

SEEK - IT

A MAGAZINE FOR
KIDS AND THE
INQUISITIVE

December 2024

Remembering Visionary Leader - Ratan Tata

He died on 9th October 2024 at the age of 86 due to age related issues,



Tata Group, under the leadership of Ratan Tata formed the MIT Tata Center of Technology and Design at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) with a mission to address the challenges of resource-constrained communities, with an initial focus on India



Ratan Tata was born in Bombay (now Mumbai), during the British Raj, into a Parsi Zoroastrian family, on 28 December 1937

Tata Education and Development Trust, a philanthropic affiliate of Tata Group, endowed a \$28 million Tata Scholarship Fund that will allow Cornell University to provide financial aid to undergraduate students from India



Tata extended his support to affected Sikh survivors by donating trucks through Tata Motors after 1984 Anti-Sikh Riots.

Tata was a supporter of education, medicine and rural development, and considered a leading philanthropist in India



During the 21 years Tata led the Tata Group, revenue grew over 40 times, and profit over 50 times.



In 1991, JRD Tata stepped down as the chairman of Tata sons, naming him his successor



In the 1970s, Ratan Tata was given a managerial position in the Tata group. He achieved initial success by turning the subsidiary National Radio and Electronics (NRECO) around, only to see it collapse during an economic slowdown



After completing Cornell, Tata briefly joined Jones at his firm Jones & Emmons in Los Angeles



Upon turning 75, he resigned his executive powers in Tata Group on 28th December 2012.



A Monthly Magazine For Children And Young Adults

Foreword

Dear readers,

Hello from Team SEEKIT! The holiday season is about to begin, as December arrives. Here is yet another issue of SEEKIT that we hope would add to your enthusiasm. As the second term of the academic year in India is about to conclude, all the contributors have been extremely busy, spreading their time across their curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. However, we are really happy that they have taken SEEKIT too as a part of their schedules and contributed well to the magazine. Team SEEKIT extends its appreciation to the contributions and thanks to the readers!!

Hey, just a while ago, there arrived the new millennium, that we celebrated with a lot of enthusiasm, apprehensions and grandeur, in 2000. And, here we are already, entering the silver jubilee year of the millennium in just a few days! It is as though these 24 years have just rolled really fast to unwrap the gift of its silver jubilee celebrations. It is exciting, right? Let us look into the main events and milestones that shaped these 24 years or let us put it the way social media or any modern app does, 'Years in Review'.

The world was warming up to the software industry and understanding the power of technology when Y2K bug had to be fixed. The calendar data that was just two-digit long had to be extended to four, to suit the leap into the 2000s. Gartner estimates that around 300 to 600 billion dollars were spent to achieve this. We woke up to the crash of a hijacked jet into the WTC Twin Towers and an attack on Pentagon in September 2001. About 2,977 people from 90 countries were killed. Thereafter, the incident took a toll on international trade and impacted the other nations too.

Euro, the common currency of the European Union, was created in 2002, whereby Franc, Lira and Deutschmark became non-existent. Facebook, the flag-bearer of today's social media revolution, was founded in 2004 by Mark Zuckerberg. It has changed the way people connect and share information forever. A scientist from East Germany, Angela Merkel, went on to become the first female chancellor of Germany in 2005. Representing the Christian Democratic Union, she held on to the position for fifteen years. Her headship and determination during the turbulent times, made her one of the most remarkable women of the century. The idea of Steve Jobs and the new addition to the i-world, the first version of iPhone came out in 2007. It had demonstrated the power of computing, apps and social media to the world, and slowly brought smartphones into our lives. The pride of being a part of the Apple community, craze for the latest versions of iPhone and many other human expressions came out after this invention. The recession of 2008 saw banks fail, investors lose their stature, increase in housing prices and unrestricted trading that resulted from the financial deregulation in developed nations. This made the job markets unstable and impacted the future of many professionals and graduates as well. The earthquake that destroyed Haiti and led to the death of more than three lakh people occurred in 2010.

Many of the survivors fled to other nations and the Haitian refugees had to be re-settled. In the same year, the British Petroleum disaster of Deepwater Horizon, happened. More than 210 million gallons of oil spilled into the Gulf of Mexico, changing the aquatic eco-system forever.

