

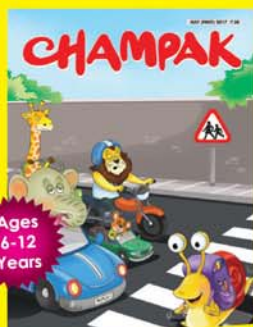
# CHAMPAK







If you are looking for magazines that will help spark the imagination of your child, look no further! Dedicated to broadening the horizons of children aged 2-12 years, *Champak*, *Highlights Genies* and *Highlights Champs* are an essential part of your child's reading list.



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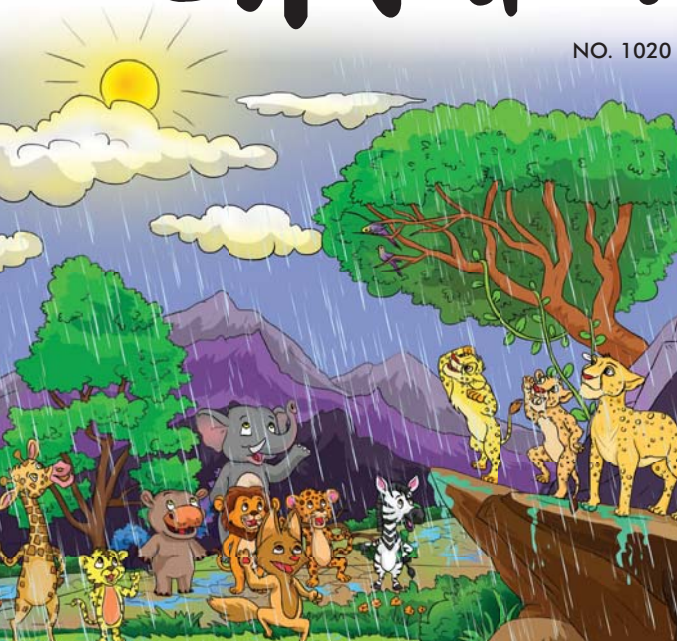


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# CHAMPAK

NO. 1020

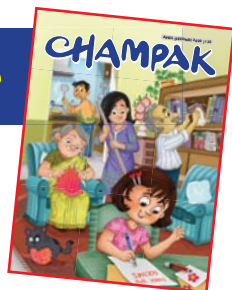


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## Cover Page

During the lockdown due to coronavirus, we spent a lot of time at home. How did you spend this time? Share your stories with us.



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# Meeku's Studies

Manoj Roy

“Oh! I don't know why I cannot concentrate on my studies today,” sighed Meeku mouse. He had got up early in the morning to study, but could not put his mind to it even if he tried his best.

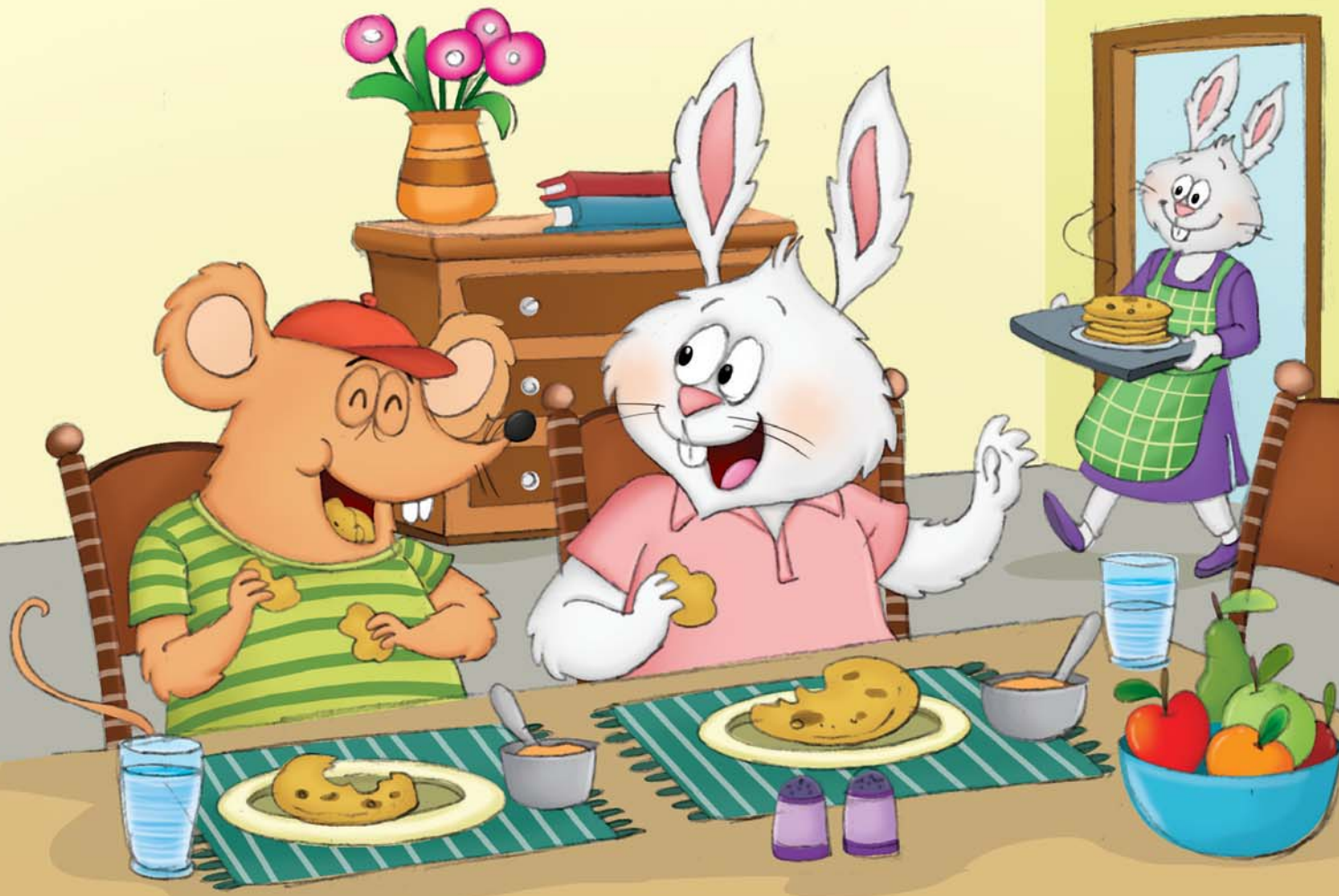
“Maybe, I did not sleep well last night,” he thought. “But I went to sleep at 10 last night! That means I have slept for more than 8 hours. That should be enough.”

“Maybe, I should do something else for the time being and sit to study after that. By that time, my mind will be refreshed,” he said to himself.

He started walking around in his house. But soon, he was bored. Now, he could not decide what to do.







“Why don’t I watch TV for a while,” he thought and started watching a cartoon film. But his mind kept going back to studies, so he could not even enjoy the film. He switched off the TV and opened his books again.

A lot of homework was left to be done and Meeku was troubled because he could not concentrate.

“This is not working. Let me ask my friends for help,” and he started thinking about Pari squirrel, Kitty cat, Ruby mynah and Cheeku rabbit.

“I will go to Cheeku. He is very wise. He will surely help me,” thought Meeku. And with his books, he went to meet Cheeku.

“Oh, Meeku! I’m glad you’re here,” said

Cheeku, welcoming him. But when he saw Meeku’s books, he was alarmed.

“You have brought your books with you. What’s the matter?”

“Yes, I am in big trouble. I need your help,” said Meeku. “I am trying very hard to concentrate on my studies. But I am unable to do so. My homework is incomplete. I don’t know how I will complete it.”

“First, sit here comfortably. Mummy has made *aloo parathas*. Let’s eat them and after that, we will think about your homework.”

After eating, Meeku stroked his stomach, “The *parathas* were really very tasty. Now tell me, how I can complete my homework?”

“That’s not a big task. We break your homework into bits,” said Cheeku.

“Every morning, you set aside two hours and you lock this time. No one will disturb you at that time.”

“Lock this time? What do you mean?” asked Meeku, not understanding anything.

“The way we have different classes for different subjects, like a class for maths, another for science and still another for history. During maths class, we study only maths and during science only science. In the same way, during the locked time you will only study and not do anything else.”

“What if something urgent comes up, then?” asked Meeku.

“If the work is really very important, then it is different. But you should concentrate only on your studies at that time,” explained Cheeku.

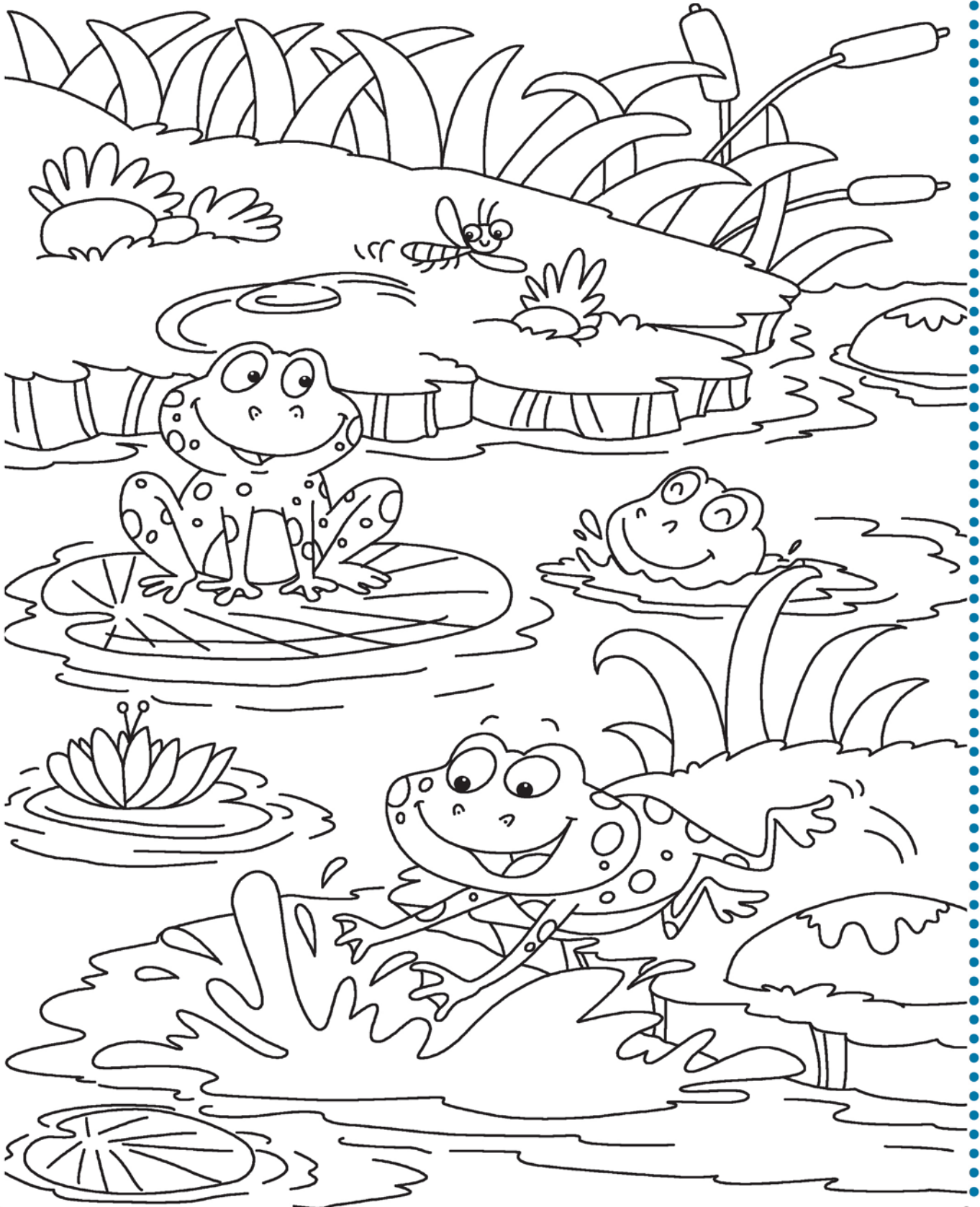
“I understand my mistake. I was trying to do everything at the same time. But now, when I study, I will only do that and complete it first and then do anything else. Thank you very much, Cheeku,” Meeku said, smiling.

