

KALEIDOSCOPE



The Various Hues of Deepanam

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DISCOVER. EXPLORE. ENJOY.

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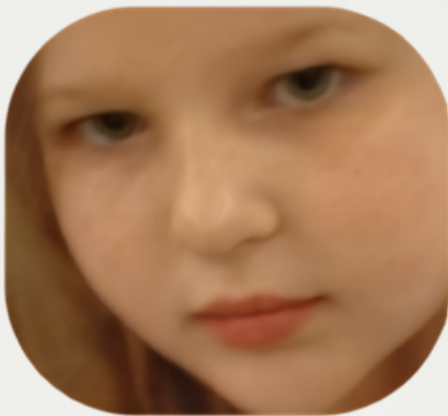
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Introduction



Hi! My name is **Lakshmi** and I am 12 years old. I have been studying in Deepanam School for 7 years. My hobbies are reading books and drawing. My favourite subject is English and my favourite colour is lavender and blue. I have two siblings.

Hello, my name is **Nina**. I am 12 years old, and I am in 7th grade. I am new to Deepanam School. I like to try new things and meet new people. I like to do horse riding, frisbee and cycling. I am Moroccan, English and Israeli. I love to write, draw and read. My favourite colors are blue, red and purple.



Hello, my Hello my name is **Eloise**. I am sarcastic, annoying and with a lot of humor and character 8 grader. I am the youngest in my class and I looooooove reading. My type of book is dark romance and fantasy . IF YOU READ THIS YOU HAVE TO READ THE VAMPIRE DAIRY AND WATCH IT if your parents allow you, mine didn't` and my favorite colors are light forest green and crimson red.
byeeeeeee.

Hello my name is **Wui**. I am 13 and I'm from Korea, I like games, Anime and a little bit of sports, I have a sister who is sometimes annoying and I really like reading. So my conclusion is I'm kind of an indoor person



My name is **Ahana**. I am 13 years old. My hobbies are crafts and painting. My talent is designing. My favourite sports are football and badminton. My favourite foods are noodles and French fries.



Hi, hello, my name is **Romaya**. I have lots of hobbies. My most recent ones are sewing, drawing, playing guitar and crocheting. I like to do horse riding and tennis. I love music and anything to do with the ocean. My favourite colour is yellow. My favourite animals are giraffes, rhinos, jellyfish, fish and anglerfish. If you read this far, thank you so much <

Hi my name is **Thamira**, I'm 12 years old and I've been in Deepanam since 4th and now I'm in 7th grade. I like doing sports, solving the rubix cubes, watching movies and reading in my free time. My favorite book is Harry Potter (I'm a potter head) and I also like Percy Jackson, my favorite movie right now is, 'Now You See Me Now You Don't' (amazing movie!). My favorite colour is ice blue and I also love hanging out with my friends. That's all, bye!



Heyyy, my name is **Vaibhavi**. I'm 14 years old, and I love reading romantasy and thrillers. The book I'm reading now is Fourth Wing (a really good book). My favourite colour is blue. I enjoy surfing, cycling, hiking and watching action movies. That's pretty much it so byeee.

°Hellouuuu, I'm **Salvador**... My friends call me Salviiiii, and this is my 3rd year in Deepanam. I lovee sharks and Shrek. I'm an extroverted person, and I love outgoing people. I loveeee chocolate croissants and drawing 🍌.



Hi my name is **Ayish**, I have been in Deepanam for the last four years, including this one. I have enjoyed my time here. Subjects are my nemesis, and that's all there is to know about me. Oh yeah, and I get bored very easily. Now you know everything about me :). And my memory is terrible, so if I was supposed to say something else, I probably forgot it. And I am enjoying this year



Hi, my name is **Uday**. I am 14 years old. I have been studying in deepanam for 1 year. I am interested in sports. My hobbies are reading, playing with friends, gaming, baking and resin art. I have a twin brother and a younger sister. I am good with people and friends are important to me. My favorite colors are crimson red and purple

Hi, I'm **Leoni**, I'm fourteen years old, and I'm in Hope group, which is my fourth year in Deepanam (Not in a row).

I like reading, writing, baking, playing the piano, and being a Hope grouper. I'm really excited for this year, and can't wait to do my best.



