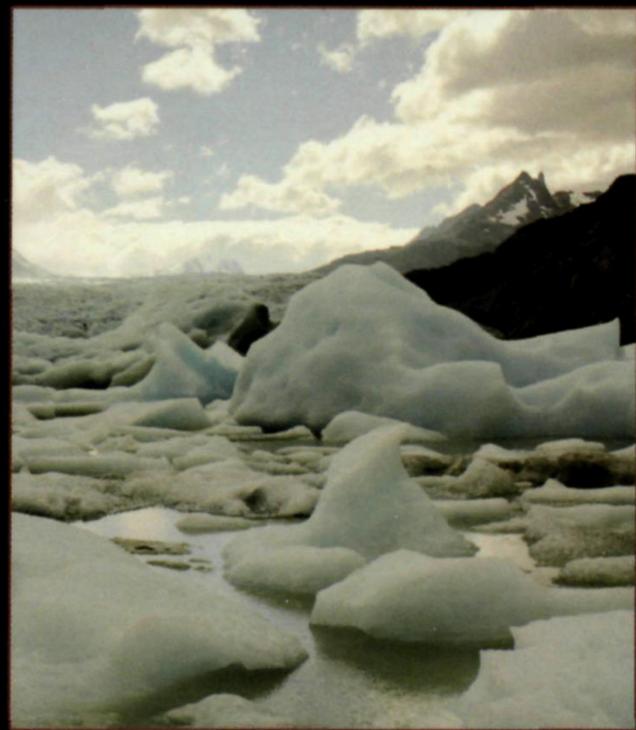


Macmillan

TOPICS

Places



Check it out

page 2

My dream place

page 3

Places to live, work and play

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Animal places

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Do you know?

page 14

Projects

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MACMILLAN

Places

A letter from the Author

Hello!

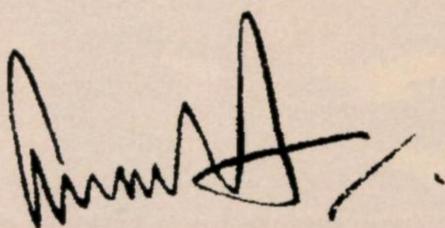
Welcome to **Places**!

Like all the Topics Magazines, it's full of exciting photos and articles about the topic. Some of the places in it are old and others are new. There are private places and public ones, too. All these places are interesting in different ways. Read the articles, look at the photos and find out more about all these places.

There are projects with every article, too. Look for the "Places Focus" symbol. It indicates things to do on your own, with a friend, or in a group. The Magazines are not only for reading – they are for personal research, too. Explore different places in your town and take photos and do drawings.

Share your information with the other people in your class. Do the projects. Reading is just the first step.

*Enjoy exploring 'Places' with us!
Best wishes,*



Susan Holden



contents

- 2 Check it out
- 3 My dream place
- 4 Doors: going out and coming in
- 6 Places to live, work and play
- 8 Connecting places: bridges
- 10 Connecting places: tunnels
- 12 Animal places
- 13 Strange places: a song
- 14 Do you know?
- 15 Projects
- 16 Topics chatrooms

TO THE **TOPICS** USERS

VOCABULARY You can find the key vocabulary for every article in the **WORD FILE** on the same page. The pictures will also help you to guess the meaning in context. There is a summary of useful vocabulary on the **Check it out** page. Finally, you can use the *Macmillan Essential Dictionary* to check the new vocabulary.

WEBSITES There is a list of useful website addresses on page 2. Remember that websites change. Be selective!



Check it out

Living places

apartment 	bungalow	caravan 
castle	cottage	flat 
home	house	hut
palace	tent	trailer home 

Natural places

cave	earth	mountain
ocean	sea	sky
space	underground	waterfall

Rooms

bathroom	bedroom	garage
kitchen	living room	office
playroom	sitting room	study

Religious places

abbey	cathedral	church
mosque	synagogue	temple

Outdoor places

park	pavement 	playground
sidewalk 	square	street

Education places

classroom	resource centre	school
kindergarten	college*	computer centre*
nursery school	laboratory (lab)	library
*center 	centre 	university

Describing places (adjectives)

ancient	beautiful	big
dark	enormous	exciting
historical	large	light
modern	new	noisy
old	private	public
quiet	scary	small

Inside places

attic	cellar	corridor
downstairs	stairs	upstairs

Outside places

garden	grass	lawn
path	terrace	yard

Internet Websites

Find out more about the topics in 'Places' on these websites. They have lots of extra information and photos.

Buildings: www.pbs.org/wgbh/buildingbig

Bridges: www.technologystudent.com/ststruct1/millau1
www.gateshead.gov.uk

www.greatbuildings.com/types/types/bridge.html

Animal Places: www.kidport.com/reflib/science/animalhomes/animalhomes.htm

Try them out. Add your own favourite sites to this list.

