

The freshest finds for clever minds!!!

Hey Smart Scoopers

We're back after a little break and wow, the world has been buzzing with news and exciting events! Starting this week, your weekly scoops are back to keep you informed, curious, and entertained.

And here's the other big update: we now have a shiny new website where you can not only read our stories but also explore, discover fun facts, and dive into even more content than before. Think of it as your one-stop space for smart, kid-friendly news and cool extras.

Link to the website: <https://www.smartscoop.in>

Stay tuned for fun facts, big news. And don't miss out the weekly quiz in the end, all designed to make you smarter, sharper, and scoop-ready!

Scoop 1: Teacher's Day

Scoop 2: The Mushroom Cloud and Beyond

Scoop 3: The Blood Moon

Scoop 4: Earth's Heaviest Living Thing

Scoop 5: The Code Language

Can't wait for you to dig-in! Happy scooping!

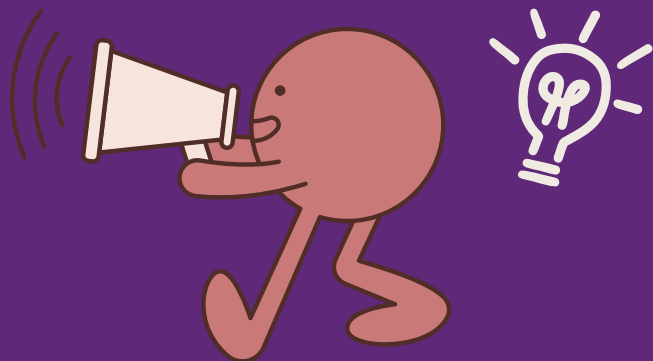
The SmartScoop Team

Our mascot, Blurt will follow us along the way.

Blurt /blurt/

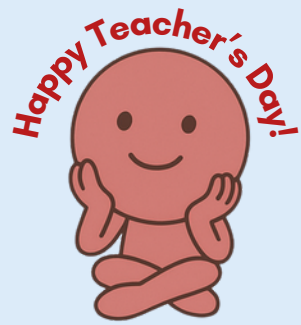
noun:

A loud, round, super-curious character who just can't keep a fact in.



Teacher's Day!

CELEBRATING THE SUPERHEROES WITHOUT CAPES



Teachers may not wear capes, but they're superheroes carrying the future on their shoulders! They turn classrooms into launch pads and students into stars, helping kids grow into confident young adults. Now that's superpower stuff! That's pretty heroic if you ask me!

Happy Teachers' Day to the pros who grade papers, shape futures, and still manage to keep their cool!most of the time.

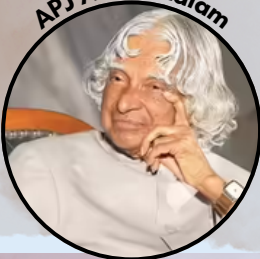
Every year on September 5th, India celebrates Teachers' Day – a special time to say thanks to the awesome teachers who make school fun, exciting, and inspiring! The day also honours **Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan**, one of India's coolest teachers and leaders.



He wasn't just a great scholar – he was also the **second President of India!** When people wanted to celebrate his birthday, he suggested, 'Why not celebrate all teachers?' And that's how, since 1962, September 5th has been the day to honour every teacher's hard work, dedication, and kindness.

Famous journeys powered by teachers!

APJ Abdul Kalam



The "Missile Man of India" and former President APJ Abdul Kalam often spoke about his teacher **Iyadurai Solomon**, who inspired his love for science and encouraged him to dream big despite humble beginnings.

Bill Gates



Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates said: "My math teacher **Fred Wright** asked me to push a little bit harder. My high school geometry teacher inspired my love for computers. There's no way there'd be a Microsoft without them doing what they did."

