GROW SMART

First Edition 2014

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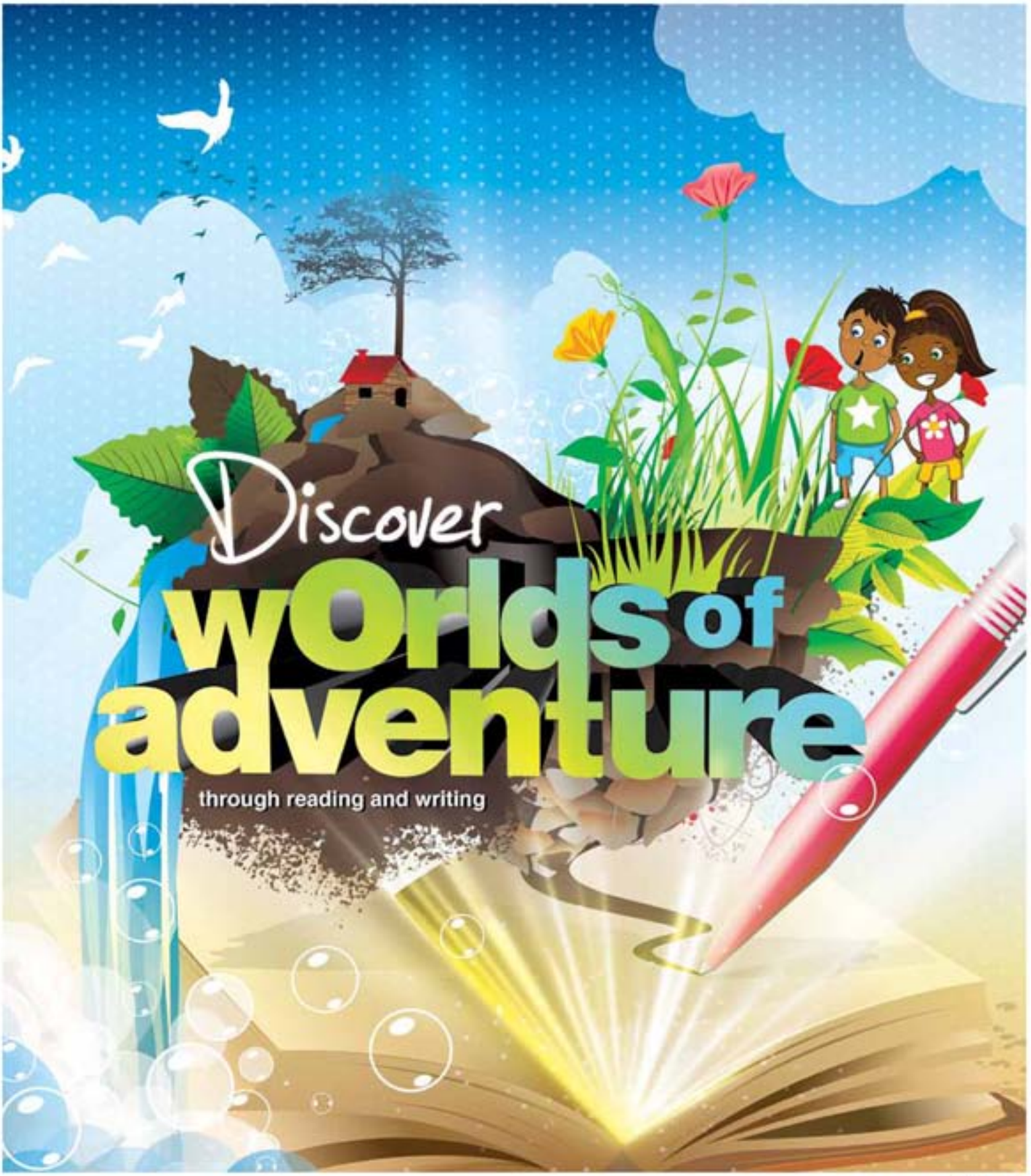


DEAR GROWSMARTER

Welcome to our first edition of the Growsmart newspaper for 2014! We have printed enough newspapers for every learner in Grades 4, 5 and 6 at your school. Please read your copy of the newspaper from cover to cover. The reading practice will definitely help improve your literacy skills!

