

the
**SUNDAY
TIMES**

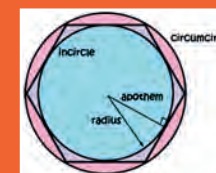
SUNDAY
OCTOBER 19, 2025

FUN DAY TIMES



Celebrating Children's Day with Art

Pic. by Nilan Maligaspe



**MATHS
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ONLINE



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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.**

**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 Number 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 this week's competitions:
November 5, 2025**

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com



**In our online issue
this week:**

- **Page 5** – Famous People
- **Page 6** – World Food Day
- **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.

'Chaos & Freedom' Art Exhibition



'Chaos & Freedom' Art Exhibition by The Secret Garden Colombo (TSG) was held at the Lionel Wendt on October 1 - 2, 2025 to showcase paintings by their little artists to celebrate World Children's Day and the 16th Anniversary of TSG.

Pix by Nilan Maligaspe

Making cards for Teachers' Day at British Council Library, Jaffna

To celebrate World Teachers' Day, the British Council Library in Jaffna hosted a special card-making session, honouring the incredible teachers who inspire, guide and shape young minds.

The event was a heartfelt tribute to the dedication, wisdom and unwavering support that teachers provide every day.

Children were encouraged and supported by library staff as they created their own personalised cards, expressing appreciation for the teachers who have helped lead them on the right path.

Smiles lit up the room as children proudly shared their handmade cards, making the evening a memorable celebration for everyone involved.



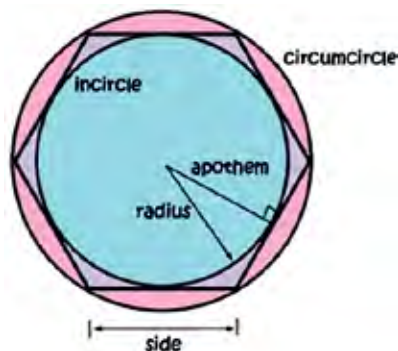
Maths in Action 95

By R. N. A. de Silva

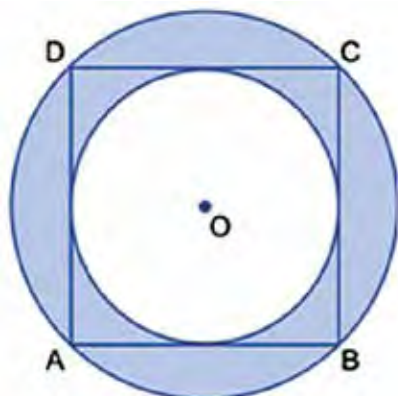
Area between the Incircle and Circumcircle



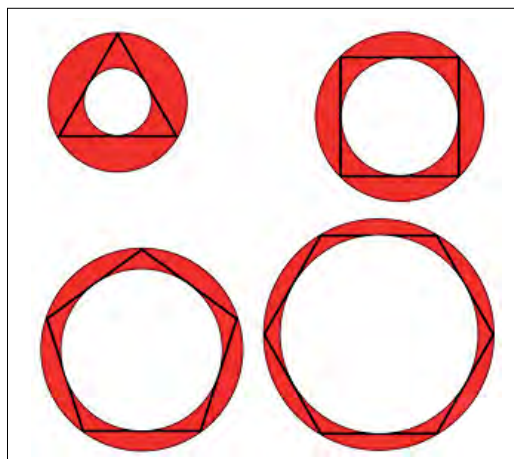
The incircle of a polygon is the largest circle that can be drawn touching all of the sides of the polygon. The circumcircle is the circle passing through all vertices of the polygon.



Consider a square where all sides are of length 1 unit. Draw the incircle and the circumcircle. Using your knowledge of geometry, try to find the areas of the incircle and the circumcircle and find the difference between them.

