


**What's happening
in the news this week?**



Let's have a look at this week's poster!

13th - 19th November 2023



 Picture News

Are there some jobs robots could never do?



Let's look at this week's story

A new robot called Digit, designed to be human-like and that is capable of lifting and moving items, is being tested in warehouses of the online retailer, Amazon. The robot is in its first few weeks of trials at Amazon's facility in Seattle, USA, as the company tries to improve automation in its processes. To begin with, the robot is being taught to pick up and move empty boxes to ensure that they are ready for reuse. The yellow boxes, or totes, are used throughout the company's fulfilment process.



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



How does it make me feel?



sad	angry	happy	confused	excited	worried	shocked	afraid
despondent disconsolate dismal doleful downhearted forlorn gloomy melancholic miserable woeful wretched	aggrieved annoyed discontented disgruntled distressed exasperated frustrated indignant offended outraged resentful vexed	beaming buoyant cheery contented delighted enraptured gleeful glowing joyful	addled baffled bemused bewildered disorientated indistinct muddled mystified perplexed puzzled	animated elevated enlivened enthusiastic exhilarated exuberant thrilled	agitated anxious apprehensive concerned disquieted distraught distressed disturbed fretful perturbed troubled uneasy	astonished astounded disconcerted distressed dumbfounded horrified staggered startled stunned surprised	alarmed apprehensive daunted fearful frantic horrified petrified terrified

This week's story looks at events related to ...





Read through the information about Digit found below.

What is Digit?

Digit is a 175cm-tall robot created by Agility Robotics that is being trialled at some of Amazon's warehouses. The robot is capable of carrying items weighing up to 16kg and can work 16 out of 24 hours a day. Its creators say that the machine's run time is equivalent to the working hours of two full-time employees.

What will Digit do?

Digit is able to walk on two legs. This key feature, which gives the robot the ability to move over different terrains and up steps as found in human environments, could be particularly useful for Amazon.

The robot is not yet able to perform more sophisticated tasks, such as identifying items that need to be picked out of boxes for packing.

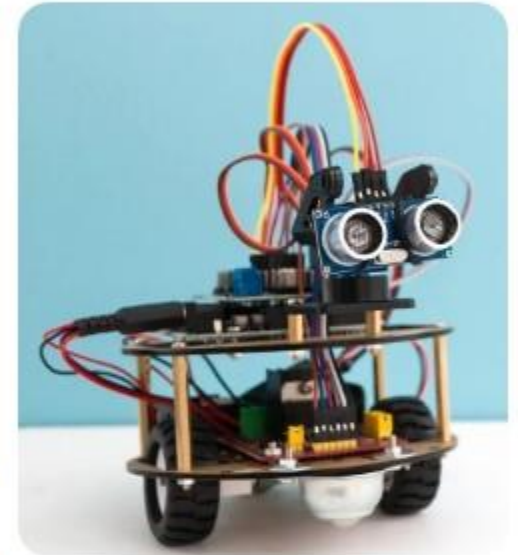


A human worker next to Digit in an Amazon warehouse. **Source:** Amazon.

Share your thoughts on what it might be like to work alongside a robot.



Look at the images below.



Which do you think are robots and which are not?



Look at the resource below, which shares some of the purposes a robot has.

Manufacturing robots

These robots are used to make things such as cars. They can cut and assemble parts without getting tired or hurt.



Tactical robots

These robots are used to make dangerous objects, such as explosives, safe.



Microscopic robots

Nanobots are microscopic robots that can be introduced to the human body. They can be used for medicine and human health.



Household robots

Robots can be used to clean floors, windows, grills or mow lawns. They can also be used as companions or assistants in someone's home.




Space exploration robots

Many robots have been sent to explore space. It is cheaper and safer to send a robot.



**Discuss the job or role each robot has.
What are the benefits of a robot carrying out the job rather than a person?**



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Reflection



Developing technologies are enabling robots to do more and more complex tasks and be used increasingly in workplaces. This may change job roles, with humans working alongside robots more.





Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Robots feature in some people's lives more than others. Life is not the same for everyone and we can show respect for the beliefs others have and the choices they make.

Protected Characteristics



Our beliefs affect our life choices or the way we live our lives. For some people, robots may form part of their everyday lives. We should never be treated unfairly because of our beliefs.



Sex



Sexual Orientation



Age



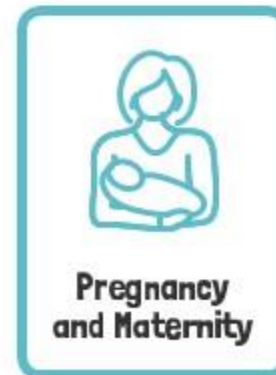
Disability



Gender Reassignment



Marriage and Civil Partnership



Pregnancy and Maternity



Race



Religion and Belief



UN Rights of a Child



We have the right to be protected from doing work that is dangerous or bad for our education, health or development. There are some dangerous jobs that robots can do instead of humans.



