

the  
**SUNDAY  
TIMES**

SUNDAY  
NOVEMBER 17, 2024



# FUN DAY

## TIMES



**Junior Zoologists' Exhibition**



**LANDMARKS**

**PAGE 3**



**COMPETITIONS**

**PAGES 4 & 5**

**(ONLINE)**

**REPORT**

**PAGE 6**

**KIDS NEWS**

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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:**  
**December 4, 2024**

**Telephone: 2479337/2479333**

**Email: [fundaytimes1@gmail.com](mailto:fundaytimes1@gmail.com)**



**In our online issue this week:**

- **Page 5** – Competitions
- **Page 6** – Young Reporter
- **Page 7** – Kids News
- **Page 8** – News in Pictures

Please log on to the Funday Times website on [www.fundaytimes.lk](http://www.fundaytimes.lk) or check out the Sunday Times epaper on [www.sundaytimes.lk](http://www.sundaytimes.lk) for additional pages of this week's Funday Times.

## Christmas Cover 2024

**Hey Kids! It is time once again to think about the Funday Times Christmas Cover. We invite our readers to send in their paintings for the Christmas Cover Competition.**

Entries for the Christmas Cover should be of a suitable Christmas theme. You could use any type of paints or crayons you like but try to make your picture colourful and creative. All entries should be on A4 size paper.

Please write 'Christmas Cover' at the back of your picture, along with your Full Name, Date of Birth, Address, Telephone Number and School.

**All paintings entered for this competition should be certified as your own work by a parent or teacher. Uncertified paintings will be disqualified.**

The best picture will adorn the cover page of our Christmas issue. The winner will also receive a prize. Good luck and happy painting!

**Age groups: 4 - 15 years**

**Closing Date : December 12, 2024**



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## Junior Zoologists' celebrate Silver Jubilee

By Malaka Rodrigo

The Junior Section of the Young Zoologists' Association (Junior YZA) celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary on October 23, 2024.

Based at the National Zoological Gardens in Dehiwala, Junior YZA members meet every other Saturday morning to participate in a variety of activities aimed at learning about Sri Lanka's wildlife. The program also offers unique opportunities for kids to interact closely with zoo animals and learn how to care for them.

To mark their anniversary, the Junior YZA members organized an exhibition at the National Zoological Gardens in early October. The event featured a variety of exhibits under the theme "Wild Friends Around Our Home," highlighting the children's creativity and enthusiasm for conservation.

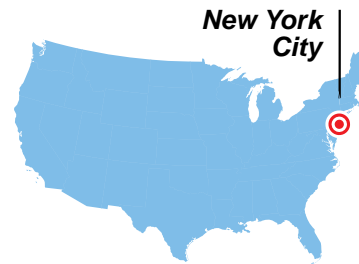


**Children aged 6 to 12 years can join the Junior YZA. Contact: 077 036 8881 for more information.**





# One World Trade Center



**One World Trade Center (also known as One WTC or Freedom Tower) is the main building of the new World Trade Center complex in Lower Manhattan, New York City. The building is 1,776 feet (541 m) tall making it the tallest building in the Western Hemisphere. Since late 2013, it is the tallest building in the USA. It opened in late 2014. It is mostly used for offices.**

**People can view the city from an observatory near the top. The building was designed by David Childs of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill.**

The building has the same name as the North Tower of the original World Trade Center, which was destroyed in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The building was built on the spot where the original Six World



Trade Center used to be. Construction for the building started in 2006.

On April 30, 2012, One World Trade Center became New York City's tallest structure, when it surpassed the height of the Empire State Building. On May 10, 2013, the last piece of the skyscraper's antenna was put on, making the building's height 1,776 feet.



The height of the building was done on purpose to refer to the year when the Declaration of Independence was signed, 1776.

On March 26, 2009, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ) said that the building would be officially known by its legal name of "One World Trade Center", rather than its colloquial name of "Freedom Tower".

The building has 94 stories, with the top floor numbered 104.

The new World Trade Center complex has five high-rise office buildings.

The National September 11 Memorial & Museum is located just south of One World Trade Center where the original Twin Towers stood. The construction of the new building is part of an effort to memorialize and rebuild following the destruction of the original World Trade Center complex.