Higgs Boson, the sub-atomic particle also called the 'God Particle' was discovered by CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, in 2012. It was possible by building a hadron collider for ten years, which required another four years, to bring these results. This particle has important implications for material physicists.

The Civil War in Yemen, Russian invasion of eastern Ukraine and Crimea; and a couple of wars and terror groups started in 2014. In 2016, Britain proposed the Brexit and Donald Trump was made the President of USA. The wave that brought out the way many of the celebrities and popular figures have been harassing women, the #MeToo movement started in 2017. Many famous people who faced the accusations lost their job and image. This revolution spread like a wildfire across the world and gave many people who were silently suffering the abuse, the courage to come out in the open.

The famous 'How dare you' speech of Greta Thunberg in the UN Climate Action Summit was delivered in 2019. Covid-19 brought the world to a stand still in 2020. The spread of the Corona virus and its infection led to the pandemic, when wearing masks, social distancing, and sanitizing became the new norms. A second wave of the same hit the world in 2021, which turned out to be lethal in many European and Asian nations, until the vaccination procedures started. A total of 700 million cases were reported across the world, and more than 7 million deaths occurred.

Russia went into yet another war with Ukraine in 2022 and the Israel-Hamas war started in 2023. As many as 64 countries including the United States, India, Taiwan, South Africa, Algeria and UK, had elections in 2024. Thus, the electoral decisions of 49 percent of the world population were made in the year.

This is the round-up of the years, as we get ready to start the silver jubilee year. The world has seen many great and not-so-great events in these years. Let us hope for a great year ahead, when we get to see more positivity and wonderful milestones shaping it!

Happy New Year everyone and Happy Holidays! And, as usual, Happy Reading!

- Vani Aparna Chavali

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You can also read the magazine and its archived issues on our website:

<https://seekityosca.wixsite.com/website-1>

(The contributors have been instructed to contribute original work. The authenticity of the originality is checked to the best possible extent. However, if it is not found to be the original work of the writer, SEEKIT would certainly bring that to the notice of the readers)

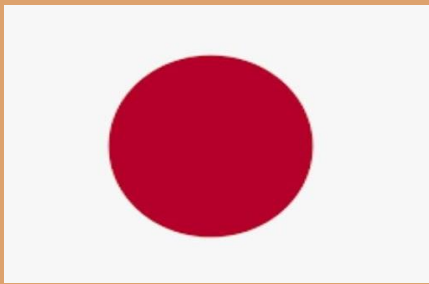
Flags – by Dhruthi G., Class 3, Federal Public School

Hi friends, do you know that the study of flags is called Vexillology?! Let us learn about the flags of different countries, having red and white colours.



Poland: The flag of Poland is rectangular and consists of 2 horizontal stripes of equal width.

Canada: The flag of Canada is vertically striped in red, white and red colours with a big Maple leaf in the middle of the white stripe.



Japan: The flag of Japan is rectangular and white, with a red circle in the centre.

Austria: The flag of Austria has a horizontal triband of red, white and red colours.



Flag of Bahrain

Flag of Qatar

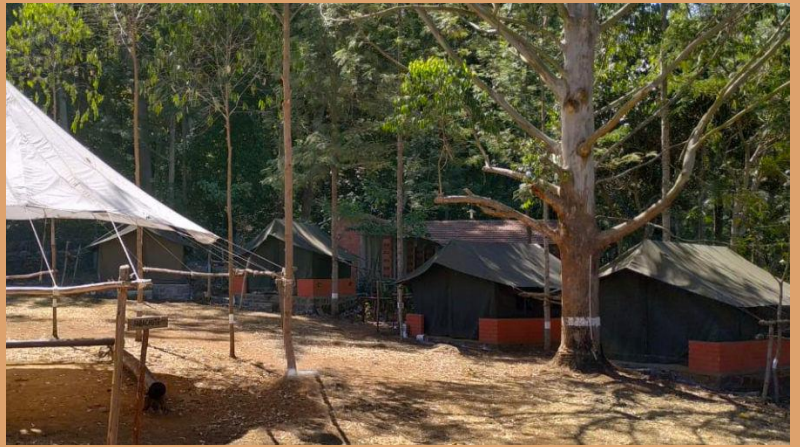
The flags of Bahrain and Qatar are similar in design. But, the flag of Bahrain has a white serrated band and a red band, while that of

Qatar has maroon band instead of red, with a comparatively more serrated white band.

