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2021 was quite the rollercoaster ride! From unexpected events like the storming of the US Capitol Building by Donald Trump supporters to the highs and lows of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout, the year got off to a rocky start. But we can't complain too much, 2021 was definitely more eventful than 2020! For example, despite the challenges posed by the deadly Delta variant, Japan still managed to successfully pull off the delayed 2020 Olympics. Speaking of remarkable achievements, Elon Musk made waves by launching a spacecraft filled with civilians into space and safely bringing them back. Talk about an out-of-this-world accomplishment! If you thought things couldn't get any more chaotic, let's talk about NFTs. We're still scratching our heads over the hype, but it didn't stop Christie's Auction House from joining the trend. They auctioned off an NFT for an astonishing \$69 million! Oh, and El Salvador made a groundbreaking move by adopting Bitcoin as a currency - what an age we live in! Continue reading to uncover the significant events, groundbreaking news, chart-topping music, thought-provoking quotes, and impactful deaths that made 2021 an unforgettable year. Explore the incredible moments that shaped 2021, a year filled with captivating events you won't want to miss! It ranked at number 8 for children's books worldwide on this day. It flew as mission NS-14 to test out a new and improved crew capsule, the same capsule used later in 2021 to fly Founder Jeff Bezos to space. This mission, however, had a very different passenger - one crash test dummy dubbed "Mannequin Skywalker." The first Carnival festival in Rio occurred in 1723. Rio's Carnival is a yearly event that starts on the Friday preceding Lent and ends on Ash Wednesday. Perseverance is the largest, most advanced rover NASA has sent to another world. The names of long-standing Potato Head toys, Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head, remained unchanged. Instead, the brand changed from Mr. Potato Head to just Potato Head. The four-day visit was made possible by invitation from the Iraqi government and the largest Catholic church in Iraq, the Chaldean Catholic Church. Before this, a papal visit to Iraq was attempted in 2000, when Pope John Paul II wished to visit the city of Ur, but the Iraqi government denied him. The comment followed the allegations by his younger brother, Prince Harry, and his wife, Meghan, that she faced racism from members of the family. Kensuke Nakanishi stole 80 Pokémon and Yu-Gi-Oh! Cards from the store totaling a worth of roughly 1 million yen (\$9,120). He was later arrested. Azaria, a white man, felt he needed to apologize to "every single Indian person" for the harm he did in voicing the iconic Indian shopkeeper. The withdrawal, which began on May 1, 2021, marked the end of the US' longest-running war. Caron McBride unknowingly had a copy of "Sabrina the Teenage Witch" since 1999. Even though the store had since closed, her record still stated she was guilty of "felony embezzlement." The case was since dropped, but McBride suspected her record was the reason for difficulty acquiring jobs. The boy was taking part in a private coaching session when the lightning struck. He was taken to hospital but did not survive. Over 250,000 pigeons that were raised from birth were released for a race. Only 10% of the pigeons returned, and it is believed that an unexplained weather event occurred which caused them to go missing. The sentencing was one of the longest ever given out to a police officer for the unlawful use of deadly force. Chauvin was the first white police officer in Minnesota to do time for the murder of a Black man. Thirty other sculptors assisted Stijger in constructing the 69-foot (21-meter) tall sandcastle, which used 5,357 tons (4,860 tonnes) of sand. The sandcastle was built in Blokhus, Denmark, and broke the previous world record by over 9 feet (2.7 m). Messi ended his 20-year stint with FC Barcelona due to financial constraints at the Spanish soccer club. Hades was a huge step up from Supergiant Games' previous releases in terms of plot and complexity. At the 2020 Golden Joystick Awards, it won both the best Indie Game Award and the Critic's Choice Award. Ronaldo's record-breaking achievement occurred during Portugal's World Cup qualifier against the Republic of Ireland. Ronaldo scored both goals, bringing his total number of international goals to 111. Many considered the move a game changer, as it was the first case of a nation officially accepting cryptocurrency as legal currency. The law requires all businesses in El Salvador to accept Bitcoin as payment, providing they have the technological means to do so. Actress Yulia Peresild and director Klim Shipenko traveled to the International Space Station to film scenes for "Challenge," in which a surgeon is rushed to the space station to save an astronaut. The mission, flown by the Y. A. Gagarin spacecraft, was the 146th crewed Soyuz spacecraft flight. On its return from the International Space Station, it carried Russian film director Klim Shipenko and actress Yulia Peresild. They had spent twelve days aboard the station filming for the movie Vyzov (The Challenge). This particular pair of Nikes sold for \$1.472 million, as they are the earliest-known shoes Jordan wore in a regular season. Their previous album, "The Visitors," came out in 1981, over 40 years before "Voyage." The group split in 1983, stating they'd never perform together again. However, they reunited in 2016 and recorded two songs for "Voyage" in 2018. On Thanksgiving, the astronauts ran on a treadmill and called it a "turkey trot"! Special food was provided for the occasion; although still in vacuum-sealed packets, they enjoyed candied yams, crab bisque, turkey, and cherry blueberry cobbler to finish it all off. With a \$66 million cash prize, it's no wonder people are tempted to skew the odds in their camel's favor. Sixteen camels were out from the contest for having botox injections, with another twenty-seven disqualified for having stretched-out body parts. Jointly developed by NASA, the European Space Agency, and the Canadian Space Agency, the telescope is the most advanced infrared telescope ever built. The first image captured by the telescope was released on July 11, 2022. The