

i want a hippopotamus for

****I Want a Hippopotamus For: Exploring the Curious Desire****

i want a hippopotamus for many reasons might sound like a whimsical or even eccentric wish, but it actually reveals a fascinating blend of childhood nostalgia, admiration for unique animals, and curiosity about exotic pets. Whether inspired by the catchy 1950s novelty song "I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas," or simply captivated by the charm of these massive, semi-aquatic mammals, the idea invites us to explore what it means to love and appreciate one of nature's most extraordinary creatures.

In this article, we'll dive into the reasons behind such a desire, the realities of owning or interacting with hippos, and what these remarkable animals symbolize in culture and conservation. If you find yourself thinking "I want a hippopotamus for..." a pet, a mascot, or just a fun idea, read on to discover a deeper understanding of these incredible beasts.

The Fascination with Hippos: Why Say "I Want a Hippopotamus For"?

Hippos have a peculiar charm that captures the imagination. They are large, seemingly docile but surprisingly aggressive when provoked, and spend much of their time in rivers and lakes, blending the traits of land and water animals. This unique combination makes them stand out from other wildlife.

Childhood Nostalgia and Pop Culture

For many, the phrase "I want a hippopotamus for Christmas" immediately brings to mind the playful song written by John Rox in 1953. Sung famously by Gayla Peevey, it became a beloved holiday tune, embedding the cute and quirky idea of wanting a hippo as a gift into popular culture. This nostalgic connection often sparks childhood fantasies about owning an unusual and exotic pet.

The song's enduring popularity highlights how animals like hippos can inspire creativity and joy. It also underscores a common childhood tendency to dream big and imagine owning pets that are far from ordinary.

Admiration for Unique Animals

Hippos are marvels of evolution. Despite their bulky size—often weighing up to 3,000 kilograms—they are surprisingly agile in water. Their social behaviors, vocalizations, and even the peculiar way they mark territory with their dung are fascinating to zoologists and animal lovers alike.

Saying "I want a hippopotamus for..." can also signal a deeper appreciation for wildlife and a desire to connect with nature's wonders. Hippos remind us of ecosystems like the African rivers and wetlands where they play critical roles, making them symbols of biodiversity.

Understanding the Reality: Can You Really Have a Hippopotamus?

While the fantasy of owning a hippopotamus might be entertaining, the practicalities quickly bring us back to reality. Hippos are wild animals with very specific needs and behaviors that are challenging to accommodate outside their natural habitats.

The Challenges of Caring for a Hippo

Hippos require large amounts of space, access to water bodies, and specialized diets. They spend much of their day submerged in water to keep their skin moist and regulate body temperature. Attempting to keep a hippo in a regular backyard or even a large enclosure is impractical and potentially dangerous.

Moreover, hippos are known to be one of the most aggressive animals in Africa. Despite their seemingly docile appearance, they can be territorial and unpredictable. This behavior makes them unsuitable as domestic pets.

Legal and Ethical Considerations

In many countries, owning a hippopotamus is illegal or heavily regulated due to conservation laws and animal welfare concerns. Hippos are listed as vulnerable species by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), primarily threatened by habitat loss and poaching.

Ethically, capturing or breeding hippos for private ownership contributes to these threats. Conservationists advocate for protecting hippos in the wild and supporting sanctuaries or well-managed zoos where their welfare can be ensured.

Exploring Alternatives: How to Connect with Hippos Safely and Responsibly

If the idea of “i want a hippopotamus for” companionship or fascination is strong, there are meaningful and responsible ways to engage with these magnificent creatures.

Visiting Wildlife Sanctuaries and Zoos

Many accredited zoos and wildlife reserves offer opportunities to observe hippos up close in environments designed to mimic their natural habitats. These institutions often participate in conservation efforts and provide educational programs about hippos and their ecosystems.

Visitors can learn about hippo behavior, their role in the environment, and the challenges they face in

the wild. This kind of interaction helps foster respect and awareness without compromising animal welfare.

Supporting Conservation Efforts

For those who want to “have” a hippo in a symbolic or supportive way, sponsoring a hippo through wildlife organizations or donating to conservation projects can be fulfilling. Many nonprofits allow supporters to adopt a hippo virtually, providing updates and information that deepen the connection without the impracticalities of ownership.

