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Transplanting Trees

Trees are a very important natural resource. Forests make up around 74 percent of Estill County's acreage and a valuable industry in Kentucky. Many homeowners want to plant trees to enhance their property. With statewide Arbor Day observance on April 3rd, it is appropriate to discuss some tree and shrub transplanting techniques.

UK Horticulture specialists note that trees can be purchased in one of three forms...balled and burlapped (B&B), bare root, or container-grown. The characteristics associated with the planting hole are essential for the reestablishment of these plants. New roots of a transplanted tree or shrub must grow away from the soilball into the surrounding soil. When this cannot occur because of hard, compacted soil, roots will grow in a circle. This is especially common in container-grown plants. Roots in container-grown plants must be loosened and directed out into the backfill. Failure to do so results in confinement of the roots and ultimately girdling of the trunk.

Roots grow through the path of least resistance. Digging large planting holes is one of the best things that you can do for a newly transplanted tree or shrub.

Two or three times the diameter of the soilball is usually large enough. While the planting hole should be dug much wider than the soilball, it should never be any deeper than the soilball is tall. The plant should be installed so that the upper most roots in the soilball are 1 to 2-inches below the soil surface. The only way to know this is to locate them in the soilball. Gently remove the upper layer of soil until you find the first large roots coming out of the trunk. These "first order" roots must be close to the soil surface.

If the hole is dug too deep for the first order roots to be near the surface, you must add enough soil to raise the first order roots to the proper grade. This soil must be firmed in the bottom of the planting hole to prevent the soilball from settling. Soilballs that settle allow surface water to collect resulting in smothering and death of roots. Planting too shallow results in roots drying out and dying. If the top of the soilball is allowed to dry, it then becomes hard to re-wet.

Adding amendments like compost or peat moss to the backfill will not make much of a difference for plants in very good soils. It is best to have the same type of soil inside and outside the planting hole. In poor and dry soils, adding some compost to the backfill can be beneficial.

After the soilball has been placed in the planting hole and you are sure that it is at the correct level, it is time to remove any remaining materials that protected the soilball in transit. This includes all twine, burlap,

wire baskets, and any other materials around the soilball or trunk.

While oxygen is essential for root growth, roots do not grow through air pockets. The best way to settle the soil and remove air pockets is to use water to gently settle the soil. After the planting hole has been partially filled with soil, water it thoroughly. Fill the hole with more soil and water again to settle the soil. Repeat this until the soil in the planting hole is level with the surrounding soil.

Mulching is one of the best things that we can do for a plant but you can overdo it. Mulch should be 2 to 3-inches deep. It should be coarse and organic. Mulch should be about 3 or 4-inches away from the trunk and extend out at least past the edge of the planting hole.

Most bare root trees will need to be staked after planting. Most balled and burlapped and container grown trees and shrubs do NOT need to be staked. Plants should be staked only if there is a real potential for the plant to blow over.

Water, either too much or not enough is the most common reason plants die in the first one to two years after transplanting. Water once a week during the growing season when the plant does not receive at least 1-inch of rain.

It is always easier to add water than to get rid of it in a poorly drained soil. This is why a perk test is important in determining if the soil will drain sufficiently to grow plants that are not tolerant of wet feet. Site selection is important to success.

Container-grown plants are produced in soil-less mixes that are

better drained than natural soil. If these materials are not partially removed so that existing roots are surrounding by real soil, they can remain dry out even if the soil in the backfill is wet.

Be sure to keep all mowers and string trimmers away from the base of the tree and protect the trunk from sunscald the first winter after transplanting.

For more information about trees and shrubs, contact the Estill County Extension office at 723-4557.

NOTE => Based on guidance from the University of Kentucky and local health officials, all Estill County Extension programs and scheduled meetings at our office will be cancelled from March 16-April 6. At this time, our office plans to remain open to assist clientele as needed. We ask if you do plan to visit our office to be mindful of safety precautions such as: wash your hands frequently or use alcohol based hand sanitizer; avoid close contact; cover coughs and sneezes; and most importantly, please stay home if you are sick. This information could change with short notice, so please interact with our social media page (search Facebook for Estill County KY Cooperative Extension) or call our office to stay up to date. We appreciate your patience and understanding. Our number one priority is the safety of our clientele and staff. Practice social distancing and good hand washing skills!

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Wishing Well®

8	4	5	4	8	2	4	3	7	2	4	3	6
M	D	E	I	O	T	S	W	S	R	C	I	U
2	3	6	8	7	6	5	2	4	5	7	8	4
U	N	S	R	P	E	A	T	O	G	R	A	U
2	8	3	8	5	7	3	7	2	3	4	3	4
H	L	O	E	E	E	V	A	A	E	N	R	T
5	7	4	3	5	3	8	5	2	5	8	7	2
R	D	F	O	T	B	I	O	L	L	S	C	W
4	5	3	4	7	2	6	2	4	6	8	7	2
E	E	S	A	H	A	T	Y	R	A	H	A	S
4	3	5	6	7	5	7	3	8	2	3	8	6
S	T	A	L	R	R	I	A	I	W	C	G	E
5	7	2	8	3	2	7	6	2	6	3	6	3
N	T	I	H	L	N	Y	N	S	T	E	S	S

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: L equals D

FABK WTZNL B XYGT YXQGLQDK'E

LQDKZYQE VQ WBNNQL?

