

# Prof. Borner's Fun School

in Serengeti National Park

First issue, July 2018





I'm Gring.

This is my friend Woodin.  
We are working to protect  
the Earth's environment.

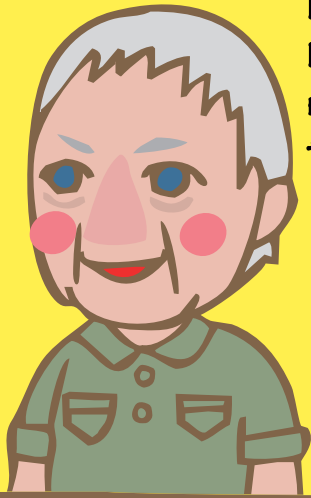


We are visiting  
Serengeti National Park  
in Tanzania today!



<sup>1</sup> You can read previous issues of comic on the website of the Asahi Glass Foundation.  
(You can find the URL on the final page).

I am Borner.  
I work to protect  
nature in  
this park.



This park is home to a variety  
of different animals.



Today, I am telling you some strange and  
fun facts about this place.

Can you see  
the spotted hyenas  
over there?



Hyenas look rather spooky to me. They steal food from other animals, don't they?



Hyenas are very efficient hunters and seldom need to snatch food from other predators or eat rotten meat



And they are smart!



Most of the mammalian species are male dominant, but ...



The spotted hyena is a female dominant species.

**Ta-da**



They are larger than the males!



Old males are eager to satisfy young females.



Maybe to avoid unneeded fights!



The milk of the spotted hyena is nutritious.



It is four times more nutritional than cow's milk!



Now I have a better impression of hyenas.

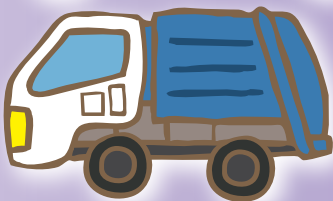


Next, look here!





Their daily fecal output totals 3,600 tons.  
It takes 720 garbage trucks to clean it all!



720  
!?



An enormous amount, isn't it?  
But not all feces are scattered  
in the park.



Ta-da



Hi!

Eventually  
tumblebugs sense  
the smell.

They roll dung into  
a dung ball...



Oof!

...lay eggs  
inside the ball,  
then bury it in the soil.



All right!

The dung ball still  
contains nutrients,  
so it becomes food for  
the tumblebug babies.



The balls make the  
soil nutrition-rich ...



... and the soil grows more grass to feed the gnus and zebras.



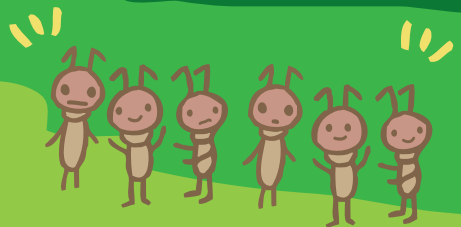
Without tumblebugs, the park would be covered in feces!



I didn't know that your job was so important!



Oh, look there!



Termites?

Yes! The total weight of the entire population of termites in this park is heavier than that of the gnus and zebras combined.

What!  
That much?!





If those termites made a line,  
they could reach the moon  
120 times!

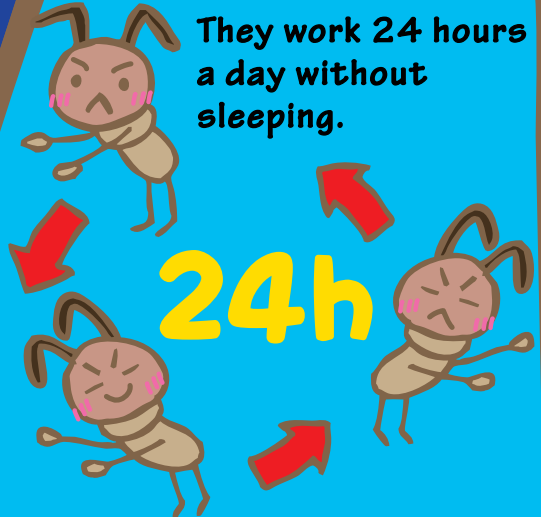
That's a lot!!



