

the  
**SUNDAY  
TIMES**

SUNDAY  
MARCH 21, 2021

# FUNDAY TIMES



**Learning Outdoors**

Pic. by Hiran Priyankara Jayasinghe



**KIDS NEWS**  
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**WATER**  
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**KIDS'**  
**WORLD**

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**Please send competition entries to:**

**Funday Times**  
C/O the Sunday Times  
P.O. Box 1136, Colombo.  
Or  
8, Hunupitiya Cross Road,  
Colombo 2.

**Please note that competition entries (except Reeves Art) are accepted by email.**

**Please write the name of the competition and the date clearly at the top of your entry and include the following details:**

Full Name (including Surname).  
Date of Birth, Address,  
Telephone No. and School.

Please underline the name most commonly used.

**All competition entries should be certified by a parent or guardian as your own work.**

Competition entries without the full details requested above, will be disqualified.

**Closing date for weekly competitions:**

**April 7, 2021**

**Telephone: 2479337/2479333**

**Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com**

## Book Competition

**9 years and below**

*My favourite song and why I like it*

**Elisha Nethaly**

Highlands College, Maharagama



**10 – 12 years**

*A famous woman scientist or inventor you admire*

**Nadithi Kulasekera**

Ladies' College, Colombo

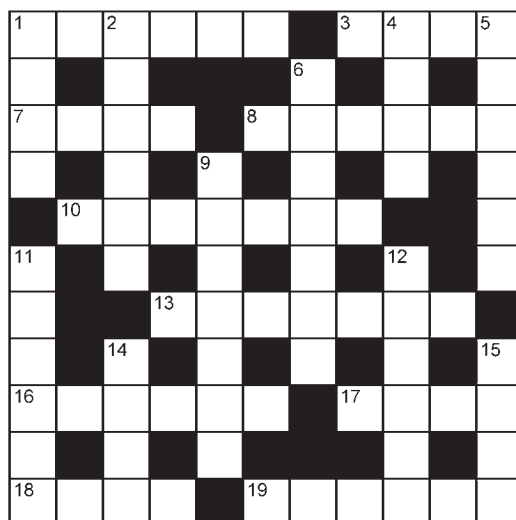
**13 – 15 years**

*What you know about Valentine's Day*

**Saudha Rishard**

Benhill College, Gampola

## Junior Crossword – No. 957



### Across

- 1 Chatted
- 3 Restaurant cook
- 7 An apple's centre
- 8 A light wind
- 10 Sleep in this room
- 13 Shrieks
- 16 Rubbed out
- 17 As well
- 18 Went away
- 19 Didn't go away

### Down

- 1 A small sharp nail
- 2 Bigger
- 4 Part of your foot
- 5 A European language
- 6 Not straight
- 9 A chirping insect
- 11 Sick
- 12 Stinky
- 14 Fifty percent
- 15 A precious metal



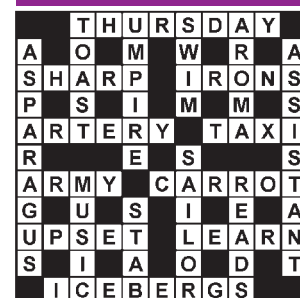
Please enter your full name,  
date of birth, home address,  
mobile number and school.

**All entries must be certified by a teacher or parent as your own work.**



**Randesh Perera,**  
Nugegoda

## Solution - No. 955



## Sudoku

**319**

1. In the large square you can see three features:

### Vertical columns

Six vertical columns with six small squares in each column.

### Horizontal columns

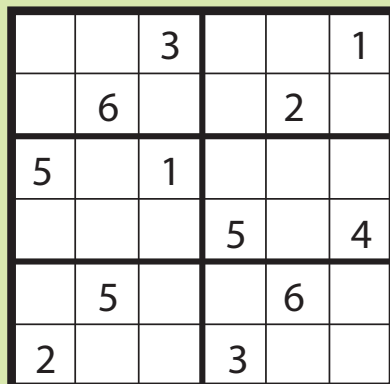
Six horizontal columns with six small squares in each of them.