This edition is all about fun and we hope you enjoy reading it (we've even sneaked in some jokes, but don't tell your teacher). Check out the list of words in 'Do you know these words'. If you don't know some of them, then get out the dictionary and look them up. It's fun to learn a new word every day!

We also want you to write. That's right. We want you to try writing stories. You can start small and write anything you like, but make sure you write something every day. We've included some useful tips for you. Practice makes perfect!

Enjoy your Growsmart newspaper and good luck for 2014!

Until next time,
The Growsmart Team

DO YOU KNOW THESE WORDS?

Answer	Science	Compare	Nuisance	Determine	Aggressive
Colour	Dignity	Pyramid	Elephant	Satellite	Individual
Friend	Jealous	Ancient	Ordinary	Expensive	Centimetre
Nephew	Bicycle	Special	Negative	Difficult	University
Bright	Digital	Spinach	Gigantic	Injection	Frequently
Choice	Imagine	Vehicle	Charcoal	Education	Courageous
Circle	Drought	Trouble	Medicine	Knowledge	Beautician
Liquid	Machine	Believe	Military	Aeroplane	Equivalent
Design	Example	Destroy	Opposite	Interrupt	Suspicious
Engine	Whisker	Kitchen	Diameter	Dangerous	Photograph
Enough	Natural	Magnify	Obedient	Brilliant	Restaurant
Autumn	Prepare	Volcano	Promptly	Different	Pharmacist
Future	Privacy	Creature	Distance	Delicious	Camouflage
Handle	Amazing	Ultimate	Original	Saxophone	Victorious
Ignore	Selfish	Physical	Decorate	Volunteer	Laboratory
Legend	Teacher	Attitude	Precious	Disappear	Rhinoceros
Famous	Receive	Alphabet	Enormous	Necessary	Silhouette
Decade	Factory	Dissolve	Crescent	Fragrance	Respectable
Guitar	Journey	Identify	Mischief	Orchestra	Appointment
Salute	Holiday	Language	Occasion	Invisible	Temperature
Mighty	Unicorn	Infinite	Preserve	Turquoise	Information
Absorb	Rainbow	Lollipop	Skeleton	Diversity	Opportunity
Genius	Magical	Molecule	Arrogant	Colleague	Flexibility
Tongue	Mixture	Exercise	Subtract	Continent	Immediately
Damage	Shallow	Generate	Invention	Serviette	Distinguish
Island	Popular	Approach	Adventure	Spaghetti	Catastrophe
Recipe	Country	Possible	Chocolate	Remarkable	Refrigerate
Unique	Similar	Universe	Confident	Particular	Abomination
Vision	Ceiling	Birthday	Essential	Dictionary	Preparation
Exhale	Luggage	Tomorrow	Calculate	Discomfort	Obstruction
Square	Stomach	Bracelet	Attention	Instrument	Transparent
Statue	Measure	Complete	Education	Gymnastics	Anniversary
Forest	Serious	Sentence	Exhausted	Horizontal	Responsible
Listen	Curious	Customer	Advantage	Politician	Constellation
Nearly	Giraffe	Surprise	Breakfast	Initiative	Approximately
Secret	Century	Terrible	Favourite	Improbable	Demonstration
Vessel	Mystery	Computer	Neighbour	Artificial	Incorruptible

QUESTION: What is red and goes up and down?
ANSWER: A tomato in an elevator.

QUESTION: Why did the bee get married?
ANSWER: Because she found her honey.

QUESTION: When do ducks wake up?
ANSWER: At the quack of dawn.

QUESTION: What is a frog's favourite kind of music?
ANSWER: Hip hop.

QUESTION: What does a lion say when it meets other animals?
ANSWER: Pleased to eat you.

QUESTION: What do you call Frosty the Snowman in summer?
ANSWER: Frosty the Puddle.

