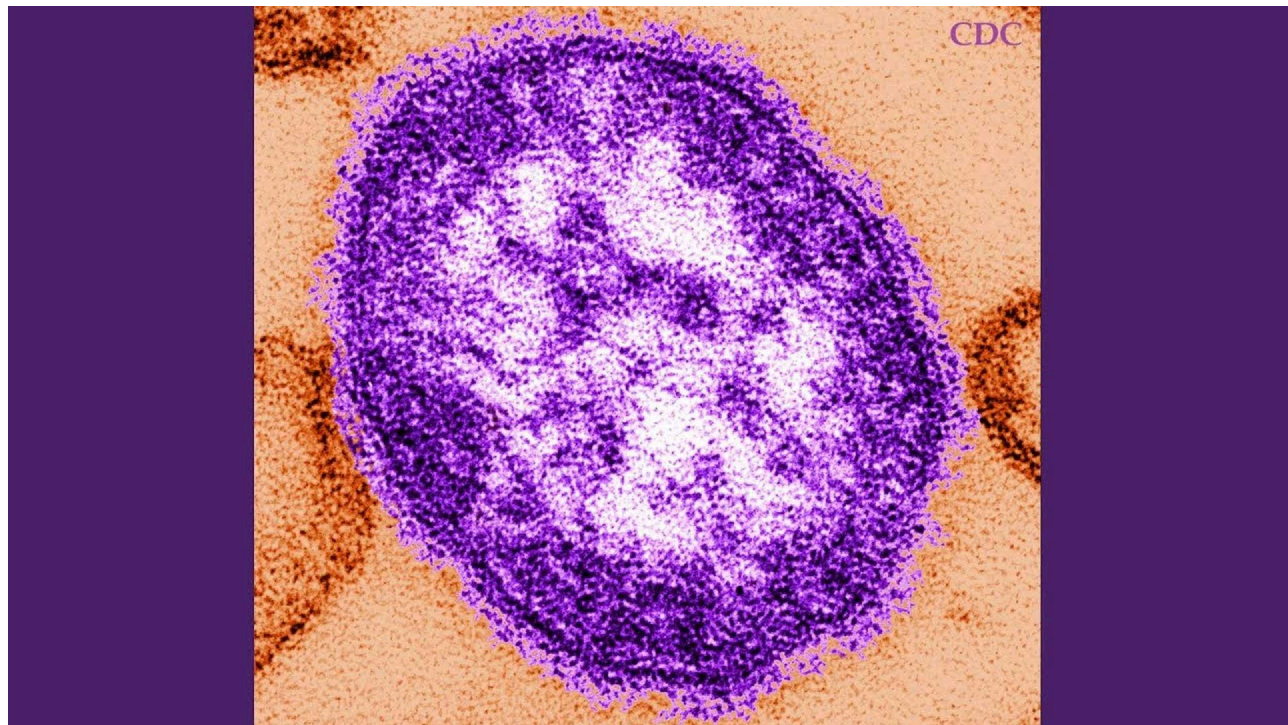




2/25/2025: The World From A to Z with Carl Azuz

Mr. Lautzenheiser - 8th Grade American History - Crestview MS (Convoy, Ohio)

The olive Ridley sea turtle is known for its olive green shell. Different conservation groups say it's either a vulnerable or endangered species because their numbers are going down. But you wouldn't know that by looking at the record number of these turtles that recently came to a beach in eastern India. Scientists say the turtles are in the middle of their yearly nesting season, but never before have they seen more than 700,000 olive Ridley turtles in one place. Officials have put up fences around the area where the turtles are to help keep them safe. The female turtles will lay over 100 eggs in the holes they dig. In about a month and a half, at night, those eggs will hatch and the baby turtles will rush to the sea. One wildlife photographer says this is one of the biggest nesting colonies in the world, and that conservationists are lucky to have it in India on the northwestern coast of the Bay of Bengal.

