

the
**SUNDAY
TIMES**

SUNDAY
MARCH 5, 2023



FUN DAY TIMES



Young animal lover at the Zoo

Pic. by Akila Jayawardena

COMPETITIONS

PAGES 2 & 4



LANDMARKS

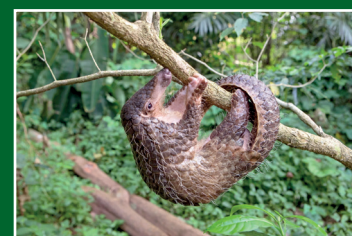
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(ONLINE)



WILDLIFE DAY

PAGE 5



ANIMALS

PAGE 6

KIDS NEWS

PAGES 7 - 8

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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 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:

March 22, 2023

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com

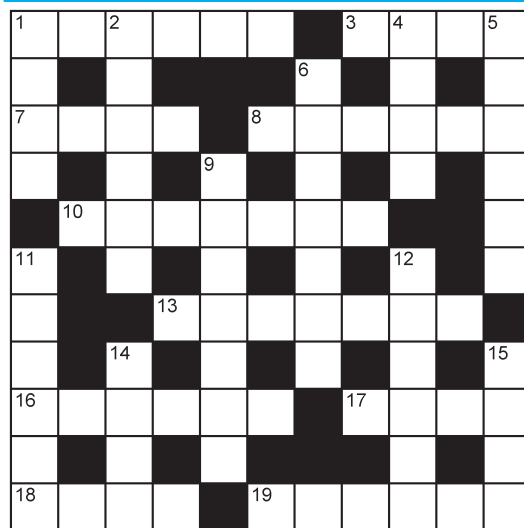


In our online issue this week:

- **Page 5** – World Wildlife Day
- **Page 6** – Animals
- **Page 7** – Kids News
- **Page 8** – News in Pictures

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.

Junior Crossword – No. 977



Across

- 1 A season
- 3 Baby cow
- 7 Gown
- 8 A metal clasp on a belt
- 10 Flown letters and parcels
- 13 Commanded
- 16 People whose job is to catch criminals
- 17 Grow weary
- 18 Comes to a finish
- 19 Purchased

Down

- 1 Certain
- 2 A burrowing animal
- 4 Enquiries
- 5 A sheep's woolly coat
- 6 A planet
- 9 Hug closely in your arms
- 11 Humans
- 12 Needlework
- 14 Pleased
- 15 A butcher sells this

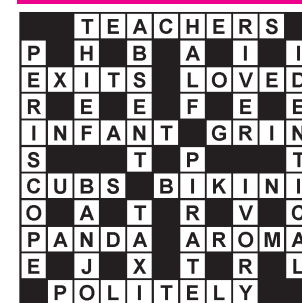
Please enter your full name, date of birth, home address, mobile number and school.

All entries must be certified by a teacher or parent as your own work.

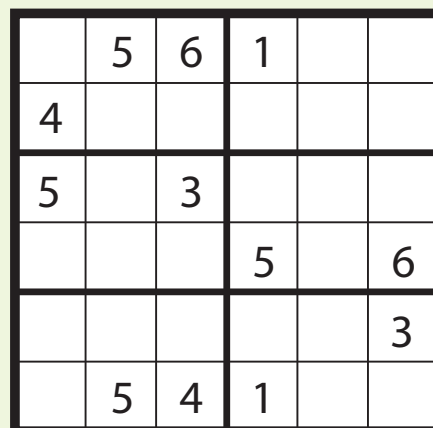


Nicole Wijewansa,
Colombo 7

Solution - No 975



Sudoku 338



Compiled by Peter Fernando

1. In the large square you can see three features:

Vertical columns

Six vertical columns with six small squares in each column.

Horizontal columns

Six horizontal columns with six small squares in each of them.

Grids

Six boxes or grids with six small squares in each grid

2. Insert Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 in the small squares in a way so as not to repeat the same number twice.

Now try to complete Junior Sudoku 338 using logic and reasoning. This is a good exercise for your mind.

