

The Pop Ups. Stay seated. Three, two, one, ignition. Get ready for an adventure of magnificent proportion.

The Pop Ups. (Singing.) I don't know what you've been told, but we're in a golden age - so many discoveries that are jumping off the page. Wow in the world. Wow in the world. Wow in the world. Wow in the world. Wow in the world. Wow in the world. Wow in the world. Wow in the world.

The Pop Ups. With Guy and Mindy. We're on our way, Houston.

Mindy Thomas. Okay, cave rockers! Let's take it from the top. Band practice has officially begun. Reggie, do you want to count us off?

Reggie. Coo coo coo!

(Loud cacophony of musical instruments.)

Mindy. (Singing.) My roses are dead and my violets are too! But there's one thing baby, I love bread. And also giraffes and sometimes cat food and...

Reggie. Coo.

Dennis. Reggie! You're not supposed to enter on vocals until bar three of verse seventeen!

Thomas Fingerling. And you're flat!

Reggie. Coo.

Mindy. Okay, cut! Take five everyone!

Dennis. Oh, whew!

Fingerling. Finally!

Dennis. My pan flute needs a rest.

(Soundbite of flute.)

Dennis. Oop, nevermind. Still good.

Reggie. Coo!

Mindy. What is it, Reggie?

Reggie. Coo. Coo coo, coo.

Mindy. Needs more seashell??

Reggie. Coo.

Mindy. How's a seashell going to help our band make a hit song!?

Reggie. Coo coo.

Mindy. Blow into it?!

Reggie. Coo.

Mindy. Like a horn?!

Reggie. Coo coo coo!

Mindy. A wind instrument?

Reggie. Coo.

Mindy. Wait. You say there's a scientific study on this?!

Reggie. Coo. Coo.

Mindy. Let me see that. (Reading.) Around eighteen thousand years ago...seashell found...cave in southern france...doot doot doot doot doo...used as musical instrument...what in the wow!?

(Soundbite of crash.)

Guy Raz. Mindy! Mindy! Reggie? You in there!?

Reggie. Coo!

Mindy. It's Guy Raz!

Dennis. Make sure he says the password!

Mindy. Hang on Guy Razy! I'll open the garage door for you!

(Soundbite of rumble.)

Guy. Oh hey, Mindy!

Reggie. Coo coo coo coo coo.

Dennis. Hi, Guy!

Fingerling. Hello there, Mr. Razy!

Grandma G-Force. Man, have we met before?

Guy. Whoa, what are all you doing in here?

G-Force. We're being held hostage!

Reggie. Coo!

Mindy. Oh, we're just having a little band practice. See, Reggie was just showing me this new scientific study about an eighteen thousand year old seashell that appears to have been used as some kind of musical instrument back in the day!

Fingerling. Wow.

Guy. Eighteen thousand years ago, huh? That would have been during the upper paleolithic era, I think!

Mindy. The paleolithic period was a period of human history where our ancient human relatives used to live in caves and simple huts...

Guy. Yeah, the paleolithic period is also known as the Stone Age. And that's because these early humans would use stone, and sometimes bones, to make simple tools.

Fingerling. Yeah and they were hunters and gatherers and only ate things like wooly mammoth and deer and bison and the occasional fruit and nut.

Dennis. And all the early humans did this?

Mindy and Guy. Yes!

Dennis. Well, see? That's a fad!

Reggie. Cool!

Dennis. Ok, ok, I'll drop the fad thing. But I still don't see why the paleolithic era was so great.

Guy. Dennis...the Paleolithic Period is amazing, because it's the first time that ancient humans began to leave behind art!

Mindy. That's true! They would create art using whatever they had around them...water, animal fats, tree sap, bones, clay, antlers...even blood!

Reggie. Cool!

Dennis. Ew.

Guy. And they would use these things to create small figurines, and cave paintings...

Mindy. Yeah! And according to this new study Reggie found, they would even create...musical instruments!

Reggie. Cool! Cool!

Guy. Musical instruments out of....eighteen thousand year old seashells!?

Mindy. Well, I mean they weren't eighteen thousand years old eighteen thousand years ago, but...yeah.

Dennis. Wow.

Mindy. According to this study, researchers first found this particular seashell back in 1931. It was found at the entrance to a cave in Southern France.

Reggie. Cool!

Guy. Mindy, 1931? That's like ninety years ago! I thought you said this was a new study!

Mindy. It is! See! Look at this! When the researchers found the shell, they brought it to a nearby natural history museum, and there it just sat around on a backroom shelf with a bunch of other old relics for the next eighty-five years.

Guy. So a discovery waiting inside of a museum to be discovered?!

Mindy. Exactoritos. But it says here, that in 2016, the wait was over! An archaeologist by the name of Carole Fritz, from the University of Toulouse in France, found the shell in the museum's archives and knew she had stumbled upon something special.

Guy. Woaaaah.

Reggie. Cooooooo!