This approach helps protect hippos’ natural habitats and ensures future generations can enjoy these animals in the wild.

The Symbolism and Cultural Impact of Hippos

Hippos have a surprising presence in human culture beyond just their biological significance.

Hippos in Mythology and Art

In ancient Egypt, the hippopotamus was both feared and revered. The goddess Taweret, depicted as a hippopotamus, was associated with fertility and protection of mothers and children. This duality reflects the hippo’s real-life nature: nurturing in their social groups but fiercely protective and dangerous when threatened.

Modern art and media continue to use hippos as symbols of strength, stubbornness, and sometimes gentle absurdity, reflecting their unique place in the animal kingdom.

Hippos in Education and Children’s Literature

Because of their distinctive appearance and behaviors, hippos are popular characters in children’s books and educational materials. They teach lessons about wildlife diversity, habitats, and the importance of conservation.

The phrase “i want a hippopotamus for” often appears in playful contexts, encouraging curiosity and learning about animals in a fun, accessible way.

Why the Desire for a Hippopotamus Resonates

At its core, saying “i want a hippopotamus for” taps into a universal human desire to connect with the extraordinary. We are drawn to creatures that defy norms, challenge our understanding, and remind us of the vastness of the natural world.

Whether through a nostalgic song, a dream of owning an exotic pet, or a genuine passion for wildlife, hippos symbolize something beyond their physical form—they represent wonder, mystery, and the call to protect our planet's incredible biodiversity.

Embracing this desire with knowledge and responsibility can lead to enriching experiences, from meaningful visits to wildlife parks to active participation in conservation. After all, wanting a hippopotamus isn't just about the animal itself—it's about celebrating the wildness and beauty that inspire us all.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the song 'I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas' about?

'I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas' is a novelty Christmas song originally sung by child singer Gayla Peevey in 1953. The song humorously expresses a child's wish to receive a hippopotamus as a Christmas gift.

Who originally performed 'I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas'?

The song was originally performed by Gayla Peevey in 1953 when she was just 10 years old.

Why did 'I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas' become popular?

The song's catchy tune, humorous lyrics, and unique Christmas wish made it a memorable novelty hit that has endured over the years as a quirky holiday favorite.

Are there any famous covers of 'I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas'?

Yes, over the years, various artists have covered the song, including The Three Stooges, Adam Sandler, and other holiday music performers.

Can I get a real hippopotamus as a pet like in 'I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas'?

No, hippopotamuses are large, wild animals that require specialized care and habitats. They are not suitable or legal to keep as pets in most places.

Additional Resources

****I Want a Hippopotamus For: Exploring the Fascination and Realities Behind a Unique Desire****

i want a hippopotamus for—this phrase might evoke whimsical childhood memories, a popular song, or even a fanciful wish for an exotic pet. Yet, beyond the playful surface, it opens a window into broader discussions about human fascination with unusual animals, the ethics of exotic pet ownership, and the logistical realities of caring for such a formidable creature. This article investigates the cultural, biological, and practical dimensions behind the notion of wanting a hippopotamus, providing a comprehensive review that balances curiosity with informed analysis.

The Cultural Allure of the Hippopotamus

The hippopotamus has long captured human imagination, symbolizing power, mystery, and sometimes gentle absurdity. The phrase “i want a hippopotamus for” gained mainstream recognition through the 1953 novelty song “I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas,” sung by child star Gayla Peevey. This playful tune encapsulates a childlike yearning for a massive, unlikely pet, underscoring the hippo’s status as a creature both exotic and enchantingly impractical.

In popular culture, hippos often appear in animated films, children’s books, and folklore, where their bulky size contrasts with a sometimes endearing demeanor. This duality fuels fantasies about having a hippopotamus as a companion, blending affection with awe. The phrase also reflects a broader human tendency to desire animals that symbolize strength and uniqueness, driving interest not only in hippos but in other exotic species.

Understanding the Biological and Behavioral Realities of Hippos

While the fantasy of “i want a hippopotamus for” might seem harmless, it veers into complex territory when considering the biological and behavioral traits of these animals. Hippos (*Hippopotamus amphibius*) are large, semi-aquatic mammals native to sub-Saharan Africa. Adults can weigh between 1,500 to 4,000 kilograms (3,300 to 8,800 pounds), making them one of the heaviest land mammals.

