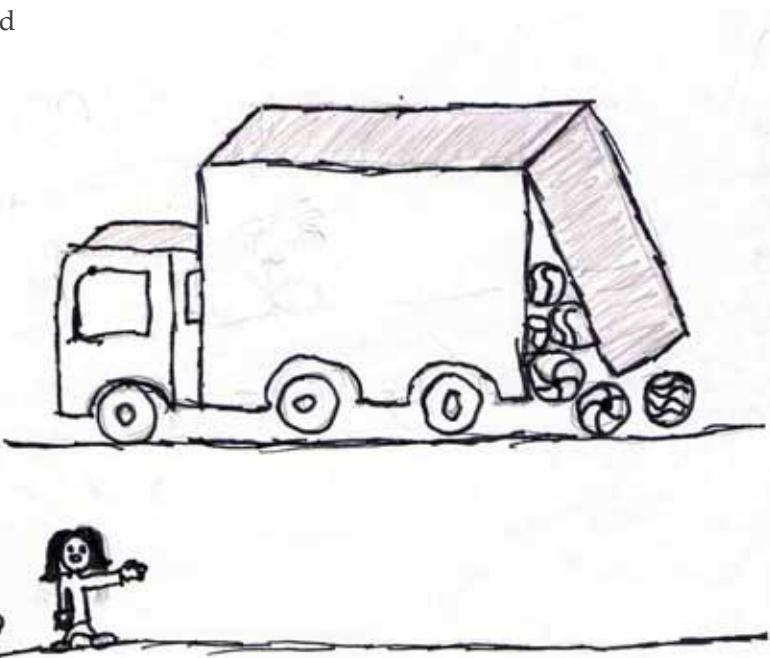


The Recess Mess

- Mrittika Dutta Gupta, Grade III

Today during recess, a large truck pulled up to the school yard. "Someone ordered 100 balls" the driver said, "we are also delivering 10,000 pounds of Junk Food and 50,000 gallons of Fizzy Drinks." The truck driver backed onto the soccer field and went back to his shop. We played soccer and dodge ball. Then, we had a food fight. Then, the school bell rang. I went back home and said happily "Mommy! Mommy! We had the biggest party today!" "What did you do?" my mother said. "A huge truck came and gave 100 balls and 10,000 pounds of Junk Food and 50,000 gallons of Fizzy drinks." "We had an awesome soccer match, we played dodge ball and we really got messy in the great food fight we had, Mr. B said it was the biggest food fight he had ever seen, he also called it the LEGENDARY food fight." "But Mom, I still wonder who bought all those things???"



The Japan Disaster



- Madhumanti Chowdhury, Grade III

There was an earthquake in Japan on March 11th. I was part of it. I was so scared. I thought it was the end of the world! I was so worried, I felt like crying and after sometime the earthquake got bigger. I was at school. The tables and chairs started shaking as if they are going to fall on us. I, along with my class-friends ran down the stairs along with my teacher. We made it outside safely. My school's principal had a fractured leg so it was hard for her to get down. My teachers went up and brought her down.

Suddenly an announcement was there that a tsunami was coming. I became so scared I nearly fainted. But I heard that the tsunami was in Fukushima. I felt little relieved but I felt terrible for Fukushima.

Now I'm happy that everything is almost back to normal. Thanks to god we are alive today. It is like a nightmare, that I will never forget.

My Summer Holidays

- Nishant Chanda, Grade V

Do you know where I went this summer holidays? The day we (my parents and me) decided to go there, I was so thrilled! It is the most populated country with a vast area and has a very old history with many ruling dynasties. You guessed it right! I went to amazing country called China.

We started our journey around evening, we kept our car at a parking near the airport. From Terminal 2, we took Delta Airlines flight, and reached Beijing, the capital of China at night. There, we waited for the taxi. The temperature there was almost same as in Tokyo. We didn't understand Chinese language, and the driver didn't understand English. So, we showed the driver our hotel address written in Chinese. He took us to our hotel, in the heart of the city; there I stayed at a service apartment in Wangfujing. We stayed there for two weeks. I enjoyed the pool in the hotel.

At first, we went to the Forbidden City. It is also called the Palace Museum. It is considered a world Heritage site, by UNESCO. It was built by emperor Yongle during 1406 - 1420 AD involving more than 1 million people. The Forbidden City was used by 24 emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties. This palace is called Forbidden City as during 500 years of their ruling, normal public were not allowed to enter this area. I heard that many treasures are still hidden there.



The city is surrounded by thick, red walls. We went through a wide bridge that went across the Tongzi River (moat), and then rode a cart-like vehicle to go near the entrance. There was a long queue for entry, and I was so excited that I couldn't wait to enter. There are 9999.5 rooms inside. If someone were to sleep in a different room every night, he would turn 27 years old! The emperor slept in a

different room each night, so that no one knew where he was sleeping except his trusted eunuchs. We went through the Meridian entrance, a huge tunnel-like entrance in the middle, which was meant for the emperor. We reached an open area, which had a canal going through it. In front of it is the gate of Supreme Harmony. There were three bridges and the center one was only used by the emperor. This area was also surrounded by red walls. I felt myself special, as I walked on the slabs, where the emperor had walked through hundreds of years ago. Then came another set of stairs. Between two stairs was a huge marble slab with drawings of cloud, and dragons carved on it. On the other side of gate, there was another open space and there I could see the Hall of Supreme Harmony. This area was used in special occasions like emperor's birthday, New Year, etc. This hall is the center of the Forbidden City. Huge golden pots were there, which were filled with water to be used in case of fire. I saw many huge teapots like structure, but they were not meant for tea, they were actually incense burners, used for incense. Then we had seen many more halls, like Hall of Preserving Harmony, Hall of Complete Harmony, and many more emperor and empresses palaces. There was an exhibition of jade inside a palace. Jade is a green rock that is valuable. Forbidden City was somewhat like a huge maze. It was so huge that we had to skip some parts.

Next day we were supposed to go to the Tiananmen Square, so we took the bus from our stop to a name that sounded like Tiananmen, but actually it was Tiantanamen. When we realized the mistake, we got off at the next stop and found ourselves nowhere near Tiananmen but near the Temple of Heaven. So we decided to visit there. The Temple of Heaven, is a temple where in the old days, emperors did sacrifices to have a prosperous life and good harvest. When we entered we saw seven big stones. They are called Seven Star Stones. These stones represent seven famous mountain peaks. It is said that they are rocks from the mountains. We were allowed to touch these rocks, they were really smooth. Then we walked through a covered passage called the Long Corridor. This place didn't let rain or germs contaminate the animal, which was brought to the kitchen after sacrifice. On one corner of the passage is Divine Kitchen. After a bit more walking, we arrived at The Hall of Prayer for Good Harvest. This is the biggest building. It is shaped like a huge cone. We climbed three sets of stairs and reached



the top. Unfortunately, we could not go inside so we had to look from outside. Inside, there was a flight of marble stairs and a big tablet made of wood which had some Chinese characters on it. After we got down the stairs, we noticed the carvings through the middle of the steps. The carving had a dragon, and a phoenix. From there, we went on the Danbi Bridge. It didn't seem to be a bridge because it was so wide. There was a passage under the bridge, to bring the animals from The Hall of Prayer for Good Harvest to the Imperial Vault of Heaven. The middle path of the bridge was platformed with marble slabs; This path was only meant for the God. Even the emperor was not allowed to walk there. We saw a shop to the left, but it was actually where the emperor changed clothes before the sacrifice. I could see many people walking through the middle (the path for the God) so we walked through too. We went to the Imperial Vault of Heaven. Inside, there were three temples. The place was surrounded by a circular red wall. This wall is called the Echo wall. Ahead of us, was the Imperial Vault of Heaven. It also looked like The Hall of Prayer for Good Harvest, but was smaller. There was a small set of stairs to see it. The other two temples had some tablets and tables. Then, we got out and went to the Circular Mound Altar. Here the animals were sacrificed. It was filled with multiples of nine patterns. There were three sets of stairs to go up. At the middle there was a circle then there were many rings. The first ring had nine slabs the second had 18, then 27, then 36, and so on.

