Teen hesitates to approach parents about fear of OCD

DEAR ABBY

DEAR ABBY: I'm 13 and I'm afraid I may have OCD. I want to find out, but what's standing in my way is that sometimes my parents think I make stuff up to get attention. I'm afraid to tell them, but I know if I do, it will answer my question. Can you give me some advice? — **ANONYMOUS IN OHIO**

DEAR ANONYMOUS: Be brave and talk to your parents about your fears. They are your best friends, and you should be able to talk to them about anything – particularly anything that bothers you. However, before you do, make a list of the behaviors that cause you to think you may have OCD, and when you approach them, read them what's on it. That way, if you become nervous, you won't forget anything.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter and her boyfriend have been dating for three years. They are now in their first year of college and she gets upset when he texts other girls and Snapchats them. He makes her feel like she's overreacting, but I can understand her fears that he is being unfaithful. What do you think about social networking and how it can affect relationships and even marriage? — **WISE MOM IN NORTH CAROLINA**

DEAR WISE MOM: If someone wants to be unfaithful, social networking makes it easier than ever. But men and women who are ready to settle down and make a commitment do not look for outside adventures, no matter how they go about it.

If your daughter is insecure about what her boyfriend is doing, she may have good reason. If she's right about her hunches, the time has come for BOTH of them to meet and date other people. Because she has spent so much of her teens with only this young man, the prospect may frighten her. But please explain that this will be her chance to mature and grow. As a "Wise Mom," I'm sure you can get the message across.

DEAR ABBY: My children were over at my in-laws' recently. When we came to pick them up, they told us their cat had scratched our son. Sure enough, there were five scratch marks on his face, circling his left eye.

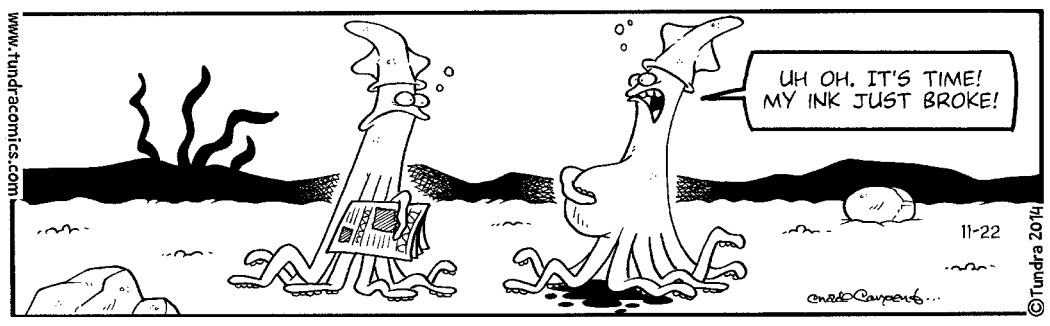
In the past we have recommended they have the cat declawed so this wouldn't happen. They told us that cats can make mistakes just like kids do. We do not share their opinion. Would it be unreasonable to not allow our kids to be over there unless they declaw that cat? — **"DISCATIFIED" IN WISCONSIN**

DEAR "DISCATIFIED": Cats do not normally "attack" children out of nowhere. Before you insist they declaw their pet, perhaps you should investigate what led up to your child being scratched. Could your child have done something that caused the animal to react defensively? If that might be the case, then your son should be taught about the proper handling of animals, because declawing a cat is not minor surgery. It's like having the tips of one's fingers amputated, and some cities have outlawed the practice.