My dream place

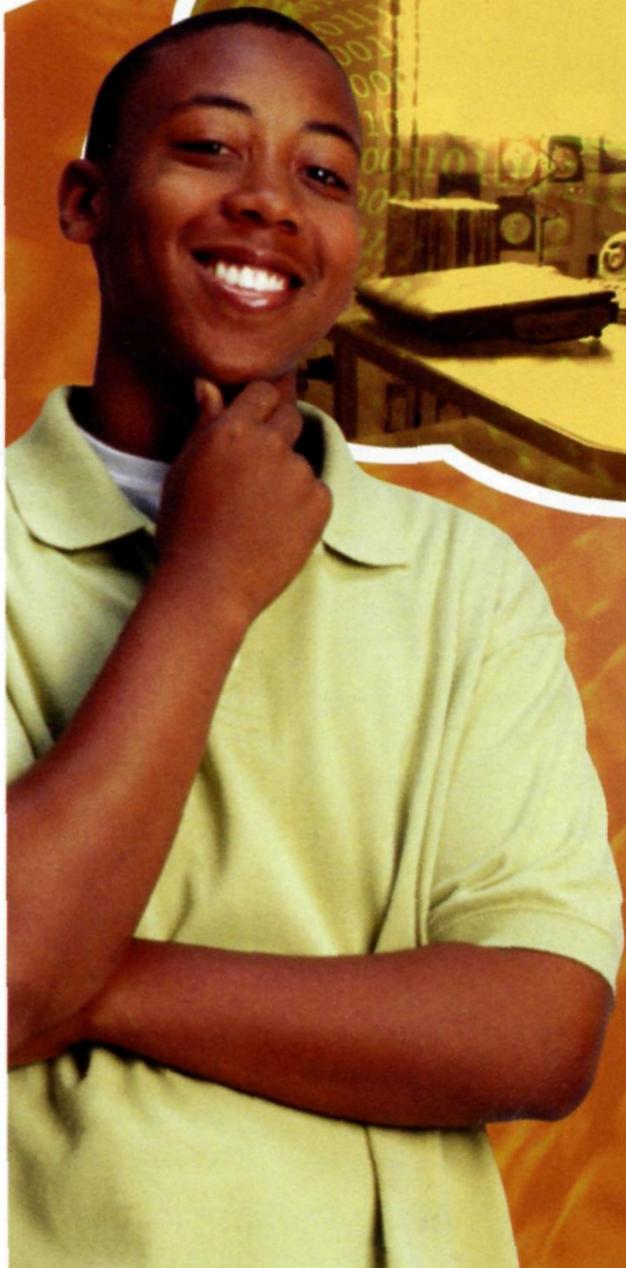
"I share a room with my sister.
My dream is to have my own room.

I want a big room, with a big
window. My favourite colour is blue.
I want blue walls, like the sky.

On the door outside, there's a big
notice. It says: PRIVATE! But my
friends can come here for sleepovers,
of course."



Draw or describe your personal dream room.



"My dream place? Well, it's a
special space. In fact, it's a website.
So I guess it's a virtual place.

I can go there any time. And, of
course, I can change it, too! Size, shape,
colours, the things in it... I can change
them all. It's easy!

It's a really private place. My friends have a
secret password to enter it, of course. And I can keep
other people out. I just change the password!

I'm really in control. It's a great place."

WORD FILE

be in control (v)	To have the power to make decisions.
dream	A desire for the future.
keep people out (v)	To stop other people from entering.
notice	A sign to give information.
password	A special word to enter a place.
share (v)	To divide something with another person.
sleepover	To stay the night at your friend's house.
virtual	On a computer; in cyberspace.

 color
favorite

 colour
favourite

DOORS:

going out and coming in

Entrances and exits

Every building has a door. A door is an entrance – and an exit, too.

Open doors invite us into the building. Closed doors say “Keep out!”. They are a mystery. What – or who – is behind them?

Here is a collection of different doors. Are they interesting? Inviting? Mysterious? Who lives there? Are they an entrance for friends, or a protection against enemies?

What do you think?

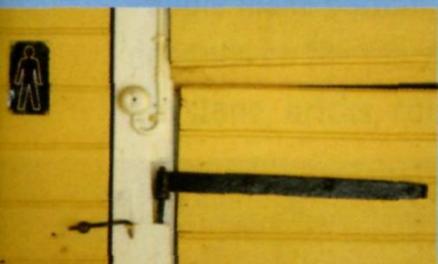


WORD FILE

collection	A group of things.
entrance	The way into a place.
exit	The way out of a place.
invite (v)	To ask someone to do something.
mystery	Something you can't explain.
protection	Keeping something safe.



How many different doors can you find? Look in the street and in magazines. Then make a door collage.



Different places, different doors

There are a lot of different types of doors! Their shape, size and materials depend on the place. Some doors are glass; they are totally transparent.

Other doors are wood or metal. For example, the doors of a bank are very strong. They protect the money and documents there!

The door of a bird cage looks pretty, but it's strong, too. The bird can look out, but it can't fly out.

Many hotels and shops have glass doors. You can see through them. This makes you want to go inside.



Different doors, different feelings

Some doors can make us feel excited. A door on a plane, for example. Imagine! The plane lands. You're in a new place. What's it like? Is it hot or cold? Does it have a special smell? The door opens... and you enter a new world!

Then there's the doctor's door. When you're waiting outside it, you often feel nervous. You think, "Am I really sick?" "What's the matter with me?" When you come out of the same door, you often feel quite different!



Find a door that makes you happy or nervous. Draw it.