“Oh! You don’t need to thank me. After all, a friend helps another who is in need!” and Cheeku smiled ●





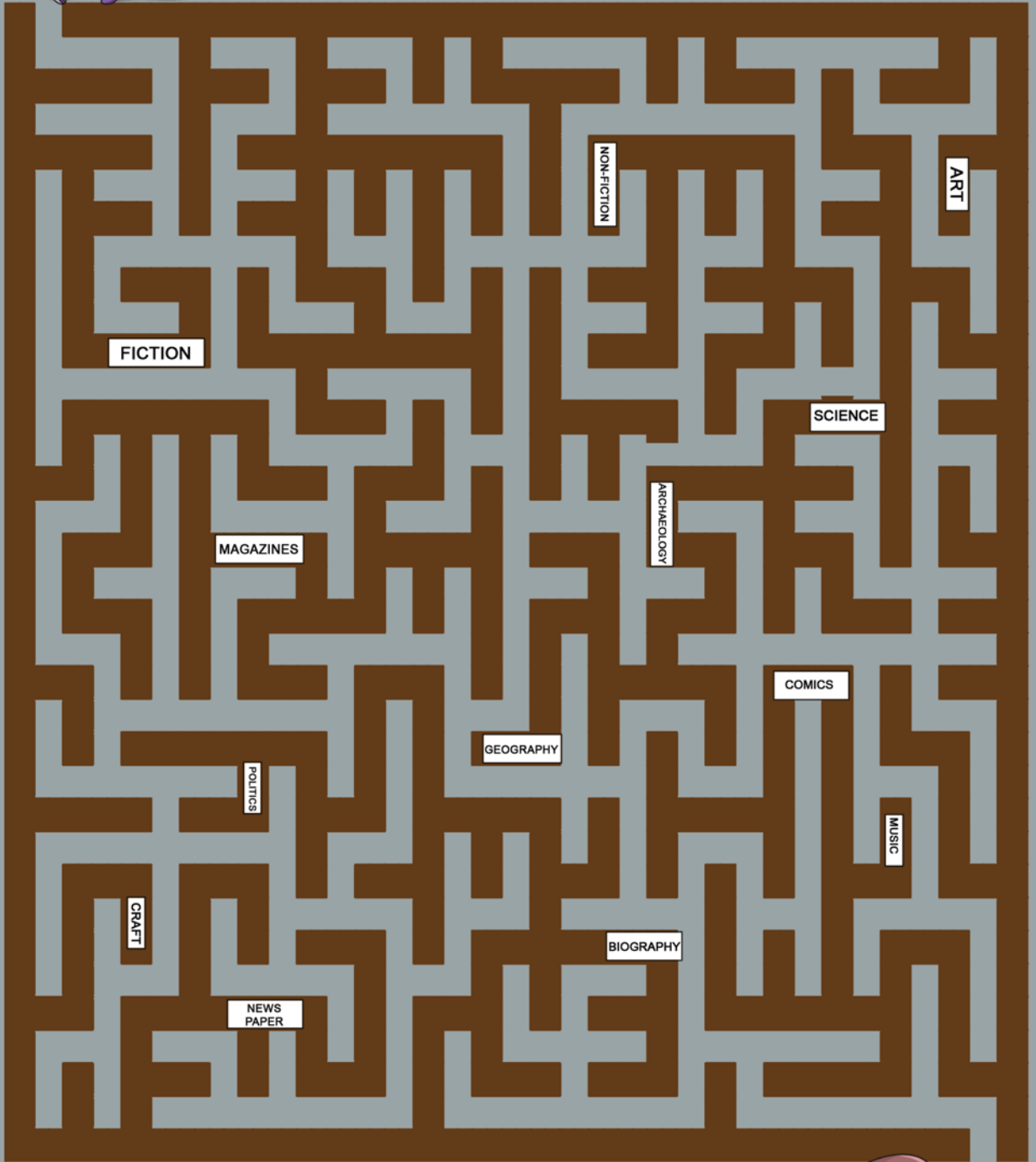
# Colour Me



# Maze



The librarian has to keep books in five categories—fiction, non-fiction, science, archaeology, geography, biography—in their respective shelves. Help her keep the books and reach her desk, starting with fiction.





# I Hate Summers

Kusum Agarwal

After being in lockdown due to the quarantine measures, movement was in full swing. Meenu was all dressed to welcome her cousins when *ma* realised there were no lemons at home. Considering her cousins were travelling in this heat, *ma* wanted to serve fresh lemonade.

She gave Meenu some money and said, “Meenu, please go and get half a dozen lemons from the nearby shop.”

Meenu left home to get the lemons. When she came back, she was sweating profusely because of the heat. Her clothes had crumpled due to the sweat.



She got angry and said, “*Ma*, you sent me out in this heat for no reason. Look now I am drenched in sweat and my dress has got spoiled too. I had dressed up so well.” She walked to her room muttering in anger, switched on the air conditioner and changed her clothes.

*Ma* did not say anything as she knew Meenu got angry at little things.

Her cousins came with their children. Meenu and *ma* hugged and started talking to them. They were all seated in the drawing room but since there was neither

a cooler nor an AC in that room, *ma* said, “Let us go to the room that has an AC and you will feel comfortable there.”

“*Didi*, summers are supposed to be hot so it is natural to feel warm in this season. We are used to the heat as we do not have any ACs in our house. Though we have a cooler, we hardly use it since it needs four buckets of water to make the room cool. And we do not have so much water,” said Uncle Manoj.

Meenu was surprised to hear this and said, “Uncle, don’t you feel hot? I start





sweating if the cooler or AC is not working. I feel miserable. I had gone out for a little while and came back drenched in sweat. I don't like it at all."

"Even I don't like it," said Uncle Manoj. "But do you know sweating is important for our body?" he asked.

Meenu was surprised. "How can sweating be good for us, uncle, when it troubles us so much? It makes some people stink too and one doesn't feel like sitting close to such people."

Hearing this, Aunt Swati replied, "Meenu, it does cause some inconvenience but overall, it is good for our health."

Everyone was listening to this and Raj asked with amazement, "Father, how can sweating be healthy for us?"

"So, you really don't know why sweating is healthy? Let me explain it to you," said Uncle Manoj.

"Sweating allows the toxins or the unhealthy substances in our body to come out along with it. It clears our skin so that we do not suffer from pimples and blackheads and helps our skin to glow. It helps us to lose weight and improves our blood circulation, which in turn keeps our brain active. It maintains the temperature of our body in relation to



our surroundings," explained Uncle Manoj.

Meenu could never imagine that sweating had so many benefits.

"Okay, enough of this chit-chat. Come let's eat something now," said *ma*.

Suddenly, she remembered that she had forgotten to call for ice cream for the kids. She looked at Meenu but in the next moment, she decided against it and said under her breath, "Let it be; it is very hot outside. It will be a bad experience for whoever goes out now."

As if reading *ma's* mind, Meenu said, "Mummy, we forgot the ice cream. I will go get some. It is the season to enjoy ice creams."

She took money from her mother and went out to get ice cream. She came back quickly and helped her mother serve the ice cream to her cousins.

She was sweating after being out in the sun, walking in and out of the kitchen and not being in the AC or cooler, but was not irritated as she knew that sweating was good for her health.

Meenu understood that each season has its own importance and one should enjoy each season rather than complaining about it all the time ●



# fun time

**Funny signs seen in an office:**

1. Toilet out of order, please use floor below.
2. After tea break staff should empty the teapot and stand upside down on the draining board.

**Sruthi Kalivendi,**  
12 years, Pune

**Poorvi:** There are many parrots sitting on the tree. How can you capture them within a second?

**Sunny:** Throw a large net on them.

**Poorvi:** No. By taking a photograph.

**Poorvi Tahiliani,**  
8 years, Chennai

(Manas was an aspiring actor while Karan was a famous actor.)

**Manas:** Karan, I have so many fans.

**Karan:** So what! If you have fans, then I have air conditioners.

**Rizwan Mansuri,**  
11 years, New Delhi

**Teacher:** "Why are you on the floor?"

**Kajal:** "Because you said to do this math problem without tables!"

**Prateek Singh,**  
9 years, Gujarat

**Q:** Two men are playing chess. They play 5 games. Each man wins 3, how?  
**A:** They were not playing each other.

**Aarna Singh,**  
6 years, Mumbai

**Teacher:** Why are you late?

**Student:** There was a man who lost a 100 rupee note.

**Teacher:** Were you helping him look for it?

**Student:** No, I was standing on it.

**Arjun V Badiger,**  
11 years, New Delhi

**Q:** Which two keys cannot open any door?

**A:** Donkey and monkey.

**Nitya Uday Anchan,**  
8 years, Mumbai

**Teacher:** You copied from Anoop's paper, didn't you?

**Satish:** How did you know?

**Teacher:** Anoop's paper says "I don't know" and you have written, "Me neither"!

**Bhakti,**  
7 years, Mumbai

**Chirag:** You have 10 fish, 5 of them drowned, 3 came back to life. How many fish do you have?

**Uday:** 8!

**Chirag:** Wrong! Fish don't drown.

**Sreemaansrikar T,**  
10 years, Kerala

**Q:** A man was cleaning the windows of a 25-storey building. He slipped and fell off the ladder, but wasn't hurt. How did he do it?

**A:** He fell off the second step of the ladder.

**Shivani Ikhe,**  
9 years, Kolkata

**Q:** Why is the grasshopper not interested in football matches?

**A:** They prefer cricket matches.

**Rishabh Pandey,**  
8 years, Goa

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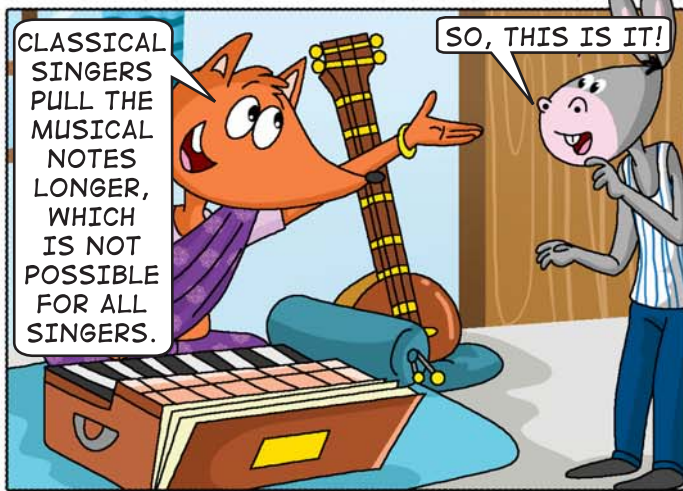
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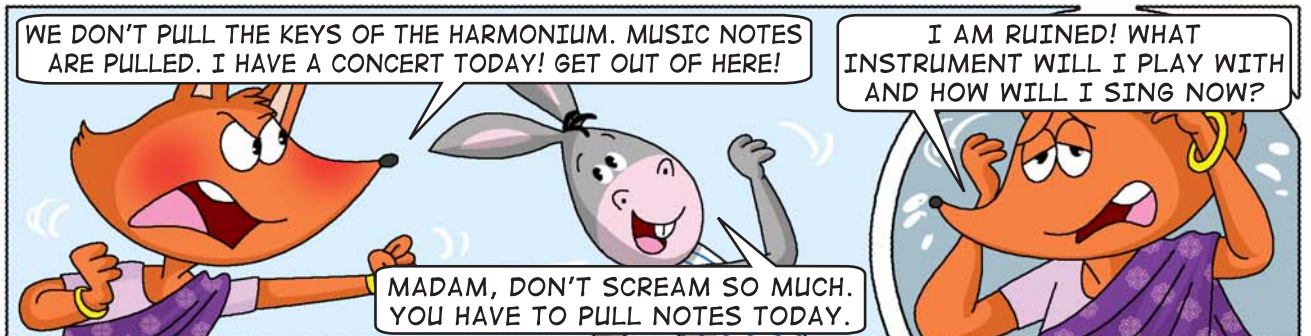


**DAMRU AND CLASSICAL SINGER LARA**  
Shivesh Shrivastava

**DAMRU STARTED WORKING WITH SINGER LARA FOX.**



**THE NEXT DAY, LARA SAW DAMRU PULLING THE KEYS OF HER HARMONIUM.**







# Do It Yourself

Poonam Mehta

“How hot it is! When will it rain, mom?” asked Bolt, Misha cheetah’s cub.

Anandvan forest had no rains. Animals did not have enough food. The forest had always been short of water and now, whatever little water was there, quickly dried up under the hot sun.

The days were hot and dry, and the nights were eerily uncomfortable. Birds and animals with fur like bears were suffering the most.

Misha lived in the forest with her cubs. Clouds would form in the sky every day but would break without rain. The months of monsoon passed, but not a drop of rain fell from the sky.