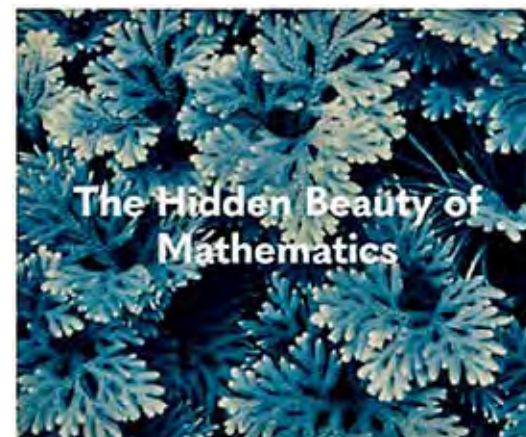


If you are comfortable with trigonometry, you might be able to do the same with an equilateral triangle of side 1 unit and thereafter a regular pentagon of side 1 unit. You will find that the difference in areas is the same in all of these and it is equal to $\pi/4$.



The area between the incircle and circumcircle of any regular polygon of unit side length is always $\pi/4$ square units, irrespective of the number of sides of the polygon.

This is another instance where the beauty and elegance of mathematics is demonstrated.



Math Plot - 95

Try to find the solution to the following puzzle. You may send solutions with reasoning to

rnades@gmail.com

within the next three days.

Please include your full name, date of birth, home address, contact details and the name of your school along with the solution.

A merchant can fit 10 small boxes or 8 large boxes into a container for shipping. In one shipment, he sent 96 boxes. If there were more small boxes than large boxes, how many full containers did he ship?

Math Plot 94 – Solution

The answer is 10.

The winner is
Kajaenn Rathusan
of **Vidyananda College, Mullaitivu.**
Congratulations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Hayyan Hazmar
14 years on October 24

Hi Kids,

Please send in your Articles and Art for Kids' World, to be published in the Funday Times online edition and website.

As you can see, we have space only once a month for Kids' World articles and art in the print edition. Therefore, we are planning to carry them every week in the Funday Times online pages as well as on the Funday Times website.

We also invite schools to send in their students' work for a school page in the online edition and website.

Thanking you in anticipation of your positive response.



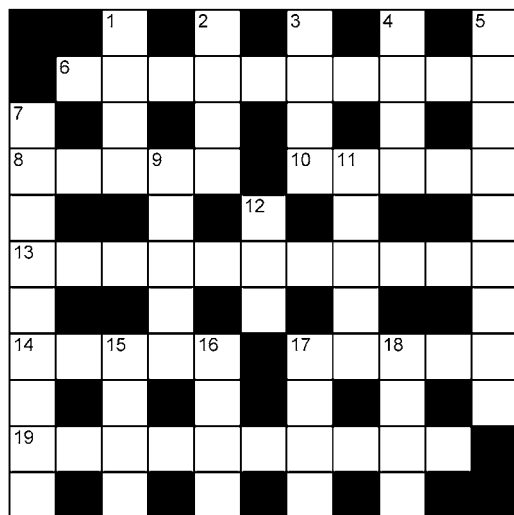
Or



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FROM THE EDITOR

LUMALA Crossword – No. 14



- Across**
- 6 Peter Pan's fairy friend
 - 8 Frequently
 - 10 A steam bath
 - 13 A green jumping insect
 - 14 The capital of Japan
 - 17 Fixes
 - 19 Working out at the gym

- Down**
- 1 Elevator
 - 2 The body's covering
 - 3 Find these in sleeves
 - 4 Restaurant's meal list
 - 5 A very large seabird
 - 7 Not remembered
 - 9 Something written by a student
 - 11 A pip fruit
 - 12 Bashful
 - 15 A joint in your leg
 - 16 A cry of pain
 - 17 Untidy shambles
 - 18 Not any

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

LUMALA BICYCLE COMPETITION

You now have a chance to win a brand new **LUMALA bicycle** for your own. One lucky winner will receive a brand new Lumala bicycle each month. All you have to do is fill in the Lumala Crossword No. 14, according to the clues given. Write the answers neatly on a postcard or paper, and send it to **Funday Times**. Cut the strip '**LUMALA Crossword No. 14**' seen at the top of the page and paste it on your entry.

Closing Date: October 28, 2025

Age Group: 8 – 15 years

Solution No. 13



Or

fundaytimes1@gmail.com



7 – 9 AGE GROUP

Spot 10 differences between the two pictures.



