

VARIOUS HUES OF DEEPANAM

MONSOON

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Note from Editors (Faith Group)

Have an amazing monsoon!



Top 3

places to be when it rains in Auroville -Milo



1 YC pizza night:

Nothing is better than a nice, hot, steaming pizza in the cold of the rain, with your friends and family.

2 On a cycle trip:

Cycling in the rain is my favorite sport; the fresh air on your face, getting muddy in the rain, and then getting to clean your cycle are my favorite things to do.





3 At home:

make a cup of hot chocolate and watch a movie; read a book, play games, call friends, sleep, run around in the rain and get wet, or listen to music.

Fope's Opinion :What I Like

There are two things I love to do on a rainy day. They both very much depend on my mood and how energetic I am at the moment.

First thing, staying at home (in my bed), either watching a series or reading, while eating yummy food. The reason I love this so much is because I love cozy activities, and that sounds very very cozy to me. Why? Because I'm in my super comfy, thick blankets, while there's the soft sound of rain outside, and it's the perfect temperature in my room.

Second thing, doing something fun with my friends outside of my house. I also love the idea of getting soaked in the rain, I just find it so fun. One of my favorite things to do outside in the rain is probably to go to a big field, and play this game called four square. Or just run around and play wolf game, because when it rains, I get a bit of an adrenaline rush.

Let's say I'm actually more likely to stay at home, because the rain always makes me yearn for coziness, and the first option is a hundred percent more cozy. Those are the two things I'm very likely to do on a rainy day, bye bye:)

-Luce



In my opinion, rain falls in accordance with your mood. If you're happy, the drizzle that emerges doesn't cover the sun. But if you're sad, the downpour that follows is enough to make you feel mirrored. This being said, what I do on a rainy day is totally controlled by my mood. If it's the former, and I wake up to rain and find that school is canceled, I click my heels in joy.

Immediately after I finish that, I climb straight back into my delectable bed with no less than five pillows and three blankets. Nesting during rain is a MUST. Then I open netflix, spend all of 11 minutes trying to decide what to watch, and inevitably choose b99.

Eventually, I start to get hungry. However, I've never really liked warm things, eg. Cold pizza (SOMETIMES) (don't doxx me). So I head to the freezer and choose a tub of the uncontested BEST icecream flavor, mint chocolate. I think there's no better feeling than this in the world (unless someone wants to send me 20 million dollars that'dbe pretty cool too), the feeling of silence except for the rain and my favorite characters, the feeling of knowing it's cold out, but I'm warm in my bed, the feeling of knowing that mint chocolate doesn't taste like toothpaste at all, things like that.

Suddenly, an intimidating rival for "best feeling in the world" steps into the rink! She lands a punch! She gets a kick to the face! Her name is.... a good book! Now, if you haven't noticed, rain is portrayed as a catalyst for almost every single emotion. It could create the saddest, most tragic scene you've ever seen (lol), or the most heart felt romance ever. It's perfect for murder mysteries, perfect for cold blooded revenge, perfect for reuniting with your long lost sibling. It's like if life were a soup, rain would be a pinch of salt. Because let's face it, without salt, soup is literally just mushy baby food. Not clear soup though, clear soup stans stay winning.

Back to my main point, reading during the rain literally maxes out your aura. Because A) it makes you feel SO whimsical, and B) it fits every mood, so it feels so real. Like I'm actually in a different world. The best things to eat during the rain fall into the categories cold, spicy, and sweet. Especially if you make it yourself. Exhibit A: Ramen, and exhibit B: cookies, of the chocolate chip species. These (+ icecream) are quite literally god's gift to mankind especially for when its cold out, the spicier and extra chocolate (respectively) the better.

To Do On A Rainy Day

The last, but certainly not least, perfect thing to do on a rainy day, is manicure. These are honestly better than therapy. No matter your gender, you had better be doing manicures because HOW are you walking around everyday knowing you have crusty fingers? If you don't do manicures, just remember that I'm out there. And I'm judging you.

