

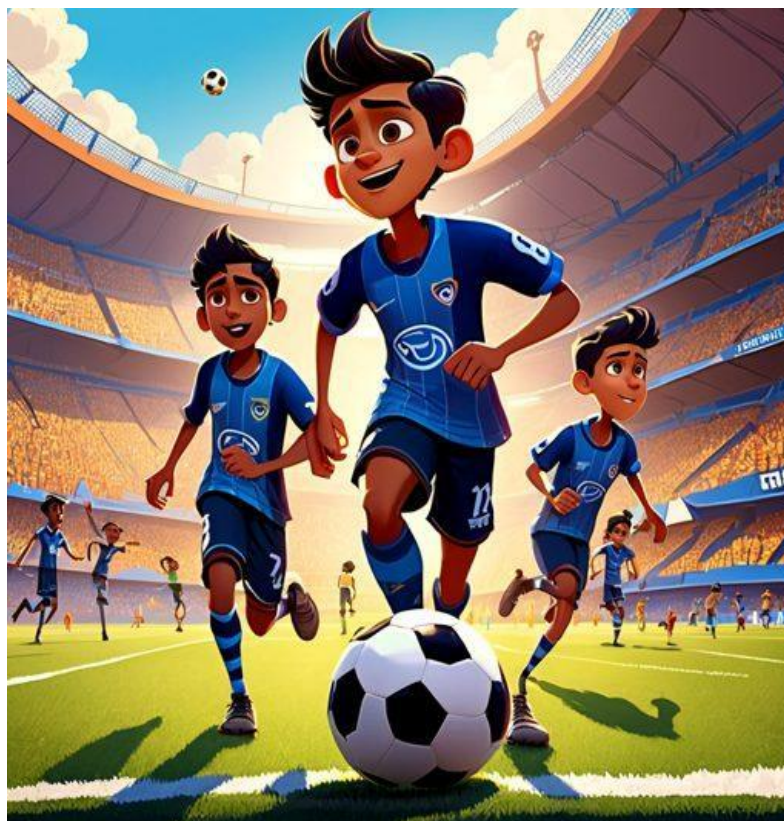
CURIOUS TIMES WEEKLY

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Empowering Youth: Bengaluru's Football Leagues Rise!



Bengaluru's football scene was revolutionized in 2019 with the introduction of youth leagues, which ignited a passion for the sport among children. These leagues, accommodating age groups under-7 through under-17, have sparked widespread interest, with numerous teams per category. Arjun Patel, a product of this system, started in local leagues before rising to play for Mumbai City FC, which won the Indian Super League in the 2020-21 season, exemplifying the success achievable through these grassroots initiatives.

India's hosting of the FIFA U-17 World Cup in 2017 revealed a dearth of game-ready players, propelling Bengaluru to focus on developing young talent capable of meeting the rigors of professional play. This led to the creation of leagues like the Karnataka Youth Premier League and others, prioritizing continuous play to enhance technical skills and game understanding.

Mandar Tamhane, CEO of NorthEast United FC, asserts the necessity of competitive play and improved infrastructure to elevate Indian football to international levels. Bengaluru's football academies, such as Roots Football Club, have been central to this development, transforming enthusiastic youngsters into potential professionals.

The city is witnessing a cultural shift as parents increasingly support their children's involvement in football, resulting in a heightened demand for quality academies. However, Bengaluru's progress is hampered by inadequate infrastructure, specifically a shortage of natural grass turfs. In summary, the rise of Bengaluru as a hub for football talent is marked by the creation of youth leagues and the success stories of players like Arjun Patel. Despite the progress, significant improvements in infrastructure are necessary to sustain and grow this burgeoning football culture.

WHAT'S INSIDE?

