

the
**SUNDAY
TIMES**


SUNDAY
JANUARY 8, 2023

FUN DAY TIMES




At the 1st National Kiddoree

Pic. by Priyanka Samaraweera

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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:

January 25, 2023

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com



Age groups:

6 – 10 years

11 – 15 years

Word limit: 100 Words

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

6 – 10 years

Let's save the trees

Trees give us food,
Trees give us shelter,
Trees give water for us,
And help us to live a better life,
Just like our parents,
So we look after our parents,
We need to look after trees too.
We should all help,
Stop deforestation,
Men, those who cut down trees,
Do a big damage to our country,
As good citizens of Sri Lanka,
It is our duty,
To protect trees,
And protect Mother Sri Lanka.



Ometh Jayalath

Lyceum Int. School, Nugegoda

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

Keepers of Day and Night

From the sublime blue,
He, having done his work,
Tired and sweating,
Sank into the west sea,
To have a lave,
At the gong of six,
It began to darken,
Without the presence of him.
And people and animals,
Hurried to their homes.
With darkness filled, And mist hung,
It was still, With no motion.

Then after a movement in the clouds,
It began to lighten,
As there came the keeper; Keeper of night.
She was round then, And she shone bright,
Which made the owls, Hoot with delight.
And I, from my window-sill,
Kept still in wonder.

Zainab Hisham

**Naleem Hajiar Ladies' College,
Beruwala**

Please note that copied poems will be disqualified.



Win super books from

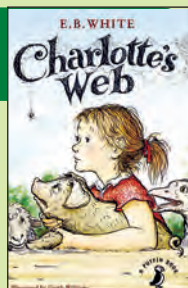


Age: 9 years and below

Word Count: 150

Topic: Back to school

Win: Charlotte's Web by E. B. White



One spring morning, a little girl called Fern rescues a runt and names him Wilbur. But then Wilbur is sent to live on a farm where he meets Charlotte, a beautiful large grey spider.

They become best friends and, when Wilbur is faced with the usual fate of nice fat little pigs, Charlotte must find a clever way to save him.

Write at the top of your Essay

■ Book Competition ■ Essay Topic

Age: 10 – 12 years

Word Count: 150 – 200

Topic: Your resolutions for 2023

Win: Rowley Jefferson's Awesome Friendly Adventure by Jeff Kinney



From the imagination of Rowley Jefferson, comes an adventure of epic proportions.

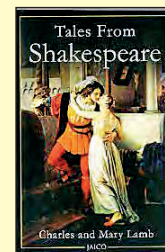
Join Roland and his best friend, Garg the Barbarian, as they leave the safety of their village and embark on a quest to save Roland's mum from the White Warlock.

Age: 13 – 15 years

Word Count: 200 – 250

Topic: Your hopes and expectations for 2023

Win: Tales from Shakespeare by Charles and Mary Lamb



William Shakespeare is acknowledged as the greatest writer and the world's pre-eminent dramatist. Charles and Mary Lamb interweave the words of Shakespeare with their own to bring 20 of his best plays to the young reader.



Book Competition



9 years and below

My favourite pet

Tania Chand

Logos College, Colombo

13 – 15 years

An unforgettable childhood incident

Thinuli Kuruppuarachchi

Methodist College, Colombo

In our online issue this week:

- **Page 5** – Book Winners Essays
- **Page 6** – Animals
- **Pages 7 – 8** – Kids News

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.



Winners please contact us on
2479337/2479333
and arrange to collect your prizes.

Winners from Colombo District
please collect your prizes from
Ninehearts (Pte) Ltd.

Contact: 0112663500/ 2687541/ 077387039.
Email: photoproducts@ninehearts.com

December 2022 – A Christmas Concert

4-7 YEARS

8-11 YEARS

12-15 YEARS



Adeesha Jayasekara
Wesley College Primary



Seyara Silva
St. Ambrose Catholic Primary School, Sydney



Hikma Manajir
Springfield College, Kandy



Thinaya Rathnayake
JMC Int., Maharagama



Omalya Senarathne
Lyceum Int. School, Nugegoda



Nethmi Batuwita
St. Bridget's Convent, Colombo



Sadintie Anjo
St. Paul's Girls' School, Milagiriya



Himaya Warnakulasuriya
St. Bridget's Convent, Colombo



Kavindu Kulasinghe
Sir. Baron Jayathilaka K. V., Gampaha

Tomahawk

Quiz No. 203

Questions for the Tomahawk Quiz No. 203 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times print issues and e-papers of December 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2022.