Guy. Oh no, Mindy. You've got that look in your eye...

Mindy. Eeeeeeeee!

Dennis. What look?! Lemme see! Oh yeah, it's kinda playful and mischievous...Wait, Mindy, is your eye twitching?

Mindy. Yes!

Reggie. Cool!

Guy. (Groans.) Mindy...there is no way I am gonna help you steal an ancient musical seashell in a museum heist.

Dennis. (Gasp.) Museum heist!

Mindy. Museum heist?! What, no! I'm not planning to get the seashell out of the museum Guy Raz...they've got alarms in that place!

Guy. Whew!

Dennis. Aww...

Mindy. I'm planning to get it out of the hands of the ancient cave dweller who turned it into a musical instrument over seventeen thousand years ago! You know...get the cave person to uh...let us borrow it!

Dennis. Aw, Yeah!

Reggie. Cool!

Guy. Uh, Mindy...how are you going to...

Mindy. (Evil cackle.)

Dennis. Ooh! There's that twitchy eye again!

(Soundbite of creaking machinery.)

Reggie. Cool!

Mindy. Now hop on in! Come on, Reggie! Dennis! No time to wait, the clock is ticking! Opening the hatch...Guy Raz, what's the name of the cave location in the study?

Guy. Oh...let me check the study here...looks like it's the Marsoulas Cave, located in the foothills of the French Pyrenees Mountains.

Mindy. That one right there?

Guy. Uh...yup! Yup! It should be right there on the border between Southern France and Spain.

Mindy. Okay...French mountains...border of Spain and France....

Reggie. Cool!

Mindy. Here we...

Mindy and Guy. ...Gooooooooooooo!!

Dennis. Ahhhhh! Make it stop! Make it stop! Make it stop! Make it!

(Soundbite of time machine travel.)

Guy. Oof!

Mindy. Ah. Smooth landing.

Dennis. Ahh! Ahh! Ahh! Ahh!

Mindy. Dennis! Stop screaming! We're here!

Dennis. Ahhh!

Guy. Ready to open the hatch, mindy?

Mindy. Uh huh!

(Soundbite of hatch opening.)

Mindy. Thanks, buddy!

Mindy and Dennis and Guy. Woaaah / Wow!

Guy. Looks like we made it Mindy!

(Soundbite of running water.)

Guy. The stone age...

(Soundbite of animal sounds.)

Mindy. Wild wildebeests...wooly mammoths...and look! Some of our ancient human relatives!

Dennis. Ooh, relatives! Like a family reunion?

Reggie. Coo coo coo coo.

Dennis. Oh, you are right! I am underdressed. Look at those people, I've never seen so many fur coats in one place!

Guy. Those aren't fur coats, Dennis! Those are skins from animals they've had to hunt for food.

Dennis. Oh. Ew.

Mindy. Alright! Everthing's fine.

Reggie. Cool!

Mindy. Now, there's a fur cloak for you, Dennis.

Dennis. Ooooh!

Mindy. And a fur suit for you Guy Razzie...

Guy. Oooh.

Reggie. Cool!

Mindy. Well, what are we waiting for? Time to step out into the stone age!

Reggie. Cool cool!

Mindy. Walk walk walk walk...

Dennis. So, do you think we're really going to find that ancient musical seashell here?

(Soundbite of seashell horn.)

Guy. What?

Reggie. Cool!

Dennis. I said, do you really think we're going to find-

Guy. Shush!

(Soundbite of seashell horn.)

Dennis. (Whisper.) Oh, sorry.

Guy. (Loud whisper.) Mindy! Dennis! Reggie! Did you hear that?!

Reggie. Cool!

Dennis. Uhh...hear what?

(Soundbite of seashell horn.)

Dennis. Oh yeah, I heard that!

Reggie. Cooooo!

Guy. That horn sound! It's coming from the cave over there!

Mindy. Ahh, that must be the Marsoulas Cave! And that horn must be coming from the eighteen thousand year old seashell in that study! Come on everyone...let's follow the sound!

Dennis. Okay!

Reggie. Cooo!

Mindy. Walk walk walk walk walk walk...

Guy. So Mindy, what does the study say about the seashell?

Mindy. Well, at first, the researchers thought the shell must have been used as some sort of drinking vessel..

Dennis. Oh cool, an ancient water bottle!

Reggie. Coo!

Mindy. But upon closer inspection, after creating a three-dimensional digital model of the shell on a computer, they noticed something...unusual.

(Soundbite of computer noises.)

Guy and Dennis. Unusual?

Dennis. What was it?

Mindy. So first of all, part of the shell's outer edge had been chipped away and made smooth. And then they discovered that the pointy tip had been broken off. On purpose!

(Soundbite of shattering.)

Dennis. Gee-willikers!

Reggie. Coooo!

Guy. But isn't it possible that these things would happen naturally anyway, Mindy? I mean, this shell is over seventeen thousand years old...