The next day we went to Tiananmen Square. Tiananmen is the biggest square in the world. We saw the Monument to the People's Heroes, Great Hall of People, and the Chairman Mao Memorial Hall. The Monument to the People's Heroes, is a tall pillar like structure, that has many carvings at its base. After watching all these places, we went to the National Museum of China, which is near the Tiananmen Square. The national museum is huge. Before we went in, they did a security check. I was surprised that the entry was free. I was also surprised how big it was. Inside the museum, there were many sections. We took a look at the map, and went to the 'Ancient' section. We went in and

saw a 3D panorama of the cave man, and then we saw what cave man used as tools. Then bronze age started, then gold, jade, and iron. Then we went from section to section, and they showed the Dynasties. It felt endless... but then came the exit. It took us about three hours to cover the ancient section, but there were still many more sections.

A few days later we went to the Great Wall of China at Badaling. Badaling is only a portion of the great wall.



We had booked a tour that brought us there. We went with another family (which was from Spain and could speak English). At the wall we could only see until a few hundred steps because it was a bit foggy. Even climbing until the second tower looked almost impossible to climb. As we went up the steps to get up to the wall, I noticed that it was very crowded. I saw a huge stone. This stone stands for courage. Many people were taking pictures with it. We started to climb the steps. After the first hundred steps, I started feeling hot. We went inside the first tower. There were many windows. We kept climbing and reached higher towers. The height of set of stairs kept changing from one foot to a foot and a half to ten centimeters or even no stairs, just a ramp. We saw some shops and some souvenirs stores on the way. But then, my mom was too tired so my dad and I continued. We reached

the stopping point. The tour guide was waiting at the bottom, so we were not looking at the time, but when we did, we saw that we only had 45 minutes to get down, and it took us one and a half hours to get to where we were. Fortunately we were going downhill. While running down the steps, we met my mom going down and also the family from Spain, so we were on time. We took photos next to the big stone we saw at the beginning, and then went for one of the Ming Tombs. The Ming Tombs are tombs to the Ming Dynasty's emperors. After the Tombs, we went to see the Jade factory. We saw how Jade is carved. We also saw how to make the lucky Jade ball. The lucky ball has a sphere inside a sphere inside a sphere... and so on. There could be as many spheres. They explained how to tell apart real Jade and fake Jade. We saw many Jade items. They were also very expensive. After that, we had lunch. The lunch was very big! After that, we went to a Pearl Factory. They told us many things like a shell has to be older than 10 years to be made into jewelry. She opened a five year old, and it had over 20 pearls! But I was surprised that these couldn't be made into jewelry. Then she showed us pearl goods. There was pearl powder and pearl cream. We bought pearl cream and they gave us a free pearl ring, and pearl powder packs. Pearl powder can also be taken as medicine. After that, we went to a tea shop. They gave us a lot of free samples to drink. We bought some tea from there, and soon, the tour guide dropped us to our hotel.

The last World Heritage we went to, is the Summer Palace. It is a palace where emperors and empress went for vacation. There is a lake that is artificial, but huge! There are many temples and bridges around there. It was very hard to believe that all of what I was seeing, was man made. One

of the places was like the Long Corridor in Temple of Heaven, and had many different pieces of art. Summer Palace is where we had our first boat ride in Beijing. The boat looked like a dragon and very beautiful.

As I do Karate, I love to watch martial art movies. In China, Kungfu and Taichi are very famous. One evening we went to watch Shaolin Kung-fu live show. They showed a story of a young boy, who did not want to leave his mother to learn Kung-fu. His mother forced him to join; he finally became interested after a student showed him back flip moves and other cool things. Later was able to learn many stunts. They show how he learns. After seeing a fairy he stops doing Kung-fu. But again he recovers and practices, and his body turns into iron. He is able to lay down on three real swords, and place a board on his stomach with many needles poking out on both sides of it, then another person on top then another board with needles poking out one side, and at last, their master hammers the board with a huge hammer. In another scene the man got picked up by others and balancing on three spears one near his neck, and the other two near legs. Another day we saw an Acrobatic show. They also did many interesting and funny acts. A man stacked chair after chair, about 10 chairs and stood on top of it with only one hand. That was the most amazing act.

After going to all these places in Beijing, I am very happy and satisfied. I never knew there could possibly be so many World Heritage sites in only Beijing. I enjoyed climbing the Great Wall very much and want to go back again and climb other sections of the wall.



The Music Box

- Aishwarya Kumar, Grade VI

At my master's big mansion in England, lunch was being served. The phone started ringing. Since I was the Smith's butler, I was the one who had to pick up the phone.

"Hello." I said. "Smith speaking."

"I don't care who you are. And you don't care about who I Am." was the reply.

"Come to the Sahara tonight by the plane that leaves at four. Your suitcase is packed and your ticket and passport is ready to go. Abandon your master and have a great life. If you don't....." The phone cut off. I tried calling several more times but the number didn't exist.

I wanted to find out if whatever that man said was true. I went downstairs to my room and saw my suit case and my bag near my door. If that is true, is there a real consequence? And if there was one, was it horrid? I decided to go to Sahara hoping that I would be able to return here as a loyal butler.

Before I knew it I was off on the plane, heading to what I was sure was the most dangerous trip I have ever taken. Was it worth it?

The plane just dropped me off right there in the middle of the desert. It was a dark and spooky night at the Sahara Desert. Thirsty, I didn't stop to sleep until I found water. Wandering around until midnight, was pretty sure all the water was dried up by the afternoon sun.

It finally came to my mind that I had a torch with me. I switched it on and looked around. There was a lonely tree, which looked somehow familiar to me. It looked like the tree near the Smith's house! Next to it was a hole. When I went closer there was a puddle of water in there. Determined to get any bit of water I could I scooped it out with my empty flask. However, all the water dripped out from the thermos. Wondering if there was anymore water remaining, I turned the flask upside down in my mouth.

One tiny drop landed on my tongue and it quenched all my thirst. Then another very odd thing happened. All the water that poured out of my flask, spun around like a tornado, and transformed into a

shiny, wooden box. It had the richest dark brown I have ever seen and its beauty tempted me to open it.

As soon as I did so, scary music poured out from the box. A pale ballerina in torn and dirty clothes danced in circles. Her hair was done in too tight braided pigtails and she seemed like she was screaming. It was frightening, nothing like the outside.

I closed the box and put it in my bag. I thought I would just admire the outside. However, I was very curious how the box was formed out of water. I decided that I will go home and figure out what I should do with it the next day. With that, I fell asleep.

It was morning. I checked if there was anymore water in the pond and to my surprise; it was full to the brim. I took my flask and filled it up. Then, I took a sip of water from the newly formed puddle. I stood up, ready to start my journey.

It was a long time later when I took my bottle out to take a sip. With that sip though, I emptied the bottle until there was almost nothing left in the thermos. I continued my journey, hoping I will get more water on the way. With no more water to be found, I thought I would try my flask for a few drops that might be left. Right when I took my flask out, a few remaining drops spilled out. Putting the bottle under my mouth, the last tiny drop touched my tongue. And the events of last night repeated itself except now I got a key. I took out my music box and put in the key.

The box opened but there wasn't the ugly ballerina dancing around with the scary music. Instead there was a note. It read: You must have witnessed the events of the night before. Think about what should be changed about the girl's appearance. Once you do so, may my secrets be revealed to you. I closed the box and took out the key.

I opened the box again. There was the ballerina who seemed like she was screaming was visible once again. The music was also playing, but that wasn't important. To me, what was important was unfolding the secret by helping the girl. I did that by thinking back to my first impression on that girl, her torn clothes and her too tightly braided hair. I found nice cloth near the girl and some sewing equipment

under it. I made some doll clothes and put it on her. Then I let down her hair, combed it with my fingers and tied a ponytail.

The scary music stopped and mist flowed out from the girl. The mist was formed into a person and the mist figure became real. "Hello," greeted the man. "Believe it or not, I am the one who called you and I need your help. Will you listen to me?"

I was silent. But the man continued. "This story is a myth. But what people don't know is that this myth is pure truth. It's actually a prophecy about the War Brothers, the Fire Wizard and the Earth Wizard. However, I don't know who these people are. The prophecy dictates that I am supposed to teach them about peace, so we can form the power to keep peace in the world. After that, the mortals will have the gift of the magical power of peace."

They are strong willed so they simply refuse to listen to all reason. They did come to me. I was glad that they came but they weren't there to listen. They are the ones who trapped me in music box. Your job in the prophecy as the Fire Wizard's butler is to free me and find me and bring the War Brothers to me, starting with the Fire Wizard.

"My master is the Fire Wizard?" I exclaimed. That also explained the tree near the puddle. "I will bring him to you if you won't harm him."