Drought was declared in the forest. The Forest Administration advised all animals to move to other forests.

When the animals started migrating with their kids, the hawks arrived from other forests and said that animals from other forests were moving towards their forest. There was a drought everywhere and no one knew where to go.

The animals called for a meeting. It was decided that no animal would eat another during the meeting.

Deer, squirrels, buffaloes, zebras, cheetahs, tigers, bears, foxes, and rabbits—all came together.



King Sheru said, "Friends, we are facing drought because of the human race. Because they believe they are superior, they have cut down trees and destroyed forests, constructed dams over rivers, drying them, and leading the planet towards destruction. The weather has altered. It doesn't rain during monsoons, it isn't cold during winters, and summers are increasingly hot. Our food chain is being destroyed because of no food and bad water."

"So we too must destroy the humans. Down with humans!" shouted Foxy fox.

The others repeated after him, "Down with humans! Down

with humans!"

The whole forest started chanting in hatred of humans.

"Quiet!" said King Sheru in his firm voice and everyone fell silent. "Tonight, we shall attack the human city closest to the forest and take their food and water. They too should know what it feels like when they starve."

The animals clapped at their king's decision and waited for nightfall. As soon as the sun set, tigers, bears, jackals, and cheetahs crossed the forest borders to hunt the human territory.





But the humans had good security systems in place, so the animals could not do much and just about escaped the traps set for themselves and returned. The news about their failure spread through the forest.

King Sheru called for another meeting. Some hyena who had been beaten up by the humans were standing in one corner and shivering with fear.

“Residents of the forest! We can’t live

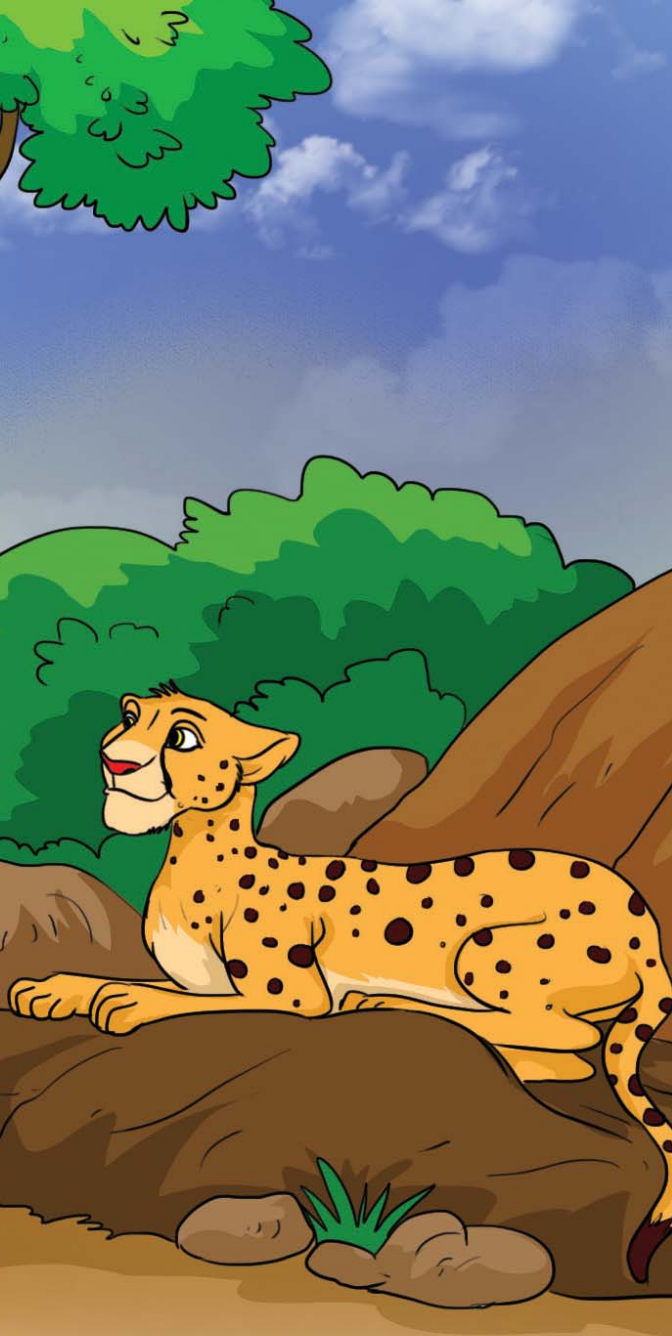
in fear! We must keep fighting! In this struggle for survival, we must...”

But before King Sheru could finish, Misha interrupted him and said, “Your majesty, with your permission, may I say something?”

Misha was loved and respected by everyone because she was a wise animal who found solutions without blaming or fighting.

The king nodded, and Misha said,





“Friends! Our fight is not with humans but with what they have done. They have misused their knowledge and have caused destruction to nature. The earth is heating up. The glaciers are melting but not just us, the humans too are suffering because of it. In some years, they too will face scarcity of food and water.”

Everyone listened to her attentively.

“If we attack humans,” continued Misha, “we will not survive. They are

stronger than us.”

Some animals, like the hyenas, who had been beaten agreed with her, but the others still wanted revenge.

“Do you have a solution to the problem, Misha?” asked the king.

“I do, your highness, but it’s going to be time-consuming and slow,” said Misha.

“Do tell us!” said the animals.

“We should try and grow our own food instead of stealing food and water from humans. Everyone will have to work hard and have the patience to see the results. If it does not work, we will try another way,” she said and explained what had to be done.

Next morning, the work started. Barren lands were dug by oxen and birds got the seeds sown. Elephants and bears got water from far away lakes that still had water.

All the animals and birds contributed to the cause based on their skills and all helped each other.

Working hard, they believed Misha’s plan would bear fruits. They knew about farming as they had seen humans do it.

Days passed into weeks. But neither did the weather improve, nor was there any sign of food.

All their hard work seemed to have failed. They started thinking they would rather have stolen food. They decided to go and attack humans and called for a meeting with their king.



They had only just reached his cave when lightning struck. The entire forest lit up in a flash and it started raining. Where seeds were sown, saplings appeared and the lakes started filling up.

With the crops growing, food problems also slowly began going away. Since the herbivores could now eat, the carnivores were hopeful about having food too.

Misha's plan had worked, though it took time.

If they had attacked humans, there was no guarantee of a continuous supply of food and water.

They had learnt that if you wish to do something, the best way was to "do it yourself." ●





# STICKY WATER

See water travel on a string without falling off.

SCI  
Q

## Stuff

- One glass with water
- One empty glass
- Cotton string



## Do

1. Wet the string and squeeze out the excess water.



2. Take one end of the wet string and dip it into the glass with water. Put the other end of the string inside the empty glass.

3. Lift the glass with water and tilt it at an angle.

## Think about

### Why does the water stick to the string?

Water has unique properties of being cohesive and adhesive. Cohesion means that water sticks to its own molecules or to itself, and adhesion means its molecules stick to other molecules or other things.

In our experiment, when the filled glass is tilted, the water molecules stick to the water molecules on the string and flow down due to cohesion. Water also sticks to the cotton string because of adhesion. Water has these properties because water is made up of hydrogen and oxygen. Its molecule  $H_2O$  has atoms with positive and negative charges, which cause them to stick to one another. It is due to cohesion that water flows like a small stream from the string. The positively and negatively charged atoms of water, also stick to the other charged atoms of the string and water does not fall off the string when it is flowing.

## See

When the water glass is tilted, the water does not fall out of the glass. Instead, it sticks to the string and flows into the empty glass, filling it up.



## Let's Find Out

### How are water droplets formed on windowpanes of a car after it rains?

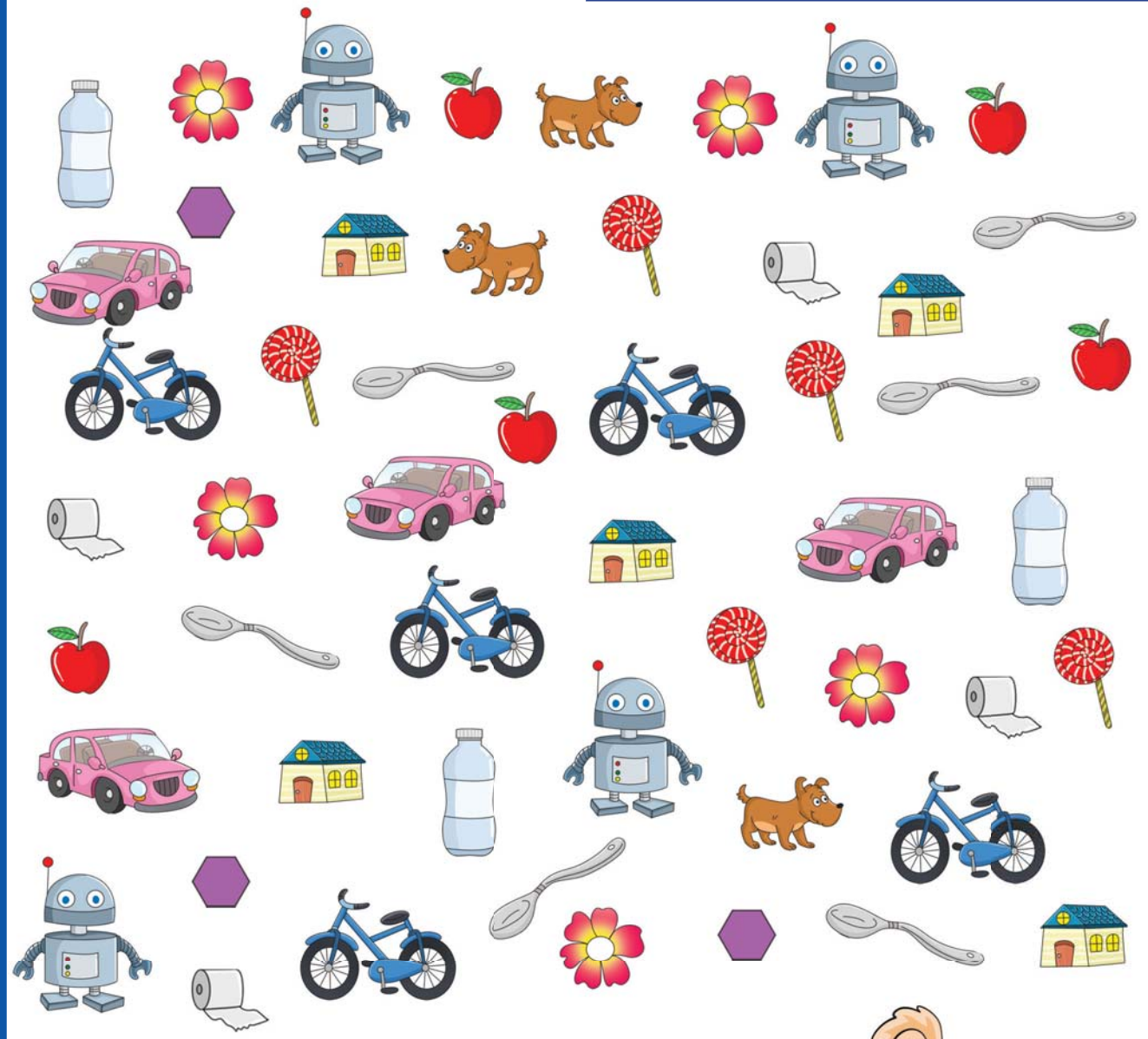
As we saw in our experiment, the strong cohesion property of water, makes its molecules stick to one another and make it look like a drop. And because of the property of adhesion, these water molecules stick on the glass of the car, forming drops after it has rained.




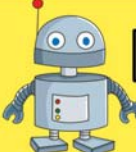










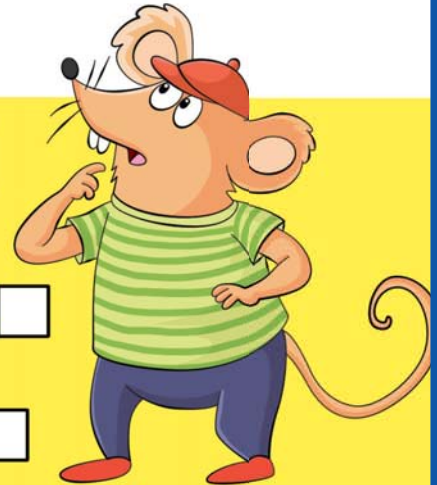
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# Mathematic Meeku

Meeku mouse has to count the quantity of every item, but each time he counts, he gets the wrong answer. Help him count!



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\* Answer on the last page.