Adventure Camp at Yercaud – Days 3 & 4 – by Satya Prithvi D.

May 2nd - Day 3 of the camp

The instructors woke us up at 6:00am but by the time we came to our senses, it was already 6:30. We did some warmup exercises and then had breakfast. Then, it was time for outdoor survival. We walked through the same path as the day before and reached a resting spot. It was a small clearing in the forest. We were given long blankets and some ropes and asked to build a tent according to the slope of the land and direction of rainfall. It was a very interesting activity and everyone enjoyed it. After pitching our tents, we had to judge others' tents and give them scores. Our tent got the highest score and we were given a pack of Oreo biscuits as a reward.



We returned to camp through a slippery downhill path. It was very exciting and we did not want the adventure to end. After 10 minutes, we reached camp. We took a bath and had lunch. We played dodgeball for a lot of time and it was an amazing experience. We were tired and played cards in the common meeting place for some time. Then, it started raining heavily. My friends who went to cycling had not yet returned. There was thunder and lightning and we were asked to go into our tents. The wind was very strong and the tent was swaying back and forth. My friends returned from cycling after a while, fully drenched from head to toe.

We stayed in the tent and played UNO for a long time. The rain stopped and we went to the meeting place for evening activities and snacks. That day, we played basketball after dinner. As the sleep

whistles blew, we went to our respective tents and fell asleep immediately.

May 3rd - Day 4

We woke up earlier than the instructors the next day, did some light exercises as usual, had breakfast and got ready for the outdoor survival activities. The instructors told us that it would be a very long walk, as we would be going to the highest point in Yercaud called the Bison Point. We took our lightly-packed day bags and walked. We were asked to remember the path as we would be required to find the way back to the camp on our own. We reached a clearing where they taught us how to make fire using cotton, a flint and steel. It was difficult at first but it became easier. I was able to make a fire in one hour.

Then we went higher and reached Bison Point. The view from there



was breathtaking and we stayed there for a long time. We could see our camp at a far distance and everyone looked like small ants from the top. We also looked through the binoculars. It was beautiful. After half an hour, we had to

find our way back, but we got lost in the middle. We were asked to remember it but we were too excited and were lost in the jungle. After some time, we found our footsteps at a place, literally retraced our steps to reach the camp. My friends had already completed their cycling and returned from there. We took a bath and had lunch. We stayed in our tent for some time and played UNO, then played dodgeball, basketball and badminton. After snacks and evening activities, we had dinner, played basketball and slept early.

Did You Know – by Prithika K., Class 8, KV Patshala

† A cloud weighs around a million tonnes. This is due to the weight of billions of water droplets and ice crystals that form the cloud.



† Identical twins do not have the same fingerprints because the fingerprint formation is influenced by both genetic factors and the environmental factors within the womb.

† Earth's rotation is slowing down its speed and this is increasing the duration of day by 1.8 milliseconds per century.

† Human brain is constantly eating itself. The microglial cells clear out old and worn-out cells through a process called phagocytosis.

† The average colour of the universe is called 'Cosmic Latte', which is close of ivory and white colours.

† Animals can experience time differently than humans. Smaller animals see it in slow motion.

† Water might not be wet. Wetness is just the sensation created by a liquid on a solid surface



† Wearing a tie can reduce blood flow to the brain by 7.5 percent.

† The world's oldest dog lived until it was 29.5 years old.

Understanding Climate Change

Biodiversity Protection at the Individual Level – Wg Cdr Gouripathi V. (Retd)

While large scale changes in human behaviour, devising policy measures and creating long-term strategies to protect biodiversity will be essential, these actions take a long time. However, as individuals, we can play a vital role in protecting biodiversity and this can be done on a daily basis, by bringing about small changes in our routines and behaviour. Changing consumption patterns by making conscious choices about the food we eat, products we buy, services we use and the way we dispose waste can add to these efforts at an individual level.