KAQ OQTYOQ FBEAGDOKTD VYGLOQ.

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is
LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

ZP'R ALP PTQ VMRQANQ LW

WQVE, ZP'R LDQENLOZAS ZP.

RLOQPZOQR ILH'DQ SLP PL

MYVRP PTELHST VAF TVDQ

WVZPT. — QOOV KVPRLA

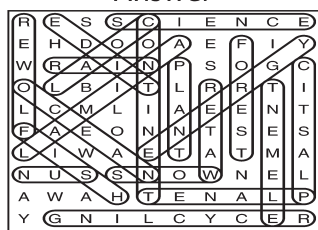
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Puzzle Answers

March 18, 2020

Puzzles4Kids

Answer



Riddle Answer:

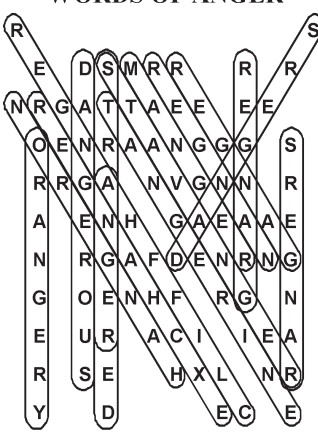
She is blown away.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

2	8	6	1	5	9	7	3	4
5	4	3	6	7	8	1	9	2
9	7	1	2	4	3	8	5	6
8	1	2	5	6	7	9	4	3
6	3	7	4	9	1	5	2	8
4	5	9	8	3	2	6	1	7
7	6	4	3	1	5	2	8	9
1	9	8	7	2	4	3	6	5
3	2	5	9	8	6	4	7	1

WORDS OF ANGER



CryptoQuip

answer

What could a prior president's dentures be called?
The George Washington bridge

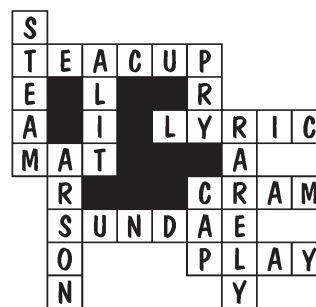
CryptoQuote

answer

It's not the absence of fear, it's overcoming it. Sometimes you've got to blast through and have faith. — Emma Watson

FEAR & KNIGHT

answer



Even Exchange

answers

- Ramble, Rumble
- Shout, Spout
- Corner, Cornet
- Metal, Medal
- Arbor, Ardor
- Sailor, Tailor
- Porter, Potter
- Media, Medic
- Chose, Close
- Bushed, Bushel

King Crossword

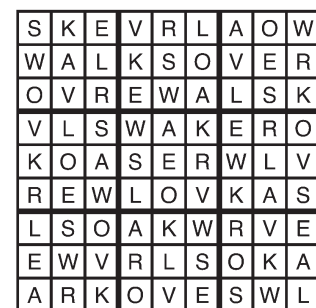
Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.



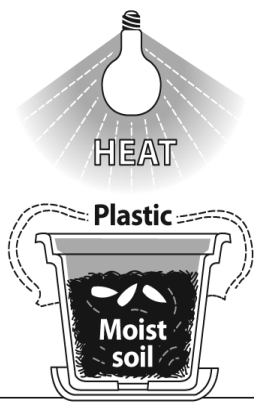
Letter Box

Solution



The Garden Bug

Germination



Place potting soil in a small container. Moisten the soil well, but do not soak. Place seeds just below the surface of the soil, and cover the container with clear plastic, or insert it into a plastic bag, without letting plastic rest directly on the soil. This helps the soil retain moisture and heat. Place under a lamp for warmth, and keep the soil moist by "misting." As your sprouts appear and grow, remove plastic. Mist daily and keep sprouts warm until you are ready to transplant into your garden. — B. Weaver

Source: extension.umd.edu

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Birding BITS

BY Cindy Brook

Home Sweet Nest

Birds are gathering material for their nests, and you can help. Put out soft stuff like string, yarn or (clean) dog hair. These items can be hung from tree branches or scattered on the ground. They'll be easy to spot and will provide extra insulation for new hatchlings.

E-mail: birdingbits@cfl.r.com

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top ten INVASIVE PLANTS

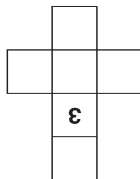
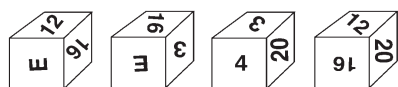
1. Russian olive
2. Cajeput tree
3. Purple loosestrife
4. tree-of-heaven
5. Japanese honeysuckle
6. kudzu
7. leafy spurge
8. mile-a-minute
9. tamarisk
10. cogongrass

SOURCE: WWW.USNA.USDA.GOV

Stickeler's Puzzle



Below are four views of the same cube.



If you were to unfold the cube, how would you fill in the diagram so that it shows the correct orientation of numbers and the letter "E"? We've given you a head start by placing the number 3.

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Stickeler's Answer on Page 11

Bible Trivia Answers

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in bookstores and online.

ANSWERS (1 Old; 2) Moses; (3) Job; (4) Dorcas; (5) Moses; (6) Laodicea