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Amazing Animals

SPECIAL EDITION

6 Silly Pet Tricks

1 LIZARDS POSE FOR FANS

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
Larry and Lauri the Chinese water dragons bring new meaning to the term "lounge lizards." Owner Henry Lizardlover (yep, that's his real name) poses the pair in a reclining mini-couch.



LITCHFIELD PARK, ARIZONA

You'll never catch Jesse the Jack Russell terrier standing still—unless he's doing a handstand! "Jesse doesn't want to sleep—he wants to play," owner Heather Brook says. To help the pooch use up some of that extra energy, Brook taught Jesse basic tricks, then went for the ultimate to-do: a handstand. First, Brook encouraged Jesse to place his back paws on a wall. When Jesse held the handstand there, Brook rewarded him with his favorite squeeze toy and a chicken treat. Eventually, Jesse learned to kick off the ground directly into a handstand. But he doesn't just perform on command: "Jesse will do handstands if he has an audience," Brook says. "Especially if we have some food."



6

CAT PLAYS

PIANO



PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Cats are known for napping in sunny spots, but Nora the cat simply ignores the one atop the piano. Instead she sits on the bench and plays! "One day we heard notes coming from downstairs," says owner Betsy Alexander, a piano teacher. "When we went to investigate, Nora was sitting at the piano like one of my students, her paws on the keys." Alexander believes that Nora associated the piano with receiving attention after observing her owner praise students, and started banging away. "I really think Nora recognizes musical patterns," Alexander says. "But to her, the piano is a giant toy."