

MOVIES

# 5 happy things about 'The Angry Birds Movie'

Carly Mallenbaum  
USA TODAY

Why are the titular birds in the crazy-popular *Angry Birds* mobile game so ticked off at a bunch of green piggies?

The question that has been on millions of gamers' minds will finally be answered in the 3-D animated comedy *The Angry Birds Movie*, out May 20. It features the voices of Jason Sudeikis, Bill Hader, Josh Gad and Danny McBride.

We don't want to spoil *exactly* what's so anger-inducing for a bunch of round, flightless birds, but here are five things we learned at an *Angry Birds Movie* "Sneak Beak" event at Sony Pictures with producers, directors and voice actors:



Chuck (Josh Gad) and Red (Jason Sudeikis) deal with pigs and peevies in *The Angry Birds Movie*.

## 1. THE BIRDS WEREN'T ALWAYS SO ANGRY.

According to producer John Cohen, who worked closely with *Angry Birds* game creator Mikael Hed, the story begins with a bunch of happy, flightless birds hanging out on an island. There are only a few birds — namely Red (Sudeikis), Chuck (Gad) and Bomb (McBride) — who are deal-

ing with a few things in an anger-management class.

## 2. THE BIRDS IN THE MOVIE DO NOT PLAY THE 'ANGRY BIRDS' GAME.

The birds' island is "naturalistic,"

Cohen says. There are no cell-phones, which means no mobile apps and games. There are, however, places where birds can get feather extensions and participate in "Mommy & Me" classes with their eggs.

## 3. THE PIGS LIVE IN A WORLD WITH 'HAM-ILTON.'

There are advertisements on the pigs' island for the spoof Broadway smash *Ham-ilton*, starring Kevin Bacon. You can expect plenty more pop-cultural jokes

like that: The movie was written by Jon Vitti of *The Simpsons*.

## 4. SUDEIKIS, GAD AND MCBRIDE CAN RELATE TO THEIR CHARACTERS

Like his character who's "angry from the jump," Sudeikis, too, has a temper. "I get ticked off (by) the person I get to sleep next to, my supportive family ... (when) my bingo card is full," he jokes.

Gad says he also would be able to relate to the birds' anger, if, hypothetically, a "reality TV star could be the next president of the United States."

McBride channels his inner anger when GPS tells him to "make a left over four lanes of traffic."

## 5. HADER'S PIG VOICE SOUNDS LIKE ... 'MY DAD'

Hader, who voices the pig Leonard, tried out a few different sounds for his character. At first, he went with a Robert Preston/*Music Man*-sounding voice, but in a second session, filmmakers asked him, "Do you have something else?"

"So we found this *Hee Haw*/*Music Man* (sound) ... very jolly and excited. It's basically ... my dad."

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## PUZZLES

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### CROSSWORD

EDITED Timothy Parker  
BY Rob Lee

### IT HAS A RING TO IT

- ACROSS**
- Variety of plum
  - "God \_\_\_ you"
  - "... here on Gilligan's \_\_\_"
  - Came down to earth
  - Tree house
  - Bedding item
  - Sign of impending danger
  - Burning crime
  - How crickets chirp
  - Alert subject?
  - It comes twice after "Que" in a song
  - 100 lbs. in the U.S.
  - Big heads?
  - Japanese teahouse mat
  - Tire necessity
  - Urban housing problems
  - Splash and dash
  - Certainly no Einstein
  - "What's the big \_\_\_?"
  - Melancholy, to Keats
  - "\_\_\_ you serious?"
  - Fit snugly one inside another
  - Exciting bout ending
  - Arthur Conan Doyle's title
  - Stretched tightly
  - Some male dolls
  - Roils
  - Atlas picture
  - Excellent defensive play in baseball
  - Links numbers
  - Disentangle
  - Beginning for "legal"
  - Collier's entrance
  - Biblical hymn
  - Phaser setting
- DOWN**
- Head over heels
  - Winged
  - Vamooses, country-style
  - Culture mores
  - Drafty gift?
  - Hawaiian place
  - Sea eagles
  - Expresses dismay, in a way
  - Thing between friends
  - Shipwrecked
  - Synagogue
  - Tramp's spaghetti-dinner sharer
  - Bad \_\_\_ (German resort)
  - Catch in a net
  - Italian currency of old
  - Look at with intentions
  - Off one's \_\_\_ (crazy)
  - Cruise quarters
  - Writer Oscar
  - Makes attempts
  - Smug look
  - False name
  - New Zealand native
  - Collegiate starter?
  - Emulate a cat burglar
  - Showing the most wear and tear
  - Motown legend Marvin
  - Morissette smash hit
  - Rabbit features
  - Big quarrel
  - Drivers make them often
  - Loses it
  - Coastal food fish
  - Spelling of TV
  - Bread for a gyro
  - Thing on a baseball card
  - Brown hue
  - Word used in comparisons
  - Reducing salon
  - Zero, in soccer
  - Topaz, for one