James Webb Space Telescope, the most advanced infrared telescope ever launched into space, is so large that it had to be folded up like a transformer just to fit atop its launch vehicle. Three days after successfully launching into space, the telescope began the three-day deployment of its sunshield. This multi-layered shield is one of the most critical components of the telescope; for its infrared sensors to work at optimal levels, they need to be below -369.7 °F (-223.2 °C). Here's a glimpse at a few famous people who bid us farewell in 2021. Betty White was an American actress born on January 17, 1922. She died on December 31, 2021, at age 99 in Los Angeles, California, USA. Paul Ritter was an English actor born on December 20, 1966. He died on April 5, 2021, at age 54 in Faversham, Kent, England, UK. Here's a roundup of the most memorable quotes people said in 2021. Sinéad O'Connor Irish Singer 2021 was a year that delivered an array of incredible tunes that became instant classics! From the rebellious anthem "Good 4 U" by Olivia Rodrigo to the mesmerizing collaboration "Save Your Tears" by The Weeknd and Ariana Grande, these chart-toppers infused our lives with excitement and had us feeling better after a difficult few years of lockdowns & madness. Familiarize yourself with the noteworthy music moments of 2021. Album of the Year Taylor Swift enchanted listeners with her alternative masterpiece "Folklore" in 2021, claiming the Album of the Year Grammy and captivating hearts along the way. Song of the Year H.E.R. captivated audiences and won the Grammy Award for Song of the Year in 2021 with her powerful anthem "I Can't Breathe." Best New Artist Megan Thee Stallion's fierce and unapologetic style won her the Grammy Award for Best New Artist in 2021, establishing her as a force to be reckoned with in the world of hip-hop. Eurovision Song Contest Winner The 65th Eurovision Song Contest took place in Rotterdam, Netherlands, in 2021, offering a stage for diverse musical styles. Italy secured the victory with the electrifying rock song "Zitti e buoni," performed by Måneskin, leaving a lasting impression on viewers around the world. In terms of numbers, 2020 was rather special, as the first two digits of the year match the second two. The next time this happens will be 2121. It was also the last year of the second decade of the 21st century. If you've ever wondered how the year 2021 looks like in Roman numerals, it's written as MMXXI. And if we represent 2021 in binary form, it becomes 11111100101. According to the Chinese calendar, 2021 was the Year of the Ox, which occurs every twelve years. However, the Chinese zodiac also includes five elements, which are Wood, Fire, Earth, Gold (Metal), and Water. So this makes 2021 the Year of the Gold Ox, a cycle which happens once every sixty years. The fascinating thing about the Chinese calendar is that it operates on a lunar cycle, which means that the Year of the Gold Ox officially kicked off on February 12th, and lasted until January 31, 2022. Those born in the Year of the Ox are diligent, dependable, and methodical. They are known for their strong work ethic, reliability, and determination to achieve their goals. The Years of the Ox have blessed us with influential figures such as Camila Cabello, Olivia Holt, and K.J. Apa. Did you know that in 2021, highest global temperature records were broken around the world? More than 400 weather stations across the globe documented unprecedented temperatures, surpassing all previous records. Notably, Death Valley, USA, registered a new maximum world temperature of 129.9°F (54.4°C). At Hearst Networks EMEA, we share stories that matter. A global broadcaster since 1995, we reach audiences in over 100 countries, including the UK, Nordics, Benelux, Central & Eastern Europe, Spain, Italy, Germany, Africa and the Middle East. Our stories are global and local, linear and digital, and always compelling. Personalities shine at Hearst Networks EMEA. Our culture embraces individuals, in all their daring, passionate, ambitious glory. Our people are our strength, and our differences are celebrated. We challenge each other, collaborate and come together, just as a family does; winning as a team and celebrating as one too. Everyone has a voice and should feel proud and free to run with their ideas, enjoying their successes and journey with us. And in such an evolving industry, tomorrow is always today. We anticipate change, identify future opportunities and are excited by the potential that tomorrow brings. We want to be famous for creating and sharing stories that matter - unique, trusted, entertaining, everywhere. Whether our stories challenge and inspire intellectually or simply entertain, we know that we are making a positive contribution to our audiences across the many diverse regions and countries in the UK, Europe, The Middle East and Africa. Striving to always do so requires passion. And it's with just as much passion that we strive to gain new audiences with our creativity and by using innovative technology, by partnering with leading and emerging local platforms. 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We offer a range of benefits such as a generous pension plan, life assurance and holiday allowance, and there are useful local perks in various offices, and summer Fridays across the whole company. But most of all, we will support you to develop and grow throughout your time with us. Learning is part of the journey at Hearst Networks EMEA and you'll be offered personal and professional development opportunities throughout your career with us. We'll do everything we can to see you thrive and grow. Jun 4 Lilibet Diana Mountbatten-Windsor, daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, born in Santa Barbara, California Page 2 Page 3 Jul 31 Rare spotless giraffe, only known one in the world, born at Brights Zoo, Limehouse, Tennessee [1] Page 4 Jul 10 Moo Deng, Thai baby pygmy hippopotamus and internet sensation, born at Khao Kheow Open Zoo, Chonburi, Thailand [1] Page 5 Page 6 Page 7 Apr 5 Earth's 1st contact with the extraterrestrial Vulcan species in the Star Trek universe Page 8 Page 9 Page 10 Page 11 Page 12 Jan 22 Hikaru Walter Sulu, Fictional Star Trek character, born in San Francisco, California Sep 4 Nyota Uhura, Fictional Star Trek communications officer, born in Nairobi, Kenya