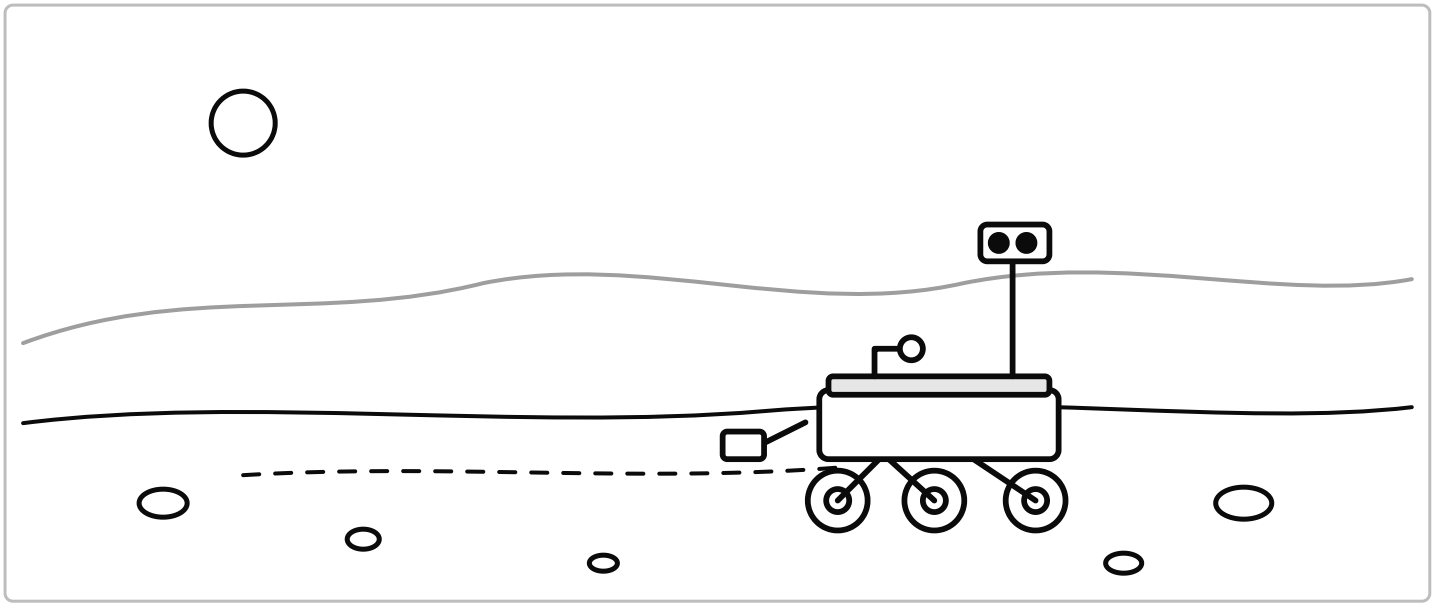
News Nibbles

Big news in little bites

Edition 2
Saturday 17 October 2026
For kids aged 5 to 8
Free

A robot on Mars breaks a record!

Perseverance has driven 45 km, farther than any vehicle on another world. **The big story starts on page 2.**



Inside this week

2 **Rover record**
A robot drives 45 km on Mars

5 **Drawer dinosaur**
Hidden for 100 years

6 **Big Question**
Why do we waste food?

7 **Feelings**
Cooling down anger

10 **Gaganyaan**
A robot gets ready for space

12 **Monsoon is back**
Rain alert for our city

13 **Sports Zone**
T20 series decider today

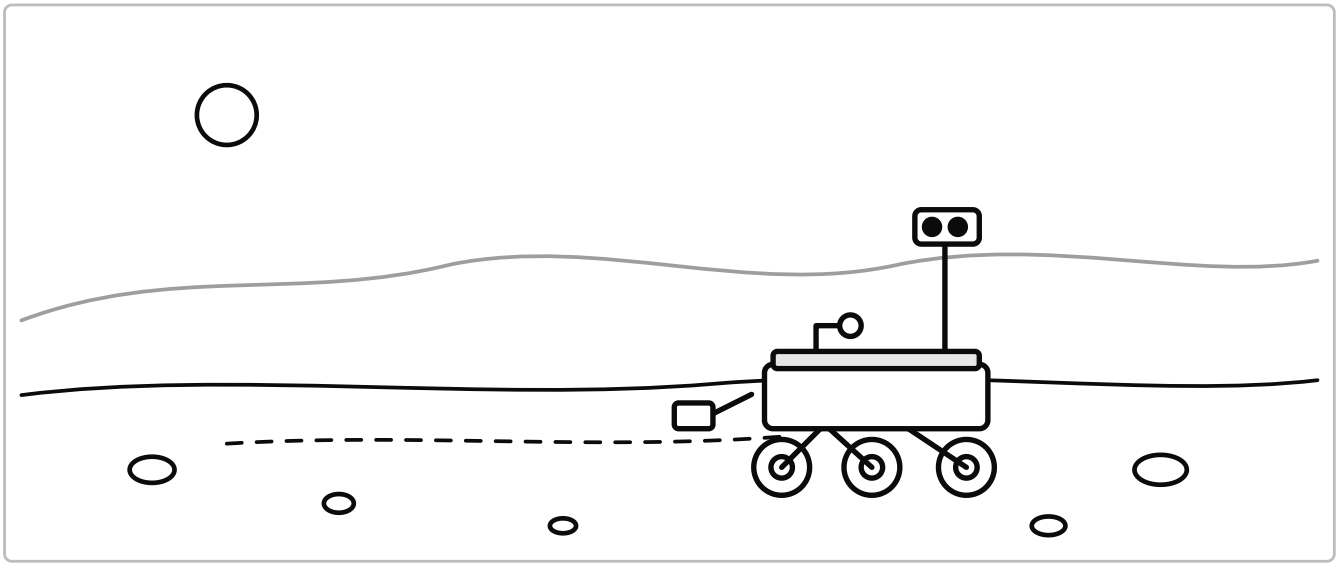
14 **New insect!**
An antlion found in Keralam

20 **Bonus puzzles**
3 extra pages for the long weekend

A free weekly news magazine for kids aged 5 to 8. **Grown-ups:** reading, printing and editor tips are on the back page.

A robot on Mars breaks a driving record

NASA's Perseverance rover has now driven farther than any vehicle has ever driven on another world.



Perseverance on Mars, with its long trail of wheel tracks. A drawing.

On **11 October**, a rover called **Perseverance** passed **45.22 kilometers** of driving on Mars. That beats the old record of 45.16 km, set by an older rover called Opportunity.

A rover is a robot car that explores a planet. Perseverance is about the size of a small car. It has six wheels, cameras for eyes and a long arm with tools.

Faster than before

Opportunity took almost **15 years** to drive that far. Perseverance did it in about **5 and a half years**. Scientists first planned for it to drive only about 20 km!

What is it looking for?

Perseverance is searching for signs that tiny living things may have lived on Mars long, long ago, when it had lakes and rivers. Next, it will drive up to the rim of a big crater, where some rocks may be among the oldest in our solar system.

How does a rover drive itself? See page 3.

Did you know?

Perseverance landed on Mars in February 2021. A tiny helicopter called Ingenuity rode along with it and flew 72 times!

Big word

rover

A robot vehicle that drives around and explores another planet or moon.

Talk about it

If you had a rover, where would you send it to explore?

How does a rover drive by itself?

Nobody on Earth steers Perseverance with a remote control. Here is why, and how it finds its way.

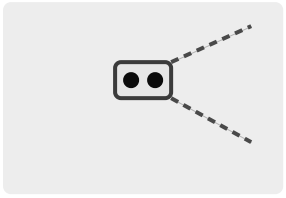
Mars is very far away. A message from Earth takes between about **3 and 22 minutes** to reach Mars, depending on where the two planets are. If a rover waited for someone on Earth to say "turn left" before every rock, it would hardly move!

So Perseverance has a clever computer brain called **AutoNav**. Scientists on Earth tell it where to go. Then it works out **how** to get there safely, all by itself.