American health officials are working to track and stop a measles outbreak that has infected dozens of people in Texas and New Mexico. When we made this show, the total number of cases was close to 100, mostly in Texas. Authorities think it started in late January. Measles is a very contagious virus. It can spread through coughing, sneezing, and even talking. It mostly affects children, like chickenpox. Common measles symptoms include fever, runny nose, sore throat, and distinct red spots that can appear from the face down to the feet. Most people who get the disease survive. Health officials estimate the survival rate is between 99.7% and 99.9%. However, a large percentage, as high as 25%, of people with measles need to go to the hospital. It's too early to know how this outbreak will compare to others. There are usually anywhere from a few dozen to a few hundred measles cases each year in the US. Before 1963, when a measles vaccine was developed, the country saw several million cases every year. That's why health officials say the vaccine has almost eliminated the virus in America. Even though at least five of the cases in the current Texas outbreak were among people who had been vaccinated, more confirmed cases are expected in the coming days. Officials have opened up new testing centers to keep track of the

outbreak. Besides the vaccine, experts say prevention tips are similar to those for the flu: regularly wash your hands, eat a healthy diet, avoid contact with people who are sick, cover your coughs and sneezes, and stay home if you're sick.

World Knowledge: Which of these things was invented first: debit card, compact disc, Rubik's Cube, space shuttle?

Established by a pilot program in the late 1960s, before any of these other options was available, was a debit card. To debit or credit, that's the question! I think it just depends on your relationship with money and your budget, whether or not you're in debt. A debit card can be helpful if you prefer to pay with cash or don't want to overspend, like when you want to avoid interest charges, when you need cash from an ATM, and a big one, when you're trying to stay out of debt, as a debit card will only let you spend money you already have. It's like the cash stuffing method where if you only put cash in envelopes and you're only allowed to spend that cash, that's the essential equivalent of using a debit card. Credit cards, on the other hand, are more flexible, allowing you to borrow money to make purchases. They're also useful for earning rewards and points, building your credit score, shopping online with fraud protections debit cards may not have, and booking hotels or rental cars which may require security deposits. If you have a credit card, that hold only goes on your line of credit. If you're using a debit card, that means you have to already have that deposit amount in your account. So what's the bottom line? Know your spending habits and what you want out of each card. [Music]

On this date in world history, until 1862, gold and silver coins were the only money in the United States. But after the Civil War broke out in 1861, the Union soon saw a shortage of these coins. So the Legal Tender Act passed on February 25th, 1862, authorized paper money, then called greenbacks. It was a federal and financial change for the country.

On this date in 1951, the first Pan-American Games kicked off in Argentina. The event is basically the Olympics for all the nations in North and South America. More than 2,500 athletes competed in the first Pan-Am Games. Today, they involve more than 6,000 competitors from dozens of countries.

On this date in 1986, a major change came for the Philippines during large-scale protests known as the People Power Revolution or February Revolution. President Ferdinand Marcos, a dictator who had ruled the nation for 20 years, resigned. The nonviolent revolution led to the return of democracy to the Philippines and the election of its first female president.

Where in the world? This is a European country that has no official date of independence. It has overseas territories in the Caribbean, Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans. Its government type is a parliamentary constitutional monarchy, although that monarchy is mostly ceremonial. This is the United Kingdom, or Britain, a nation of more than 68 million people. The infamous Tower of London, once a prison for enemies of the crown, is now a historic landmark and home to ravens. Ravens have lived at the tower for centuries, and that's by design. It's believed King Charles II was the first to insist that the ravens living in the tower be protected because of a superstition. It foretold that if less than six ravens lived in the tower, it would come crashing down and the kingdom would fall with it. Tower guards called Yeomen Warders have been responsible for keeping the birds happy with living at the tower for centuries. It's a task that's still taken very seriously today. In the 1960s, a Raven Master was appointed to lead the omen. Michael Chandler is the sixth Raven Master ever. When Chandler first joined the Tower Guard, he had no interest in

