

the
**SUNDAY
TIMES**

SUNDAY
JULY 18, 2021



FUN DAY TIMES



Black-headed Oriole (Kaha Kurulla)



**ROOM
TO READ**

PAGE 2



LANDMARKS

PAGE 3



COMPETITION

PAGE 4

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Let's read with Room to Read

Dear Children,

Today's story is called 'Two Mice'.

One day, a real mouse met a computer mouse.

Suddenly, a cat began to chase the real mouse and tried to catch him. What happened next?

Let's begin...

One day, a little mouse climbed onto a table to explore.

"Oooh, yum! This looks tasty."

"Oww! Owww! Who's hurting me?" cried a voice.

"Who are you?" asked the mouse.

"I'm a mouse," was the response.

"But I'm a mouse." "I'm a mouse too."

The first mouse laughed. "Ha-ha! What kind of a mouse are you? What can you do?"

The mouse ran to the kitchen and brought back some cake.

"Look! This is what a mouse can do. A real mouse can eat cake. YOU can't."

"Little mouse, watch and learn," responded the other mouse.

She pulled up a picture of cake on the computer screen.

The first mouse was unconvinced. "You can't do what a real mouse can do."

He picked up a pencil from the desk and chewed at it.

"Look at what I did to this pencil - this is what a real mouse can do!"

The other mouse pulled up a picture of some logs onto the screen. "I can do more than that. Look!"

"Well, can you dance like me?" asked the first mouse.

Suddenly, the house cat appeared, hissing.

"OH NO! Help!" cried the first mouse.

"What do I do? What do I do?" the first mouse cried, running away.

The other mouse acted quickly, bringing up a video of a barking dog on the screen to scare the cat away. "BOW! BOW! BOW!"

The first mouse gave the other mouse a hug.

"Thank you! You saved my life. You're a good mouse, just like me."

-The End-



Two Mice

Author: Aruna Keerthi Gamage

Illustrator: Aruna Keerthi Gamage

Translator: Aruna Keerthi Gamage



Room to Read seeks to transform the lives of millions of children in low-income communities by focusing on literacy and gender equality in education around the world. Room to Read's Literacy Program transforms primary schools into child-friendly learning environments that enable children to become life-long, independent readers. To support the program further, they publish children's books in local languages.

These books are now available in English and local languages via their digital library - the [Literacy Cloud \(https://literacycloud.org/\)](https://literacycloud.org/), where more than 1000 books from all Room to Read countries are available to read online. Once logged-in, viewers can also access books as read-aloud videos, save their favourite book to read offline and have access to other learning material.

These storybooks are published by Room to Read, who believes that **World Change Starts with Educated Children.** The original story was published in Tamil by Room to Read Sri Lanka in 2016.

This week's trivia

How did the computer mouse save the real mouse?

Send your answer to literacylk@roomtoread.onmicrosoft.com and stand a chance to win a storybook by Room to Read! One lucky winner will be chosen every week and the prizes will be given at the end of the series.

Access the full story with illustrations via Room to Read's [Literacy Cloud](https://literacycloud.org/)



Marine pollution and challenges for conservation



Nishan Perera, marine biologist, avid diver, underwater photographer and a co-founder of Blue Resources Trust, shines a light on general marine pollution and some of the chronic problems facing our oceans. Join us online with your comments and questions and be part of the conversation.

Date: Sunday 18 July 2021
Time: 5.00 p.m.

Open to all - the event will be live on our Facebook page and YouTube channel

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The British Council Library welcomes back Nishan Perera, marine biologist, avid diver, underwater photographer and a co-founder of Blue Resources Trust, to speak at an online event on general marine pollution and conservation options and challenges. Please do join in the conversation on Sunday July 18 at 5.00 p.m.

The event will stream live on the British Council Sri Lanka Facebook page and YouTube channel.

FUNDAY TIMES 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.

Young Reporters Coupon

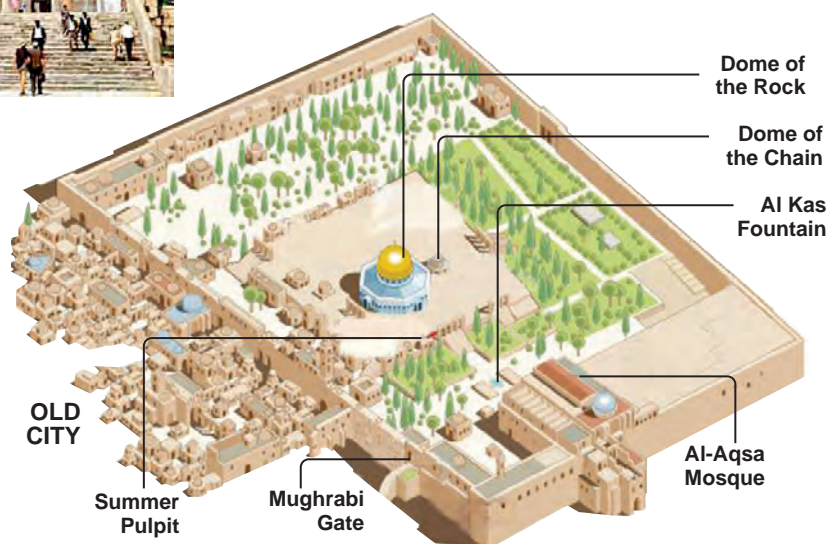
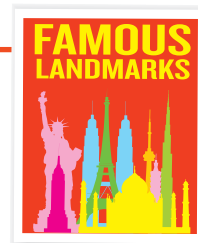
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Young Reporters who have already enrolled with us, please send in new reports for publication.



