

Child Friendly News



5 Ideas for the summer



PG 4-5

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GET YOUR OWN BANK ACCOUNT

If you are ten years or older, you can now operate your own bank account. Depending on your bank, you could even get your own ATM card and cheque book. This was announced by India's central bank – the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) – on Tuesday. Earlier, while young people could have an account in their name, it had to be operated by their parents. With the new rules, you can operate your own bank account. It is possible, however,

that would be some restrictions on how much you can withdraw (take out) from the account – these rules would be decided by individual banks.



Why should you open a bank account?

- It will help you understand how a bank functions
- It will make you more aware of how you can save money
- You'll learn how to use a cheque book and ATM card
- It'll help you become more independent and prepare you for managing money when you grow up



Election Math

As Indian elections head to a close on May 12, get ready for the results to be announced on May 16. Here are some election numbers to keep in mind (and impress your family with!) as you track the results.



272

The magic number of seats in Parliament that every political party is aiming for. The party with 272 seats will get to run India for the next five years

804
million

The total number of people eligible to vote. This is greater than the population of Europe!

66%

So far 66% of the people eligible to vote have voted. This is the highest ever voter turnout ever recorded

7000
crore

The cost of organizing the elections

'Catch a Summer Moment' photo contest

It's summertime and our 'Catch a Summer Moment' photo contest is back. Send us the best photo you take during the holidays and it could win you a prize. No themes, no topics – your photo just has to capture a moment of summer or the mood of summer. The winning photos will be printed in the newspaper. Send your entries along with details of your name, address, phone number, class and school to childfriendlynews@gmail.com. Last date for entries is July 15, 2014.



Happy Holidays

There will be no issue of CFN during the holidays. The next issue will be out in July 2014. Have a wonderful summer break!



THE DRIVERLESS CAR

Google, the company whose Internet browser you may be using, is all set to bring driverless cars into city roads across the state of California in the United States. These are test cars though and the actual launch of driverless cars in the market is some years away.

While Google has been testing its driverless cars on highways, the company feels that the cars are now ready for city roads that are more chaotic (confusing) with cars, pedestrians (walkers), cyclists and other vehicles moving at different speeds.

How does it work?

Google's test cars are packed with a lot of technology such as lasers and radar that collect information on the street around the vehicle. The car's navigation computer uses this along with maps to steer itself along. Over the past two years, the technology has become very clever. While earlier it would recognize a group of bi-cyclists as one

object, today, it can recognize individuals. This is important as the computer then starts predicting what each individual cyclist is likely to do (for example, one cyclist may be slowing down). Based on that the car responds – it may steer around the cycle, slow down or stop. Similarly, the car's software, which is built to recognize traffic STOP signs, can even recognize (and respond to) STOP signs held by school traffic wardens (managers).

In other words, the car's computer does exactly what human drivers do – observe what's happening on the road, what people and vehicles are doing (eg: an old lady is stopping at the zebra crossing), predict what's next and respond to that change (slow down as she's likely to be crossing the road soon).



Laws in the United States require that during the testing, a driver be seated in the car even though the car is driving itself. Note the equipment fixed to the roof – this collects information on the road around.

What's next?

After the next round of testing, Google expects to make the technology available to the public by 2017. Once such cars actually start being sold, you can expect to step into such a car, whip out a book, paint your nails or even day dream while the car gets you to your destination!

Goodbye Polo

Mysore Zoo lost its star attraction last week as Polo, its 43 year old gorilla, passed away. Polo was the sole (only) gorilla in an Indian zoo.

Polo was a resident of Mysore for 19 years. As a 24 year old, he was sent as a gift from Dublin Zoo in Ireland. He was the centre of attraction at the famous Mysore Zoo with crowds flocking to his enclosure all day. Gorillas can live for upto 50 years in captivity. In Polo's case, a few weeks ago, he lost the desire to eat and caught an infection, which led to his death.

Polo was a Western Lowland Gorilla, a sub-species of the Lowland Gorillas who are found in central Africa. The other main species of gorilla is the Upland Gorilla which lives at higher elevations in central Africa. Gorillas are the largest primates and are very closely related to human beings.



