



LIGHTHOUSE



BY BCGIANS, FOR BCGIANS

FOREWORD

The monsoon season is a truly blissful time! With the cool winds and gentle drizzle outside, it's a wonderfully relaxing atmosphere that allows us to enjoy the bounties of nature. The cool weather offers the best opportunities to cook the most delicious feasts and enjoy it with the pattering rain outside! As you step out into the rainy afternoon you can enjoy the gentle drizzle and refresh your memories of all the good times. Journey out and enjoy the delicacies of Mumbai along with endless cups of hot tea!

After long months of scorching summer heat, the monsoon brings back life to nature. Only because of these cool rains does nature revive from shrivelled husks to their lush green selves. Even the most beautiful diamonds cannot compete with the beauty of the pearly raindrops racing down tree leaves. This perhaps is one of the most beautiful times of the year when we truly realise what a gift nature is and what this wonderful world means.

We at the BCG lighthouse wish you to stay healthy and enjoy the monsoons!

By the Editorial team

FACTS ABOUT RAINS

It's been a long time

Rain has been around for a while – Scientists have found fossils with indentations of raindrops dating back as far as 2.7 billion years ago.

Grain Rain – China

Grain Rain, as the last solar term in the spring, starts on April 19 and ends on May 4. Grain Rain originates from the old saying, "Rain brings up the growth of hundreds of grains," which shows that this period of rainfall is extremely important for the growth of crops. People usually start to plant rice in southern China as Grain Rain signals the end of cold weather and a rapid rise in temperature and rainfall increases.

Rainmaking Ritual - North America

Among many Native North American tribes, the rain dance is an important annual ritual, especially among the Pueblos, Navajo, Hopi, and Mojave tribes of the Southwest region, where the land is driest.

**Submitted by Mahi Phadte
Class 8, VBSIS**

WHY ARE RAINS IMPORTANT?

"A life without rain is like the sun without shade."- Karen White.

I await monsoon so eagerly because it brings with it a different kind of enthusiasm and excitement to everything around me. Watching the trees go green again with every drop of rain evokes in me a feeling of freshness. Sometimes, I wonder what if there were no rain? There would be water scarcity, the rivers would dry up, the plants would dry up due to the lack of water, and gradually the forests would be destroyed. Moreover, even the animals won't be able to survive. Many people do not realize the importance of rain. We should all be grateful to God and see rain as a divine blessing to all of us. As rightly said by Tom Barette, 'If the rain spoils your picnic but saves a farmer's crop, then who are we to say that it shouldn't rain?'

**Submitted by Anam Gahlot
Class 9, BCISW**



MONSOONS...WHAT'S SO INTERESTING ABOUT IT?

The summers in Mumbai can get quite hot, so it's this time of the year that many citizens look forward to. Monsoon has the most favorable weather not only in India but around the world as well. Here are some interesting facts about Monsoon you may not have heard of before:

- There are nearly 500,000 lightning strikes during monsoon.
- India experiences the most dramatic monsoons in the world.
- A rainfall below 90 percent of the average is considered a drought.
- In Europe, they call the monsoon system they experience the 'Return of the Westerlies'.
- The Arabic word 'mausim' means a shift in season or wind.
- The driest place on Earth is in Antarctica - an area called the Dry Valleys, which has seen no rain for nearly 2 million years.

The Atacama Desert in Chile is in a rain shadow that squeezes moisture out over the mountains and carries only dry air to the desert. Some places in the desert have not received rain in more than 500 years!

Monsoons can be interesting indeed.
Happy Monsoon to all!

Submitted by Anaya Afonso
Class 9, BCISE



LET IT RAIN

After the harsh summers and months of treacherous heat, just when it seems it's the end, the pure droplets of rainwater bring everything back to life and start a new beginning. To me, rain is a sign of new life. Rain makes the land moist and lively again, and the dried leaves of the trees become bright green-coloured; moreover, rains add a touch of beauty to everything. Rains also are a sign of 'JOY'. Whenever it rains, children giggle, birds chirp and sing melodiously, the trees sway happily, and the majestic peacock with its mesmerizing feathers dances gracefully and joyfully leaving its audience in awe.