Habitat Requirements and Natural Behavior

Hippos spend a significant portion of their day submerged in water bodies such as rivers and lakes to keep their massive bodies cool under the African sun. They are highly territorial in water, displaying aggressive behavior to defend their space. On land, they graze mostly at night, feeding on grasses.

Their natural habitat and lifestyle pose substantial challenges for any attempt at domestication or private ownership. Replicating these environmental conditions is not only expensive but also essential for the animal’s welfare.

Safety Considerations

Despite their seemingly docile appearance, hippos are considered one of the most dangerous animals in Africa. They are responsible for more human fatalities on the continent than lions or elephants. Their aggressive nature, powerful jaws, and unpredictable behavior make them unsuitable as pets.

Therefore, the desire encapsulated in “i want a hippopotamus for” must be tempered with a realistic understanding of the inherent risks involved.

Exotic Pet Ownership: Legal and Ethical Dimensions

The fantasy of owning a hippopotamus intersects crucially with issues surrounding exotic pet ownership. Across many countries, laws regulate or outright ban the private ownership of large wild animals, including hippos, due to public safety, animal welfare, and ecological concerns.

Legal Frameworks Governing Hippo Ownership

In the United States, for example, hippos are classified as exotic animals, and owning one requires strict permits, specialized facilities, and adherence to the Animal Welfare Act. Many states prohibit private individuals from possessing hippos altogether.

Internationally, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) regulates the trade of hippos and their parts, reflecting global efforts to protect vulnerable wildlife populations.

Ethical Considerations

Beyond legality, ethical questions arise about the welfare of hippos kept outside their natural habitats. The complexity of their social structures, need for aquatic environments, and sensitivity to stress make captive care challenging.

Animal welfare advocates argue that “i want a hippopotamus for” should not translate into support for private ownership but rather inspire conservation efforts that protect hippos in the wild. Captive environments, such as accredited zoos and sanctuaries, strive to meet these needs responsibly.

Practical Challenges of Keeping a Hippopotamus

Assuming legal and ethical barriers were surmountable, the practical challenges of owning a hippopotamus are formidable. Understanding these obstacles is crucial for anyone seriously contemplating the desire encapsulated in the phrase “i want a hippopotamus for.”

Space and Habitat Requirements

Hippos require expansive water bodies and land areas to thrive. A private owner would need to provide a large, deep pool with clean, temperature-controlled water and substantial grazing areas. This is rarely feasible outside professional conservation or zoological settings.

Diet and Health Care

Hippos consume up to 68 kilograms (150 pounds) of grass each night. Their diet must be carefully managed to prevent obesity or malnutrition. Veterinary care for hippos is specialized and costly, involving expertise in exotic animal medicine.

Cost Implications

The financial investment in housing, feeding, and providing medical care for a hippopotamus runs into hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. This includes facility maintenance, staff salaries, and contingency provisions for emergencies.

Alternatives to Owning a Hippopotamus

For those captivated by the idea of “i want a hippopotamus for,” there are alternative ways to engage with this majestic animal without the impracticalities and risks of ownership.

- **Supporting Conservation Efforts:** Donating to or volunteering with organizations dedicated to protecting hippo habitats helps ensure their survival in the wild.
- **Visiting Accredited Zoos and Sanctuaries:** These institutions provide opportunities to observe hippos in environments designed for their well-being.
- **Virtual and Educational Experiences:** Technology enables immersive learning about hippos through documentaries, virtual reality, and interactive platforms.
- **Adopting Symbolically:** Many conservation groups offer symbolic adoption programs that fund hippo care and research.

Engaging with hippos through these avenues satisfies curiosity and admiration while promoting ethical stewardship.

The Psychological and Cultural Implications of Exotic Animal Desires

The phrase “i want a hippopotamus for” also invites reflection on why humans desire exotic animals as pets. Psychologists suggest that such desires often stem from a combination of fascination with the unusual, status signaling, and a longing for connection with nature.

In many ways, the hippopotamus represents a paradox—an animal both formidable and endearing, wild yet strangely approachable in popular imagination. This duality fuels a cultural narrative where owning such an animal symbolizes uniqueness and adventure.