WORD FILE

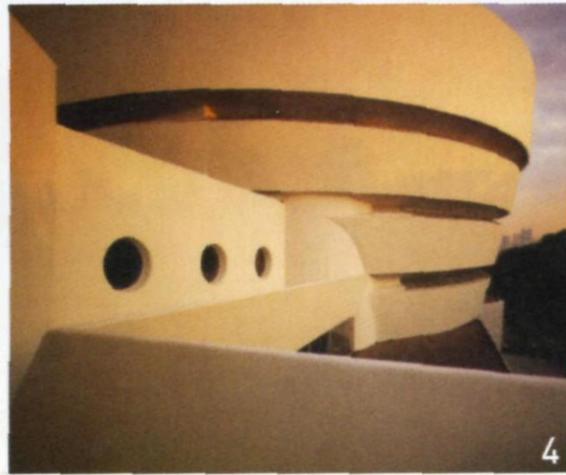
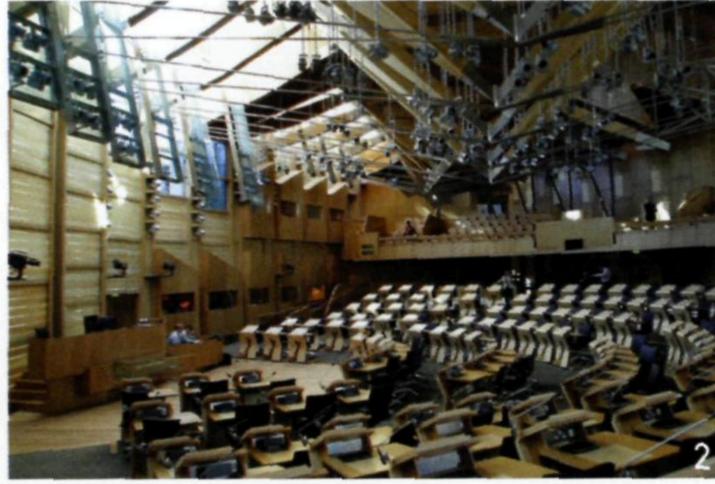
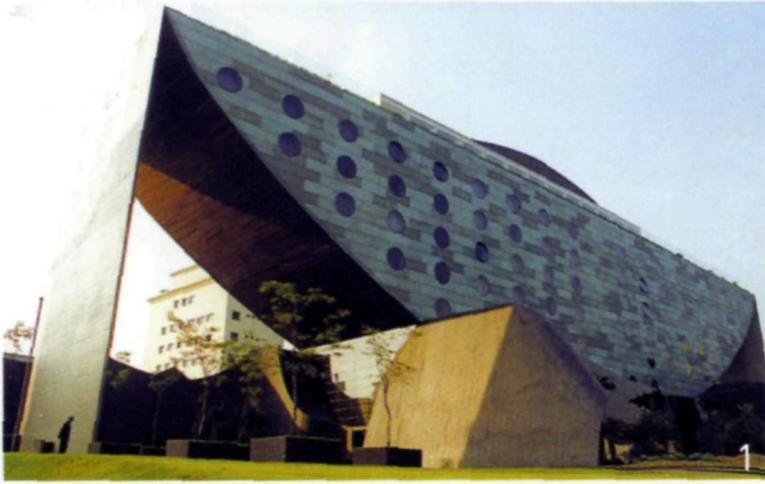
- feel excited (v)** To be very happy and enthusiastic.
- land (v)** To come down to earth from the sky.
- materials** The substances that make an object.
- scary** Making you feel afraid.
- smell** The sense connected with odour.
- strong** Difficult to break.
- protect (v)** To make something safe.
- transparent** Something you can see through, like glass.

What about other doors?
The exam room. A new classroom.
An interview room. Are they scary?



Places to live, work

Every country has “typical” houses, schools or office buildings. In our own culture, these are usually easy to identify.



What's this place?

It's sometimes difficult to guess the use of some buildings. Look at these photos, for example.

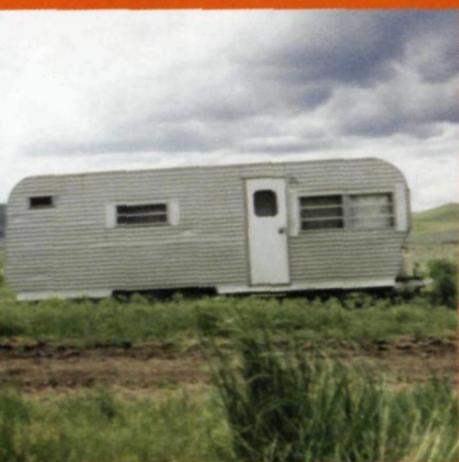
- Which one is a parliament building?
- An opera house?
- An art gallery?
- A hotel?

(Answers on page 16.)

Architects and builders want to make good places for people to live or work in. They also want to create beautiful buildings.



Find a really interesting building. Why do you like it?



It's not all fun
Most of us live in “normal” houses, but some people like to move from place to place. They live in caravans. They travel to a new place every few weeks. They have exciting lives, but what about their children? Their kids go to a different school every month. New teachers, new friends. That's not easy.

Remember!
Some people don't have houses. They live in cardboard boxes, or doorways. These people are homeless.



WORD FILE

architect	The designer of a building.
builder	The person who constructs a building.
cardboard box	A container made of thick paper.
doorway	The entrance to a building.
identify (v)	To recognise a person or object.
office building	A block of offices.
trailer home	A mobile home.
typical	Conforming to a type.



recognize
trailer home



recognise
caravan

and play

Different climate, different buildings

People make buildings from different materials. This depends on the place and the climate. Typical materials are stone, bricks, concrete, wood and mud.

The design, too, often depends on the climate. In a hot place, the walls are usually thick and the windows are small. Very often, the outside of the house is white. It reflects the heat away from it. This way, the building is cool.

Shade and fresh air are both important in hot countries. Houses have cool terraces. Windows usually have shutters, not curtains.



In some places, however, it's cold in the winter. There is often a lot of snow. Here, the buildings have high, steep roofs. The snow can fall off more easily.



Home or tourist attraction?

There isn't much land in Amsterdam, so it's expensive. Because of this a lot of old houses are tall and thin. People travel by boat on the canals, so the main door is near the water. There are big windows on the upper floors to bring in the furniture.