Individuals can make a difference - some of the things you can do include:

- Supporting political action committed to protecting and restoring biodiversity.
- Supporting institutions that promote the protection and restoration of biodiversity.
- Supporting local and regional projects aimed at tackling biodiversity loss.
- Buying fewer products and making sure that the products we buy minimise the impact on biodiversity.
- Investing in ways that promote biodiversity.
- Reducing waste of consumer goods: food, clothes, electrical appliances, etc.
- Recycling the used products or repurposing them in useful ways.
- Educating children about biodiversity, ecosystems and the threats they face and the opportunities to restore them.

Indian Navy Day – by R.Priyanga, Class 8, KV Patshala

Navy Day is celebrated on December 4th every year in India, commemorating the day Operation Trident was successfully carried out during the Indo-Pak Civil War of 1971. This was a milestone that



crippled the enemy due to the loss of a minesweeper, a destroyer, a cargo vessel and fuel storage tank. This was the operation when the Indian Navy first used anti-ship missiles. From the

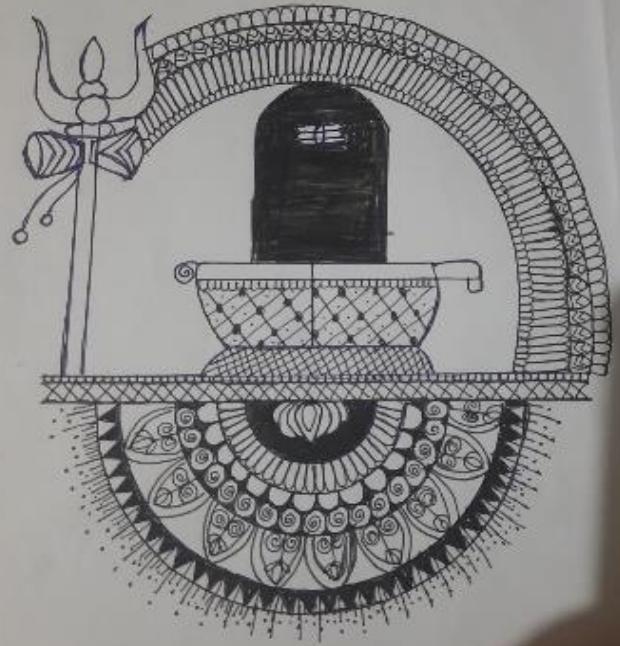
following year, the country started celebrating Navy Day. Today, the Indian Navy is powered with the aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant; nuclear-powered submarine INS Arihant; and numerous other vessels. It protects the coastline of almost 7,500 kilometres and 2 million square kilometres of Economic Zones. Indian Ocean region is the most vital zone protected by Indian Navy, as piracy and other illegal activities are prevalent in the area; while it is also an important hub for international trade. The legacy of INS Vikrant is a testament to the strategic importance of the aircraft carrier in the modern naval warfare. Further, Indian Navy has been crucial in maintaining diplomatic relations with other nations by initiating joint exercises such as Milan that is annually conducted in Visakhapatnam. It saw participants from 51 countries this year.

Thus, this is not just a celebration of victory, but a way to highlight the progress and importance of Indian Navy to the nation. It underscores the dedication of the personnel towards shielding the nation.

