

Weekly Digest

During the coronavirus shutdown

April 13th, 2020

Did you know...

Chocolate is made from the pulverized seeds of the cocoa tree. These seeds (also known as "cocoa beans") come from big yellow and orange pods that have jelly-like fruit inside that tastes like melon! Learn more about farming cocoa in this video of harvesting cocoa in Ghana: [Youtu.be/XtLyXiDh6zY](https://youtu.be/XtLyXiDh6zY)

Chemistry in the Kitchen: Whipped Cream

To make whipped cream, you start with a carton of heavy whipping cream (a liquid) & then whisk until it becomes a fluffy substance. Why does this happen? Cream is made of triglycerides (fat), water, lactose (a type of sugar), & proteins. When you whip it, you're adding air bubbles to that mixture; and the fat, which is three long molecular chains bonded together at one end (hence **triglycerides**), start to clump & tangle together, making a network that traps the air bubbles. After a while, enough air has been added to make it fluffy, & the other liquids keep it soft. So, what happens if you keep whipping? The fat molecules clump into larger & larger blobs, which can no longer hold the air in the cream. What is this clumped fat? Butter! Experiment yourself with making whipped cream & butter this week:

[Vanilla Whipped Cream](#)

[Shaking Up Butter](#)

For a more detailed explanation of Whipped Cream structure, visit uoguelph.ca/.../whipped-cream-structure

Check this Out!

Find Your Inner Fine Art Master: The Getty Museum in Los Angeles has challenged people to recreate their favorite piece of art using things they have around their house. To see hilarious and impressive results, go to twitter.com/GettyMuseum

The **Black Mamba Anti-Poaching Unit** is a group of brave women that patrol 78 miles of wildlife reserve in South Africa. Read more at nationalgeographic.com

The **burrowing owl** is at risk of going locally extinct in San Diego County. Help researchers & the San Diego Zoo classify images of local burrows in an effort to protect burrowing owls' california population. Go to zooniverse.org to help!

Logical Fallacy of the Week

Appeal to Irrelevant Authority
Dr. C, the world-renowned cancer researcher, is often quoted regarding the superiority of Mr. A's chocolate cake recipe over Ms. B's recipe.

"It is fallacious to form a belief when the appeal is to an authority who is not an expert on the issue at hand. A similar appeal worth noting is the appeal to vague authority, where an idea is attributed to a vague collective. "

An Illustrated Book of Bad Arguments, Ali Almosawi, p14, bookofbadarguments.com

Craft Corner

Do you have old newspaper, magazines, or catalogues lying around? Check out these ideas for upcycling and creating awesome new nicknacks!

[Wreath Made from Rolled Magazines](#)

[Coasters Made from Coiled Paper](#)

[Trivet from Coiled Paper](#)

[Woven Baskets](#)

[Paper Bow](#)

Taking care...

Thankful Stickys: Grab some sticky notes and every day write at least one thing you're thankful for. It can be *anything*, big, small, complex, or simple; like fluffy pillows or international diplomacy! But be specific. Each day, post the sticky(s) in one spot where you'll see them (like on a door or a mirror) or in a notebook if you'd like to be private. At the end of the week or month, take a bit of time to appreciate all your stickys!

Culture during COVID-19

Looking for some happy news & a good laugh? Check out actor/comedian John Krasinski homemade news show "Some Good News" at youtube.com.

Happy Pic Of the Week



Photo by Ken Bohn

[Find more pics & info in this article from the San Diego Zoo](#)

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