

August 2020 | ₹50

Highlights

Genies

Ages
2-6

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the
Fun!



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Why Is It Silly?

When I talk with young children—especially those I’m meeting for the first time—I like to ask them a silly question to break the ice: *Did you drive here in a banana? Is there a giraffe on my head?* It might take a few tries, but I usually get some giggles.

Silliness is a great way to connect with young children not only because the sound of their laughter is delightful, but also because questions like those can lead to smart discussions. This is what we like to do in *Highlights Genies* with the puzzle “That’s Silly.” Children find the sillies, but then the conversation can grow: *Why do you think that’s silly? Is that silly to everyone or just us?* This encourages children to use their critical-thinking skills and to articulate their thinking—skills that will serve them a lifetime.

Sincerely,



Richa Shah, Managing Editor
Email me at editor.genies@delhipress.in



Highlights Genies celebrates the early years of childhood—a time of discovery when learning happens at every turn. Our magazine is dedicated to helping parents, educators, and other caregivers nurture young children by

- encouraging their natural sense of wonder about the world;
- promoting reasoning, problem solving, and creative self-expression;
- fostering a love of language and a rich vocabulary;
- and inspiring them to be kind, to get along with others, and to grow in self-confidence.

Think Green!

Finished with this issue? Save it to reread in the future, or pass it along to a friend, classroom, or library. If it's too worn to be read anymore, please recycle it.

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Printed & Published by Paresh Nath on behalf of Shobhika Media Private Limited. Printed at PS PC Press Private Limited, 50 DLF Industrial Area, Phase-I, Faridabad, Haryana- 121003 and Published at E-8, Jhandewalan Estate, New Delhi-110055.

This copy is sold on the condition that jurisdiction for all disputes concerning sale, subscription and published matter will be in courts/forums/tribunals at Delhi.

Advertisement & Publication Office:

Delhi Press, E-8, Jhandewalan Estate, Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi-110055. Phone: 41398888, 23529557-62.

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Designed for use in all the classrooms of early childhood, including daycare centers, preschools, schools, and the home.



Highlights for Children has received the Association of Educational Publishers 2011 Distinguished Achievement Award for Preschool Fiction and the 2010 Preschool Periodical of the Year Award, the *Learning Magazine Teachers' Choice*SM Award for the Family, the NAPPA Gold and Silver Awards, and awards from Parents' Choice and the National Parenting Center.

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Inch by Inch

By Kathleen Doherty • Art by Scot Ritchie

My back is up against the wall.
I hope that I am getting tall.
Mom's pen is even with my head.
The mark she makes she dates in red.
I wonder if my mother knows
I'm standing on my tippy-toes!