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. 203' 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.

One lucky winner
will receive a brand new
Tomahawk Mountain Bike
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: January 31, 2023

Tomahawk Quiz No. 202

► Esandi Ranasinghe, Madapatha



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QUESTIONS – QUIZ NO. 203

1. Give two examples of how climate change has affected animals in the Arctic and Antarctic regions.
2. Which animal is often called the 'unicorn of the sea'?
3. What is the Dutch name for St. Nicholas?
4. Name a street in Naples that is famous for crib shops and Nativity scene makers.
5. What is the Icelandic tradition of gifting books on Christmas Eve called?

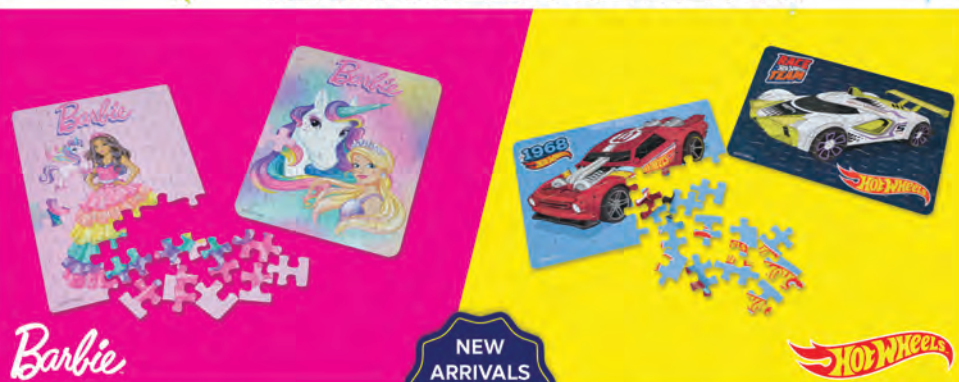


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4 - 6 years



- Umandi Dissanayake, Gampaha
- Raaid Ruzaiq, Dehiwala
- Maryam Irshad, Colombo 2
- Nethen Fernandopulle, Negombo

Winners please call
Funday Times on
2479333/2479337
and arrange
to collect your prizes.

4 – 6 AGE GROUP

Match the animals to their babies.



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9 years and below

My favourite pet

I am an animal lover. My pet animal is a dog. She is my favourite buddy. I have christened her 'Baba'. When she was 12 days old, we bought her from a pet shop. In appearance she is white in colour with bright brown eyes. She also has long fluffy hair on her body and a bushy tail which is loved by everyone in our home. I give her bread and milk every day. She is especially fond of meat and biscuits.

Baba is a faithful dog and protects our home. Whenever she sees an unknown person entering our house, she barks loudly at the strangers. She is a very child-friendly animal. She is loyal and active as well. She sleeps early at night and wakes up late in the morning.

When I come back from school, she jumps into my lap. She's one lovely pet in my life.

Tania Chand (7 years)
Logos College, Colombo

Book Competition



13 – 15 years

An unforgettable childhood incident

Before I joined Methodist College, I was a Lyceumer. I had several chums in Lyceum. The month before I left, I was selected for a welcome dance in the annual concert and as a participant for an island-wide competition representing the school. However, I couldn't take part in them as I got selected to Methodist College. Needless to say, my friends in Lyceum were wretched to hear this news. They added me to their WhatsApp group. My amigos presented me a gift which I will cherish for my lifetime.

My first day in Methodist College was very lonely as I was a stranger to my new classmates. The point is that I didn't fancy commencing things afresh. Every now and then I felt like I was going to be a lamb to the slaughter. The tables were kept in groups and the class teacher told me to sit in the table at the front. Thanks to my fate, those tables were possessed by the gossiping genre. I started having an aversion to them from my first day.

Later on, I came across a few children who are good friends indeed. Now my school life is filled with great pleasures, thrills and entertainment. When I look back with great nostalgia to my early days at Methodist, now I feel good that I didn't give up studying in Methodist College.