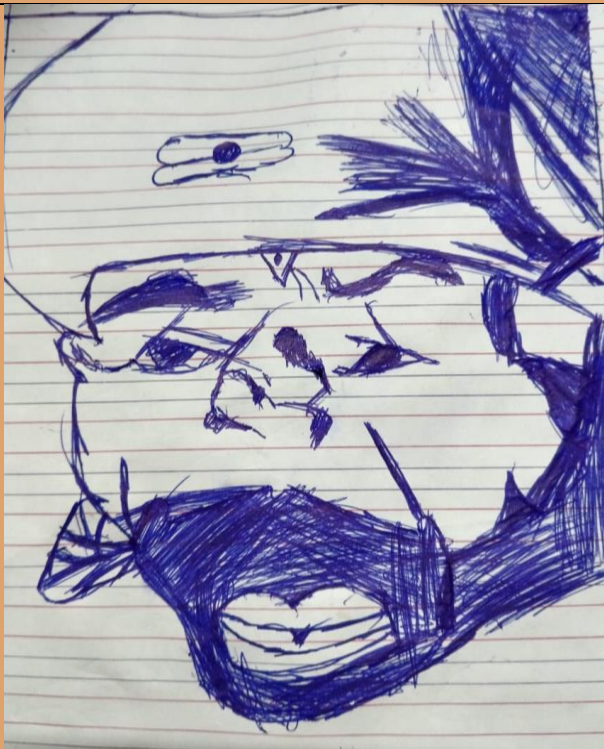
Strokes & Shades



Sreshta C., Class 6, The
School KFI



Kiranmayi B., Class 9, Sri
Vignan Vihara EM High School



Surya Karthikeya, Class 2, CAL
Public School



Poornitha K., Class 8, The
Salvation Army EM School

Working on Ourselves

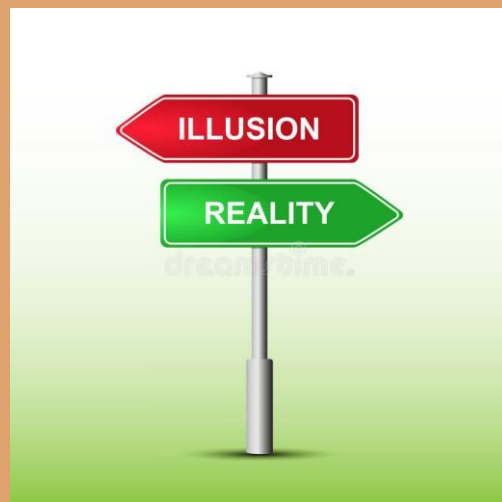
Truth and Illusion: Trusting the Voice Within – Mr.P.Rajkumar

In today's world, where we are surrounded by constant information, it is often difficult to separate truth from illusion and 'real' from 'fake'. The saying "Not everything that appears is true; not everything we believe is true; the heart tells us what the truth really is" holds deep meaning. It reminds us to look beyond appearances and question our assumptions, while also trusting our inner instincts.

Appearance or looks can be deceptive. Consider social media, where people often share only the highlights of their lives, creating an illusion of perfection. A person posting glamorous vacation photos may be struggling with personal issues, but the picture tells a different story. Similarly, advertisements often make products look flawless, but a closer look might reveal their shortcomings. For example, beauty products are marketed with promises of miraculous results, but they may fail to meet expectations. Thus, it is essential to look beyond what we see on the surface.

Beliefs, too, can be misleading. Many of us cling to preconceived notions without questioning their validity. For instance, some might believe stereotypes about certain communities or professions based on limited experience or societal biases. Such beliefs often crumble when we interact with people or situations that challenge our assumptions. A classic example is the mistaken belief that success is always tied to formal education. Stories like those of Steve Jobs and Elon Musk show that unconventional paths can lead to greatness.

Our heart often plays a crucial role in discerning the truth. It is this voice that warns us when something feels off, even if everything looks perfect. For example, a person might get a lucrative job offer but feel uneasy about the workplace environment. Listening to this inner voice can prevent future regret. In 2021, the whistleblower Frances Haugen



exposed Facebook's practices because her conscience could not accept the harm being caused. Her heart guided her to reveal the truth despite personal risks.

In conclusion, the essence of truth often lies beneath the surface. While appearances can mislead and beliefs can be flawed, our heart's intuition, logic and experiences can guide us toward understanding reality. By questioning what we see and believe, and by listening to our inner voice, we can make wiser decisions and lead more authentic lives. The ability to recognize the truth is not just a skill but a journey, one that requires mindfulness and courage.

As we step into 2025, this wisdom paves the way for a world built on clarity and genuine understanding. By valuing truth over appearances, we are shaping a future grounded in trust, empathy, and meaningful progress.

A Happy New Year to All...