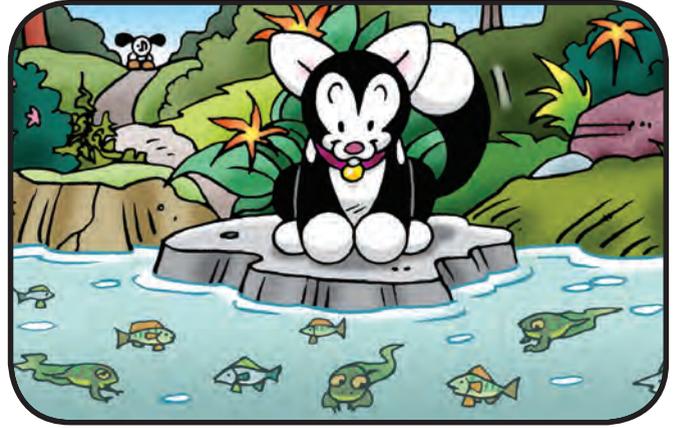


The Adventures of Spot

By Marileta Robinson • Art by Ron Zalme



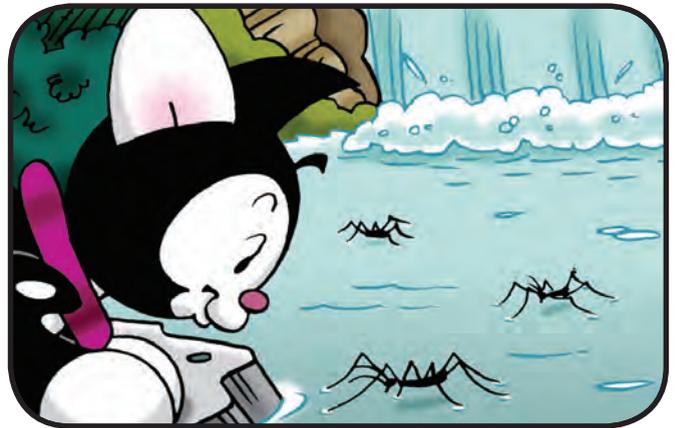
What's in the pond?



Splinter sees fish and tadpoles.



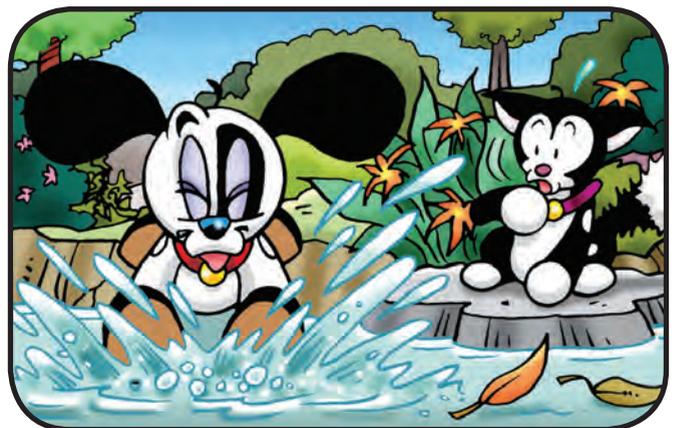
She sees floating leaves.



She sees swimming bugs.



She sees . . .



Spot!

Working Together

By Lissa Rovetch • Art by Amy Wummer



“Thanks, kids,” said Mom.

“No problem!” said Tex.

“We like helping you run the market,” said Indi.



“That box of soup cans is heavy,” said Dad.

“I’ve got it!” said Indi.

“No, I’ve got it!” Tex said, pulling at the box.