All these buildings use local materials and reflect local needs. Understand the buildings, and you can understand something about the people and the place.



What about this house?
Where is it? What's its name?
(Answers on page 16.)

WORD FILE

- climate** The type of weather.
- heat** Hot temperature.
- materials** The substances that make an object.
- reflect (v)** To throw the light and heat back.
- shade** The area out of the sun.
- shutters** A cover for a window, usually wood or metal.
- steep** Nearly vertical.



drapes



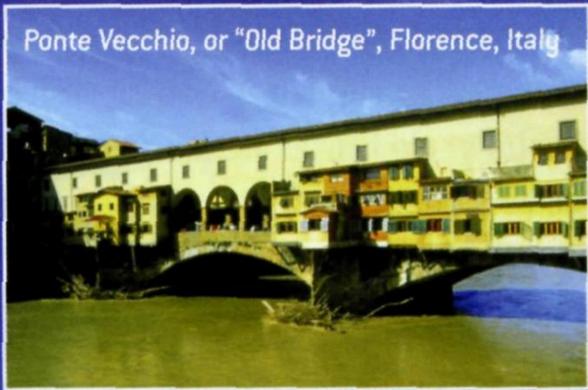
curtains

Look at a typical building in your town. What's special about it?



CONNECTING PLACES

BRIDGES CONNECT PLACES. SOME BRIDGES ARE FOR CARS, BUSES AND LORRIES. OTHER BRIDGES ARE FOR TRAINS. MANY OF THESE BRIDGES ARE ENORMOUS. THEY CARRY THE TRAFFIC OVER BIG RIVERS AND WIDE VALLEYS. THEY CONNECT THE PLACES ON BOTH SIDES.



Ponte Vecchio, or "Old Bridge", Florence, Italy

Some old bridges have shops on them. They're good places for tourists!



Charles Bridge, Prague, Czech Republic

Artists – and tourists – love this bridge!



Tower Bridge, London, England

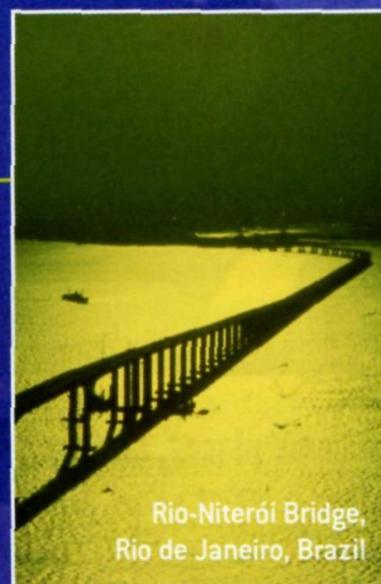
Some bridges can open for ships.

And others represent the city.



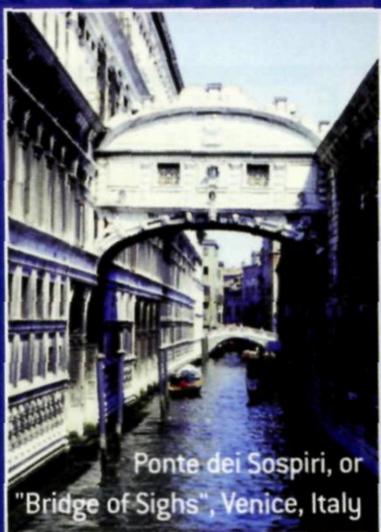
Sydney Harbour Bridge, Australia

Some modern bridges connect the city centre with new places to live in. They change the life of the city and its people.



Rio-Niterói Bridge, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Of course, some bridges are sad places. This bridge connects an old prison with the execution place.



Ponte dei Sospiri, or "Bridge of Sighs", Venice, Italy

Choose a bridge. What's its purpose? What does it connect? Find out about it. Present your information on a poster.

WORD FILE

- execution place** A place to kill prisoners.
- prison** A place to keep people in order to punish them.
- represent (v)** To be the symbol of something.
- traffic** Vehicles travelling in an area.

 **center**
harbor
truck

 **centre**
harbour
lorry



ES: BRIDGES

NEW BRIDGES

Modern bridges use new technology. The builders experiment with new materials and methods. Designing and building bridges is exciting work! Architects use computers to solve the technical problems.

FRANCE: MILLAU

Some bridges are very long – and very beautiful. They connect isolated parts of the country. This bridge is really amazing!

Length _____ 3 kilometres
Height of the tallest towers _____ 343 metres
Height of the traffic from the ground _____ 270 metres

When you cross the bridge, you feel like a bird. The country below looks very small, and the sky is very near. You are sometimes above the clouds!



ENGLAND: GATESHEAD

This bridge is for cyclists and pedestrians, not cars. It crosses the River Tyne. There are lots of big ships on the river. The bridge connects two cities, Newcastle and Gateshead. Every day the bridge closes at certain times. One half of the road moves up. The other half moves down. Ships can then go under it. It's incredible!



BRIDGES AS SYMBOLS

A bridge is a symbol of “normal” life. But sometimes bad weather, or war, destroys it and people want to rebuild it quickly. In this way, it also becomes a symbol of hope for the future.



WORD FILE

architect	The person who designs a building.
builder	The person who constructs a building.
cyclist	A person on a bicycle.
isolated	Distant from cities.
materials	The substances that make an object.
methods	The ways to do something.
pedestrian	A walker.
rebuild (v)	To build something again.
symbol	Something that represents an idea or object.
technology	Scientific ideas and machines.

 kilometer
meter

 kilometre
metre

Research other “technological” bridges.
Why are they special?