Solution – No. 336

4	2	3	1	5	6
1	5	6	2	4	3
2	3	1	5	6	4
5	6	4	3	1	2
6	1	2	4	3	5
3	4	5	6	2	1

Happy Birthday



Suhanya Gamaarachchi
11 years on March 9



Nethul Induwara
5 years on March 7

Photographs of members and non-members between 4 – 15 years, for the birthday page, should reach us at least ten days before the birthday, along with a letter from a parent giving full details.

Kruger National Park

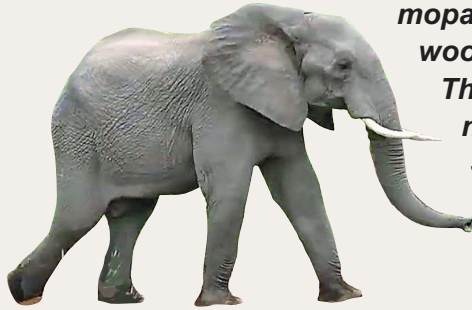


Kruger National Park

Kruger National Park is the oldest and largest park in South Africa. It spans across 19,633 square kilometres which makes it one of the largest game reserves in Africa. It was proclaimed in 1898 initially as the Sabie Game Reserve by Paul Kruger.

It is home to a number of different habitats including mountain bushveld, open savanna grassland, mopane woodlands, wooded savannah etc.

The first warden of this national park was James Stevenson-Hamilton who was appointed in 1902.



Quick Facts

- In 1898, the Kruger National Park was proclaimed a no hunting zone by the Transvaal Republic government.
- The park's borders are marked by two rivers, Crocodile River in the south and Limpopo River in the north. The largest crocodile in Africa, the Nile crocodile can be found here.
- Several other rivers run through the park including the Sabie, Olifants, Letaba, Luvuvhu etc.
- This National Parks home to over 12,000 elephants, 27,000 African buffalo, 1,000 leopards along with lions and rhino.
- At its widest point, this national park is 350 kilometers long and 60 kilometres wide.
- The park falls within a malaria zone and visitors are advised to take anti-malaria tablets to protect against mosquito bites.
- The first motorist entered the park in 1927 and the entrance fee was £1.
- A total of 49 different fish species can be found in the waters of the national park.
- The park lies in a subtropical zone where summer days are hot and humid, with temperatures often reaching 40°C.

Source: Easy Science for Kids

Famous Landmarks Quiz 39

Q: Where is Kruger National Park located?



Famous Landmarks Quiz 38



Nuha Miftha, Dehiwala



Tomahawk

Quiz
No. 205

Questions for the Tomahawk Quiz No. 205 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times print issues and e-papers of February 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2023. 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. 205' 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: March 31, 2023

Tomahawk Quiz No. 204

► Gavith Belligaswatta, Boralesgamuwa **WINNER**

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QUESTIONS – QUIZ NO. 205

1. Who was the first Ceylonese to be appointed Governor General of then Ceylon?
2. When is World Wetlands Day annually celebrated?
3. What was the magnitude of the first earthquake that struck Turkey and Syria recently?
4. What was Lord Robert Baden-Powell famous for?
5. Name five Roald Dahl books that have been made into movies.



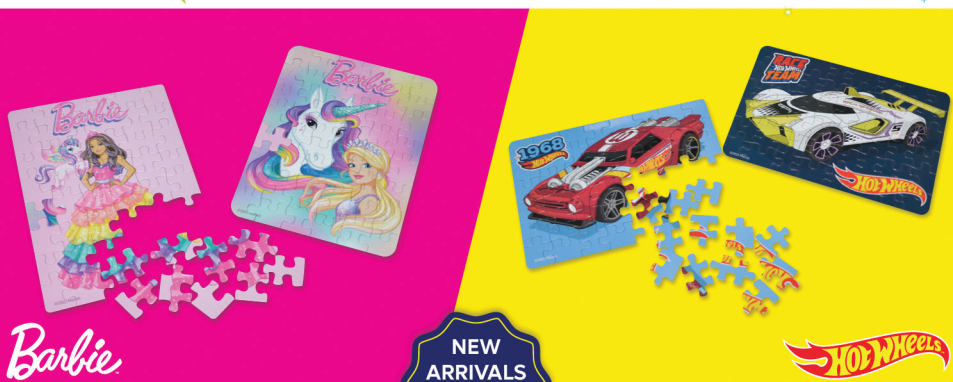
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4 – 6 AGE GROUP

Match the pictures of the animals in the wild.