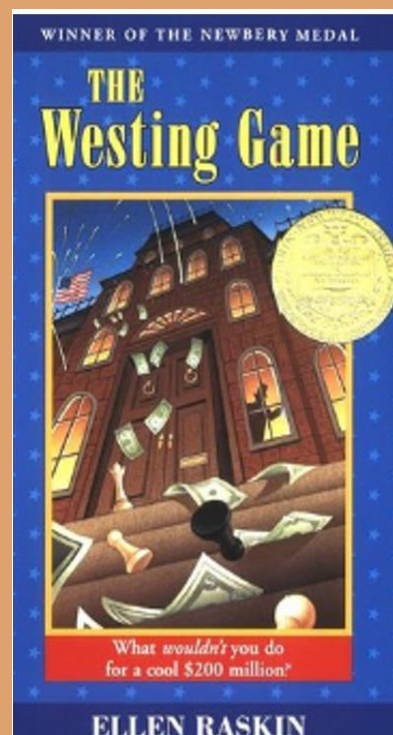
The Westing Game – Book Review – by Sreshta C.

Author - Ellen Raskin

Age - 9 to 12 years

The story starts when sixteen heirs gather in the library of Westing Manor for the reading of the will of Samuel W. Westing. In the will, he declares that the heirs must solve a mystery to inherit the fortune. The heirs make their way through bombings, burglaries and blizzards, each determined to inherit the fortune. The Westing

Game is filled with suspense and mild humor. This book is a Newberry award winner.



Khimsar Fort and Hotel – by Harshika M., Class 6, KV Patshala

Khimsar is a place in Thar desert region of Nagaur district of Rajasthan



that has an ancient fort dating back to the 16th Century. It is now converted into a luxury hotel, WelcomHotel by ITC. Traditional structures are elegantly renovated, without ruining their lustre. Its restaurant serves a variety of cuisine. A camel tour of the desert area is arranged by the guests and the tourists can also

sit at the lake-like expanse of water while enjoying the desert landscape in a peaceful environment.

Quiz - Musical Instruments

1. How many strings does a Cello have?
2. The word “piano” is a short form of?
3. Who developed the Trumpet?
4. How many individual pieces of wood make up a Violin?
5. Up to how many years can a Sitar last in good condition?



(Answers on Page 19)

Sketching – by Sreshta C.

Sketching is a rough way of drawing in which an artist tries to illustrate or capture ideas and put them together in a drawing/sketch. This form of art uses five basic shapes namely circles, triangles, rectangles, squares and ellipses. The word “sketch” comes from the Greek word “schedio” which means almost, nearly, about or approximately.



How is sketching different from drawing?

Sketching is an incomplete or a freehand form of art, whereas drawing is a more detailed and complete form of art. Sketching doesn't need much thought and doesn't need to be perfect. Drawing, on the other hand, is the complete opposite.

Types of Sketching

There are four basic types of sketching.

- **Interior Sketching** is a way of planning and laying out the details for a place. This type of sketching is used in architecture.
- **Fashion sketching** is a method which fashion designers use to put their ideas together on a piece of paper. An outline template is used as a base to start their design.
- **Industrial sketching** involves showing one object from different angles, as seen from different perspectives, while often considering how light, and shadow affect the object. This method can help one to strengthen their hand-to-eye coordination. Drawing still life objects may include sketching
- **Travel sketching or location sketching** is a way in which we can capture scenery as a rough drawing. While location sketching, never focus on perfection.

Sketching is a wonderful hobby which everyone can do to express themselves. You could learn more about it or try to sketch too!

More About December – by Priyanga R., Class 8, KV Patshala

(Illustration by Varuna, Class 8, KV Patshala)

- The word 'Decimus' is from the Latin word that stands for 'tenth'.
- December babies are either Sagittarius or Capricorn.
- The winter solstice which falls in December, marks the start of winter.
- Evergreens are an ancient tradition. They are symbols of rebirth during the winter solstice. Evergreen fir tree is used to symbolize Christmas.
- Candy canes originated in Germany in December, 1670.



Word Search – Snakes

Find 10 types of snakes among this grid of letters



(Answers on Page 19)

Runs and Races – Publicly Acceptable Absurdities of Life – by Unmutable Uncle

Hello young and little ones, how have you all been? How's the spirit as we near the Christmas and New Year? This is the time when the climate gets colder, but the spirit to enjoy, plan year-end mischief, enjoy another set of holidays goes up, isn't it? And this is also the time when many parents also take time off from work and try to relax and enjoy too. But you know the plot twist? Parents, or for that matter, elders can never enjoy their time off. They have been running on their treadmills of lives so much that they feel FOMO if they stop or relax.