### Grids

Six boxes or grids with six small squares in each of them.

## Solution – No. 317

4	2	5	3	6	1
3	6	1	5	4	2
1	3	4	6	2	5
2	5	6	4	1	3
6	1	3	2	5	4
5	4	2	1	3	6



**Compiled by Peter Fernando**

Now try to complete Junior Sudoku 319 using logic and reasoning. This is a good exercise for your mind.



**Ruzaik Junkeer**  
10 years on March 26



**Ilfa Ihsan**  
6 years on March 22



**Nishadh A. Nihad**  
10 years on March 21



**Alyssa Juriansz**  
5 years on March 20



March 17

## News in Pictures



**London, UK**

The Irish Guards' mascot, an Irish wolfhound named Turlough Mor, with his handler drummer Adam Walsh at Wellington barracks, before being presented with his shamrock for the regiment's St. Patrick's Day celebrations.



**The Hague, Netherlands**

The Dutch Prime Minister, Mark Rutte, arrives to cast his vote general election in the 2021.



**Chalfont St Giles, UK**

Kimberley Seaward cleans a forge, before the reopening of Chiltern Open Air Museum. The museum is home to buildings donated from all over Buckinghamshire that are moved brick by brick to the site.



**Berlin, Germany**

A police officer climbs through a window on to a balcony of the agriculture ministry to get to Greenpeace activists who are protesting about the damage caused to bees by industrialised farming.



**Qingdao, China**

Fishers transport starfish caught as part of emergency measures issued by authorities, after large numbers in the sea affected shellfish farmers who were unable to release their seedlings.



Source : The Guardian

## Frozen Treats At Café Kai, Hilton Colombo

In addition to the delectable cakes, chocolates and savouries, frozen treats will be the highlight at Café Kai from March 22 – 31, 2021. The chefs will be scooping out delicious flavours to sculpt elaborate Sundaes.

Indulge in a variety of delicious flavours from Isle of Gelato combined with fresh home-made pancakes, waffles and yummy toppings.

Furthermore, a delightful treat for ice cream lovers to indulge in will be the giant sink filled with scoops of ice cream and an assortment of various toppings, enough for a bunch of friends or family to share.

The promotion will be available at Café Kai from 11 a.m., until 10 p.m.

For more information, please call the F&B Reservations Desk on 2492492 or visit [www.hiltoncolombo.lk](http://www.hiltoncolombo.lk) and FB/Hilton Colombo.







## New Year Cover 2021

As the Sinhala and Tamil New Year approaches, it is time once again to think of the Funday Times New Year Cover.

Would you like to send in a picture for our New Year cover? If so, here's what you have to do.

Paint a picture to depict the traditions of the Sinhala and Tamil New Year and send it in to us.

**The painting should be on A 4 size paper.**

**You could use any type of paint, crayons or chalk.**

**Please make your picture bright and colourful.**

**All entries should be certified by a teacher or parent as your own work. Uncertified entries will not be entertained.**

The best entry will be used for the cover of the Funday Times New Year issue.

The winner will also receive a book voucher.

Wish you all happy painting!

**Closing Date : April 5, 2021**



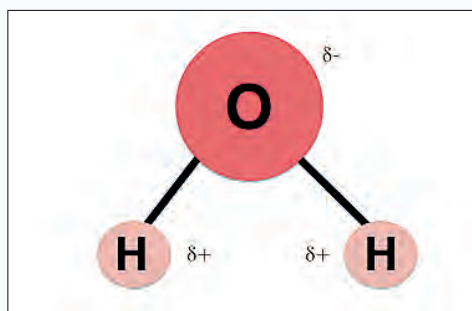
## That all important - Water

All of us are quite familiar with water. Most of us take it for granted and do not even care about it, which is bad. We cannot live without water.