"I will have to duel him," said the Water Wizard. "He might have many injuries but I will cure them when he joins me. If that satisfies you, join me. I will transport you home, watch you and get you back. But before you leave, I will let you on to the secret of the wand. The wand of a wizard's functions is something you will need to know when I am dueling the War Brothers. It will listen to the owner's mind command and carry it out only if it is for the good of the world or is following the prophecy. Also, a wand can't hurt you because you don't own a wand. One more thing, I was trapped in the box as part of the prophecy but I did not know that until later."

Suddenly, I was in the Smith's living room. It was nighttime. "Smith sir!" I called. He came running to me.

"Where did you go? Why were all your casual clothes out of your closet? Where did your suitcase and bag go?" Mr. Smith was turning red with rage.

"Sir, haven't you forgotten? I went to celebrate my mother's birthday and stayed there for a night. Now I'm home!" I said cheerfully. Satisfied Mr.

Smith walked away.

When Mr. Smith went away, I felt like I was talking to no one but I'm sure the Water Wizard, who should be watching me, heard my plan to get the Fire Wizard, Mr. Smith to the Sahara.

After Mr. Smith was in deep sleep, I sneaked into Mr. Smith's room. I sat next to him and without noticing, Mr. Smith was transported to the Sahara with me.

At the Sahara, the Water Wizard, wearing long blue robes and holding the same robes but were red, woke up Mr. Smith and explained to him what I did. He was really angry because not only had I freed his enemy but had transported him to the desert without permission.

As soon as his wand was returned to him, the Wizards started fighting. I was forbidden to watch the proceedings, so I have no idea what happened in the duel but I still knew the wand's functions, so a little bit of the duel was clear to me. The War Brothers could trap the Water Wizard as part of the prophecy. However, now the Water Wizard has to win for the prophecy to be fulfilled so Fire Wizard can't do anything with his wand. After the duel was over, I was invited back to see the wizards.

The defeated Fire Wizard was tending to his injuries with the help of the Water Wizard when he couldn't use his wand. The Water Wizard gave my next task. I was to get the Earth Wizard.

The Fire Wizard said that the Earth Wizard, James Smith, was on the run since he just murdered a friend of his in a quarrel and he would be South America now, probably in Brazil. "No one can see you appearing out of nowhere so we will drop you in the Amazon, with some change to get you around." The next second I was gone.

In the Amazon, I looked around the bushes or trees just to make sure the Earth Wizard wasn't hiding here. But, this task was certainly going to take longer if I walked around here for too long. I got into the town area and found a newspaper to get some idea of where to go.

I sat inside a coffee shop to read the newspaper when the local news channel announced that James Smith was found at the statue of Christ the Redeemer in Rio De. I asked the waiter how far Rio De is. By taxi, he said, it would take about 15 minutes. I called a cab and got there around the time I expected.

Behind the statue, was James Smith surrounded by the police! I called to him. He seemed startled

and turned to look at me. I had to convince the police to let me talk to Mr. Smith in private. I told him my story from the very beginning, when I received the call from the Water Wizard. The Earth Wizard looked startled and very agitated.

As I expected, we were back at the Sahara in barely anytime. The prophecy was unfolding the way it should be until the Earth Wizard showed the wand he would use for the battle. "It doesn't care for the good of the world," he said. "It's one and only true master will be me not the prophecy." he turned to the Fire Wizard. "Brother, don't you see the greatness of these? We will start our own prophecy, where war will rule!"

The Fire Wizard was already devoted to his wand, he had understood the prophecy had to be fulfilled, did not answer back. This time, the duel started before they could move me away so I was lucky I got to watch the proceedings. At the beginning the Earth Wizard used some charms but later he could not do a thing because the Water Wizard snapped the wand with magic. With no defense the battle was declared over.

But the Earth Wizard did not give up. With the other wand that he saved for the Fire Wizard, he trapped the Water Wizard in the music box. I ran for the music box to save the Water Wizard, which was my job when we met. I was almost stopped by the Earth Wizard but the magic had no effect on me since I had no wand. I took out my key from my pocket and inserted in the keyhole on the box. When it opened there was a new message: Tend to the wounds on the turtle then set it free. It was less mysterious than I thought it should be. However, I tended the wounds and set it free in the puddle I once drank water from. The Water Wizard emerged from the turtle. The Earth Wizard was surprised by what I had done, he seemed to appreciate that the magical power of peace was a must for mortals to flourish.

So the Earth Wizard gave in and both the War Brothers became disciples of the Water Wizard. In a month, they were all renamed as the Triplet of Life, as without them there would be no life.

Now children played in the magical power, with the prophecy fulfilled!

Riddles for you

1. *Why did the man throw the clock out the window?*
2. *What happened when 500 hares got loose on the main street?*
3. *Why did the girl eat her homework?*
4. *Who sits on babies?*
5. *What is a vampire's favorite bank?*
6. *What do you get when you buy a 50 cent soda with a dollar?*
7. *What did the big chimney say to the little chimney?*
8. *Why did the tap dancer retire?*
9. *Why did the boy take a pencil to bed?*
10. *How do you make a sausage roll?*
11. *How can you make seven even?*
12. *Why did the boy bring a ladder to school?*

My Graduation

- Arunansu Patra, Grade VI

After all those years of education, I Arunansu Patra has graduated elementary school! I graduated on 15th June Wednesday 2011. Although, it wasn't an easy experience, I will tell you why.

First thing in the morning we had physical education. In other words, sports class. We changed from our P.E kits to our suits. What I found were casual clothes. Then I realized it must be in my locker. I dashed to my locker, got my suit, dashed back to the changing room to change my clothes. Some people were still changing, but I focused on changing my clothes. After I did, I went back to my classroom where everybody else was. At around 9:30 we went to the gym for our graduation practice. After that we came back to our class to take a break and went back again for our graduation.

When we started our graduation, I was very nervous at first because if I made a mistake it would be very embarrassing. But I did not make a mistake. In fact, it was almost perfect. On my certificate it said

many important things. However, I didn't really find the group photo very fair because kids in front of me were covering my face on purpose.

Then we had our graduation food but before that we changed into our casual clothes. I had meat and leek on a stick (Yaki Tori), Yaki Soba, Ham and cheese roll, carrot sticks, and Grape Fanta. I liked them all. Then we had some activities to choose from, I chose flick painting. Flick painting is type of painting where you dip the paint brush into paint and flick the paint onto the paper. After we were done, it changed into face painting for some reason. Then two people started having a paint fight but nobody else did. It was fun, but it took a long time to clean up.

For the past five years I have enjoyed elementary school. I will miss elementary yet be looking forward to middle school. Thank you for reading.

The teacher opens the door but students go through the doors.

Jokes:

FATHER: How are your grades, son?

SON: Under water, Dad.

FATHER: Under water? What do you mean?

SON: They're below C level.

A high school student asked his teacher if a person should be punished for something he hadn't done.

"No," said the teacher. "Of course not!"

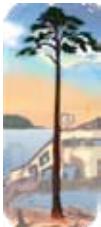
"Good." said the boy. "Because I haven't done my homework."

Mother: "Why are you home from school so early?"

Son: "I was the only one who could answer a question."

Mother: "Oh, really? What was the question?"

Son: "Who threw the eraser at the principal?"



Earthquake in Japan

- Amartya Mukherjee, Grade VII

I have always liked Japan. My parents came to Japan from India, right after their marriage. As a result, I and my sister were born here. Since birth, we only lived in Japan. All my friends live here. I only go to India once a year to meet my relatives. I want to live in Japan for the rest of my life.

In Japan I have everything I need. My friends are all nice. I hang out with them and play soccer. My school is teaching me well. I enjoy going to school and I am in grade 6. I can't think of living anywhere else.

The dreadful earthquake started at the 11th of March at 2.50 pm Japan time. We were at school when that happened. My teacher was in the middle of telling us our homework. When the earthquake came, our teacher told us to hide under our desks. The ground was continuously shaking and I saw things falling down. In Tokyo we face earthquakes regularly. But we never faced any earthquake like this which was as strong, as long lasting, and had as many aftershocks. I wondered what would happen to my family. Then our principle said in the mike to evacuate the building and go to the park. Our teacher told us to walk calmly down the stairs. But the earthquake was still going on so we ran. I was wondering when it would end. I was scared but tried to be brave. I was wondering whether we will be safe or not. What will happen to Japan? My teacher was telling us to calm down but many of the girls were crying. I heard screaming and crying. I also saw people were very worried. I did not know what to do.

