

The Quiz from the Other Side of the Pond

Little Guys – How'd They Do That?

1. How little is the Little Guys team?
 - Cindy and 10 full-time workers
 - Cindy alone
 - Cindy, her husband Joe and a talkative gray cat, along with three talented and fun-loving part-time workers, enjoying creative confusion in a dusty studio on nine acres of mountain pastureland. (This is the right answer today, but tomorrow ... ?)
2. How are Little Guys made?
 - Each little animal pops out of a mold, ready to go.
 - First, the wind and rain wear away the mountain rock, allowing the streams to pick up the dust and deposit it along the banks as clay. (Now this is more like it.) Then Cindy and Tom, who sometimes feel as old as clay, roll and pinch little balls of the stuff into whatever shape is needed. Tom adds the legs. Cindy draws in every face and gives each Little Guy its character. Heather and Ronda apply the colorful glazes to each Little Guy by hand painting or dipping. (They paint as many as 1,000 little eyes each week.)
3. Cindy twiddles together how many pieces of clay to make a Bikini Piggy?
 - 3
 - 5
 - 11 (You've got it! Your turn to kiss the pig!)
4. How many steps, on average, does it take to glaze a Little Guy?
 - 2
 - 4
 - 7

Answer: It takes seven steps to glaze a Bluebird, which is a pretty typical Little Guy.

 1. Glaze the eyes black. (This is Heather's job because she's the only one who can see the eyes.)
 2. Protect the eyes and bottom with a layer of wax.
 3. Paint the beak, feet and belly orange.
 4. Paint wax exactly over every little speck of orange glaze.
 5. Dip in blue glaze.
 6. Sponge leftover dots of blue from all of the waxed areas.
 7. Wipe the bottom so it doesn't stick to the kiln shelf.
5. How many bottoms need to be wiped each day?
 - 50 or so
 - About 120

You guessed it! It's 120!
6. How many pounds of elephants has Cindy made in 30 years?
 - 200
 - 500
 - Well over a ton (Documented by a 1995 study done in Cindy's daughter's 5th grade class.)
7. Which best-selling animal has been created in 22 different body styles and 44 different color combinations over Cindy's 30 years making Little Guys?
 - Cat
 - Cat
 - Cat
 - Cat
 - Cat
 - Cat
 - Cat
 - Cat
 - Cat
 - Cat
8. Who checks to make sure each finished Little Guy passes the personality test?
 - We take turns.
 - Cindy
 - The cat

The answer is Cindy, and she wants to know how the cat talked his way in.