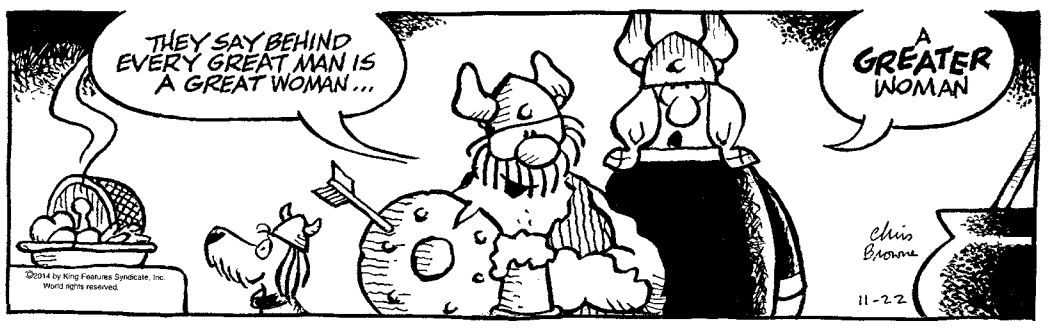
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

COMICS

Tundra

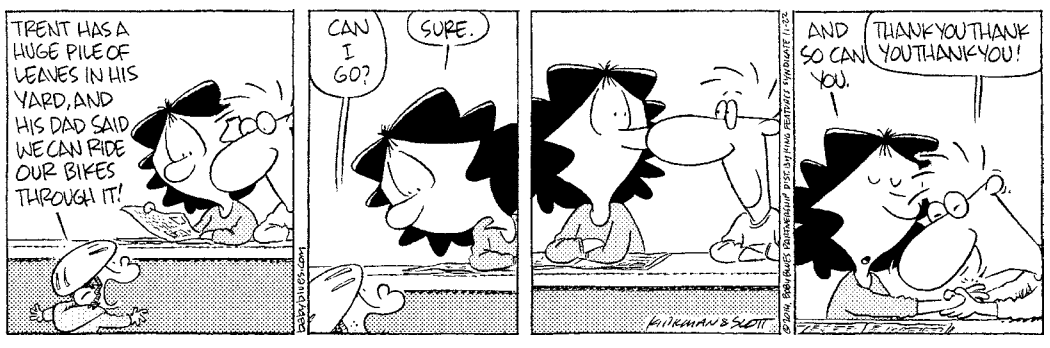


Hagar the Horrible

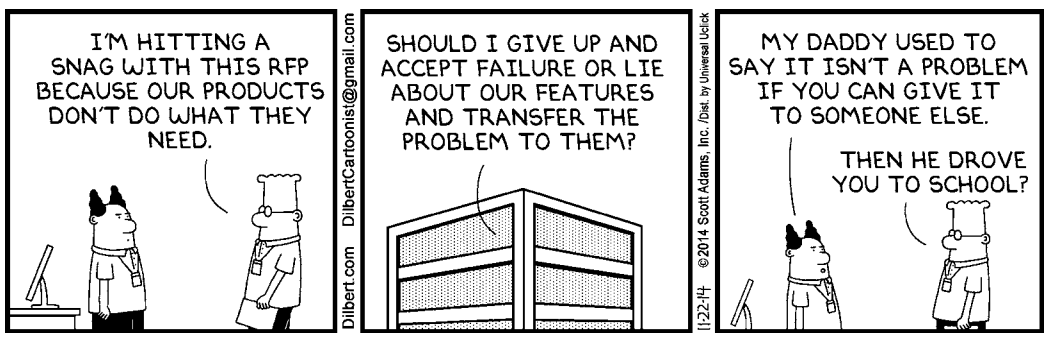


Peanuts

Baby Blues



Dilbert



su|do|ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

		8	9				6	
5				8		3		
	1		7	4				5
						6		7
	6	2				8	1	
1		5						
9				6	8		3	
		6		3				8
	5				1	4		

Instructions for play: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. It's fun. It's challenging. It's addictive!

Solving time is typically from 10 to 30 minutes, depending on your skill and experience.

The solution for today's puzzle will be published in Saturday's paper. Or you can go to www.sudoku.com to find the solution.