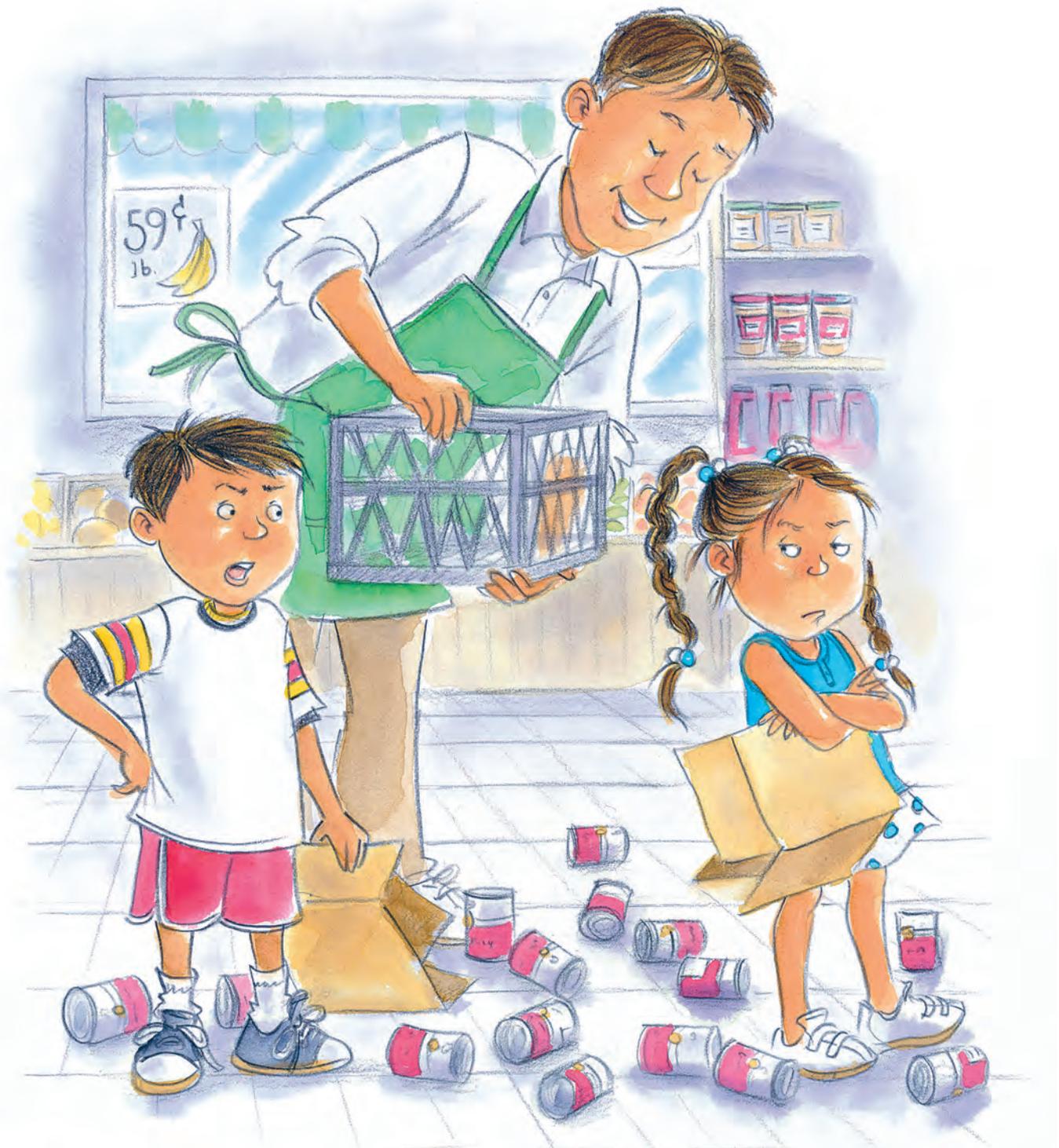


Just then, the box ripped open and soup cans rolled everywhere!

“Look what you did!” said Tex.

“No, look what *you* did!” said Indi.





“Do you know what I think we need here?” asked Dad.
“A gigantic vacuum-cleaner robot to suck up all these cans?” said Tex.

“No,” said Dad, chuckling. “We need a little less blaming and a lot more teamwork.”



It took a while, but Tex and Indi picked up every can.

“I’m sorry,” said Tex. “I shouldn’t have pulled the box away from you.”

“Thanks,” said Indi. “And I’m sorry for not letting you help me in the first place.”

“Who’ll give me a hand with the rest of these boxes?” asked Dad.

“We both will!” said Tex.

“Yup!” said Indi. “We’ll do it *together!*” 🍷

Bath Time Fun

By Dianne Moritz

I rub and I scrub
and I splash in the tub
with my duck, my whale,
and my little blue pail.

My First Hidden Pictures Puzzle

Find these objects hidden
in the big picture.



Banana



Egg



Watch



Book



Owl



Crayon



Ring



Bell



Teacup



Art by Kelly Kennedy



An illustration of a pink piggy wearing a blue and white striped shirt and orange overalls, carrying a wooden crate full of yellow lemons. The piggy is standing on a stone-paved area. In the background, there is a white picket fence, a small blue and white bird perched on a fence post, a green tree on a grassy hill, and a large green tree in the upper left corner under a blue sky.

Five Little Piggies and One Lemonade Stand

By Viji K. Chary • Art by Kristyna Litten

The **first** little piggy went to market and bought lemons.

