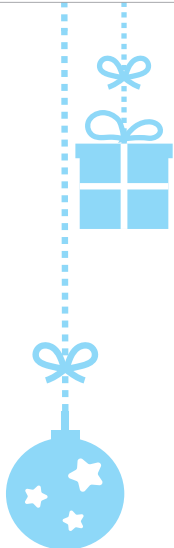


Fables by


Ally



*Written & Illustrated by
Aliya Shetty Oza*





The author- Aliya Shetty Oza

She is a grade 3 student, at Ecole Mondiale World
School, in Mumbai, India.

Her second book is a collection of ten fables called
Fables by Ally.



Some of the fables are original while others are inspired
from popular fables but have a special twist.

The entire process of putting together her book has
been challenging and possible with the help of many people.

Ally's inspiration to write; stems from her passion
and love for reading. Her first book (titled

'Short Stories by Ally') is available for downloading
as well as viewing on www.shortstoriesbyally.com.

She hopes her stories are enjoyed by one and all.





Special Thanks

Ally would like to especially thank her class teachers of

grade 3 at Ecole Mondiale World School-

Ms. Namrata Sethi and Ms. Tejal Solanki,

for all their encouragement.

She would also like to thank the many people who helped

transform her book into a reality.

Finally she would like to thank her friends who patiently

read her stories and gave her their valuable feedback.



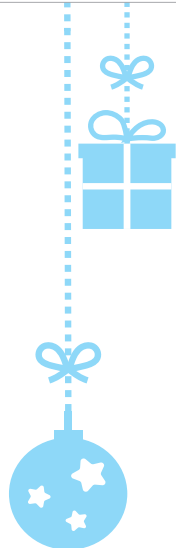


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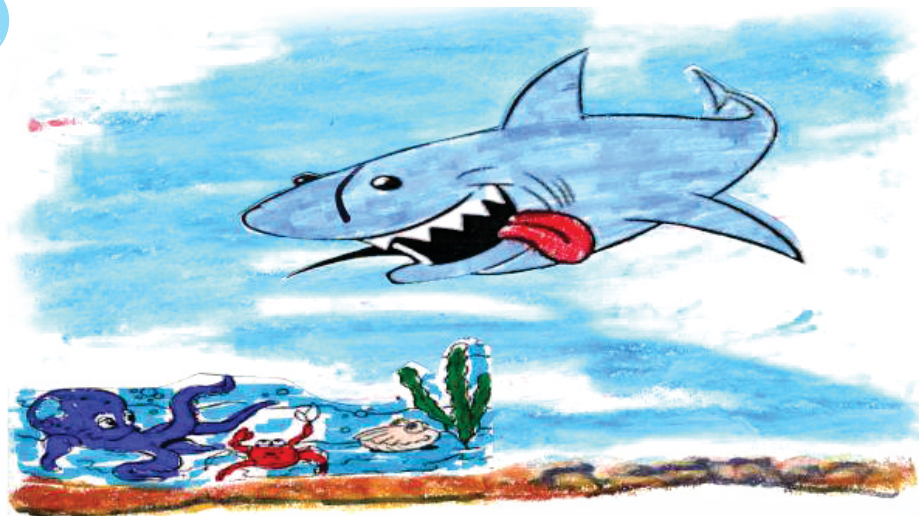
Fin saves the day

