Today we will explain about a different competition organised by the Kudumbashree Alappuzha District team for making the newer generation aware of the significance of nurturing reading habits. We had observed yesterday (19 June) as Reading Day in Kerala. In connection with this reading day, the district team organised an online reading competition for children including the Balasabha children in the district.

The competition was based on ‘Bhoomiyude Avakashikal’, the short story by Shri. Vaikom Muhammed Basheer, the famous writer in Malayalam literature. As it was the lock down time, the children were given the opportunity to participate in the competition by sitting in their own houses itself. The children were directed to read the short story ‘Bhoomiyude Avakashikal’, prepare a short video on their reading experience and send the same to the respective CDSs. The PDF version of the story was arranged through CDSs for those for whom the book was not available. Those students who are not members of balasabha
were also invited by the CDSs. The last date of the competition was yesterday. Instructions were given to include details like name of the participant, the standard he/she studies, name of the Balasabha and Panchayath/Municipality, when submitting entries.

95 children participated and sent videos as part of the competition. Out of them, Shreya Binu, member of Viganadeepam Balasabha of Thanneermukkom CDS came in the first place. Aleena Santhosh, balasabha member from Ambalapuzha North CDS came second and Anna Catherine, member of Pebbles Balasabha of Thaikkattussery CDS came in third place. The Alappuzha district team is organising various innovative activities for nurturing the creativity of the children during covid-19 lockdown. A blog of the Balasabha children named as ‘e-koot’ was launched earlier. Also the facebook group named ‘Balasabha Alappuzha’ was also started. 8 issues of the blog which includes the stories, poems, reading experience, drawings of children, informative videos etc have been published so far. The activities implemented by the district focusing on children during this lock down period is appreciated.

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