When it starts to get dark, I definitely don't turn my lights on like a fool. You need to bask in that darkness. I'm like if a human was the opposite of a lizard[♥] As the sun gets lower and lower in the sky, I turn on some music that has a 50% chance of matching the mood, and like it or not, end up falling asleep and further spending my sleep schedule. Anyway, that's a day in my super awesome life, peace out y'all this was Atisha the coolest on live, unrehearsed television.



What do I like to do when it rains? There are various options!

If I'm at home and my parents are at home too, I usually make a cup of hot chai and get some biscuits to dip it in while sitting on the sofa and chatting with my parents. Or play some soothing songs while sitting in silence.

If I'm with my friends and the sun is setting or is already set. I go outside and play in the rain with my friends. It is extremely fun because while it's raining the mud also gets slippery and even though I fall multiple times on some sharp stones, it's also really fun to make a mudslide and slide on pebbles, and stones, bake mud cakes, and even have a mud fight. And then we can go and surprise the parents while we look like monsters that came from the sewer.

Then I can make my friends lend me some extra clothes and I will probably not give it back for a year or more! (I'm never giving it back) Usually, my parents would not let me go in the rain. And it's way more fun to play in the rain with friends.

If I'm alone, my favorite thing to do is make some hot food, go outside, and then sit on the front porch while watching the rain and eating, and let the cold breeze flow inside my sleeves and give me goosebumps. But I have to be careful about the centipedes not to step on them because then I'll have to sit outside with a really bad smell in the air and I hate the feeling of stepping on them. Otherwise, I like to sleep, read a book, play in the rain alone, or do my work. It helps me to focus while it's raining.

Sometimes when I'm cycling it suddenly starts raining. It's annoying because the rain goes in my eyes and I can barely see the road. The road also gets muddy and slippery so I have to be extra cautious, and branches fall on my head. But I also love it a lot! I get to go extremely fast when I have to rush and let the muddy puddles splash everywhere and ruin my clothes, and it feels like I'm in a race to get to my destination as fast as possible, and I love the thrill of the whole ride.

-Aarohi

Monsoon start in June and ends in September in rest of India. In Auroville, monsoon is associated with heavy rainfall and thunderstorm. It seems whole world is flooded. Animals and birds enjoy the fresh rain water. In other places lake, river are overflowing. Dark clouds and lightning are the symbol of heavy rainfall. Farmers start working on the field before the rainy season comes.

Some Tamil people visit ooty, which is located in nilgiri hills. It is a beautiful place to visit during monsoon season. If you open the windows it is windy. You can watch the rainfall or go to the kitchen and cook something delicious. We always get the wiring checked before monsoon comes. We keep the doors and window closed. We enjoy rainy season for 3to4 months every year but our people won't allow their kids to play in the rain.

MONSOON

-OLI

The Monsoon is here just like every year, but I was wondering if that is going to change with global warming and all. Some yeas we have lots of rain and some years hardly any and I think with our ever changing climate it's only going to vary more and more, which is definitely a very bad thing. India has depended on the monsoon for tens of thousands of years where it has stayed mostly the same every year, there are periods of el nino or nina, where it's dry or wet but that is inevitable.

The monsoon is becoming more unreliable and we don't have the necessary infrastructure to store it and harvest it, flash floods are also going to get worse as cities don't have adequate drainage and water management. Flooding happens more often when the ground is very dry, because it becomes hard and can't absorb any water. So after a period of extreme drought and then extreme rain the effects would be quite devastating.

The real issue here is that the balance is off. The monsoon used to bring rain gradually, allowing the land to soak it in over time. Now, it's all over the place, flooding some areas, leaving others dry.

There are efforts all over Tamil Nadu to make or remake the water catchments and it is working. This is especially in villages where they don't have a proper pipeline or it's not so trustworthy. It gives people a way to take control again and make their welfare more stable by letting them grow more food or feed their cattle.

Old knowledge of managing these water catchments is being regained and people are starting to take responsibility and understand their water and where it comes from.