However, modern awareness about conservation and animal rights challenges these fantasies, urging a more responsible and informed relationship with wildlife.

The journey from saying “i want a hippopotamus for” to understanding what that truly entails reveals a layered interaction between human culture, animal biology, and ethical responsibility. While the idea may begin as a lighthearted wish, it ultimately prompts deeper questions about how society values and interacts with the natural world.

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the lost lore of infamous outlaws and overlooked architects, Indigenous artifacts, and crumbling castles. Some are easier to spot, like blue whales and space cowboys nestled alongside iconic Route 66, or the tallgrass soaring over the plains, while others are still shrouded in mystery, like ghostly mounds and ghost towns. Secret Oklahoma uncovers it all, from Oklahoma City to Viking runes, and from bison-trod mountains to alligator swamps, debunking some stereotypes while confirming others. Here, in one of the most misunderstood states in the nation, a new discovery awaits around every corner. Join author Matt Kirouac on a detour, off the beaten Route 66 path, and discover a side of the Sooner State you never knew existed.

i want a hippopotamus for: Jeff Lenburg, Joan Howard Maurer, Greg Lenburg, 2012 Provides information about the Stooges' lives and careers, including photographs, interviews, and filmography.

i want a hippopotamus for: *Christmas Songs - Super Easy Songbook* Hal Leonard Corp., 2017-08-01 (Super Easy Songbook). It's super easy! This series features accessible arrangements for piano, with simple right-hand melody, letter names inside each note, and basic left-hand chord diagrams. This edition includes 60 holiday favorites: All I Want for Christmas Is You * Blue Christmas * The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire) * Do You Hear What I Hear * Frosty the Snow Man * Grandma Got Run over by a Reindeer * Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas * I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas (Hippo the Hero) * Jingle Bell Rock * Little Saint Nick * Mary, Did You Know? * Pretty Paper * Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer * Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town * Silver Bells * White Christmas * Winter Wonderland * and more.

i want a hippopotamus for: Greatest hits, 1995-2001 Lynn Veach Sadler, 2002 12 greatest hit poems from the career of Lynn Veach Sadler. Part of the Invitational national archive, Poets Greatest Hits. --Pudding House Publications.

i want a hippopotamus for: A Happy Christmas Ceilidh Zoe Tasia, 2022-12-19 It's their first winter holiday together on the Shrouded Isle... American widow Becca, her two daughters, and her Scottish boyfriend, Greg, are looking forward to celebrating. But trouble comes... As an elf on the shelf moves of its own volition, a snowman attracts too much attention, and an elderly neighbor is in dire need of Christmas cheer. To make matters worse... Becca and Greg find perfect gifts for each other. Unfortunately, neither can afford the price. Hilarity ensues as they struggle to find solutions for their problems. A Happy Christmas Ceilidh is a heart-warming tale about what happens when love brings a family and a community together.

i want a hippopotamus for: *I Found Christmas Lights Slithering Up My Street I Found Horror* Ben Farthing, 2023-12-05 Something festive is growing in the sewer... After last year's tragedy, Douglas' parents are ignoring Christmas. But when Douglas finds an eerie strand of lights slithering through the sewer, he unwittingly unleashes merry terror upon his neighborhood's tacky lights contest. String lights spread like invasive kudzu, turning festive decorations into surreal, predatory nightmares. Determined not to lose both Christmas and his family forever, Douglas gathers his courage to confront the source of the holiday horror: deep in the concrete pipes beneath the street. *I Found Christmas Lights Slithering Up My Street* is a horror tale from the darkly inventive purveyor of uncanny places and wondrous evils, Ben Farthing.

