

Teenager 'beats' Tetris

Pictured (top): Willis Gibson aka Blue Scuti. **Source:** Blue Scuti - Willis Gibson @bluescuti1771 X page.
Pictured (bottom): Image of Willis playing Tetris from his YouTube video 'The First Time Somebody Has Ever "Beat" Tetris'. **Source:** YouTube.

13-year-old Willis Gibson, aka Blue Scuti, has made gaming history by becoming the first person to complete the original version of the popular computer puzzle game, Tetris. The Tetris player prodigy from Oklahoma, USA uploaded a video, which documented his victory, titled 'The First Time Somebody Has Ever "Beat" Tetris' to YouTube. Willis stated, 'When I started playing this game, I never expected to ever crash the game, or beat it. This run was also the Overall Score, Level, Lines, and 19 Score world record.' The gaming superstar advanced so far in the original Nintendo version of the game that, after reaching level 157, it froze, and his score read 999999. The classic video game's website describes itself saying, 'The goal of Tetris is to score as many points as possible by clearing horizontal lines of



Blocks. The player must rotate, move, and drop the falling Tetriminos inside the Matrix (playing field). Lines are cleared when they are filled with Blocks and have no empty spaces. As lines are cleared, the level increases and Tetriminos fall faster, making the game progressively more challenging. If the Blocks land above the top of the playing field, the game is over.' The game was first released 34 years ago and has been described until now as 'unbeatable'.

Have you ever played Tetris? How do you think it felt to complete a game that people have been playing without finishing for so many years?

Happy Birthday Gruffalo!

Julia Donaldson's much-loved book, *The Gruffalo*, is 25 years old this year, and the celebrations have begun! The famous children's author has started the special year by returning to a very significant location – the primary school in Scotland where she first read her unpublished book. Julia visited Auchterhouse Primary School in 1997. She asked for the pupils' opinions on the story and encouraged them to draw pictures of what they thought the Gruffalo would look like, promising that if the book was ever published, she would dedicate it to the school. She was true to her word and the Angus primary school has been celebrated at the front of every version of the story that has been printed since it was first published in 1999! The *Gruffalo* became incredibly successful, has been translated into 107 different languages and dialects, and has sold millions of copies around the world! Ms Donaldson said, 'The *Gruffalo*'s origins go back to when I first tried the story out in primary schools in Scotland, with a memorable visit to Auchterhouse, under the wing of Scottish Book Trust. Scottish Book Trust has been doing great work for 25 years supporting children with literacy and improving access to books.'



Pictured: The 25th anniversary edition of *The Gruffalo*. **Source:** Scottish Book Trust @scottishbktrust X page.



Pictured: *The Gruffalo* with Julia Donaldson and pupils at Auchterhouse Primary School. **Source:** Scottish Book Trust @scottishbktrust X page.

Have you ever thought about writing a book? Do you think any of your story ideas could be turned into a book to be published for everyone to read?

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Welsh Tidy Mouse



Pictured: A mouse in a shed. **Source:** Canva.

A mouse caught on camera tidying up in a shed in Builth Wells, Powys, Wales, has been nicknamed Welsh Tidy Mouse. The tidy rodent has been 'mousekeeping' since October in a workshed belonging to Rodney Holbrook, a retired postman and keen wildlife photographer. Rodney said, 'One morning I went in early October and there were no nuts in there and I thought I put nuts in yesterday. I had lots of bits of stuff I had on my bench all put in there and I thought I'm going to set up a night camera. So, I set that up and that's where I get these incredible videos of the mouse doing what it does.' He went on to say, 'I'm just leaving it as it is. People have said to me about putting things in to get some

sort of funny videos. But I just leave it naturally. Just naturally let whatever's going to happen, happen.' The video camera has captured the mouse picking up clothes pegs, corks, nuts and bolts. Megan Jackson from the University of Bristol, who studied the mouse's behaviour commented that, 'It might be that the mouse is actually finding this rewarding. It does look like maybe the mouse is scouting out its environment to find things that it thinks might be useful for a nest and bringing it back to a place that seems to be safe.'

Do you know of any animals that like to tidy up or move things around? Why do you think they like to move things?

Last week's topic:

Are emojis an important part of communication?



Yes because: 1. They help us to express our feelings. 2. They help us to communicate better. 3. They also serve as a short and precise way of communication and expression.

Kimberly

Yes, especially if the symbols are in different colours.

Lynnfield Primary School

I think that is it important that we continue to use words as our main form of communication. Emojis are good because they can be understood by everyone!

Aleks

Let us know what you think about this week's news?

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