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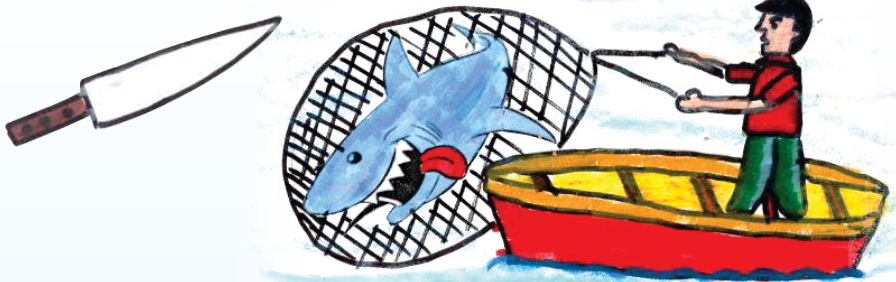
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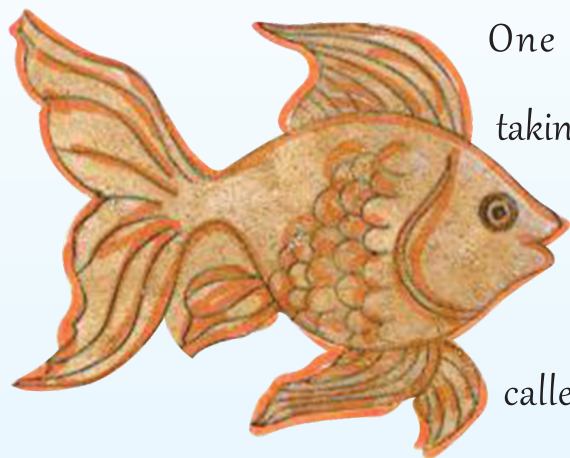
A time not so long ago, deep in the ocean lived a shark called Fin. All the ocean creatures found Fin to be fearsome and scary just because of the way he looked. They called him Fearsome Fin. In real life Fin was harmless unless a fish or human made him angry. Fin was light blue and had razor sharp teeth. Fin had a scar on his forehead from being caught in a net accident years ago. Some humans tried catching him but he was too strong for them.

When the humans tried getting him for his shark-fin, he managed to escape pushing most of the people in the water (almost) and the knife used by one of the men, made a little cut on his forehead.



Shark finning is a cruel practice by humans where sharks are caught; their fins are cut superfast and the bleeding sharks are left in the water to die. The Chinese believe that shark fins have medicinal properties and are tasty but that isn't true as shark fins are tasteless and have no medicinal properties.

Fin was very lonely and had no friends as everyone thought he was scary. He longed to play fishpond: a game all the fish knew well. He wished to collect the rhinestone marbles so he could join the game. He really wanted to be friends with at least a few of the fish. One day he even tried turning vegetarian and decided to eat only other sea plants with the hope that some fish would become his friend. But still no one befriended him.



One morning, Fin was taking a little stroll in the sea when he saw a goldfish and he called her Shiny (Shiny was not her real name). Shiny was just swimming and bumped into Fin.

Fin said, "Hello!"

As he was mellow to see a fish so yellow!

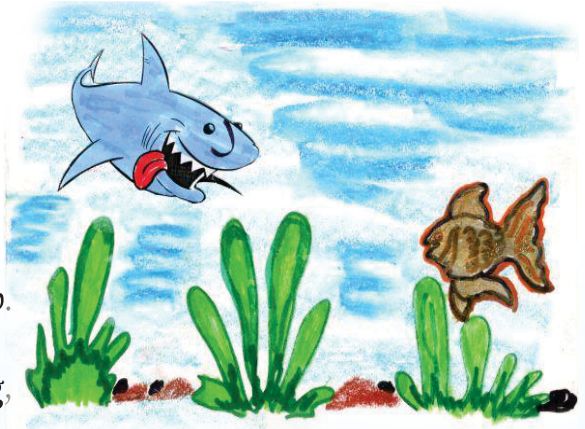
He said, "Hi!"

And she said, "Bye!"

She looked for help,

But was hungry for kelp.

She wouldn't stop going,



Towards the marvelous creatures that were flowing...

As she swam unknowingly towards the poisonous box jellyfish,

She made a wish...

That she could banish Fearsome Fin to Vanish (a place in the sea no one liked).

Not realizing the dangers,

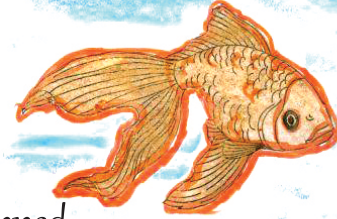
She swam towards the strangers.

Fearsome Fin said, "Stop!"

Like he was a cop!!

Shiny stopped!

As the box jellyfish hopped...



It was just the beginning of May,

When Fearsome Fin had saved the day!