i want a hippopotamus for: Hippos The Ultimate Hippo Book for Kids Jenny Kellett, 2023-05-14 Hippo Hooray! Dive into the Wonderful World of Hippos with The Ultimate Hippo Book for Kids. If your child is a true hippo fan, then they're in for a treat with Hippos: The Ultimate Hippo Book for Kids! This interactive book is jam-packed with over 100 exciting hippo facts, accompanied by beautiful hi-res photos and even a fun quiz to put their knowledge to the test. From learning about the unique characteristics of hippos to exploring their daily lives and growth from birth to adulthood, this book covers all the bases. But it doesn't stop there - curious readers will also get to dive into the world of pygmy hippos, exploring whether they're just small hippos or something entirely different. The content of *Hippos: The Ultimate Hippo Book for Kids* is challenging enough for older readers, while still being accessible to younger ones thanks to the stunning visual imagery. And with facts like how hippos have incredibly dense bones that help them sink to the bottom of the

water, or that despite their massive teeth, hippos only use them for fighting, there's sure to be something to amaze and intrigue readers of all ages. But it's not just about fun facts - the book also delves into the important relationship between hippos and humans. Readers will learn about the challenges facing hippos today, as well as the ways in which we can help protect them and their habitats for generations to come. So why not give your young reader the gift of knowledge and wonder with *Hippos: The Ultimate Hippo Book for Kids*? Order your copy today and watch as they explore the fascinating world of these magnificent creatures.

i want a hippopotamus for: *Let Me Hold You* Melanie Schuster, 2013-10-01 Love in the fast lane In the five years since Alana Sharp Dumond lost her husband, she has remodeled her life. Her vintage car company, Custom Classics, is raking in money. She owns her own home and she has top-of-the-line friends. If she misses the feel of a man's arms around her, she'd never admit it. The shadows from her past are nobody's business but her own. Worldly restaurateur Roland Casey has had his eye on Alana for months, but now he wants to speed up put their relationship. With his tall, muscled build and cognac-brown eyes, he's never had any trouble romancing a woman—until now. Sultry Alana keeps putting the brakes on all his moves. Roland has no doubt that he can send her temperature racing, but can he mend her once-broken heart?

i want a hippopotamus for: *Encyclopedia of Pop Music Aliases, 1950-2000* Bob Leszczak, 2014-12-11 Recording Artists don't always enjoy success with their first release. A hit record relies on any number of factors: the right song, a memorable performance, a healthy promotional budget, great management, a spot of luck, and even some intangibles. Take choice of a name. For a single artist, duo, vocal group or band, the name can carry a lot of weight. Some recording artists changed their name to appeal to an entirely different demographic, like when country superstar Garth Brooks recorded as Chris Gaines to score on the pop charts. The Beefeaters became the Byrds—and they spelled the band name with a y in the wake of the meteoric success of the Beatles, whose letter A turned the image of a nasty bug into something intriguing. Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel amassed a litany of aliases—Simon went by True Taylor, Jerry Landis, and Paul Kane; Art Garfunkel as Artie Garr; together they were Tom & Jerry before finally using their very ethnic-sounding given names. Bob Leszczak has amassed several hundred examples of musical pseudonyms in *The Encyclopedia of Pop Music Aliases, 1950-2000*, describing the history of these artists from their obscure origins under another name to their rise to prominence as a major musical act. Music trivia buffs, rock historians, and popular music fans will uncover nugget after nugget of eye-opening information about their favorite acts and perhaps learn a thing or two about a number of other acts. Leszczak goes the extra yard of gathering critical data directly from many of these famous recording artists through in-person interviews and archival research. Whether skipping around randomly or reading from cover-to-cover, readers will find *The Encyclopedia of Pop Music Aliases, 1950-2000* a must-have for that music library.

i want a hippopotamus for: *Reflections on Malcolm Forsyth* Mary I. Ingraham, Robert C. Rival, 2019-10-23 Malcolm Forsyth (1936-2011) was a musical legend: a much-loved composer, performer, teacher, and mentor. *Reflections on Malcolm Forsyth* presents a captivating and approachable portrait of one of Canada's finest modern composers. Readers will discover both public and private sides to the man and gain fresh insights from critical assessments of a broad range of Forsyth's compositions, his continuing popular appreciation, and his lasting influence on the next generation of musicians and music scholars. Drawing from the perspectives of leading scholars, composers, and musicians, as well as on those of family, friends, students, and colleagues, *Reflections on Malcolm Forsyth* honours the rich life and cultural significance of this exceptional creative mind. It is important reading for music students and researchers, professional performers, and anyone who loves contemporary music. Contributors: Tommy Banks, Allan Gordon Bell, Nora Bumanis, Robin Elliott, Amanda Forsyth, Valerie Forsyth, Allan Gilliland, Carl Hare, Mary I. Ingraham, Edward Jurkowski, Ryan McClelland, John McPherson, Fordyce C. (Duke) Pier, Roxane Prevost, Kathy Primos, Tanya Prochazka, Leonard Ratzlaff, Rayfield Rideout, Robert C. Rival, Julia Shaw, Dale Sorensen, Christopher Taylor

