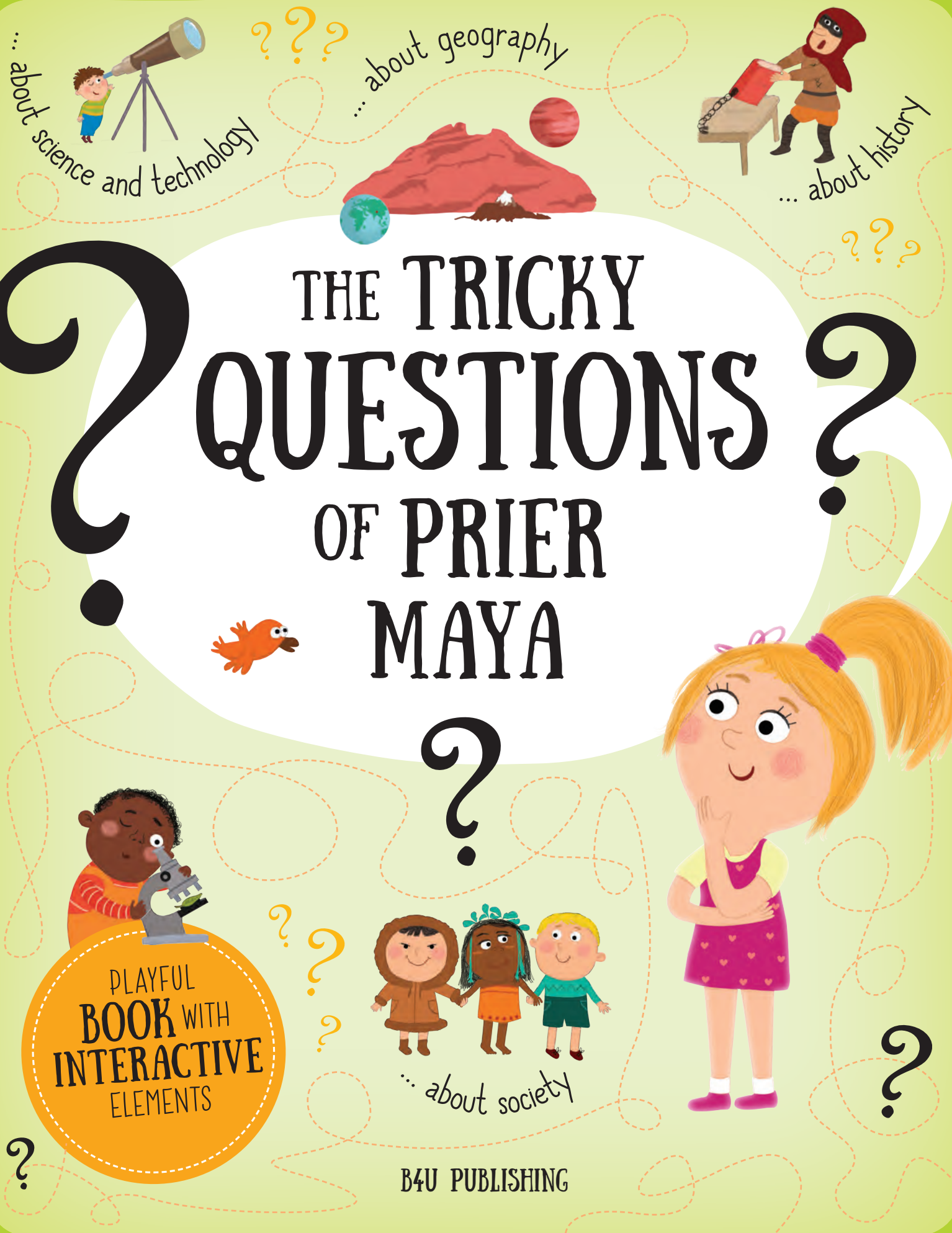




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THE TRICKY QUESTIONS OF PRIER MAYA



B4U PUBLISHING



1. WHAT ARE CARDINAL POINTS AND HOW DOES A COMPASS WORK?

Cardinal points are the four basic directions that allow us to orient ourselves anywhere on the surface of Earth. They are **North, South, East, and West**. They're used to determine direction, for navigation, and help us create maps as well as read them. North is indicated by the little arrow on the compass needle that turns in the northern or southern direction, depending on the influence of Earth's magnetic field.

