

DIVERSIVE

Edition 5 - March 2023

MARSHMALLOW

Story by Ayushman Harlalka

A paradigm shift is unavoidable in a world where AI has arrived and threatens to replace humans. How the world functions will change drastically, and most of us are, understandably, confused. Fearful.

If we adults are so, it must be even worse for the children who often look up to us as steady rocks guiding them in their stumbling footsteps.

Ergo, we decided to return to our roots, to what it meant to be “human”; the answers we found were those of love, empathy, compassion, and kindness. It is those traits, we realised, that would make it easier for everyone in these uncertain times.

A few months later, we had settled on how to nurture the same - The Marshmallow, a global research-based children’s e-magazine formulated from United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4.7 with core values of inclusion & diversity.

We realised that the world was getting further fragmented and violent. According to Global Peace Index Report (2018) published by The Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP), surveyed 160 countries found that Peace further deteriorated for the fourth consecutive year. The report stated, 'Despite living in the most peaceful century in human history, the world has become less peaceful over the last decade'. We sought to do our part in alleviating the negativity around us.

With our focus on building socio-emotional intelligence in children aged 8-15, we brought them on the editorial side (much like we had with Polestar). We are proud to share that Children with Special Needs also comprise the inclusive editorial board. Children participate in various contests & it's their creations that curate The Marshmallow.



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generation of thinkers &
empaths.*

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4 C'S OF CREATIVITY

An Article by Ayushman Harlalka



*If I had an hour to solve a problem I'd spend
55 minutes thinking about the problem and
5 minutes thinking about solutions.
- Albert Einstein*

Problem: What will be a unique way to use a coffee mug?

1. **THE WHITE HAT** - The white hat is the information hat. By wearing this hat, we focus on finding more information about the problem. We ask ourselves questions about what we know and don't know about the problem before finding those answers.

- "What do I know about coffee mugs?" - They are usually shaped like a cylinder and made of ceramic material. They can be of various colours and sizes. They can hold hot or cold liquid in them. Most mugs are easily breakable, while others are sturdy.
- "What does unique mean?" - Oxford Dictionary defines 'Unique' as very special or unusual. It means one of a kind. Applying the definition implies that one needs to find a different way to use a coffee mug, which hasn't been explored yet.

2. **THE GREEN HAT** - The creative juices flow when we wear the green hat. We think of all the new and different possibilities of using a coffee mug - As a soup bowl, a hat or a shovel; as a way to measure the number of beans in a different vessel; as a pencil stand, a deposit box for coins/ rings and earrings; to carry a message to someone; as a glove when you're pushing boiling/freezing stuff, and so on. The trick is that we do not try to decide if these ideas are good or bad but to come up with as many ideas as possible.

3. **THE YELLOW HAT** - With the yellow hat, we only think about the good ideas. Which are the good ideas, and what makes them so?

- A practically applicable idea is a good idea.
- An idea that isn't harmful to people is a good idea.
- An idea which is easy to administer can also be a good idea.

Wearing the yellow hat helps us identify that painting and using the coffee mug as a decoration is simple, easy to administer, and thus, a good idea.

4. **THE BLACK HAT** - The black hat depicts the caution of the problem. It highlights the weaknesses, issues, downsides, risks and dangers in handling the problem. For the coffee mug, its fragility is a weakness. It is an essential hat, as it helps clarify our thoughts.

5. **THE RED HAT** - The red hat is the hat of emotions. How we feel affects what we choose to do. Often, in emotions, we lose rationality, and our decisions may not be correct. One wears the red hat to introspect. How are these ideas making me feel? Am I scared to lose? Is my fear of not doing well stopping me from developing good ideas? It is important to be very kind to ourselves while wearing this hat.

6. **THE BLUE HAT** - This is the last hat with an important role: organising. One wears the blue hat when planning and thinking of the future, i.e. what to do next. Which hat do we need now? What is the order in which we need to use the hats? The blue hat helps us choose our sequence of wearing hats per the problem before us to plan our route. It gives us the freedom to choose our sequence of solving problems. Don't we feel empowered knowing that?