On that Friday I was picked up by my mother in the car. I usually go home by myself, using the train. But the trains were not working because of the earthquake and the school needed our parent's permission for us to leave. My mother looked very worried when she came to the school to pick me up. She was relieved after she saw that I was fine. Some students had to spend the whole night there because their parents could not come.

Once I had come home we went to meet our neighbors. We went with them to the evacuation center. There were lots of people gathered there. Everybody was carrying a backpack with some necessary stuff like food or water. I saw everybody there with their mothers and siblings. The phone lines were not working so no one could call or SMS their fathers. They all looked very worried. I was lucky my father was in India that time so I was not too tensed about him. After spending some time

in the evacuation center, we went to my neighbor's house. My friend's father came at around 9.30. He had to walk all the way home. Since the trains were not working many people had to walk back home from their office. We spent that night at my neighbor's house. At around 4.00 in the morning my mother woke me up and asked me to wear my jacket. Another big aftershock was going on and we had to go to the ground. It was freezing cold outside. We later came back and slept. I could not sleep. In the morning I was happy to come back home.

The next day there was another problem. We heard sirens and fire trucks everywhere around our apartment. We ran down to the ground. I was very scared. We were told that there is a fire in our building. Later we came to know it was a false fire alarm. I felt very relieved.

For the next few days there was an aftershock almost every hour. It felt like we were continuously moving like we were on a moving train or a ship floating on the sea. All of us were feeling dizzy from the motion. My father was in India so I was the only boy in the family with my mother and sister. My sister is too young to understand the problems we were facing. So my mother was continuously sharing thoughts and discussing problems with me. It made me feel like a big boy. I wanted to do everything possible for my family. I wished my father was there too. I also wished my sister was big enough to understand what was going on. Every day we chatted with my father on Skype. We shared and discussed with him too.

First I heard my grandfather tell my mother to leave for India. Then I was not in a good mood because I did not want to leave. My mother told me what radiation is. Once I heard that I chose to go to India. I did not want to but I had to. My mother and father had faith that the Japanese government will repair the nuclear power plants. In the evening my grandfather kept calling my mother to tell her to leave for India and sent her tickets. I was unhappy but I just had to go. The next day a power plant exploded. Then I started being scared. We had to leave as soon as possible. I was really unhappy to leave Japan. I had to pack my bags and go to the airport. We booked a taxi to the airport. We thought the road would be crowded but it was smooth. Once we reached the airport, it was full of foreigners. They were leaving for the same reason. Later when we were waiting for the plane to arrive another big earthquake struck. We were all scared. A few

minutes after the earthquake struck we took our plane.

In India everybody was relieved to see us. However, I was not too happy to leave Japan for it is my home country. I was in grade 6 so I couldn't afford to lose my home country.

During my stay in India, we constantly debated about whether it was safe to return back to Japan. Our father had to go back to Japan because of his work in the end of March. He said that people were returning back to Japan. Also my school had opened. But there were news reports about radiation being detected in green vegetables, milk and water supplies. We also read that sea water was contaminated with radiation which means it will not be safe to eat fish nor sea food. Our family and friends in India were against our returning back to Japan. Yet, we decided to return back to Japan on the 20th of April. We didn't know whether we were doing the right thing or not. I was sure we are going to have a hard time in Japan but I really wanted to go back.

Finally we are back in Japan. I am very happy to come back and meet my friends. Aftershocks are still going on, though. The fear of radiation is still continuing and I am drinking mineral water every

day and avoiding a whole lot of vegetables specially coming from the affected areas.

In school, I was the last person to come back and all my friends were excited to see me again. It took me a while to keep up with the class and all the assignments. Later, I did well in my studies and graduated to grade seven.

Also this earthquake helped me to understand people who are the most affected because of the earthquakes, tsunami and then the nuclear plant accident. This earthquake taught me that bad things can happen to any one of us. The earthquake we faced in Tokyo was around the magnitude six, almost as strong as the Haiti earthquake so I understand how the Haitians must have felt.

Sadly, many of my friends and teachers are leaving Japan, mainly because of the fear of radiation. I also fear radiation, but I want to stay in Japan, even though it means taking a risk because I was born in this country and this country means everything to me. I feel quite strange when thinking of leaving to India because of this. I want to stay here for as long as possible.

Now it is my summer vacation. I hope there won't be any more big earthquakes. I will try to do well in grade seven too.

1. To see time fly!
2. The police had to come the area.
3. Because the teacher told her it was a piece of cake!
4. A babysitter.
5. A blood bank!
6. 50 cents change!
7. You're too young to smoke.
8. He kept falling in the sink.
9. To draw the curtains.
10. Push it down a hill.
11. Remove the "S".
12. He thought it was a high school!

Answers to the Riddles:

The Haunted Castle Of Oklahoma

- Saptarshi Nath, Grade VII

Ahhh! I screamed as I ran through the deep dark forest. I could hear the sound of something running behind me, howling for my life. Suddenly I stop looking up to a huge dark castle. I look behind me and see nothing but a dark forest. There I stand on a cliff. Looking down, I see a swamp. CRACK. I turn and see a huge wolf like creature jump over me and fell...

"Wow where am I?"

I must have laid there for an hour. I stood up to see that the castle doors were next to me. It seemed to me that the only option I had was to go in the castle. I had to take the risk. The door creaked as I opened and saw only darkness. It seemed as if I was drifting into a deep sleep. I went in to see a few old pictures and a dull, dark grey room. There was two small stairs going up to another level. I looked at one of the pictures and saw a family of 3, the child about my age. But then I looked again a bit closer. What was that small speck at the corner? Wait is it growing? Then suddenly I saw a small hairy creature. OH NO! I heard a growling sound. I screamed as I turned around to see the wolf creature in front of me. Then it looked at me with its cold bloodshot eyes and made an eerie chill go down my spine. Then out of nowhere it jumped at me, but luckily I was able to jump out of its way and ran up the stairs. I went in the first room that I saw and locked the door. Tick Tock. Wait what was? I looked behind to see a small clock with...a...a.....Bottle? That was weird, then the clock struck and bottle sprang open and some sort of gas engulfed the room. I realized it was poison!

Ahhh! I woke up. I looked around to see my room. Few it was only a nightmare. Then I heard some banging around and Mom came in.

"Good heavens Max, are you okay?"

"Yes I'm okay Mom; I just had a bad dream."

"Well okay then, don't scare me like that"

I got out of bed and went to the bathroom and freshened up. I went down to get a PB&J sandwich, and then went outside. My sister Chloe was playing with the new tennis kit we got. Well I don't think I told you but I'm Max and I'm 12. Chloe is my older sister and she's 13. I and my family came to visit Uncle Charles in Oklahoma in the Country side and it's been great so far.

"Hey bro you want to go out in the forest?"

"I don't know wont we get lost?"

"Don't worry I got these from Uncle Charles"

"Location detectors, as long as these are on I can see you on the screen and so can you"

"Cool!"

"Come-on lets go"

As we headed into the forest, I heard the sound of thousands of birds chirping and singing there song of beauty but engulfed in the smell of the forest. The place was buzzing. Especially the bugs. Man they were huge. So as we trotted on my sister bumped into something.

"Ow!"

"Are you okay?"

"Yeah"

We both moved the veins to find some metal bars and a rusty lock. I was barely able to see through the bars and what I saw horrified me.

"Oh my gosh"

"What?" Chloe asked.

"Look"

"So it's just an old house"

"It's the same one I saw in my dream!"

"Wait so you saw this in your dream"

"YES"

"Well let's look inside"

"I wouldn't go in there if I were you. From what I saw, it was pretty scary"

"What does a dream know?"

Then suddenly we heard a crunch of branches.

"What was that?"

"That I do not know"

We quietly turned heads around and saw a horrifying white ghostly man with dark red eyes and wrinkles. He wore some ripped shaggy old clothes. In one hand he held a pitch fork and in the other a medium sword. He also held a leash attached to the spiky collar of a dark grey blood hound. "Yikes" I said to myself. Don't panic, then I whisper to Chloe "Run!" Then we ran off. I don't know how much we ran but it was like a marathon. By the time we got back home we had lost them.

"What happened to you guys?" Mom asked

"There was a man chasing us, it was crazy he had witch fork and a dog..."

"Well there are rumors of a man in the woods who lives in a small house".