2. WHAT'S THE SMALLEST & LARGEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD?



When it comes to area, **Vatican** definitely takes a licking in the metaphorical competition between winners and losers. The country has only 44 ha of area and is located inside the city of Rome in Italy. But it's an independent state with its own bank, railway station, and postage stamps. Vatican is the centre of the Roman Catholic Church which is headed by the Pope. And the winner of the competition for the title of the largest country on Earth is... **Russia!** Its area amounts to 17.750.400 square kilometres.

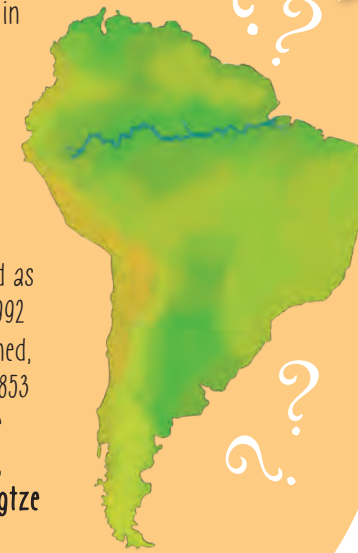
4. HOW ARE MAPS MADE?

The very first maps were created by travellers who were constantly re-drawing them over the course of their travels. Modern maps are derived from those that have already existed. However, modern technology allows us to constantly make them more precise. Old maps are re-drawn based on **aerial photos** or **satellite images** and adjusted in various computer programmes.



6. WHAT'S THE LONGEST & LARGEST RIVER IN THE WORLD?

The **Amazon** River in South America has the largest river basin in the world. It's estimated that up to 20% of all fresh water on Earth flows through this river and its tributaries. The length of this water course varies, most often it's cited as ranging between 6.400–6.992 km. When length is concerned, the African **Nile** (6.650–6.853 km) is competing with the Amazon for the first place, followed by the Asian **Yangtze** (6.300–6.418 km).



7. VOLCANOES - WHICH ONE IS THE HIGHEST OR ERUPTS MOST OFTEN?

There are about 1.500 volcanoes on Earth assumed to be active, meaning that they might **erupt**. The most active one – the one that erupts most frequently – is called Kilauea and can be found in Hawaii. The largest volcano, **Mauna Loa**, is located there as well, and if we count the height above and below sea level, the same goes for the highest one: **Mauna Kea**.



8. WHAT'S THE LARGEST ISLAND IN THE WORLD?

With its almost 2.200.000 square kilometres, **Greenland** is the largest island in the world. It is located on the border between the Atlantic and Arctic Ocean. Even though almost the entire island is permanently covered with snow and ice, it definitely has no lack of inhabitants. The first people who dared venture there were the Inuit, gradually followed by the Dutchmen and Danish. What a varied bunch.



9. WHERE ON EARTH DOES IT RAIN THE MOST AND WHERE THE LEAST?



On average, 86 cm of **precipitation** falls around the world. In certain parts of the world, however, it rains only very little, or not at all. The driest place on the planet is the Chilean Arica where not a single millimetre of precipitation falls in an entire year. On the other hand, it rains almost daily in some parts of western Africa and South America.

10. WHERE ON EARTH IS IT THE HOTTEST AND WHERE THE COLDEST?

You'd be freezing the most in **Antarctica**. This continent is located in the vicinity of the South Pole and is covered with a layer of ice about two kilometres thick. The temperature rarely rises above the freezing point. This is where the lowest temperature in history was recorded in 1983: the incredible **-89.2 °C**.

