Fun on Children's Day

Pic. by M. A. Pushpa Kumara

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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:
October 23, 2024

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: _fundaytimes1@gmail.com_

Children's Day was celebrated at Maple Kids International, Nawala on October 1, 2024.

Pix by M. A. Pushpa Kumara

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Briget Calista
15 years on October 12

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.

FROM THE EDITOR

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 _fundaytimes1@gmail.com_

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.

Maths in Action 85
By R. N. A. de Silva

Dropping Toothpicks

√Maths

In 1977, French mathematician Georges Buffon discovered an amazing property connecting the probability of dropped needles crossing drawn lines on paper with the value of pi (π), which is approximately 3.141592. This procedure is called 'Buffon's Needle' in his honour.
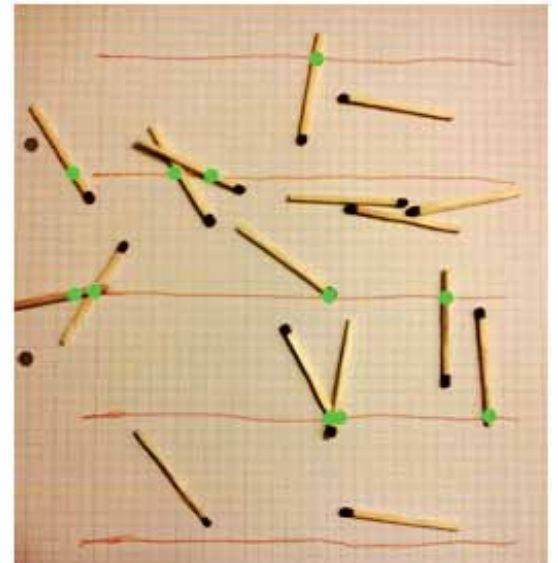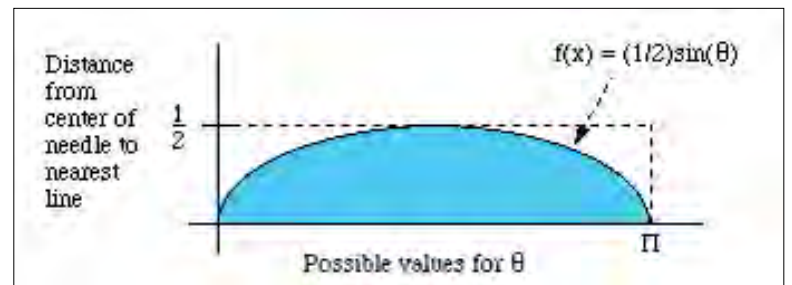
Try this experiment yourself.

You will need about 50 to 100 toothpicks or matchsticks. You also need an A4 sheet of paper. It can be even bigger than that.

1. Measure the length of a toothpick. It may probably be about 6.5 cm.
2. On the sheet of paper draw parallel lines (maybe about 4 lines) which are apart of the distance as measured above.
3. Keep the sheet of paper on a flat surface.
4. Drop the toothpicks onto the paper. If you do not have a sufficient number of toothpicks, you can drop the same toothpick many times.
5. Count the number of toothpicks touching or crossing a line.
6. Divide this number by the total number of toothpicks (or total number of trials).

A: Not touching a line
B: Touching or crossing a line

As an example, if you have dropped 80 toothpicks or a toothpick 80 times, and out of those the number of times that it crossed or touched a drawn line is 52, then the probability is 52/80 or 0.65.

Buffon observed that it is approximately equal to $2/\pi$, which is 0.6366 approximated to four decimal places.

Later, he proved that if you do this experiment a very large number of times the probability is in fact equal to $2/\pi$.

To prove this result, you need to have learnt calculus, as it involves finding the area under a curve. For those who know calculus, we define two variables: the angle at which the needle falls as θ and the distance from the centre of the needle to the closest line as D.
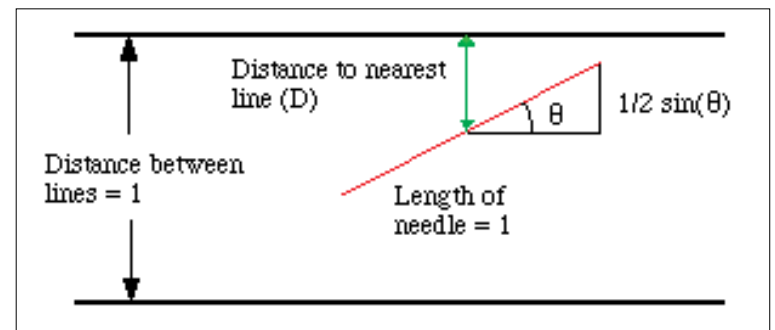
θ can vary from 0 to 180 degrees. D can never be more than half the distance between the lines. D is graphed against θ and the area under the curve is found through integration which will give a result of $\pi/2$.