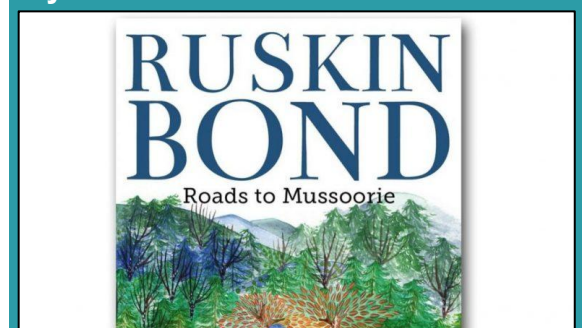
Study Abroad: Adapting to New Norms



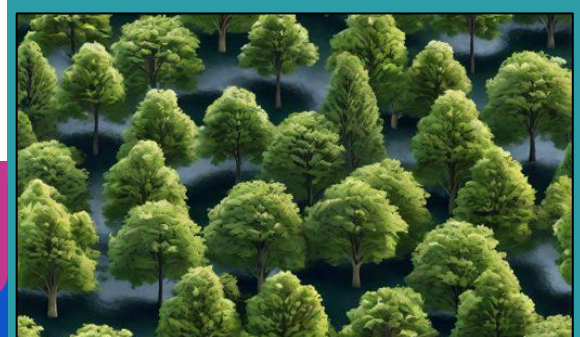
Beyond Imagination: The Scale of the Universe Captured in X-Ray



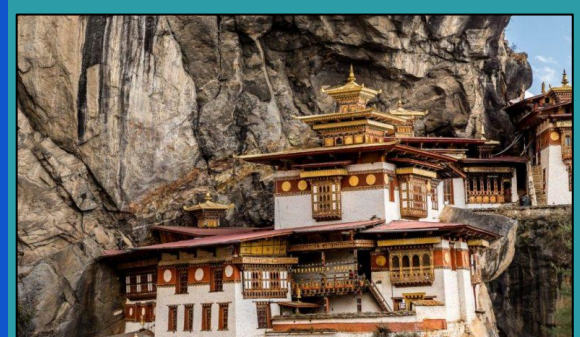
Roads to Mussoorie
by Ruskin Bond



Exploring Tree Numbers on Planet Earth



Paro, Bhutan – India Travel Diaries!



& much more..

DO NOT MISS THE AMAZING STORIES, VIDEOS AND ART FROM BUDDING WRITERS, SCIENTISTS AND ARTISTS ON MY EXPRESSIONS, JOKESPOKE, WORD OF THE DAY, TONGUE TWISTER, QUOTES AND FUN FACTS. CHECK OUT OUR EVENTS

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AVID NEWS READERS

Learn Sanskrit: Mylapore's 100-Year Legacy

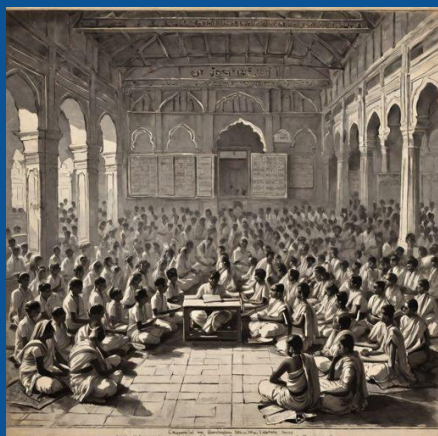


Image Credit : Hotpot.AI

Tucked within Mylapore's bustling streets stands the Madras Sanskrit College, founded in 1906. More than just an institution, it's a fortress of tradition, safeguarding the ancient language of Sanskrit. Visionary V. Krishnaswamy Iyer established this haven to preserve India's rich heritage against the tide of Westernization.

The college isn't frozen in time. It embraces technology, offering online courses to spread Sanskrit's wisdom far and wide. Illustrious figures like Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore have graced its halls, highlighting its importance. The Kuppaswami Sastri Research Institute within its walls protects a treasure trove of ancient manuscripts.

Challenges exist, but the college perseveres, seeking research funding and blending tradition with the digital age. Its mission isn't just education; it's ensuring a new generation connects with its roots through Sanskrit. In a world that rushes forward, the Madras Sanskrit

Understanding Blue Aadhaar Card for Children



Image Credit : Hotpot.AI

Imagine Blue Aadhaar as your little sibling's first official ID card! It's a bright blue card with a unique number, designed especially for kids under five. Unlike the white Aadhaar for adults, it doesn't have fingerprints yet – those get added later for extra security.