Thinking while driving

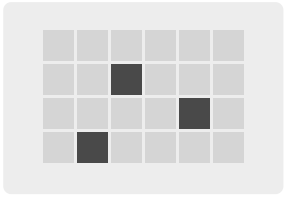
Older rovers had to stop for a long time to think. Perseverance can think and drive at the same time. Each time it looks, it checks about **600,000 points** on the ground. The very first Mars rover checked just 20!

How AutoNav works



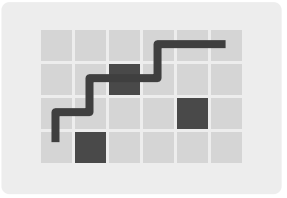
1. Take pictures

Its cameras take photos of the ground in front.



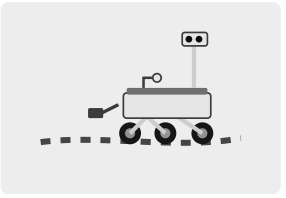
2. Make a map

Its computer turns the photos into a 3D map of rocks and holes.



3. Pick a path

It chooses the safest way around the rocks.



4. Drive and repeat

It drives a short way, then stops and does it all again.

Mars rovers through the years

1997	**Sojourner**: about the size of a microwave oven
2004	**Spirit and Opportunity**: about the size of a golf cart
2012	**Curiosity**: about the size of a small car
2021	**Perseverance**: about the size of a small car, with a helicopter friend

Did you know?

Perseverance doesn't use only sunshine for power. A special battery turns heat into electricity, so it can keep working through dusty storms.

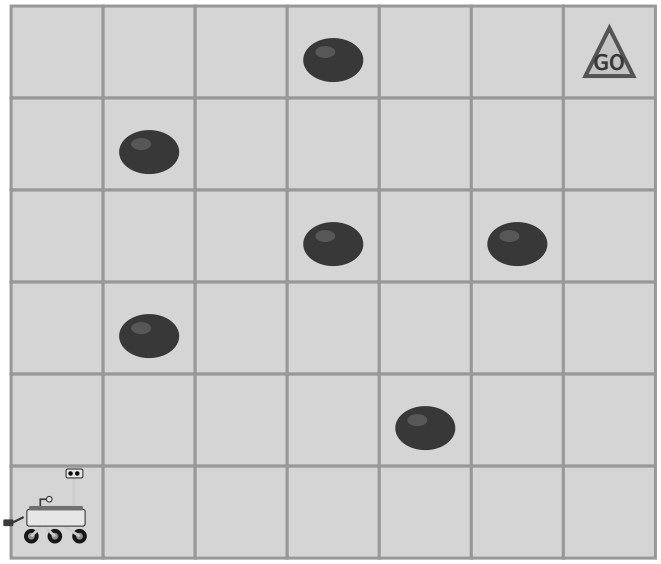
Big word

record

The best, longest or fastest that anyone has ever done.

Be the rover's brain!

Help the rover reach the target flag without bumping into any rocks.



Write the code

Use arrows: ↑ up, → right, ↓ down, ← left. Each arrow moves the rover one square. Write your arrows in the boxes.

Challenge: can you find a path that uses only 10 arrows? Is there more than one way?

This is how people who write code for robots think: one small, careful step at a time!

Shooting stars this week!

The **Orionid meteor shower** is at its best before dawn on **21 and 22 October**. Meteors are tiny bits of dust from **Halley's Comet**. When they rush into Earth's air, they burn up in a quick streak of light.

When to look: from about 3 a.m. until it gets light, after the Moon sets. Find a dark spot, lie back and look up. With a grown-up, of course!

My meteor count

Draw a line for every shooting star you see.

Date: _____ Time: _____

Did you know?

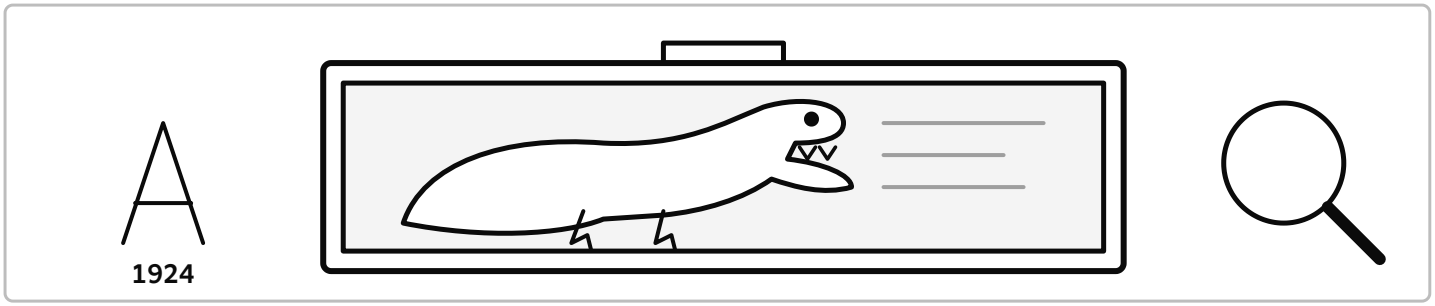
Halley's Comet itself comes near the Sun only once every 75 or 76 years. It will be back in 2061. How old will you be?

Think about it

Rain clouds often hide the sky in Keralam in October. What else could you watch for in the night sky?

A dinosaur hiding in a museum drawer

A bone found in Britain sat in a museum for about 100 years. Now scientists say it is a brand-new kind of dinosaur!



The skull bone sat in a museum drawer for about 100 years. A drawing.

The bone was found on the **Isle of Wight**, an island in southern England. In **1924** it was given to the Natural History Museum in London. Nobody knew how special it was, so it was kept in a drawer.

This month, scientists said it belongs to a new dinosaur. They named it ***Invictibellatrix***, which means "unconquered female warrior". It was about 3 to 4 meters long, probably had feathers, and had big hooked claws.

Another new dinosaur!

Scientists in **Zimbabwe**, in Africa, also told the world about a new dinosaur this week. It lived about **210 million years ago**, walked on two legs and was a cousin of the giant long-necked dinosaurs.

How does a bone become a fossil?

1
Long ago
A dinosaur dies, and mud or sand covers its bones.

2
Slowly
Over millions of years, the mud turns to rock.

3
Bones to stone
Minerals in water slowly turn the bones to stone.

4
Found!
The rock wears away, and someone finds the fossil.

Peace news

Leaders are talking about stopping attacks on power stations in the war between Russia and Ukraine. They have not fully agreed yet. Talks between America and Iran are also going on, with help from other countries.

Five cheetah cubs

Five cheetah cubs were born at a Smithsonian center in America. People can watch them on a live "cub cam". Fewer than **7,000** cheetahs are left in the wild.

Did you know?

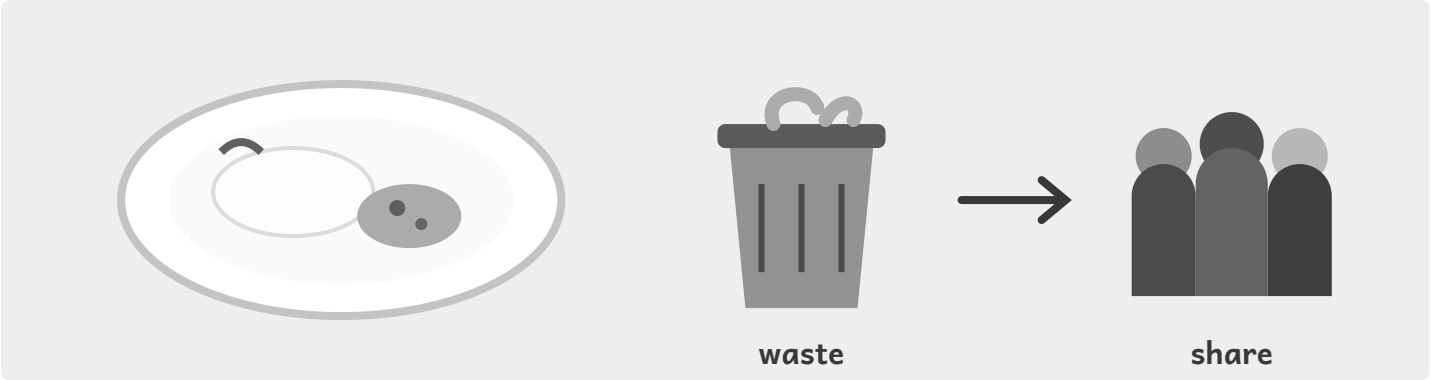
Museums keep millions of fossils in drawers. Scientists keep finding new things in them!