Maya Angelou



The famous poet and author Maya Angelou once shared how her teacher, Mrs. **Bertha Flowers**, changed her life. After a tough time, Maya stopped speaking to anyone for several years. Mrs. Flowers encouraged her to read books, recite poetry out loud, and little by little, helped Maya find her voice again. Maya often said that without her teacher's belief in her, she might never have become a writer.

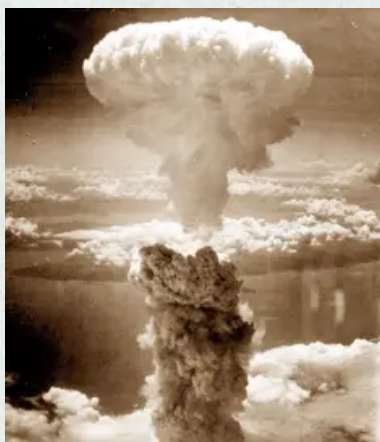
I really love my teachers !!!

Think about it. Teachers spend more waking hours with us than our own family does during the school year. They see it all, from our Monday 'zombie' faces to the joy of finally cracking a tough math problem. Behind every prank we think we've gotten away with (spoiler: they always know) Mind readers? Secret superheroes? Either way, teachers clearly have superpowers... and probably a hidden x-ray vision mode!"

The name's Blurt.
I see all.
I know all. I grade all.
Now where's my red pen?



80 YEARS SINCE HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI



In the final days of World War II, a new and terrifying weapon changed the course of history. On August 6, 1945, the United States dropped the first-ever atomic bomb called '**Little Boy**' on the Japanese city of **Hiroshima**. A blinding flash lit up the sky and in seconds, a towering mushroom cloud swallowed the city. Just three days later, another bomb, '**Fat Man**,' was dropped on **Nagasaki**. These bombings killed more than 200,000 people, both from the blasts and the long-term effects of fire and radiation. The attacks forced Japan to surrender, ending World War II, but they also revealed the devastating power of nuclear weapons. A threat that continues to concern the world today.

Fast forward, 80 years later...

On August 6, 2025, Hiroshima marked the **80th anniversary of the atomic bombing** with a Peace Memorial Ceremony at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, featuring a moment of silence, speeches, lantern lighting, and a renewed call for nuclear disarmament (reducing or eliminating nuclear weapons).

**Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park**

Japan's Take on Being a Nuclear Power: The commitment to peace is reflected in Japan's unique stance on nuclear weapons. Although Japan has the technology to build them, it has chosen not to, guided by the memory of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and a strong national belief in peace. Following a strict non-nuclear policy, Japan actively advocates for nuclear disarmament worldwide.

A Hibakusha's Story

Hibakusha (*hee-bahk-sha*) is a Japanese word meaning 'person affected by the explosion.' It refers to the **survivors** of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. The 80th anniversary isn't just about remembering the past, it's about learning from it to build a safer future. The hibakusha have one clear message: nuclear weapons should never be used again, anywhere, against anyone!

What about the NPT (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty)?

In 1968, countries made a deal: those with nuclear weapons would try to get rid of them, and those without would never make them. Peaceful nuclear energy was allowed. Sounds simple, right? But the truth is trickier! The U.S. and Russia control 87% of these weapons, with the rest in China, France, U.K., India, Pakistan, Israel, and North Korea. So, a world without nuclear weapons is still a big dream.

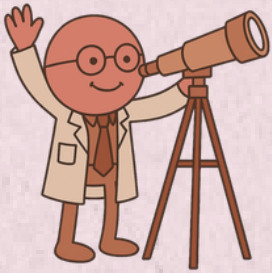


History isn't always easy, but learning from it helps us make smarter choices for a safer world... Now, time to go smell some daisies after that heavy topic!