Or fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Temple Mount in Jerusalem



▲ Southern Wall of Temple Mount, southwestern corner

The Temple Mount is an elevated plateau in the eastern part of the old city of Jerusalem. This is sacred to Jews, Christians and Muslims. It also has been a focal point of inter-religious tension for a long time. Currently, it is under Israeli sovereignty.

It was the site of both the ancient temples of Judaism. After Mecca and Medina, it is the third holiest place in Islam. To Muslims, it is known as the Haram al-Sharif which means the Noble Sanctuary. It is associated with Biblical prophets who are venerated in Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

The Dome of the Rock and the nearby Al-Aqsa Mosque stand on the Temple Mount.

The Temple Mount was where King Solomon built the First Temple, the centre of Jewish worship in ancient Israel.

King Solomon, according to the Bible, built the First Temple of the Jews on this mountaintop circa 1000 B.C., only to have it torn down 400 years later by troops commanded by the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar, who sent many Jews into exile.

It was also the site of the Second Temple, which was destroyed in 70 CE. All that remains of the Second Temple is the Western Wall. It is now part of the wall surrounding the Dome of the Rock and the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The Dome of the Rock is a shrine, or sacred place, in Jerusalem, Israel. It dates from the late 600's CE and is the oldest existing Islamic monument. The rock over which the shrine is built is holy for both Muslims and Jews.

The Prophet Muhammad is believed to have risen to heaven from the Rock. In Jewish tradition, it is believed to be the place where Abraham offered to sacrifice his son Isaac.

The Dome of the Rock is positioned near the centre of the platform. Below the dome a portion of the sacred rock is exposed and protected by a railing.

Al-Aqsa Mosque, Masjid Al-Aqsa, literally "farthest mosque" is part of the complex of religious buildings on Temple Mount. After the Dome of the Rock, the first wooden Al-Aqsa Mosque was constructed by the Umayyads, completed in 710. The Dome of the Rock has long served as a place of Islamic pilgrimage.

In the Middle Ages, Christian Crusaders captured Jerusalem in 1099.

The Dome of the Rock was used as a church until a Muslim army recaptured Jerusalem in 1187.

Quick Facts

- All three religions identify Temple Mount with many key events in their respective religious narratives.
- The two main purposes of this temple were to house the Ark of the Covenant and provide a place for people to worship.
- The temple covers an area of 35 acres. The premises can be accessed by non-Muslims through a gate next to the Western Wall.
- The First Temple was completely destroyed in 587 – 86 BC. It was rebuilt by Jews in 538 BC when they were allowed to return to Jerusalem by the Persian King Cyrus II.

Sources:
Easy Science for Kids
& kids.britannica.com



Tomahawk

Quiz
No.185

Questions for the Tomahawk Quiz No. 185 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times of June 6, 13, 20 and 27, 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. 183' 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: July 31, 2021



Or



fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Tomahawk Quiz No. 184

- ▶ Lakshan Edirisinghe, Wattala
- ▶ M. Kiyaz Imthiyaz, Colombo 14



Tomahawk Quiz No. 183

- ▶ Mumudi Gajadeera, Kaduwela
- ▶ Neil Toolikkaa, Wattala



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QUESTIONS — QUIZ NO. 185

1. When was the first World Environment Day celebrated and what was its theme?
2. Name three types of ecosystems and three threats they currently face.
3. Who was the longest serving royal consort in British history?
4. What is the third tallest Buddha Statue in the world named and where is it situated?
5. Name the host country for the NATO summit held this year.



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 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:

August 4, 2021

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com



Mithila Jayasekera
6 years on July 19

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NOTE

Please log on to the Funday Times website on www.fundaytimes.lk or check out the Sunday Times epaper on www.sundaytimes.lk for additional pages of this week's Funday Times.

Benny the Dachshund

By Manoshi de Silva

Benny the Dachshund lived in house No: 5. He was popular in the neighbourhood as the 'Sausage Dog', because of the shape of his body.

