

FUN DAY TIMES



A Brahminy Kite enjoying the view

WINNERS

POETRY COMPETITION

PAGE 2



REPORT

PAGE 3



COMPETITIONS

PAGE 4



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:

September 29, 2021

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com



Age groups:

6 – 10 years

11 – 15 years

Word limit: 100 Words

6 – 10 years

Lazy Crazy Cat

Lazy, crazy cat
Where are you?
Maybe he's sleeping in
a tree,
Din, don, ben!
What is that sound?
Oh! It is my lazy,
crazy cat,
He had a great fall
from the tree.

Biwoni Moses
St. Nicholas' Int. College,
Negombo

Please write **the date**
at the top of your entry

Poetry Competition

This is your chance to get your poem published here. Entries should be in your handwriting and clearly certified by a teacher or parent as your own creation. Your poem should be posted to Funday Times with 'Poetry Competition' written at the top of the entry. The winner of each age category will be awarded a British Council Young Learner's Library membership.

11 – 15 years

A journey today

Trees grow under the fair moonlight,
Then in the morning the sun shines bright,
People on the street fighting
for what's right,
And in the darkness a small light,
Shining, glimmering very bright.

And in the sky, up so high,
A cloud will float, giving people,
who see it a spectacular sight,
A pandemic where people
are fighting for life,
A racial world with two groups
known as blacks and whites.
But out of all things people don't know,
how short the journey of 'life' will go.

Shaminthri Kumaradas
Ladies' College, Colombo 7

Please note
that copied poems
will be disqualified.



Read-a-Book and win a voucher from Vijitha Yapa Bookshop

Read any book of your choice
and write briefly about it.



What we want is not just a summary of the story but your views on the book. The best account in the three age groups will be awarded book vouchers of Rs. 500 each from Vijitha Yapa Bookshop. Three winners will be selected each month.

Your account should not exceed 200 words.

Please indicate word count on entry.

Please fill in the coupon and attach it to your entry.



Or



fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Read-a-Book Competition

Name :

Date of birth :

Address :

School:

Tel:

Finished book on :

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

Name:

Date of Birth:

Address:

Telephone:

School:

Parent's approval: **Date:**

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



Or



fundaytimes1@gmail.com

From a Young Reporter

My Rock Climbing Experience

On April 25, my mum and I went to Kodigahakanda Sanctuary in Horana, to try out rock climbing. This event was exclusively for women and girls.

We were met by the others who wanted to climb, and two members of the organizing team at ClimbLanka. They helped us fit on special climbing shoes that we could only use on the rock. We had to go on a little hike to get to the rock, but without getting lost or hurt, we safely got to the climbing site.

Once we got to the rock, we were met by the instructor. Guess who she was? It was Jayanthi Kuru-Utumpala! I had previously heard about her from school, and knew that she was an expert climber who reached the summit of Mount Everest!

Once everything was set up, the team introduced themselves, and Jayanthi showed us how to climb and how to set up the gear. The gear included helmets, the harness, climbing shoes, ropes, carabiners, and chalk (but not blackboard chalk).

Then Jayanthi asked us who would like to go first. I was the youngest one there and I stepped forward, and said, "I wanted to go first". Everyone stood in shock and my mum said, "why not let someone else go?" But I went anyway! You all must think I'm crazy, but it was so worth it!

My main goal was to touch the carabiners at the top. So I needed a belay buddy – a belay buddy is the person who holds the rope while you climb. And Jayanthi was my buddy.

We start with a safety check and buddy check. Once all ropes and locks on the harness are checked, you need to say "Climbing", and your belay buddy has to respond when ready by saying, "Climb on!"

It was hard work but I managed to climb. There were four levels on this rock, one of the aunties who was with us finished climbing all four before lunch! I managed to finish levels 1 and 2 by lunch time. After lunch the others had stopped at level 3.



Jayanthi Kuru-Utumpala



Pix by Vinura Perera



Harness



Figure of Eight – A strong knot

My mum was too tired to finish at this point too and so were many others. So it wasn't as easy as it looked. We even got a few cuts on our hands and knees.

While some took a break to practice making the knot called 'the figure of eight' (I had figured it out earlier and used it for my climb), I tried one last time to complete level 3. I made it to the top without any problem!

These are a few things I would recommend for anyone who likes to try rock climbing;

- Always trust your gear and the rock, if you feel afraid, you'll never get over it
- Always be ready for anything
- Don't be afraid to try something new

Mrinali De Silva (9 years)
St. Bridget's Convent

Tomahawk

Quiz
No.187

Questions for the Tomahawk Quiz No. 187 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times of August 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 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. 187' 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: September 30, 2021

mailto: Or email fundaytimes1@gmail.com

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QUESTIONS — Quiz No. 187

1. What is the production and emission of light by a living organism called?
2. Name two groups of Indigenous Peoples who live in North America.
3. Which king first built the Dalada Madura that can be seen in Kandy today?
4. What is the Summer Paralympics and in which year did Sri Lanka first compete?
5. State how to differentiate between a maze and a labyrinth.

