

# Red monster

Percival and Beatrice, not quite courageous, ran away, with a lingering sense of dread and guilt. And Edmund was left all alone in the murky forest.



Storywala

Eashaan Yadav, AGS Gur, XI

The night was shrouded in darkness. A ghostly whisper of wind blew into investigator Reginald's face as he gazed at Dampwood forest. He was accompanied by police guards and vicious German Shepherd search dogs. The search for Edmund Weasley was on.

A week before, three best friends Edmund, Percival, and Beatrice were playing hide-n-seek. Edmund was the only one left to be caught, which led him to run away into the forest. Percival and Beatrice, not quite courageous, ran away, with a lingering sense of dread and guilt. And Edmund was left all alone in the murky forest.

A search party was sent by his mother,

but he was not found and the whereabouts of the search party were unknown. As they delved deeper into the forest, one of the police guards stopped and read a sign, "You are in the heart of Dampwood. Turn back now or forever cease to be."

Everyone remembered the whimsical tales that surrounded the forest. The Ogre King arrived in the forest centuries ago. He was vicious and slaughtered everyone. In time, he was banished by a wizard to a secret temple in the depths of the forest. Hours passed, but there was no sign of Edmund or the search party. Out of nowhere, a faint sound was heard, "Please help me!" It was Edmund. He sounded weak and had bruises all over his arms, but was alive. "What happened son?" questioned

Reginald. "I... I ran away b-but i-it to-ook them," mumbled Edmund. "What took them?" asked Reginald. "An enormous red monster... He captured the search party too..." He huffed, his pupils wide and quivering. Reginald watched in disbelief.

Reginald felt something to be off. After ensuring that Edmund was sent back safely, he ventured into the depths of the forest. The forest became foggier, and the leaves were a lighter shade of brown. His heart stopped when he saw a man with red paint smeared across his face heading towards him with an unidentifiable weapon. Following him were a large group of similar-looking men. He knelt and bowed his head in a reflex and all the men stopped. This simple act humbled the men.

As it turns out, many natives were wiped out of their town, and they retreated to the forests to keep their traditions and customs alive. Whenever city dwellers entered the forest, their first attempt was to point their guns at them. The natives took violent measures to defend themselves. Edmund and Reginald were amongst the first to avoid attacking any of them and hence they were spared. Reginald, having grasped this truth, returned to his town with newfound wisdom. He confirmed the existence of monsters in the forest, urging everyone to heed his warning: no one should dare to step foot into Dampwood again. **GT**

## CAMERA CAPERS

Nandani Dubey  
AIS Gurugram 46, XII A



The heart of Udaipur



Falls from paradise

Send in your entries to [cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in)

### Read Play and Win 65

Reading your favourite GT can fetch you a prize too. Complete all the boxes below. Click a picture and send it to [editor@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:editor@theglobaltimes.in) or submit your responses by visiting The Global Times website (<http://theglobaltimes.in/readplaywin/>). Three lucky winners will win a prize every week!



Q.1 When was the album 'Evermore' released?	Q.2 Who invented the handheld mobile phone?	Q.3 Akshat Shukla won third prize at Astro Poetry Competition for his poem _____.
Q.4 What is the tagline of the page 6 article 'Dooming diversity'?	Q.5 As of 2021, how many registered users did fit bit have?	Q.6 Which country has proposed a ban on junk food ads before 9 PM?
Q.7 Who is the author of the article on page 1?	Q.8 What is the headline of the educational poster?	Q.9 Which Hindi film has been chosen as the India's official submission for Oscars?

Name:.....Class:.....School:.....

Results of Read Play & Win-64:-Akshita Bansal, AIS Noida, IX L;  
Shreeya Gunupur, AIS Vas 6, VIII C; Divij Agrawal, AIS Vas 1, VIA

## WORDS VERSE

# Universe in my book

Akshat Shukla

AIS Vasundhara 6, VIII

When I see the sky at night  
With glittering pearls strewn all over  
O look what a heavenly sight  
Could have touched them if they were closer

Made of metals, gasses, rock, and ice  
They hang in their orbits far and near  
From Earth, they look all shimmery and nice  
It's magic they don't collide but glide past clear

Each star and planet has a mystery of its own  
What are their secrets we want to know  
How was our Earth and its seven sisters born  
How did our solar system come to grow



Do people like us live on planets like Earth  
Or are they aliens light-years away  
How do they look and how do they talk  
Like us do they have seasons with nights and days

Universe will be my book in the years to come  
The secrets of space I will try to unravel one day  
Who knows, to shoot into space I'll be the one  
Or I will help launch a Brihaspatiyan someday.

(Akshat Shukla won third prize nationwide for his poem 'Universe in my book' at the Astro Poetry Competition for middle wing students. His exceptional poetic skills earned him both a certificate and a trophy, recognising his sublime achievement in this competition.)