

# FUN DAY TIMES



**Mouse Deer and baby**

Pic by M. A. Pushpa Kumara



## ANIMALS

PAGE 3



## ENVIRONMENT

PAGE 4



## FAMOUS PEOPLE

PAGE 5



PAGES 6 - 7





**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:**

**June 23, 2021**

**Telephone: 2479337/2479333**

**Email: [fundaytimes1@gmail.com](mailto:fundaytimes1@gmail.com)**



## Young Reporters

If you are interested in joining as a Funday Times Young Reporter please fill in the coupon given and send it in to us along with a recent report or interview not exceeding 300 words. Photographs or illustrations would enhance the report.



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**Young Reporters**

**who have already**

**enrolled with us,**

**please send in new reports**

**for publication.**



Or

[fundaytimes1@gmail.com](mailto:fundaytimes1@gmail.com)

## JOKES

Q: What did the beach say to the tide when it came in?  
Long time, no sea.

Q: What do ghosts like to eat in the summer?  
I Scream

Q: Do fish go on vacation?  
A: No, because they're always in school!

**Win super books from**



**Age: 9 years and below**

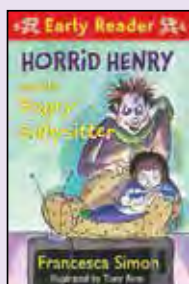
**Word Count: 150**

**Topic: Your home environment**

**Win: Horrid Henry and the Bogey Babysitter by Francesca Simon**

Horrid Henry hates babysitters – and he knows exactly how to make sure they never come back.

That is until he meets Rabid Rebecca, the toughest teen in town.



**Age: 10 – 12 years**

**Word Count: 150 – 200**

**Topic: How you can help to keep your environment free from pollution**

**Win: Five have a Wonderful Time by Enid Blyton**

The Five are on a caravanning holiday when they spy a ruined castle on top of a hill. Then they spot a desperate face in the tower window and an adventure beckons.

Who is hiding inside the castle – and why?



**Age: 13 – 15 years**

**Word Count: 200 – 250**

**Topic: What you know about World Environment Day**

**Win: Congo by Michael Crichton**

Deep in the heart of the darkest region of the Congo, near the legendary ruins of the Lost City of Zinj, an eight-person field expedition dies mysteriously and brutally in a matter of minutes...



## Book Competition



**9 years and below**

My mother

**Esandi Ranasinghe**

Musaeus College, Colombo

**10 – 12 years**

Celebrating Mother's Day

**Onithi Inara**

Royal Int. School, Kurunegala

**13 – 15 years**

What I know about Mother's Day

**Hiruni Kumarathunga**

Sanghamiththa B. V., Galle

**Write at the top of your Essay**

■ Book Competition ■ Essay Topic



## ***Animal babies at the Dehiwala Zoo***

*With the lockdown and the closure of the Zoo, the animals are relaxed, enjoying their stress-free life without the hordes of visitors that disturb their peace. In the peaceful environment, several new babies have been born in the recent months.*



**Black Swan and baby**



**Baby Donkey**



**Spotted Deer**



**Scimitar Horned Oryx**



**Mountain Hawk Eagle**



**Zebra and baby**



**Japanese Sika Deer**



**Nilgai**

**Pix by M. A. Pushpa Kumara**



**Ecosystem - a biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment.**

### TYPES OF ECOSYSTEMS

1. Forests
2. Freshwaters
3. Oceans and Coasts
4. Grasslands, Shrublands and Savannahs
5. Mountains
6. Peatlands
7. Farmlands
8. Urban Areas



Mangroves

### THREATS TO ECOSYSTEMS

- Global warming, caused by burning fossil fuels, methane gas from cattle farming and deforestation
- Rising sea levels, caused by melting ice
- Deforestation for urbanisation, agricultural expansion or mining
- Pollution of oceans, rivers and lakes by plastic, chemicals, sewage and fishing gear
- Air pollution
- Over-fishing and over-hunting
- Over-extraction of water, sand and gravel; draining of rivers and lakes

- Every day, roughly 80,000 acres of trees are cut down.
- Around 60% of waste is recyclable, despite being thrown away.
- It takes over 400 years for plastic to decompose.
- Annually, millions of animals are killed by eating or getting entangled in plastics.
- An estimated 7 million people die every year from heart and lung diseases caused by air pollution.

# ECOSYSTEMS

**By Cecilia Hewavitharana**

World Environment Day (WED) is celebrated every year on June 5 to raise awareness on various environmental issues. Established in 1972 by the United Nations as a result of the Conference on the Human Environment, the first WED took place in 1974 with the theme "Only One Earth".