The **second** little piggy dragged a table from her garage.

The **third** little piggy pulled out a tablecloth from his closet.

The **fourth** little piggy made a “Lemonade” banner.

The **fifth** little piggy collected cups from his kitchen.

The piggies put up a lemonade stand with a table, tablecloth, banner, cups, and lemonade.



Little Red Riding Hood stopped by. "I'm on my way to Granny's house, and I'm thirsty," she said.

The Gingerbread Boy ran to the table. "Quick!" he said. "May I have some lemonade?"



Goldilocks hurried out of a house. "That lemonade looks just right," she said, and she drank the whole cup.



“Ahem,” said the Wolf. “I’d like some lemonade, please.”

The five little piggies ran, wee, wee, wee, all the way home. 🚫

Rakshabandhan Celebrations

By Melissa Fernandes • Art by Nirupama Viswanath

Radhika ties a *rakhi* on her best friend's hand.

It's a thread of protection, do you understand?

Gopal makes a *rakhi* for his older sisters,

They celebrate by saying tongue twisters.

Rahul and Jay make *rakhis* for each other, too,

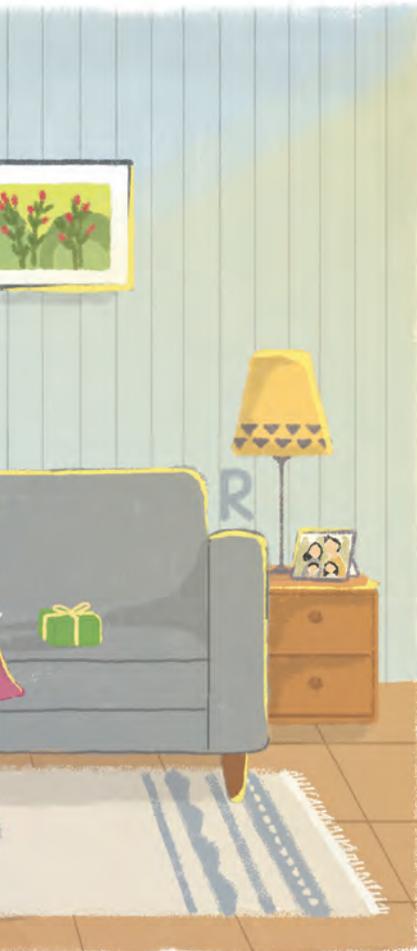
Helping each other is what they always do.

Sakshi and Madhu live far apart,

They always post a *rakhi* and a card with a heart!

How many *rakhis* do you see?
How many R's can you find?
How else can you celebrate Rakshabandhan?

