The SQUEAK

- the dangerous issue is here!

A TLC Magazine – Issue #5
A fun(d)raising initiative. Pay what you like, if you like.
EDITORIAP  (Don’t read it rap it)

By JASMINE, SARAH, SURYA, JASON, EDEN, YAM and LORE

Danger, danger everywhere
Be careful so you don’t burn your hair
Be careful when you roam in your home
Or when you take selfies on your phone
Watch out when you are on your roof
Because your body ain’t shock proof
Our kolams might have crocs
So watch where you put your socks
Articles that tell you of stuff out of sight
You may not want to read this late at night...

Squeak [skweek]  
verb (used with object)  
To utter or sound with a squeak or squeaks.

For feedback, questions or to request a pdf version of the magazine please e-mail TLCsqueak@auroville.org.in. To donate, use TLC Trips Account 3229, and mention “SQUEAK”.

This magazine is by the Media and Communications Class at Auroville’s The Learning Community (TLC). Kids aged 10-15 participate. We aim to develop writing skills and understanding of how Media works. You can pick The Squeak up at PTDC or read its laminated version at the library. Facilitated by Petra. Issue #5, December 2016.

Cover illustration by Yam

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Fallin... AAAAAAHHHHH

I am interested in how you can survive a very high fall, how you would fall, and what it feels like. In this article I will tell you what I found.

If you fall from more than 30 meters it is unlikely that you will survive. However, your chances of survival will increase if you follow these steps:

1. Body position: Move your body into the arched position (skydiving position), belly first and relax your arms and legs.
2. Choosing your landing spot: If you are falling from a plane you will have enough time to choose your landing spot. By pulling your arms slightly back at the shoulders and straightening your legs, you will move forward. The best surfaces to land on are less dense and compressible, such as bushes, snow, soft soil and car roofs (I know that sounds weird but Chris Saggers landed on a car roof from 67m and survived with only a broken elbow!!). If you are falling from a height of more than 45m water acts like cement. Avoid!
3. Landing position: When you come close to the ground, bend your knees at a 90° angle and point your toes slightly so that when you land you will land on the balls of your feet. Put your hands around your head to protect it. Upon impact, fall to the side so that your knees don’t take all the stress.

I hope this is helpful for your next falling experience. Good luck!


http://www.wikihow.com/Survive-a-Long-Fall

By Jalin, age 13 (also produced the photo montage and starred in it)
Eating meat in Papeete

In Modformer college Tahiti, Papeete, Darren Brand and his crew have developed a system to farm genetically modified meat. Using the DNA of cabbage and mixing it with red/fake meat produced in factories, gives what they call Xelion meat. It is still under development in the lab, because all the pesticides that they create against the biggest threat to Xelion, the Berberis sawfly, have some unwanted side effects. Still, they are close to creating the final Xelion meat. 

By Surya, age 13

The Second Trip

More on Xing Peng, whose adventures you may already have read about in previous Squeak issues.

In 2015, Xin Peng was 17 years old. That summer he went on his second trip. He had some experience from his last cycling trip. This trip took 55 days. He started in Lhasa and ended in Kanasi.

1. What was your longest trip? How long was it?
My second trip, 3107 km.

2. Did you get any advice from friends before this cycling trip?
I didn’t ask for any.

3. How did you train for your cycling trip?
I trained in Auroville. Starting with cycling 60 km with a group. I felt very tired, but slowly, slowly, I could cycle faster.

4. What was the most important equipment that you took with you for your cycling trip?
Tent, sleeping bag, yak meat, knives.

5. How did you plan your route?
I used a map and based on that decided where I would be cycling and where I would be using bus or car transport.

6. Why did you sometimes take a bus?
I think that in some places the environment is not very good and the wind blows very strong, throwing sand through the air.

My cycling stations were like this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lhasa-Kailash–Yecity</td>
<td>2607kms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuche–Sailimu</td>
<td>1100kms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buerjin-Kanasi</td>
<td>400km</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Did you feel safe when you were cycling by yourself?
Yes, I felt safe.
9. Did you have any difficulties or challenges?

Yes, between Tibet and Xing Jiang there were storms with hail, and it was very cold. Strong winds blew all the time, which made me feel tired and uncomfortable during rest times.

**Xing Peng’s estimates of dangers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>one</th>
<th>many</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wolf</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild yak</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bear</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mastiff</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad people</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. I heard you say that you met some rude bad men during the trip, were you afraid of them?

I didn’t feel that they were scary.

12. Why were you not afraid of them?

When the rude bad men attempted to get something from me, I took out my knife and chased them away. They couldn’t catch me.

13. Did you cycle by yourself or in a group?

I usually cycled alone.