In Auroville and the surrounding bioregion we have many different water catchments from Darkali to Aurodam to Kazhuveli tank. It's hard to imagine what Auroville would look like today without the first two, water would still flow down to the ocean turning it that iron red. There are countless other water catchments within Auroville and they all contribute to our forests and lack of erosion.

Kazhuveli is the second largest slightly brackish (salty) tank in south India is also being rejuvenated in certain sections and planted with different mangrove species. It has been degrading and dying due to saltpans and overfishing. It is at the base of a watershed connecting Gingee and Auroville like a drainpipe, with a small connection to the ocean, I pass by it everytime I go to Chennai from Auroville.

FOOTBALL IN THE RAIN AT CERTITUDE



Playing football at Certitude is a different experience because it's all sand . It is very

different to turf because the sand turns to mud when it rains, In auroville the hot climate can make it harder to play, but when it rains there is a nice breeze that cools you down along with the shower so you feel more energetic .But all of the red sand and soil turns to mud and you start to slip or get stuck in the sludge , making the game more difficult .The ball moves unexpectedly and is no longer bouncy .The game feels a lot more chaotic and unpredictable but I feel that it's more fun.

- Raaya

Poem by Oli

With no destination and no aspiration, she was what she looked like, a stray. When she saw him, her eyes lit up. "This is the man I've been looking for. The universe shows me his face on the fourth. I'm meant to see him, according to lore."

She got up and sniffed him.

"Mm-hmm, yep, that's him."

He gave her a pet, and that's when she lept tugged his trousers and left.

"Oy, you stinky poo," Tony cried.

His emotion he did not want to hide.

"These are my favorite trousers," he lied.
Mog kept running, Tony ran after her.
These weren't his favorite shorts,
but he wanted to get back at her.
She had a piece of cloth from his right knee.
He was so angry, oh my, oh gee.

Into a wood they ran, they ran and they ran, and Tony sang. He sang of his sorrow and how he was scared of what could happen tomorrow. He seemed to gain more breath from each passing line, as if the singing might be setting him free.

He sang his heart out, almost as loud as a shout.

Mog heard all of this, and she was starting to vibe with it, because she could relate to it.

She started to stop. She waited. Tony showed up.

She offered his cloth, he realized he did not want it.

Then what was the purpose of all this?

Why would he ever need the cloth if he couldn't sew?
He felt pretty low.
Mog got a log, some flint and some steel.
She said, "We have to wait here a while."
While she made a fire.
"You can talk?" asked Tony.

Mog shook her head.
"Then what was that?"
"Just go to bed."
Tony did feel quite tired.
He needed some rest.
In the morning, he could continue his quest.

When Tony awoke, he felt renewed, as if a choke had just been released from the police of his own mind.
A purpose he had yet to find, but to that he paid no mind.

Before, his only purpose were the bars caging him, the metal enraging him. Now, at least, he was free from that. Maybe he wanted a hat.

He looks up to see Mog, by the embers of a log, next to which sat a hat. "Hey Mog, can I have that?"

Mog looked at him, her eyes "You don't need it, but you can take it if you want."

Tony paused, unsure what to say, but deep down, he understood. The chase wasn't for the cloth, it was for something bigger, something that couldn't be sewn.

The fire sighed Tony smiled, feeling a peace he hadn't known for a while.

Mog lay down beside him, her journey with him, now clear. No need for words, just the quiet comfort of knowing They'd found a new path in life.

He didn't need to chase anymore.
Together they sat, as the embers dimmed,
and for the first time,
Tony felt at home,
Not so alone.

Rainwater harvesting by Harshana

Rainwater harvesting is a plan to collect and store rainwater. This technique is used to save rain by collecting water from a roof-like tank, then it seeps down to restore the groundwater, and it is used for humans, animals, and crops. Why is rainwater harvesting important? According to Google, it reduces soil erosion and flood hazards by collecting rainwater and reducing the flow of stormwater to prevent urban flooding.