My name is **Aditi**, I'm 13 years old, (almost 14!) and this is my second year in Deepanam. I have been in Auroville my entire life. Last year was really great and I enjoyed it. I made a lot of friends and we are still going strong. This year started pretty good, we all are still getting used to being the oldest, and setting a good example for others. Soon enough we got used to it. I love writing, the ocean, music, frisbee and drawing. I just love art in general. My favourite color is blue, and I love poetry, and a lot more! I really hope you enjoy this issue!

Hi! My name is **Shanjana** I have been studying in Deepanam since first grade. My hobbies are drawing, reading, doing crafts, and cycling. I enjoy them because they make me feel better. Thank you



Hellooo!! My name is **Chhavi** (spelt with two h's, not two a's or v's) I am 13 years old. I love, love looove to read (like I'm nearly always reading lol). I also really like to draw. My favorite animal is a red panda, they're so so soooo cute!! I really love them. My favorite color is probably a pastel yellow or a dark purple. My favorite artists are Rose Betts, PEGGY, Em Beihold, and Mad Tsai. Okie I don't know what to say now so byee!



Hello. My name is **Shashidaran**. I am studying in 7th grade. Actually I felt excited in faith group also I love Faith group. My hobbies are playing badminton and playing UNO with my brother. I love reading books. I like drawing sometimes.

I am **Manish**, I joined deepanam this year. I am 13 y/o, almost 14, yay, Ayish is my best friend, I know him since 7 years. My hobbies are cricket, reading, badminton, and watching movies with my family and friends. I hang out in library on Saturdays, and then go solar and have very important meetings with my friends.



Hi! My name is **Keerthana**. I am 12 years old, and I study at Deepanam School. I have been studying here for 7 years. My favourite hobbies are reading books and learning new things. My favourite subject is English, and I want to learn more Tamil. I love spending time with my friends, especially my best friends. I also enjoy being alone sometimes, but not all the time.

Hi, my name is **Mila**, and I am 14 years old. I am from Macedonia, born in Finland and have lived in Auroville for almost 10 years. My favorite sports are yoga and circus. My favorite animal is Capybara.



Hi, my name is **Krishnasarathy**. I am studying in the 7th standard at Deepnam School. I have been studying in this school since the 1st standard, and I am happy to be a part of this school. I enjoy drawing and learning new things. I am always excited to explore new ideas and improve my skills. I hope to learn many more interesting things in the future.



Hello My name is **Hyun**. I'm from korea so my english ISN'T very good, I like mobile games and soccer, but I don't like tomatoes. I am 13 years old I moved here 6 months ago. My birthday is in june 18th, my favorite food is pork ribs i have two brothers jun and an older brother who is a college student my older brother is in korea.

Hello my name is **Joon** and I am from korea, I am 13 years old and I like sports and games. also I'm not very good at english but let's get along well even if it's a bit inconvenient.



Hello, my name is **Stefan**, and I like playing football. My favourite video games are Fortnite and GTA V. My best friend is Yam. My age is 12. I like watching a lot of Avatar and anime. My favourite movie: Avatar: The Way of Water. I supported France for the 2026 world cup ⚽ I like skiing.



Fope's Opinion: Interconnectedness week

A WEEK THAT BROUGHT US TOGETHER

The first week of school was a great experience, especially because I was new to the school. It was a fun way to get to know my classmates and feel more comfortable in a new environment.

During the week, our class took part in the River Project, which was all about interconnectedness and how everyone in the class is connected in different ways. Each day we focused on a different part of the river and what it represented.



Day 1 – Source (Who Am I?)

We thought about who we are by reflecting on our strengths, values, and what makes each of us unique.



Day 2 – Stream (Differences and Similarities)

We learned more about each other by finding both our similarities and differences. One of my favourite activities was Human Bingo because it helped me discover what I had in common with my classmates.



Day 3 – Riverbanks (Boundaries)

We talked about what makes a classroom a safe and respectful place. Together, we shared what we wanted our classroom to be like and how we should treat each other.



Day 4 – Flow (Aspirations)

We shared our goals and dreams for the future and thought about where we wanted to go, both in school and in life.

The River Project showed us that, just like small streams come together to form one big river, everyone in our class brings something different.