# THE MOON AND THE SUN

Omprakash Kshatriya

Rahul saw Vikram Lander reach close to the Moon on television. Vikram Lander had been sent to look for water on the Moon. After hearing this news, Rahul went straight to his *dadi* and said, “*Dadi!* The story you had told me about the Moon is not true.”

*Dadi* did not understand what Rahul was saying. “Rahul, what story are you talking about?” she asked.

“*Dadi*, you had told me that the Sun and the Moon were brother and sister.”

“Yes,” said *dadi*. “And why do you say it’s not true?”

“But, *dadi*, how can they be brother and sister?” asked Rahul. “They live far away from one another.”

“You mean to say that by staying far away, there is no relationship between brother and sister?” asked *dadi*.

“My brother lives 900 kilometres away from here in Mysore. It has been a long time since I met him. So, is he not still my brother?”

Rahul did not have a reply to this question. He was confused if he should accept the Sun and the Moon as brother and sister. He looked towards *dadi* questioningly.



To clarify, *dadi* prompted him, “Rahul, tell me, who are called siblings?”

Hearing this Rahul laughed. “Oh, *dadi*, that is very simple,” he came and sat near her. “Boys and girls who are born of the same parents are called brothers and sisters.”

“Do you know, the Sun and the Moon are born from the same universe? That’s why they became brother and sister. We consider the Earth to be the mother, so what is the harm in considering her children as brother and sister.”

“But why?” asked Rahul.

“The children serve their parents who look after their children during their childhood, is it correct or incorrect?” asked *dadi*.

“Yes, correct,” replied Rahul.

“Then tell me, what will happen if the Sun stops rising?”

“There will be no day.”

“Is that all?”

“Yes, that is all I know,” said Rahul.

“Oh no!” said *dadi*, “It is not so. If the Sun stops rising, then the plants and trees





cannot grow. There will be no fruits and flowers. It is so because the plants prepare their food from the Sun's rays. In the presence of the Sun, they release oxygen into the atmosphere. If the Sun's rays are not received, then there will be no plants and trees."

"And if there are no plants and trees, what will we eat then? This is what you want to say, isn't it, *dadi*?" Rahul interrupted her.

"Yes, that's right!"

"But, *dadi*, tell me, you are saying that the Sun and the Moon are brother and sister, and they play hide and seek every day? How is this correct?" asked Rahul.

"You must have seen the Moon rising at night. Some days, it rises early and some days late. Some days, it is small and some days it is whole. All these are its art, which we call Moon-art," said *dadi* and Rahul nodded his head.

"The Moon revolves around the Earth, right?"

"Yes, *dadi*," said Rahul, "And the Earth revolves around the Sun."

"Yes. And because of this revolution, the rays of the Sun sometimes fall fully on the



Moon and sometimes only partially. The Moon revolves around the Earth and the Earth around the Sun. Because of this, sometimes the Moon comes completely in front of the Sun and sometimes partly, and the other part is in darkness."

"Yes, *dadi*. I understand this," said Rahul. "But if they are brother and sister, shouldn't they live, eat and drink together?"

"As you know that the Earth is a planet; and the Moon is a satellite. Planets revolve around the Sun. This means they are lifeless. Then, how will they eat or drink?"

"But you had said that the Sun and the Moon had quarrelled and in anger, they went far away to live separately; and they did not come in front of one another. Then their mother made them make a compromise and they sometimes come to meet one another. But I do not understand how they can come from so far to meet one another."

“You are right,” said *dadi*. “There is a lot of distance between the Earth and the Sun.”

Rahul interrupted her, “Not just a lot, *dadi*, but 15 crore kilometres.”

“Actually, the distance is 1,496 lakh kilometres.”

“No, *dadi*. You are wrong,” said Rahul.

“My dear, you are also right and I am also right. You are saying 15 crore kilometres; when I am saying four lakh kilometres less, which is the accurate distance.”

“What?” Rahul could not believe her words.

“Yes. This is correct, you can say 14 crores 96 lakh kilometres, which is 4 lakh kilometres less than 15 crore kilometres that you are saying.”

“Oh, *dadi*! You also know so much about the Sun and the Moon,” said Rahul hugging her. “I had thought that my *dadi* knows nothing.”

“After all, whose *dadi* am I?” she said. “I also read like you.”

“But *dadi*, are the Sun and the Moon actually

brother and sister?” Rahul still asked.

*Dadi* replied, “Oh, dear! They are brother and sister in your *dadi*’s story. A story is the gift of one’s imagination. Because of stories, we learn to stretch our minds to imagine. And sometimes, our imagination may become a reality.

Hearing this, they both laughed.

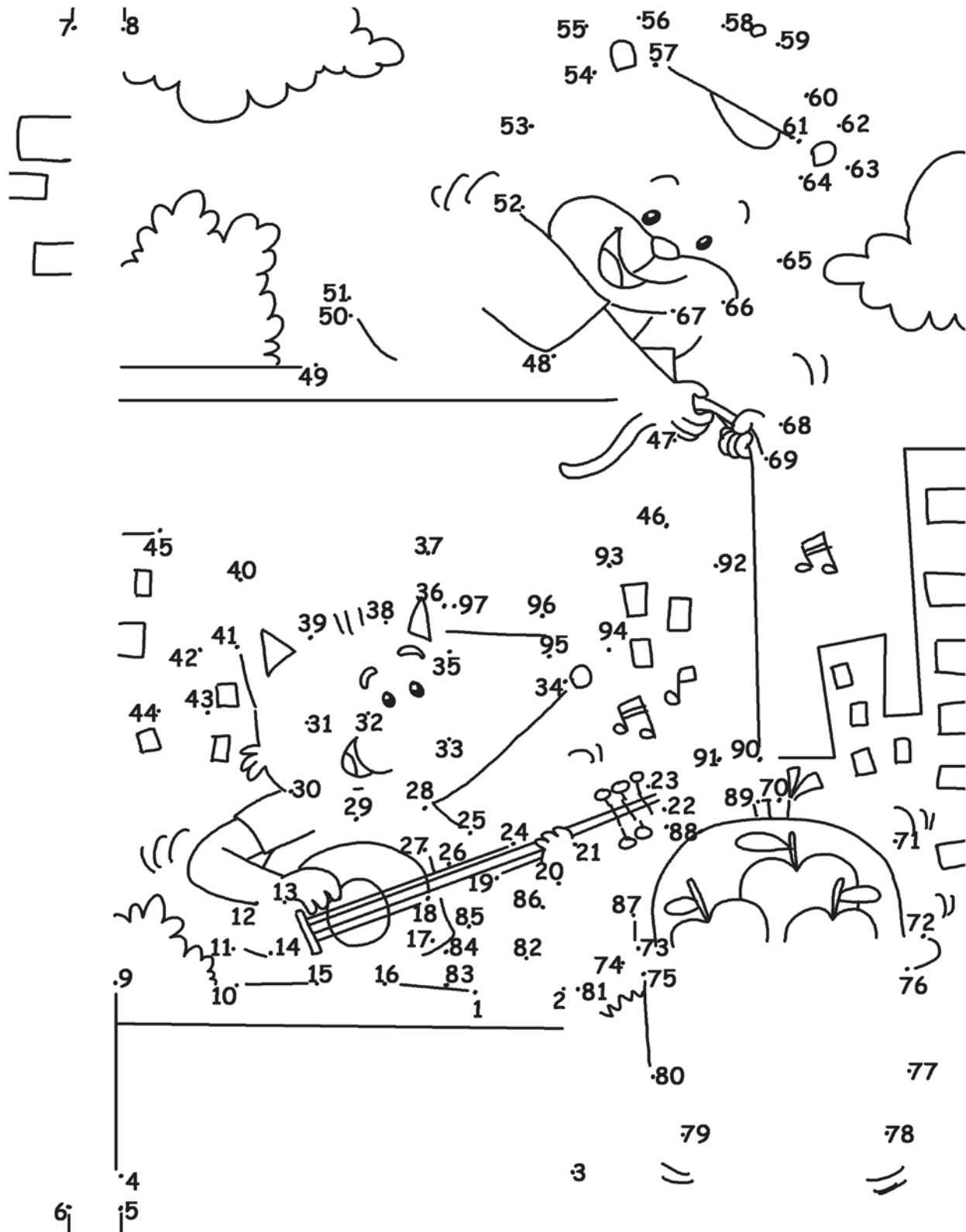
“Actually *dadi*, the Moon of your story is really very lovely,” said Rahul and he put his head on her lap. *Dadi* stroked his head lovingly to put him to sleep ●





# Dot to Dot

Join the dots according to the numbers and complete the picture.



# I AM CORONA

Om Prakash Chhatry

“Do you know me?” Devansh was startled when he heard someone talk.

“Who are you? And why do you look like a ball covered with old nails?” asked Devansh.

“So, you don’t know me,” replied the figure. “I am Corona,” it said, introducing itself.

“What!” said Devansh startled. “So, you are that deadly virus that is spreading so fast in the world!”

“Yes,” replied Corona.

“How do you infect us?” asked Devansh.

“I enter human bodies through their eyes, nose and mouth,” said Corona. “After that, I settle in their throat.”

“Throat!” gulped Devansh.

“Yes,” said Corona. “And when humans cough, I enter their lungs.”

“Aha! Tell me what happens when you enter our lungs?”

“In my ball-like figure, there are nail-shaped proteins. These stick to the cells in the throat and then I multiply myself



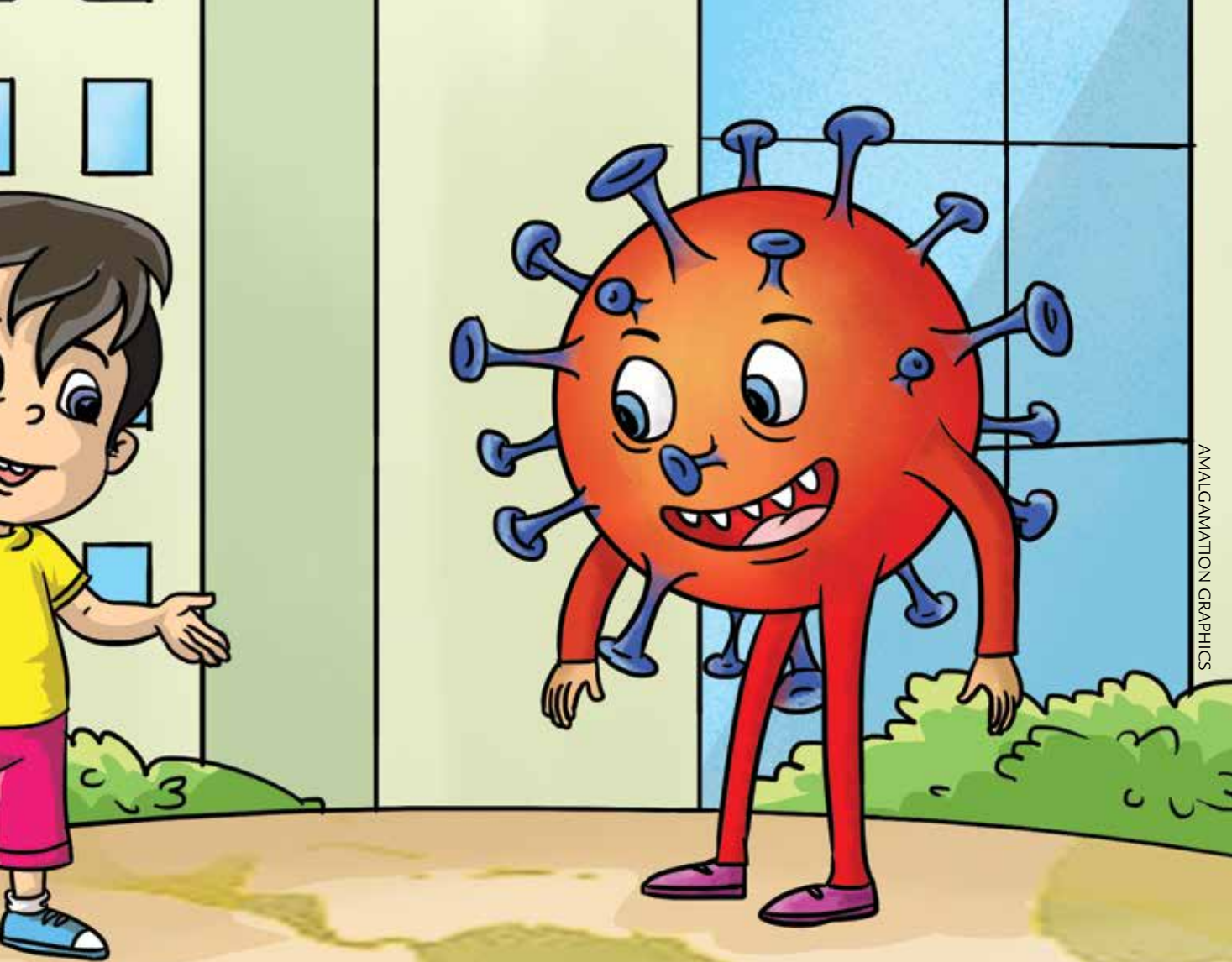
rapidly. Then when we reach the lungs, the healthy cells inside the lungs start dying. Due to this, the lungs get filled with dead cells and liquids, which make it difficult for humans to breathe. That leads to a decrease of oxygen in human blood and with this the lungs gradually stop functioning,” said Corona.