The downside to this plan is that it may attract mosquitoes and other waterborne diseases. Most new buildings in China and Brazil are now

constructed with

rooftop rainwater harvesting technology.

The step-by-step process to harvest rainwater:

1. Assess Your Needs

Consider how much water will be used.

2. Choose a Collection Area

Roofs are the best place to collect rainwater.

3. Install gutters and downspouts.

Direct rainwater from the roof into storage using gutters and downspouts.

4. Select a storage tank.

Choose a container that stores your needs.

5. Use a First Flush Diverter

Divert the initial runoff to remove contaminants.

6. Install a Filtration System

Add a filter for debris; consider treatment for drinking water.

7. Create a distribution system.

Plan how to distribute the collected water.

8. Maintain your system.

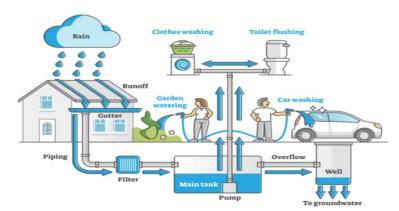
Regularly clean gutters, filters, and tanks.

9. Check local regulations.

Ensure compliance with local laws regarding rainwater harvesting.

Overall, rainwater harvesting is a good practice to save water and stop flooding in cities if it is maintained in a significant way.

RAINWATER HARVESTING



Apple pie by Celestin

For this recipe you will need: an oven/
1 medium bowl/1 mold, and 2 small bowls.
Dough/ 250g of flour/ 125g of butter/ 1 egg/ 25g of sugar/ 5g of sa 5cl of water (room temperature)
Fruits/ four big apples/ 25g sugar
Flan/ 75g sugar/ 10 cl milk/ 10cl cream/
2 eggs/ vanilla aroma choose quantity.



Method:

- 1. Preparation of the Flan: In a small bowl beat the eggs and the sugar for a few seconds, then add the milk, cream and the vanilla
- 2. Preparation of the Dough: Add the flour And the butter, mix(with your hands), then add the egg the sugar the salt and the butter mix again(still with your hands).
- 3. Grease the mold, and preheat the oven around 230°c
- 4. Darken the pie, pinch the side as evenly as possible, poke the bottom of the pie with a fork,
- 5. Peel the apples and cut them into thin slices, place them nicely on the pie, then add the Flan,
- 6. Wait until the apples are cooked then add the Flan and put back in the oven.
- 7. Pro tips you can slightly cut the apples to make them cook faster.

Science corner by Aaryan

What is El Nino and La Nina? How do they affect temperature?

What is El Nino? El nino occurs when the trade winds weaken, allowing for warm water from the western pacific to flow eastward to South America. This shift affects the atmospheric pressure, usually altering the climate leading to heavy rainfall in the regions of South America. El Nino helps in rising the global temperature, making regions like Southeast Asia and Australia experience droughts. While it may suppress the rate of hurricanes in the Atlantic due to wind shear, El Nino increases the rate of storms in the Pacific Ocean.

Now what Is La Nina? La Nina can said to be the opposite of El Nino. La Nina occurs when trade winds strengthen, pushing the warm water to the west and allowing cooler water to rise in the Eastern Pacific. This often leads to the regions like Australia and Southeast Asia to experience above average rainfall, which can lead to flooding. During this time Southeastern America may experience drier conditions, affecting agriculture and resources. La Nina leads to cooler global climate, suppressing the storms in the Pacific and increasing hurricanes in the Atlantic. This suppressing of storms in the Pacific leads to faster trade and better and more productive marine ecosystems.

What is the ENSO cycle? Between El Niño and La Niña events, there is a neutral phase where ocean and atmospheric conditions are closer to long-term averages. Weather patterns are more stable and predictable during this time. EL Nino and La Nina events typically occur every few years but their intensity and duration can vary significantly. This can be known as the ENSO cycle.

El Niño and La Niña, affecting global weather, are studied for weather forecasting, disaster preparedness, and agricultural practices, with ongoing research aimed at improving predictions.

