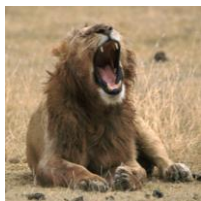




## Lion vs baby

An online video shows a lion trying to attack a baby dressed in a zebra-striped hoodie.

**Don't worry!** The lion was behind very thick glass and the baby didn't seem to mind at all.



The ultimate predator?



[goo.gl/hP5qj](http://goo.gl/hP5qj)

Scan the QR code or type in the web address to watch the video.

**What features does a lion have that make it a good predator?**

**Extra:** How is a (real) zebra adapted to escape its prey?

## The gnome experiment

A gnome is travelling the world with just a set of very precise scales to keep him company. No, this is not the plot of a strange film but an experiment that aims to measure gravity at different places on earth.



When the gnome is put on the scales gravity pulls him down. The reading on the scales is highest where there is more gravity.



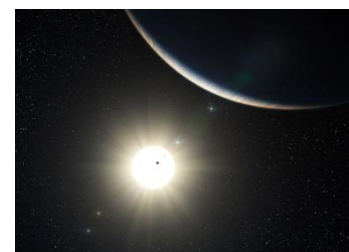
[goo.gl/WqQzO](http://goo.gl/WqQzO)

**View the results by scanning the QR code: where on Earth is gravity the highest?**

**Extra:** The scales measure the *mass* of the gnome in grams. How is this a measurement of gravity?

## Astronomers find another solar system

It is thought that nine planets orbit a star called HD10180. The solar system is a long way away – 127 light years. One light year is 9.5 million million km!



The star HD10180 is quite similar to our Sun

**What are the similarities and differences between this one and our Solar System?**

**Extra:** There could be life living on one of these planets. What must the conditions be like for this to be possible?



## Teacher guide

- This resource has been written for students aged 8-12 and links with the KS2 and 3 science curriculum. It can be used as a poster, homework task or extension activity.
- Each story has two questions. The 'extra question is designed to get the students thinking in more depth or apply their knowledge from other areas of the curriculum.
- Students can use mobile devices such as phones or tablets to scan the QR codes (using an installed app). This will take them directly to the webpage. Alternatively, they can type the shortened URL into a browser.

### **Lion vs. baby**

Answers:

A lion has claws to grab onto prey and sharp canine teeth to tear flesh. It has good eyesight and sense of smell. It can run fast and has a pale coat to camouflage into the savannah where it lives.

**Extra:** Physical adaptations: A zebra has excellent eyesight and hearing to notice predators and escape. They have long legs to run fast. Their stripy coats are camouflage as they break up their outline.

Behavioural adaptations: Live in herds which offers some protection from predators as they can warn each other of predators and run together to offer each other protection.

### **The gnome experiment**

Answers:

Gravity is highest at the poles and weakest at the Equator.

**Extra:** The force of gravity on the gnome pulls it down onto the scales. The higher the pull of gravity, the higher the reading (KS2). On Earth every 1 kg of mass has a weight of around 10 N due to gravity (although this is slightly different depending on where you are) (KS3)

### **Astronomers find another solar system**

For further information on this story see <http://goo.gl/B05NI>

Answers:

Similarities: Star which has planets orbiting.

Differences: Star is different size and brightness, nine planets (our solar system has eight)

**Extra:** The planet has to have liquid water. It cannot be too close or far away from its star and lie in the habitable, or goldilocks, zone.

**For further KS2-5 science lesson ideas and free resources based on topical stories please visit the Snapshot Science blog: [www.snapshotscience.co.uk](http://www.snapshotscience.co.uk)**

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## SUPERMOON!



The Moon appears to be bigger and brighter tonight as it's elliptical orbit brings it closer to the Earth than at any other time of the year.

If you are teaching about the Moon at the moment this is a great story to teach about the Moon's orbit and phases as well as the effect of its gravity on the Earth (as tides are expected to be higher this weekend as an effect).

## IS A GOLD MEDAL REALLY GOLD?



## THE STORY

There is no doubt that the gold medals for the London Olympic games are beautiful but how much gold is actually in them?

This is might well be the first of a few Olympic themed postings over the coming months. I wanted to come up with some ideas that were a bit different and unusual so this is my first offering: an enquiry lesson to use when teaching metal

## WELCOME!

Snapshot Science is a blog that contains science teaching ideas and resources based on topical events.



If you have enjoyed a post or downloaded a resource please **add a comment** to let me know what you think.

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