14. How far did you cycle in a day?

Fastest speed: 200 km/day. Slowest speed: 20 km/day

15. What was your speed per hour?

Slowest speed: 5 km/h (because I was riding on tall mountains). Fastest speed: 84km/h

16. How did this trip change you or effect you?

I was very tired. Just after I finished my trip, I didn’t have energy to do anything. But my spirit was stronger than before. Now, I know how to make a good plan for my trips and how to think.

17. Will you go on another cycling trip?

Yes, I will. I will cycle in New Zealand.

18. What equipment will you take to your next trip?

It will be nearly the same as the second trip’s equipment. I will take a little bit less than that, because during my first and second trips the weather was really cold. My arm was nearly freezing, so I had to take a blue laser light to keep myself warm and to make a fire at high altitudes.
19. **Is there anything else you want to tell me about?**

The beautiful environment that I could see everywhere. Because the environment on my way was so beautiful, I was very happy, and I got a chance to think deeply.

19. **What kind of thing did you think about?**

I thought about how to have a good life, a happy life.

20. **Why did you decide to go cycling?**

Because I wanted to experience the amazing environment and I didn’t know how to solve a lot of strange problems on the way. Now I can!

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**Hazardous homes**

You would not think it, but your house is extremely dangerous. Every year many people die from falling down stairs, falling off beds, drowning in bathtubs and slipping in bathrooms. Even electric sockets are dangerous if you happen to put your fingers in them. Every year these things kill more than shark attacks and lightning strikes.

Every year, in England and Wales alone, some 3885 people die from falling down stairs, 1687 people from drowning in bathtubs, 922 by slipping in their bathroom and 8000 from falling off beds. That’s a lot considering 484367 people die there in a year, more than you thought, huh?!

There are ways to prevent these horrible accidents. Examples:
- Hold the railing while descending stairs
- Put a railing on your bed
- When you are tired sleep in your bed not the bathtub
- Keep your bathroom dry so that you are less likely to slip

My research says that it is safer to live in a cave or in a tent, because there are no stairs, toilets, bathrooms, beds or electric sockets there. So give your house to your nemesis and buy a tent or find a cave, is my advice.

*All the research is from the internet.*

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*By Nadir, age 13 (also acting in this arranged photo)*
Journey into the underground

It was the summer of 2016, in July, and Aran (my father), Pele (my brother) and I were on the coastal plains of Israel and the grass was quite dry and yellow but right next to us there was a field of almost ripe grapes. We searched for some time, looked at all the possibilities and in the end we managed to find a few boulders that we were sure the rope would not slip off.

When I agreed going on this trip I thought it was just going to be repelling into a cave, walking a few minutes and then we’d be out of there back into the sunshine, but when we got there the first thing we realized was that it was not going to be so easy even to anchor our rope because the closest tree was 100 meters away, and that would use too much of the rope.

The cave entrance was a small hole in the “ceiling” of the cave, and through it not much light entered so we couldn’t see the floor of the cave, but we knew it was something like 40 to 50 meters down and weren’t sure if our rope would reach the ground. My brother went down first and he shouted up to us that he had reached the bottom, so luckily the rope was long enough. I went down next.

At first I could barely see anything, but eventually my eyes adjusted and I saw tree roots hanging down from the ceiling as I slowly repelled myself until I touched the cave’s moist cold pale earth with my bare feet and at that moment I realized that there were disgusting cockroaches everywhere. My Dad came down and we continued from there through a small horizontal crack through the stone wall. My brother and I managed to crawl through, but when it was my father’s turn he struggled a lot and I was hoping that he would somehow squeeze his way through. Otherwise he would stay stuck until he would become thin enough to crawl his way out... but at last he managed to pass and we continued through the tunnel ahead.

It was very dark but we switched on the torch that we had. The tunnel ahead was big enough for me to stand up bent and I started leading the way. As we continued the tunnel became smaller and more claustrophobic... On the left side in the stone wall we saw a small opening that led to another cave but it didn’t seem like the way. I kept on going in the dark enduring tunnel as it got more and more narrow...

At that point my whole body flat on the rough stone floor, thoughts crowded my mind, were we just going deeper into the earth? But I just kept on going struggling to find space to move, as I knew going back was not an option, since we would never be able to get out the way we got in.

But my brother knew that we couldn’t keep on going like this, especially with our dad in mind. So he decided to go back and check the alternative. The last time Aran had been there was three years ago and he didn’t know the way since two other people were with him who had been in the cave many times before so they didn’t need any light.
So there was only one alternative; going back to the opening we saw earlier.

It was extremely hard to go back with not much space to move my hands and feet, but at last I was standing with my dad and Pele. While taking a deep breath of the cool air, we looked once again at the small opening that led to another cave, and this time we noticed a small circle which had its right side painted red and the left white and soon we figured out that the white always points the way out, and the red was pointing the way I was heading towards before... anyway, (well, not any way because it really depends on which way I would have gone), we continued following the white circles. Sometimes we would just stop for a while and switch off the light for a minute...