Why does a young child need an ID card? Blue Aadhaar streamlines so many things for families. From enrolling your child in their dream school to accessing important healthcare programs, this card makes it easier to prove their identity. Think of it as unlocking benefits that help kids learn, grow, and stay healthy. Parents can start the process online and then visit a special Aadhaar center with their child for a quick photo.

Remember, it's important to update Blue Aadhaar! Once a child turns five (and again at fifteen), they need to provide fingerprints and a current photo. This keeps their card valid, ensuring they don't lose access to the benefits they need as they grow.

Rajasthan's Blockchain Technology Initiative



Image Credit : Hotpot.AI

Rajasthan, known for its vibrant culture and majestic forts, is making a technological leap. The state is establishing a Centre of Excellence dedicated to blockchain and artificial intelligence (AI). This collaboration between Rajcomp Info Services Ltd. and IIT Kanpur aims to turn research into real-world solutions for Rajasthan's citizens.

Think of blockchain as an indestructible digital ledger. It offers unparalleled security and transparency, making it ideal for storing sensitive data. This technology could revolutionize how Rajasthan handles land records, financial transactions, and healthcare, making government services more efficient.

With this initiative, Rajasthan isn't just keeping up with technology; it's leading the way. The state is poised to become a model for secure, tech-driven governance, proving that embracing innovation can go hand-in-hand with preserving a rich cultural heritage.

Study Abroad: Adapting to New Norms



Image Credit : Hotpot.AI

Canada has upped the ante for international students by doubling the Guaranteed Investment Certificate (GIC) requirement to 20,635 Canadian dollars. Meanwhile, the UK has set new boundaries for 2024, restricting international students from bringing their families along. Similarly, Germany and Australia are tightening their financial requirements, putting extra pressure on international students.

Additionally, Canada's reduction in study permits and its crackdown on diploma mills, which have been issuing dubious credentials, are making things tougher. The visa process nuances between Master's and Bachelor's programs add another layer of complexity.

For Indian students dreaming of studying abroad, it's time to broaden the horizon beyond Canada and the UK. Countries like Germany, Australia, or even Taiwan could be viable alternatives. Adapting to these changes is key to overcoming the new challenges and achieving the goal of studying abroad.

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SPACE & SCIENCE

Unveiling a Cosmic Marvel Brighter Than the Sun



Image Credit : Hotpot.AI

The universe unveiled its biggest star – a quasar so dazzling, it outshines our Sun by 500 trillion times. This cosmic superstar is powered by a supermassive black hole feasting on the equivalent of a Sun per day! Astronomers stumbled upon this powerhouse, a relic from the early universe, 12 billion years ago.

Picture a swirling disc of gas and stars swirling around the black hole, creating a spectacle of light visible across the cosmos. "This quasar is incredibly bright," says Australian National University's Christian Wolf. Yale University's Priyamvada Natarajan adds, "It's like finding a rare gem in your backyard."

This discovery could unlock secrets of how the early universe formed. Durham University physicist Christine Done calls it "a fascinating puzzle." Imagine the stories this cosmic giant could tell! It took a team to bring this discovery to light, from the European Space Agency to top astronomers worldwide.

Inorganic Chemistry Magic: Water Turns Metallic



Image Credit : Hotpot.AI

Water is both simple and complex, a substance we see every day yet full of mysteries. Scientists have made a groundbreaking discovery by turning pure water into a metallic form, which goes against what we thought we knew about water. Normally, water is a great insulator, but it's actually the impurities that make it conduct electricity.

Before, people believed you needed huge pressures to make water metallic, but now we know that's not the case. In 2021, a mix of sodium and potassium with water achieved metallicity at lower pressures, creating a golden shimmer visible to the eye. This was possible even with the reactive nature of alkali metals like sodium and potassium, by carefully combining them with water in a vacuum.

This discovery not only challenges our views on water but could also help us understand conditions on other planets. It's a testament to human curiosity, showing how rethinking familiar materials can uncover new secrets and expand our knowledge.