Another activity I really enjoyed was the Bead Exchange. We asked each other questions, and whenever we found something we had in common, we exchanged beads. By the end, everyone had a keychain that represented the connections they had made with different people in the class.

When we combine our strengths, ideas, values, and dreams, we create a classroom where everyone belongs, supports one another, and learns together.

Overall, I really enjoyed the first week of school. The project helped me become more confident, make new friends, and feel like I was part of the class. Since I was new to the school, that meant a lot to me. I would like to thank my teachers for making the first week so welcoming and helping everyone get to know each other.

The River Project

A WEEK OF CONNECTION, GROWTH & COMMUNITY

The river project was great, we did 4 different things everyday until Thursday. On Monday the first day, we started with the exercise "I am" we drew our palm on a piece of paper and we wrote "I am" but I wrote it on the side of the palm... Everyone else did it in the middle of it. We had to choose 5 to 8 words that described ourselves, also we wrote the things that the group wants. after that We had ATB, games with Fleur, craft with Anu, and then we had painting with Narmadha, Tatiana and Thamizh selvi. On Tuesday everybody played bingo, the second activity we did was consisting in trading beads with each person of our group... So basically we had to give each other beads if we had something in common. The last part of the day that we did was writing the differences and similarities in the river flow. Wednesday we wrote things that we want to work on the whole year. And all of those days we painted rocks for the big river... To present it to our parents, family and friends. On Thursday we wrapped our whole journey and presented everything that we did in the whole "RIVER PROJECT" to them.

The main idea was that with all the things we discussed and learned about each other we managed to make a “stream that joins to a larger river”.

The first week of school was really cool, and I think a lot of students enjoyed it. This first week's project was the “River Project”, where every day we talked about:



Day 1) “Who am I?” Our skills, values, and strengths.



Day 2) “Who are we together?” We played human bingo and thought about differences and similarities.



Day 3) “What holds us?” Where we talked about what we want and don’t want in the classroom / class charter.



Day 4) “Where are we going?” Where we talked about our aspirations.

So the main idea was that with all the things we discussed and learned about each other we managed to make a “stream that joins to a larger river”. And when we put all our skills, values, dreams, and aspirations together we make a river, a river that symbolizes our classroom, where everyone learns about each other every day, and everyone manages to listen to each other, and consider everyone's boundaries, and thoughts. And all of this connection over learning makes everyone closer, and makes almost everyone become friends, or just talk to each other, which creates a better environment in the class while learning, or even outside of school.

Inquiry with Faith & Hope

In our inquiry sessions, Mahavir, our teacher, gives us a topic-, friendship, belonging , perseverance etc. We had our first session in Matrimander. We went to different parts of the garden and started writing. 20 minutes later, we all sat together in a circle and read out loud what we had written, but some chose to not share a few things which is also fine. Some key questions were:

1. Why does showing up matter?

A lot of students pointed out that it shows commitment, motivation, a willingness to go on, and to prove to yourself that you are capable. It means you won't quit when it gets harder, which is applied to a lot of things, like math, or art, or even a game.

2. When have you quit something because it was hard? What made you give up?

Immediately, everyone racked their brain and found 1-2 things, when in reality, there are probably a million more for each of us. Most people quit because, maybe they don't understand something, which is the entire part of the learning process. Everyone gets unmotivated at some point. Maybe you were forced to do something, which then you couldn't see the meaning of even trying.

3. In what areas do you quit when things get difficult? (schoolwork, sports, etc)

Most people said schoolwork. Because sometimes it is also demotivating to see everyone around you thrive in something you're not sure of yourself. Sports as well. It's obviously normal to not be the best at something, that's how everyone starts out. I once heard somebody say, "It isn't learning if it's easy". Which is true.

4. What happens inside of you when something gets hard?

A lot of people feel judgement for themselves, anger, or frustration. Most people think that if something is hard, it's impossible. Which obviously isn't true since when you start something new, you start at the bottom.

-Aditi

The River

A river sings through stone and tree,
A quiet song of wild and free.
It bends with grace, yet journeys on,
From golden dawn to fading dawn.