QUESTION: Name two animals that live near the North Pole?
ANSWER: A polar bear and his wife.

QUESTION: What happened when the giant took the train home?
ANSWER: They made him bring it back.

QUESTION: What is the difference between a teacher and a train?
ANSWER: The teacher says, 'Spit out your gum!' The train says, 'Chew, chew, chew.'

QUESTION: What is the best time to go to the dentist?
ANSWER: At tooth-thirty.

QUESTION: Why did the Jelly Tot go to school?
ANSWER: Because he wanted to be a Smartie.

COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS

The pairs of words in the list below seem quite similar or sound alike, and it's very easy to confuse them.
We've provided short definitions for each word, but we encourage you to look up the words in a dictionary to get the full definitions.

WORD 1	MEANING	WORD 2	MEANING
Accept	To receive or believe something	Except	Apart from; not including
Lose	To misplace something (lost); not to win	Loose	Something that is not tight; to release
Stationary	Standing still; not moving	Stationery	Writing or office supplies, like pens, paper, etc.
Than	Use this word when you are comparing things	Then	At that time; afterwards; in that case
Bare	Naked; uncovered; exposed	Bear	An animal; to carry; to put up with something
Pray	To say a prayer	Prey	Something that is being hunted
Waist	The middle part of the body between your ribs and hips	Waste	Rubbish or garbage
Aloud	Out loud, not silent or whispered	Allowed	Permitted or acceptable

SOLVE THE PROBLEM

23 + 15 – 9 = ...

7 x 5 = ...

6 x 7 = ...

56 ÷ 7 = ...

Which number is larger: ½ or 0.6?
Answer: .....

36 ÷ 9 = ...

8 x 9 = ...

12 – 6 + 18 = ...

48 – 19 = ...

3 x 11 = ...

Which numbers are missing in the following sequence?
3, 8, 13, ..., 23, ..., 33 .....

7 x 8 = ...

110 ÷ 10 = ...

6 x 4 = ...

Which numbers are missing in the following sequence?

86, 75, 64, ..., 42, ..., 20, ...

15 + 13 + 2 – 10 = ...

2 x 4 x 2 = ...

3 x 8 = ...

13 + 27 = ...

MEET THE FAMOUS AUTHORS

J.K. ROWLING

Author of the Harry Potter books

As a child, Joanne Rowling (pronounced rolling) loved reading books and often wrote short fantasy stories which she would read to her sister. Joanne came up with the idea for Harry Potter while she was sitting in a train on the way to London in 1990, but it took another five years before she completed the first book, Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone.

She had a very hard life and struggled to find a job, but she didn't allow that to get in the way of her writing. After the first book was published, Joanne went from poverty to a multi-millionaire in less than five years. Today she is the most successful author in the United Kingdom. The Harry Potter series of books have sold more than 400 million copies and become the best-selling series in history. The films have made more than 8 billion dollars in total!

Joanne writes under the pen name J.K. Rowling. She has no middle name, so the K does not stand for anything. Sometimes authors don't use their real names for the books they write. Instead, they use a pen name (also known as a pseudonym or a nom de plume, which is a French term).

Source: www.en.wikipedia.org

C.S. LEWIS

Author of The Chronicles of Narnia

Clive Staples Lewis was born in Ireland on 29 November 1898. His books have been translated into more than 30 languages and have sold millions of copies.

As a child, Clive loved to read. Their house was filled with books. He once said that finding a book to read was as easy as walking into a field and finding a new blade of grass. Clive was a deeply religious man who loved the beauty of nature and animals. His love of animals began when he was very young. One story about his childhood is that, when he was four years old, his dog, Jacksie, was knocked over and killed by a car. Clive then told everyone that his name was now Jacksie, and ever since then, his family and friends called him Jack.

Clive and J.R.R. Tolkien (the author of The Lord of the Rings) were close friends. Clive is well-known for his series of fantasy novels entitled The Chronicles of Narnia, which have been adapted for radio, stage, television and cinema. There are seven books in the series, including The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, Prince Caspian and The Voyage of the Dawn Treader.