Talk about it

If you found an old bone, what would you do?

Why do we throw away so much food?

16 October was **World Food Day**. Here is a big problem that every family can help fix.



Food we don't eat often ends up in the bin. Sharing and saving it helps. A drawing.

Every day, farmers grow rice, vegetables and fruit for us. But a lot of that food never gets eaten. Around the world, about **13 out of every 100** bowls of food are lost between the farm and the shop. Food can rot on the way, or be damaged by pests.

Then about **19 out of every 100** are wasted in shops, restaurants and homes, when food goes bad or is left on plates.

Why does it matter?

While food is being wasted, many people in the world do not have enough to eat. Growing food also uses lots of water, land and work. When food is thrown away, all of that is wasted too.

What is World Food Day?

It is the birthday of a United Nations team that helps the world grow and share food. It began on 16 October 1945. This year's message is "Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow." It means: think of new ideas now, so everyone can eat well in the future.

Five ways you can help

Take a little
Take a small helping. You can always have more!

Eat it up
Try to finish what is on your plate.

Save leftovers
Keep extra food in the fridge for later.

Use it all
Ripe bananas can become a tasty shake.

Share
Share extra food with neighbors or friends.

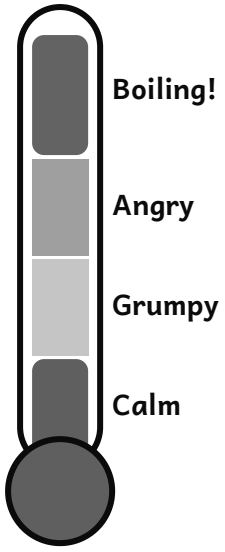
Did you know?
Peels and leftover bits can be turned into **compost**, a rich soil that helps new plants grow.

Big word
waste
Something thrown away when it could still have been used.

Talk about it
What food is most often left over in your home? How could you use it?

Feeling angry? Let's cool it down

Everybody feels angry sometimes. Anger is a normal feeling. What matters is what we do with it.



What does anger feel like?

Your face may feel hot. Your hands might make tight fists. Your heart beats fast, and you might want to shout. Anger can grow quickly, like the red rising in a thermometer.

Check your temperature

Point to where you are on the thermometer. Are you **calm**, a bit **grumpy**, ***angry*** or **boiling**? It is easier to cool down when you are still in the yellow or orange part.

The anger rule

It is okay to **feel** angry. It is not okay to hurt anyone, hurt yourself or break things.

Cool-down steps

1

Stop

Freeze like a statue for a moment.

2

Breathe

Take 5 slow, deep breaths. Count them on your fingers.

3

Cool down

Walk away, get a drink of water, or hug a pillow.

4

Talk

Say "I feel angry because..." to a grown-up.

Finish the sentence

I feel angry when

_____

Something that helps me calm down is

_____

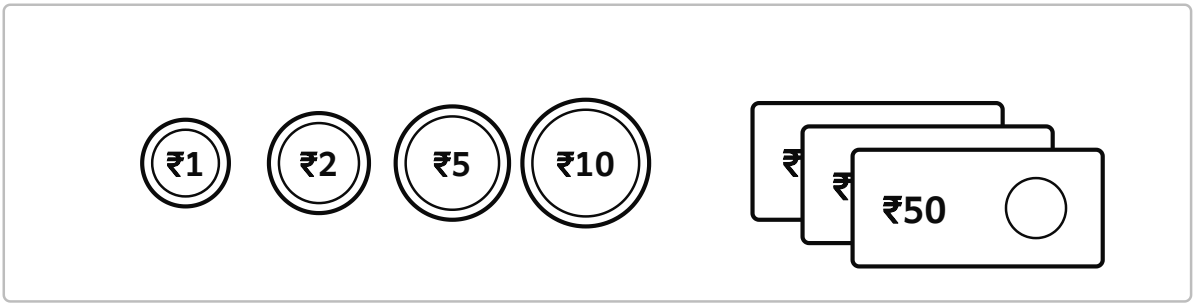
Did you know?

After a big feeling passes, it can help to talk about it. You might find a way to fix the problem together.

For grown-ups: Try to stay calm yourself and name the feeling for your child ("You seem really angry"). Talk about what happened only after everyone has cooled down. Practice the cool-down steps at a calm time, so they are easier to use in the moment.

The last Nobel Prize: how money works

On 12 October, the final Nobel Prize of the year went to two scientists who study money and prices.



Coins and notes: how much money do you see? A drawing.

The prize for **economics** went to **Robert Hall** and **Michael Woodford**, from America. Economics is the study of how people and countries make, buy, sell and share things.

They studied how the choices of millions of people and shops add up across a whole country. Their ideas help a country's main bank keep prices steady, so that a packet of biscuits doesn't suddenly cost much more next month.

What is a price?

A price is how much money you pay for something. If lots of people want something and there isn't much of it, the price often goes **up**. If there is lots of it and fewer people want it, the price often goes **down**.

Run a nimbu pani stand

Your lemons and sugar cost ₹50. What price should one glass be?

₹5 a glass	Lots of people buy. Is it enough to pay for lemons?
₹20 a glass	Some people buy. Fair price?
₹100 a glass	Hardly anyone buys!

Math time: if you sell 10 glasses at ₹10 each, how much money do you get? Did you make more than ₹50?

Did you know?

India's banknotes are printed for the Reserve Bank of India, our country's main bank.

Big word

price

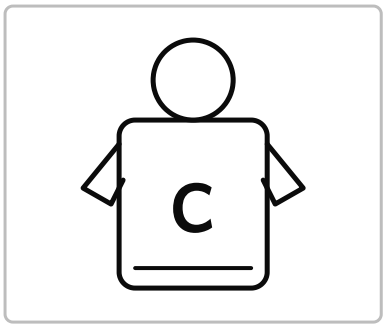
How much money you need to pay to buy something.

Talk about it

What would you save your money for? How long might it take?

Three sports stars in the news

A new captain, a super-fast batter from Keralam, and a record-breaking racer.



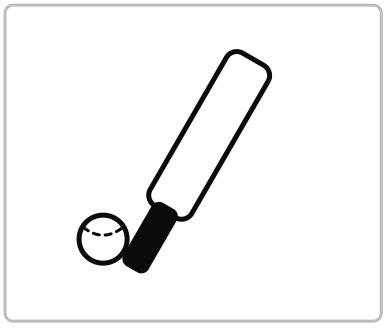
C is for captain.

Smriti Mandhana

New captain, India women's cricket team

Smriti Mandhana is the new captain of India's women's cricket team, for every kind of match. She takes over from Harmanpreet Kaur.

Her first job: India are playing **Zimbabwe** at home for the very first time, with three T20 games in Raipur this week and next.

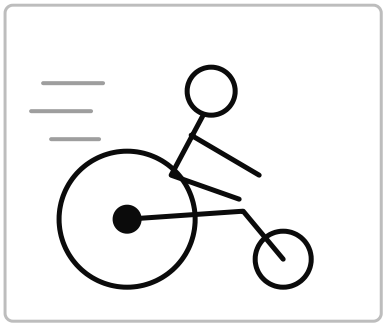


Bat and ball.

Sanju Samson

Cricketer from Thiruvananthapuram

Sanju is from right here in Thiruvananthapuram! Against West Indies, he hit **82 runs from just 41 balls**, reaching 50 in only 21 balls. A few days later, he hit 56 from 23 balls!



A racing wheelchair has three wheels.

Catherine Debrunner

Wheelchair racer, Switzerland

On 11 October, Catherine raced the Chicago Marathon in her racing wheelchair. That is **42 kilometers**! She finished in **1 hour, 33 minutes and 16 seconds**, a new world record, almost 9 minutes ahead of the next racer.

Big word

captain

The leader of a team, who helps plan and makes decisions in a game.

Did you know?