World Wildlife Day 2023

Compiled by Cecilia Hewavitharana

World Wildlife Day (WWD) is held annually on March 3 and celebrates the plethora of wild fauna and flora that brings colour to our planet. It is also an opportunity to raise awareness about the important role these wild species play in the lives of humans, as well as the threats faced by wildlife and the urgent need for conservation.

The 2023 theme for WWD is “Partnerships for wildlife conservation” in honour of the people making a difference.

This year also marks the 50th anniversary of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

What is CITES?

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is an international agreement between governments that aims to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten the survival of the species.

Presently, it is responsible for providing protection (of varying degrees) to over 37,000 species of animals and plants.

1 million species of animals and plants are at risk of extinction.

IUCN Red List

The IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) Red List of Threatened Species is the world's most comprehensive database on the global extinction risk status of animal, plant and fungus species.

There are 9 categories into which species are classified:

- Not Evaluated (NE)
- Data Deficient (DD)
- Least Concern (LC)
- Near Threatened (NT)
- Vulnerable (VU)
- Endangered (EN)
- Critically Endangered (CR)
- Extinct in the Wild (EW)
- Extinct (EX)



WWD Poster Design: Xavi Reñé



Hawksbill Turtle (CR)

Some statistics that put into perspective the importance of wildlife to humans:

- ♦ Around 50,000 wild species meet the needs of billions of people around the world, through their uses for food, energy, medicine and material, etc.
- ♦ More than 2.4 billion people (approximately one-third of the human population) rely on fuel wood for cooking.
- ♦ Protected areas worldwide had 8 billion visitors annually prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and generated an annual revenue of US\$ 600 billion, with the highest number of visitors being to species-rich countries.



Orangutan (CR)

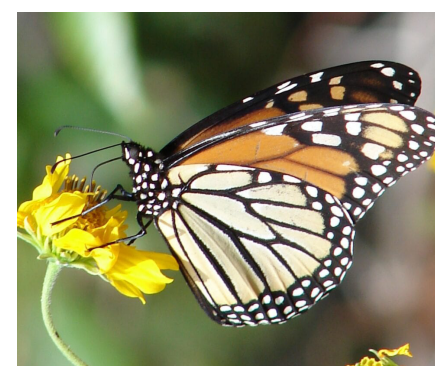
Earth is a giant ecosystem and an ecosystem is much like a cloth, where every organism is a thread. If even one thread is pulled, the cloth will eventually turn to tatters. And it is up to us humans to prevent that from happening.



Snow Leopard (VU)

More statistics highlighting the threats to wildlife and biodiversity:

- ♦ More than 25% of the world's forests are affected by industrial logging.
- ♦ 1,341 species of wild mammals are threatened by unsustainable hunting, including 669 species that have already been determined as threatened.
- ♦ 449 species of sharks and rays have been categorised as threatened, mostly due to unsustainable fishing (e.g. being taken as by-catch).



Monarch Butterfly (EN)

Pangolin

Dozens of ants spill out of a nearby bush, each insect scrambling to outrun a strange-looking object lumbering toward them. It's a pangolin, an animal covered in hard scales that uses its long tongue to slurp up insects for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Common Name: Pangolin
Scientific Name: *Manidae*
Diet: Insectivore
Average Life Span: Unknown
Size: 45 inches to 4.5 feet long
Weight: 4 to 72 pounds



Tongue Time

Pangolins live in many different habitats, including rainforests and grasslands. Four species of pangolins live throughout Asia: Chinese, Sunda, Indian and Philippine pangolins. The other four — ground, giant, white-bellied and black-bellied — live in Africa.

Solitary animals, pangolins are active mostly at night. Many live on the ground, but some, like the black-bellied pangolin, also climb trees.

Like anteaters, pangolins have long snouts and even longer tongues, which they use to snack on ants and termites they dig up from mounds with their powerful front claws. Up to 28 inches, a pangolin's sticky tongue is sometimes as long as its body, minus the tail!