"Anyway you two wash up dinners ready. That night I had trouble sleeping. I was having the same nightmare. Only I kept hearing a voice a small voice pleading for helping. It told to come to the castle to



help. This happened for next few days. After a few days it was Friday 13 and I must have stayed awake for quite a long time cause after that I decided that I was going to go. But I realized I couldn't go alone. I was too scared. I had to convince my sister to come with me. So I crept out of bed and went to my sister's room and found she was awake too.

"You awake?"

"Yeah" I replied

"I just can't stop that voice"

"I have an idea, why don't we go to the castle now and stop this"

"Mom and dad will kill us"

"We have to take the risk"

"Okay"

So we got out and changed. I took out my torch and my lucky charm with me, oh and of course my location tracker. We took of leaving Mom, Dad and Uncle Charles a note. It must have been a whole 5 minutes before we found the gate. That's where we got stuck. But then I remembered a TV show where they were picking locks and storming houses.

"Do you have a pin and clip?"

"Yeah here"

I took them and tried to pick the lock. I used a combination of ways like jabbing or taping but it was just too rusty. Then I picked up a stick and just smashed the lock. It broke and fell off. I pulled the gate open and we went in. We crossed a creepy dark court yard and got inside. There was pool in the

middle filled some gooey murky water.

"We need to go upstairs" I said

As we got up "Do you hear that?"

"Hear what"

"Listen"

"Help us anyone!"

It seemed to be coming from a room over to the far end of the corridor. We ran to the door and went in. it seemed like some sort of dungeon. The air was and there was literally no light at all except from the moonlight from the big window. We went closer and saw two kids just like us in cages.

"Help us please"

"We will" I said

"Where is the key?" Chloe asked

"Over there" pointing at the top of the

I opened and they came out. Hi my name is Rick and I'm Roy. We introduced our selves and then I asked

"Why are you here?"

"We captured when our villages were destroyed" Roy replied

"By who?"

"The scientist who uses this place as a lab"

"His name is Charlie, or Char-something"

"Uncle Charles?"

"Yeah that's it"

"No"

"What?"

"That's our Uncle!"

"Oh"

"Don't trust him he will destroy you"

"Well what do we have hear"

We spun to see Uncle Charles in a white lab coat.

"You want to what these are, there genetic creatures I made" Showing the Wolf like creature in my nightmare

"There what I used to get them" he pointed at Roy and Rick.

"I thought we could trust you Uncle Charles" I said angrily

"Well I'm sorry"

"You will be sorry when our parents get to know of this"

"Your parents will never believe you if you ever did get to them ALIVE"

"But why would need them"

"Oh well, I just simply needed someone to try this new experiment. And I thought they would be the best.

Then he let go of the cell holding the creature. It hissed and came out. But before it could react I pulled Chloe and the others and we ran. I toppled over one of the gas cells. It would buy us time. But there was no way out. Wait the window.

"Is there a ladder?" I asked

"There's one in the corner there" Roy cried

I ran to the ladder brought and we climbed up and out the window. I could hear loud screams and shouts coming from there and I heard sounds of creatures running behind us but dared not to look back. I kept running with the others back home. But the creatures caught up with us and lunged at us all we were able to dodge a few but they were powerful and strong. Just when I thought life was going to end. I heard barking. Loud piercing barks. And there it was a pitch fork. I got up turned around and there I saw the man with his dog. He shouted

in a raspy voice

"RUN"

"But why did you come after us?" I asked with a lot of questions in my head.

"I am the guardian of this place and was put here to protect anyone from it and anything that they attack. The first time we met I tried to warn you but know it's too late!"

"RUN I say RUN"

"My dog ripper will accompany you"

"But what about you"

"I must do my duty"

And with that he put himself between us and the creatures and fought to the death. For a few minutes I thought we were lost, but then I could see our house and sprinted as fast as I could. Luckily we could get in the house without getting caught and we blocked every exit possible. Then I realized that the back door was still open. I ran to door and locked and then blocked it with the furniture. I ran back to see Mom and Dad up looking at us.

"What are doing here awake?"

"And who are you two boys?"

We all explained but I did kind of lie as in I said Uncle Charles went for a walk. And that the two boys were just some friends we met on the street yesterday. Then Mom and Dad just gave us lecture and then said that we were going to have to leave today.

We asked if we could keep the dog ripper and dad did but mom got a bit uneasy but it was okay. We packed up and well Roy and Rick left that night and we don't know where they went but all I wanted to do was get out. Then we left and as far as I know Uncle Charles never got back. A few weeks later in Chicago On Friday I had another Nightmare. It was as if Uncle Charles had mutated into some half beast.....OH, NO!!!!



Lugalbanda and the Anzu Bird

- Akash Dutta Gupta, Grade VIII

Lugalbanda was a poor farmer in the outskirts of a small town in Sumer. Anzu was a vicious bird who built a nest in the peak of Mt. Enlil. It was said that whoever goes there will not come back.

The King would give 100000 gold coins to the person who could survive one night in the nest of the bird.

So Lugalbanda chose this opportunity to make some money. Therefore he told his wife about it." But I might never see you again" she argued. "But think of all the money we will be getting" Lugalbanda replied. So at the end his wife gave in.

Early in the morning, the next day he set off for Mt. Enlil with most of his sheep and cattle. He reached there at night, so, Lugalbanda thought of climbing it in daylight. Therefore he slept at the bottom of the mountain, and the next day he left for the peak of Mt. Enlil.

There he found a baby Anzu bird crying for food and Lugalbanda made out that its parents must have left for hunting, so he fed it sheep fat and it fell asleep. Then he laid his sheep and cattle in front of the baby and hid behind it."

After some time, Lugalbanda heard the flapping of great wings and could make out that the parents had come back. He heard them talking in sad, worried tones "what will he eat today? We couldn't catch a single buffalo." "He'll have to

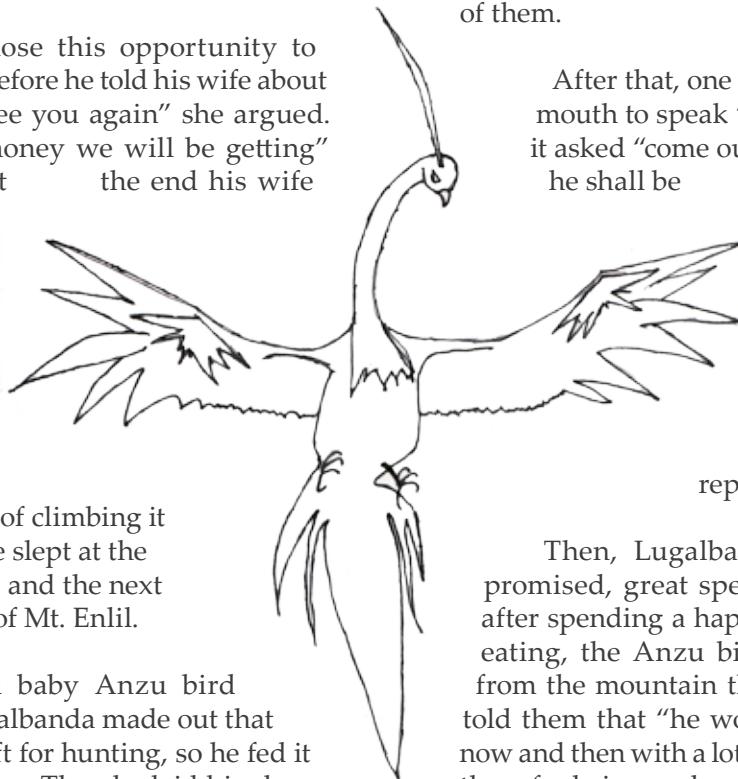
starve!" They called out for the baby but did not hear it cry so they thought it was kidnapped. So he heard the birds flapping grow faster and immediately he felt the nest shake as if something heavy had landed on the nest with a lot of force.

Then they saw that the baby was sleeping safe and sound in the nest and they also saw that there were cattle and sheep laid out in front of them.

After that, one of them opened their mouth to speak "who has done this?" it asked "come out and show yourself, he shall be rewarded." In saying this they saw a scrawny little man come out from behind their baby. They asked him what his name was, the reply was "Lugalbanda"

Then, Lugalbanda was gifted, as promised, great speed and strength. So after spending a happy night talking and eating, the Anzu birds took him down from the mountain the next morning. He told them that "he would come for a visit now and then with a lot of cattle and thanked them for being such a nice host.