Moral: Looks can be deceptive, hence never judge a book by its cover.

Jack was repaid in his own coin

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In a farm house located in the middle of a meadow, lived a mouse named Dave. He was extremely cute, small and furry with a long tail! All he loved doing was singing and playing with his friends. Dave lived with his friends- the rabbit, the horse and the sheep. They lived together in peace and harmony, like one big happy family.



One sunny morning, when Dave was scuttering around in the meadow, he saw some movement in one of the bushes. He could hear some loud rustling of leaves in the bush. At first, he thought some animal was waiting to pounce on him and eat him up. However, Dave decided to be brave and gathered all his courage and shouted, “Who’s there hiding in the bushes? Come out and let me see who you are!” Dave was shocked to see Jack the jackal come out.



Jack was Dave's biggest enemy of all the animals in the meadow, after he tried pouncing on Dave and attacking him in the past. Jack still wanted to get hold of Dave and gobble him up. So, he exclaimed, "I'm so sorry Dave for the time I pounced on you. I didn't mean to harm you." Dave was still unsure of how genuine Jack's apology was, but he really wanted to be his friend. So, Dave decided to give Jack one chance to patch things up.



Jack's evil mind was still at play, and he thought to himself, "Now I shall tell silly Dave to sing for me and while he is engrossed in his singing, I'll catch him by his neck and run away before anyone can notice!" Jack snapped out of his thoughts and requested Dave to sing for him. As Dave started singing, Jack pounced on him. As soon as Dave saw Jack pounce on him, he realised it was all a dirty trick played by Jack!

Dave thought of playing a trick on Jack instead. He said, "If I were a jackal like you, catching a mouse, I wouldn't just run! I would tell the world how smart I was to trick a stupid mouse." Jack took a second to think, and he realised that Dave was right. As Jack started to announce to the whole world about his prey- the silly mouse, Dave managed to make a run for it and he escaped! Phew!

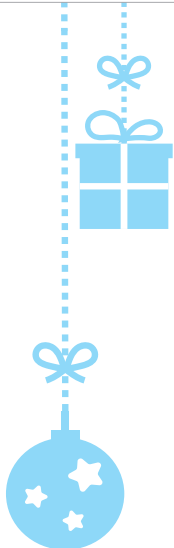


Jack tried very hard to catch up with Dave, but he lost him. As Dave ran into his hole, he shouted,



“So long, loser!” Feeling hungry and ashamed, Jack left the meadow, never to be seen again.

Moral: Think before you act!



Hard work always pays off

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One Sunday morning, four friends met. Two of them were lazy pigeons; they had no interest in anything. Their names were Peter and Penny. The other two were sparrows that worked really hard to do their daily work. Their names were Sam and Sally.

They met at their usual spot by the beach. The pigeons chose and loved the spot because there were so many people feeding them that they did not have to search for food. The sparrows liked the spot because of the hustle and bustle, the fresh air and the cleanliness of the beach.

The couples had come to discuss where to build their nests. There was a huge disagreement between both the couples and their friendship was broken! The sparrows believed in hard work and in keeping their children safe and sound. Whereas the pigeons did not really care and wanted a shortcut so that they could go back and watch PWT (pigeons watching technology).





They went their separate ways
and did not meet for a really long time.

Meanwhile Sam and Sally continued
working really hard, especially

building their nest high on the tallest tree they found. They
used the best material like twigs, branches and a bit of plastic
to cover up and make their nest waterproof. Sally laid her eggs
when the time came and sat on them to keep them warm and
safe. She had eight little eggs. Sally's eggs had almost hatched!



On the other hand, Penny and Peter had finished putting the final touches to their nest with the worst materials, like wet and brittle twigs with holes and gaps in the middle. Peter and Penny chose the worst place to build their nest. They zeroed in on a ledge located near a cottage by the beach. They did this because they felt when they got hungry they could find food easily as the locals kept feeding the pigeons. But both Penny and Peter had no idea of the danger that waited for them!

Everybody had heard there was
one dangerous cat doing
the rounds!

His name was Tom Cat
(or he liked to be called that).