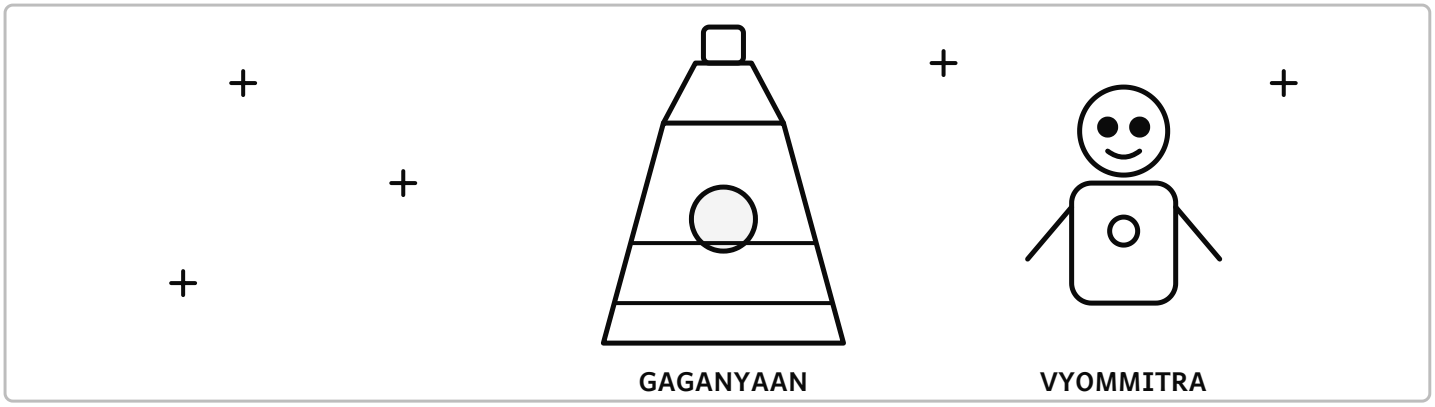
A marathon is about 42 km long. That's like running from Thiruvananthapuram almost all the way to Varkala!

Talk about it

What makes someone a good team captain?

India gets ready to send a robot into space

India's own space capsule, **Gaganyaan**, is almost ready for its first test flight, with a robot on board.



The Gaganyaan capsule and the robot Vyommitra. A drawing.

Gaganyaan means "sky vehicle". It is the capsule that will one day carry Indian astronauts into space on an Indian rocket. Only three countries have done that so far: Russia, America and China.

Before people ride in it, India's space agency, **ISRO**, will test it without a crew. A robot called **Vyommitra** ("space friend") will ride along to check things like temperature and air inside.

When?

The capsule is fully built. The first test flight is expected around **November**, after ISRO launches its next satellite. Space launches often move, so watch this space!

Wildlife

Cheetah family grows

At **Kuno National Park** in Madhya Pradesh, a cheetah mother born in India had **five cubs**. India's cheetah family reached 60. Sadly, one cub has since died, which can happen with wild baby animals. The others are being watched closely.

Why cheetahs?

Cheetahs once lived in India but disappeared about 70 years ago. In 2022, India began bringing them back from Africa. Now many cubs are being born here!

Did you know?

The cheetah is the fastest land animal. It can run as fast as a car on a highway, but only for a short sprint.

Big word

astronaut

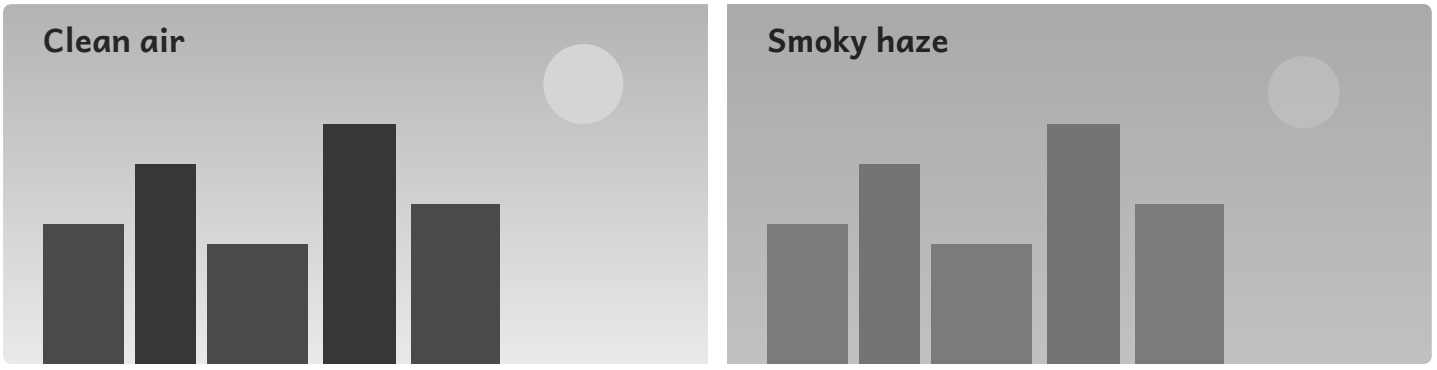
A person trained to travel into space. In India, they are called *gaganyatris*.

Talk about it

Would you like to go into space one day? What would you take?

Why does Delhi's air turn smoky in autumn?

Every year around this time, the air in north India starts to get hazy. Here is why.



Clean air and smoky air. A drawing.

After farmers in north India cut their rice, the leftover stalks stay in the fields. To clear the fields quickly for the next crop, some farmers burn them. This week, Punjab had its highest number of farm fires so far this season.

The smoke drifts towards cities like Delhi. In colder weather, the air near the ground stays still, like a lid on a pot. Smoke from cars, factories and festival fireworks gets trapped too.

Why is it a problem?

Smoky air has tiny bits of dust that we breathe in. It can make people cough and make it harder for some people to breathe, especially children and older people.

What about us?

Thiruvananthapuram is by the sea, with lots of wind and rain, so our air is usually much cleaner. But smoke from burning rubbish can still make the air dirty anywhere.

Helping the air

Scientists and farmers are trying new machines that mix the stalks back into the soil instead of burning them. Families can help by walking or taking the bus for short trips, and never burning rubbish.

Days to remember

11 Oct: Day of the Girl Child
15 Oct: Global Handwashing Day
16 Oct: World Food Day (see page 6)
8 Nov: Diwali

Did you know?

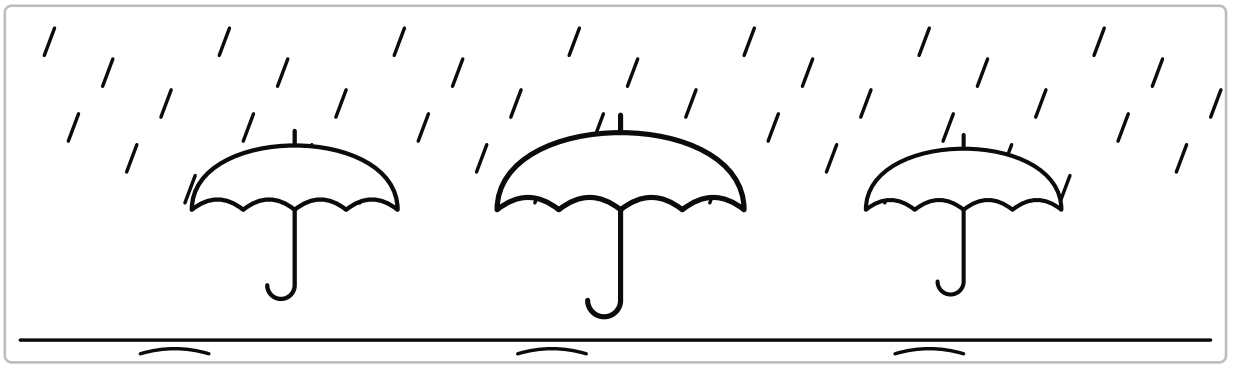
Trees and plants help clean the air. Their leaves catch dust and give us fresh oxygen to breathe.

Talk about it

Diwali is on 8 November. How can we enjoy it while keeping the air clean?

The second monsoon is here!

Get your umbrellas out. The northeast monsoon reached Keralam on 15 October.



Umbrella weather is here! A drawing.

Keralam is lucky: it gets **two monsoons** every year. The big **southwest monsoon** comes in June and brings rain from the Arabian Sea. It has now ended. The **northeast monsoon** comes in October, with winds blowing from the Bay of Bengal.