He then, went to the king with great speed and received the promised gift from him. He went back to his town and told the story about him and the Anzu bird again and again and he would never be tired of telling the story once more.

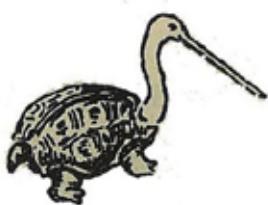
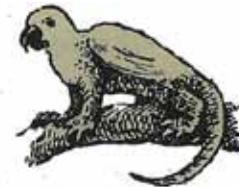
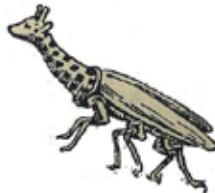


Khichudi - A New Taste

- Tannistha Roychoudhury, Grade IX

Let me show you a poem by the remarkable Indian poet, Sukumar Ray. I am quite sure you all have at least heard of him, if not read his poems, which in my opinion are fantastic. The poem I am about to show is called "Khichudi," and it comes from Mr. Ray's first and most famous volume: Abol Tabol. Many of Mr. Ray's poems, though nonsensical and hilarious, have a serious inner meaning to them. Unlike those poems, Khichdi is just a meaningless poem designed only to entertain.

However, when I read it myself, I had an interesting thought, which I'd like to share. But first, the poem. Here is the Bangla poem (in English Romaji). Below is a full translation to English. Enjoy!



Ha[n]sh Chilo Shojaru, (Bakaron Mani Na)
Hoye Galo "Ha[n]shjaru," Kemone Ta Janina.
Bock Kohe Kochchope: "Bahoba Ki Phurti!
Ati Khasha Amader Bockochchop Murti."

Tiamukho Girgiti Mone Bhari Shonka:

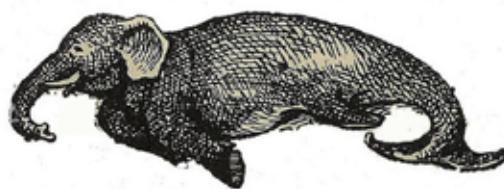
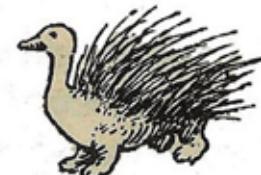
Poka Chhere Sheshe Kigo Khabe Ka[n]cha Lanka?

Chhagoler Pete Chhilo Na Jani Ki Phondi,
Chapilo Bichhar Ghare, Dhore Muro Shondhi!
Giraffer Shadh Nai Mathe Ghate Ghurite,
Phorin[g]er Dhong Dhori, Sheyo Chae Urite.
Goru Bole, "Amereo Dhorilo Ki O Roge?"

Mor Pichhe Lage Kano Hotobhaga Moroge?"

Hatimir Dola Dekho: Timi Bhabe Jole Jai,
Hati Bole, "Ei Bayla Jongole Cholo Bhai."

Shingher Shing Nei, Ei Tar Koshto:
Horiner Shathe Mile Shing Holo Poshto.



Did anyone find this hard to understand, or even to read? Read my translation

A Duck was, and Porcupine (Best to be Grammerless)
A "Porcuduck" was born. How? I'm Quite Clueless.

The Stork to the Turtle: "Oh! What Fun!"

Our Figure, the 'Stortkle,' is the Truly Number One!"

The Parrot-Faced Lizard is in a Difficult Crisis:

Bug or Chili – Which One Should He Eat to be in Bliss?

The Goat's Mind Suddenly Had a Very Strange Need,
So He Attached to the Millipede and Was a Goatipede.

To Stroll on Grassy Fields, the Giraffe Has No Desire:
He Wants to Attach to a Grasshopper and Become a Flyer

The Cow Says, "What is it that I Feel on the Behind of Me?
 I Dearly Hope it's Not the Scoundrel Rooster That I See!"
 Observe the Whaliphant: the Whale wants the Sea,
 The Elephants Says, "Let's Visit the Jungle, Both You and Me!"
 The Lion is Sad Because He Doesn't Have Horns.
 He Bonded with the Deer, and his Horntlers were Born.

Translated By Tannishtha Roychoudhury

What do you think? Clever? Hilarious? Nothing special?

Would you like to see all this happen in real life? I would. And the cool thing is that it's very possible. How? Through a very well-known process known as "cloning."

Here's how it works: each and every characteristic of a living organism is determined by its genes, which make up what is known as DNA. These DNA are nothing but chromosomes, which lie inside the nucleus of the cells of each organism.

In general, all DNA have genes that hold specific information on how to create a specific organism. In the current age, scientists have figured out a way to extract genes from the DNA of organisms, and also to add genes to the DNA of organisms. This process and study is known as genetic engineering.

Scientists have also found a way to copy the genetic patterns of an organism and store the information. They have then found a way to use the stored information to make a new organism, starting from one cell. To actually remake the same organism, the new cell must be put in an environment suitable for it to survive and grow. This is what is called cloning.

Cloning has been tested only once, and on a sheep named Dolly. It worked quite well and Dolly the Sheep became an international celebrity.

How did they do it? They extracted one body cell from the sheep. Then they stimulated it in such a way that from that one cell, a new Dolly was born!

It is the combination of genetic engineering and cloning that can be used to create the not-so-impossible creatures in Mr. Ray's poem.

You probably didn't even understand half of what I said. This was just a rough explanation of what I will now explain in more detail. Hopefully, you will be able relate these pieces of information to Mr. Ray's poem.

We'll start with cloning. Here is the official dictionary definition.

Cloning (n.) a general term for the research activity that creates a copy of some biological entity (an organism or cell or gene)

Many of you will be wondering, "What does this mean? What is an organism? What is a cell? What is a gene?" I'll explain in hopefully clearer detail.

Organism (n.) a living thing that has (or can develop) the ability to act or function independently

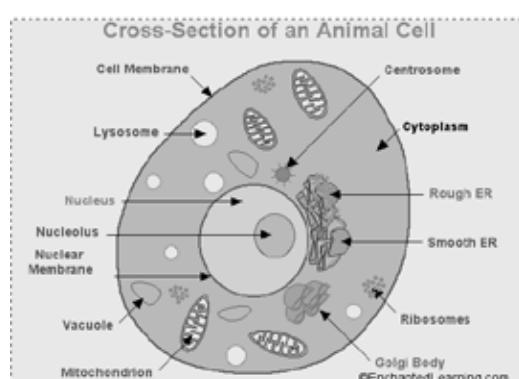


Figure 1. An animal cell

This word has very common usage. "Organism" is just the scientific term for what we call "living thing." An organism is any living thing that can live without the help of other living things, such as mammals, insects, birds, reptiles, etc. Plants are also organisms.

Cell (n.) the basic structural and functional unit of all organisms.

Many of you know what a cell is, while many don't. A cell is the most basic unit of an organism that works on its own. You can see the diagram of one in **Figure 1**. The human body is made up of trillions of these cells. There are different types of cells for different functions, such as blood cells, brain cells, skin cells, nerve cells (neurons), etc. In fact, any organism is almost entirely made up of cells.

All cells have smaller counterparts known as organelles. Each organelle has different functions in the cell. For example, the purpose of the organelle known as the mitochondria is to store the energy in the cell.

The largest and most important organelle in the cell is called the nucleus. You can see it in **Figure 1**. It is located in the center of the cell. The nucleus, or to be more precise, what lies inside the nucleus, is vital to the success of cloning.

Inside the nucleus of a cell are very, very small figures called chromosomes. The number of chromosomes an organism has determines what species it is. For example, the nucleus of each human cell has 46 chromosomes. For chickens, it is 78. Goats have 60, while elephants have 56. Most different species of organisms have different numbers of chromosomes in their cell nuclei.

Figure 2 shows what a chromosome usually looks like. Yes, there are 46 of these in every cell nucleus in our bodies.

What is a chromosome, exactly? Chromosomes are nothing but DNA!

DNA (*n.*) a long linear chain found in the nucleus of a cell and formed from sugar/phosphate/nitrogen and shaped like a double helix.

I shall elaborate on the official definition later. A picture of DNA is shown in **Figure 3**. As you can see, one DNA consists of two strips that are connected to one other by some “bars”. The shape in which they are connected is called the double-helix shape.



Figure 3. DNA

DNA consists of three substances: sugar, phosphate, and nitrogen, as said in the official definition. The two curved strips connected by the “bars” are made up of sugar and phosphate.