Source: www.wikipedia.org

J.R.R. TOLKIEN

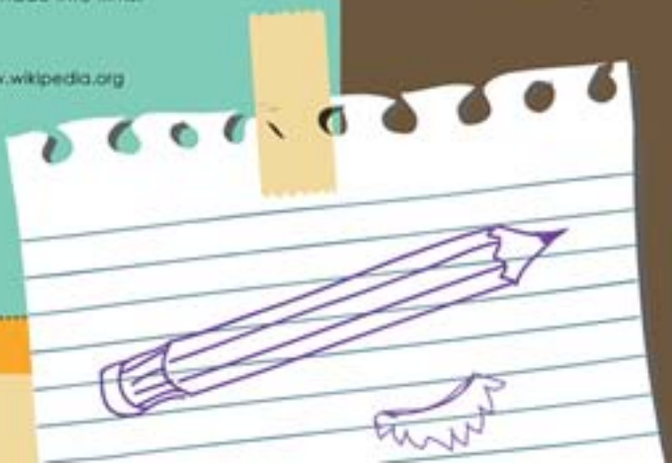
Author of The Lord of the Rings

The initials J.R.R. stand for John Ronald Reuel. He was born on 3 January 1892 in Bloemfontein. John's mother took him to live with her parents in England when he was about four years old. When John grew up, he married and had four children of his own. He was very devoted to them and used to write them illustrated letters from Father Christmas every year. He loved making up fantastic stories for them, and these stories eventually became books.

Some of my all-time favourite books were written by J.R.R. Tolkien. They are The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings, which is made up of three books (called a trilogy): The Fellowship of the Ring, The Two Towers and The Return of the King.

The books have all been made into films. You have probably seen the films, but believe me, the books are much, much better! John's closest friend was C.S. Lewis who wrote the Narnia stories, which have also been made into films.

Source: www.wikipedia.org



NUMBER PATTERNS AND SEQUENCES

Numbers can have interesting patterns. A number sequence is a list of numbers that follow a certain pattern. Each number sequence has a special rule. Once you work out what that rule is, you can follow the number sequence as far as you like.

Example:
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, ...

It's really easy to figure out the rule in the number sequence above. The rule is: Add 1 to the last number to get to the next number in the sequence.

Example:
1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, ...

What is the rule for this number sequence? How do we get from 1 to 4, from 4 to 7, from 7 to 10, and so on? The rule is: Add 3 to the last number. Like this:

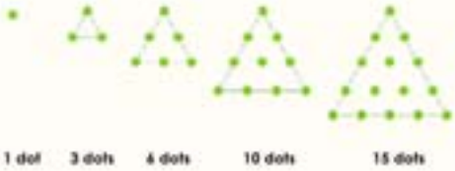
The number (or value) that we add each time is called the Common Difference.

SPECIAL SEQUENCES

You can get all sorts of number sequences, depending on what rule you apply. The following are number sequences based on shapes.

Triangular number sequence:
1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21, 28, 36, 45, ...

We get these numbers from a pattern of dots which form a triangle. By adding another row of dots to the triangle and then counting all the dots, we can find the next number of the sequence:



Square number sequence:
0, 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, ...

These are the squares of whole numbers.

0 (= 0x0)
1 (= 1x1)
4 (= 2x2)
9 (= 3x3)
16 (= 4x4)

Fibonacci number sequence:
0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, ...

This is a very famous number sequence. It's tricky to work out if you don't know the rule. But it's so easy once you know the rule! The rule is: Start with 0 and add 1. To get to the next number, simply add the previous two numbers together. Like this:

0
1
1 (= 0+1)
2 (= 1+1)
3 (= 2+1)
5 (= 3+2)
8 (= 5+3)

Can you work out the next 5 numbers in the Fibonacci sequence following 34?