Connecting places:

Bridges go up into the air. Tunnels go under the ground. They *both* connect places. But you feel different in a tunnel. On a bridge, you're like a bird. In a tunnel, you're more like an animal. An earthworm, perhaps, or a rabbit!

Connecting different regions

Sometimes, on one side of the tunnel, the mountains are dark and rocky. On the other side, they are green. There are farms and gardens. The tunnel connects two different worlds!

Some tunnels connect two different countries. They usually go under high mountains, like the Alps or the Pyrenees. The tunnel under Monte Bianco (or Mont Blanc) connects Italy and France. The Bielsa tunnel, in the Pyrenees, goes between France and Spain. These tunnels are exciting: they connect different cultures and languages.

Countries like Spain and Switzerland have lots of mountains and lots of tunnels, too. They connect towns and villages and people.

Tunnels and traffic

Sometimes the roads go under the city centre too. But these often create new traffic problems.

Underground railroads use tunnels. There is a huge network of tunnels under cities like New York, Paris and London.

A lot of modern cities build underground systems. They help to reduce traffic problems on the roads. However, in an old city like Athens or Rome, it's really difficult to make new tunnels. Every few metres, the planners discover an ancient building.



Do a class survey. Who likes tunnels?
Who finds them scary? Why?

tunnels

Connecting life and death

In Rome, there are ancient tunnels under some of the old parts of the city. They run for many kilometres. Some of them still have frescoes on the walls.

Here you can see Christian tombs from the 1st to the 5th centuries. There are also thousands of monuments from nearly 2000 years ago.

It's a great place to connect with the past.



Holes in the ground

A hole is a kind of vertical tunnel. It goes down into the ground. Characters in stories often fall down holes... Think of Alice, in "Alice in Wonderland". She falls down a rabbit hole and enters a new world. Holes can connect the real world with a fantasy world.

Secret tunnels

In some places, there are secret tunnels. People sometimes hide in these during a war, or escape from danger through them. There are lots of exciting stories about secret tunnels. Some of these are fiction, and others are true. Do you know any of these?

WORD FILE

distance	The space between places.
fresco	A painting made directly onto wet plaster on a wall.
monument	A structure to celebrate a person or event.
network	A system of connected lines.
rocky	Covered with rocks.
side	The semi-vertical surface of a mountain.
tomb	A place for a dead person.
traffic problem	Too many cars and buses on a road.
view	The things you can see from a place.



center
kilometer
meter
railroad
subway



centre
kilometre
metre
railway
tube / underground

Animal places

Some animals have really interesting homes!

Snails



Look at this snail. It always has its house with it! It moves with its house. Now its head is outside its house. Why? Perhaps it's hungry.



Now its head is inside. Why? Perhaps it's frightened.



Now it's outside again. Perhaps the snail wants to go to a new place. There's only one problem... There's a hungry bird nearby!



Birds

Birds usually make nests. There are lots of different kinds of nests. These depend on the type of bird. There are tidy nests and untidy ones. There are nests in trees, in river banks and even in old shoes. And not all nests are new. Sometimes birds use old ones!



A safe place!

This Australian animal has a great place to live in when it's young. Its mother has a pouch, and the baby animal lives here for 6-12 months. It's dark, it's safe, and there's milk to drink. It's home!

WORD FILE

dark	There is no light.
hungry	To want to eat.
inside	The internal part of a place.
nest	A bird's home.
outside	The external part of a place.
pouch	A kind of pocket.
safe	Secure; out of danger.
tidy	With everything in the correct place.
untidy	The opposite of "tidy".

Choose an animal's "home". What does this place tell you about the animal?



Strange Places: a song

Here's part of a famous song about a very strange place to live in.

Do you know the song writer? Do you know the music group?

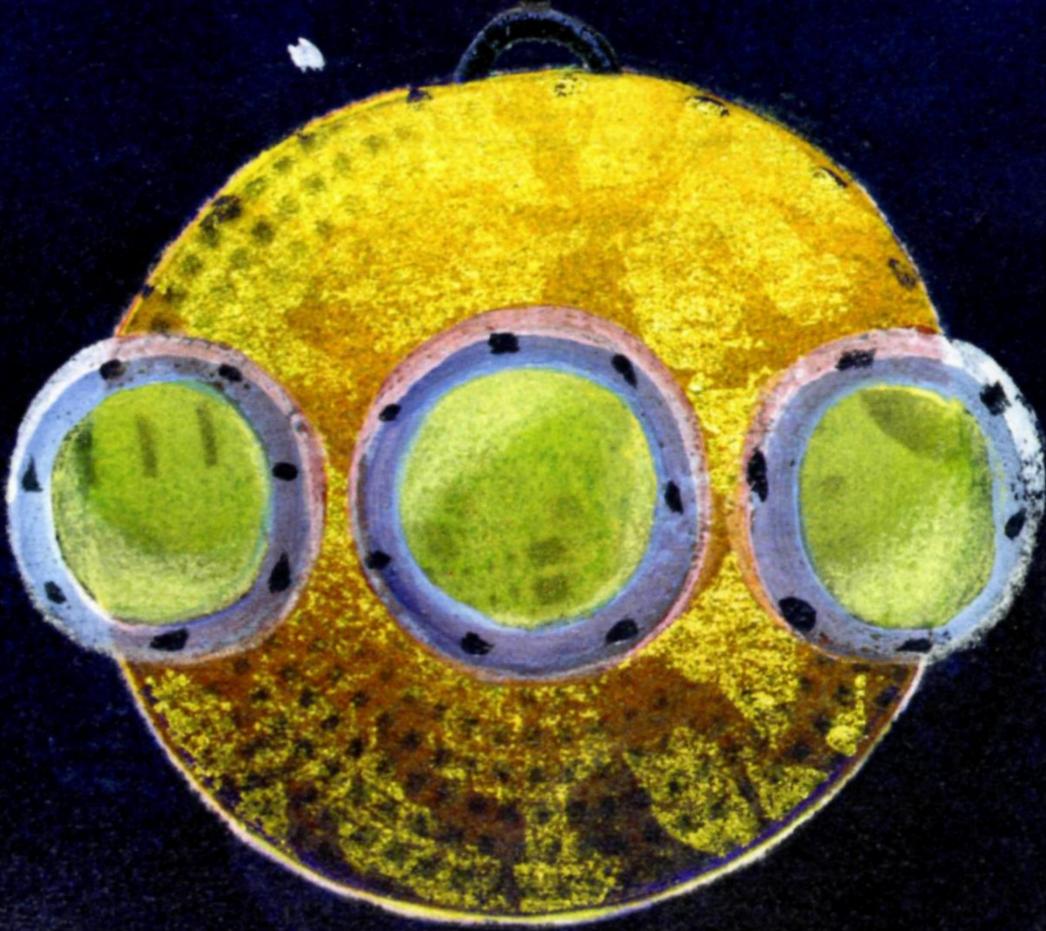
And why is 8th December 1980 an important date? (Answers on page 16.)