Playing Defense

All pangolins are covered in scales made of keratin — the same material as human fingernails — which gives them the nickname 'scaly anteater.' The pangolin's armour is so tough that even predators such as lions can't bite through it.

When threatened, pangolins roll into a ball, like an armadillo, making them less than half their normal size. This helps them shield their stomach and face, which aren't covered in protective scales. From this position, pangolins can release a stinky fluid



from a gland at the base of their spiky tails to keep predators away.

Saving Pangolins

All pangolins face declining populations because of illegal trade. In fact, they're believed to be the world's most trafficked non-human mammal. Their scales, like rhino horns, have no proven medicinal value, yet they're used in traditional Chinese medicine to help with health problems such as arthritis. The scales are typically dried and ground up into powder, which is sometimes turned into pills. Tens of thousands of pangolins are poached for their scales each year, as well as for their meat.

Government officials, conservationists and investigative journalists in Asia and Africa are working together to protect these shy, harmless animals.

By revealing the methods poachers use to capture these animals, activists hope to prevent criminals from harming pangolins.



Fun Facts

- ♦ A single pangolin can eat up to 70 million insects in a year.
- ♦ Pangolins are more closely related to cats, dogs and bears than to armadillos and anteaters.
- ♦ These animals close their ears and nostrils to keep out insects while eating.
- ♦ A pangolin's scales make up about 20 percent of its weight.
- ♦ Pangolins are the only mammals with scales.

National Geographic Kids



A special event for animal lovers was held at the Dehiwala Zoo recently.

Pix. by Akila Jayawardena

Winnie-the-Pooh: Poohsticks bridge up for sale

February 28, 2023

A bridge which inspired Winnie-the-Pooh's favourite game is to be put up for sale.

The wooden bridge, where Poohsticks was invented, is used to cross a stream in Ashdown forest in East Sussex.

The creator of Winnie-the-Pooh, A.A. Milne, played the game with his son Christopher Robin when walking in the forest.



The bridge was taken out of the forest when it became unsafe in 1999, but is now up for sale again.

What happened to the original Poohsticks bridge?

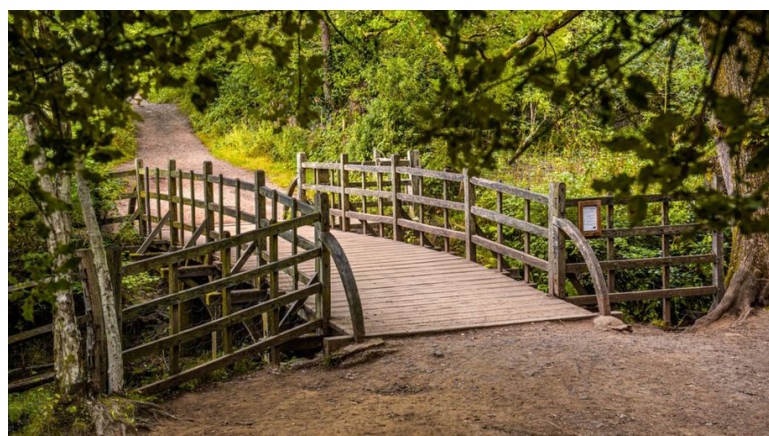
The bridge which inspired Poohsticks was taken away in 1999 because it was damaged after years of walkers – and Poohstick players – using it.

Each year January 18 is National Winnie-the-Pooh Day in the United Kingdom – a day that celebrates the bear as well as the author of the Winnie-the-Pooh stories, A. A. Milne.



It was repaired and sold in 2021 but the new owner, Lord De La Warr, now says he needs to sell it on.

Lord De La Warr originally bought the bridge for £131,000 and put it up near its original home. He said he paid so much for it to make sure it stayed near the Hundred Acre Wood from the Winnie-the-Pooh stories.