Useful vocabulary



Automation

The use of machines and computers that can operate without needing humans.

The robot is in its first few weeks of trials at Amazon's facility in Seattle, USA, as the company tries to improve **automation** in its processes.

Fulfilment

The process of taking an order and sending a product to a customer.

The yellow boxes, or totes, are used throughout the company's **fulfilment** process.

Sophisticated

More advanced or complex.

The robot is not yet able to perform more **sophisticated** tasks.

Terrain

An area or type of land.

This key feature, which gives the robot the ability to walk over different **terrains** and up steps as found in human environments, could be particularly useful for Amazon.

Tote

A large strong bag with two handles.

The yellow boxes, or **totes**, are used throughout the company's fulfilment process.

Trialled

Test something to assess its suitability or performance.

Digit is a 175cm-tall robot created by Agility Robotics that is being **trialled** at some of Amazon's warehouses.

Can you use them in your writing this week?



Great Sphinx of Giza 'origin story'



Pictured: The Great Sphinx of Giza. **Source:** Great Sphinx of Giza @Giza_Sphinx X page.

A recent study conducted at New York University (NYU) has suggested a new 'origin story' for the Great Sphinx of Giza. Scientists have concluded that an ancient statue of the mythical creature, with the head of a human and the body of a lion, could have been made by nature and then detailed by humans. Archaeologists have debated how the great structure was created for centuries. The Great Sphinx of Giza is a colossal 4,500-year-old limestone statue, positioned near the Great Pyramid in Giza, Egypt. The monument is one of the world's largest, measuring 73 metres long and 20 metres high. 'Our results provide a

simple origin theory for how Sphinx-like formations can come about from erosion,' explains Leif Ristorph, an associate professor at NYU. 'There are, in fact, yardangs in existence today that look like seated or lying animals, lending support to our conclusions. Our laboratory experiments showed that surprisingly Sphinx-like shapes can, in fact, come from materials being eroded by fast flows.' Yardangs are unusual rock formations found in deserts created by wind-blown dust and sand; the study was based on the scientists' abilities to replicate these shapes.

'12 Neighbours' project to cut homelessness

Canadian entrepreneur, Marcel LeBrun, is running a project called '12 Neighbours' to build communities of micro homes, where homeless people can get off the streets into a safe environment and also find work to help them rebuild their lives. Jobs will be available at the onsite coffee bar, teaching kitchen, and a silk printing business. After becoming a multi-millionaire when he sold his successful social media monitoring company, Marcel says he decided 'to put his money where his mouth is' and put his suggestions into practice! He is using his profit, along with grants and support from the provincial and national government, to build a community

of 99 micro homes for those who need it most in his hometown of Fredericton, the capital city of the Canadian province of New Brunswick. The tiny homes contain everything that is needed in a comfortable living space - a kitchen, living and bedroom areas, and a bathroom. They also have a small deck, solar panels on the roofs, and are painted in bright and cheerful colours. 'I see myself as a community builder, and really what we're doing here is not just building a little community, but we're building a community in a city, like how do we help our city be better?' said Marcel LeBrun.



Pictured: An example of the micro homes being built by the project. **Source:** The 12 Neighbours Community Facebook page.

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

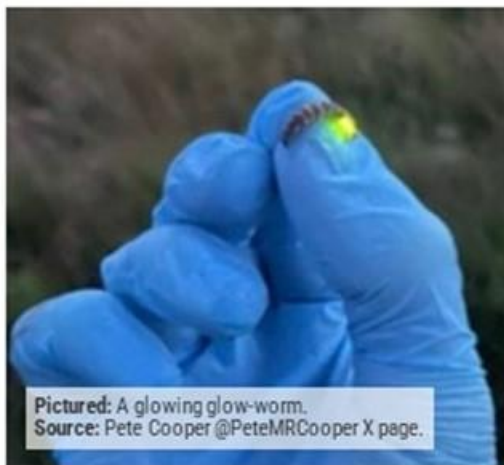
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Glowing project!



Pictured: New Zealand's bioluminescent glow-worms in a dark cave. **Source:** Canva.



Pictured: A glowing glow-worm. **Source:** Pete Cooper @PeteMRCooper X page.

Ecologist Pete Cooper's 'Lights of hope: rewilding glow-worms' project has been shortlisted as one of 22 native species projects run by The British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums (BIAZA) members for the Great British Wildlife Restoration Award! The charity shared on its website that this is the first competition of its kind. The award was inspired by David Attenborough's 'Wild Isles', and it aims to raise the profile of the native species conservation work being undertaken by zoo and aquarium conservationists. Pete's project is focused on helping the glow-worm numbers rise again in the UK. He is very passionate about his work as the insects' population has been severely reduced by many factors including, loss of their habitat (the larvae like to live under rocks on chalk or

limestone grassland) and increased light pollution (for example streetlights). Light pollution makes it more difficult for the male glow-worms to find the female, as the females use their bioluminescence (greeny-orange light produced by a chemical reaction in their bodies) to attract a mate and produce new baby glow-worms. Only the males have wings and only the females can glow! 'The fascination of glow-worms for me is that they are in effect magic,' says Pete Cooper, 'The glow-worm has been the symbol of the other world, of love, of hope, of rebirth, of simply the great mysteries of nature.'