Doctor on call

Thanks to technology, in the future, you may no longer need to run to doctors for small aches and illnesses as they will only be a phone call away. Sure, you can speak to them on the phone even now, but visits are still needed for doctors to inspect a bleeding wound, check your heart beat or examine a hurting ear. Not any more, at least in some parts of the world.

In the United States (US), people can buy small tools that clip on to the cameras of smartphones and shoot images or videos that can help a doctor make a diagnosis from miles away. Take for instance the CellScope Oto, which combines an app with an attachment to turn an iPhone into an otoscope. An otoscope is a tool that lets doctors look inside your ear. Another attachment called AliveCor can be used to take an electrocardiogram, a test that checks your heart beat.

While these tools are mainly available in the US now, it's expected that their use will spread to other parts of the world, including India. Of course, one needs to use these tools wisely and carefully so that the doctor gets the correct information. And it is a no-brainer that, if the patient doesn't get better, getting face to face with the doctor is essential.



I have learned from an early age to abjured the use of meat, and the time will come when men such as I will look upon the murder of animals as they now look upon the murder of men

— Leonardo Da Vinci

CHILD FRIENDLY NEWS

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Features

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Owlle talks Technology

DRONES TO THE RESCUE IN KENYA

National parks and sanctuaries all over the world are battling poachers, people who kill animals for their body parts. Since these parks are huge, it becomes very difficult to monitor the entire area. But now, thanks to technology, the fight against poachers is now being led by drones.

Drones or unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) are small aircrafts that can fly without a pilot (many of them are too small to accommodate one!). They are controlled from the ground exactly like remote controlled model plane toys. The country of Kenya (in east Africa) is planning to use drones in all its national parks and game reserves to prevent poaching of elephants and rhinos.

Kenya had tried out drones in one of its national parks and

met with success – the use of drones reduced the killing of animals by poachers by more than 90%. Enthused by this success, Kenya is planning to expand the use of drones in all its parks given the high levels of poaching seen in the country. Kenya has lost more than 435 elephants and around 400 rhinos to poachers since 2012. Poachers have killed 18 rhinos and 51 elephants in 2014 so far.

How will it work?

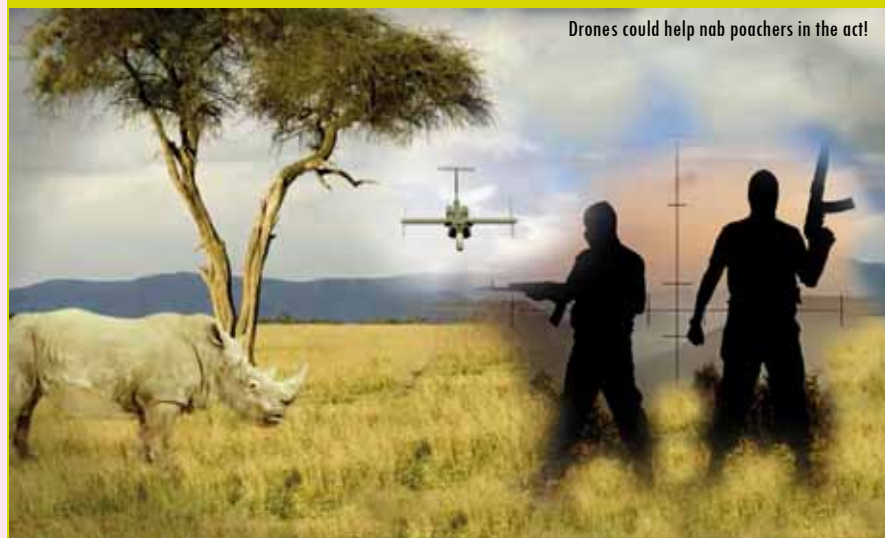
The drones will make flights over the park and send back visuals – photos or videos. Rangers will therefore be able to keep their eye on every corner of a large sanctuary. Unusual movement of people and vehicles can be tracked and checked. According to wildlife officials in Kenya, drones can be used to stop poachers in their tracks.

'An eye in the sky' everywhere

Drones which are like an 'eye in the sky' are becoming popular with wildlife workers in other parts of the world as well. In 2011 they were used to track whaling operations of Japanese fleets in the Antarctic. Japanese fleets are allowed to hunt a certain number of whales and the

drones could be used to ensure that they don't exceed their quota.