"I like walking in the rain as no one can see my tears." As rightly said by Charlie Chaplin, rain wipes away our tears. These subtle, innocent yet strong droplets of rainwater quell our despair and show us joy and happiness. Every droplet of rainwater that falls on one's cheek expresses a different emotion. Some feel happy that it is raining, some feel angry, some feel gloomy and some feel loved. Moreover, the soothing music of the drizzling rains is just the peace one's mind is looking for. According to me, rain is a reminder that life is beautiful and we must cherish it.

Submitted by Aaricia Pereira
Class 9, VBSIS

CONSERVATION FOR A CAUSE

Water has been the firm ledge humanity has rested on since times immemorial. The progression of our times has subjected this indispensable resource to potential ravaging. The ceaseless reports of water wastage dominate our world, making us seem unsure about the future.

However, there is a silver lining to this precarious situation. There have been various attempts at reconstructing our sporadic water resources, with singular luck in some methods. Gray water recycling - an imminent and more in-use practice in current times, has served as simple and constructive use of soiled water. Other dexterous yet implementable solutions range from nanotechnology to filtration and membrane chemistry. Opportunistic and self-reliant practices such as water metering and efficient bathroom accessories are the paradigms of water conservation in modern times.



Submitted by Esha Naik
Class 10, DSRISM

STEPS TOWARDS A BETTER TOMORROW

Did you walk by a tap that was leaking? You sure had your reasons but imagine no one has even a minute to stop and close the tap to prevent unnecessary wastage of water. Have you ever thought of a situation when there would not be even a drop to drink on this planet just because we failed to take steps to conserve water when we could?

We have been witnessing in the news every day that the increasing rates of pollution are creating a tremendous demand for the availability of clean water. Water is soon becoming a luxury to the extent that people, states, and countries have feuded over the supply of water. Bringing slight changes in our daily water usage can help us save a lot of water that is otherwise mindlessly wasted. Some of the ways how we can control the wastage of water are as follows:

- Taking care to close any source of running water after use
- Avoiding privatization of lakes & other small water bodies
- Recycling wastewater
- Protecting the water against pollution
- Management of floods
- Harvesting rainwater

There are many things that we can do on a national level as well as an individual level. So, we must come together now and conserve water.

Submitted by Diti Dave
Class 9, DSRB

WHAT IS YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE?

Water is a priceless gift to humanity by nature, due to which life of living organisms is possible on Earth. Water conservation means a reduction in the usage of water by the three processes - reduce, reuse, and recycle. We must save water by not leaving the taps open and using only that much water as is required. I conserve water in many ways. I fill my glass with as much water as I need. I do not leave the shower or tap open while brushing my teeth or taking a bath. My mother recycles the water she washed fruits and vegetables with by pouring it onto plants; she also controls the quantity of water used while washing dishes or clothes.

WATER CONSERVATION LEADS TO A HAPPY, HEALTHY, AND A SECURE FUTURE GENERATION.

Submitted by Samara Syed
Class 9, BCISW



SAVE WATER, SAVE LIFE!

Every inhabitant of planet Earth is dependent on water for their survival and day-to-day activities. Clean and safe water is essential for all living organisms to be able to live a healthy and long life. Even though 71% of the earth is water, only a tiny percentage (about 0.3 percent), is potable by humans. With the increasing rate of water pollution, the conservation of water for basic needs is essential.

One of the best ways of water conservation during the monsoon is rainwater harvesting. Rainwater harvesting is collecting and storing rainwater, rather than allowing it to run off so that it can be used later. You can also form groups of water-conscious people at school, college, or society and be a part of it. In my opinion, water should not be allowed to be run down. Every drop of water counts, so make sure you are not wasting water. Lastly, we should always use water judiciously. Life without water is impossible. Save water, save life and save planet Earth.

Submitted by Dhvani Shah
Class 9, BCSE



MODERN TECHNIQUES FOR WATER CONSERVATION

In the 21st century, the abrupt growth of population and industrialization has resulted in the contamination of water bodies. Water is a boon to us, yet, we are squandering this inestimable resource. Therefore, water conservation is necessary.