He was always on the lookout for
eggs and mice,

As he thought they were really nice.

One fine day,

While Penny and Peter were away...

He jumped over the hedge,

And climbed up the ledge.

Although he hurt his legs,

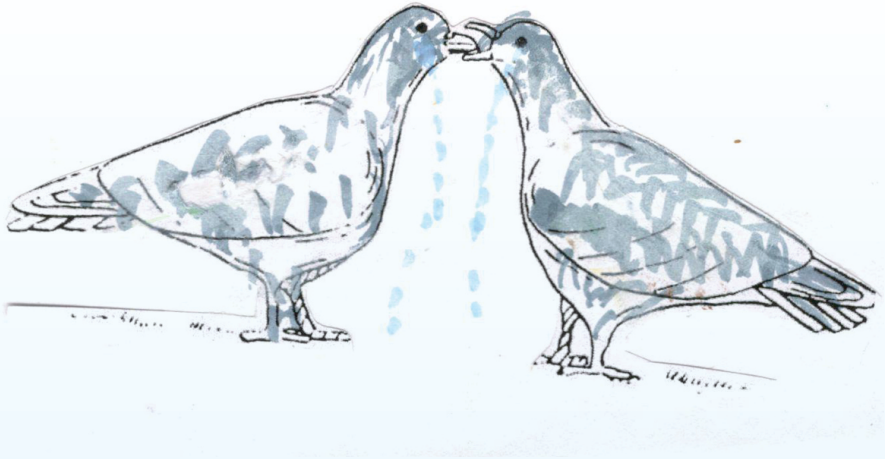
He dreamt of the eggs.

Alas, Peter and Penny's eggs were gone,



They were left crying in the lawn.

Moral: Short-cuts are not a good idea and hard work always pays off.



The Tiny Bee and the Enormous Bear

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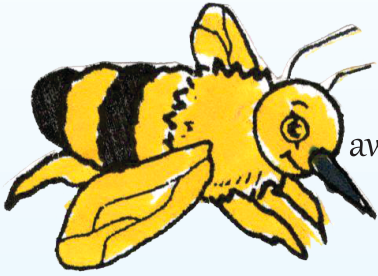


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There once was a very hungry bear called Ben. Ben loved honey, fish, berries and fruit, nuts (and a few plants). He was an omnivore just like many humans, who eat plants and meat.

Ben was a grizzly bear who lived in a dense but airy forest. He was dark caramel coloured with a warm coat of fur. He lived in a cave and was large, especially when he stood up straight. He either collected honey or took long naps.



In the same forest, not too far away, lived a bee called Beany. Beany was one of the Queen Bee's best workers and she never gave up on trying to make honey. Beany collected the most amount of nectar from the forest flowers.



One day as Ben was looking for some honey, he spotted a pine tree with two-three honeycombs. As he was about to climb the tree, Beany just came back with some nectar and stung him.

Ben was furious and grabbed Beany with his paws. Beany pleaded with Ben to let her go, but he said "NO!" When Beany told him that she would help him one day, Ben started to laugh. He told Beany that such a small animal could not help such a great and large animal like himself; but he let her go out of kindness.



A few weeks later,
when it was almost
monsoon and Ben was
taking a stroll, he
stepped into a

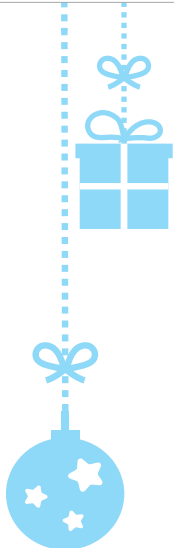
marshy puddle and couldn't move his foot. The more he moved, the more he got stuck. He wished some animal could get him out!



Beany was flying by when she saw Ben stuck in the mud. She wanted to help him. Suddenly she had an idea; she stung him on his leg that was stuck. It hurt so much that Ben jerked his leg really hard and fell back out of the puddle with a big THUD!!! He thanked Beany for her help and from then, they became best friends.

Moral: Size does not matter.

Good things come in small packages!!