The weather office put Thiruvananthapuram and six other districts on an **orange alert**, which means very heavy rain is possible. Heavy rain, thunder and lightning may continue until about 21 October.

Stay safe in the rain

Stay indoors during thunder and lightning. Don't play near rivers, canals or flooded roads. Water can be deeper and faster than it looks!

Festival days

The Navaratri procession has arrived in the city from Padmanabhapuram Palace, carrying the idol of Saraswathi, the goddess of learning. Monday **19 October** is a holiday for Durgashtami. On Vijayadashami, **Wednesday 21 October**, many little children begin learning to write at **Vidyarambham**.

Make a rain gauge

Put a straight-sided glass or bottle outside, away from trees and roofs. Each morning, measure the water with a ruler, write it down, then empty it. Which day was the wettest?

Space week at the museum

World Space Week ended on 10 October with fun events by scientists from **VSSC** at the Kerala State Science and Technology Museum. VSSC, in Thumba, builds rockets for ISRO!

Did you know?

The first rocket India launched took off from Thumba, right here in Thiruvananthapuram, in 1963.

Big word

monsoon

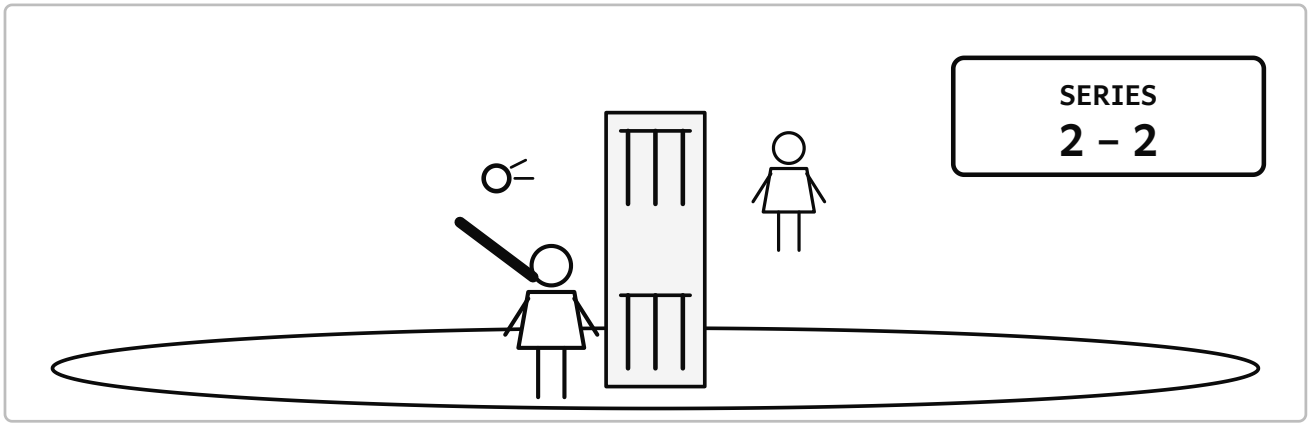
A wind that changes direction with the seasons and brings lots of rain.

Talk about it

What do you love doing on a rainy day?

India and West Indies: it all comes down to today!

The T20 series is tied at 2–2. The fifth and final game is in Bengaluru today.



A cricket pitch: the batter, the bowler and the stumps. A drawing.

India and West Indies have played four exciting games. India won the 1st and 3rd games. West Indies won the 2nd and 4th. So the score is **2–2**, and today's game decides the winner.

Hope's hundreds

West Indies captain **Shai Hope** scored **102 not out** in two games! In the 2nd game, West Indies chased 250 runs to win, the most they have ever chased in a T20.

Blasters win!

The new football season (ISL) has started. **Kerala Blasters** won their first game **2–0** against Inter Kashi in Pune. Their next game is on Sunday, and their first home game is in Kochi on 25 October.

What does "not out" mean?

In cricket, a batter keeps batting until they are out. If the team's innings ends and the batter is still batting, they are **not out**, shown with a star: 102*.

Math time: if Hope scored 102 and 102, how many runs is that altogether?

Coming up

India's women play Zimbabwe on 18 and 20 October. India's men's hockey team plays the **Asian Champions Trophy** in Punjab from 27 October, with Harmanpreet Singh as captain.

Did you know?

A T20 game has 20 overs for each team. That's 120 balls each, if nobody bowls an extra!

Practice drill

Throw a ball against a wall and catch it 20 times. Then try with your other hand!

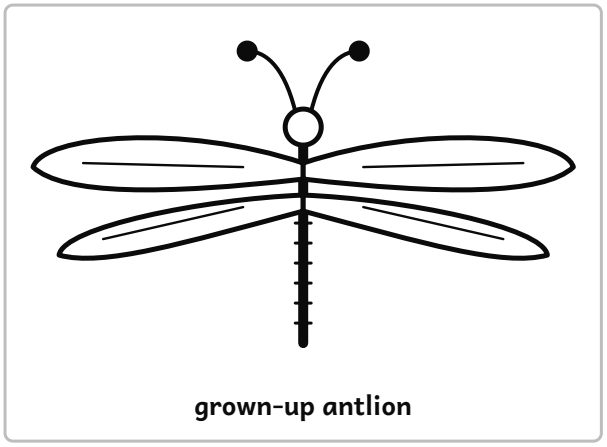
Talk about it

Who do you think will win today's game? Why?

Animal of the week

A new insect found in Keralam!

Scientists have discovered a brand-new kind of **antlion** in the teak forests of Walayar, in Palakkad.



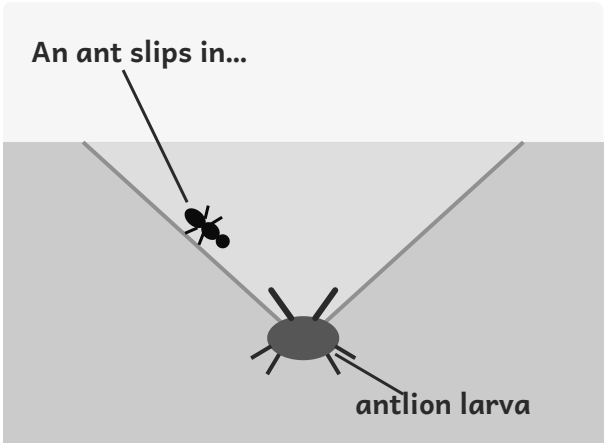
A grown-up antlion. A drawing.

What did they find?

Keralam scientists, working with a scientist from Hungary, found an antlion that nobody had ever described before. They named it ***Quta tectona***, after the teak tree, whose science name is *Tectona*. Keralam now has **14** known kinds of antlions.

A sneaky hunter

A baby antlion, called a **larva**, digs a cone-shaped pit in loose sand and hides at the bottom. When an ant walks over the edge, the sand slides and the ant tumbles in. Snap!



Look for pits

Antlion pits look like tiny funnels, about as wide as a coin, in dry, sandy places under shelters or trees. Look, but don't poke!

> **Did you know?**
>
> In some places, children call antlion larvae **doodlebugs**, because they leave wiggly lines in the sand while looking for a good spot.

An antlion's life

1
Egg
The mother lays eggs in sandy soil.

2
Larva
A larva hatches and digs a pit trap. It lives like this for a long time.

3
Cocoon
It makes a ball of sand and silk and changes inside.

4
Adult
It comes out with four long wings, looking a bit like a dragonfly.

Big word

larva

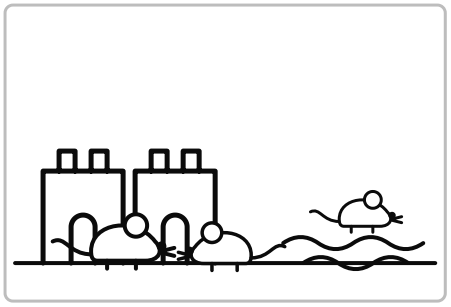
The young stage of some insects, before they change into adults.

Think about it

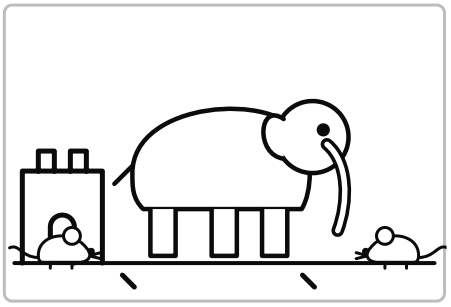
There are still animals nobody has discovered yet. Where do you think they might be hiding?