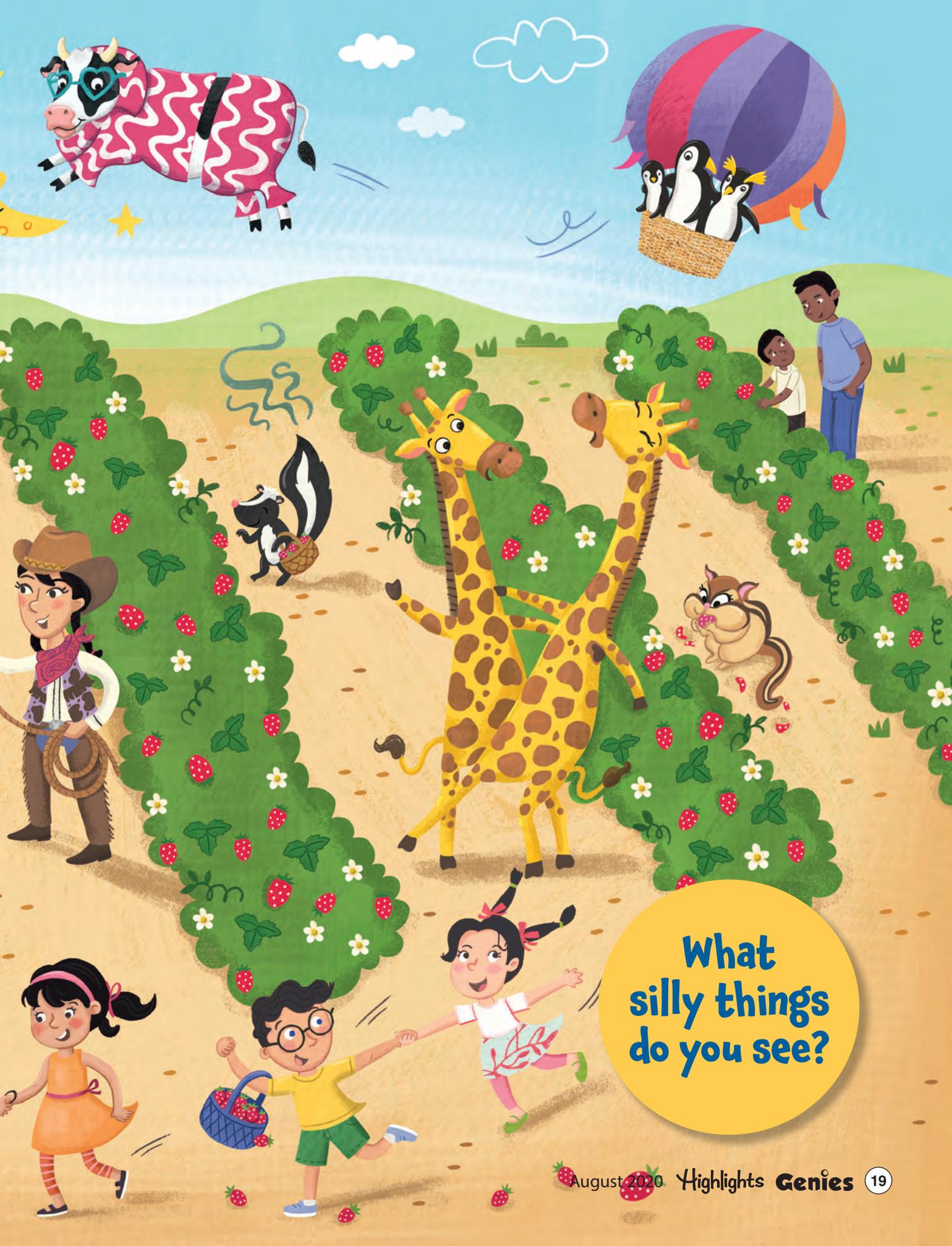




That's Silly!

Art by Julissa Mora





What
silly things
do you see?

The Big Sister

By Richa Shah and Melissa Fernandes • Art by Sonal



Meera and Kiran



When Ma took the kids to the grocery store, Kiran wanted to push the cart.

“I’m the big sister. I get to push it,” said Meera, taking the handle from Kiran.

Kiran kept quiet and held Ma’s hand.



When they got home, it was snack time. "I would like to slice a banana," said Kiran.

"I'm the big sister. I will slice it for you," said Meera, and sliced the banana for Kiran.



After the snack, the kids went out into the garden.
“Meera, may I cycle?” asked Kiran.
“You sit behind me. I’m the big sister,” said Meera.
Kiran climbed on the back seat and Meera rode the cycle.



On the day of Rakshabandhan, Meera and Kiran dressed up.
Meera tied a *rakhi* on Kiran’s wrist.



Kiran held out a *rakhi* and said, “Meera, I want to tie a *rakhi* on your wrist because you are my big sister.”

Meera was surprised. “I am your big sister, but you’re acting like the big brother,” she said and put her hand forward.

“Can we take the dog out for a walk?” asked Kiran.

“Yes, and you hold the leash,” said Meera.

“You’re my loving sister,” said Kiran, and gave Meera a big hug. 



Under the Sea

Art by Mitch Mortimer



How are these pictures the same?



How are they different?