In the United States, drones are being used to locate illegal (not allowed by law) dog and cat breeding farms that are usually located in wild areas, far from prying eyes. They are also likely to be used by wildlife activists to monitor (track) and prevent illegal hunting.



Drones could help nab poachers in the act!

Website Wanderings

AN 'APPY' HOLIDAY

We know that you are going to be spending a lot of time online this summer. So, here are some cool games and apps you can try online.

For the 'arty' ones

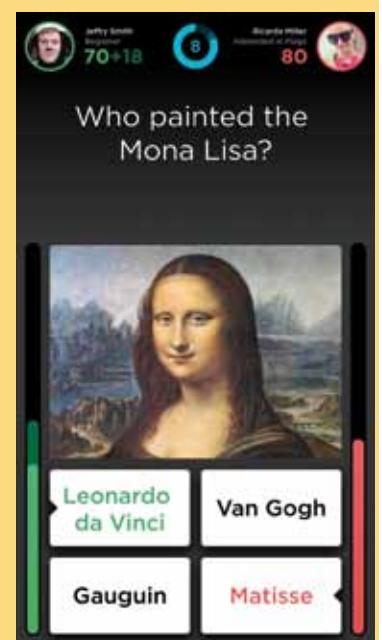
As the name suggests PlayART lets you tinker around and play with the works of some of the world's most famous artists such as Vincent Van Gogh, Claude Monet and Paul Cezanne. The app lets you create your own digital works of art using elements from famous works of these painters – think Van Gogh's sunflowers or Monet's water-lilies. There is also a 'museum' where you can view the original works of these painters and find out more about them.

The only drawback of the app is that is currently available only for the iPad. Plus, no Indian painters are featured.



Trivia tales

If your brain is a store house of all sorts of wonderful, little-known and utterly useless (in the practical sense) bits of information, QuizUp is the one for you. It's probably one of the biggest trivia games in the world. You can pick from over 400 topics – Harry Potter, flags of the world, birds, the Olympics, art and math- there is one for everyone. Once you've signed up, you can play against anyone who is online at that time (and there are always plenty of people to play with!). A great way to keep your brain razor sharp! The QuizUp app is available for Apple and Android devices.





Stretch your brain: Learn to code

All of you use computers and some of you may have older brothers or sisters who can actually write software (the instructions that can make a computer do things), maybe even parents who work for software companies.



Coding can be fun, especially if you get started with some of the lesser-known or newer programming languages (yes, just like we have many languages in the world, Spanish, French, Japanese etc, we also have many coding or software languages).

Here are some resources to help you do this (on your own or with the help of a sibling or a parent). Just search online for :

1. 3D Frogger from the University of Colorado.
2. Scratch from MIT

Both of the above are fun activities. The first helps you create your own 3D game. The second helps you create animated and interactive stories. The best thing: you don't have to know any code.

Once you do the two, or at least one, think of how it could have worked. Just how did the computer do whatever you wanted it to (sure, you told it to, but how did it listen to you? How did it know what you were saying?)

Now, we get into slightly serious (read: grown-up) territory, one for which you will really need the help of your elder sister or brother, or parent. <http://nand2tetris.org/> is a site that can tell you how a computer works. It teaches you about hardware (or all the things that go into building a computer) and the software.

Pick up a new skill — Mind mapping

Summer is a great time to learn a new skill – and the one we have in mind can be learnt on-line or using pen and paper – Mind maps.

Mind maps became popular nearly thirty years ago but they are used even today in schools, colleges and at work to understand and explain a concept. Mind maps are a way to outline information. The main idea/concept is placed at the centre and various branches are drawn from it, each representing an aspect of the main theme. It is an easy way to show connections between ideas/things. It is also a great study tool, as it helps you re-cap a complete concept on a single sheet of paper.

If you are planning to do this on paper, this link will tell you how: <http://thinkbuzan.com/articles/view/how-to-create-a-mind-map/>

Mind maps can also be created easily on the computer or even on a smartphone/tablet. Free apps like [Mind Meister](#) will help you create good looking mind maps that include images and text.



5 IDEAS FOR THE



Summer is here and so are the holidays ! Other than sleeping, lazing and some more lazing around (all of which are very important of course!), summer is also a great time for new experiences. Here are 5 ideas that are just made for the long, hot summer break!