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7 – 9 years



- ▶ Leshem Rodrigo, Moratuwa
- ▶ Taaib Shaza Ahmed, Dehiwala
- ▶ Dehansa Omindee, Rajagiriya
- ▶ Ahdha Abdul Malik, Colombo 2

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

Bill Gates



Bill Gates was one of the founders of Microsoft Corporation, which became the largest computer software company in the world.

Software is the name for the programs or instructions, that tell a computer what to do.

The success of Microsoft made Gates one of the richest people in the world.

Early Life

William Henry Gates III was born on October 28, 1955, in Seattle, Washington, U.S.A. His father was a lawyer and his mother was a community volunteer. He had two sisters, one older and one younger. Known as Trey to his family, Bill was a bright and competitive child who loved math and reading. At age 8, he began reading encyclopedias for fun. But in grade school, he was bored. His parents decided to send him to Lakeside, a private middle and high school.

At Lakeside, Bill became an excellent student. He also discovered computers. When he was 13, he wrote his first software program: a tic-tac-toe game. Bill and some friends later wrote programs for their school and for companies.

Career

In 1973, Gates entered Harvard University. While at Harvard, he and his friend Paul Allen developed software for the first microcomputers. (Microcomputers were smaller and more affordable than earlier computers.) The friends were so successful that Gates left Harvard before graduating. With Allen, he founded Microsoft.

In 1981, the company IBM included Microsoft software in its new personal computers (PCs). Other companies soon began making PCs, and they also depended on Microsoft software.

Microsoft offered the first version of Windows in 1985. Windows was based on earlier programs, such as the system that Apple had created for its Macintosh computers. Information was displayed in multiple tiles, called "windows," on the computer screen. Soon nearly every PC used Windows.

In the 1990s, Microsoft began focusing on software related to the Internet. By the 1990s, Gates had a fortune worth tens of billions of dollars. He decided to give away a large portion of it.

In 1994, he and his wife, Melinda, started a foundation that gave money to many projects around the world. For example, the foundation supported efforts to end the disease polio. The couple also funded libraries and scholarships in the USA.

In 2008, Gates retired from running Microsoft to work more with his foundation.



William H. Gates III

Source:
Britannica Kids



World Food Day 2025

Compiled by Cecilia Hewavitharana

In 1979, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) declared October 16 as World Food Day to raise awareness about the large portion of the world's population that suffers from hunger and malnutrition and to drive action to alleviate the situation. October 16 also marks the day of the FAO's foundation in 1945, with this year's anniversary marking 80 years.

This year's theme for World Food Day is 'Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future', aiming to highlight how some parts of the world suffer from hunger while obesity and food waste continues to rise in other parts of the world.

Currently, approximately 700 million people are experiencing hunger, while almost 2.3 billion people (amounting to over a quarter of the world's population) experienced moderate or severe food insecurity last year.

In 2024, the leading cause of food crises in 20 countries and territories was conflict, with almost 140 million experiencing high levels of food insecurity.

Food security means reliably being able to access safe and nutritious food necessary for people to develop



normally and live a healthy life.

Due to the growing world population, more food is needed. However, the cost of food has been driven up by conflicts and inflation while climate change is further affecting the availability of food.

What can be done to help?

People, organisations and governments can help in many ways to alleviate the crisis.

Here are some of those ways:

Farmers can practice sustainable farming practices (e.g., agroecology, organic farming and agroforestry) to improve biodiversity, conserve natural resources, reduce environmental impacts and increase productivity.

Farmers can also cultivate a wide variety of nutrient-rich crops and livestock products by diversifying crop production.

Plants constitute 80% of our calories and produce 98% of the oxygen we breathe, but 66% of total crop production is made up of only 9 plant species.

local and seasonal vegetables and fruits daily and adding more legumes, nuts and whole grains to our diet, as legumes and nuts need less water to be produced and improve the fertility of the soil it grows in.



We can also help by reducing food waste by efficiently planning our meals, following recipes that keep food waste to minimum, and by composting any organic leftovers or refuse instead of disposing of it into landfills.

Other ways by which we can help is volunteering our time to help those in need or providing essential supplies to them.

Sources: FAO, World Economic Forum



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



Or



fundaytimes1@gmail.com



Young Reporters Coupon

Name:

Date of Birth:

Address:

.....