That 'sprints' me to the topic of the day - racing and races. You already know that your Unmutable Uncle is also an unstoppable runner and racer. He is so used to running and racing that he turns even mundane tasks into sprints. To work? Rush. To shop? Dash. To the bathroom? Hail the Lord Usain Bolt!! Racing has become such a compulsive habit to me that I often race even to get scoldings from your Unmutable Auntie whenever I do something stupid in the rush, which happens so very often. This is a race where I run, but your auntie always wins.



The races where I don't get scolded upon are the marathon races, where everyone is rushing and racing. In my mind, marathon events are the socially acceptable ways where adults channel the hyperactivity of their five-year old inner child. Picture this -thousands of people, clad

in pricey sportswear, running on an open road towards that finish line. It feels like ants running towards the anthills. Only difference being that the ants run in and out to forage the food. On the other hand, these human racers are just racing to get a medal - a piece of metal with some engraving that says, "Finisher of so-and-so race", but sounds like "Loser who ran for this piece of metal"!!

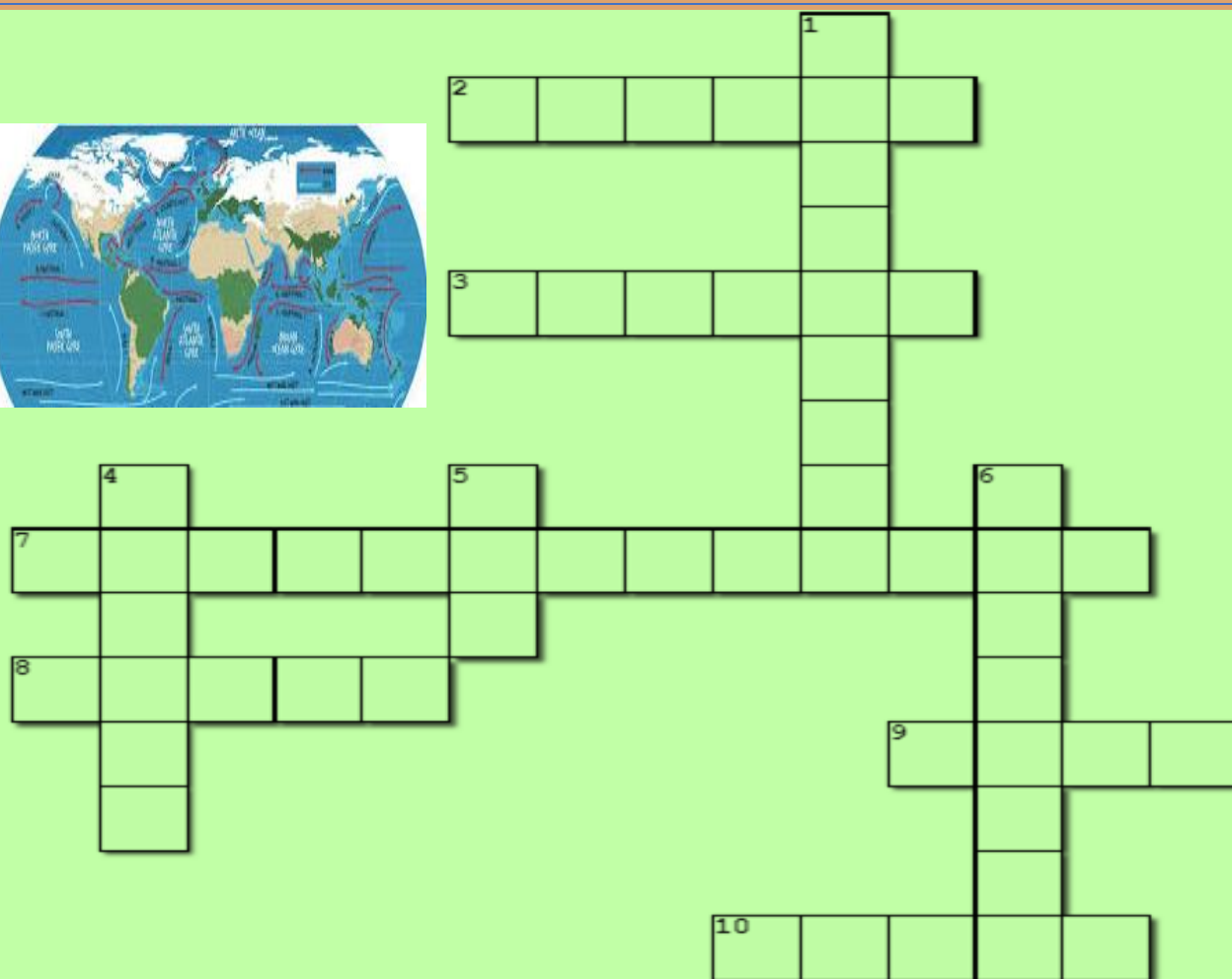


Oh, let's not forget the race pack kits. For those of you who don't know, these are the goodie bags that are given to sweat buckets in public. If the race is a serious one, "goodies" include a t-shirt (that doubles as a humble brag) and some sprain relief gel. But

if it is a timepass race, they give some stuff that you didn't ask for. I remember this one race where they gave me a face cream, a face wash, a soap, and a pack of noodles. I did not understand what to do with all that. Were the organisers and sponsors expecting me to wash my face, take bath, and cook while running? I asked the same question in an email to the organisers, but did not get any reply thus far. Maybe they are busy scrubbing their faces with the face wash or cooking the noodles themselves.

And yet, I keep signing up for race after race and collecting these absurd kits one after the other. Because, let's be honest, what's life without signing up for something that we don't fully understand, right? On that note, it's time for you to excuse me, so that I can sign up for my next episode of absurdity.