Mindy. Well you might think! But then, they noticed some kind of brown gunk. Maybe leftover clay or beeswax, all around the rim of the broken off tip.

Dennis. Huh!

Guy. What about the inside of the shell, Mindy? Did they find anything suspicious in there?

Mindy. Actually, they did, Guy Raz. Dr Fritz and her team used a CT scan and a teeny tiny medical camera.

(Soundbite of electric whirring.)

Guy. Oh, you mean like what doctors use to examine the inside of a human body?

Mindy. Exactly!

Dennis. Yeesh!

Guy. And what did they find?!?

Mindy. Well, they found a hole...

Guy and Dennis. A hole?!

Mindy. A hole that was almost half an inch in diameter running from the tip of the shell through the inside center...

Guy. Just like you'd find in a musical horn!

Reggie. Cool!

Mindy. You know it! I mean, think about it. The smoothed outer edge of the shell would make it easier for an ancient human to hold...

Guy. Yeah! And the broken tip and hole running from it would make it easier to insert a mouthpiece.

Mindy. Yeah...the researchers thought the early human who made it may have stuck a hollowed bird bone into the opening to use as a mouthpiece to blow into!

(Soundbite of blowing through a mouthpiece.)

Guy Raz. Wow.

Reggie. Cool!

Mindy. And all of this combined led the researchers to conclude that this seashell had been purposely turned into a musical instrument!

(Soundbite of seashell horn.)

Dennis. Ahh! And that cave is like an ancient auditorium! Listen to those sweet acoustics!

(Soundbite of seashell horn.)

Reggie. Cool!

Mindy. Now before we make our move, let's hide behind this rock while we survey the scene.

Dennis. Okay.

Early Human. (Grunts.)

Guy. What's happening, Mindy?

Reggie. Cool!

Mindy. Ugh, I'm trying to see!

Dennis. Well, how about a trade?

Early Human. (Grunts.)

Mindy. Oh, It looks like Dennis is making some kind of a deal with the ancient human!

Reggie. Cool!

Dennis. Ok, I'll give you my fur cloak–

(Soundbite of squeaking and early humans awing.)

Dennis. And you give me your musical seashell horn!

Early human. (Grunts.)

Mindy. Ohhh! Dennis just traded his boo boo beanie bopper cloak for the seashell horn!

Dennis. Well, I better be going! Thanks a bunch!

Guy. What?! He's going to change the course of history with that thing!

Reggie. Cool!

Mindy. Ooh here he comes! Here he comes! Dennis! Dennis!

Dennis. Hiya, Mindy! I got the musical seashell horn thingy for the band.

Reggie. Coooo!

Mindy. Nice work, Dennis!

Dennis. Oh, no problem.

Guy. Alright everyone, let's get back to the wow machine!

Mindy. Yeah...come on everyone! We've got a band rehearsal to get to!
Run...run...run...run...run....run...run...

Guy. Mindy! Wait up!

Mindy. Okay! Opening the hatch!

(Soundbite of hatch opening.)

Mindy. Hop inside! Quick!

Reggie. Cool!

Dennis. I don't know what the rush is about. With this machine we literally have all the time in the universe!

Mindy. No time for that, Dennis!

Dennis. But it doesn't make any sen--

Guy. Closing the hatch!

Dennis. Ughh!

Mindy. Punching in the coordinates! Gingerbread mansion...present day...and here...we....gooo!

Guy. Gooo!

Dennis. Woah! Woah! Ahh! Make it stop! Make it stop! Make it!

(Soundbite of landing thump.)

Guy. Oof.

Mindy. Ahhh...home sweet gingerbread home!

Guy. Opening the hatch...

(Soundbite of hatch opening.)

Fingerling. Well, G-Force! Looks like snack time over.

G-Force. Where you clowns been?

Dennis. Oh, we just got back from the most amazing adventure! There were wooly mammoths and ancient cave people and...you were there! And you were there!

Fingerling. No we weren't!

G-Force. Okay, that's enough. Story time's over.

Reggie. Cooo.

Mindy. Alright everyone, we're gona take it from the top! Reggie?

Reggie. Cool!

Mindy. Here's your seashell horn...

Reggie. Cool!

Fingerling. Ohh...an ancient conch shell horn.

Mindy. Okay, from the top.

Reggie. Cool!

Mindy. (Singing.) My roses are dead and my violets are too, but there's one thing baby I love bread and also giraffes and sometimes catfood, and...

Reggie. Cool!

Guy. Cut!

Mindy. What?

Guy. This song needs more seashell!

G-Force. Did he say more cowbell?

Fingerling. Huh? Well that don't make no sense!

Guy. I gotta have more seashell!

Mindy. Okay, take three!

Reggie. Coo coo coo!

Mindy. (Singing.) My roses are dead...

(Soundbite of seashell horn.)

Mindy. (Singing.) But there's one thing...

(Soundbite of seashell horn.)

Mindy. (Singing.) And also giraffes! And sometimes, catfood!

(Soundbite of seashell horn.)