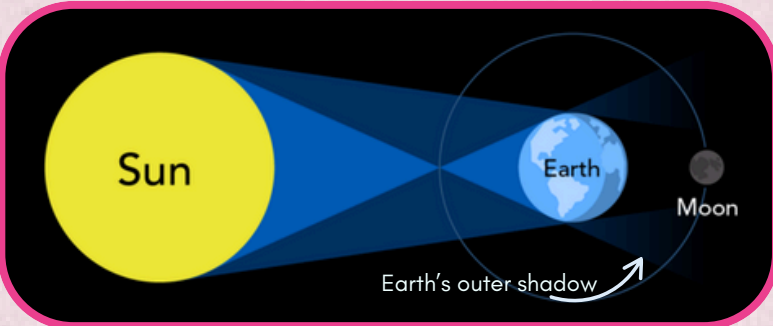


The Blood Moon

DON'T MISS THE SKY SPECTACLE!!



Get your snacks and blankets ready, this week something amazing is about to happen in the night sky! On 7–8 September 2025, the Moon is going to put on a show like no other, glowing a deep, spooky-red for a full **82 minutes**. This is a **Total Lunar Eclipse**, or what some call a Blood Moon, and the best part? You don't need a telescope or fancy gear, just look up and enjoy the magic!



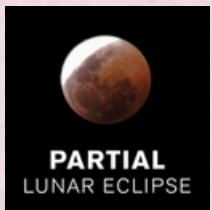
Think of a total lunar eclipse like the ultimate cosmic shadow show. Here's the setup:

Earth sits between the Sun and the Moon, casting its shadow directly onto the Moon's surface. Earth's shadow falls on the Moon, giving it an eerie, magical glow instead of making it disappear.

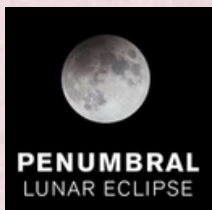
But why does the moon look red?



A total lunar eclipse, or Blood Moon, happens when Earth's shadow covers the Moon. The Moon can look red, orange, yellow, or brown because sunlight passes through Earth's atmosphere, which bends the light and shines it onto the Moon. While Earth blocks direct sunlight, it also **bends red light around its edges**, like the Moon is looking through red-tinted glasses. The more the Moon **moves into Earth's shadow, the redder** it looks.

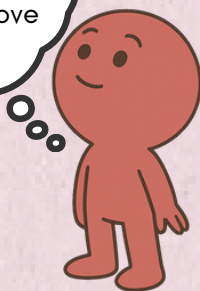


A partial lunar eclipse happens when only part of the Moon enters Earth's shadow. That part can look a little red or orange.



A penumbral lunar eclipse happens when the Moon passes through Earth's outer shadow. It's very subtle and can look almost like a normal Full Moon.

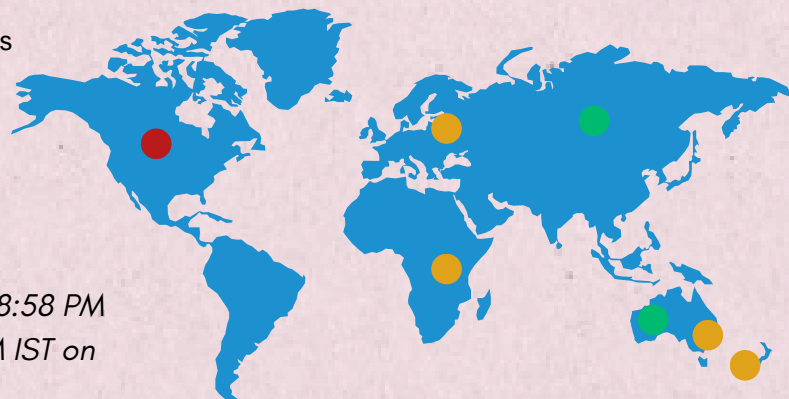
Stop it
Moon...you're too
extra. But I love
youuu.



Images courtesy: Celestron.com

Who can catch the Blood Moon this year?

