

Read the story from page 7 of *First News*. Read the story, and then try the puzzle. To help you, we have underlined the answers to the crossword puzzle clues in the stories – but you will need to match the correct word with each clue!



BIG NEWS

# BRAINY BIRDS!



**A NEW study has found that at just four months old, ravens are as smart as orangutans and gorillas!**

Ravens are big black birds in the crow family. They are well known for being clever-clogs! Experts know they can work together to find food, and collect and use tools.

A new study has shown just how smart they are compared to other animals.

Scientists adjusted a test usually used on apes such as gorillas, orangutans and chimpanzees. It tested the ravens' learning abilities and their social skills. For example, do they understand where objects go when they can't see them any more? Many animals find this hard.

Eight young ravens were hand-raised especially for the study. They were given the test at four, eight, 12 and 16 months old.

The researchers found that at just four months old, the ravens were able to complete the test just as well as adult apes could. Not bad for a creature with a brain the size of a nut!

Calling someone 'bird-brained' used to be an insult. Perhaps it should now be a compliment!

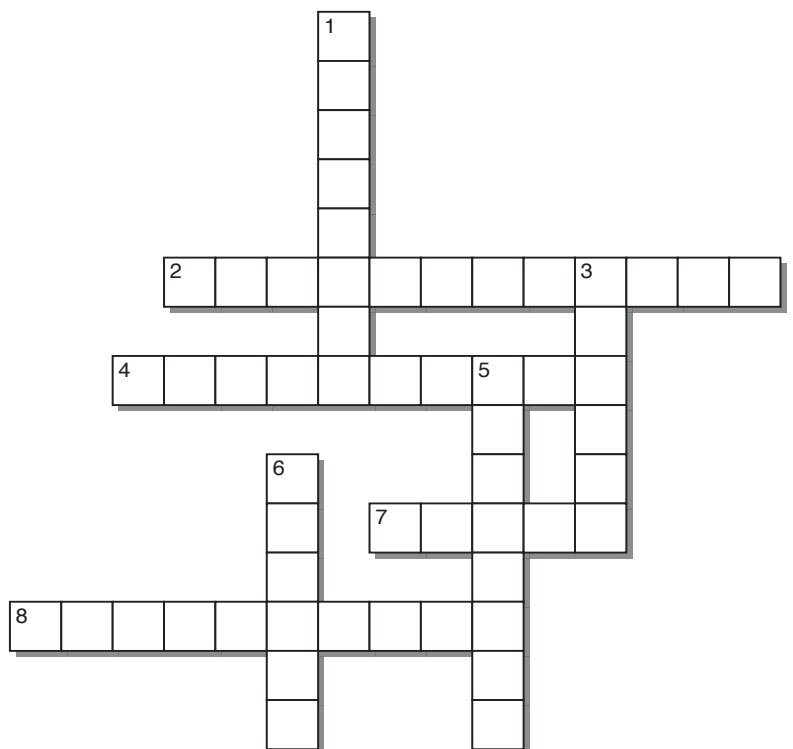


**ACROSS**

- 2) These are needed to get on with others in your community (noun 6,6)
- 4) These large apes with reddish-brown hair and long arms live in the forests of Sumatra and Borneo (plural noun 10)
- 7) Grown-up (noun 5)
- 8) A comment made to praise someone (noun 10)

**DOWN**

- 1) Knowing more about things (noun 8)
- 3) Being rude to someone (noun 6)
- 5) Changed something slightly to make it work better (verb 8)
- 6) Clever; smart; intelligent (adjective 6)



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The answers to the clues are all words in the stories. Answer the clue and then underline the word.



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