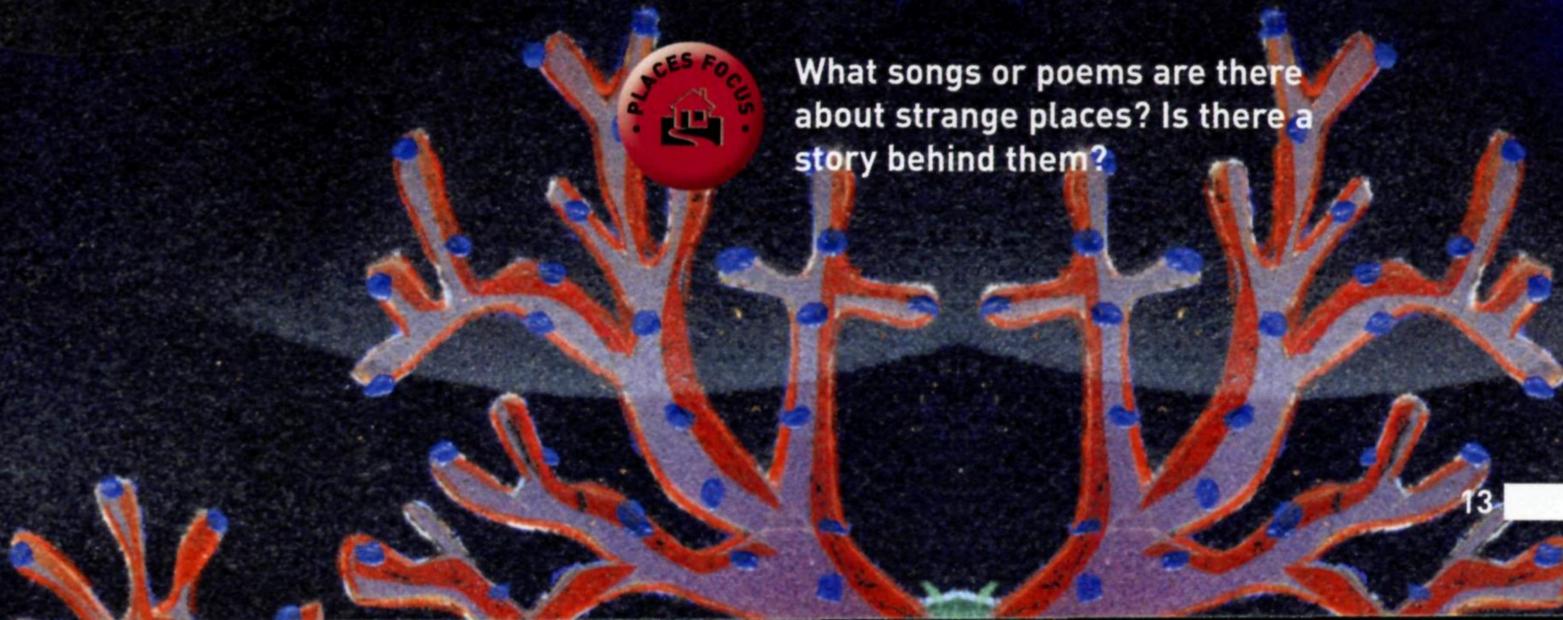
...We all live in a yellow submarine
Yellow submarine, yellow submarine
We all live in a yellow submarine
Yellow submarine, yellow submarine

And our friends are all aboard
Many more of them live next door
And the band begins to play
We all live in a yellow submarine
Yellow submarine, yellow submarine
We all live in a yellow submarine
Yellow submarine, yellow submarine

As we live a life of ease
Everyone of us has all we need
Sky of blue and sea of green
In our yellow submarine
We all live in a yellow submarine
Yellow submarine, yellow submarine
We all live in a yellow submarine
Yellow submarine, yellow submarine
We all live in a yellow submarine
Yellow submarine, yellow submarine
We all live in a yellow submarine
Yellow submarine, yellow submarine...



What songs or poems are there about strange places? Is there a story behind them?



Places quiz

Do you know?