Beyond Imagination: The Scale of the Universe Captured in X-Ray



Image Credit : Hotpot.AI

The eROSITA X-ray telescope, a Max Planck Society project stationed on the SRG observatory in collaboration with Russia, unveils a detailed X-ray map of the universe, showcasing over 900,000 cosmic objects. Detecting 170 million X-ray photons in six months, it surpasses previous achievements.

Discoveries include 700,000 supermassive black holes and a 42 million light-year-long ribbon of hot gas linking galaxy clusters. These findings hint at the vastness filled with dark matter, enhancing our understanding of cosmic structure.

The telescope continues its mission, promising further insights. Its accessible data and tools encourage public engagement. Anticipated scientific papers promise to deepen our understanding. Ultimately, the narrative underscores the vital role of astronomers and human ingenuity in unraveling the universe's mysteries.

Exploring Tree Numbers on Planet Earth

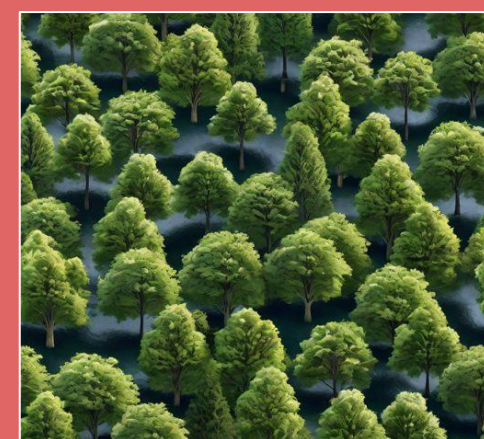


Image Credit : Hotpot.AI

There are approximately three trillion trees on planet earth, more than previously estimated. However, the distribution of trees varies greatly across different regions. Some areas have significantly fewer trees per square kilometer than others.

Despite this, trees, grasslands, cyanobacteria, and algae all contribute significantly to oxygen production on earth. Additionally, trees play a crucial role in storing carbon and combating climate change. In India, there is a diverse range of forest ecosystems, from dense forests to sparse cover, with a goal of increasing forested land. Every tree plays a vital role in the health of the planet.

Diversity in ecosystems, such as India's forests, is essential for maintaining ecological balance. Therefore, reforestation efforts are critical for creating a greener future and protecting the planet's forests. Ultimately, forests are essential for the future well-being of humanity and countless other species.

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CULTURE & ENTERTAINMENT

Mysore Shakthidhama Gandhi's Ideals Reimagined!

Image Credit : Hotpot.AI



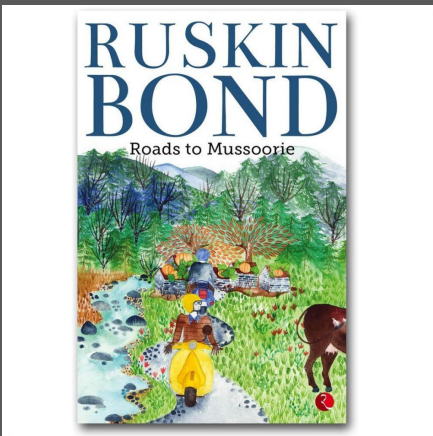
In the vibrant city of Mysore, a unique school called Shakthidhama is weaving a tapestry of tradition, empowerment, and unity. It's a place where walls burst with art and students find purpose beyond textbooks. Here, the charkha, a symbol of Gandhi's legacy, is inspiring a new generation.

With each spin of the wheel, students like Raj and Ankit learn patience, focus, and a profound connection to India's history. The charkha becomes a catalyst for transformation. The threads they spin aren't just yarn; they're lifelines, supporting local weavers and fueling dreams of a self-reliant future.

Shakthidhama is where tradition meets innovation. Students are preparing for 'Swaraj', an exhibition where handcrafted khadi garments will merge with cutting-edge AI designs. They're not just reviving an ancient art form; they're shaping its future, stitching together a legacy of self-sufficiency and creativity.