It carries dreams, reflects the sky,
Where clouds and restless swallows fly.
At last it meets the waiting sea,
Still flowing, still forever free. -Vaibhavi

"Football, Friends and Biryani"

Before the football camp started, my friends and I were feeling nervous because we did not know what to expect. It was our first time staying at a football camp, and we were excited but also a little worried. I decided to join the camp because I wanted to improve my football skills, become a better player, and take my game to the next level. I knew the camp would be challenging, but I also knew it would help me become stronger, faster, and more confident.

When we arrived at the camp, my friend and I first checked where we would be sleeping. The rooms were clean and comfortable, and after unpacking our bags, we explored the camp. The next day, we started our training sessions. Later that day, our two other friends arrived, and we were happy to see them. During the first two days, we didn't make many new friends because everyone was shy and busy getting used to the camp. After a few days, we started talking to the other players, and soon we made new friends from different places.

Our daily routine was very well organized. Every morning, we woke up at 5:15 a.m. and got ready for training, which started at 6:25 a.m. The morning training sessions were tough, but they helped us improve our fitness, passing, dribbling, shooting, and teamwork. After training, we took a cold shower, changed into fresh clothes, and went for breakfast. We usually had papaya, idli with sambar, and coconut chutney, which gave us energy for the rest of the day.

After breakfast, we rested until lunchtime at 12:30 p.m. The food at the camp was much better than the food we usually have at school. There was always enough food. The football pitch was one of the best parts of the camp because it was a natural grass field. It was soft, smooth, and perfect for playing football. We had another training session from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., during which we practised various skills and played small-sided games. There were around 40 to 50 children at the camp, so it was exciting to train with many different players. They were split into two groups.

On Saturdays and Sundays, we played football matches against other teams at the camp. These matches gave us the chance to use the skills we had learned during training. Even when we made mistakes, our coaches encouraged us to keep trying and never give up.

The meals at the camp were also something I looked forward to. On Tuesdays, we had chicken curry for dinner, and on Fridays, we had biryani, which was my favorite meal at the football camp.

Overall, the football camp was an amazing experience that I will never forget. I improved my football skills, became more disciplined, learned the importance of teamwork, and made many new friends. Although I was nervous before the camp started, I left feeling much more confident and motivated to continue working hard to achieve my football goals.

My Trip to Arunachal Pradesh

Pune to the newest Navi Mumbai Airport was an adventure in itself. The airport is so huge and spread out as far as the eyes can see. It has the latest facilities and looks very modern. We took the late-night flight to Guwahati in Assam. Guwahati is also known as the Gateway to the North East.

On the first day, we went from Guwahati (through a forest-previously Naxal area called Udalguri) to Daifam in Bhutan - the Indian side is called Bhairab Kund. We showed our Aadhaar Card to get a short-time entry into Bhutan. We took a stroll in the village of Daifam and also did some shopping for prayer flags and keychains. Most importantly, we exchanged some Indian Rupee Notes for Bhutanese Currency called Ngultrum (Nu). After that, we re-entered India and then proceeded towards Arunachal Pradesh.

The late-evening drive to **Bomdila** was scary because the hilly roads of Arunachal Pradesh are best explored during the daytime. Night fall is by 5:30 p.m. Our room at the homestay had a clear view of a monastery. It was amazing! The next day we visited the Monastery, which was really nice and peaceful. Then we ate breakfast at a small local shop. The food was really good, even though I ate very little.



Then we drove to **Tawang** and saw War Memorials enroute as well as the high-altitude **Se La Pass**. We reached Tawang in the evening. My mom and I went to a restaurant to eat while my sister stayed back in the hotel because she was sick. We found a tiny little café where the food tasted so good! We ate noodles, something called shapale, which is stuffed with chicken or vegetables inside deep-fried or pan-fried bread and also ate some red velvet cake. We explored more of the local market and found another café where we had butter tea. (It sounds weird, but it's really good).

Next day my mom and I went to a place called **Bumla**, which is on the India-China border. It actually started Snowing !

We heard stories about the wars and learned things about the border. Later we went inside the army tent.