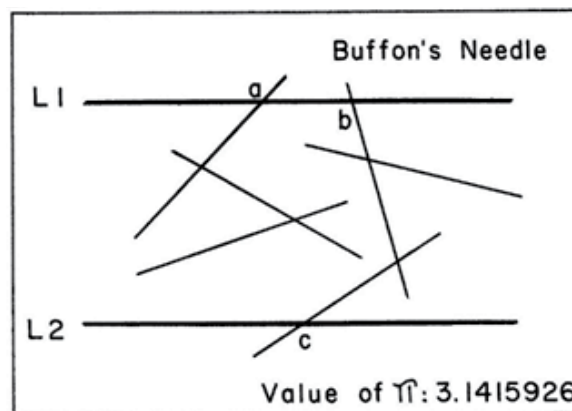Therefore, the probability of a hit is $1/(\pi/2)$ which is equal to $2/\pi$.

Value of π: 3.1415926

Math Plot – 85

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.

This is a Magic Square. This means that the numbers add up to the same total in every direction: vertical, horizontal and diagonal.

Every row, column and diagonal should add up to 111. Find the missing numbers.

		7
13	37	

LUMALA Crossword – No. 2

Across
1 Abducted for ransom
6 Finished
7 A painter uses this
9 A hired car
10 Shuts
12 Thief
14 Restaurant meal list
17 Male duck
18 These are counted in an election
19 The day before today
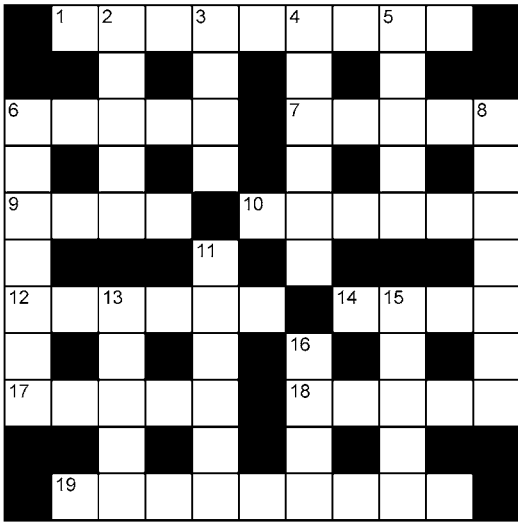
Down
2 Alphabetical list at the back of a book
3 Naked
4 School students
5 Doors out of a building
6 Went in
8 Paper hankies
11 Choose
13 Part of a knife
15 More than is needed
16 Opposite of under

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. 2, according to the clues given. Write the answers neatly on a postcard or paper, and send it in to us.

Cut the strip '**LUMALA Crossword No. 2**' seen at the top of the page and paste it on your entry.

Age Group: 8 – 15 years

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

Closing Date: October 31, 2024

Solution No. 1

WINNER
Kisara Attanayaka, Kandana

21 speed SHIMANO Gear System
Front and Back Suspention
Front + Rear Disk Brakes
Aluminum Rims