Rainy Days and Memories

Rain, the blessing of heaven; the nectar for parched earth; the hope of a farmer and the fear of a fisherman when it comes in a bad mood. Rain can mean different things to different people.

My first memory of rains is getting drenched with my cousins on the terrace of our house. I come from a large hindu-undivided family, where there is a Patriarch, usually the eldest brother, who is the head of the family, and his younger brothers, their children and their children's children live in the same building. So I never lacked company and there was never a single boring day while growing up.

Coming back to the Chief - my grandfather. He was the eldest and hence the boss! He was like a policeman and also the judge, so one had to be in his good books. All the members of the family were expected to abide by the unwritten rules of the household.

One of the rules for us kids was: "no getting wet in the rain." So whenever it rained we faced a huge dilemma: we literally had a devil on one side who kept on tempting us with the possibility of fun in the rain while the angle on the other side kept on badgering us to be good and follow the commandment: thou shalt not drench in the rain. But of course after a fierce battle the devil won, we broke the rules, We sneaked out to the terrace, we ran and played, jumped and danced and hours just flew buy in sheer enjoyment. Looking back, I think my dear dear grandpa knew what we kids were upto but chose to let us kids be kids.

So coming back to rain... Nagpur, the city I grew up in is a very hot and dry place. During summers the temperatures soar up to 45 degrees celsius and it's practically house arrest for children from 8 a.m to 6 in the evening. So all are energies are bottled up, and when the monsoon sets in July, it is time for us to let all the energy out. The first rain is the best. It is a great relief from the heat and is a promise of more rainy days. Also the petrichor makes one feel like picking a handful of mud and eating it (never tried it though, but I did lick the parapet wall of the terrace.)

You might wonder why we didn't play in the garden or on the streets .Well , the house we lived in was located in a very busy , old , and commercial area of the city. During the weekdays the shops used to be open from 10 a.m to 9 in the evening , and also we lived on top of two family owned small scale units that manufactured soap and incense. Therefore playing in the street was a big no no.



But as Albert Einstein said "In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity." .In our case there was only one place which was adult free zone-the terrace. So it became our playground, our picnic spot, reading nook and during summer our camping spot. We used to sleep on the terrace during hot summer nights, under the open stars and also because it meant no curfews and one could stay awake till late in the night. We practically grew up there.

Sorry i got deviated a bit. Coming back to rain, it was also very welcome on a school morning, cause that would mean no school and all the more opportunity to stay home, cuddle in the bed with a good book, play indoor games with cousins, or just good old fashioned rainy day art and craft.

Monsoon also brought fried, spicy food like pakoras and bhajis or pani puri and chaat. I don't know why we Gujaratis associate rains with fried snacks. I guess we just want some excuse to eat fried food. Also tea and coffee is heaven sent source of warmth.

As a kid rain was such a relief, because it meant one could miss school and stay at home. But things change when you transform into a teenager. Despite a heavy downpour, one doesn't want to stay at home. In my case, I used to take my tvs moped and go to college even though it meant that water could get into the engine and bike would need to be dragged to a nearby mechanics shop. Nothing could stop me because life was carefree and revolved around friends. But one still had to bend a few rules despite the fact that the chief had softened and become a friend (almost). I would leave home without getting noticed and use the back gate when I returned came home to avoid being lectured by grandpa.

During college days, when there was a heavy shower, the classes used to be cancelled (all the more reason to go to college), so we used to hang out in a cafeteria close to our campus. It was a small canteen in the Labours' court building. Practically the joint thrived not because of people coming for court hearings but broke students coming from our college and feasting on Samosas and Chai with their meager pocket money.

When I moved to Auroville, rain meant: me and my kids staying home, playing monopoly (we didn't have any electronic gadgets with us in 2010) or playing in the rain.

Now, I love rain cause it means going on long walks or cycling with my husband Mahavir, or simply lighting the candles and looking outside the window and admiring the downpour.

by Bhakti



Origin story

by Ennio

In the beginning there was peace and harmony. There was no negativity only positivity, but one fateful day a corrupt god, amongst many other gods brought terror and destruction to everything.