It was super stuffy, so my mom and I went to play in the snow instead. I had super fun doing all the stuff I'd been wanting to do, like building a snowman, having snowball fights and stuff like that. Later I got frostbite, so we went back to the hotel, and after that I started hating snow. After a few hours of rest, we went out for shopping and dinner. It was drizzling. Next morning we went to a War Memorial which had floor to ceiling screens and VR that showed us the life of shepherds of Arunachal Pradesh. Then we visited the famous Tawang Monastery, its cute cafe and the Big Buddha Statue. We then left for a village called **Jang**, where we stayed for two days. Enroute we visited a stunning waterfall. Later, from the hotel, we visited a tiny bakery and had snacks. For dinner we got to eat some good homemade traditional Arunachali food.



*side view of the
Nuranang (Jang)
Falls
- they give a
Rainbow effect*

Next morning we visited **Chuna** valley where the river water tasted cold and sweet. There were a lot of Yaks. Then we went to **Gongkar La** - a lake where tourists are being allowed only since 2025. We played in more snow and built another snowman. And I liked snow once again!! 😊 On our way back, we stopped at a tiny Army Cafe (not exactly a cafe, but ya) where we had Veg Momos. I thought they would be disgusting but they were the best momos I have ever had! Next day we went to a place of orchards, called the **Sangti Valley**. It was really beautiful and we stayed in a river-side homestay. My sister and I went into the river a bit. We were mostly admiring the beautiful view and my mom made two friends who were a bit younger than me. They lived there so they spoke about their school and other stuff. Dinner was basically a spicy thali. We stayed there for only one night which was sad. Next day, after spending some more time by the river we left for an overnight stay on border of Assam-Arunachal because we were now going from the West to the East of Arunachal, to a place called **Ziro** 0



Since we reached late afternoon, we ate an interesting lunch and then explored the town.



We went to a lake that had swings made of rope and wood. They were tied to tall coniferous trees on the edge of the lake so when you swung you would go over to the lake, it wasn't that high but it was still really fun! We stayed in a homestay, managed by a sweet elderly couple, and it was probably the most comfy place we stayed in the whole trip. They made such good food and while my sister and I were still eating dinner, my mom saw the wall of photos and spotted Shanks from Auroville! It was kind of crazy. They told us that he had stayed with them a few years ago when he had come for the **Ziro Music Festival**. In the morning, a tour guide showed us around the **Hong Tribal Village**. There are 26+ main tribes and 100+ sub-tribes in Arunachal Pradesh. She took us to a modern winery where they showed us wine making process. She told us about Tribal houses, how they stored grains and about their traditions. She took us to the Pamu-Yalang View Point. From there we saw the rice fields of Ziro and its tiny airport. Then we went to a Shiva temple which was cool because there was a big stone representing Shiva, Parvati, Ganesh and Kartikeya. The only sad thing was that I had hiccups which echoed so it was embarrassing. Dinner was nice but I was nervously eyeing the cooked silkworms served on the side. They didn't taste bad but they are not the best. We visited a Meder Nello, worship place of the Apatani tribe. They worship the Sun and Moon Gods. Finally, we reached **Itanagar**, the capital city and did nothing special there. Arunachal is a very big state with many hilly circuits that cannot be covered in just one trip. We got back home next day via Kolkata. And ya, that was my trip to Arunachal Pradesh.



FLUFFY PANCAKE RECIPE!!

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 cup flour (whole wheat is fine)
- 1 cup milk
- 1-2 eggs
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 2-3 tbsp sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract or essence (not necessary)

Method:

1. First crack eggs in a bowl, add milk and mix.

2. Then add flour, baking powder, sugar and if you have, vanilla extract. Mix it all till combined. To make good fluffy pancakes you want to mix till its slightly clumpy, it shouldn't be completely smooth.

3. After mixing, you heat up a pan and add butter, or oil to make the pan nonstick. If you do have a nonstick pan, or a cast iron use that. Pour some of the batter on the pan and wait until the top of the batter is slightly bubbling or has some holes popping up. Flip your pancake and wait till the other side is cooked. When its brownish golden, its done!

4. You can add some butter and honey (that's your favorite combination :D), maybe some chocolate spread. Anything you want! And it's finished!

Enjoy your yummy pancakes!!!



Chhavi



Game Review: Geometry Dash

When I started Geometry Dash, which was way back in 2022, I found it when I was searching for offline games. After I started playing it, I found out that other people in Auroville also played it, and I was like, "Damm!" It is fun and simple. Back then, I only played Minecraft and Subway Surfers, so this was not the biggest change, but it was still a nice change of pace.