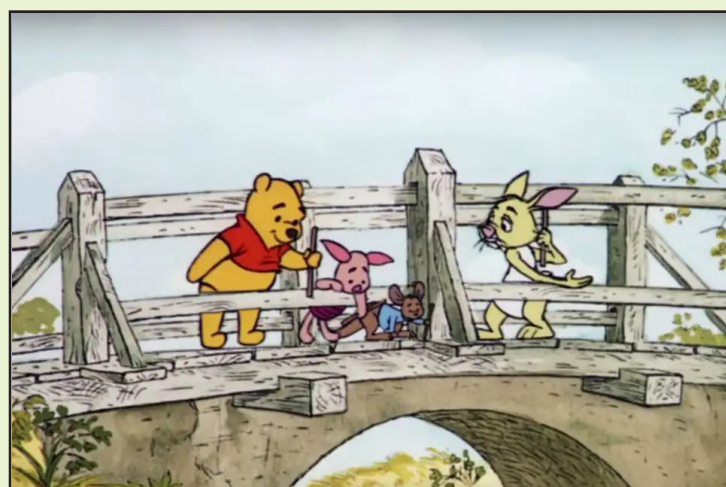


There's a new Poohsticks bridge in the Hundred Acres Wood today

How to play Poohsticks:

(To be played with a responsible adult)

- You need at least two people, a stream or river with a bridge, and some sticks
- Pick your poohstick – long or short, fat or thin
- Everyone stand on the upstream side of the bridge – stick at the ready
- 3! 2! 1! Throw the stick into the water at the same time
- Run to the other side of the bridge to see whose stick appears first...



Source: CBBC Newsround

Holi, India's joyous Festival of Colours

February 27, 2023

What better way to welcome spring than by covering your friends with coloured powder?

That is the essence of the popular Indian festival of Holi, also known as the Festival of Colours. The date of the fun holiday is determined by the Hindu calendar. In 2023, Holi will fall on March 8. Holi celebrations vary by state.

But they all include a friendly colour "fight." People of all ages take to the streets early in the morning to douse anyone they meet with coloured powder and water. At around noon, the crowds head home for a quick rinse. They then settle down for a delicious feast and a much-needed nap.

There are many folktales associated with the centuries-old celebration.



Source: DOGO News

February 28

News in Pictures

**Adiyaman, Turkey**

A child pets a dog called Bincir, adopted after being rescued from the rubble after the 7.7 and 7.6 magnitude earthquakes hit multiple provinces.

**Katsura City, Japan**

Japanese ornamental dolls (hina dolls) are displayed on the stone steps at Tomisaki shrine during the Katsura Big Hinamatsuri Festival.

**Port Talbot, Wales**

Britain's Kate, Princess of Wales (left) and Prince William take part in a spin class during a visit to Aberavon Leisure and Fitness Center to meet local communities and hear about how sport and exercise can support mental health and wellbeing.

**Almolonga, Mexico**

Residents of the town celebrate the traditional Afromestizo Carnival.

**Jieyang, China**

People jump across a bonfire for good luck.

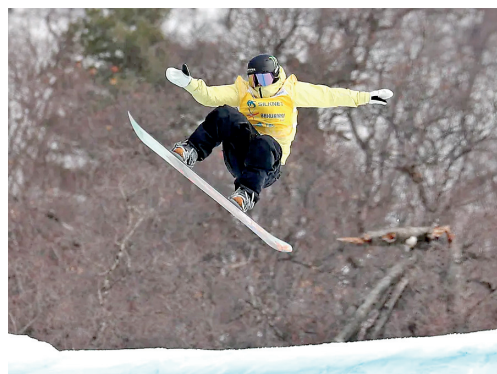
**Chopok, Slovakia**

Competitors in the 4th annual horn sled race. The horn sleds are made of wood and are built for races. The teams compete on a 2,500 metre track and reach top speeds of up to 100km/h.

February 27

**Istanbul, Turkey**

Besiktas' Jackson Muleka holds a teddy bear as fans throw toys on the pitch for children affected by earthquake during a Turkish Super League match between Besiktas and Antalyaspor.

**Bakuriani, Georgia**

Britain's Mia Brookes (16 years), in winning form during the women's snowboard slopestyle at the 2023 Freestyle Ski and Snowboarding World Championships.

**Los Angeles, USA**

Actors Michelle Yeoh, Ke Huy Quan, Stephanie Hsu, Jamie Lee Curtis, James Hong and cast, pose with their awards for the film 'Everything Everywhere All at Once' at the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) awards in Century City.

Source : The Guardian