Tales from the School Days
(Under the Tamarind Tree)

Tales from the School Days (Under the Tamarind Tree) retells interesting stories related by three school friends who made it a habit to meet at their favourite spot under the Tamarind tree at school.

This is the latest book authored by former Assistant Principal (Primary) of Royal College, Colombo, Mr. Heras Fernando who has authored several books including educational, fiction and true stories for school children.



Hey kids,

Here's your chance to win a copy of 'Tales from the School Days' (Under the Tamarind Tree)! Send in your essays along with your full details, to Funday Times.

Topic : A happy or interesting school day memory

Age Groups : 8 - 11 years / 12 - 15 years

Word Count : 200 words

mailto: Or email fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Address: No. 8, Hunupitiya Cross Road, Colombo 2.

Cartoon Time!

Hey Kids! We plan to put in more cartoons in the Funday Times and what's more they will be your own cartoons. So, here's a chance for you to try your hand at producing your very own original cartoons.

Draw a little cartoon with a caption. It could even be a small cartoon story in a strip (not more than three boxes). The best cartoons you send will be published in the Funday Times. So good luck to all you cartoon fans!

Please remember that the cartoons you send in should be your original work and not copied or traced from anything.

They should be certified as your own work by a parent or teacher.

mailto: Or email fundaytimes1@gmail.com

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.

Maria Montessori

Maria Montessori was born on August 31, 1870, in Chiaravalle, near Ancona, Italy and died on May 6, 1952 in Noordwijk aan Zee, Netherlands. She was an Italian educator and originator of the educational system that bears her name. She introduced her educational system, called the Montessori Method, in the early 1900s. The Montessori system is based on belief in the creative potential of children, their drive to learn, and the right of each child to be treated as an individual.

After graduating in medicine from the University of Rome in 1896 — the first woman in Italy to do so — Montessori was appointed assistant doctor at the psychiatric clinic of the University of Rome, where she became interested in the educational problems of intellectually disabled children.

Between 1899 and 1901 she served as director of the State Orthophrenic School of Rome, where her methods proved extremely successful. From 1896 to 1908, she held several key posts in universities in Rome. During these years she continued her studies of philosophy, psychology and education.

In 1907, Montessori opened the first Casa dei Bambini ("Children's House"), a preschool for children aged three to six from the San Lorenzo slum district of Rome, applying her methods now to children of normal intelligence.

Her successes led to the opening of other Montessori schools, and for the next 40 years she travelled throughout Europe, India and the United States lecturing, writing and establishing teacher-training programs.

In 1922, she was appointed government inspector of schools in Italy, but left the country in 1934 because of the Fascist rule. After periods in Spain and Ceylon (now Sri Lanka), she settled in the Netherlands, where she died in 1952.

Montessori scorned conventional classrooms, where "children, like butterflies mounted on pins, are fastened each to his place." She sought, instead, to teach children by supplying concrete materials and organizing situations conducive to learning with these materials.

She discovered that certain simple materials aroused in young children an interest and attention not previously thought possible. These materials included beads arranged in graduated-number units for premathematics instruction; small slabs of wood designed to train the eye in left-to-right reading movements; and graduated series of cylinders for small-muscle training.

Children between three and six years old would work spontaneously with these materials, indifferent to distraction, from a quarter of an hour to an hour. The materials used were designed specifically to encourage individual rather than cooperative effort. Group activity occurred in connection with shared housekeeping chores.

A large measure of individual initiative and self-direction characterized the Montessori philosophy, and self-education was the keynote of the plan. The teacher provided and demonstrated the special apparatus but remained in the background, leaving the child to handle it alone.

Among Montessori's best-known books are 'The Montessori Method', published in 1912, and 'The Secret of Childhood', published in 1936.

Britannica.com



Maria Montessori

September 7

News in Pictures



Sydney, Australia
A motorcyclist and a goggle-wearing canine passenger ride through Sydney.

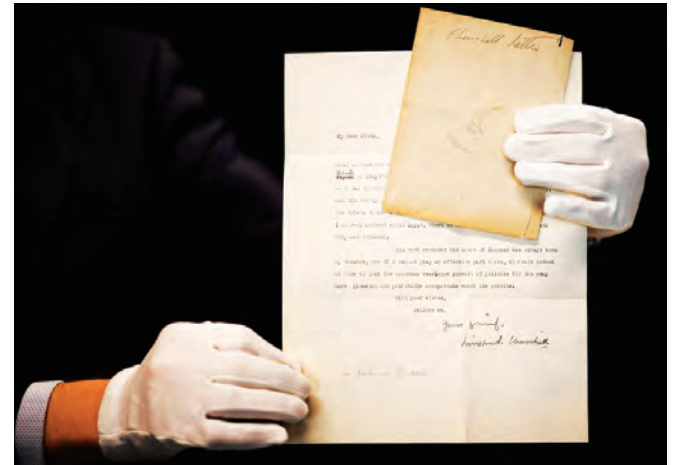


Adana, Turkey
An aerial view shows a part of Augusta Ancient City from the Roman period. It was revealed following the ebbing of water levels of Seyhan Dam Lake, in Adana.