Source: http://www.mathsisfun.com/numberpatterns

ANIMALS & COLOURS WORD SEARCH

Find the following words hidden among the letters on the right. The words may be found left to right, back to front, upside down or even diagonally across.

elephant
rhino
cheetah
leopard
lion
dolphin
baboon
whale
octopus
dog
frog
giraffe
violet

purple
orange
yellow
green
brown
black
pink
white
cream
blue
gold
wolf
lime

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

MATHS WORD PROBLEMS

There are 200 teams in the Growsmart competition. Each team has 3 learners. How many learners are there in total?

Paul learns 7 new words each day. How many words will he have learnt in total after 11 days?

Brian, Sarah and Noelene are counting their sweets. Brian has 12 sweets. Sarah has twice as many sweets as Brian. Noelene has three times as many sweets as Sarah. How many sweets does Noelene have?

Maria has R11,00. She goes to the shop to buy 3 chocolates. The chocolates cost R2,25 each. How much money will she have left?

Colleen is reading a book. She has been reading 14 pages a day for 5 days. Now there are only 22 pages left to read. How many pages are in Colleen's book?

Ursula, Raymond and Andrew are about to play a game of marbles. Ursula has 39 marbles, Raymond has 47 marbles and Andrew has 64 marbles. To play the game, they must put all the marbles together and then share them equally. How many marbles will each one get?

Mrs Marais has 80 pencils to share with the learners in her class. She wants to give each learner the same number of pencils. There are 38 learners in her class. How many pencils will each learner get?

How many pencils will Mrs Marais have left?

Vuyo and Gemma visit the FUN PARK

It's Saturday morning and Vuyo and Gemma are enjoying a cosy lie-in under their downy comforter. Suddenly four very energetic little mice come bursting through the door. They jump onto their parents' bed and start bouncing and bouncing. "We're bored! Can we please go to the Fun Park today? Pleeeeeeeeease?" they shout. Vuyo sighs and glances at Gemma, who has a mischievous twinkle in her eye. "Okay, let's go!" she says and jumps out of bed to get ready for an unexpected and exciting day out.

At 10 am, the Jack Russell taxi drops the mice off at the gates of Freddie Ferret's Fun Park. The quadruplets can barely contain their excitement while they wait for Vuyo to pay the entrance fee. Tickets are R95 per adult mouse and R30 per child mouse. How much will the tickets to the Fun Park cost Vuyo in total?
Answer: _____

The first thing the quadruplets see as they enter the Fun Park is the candy floss machine. They watch in wonder as the vendor swirls a fluffy pink cloud onto a stick. Vuyo buys each quadruplet a bag of candy floss. Gemma also wants one, but only half the size of the others. The vendor gives Vuyo a 25% discount on Gemma's smaller portion. If a regular sized candy floss costs R20, how much does Gemma's smaller portion cost?
Answer: _____

Now the real fun begins! Three of the quadruplets want to go on the Ghost Ride, but one of the quadruplets is too scared. So while Gemma and the other three siblings scare themselves silly on the Ghost Ride, Vuyo takes the other quadruplet for a whirl on the Spinning Teacups. They sit in their teacup and laugh with delight as it spins faster and faster. If the teacup spins 50 times in 1 minute, how many minutes will it take to spin 300 times?
Answer: _____

Next up is the water slide. After changing into their bathing costumes, the family ascends the stairs to the top of the water slide. They are so high up that looking down gives them butterflies in their stomachs. The water slide is so steep! "Last one down is a stinky cheese wedge!" Gemma shouts as she slides down. One by one, Vuyo and the quadruplets pluck up the courage to follow her. After much screaming and laughing on the way down, the mice plunge into a very big pool – only to climb back up the stairs to do it all again.

After a day full of fun and laughter, there's only one ride left: the dreaded Thunder Mountain roller coaster! The sight of the enormous structure with all its twists and turns makes even Vuyo's stomach do a flip-flop, but the mice are determined to ride it before they go home. They get into their seats and strap themselves in. The roller coaster climbs slowly until it reaches the top, where the track turns downwards into a nearly vertical drop to the bottom.

The mice scream and laugh and scream again as the roller coaster rumbles down the track, going faster and faster all the time. They feel like astronauts being launched into space in a rocket. It's scary, but so much fun! Luckily, they quickly get used to the speed and start enjoying the ride.