@LUMALABIKES
119, OLD GALLE RD, HENAMULLA, PANADURA
TEL: 077 755 2222
LUMALA

Or *fundaytimes1@gmail.com*
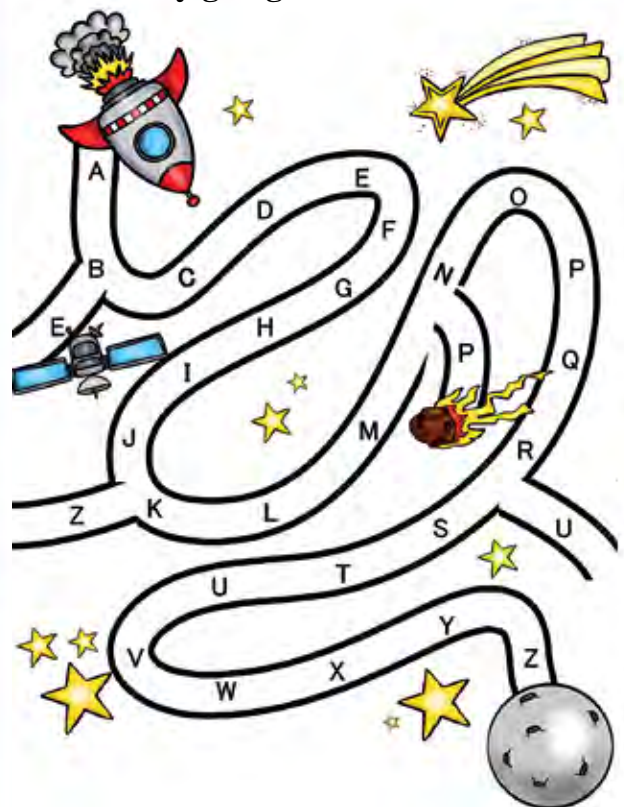
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4 – 6 years WINNERS
▸ **Senushk Wijesinghe,** Malabe
▸ **Zaeem Ahmadh,** Mt. Lavinia
▸ **Amhar Nafees,** Gampola
▸ **Ranaya Abeywickrama,** Galle
▸ **Ahdha Abdul Malik,** Colombo 2

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

4 – 6 AGE GROUP

Help the Rocket get to the Moon by going from A to Z.

Or *fundaytimes1@gmail.com*

World Animal Day

Compiled by Cecilia Hewavitharana

World Animal Day is celebrated annually on October 4 to raise awareness about the need to improve animal welfare standards around the world. This year's theme is 'The world is their home too!'

Animals, of course, cannot speak for themselves, which is why us humans need to be their voices. The following are some of the issues that animals around the world face.

Companion animals:

- Selective/illegal/intensive breeding
- Smuggling
- Pet theft
- Abandonment
- Neglect
- Full shelters
- Stray dog and cat management
- Animal-human conflict
- Rabies and other diseases
- Cruelty/abuse

Farmed and working animals:

- Fur farming
- Selective breeding
- Mutilations — tail docking, teeth clipping, beak trimming, etc.
- Neglect — no shelter, water, etc.
- Inadequate nutrition
- Cruelty
- Lack of enrichment
- Overworking/overloading
- Insufficient veterinary care
- Live transport
- Slaughter conditions

Animals used in tourism and entertainment:

- Forced into unnatural behaviour and interactions
- Killed during animal fighting, including bullfighting, bull running, dog fighting, cock fighting, etc.
- Subject to inhumane training methods
- Drugged to increase compliance
- Loss of dignity
- Deprived of natural habitat
- Restrictive living conditions
- Overwork
- Injury
- Wild capture

In addition to the above, animals used in experiments are subjected to isolation, neglect, pain, fear, and often die in the course of experiments, while animals in the wild face a variety of other issues, such as habitat loss, pollution, wildlife-human conflict, wildlife trading / smuggling, and hunting.

History of World Animal Day

World Animal Day was the idea of Heinrich Zimmerman (1887–1942), a journalist, editor, writer, and animal protection activist, who was born in Poland, but lived in Germany. He was the publisher of the magazine, Mensch und Hund (Man and Dog), which he used to promote the welfare of animals.

On March 24, 1925, he organised the first World Animal Day celebration in Berlin, which was attended by over 5,000 people. In 1929, he moved it to October 4, which is the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology, including animals. The date was supposed to be October 4, from the celebration's inception, but the only venue large enough to hold the thousands of attendees for the first celebration was not available on that day.

Initially, support for the day came only from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Czechoslovakia. After working tirelessly to promote World Animal Day, his proposal to make October 4, World Animal Day universal was finally accepted at a congress of the world's animal protection organisations in Florence, Italy, in 1931.

The Five Freedoms

The 'Five Freedoms' are globally recognised standards that outline how anyone responsible for animals should meet their physical and mental needs:

1. Freedom from hunger and thirst
2. Freedom from discomfort
3. Freedom from pain, injury, or disease
4. Freedom to express (most) normal behaviour
5. Freedom from fear and distress

THE 'FIVE FREEDOMS'
of #AnimalWelfare

The 'Five Freedoms' apply to anyone who is responsible for looking after animals.
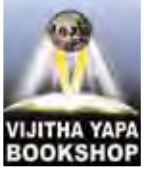They should ensure that the animals are taken care of properly. That includes:

1. Freedom from hunger or thirst
2. Freedom from discomfort
3. Freedom from pain, injury or disease
4. Freedom to express (most) normal behaviour
5. Freedom from fear and distress

WORLD ANIMAL DAY OCTOBER 4

worldanimalday.org.uk

Read-a-Book and win a voucher from Vijitha Yapa Bookshop

Read any book of your choice and write briefly about it.
What we want is not just a summary of the story but your views on the book.
The best account in the three age groups will be awarded book vouchers of Rs. 500 each from Vijitha Yapa Bookshop.
Three winners will be selected each month.
Your account should not exceed 200 words. Please indicate word count, fill in the coupon and attach it to your entry.