The mice who set the elephants free

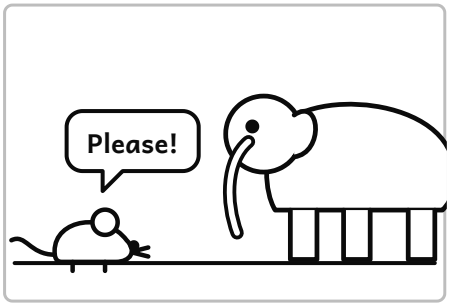
A very old story from India's **Panchatantra**, told to children for more than a thousand years.



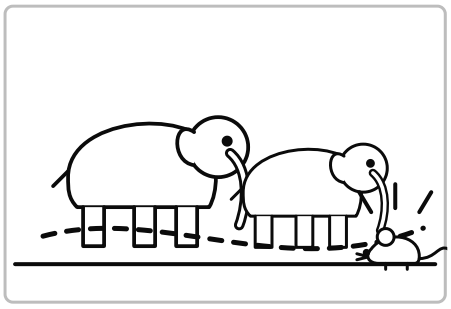
1. Long ago, many mice lived in an old, empty town by a lake. They were happy there.



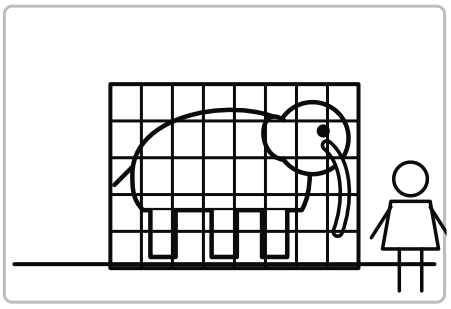
2. One day, a herd of elephants walked through the town to drink at the lake. Stomp, stomp! Many mice got hurt.



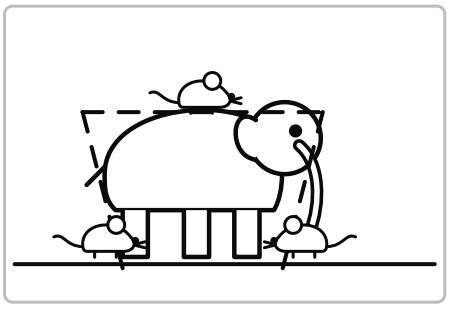
3. The mouse king was small, but brave. He went to the elephant king and asked, "Please take another path to the lake."



4. The elephant king listened. "You are right, little friend. We will walk another way." The mice cheered!



5. Later, hunters caught the elephants in strong rope nets. The elephants pulled and pushed, but they could not get free.



6. The elephant king called for help. Hundreds of mice came and chewed through every rope. The elephants were free!

> **The lesson: be kind to everyone, big or small. Even a tiny friend can help you one day.**

Joke Corner

Cover the answer and make your family guess!

What do you call a sleeping dinosaur?
A dino-snore!

What has hands but can't clap?
A clock!

Why did the math book look sad?
It had too many problems.

What did the sea say to the beach?
Nothing. It just waved!

What do elephants have that no other animal has?
Baby elephants!

Why did the cookie go to the doctor?
It was feeling crummy.

What do you call a fish with no eyes?
A fsh!

Knock knock! Cow says. Cow says who?
No silly, a cow says moo!

Puzzle Party

Sudoku: warm-up

Every row, column and box needs 1, 2, 3 and 4.

3			2
2			
4		1	
1		2	

Sudoku: challenge!

Every row, column and thick box of 6 needs 1 to 6, once each.

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

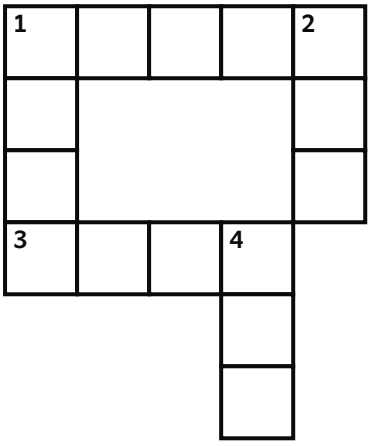
Word search

Find 8 words from this week's paper. They go across → or down ↓.

S	B	R	O	V	E	R	P	Y	G
E	T	O	P	R	I	C	E	T	O
J	C	A	P	T	A	I	N	S	L
C	R	I	C	K	E	T	N	E	F
U	D	S	Y	K	Y	L	V	P	R
U	G	J	A	N	T	L	I	O	N
F	O	S	S	I	L	E	L	R	J
R	W	C	R	Y	S	H	L	H	A
J	K	H	I	B	N	I	M	J	Y
R	A	I	N	N	F	M	A	R	S

- ☐ **ROVER** — robot car
- ☐ **MARS** — red planet
- ☐ **RAIN** — monsoon
- ☐ **FOSSIL** — bone to stone
- ☐ **ANTLION** — pit digger
- ☐ **CRICKET** — bat and ball
- ☐ **CAPTAIN** — team leader
- ☐ **PRICE** — what it costs

Mini crossword



Across

1. A robot car that explores Mars (page 2). (5)
3. A bird's home. (4)

Down

1. Water falling from the clouds (page 12). (4)
2. A small animal with a long tail, like a mouse. (3)
4. The number that comes after nine. (3)

The numbers in brackets tell you how many letters. Answers are on page 23.

Brain games for super thinkers

Take your time. If you get stuck, try a different puzzle and come back!

Whose pet is it?

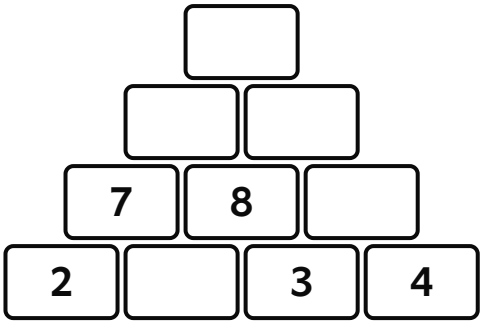
Meera, Kabir and Ammu each have one pet. Use the clues and put ✓ or × in each box.

Clue 1: Meera's pet does not have fur.
Clue 2: Kabir is scared of dogs.

	Cat	Dog	Parrot
Meera			
Kabir			
Ammu			

Number pyramid

Each block is the two blocks under it added together. Fill in the empty blocks.



Odd one out

Circle the one that doesn't belong. Can you say why?

1. Mars, Earth, Moon, Jupiter

2. ant, bee, antlion, cat

3. cricket, hockey, chess, football

Secret weather code

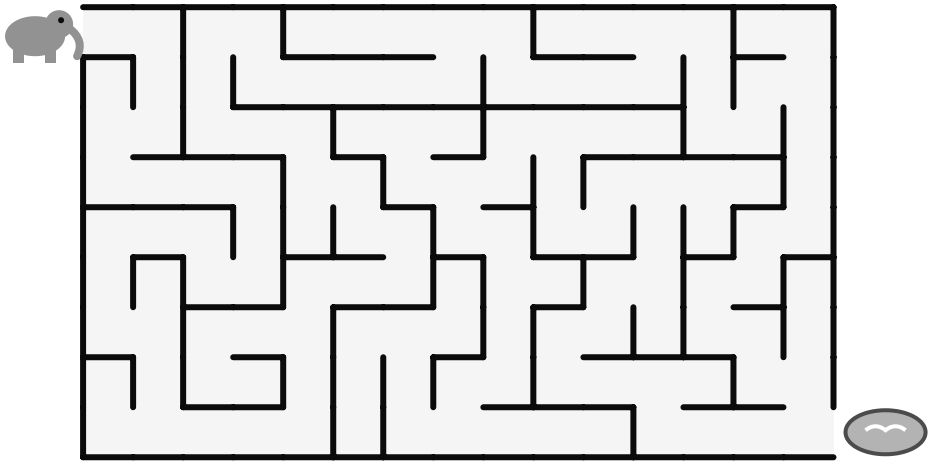
Each letter has moved **one step forward** in the alphabet: A became B, B became C. Move each letter one step back to read the message!