Build something

You've all seen robots in movies but did you know that you could build one yourself. If you are thinking of robots that fly, fire weapons and save the planet, hold your horses – we are speaking of simple robots that perform actions like lifting and climbing.

The word 'Robot' comes from the Czech word 'robota' which means 'forced work or labor' and the science of building robots is called Robotics. We use robots for performing repetitive actions – such as building cars in a factory – or for actions that may be too dangerous for humans – such as repairing the International Space Station (ISS) as it orbits in space. The advantage of using robots is that they never get tired or ask for a day off!

What are robots made of?

Robots typically have 3 main parts:

- Controller or 'brain' that makes sure that the robot is functioning
- Mechanical parts like motors, wheels and gears that make the robot move – these are powered by air, water, or electricity.
- Sensors that give the robot information on its surroundings – such as for example that a stair is coming up

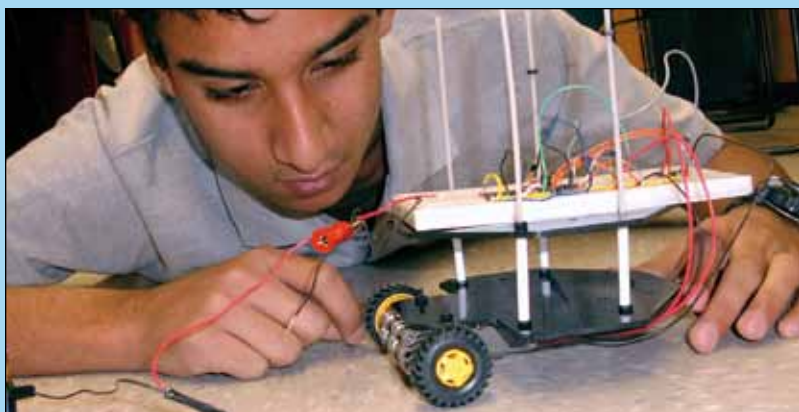


ing - Robotics

How can I learn Robotics?

You can learn Robotics in classes that are available in many cities in India. Another option would be build robots at home using ready-made robotics kits. While toy makers like Lego have Mindstorms range of kits that can be used to build several kinds of robots, these are super-expensive. Thankfully, there are many locally made kits as well.

You could buy Robotics supplies at:
<http://www.robosoftsystems.co.in>
<http://www.roboshop.in>
<http://www.brainytoys.in>



Wild thing : Get your hands dirty

You love animals, birds and every kind of moving critter. Why not get your hands dirty and find out what it means to be a real naturalist? The Gerry Martin project in Bangalore organizes camps for those with a yen for the wild in places in and around Bangalore as well as in nearby locations in Maharashtra and Karnataka. Depending on your age group and interest you could pick a camp/activity that suits.

Find out more at <http://gerrymartin.in/profile/>

If you live in and around Bangalore, consider yourself doubly blessed. Toehold, a travel and photography company in Bangalore is organizing wilderness expeditions for kids who love to shoot – with the camera of course – in locations close to Bangalore.

Find out more at <http://www.toehold.in>



Read something new

We asked one of our subscribers and avid reader Lila Shriram to come up with a summer reading list. Here are her suggestions:



Fablehaven

A five part book series by Brandon Mull, Fablehaven is set in secret nature preserve that is home to mythical beasts. The books are meant for 10-14 year olds who love fantasy.

The House of Hades

Rick Riordan's fourth book in the Hero of Olympus series features Percy Jackson and his friends. Look up the last issue of CFN for a detailed review. Meant for ages 10-14



Inkheart

Inkheart by Cornelia Funke is the first book in a three part series that tells the adventures of 12 year old Meggie who has the magical ability to make books come alive. This book is meant for 10-14 year olds.

Wonder

R. J. Palacio's book tells the story of August (Auggie) Pullman, a 10 year old with a facial deformity, who is facing up to going to school for the very first time. The story traces his journey towards friendship and finally acceptance. Meant for ages 9-12.