When all hope seemed lost a god with a heart of purity and a consciousness so divine, Emthis the god of peace, challenged Arturnis, the god of terror. The battle was so fierce the universe shook at their every move. Finally when Emthis had Arturnis cornered, he banished him to the nether realm where he was trapped for trillions of millennials and never to appear again.

When Emthis ruled the universe he felt lonely so he decided to create with a bit of his power the earth. When Emthis created the earth, he separated the heavens where the divine being were and the lowly humans on the surface.

The humans started to evolve more, and as Emthis watched this he started to feel less lonely, he wanted to give the humans a better chance at surviving so he gave them food and water, and as they used these resources they became a civilization.

Emthis even left some markings to show that he did in fact exist, as the humans noticed these markings left by god they began religions on him and only him, but one ineluctable Day, Arturnis broke free of his prison that he was trapped in for millennials.

Arturnis had been working with another god who was Arturnis's loyal server cynor the god of chaos, cynor broke Arturnis out of the realm by casting a secret spell to bring him out, and when Arturnis found that Emthis created a world between the heavens and the surface he sought out to destroy it and that is what he did, chaos everywhere no life in sight just fire ash and dust, Emthis was getting weaker as he fought Arturnis and Cynor.

Arturnis had slashed Emthis's head off and Emthis was presumed dead. As his body was turning to dust and ash, Emthis suddenly heard a voice calling out to him, the voice said, you defeated evil once you can always do it again, even when you're on your deathbed, the living beings you have created will give you all their power and let you rise up to defeat the evil that terrorized the whole universe. Suddenly Emthis was hit by a heavenly spear. The spear didn't kill him but instead revived him, all the gods gave him all their power. Emthis suddenly flew up into the air to Arturnis. Arturnis was shocked as how much power was surging through Emthis's body. Cynor charged at Emthis but Emthis slammed his head on the ground stunning him with a spear of zeus's lightning then with the mighty strength of kratos he threw him across the universe 7 times, then finishing him off with Ra's sun completely obliterating cynor. Then Arturnis was running as fast as he could but Emthis's speed was beyond any other gods and beheaded Arturnis finishing the battle and making peace.



Lazy clouds are gathering together in monsoon
Kids are getting wet in monsoon
People are carrying raincoats and umbrellas in monsoon
Rainbows are shining in the sky in monsoon
Snake's and snail's are coming out in monsoon
The thunder claps behind the clouds in monsoon
Rain is starting to fall on the ground in monsoon
Jumping in the muddy puddles in monsoon
Small kids are playing with paper boats in monsoon
People get sick mostly in monsoon

- Moksha

Hey monsoon,
we are waiting for you to come.
Playing in the rain to get sick to stay in the home,
with special attention.
Switching fan on to run in full speed in the cold weather
to increase the taste of the hot and spicy soup
when monsoon ends,
We start waiting for the next one.

-Harshana

My trip to Thailand

by Meet

I went to Thailand on October 2. When we got there, we had some pastries at the mall, which were super tasty.

After that, we headed straight to this cool trampoline park called Bounce for 2 hours. The park was filled with tons of bouncy square trampolines, and there were hard mats between them. Sometimes, there were small walls or obstacles to jump over, which was really fun. There were also sections with trampolines in front of huge airbags, so you could try tricks and land safely without getting hurt. We stayed at a nice hotel called Novotel, and it had a pool and a restaurant. We even went to see two movies at the cinema: Joker: Folie à Deux and the new Transformers movie. I thought the Joker movie was kinda bad, but the Transformers movie was really good.

On the last day, we went to Chinatown Market, and I tried a bunch of yummy food, like this hot ice cream that was hot on the outside but cold inside, and some spring rolls. There were also some disgusting things like fried scorpions, which I didn't try.

Overall, my trip to Thailand was really fun.