As you know, at room temperature, water is a colourless, odourless, transparent liquid which can flow freely. It is one of the most common liquids, being the main constituent of the earth's hydrosphere. It is vital for all known forms of life, even though it provides no calories or organic nutrients. Body fluids of practically all living organisms are made up of water.

Water is a substance composed of the chemical elements hydrogen and oxygen and has the formula  $H_2O$ . Depending on the temperature, it can exist as solid (ice), liquid (normal water) or gas (steam or water vapour). It has the ability to dissolve many substances like salt, sugar, certain paints etc.

Without water in our bodies, we cannot survive. This wonderful liquid is involved in almost every body function – from digestion and circulation through to the control of body temperature and excretion of metabolic waste as urine.



Structure of a water molecule

The water in our bodies is continually being used by the body cells, or is lost from the body as sweat, urine etc.

As you know, we cannot cook, bathe, wash or do any real cleaning without water. Our main sources of this liquid for drinking, washing, agriculture and most industries are surface water, ground water and collected rain water. All of these are dependent on rain and snow falling on the earth's surface.

Where do we find this wonderful liquid? The answer is in the lakes, seas, oceans, waterfalls, rivers and streams. Do you know that one quality of water saves the lives of aquatic creatures during very cold seasons?

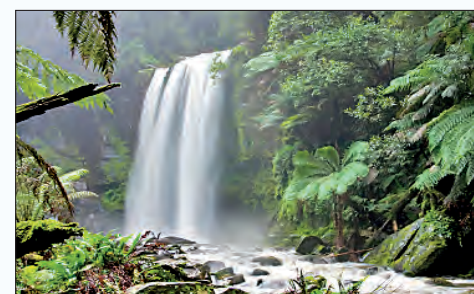
At temperatures below the freezing point of water, ice is formed in rivers, seas etc. But the density of ice is lower than that of liquid water, and water is most dense at  $4^{\circ}C$ . So, when the surface water cools, it gets dense and goes down and the warmer water comes up and gets cooled. This goes on till all the water is at  $4^{\circ}C$ . Any more cooling will result in ice forming only at the surface. So, aquatic animals can live at the bottom in the liquid water.

Precipitation is any form of water that falls from clouds in the sky. It may be rain (liquid) if warm, or it may be frozen (ice) if very cold. But most of us get our supply of this liquid directly from the tap.

Do you know that although water covers about 70% of the earth's surface, it is actually a rare substance that represents about 0.05% of the total mass.



DIFFERENT  
SOURCES OF  
WATER



Waterfall



Tap water

Why so rare? Because most of it is trapped in glaciers, or in the very depths under the bedrock and hence, cannot be easily obtained in large quantities as and when required.

So remember, clean water is a very precious commodity and is not a thing to be wasted!

– Kanthi Goonawardane

## The Diamond-Water Paradox

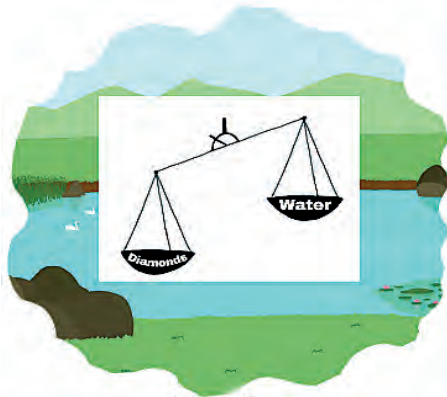
The general notion is that the higher the value of something is, the higher its price must be. Why then is the price of water only a tiny fraction of that of a diamond? Humans cannot survive for more than three days without water, but can live a lifetime without ever needing a diamond.

This strange contradiction is what's known as the diamond-water paradox or paradox of value. Over the centuries, there have been a great many explanations, but the most widely accepted and recent one is that the value of any object is subjective (based on or influenced by personal feelings, tastes or opinions) and dependent on the availability of that object.