The “bars” that connect the two curved lines are made up of nitrogen bases. Each of those “bars” consists of two nitrogen bases connected to each other and to the sugar/phosphate strips.

There are in fact four types of nitrogen bases in DNA. They are called A, T, G, and C. They actually stand for adenine, thymine, guanine, and cytosine, but since those names are so long and hard to remember, the abbreviations are more widely used.

In DNA, any two of these four different nitrogen bases bond with each other in order to connect the two strips. There is a rule to this bonding: A always only bonds with T, while G always only bonds with C. As a result, the entire DNA chain is bonded through patterns of A to T and G to C.

To help you understand this better, I'll show another diagram of DNA, this one with the nitrogen particles labeled. It is in **Figure 4**.

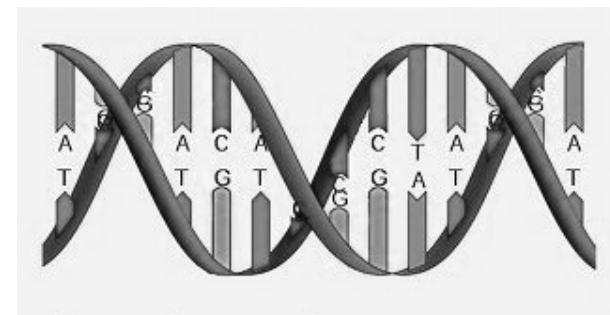


Figure 4. A, T, G, and C

This is how the DNA structure really looks like. As you can see (in **Figure 4**), A always connects with T, while G always connects with C. The sugar-phosphate strip from the top left (labeled X), consists of the pattern AGGTGTCCTAGGT in this particular diagram. In contrast, the sugar-phosphate strip from the bottom left (labeled Y), consists of the pattern TCCACAGGGATCCA. That's all there is to understand about A, T, G, and C.

This is where the gene comes in to our observations. Here is the official definition.



**Figure 2. A chromosome.
Can you see the DNA
inside it?**

Gene (n.) a segment of DNA that is responsible for a specific characteristic.

One DNA can be grouped into millions of different segments. Each segment consists of different patterns of A, T, G, and C. The segments may be of different lengths.

Each separate segment of DNA is called a gene. Each gene determines a specific characteristic of the organism. For example, there may be a gene for hair color, skin color, height, eye color, face structure, etc. The pattern of A, T, G, and C on one gene determines the nature of the characteristic.

A diagram of a chromosome, DNA, and genes is shown in **Figure 5**.

Here's a rough example (this is not true). Suppose that the DNA segment from the **Figure 4** is a gene for hair color. Suppose that the pattern of the segment (AGGTGTCCTAGGT to TCCACAGGGATCCA) makes the hair color black. Maybe another pattern (such as AAAAAAAA to TTTTTTTT) makes the hair color brown. This is basically what a gene is and does.

That's all there is to it. Now you will probably understand how it is possible to combine the characteristics of two organisms (as in Mr. Ray's poem).

Suppose that you want to grant the lion in the last two verses of "Khichudi" its wish: horns (or to be more precise, antlers).

As I said at the very beginning, scientists have found a way to extract DNA parts from any cell in the organism. What we should first do is get hold of a lion and a deer. From the deer, we'll extract the genes that make up its antlers.

What we should do next is insert the antler gene into the one of the cell nuclei of the lion. The gene will replicate throughout all the cells, and the lion will soon gain some antlers. Its wish will be granted.

Figure 5. Chromosome to DNA to Gene

Scientists have tested this on a different experiment. There was once a tiger in a zoo in India that smelled very putrid. To improve the tiger's smell, scientists decided to use the sweet-smelling basmati rice (rice is a plant, and plants are organisms). They extracted the gene that gave basmati rice its sweet smell and inserted it into the DNA of the tiger. Soon a change came upon the animal: it smelled like basmati!

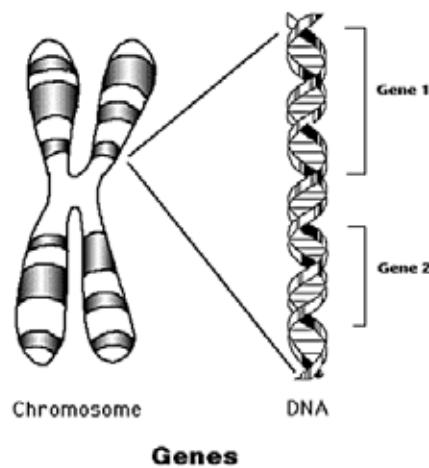
Here is another test that turned out to be life-saving. You've probably heard of the parasite known as the malaria parasite: it is transmitted through mosquitoes and is quite deadly. Well, scientists decided to have a little fun. First, they got hold of a firefly. Then, they extracted the gene that made the firefly glow. Lastly, they captured the malaria parasite in someone's body (the person with the parasite would have died) and inserted the firefly-glow gene into it.

The effect was almost instant. The parasite, instead of infecting the host's body, changed its task into glowing. This gave two positive outcomes. Firstly, the presence of the malaria parasite wouldn't cause the host to become sick or die. And secondly, since the parasite was constantly glowing like a firefly, its location in the body could be monitored at all times.

What else would you like to combine? Would you like to satisfy the crazy giraffe in Mr. Ray's poem? Would you like to give it wings? Would you like to combine the duck and porcupine to create a porcuduck? Just follow the instructions above!

What about yourselves? Would you like wings like a butterfly and fly like one? Would you like a long neck like a giraffe? Would you like sharp teeth like those of tigers? Not a problem! Just follow the steps above! It's that simple!

But remember one thing. Performing this outside of a laboratory would be highly dangerous! As simple as it may be... **DO NOT TRY THIS AT HOME!!!**



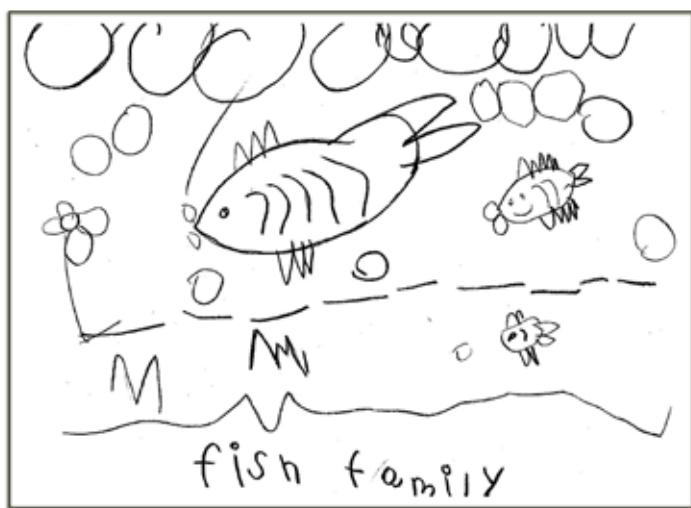
DRAWINGS



"Save the Tiger" by Aryan, Grade II



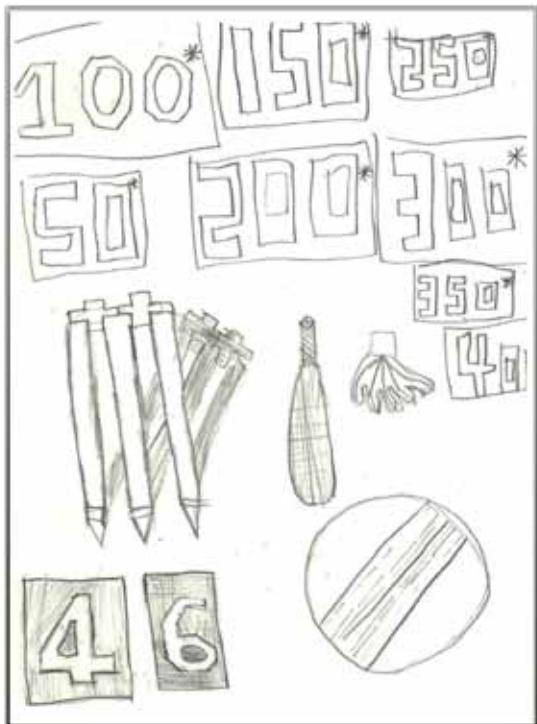
"Sunny Morning" by Rajarshi, Grade II



"Fish Family" by Ashmita Paul, 4yrs.