(Answers on page 16.)

1. PUZZLE PIX

Make words from the jumbled letters. Then match the places and the pictures.



- a GEBRID
- b TANIUNMO
- c NACEO
- d EVAC
- e LUNNET
- f TREEST
- g PRAK
- h TIRASS
- i ODOR
- j WONWID

2. PLACES FACTS

Can you guess the place? Sometimes there are two possibilities.

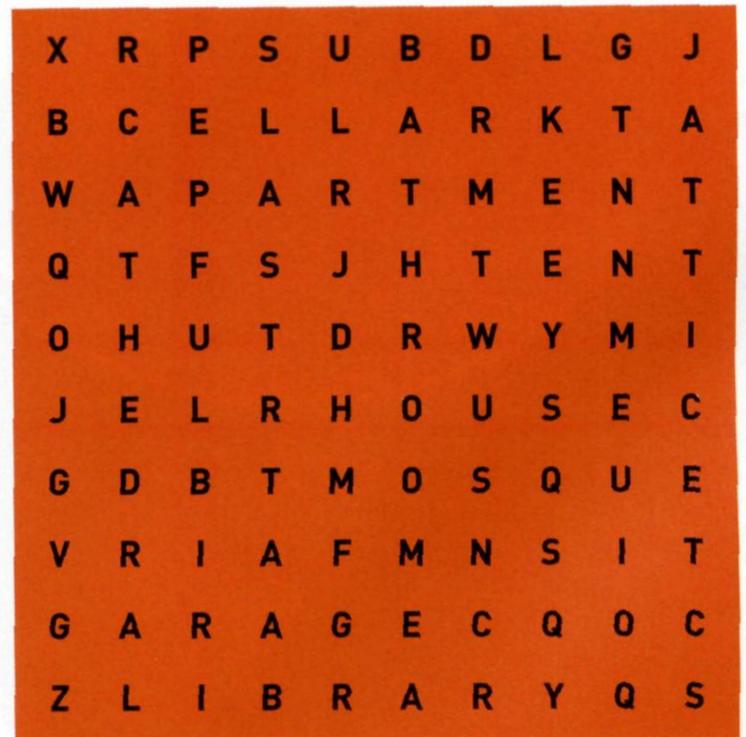
island
volcano
sidewalk
sky
pavement

- a This mountain sometimes has fire at the top. ●●●●
- b People walk on it (in the U.S.!) ●●●●
- c People walk on it (in Britain!) ●●●●
- d A big public garden. ●●●●
- e This room is under the house. ●●●●
- f This piece of land has water all around it. ●●●●
- g The room to prepare food. ●●●●
- h There are a lot of books in this room. ●●●●
- i Do you like camping? You can sleep here. ●●●●
- j Go outside. Look up. You can see this place! ●●●●

kitchen
tent
library
park
cellar

3. WORD BOX

Find 11 places here. Any problems? Look at *Check it out* on page 2!



Projects

1

Favourite places: survey

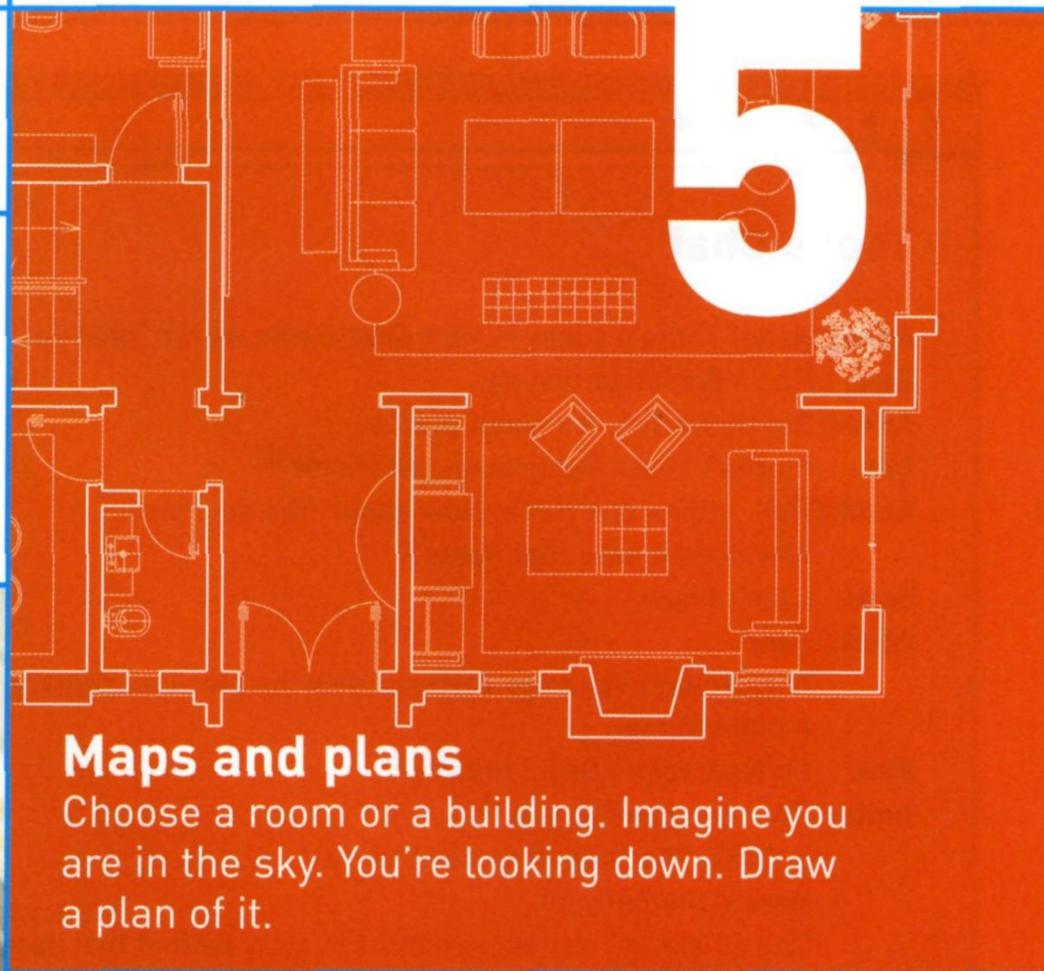
Do a class survey of favorite places. Show the results on a graph or a diagram. Add pictures.