8	3	9	2	1	7	4	5	6
2	4	6	5	9	8	3	7	1
7	1	5	6	3	4	9	8	2
4	2	7	8	6	3	5	1	9
9	8	1	4	5	2	7	6	3
5	6	3	9	7	1	8	2	4
3	9	2	7	8	6	1	4	5
6	5	8	1	4	9	2	3	7
1	7	4	3	2	5	6	9	8

HOROSCOPES

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20
It's time for you take action, Aries. Your energy level is perfect for getting things done at home and at work. The faster you go, the more you can accomplish.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21
You could be prone to panic this week, Taurus. Settle down as best as you can and take a few deep breaths. Lean on friends if you need a little extra support.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21
It's been difficult keeping in touch with a friend who lives far away. Make an effort to reconnect and plan some time to get together and enjoy each other's company.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, the value of your portfolio may increase considerably this week. Keep your eyes on your accounts and the market. Fortune awaits.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, communication needs to be open between you and someone you love to avoid conflict. Set aside some time when the two of you can talk this week.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22
Many things are looking up for you, Virgo. This week could be the catalyst for positive change. Keep an open mind as you forge ahead in all you do.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23
You may get some excellent career news this week, Libra. It is just the type of information that you have been seeking and could provide the boost you need to make some changes.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22
Relationships with family and friends are thriving this week, Scorpio. You may have found your niche and all things fall into play. Enjoy this renewed sense of camaraderie.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, obstacles are cleared this week and you have an entirely new perspective on your love life. Put that information to use with a romantic date or by engaging in a couples' activity.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, money matters should be going well for you, so much so that you can make one of those big-ticket purchases without much hesitation. Enjoy the results.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18
Relationships of all kinds are strengthened this week, Aquarius. Whether you hang out with friends or go on a date night, you will enjoy the experience immensely.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20
Your imagination is soaring this week, Pisces. Keep your feet a little closer to the ground so you do not get carried away.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER 23
Oded Fehr, Actor (44)

NOVEMBER 24
Sarah Hyland, Actress (24)

NOVEMBER 25
Nick Swisher, Athlete (34)

NOVEMBER 26
Rita Ora, Singer (24)

NOVEMBER 27
Jaleel White, Actor (38)

NOVEMBER 28
Judd Nelson, Actor (55)

NOVEMBER 29
Andrew McCarthy, Actor (52)

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

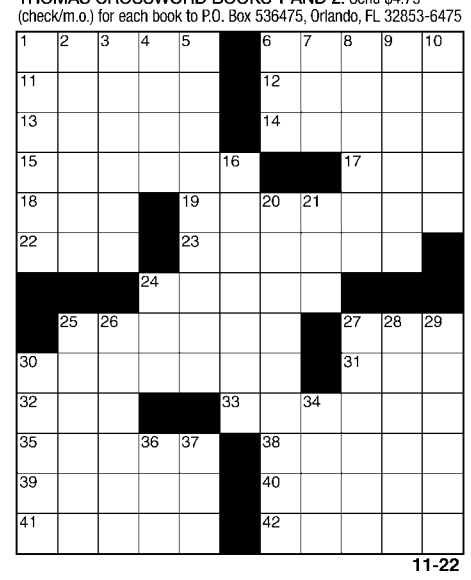
ACROSS
1 Endures
6 Grant and Laurie
11 Moscow setting
12 Media icon from Chicago
13 In a while
14 Pageant topper
15 In unison
17 Signal of approval
18 Langley org.
19 In a half-hearted way
22 Soak up
23 Like an angel
24 African nation
25 Bumbling
27 Trig function, for short
30 Lights at the table
31 Superb serve
32 Rent out
33 Darling
35 Spring sign
38 Palate part
39 Hint of color
40 Wall worker
41 "Skedaddle!"
42 Rorschach creations

DOWN
1 Fragrant flowers
2 Slow passage
3 Lowly despot
4 Quaker's pronoun
5 Epitome of differentness
6 Trendy
7 AP rival
8 Singer Ariana
9 Playwright Pinter
10 Disreputable
16 World's lowest lake
20 Acts innocent
21 Charged bit
24 Bottom-line figure
25 Man of the cloth
26 Telemundo viewer
27 Opera legend
28 Spotted cat
29 Some autos
30 Driving problems
34 Egg outline
36 Freud topic
37 Clique