Every year has had a new theme, but this year the United Nations has declared the **Decade on Ecosystem Restoration** (starting on WED 2021 and ending in 2030), to encourage the protection and restoration of ecosystems around the world.

### FACTS

- Forests absorb large amounts of climate-heating carbon, in addition to converting carbon dioxide into oxygen.
- Forests are home to around 80% of Earth's land animals and plants.
- The ocean produces approximately 70% of the oxygen we breathe.
- Peatlands make up only 3% of the world's land, but store nearly 30% of its soil carbon.
- The largest living structure in the world is the Great Barrier Reef, spanning around 2,600 km.
- One-third of the world's vertebrates live in freshwater ecosystems.
- Half of humanity is estimated to be getting their freshwater supply from the mountains.
- Roughly 10% of the world's freshwater is contained in Arctic ice.
- A 100-metre thick barrier of mangroves can reduce the height of a wave by two-thirds and is cheaper than a seawall.

### METHODS OF PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

- Creating awareness of threats
- Planting trees and helping naturally sprouting plants grow
- Switching to clean power (solar, wind, hydro)
- Responsibly disposing of waste
- Reducing single-use plastic and other short-lived items
- Recycling
- Cleaning up polluted areas and preventing pollution
- Creating wildlife corridors
- Sustainable farming and fishing practices
- Protecting threatened ecosystems



Peatlands

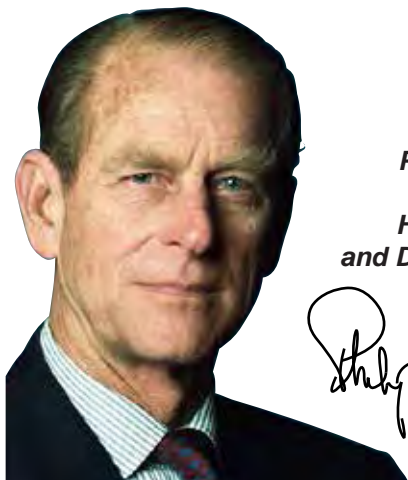
An ecosystem is like a cloth and each organism like a thread. If even one thread is pulled out, the whole cloth will eventually come apart. Earth is basically one huge ecosystem – therefore, to save it, each thread has to be protected.

**Sustainability means**  
using resources for our needs,  
without risking the ability of  
future generations to meet their own needs.

Sources: [www.decadeonrestoration.org](http://www.decadeonrestoration.org), [www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com), [www.iucn.org](http://www.iucn.org), [www.who.int](http://www.who.int), [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org), [www.peatlands.org](http://www.peatlands.org), [www.lexico.com](http://www.lexico.com)



# Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh



*Philip*

*Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, was a member of the British royal family as the husband of Queen Elizabeth II. Philip was born in Corfu on June 10, 1921, as Prince Philip of Greece and Denmark. His parents were Prince Andrew of Greece and Denmark and Princess Alice of Battenberg. He lived most of his early life in Britain with his maternal grandmother, Victoria Mountbatten, and with his uncle, George Mountbatten.*



## Honours and Titles

- Admiral of the Sea Cadet Corps
- Colonel-in-Chief of the British Army Cadet Force
- Air Commodore-in-Chief of the Air Training Corps
- Admiral of the Fleet
- Captain General Royal Marines
- Field Marshal, and Marshal of the Royal Air Force
- Colonel of the Grenadier Guards
- Lord High Admiral
- Knight Grand Cross (GCVO) of the Royal Victorian Order

## Interesting Facts

- Upon finishing at Gordonstoun School in Scotland, he joined the Royal Navy and graduated from Dartmouth as the best cadet in his year.
- Prince Philip was on active service in the Royal Navy throughout the Second World War. He was present in Tokyo Bay for the Japanese surrender on September 2, 1945.
- He was awarded the Greek War Cross of Valour for his bravery during the War.
- He met then Princess Elizabeth in 1939, when Elizabeth and her sister Princess Margaret visited the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth.
- Elizabeth fell in love with the dashing naval officer with the two beginning to correspond when she was 13.
- He married Princess Elizabeth at Westminster Cathedral on November 20, 1947. Their marriage is the longest running royal marriage in history.
- Before his wedding day, he became a naturalised British citizen and became known as Philip Mountbatten.
- On the eve of his wedding day, he became the Duke of Edinburgh. He was made a Prince of the United Kingdom in 1957.
- While they were on a Commonwealth Tour in Kenya, it was Philip who broke the news to Elizabeth that her father had died and she was now the Queen.
- He and the Queen have four children: Prince Charles, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew and Prince Edward.
- In 1956, Philip funded the Duke of Edinburgh Award programme, to give children, 'a sense of responsibility to themselves and their communities'.
- This programme has since expanded to 144 nations.



