### Animal Tales

1. **TRUMPET OF THE SWAN**
   - Male swans are cobs, female swans are pens and baby swans are cygnets.

2. **GOBBOLINO**
   - A copy of *Gobbolino* was buried in the Puffin Time Capsule in 1978 and will not be dug up until 2078! Ursula wrote a message in this book and no one knows what it says . . .

3. **TARKA THE OTTER**
   - Otters are related to weasels, polecats and badgers.

### Magical Adventures

9. **MRS FRISBY and the RATS of NIMH**
   - *Mrs Frisby and the Rats of NIMH* was inspired by research carried out on the mice and rat population over twenty years from the 1940s to the 1960s!

10. **A WRINKLE IN TIME**
    - In 2013, a crater discovered on the planet Mercury was named after Madeleine L'Engle.

### Real Life

15. **STUART LITTLE**
   - E. B. White received several letters from people also called Stuart Little – one such person claimed angrily that he was going to write a children’s book about a rat named E. B. White!

16. **THE BORROWERS**
    - The Borrowers are all about 15 centimetres tall.

### War Stories

6. **GOODNIGHT MISTER TOM**
   - The beech tree’s slim trunk gave Michelle Magorian the idea for her skinny evacuee’s name – William Beech.

7. **BACK HOME**
   - One of Rusty’s favourite memories is making and eating s’mores around the campfire down at the lake. S’mores are an American tradition, and no one is quite sure who invented them. The first known recipe appeared in 1927 in a Girl Scout handbook called Tramping and Trailing with the Girl Scouts.

### Unusual Friends

12. **CHARLOTTE’S WEB**
   - In 2010, forty-two of the original Garth Williams illustrations for *Charlotte’s Web* were put up for sale at a New York auction, and fetched a combined total of £487,927.

### Interesting Facts

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  - ‘Chihuahua’ is a Spanish word meaning very, very small.

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