THE HINDU IN SCHOOL
INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878
30-MINUTE ACTIVITY FOR CHILDREN - 44
CONTACT US school@thehindu.co.in

Country hopping

These four images are representative of a country that lies partly in northern Asia and partly in eastern Europe. Name it

Hint:1. The brown bear is the national animal of this country 2. Ballet dancing is a quintessential part of this country's culture 3. The Matryoshka doll celebrates women and is symbolic of Russian tradition 4. St. Basil's Cathrdral in the heart of the country;s capital is a famous landmark

PHOTOS: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Answer: The Russian Federation

Fun facts

1. Swan upping

Swans were regarded as a status symbol as well as a delicacy in medieval England. According to a medieval legislation, the Queen owns all unmarked mute swans on "certain stretches of the Thames and its surrounding tributaries." To this day during the third week of July, all the swans on the Thames are counted for the Queen in a practice called Swan Upping. It is held not just to establish the ownership of each swan, but also to check up on their health and to conserve their population.

Q: Who is the present Queen of Great Britain?

2. Tusks or teeth?

Walruses, often found lying on the ice in the Arctic Circle, are massive marine mammals. Their distinctive feature are their long, white tusks. The tusks are actually their upper canine teeth that grow all through their lives. Both males and females have tusks which they use to break through ice and haul their huge bodies out of frigid waters.

Q. Can you find out how walruses survive in the cold?

Answer
1. Queen Elizabeth II

Fun with numbers

12345678987654321052 68
10526844512169344589 56
12345705367358065430 12
12345678987654802469

From the sequence of numbers given below, find the number

3580

Answer:
12345678987654321052 68
10526844512169344589 56
12345705367358065430 12
12345678987654802469

Winners all

Connect the authors and the work that won them the Man Booker Prize

1. Arundhati Roy is an Indian author and political activist. Many her works are nonfiction, but the one that won the Man Booker Prize was a semiautobiographical. fiction.

2. Aravind Adiga is an Indo-Australian writer of five books. A former correspondent for Time magazine, he has also been published in the Financial Times. He won the Man Booker Prize for his debut novel.

3. Kiran Desai is an Indian-born American author and daughter of novelist Anita Desai. When she won the Booker Prize in 2007, Desai was the youngest woman writer to do so.

4. Salman Rushdie is a British Indian novelist, who won the Man Booker for his second novel in 1981. In 2007, Rushdie was knighted for services to literature in the Queen's Birthdau Honours.

A. The Inheritance of Loss

B. The God of Small Things

C. Midnight's Children

D. The White Tiger

Answers: 1. B, 2. D, 3. A and 4. C

Word of the day

Enigma (noun)

Meaning: Something or someone that is puzzling or a riddle

Origin: The word "enigma" first appeared in print in 1449. Its origins remain as mysterious as the word itself. It is likely to derive from the Laitn *aenigma*, meaning a riddle, or the Greek *ainigma*, which derives from the word *ainissesthai*, "to speak obscurely, speak in riddles." An example of an enigma is: "Which came first, the chicken or the egg?"

Usage of the word:

1. Even to the ace sleuth Sherlock Holmes, the motive behind the crime was an enigma.
2. The magician's trick was an enigma to everyone in the audience.

Activity:

Use the word of the day in a sentence

High five

A quiz on India, its people, culture and lots more

1. The snack vada pav is synonymous with which city in Maharashtra?
2. Chandigarh is the capital for which two States?
3. In 1951, which Indian city became the first one to host the first-ever Asian Games.
4. One of India's highest plunge waterfalls is located in Karnataka's Shivamogga district. What is it called?
5. A large part of which present-day State was earlier called Kalinga?

a. Punjab and Haryana.
b. New Delhi.
c. Odisha.
d. Mumbai.
e. Jog Falls.

S. Siva Saravanan

Answers: 1. d, 2. a, 3. b, 4. e, 5. c.

The W Corner

WHAT is the role of the leg umpire in cricket?

FILE PHOTO: THE HINDU

When watching cricket, you would have seen that one of the umpires stands near the square leg fielding position. Are you aware what the role of the square leg umpire is? Do you think you can guess the answer? Fill in the space provided and check it with the answer.

Answer: There are two on-field umpires in a game of cricket, one behind the stumps at the bowlers end and the other at square leg. While the umpire at the bowlers end makes decisions on lbw appeals, no balls, wides and leg byes, the leg umpire mainly judges stumpings and run outs at the strikers end. The umpires change position at the end of each over and consult each other when required.

War of words

Strike up a debate on the given topic

From classics to latest bestsellers, almost every book today has an e-version. But are e-books better than printed books? So put on your thinking caps and get ready to argue both sides:

Printed books vs E-books

Journal Writing

Dear Diary

Guess what? My school is changing our uniform. Students may offer suggestions.

Imagine and write. You may even type a note and mail it to us at **school@thehindu.co.in.** We will select a few for publication when we resume

Today's Diary Pick

Dear Diary,

I have a great story idea. I want to share it with you. It is about "The Three-headed Monster".

Once upon a time, there was a three-headed monster in a village. Each head had one specialty. The first head could judge whether the person is telling a lie or speaking the truth. The second head tells the wishes and the desires of a person. The third head can find out what makes any person happy or sad. The monster was treated like a God. The people of the village went to to the monster if there was any problem.

One day, God transformed himself into a boy and went to the monster. He asked whether he could read his mind and tell if his thoughts were righteous or not. If the monster could, the boy promised a bag of diamonds. The monster tried its best, but was not successful. The monster asked, "Who are you? You are invincible." At this point, the boy transforms into God, and what followed was full of surprises!

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