Source: Kids Encyclopaedia



### Famous Landmarks Quiz - 54

**Q:** What is the significance of the height of the One WTC?



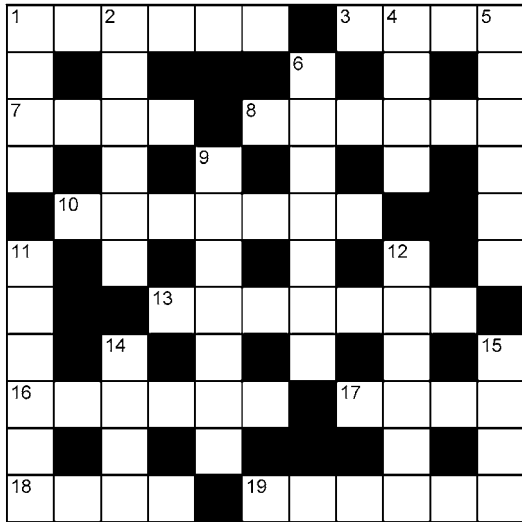
### Famous Landmarks Quiz 53

**Sayumi Wijetunge, WINNER**  
Ratmalana





**LUMALA Crossword – No. 3**



**Across**

- 1 Overtook
- 3 Not shut
- 7 Neat with everything in its place
- 8 Larger
- 10 Squash down
- 13 A skin dot
- 16 Further up
- 17 A prisoner's room
- 18 A writing table
- 19 Didn't go

**Down**

- 1 Tame animals
- 2 A seat on a horse
- 4 Animals kept in a sty
- 5 Where Norwegians live
- 6 You need this to be allowed to drive a car
- 9 Began
- 11 Cleaned with water
- 12 Tired and yawning
- 14 Birds lay these
- 15 Happy and pleased

**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. 3, according to the clues given. Write the answers neatly on a postcard or paper, and send it to **Funday Times**.

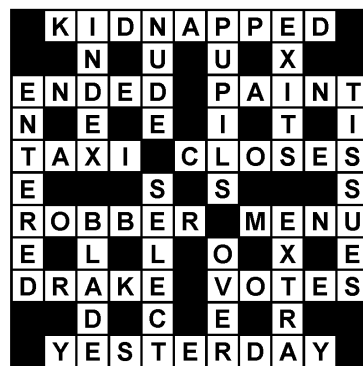
Cut the strip '**LUMALA Crossword No. 3**' seen at the top of the page and paste it on your entry.

**Age Group: 8 – 15 years**

*Closing Date: November 27, 2024*

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

**Solution No. 2**



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**7 – 9 years**











- ▶ Pinidi Wijetunge, Ratmalana
- ▶ Yhogeeshan Mohan, Kandy
- ▶ Saiijay Kaanaruban, Mt. Lavinia
- ▶ M. Rasheed Rizvi, Wellampitiya
- ▶ Pranav Mahinda Kumar, Kotagala

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

**7 – 9 AGE GROUP**

Unscramble the letters to name the farm animals

	eheps		cudk
	osertor		woc
	gip		rehos
	atog		nichkec

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**Win super books from**



**Age:** 9 years and below

**Word Count:** 150

**Topic:** My favourite hobby

**Win:** Sport Goofy and the Racing Robot by Disney

Sport Goofy is a great athlete with a golden heart. No one can beat him in racing.

But, Big Bad Pete, the wicked crook, has a surprise in store for him. On the day of the next race, Sport Goofy has a new challenger.

Who will win the race?



**Age:** 10 – 12 years

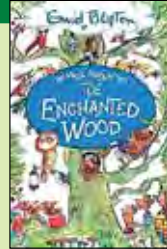
**Word Count:** 150 – 200

**Topic:** A television programme you enjoy

**Win:** The Enchanted Wood by Enid Blyton

When Joe, Beth and Frannie move to the country, they find an Enchanted Wood. There, they discover the Magic Faraway Tree and make friends with Moonface, Saucepan Man and Silky the fairy.

Together, they climb to the top of the tree where weird and wonderful adventures occur in the Land of Birthdays, The Land of Toys and the Land of Ice and Snow.



**Age:** 13 – 15 years

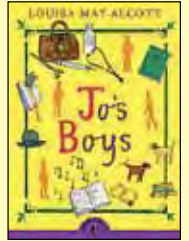
**Word Count:** 200 – 250

**Topic:** A machine I would like to invent

**Win:** Jo's Boys by Louisa May Alcott

Ten years after the school at Plumfield was founded, Jo's Boys – including wanderer Dan, sailor Emil and musician Nat – are grown up and discovering more about the world.

But life after childhood can be confusing and frightening and it is Jo and the warm-hearted March family who can comfort and guide the boys when they need it the most...



**Write at the top of your Essay**

■ Book Competition ■ Essay Topic



**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](mailto:fundaytimes1@gmail.com)

**Read-a-Book Competition**

**Name :** .....

**Date of birth :** .....

**Address :** .....

**School:** .....

**Tel:** .....

**Finished book on :** .....

Hi Kids,

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

**FROM THE EDITOR**

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.