I have no idea how long we ventured through the winding labyrinth of tunnels but at some point I saw a faint light ahead of us...

MOVIE REVIEW : 127 HOURS

127 Hours is a true story of canyoneer Aron Ralston, as he was hiking in Blue John canyon, Utah, USA when a boulder falls... The film was directed by Danny Boyle, also the director of the award-winning film Slumdog Millionaire. Starring James Franco (as Aron Ralston), Amber Tamblyn (as Megan McBride) and Kate Mara (as Kristi Moore), 127 Hours received six Academy Awards including Best Actor for James Franco, as well as Best Picture. Getting 93/100 on Rotten Tomatoes and 82/100 on Metacritic, it could be the next one on for your Movie night, but be warned it is not for the faint-hearted.

UNSOLVED MYSTERIES OF THE WORLD #2

I've wondered what things are unsolved in the world of ours, so I got together this list of mysteries of the world from the Taos Hum to the Nazca geoglyphs. Read on to find out some of the unsolved.

The Voynich Manuscript. The Voynich manuscript is a heavily illustrated codex, hand-written in an unknown code or language. The vellum on which it is written on has been carbon-dated to the early 15th century (1404-1438), and may have been written is north Italy during the Italian renaissance. The book is named after Wilfred Voynich, a Polish book dealer who bought it in 1912. Some of the folio (1 folio = 2 pages) are missing but around a hundred remain. Many cryptographers have tried deciphering it but to no avail. It is separated into six sections which are herbology, astronomy, cosmology, biology, medicine and recipes (the sections might be labelled wrong as they were derived from the pictures).

By Eunsu, age 11
A SHRIMP AND PESTO RECIPE
(perfectly safe to make and eat)

- 1 Pound pasta
- ½ cup butter
- 2 cups cream
- ½ teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 1/3 cup pesto
- 1 pound large shrimp

1. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Add pasta, and cook for 8 to 10 minutes, or until al dente; drain.
2. In a large pan, melt the butter over a medium heat. Stir in cream, and season with pepper. Cook 6 to 8 minutes, stirring constantly.
3. Stir parmesan cheese into cream sauce, stirring until completely mixed. Blend in the pesto and cook for 3 to 5 minutes, until thickened.
4. Stir in the shrimp, and cook until they turn pink, about 5 minutes. Serve over the hot pasta.

By Sarah, age 14

SCARILY FUN PAGES

Wordsearch by Jasmine

Crocodile
Falling
Lie
Dangerous
Sad
Ion
Explosion
Up
Dam
Answers to the Riddles in issue 4 (by Sarah, Satyavan, Surya and Jason)

1. **Meat.** (Paul's height is six feet, he's an assistant at a butcher's shop, and wears size 9 shoes, what does he weigh?)

2. **He is at a traffic light.** (A man walks; he sees a little green man. The green man disappears; but the man continues walking; then he dies. Why does he die?)

3. **They are all palindromes (they read the same both ways); also two vowels** (What do these words have in common? Madam, level, eye, Otto.

4. **Your name.** (What is yours but other people use it more.)

5. **Beetle.** (It is an insect and the first part of its name is the name of another insect. What is it?)

6. **Only two beans, one of each type.** (We have two kinds of beans and we put them into a pot and cook them; then on a plate the two beans separate from each other, automatically. How many beans are there?)

7. **They are both in the middle of water.** (What do the letter "T" and an island have in common?)

8. **Nothing** (What is greater than God, more evil than the devil and poor people have it and rich people need it and if you eat it you die.

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**More (new) Riddles**

1. It is raining heavily. Five people get out of a big car, four get wet and one doesn’t, how is it possible? No raincoat, no umbrella.

2. If you have two you have two, if you have three, but if you have one you have none, what is it?

3. It makes mountains fall, trees topple and plants wither, what is it?

4. Why did the cyclop close his school?

5. What do frogs do with paper?

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The answers to the new riddles and to the “Hidden stuff” of the last page will be published in the next issue of the Squeak.

**Or e-mail us if you can not wait:** TLC@auroville.org.in

Congratulations to Ivana, who got some right last time around!!!

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Last but not least: Did you spot the fake article in this issue? Let us know!
Find the hidden stuff by Jalin

Clues: Safety pin, Ear, Squid, Hand, Candle, Shark, Fork, Eye, Sword, Key, Bottle, Face, Bomb, Mushroom, Ring
TLC Base Camp map by Milo, Jalin and Jinhee, prepared for Open House

E-mail us if your unit wants to put a message on this page and support the printing of the Squeak: TLCsqueak@auroville.org.in