Telephone:

School:

Parent's approval: Date:

.....

Hostages and prisoners released for Gaza ceasefire

October 13, 2025

There were scenes of celebration in Israel as crowds gathered to welcome home Israelis who've been held in Gaza.

It's part of the ceasefire deal agreed between Israel and Hamas.

Hamas is releasing all the remaining Israeli hostages, who were kidnapped on October 7, 2023 when this conflict started, and in exchange Israel is releasing hundreds of Palestinian prisoners, who are also being greeted by crowds.

US President Donald Trump has arrived in the Middle East – he is speaking at Israel's parliament, before heading to Egypt to meet around 20 other world leaders.

The ceasefire in Gaza is a pause in the fighting and has been described as a "first phase", with many more details still to be agreed to achieve a lasting peace.

Thousands of people gathered around big screens in Hostages Square, Tel Aviv, waiting for news that hostages had been released, waving Israeli flags and signs saying "they're coming home".

The hostages being released by Hamas were handed over to the Red Cross charity in Gaza.

They were then flown by the Israeli military to a base in southern Israel, to be looked after and given health checks by doctors, before being able to meet their families.



Crowds in Israel to welcome returning hostages.

The hostages that have died will also be returned to their families as part of the agreement.

Israel has also released Palestinian prisoners, as part of the ceasefire deal.

From the early hours of the morning, dozens of families waited for the release of their relatives from prisons in Israel.

After being transported by bus, the first of those released were welcomed by crowds, including friends and relatives.

Over the weekend, tens of thousands of Palestinians have started returning to northern Gaza, including parts of Gaza City, which many had left during the fighting.



Aid has begun arriving in Gaza.

Many homes, schools, hospitals, mosques and shops have been badly damaged or destroyed there after months of airstrikes and shelling.

The pause in fighting comes after peace talks led by the United States and involving Israel, Hamas and Arab countries.

It involves the Israeli military pulling back to an agreed point within Gaza, Israeli hostages and Palestinian prisoners being released, and more aid going into Gaza.



Monopoly stamps released for anniversary

October 10, 2025

A new set of stamps is being released to mark the 90th anniversary of the board game, Monopoly.

Monopoly is a popular board game that's sold more than 275 million copies since its first release in the 1930s.

The 10 stamps include images of some of the locations from the classic game, including Old Kent Road, Liverpool Street Station and Park Lane, as well as Free Parking and Chance.

Royal Mail is also releasing a limited-edition run of 5,000 Monopoly postbox playing tokens – to add to the standard tokens in

the game like the boot, dog and top hat.

The board game first came to the UK in the 1930s, when John Waddington Limited of Leeds secured the European licence, following its original release in the United States.

Monopoly is now played in 114 countries and translated into more than 40 languages.

There are also thousands of different editions of Monopoly with different cities and themes, from music to sport and films.



Source: CBBC Newsround

October 14**News in Pictures****Potsdam, Germany**

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz observes an experiment with children at a kindergarten in Potsdam during his first official visit to the eastern federal state of Brandenburg.

**Thorlakshofn, Iceland**

Northern Lights, also called *aurora borealis*, illuminate the night sky near the town of Thorlakshofn, in Iceland.

**Khan Younis, Gaza**

An aerial view of al-Mawasi area, where thousands of displaced Palestinians live in makeshift tents by the sea.

Trieste, Italy

A general view as the Arca Sgr wins the Barcolana Sailing Regatta, the largest sailing regatta in the world.

**October 13****USA**

Oscar-winning actress Diane Keaton (pictured here in the movie 'Morning Glory'), who starred in 'Annie Hall' and started her stellar career in 'The Godfather', has died aged 79.

**Brussels, Belgium**

People attend a demonstration during a nationwide strike against the Belgian government's reform plans.

**Poza Rica, Mexico**

A pickup truck hangs over a fence in Veracruz State after a tropical storm caused flooding.

**Caracas, Venezuela**

People from various Indigenous ethnic groups walk during a rally on Indigenous Resistance Day.

**Timbuktu, Mali**

The annual, public replastering of Djinguereber Mosque. The 2025 replaster marks the 700th anniversary of the mosque's construction.

Sources: The Guardian & Reuters