



International World Forest Day

By Shreyas Patankar (13 Years Old)



To honour and promote awareness about the value of forests, The United Nations General Assembly declared March 21 as International Day of Forests in 2012. This day encourages countries to undertake local, national and international activities related to forests and trees. We must protect forests for many reasons. Forests are a dynamic living entity, and the green lungs of Earth. Because the plants life in the forest is food for herbivores. Which increases the number of herbi-

vores, increase of herbivores means there is enough food for carnivores. With the increase of animals when plant life and animals die decomposers get food. The excretion of the decomposers is very nutritious for plants, increasing the plant life in the forest which means more food for the herbivores and the cycle continues, this is how a forest can sustain itself. Forests are the green lungs of Earth as they take in greenhouse gases like carbon-dioxide and

give out oxygen which is vital for all living beings this is why they are the lungs of Earth and they are called green lungs of Earth not because forests are green but because they do not harm nature in any way. So, we must participate whole heartedly in the activities such as tree-planting, debates (On topics like forests, eco-systems), photo competitions, etc. We must also spread awareness to **SAVE FORESTS.**

The Great Warrior – Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

By Shlok Ranawade (12 Years Old)

I like reading books, listening to Indian Classical music, play with my friends and watch super hero movies.



Last week I watched Sher Shivaji Movie. This movie is about how Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj defeated Afzalkhan with great courage and intelligent planning. I have seen many movies of Shivaji Maharaj like, Fatteshikast, Farzand, Pawankhind. In all these movies we could see unique qualities of Maharaj. Though being a King and founder of Maratha Empire, he was very kind, down to earth and never took disadvantage of his power. Because of his such qualities people treated him like a God, they were ready to give their life for him. For the same reason I also respect and admire him a lot.

He was very much influenced by the learnings from his Mother Jijabai, Santh Dnyaneshwar & Santh Tukaram. He was a great devotee of Goddess Bhavani. Shri Samarth Ramdas Swamy was his Guru. He was

named Shivaji after a local deity, the goddess Shivai.

At the tender age of 16, he took the oath of Hindavi Swarajya in Raireswar's Shiv Temple. Shivaji Maharaj was just 16 years old when he captured the first fort, which was Torna.

Shivaji Maharaj is also known as the Father of Indian Navy. He created a strong navy to protect the Konkan and Goa Sea. The first fort built in Sindhudurg became the headquarters of the Navy.

This was in brief about Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

When you are enthusiastic, the mountain also looks like a clay pile— Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

Kid Heroes for the Planet

By Reyansh Baralay (8 years old)



We celebrate Earth Day each year on April 22. It's a day to do the planet some good. But many people work hard year-round to protect the Earth, including young people like you. Read about these incredible Kid Heroes for the Planet. I hope they inspire you to contribute to Planet Earth.

A Smart Sprinkler

When Adarsh Ambati was in sixth grade, he noticed something odd. The frogs in the creek near his house quit croaking, and

green lawns were turning brown. He knew his hometown of San Jose, California, was going through a drought. But it was the first time he'd seen these effects. His family conserved water. But some of his neighbors forgot to turn off their sprinklers, so water was wasted.

This inspired Adarsh to create a smart sprinkler system. It senses moisture levels in soil. It uses real-time weather data to detect when sprinklers should be turned on.

Now 17, Adarsh is the founder of the Green Environment Initiatives. He has some advice for kids who want to fix big problems. "Stay focused," he says. "Then think of ways to engineer solutions."

'The youngest woman to climb Mt. KANCHANJUNGA'

By Kirti Deshpande (Team Swaroop)



Sheetal Raj, the winner of the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure award 2021, has climbed 14 eight-thousand and is the youngest woman to climb Mt. Kanchanjunga.

The 25 year old mountaineer is the world's youngest woman to have climbed Mt. Kanchanjunga and Mt. Annapurna-1.

Till date she has submitted 14 eight-thousand which also includes the world's highest peak mt. Everest.

She received this award in 2019 from the President. The award is named after one of the two individuals who were the 1st to summit Mt. Everest.

The Tenzing Norgay award is presented every year in 4 categories: Land, water, air, adventure and Life-time achievement.

Sheetal considers Chandraprabha Aitwal, the only double recipient of the Tenzing Norgay award, as her role model.

Aitwal became the first woman to climb Nanda Devi, that is considered as one of the most treacherous peak in the world.

An organisation called, "Climbing Beyond

the Summits' is the brainchild of Sheetal. She aims to empower women and advocate gender equality through it.

'Women only expeditions are arranged by this organisation every year.

The residents of Pithoghar works in the 'Adventure Tourism Section' of Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam.