- Prince Philip has been a patron of over 800 organisations. He was a keen polo player and a keen yachtsman.
- In 1953, he was presented with Royal Air Force wings, his helicopter wings in 1956, and his pilot license in 1959.
- Aside from sporting pursuits, the Duke collected artworks. He had also written several books.
- The Prince was adept at producing quick, light snacks, which he and the Queen often enjoyed after they dismissed the servants for the night.
- On their golden wedding anniversary in 1997, the Queen acknowledged that Philip has been her strength and stay all these years.
- Philip retired from his royal duties on August 2, 2017 aged 96.
- During the coronavirus outbreak in 2020, he made a rare public statement thanking key workers.
- He has eight grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.
- Philip died on the morning of April 9, 2021 at Windsor Castle, aged 99, two months before his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was the longest-serving royal consort in British history. In private, the Queen described her husband's death as "having left a huge void in her life".

Source: Internet





## Animals around us

Animals that are around us are of many types. They are found in many places. Some animals come to our garden. They are monkeys, birds and squirrels. I sometimes feed them at home.

There are some animals that live in our homes. They are cats and dogs. We can keep them as pets. Cats chase rats. Dogs guard the house. Goats and cows give us milk. Buffaloes help in the paddy-fields.

They are all our animal friends. We should never hurt them.

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

## What I think about the Coronavirus pandemic

The Coronavirus pandemic is a real threat to the poor and innocent people of Sri Lanka. The bright side of the pandemic is that we are spending more time with our families.

The doctors and scientists are on a mission to find a specific vaccine to defeat this harsh pandemic. But we too can take precautions and prevent this pandemic by washing our hands, wearing masks and keeping distance with each other.

I am hoping that this pandemic will end soon. I wish scientists and doctors good luck in their mission.

**Nulara Jayawickrama (Grade 4)**  
Methodist College

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.

**Note**

## Save the Ocean

Why do we need to protect the ocean? That's a simple question that anyone might ask. The answer for this is because the ocean needs protection just as every human being needs protection.

Unfortunately, many people are not aware about why and how we must protect the ocean.

We can save the huge ocean by using fewer plastic products, helping to take care of the beach, not purchasing products and items that harm marine life and finally by not dumping garbage into the ocean.

There are many organisations that have taken steps to save the ocean from this pathetic situation. I suggest that we can help by holding seminars, meetings, workshops etc. There should be signs near the beach saying, "Do Not Litter!" so that people will remember it.

Ban-Ki-moon, Robert Baden Powell and Sylvia Earle are just some examples of people who have told us the value of the ocean.

"With every drop of water you drink, every breath you take, you are connected to the sea," – Sylvia Earle

By understanding all this, we must help to save the ocean.

**Aaminah Azmi (14 years)**  
St. Paul's Girls' School, Milagiriya

## The sky at different times



**Dahami Pandudeniya (11 years)**  
Horizon College int., Malabe

## The sunrise



**Thameem Dilshan (8 years)**  
NSIS College

## Night



**Yaasir Ahamed (Grade 4)**  
Hejaaz Int. Boys' School

## My favourite storybook character

My favourite character is Frederick Trotteville from Enid Blyton's book series 'The Five Find-Outers'. Frederick Trotteville is called 'Fatty' by his friends. He owns a dog named Buster. He is the leader of a club that solves mysteries.

He is serious when he cracks mysteries, while he is funny when things are boring. He loves disguising himself as other people and keeps all his disguises down in his shed. He is also talented in ventriloquism, making weird noises and throwing his voice.

Fatty loves playing tricks on Mr. Goon the policeman, who dislikes him. He is intelligent and can solve mysteries easily. I admire him because he is quick and tactful. In one book, he gets caught by a dangerous gang and gets trapped in a room. He finds a way out by using a thin wire and a piece of newspaper!

He is caring, kind and always willing to share. He helps the police to solve mysteries. Fatty is the most amazing character I have ever read about.

