

Boyfriend's 'chatty' habit makes girlfriend jealous



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

he flirts or says something that could be taken in a sexual way, and I worry that one of these women could take it like he's interested in her.

I don't want to break up with him. I love him. But I feel I have reason to be jealous. I wish I was the only girl for him. Please give me advice.

— **NOT NUMBER ONE IN PENNSYLVANIA**

DEAR NOT NUMBER ONE: If you have discussed this with him and it persists, listen to your intuition. If he loved you, he would not be chatting up other women. If a man makes you feel like you are not No. 1,

get rid of him before he destroys your self-esteem.

DEAR ABBY: We have a neighbor who likes to go out with us to the casinos, restaurants and various other places. This is doing her a favor, but she never contributes toward the transportation. When we go out with other couples, we alternate driving or help to pay for fuel. All we get from her is, "Thank you. Let me know when you're going next time."

I know she reads your column. I hope she reads this and realizes this sounds like her and takes the hint. What do you think is the best way to handle this situation?
— **ALWAYS THE TAXI**

DEAR ALWAYS: Your friend may be an avid "Dear Abby" reader, but what if — heaven forbid — she misses the column today and doesn't see your letter? The "best" way to handle this would be for you to take the bull by the horns and address the problem directly with her.

DEAR ABBY: My 4-year-old grandson, "Johnny," is obsessed with all things military. Everything he picks up is a pretend gun, sword or blaster. I know we played cowboys and Indians as kids, pointing sticks or our hands and shouting "Pow! You're dead!" and none of us turned into shooters. But today's cli-

mate is more violent. Johnny has already gotten into trouble at preschool for pointing and making shooting noises. Is there anything we can do to discourage this behavior? Does he need professional help? — **UNCLEAR IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR UNCLEAR: Because Johnny has gotten into trouble for pretending to play with guns, his parents should explain to him why it is not OK to do that at school. Unless there is something going on with your grandson that you omitted from your letter, he should not need professional intervention for acting like a normal boy.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Mars rebrands its female M&M's chocolate characters

Company ditches high heels for sneakers to make characters more representative of customers

By **DANIELLE WIENER-BRONNER**
CNN Business

McLEAN, Va. — M&M's branding is getting a refresh.

The candy's anthropomorphized chocolate characters are being made over, and the logo is also getting a tweak.