In addition,  
termites are diligent.



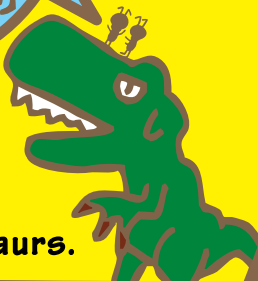
They work 24 hours  
a day without  
sleeping.



Termites have been  
on the Earth  
much longer  
than humans.



They date  
back even  
before dinosaurs.



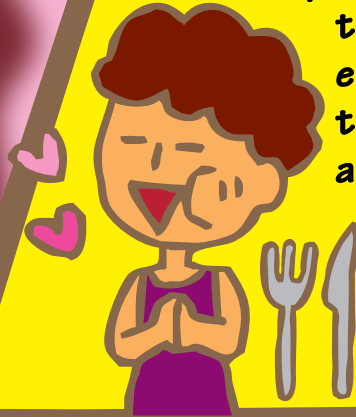
Since ancient times,  
termites have been  
a precious food  
resource for  
humans.



Termites?  
As a food resource?!



You may be reluctant  
to eat them, but  
African people  
traditionally  
eat them, and  
they are indeed  
a healthy food.

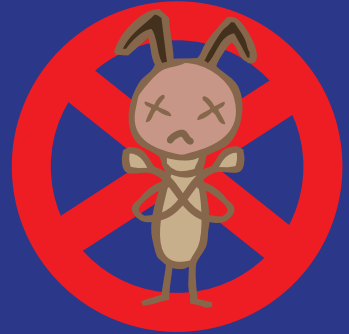


They taste like peanuts,  
they say.



Sounds  
yummy ...

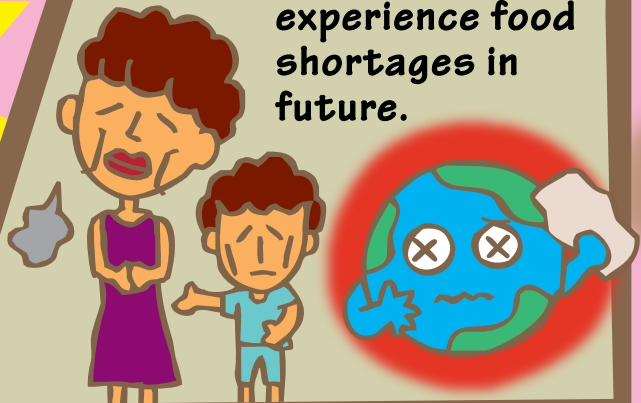
But, DON'T eat termites  
without any advice  
by expert!



Not only  
termites,  
but insects  
may save  
the Earth!



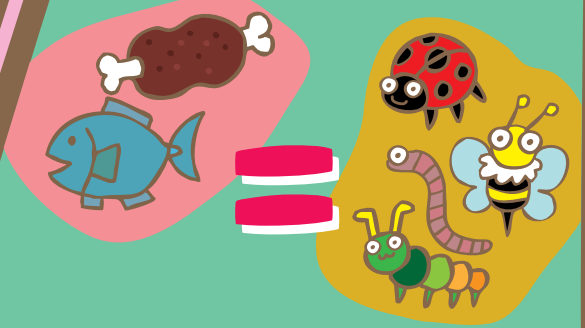
Because of population  
increases and global  
warming, we may  
experience food  
shortages in  
future.



If we can use insects as food ...



... They are as nutritious as meat and fish, and



farming insects is rather easy.

Then, insects may become the saviors of the Earth!



maintain the ecological balance of the Earth.

From the life of tumblebugs, we learn that insects and other lifeforms



But humans use too many resources on the Earth and



upset the balance.

To keep the Earth healthy, we need to restore the resources after using them.



For that purpose, we need to understand animals and plants to protect the Earth and all the lives on it.



Now I understand!  
Thanks to you, Prof. Borner!



See you!

Fin.

Prof. Borner  
also appears  
in Gring and  
Woodin's  
comic book series!

For details,  
please check  
the Asahi Glass  
Foundation  
webpage.



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