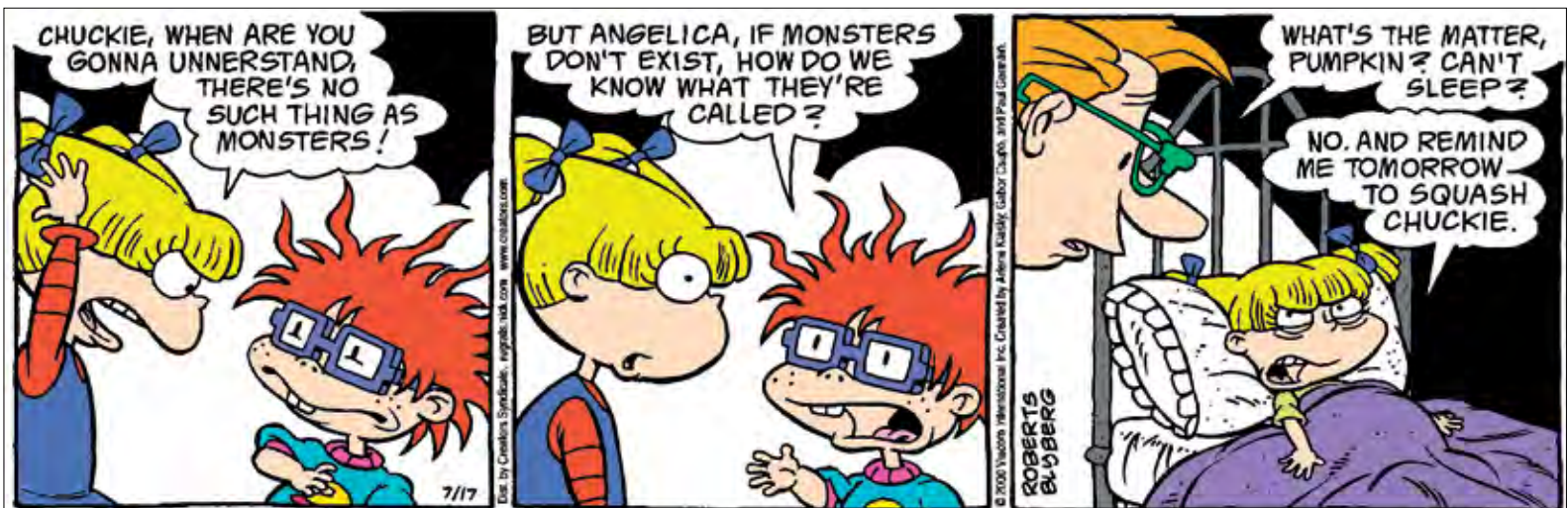
Thanking you in anticipation of your positive response.



Or

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**Rugrats**





From a Funday Times Young Reporter

## A longing for freedom



Birds and animals deserve to live free and happy lives, just like we do. When they are kept in small, cramped cages, their lives become sad and full of suffering. People who keep birds in shops are often very cruel, not caring about the birds' needs or feelings. Birds are meant to fly high in the sky, not be trapped behind bars where they feel lonely and afraid.

Imagine if we were taken away from our families and locked up in tiny cages. We would feel scared, lonely and desperate to get out.

This is exactly how birds and animals feel when they are taken from their natural homes. It's like being kidnapped, losing everything that makes life joyful. A famous quote says, "The caged bird sings of freedom," showing how much birds long to be free.

When we set a bird free, it stretches its beautiful wings and flies away with joy, leaving the cage behind forever.

Another quote reminds us, "Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains un-awakened," meaning we should treat animals with kindness and love.

Animals in captivity often feel stressed, lonely and sad. They miss their natural homes, the open spaces and the freedom to move and play.

As another saying goes, "The greatness of a nation can be judged by the way its animals are treated." This reminds us that we must be gentle and kind to all creatures, not cruel.

In conclusion, keeping birds and animals in captivity is wrong. They should be free to live their lives happily in the wild, where they can be safe, joyful and free. Care for the animals and birds.

**Anjana Vasanthakumar (15 years)**  
**Saiva Mangaiyar Vidyalayam,**  
**Colombo**



### 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.**

mail to Or [fundaytimes1@gmail.com](mailto:fundaytimes1@gmail.com)



### Young Reporters Coupon

Name: .....

Date of Birth: .....

Address: .....

.....

Telephone: .....

School: .....

Parent's approval: ..... Date: .....

.....

Ginger Meggs





# COP29: What is it?

November 11, 2024

Over the next twelve days, world leaders are attending the world's most important meeting on climate change – COP29.

They are expected to discuss a range of issues, including how to limit long-term global temperature rises to 1.5°C – a target set by the Paris Agreement.

But, what does COP stand for, and what can we expect to see happen?