i want a hippopotamus for: A Psychoanalytic Childhood Caroline Zilboorg, 2025-03-06 This moving memoir opens a door into the life of a young girl growing up in a psychoanalytic household. It offers insight into not only the expectations of girlhood in upper-class New York in the 1950s, but also the burgeoning psychoanalytic community at that time with particular focus on the brilliant Gregory Zilboorg. Caroline Zilboorg draws on her memories of growing up in a what she calls 'a psychoanalytic household', and on a wealth of privately held scrapbooks and photographs. She recounts pivotal experiences from her birth in New York City in 1948 through the death of her father in 1959. Both chronological and reflective, the memoir tells the story of a girlhood shaped by the attitudes of the period towards femininity and masculinity, attachment and differentiation, as well as an account of her brief psychoanalysis with Margaret Mahler in 1955. The chronological narrative is placed throughout within the context of the long-term impact on the author's personal and professional life, and the book includes 21 previously unpublished images selected from her personal archives. This exceptional memoir is an homage to Freud, an intimate account of childhood and coming of age, and a privileged glimpse of a particular moment in psychoanalytic history. It is highly recommended to psychoanalysts, historians, and those interested in the lives of others.

i want a hippopotamus for: *Mothering Outside the Lines*: BettyAnn Martin, Michelann Parr, 2023-09-21 In this collection, authors transgress and uphold their maternal integrity as they dance at the edge of comfort and take up the challenge of exploring the boundaries of maternal practice—their own, their mothers, and those found in literature, media, or popular culture. These mothers assume a hopeful stance; actively choose courage over comfort; push through what is fun, fast, or easy, and show how they come to mother outside the lines in all its simplicity and complexity. As they bust outdated, tired, and ambiguous boundaries, they find and (re)set new boundaries that restore dignity and self-respect for themselves, their children, their families, and for the matricentric feminist collective, particularly those whose voices may continue to be silenced and marginalized by structures and limits beyond their control. Thirteen stories are threaded together to form a compelling tale showing how and why some mothers, when faced with ambiguous and untenable boundaries, resist the urge to accept the assumed, the unpredictable, even the demanded—whether they be internal or external, visible or invisible, real or imaginary.

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i want a hippopotamus for: *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography 2005-2008* Lawrence Goldman, 2013-03-07 Who made modern Britain? This book, drawn from the award-winning Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, tells the story of our recent past through the lives of those who shaped national life. Following on from the Oxford DNB's first supplement volume—noteworthy people who died between 2001 and 2004—this new volume offers biographies of more than 850 men and women who left their mark on twentieth and twenty-first century Britain, and who died in the years 2005 to 2008. Here are the people responsible for major developments in national life: from politics, the arts, business, technology, and law to military service, sport, education, science, and medicine. Many are closely connected to specific periods in Britain's recent history. From the 1950s, the young Harold Pinter or the Yorkshire cricketer, Fred Trueman, for example. From the Sixties, the footballer George Best, photographer Patrick Lichfield, and the Pink Floyd musician, Syd Barrett. It's hard to look back to the 1970s without thinking of Edward Heath and James Callaghan, who led the country for seven years in that turbulent decade; or similarly Freddie Laker, pioneer of budget air travel, and the comedians Ronnie Barker and Dave Allen who entertained with their sketch shows and sit coms. A decade later you probably browsed in Anita Roddick's Body Shop, or danced to the music of Factory Records, established by the Manchester entrepreneur, Tony Wilson. In the 1990s you may have hoped that 'Things can only get better' with a New Labour government which included Robin Cook and Mo Mowlam. Many in this volume are remembered for lives dedicated to a profession or cause: Bill Deedes or Conor Cruise O'Brien in journalism; Ned Sherrin in broadcasting or, indeed, Ted Heath whose political career spanned more than 50 years. Others