If, for example, a person who has been lost in the desert for days, without anything to drink, is offered the choice between a bottle of water and a diamond, they will undoubtedly choose the water. If the offer is repeated, they will keep choosing the water, until their thirst is quenched, and begin choosing the diamond from then onwards. After each drink of water, the dehydrated person will value

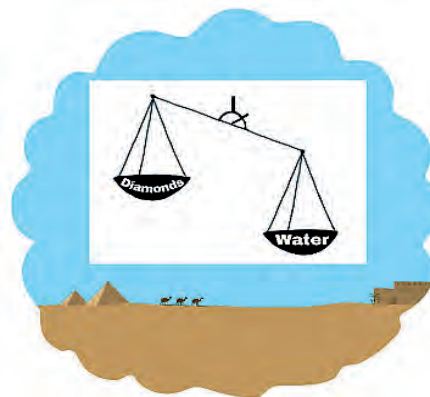
### The value of diamonds and water

When water is abundant



vs.

When water is scarce



the next one even less, until they might simply feel nauseous at the thought of even drinking anymore.

In economics, this is known as the law of diminishing marginal utility – with every extra unit gained, the lesser the increase in satisfaction (or, in economic terms, utility) a person gets from it.

Since most people on the planet have access to water, while diamonds are not as easy to come across, the latter is valued more. A similar case is the historical value of gold and aluminium: before the 1890s, the price of aluminium exceeded that of gold, because it was difficult to refine, and therefore, very rare. Once the process for industrial smelting was developed and

aluminium was mass-produced, the price fell and it was used widely for everyday items. Therefore, the value of things is defined more by its rarity, than its usefulness.

This theory applies to not only the value of goods, but the more intangible aspects of life as well (such as education, jobs and relationships).

The frequent use of the phrase 'take for granted' is proof, for example, that people often under-value what they have or can easily have, while over-valuing what they do not have or would be difficult to have.

**Text and Illustrations**  
by Cecilia Hewavitharana



**Age:** 9 years and below

**Word Count:** 150

**Topic:** Why water is important

**Win:** Puzzle for the Secret Seven by Enid Blyton



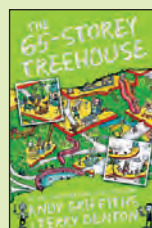
The Seven see a home going up in flames and are determined to help the family who lived there. But the fire is not the only surprising event. Soon a very valuable violin is stolen. Could the two incidents be connected? The friends mean to use all their detective skills to find out.

**Age:** 10 – 12 years

**Word Count:** 150 – 200

**Topic:** Protecting our forests

**Win:** The 65-Storey Treehouse by Andy Griffiths & Terry Denton



Andy and Terry's amazing 65-Storey Treehouse now has a pet-grooming salon, a birthday room where it's always your birthday (even when it's not), a room full of exploding eyeballs, a lollipop shop, a quicksand pit, an ant farm, a time machine and Tree-NN: a 24-hour-a-day TV news centre keeping you up to date with all the latest treehouse news, current events and gossip. Well, what are you waiting for? Come on up!

**Write at the top of your Essay**

■ Book Competition ■ Essay Topic

**Age:** 13 – 15 years

**Word Count:** 200 – 250

**Topic:** My favourite poet

**Win:** Les Miserables by Victor Hugo



Victor Hugo's tale of injustice, heroism and love follows the fortunes of Jean Valjean, an escaped convict determined to put his criminal past behind him.

But his attempts to become a respected member of the community are constantly put under threat: by his own conscience, when, owing to a case of mistaken identity, another man is arrested in his place; and by the relentless investigations of the dogged policeman Javert.



## My favourite flower

My favourite flower is a beautiful rose. Some are pink and some are white. All are very nice.



The red colour rose is my favourite rose. The leaves are spiky and so is the stem.