Sheetal having achieved almost all highest and dangerous peaks. She now aims at conquering 'seven summits'.



Ride On!

By Tanish Walimbe (10 years old)



Nora Ball (right) was nearly hit by a car at the intersection in front of her school. Three years earlier, a student lost her life at that same spot. Nora decided to do something. She teamed up with Bria Brown (left) to speak at City Hall, in Atlanta, Georgia. They argued that the intersection not only endangers students, it threatens the Earth.

Nora and Bria went on to cofound Atlanta Students Advocating for Pedestrians (ASAP). One of the group's goals is to help the Earth and the community by making it easier to travel by bike. In 2019, the organization received an award from the Atlanta Bicycle Coalition.

Nora, 17, explains that every gallon of gasoline produces about 20 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO₂). This greenhouse gas can cause respiratory problems. It also contributes to global warming. Nora says biking and walking, instead of driving, can help reduce greenhouse gasses. Plus, she says, biking is "a good way to exercise and to appreciate

By Naineesh Kuchekar
(Team Swaroop)

श्लोकः
वस्त्र प्रक्षालने कार्ये हस्त प्रक्षालनं भवेत् ।
विचारानमलं कर्तुं केवला साधु संगतिः ॥

अर्थः

वस्त्र प्रक्षालन करते समय अपने आप हात धुल जाते हैं । हाथ धोने के लिए कोई अलग परिश्रम नहीं करना पड़ता ठीक उसी प्रकार विचारों को शुद्ध करने के लिए सिर्फ साधु की संगत करना जरूरी है जिसके कारण उनके सहवाससे ही अपने विचार शुद्ध बन जाते हैं कोई अलग परिश्रम नहीं करना पड़ता ।

विवरणः

अपने विचारों को शुद्ध करने के लिए हमें हमसे अच्छे

विचार जिनके पास है उनके साथ रहना पड़ेगा अच्छे विचार वाले लोगों की संगत ही हमारे गलत विचारों को सही राह प्रदान करती है । इसलिये हमारे शास्त्रों ने विद्वानों की संगत करने के लिए आग्रह रखा है। विद्वानों की संगत हमें सही राह पर ले जाती है उसके लिए कुछ अतिरिक्त परिश्रम करणार नहीं पड़ता सिर्फ उनके साथ रहना ही काफी है । यही बात कपडे धोने के दृष्टांत से बताई गई है की कपडे धोते समय हात अपने आप धुल जाते हैं उन्हें अलग से धोना नहीं पड़ता ।

Word Search

By Archit Korke (9 Years Old)

ANIMALS

Clues may run forward, backwards, diagonally, up or down.

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

Tiger Lion Elephant Deer Zebra (Easy)

Panther Alligator Leopard Crocodile Rhinoceros (Hard)

Our trip to Bhigwan bird sanctuary

By Archit Korke (9 Years Old)



When I was 4yr old, my mom got me a book called 'Book of Indian birds'. Since then whenever we see a new bird, we mark it in the book. So far I have marked 56 different birds.

We recently got the opportunity to visit a bird sanctuary where I could mark many more birds. Bhigwan is a town based near a huge dam named Ujjani dam built on the river Bhima. The dam has created shallow wet land which is a perfect environment for many water birds including the beautiful and amazingly pink Flamingos!

Bhigwan is about 2.5 hours drive from Pune on the way to Solapur. Birdwatching is best done at early morning or in the evening. Our plan was to reach Bhigwan by 6.30, so me, Anish, my parents and our family friends left the house at 4am.

When we reached Bhigwan, our guide took us straight to our boat. It was a wooden boat with an engine. There were lots of similar boats but ours had the best guide of all. His name was Kundan dada and he could spot and identify different birds that we couldn't

even see with a binocular!

Kundan dada took us straight to the flamingos. From far we could see a faint pinkish line on the water, but as we got closer, we could see huge pink birds. Most of them were searching something in the water and some curious birds had their necks stretched out looking at us. Some of the birds were completely pink, some had pink color only around their face where as some were completely grey as if it was a painting that wasn't finished. Then Kundan dada enlightened us that Flamingos get their color by eating blue green algae. The ones who have eaten the most algae would get the brightest pink color. Whereas the ones who are new to feeding, would look like an unpainted picture.

Flamingos have a special and uniquely used upside-down beak which basically takes in mud and filter it and eat only what they want from the mud. They eat little shrimps and blue-green algae as well as insect larvae, small insects, mollusks and crustaceans which makes them omnivores.

It was an absolute treat to watch the flamingos feed and then suddenly they all got ready and the entire flock of nearly 100 birds flew together! It was an incredible experience!