Flash Fiction by Ayish

In the small village of Moonhaven, there was no action that deviated from the norm of the sun first rising to give the village warm colours before the moon would come and shine over the Moonhaven village. But one fateful night, this was not how events turned out. On that night, there was no moon.

The first to register the occurrence of something unusual within the village was Mrs. Willow, its oldest inhabitant and a storyteller. Many things, mundane or heroically epic, she recalled were done under the moon's shadows. As, however, a full moon could be seen, the villagers felt haunted. It was still dark and lonely, quiet and eerie.

Taking this notion to heart, the rather reckless Thomas, who was a young boy in the village, alongside his friends made his way on foot the next morning to seek answers. They ventured through dark woods, dangerous streams, rough terrains, and peaks of mountains where their every inch was almost sick with a potent cocktail of hope and fright.

After they had searched for several days, they accidentally came across an undiscovered cave. Within its dark walls, there was an unbelievable phenomenon — a tiny creature, captive in a crystal fort, almost of the size of a child's hand, shone with a ray of light. They named this creature Luna; as she said herself, she was the moon's customer. A great sorcerer who was jealous of the moon's beauty had aptured her so that he could obtain one of the moons light for his selfish goals.

Now fueled with fresh hopes, the villagers resolved to execute their plan and toNow, the villagers were excited and ready to save Luna. Thomas, a brave boy, led the way. They walked quietly through the dark cave, their hearts pounding with fear and hope.

Finally, they found Luna trapped in a sparkling crystal. With a lot of effort, they broke the crystal and set her free. As soon as she was free, the cave filled with a bright light. Luna, happy to be free, promised to bring back the moon. She touched the crystal, and a beam of light shot up to the sky. The moon shone brightly again, lighting up the village.

The villagers were very happy. They welcomed Luna into their village. Luna taught them many magical things and they lived happily ever after. And so, the story of Luna and the brave villagers of Moonhaven became a legend, told under the moonlight for years to come.

Review of J.K.Rowling's

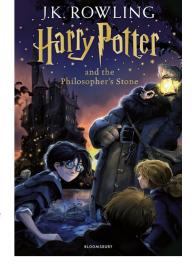
age 8+





By Raaya

Harry potter and the philosopher's stone is the first book in the harry potter series written by JK Rowling. Most people have watched the Harry Potter movies but the movies don't really do the book justice. They make Hermione's character a lot more know it all and annoying; they also cut a scene that really showcases her



character. Movie makers also make Ron feel more dumb and fumbling, where as in the book he isn't smart but he's not necessarily stupid.

The book was released in June 1997 making it 27 years old, but the book still makes you feel that your there with the characters and it leaves you wondering what happens next.

The book has different sub-plots while building towards the main plot and developing the characters which leads to a good climax. At points you may think that the author got lost or forgot the plot entirely but then after a while you start understanding and connecting the dots as Harry does. It makes you start to think about what might happen next or who is really the bad guy. The book leads you astray and then says: hey the answers been obvious this whole time! then you think oh my god I should have realized it at the start.

I personally think the book is very well written and brings out your imagination. It is definitely a book anyone who can read, should read it.

The rest of the harry potter series is written as good .Some books maybe even better than the first. The book is a classic and so is the series. It's one of the best books I have ever read, it is deserving of all the praise it has been given over the years - Raaya.