**Senuri Gunawardana (Grade 2)**  
Methodist College, Colombo

## Kandy

I like to visit Kandy. My grandparents' house is in Kandy. I like to swing in the garden. I play with my cousins.

Kandy is a beautiful city.

**Vinuga Ratnayake (Grade 1)**  
Lyceum Int. School, Nugegoda

## The book I like most

When we read a book, we travel across the world and visit with our imagination without moving from our places. This is the main reason why I enjoy reading books.

I have read several books but the book that will always be my favourite is 'Harry Potter'. I have read all the books of this series. This series of books have been authored by J. K. Rowling.

My favourite book from the series is 'The Prisoner of Azkaban'. When reading this book, it caught my attention instantly. None of the other books caught my attention as this one did. It is a bit dark and adventurous. This book also contains some of my favourite characters.

Even though the books are about the world of wizards and magic, it has taught me the value of friendship. I have read many books but never come across a friendship like Harry, Hermione and Ron. Besides it has taught me that no one is perfect. Everyone has good and evil inside them. This has helped me in becoming a better human being.

These are some essential things that I learned from the Harry Potter books. Therefore, 'The Prisoner of Azkaban' remains my favourite book.

**Aaminah Azmi (13 years)**  
St. Paul's Girls' School, Milagiriya

Please remember that **ARTICLES, POEMS and PAINTINGS** sent, will not be published unless they are certified as your own work by a parent or teacher. Also please mention the topic, your full name, date of birth and address in your entry. Articles should not exceed 200 words. Art should be on A4 size paper. Remember to write the date that you send your entries.



## My Primary Headmistress

My Primary Headmistress is Ms. Rochelle Tissaratchy.

She is the Primary Headmistress of Bishop's College.

Raining or not, no matter what, she always tells us to smile.



On every time and every day she always smiles and talks

Challenging challenges when we face, she says, try, try and try again.

Happy with us all the time, there's so much

Energy and 100% power in her body.

With her

Love and kindness she corrects us.

We all love

Listening to her stories and poems.

We will surely

Enjoy them, while she is still there in our school!

**Rasula Palliyaguruge (10 years)**  
Gateway College, Colombo

## My favourite hobbies

I have several hobbies. They are music, swimming, drawing and collecting key chains. But there is one in particular that I like and that is collecting stamps.

I like collecting stamps because it makes me excited. When I saw my mother's gigantic stamp collection, I got inspired to collect stamps too. My friend in England, Isla and my lovely family, help me collect stamps and that makes me very pleased. Now I have 38 unique and interesting types of stamps. In total, I have 58 stamps.

I started collecting stamps in a little brown envelope. Then my mother bought me a purple, tiny stamp album. When collecting stamps, you don't know if you might find a new kind of stamp. But sometimes you aren't very lucky. My three favourite stamps are of Hulk, Doctor Strange and Captain Britain.

This is my favourite hobby.

**Vethmi Senanayake (10 years)**  
Musaeus College, Colombo

## Zoom class



**Ehsan Fazal (10 years)**  
Dehiwala

## Ponies



**Mumudi Gajadeera (7 years)**  
Horizon College Int., Malabe

## Flight show



**Ruzaiq Junkeer (10 years)**  
Carey College, Colombo 8

## King Dutugemunu



**Gagana Anuhas (9 years)**  
Sheffield Int. School, Kotte



Beautiful girl playing violin  
in the moonlight



**Lisha Vinayah (15 years)**  
Highlands College, Hatton

Sunset



**Hirudini Konara (9 years)**  
Ferguson High School, Ratnapura

Hobbies



**Nizla Izzath (12 years)**  
Dehianga Al-Azhar C. C.

My home



**S. Maduhbashini**  
Pakkiyam National College, Matale

## Zoom vs Covid

Zoom is an app for online sessions, for example as classes, meetings, workshops etc. It is most useful for online education in this era. Students can study at home.