"Towers in Tokyo" Kavya, Grade VI



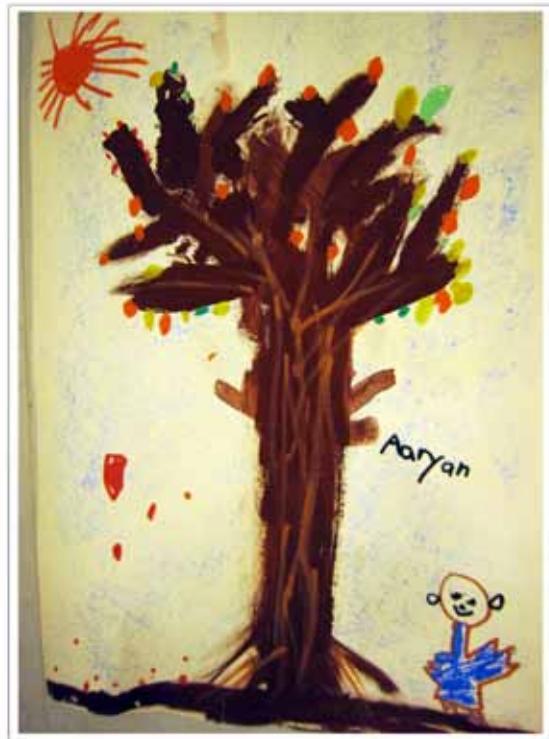
"Cricket Fever" by Arpan, Grade IV



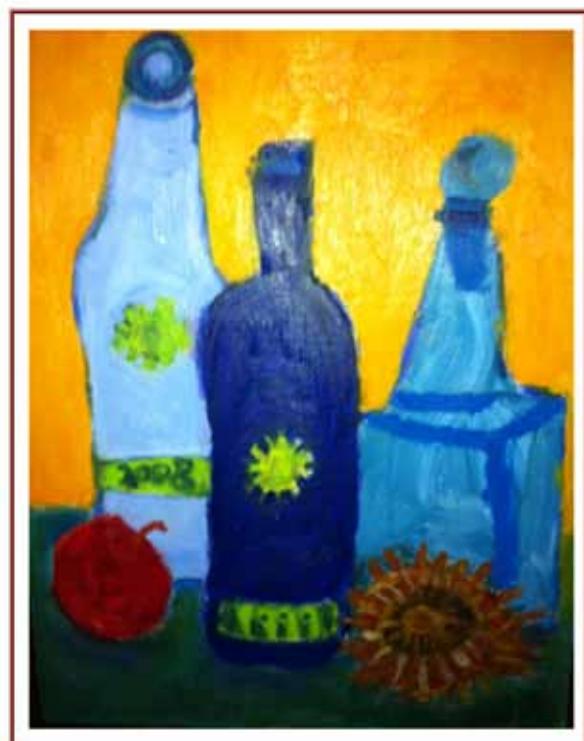
"A Scene" by Nimisha Anand, Grade IV



"Sunflowers" by Roopkatha, 4yrs.



"My Tree" by Aaryan Kumar, Grade I



"Full or Empty" by Viplav, Grade VI



"Tsunami" by Sfurti, Grade VII



"Garden Twins" by Subhankar, Grade IV



Oil Painting by Moe Okuda, Grade XI

Arts



Goddess Durga, by Sushmita Pal & Amrita Pal



Goddess Laxmi, by Sunita Panghal

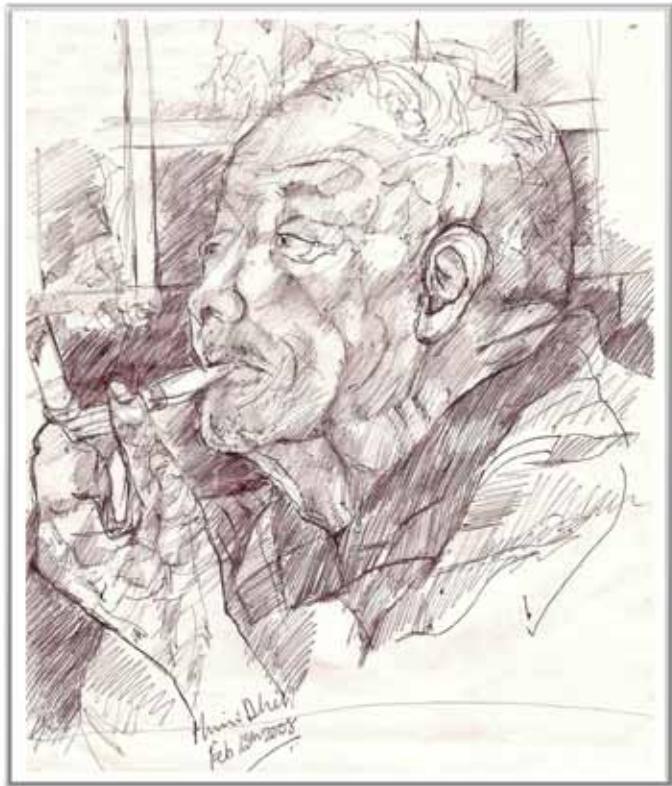
Anjali



Unconditional Love, by Sanchita Ghosh



Kimono girl, by Meeta Chanda



Enjoying the Moment, by Mimi Dhar



Reminiscence, by Madhab Ghosh

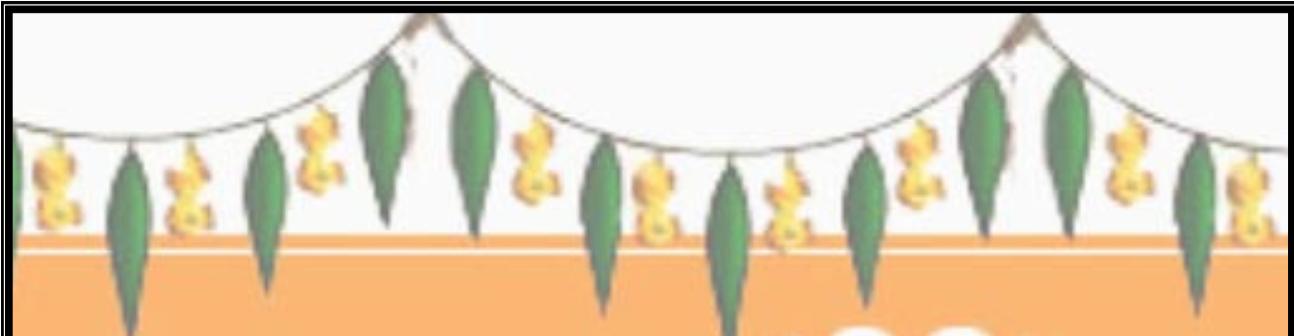
Photographs



Beautiful Silhouette by Amit Mandal



Give me a big hug by Sanjib Chanda



NIPPON VEDANTA SOCIETY

Ramkrishna Mission in Japan

This mission is represented by
Swami Medhasananda *and is located at*

NIPPON VEDANTA SOCIETY
4-18-1 Hisagi, Zushi-shi,
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Bengali Association of Tokyo, Japan

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তরফ থেকে জানাই

শুভবিজয়ার প্রীতি ও আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা

আমাদের ওয়েবসাইট

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STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR 2010-2011

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
ITEM	AMOUNT	ITEM	AMOUNT
Opening Balance on September 11, 2011 from 2009-2010 • In bank a/c • Cash in hand	Yen 561,911 Break up - Yen 380,088 Yen 181,823	Expenses for Durga Puja, Anjali printing, Saraswati Puja, Community meetings, Storage of Durga Pratima, Hall rentals, rehearsals etc.	Yen 2,154,380
Collection by Subscriptions, pronami, advertisements in Anjali etc.	Yen 2,231,715	Closing balance on July 31, 2011 (carried forward to 2011 – 2012) • In bank a/c • Cash in hand	Yen 639,246 Break up – Yen 368,605 Yen 270,641
TOTAL	Yen 2,793,626	TOTAL	Yen 2,793,626

SINCERE THANKS FROM
Bengali Association of Tokyo, Japan
www.batj.org

For assistance on the occasion of Durga Puja on October 16, 2010 –

- Mr. and Mrs. J.S. Chandrani for providing Shanti Masala tea for tea time
- Mr. and Mrs. Biswanath Paul for providing flowers for the Puja

For assistance on the occasion of Saraswati Puja on February 12, 2011 –

- Mr. and Mrs. J.S. Chandrani: Shanti Masala Chai for tea time