House No: 6 was right opposite Benny's house. There was a huge Alsatian dog in that house called, Brutus. The house right next to Benny's had a small puppy who had been rescued from the street by the people who lived in that house.

Every morning Benny would see Brutus wearing his leash and walking down the street with his owner. Brutus was a former police dog and was very well trained and disciplined. Benny would look at Brutus with admiration. Brutus looked so big and strong. He had a fierce and proud look. He never bothered to stop and look at any other dog or bark without a reason, like most of the other neighbourhood dogs.

The little puppy next-door was called Brownie. He'd bark continuously at Brutus to get some attention, whenever he saw him. "Hey there! Hello! Hello! Look this way!" he'd bark. But Brutus would walk away smartly, without paying any attention.

Benny always wished that he was also as tall and as handsome as Brutus. But he was short and long like a little sausage with a head and legs. Benny sighed, feeling disappointed with himself. "If only I was also as big and strong as Brutus!" he thought, "then others would stare at me with respect, like they do when they see Brutus."

One morning Brownie was barking like mad when he saw Brutus. "He never looks at anybody!" said Benny trying to calm down the excited puppy. Brownie peeped through the little gap between his gate to look at Benny.

"Uncle Brutus is so smart," he said. "Someday I also want to grow up as big as him!" Benny shook his head doubtfully, knowing that the little puppy would never grow as big as an Alsatian. But he didn't say anything.



"Uncle Benny, you should also eat all your food. Then you will also become big like Uncle Brutus," said the little puppy. Benny sighed and walked away thinking, "when can a Sausage Dog become as mighty as an Alsatian?"

"Hey Uncle Benny!" barked the small puppy, when he saw Benny the next morning. He pressed his tiny face through the gap in the gate and talked excitedly. "Today my owner said that I've become too big for my collar and he had to adjust it!" "That's good," said Benny, "you are growing up fast!" "Yes, soon I'll be as big as Uncle Brutus," said the small puppy. "He's so smart. I want to be just like him. He is my hero!"

Benny wished that he too could be someone's role model, a hero like Brutus. "But who'd want to be like a Sausage Dog?" he thought sadly.

Benny lay down near the fence and stared at the road from under the gate. He could see Brutus walking down the street with his owner. Benny widened his big brown eyes and stared at the Alsatian's tall legs and proud eyes. "I wish that I was an Alsatian," he wished for the hundredth time.

"I am useless the way I am, with my short stubby legs and long body." He closed his eyes and fell asleep feeling disappointed and sad.

Benny woke up for the barking of the puppy. "He's probably trying to catch

Brutus' attention!" he thought. But Brownie's barking seemed to come from afar and it sounded as if he was in trouble. "Help! Help!" yelped Brownie. Benny looked at Brownie's gate. It was open. "Oh, no! Brownie must have run away and gotten into trouble somewhere," shouted Benny. "Brownie needs help!"

Brutus was running this way and that way. He tried to creep out through his gate grill, but he was too big. "The little dog is in trouble," he shouted, "he needs help!" But he couldn't find a spot to creep out.

Benny started to dig up the ground right below his gate. There was a small gap there. After he dug, there was enough space for him to creep out.

Benny ran towards where Brownie was yelping from. Brownie had fallen into a drain. He couldn't climb out on his own. But Benny's long body was very helpful to slowly reach down and pull the puppy up, from his collar.

"Thank you so much Uncle Benny!" said Brownie giving Benny a big hug. "You saved me. You are my hero!" Benny blushed. He never imagined that anyone would ever call him a hero. When Benny brought Brownie home, he advised Brownie to never run away from home again and Brownie agreed.

"Hey Benny," said Brutus poking his nose through a small crack in his wall, "Good job!"

"Thank you Brutus!" said Benny, "It was no big deal, really," he said blushing, after receiving this unexpected compliment from Brutus.

"Because I am so big, I couldn't find a way to come out. But thanks to your perfect body, you could creep out and help Brownie in time. You are indeed a hero! Well done!" Benny felt so happy and proud to get such a compliment from Brutus.

Brownie too stared at Benny with appreciation. "Uncle Benny is a true hero!" he said wagging his tiny tail.

Benny went back home feeling very happy and content. And for the first time in his life he felt happy to be a Sausage Dog.

July 13

News in Pictures**Wellington, New Zealand**

Volunteers help care for a baby orca who has lost its family.

**Zhangjiajie, China**

A tourist bungee jumps at the Zhangjiajie Grand Canyon in Hunan province.

**Withington, England**

A mural of Marcus Rashford is covered with messages of support after it was defaced following the Euro 2020 final between Italy and England.

**Izmir, Turkey**

Mounted police patrol a beach in Izmir.