“You are very mean!” screamed Devansh.

“How can we protect ourselves from you?” asked Devansh.

“Keep your hands clean and wash them often. Don’t touch your mouth, nose and





eyes unnecessarily. Then I am not able to spread easily,” said Corona.

“And?”

“That’s all. Keep distance from infected people. Cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze or cough and wear glasses to protect your eyes,” said Corona.

“Anything else?” asked Devansh.

“If you keep yourself clean, stay at home and avoid large gatherings, and keep your hands away from your mouth, nose and eyes, then your chances of being infected

by me reduce drastically,” assured Corona.

Devansh’s mother entered his room. “What happened, Devansh? Were you dreaming in your sleep?”

Devansh woke up with a start! “It was a dream!” he said and told ma about it.

“You had a good dream! So, now you know a lot about coronavirus. Make sure we do as it says,” she said and left the room.

Devansh sat up on the bed, happy that he had learned so much ●

# Cheeku

DAS

CHEEKU AND MEEKU GO OUT FOR A WALK.

CHEEKU, SEE WHAT I HAVE FOUND!

OH! THIS IS A PURSE FULL OF MONEY.

WHO MIGHT HAVE DROPPED IT?

LET'S LOOK FOR THE OWNER OF THIS PURSE.

LOOK! THAT OLD MAN IS LOOKING FOR SOMETHING. THIS PURSE COULD BE HIS.

BOTH GO TO THE OLD MAN.

GRANDPA, ARE YOU LOOKING FOR YOUR PURSE?

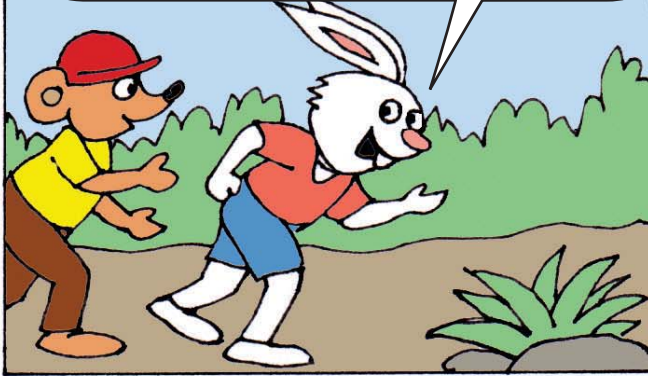
NO, SON! I AM LOOKING FOR MY SPECTACLES.

GRANDPA, YOUR SPECTACLES ARE ON YOUR HEAD.

OH YES! THEY ARE HERE AND I WAS LOOKING FOR THEM FROM SO LONG!

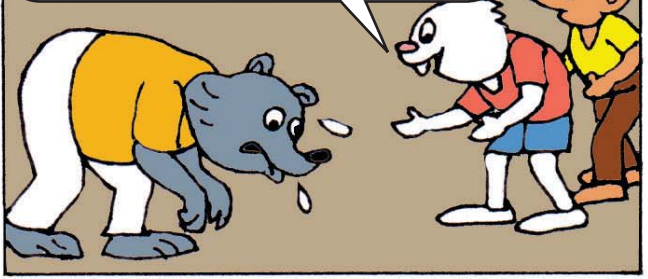


COME, MEEKU! LET'S CONTINUE LOOKING FOR THE OWNER OF THIS PURSE.

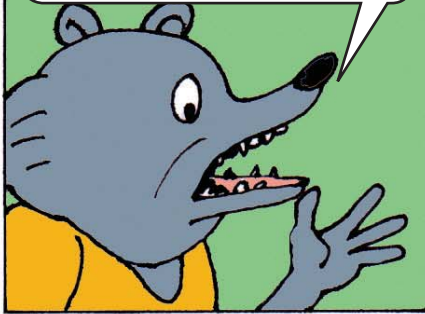


AFTER SOME TIME, THEY SEE A BEAR SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR, BROTHER? IT SEEMS YOU HAVE LOST SOMETHING VERY VALUABLE.



YES, IT IS VERY VALUABLE. MY TOOTH HAS BROKEN AND FALLEN DOWN. I AM LOOKING FOR THAT.



WHY DO YOU NEED A BROKEN TOOTH? YOU CAN CONTINUE DRINKING HONEY.



THIS IS NO JOKE! GET OUT OF HERE.



CHEEKU AND MEEKU RUN FAR AWAY.

LOOK, MEEKU! DINKU IS CRYING.



DINKU, WHY ARE YOU CRYING?

THE WASHERMAN HIT ME A LOT TODAY!



THIS IS TOO MUCH!. LET'S GO AND TEACH HIM A LESSON. THEN, WE WILL PARTY WITH THIS MONEY.



PARTY? HAVE YOU FOUND A PURSE?

YES!



THIS BELONGS TO THE WASHERMAN. I LOST HIS PURSE AND THAT IS WHY HE BEAT ME UP.





## Who am I?

1. The more you have of me,  
The less you will be able to see.

**Who am I?**

2. If you carry my burden,  
You will break your back!  
I am not very big,  
I leave silver in my track.

**Who am I?**

3. I will never ask questions,  
But someone always answers me.

**Who am I?**

4. I lose my head every morning  
But I get it back in the night.

**Who am I?**

5. I come in all shapes and sizes,  
I have four legs and a back,  
But I cannot walk.

**Who am I?**

6. I have a neck  
But no head.

**Who am I?**

## How Much Do You Know?



1. In which country was paper invented?

A) Japan  
B) Indonesia  
C) China  
D) India

2. What type of whale is the biggest animal in the world?

A) Blue Whale  
B) Killer Whale  
C) Humpback Whale  
D) Beluga Whale

3. Who was the first Indian to go to space?

A) Kalpana Chawla  
B) N. C. Bhatt  
C) P. Radhakrishnan  
D) Rakesh Sharma

4. Which acid is found in lemon?

A) Nitric acid  
B) Citric acid  
C) Boric acid  
D) Oxalic acid

1. Darkness 2. Snail 3. Doorbell  
4. Pillow 5. Chair 6. A Bottle

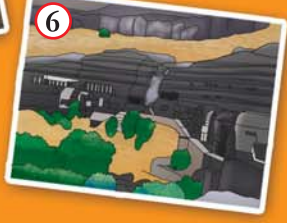
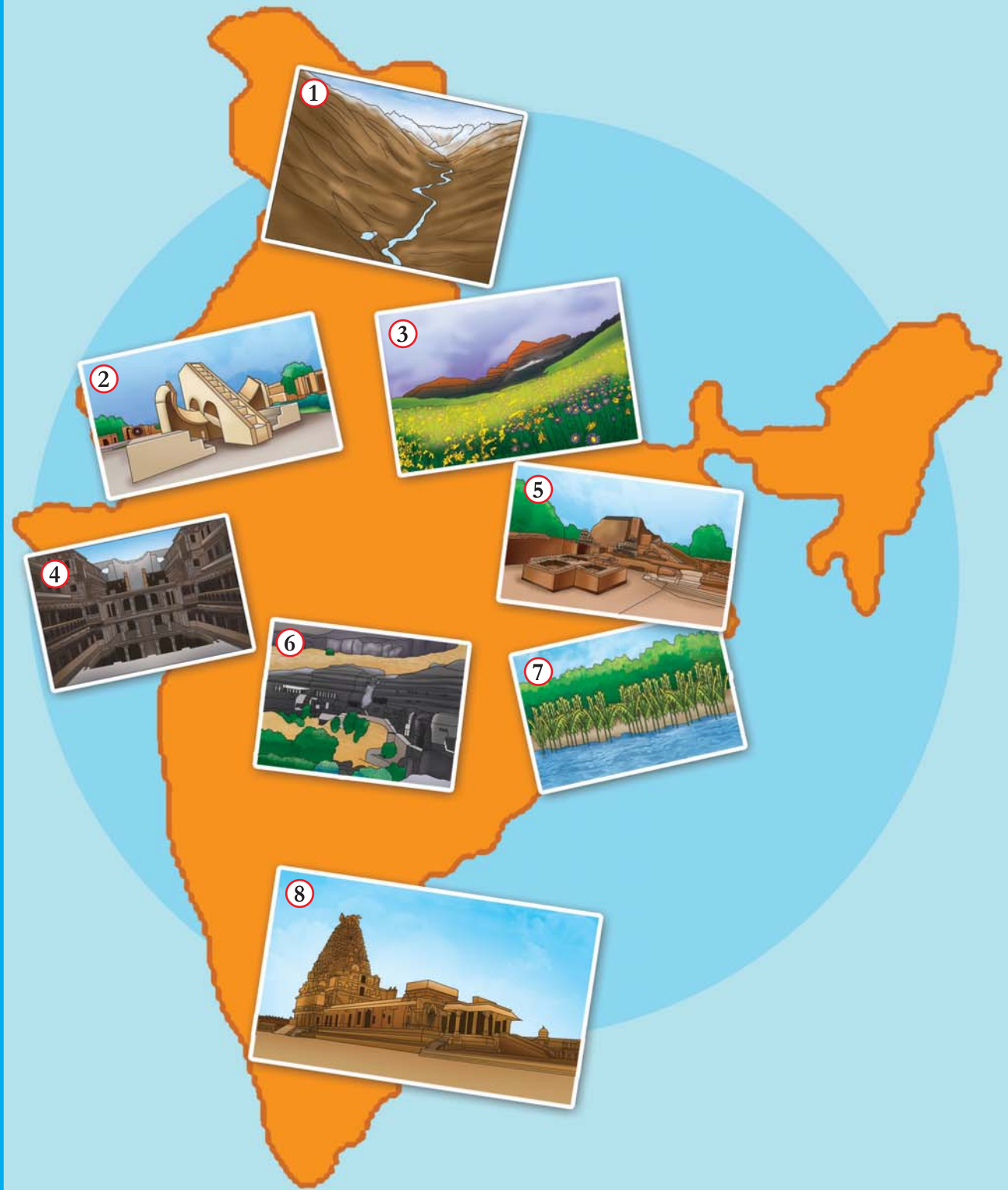
Answers: Who am I?

Answers: How Much Do You Know?  
1. C 2. A 3. D 4. B



# World Heritage Day

World Heritage Day is observed on April 18. India has 38 sites in the World Heritage list, which means that these sites are protected and preserved and no harm can be done to them. Look at the picture and identify the sites.



# The Mysterious Thefts

Dr. K. Rani

**V**eeru bear was taking a walk early in the morning, lost in his thoughts.

As he walked, Mittu mouse ran and crossed Veeru's path. Mittu screamed and Veeru took a step back, startled.

"Veeru, you would have stepped on me. Where are you lost?"

"Oh! Sorry, Mittu! I was just thinking about something."

"About what?"

"Why do you want to know?"

"Maybe I can be of help?" replied Mittu.

"You know there have been many thefts in the forest recently. But we can't figure out who the thief is."

The entire forest was worried because of the thefts that had taken place recently.

"We are unable to catch the thief. He is very clever and does not leave behind any clue. Our king is also worried. That's what I was thinking about. So tell me how you can help me," said Veeru.

"Let me think about it. Maybe I can come up with a plan. There is no harm in trying."





“You’re right! My spies in the forest have not been able to give us any leads.”

Seeing Mittu thinking, Veeru said, “Don’t feel bad if you can’t solve this problem. At least you tried to help me.”

“I too was a spy. But after I broke my leg, I left the job,” said Mittu.

“Well, you can join again if you want. The animals mostly look for food in the morning and sleep at night. You can go out in the morning and at night. Maybe you will see something important and give us clues.”

“Yes, you’re right! I’ll roam the forest at night and try to find something.”

They spoke for some more time and went their ways.

Mittu was still thinking about what Veeru had said. He wanted to help and kept thinking about the theft all day.

Late in the evening, as Mittu was quietly walking out of his hole, his wife asked, “Where are you going at this hour? It’s dangerous!”