Slow versus Fast

Written & Illustrated by Aliya Shetty Oza



A not so long time ago lived a hare and a tortoise. The hare was not so friendly and always showed off. The tortoise on the other hand was sweet, kind and never showed off.



One fine day, the hare called the tortoise and asked him if he wanted to compete against him in running. The tortoise agreed because he did not know his own speed. The tortoise wanted to know who was faster between him and his old friend the hare.

The next day was the day of the race and all the animals came to see the race. As soon as the Judges said, "Ready, steady and go!"... the crowd was cheering so much that the runners felt their eardrums were going to explode. The hare gave the tortoise a twenty seconds head-start as he knew he was going to win!



After the first twenty seconds, the hare sped off in full speed. A few minutes later, he slowed down because he was really tired

with all the running. He sat under a tree and in no time he was fast asleep. As the tortoise saw that he was only a few miles away from the finish line, he kept on walking as fast as he could. As the hare was sleeping a leaf fell down from the tree and woke the hare up with a sneeze, "Achoo!"

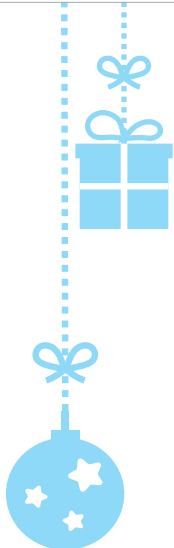


The hare woke up with a start, feeling a bit dizzy. He remembered about the race, all his fans cheering for him and the special kind of trophy he was going to win. The hare tried to catch up with the tortoise but failed. The tortoise won and the hare lost.

The hare kept the tortoise's name Useless Tarty because he was a sore loser. As the hare stepped on the finish line, a cheetah who was starving leapt straight for the hare. The tortoise saw what was happening and rushed to help. The tortoise moved the hare out of the way and let the cheetah bang straight into a nearby tree. The tree sprung back making the cheetah fly in the opposite direction. The hare was amazed at how such a small and slow creature could save the day! He thanked the tortoise for all his help and changed his name to Best Friend Tarty. From that day on, the hare was never rude or selfish again.



Moral: A friend in need is a friend indeed.



Vain Pepsi

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In Mumbai there lived two pet dogs in an apartment. They were as different as chalk and cheese. One dog was called Pepsi and the other dog was called Sprite. From the names of her dogs most people from their surroundings knew that the child of the house loved fizzy drinks, as the names of her pets were popular fizzy drink names.

Pepsi was very cute on the outside as his soft and cuddly black fur covered his eyes. Sprite on the other hand was greyish silver with specks of white and had very rough and short fur. Pepsi was very cute but vain on the inside although nobody knew that, whereas Sprite was ugly on the outside but kind, loyal and sweet on the inside. The dogs were as different as night and day.



Pepsi believed that the child of the house, Aria, who was almost nine, loved him more, as he was so cute and adorable. Aria used to take Pepsi to school to drop her, as he was a small dog. Sprite couldn't fit in the small car. So every time Pepsi returned from school he would come back home with an evil smile on his face, as only he could go and Sprite couldn't go to drop Aria. Pepsi used to tease Sprite but Sprite ignored him and looked at the bright side and didn't feel bad.



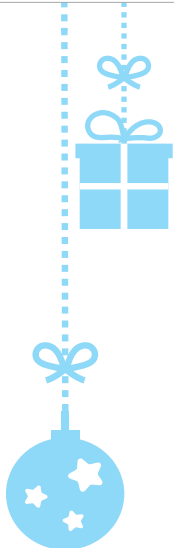
One day, Aria's mom decided to send Pepsi to the dog-parlor, as it was almost summer and Pepsi had thicker and longer fur than Sprite. Sprite had to stay home to be fed and give company to Aria and her friends as they were coming over.





When Pepsi came home he was very angry at the way he looked as he had a crew cut and his lovely fur was gone. He was sure that Sprite was going to tease him, although Sprite was very kind and didn't tease Pepsi. Aria and her friends also looked just as happy to see Pepsi. Pepsi then realized that it is not about how one looks but how they are on the inside that counts. From that day onwards, Pepsi never teased or made fun of Sprite ever again.

