

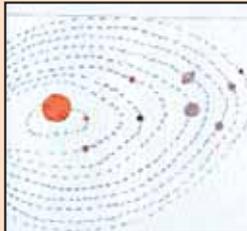
### My pet

My pet is a cat. Its name is Pinky. It likes to drink milk. It likes to eat fish. Pinky likes to play with me. I love my pet very much. I play hide and seek with Pinky.

**Khadeeja Mehnaz (6+ years)**  
Minaret High School

### My dream

After I finished my school homework, I saw I was at NASA Space Centre, where my uncle was a scientist. He showed me many spaceships and told me not to go inside or press any buttons, but I was curious. I pressed a red button which said 'start.'



Suddenly, it took off. Everything was dark outside. I knew I was in space. I saw something shining like a ball of fire, the sun. I saw the nine planets revolving around the sun. Mercury was the closest to the sun. It was small and hot. I saw Venus, the brightest planet. I saw Earth, the blue planet, it was the only planet with water and living things.

Next I saw Mars, the red planet. It contained red rocks and huge mountains. I saw Jupiter, the largest planet with no solid surface. Saturn was gaseous, with beautiful rings around. Then I saw Uranus, Neptune and Pluto.

I was happy to see all the planets. I sat inside my spaceship and was enjoying myself looking at the stars. Suddenly, I heard a cracking sound. My spaceship was in trouble. I was falling down! I screamed!

At last, I woke up and realised it was a dream. I had fallen off my bed. My parents came and asked me what happened and they laughed at my dream.

**Andreya Fernando (10 years)**  
St. Bridget's Convent

### Nuclear

In the year 1905, Albert Einstein made a formula to express the relationship between mass and energy:  $E=mc^2$ . This formula meant that the tiniest atom contains a vast amount of energy. He mentioned that this energy has never been noticed before because so far none of the energy is released externally and can't be observed.

Later Einstein said that the only way to release the energy in the atoms is to split the atom. The process of splitting the atom is called fission. The fission chain reaction begins when a single neutron collides with a nucleus of a radioac-

tive element. The nucleus splits with two or three extra neutrons that collide with the nuclei nearby which in turn split and sends out other neutrons. This goes on in a chain reaction. Each time an atom splits it releases a vast amount of heat and radiation.

In nuclear power plants thermal energy from the fission chain reaction is used to heat water and make steam. The steam is then used to detect diseases that can't be detected by other methods.

**Rajitha Wickrama (11 years)**  
Gateway College

### Beach



**Inosha Jayasekaraarchchi (8 years)**  
Jayawardanapura B. V., Kotte

### Up country scenery



**Senisa Dias (5 years)**  
Vidura College

### My house



**Haani Raheem (5 years)**  
Tiny Tots, Wellawatte

### Ducks



**Sansali de Silva (Grade 2)**  
Visakha Vidyalyaya



### Plucking coconuts

**Praveen Nanayakkara (7 years)**  
S. Thomas' College, Mt. Lavinia

## A parrot

A parrot is a lovely bird. It likes to eat fruits. It's green in colour. It has a red beak. They live in flocks. Parrots live in tree holes.



**Binuri Gunawardana  
(7 years)  
Musaeus College**

## Butterfly



**Thiyesa De Silva (5 years)  
Bishop's College**

### Note

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. Articles should not exceed 200 words.

## Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka is situated in the Indian Ocean close to South India. Sri Lanka's capital is Sri Jayawardenapura Kotte.



It is a multi-racial country with Sinhalese as a majority, others are Tamils, Muslims, Burghers and Malays.

Sri Lanka was formerly ruled by Tamil Kings and Sinhalese Kings and later the British, Portuguese and Dutch ruled for many years. Sri Lanka got independence in 1947. The first Prime Minister was Hon. D. S. Senanayake. Sri Lanka was formerly known as Ceylon, Tabrobane, Serendib, Seylon, Thambapani and Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka is a very beautiful country with beaches, National Parks, mountain ranges, wild life sanctuaries, historic sculptures, and thousand year old statues.

Though Sri Lanka is a small country it has hill country and low country. Due to this there are variations of climate temperature. The hills are cooler and the low country is a little hot. The highest mountain in Sri Lanka is Pidurutalagala. The highest waterfall is Bambarakanda. The longest river in Sri Lanka is the Mahaweli Ganga.

Because of the above reasons tourists from many countries visit Sri Lanka to spend their holidays or vacations. We gladly invite them in our traditional way by saying, "Ayubowan!"

**Nashwah Nawaz (9 years)  
Ilma International Girls School**

## 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 fairies dancing ground

Stay where you are,  
Don't make a sound,  
This is the fairies'  
Dancing ground.

Look thro' the leaves,  
You'll be surprised,  
This is the sight,  
That meets the eyes.

Pan plays his pipes,  
The spring elf jigs,  
The birds they dance,  
In their nest of twigs.

The flower fairies,  
Join them too,  
In cowslip caps,  
And gowns of blue.

The squirrels and chipmunks,  
Scramble down trees,  
And join in the merriment,  
That carries on in the breeze.

And now you've come,  
And seen and found,  
The little people's  
Dancing ground!

**Timaandra Wijesuriya  
(12 years)  
Holy Family Convent,  
Bambalapitiya**