M	A	M	A	■	M	A	M	M	A	L
A	B	U	T	■	A	M	O	E	B	A
C	E	L	L	■	G	A	D	G	E	T
E	L	L	■	S	I	Z	E	■	■	■
■	■	S	P	A	C	E	■	P	O	D
S	H	O	O	T	■	S	Q	U	I	D
W	O	V	E	■	■	■	U	L	N	A
A	B	E	T	S	■	S	I	L	K	Y
N	O	R	■	E	X	I	T	S	■	■
■	■	■	M	A	R	X	■	O	F	F
P	A	J	A	M	A	■	O	V	A	L
I	M	O	K	A	Y	■	D	E	C	O
P	A	T	E	N	S	■	D	R	E	W

Previous Puzzle

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1 AND 2! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
1 Light wood
6 Works the land
11 Even a little
12 Online messages
13 Neighbor of Tibet
14 German thanks
15 Magnet end
17 Baseball's Williams
18 Logging-on need
22 "Be that — may ..."
23 Parson's domain
27 On the up-and-up
29 Full of passion
30 Don Quixote's pal
32 Honeyed drink
33 Lamp liquid
35 Lupino of film
38 Butcher's wares
39 French thanks
41 "The Lion King" hero
45 Entreaties
46 Less cordial
47 Incline
48 Use the rink

DOWN
1 Criminalize
2 Had dinner
3 Napkin spot
4 Visual humor
5 Permit
6 Not state or local
7 "I — Rock"
8 Crazy talk
9 Karaoke need
10 Winter glider
16 Cut off
18 Chums
19 On the ocean
20 Billboard, for example
21 Turkey choice
24 Words of understanding
25 Baseball's Musial
26 Jekyll's alter ego
28 Stephen King novella
31 Mine rock
34 Caravan stop
35 Little rascals
36 Secluded valley
37 Region
40 Soda container
42 Farrow of film
43 Wager
44 Verb for you

K	I	T	E	■	S	P	O	R	T	S
E	D	E	N	■	E	L	P	A	S	O
L	E	A	D	■	N	E	E	D	E	D
P	A	K	I	S	T	A	N	■	■	■
■	■	E	V	E	■	D	U	C	A	T
M	O	T	E	T	■	S	P	O	R	E
A	R	T	■	■	■	■	■	F	A	N
S	A	L	V	O	■	S	I	F	T	S
S	L	E	E	P	■	O	D	E	■	■
■	■	■	S	P	A	N	I	E	L	S
S	E	A	S	O	N	■	O	P	A	L
E	R	N	E	S	T	■	T	O	T	O
E	A	G	L	E	S	■	S	T	E	W

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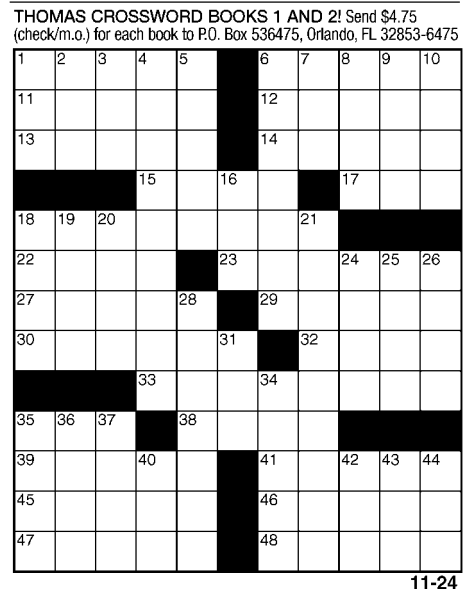

Daily Cryptoquote – Here's how to work it:

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

11-22 CRYPTOQUOTE

C W P R G L I K A Q A L Y Q W U A V A K H W P V ; C W P R G L ' Q I K A Q A L Y Q W U A J H Q Q C . — V G R B G E P H Q K C

Previous Cryptoquote: I CAN BE CHANGED BY WHAT HAPPENS TO ME. BUT I REFUSE TO BE REDUCED BY IT. – Maya Angelou