Moral: Inner beauty matters most.



Brute and the United Ants

Written & Illustrated by Aliya Shetty Oza



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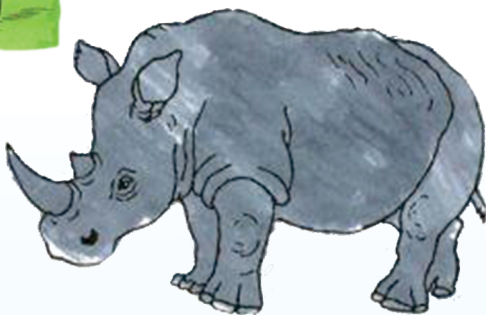
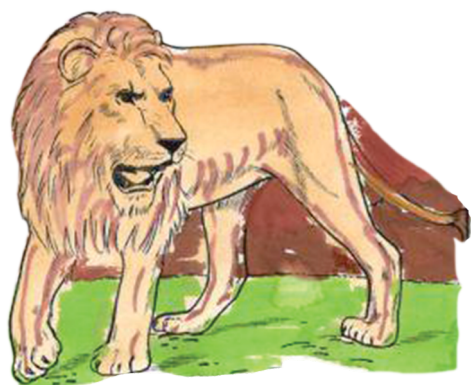
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Once there lived a mean and selfish rhinoceros named Brute. Brute was mean, shallow and had a grey and white body. Brute was called Brute because he behaved like a brute and tried to terrorize the other animals. He lived in a bright and green forest that was very healthy, green and beautiful.

Brute was so rude and arrogant that he challenged other animals living in the woods and meadows. He first started picking on the smaller and weaker animals like the deer, antelopes and zebras. Each animal tried to fight him but lost. Every time Brute won he would become meaner, more powerful and stronger. The more animals he defeated the more conceited he became and he was over confident of his strength.





One fine day Brute felt so evil and full of himself that he went to challenge the old but wise King of the jungle, the lion. When Brute arrogantly challenged the King and said, "The jungle needs a strong King, not a weakling like you. I challenge you to fight me if you aren't too scared you loser." The King had no choice but to agree. So one by one all the animals knew the King had been challenged. The news spread like wild fire throughout the jungle.

Finally the day came when the fight was to take place. Before the fight began the King prayed to God saying, "I have to fight but I am too old and weak to win. Please help me."

At that very moment the Queen ant that lived in the lion's cave approached the King saying, "We ants work together, we are strong together and we can beat Brute together. United we stand and divided we fall."



The King laughed. He exclaimed, "You are so small and tiny to keep up with me. How can you dream of beating a mighty creature like the rhinoceros? It is really impossible!!!"

The Queen ant just said, "You wait and watch, you will see." The lion and the Queen ant went their separate ways. The Queen ant got busy in getting ready her army of ants.

Finally it was time for the fight. Brute did a little warm up to show off his strength. When Brute was thudding his legs to get ready, all the ants slowly but steady climbed up his back and



went into his ears. The ants drove him mad by making sounds in his ears by marching on Brute's eardrums. Until Brute finally said, "I give up."

The Queen ant went back to the King and asked him, "Is it really impossible?" The King shook his head and laughed.

Brute ran away and was never to be seen or heard of again.

From that day the Jungle had a special song for all the animals and this is how it goes:

There was a rhino named Brute,

He was not very cute.

He picked on small animals like antelopes, zebras and deer,

As it was his career

He felt so strong,

And so he did something very wrong.

Brute challenged the Lion King,

To a fight in the boxing ring..

The old and feeble King prayed to God,

As he kept on chanting O Lord!!!





Just then the Queen ant appeared,

After saying a few words she disappeared.

The ants marched up Brute's back,

With the idea of giving him a whack!!!

The other ants drummed in his ear,

To instill fear!

The ants drove him mad,

And then the jungle was never sad.

From that day the animals recall,

United we stand divided we fall.

Moral: There is strength in unity that can defeat even the mightiest.