becoming a Raven Master, but the sleek black birds won him over. "I love the ravens. I love working with them. I love everything about them." Now Chandler happily cares for the ravens, feeding them a mixture of chicken and mouse, cleaning their cages at night. He puts them to bed in cages to keep them safe, but otherwise, the birds fly free. "They're let out at first light in the morning. Uh, they'll do their stuff. They just go. We don't monitor, we monitor them, but we don't control them in any way." The tower is currently home to seven ravens, one more than the legend calls for: Jubilee, Harris, Poppy, Georgie, Edgar, Brandwin, and the most recent arrival, Rex, each with their own unique personalities. "Ravens are similar to us in many senses, um, but more so that they're individuals, their characters, um, just like us. Some don't get on with others. Others are more introverted. Others are more mischievous, uh, and for me, that's part of the draw to the job." Today, few people actually believe that ravens are needed for England to endure, but tradition is a powerful part of culture, especially in a historic place like the Tower of London. So Chandler and his team are doing their best to keep this tradition, odd as it may seem, alive.

The European nation of Montenegro is first on today's World of Viewers. We warmly welcome Mrs. Benigo's class there at Q Class High International School Montenegro. It's in the nation's capital, Podgorica. Side in Georgia, we see the Rams of Arabia Mountain High School. Hello to Dr. Ferguson's class watching from Lithonia in the Peach State. And in the Centennial State of Colorado, the Cougars are on the Prowl at Kraton Middle School. Great to see Mr. Tomar's, or Tomar's, class in Lakewood. Before we dip out, we're going to dip in to an event in France that became a crowning achievement, or should we say achievement, because more than 5,000 people turned out recently to see if cheese masters could set a record for the world's largest cheese fondue. The previous high mark for this, yes, someone did it before, was set in Switzerland, but for the new record makers, stirred up more than 70 cubic feet of queso weighing more than 4,800 pounds. There must be fro-magic in the year when it comes to fro-mastering the fondu and don'ts of all the LM Andals of cheddar people will treasure. It's a stirring fat of full fate, a party of havari when you breed together a gor gonz aada folks to cam and bury an old record and give Rog for Taste of all the guda things to come, plus it shows you know Jack about good cheese. I'm Carl Azuz, cutting puns on The World from A to Z, and we hope to see you again Wednesday. You mean the world to me. [Music]

Reading Summary

- A record number of olive Ridley sea turtles have been nesting on a beach in India, with over 700,000 turtles present.
- Health officials are working to stop a measles outbreak in Texas and New Mexico, with nearly 100 cases reported.
- The United Kingdom, a country with no official independence date, is known for its historic Tower of London, which is home to ravens that are believed to protect the kingdom from falling.

Vocabulary

Term	Definition	Example Sentence
contagious (adjective)	A contagious disease is one that can be spread from one person to another, especially through the air.	Measles is a contagious disease that can spread through coughing and sneezing.
symptoms (noun)	Symptoms are the signs that someone is sick, such as a fever or a cough.	Common symptoms of the flu include fever, chills, and a cough.
survival (noun)	Survival means staying alive, especially when there is a danger or threat.	The survival rate for people with measles is very high, but some people do get very sick.
vaccine (noun)	A vaccine is a medicine that helps protect people from getting sick from a disease.	The measles vaccine is very effective at preventing people from getting sick.
prevention (noun)	Prevention means taking steps to stop something bad from happening.	Washing your hands often is a good way to prevent the spread of germs.

Multiple Choice Questions

Question #1	Question #2	Question #3
What is the main reason why the olive Ridley sea turtles are considered vulnerable or endangered?	What is the main reason why health officials are concerned about the measles outbreak in Texas and New Mexico?	What is the main reason why the ravens are kept at the Tower of London?
A. They are hunted by humans for their shells. B. Their nesting grounds are being destroyed. C. Their numbers are decreasing. D. They are being affected by climate change.	A. Measles is a very contagious virus that can spread easily. B. The outbreak is affecting a large number of people. C. The outbreak is occurring in areas with low vaccination rates. D. The outbreak is causing a lot of hospitalizations.	A. They are a symbol of the Tower's history. B. They are believed to bring good luck. C. They are protected by the Tower guards. D. They are a popular tourist attraction.