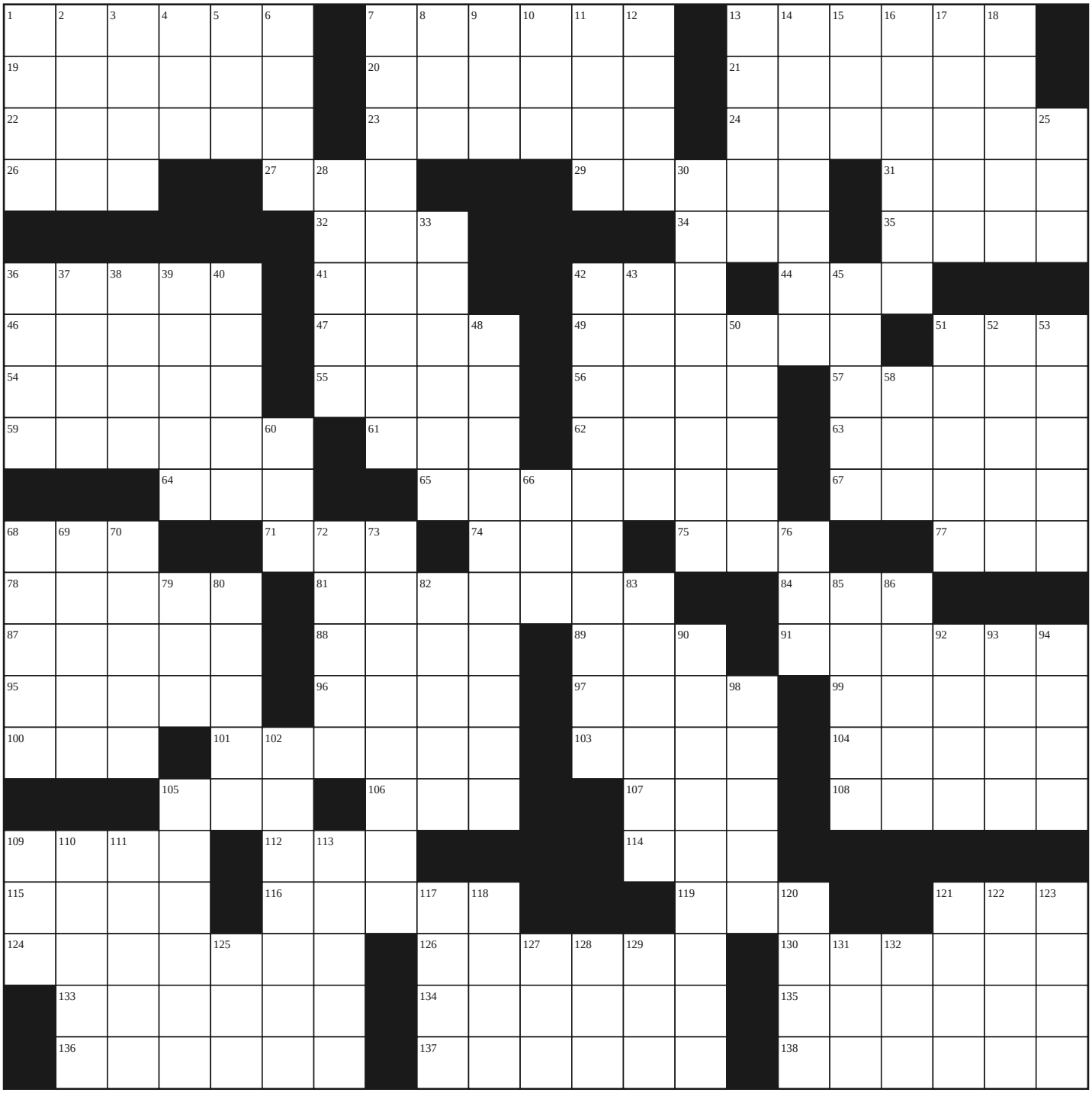
The one with the little one who needs a boost



Across

1. Pucker-up fruit that turns sweet and rosy when cooked into jelly
7. Little red fruit that gets the seat of honor on a sundae
13. Tropical fruit with a belly full of shiny black seeds
19. Open an envelope without leaving it closed for another minute
20. Relative who might spoil you with one more cookie
21. Left beyond repair

Down

1. Stop doing something for good
2. Keyboard command that gives your last mistake a second chance
3. "___ really that late?"
4. Prefix meaning new
5. Little recording device, for short
6. "What ___ is new?"