- Asia and Western Australia will have front-row seats
- Parts of Europe, Africa, Eastern Australia, and New Zealand will catch portions of the eclipse.
- Unfortunately, most of North America will miss this one (as they will be on the dayside)!



If you are in India, the full Moon will start to darken at 8:58 PM IST, the total red phase runs from 11:00 PM to 12:22 AM IST on September 8, and the eclipse ends at 2:25 AM IST

MEET THE REAL HEAVYWEIGHT!



When you think of the heaviest living thing, your brain probably jumps to a blue whale. Fair guess! 200 tons of pure mass. But the real heavyweight champion on Earth is... a fungus!

Meet **Armillaria ostoyae**, aka the **Humongous Fungus**.



Hidden under Oregon's forest floor in the USA, is this mushroom that covers 2,385 acres, weighs about 35,000 tons, and could be as old as 8,650 years!

I have a huge network of friends... that must make me a friendly heavyweight!



HOW? Unlike an animal like a whale, which is heavy in one body, the Humongous Fungus grows underground over several acres, connecting its network of roots (mycelium). When you add up all that living material, it outweighs any single animal on Earth – even a blue whale. The mushrooms we see above ground are just the reproductive part of this massive organism.

How Do We Know It's One Organism?

DNA tests show that all parts of this giant fungus are genetically identical. It acts as a single living organism, communicating and sharing nutrients across its vast underground network.



Another heavyweight is **Pando**, a giant colony of 47,000 quaking aspen trees in Utah, all connected by a single root system weighing around 6,000 tons. Pando's roots act like a super old social network – sharing water, nutrients, and even warnings. If insects attack one tree, the whole colony reacts by making defensive chemicals!

We can really learn stuff from Armillaria and Pando... if we want to. No, I'm not yelling; well ok maybe just a little.



Here's a funny thought: the only thing heavier than Pando might be... all of us humans! Together, we weigh around **390 million tons** and have a bigger impact on Earth than volcanoes or asteroids. But unlike Pando's super-organized root network, we're still figuring out teamwork. Pando has survived ice ages, droughts, and just about everything nature could throw at it but it might not survive us.

Under the strain of **climate change**, Pando is showing signs of thinning.

Don't mind Blur, folks - sometimes Blur gets really fired up! Talking about climate change is one of those times. We all need to do our part, so ask a teacher or parent or someone you look upto about how you can help.

The Code Language

DECODING THE LINES AND SQUARES

Ever notice those black-and-white stripes on your snacks or the square codes you scan with your phone? Those are barcodes and QR codes, one of the coolest inventions ever! They've totally changed how we shop, eat, travel, and share info. Let's dive into their story!



Bar code



QR code

The Problem That Started It All

Long ago, cashiers made bills manually resulting in long lines, tired fingers, and unhappy shoppers. To fix this, a store owner challenged students to invent a better system and the barcode was born! Inspired by Morse code, Woodland and Silver, tech students, turned dots and dashes into lines. Woodland even had his "aha!" moment on a Miami beach in 1949, drawing lines in the sand.

Their first design looked like a bullseye, patented in 1952, but it took 20 years before technology caught up.



Bar Codes Paving the Way

The Big Break: In 1970, tests proved rectangular barcodes worked best. Then, on June 26, 1974, cashier Sharon Buchanan scanned a pack of **Wrigley's Juicy Fruit gum** in Ohio - beep! The first-ever barcode scan. That very gum now lives in the Smithsonian Museum!



How It Works: Barcodes are like a **secret code made of lines and spaces**. Thick lines, thin lines, and the spaces between them all mean different digits (0-9). A scanner reads the pattern with a laser, turning it into a number pattern that tells the computer what the product is, its price, and more.

The result? Super-fast checkouts, happy customers, and barcodes everywhere!

The QR Code Revolution

In 1994, Japanese company **Denso Wave** needed to track car parts, but regular barcodes could only hold 20 characters. So they invented the QR (Quick Response) code - a square that can hold up to **4,000 characters**, basically an essay in a tiny box! Newer versions hold even more.