2

A special place: website

Design a website for a place in your town. Decide what information to include.



Maps and plans

Choose a room or a building. Imagine you are in the sky. You're looking down. Draw a plan of it.

3

A place for teenagers

Work with your friends. Design a special "place for teenagers". Decide what features to include. E.g. dance studio, sports hall, DVD library, ...

6

Animal places

Choose an animal. Find out about its ideal "home". Present this information as a poster or a website.

Fantastic places

Think of all the fantastic places in books and films. E.g. Harry Potter's Hogwarts School. Make a model of your own fantastic place. Find the English names for all the special features.

7

8

Dream holiday: places

Agree a dream place for a holiday with your friends. Make an advertisement for it.



Collect all your Places work. Make a Places Exhibition with your friends.

Tourist places

Do tourists visit your town? If so, what do they want to see? Make a Places Factsheet for them. Give them useful information.



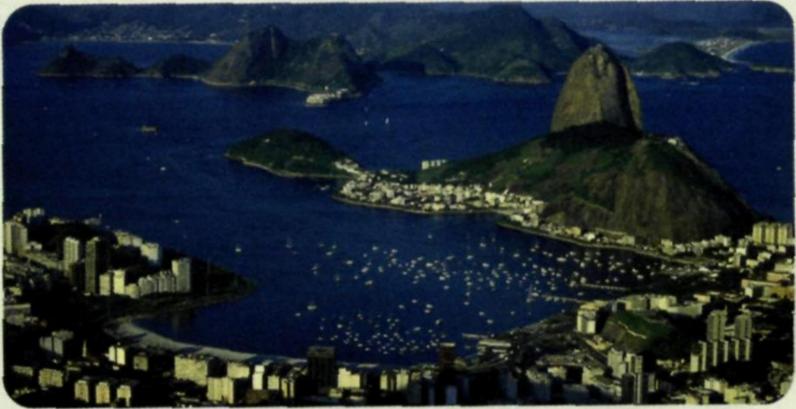
4



Topics chatrooms

Teens Chat

Anna: Hello! There's a new History Quiz Game on the Internet.
Ben: No... I don't like History.
Anna: But this is fun. It's about places.
Ben: Places? That's Geography, not History!
Anna: Well – think of a place. How about "Rio de Janeiro"?
 Why does it have that name?
Ben: I don't know.
Anna: Easy!
 The explorer Amerigo Vespucci saw the place in January.
 A point to me.
Ben: On New Year's Day, I think...
Anna: OK – one point to you.
 In 1502. That's another point to me.
 Here's another one.
 "Via 22 Marzo" in Italy – what's the story behind that date?
Ben: I don't know!
Anna: Try this one. Lots of towns in Italy have a "Garibaldi" or "Cavour" place – why?
Ben: OK, OK, I understand. History, Geography... just look at a map.
 And music. What about John Lennon airport in Liverpool?
Anna: You see! OK, let's begin.




Facts Check

Page 6: PLACES TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY

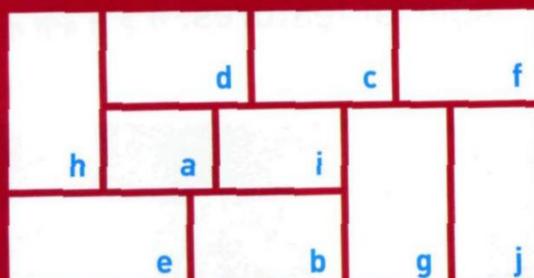
1. hotel; 2. parliament building;
3. opera house; 4. art gallery

Page 7: It's in Central Asia. A "yurt".

Page 13: STRANGE PLACES: A SONG

John Lennon. The Beatles. Lennon was shot dead in New York.

Page 14: PLACES QUIZ:
1. PUZZLE PIX



a. bridge; b. mountain; c. ocean; d. cave; e. tunnel;
f. street; g. park; h. stairs; i. door; j. window

2. PLACES FACTS

a. volcano; b. sidewalk; c. pavement; d. park;
e. cellar; f. island; g. kitchen; h. library; i. tent; j. sky

3. WORD BOX

Across: CELLAR / APARTMENT / TENT / HUT / HOUSE /
MOSQUE / GARAGE / LIBRARY
Down: CATHEDRAL / BATHROOM / ATTIC

Can you believe it?

This is Janus. He's an Ancient Roman god. People often put his face over their doors and gates. He looks in two opposite directions. He watches entrances and exits. So... he's also the god of change, and of the past and the future.



BYE FOR NOW!

That's the end of 'Places'. But don't stop doing your projects. Find out about all the places around you. Discover the facts about the places you visit on holiday, too.

See you in another Topics title!

Best wishes,



Susan Holden

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12 onwards

LANGUAGE LEVEL

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Macmillan
Topics
 by Susan Holden



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