Maybe this sounds like a lot of hats!!! It might take time to juggle the thinking. Remember: "If you think you can, you can"- Mary Kay Ash.



Dr Edward De Bono is a psychologist in brain training and lateral thinking. He created 'The Six Thinking Hats', a problem-solving method using the lateral thinking technique. It promotes and helps in solving the problem in a variety of ways. Bono emphasises looking at problems from multiple perspectives, helping us face difficult situations in life or solving a puzzle by wearing one of six thinking hats.

WHAT CULTURE & HERITAGE MEANS TO ME

Article by Adrita

Culture is what people do, follow, or believe. Heritage is what people inherit. Like Buddhism is a culture in India. And the Mahabodhi Temple in Bodh Gaya is India's heritage. I think we should preserve our heritage. Different religions follow different cultures and all of them have different heritages. But we must respect them all, whether we follow them or not. According to me, culture and heritage are different things. Due to the regular use, these heritages get damaged and can never be fixed again. Similarly some people do not respect the cultures other people follow and make fun of them. This hurts the feelings of other people. People can believe and do whatever they want. But it should not harm or hurt other people. Like some Hindu cultures were once wrong like sati, where a wife was burnt along with her dead husband. These are now forbidden in India. That is why, we, humans do our best to preserve heritage and respect cultures other than ours. That is what culture and heritage means to me. I promise I will try my best to respect other's cultures and preserve our world's heritages.

RIEDU INSPIRE



ADRITA
13 | Kolkata, India

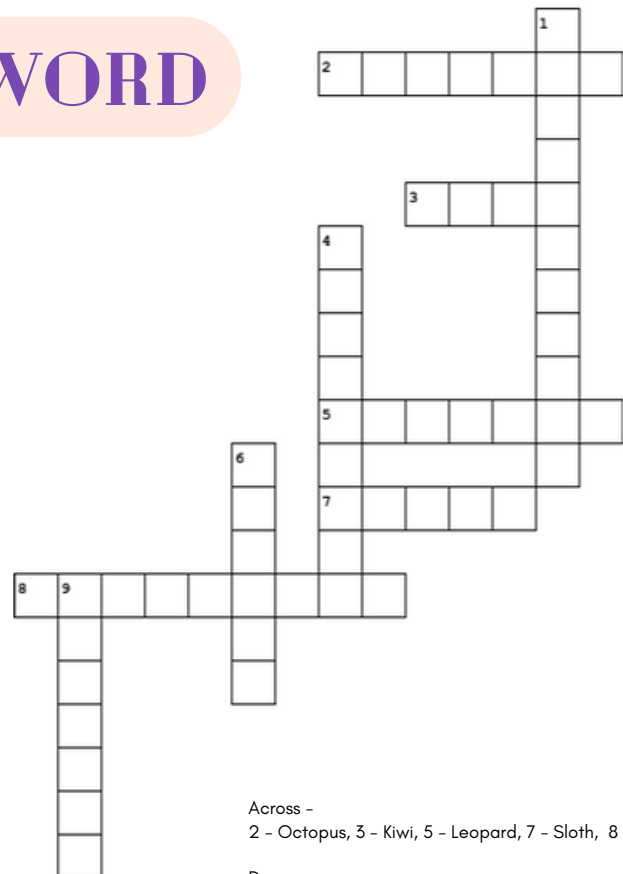
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 2. I have three hearts
- 3. I am a bird and a fruit both
- 5. I run the fastest
- 7. I sleep the most
- 8. I am the most adaptive creature in the world

DOWN

- 1. I am the smallest bird
- 4. I am the biggest flower
- 6. I am the tree that grows the fastest
- 9. I can regrow entire limbs if hurt



Across -

2 - Octopus, 3 - Kiwi, 5 - Leopard, 7 - Sloth, 8 - Waterbear

Down -

1 - Hummingbird, 4 - Rafflesia, 6 - Bamboo, 9 - Axotxl