DAM CONSTRUCTION ON RIVERS LED TO UTTARAKHAND DISASTER

For a long time, environment activists have been saying that construction of many dams on rivers damages the environment, especially in hilly areas. They have now been proven right. A committee (a group of people) that studied the massive floods that struck the hill state of Uttarakhand in 2013, has arrived at the conclusion that the building of many dams on the rivers Bhagirathi and Alaknanda could have partly led to the disaster. In June 2013, incessant (non-stop) rain triggered floods and landslides that washed away the holy city of Kedarnath, that is visited by many pilgrims (people who travel for religious reasons) each summer. Thousands of them were trapped on the mountain range near Kedarnath and the government mounted a massive rescue effort using helicopters and many soldiers. Hundreds of people died in the disaster.

A team of scientists and experts was then appointed to look into the reason for the disaster. During their study, this group came to the conclusion that construction of many



This image of a statue of Lord Shiva (a god worshipped by Hindus) swept away by a raging river, has become one of the symbols of the Uttarakhand floods of 2013

dams on rivers that flow through the region had de-stabilized it and upset the balance of nature in the area. Dams are being built across the rivers as part of projects to generate power from the energy of moving water (this is called hydro-electricity).

The committee has suggested that 23 hydro-

electric projects in the region be cancelled. Such projects could also badly affect the overall environment and wildlife of the area, the committee's report says. Let's hope the government acts on the report soon so that there is no repeat of 2013 in the future!

Nokia's man is Indian

After Satya Nadella took the top job at Microsoft recently, it is time for another Indian to shine in the sun. India-born Rajiv Suri has been appointed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Nokia Siemens Networks, a company that makes networks for telecommunication services. Its networks are used by millions of people to make and receive phone calls around the world. Suri is the first Indian to head Nokia.



Sasha the Braveheart

She was a fantastic soldier who saved the lives of many people and soldiers in the Afghanistan war. She was a bomb expert who could sniff out explosives planted by the enemy. Meet Sasha, the bravest four legged soldier in the Afghanistan conflict, who sadly died while on duty in 2008. To reward her efforts, Sasha is being given the PDSA Dickin Medal, the doggie equivalent of the Victoria Cross (a medal that is awarded by the ruler of the United Kingdom to the bravest soldiers). The four year old yellow Labrador and her handler, Lance Corporal Kenneth Rowe, made a great team. They were expert at checking out an area for explosives and making it safe for the other soldiers to march through. Rowe and Sasha were part of the British army in Afghanistan. Both were killed when they were attacked by enemy soldiers in July 2008.

Sasha is the 65th animal to be awarded the PDSA Dickin Medal. Other winners have included messenger pigeons that played a big role during the World Wars of the 20th century, three horses and a cat.



The Internet is the first thing that humanity has built that humanity doesn't understand, the largest experiment in anarchy (chaos) that we have ever had.

— Eric Schmidt

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News 7

CLIMATE CHANGE IS VERY REAL

A new report released in the United States (US) has pointed out that climate change is very real and is causing extreme weather in several parts of the country. While climate change has been seen as a threat to the planet for many years, of late several reports that prove this through real data and examples have been published.

The latest report, which has been published by the US government, says the number and strength of extreme weather events have increased over the past 50 years. For example, in the north-eastern US, incidents of heavy rainfall have increased by over 70% since 1958. Similarly, the number of extreme heat events has also increased, the report says. In some parts of the

US, during particularly hot summers, temperatures have been seen to increase even at night.

Such extreme events not only affect crops and our ability to grow food to feed the planet, but the lives of many people are also at risk.

More importantly, the report confirms that human actions have contributed to climate change. One way of slowing climate trends like global warming would be to cut down the emissions of pollutants from vehicles and factories and cut back the use of fossil fuels to generate electricity. The US is one of the biggest contributors to global warming. Let's hope reports like this one can motivate them to turn over a new leaf.



Extreme weather can cause floods such as this one in the United States

WORLD

(Photo Courtesy: US Navy)

3 billion on the Internet

The world will have three billion people connected to the Internet by the end of this year, according to a report published by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU). The ITU is an international organization that develops and tracks the spread of communication networks across the world.

This means almost half the population on Earth would be using the Internet. While countries in Europe will have the greatest part of their populations connected to the Net, it is in the Asia Pacific region (that India is a part of) that we find the largest group of Internet users.

The one thing growing as fast as the Internet is the use of mobile phones. The world will have 7 billion cellphone subscribers this year and half of them will be from the Asia Pacific region.