**Wednesday's Answer**

ROAST STAIR TAB  
UHUH ASIDE AMA  
GOSPEL MUSIC KEG  
ERA LOU ENG  
CURRENT ECSTASY  
ONE AGHA YEAS  
PTA TURFS DPHIL  
RIFT ROOTS SOME  
ALFAS BOATS TAM  
IDLE TREK AGO  
CURSORY KRYPTON  
ELM GEE EWE  
ANI ANNIE OAKLEY  
SAN NOTAT ROUTE  
ERG SWANS DEGAS

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### WORD ROUNDUP

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle:  
**Nine words with two I's**  
Movie: "\_\_\_ II: The \_\_\_ of \_\_\_"  
**One opposite of shorter**  
**Game with pawns**  
**Toes' homes**

Wednesday's answer: NEPTUNE MERCURY URANUS SATURN  
EARTH VENUS MARS / CROW DUCK LOON SWAN / HISTORY  
SCIENCE MATH / SNOW / BUCKET

### QUICKCROSS

By John Wilmes

Out of here -->

Jim Davis character

--> for quite some time

Mine finds

Corporate symbol

Aroma

\_\_\_ Inch Nails

The Bee \_\_\_

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### SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 (no repeats).

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

2/25 DIFFICULTY RATING ★★★★★

**UP & DOWN WORDS**

By David L. Hoyt and Russell L. Hoyt

1. JOHN

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIPTION**

Clues:  
1. Gemini, Apollo and shuttle astronaut  
2. Fawn  
3. Lyme disease carrier  
4. Make mad  
5. It's not spent at work  
6. 9-to-5 occupation  
7. List of an employee's duties

**Wednesday's Answer**  
NEW CAR INSURANCE CARD GAME FACE CREAM  
CAR INSURANCE CARD GAME FACE CREAM SODA

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Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x2 box contains the numbers 1 through 6 (no repeats).

4					
	6	5	4		
			1	2	
	2	1			
	3	5	2		
					5

DIFFICULTY RATING ★★★★★

**Wednesday's Answer**

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

2/24

**TXTPERT**

Across: 1. 3479268, 4. 367424, 6. 224, 8. 396842, 10. 7626

Down: 2. 466, 3. 8747, 4. 3622/5, 5. 46/8, 7. 4327, 9. 43

Today's theme: **Travel**

Use the phone keypad to decode the clues. For example: 2 could be A, 3 or C... and 5/6/8 could be LCST

**YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION**

**DON'T QUOTE ME**

Actress Scarlett Johansson thinks about aging.

Rearrange the words to complete the quote.  
DEFINITELY FUN HAG NO OLD PLASTIC WANT

I \_\_\_\_\_ BELIEVE IN \_\_\_\_\_ SURGERY.

I DON'T \_\_\_\_\_ TO BE AN \_\_\_\_\_

THERE'S \_\_\_\_\_ IN THAT.

2/25

Wednesday's Answer: "Conscience is thoroughly well-bred and soon leaves off talking to those who do not wish to hear it." - Samuel Butler