The roller coaster is the last ride of the day, and the Fun Park is about to close. The mice take the Jack Russell taxi back home. The quadruplets are very tired after the day's excitement. Luckily tomorrow is Sunday and they can sleep a bit later than usual!

GOOD MANNERS ROCK!

TIPS

- Always say 'Please' and 'Thank you'.
- Say 'Excuse me' when you need to squeeze past someone.
- Use polite language, especially in public. Swearing is not cool.
- Respect other people and their property.
- Ask if you can borrow something, rather than just taking something that does not belong to you.
- Always return the things you have borrowed.
- Be helpful and kind. Don't make fun of other people or embarrass them.
- If you are eating, swallow your food before you talk.
- It's not cool to play with your cellphone when you're with other people. They may feel that you are ignoring them.
- Be neat. Clean up after yourself and put your rubbish into bins.
- Help your family by doing chores around the house.
- Hold the door open for the person who is coming in or going out.

HOW DO YOU FEEL WHEN SOMEONE:

- Sees you, but doesn't say 'hello'? Or leaves without saying 'goodbye'?
- Shoves you out of the way because they are in a hurry, and they don't say 'Excuse me'?
- Asks you for something without saying 'Please'?
- Never says 'Thank you' when you do something for them?
- Never shares with you even though you share your things with them?
- Takes your things without asking?

If you're like me, then you'll probably feel a bit sad or maybe even irritated, because nobody likes bad manners. That is why it's important to practice good manners – to show courtesy, respect and politeness; to consider the feelings of other people, and to treat others as you would like them to treat you. When you practice good manners, people will like you and respect you.

CLASSROOM ACTIVITY

1. Make a poster that lists 5 good manners that you would like to practice every day.
2. Write a thank you note to someone who has done something kind for you.

How to write your own book

They say that everyone has a story inside them that wants to be told. Do you have a story? Have you ever wanted to write a book? Well, here are some fantastic tips to help you on the way to becoming a famous author!

• Read, read, read! Read as much as you can. Reading will help you with comprehension, grammar, spelling and all sorts of literacy skills. It will inspire you; it will open doors to worlds of adventure and teach you many things you never knew.

• Write, write, write! Write something every day. Whether it's one or two sentences, or short stories, or even keeping a diary. Practice makes perfect.

• Write about what you know. It will make it easier and you won't end up with a blank page. Write about things you've experienced, about people you know, and about your feelings.

• Or you can make something up – we call that "fiction". There are different kinds of fiction writing, such as romance, adventure, science fiction, crime, fantasy, horror, humour, mystery, and many more. Each one of these writing styles or categories is called a genre.

• Can you name the title of a book you have read in the 'adventure' genre? How about the 'humour' genre? Or the 'fantasy' genre? Which genre would you choose for a book you would write?

• Make sure you enjoy what you're writing about. Otherwise it will become stressful or just plain boring for you.

• If you're writing a story and you run out of ideas, then leave it for a while and return to it at a later stage. You can also try 'freewriting', which is when you just write whatever comes into your mind.

• Describe things in your story. Use all of your senses – add little details about smells, sounds, tastes and feelings.

• Watch people closely because it will help you describe the characters in your stories. Look at their hairstyles, their facial expressions, their clothes, the way they talk, the way they move their hands, and the way they walk. Carefully observe the things around you. For example, choose a wall and look closely at it. Is it painted? Is it dirty? Are there cracks in it? Are their posters stuck on it? How about graffiti? Are there any windows? Are the windowpanes clean or dirty, or even broken? What do you see if you look through the window?

• Illustrate your story. Anyone can draw, but to be really good you'll have to practice a lot. Start with really simple drawings and slowly add in more and more details. You can add colour to your illustrations or leave them in black and white.

• Try not to use the same words too many times. Keep a thesaurus handy to look up synonyms for common words.

• Keep a notebook and pen handy to write down ideas that come to you during the day. When you wake up in the morning, write down the dreams you had during the night (if you can remember them!).