The parallel growth of the Internet and mobile phones is no surprise since many people in countries including India access the Internet through their mobile phones.



WORLD

IPL battle heats up

About half way through the league stage of the Indian Premier League (IPL), some teams are standing out from the pack. Clustered at the top of the table are Kings XI Punjab, Chennai Super Kings (CSK) and Rajasthan Royals (RR) with 10 or more points. A notch below is Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) which has 6 points from 7 matches.

Among the batsmen, Glenn Maxwell is on top of the heap – he wears the Orange cap with 345 runs. Not far behind is Dwayne Smith of CSK with 335 runs. The best bowler and wearer of the Purple Cap is Pravin Tambe of Rajasthan Royals with 12 wickets from seven matches.

Of course, as the advertisement goes, an entire match can change in one over and a couple of matches can change the team rankings completely. With more than 25 matches yet to be played, the IPL is still anybody's game!



Pravin Tambe (Rajasthan Royals) wears the Purple Cap with 12 Wickets



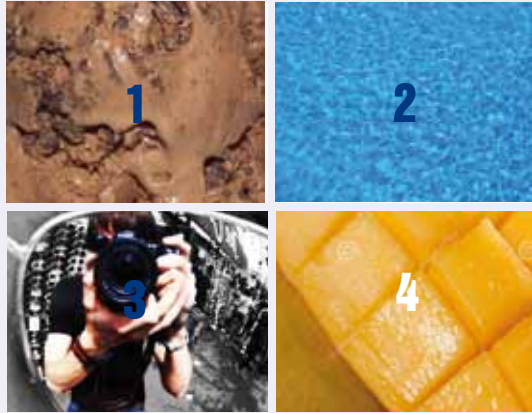
Glenn Maxwell (Kings XI) wears the Orange Cap with 345 runs

SPORTS

Note: All data is as per the IPL points table on Wednesday, May 07, 2014

SUMMER FUN

There are things you always associate with summer. Can you recognise them in close-up?



Answers
1. Ice Cream 2. Swimming Pool 3. Sunglasses 4. Mangoes

MAZE FUN



SUDOKU TIME

		4			1
			3		4
	3		4		
		1		5	
5		3			
6			1		

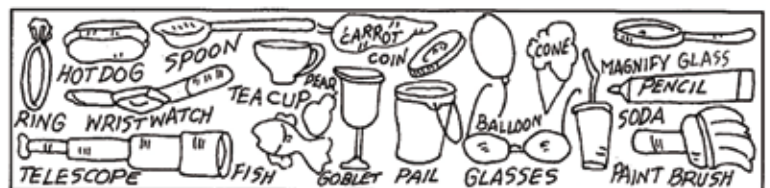
Try your hand at this Sudoku. Remember that numbers 1 to 6 can appear only once in each of the six rectangles. They can also appear only once in each row and column of the overall square.

5	3	1	2	4	9
2	4	6	3	1	5
3	5	2	1	6	4
6	1	4	5	3	2
4	2	3	6	5	1
1	5	6	4	3	2

Answer

FIND THE HIDDEN OBJECTS

Can you spot the hidden objects listed at the bottom of the picture?



Top Reads for Kids and Young Adults

1. Dragon Keeper : Dragon Moon (Book 3) by Carole Wilkinson
2. Demon Dentist by David Walliams
3. Other Worlds: 10 Amazing Fantasy Stories by Jon Scieszka
4. India: An Alphabet Ride by Shallu Jindal
5. Taste of Darkness by Maria V. Snyder
6. The Conch Bearer by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
7. The Abominables by Eva Ibbotson
8. Fangirl by Rainbow Rowell
9. Gobble You Up by Sunita & Gita Wolf
10. Junior Premier League by Joy Bhattacharjya



To know more about these books and to buy them, check out www.toptenbooksoftheweek.com

Subscribe to Child Friendly News

Child Friendly News or CFN is an age appropriate newspaper for children in the age group 7-13. The newspaper comes out every fortnight. Every issue is written using language that young readers can understand on their own interspersed with pictures and imagery. Quick explanations of difficult words and terms and boxed elements that explain concepts accompany every article — this is to help build

vocabulary as well as context understanding. Special reports take up one topic in depth while regular columns on everyday technology concepts keep children up-to-date with the world around them. A subscription costs Rs.650 for the year.

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