**Moscow, Russia**

Members of historical clubs carry a coffin at a Moscow airport with the remains of Gen. Charles-Étienne César Gudin de La Sablonnière, a participant in the Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars, during the repatriation of his remains to France from Russia.

**Athens, Greece**

Elise Bickley, 16, from Sheffield, competes during the Red Bull Art Of Motion in Athens. She took third place in her first world freerunning competition.

**Cannes, France**

Left to right: Russian actors Yuri Kolokolnikov, Chulpan Khamatova, Ivan Dorn and Yuliya Peresild hide behind the podium during a photocall for the film 'Petrov's Flu' at the Cannes Film Festival.

**Zurich, Switzerland**

Parked cars are damaged following thunderstorms and torrential rain.

**Sisters, US**

A firefighting tanker makes a retardant drop over the Grandview fire near Sisters in Oregon. The wildfire doubled in size to 6.2 sq miles on Monday, forcing evacuations in the area.

Source : The Guardian

July 12

News in Pictures



Belfast, Northern Ireland
Children take part in the annual Twelfth of July celebrations.



Pietermaritzburg, South Africa
The Brookside mall burns after being looted as protests continue following the jailing of former president Jacob Zuma.



Rome, Italy
Captain Giorgio Chiellini carries the trophy accompanied by goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma as the national football team arrive at Parco dei Principi hotel after the UEFA Euro 2020 final.



Cannes, France
A guest poses wearing a dress with depictions of the Dutch painter Vincent van Gogh at the 74th Cannes Film Festival.



Kandahar, Afghanistan
A member of the Afghan Special Forces speaks to a resident as others search his house during an operation against the Taliban.



Miami, US
Cuban exiles rally at Versailles restaurant in Little Havana as thousands of Cubans took to the streets in rare protests to complain about a lack of freedom and a worsening economic situation.



Karachi, Pakistan
A breeder uses a crane to carry animals down from the roof for transport to a livestock market for Eid al-Adha.



Troitskoye, Russia
An overturned tank which fell off a transporter blocks the road.



Frankfurt, Germany
Two Icelandic foals stand together in a meadow of a stud farm in Wehrheim.

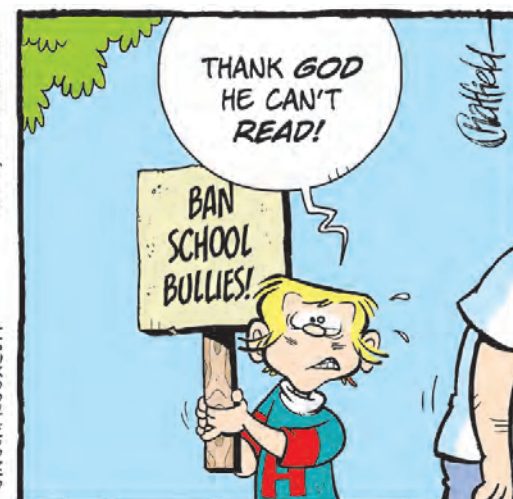
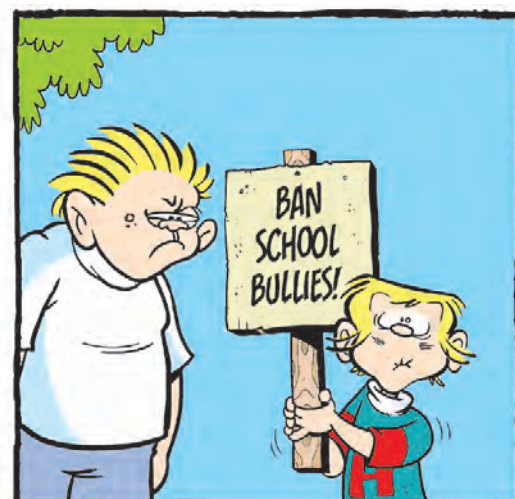
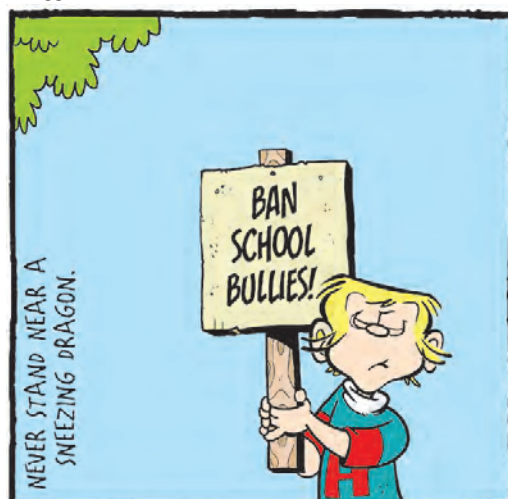
Source : The Guardian

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BY OLIVIA JAIMES



Ginger Meggs



Rugrats