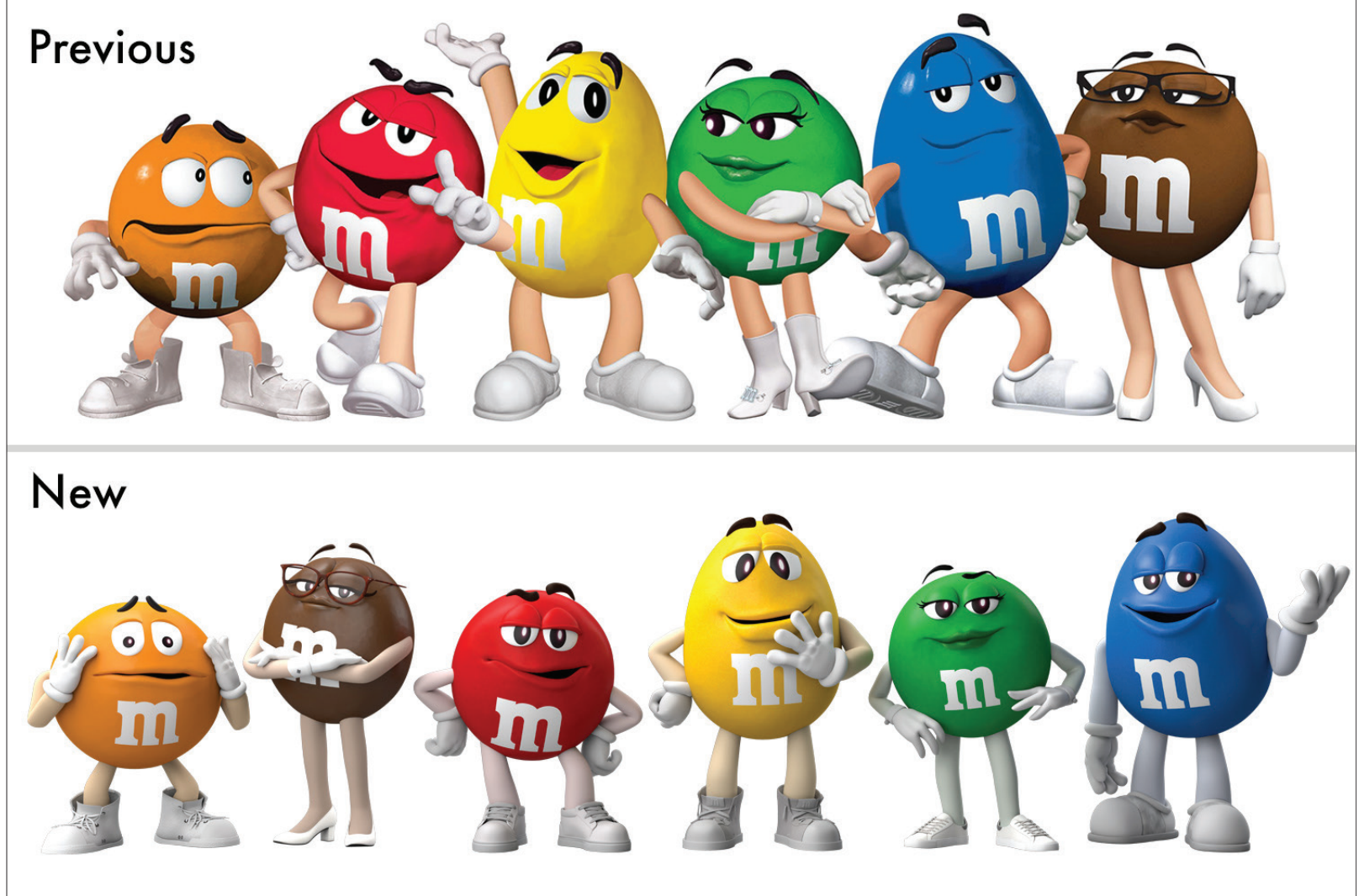
But the most noticeable change is to the six M&M characters: new shoes. Green has swapped her go-go boots for sneakers. Brown is sporting lower, more sensible heels. Red and Yellow's shoes now have laces. Orange's shoes laces are no longer untied. And Blue's shoes, while little changed, resemble what Anton Vincent, president of Mars Wrigley North America, described as "a bad version of Uggs."

Mars Wrigley, which owns M&M's, is trying to make the characters — particularly the female ones — more "current" and "representative of our consumer," Vincent said. The revamped footwear is "a subtle cue, but it's a cue people really pick up on," he added, noting that Mars gets a lot of feedback on the characters' shoes.

The logo adjustment is also slight: Instead of resting on its side, it's set up straight. The new orientation is designed to emphasize the ampersand. The logo was last tweaked in 2019.

The changes are rolling out online this week and they'll be incorporated into M&M's packaging and other marketing materials this year.

The changes may be subtle, but even small shifts can help



M&M's old logo and characters are shown on top, and the new versions below. The changes include new footwear for the six characters.

brands avoid falling out of fashion, said David Camp, co-founder and managing partner of Metaforce, a marketing company.

Better gender representation

M&M's were first sold in 1941, and the characters arrived on the scene in 1954. Old M&M's commercials starred Red and Yellow, representing regular and peanut M&M's. In the late 1990s, new characters were added to the mix. Brown, the most recent addition, joined

the crew in 2012. Over the years the brand has switched between highlighting its characters more heavily or less frequently, Vincent noted. Now, it's putting them front and center.

Currently, there are two female characters and four male ones. Adding another couple of female characters to balance out the ratio is possible, said Vincent, but there are "implications" for the product itself. Namely, M&M's would have to add new permanent colors to its mix.