Covid is a dangerous virus that started to spread in China (Wuhan) in 2019. Then this virus spread all over the world, and almost all countries in the world were stuck for days and months. In this case, workers couldn't go to work, students couldn't go to schools etc. That's why everyone started to switch to online education.

Advantages of Zoom are, we can study at home easily, can share the screen, audio and text chat also and students are able to work in groups. Around 300 students can study and work clearly at one time.

It has some disadvantages. Zoom could be quite difficult for new users to handle. Sometimes the videos can be blurry and audios can be noisy and low quality as well. Children are stressed by sitting for long periods of time in one place and looking at the screen.

Finally I can only wish a world again with live schools not virtual education.

**Nithya Fernando (9 years)**  
St. Nicholas' Int. School, Negombo

## Water is a gift

Water is a gift from Mother Nature. We get water from rivers, streams, tanks, wells and taps. Water is useful. We use water to drink, cook, wash things, bathe, water the plants and do many other things.

We cannot live without water. So we have to use water very carefully. Do not waste water.

**Rehan Amarasekera (Grade 4)**  
De Mazenod College, Kandana

## Myself

My name is Harini Andrea.  
I am five years old. I live in Hapugoda  
My school is Guiding Steps  
Montessori School, Welisara.  
I am a good girl.

**Harini Andria (5 years)**  
Guiding Steps Montessori, Welisara

## The fascination of gems

For thousands of years people have worn gems. Gems were bought and sold in ancient Babylon some four thousand years ago. The ancient Egyptians sent expeditions to nearby lands to get gems and skillfully worked them into intricate settings. Strings of beads have been found in the graves of prehistoric people.

Gems have always been wanted because they are beautiful, rare and precious. From the earliest times, man has been fascinated by gems and precious stones. Often he has attached a mystic significance to them. Superstitions made early people believe that gems made the wearers strong and brave, that they bring good health and fortune and protect them from danger and evil.

Most precious stones have been given some mystic property over the centuries stemming from the assumption that the planets, which are the main influence in astrology, also influence certain stones

Even in this enlightened age, we speak of lucky and unlucky stones and accept that everyone has a birth sign with a stone to go with it. Medieval people also believed that the planets influenced certain precious stones. Thus each of the twelve birth signs of the zodiac became linked to one or more precious stones. The idea of birth stones came from these superstitions. Each month was given a stone.

**Lisha Vinayah (15 years)**  
Highlands College, Hatton



## Tomahawk

Quiz  
No.181

Questions for the Tomahawk Quiz No. 181 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times of February 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2021. All you have to do is to find the answers to the questions given. Write the answers neatly on a postcard. Cut the strip 'Tomahawk Quiz No. 181' seen at the top of this page and paste it on your postcard. Please get your entries certified as your own work by a teacher or parent.

Two lucky winners  
will receive brand new  
**Tomahawk Mountain Bikes**  
with the compliments of  
**Tomahawk Bicycle Mall**

All Funday Times readers between 8 – 15 years  
are eligible to participate.

(Those who have already won a bicycle  
are not eligible to participate.)

**Closing Date: March 31, 2021**



Or


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## QUESTIONS — QUIZ NO. 181

1. During which period did Sri Jayewardenepura become the capital of the ancient Kingdom of Kotte?
2. What is a person who communicates through secret writing known as?
3. When did Aung San Suu Kyi form the National League for Democracy?
4. What was the Children's National Tree Planting Programme known as?
5. Name three types of Keystone Species found in nature.



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7 – 9 years



- ▶ Pinidi Himarandhi, Moratuwa
- ▶ Hawwa Fazil, Colombo 10
- ▶ Julian De Sylva, Nugegoda
- ▶ Abdhur Rahman, Puttalam
- ▶ Rasandi Ranasinghe, Madapatha

Winners please call  
Funday Times on  
2479337 and arrange  
to collect your prizes.

## 4 – 6 AGE GROUP

Match the numbers to the shapes.

1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