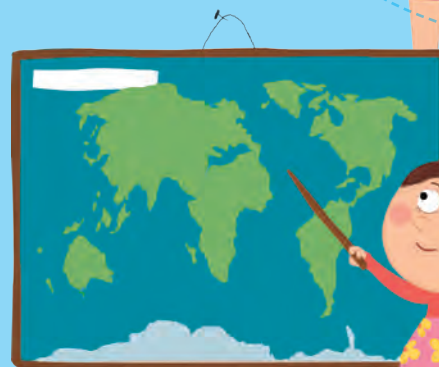


GEOGRAPHY WILL BROADEN YOUR HORIZONTS!



3. HOW MANY CONTINENTS DOES EARTH HAVE?

There are **7 in total**. Can you name them all? So: Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, North America, South America, and Antarctica. If we counted both Americas as one and didn't divide Eurasia in two, we'd arrive at the measly number of 5. But why not go the whole hog?



5. WHAT IS THE CIRCUMFERENCE OF EARTH?

Earth's **circumference** is the longest in the planet's middle, i.e. on the equator. All around, Earth is about 40.075 km wide. Although our planet looks like a ball at first glance, it's not entirely true. That's because if we measure the circumference around the Poles, we arrive at the length of "only" 40.009 km.



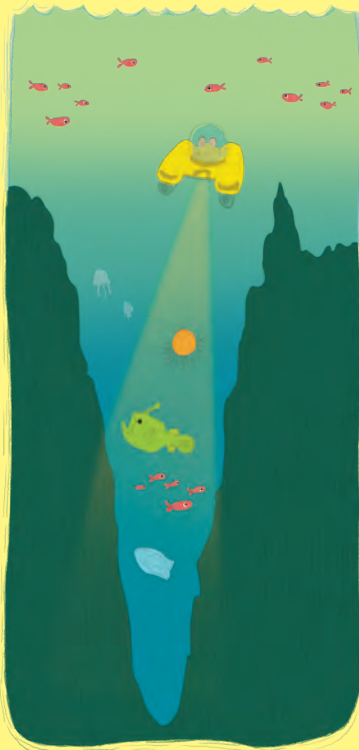
11. HOW GREAT IS THE GREAT BARRIER REEF?

It's greeeat! So great that it's **visible from the space** as a twisting line right next to Australia. The Great Barrier Reef extends 2.600 km through the Coral Sea and is formed by more than 900 little islands, 2.900 cliffs and rocks. It has roughly the same area as Germany, Italy, or Japan. If you'd take a closer look, you'd see that it's very lively.



13. WHAT'S THE MARIANA TRENCH?

This trench is located deep below the surface of the Pacific Ocean. It's over 2.500 km long and plunges into the depths of approximately 11.000 m under the sea. It's **the deepest situated place on Earth**. Although the temperature at its bottom is very low and pressure very high, it has no lack of life. The Mariana Trench is populated by various kinds of fish, sharks, octopuses, and medusas; there, we can encounter for example sea cucumbers or prawns on the sea bottom itself.



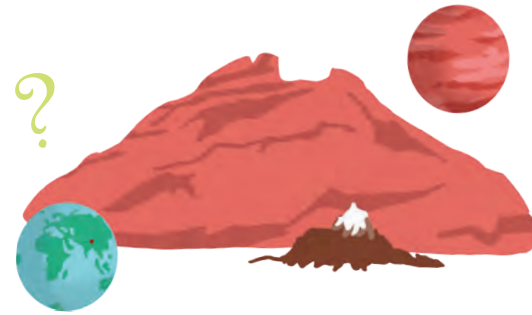
15. IS IT TRUE THAT THERE'S NO WATER IN THE DESERT?



Although deserts are dry and hot places with **little rainfall**, there actually is water, surprisingly enough. That's because water is often located deep underground.