“Well, going out can be dangerous even in the morning. But we can’t live in fear. I’ll just take a walk and come back soon.”

Mittu went out. He spotted Olly owl at a distance. Who was perched on a branch and was looking around. Olly kept jumping from one branch to another.

He could not see Mittu, who was hiding. Then Mittu came out of hiding and stood out in the open.

Olly saw him, but took no interest in him. He kept looking around, as if waiting for something.

Then Mittu saw Bobo bat hanging near Olly.

Mittu quickly roamed around the forest, returned home and waited for the morning.

Next morning, when Veeru was taking a walk, Mittu was waiting for him on the way.

“You’re up early today, Veeru!” greeted Mittu.

“Yes, I can’t sleep well these days because of all the worrying. Any news?” asked Veeru.





“I am not certain, but I can give you some names. They may be the ones helping the thieves,” said Mittu.

“Who are they?”

“Olly owl and Bobo bat,” began Mittu, and told Veeru what had happened the previous night. “An owl would usually swoop down on a rat for food, but Olly was not at all interested even when I stood out in the open!”

Veeru’s eyes lit up. “I’ll keep an eye on Olly and Bobo tonight.” And they left.

Veeru and his spies followed Olly that night. Veeru caught Olly with Chunky and Shanky foxes, who were all

talking together.

“What are you up to with Olly and Bobo?”

“We are friends so we meet to chat,” said Chunky.

“An owl and a bat can be friends! But how come they are friends with you both?” asked Veeru strictly.

After some questioning, both Shanky and Chunky confessed that they were all part of a gang that had been stealing regularly.

Veeru arrested the four of them.

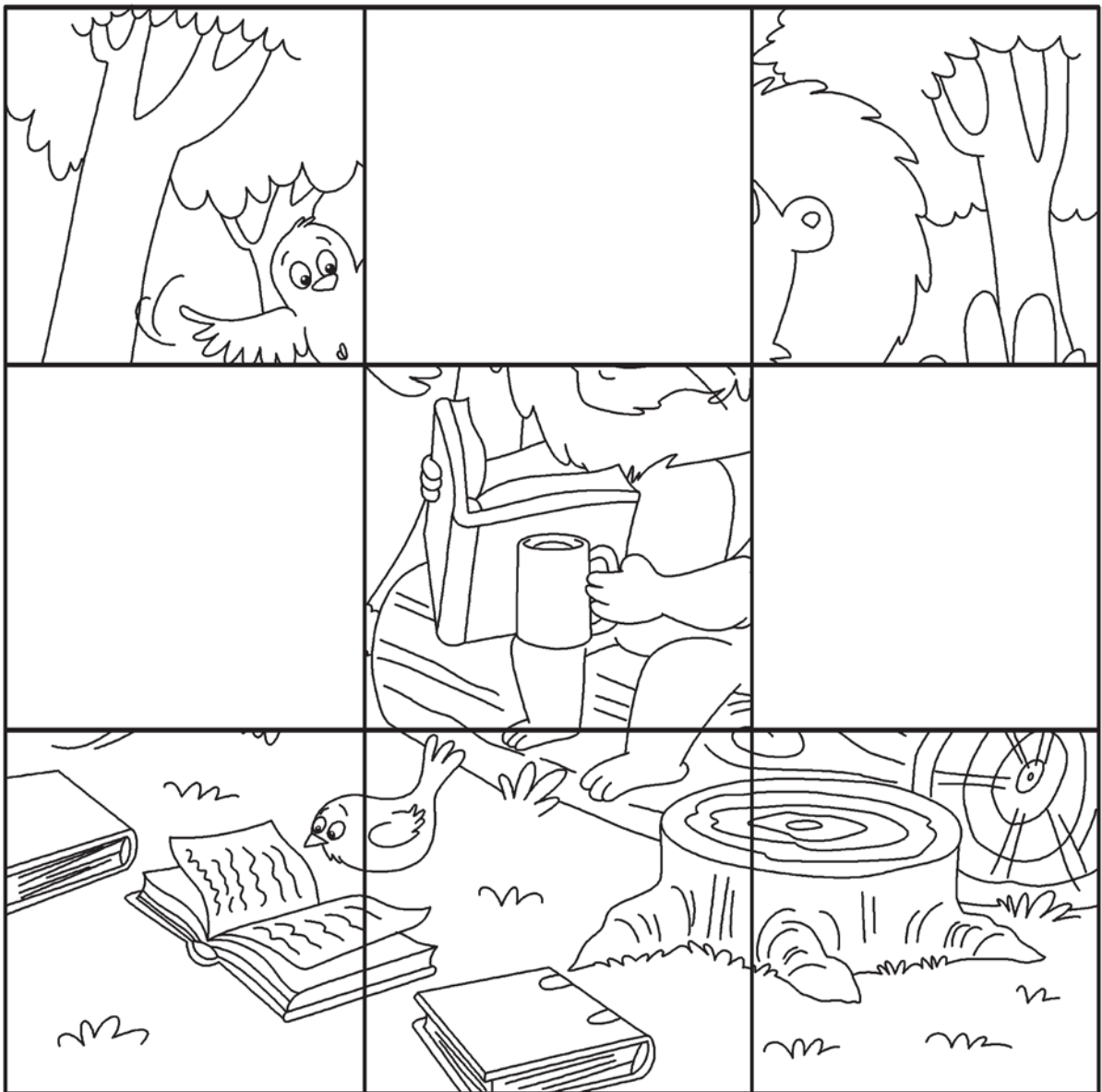
But Olly and Bobo never understood how they had been caught!●





Parts of this image have been left blank. Look at the picture, complete it and then colour it.

# Complete The Picture



# Ghost

By Avantika Gupta



# SMART



Using a cotton cloth, make a ghost and scare your friends!

## You will need:

Thin cotton cloth, a ball, a bottle, fevicol, bowl of water, black marker



## How to make:



1. Mix two teaspoons of fevicol in water and dip the cloth in it.



2. Put a ball on the mouth of a bottle.



3. Remove the cloth from the bowl and squeeze out excess. Drape it over the ball so that it takes the shape of a floating ghost. Leave it to dry.



4. After the cloth dries, remove the ball and bottle from underneath it. The cloth should now be stiff to stand on its own.



5. Draw eyes and stick red horns on the cloth.



Your ghost is ready to scare!

Try making this yourself at home! Send your creations to us at [writetochampak@delhipress.in](mailto:writetochampak@delhipress.in) or take a photo and send it to us at +91 9619587613





# MEMORY

Look at the picture below and answer the following questions.

- Q1. How many students are studying science?
- Q2. For which subject are the students using a globe?
- Q3. Whose photograph are the students looking at in the history study group?
- Q4. Name your favourite subject.





# Let's Fly

Omprakash Kshatriya

**C**roak saw the little sparrow fly. He felt that he flew better than her. He knew many ways of flying. He could turn while flying. He could come flying down and then suddenly soar again.

However, this little bird didn't know how to fly like that. Boasting, he said, "Hey, little one, what are you doing?"

"My name isn't 'Little One'. It's Dimpy," said Dimpy, sweetly.

"How does that matter? Your work matters more than your name. That's how you're known," said Croak. "What were you doing just now?" he continued boasting.

"I'm getting something food for my

children," replied Dimpy.

Croak laughed. "Flying like this?" he asked, copying her.

Dimpy understood that Croak was too proud of himself.

"This is how I always fly," she said.

"Do you call this flying? Watch me fly. I know so many ways of flying," Croak proudly told Dimpy.

"I know only one kind of flying," Dimpy replied. "Flying straight and smooth."

Croak laughed again. "Okay, let's see how fast each of us fly. We'll get to know whether your wings are to show or of any use."



But Dimpy was aware of her own flying capabilities. Croak was a bigger bird and flew faster than her. A bird like her couldn't fly as he did. She said, "I'm not interested in competing with you. We are very different birds."

Croak now felt prouder than ever. He understood that Dimpy was afraid of competing with him. "Why don't you admit that you're scared?" he asked proudly.

Dimpy kept quiet. Her babies were listening to their conversation. They weren't happy to hear what Croak was saying. "Mummy, are you afraid of flying?" they asked.

"No, my dear children," Dimpy replied.

She was now upset. Even her children seemed to be doubting her. She told Croak, "You love flying, right? Now, let's see who wins. However, there's one

condition. You'll have to take the route I choose. Then, I'll agree to participate in this race with you."

"Sure. Why not?" replied Croak. He knew that Dimpy could never beat him. Her wings were shorter and she flew slowly, whereas Croak's wings were much larger and he flew swiftly. "I agree to your condition."

"We'll start with this peepul tree and will fly right through the middle of the banyan tree. From there, we'll go to the palm tree. Whoever reaches the palm tree first will be the winner."

"I agree," Croak said, readily without thinking.

"Let's begin then," said Dimpy.

On hearing this, Dimpy's babies were overjoyed. "Mummy, we'll say 'one, two, three'."



The overconfident Croak said, “You fly first. I’ll start flying after you.” Saying this, Croak got ready to fly.

Dimpy’s children said, “One, two, three.” Dimpy flew and Croak flew after her. He flew faster and reached the peepul tree before Dimpy.

“What happened, Dimpy? Did I leave you behind?” Croak called out. “You cannot fly like me,” he said and started flying against the wind. He swooped down and then soared high the next moment. “This is my jumping-in-the-air flight,” he said to her.

“Very nice,” Dimpy replied and continued to fly. “Now fly through this tree, as we had decided.”

Croak started flying through the banyan tree. Since Dimpy was smaller, she could easily come out of the dense leafy tree, while Croak struggled. The tree was dense, and its branches were set close together. There were many leaves on them and hardly any space for a big bird like Croak to get through. He crashed into a branch.

Seeing this, Dimpy said, “You may hop and come to this side.” She continued flying.

“Okay,” Croak replied, struggling between the numerous leaves on the tree. “While you do that, I’ll fly to the next tree,” said Dimpy.

Croak was anxious. Dimpy was overtaking

him! He quickly hopped from one branch to the other, trying to get out of the tree. Meanwhile, Dimpy had crossed the second tree and had moved on towards the last one.

Croak was furious. Dimpy had tricked him. Anyway, he could fly faster than her. So, he decided to teach her a lesson. He quickly flew to the next tree. As it was less dense, he crossed it easily. So, he tried to fly straight through.

But suddenly something happened! He was floating in the air, unable to fly. Shocked, he wasn’t able to understand what had happened. He turned to look at his wings and saw they were stuck in a net! A hunter had put a net on the tree to catch pigeons. Croak was trapped!

“I’m stuck in a trap!” cried Croak.

Dimpy, meanwhile, had reached the palm tree and was waiting there for Croak. When he did not show up even after some time, she flew back to the previous tree.

“Why are you still here?” she asked Croak, who was hanging from a branch. “What kind of flight is this?”

Croak’s eyes were filled with tears. He was scared because he was stuck in a hunter’s net. Dimpy had flown through because she was so small. Croak’s pride had blinded him and he didn’t see the net.





“Dimpy, I’m trapped,” he said and started crying.

“Don’t be scared, pal. I’m here. I’ll help you come out of the net.” Dimpy came closer and easily cut the net around Croak’s wings. He freed his claws by cutting the net with his beak and was finally free of the net!

“Dimpy, please forgive me,” he said. “I was so proud of myself and thought I was superior. I never realised that a small bird like you could get out of cramped places easily.”

“My dear, Croak, nature has given unique abilities to every living being. You should never consider anyone inferior to yourself.

Every creature is important in this world and each has a role to play,” replied Dimpy.