Flamingos

After the flamingos we roamed around for 2 more hours watching different types of water birds like Painted storks for me they looked like an old man sitting; Spoon bills, their beak is literally shaped like a spoon! There were a lot of different types of ducks as well. But my favorite were the birds named little Terns. These small white birds were flying right above our boat and were catching so many little fish. Kundan dada said that the fan in the boat engine brings the little fish up, and these clever little birds know that so they follow the boats!



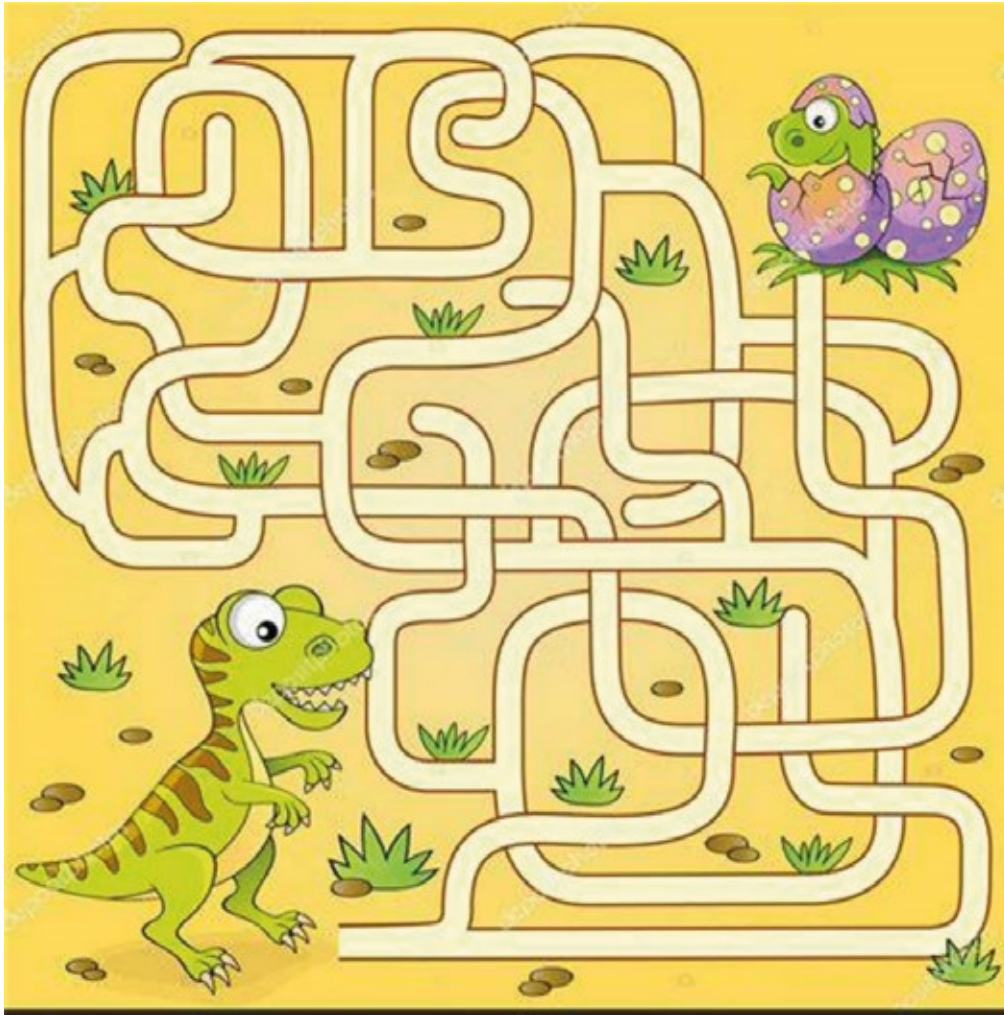
Spoonbills



Painted stork

We spent 3 hours in the boat. We ate homemade peanut butter jelly sandwiches, brownies and drank heaps of water!

When we returned to the shore, we ate an early lunch and returned home by 2 in the afternoon. What a memorable Sunday!



Find the Path

By Tanish Walimbe (10 years old)

Shreyak (Team Swaroop).

He loves to draw and play. He loves to create new things with his elder brother Vaidik.

He is 7 Years old.



By Rahi (8 years old)
- Team Swaroop



By Pragya (12 Years Old)
- Team Swaroop



Animals around us- * Farm animals * Origami-
Sanay (5 years old)

Bird with Pencil Shaves
By Pranit (6 years old)

Animals around us- Sea animals with ice-cream sticks - done by Ayaansh, Anish, Samaira, Aarohi & Anandi



Animals around us- Wild animals from leaves; Ephemeral art- Madhav



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