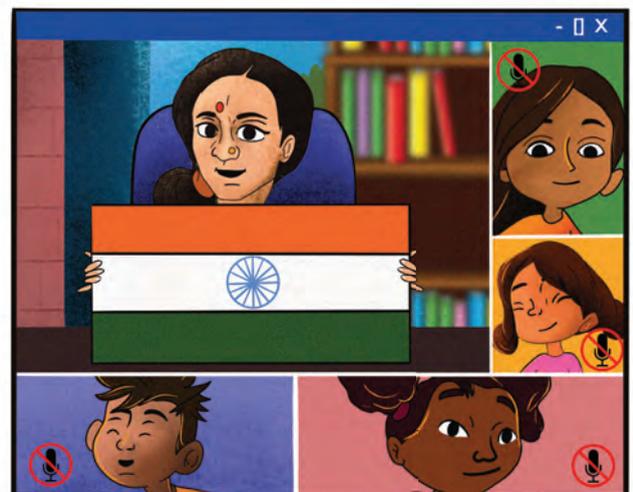
Happy Independence Day

By Melissa Fernandes • Art by Diya Sengupta



“Hurry, Geeta! You’re going to be late!” said Shlok.
“I’m logging in now,” said Geeta, over the phone.
Their class was participating in a virtual flag design competition held by their school.

“Welcome, everyone!”
said Ms. Anita. She held up
the Indian flag and said,
“Our flag reminds us of
important values.”



“Who can tell me what its shape is?” asked Mr. Raghu.

“It’s a rectangle!” replied Shruti.

“And what colors do you see on it?” asked Ms. Anita.

“White and green bands, and blue in the center,” replied Shruti.



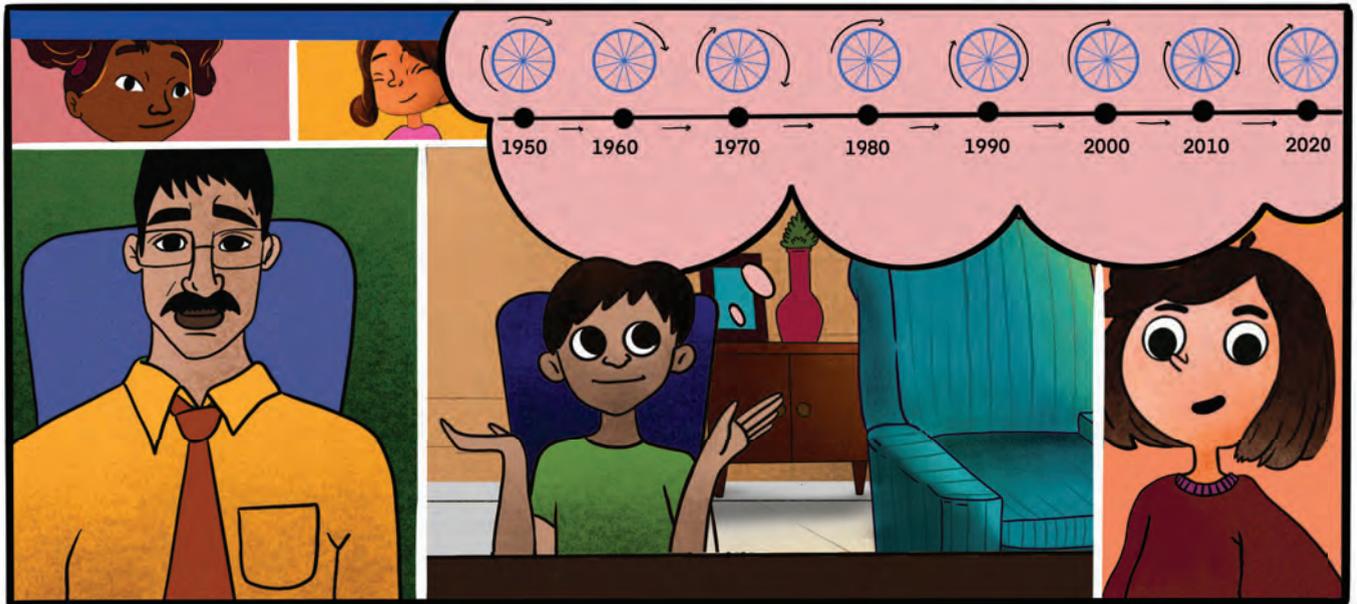
“Also saffron, which stands for courage. We should speak up when things are not fair,” said Geeta, loudly so that she could be heard.