Roads to Mussoorie by Ruskin Bond

Image Credit : Tintin



Imagine a warm cup of tea on a misty morning. That's the feeling you'll get reading Ruskin Bond's "Roads to Mussoorie." This collection isn't just about a place; it's a love letter to the magic of finding home. Bond's words paint a vivid picture of his beloved hill station, where time slows down, and beauty hides in every corner.

You'll meet unforgettable characters like the whimsical Miss Bun, each one a testament to Bond's empathy and his eye for the extraordinary in the ordinary. The stories unfold like a leisurely stroll – heartwarming, humorous, and brimming with life's simple joys. "Roads to Mussoorie" stirs a deep nostalgia, even if you've never been to its namesake town.

It's a reminder to slow down and to cherish the connections that make life rich. More than just a book, Bond's words feel like an invitation. He welcomes you to walk beside him, to discover your own inner sanctuary, and to find the extraordinary in your own life.

Digital Age: Performing Arts Resilience

Image Credit : Hotpot.AI



The dance floor may be digital now, but the passion of young dancers burns just as bright. They're navigating a world where technology transforms their art, speaking of the need for adaptability alongside technical mastery. The online world has sparked entrepreneurial ventures for some, while others grapple with finding quality amidst a sea of content.

Yet, they recognize technology's power for connection and learning. Concerns linger about privacy and the risk of mediocrity in the digital age. This generation seeks balance, launching initiatives like "The Study Room" to expand audiences and deepen their craft.

Technology opens doors but can never replace the energy of a live performance. These dancers are defining their own digital presence, seeking authentic expression in a changing landscape. They embody the spirit of innovation, proving that passion and embracing change will shape a vibrant future for dance.

Hugging Face Emoji: Curious Deep Dive!

Image Credit : Tintin



Think of emojis as a digital language of feelings. Among them, the Hugging Face Emoji is a superstar. It's a symbol of warmth, support, and understanding in a world where communication can feel impersonal. Long ago, we used simple keyboard symbols (emoticons) to express emotions. Then came emojis, bursting with color and personality.

The Hugging Face Emoji quickly became a favorite, like a virtual hug you can send anytime. For some, it provides a voice when words are hard to find. In schools, it's even used to teach empathy in the digital world. Psychologists explain that hugs release feel-good hormones, and the Hugging Face Emoji evokes a similar feeling.

One town even held a festival in its honor, celebrating the power of human connection. The Hugging Face Emoji proves that in our fast-paced, digital world, a simple gesture of warmth can still make someone's day.

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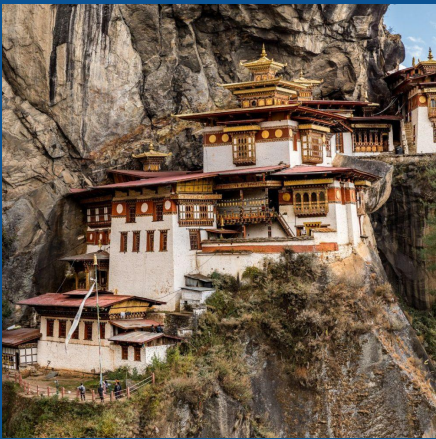
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FEATURE CONTENT

Paro, Bhutan – India Travel Diaries!

Image Credit : Canva



Paro, a small town in Bhutan, is a beautiful place surrounded by mountains and filled with colourful buildings. It is a popular tourist destination, known for its many temples, monasteries, and scenic spots. Paro is located in the western part of Bhutan, a country in South Asia.

The town is home to the famous Tiger’s Nest Monastery, which is perched on a cliff and offers stunning views of the valley below. The Paro Valley is known for its beautiful traditional architecture, with colourful buildings and intricate designs. Another popular attraction in Paro is the National Museum of Bhutan, which showcases the country’s rich cultural heritage.

Paro is also famous for its annual Paro Tsechu festival, which is a colourful celebration of Bhutanese culture and religion. Paro is a unique and beautiful town that offers visitors a glimpse into the rich culture and history of Bhutan. From its stunning temples & monasteries to its colourful architecture & scenic landscapes, it offers something for everyone.