• Start with a rough draft of your story by writing down the basic structure. Who are the characters, how does it begin, what is the middle part, and how is the story going to end? Then go over it again and add descriptions and more information. Then fine-tune it some more. Finally, when you're happy with your story, write it out again one final time and add your illustrations.

• Remember that you don't have to share your writing. However, it's a good idea to show it to someone whose opinions you respect and ask them to tell you what they think about it.

• Don't be discouraged if your first attempts at writing stories are not very good. Most famous authors had their works rejected many times before finally getting a book published.

Source: www.wikihow.com
www.littletownmart.com

PROFESSOR THANDI'S FUN SCIENCE EXPERIMENT

SEEING IS BELIEVING? REALLY?

Okay, okay. I know this is not exactly a science experiment, but it will boggle your mind! We'll be looking at optical illusions, and see how easy it is to be fooled into thinking you're seeing something that is not what it really is.

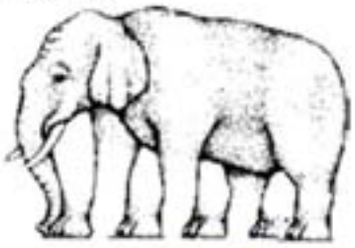
A simple definition of an illusion is something that tricks your senses into believing something that isn't real, or believing something that is different from the real thing. For example, a magician puts a person in a box and suddenly the person disappears. It's only a trick, but the magician has created an illusion that makes you think the person really disappeared into thin air.

An optical illusion is like a trick played on your eyes. You look at an image or a picture and think you see one thing, then you look for a bit longer and suddenly you realise you're looking at something else. Your brain tries to make sense of what your eyes are seeing, but optical illusions can be very tricky for your brain to work out what you are actually seeing.

If you and your friend do not see the picture in the same way, rather than arguing who's right, try also to see the image as your friend sees it. If you do not see it now, try again later.

THE ELEPHANT'S LEGS

Look at the picture below and count the elephant's legs. How many are there? Try this to make it even more interesting: Colour in the elephant and try to stay within the lines.



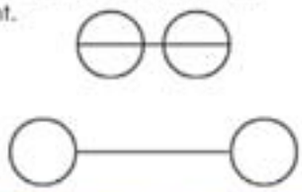
WORDS AND COLOURS

Do not READ the words below. Just say aloud the colour of each word. It's not so easy, is it?

YELLOW BLUE ORANGE
BLACK RED GREEN
PURPLE YELLOW RED
ORANGE GREEN BLACK
BLUE RED PURPLE
GREEN BLUE ORANGE

LINES

Which horizontal line is longer? Measure them with a ruler to check whether you're right.



WHAT KIND OF ANIMAL?

Is this a duck or a rabbit? Can you see both? The duck is looking to the left and the rabbit is looking to the right.

JUST THE TWO OF US

Can you see a word in the picture? Can you see two words? You can read the word ME in brown, but if you look at the spaces in ME, you will see the word YOU.

FACES

Can you see the three faces in this picture? It might take a while trying to figure it out, but you'll eventually see a young lady, an old lady and an old man.

STRAIGHT LINES OR WAVY LINES?

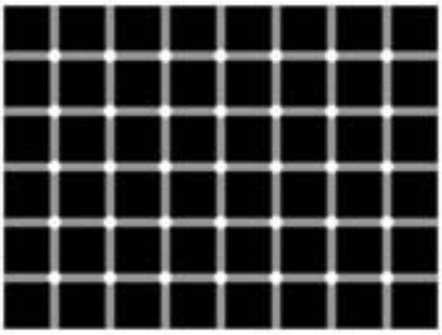
Are there any curved lines in this picture? No, they are all straight lines. Use your ruler to check them.

READING PRACTICE

Read the sentence in the triangle out loud. Did you notice any mistakes?

DISAPPEARING DOTS

Try to stare at one of the black dots in the picture.



Source: www.kids.niehs.nih.gov, www.sciencebob.com, www.123opticalillusions.com, www.brainbashers.com