Crossword – Seas



Across

2. a marginal sea of the South Pacific Ocean, situated between Australia and New Zealand
3. an arm of the Atlantic Ocean that is enclosed by Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia,
7. a sea connected to the Atlantic Ocean, surrounded by the Mediterranean Basin and almost completely enclosed by land
8. a marginal mediterranean sea of the Atlantic Ocean lying between Europe and Asia
9. a marginal sea of the Pacific Ocean and is surrounded by the northeastern part of Asian Continent
10. located between the Visayas and Mindanao islands in the Philippines. It lies south of Bohol and Leyte

Down

1. a sea of the Atlantic Ocean in the tropics of the Western Hemisphere. It is bounded by Mexico and Central America
4. a marginal sea of the Western Pacific Ocean located between mainland China and the Korean Peninsula
5. a seawater inlet of the Indian Ocean, lying between Africa and Asia
6. a region of the Atlantic Ocean bounded by four currents forming an ocean gyre

Answers

Word Search - Python, Viper, Taipan, Boomslang, Boa, Anaconda, Titanoboa, Cobra, Ninia, Colubrid

Quiz - 1.Four, 2.Pianoforte, 3.Anton Weidinger, 4.More than 70, 5.45 years

Crossword - Across - 2.Tasman, 3.Baltic, 7.Mediterranean, 8.Black, 9.East, 10.Bohol.

Down - 1.Carribean, 4.Yellow, 5.Red, 6.Sargasso

SEEK IT

Hi Friends,

SEEK IT is started in memory of our grandfather, Late Sri C.D.N. Vijaya Kumar, and his pet organization, YOSCA. It is a magazine that is run by children at the forefront.

We herewith invite you to contribute your inputs, to be published in the magazine. Presently, we have 5 segments, which are:

- Stories and Reviews: Short stories, moral stories, poems, stories from folklore, book reviews, movie reviews*
- Entertainment - Puzzles, jokes, riddles, Crosswords, short quizzes, comic strips*
- News - Interesting news for kids, books to read, young achievers, interesting things I've learnt this Month*
- Arts - Drawings, paintings, craftwork, artwork, ancient arts, articles about artists and art forms*
- Science - Interesting facts, latest developments, experiments, science in daily life or sports, scientists*

Please ensure that the work is original and email it to us at seekit-yosca@gmail.com

We would be eagerly waiting to hear from you!!

Karthikeya, Madhulika, Prithvi, Sloka, Sreshta