Behold! The Passiflora Incarnata Plant Spectacle!

Image Credit : Putnam Hill Nursery



The Purple Passionflower is a beautiful and unique flower. The Passion Flower is found in many parts of the world. Importantly, it is known for its striking purple petals and interesting shape. This makes it stand out from other flowers.

The Purple Passionflower is also known as the Maypop or Apricot Vine. These flowers are native to parts of North and South America. However, the Passionflower can also be found in other parts of the world. It has a unique shape.

Its shape helps to attract pollinators like bees and butterflies. The Purple Passionflower also has medicinal properties. Also, it has been used for centuries to treat a variety of ailments.

The Purple Passionflower is a unique and special flower. Not only is it beautiful but also is endowed with extraordinary medicinal properties. More importantly, whether wild or in a garden, the moment it catches your eye it is sure to amaze you with its splendid beauty.

Healthify Vibes: Avocado Fruit Edition!

Image Credit : Hotpot.AI



Today we are going to learn about a delicious and nutritious food called avocados. Avocados are a type of fruit that is grown in warm climates like in Mexico and California. They are famous for their unique texture and taste.

Avocados are full of healthy fats that are good for our bodies. These healthy fats help our hearts and brains to work properly. Avocados also have fiber, vitamins, and minerals that are important for our body’s growth and development.

There are numerous ways to eat avocados. You can mash them up to make guacamole, spread them on toast or add them to your salad. You can even make a smoothie by blending them with your favorite fruits and vegetables.

In conclusion, avocados are a superfood that is not only delicious but also very healthy for our bodies. They help us to grow stronger and smarter. So, next time you see an avocado, give it a try! You might just love it.

Arepa – Eat Street!

Image Credit : Canva



Arepa is a pancake-shaped ground cornbread eaten in Colombia, South America. Arepas originated in the northern region of South America before Columbus landed.

Arepa-making instruments have been found in archaeological (historical) sites throughout the region. Arepa is also a very popular street food and street vendors sing ‘arepa, arepa’ on the streets. It is a grilled, fried, or baked maize bread, stuffed with various ingredients.

Arepa is usually served with dips like cheese, cuajada (fermented milk), various types of meat, chicken, avocado, etc. It can also be split to make sandwiches. They are usually served for breakfast, as a side dish, or even for a quick meal. 5 major cities in Colombia celebrate the Colombian Arepa Festival every year.

Each city takes turns organising the festival between the months of August and December.

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MY EXPRESSIONS



Lovely Parrot on Canvas

AHAMTEERTWAA Maity
4, Techno India Group Public School
Garia, KOLKATA, WEST BENGAL

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Canvas painting

MISS PRASHIKHA
1, Delhi Public School Jankipuram
Lucknow, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

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No Music No Life

Kuhu Kacher
4, La Martiniere Girls' College,
Lucknow, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