Or

fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Read-a-Book Competition

Name : ....
....
Date of birth :
....
Address : ....
....
....
....
School: ....
Tel: ....
Finished book on : ....
....

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:
....

BLANK CANVAS

ART EXHIBITION

BY THE STUDENTS OF THE SECRET GARDEN COLOMBO
DATE: 5TH & 6TH OF OCTOBER 2024
TIME: 10AM TO 10PM
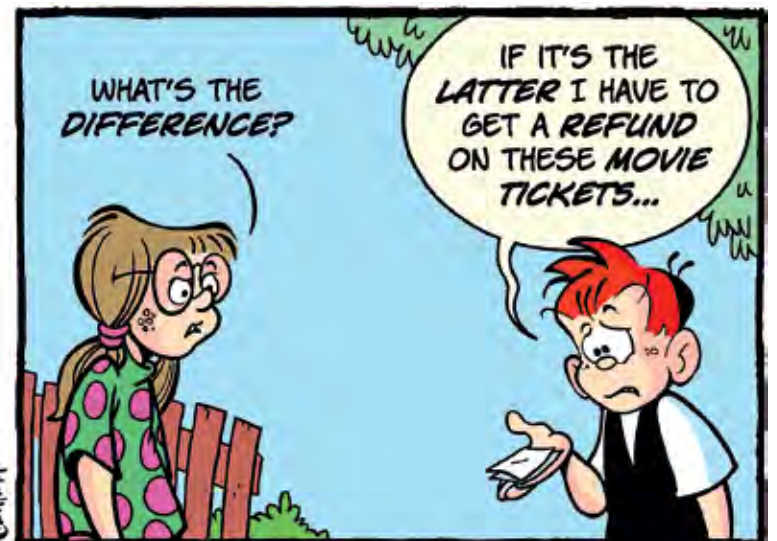VENUE: PORT CITY MALL

Open to the public

Entrance free

JOKES

How does the ocean say hello?
It waves!

Why did the banana go to the doctor?
It wasn't peeling well

Ginger Meggs

MINNIE SAYS SHE NEEDS TO TALK TO YOU.

DID SHE SAY SHE NEEDS TO TALK TO ME? OR 'WE NEED TO TALK'?

IS THERE LIFE BEFORE COFFEE?

6089 GINGERMEGGS.COM   Dist. by Universal Uclick

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

IF IT'S THE LATTER I HAVE TO GET A REFUND ON THESE MOVIE TICKETS...

Is Mount Everest getting taller?

September 30, 2024

The tallest mountain in the world, Mount Everest, is unlikely to be giving up that title any time soon.

According to new research, the huge mountain has effectively 'grown' over the last 89,000 years - by as much as 15-50m - and it's increasing every year,

Everest lies on the border of Nepal and Tibet in the Himalayan mountain range.

The study, carried out by scientists at University College London, reveals nearby rivers are pushing it upwards little by little.

How does a river push a mountain upwards?

The mountain lies amidst the harsh environment of the Himalayas and only experienced climbers with specialist guides and expensive equipment are able to reach the summit.

But around 75 kilometres from the base of the mountain, there is a river network carving through the land creating a deep gorge.

Tonnes of rock and soil is eroded away, causing pressure from beneath the Earth's mantle (a thick layer of mineral rock under the Earth's crust), pushing the mountain upwards.

As the huge amount of sediment has been moved away, the land has become lighter and the Earth's crust has pushed up slowly, leading to Everest's growth spurt - it's a process called isostatic rebound, write the study's authors.

Lead author of the study, Dr Xu Han, said: "The changing height of Mount Everest really highlights the dynamic nature of the Earth's surface.

"The interaction between the erosion of the Arun river and the upward pressure of the Earth's mantle gives Mount Everest a boost, pushing it up higher than it would otherwise be."