**Onadi Kotuthenne (11 years)**  
Musaeus College

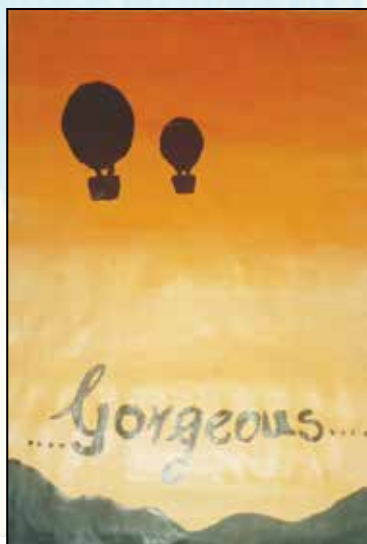
## My school



**Eshalie Buvanija (6 years)**  
Visakha Vidyalaya, Colombo 5



An air balloon



**Fathima Hikma (12 years)**  
Welimada

My house



**Geyashri Pushparaja (7 years)**  
OKI Int. School, Wattala

My birthday party



**Thimali Liyanage (10 years)**  
Holy Family B. M. V., Wennappuwa

Flower design



**Methupama Wijerathne (Grade 7)**  
Holy Cross College, Gampaha

## My mother

My mother's name is Kumudu Shashika Konara. My mother is a nurse. She is very kind. I love my mother.

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

## My uncle's diary

"Grandma! Please give it to me,"  
I begged; So she gave it to me.  
It's my uncle's diary and her son's,  
He wrote it during the war.

"We don't have enough food and ammo,  
One was dead, slaughtered,  
Bombs are scattered everywhere,"  
The diary said.

It said their grievance,  
Their sharp attention and their curious  
attitudes,  
"My leg is damaged and bleeding,"  
He had written in ugly letters at last.

Now he is not having a leg,  
By burying others in the land of sad,  
But I'm proud of my uncle,  
He's a great captain.

**Sandeepa Ariyaratne (13 years)**  
Bandaranayake College, Gampaha

## My family

In my family there are four  
members. They are my parents,  
my sister Hana and me. My father's  
name is Hisham. My mother's name is  
Shafra. I love my family.

**Haya Hisham (8 years)**  
Sanghamitta B.M.V., Aluthgama

## A little bird

Once I saw a little bird,  
Going hop, hop, hop,  
So I cried, "Little bird!  
Will you stop, stop, stop?"  
I was going to the window,  
To say, "How do you do?"  
But he shook his little tail,  
And far away he flew.

**Ranumi Risansa (Grade 2)**  
Royal Int. School, Kegalle

## If you could have anything...

Currently, about 7.8 billion people  
in this world, from which more than  
736 million people live below the  
international poverty line with 115 million  
more people expected to be in poverty by  
the end of the year.

On the other hand, billionaires become  
richer. Last July, the total wealth held by  
billionaires reached a record high –  
\$10.2 trillion.

But what if there was nothing called  
'money' in the world?

Many people nowadays apply for a job  
not because they'll enjoy it but because  
of the salary. All the assistants of  
infamous criminals are promised large  
payments to do their dirty work.  
Many can't have what they want because  
it doesn't fit their budget.

But when I speak of a world without  
money, I don't mean everything is free.  
There have to be restrictions. You must  
contribute to the society in one way or

the other, but in whichever way you like.  
So you exchange what you have for  
what you don't, in terms of both services  
and goods. If, being a doctor, you cure a  
sick child, its mother will stitch clothes  
for your household. But if you don't  
contribute to the society, you wouldn't  
get anything from it either.

A world without money will be a  
world with less crimes and more  
happiness, where innocent people don't  
suffer, where everyone works to their  
utmost. Soon people will not crave for  
luxury – because it can be commonplace  
– but for things that really matter, like  
love, trust and honesty.

What wouldn't you do for such a world  
– where you can do almost whatever  
you want, where nobody suffers, where  
there's no rich nor poor?

**Ifadha Deen (15 years)**  
Leeds Int. School, Galle



## Tomahawk

Quiz  
No. 184

Questions for the Tomahawk Quiz No. 184 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times of May 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 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. 184' 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: June 30, 2021**



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## QUESTIONS — Quiz No. 184

1. Who first published the Michelin Guide and what is it now famous for?
2. What is the discovery that made Edward Jenner world famous?
3. Name three animals that make their homes in hollow logs.
4. Where are the Ajanta Caves located and who re-discovered them?
5. The Koch Snowflake is one of the earliest fractals to be found. Name the mathematician who described it.

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7 – 9 years


WINNERS

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

- Eran Dassanayake, Padukka
- Leharaa Ranasinghe, Ja-Ela
- Omair Abdul Careem, Colombo 3
- Christelina Foenander, Gampaha
- Tina Chand, Colombo 6

## 7 – 9 AGE GROUP

Add the sums and use the code to colour the picture.



5 = ● (red)  
4 = ● (blue)  
6 = ● (green)  
7 = ● (orange)  
8 = ● (grey)  
9 = ● (purple)