“Very good, Geeta!” Ms. Anita replied.

“White stands for peace and truth,” said Shruti.

“And green stands for our land, where crops grow,” added Shlok.





“Does anyone know about the the wheel in the middle?” asked Mr. Raghu.

“It’s the Ashoka Chakra. It reminds us that our country must move forward with time,” answered Anwar. “India should be just and equal for all who live here.”

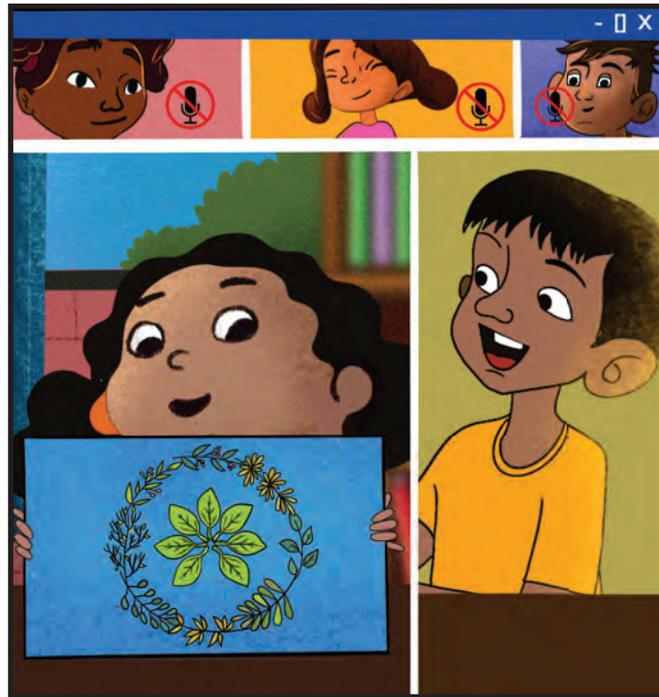
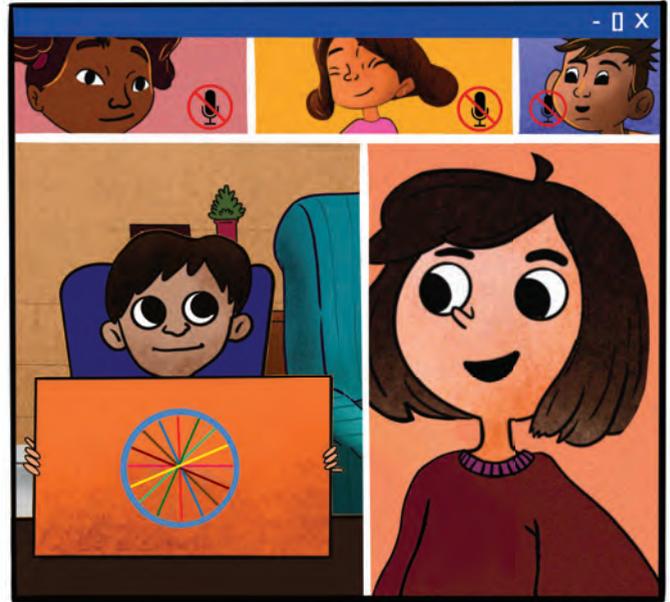
“Great work, everyone. Now let’s break into groups and design the flag,” said Ms. Anita.