New techniques such as Rooftop Rainwater harvesting, Ferro-cement tanks, Joy pumps, Cycle run Water pumps, Water Wheel, Rainwater syringes, and groundwater dams are the most modern methods for water conservation. Rainwater harvesting can abbreviate the over usage of groundwater. The Water wheel is a machine helpful in converting the energy from flowing water into power. Joy pumps are an innovative concept of pumping water from bore wells, a sump, or a rainwater tank. The best way to do this is by storing the rainwater in our houses which can later be filtered and used as drinking water.

Submitted by Vaiebhavi Iyer
Class 9, DSRISM



RAINY NIGHTS, GOOD VIBES

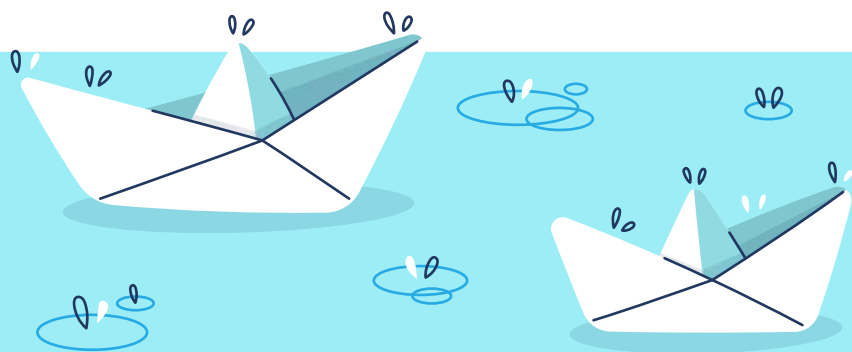


Across

- 4. natural movement of air
- 6. a small accumulation of water on the ground, especially from rain
- 8. a violent wind that has a circular movement
- 9. flashes of light across the sky during a thunderstorm
- 11. one likes to eat these with a cup of tea

Down

- 1. heavy rains
- 2. slight wetness or dampness
- 3. a piece of clothing to protect one from the rain
- 5. they are white or grey, look fluffy and are full of water
- 6. the smell of soil after the first rains
- 7. a long period when there is little or no rain
- 10. pellets of frozen rain that fall in showers



DOWN
1. DOWNPOUR
2. MOISTURE
3. RAINCOAT
5. CLOUDS
6. PETRICHOR
7. DROUGHT
9. HAIL

ACROSS
4. WIND
6. PUDDLE
8. HURRICANE
9. LIGHTNING
11. FRITTERS

ARTIST OF THE MONTH



Submitted by Prabhakar Ajay Jha, 9th B

SCHOOL CORNER

Dear students,

Hearty Congratulations on your excellent performance in the SSC examination. Your commitment to yourself, focus on goals, dedication and consistent efforts have brought the desired results. I take this opportunity to thank your parents for their support, guidance, and motivation to you. We wish you all the best in your future endeavours too. Take care.

Thank you

Regards,
Ms. A. Katial
Executive Director, VBSIS

SSC RESULTS



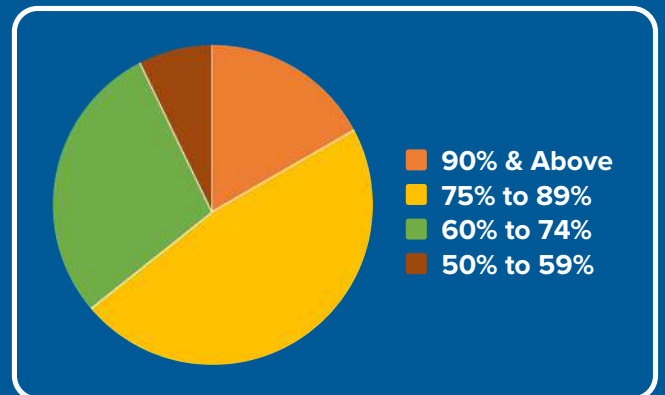
Arwa Vasaiwalavi
95.00%



Manasvi Narkar
94.80%



Anvesha Sawant
94.40%



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