

Don't waste water

Water is very valuable and precious. Human beings, animals, birds and plants can't live without water. We can't live half a day without water, although we can live without food for two days.

We need water for many things like, bathing, drinking, cooking, washing and swimming.

Therefore we must conserve this precious liquid. It is our duty not to waste water.

**Aadam Saheed
(10 years)
Royal College,
Colombo 3**

The elephant

An elephant is a very large mammal with a trunk, curved tusks and large ears and is mostly found in Africa and Southern Asia. It is the biggest land mammal. The African elephant can grow up to 11 feet (3.4m) high and weigh 7,711kg. The African and Asian elephants vary slightly in colour. The African elephant is slightly darker than the Asian elephant.

Elephants have a highly developed sense of smell. Elephants have a life span of about 45 – 60 years. The female pro-

duces one calf at a time and the calves move away to live on their own when they are about five years of age. It is said that if an elephant flaps its ears it means, "Go away!" Elephants too have feelings, like human beings. They live in herds led by a female. They feed on grass, fruits and bamboo. Another name for the Asian elephant is *Elephas Maximus* and the other name of the African elephant is *Loxodonta Africana*.

Elephants are remarkable for their massive

size. Elephants can eat 100 – 200kgs of food in a day and drink 100 litres of water a day. Elephants are very helpful creatures. They help us in many ways like carrying logs. But did you know that the biggest threat to elephants is man himself? We should learn to conserve the elephants. Elephants are very gentle animals.

**Aadhila
Thaslimdeen
(13 years)
Ikra International
School (Girls Section),
Colpetty**

Village

It's a place full of Quiet,
Where we hear the sound of
wind,
people stay happy with
their family;
There are lots of paddyfields
and trees,
It's full of beautiful birds
and animals.

When I get holidays I
go to my village,
I have seen women
Carrying sheaves,
I play with my sisters
in the field.

The sky is dark orange in
the afternoon,
Birds fly to their nests,
My sisters and I hear
stories my Grandfather
says.

I like the village rather
than the town,
Because it's a place,
free from sounds of
vehicles.

**Harshani Meepegama
(14 years)
Sujatha Vidyalaya,
Nugegoda**

My country

My country is Sri Lanka. It is in the Indian Ocean. It is a beautiful island. There are nine provinces and 25 districts in Sri Lanka. My country has two seasons. They are the dry season and the rainy season. The longest river in my country is the Mahaweli River. My country's national game is volleyball. It's national tree is the 'Na' tree and the national flower is 'Nil Manel.' I love my country.

**Ruvini Priyadarshani
(Grade 6)
Gothami B. V., Colombo 10**

My cousins

Today I will talk about some of my cousins on my fathers side and some on my mothers side.

Some of the cousins on my fathers side are Ishika, Anila and Sherantha. Some of the cousins on my mothers side are, Naomi, Dinelka, Roshane and Shamara.

My cousins are a bit naughty, lazy, crazy and out of control but they are full of fun! And I just love being with them. Altogether I have 13 cousins! I like my cousins because they are the best in the whole world!

(Specially dedicated to my cousins)

**Druvinka Perera (8 years)
Lyceum International School,
Nugegoda**

The impact of an unclean environment

It is very important to keep our environment clean. The air we breathe, water we drink, roads and vehicles we use, should be clean and free of dirt.

The air is polluted by the emission of injurious gases from vehicles and factories. Forming of the ozone layer. This deprives fresh air in the atmosphere resulting in breathing difficulties. The air gets heated by the sun and we all know that due to Global Warming the sea levels are rising and land area is shrinking.

Drains are blocked by dumping of refuse. The blocking of drains and waterways cause floods during heavy rains, resulting in overflowing of toilets pits onto roads, wells and rivers. This promotes breeding of mosquitoes and the spread of malaria, dengue and chickengunya.

Dumping of waste into rivers causes water borne diseases like cholera and hepatitis.

Spitting in public places spreads infectious diseases like tuberculosis (TB).

Therefore it is important to keep our environment clean.

**Shamana Bangsajayah (Grade 5)
Buddhist Ladies College**

Winners – July – Perahera

4 – 6 years

1st place



Oshadhee Dias
Sri Bodhi Vidyalaya, Gampaha

2nd place



Tharini Fernando
St. Bridget's Convent, Colombo

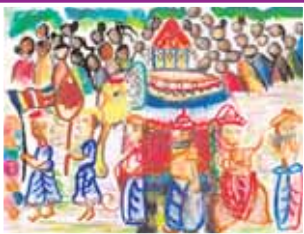
3rd place



Chanudi Gajadeera
Methodist College, Colombo

7 – 10 years

1st place



Bhagya Pandithakoralege
St. Bridget's Convent,
Colombo

2nd place



Ravindu Dias
Royal College, Colombo

3rd place



Ravindu Jayasena
Lyceum International School,
Wattala

11 – 14 years

1st place



Thamall Kumari
Pushpadana Girls' School,
Kandy

2nd place



Ashinsa de Silva Wijeyeratne
Holy Family Convent,
Bambalapitiya

3rd place



Shadana Binushi
Carmel Girls' Central College,
Chilaw

Reeves Art Competition – Age Groups

Please note that we have adjusted the age groups for the competition as there is some overlapping of ages. The age groups will now be as follows:

4 – 6 years, 7 – 10 years and 11 – 14 years

Winners please contact us on 2331276/2326247 and arrange to collect you prizes.

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.

The Silent Night Hunter

On silent night wings,
Over silent night things,
A barn owl glides,
Soaring high, soaring low,
Precious time it abides.

A harvest mouse patters out of
her nest,
Of all the nights to come out
this was not the best,
For already decided tonight is
her fate,
And by the time she notices, it
is too late.

On this dark, silent night,
With the heavens in sight,
On silent night wings,
Over silent night things,
A barn owl has hunted,
For her nestlings' sake,
Leaving nothing in her wake,
But the wind.

Roshan De Selfa
(12 years)
Royal Institute,
Nugegoda