Geeta, Alok, and Srinivas were in one group, and Shlok, Anwar, and Shruti were in another.

Whispers filled the chat room.



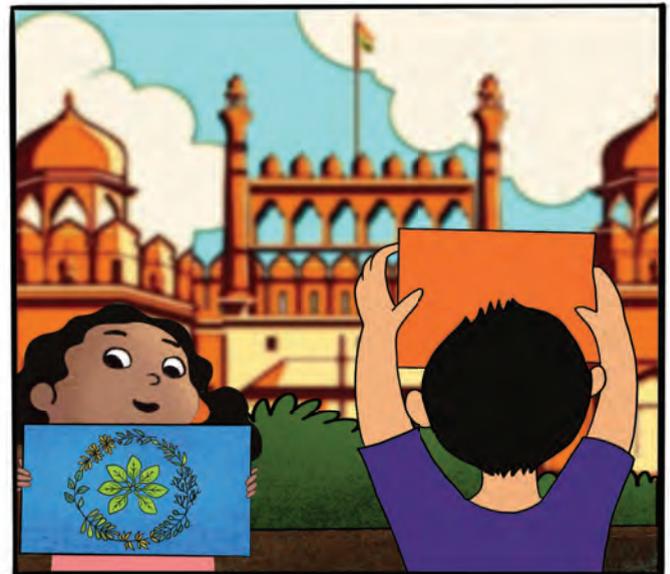
When time was up, Shruti explained her group's design. "Ours is a colorful wheel with 29 spokes, representing India's states, who move forward with truth and togetherness."



Geeta's group's design had different kinds of leaves placed in the shape of a flower.

"Our flag shows that even though we all are different, when we are together, we are beautiful," said Srinivas.

When the flag was hoisted at New Delhi's Red Fort on August 15th, the children held their flags while thinking about the values they'd shown in their designs. 🇮🇳



Stretch!

By Tina Tocco • Art by Tjarda Borsboom • Photos by Jim Filipski, Guy Cali Associates, Inc.



1. Hands to head.



2. Hands to toes.



3. Stretch the way
a flower grows.





An Action Rhyme



4. Hands to shoulders.



5. Hands to thighs.



6. Stretch your body to the skies!



A young girl with brown hair, wearing a pink headband and pink-rimmed glasses, is blowing a large, iridescent bubble. She is wearing a white sleeveless dress with large dark blue polka dots. The background is a solid light blue color. Several other bubbles are visible in the air around her. A yellow banner with pink text is at the top right.

Make big or small bubbles.

You Need

- Plastic water bottle
- Pipe cleaners
- Scissors
- Ribbon
- Bubble solution

Double Bubble Wand

By Rachel K. Redd • Photos by Jim Filipski, Guy Cali Associates, Inc.



Adult: Cut off the bottom $\frac{3}{4}$ of a water bottle.

1 Twist together four pipe cleaners to make the wand handle.

2 Wrap part of the handle around the neck of the water bottle. Twist it to secure.



3 Cut several lengths of ribbon.

4 Tie the ribbons to the wand.

Experiment! What happens when you dip the large end into bubble solution and gently blow into the small end? Or when you dip the small end and blow into the large end?

Mug Cake

By Batter Together

You need

- 4 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon cardamom powder
- 1 teaspoon vegetable oil
- ¼ teaspoon baking soda
- 4 tablespoons milk
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- ¼ teaspoon baking powder
- 1 tablespoon vanilla essence



1. In a microwave-safe mug, mix all the dry ingredients (flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and cardamom powder) with a fork.

2. Add milk, oil, and vanilla essence to the dry ingredients.



3. Mix well until the dry and wet ingredients are completely blended.

4. Cook it in the microwave for 2 minutes, or until it is cooked all the way through. Yum!

Batter Together conducts baking workshops for children aged between 3 and 16 years in Mumbai.



Thanks for reading

Highlights **Genies**

Which one comes next?



?



Look for these pictures inside the magazine.

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