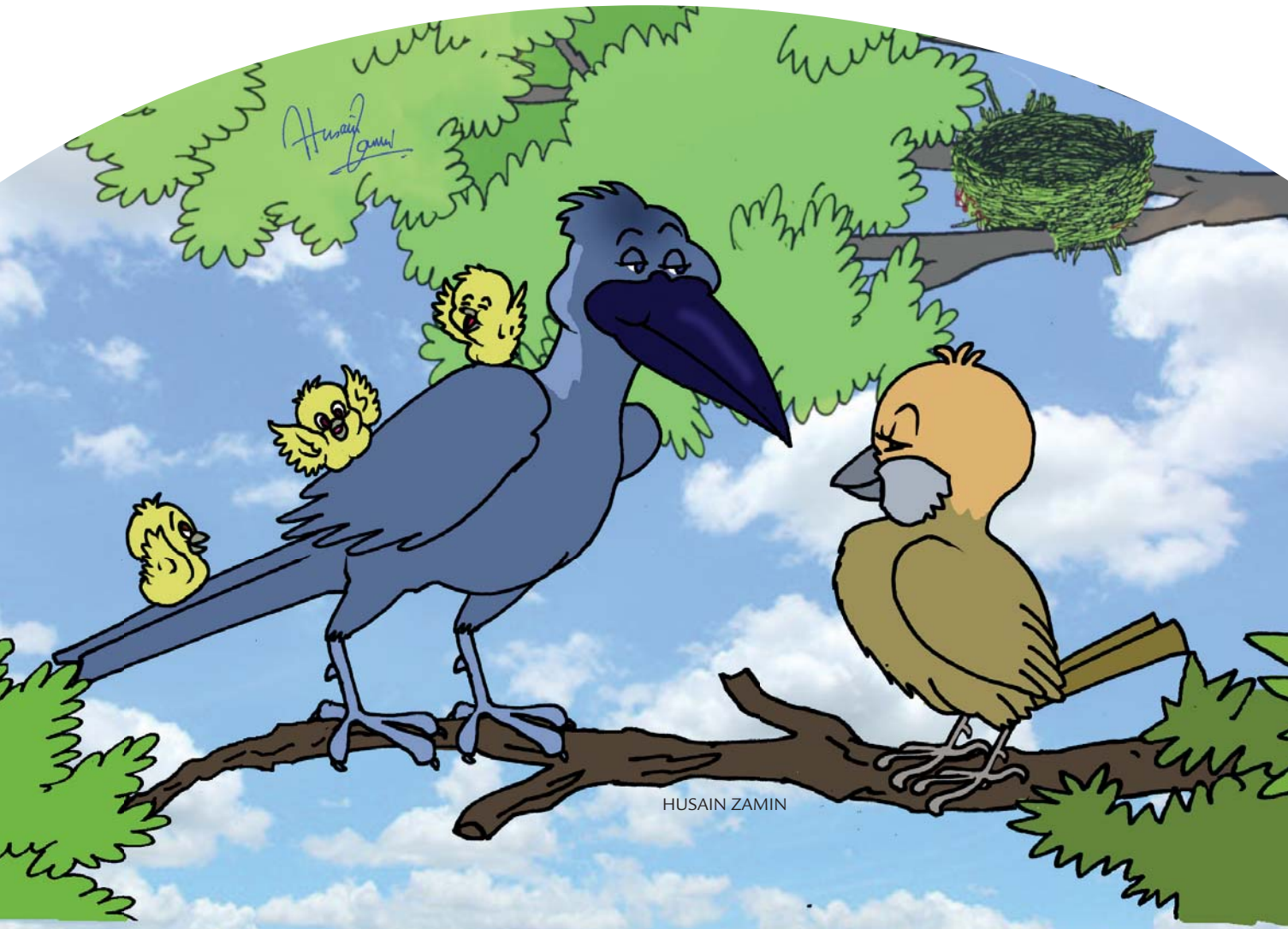
“You are absolutely right,” he said and they both returned to the tree where Dimpy’s children were sitting in the nest. They asked, “Mummy, who won the race?”

“Your beloved Croak Uncle has won,” said Dimpy.

“No, children. Your mother won the race. I lost due to my pride.” He laughed loudly.

Dimpy’s children shouted, “Mummy won! Mummy won!”

This brought a smile to Dimpy’s face ●



# DADAJI AND INTERNATIONAL DANCE DAY

Vivek Chakravarty

DADAJI WALKS IN TO FIND RAHUL WALKING WEIRDLY WHILE RIYA LAUGHS.

WHAT IS IT, RAHUL? WHY ARE YOU LIMPING?

NO, DADAJI. RAHUL IS NOT LIMPING, HE IS DANCING.

DANCING?

DADAJI, I AM TRYING TO DO THE MOONWALK.

DADAJI, RAHUL THINKS THAT IT IS EASY TO MOONWALK. HE JUST HAS TO WALK BACKWARDS.

RAHUL, WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN MOONWALK WITHOUT ANY PRACTICE?

THAT IS NOT HOW IT WORKS, RAHUL, BE IT MOONWALKING OR ANY OTHER FORM OF DANCE, IT IS NOT THAT EASY TO LEARN.

RAHUL, NO DOUBT YOU HAVE WATCHED THEM DANCE BUT YOU HAVEN'T SEEN HOW MUCH OF EFFORT GOES BEHIND THOSE PERFORMANCES?

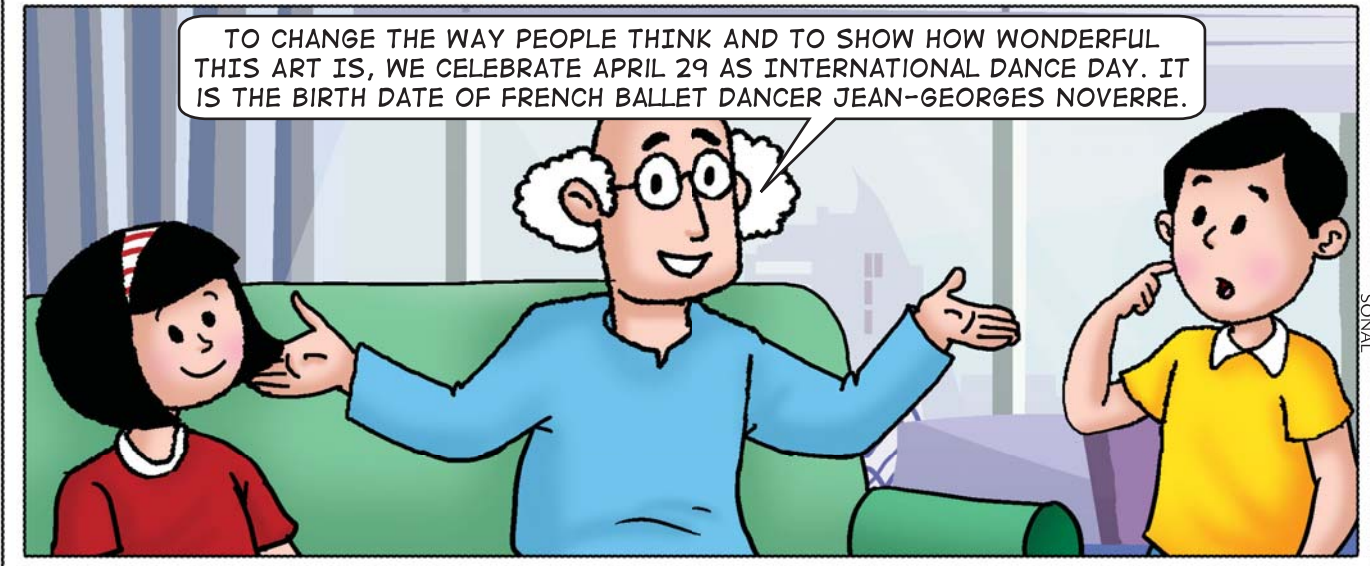
BUT DADAJI, EVERYBODY KNOWS HOW TO DANCE. I HAVE WATCHED LITTLE CHILDREN DANCING ON TV.



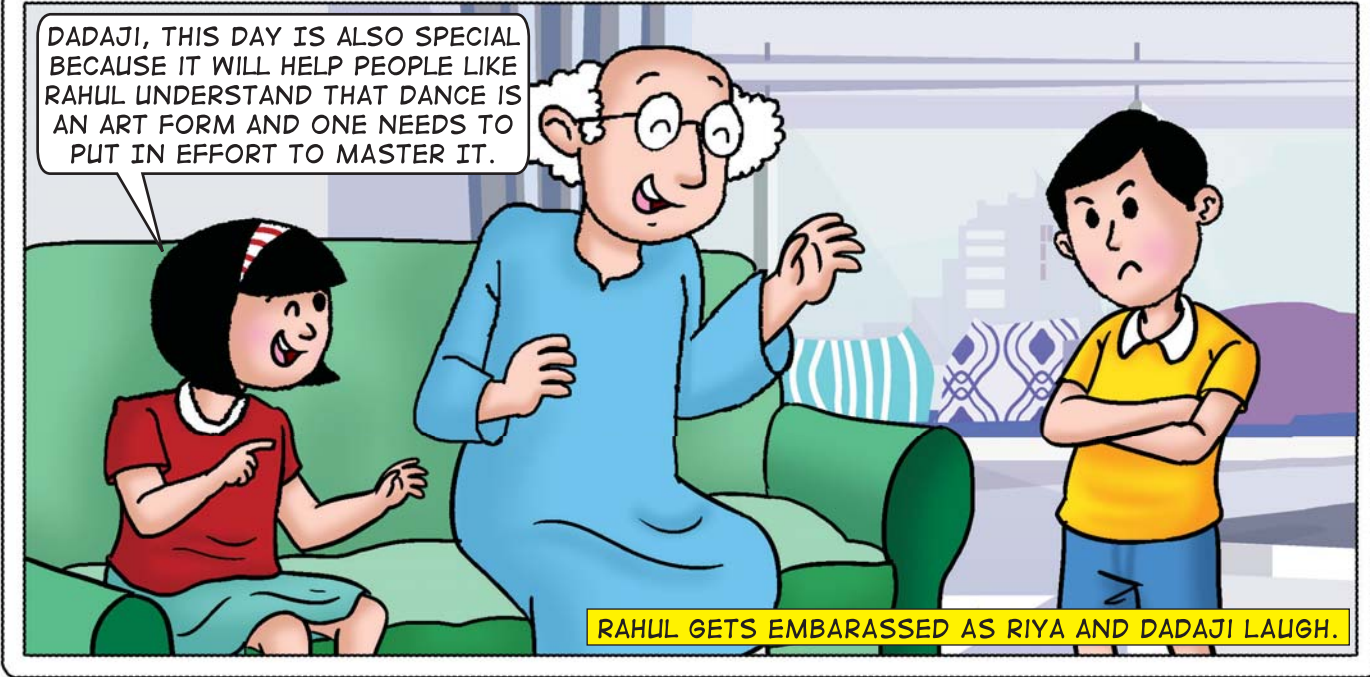


I AGREE, DADAJI. IT TAKES A LOT OF HARD WORK TO LEARN ANYTHING.

OF COURSE! DANCING IS AN ART JUST LIKE PAINTING OR SCULPTING. BUT IT HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN THE STATUS IT DESERVES BY OUR SOCIETY. IN FACT, DANCERS WERE LOOKED DOWN UPON, UNTIL RECENTLY.



TO CHANGE THE WAY PEOPLE THINK AND TO SHOW HOW WONDERFUL THIS ART IS, WE CELEBRATE APRIL 29 AS INTERNATIONAL DANCE DAY. IT IS THE BIRTH DATE OF FRENCH BALLET DANCER JEAN-GEORGES NOVERRE.



DADAJI, THIS DAY IS ALSO SPECIAL BECAUSE IT WILL HELP PEOPLE LIKE RAHUL UNDERSTAND THAT DANCE IS AN ART FORM AND ONE NEEDS TO PUT IN EFFORT TO MASTER IT.

RAHUL GETS EMBARRASSED AS RIYA AND DADAJI LAUGH.

# From YOUNG Readers



**Sarthak Kothiyal**

13 years, New Delhi

## **A Boy Who Cheated**

Once upon a time, there lived a boy named Ping. He was a lazy boy. One day, he got only 3 marks in an exam. He saw his results and was scared to go home and show his parents. He thought for a little while and said to himself, "If I change this 3 to 30 with my red marker, then no one will know that I got so less marks."

He went home and his mother asked, "How much did you score in your exam?"

He simply showed his exam sheet. His family was shocked. The teacher had called and told them about Ping's score so they knew he was lying. Mom and dad thought of teaching Ping a lesson. She ordered pizza for him and said, "You did so well! I will speak to your principal to give you a medal for getting good grades." Ping was not happy and had to tell what he did, otherwise, he would be suspended.

He cried and told his parents everything. He said, "I cheated. I wrote 0 after 3 to make it 30 because I thought I would be scolded."

His mother hugged him and said, "I know you did not score well and I had to teach you that cheating is not the key to success but hard work is the key to success."

Ping learnt his lesson and promised his parents to never cheat again.

**Riyan Dutta**

9 years, Jharkhand

## **The Candle of Affection**

Affection is like a burning candle,  
And trust makes it easy to handle.

Wax embraces it all, making it burn and shine,  
Blissful moments you enjoy and miss out to whine.  
They brighten up our life with affection and care,  
Listening to our talks, jokes and despair.

The old it gets, the harder it burns,  
What matters is sympathy, faith, trust and concerns.

When you light it and see it glow,

And watch it dance,

In your heart you will know.