I'm Sarah. I have three boys who are too smart for their own good, and I wanted to share real crosswords with them: a pencil, a little spite, a grid that requires some sweat. Non-trivial means there's no obscure trivia in them. My boys might find out who Brian Eno and Yoko Ono are someday, but they won't need to know to solve these puzzles.

https://nontrivialcrosswords.com

New: the Nontrivial Crosswords paperback. 88 easy to hard puzzles, zero obscure trivia. 6×9, $9.99 on Amazon: https://a.co/d/08z8Uz11

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Across

22. Expressions you shouldn't take word for word
23. Share the same story with a brand-new audience
24. Frozen ridges that can keep melting snow from draining off a roof
26. Little one who might still need a booster seat
27. Prefix for a planet-friendly choice
29. Choose by casting ballots
31. Great Lake with Buffalo on its shore
32. Work a sore shoulder with your hand
34. "Just so you know," in a message: Abbr.
35. Put chips in before the cards are dealt
36. Sends flakes drifting down from the sky
41. Put to work
42. Not quite right
44. Have a claim to, as your very personal property
46. Italian island in the Bay of Naples
47. Turn a snowman into a puddle
49. California city in the San Joaquin Valley
51. Make two and three become five
54. Had dinner without going out
55. How a day with nothing fun to do might feel
56. Something you can check instead of just believe
57. Person pulling an oar to move a boat
59. Art of growing a tree small enough for a tabletop
61. Polite way to address a gentleman
62. One mouthful of an apple
63. Follow a drawing's lines through a sheet of thin paper
64. Repeated little muscle twitch
65. Storyteller who keeps listeners delightfully entertained
67. Long sandwiches stuffed with plenty of fillings
68. Little program that can give your phone a new trick
71. Port for many a thumb drive
74. Long fish that seems to have borrowed a snake's shape
75. Genetic material with a famous double-helix shape
77. People who might check your heartbeat: Abbr.
78. Parts of your shoes that meet the sidewalk
81. Small science workspace with room for a few experiments
84. Edge of a drinking glass
87. Soft edible part inside a peach
88. Related in some way
89. French word for a name
91. Open public squares where people can gather
95. Forest animal with striped legs and a giraffe for a relative
96. Nevada city near Lake Tahoe
97. Fastener that keeps a stack of papers together
99. Stage work in which the story is sung
100. "Totally awesome!" in slang
101. Narrow strip of wood used to fasten boards together
103. Make a design by scratching a surface
104. Tiny finishing stroke on a printed letter
105. Sticky black paving material
106. Anger, in a very short word
107. Stretch of history with its own character
108. Wear away slowly, as a riverbank might
109. Low voice in a choir

Down

7. Rides where the horses never get tired of going in circles
8. Shade on a paint sample
9. Doctor who might investigate a stuffy nose: Abbr.
10. Way there, on a road map: Abbr.
11. Get someone all worked up
12. Use your outdoor voice at maximum volume
13. Costing more allowance money than you'd like
14. Sale where raised hands can raise the price
15. Dessert with a crust and something delicious tucked inside
16. From the mountains along western South America
17. Want something with all your heart
18. Let someone come inside
25. Take in with the eyes
28. Tiny bit of evidence left by a cookie eater
30. Brought about a change
33. Los Angeles neighborhood whose name means "beautiful air" in French
36. Crust that forms while a scraped knee heals
37. International alliance whose name begins with North Atlantic: Abbr.
38. Ready to welcome customers
39. Joint just below a watchband
40. Peninsula between the two northern arms of the Red Sea
42. Not quite steady on your feet
43. Easily broken or damaged
45. Value of something you might trade
48. Combining a trio of functions in a single gadget
50. Back end of a boat
51. Grant, as a scholarship
52. Furnishings that give a room its own personality
53. Put on clothes for the day
58. Rock mined for useful metal
60. Hospital area for very close monitoring: Abbr.
66. Wobbly substance that holds its shape
68. "Concerning that other matter ..."
69. Lively dance that gives dots a familiar partner
70. Ask with all the feeling you can muster
72. Quick to understand a tricky idea
73. Rubber ring a cyclist hopes never goes flat
76. High European peak
79. Supposed power to read minds: Abbr.
80. ___ inu (Japanese dog breed)
82. One less than ten, over a pilot's radio
83. Fastened with a threaded metal pin
85. "Looks like you beat me!"
86. Material that starts flat and can become an origami crane
90. Very brief little dozes
92. Number of cookies left after the last one is eaten
93. Too dry for many plants to thrive
94. Secure from danger
98. One stage of a project
102. Horse breed known for endurance and a high-held tail
105. Drum that supplies a deep beat
109. Commercial messages that interrupt your show
110. From right around here
111. Collection of treasures waiting to be found

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112. Schedule abbreviation opposite dep.
114. Number after uno
115. Campus building with beds upstairs
116. Tree with smooth gray bark and edible nuts
119. Mesh stretched across a tennis court
121. Sunscreen rating: Abbr.
124. Small, short-legged terrier with a shaggy beard
126. A whole lot of excited fuss
130. African country whose capital is Luanda
133. Open declaration of what one believes
134. Find out what's hiding under the birthday paper
135. Excuse used to dodge a responsibility
136. Yellow fruits that turn a pitcher of water into a summer stand's best seller
137. Fruits you might knock on before inviting them to a picnic
138. Citrus fruit that comes with its own peel-off wrapper

Down

113. Spools that keep fishing line from becoming one big tangle
117. Friend who knows your favorite jokes
118. Make a skill sharper with practice
120. Folded shell with a filling that might tumble onto your plate
121. Before very much longer
122. Connector that finds a home in an outlet
123. What seems destined to happen
125. Number needed to make a pair
127. Bird that can turn its head a remarkable distance
128. Expert who gets paid for the job
129. Computer network within one building: Abbr.
131. Partner of neither
132. School average made from letter grades: Abbr.

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