These clever squares have moved beyond industry and into everyday life

- They hold TONS of information - website links, contact details, WiFi passwords, paragraphs of text
- They work from any angle - unlike barcodes that need to be scanned horizontally
- They're super tough - even if 30% of the code is damaged or dirty, it can still be read perfectly
- Your phone is the scanner - no special equipment needed

I'm happy sharing all I know without a QR code, but this code sure looks spiffy on me



That's it for this week folks!

***Here is your
weekly wrap up Quizzzzz***

In India, Teacher's Day is celebrated on 5th September to honor which former President's birthday?

Mahatma Gandhi

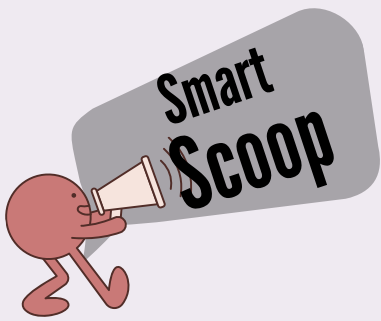
Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

Jawaharlal Nehru

Submit

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What makes a total lunar eclipse appear “blood red”?

The Moon’s surface burns during the eclipse.

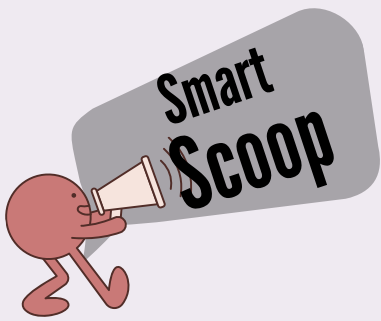
Earth’s atmosphere at the edges scatters sunlight, allowing red light to reach the Moon.

The Sun’s red rays directly fall on the Moon.

Mars reflects its light onto the Moon.

Submit

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What is one main advantage of a QR code over a traditional bar code?

QR codes are always black and white.

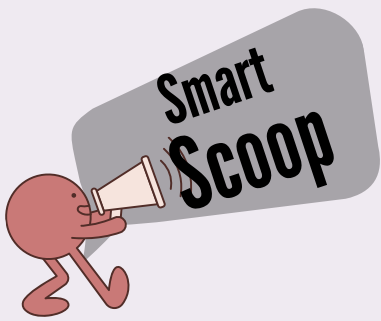
QR codes look better than barcodes.

QR codes can store more number of characters.

QR codes need special links.

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Which of the following is considered the heaviest living organism on Earth?

African Elephant

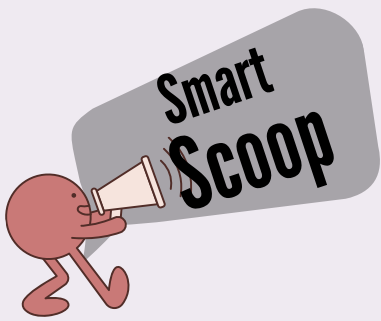
Blue Whale

Humongous Fungus (Armillaria) colony

Giant Sequoia Tree

Submit

● Loading...



The atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945 was nicknamed:

Fat Man

Little Boy

Little Man

Fat Boy

Submit

● Loading...

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That's it for this week!
Until next time, keep your
brain gears turning!

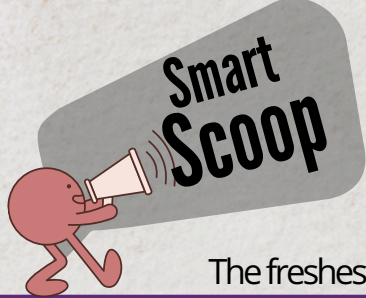


Got some feedback or want to share something with us?

Write to us here:

smartscoopteam@gmail.com

We'd love to hear from you! Mostly Blurt tbh..



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