S B J O D P N F T

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Elephant maze

Help the elephant find the way to the lake.



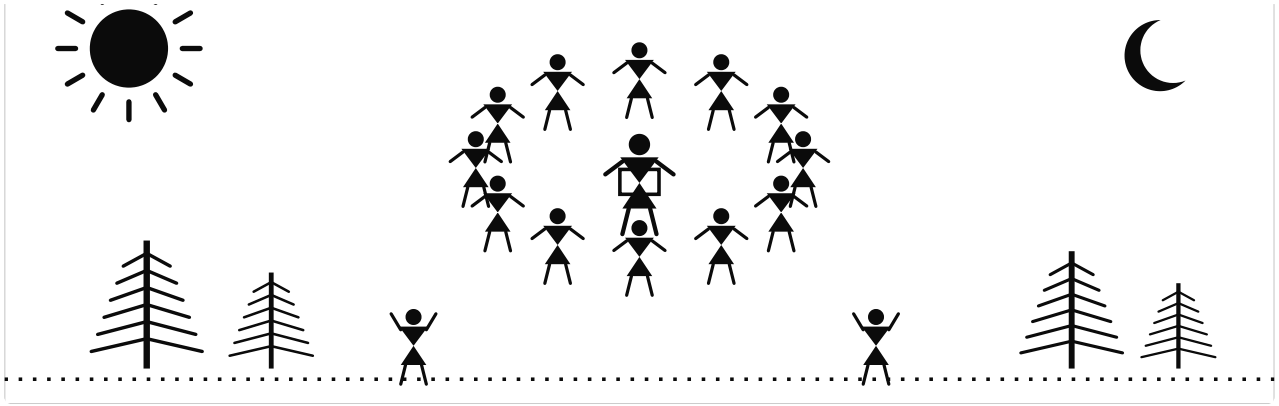
Brick challenge

Build a bridge between two books, using only bricks. Can it hold a toy car? How long can you make it?

> **Did you know?**
> Engineers test bridges with heavy weights before people use them.

Warli: art made from circles, triangles and lines

The Warli people of Maharashtra paint whole stories using just a few simple shapes.



Warli dancers in a circle around a drummer. Real Warli art is white on a red-brown wall; here it is printed in black. A drawing.

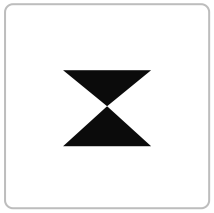
The **Warli** are an Adivasi (tribal) community who live in the hills of Maharashtra, north of Mumbai. For hundreds of years, they have painted pictures on the walls of their homes.

The walls are made of mud and painted reddish-brown. The pictures are white, made from a paste of rice flour and water, painted with a thin bamboo stick.

Only three shapes

A **circle** is the sun or the moon. A **triangle** can be a mountain, a tree or a person's body. A **square** marks a special place. Warli paintings show everyday life: farming, fishing, dancing and festivals.

Draw a Warli dancer



1. Two triangles
Draw two triangles that touch at their points. That is the body.



2. A round head
Add a small circle on top for the head.



3. Arms and legs
Use straight lines for arms and legs. Bend them to dance!



4. Make a scene
Draw lots of people, trees, the sun and animals.

Draw here with a pencil or black pen

Your turn: draw your family in Warli style.

Did you know?

In many Warli paintings, people dance in a big circle holding hands. It is called the *tarpa* dance, after the long wind instrument played in the middle.

How well did you read this week?

Every answer is somewhere in this paper. Try it on your own first, then hunt for the page!

1. How far has Perseverance driven on Mars?

(a) 4 km (b) 45 km (c) 450 km

2. Why can't people steer the rover with a remote control?

(a) Messages take minutes to reach Mars (b) It has no wheels (c) Mars is too dark

3. Where was the "drawer dinosaur" kept for 100 years?

(a) in a museum (b) in a cave (c) in a school

4. Which monsoon has just reached Keralam?

(a) northeast (b) southwest (c) northwest

5. What does an antlion larva dig in the sand?

(a) a tunnel (b) a pit trap (c) a nest

6. Who is the new captain of India's women's cricket team?

(a) Smriti Mandhana (b) Harmanpreet Kaur (c) Mithali Raj

7. What was the T20 series score before today's game?

(a) 3–1 (b) 2–2 (c) 4–0

8. What do Warli painters use for white paint?

(a) rice flour and water (b) chalk (c) milk

True or false?

1. Keralam gets two monsoons every year. **True / False**
2. Kerala Blasters lost their first ISL game. **True / False**
3. Diwali this year is on 8 November. **True / False**
4. Vyommitra is a robot that will ride in Gaganyaan. **True / False**
5. In the story, the mice helped the elephants. **True / False**

Think harder

1. Why might it be hard to drive a car on Mars?

2. Name two ways your family could waste less food.

Build your vocabulary

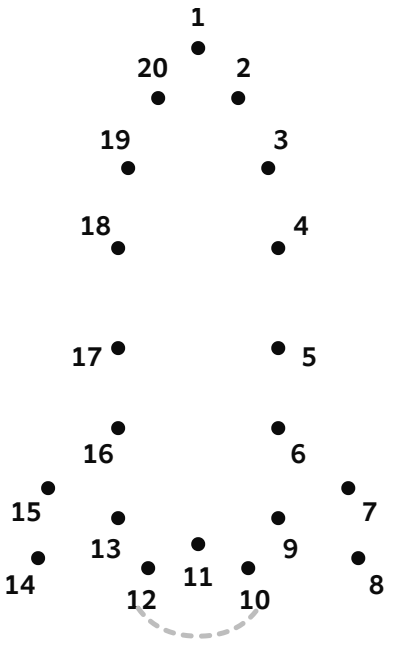
rover	a robot car on a planet	p.2
waste	throwing away useful things	p.6
captain	the leader of a team	p.9
monsoon	a wind that brings rain	p.12
fossil	a bone turned to stone	p.5
price	how much something costs	p.8
astronaut	a person who goes to space	p.10
larva	a baby insect before it changes	p.14

Bonus puzzles: look and find

It's a long weekend, so here are three extra pages of puzzles. Grab a pencil!

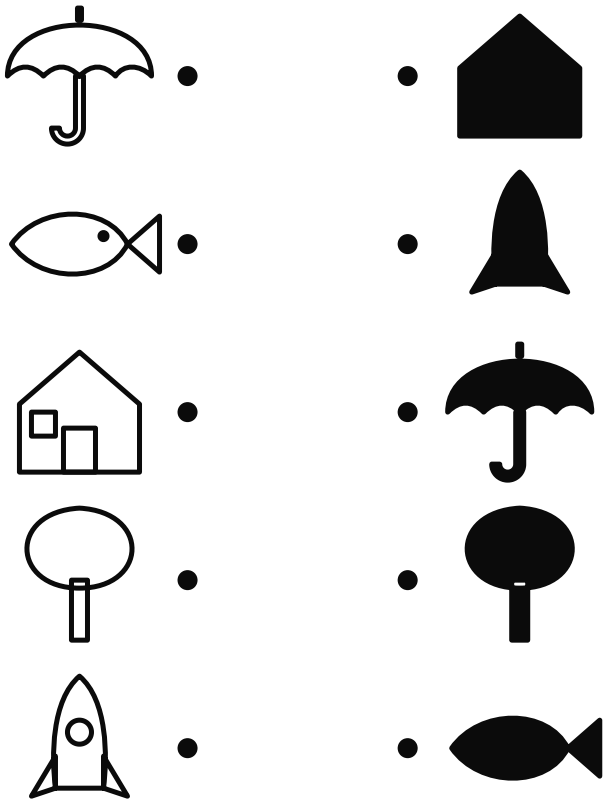
Dot to dot

Join the dots from 1 to 20. Then draw a window and some fire!



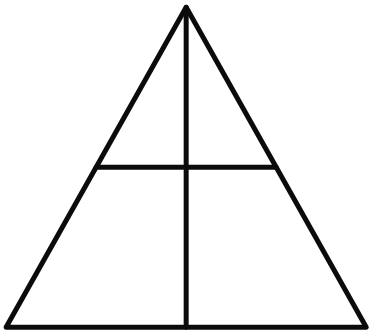
Find the shadow

Draw a line from each picture to its shadow.