were responsible for discoveries or innovations of lasting legacy and benefit-among them the epidemiologist Richard Doll, who made the link between smoking and lung cancer, Cicely Saunders, creator of the hospice movement, and Chad Varah, founder of the Samaritans. With John Profumo—who gave his name to a scandal—policeman Malcolm Fewtrell—who investigated the Great Train Robbery—or the Russian dissident Aleksandr Litvinenko—who was killed in London in 2006—we have individuals best known for specific moments in our recent past. Others are synonymous with popular objects and experiences evocative of recent decades: Mastermind with Magnus Magnusson, the PG-Tips chimpanzees trained by Molly Badham, John DeLorean's 'gull-wing' car, or the new British Library designed by Colin St John Wilson—though, as rounded and balanced accounts, Oxford DNB biographies also set these events in the wider context of a person's life story. Authoritative and accessible, the biographies in this volume are written by specialist authors, many of them leading figures in their field. Here you will find Michael Billington on Harold Pinter, Michael Crick on George Best, Richard Davenport-Hines on Anita Roddick, Brenda Hale on Rose Heilbron, Roy Hattersley on James Callaghan, Simon Heffer on John Profumo, Douglas Hurd on Edward Heath, Alex Jennings on Paul Scofield, Hermione Lee on Pat Kavanagh, Geoffrey Wheatcroft on Conor Cruise O'Brien, and Peregrine Worsthorne on Bill Deedes. Many in this volume are, naturally, household names. But a good number are also remembered for lives away from the headlines. What in the 1980s became 'Thatcherism' owed much to behind the scenes advice from Ralph Harris and Alfred Sherman; children who learned to read with Ladybird Books must thank their creator, Douglas Keen; while, without its first producer, Verity Lambert, there would have been no Doctor Who. Others are 'ordinary' people capable of remarkable acts. Take, for instance, Arthur Bywater who over two days in 1944 cleared thousands of bombs from a Liverpool munitions factory following an explosion—only to do the same, months later, in another factory. Awarded the George Cross and the George Medal, Bywater remains the only non-combatant to have received Britain's two highest awards for civilian bravery.

i want a hippopotamus for: The Boy's Own Annual , 1909

i want a hippopotamus for: A to Zoo Rebecca L. Thomas, 2018-06-21 Whether used for thematic story times, program and curriculum planning, readers' advisory, or collection development, this updated edition of the well-known companion makes finding the right picture books for your library a breeze. Generations of savvy librarians and educators have relied on this detailed subject guide to children's picture books for all aspects of children's services, and this new edition does not disappoint. Covering more than 18,000 books published through 2017, it empowers users to identify current and classic titles on topics ranging from apples to zebras. Organized simply, with a subject guide that categorizes subjects by theme and topic and subject headings arranged alphabetically, this reference applies more than 1,200 intuitive (as opposed to formal catalog) subject terms to children's picture books, making it both a comprehensive and user-friendly resource that is accessible to parents and teachers as well as librarians. It can be used to identify titles to fill in gaps in library collections, to find books on particular topics for young readers, to help teachers locate titles to support lessons, or to design thematic programs and story times. Title and illustrator indexes, in addition to a bibliographic guide arranged alphabetically by author name, further extend access to titles.

i want a hippopotamus for: Quizmas Carols Gordon Pape, Deborah Kerbel, 2007-10-02 In this fun and festive follow-up to Plume's popular Quizmas and Family Quizmas trivia books, Gordon Pape and Deborah Kerbel turn to the holiday season's best-loved songs. Featuring an introduction to the history of Christmas carols; Quizmas-style questions organized by era, region, and genre; and interesting stories about the carols themselves; Quizmas Carols covers every favorite tune, from "The First Noel" to "The Chipmunk Song." Do you know: * What carol was written by a newspaper reporter? * Which Judy Garland movie introduced "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"? * Which carol became a hymn against slavery in its English translation? * In which European city Handel's "Messiah" was first performed? * Which cowboy movie star wrote "Here Comes Santa Claus"? Full of little-known facts and merry multiple-choice answers, Quizmas Carols is the perfect stocking

stuffer for anyone who loves the music of Christmas. [Answers: "We Three Kings of Orient Are," Meet Me in St. Louis, "O Holy Night," Dublin, Gene Autry]

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