12. WHAT'S THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN IN THE WORLD?

With its approximately 8.850 m, **Mount Everest** is the highest mountain on Earth. Its height is really approximate, because different methods of measuring have over time arrived at different results. Furthermore, the mountain is constantly changing, e.g. due to the influence of melting icebergs or because of the earthquakes in its vicinity. But in the end, a couple of meters, give or take, has nothing on the truly tallest mountain in the world, especially when we take all other planets in our Solar System into account. In that case, **Olympus Mons**, the 22 km tall mountain on Mars, reigns supreme.



14. WHY IS THE YELLOW RIVER CALLED YELLOW?

Could it be because it's harbouring gold treasures? Sadly, no, but that doesn't make it any less important. It's the second longest river in China where people hold it in a very high esteem. That's because its valley is considered to be the very place where Chinese civilization originated. Its typical colour is caused by the rock – **loess** – deposit that the water in the river bed captures when it goes through the Loess Plateau.



16. DO THEY CELEBRATE EASTER ALL THE TIME ON EASTER ISLAND?



It would certainly be fun, but no. Easter Island got its name in the 18th century when it was accidentally discovered by the Dutch seafarer Jacob Roggeveen. This happened on **Eastern Sunday**.

19. WHICH CITY HAS THE LONGEST NAME?



You must set out for Asia to find it, to the capital city of Thailand: Bangkok. Now you're surely thinking: But Bangkok isn't a particularly long name! We'll let you in on a little secret: it's a shortened version of the official name. The city's full name is **Krung Thep Mahanakhon Amon Rattanakosin Mahinthara Yuthaya Mahadilok Phop Noppharat Ratchathani Burirom Udomratchaniwet Mahasathan Amon Piman Awatan Sathit Sakkathattiya Witsanukam Prasit**. Phew, it must be really hard to remember something like that... This world record is truly well-deserved, wouldn't you say?

17. WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SOUTH & NORTH POLE?

The North Pole or Arctic is the northernmost point on Earth, while the South Pole or Antarctica is, logically, the southernmost one. The Arctic region is mostly covered with the Arctic Ocean and flowing ice floes. Antarctica, meanwhile, is an entire separate continent despite being encrusted with snow and ice all year round. This means that it's formed by solid ground; there are even a couple of volcanoes! Although both Poles look pretty similar at first glance, the South Pole is in fact colder than the North one. Each is also populated by different animals: while Antarctica is a home to **penguins**, the Arctic region houses **polar bears**.



18. WHY IS THE DEAD SEA CALLED DEAD?



The sea earned the nickname "dead" because no animals or algae live in it. That's because it's so **salty** that nothing can survive in it; it's saltier than any other sea or ocean. As a matter of fact, it's not even a sea, rather a lake. This freak of nature extends between Jordan and Israel. You won't have much of a swim or dive in the Dead Sea as the salt lifts all bodies up to the water surface – you can see the "swimmers" nicely lounging about, buoyed up, sometimes even reading a paper.

20. WHICH COUNTRY HAS MORE SHEEP THAN INHABITANTS?

New Zealand. The local, wet and warm climate is ideal for agriculture and animal farming. Sheep farming, especially, is booming there – there's 10 sheep to each inhabitant. The country has 4 million inhabitants. Just a few decades ago, though, the number of sheep in New Zealand was much higher! All you need to do with sheep is drive them to pasture; they'll take care of food themselves. In return, they provide farmers with warm wool and delicious meat.



BAA

THE TRICKY QUESTIONS OF PRIER MAYA

Written by Pavla Hanáčková & Tereza Makovská
Illustrations by Inna Chernyak

Why does the week have seven days? How were the first books made? Why is the Dead Sea called dead? What is a 3D printer? And why ...? Children ask a lot of curious questions. All you need to do is to open this book and little Maya will help to answer them. Every now and then you'll have to lift a flap, pull a tab or rotate something. Not only children will learn many new things, they'll have loads of fun with playful mechanisms, too! Let's learn something new! Why? Why not!

80
QUESTIONS
AND ANSWERS



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WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD – Small parts.
Not suitable for children under 36 months.



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