Thinuli Kuruppuarachchi (13 years)
Methodist College, Colombo

Gupshup Goes to Prison by Arefa Tehsin

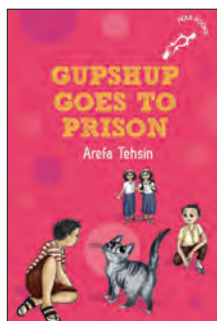
"Khalid's cat Gupshup has run away to the grounds of a prison.

An open prison, it is called, but everyone knows that prisons are full of horrible people. Or are they? How on earth will Khalid get Gupshup home?"

Usually, a prison is a place where criminals are locked up. This story is about an open prison where prisoners are not locked but free to move in and out.

The Pallekelle Open Prison Camp in Sri Lanka is one such open prison. It prepares prisoners for day-to-day existence in the community.

Over the years it has grown into a sprawling rural village, where there are no boundary walls or cells. Residents work and participate in leisure time activities. Many cultivate private plots of land and sell their produce.



Competition

Win a copy of 'Gupshup Goes to Prison'.

Write your own short story about your pet or an animal you like.

Age group: 7 – 10 years **Word count:** Maximum of 300 words

Please include the following details:

*Full Name (including Surname), Date of Birth, Address,
Telephone No. and School.*

All competition entries should be certified as your own work.



Or



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National Kiddoree 2022



On November 13, 2014, the Sri Lankan Scouting Movement started the "Singithi" Scouting Division which includes children between the ages of 5 - 7 years.

The first national event for the "Singithi" scouts named Kiddoree was held on November 26, 2022. Nearly 7000 Singithi scouts registered with the event. Open air activities and a talent show was held.

Pix. by Priyanka Samaraweera

Groundhog

The groundhog — also known as a woodchuck — is one of 14 species of marmots and one of the largest members of the squirrel family. These rodents spend much of their days alone, foraging for plants and grasses and digging burrows up to 66 feet (20 metres) long. They gorge themselves all summer to build up plentiful reserves of fat, then after the first frost, retreat to their underground burrows to snooze until spring.

Groundhog Day

Groundhog hibernation gave rise to the popular U.S. custom of Groundhog Day, held on February 2 every year. Tradition dictates that if a groundhog sees its shadow that day, there will be six more weeks of winter.

The groundhog might be a celebrity once a year, but the rest of the time he probably prefers his me-time. After all, the word *monax* in the groundhog's scientific name means 'solitary'.

Look out below!

Groundhogs often burrow under open areas such as meadows and farmlands, which can make the critter a real nuisance to farmers.



Groundhogs destroy crops and create holes in the soil, which can damage tractors and injure livestock. (People aren't the only ones who trip — cows can stumble too!)

But burrows are super-important to groundhogs. They're where they sleep, raise their babies and

even poop. (They actually have separate bathrooms!)

Burrows also provide protection from predators such as coyotes, hawks and black bears.

And it's not just the groundhog that uses its burrow — animals such as rabbits, chipmunks and snakes move in once a groundhog has moved out.

Common Name: Groundhog

Scientific Name: *Marmota monax*

Type: Mammals

Diet: Herbivore

Size: Head and body: 17.75 to 24 inches; tail: 7 to 9.75 inches

Weight: 13 pounds



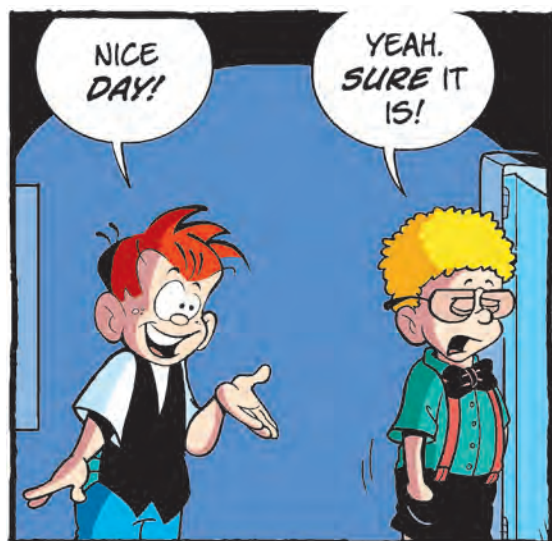
Deep sleep

Farmers get a break from pesky groundhogs in winter when the rodents enter their burrows to hibernate. In the spring, females give birth in their dens to about three to five pups. But they don't hang out for long. By around two months old, they're off on their own — whether they see their shadows or not.