*************** A Sports Crossword - by Ayish

1 7,8 11 12 13

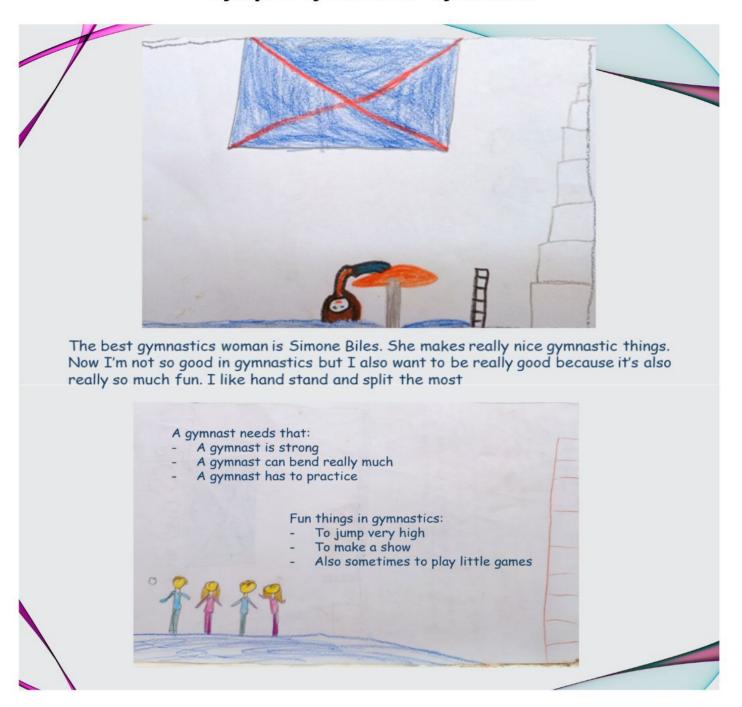
DOWN

- 1 the net is on the floor
- 3 you kick the ball
- 5 the goal is in the air
- 7 you hit the ball using a broomstick
- 11 you fly on b___ms
- 14 the ball is made with feathers or plastic

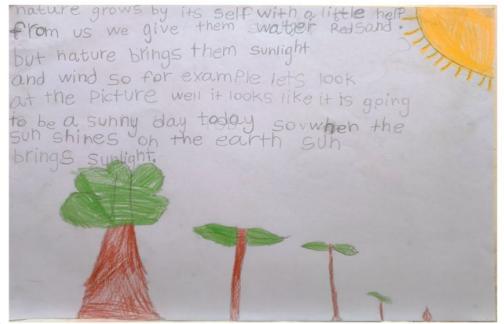
ACROSS

- 2 Americans play it and call it football
- 4 you throw a plate
- 6 an old folk sport played in South Africa
- 8 includes bats and balls and homeruns
- 9 Australians play it and call it football (sort of)
- 10 it's a game of breath and is physical
- 12 throwing multiple balls
- 13 includes bats and balls and runs

Olympics Gymnastics - by Ananda



Nature - by Abhi



Nature grows by itself with a little help from us. We give them water, red sand but nature brings them sunlight and wind. So, for example - let's look at the picture. Well, it looks like it is going to be a sunny day today. So, when the sun shines on earth sun brings sunlight.

Flash Fiction :The Red and the Green Eyes

It was raining cats and dogs and I stayed home last night. Suddenly the power went off. I could not see anything in the dark. I heard a voice calling to me from a distance. It was calling my name. I followed the voice, but it kept getting further away from me.

I called out to it, it called out to me. We were too far to hear each other. Suddenly a woman appeared from the darkness. She called my name. When I went closer to her and touched her, we apparated to a forest. It was in the middle of a Sea. The forest was an island as big as a continent, but all there was in the forest was trees, rivers, ponds, lakes.

The woman started walking into the forest. I began to follow her because I did not want to get lost in this place. She took me to a beautiful big waterfall. It was a circle of water flowing down. She stood at the edge and said the girl has arrived.

I finally got to look at what she was wearing and who she was. She was wearing a long green traveling cloak. She had bright red eyes, like a demon's. She had beautiful long hair flowing down her back and had a star birthmark on her cheek. She was staring at me as I was supposed to say something very important, but when I did not understand, she handed me a mirror. I had the same long black hair, a star shaped birthmark on my cheek and one red eye just like hers. The other One was green like her cloak. I suddenly felt very scared and started walking backwards away from her.

Suddenly the ground gave away beneath me and I was falling into the big waterfall. I woke up with a jump and I was in my bed. My mom was calling me saying it was time for school and I realized it was all a dream."

-Vaibhavi

Wordsearch - by Romaya