Did you know that glow-worms aren't actually worms, they are beetles?
Do you know any facts about glow-worms?

Last week's topic:

Should 'super shoes' be allowed in races?



I think 'super shoes' should be allowed and be available to the public then it is fair for everyone.

Riley

Super shoes should not be allowed in races, as the people who race train a lot and shouldn't need them. Only people who do not race should use super shoes.

Khadiza

I think super shoes should not be allowed if everyone can't get it, It means other racers would have an advantage.

Janaya

Let us know what you think about this week's news?

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 @HelpPicture

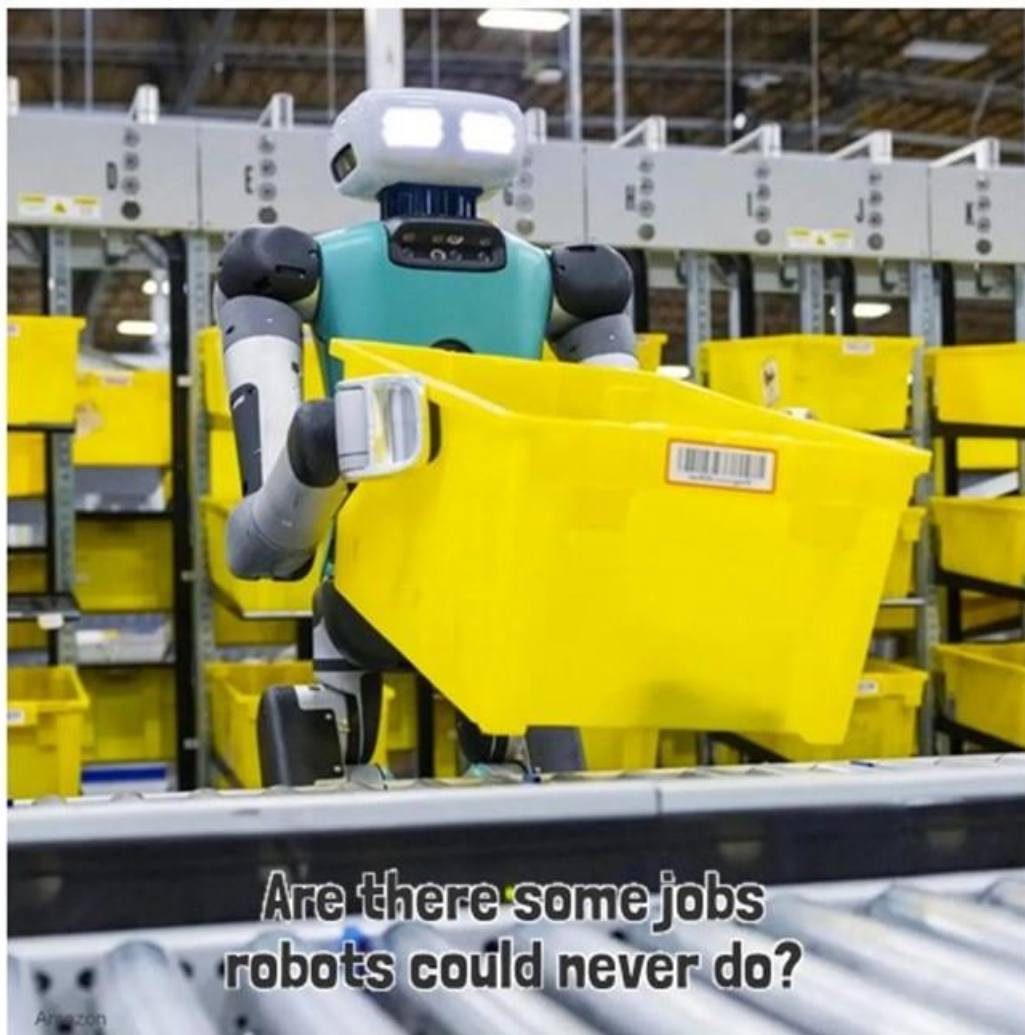
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TAKEHOME



Are there some jobs
robots could never do?

Amazon

In the news this week

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Things to talk about at home ...

- > Do you think that robots will be used more and more in workplaces and homes? If so, what do you feel they will be used for? Why?
- > Make a list of jobs that you think robots would be good at and a list of those that you think people will always be needed for.

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

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