

### A tree speaks

Hi! I am a mango tree. I am a special tree, that's because mangoes are grown on me. I am especially grown in gardens. I need soil, water, minerals, sunlight and carbon dioxide to grow.

The gas, carbon dioxide is very useful for me because it helps to make food for me. There are friends all around me. Squirrels and birds get together on me and eat the mangoes. I'm producing mangoes called *gira amba*. Usually squirrels don't let me produce mangoes. They eat the flowers which produce mangoes. Also when it's windy, it's

miserable because other tree branches fall on me and I get injured. I'm growing in a garden. After I produce mangoes people pluck them and sell them.

Also I can produce paper and wood for firewood too. I am tall.

Birds and squirrels go all around my branches. I give shade too and the ants crawl all over me. And there's a swing on me and Jina, in her free time, she reads books on the swing and it gives me great pain too. When I grow and branches appear, lumberjacks cut me off and it's miserable. And there's a squirrel

nest on me. Squirrels run all over me and eat my mangoes. And I know a squirrel who comes to me and removes part of my bark and it's so painful.

But in the evening birds wash themselves. I'm proud to be a mango tree. Also my friends and I are the last ones to salute the sun beams and in the morning we are the first to see the sun. I like to be a mango tree because people can take good use of me. And it's peaceful at night.

**Sachini Guruge  
(10 years)  
Ecole International,  
Digana**

### Flowers

Flowers, flowers, colourful always.  
Red, blue, pink,  
Make me happy and think.

Thousands of petals  
Blooming always,  
Roses, jasmines, orchids,  
Make full bouquets.

Butterflies, bees  
Buzzing and flying  
to take nectar,  
From these lovely flowers.

**Gathmini Vithanage  
(Grade 5)  
Leeds International  
School, Galle**

### Computers – the wonder machine

Computers are machines that can handle information according to sets of instructions.

It is an electronic device that can do calculations millions of times faster than the human brain. Charles Babbage designed the first mechanical computer in 1834. The first computer took up a whole room, but by the 1960's electronic components had become much smaller and computers began to shrink in size. Portable laptop computers became available in the 1980's.

All computers use a language called the bina-

ry system. Binary numbers are entirely made up of the digits 0 and 1.

In the car industry, computers are used to design a vehicle and then build it with the use of robots. We can use computers to connect people and places all over the world.

The internet links computers in the world, allowing messages and information to be sent across the globe in a matter of seconds.

**Shamindri  
Jayawarna (11 years)  
Colombo  
International School,  
Kandy**

### My house

My house is in the sixth mile post. It is very big and beautiful. It has three bedrooms, a kitchen, a study room, a living room and a big garden and bathrooms. My favourite place is the garden. I like to keep my house clean.

My house is very sweet.

**Ashker Ali (12 years)  
Azhar College, Kandy**



### My teacher



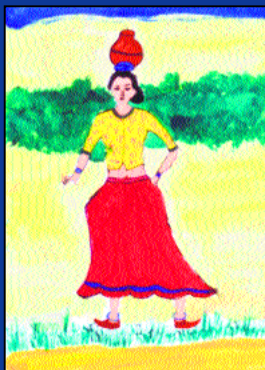
**Chamod Kodithuwakku  
(Grade 2)  
Sirimavo Bandaranayake M. P. S.,  
Matale**

### Beauty of nature



**Rakitha Rukshan  
(Grade 3)  
Royal International School,  
Kegalle**

### A woman with a pot



**Farlah Faiz (14 years)  
Al-Imran International School,  
Kandy**

### My family



**Dulshara Ganegoda  
(5+ years)  
Montessori House of Children,  
Kurunegala**

## The elephant

The elephant is the largest land animal of all animals living. It is a strange looking animal with its thick legs, huge sides and back, large hanging ears, a small tail, little eyes, long white tusks and above all, its long nose, called the trunk.

The trunk is the elephant's peculiar feature, and it puts it into various uses. It draws up water by its trunk, and can squirt water all over its

body like a shower bath and with it, picks leaves from the trees and puts them into its mouth. In fact, its trunk serves as a long arm and hand. Elephants look very clumsy and heavy and yet they can move very quickly when they want to.

Elephants are found in India and in Africa. The African elephant differs in some points from the Indian elephant. It is larger, with longer tusks and

bigger ears. The two are considered to be different species. In both countries they live in herds in the jungles and are naturally shy animals that keep away from humans.

Elephants with their great size and strength are a good advertisement for they live entirely on the leaves of trees, grass, roots and bulbs.

The elephant is



a very intelligent animal and its intelligence combined with its great strength makes it, when tamed, a very useful servant to man and it has been trained to serve in various ways.

**Minra Maneer  
(11 years)  
Thihariya  
Islamic  
International  
School**

A waterfall



**Sithija Dilanka  
(Grade 5)  
Nilwala M. P. S., Matara**

Design



**Krishani Fernando  
(13 years)  
Vislon International School, Kandy**

### Note

Please ensure that all articles, poems and pictures sent for publication are certified by a parent or teacher as your own original work. We have found that some articles and poems sent to us have been copied from the work published by others.

## A Poem for the Week

Create your own little poem and send it in to us. This competition is open to age groups from 4 - 14 years. The poems will be judged according to the age of the competitor.

**Please remember that the poems you send should be your own original composition and not copied from anyone or anywhere.** Entries should be in your own handwriting and clearly certified as your own creation by a teacher or parent.

**Word limit: 100 words**

**Please write 'A POEM FOR THE WEEK' at the top of your entry.**

**The winner will receive a book voucher for Rs.500.**

## Mathematics

Add, subtract, divide, multiply, Are the only things to try. We can also simplify. That's not all, so I can't verify.

Addition uncle is simple One and one are two for example. The above sample, Is a basic principle.

Subtraction uncle is not the same, So be sure of his name. After you learn, it's like a game. If you lose, there is nothing to be ashamed.

Next we divide, From side to side. We must remember when we divide, That the answer is not very wide.

Last of all we multiply, This makes me cry. I don't know why, It's difficult even if I try.

**Lakshi Conrad  
(11 years)  
Good Shepherd Convent,  
Kandy**