- National Geographic Kids



Ginger Meggs



Film preview: Films we are excited about in 2023

With the New Year, you might be thinking about what films may be coming out in 2023 to watch at the cinema or at home. Some highly anticipated films are set to be released – from mighty Marvel films, a special Spider-Man, the much anticipated Super Mario Bros. movie and even the world famous doll Barbie is heading to the big screen.

Here's a list of all the films you should watch out for...



Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania



The bug-inspired heroes are back!

Actors Paul Rudd and Evangeline Lilly are back as Ant-Man and the Wasp in the new film Quantumania. (What a name!)

The new film will feature Ant-Man's daughter Cassie, as well as the super villain Kang the Conqueror.

This time the heroes will be exploring the secret universe 'the Quantum realm' and meeting some strange new creatures on the way.

Out: February 2023

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol.3



Starlord, Rocket Raccoon, Groot, Gamora and Drax are back!

Yep it's another Marvel film...The third and final installment of Guardians of the Galaxy is finally due to be here in the summer of 2023.

The film will focus on the Guardians' final mission and Rocket the raccoon's original story.

There's a new gold cosmic character in the film too called Adam Warlock who has been created to destroy the Guardians of the Galaxy. But will Starlord be reunited with his love Gamora and can they save the galaxy one last time?

Out: May 2023

Super Mario Bros: Movie

It's a video game we've been playing for decades and now it's being made into an animated movie!

The Super Mario Bros. video games have traditionally featured Mario on a quest to rescue his beloved Princess Peach from Bowser's castle after she is kidnapped. But what's the story in the film?

Well, the trailer makes us think the story will be set in the Mushroom Kingdom which could mean the movie is telling the original story of how they came to live there and begin their quests.

Bowser, Kamek, Koopas, Toad, Dry Bones, Donkey Kong, Luigi, Princess Peach and of course the main man himself Mario will all be there!

Out: March 2023

Guardians of the Galaxy and Jurassic World star Chris Pratt will be the voice of Mario, but he's decided not to do an Italian accent.



Film preview: Films we are excited about in 2023

The Little Mermaid



The story of Ariel – the mermaid with a beautiful voice who gives up her life in the sea to be with a handsome prince – is being retold in a live-action version inspired by the 1989 animated musical film.

Ariel will be played by actress and singer Halle Bailey and the British actor Jonah Hauer-King is Prince Eric. It's been in the works for a long time. The trailer of Halle singing 'Part of your World' was released a few months ago and lots of people, including many young black girls, are excited to see a black actress play Ariel for the first time.

Out: May 2023

Captain Marvel 2 - The Marvels



Kamala Khan (aka Ms Marvel) will team up with her hero Captain Marvel.

The sequel to Captain Marvel will finally be coming out and it's called The Marvels.

It will see the first meeting of Kamala Khan (from the Ms. Marvel TV series) with her idol Carol Danvers (Captain Marvel) and it will also feature Monica Rambeau as new hero Spectrum.

Captain Marvel wants to take revenge on the Supreme Intelligence for taking away her identity which we saw in the first film. The hero trio will be teaming up to save the universe together. Girl power!

Out: July 2023

Spiderman: Across the Spider-Verse



Our spider senses are tingling too Miles!

From the galaxy to the spider-verse...

The much anticipated sequel to Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse is swinging into cinemas and it's going to be in two parts.

Miles Morales is returning for an epic adventure that will transport him from Brooklyn's friendly neighbourhood Spider-Man to the Multiverse. He's joining forces with Gwen Stacy and a whole new team of spider people to defeat an evil and powerful villain.

Out: June 2023

Barbie

The world's most famous doll is coming to life in a live-action movie for people to see next summer.

Australian actress Margot Robbie will be playing Barbie and Hollywood actor Ryan Gosling will be starring as Barbie's famous partner Ken.

The film will be about the much-loved doll living in Barbieland, who's forced into exile due to her so-called 'imperfections'.

Barbie then sets off on an adventure discovering along the way if perfection can ever be found?

Out: July 2023



Robbie said she hoped the film would have a "positive impact on children."



Source : CBBC Newsround