farmer's son if he can help us with his drone?"

Max and Wendy set out for the farm where they met the boy.* They explained what had happened and he agreed to come back with them.

Back at the nature park, Jane pointed out to the boy where she had been **unable** to search. He flew the drone over the area. Suddenly, he asked Jane to look at his camera.

"I think I can see the swans," he said. Jane looked closely at the camera.

Words

unable /ʌnˈeɪbl/
adj. 无法

trap /træp/
v. 困住

pond /pɒnd/
n. 池塘

slip /slɪp/
v. 滑

shallow /ˈʃæləʊ/
adj. 浅的

set off
出发，动身

"Yes," she agreed. "They seem to be **trapped** in a little **pond**. I can see them trying to get out, but they keep **slipping** back. I cannot get there by boat because the water is too **shallow**. But I can put on my rubber boots and walk through the water. Max and Wendy, can you help me?"

Jane gave the two children long rubber boots and nets to pick up the baby swans. They **set off** walking round the far side of the nature park. At last, they reached the little pond where the baby swans were trapped.* They were easy to rescue because they could not fly.

Notes

3. Max and Wendy set out for the farm where they met the boy. 麦克斯和温迪动身前往他们遇到那个男孩的农场。
4. At last, they reached the little pond where the baby swans were trapped. 最终，他们到达了困住天鹅宝宝的那个小池塘。

Jane was very **grateful**. She told the farmer's son that he could have a job working in the park if he wanted to. And she told the children that she would name two of the baby swans after them.

"You must come back to visit your swans," she said. "You are welcome any time."

Words

grateful /ˈgreɪtfl/
adj. 感激的

What Green Means

By **Naomi Styles**

Colours **affect** our emotions in different ways. In different cultures around the world, colours have different meanings. What's your favourite colour? Maybe your favourite colour **reflects** your **personality**!

Is your favourite colour green?

We **associate** green with growth, health, youth and freshness. Green also **symbolises** safety and **permission**, as it means "go" on traffic lights.

Words

affect /əˈfekt/
v. 影响

reflect /rɪˈflekt/
v. 反映

personality /ˌpɜːsəˈnæləti/
n. 性格

associate /əˈsəʊsieɪt/
v. 联系

symbolise /ˈsɪmbəlaɪz/
v. 象征

permission /pəˈmɪʃn/
n. 准许

Green is the colour of nature. Plants are green because they **contain** a **chemical** called **chlorophyll**. This chemical allows plants to use sunlight to grow. Many **reptiles**, **amphibians**, insects and fish are green so that they can hide among plants.

Many environmental groups use green in their **logos** to show that they care for nature. **Political** groups use the word "green" in their names to show their support for the environment.

When we are painting, we make green by mixing blue and yellow paint. Similarly, ancient **Egyptians** mixed yellow **dye** and blue dye to make green colours for their wall paintings. In Roman times, painters made green paint by placing a piece of warm **copper** in some **wine**.* Over time, a green **powder** formed on the copper. This could be made into a blue-green paint. However, the paint was **poisonous** and **faded** over time. Later, other chemicals were used to make green paints.

Notes

1. In Roman times, painters made green paint by placing a piece of warm copper in some wine.
在罗马时期，画家们通过将一块热的铜片放入葡萄酒中来制作绿色颜料。

Green is an important colour in many countries around the world. It is the national colour of Ireland, because this country's countryside is so green. Here, shamrocks (small plants with three leaves) and leprechauns (small magic men who wear green suits) are symbols of good luck. Green is also the colour of the **Islamic religion**, and most Islamic countries have green in their flags.

Words

contain /kənˈteɪn/
v. 含有

chemical /ˈkemɪkl/
n. 化学物质

chlorophyll /ˈklɒrəfɪl/
n. 叶绿素

reptile /ˈreptaɪl/
n. 爬行动物

amphibian /æmˈfɪbiən/
n. 两栖动物

logo /ˈləʊgəʊ/
n. 标识，标志

political /pəˈlɪtɪkl/
adj. 政治的

Egyptian /ɪˈdʒɪpʃn/
n. 埃及人

dye /daɪ/
n. 染料

copper /ˈkɒpə/
n. 铜

wine /waɪn/
n. 葡萄酒

powder /ˈpaʊdə/
n. 粉末

poisonous /ˈpɔɪzənəs/
adj. 有毒的

fade /feɪd/
v. 褪色

Islamic /ɪzˈlæmik/
adj. 伊斯兰教的

religion /rɪˈlɪdʒən/
n. 宗教

Shamrocks

Green does have **negative** associations too. In Western countries, it is sometimes **linked** to inexperience and **jealousy**. In South American countries, green **represents** death because of the disappearing rainforests.

Words

negative /ˈnegətɪv/
adj. 消极的，负面的

link /lɪŋk/
v. 联系

jealousy /ˈdʒeləsi/
n. 嫉妒

represent /ˌreprɪˈzent/
v. 代表

envy /ˈenvi/
v. 嫉妒

Notes

2. give the green light 开绿灯，准许
3. green with envy 眼红的，嫉妒的
4. green fingers 园艺技能，种植技能

Do you know some idioms with the word green?

If you "give someone the green light*", you give them permission to do something.

If you are "green with envy*", you are jealous.

And if you have "green fingers*", you are good at gardening.