The solution, then, was to give the female Green and Brown a promotion. They'll have more prominent placement in ads, with the aim of "a little bit more gender balance," said Vincent.

M&M's is using these changes to try to signal its brand identity to customers, who are increasingly drawn to brands they feel align with their own values. "It gives us a good platform to talk about the whole idea around belonging," Vincent said.

The company is also is

placing more "focus on the characters as it relates to the total brand, and then building ourselves a platform to be able to advocate and talk about this idea," he added.

Other brands have made adjustments to their logos or mascots to keep them up-to-date. One example is Quaker, which in 2012 altered the face of its mascot like a discreet plastic surgeon. Changes included "removing his double chin and smoothing the rolls and plumpness in his face and neck," The Wall Street Journal reported.

weather

	TONIGHT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
Partly cloudy	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Chilly with some sunshine	Clouds and sun; chilly	
Baker City	15 / 33	16 / 16	34 / 17	32 / 16	31 / 17
Comfort Index™	3	3	3	1	0
La Grande	21 / 38	23 / 23	41 / 19	35 / 20	34 / 23
Comfort Index™	5	3	5	3	3
Enterprise	21 / 44	26 / 26	41 / 20	39 / 21	34 / 24
Comfort Index™	6	6	4	4	3

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

ALMANAC

TEMPERATURES	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High Thursday	32°	40°	41°
Low Thursday	28°	31°	33°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	0.11	0.41	0.03
Month to date	0.38	1.24	3.06
Normal month to date	0.46	1.14	2.21
Year to date	0.38	1.24	3.06
Normal year to date	0.46	1.14	2.21

THURSDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
High: 82° Plant City, Fla.
Low: -34° Celina, Minn.
Wettest: 4.39" Hollywood, Fla.

OREGON
High: 61° Brookings
Low: 22° Lakeview
Wettest: 0.87" Meacham

WEATHER HISTORY

A record 17.4-inch snowfall on Jan. 22, 1902, in Buffalo, N.Y., was dwarfed by 30 inches in Philadelphia, Pa., on Jan. 8, 1996.

SUN & MOON

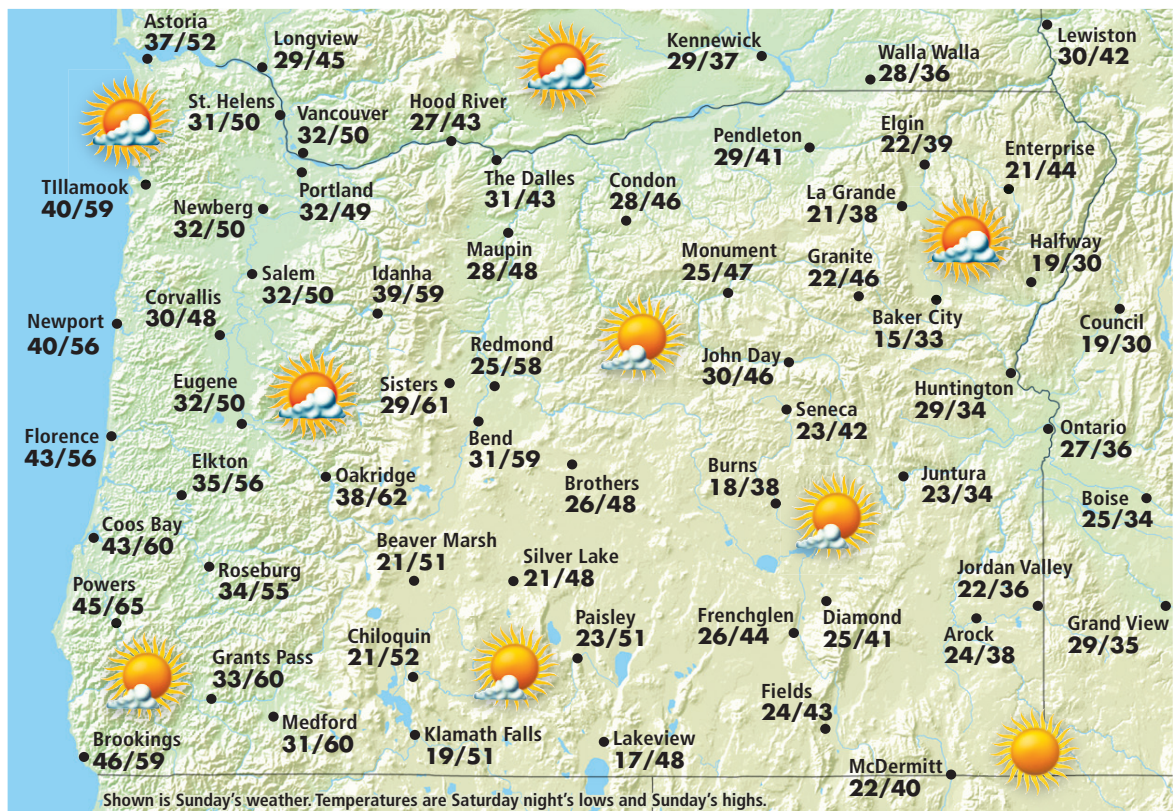
	SAT.	SUN.
Sunrise	7:23 a.m.	7:22 a.m.
Sunset	4:45 p.m.	4:46 p.m.
Moonrise	9:57 p.m.	11:08 p.m.
Moonset	10:03 a.m.	10:23 a.m.