## What is COP and what does it mean?



COP stands for 'Conference of the Parties' and is attended by countries that signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

That was an agreement made in 1992 when countries committed to avoiding any behaviours that could lead to "dangerous climate change".

The first COP took place in 1995, and since then, world governments have been coming together to make plans on how to tackle the growing climate change crisis.

The 2024 event is the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, which is why it's called COP29.

The conference takes place every year, unless the countries involved decide otherwise.

## When and where is COP29 taking place?

COP29 is the latest edition of the world's most important meeting on climate change.

It will take place in Azerbaijan's capital Baku from November 11 – 22.

## Who will attend COP29 in Baku?

Presidents and prime ministers from around the world normally attend these conferences.

It's thought that nearly 200 countries will be represented in the Azerbaijani capital.

UK Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer told the conference on Tuesday that he is committed to a more "ambitious" climate goal. Namely, a 81% emissions cut by 2035.

However, leaders of some of the biggest countries and biggest carbon emitters are not expected to attend.

They include US President Joe Biden, China's leader Xi Jinping, India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi and France's President Emmanuel Macron.

They are staying away for a number of different reasons, but experts think their absence won't help the conference get off to a strong start.

Climate activist Greta Thunberg also says she will not be attending COP29 because the event is "greenwashing".

## Why is COP29 important?

The UN's World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has said that 2024 is on track to be the world's warmest year on record.

The WMO says that the global average temperature between January and September has been around 1.54°C above those of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The United Nations Climate Change Conferences are some of the largest international meetings on climate issues in the world.

With so many world leaders gathered in one place, they offer potential for global agreements and action that countries wouldn't be able to do alone.

At COP21 in Paris, a goal of limiting long-term global temperature rises to 1.5°C was agreed to by nearly 200 countries.

The UN's climate body, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), says a 1.5°C target is crucial to avoid the most damaging impacts of climate change.

It is hoped that COP29 will help keep this goal alive.

## What will COP29 focus on?

Some of the main issues due to be discussed include how to limit long-term global temperature rises



and how countries can help smaller and poorer nations cope with the growing impacts of climate change.

Under the Paris agreement signed in 2015, world leaders promised to try to prevent global temperatures rising by more than 1.5°C.

For that to happen, countries need to increase their efforts to cut warming gases.

COP29 will also be looking to progress other deals made at previous COP summits.

Two years ago at COP27, the summit agreed to help poor countries with the costs of climate-driven disasters such as extreme floods, storms or drought.

That goal is also due to be discussed with hopes an agreement can be made on how much money should go each year to helping developing countries cope with climate change and how best to support their move away from fossil fuels.

## Why do some think COP29 is controversial?



Fossil fuels make up more than 90% of Azerbaijan's exports – in fact the country is one of Europe's biggest suppliers of oil and gas.

Many experts worry that Azerbaijan's reliance on fossil fuels means it can't get a strong deal on climate – but others say everyone needs to be at the table to solve climate change.

Some organisations have also expressed concern over Azerbaijan's human rights record.



**November 12**

# News in Pictures



**New York, USA**  
Members of Boy Scouts of America attend the annual Veteran's Day Parade in New York.



**Dhaka, Bangladesh**  
Hindus sit together in front of oil lamps and candles, and pray to Lokenath Brahmachari, a Hindu saint and philosopher, as they observe the Rakher Upobash Festival at a temple in Dhaka.



**Ilagan, Philippines**  
A swollen river inundates farm fields and houses at a village in Ilagan town, Isabela province, a day after typhoon Toraji hit. The Philippines issued fresh weather warnings as the fifth major storm in three weeks bore down on the archipelago.

**Baku, Azerbaijan**  
Britain's Foreign Secretary, David Lammy, speaks at a panel on funding for indigenous people at the Cop29 UN climate summit.



**Sleman, Indonesia**  
Hindus perform a 'Pradaksina' procession during the 'Abhiseka' ceremony, a ritual to clean and sanctify the Prambanan Temple, to commemorate its 1168th anniversary. Prambanan Temple, a 9th century Hindu temple complex is a UNESCO world heritage site.



**Cologne, Germany**  
Revellers celebrate the start of the so-called "fifth", or "foolish" carnival season in Germany.



**Paris, France**  
France's President Emmanuel Macron and Britain's Prime Minister Keir Starmer attend commemorations during Armistice Day marking the end of World War I, in France.



**Cape Town, South Africa**  
An environmentalist holds a Cape Water Lily, reintroduced to the wetlands of False Bay nature reserve to mark the presentation of the Earthshot prize in the city last week. It has not grown in the area for about 75 years.

**November 11**

**Mexico City, Mexico**  
Hundreds of mariachi musicians perform traditional Mexican songs at the Plaza de la Constitución, also known as the Zócalo.



Sources : Reuters & The Guardian