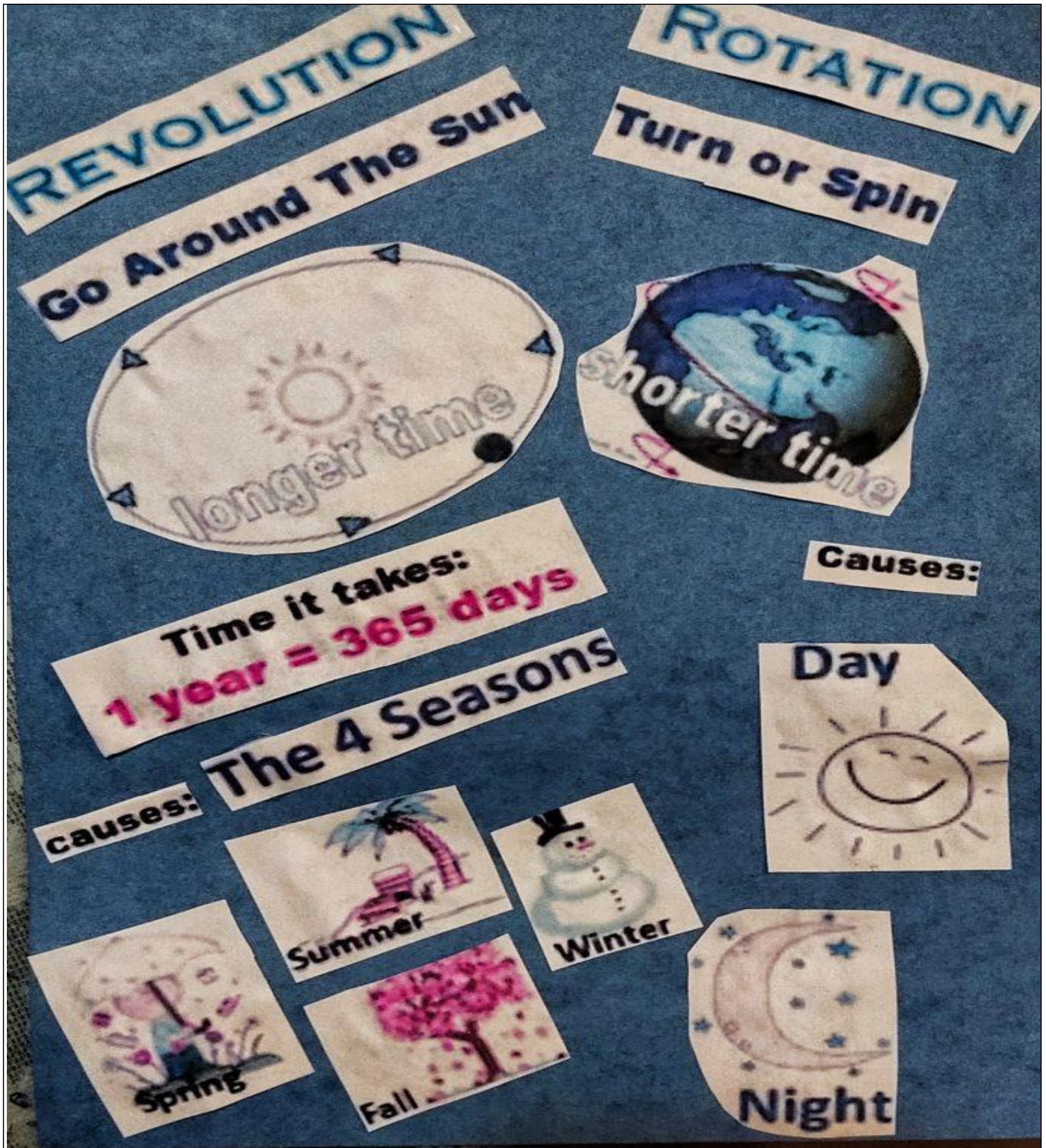
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Rotation and Revolution

Kuhu Kacher
4, La Martiniere Girls' College,
Lucknow, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

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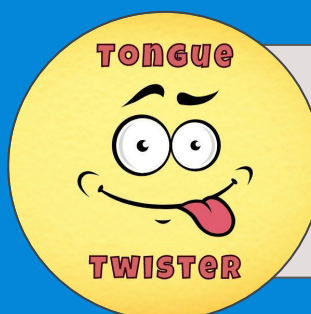
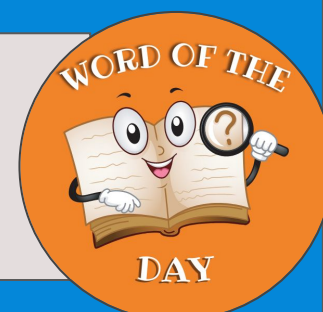
FUNTASTIC



Q: What did the paper say to the pencil?
A: Write on!

Q: Why was the broom late?
A: It over-swept!

Antagonise
Verb | an-tag-uh-nahyz
to make someone dislike you or feel opposed to you



Lesser leather never weathered wetter weather better.
The sixth sick sheikh's sixth sheep's sick.
A skunk sat on a stump and thunk the stump stunk,
but the stump thunk the skunk stunk.

"Believe in yourself and all that you are. Know that there
is something inside you that is greater than any obstacle."
Christian D. Larson





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