It was really frustrating at first, but after some time I finally got the hang of it and went on to beat most of it. Though what was frustrating was the fact that when I played, my friend Meet was there with me, and I would always get like 96%, and then Meet would beat it.



It is fun but frustrating, like I said, especially when you die at a really far part of the level.

I really like this game because it's really easy to learn and has really good music. I also like the fact that even if you only have 5 minutes, you can still try 5 times. I don't really like the fact that you have to pay for the full version, but everything else is either free or obtained through mana orbs, so there are no in-game purchases.

Well... if you want to just try it out, then I would recommend the free version, but after some time, if you find it fun, then you could buy it. would recommend this to people with fast reflexes who have barely any time and like to keep things simple. It is fun but frustrating, like I said, especially when you die at a really far part of the level. There are coins too that could spice up your game, since the coins usually make you go down a harder path in order to get a reward.

So I would really recommend it to people with no luck but a bunch of skill, or if you're broke and just want to buy the game.

A Trip to Irumbai Lake



“

They were a foggy green color with a hint of navy blue and had some white in them. They flew when we arrived.

We went to Irumbai Lake on 31st of July. The ride itself was a blast, and the van had no space, so my dad came, and it was cool and kind of embarrassing because he was not listening and he made me call him Mr.Vorah.

By the time Anandma, my Dad, and I reached, we took a beautiful photo of our class on a bunch of logs, and then slowly made our way to a slope going to the lake, where a few lakes basically grass filled with three big lakes. There we saw some birds.They were a foggy green color with a hint of navy blue and had some white in them. They flew when we arrived.

Then all the teachers stayed on the slope, but we kids went to explore. Ananda, Tara, Mirabel and I went to to search for more ducks, and we found two babies. They were adorable. They ruffled their feathers (it was so cute!).

“

They ruffled their feathers (it was so cute!).

After exploring, we all met up and explored the lake to the furthest, but as we got on the dry mud, small grey brown frogs jumped on in and out, and some of us were screaming and ran across, but my friends were on the ground laughing.

We found a broken kumi tumbu , a mechanism that years ago people used to dive in the dangerous lake to unlock to irrigate the fields . I took a bunch of notes.

Resting on another slope with ancient-looking stairs, half covered in mud, I stole my father's cap and sat down. We were up and on our way to Irubai temple . Some of us got a puttu.

I went back to school and was really tired. In all, we had a great trip.



Amiya & Ananda

Snakes: Understanding the Misunderstood

A DIALOGUE WITH SARVANAN A SNAKE RESCUER



Q What made you interested in snakes?

A I wanted to tell people about snakes because, before, people did not have much knowledge about snakes, so whenever they saw a snake, they would just kill it. I wanted to tell people that snakes also have lives and that not all snakes are harmful.

“

Snakes are important for our ecosystem and help control the rat population.

Q Can you tell me the most memorable story about the snake you have rescued?

A One day, my friend and I got a call from a government office about a snake, so we went to rescue it. But when we went and searched, we could not find it. They told us that it was in an old room that had tools, so we searched but could not find it. So we asked where it had gone. They told us that was one month ago. My friend and I were upset and said that a snake would not even stay in the same place for 30 minutes!

Q Which snakes do you commonly find in Auroville?

A The snakes you commonly find in Auroville are wolf snakes, cobras, rat snakes, and kraits.

Q Which snakes do people most often mistake or misunderstand?

A People often misunderstand the bride snake. Most people confuse the bride snake with a krait. Kraits are venomous, but bride snakes are not. So people often confuse the two.

Q How can you tell whether a snake is venomous?

A You should look at the snakes, eyes, pattern size, body and face. He mostly said that you need to have proper knowledge about a snake to identify them.

Q What should people never do if they find a snake?

A They should not hurt the snake or kill the snake.

Q Why is it important to protect snakes?

A Snakes are important for our ecosystem and help control the rat population. They are also important for keeping the ecosystem balanced, so we should protect them.

Q What should you do if a snake bites you?

A If a snake bites you, you should not panic. You should not suck the bite or tie it tightly. You should ask someone for help and go to the hospital, and you should not go alone. You should also show a photo or tell the name of the snake to the hospital so they can identify it and give you the right anti venom.