London, England
A typed letter written by the former Prime Minister Winston Churchill, sent to Sir Frederick Ponsonby in 1929, is displayed ahead of its auction at Bonhams.

Lianyungang, China
Cars await export at Lianyungang Port in China's eastern Jiangsu province.



Munich, Germany
Greenpeace activists protest at the entrance of the International Motor Show. Historically held in Frankfurt, the IAA will for the first time take place in the Bavarian city of Munich as part of efforts to revive the event.

Valencia, Spain
A worker cleans the dome of the Hemisfèric Planetarium by Santiago Calatrava at the City of Arts and Sciences.



Danghangpo, South Korea
Dinosaur models are installed in Goseong, 290 miles (466 km) south-east of Seoul, before the Gyeongnam Goseong Dinosaur World Expo 2021 set for October 1. Goseong is one of the world's three largest fossilised dinosaur footprint sites, along with Colorado in the United States and in western Argentina.



London, England
Workers stand underneath one of the clock faces on the Elizabeth Tower, or Big Ben, as hands and dials are restored to the original Prussian blue colouring, while renovation works continue at the Houses of Parliament.



Leiden, The Netherlands
A reconstruction of the first Neanderthal in the Netherlands, nicknamed Krijn, is on display in the National Museum of Antiquities in Leiden.

September 6

Source: The Guardian

September 7

Seven animals that have inspired modern technology

*It's not the first time humans have copied animals to create new technology.
Here are seven amazing animals inspiring top tech...*

Ants

Ants have a pretty powerful bite – chewing through tough leaves with ease – despite their teeth being thinner than a strand of human hair!



Scientists studied how the insects' teeth work so they can design machinery to make tiny parts for tech like smartphones.

Researchers at the University of Oregon looked at the teeth under powerful microscopes and found that zinc atoms (tiny particles) were evenly spread around the ants' teeth, unlike human teeth where they are found in 'clumps'.

Evenly spaced zinc atoms mean that ants' teeth can cut through things efficiently – saving energy and protecting them from damage.

Researchers hope that by changing the way materials like zinc are used in machinery we can create tiny tools that are super strong.

Dogs

Velcro was invented when Swiss engineer George de Mestral went for a walk with his dog in the Alps.

When they got back, George found his dog was covered in fuzzy thistle-like seeds called burrs. Mestral studied how these burrs and hairs attached to each other with tiny hooks.

It was this that inspired him to create Velcro as a way to easily fasten things together.



Sharks

Sharks have amazing skin, which works to keep them clean of algae and other hitch-hiking sea creatures.

Their skin has a special pattern on it called 'denticles' which reduces drag and means they can glide through the sea easily.



The shark skin caught the eyes of scientists at NASA, who copied the patterns to create a special coating. They used it on American sailing boats in the Olympics to help them move faster through the water.

Kingfishers

A bird-watching engineer at a Japanese rail company took inspiration from a kingfisher's beak to solve a problem with high speed trains.

When they first were invented, high-speed trains had a real problem with noise, especially in tunnels. As they drive through, the air pressure builds up in waves and as the nose exits the tunnel there's a loud noise.

But an engineer re-designed the nose to be long and pointy like the kingfisher so the airwaves were gradually released instead.



Whales



Humpback whales might be heavy, but they're actually very good swimmers. This is down to a row of warty ridges, called tubercles, on the front edge of their fins. These bumps help the whale to swim faster and change direction more easily.

A scientist called Frank Fish spotted this and worked out a way of adding similar bumps to wind turbine blades. He found it made the turbines go faster when the wind changed direction, creating more power.

Snakes

Scientists who worked out how snakes slither on their bellies are hoping this discovery could help develop new, hard-wearing paints and surfaces.

Researchers looked at the belly of a California kingsnake and found that it is covered in a thin layer of oil that allows the snake to slither on rough surfaces without damaging its scales.

This oil is made up of lots of tightly packed fatty molecules and it's hoped the discovery could help engineers design harder-wearing new paints and surfaces that help stop wear and tear.



Geckos

Geckos have specially adapted feet that mean they can stick to surfaces, and recently, scientists discovered they can do this because their feet are covered in thousands of tiny elastic hairs.

A team in the USA has copied the

geckos and developed amazing gloves that help climbers scale vertical walls.

They're hoping that the military will be able to use them in the future to climb over tough, steep or uneven land, high buildings or steep walls.



nancy



Ginger Meggs



Rugrats