How many triangles?

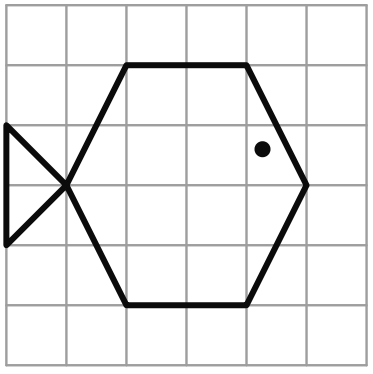
Look carefully. Some triangles are hiding inside bigger ones!

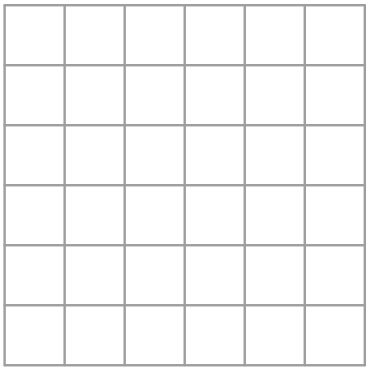


I found _____ triangles.

Copy the fish

Copy the fish into the empty grid, one square at a time.

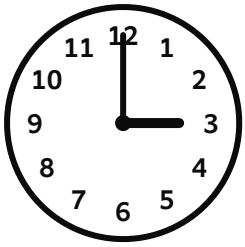




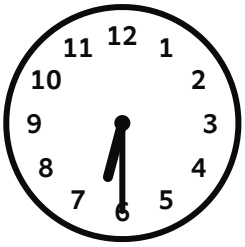
Bonus puzzles: number fun

What time is it?

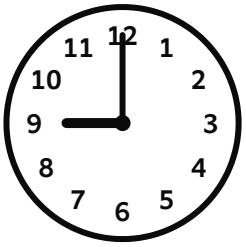
The short hand shows the hour. The long hand shows the minutes. Write each time.



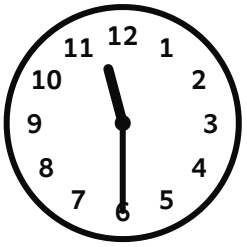
___ : ___



___ : ___

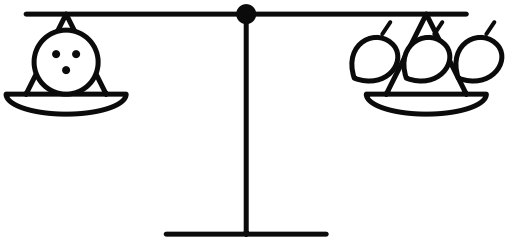


___ : ___



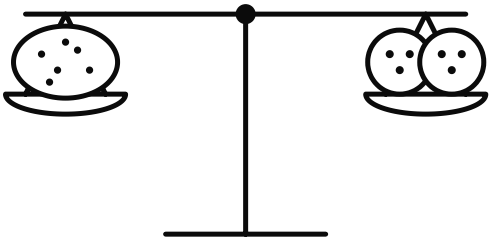
___ : ___

Balance the scales



1 coconut weighs the same as 3 mangoes. How many mangoes weigh the same as **2 coconuts**?

_____



1 jackfruit weighs the same as 2 coconuts. So 1 jackfruit weighs the same as how many **mangoes**? _____

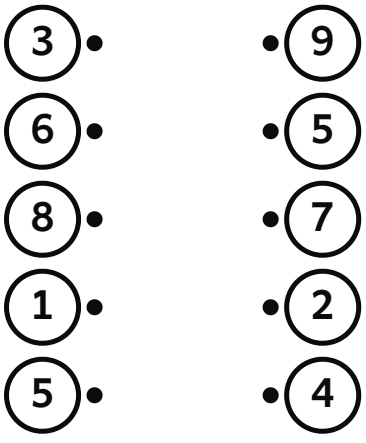
Fill the number chart

Write the missing numbers.

41	42		44	45	46		48	49	
51		53	54		56	57	58		60
61	62	63		65		67		69	

Make 10

Join each number to its partner, so the two add up to 10.



Bonus puzzles: word fun

Word ladders

Change **one letter** at a time to climb from the top word to the bottom word.

C	A	T
D	O	G

B	I	G
B	A	T

Missing vowels

Fill in a, e, i, o or u to spell an animal.

T _ G _ R

M _ N K _ Y

R _ B B _ T

Z _ B R _

P _ R R _ T

Unscramble the news words

All these words are in this week's paper. Use the clue to help.

VRROE	robot car on Mars	_____
NAIR	falls from clouds	_____
LISOFS	bone turned to stone	_____
KETCRIC	bat and ball game	_____
TEROME	a shooting star	_____
PHNELETA	big gray animal	_____

Rhyme time

Join the words that rhyme.

cat •	• **train**
rain •	• **tree**
star •	• **hat**
boat •	• **car**
bee •	• **goat**

Make your own

Write a word that rhymes with each one.

sun _____

ball _____

red _____

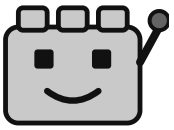
cake _____

Bonus answers (pages 20–22)

Dot to dot: a rocket · **Shadows:** umbrella–3, fish–5, house–1, tree–4, rocket–2 · **Triangles:** 6 · **Clocks:** 3:00, 6:30, 9:00, 11:30 · **Scales:** 6 mangoes; 6 mangoes · **Chart:** 43, 47, 50, 52, 55, 59, 64, 66, 68, 70 · **Make 10:** 3+7, 6+4, 8+2, 1+9, 5+5 · **Ladders:** CAT–COT–DOT–DOG · BIG–BAG–BAT · **Unscramble:** ROVER, RAIN, FOSSIL, CRICKET, METEOR, ELEPHANT · **Rhymes:** cat–hat, rain–train, star–car, boat–goat, bee–tree · **Vowels:** TIGER, MONKEY, RABBIT, ZEBRA, PARROT

Bye for now!

More news, a new story and new puzzles next week.



My drawing

Draw your own Mars rover!

Drawn by: _____ **Age:** _____

Junior Reporter

How did the rain change your week? Write or draw your news. It could be in the next paper!

Tell the editor!

What do you want to read about next week?

Answers (no peeking until you try!)

News quiz (p.19): 1b · 2a · 3a · 4a · 5b · 6a · 7b · 8a

True or false: 1 T · 2 F (they won 2–0) · 3 T · 4 T · 5 T

Math: p.8: 10 × ₹10 = ₹100, yes! · p.13: 102 + 102 = 204

Rover code (p.4): many paths work. Check that no arrow lands on a rock!

Sudoku 4×4 (rows): 3 1 4 2 / 2 4 3 1 / 4 2 1 3 / 1 3 2 4

Sudoku 6×6 (rows): 4 2 3 1 6 5 / 6 1 5 4 3 2 / 5 3 2 6 4 1 / 1 4 6 5 2 3 / 2 5 4 3 1 6 / 3 6 1 2 5 4

Whose pet (p.17): Meera parrot, Kabir cat, Ammu dog

Number pyramid: bottom 5 · middle 7 · then 15, 15 · top 30

Odd one out: Moon (not a planet) · cat (not an insect) · chess (no ball)

Secret code: RAIN COMES

Word search: ANTLION (across, row 6), CAPTAIN (across, row 3), CRICKET (across, row 4), FOSSIL (across, row 7), MARS (across, row 10), PRICE (across, row 2), RAIN (across, row 10), ROVER (across, row 1)

Crossword: Across 1 ROVER · 3 NEST · Down 1 RAIN · 2 RAT · 4 TEN

Parent tips

Reading together

Edition 2 explains news from about 10–17 October 2026 for ages 5–8. Most of it is written for children to read; the small gray “For grown-ups” notes add facts for you. Try two or three pages a day, and use the “Talk about it” questions to start a chat.

How to print

Easiest: print all 23 pages on A4, black and white is fine, one side, with scale set to “Fit to page”. Staple along the left edge.

Booklet: choose Print › “Booklet”, double-sided. You get an A5 booklet from 6 A4 sheets, with one blank page at the end.

Reach the editor

Send your child’s drawing, news for “Junior Reporter”, ideas or feedback to:

desai.bhavna@gmail.com

A photo of the page is perfect!