This affection will last,

Blissful was our present and so was our past.

Our ship will sail over high oceans and seas,

We are humble at times,

We express with please.

Affection is like a burning candle,

And trust makes it easy to handle.

**Shaolin Prajapati**

13 years, Jabalpur



**K. Jhanvi**

10 years, Tamil Nadu





**Fatima Afra**

12 years, Tamil Nadu

**The Sweet World**

Nature is what we love,  
 Golden corn and a fountain dove!  
 Trickling streams and lavender lemons,  
 Daisy dews and hemisphere heavens!  
 Many mountains to be explored,  
 In nature, one can never be bored!  
 A golden glaze of morning's first-born dew,  
 And roses many, sunflowers few,  
 It's all the harvest of what we grew!  
 One can see a blur of colours,  
 Red, green, yellow mixed in blue!  
 Every bog, every bush, every briar,  
 Mountain sold, mountains new, mountains tire!

It's all a great creation,  
 It's worth any aggravation!  
 The human eye can't capture its view,  
 Not every drop of dew!  
 Beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder,  
 Growing dearer and bolder!  
 For nature lies in one heart,  
 In every pie and every tart!

It's never-ending,  
 It's never-repeating!  
 It's NATURE for me and you,  
 Thank you!

**Anusha Shukla**

10 years, Jabalpur

**My Little Garden**

In my little garden,  
 Always you can see,  
 Trees laden with fruits,  
 And plants filled with leaves.  
 Colourful flowers are lying here and there  
 As the wind scatters them everywhere.  
 Pretty butterflies flutter in the air,  
 And make the evening warm and pleasant.

**R. Sahana**

10 years, Chennai



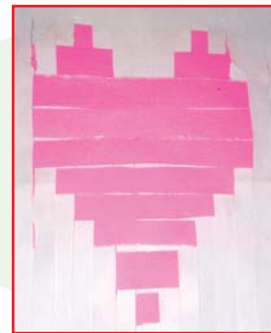
**Mir Ivan**

8 years, Kolkata

Valentine's Day  
 Greeting made  
 by our reader,

**Nitya,**

11 years, Bihar



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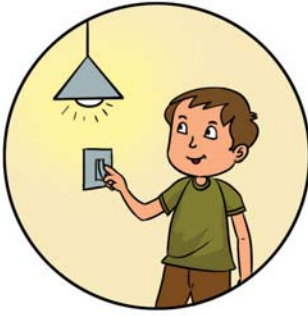
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# WORLD EARTH DAY

Earth day is celebrated on April 22. Here are a few things you can do to protect our planet.



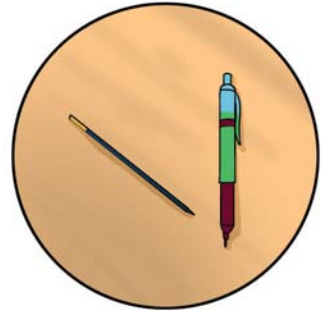
Turn the lights out when not in use.



Turn off the tap when not in use.



Ask your parents to buy fresh food instead of those with plastic packaging.



Buy refills for pens instead of buying new ones.



Avoid buying new clothes and donate your old ones.



Recycle as much as you can.



Walk instead of using the car for short trips.



Reuse paper.



Plant trees.

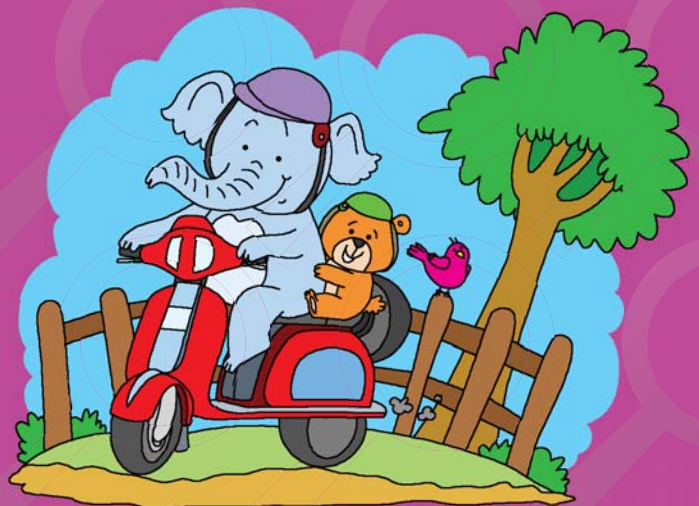
With a parent's permission and help, find out more about green organisations in your area and volunteer with them.





# Spot the Difference

Circle 10 differences you can find between the two pictures.



## Us and Them

We, humans, are raised by our parents from our birth till we're old enough to be independent and can live by ourselves. Unlike us, cowbirds are a species of birds, that do not raise their own children.

Cowbirds are common brood parasites. Parasite means someone who lives off others effort and work. Cowbirds are called parasites because they do not build their own nests, but lay their eggs in the nests of other species called their hosts.

One of the common varieties of cowbirds found in North America is the brown-headed cowbird. The eggs of these cowbirds hatch faster than the eggs of their hosts. The brown-headed cowbird chicks, thus, grow faster and eat a larger share of the food that the host birds bring.

The chicks continue living with the host birds until they hear a chatter call from adult brown-headed cowbirds that sparks a new activity in their brain, helping the chicks recognise members of their own species and fly to them. The adult cowbird does this by constantly monitoring and calling out to their chicks, who sneak out in the night to meet his/ her parents.

The chicks must hear the chatter call at a young age, and fly to their adults so that they don't pick up the habits of the host birds.

The brown-headed cowbird lays its eggs in the nests of more than 200 other species of birds.





# That's Not Right

Some things in this picture are not right. Find out what they are.





# Richie Saves the Day

Poonam Mehta

“**R**ichie...Richie! Look who’s here!” called mummy. Five minutes passed but there was still no reply.

Guests had come over and they wanted to meet Richie. But he was sprawled out in his bedroom, watching a cookery video on the phone.

Mummy came in angry, took the phone from Richie and switched it off. A little scared, Richie went and sat at his study table. He studied in grade 6.

Not only was he a brilliant student but an excellent dancer too. He loved cooking and would regularly follow cookery shows on TV, radio and the Internet.

He downloaded many recipes on his mother’s phone and cooked whenever he got a chance.

When mummy was not at home, he tried out new dishes. Since he was not allowed



to use the gas, he did fireless cooking. He cooked using the microwave and the oven toaster grill.

But mummy did not think cooking was a suitable hobby for a boy. She never encouraged him to try new recipes.

Also, she complained that her phone constantly ran out of battery.



One evening, papa came and announced that he had invited some friends over for dinner.

Mummy, too, was back from a long day at the office and not keen on cooking for the guests but since they were newly married couples from his father's office, she gave in.

Mummy and papa were worried about Richie wasting his study time, so it was decided that he would stay in his room while the guests came over. He would meet them when dinner was served. Mummy and papa decided the menu.

That day, the bed covers were changed, fresh flowers were put in pots and the sofa set was rearranged too.

On his way to school, Richie dreamed about his favourite dishes that would be served at dinner.

Fearing his mother's anger, Richie went off to sleep after completing his school work. But the next day, he was back to the usual routine. After finishing homework and badminton, Richie started watching cookery shows on the TV.

He learnt and experimented new things. By seeing cookery shows, Richie constantly learnt various ways of cooking the same dish. He knew the calorie contents and would add healthy ingredients to his recipes.

Exams were soon approaching and mummy restricted Richie's TV and Internet time.

Mummy was a great cook but she rarely cooked continental food but because dad had cut the vegetables the previous night, she had agreed to make a baked dish.

When he returned from school, he saw his mother sitting at the dining table looking tired.

His mother who would always rush to greet him did not even get up. He touched her forehead but she was not feverish.

"What happened, mummy?" asked a worried Richie. Mummy did not reply. She took Richie's school bag from him.



While having lunch, Richie saw a cake on the shelf in the kitchen. It had collapsed because of a power cut during baking. Now he knew why his mother was feeling sad.

There was no time to bake another cake and mummy did not want to buy one from the shop. She told Richie to take a nap after lunch.

He asked her if he could do anything to help. Mummy thought for a moment. "Okay...but how will you manage? We don't even have enough ingredients."

"I'll use whatever we have in the house," said Richie. There was not much time left for the guests to arrive.

Richie took some biscuits and ground them in the food processor. After sifting the powder, he added some powdered sugar and vanilla essence along with bits of dried fruits. Finally, he added some cream and milk and started beating the mixture.

Mummy was amazed to see Richie bake a cake all by himself. He asked his mother to add a sachet of fruit salt to the mixture to make it rise.

Then he preheated the oven at 180 degrees Celsius and left it to bake. Both of them hoped that there would be no more power cuts.

In the meanwhile, papa also came and Richie helped him

lay the table for dinner.

Soon, there was a lovely aroma of freshly baked cake. The cake was taken out of the oven and left to cool. Richie used sprinkles to decorate the cake.

The cake looked splendid and smelled wonderful. Mummy and papa were impressed with Richie's cooking skills. He had saved the day.

Soon the guests arrived. Everybody danced and played games. Richie too enjoyed himself a lot.





The guests appreciated the music and relished the food. They complimented mummy for the fabulous dinner. Then it was time for dessert.

Mummy served Richie's cake with ice cream.

"Yum!" said Mrs Yadav, praising the cake.

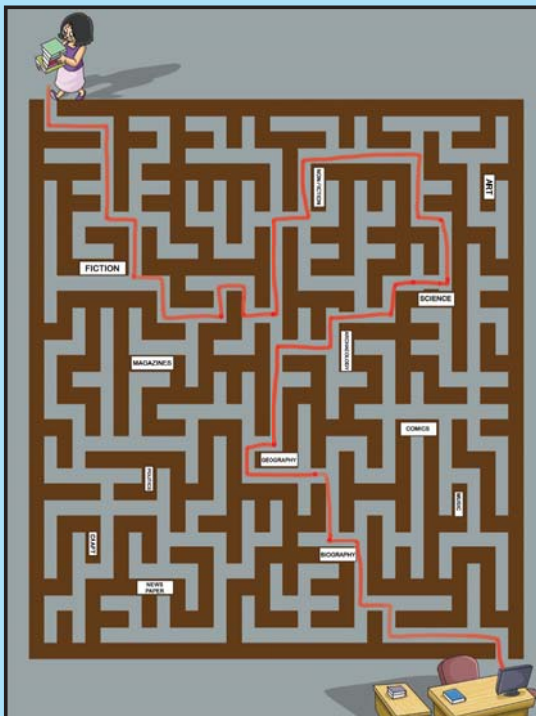
Mummy told Mr and Mrs Yadav that Richie had baked the cake in a jiffy. Richie was elated when the guests congratulated him.

The delicious cake vanished in no time and the party was a great success.

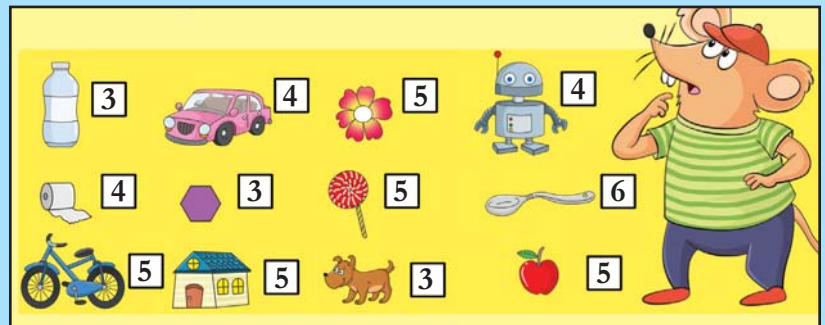
Mummy and papa realised that developing one's passion was a wonderful thing ●

## Answers to puzzles

### Page 8: Maze



### Page 20: Mathematic Meeku



### Page 29: World Heritage Day

1. Great Himalayan National Park, Himachal Pradesh
2. Jantar Mantar, Jaipur
3. Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks, West Himalaya
4. Rani-ki-vav, Gujarat
5. Archaeological Site of Nalanda Mahavihara at Nalanda, Bihar
6. Ajanta Caves, Maharashtra
7. Sundarban National Park, West Bengal
8. Great Living Chola Temples, Tamil Nadu





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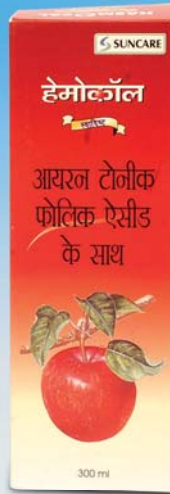
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