MOON PHASES



AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2022



REGIONAL CITIES

City	SUN. HI/Lo/W	MON. HI/Lo/W	City	SUN. HI/Lo/W	MON. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	52/39/pc	50/38/pc	Lewiston	42/32/pc	43/28/pc
Bend	59/35/s	59/27/s	Longview	45/33/pc	48/31/pc
Boise	34/23/s	34/22/pc	Meacham	38/22/pc	40/17/pc
Brookings	59/42/s	58/43/pc	Medford	60/32/s	58/33/s
Burns	38/21/s	43/20/s	Newport	56/39/s	53/38/pc
Coos Bay	60/38/s	57/38/s	Olympia	49/33/pc	49/33/pc
Corvallis	48/32/s	49/33/pc	Ontario	36/26/pc	34/24/c
Council	30/15/pc	34/8/c	Pasco	39/30/c	40/29/c
Elgin	39/22/pc	40/18/c	Pendleton	41/29/pc	40/24/pc
Eugene	50/33/s	52/35/pc	Portland	49/35/pc	48/34/pc
Hermiston	40/30/c	41/24/pc	Powers	65/40/s	61/39/s
Hood River	43/32/pc	47/28/pc	Redmond	58/27/s	54/25/s
Imnaha	47/26/pc	44/21/pc	Roseburg	55/35/s	55/37/pc
John Day	46/34/s	43/29/s	Salem	50/34/s	49/34/pc
Joseph	45/32/pc	41/22/c	Spokane	34/27/pc	37/23/c
Kennewick	37/29/c	37/27/c	The Dalles	43/32/pc	46/29/pc
Klamath Falls	51/20/s	52/20/s	Ukiah	47/29/s	44/21/pc
Lakeview	48/19/s	47/17/s	Walla Walla	36/27/pc	36/27/pc

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

RECREATION FORECAST SUNDAY

Location	SUN. HI/Lo/W	MON. HI/Lo/W
ANTHONY LAKES	38 / 28	39 / 29
MT. EMILY REC.	38 / 26	38 / 23
EAGLE CAP WILD.	39 / 23	43 / 21
WALLOWA LAKE	45 / 32	45 / 31
THIEF VALLEY RES.	33 / 16	38 / 23
PHILLIPS LAKE	39 / 29	38 / 23
BROWNLEE RES.	38 / 23	43 / 21
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	43 / 21	45 / 31
MCKAY RESERVOIR	45 / 31	38 / 23
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	38 / 23	38 / 23