Mount Everest has been recorded at 8,849m high, but who knows how tall it will be in 20 years time

Co-author, PhD student Adam Smith, of UCL Earth Sciences, said: "Mount Everest is a remarkable mountain of myth and legend and it's still growing."

The team say they can monitor the mountain growing by about two millimetres a year using GPS (Global Positioning System) instruments, which use satellite imagery.

Rescue mission to bring stuck astronauts home arrives at ISS

Updated September 30, 2024

A SpaceX capsule sent to bring home two astronauts stranded on the International Space Station (ISS) has arrived.

The Dragon capsule, which has two empty seats for NASA astronauts Butch Wilmore and Suni Williams, arrived late last night - at 10.30pm UK time.

NASA's Butch and Suni travelled to the ISS for what was supposed to be an eight day mission.

But following problems with the Boeing Starliner spacecraft they travelled in, their stay has been extended and they are now expected to return to Earth in February

Why are the two astronauts stuck in space?

Before Wilmore and Williams left on their mission to the ISS in June, NASA discovered some issues - including several helium leaks coming from their Starliner capsule.

Experts thought the small leaks would not impact the mission, so went ahead with the launch.

But the craft ran into further problems, including more leaks and issues with its thrusters, so more tests took place to check if Starliner would be safe to get the astronauts home.

Eventually NASA said the problems became too risky, and the space agency decided that it wasn't safe enough to use Starliner for the crew's journey back to Earth.

In September, Starliner undocked from the ISS and the spacecraft returned to Earth without Wilmore and Williams on board.

How will the two astronauts now get home?

A SpaceX Dragon capsule lifted off from Cape Canaveral in Florida in the US on Saturday with two empty seats, ready to bring the two astronauts home.

But that journey back to Earth won't be completed until next year, meaning the pair will have Halloween and Christmas in space.

Don't worry though, Butch and Suni got an early present of sorts, in the form of a delivery of fresh clothes and supplies as part of the Dragon capsule's cargo.

Source : CBBC Newsround

News in Pictures

October 1

Gaza Strip, Palestine
Palestinian children gather at a destroyed vehicle, amid the Israel-Hamas conflict, in Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip.

Gletsch, Switzerland
Insulating fabric covers part of the Rhône Glacier to prevent it from melting in the Swiss Alps. A snowy winter provided no respite for Switzerland's glaciers, which shed 2.4% of their volume over the past year.


Tokyo, Japan
Japan's outgoing prime minister, Fumio Kishida (centre), reacts after receiving flowers and applause at the prime minister's office on his final day as Japanese leader.

Marston Moretaine, England
A car remains submerged in flood water on the A421 in Bedfordshire as tankers continue to pump out the water. Wet weather will persist across parts of the UK.

Manacapuru, Brazil
A drone view shows stranded boats over the sandbanks exposed due to drought at the Solimoes River, one of the largest tributaries of the Amazon River, during the most intense and widespread drought Brazil has experienced since records began in 1950.

Hong Kong
Around 1,000 students sing patriotic songs at an event to celebrate the 75th anniversary of China's National Day in Hong Kong.
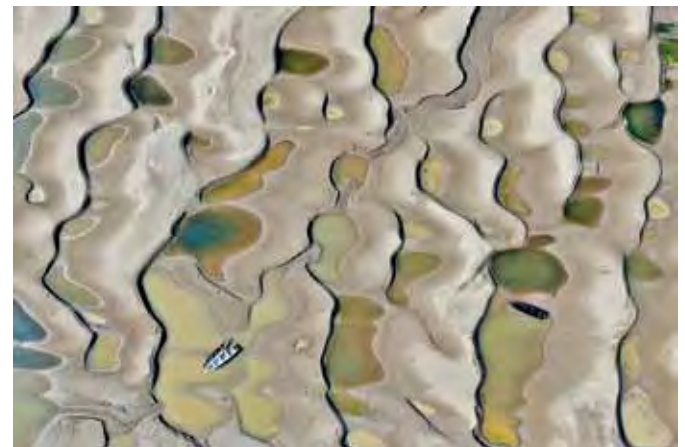
North Carolina, USA
A rescue team paddles down the Swannanoa River after the remnants of Hurricane Helene caused widespread flooding, downed trees, and power outages in western North Carolina.

South Korea
A South Korean army Apache helicopter fires flares during a celebration to mark 76th anniversary of Korea Armed Forces Day, in Seongnam, South Korea.

September 26

Sitka, Alaska
After the meeting ... comes the best hug. Bears in Sitka, Alaska.

Source : Reuters & The Guardian