The Fox and the Stork

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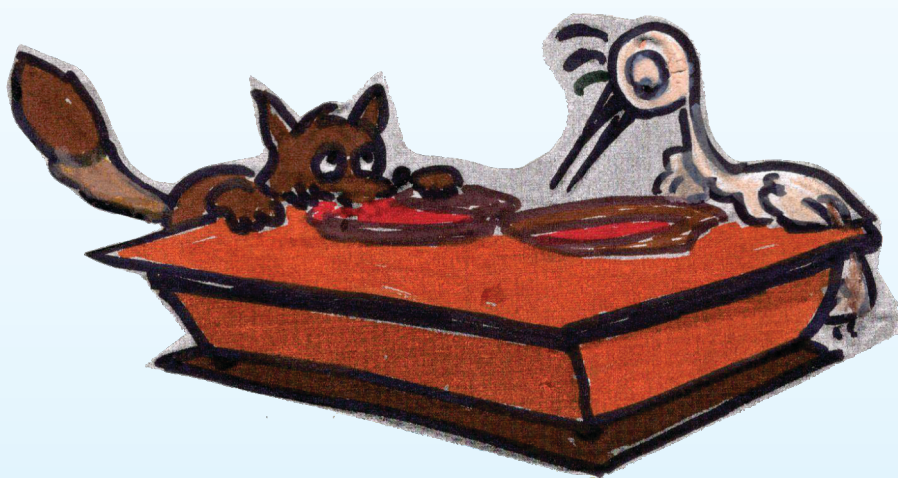
There was once a fox that was very naughty, mischievous, and loved to play pranks on all the other animals. One bright and sunny morning the fox saw a stork and became her friend immediately. The fox invited the stork to his house for a big feast the following Sunday. Days went

by really quickly and in no time it was Sunday, the day of the feast. The stork went to the fox's house looking very neat and organized.

Even the fox was looking neat for the first time!



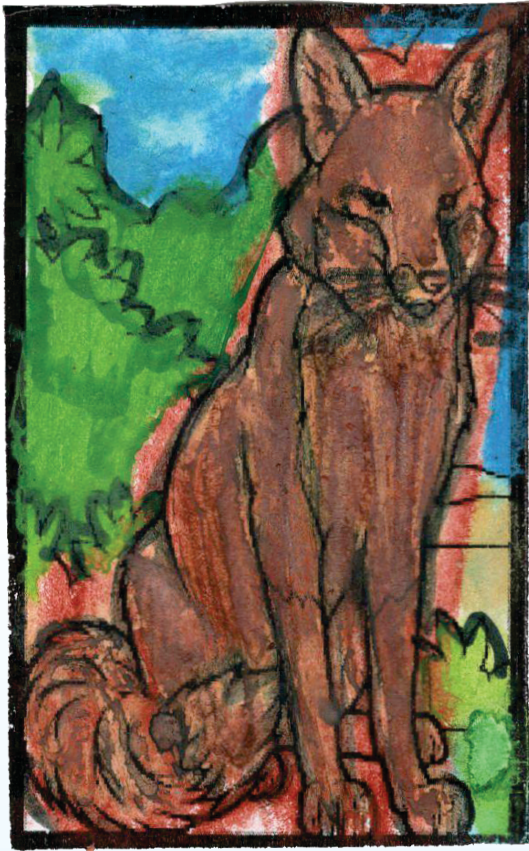
They greeted each other warmly and sat together at the same time. The fox said that he had made some lip smacking soup that was warm, fresh and delicious in taste too. The problem was that the fox had got the soup in shallow bowls so that the stork could not drink and enjoy the soup, as her long bill could not reach the bottom to take a sip. The stork said she had a health problem and couldn't enjoy the soup. She thanked the fox politely for his invitation. Saying that she returned home trying to forget about what just happened.





A few weeks later, she invited the fox to her house on the following Saturday.

The days went by faster. Finally Saturday came and it was the day of the feast at the stork's house. At 8:00 pm sharp the fox had arrived at the stork's house. The stork was kind. She gave soup in a shallow bowl instead of a tall bowl, as she wanted the fox to enjoy the soup. When the fox asked her why she was not eating she lied to him and told him that she was fasting.



The fox was surprised!

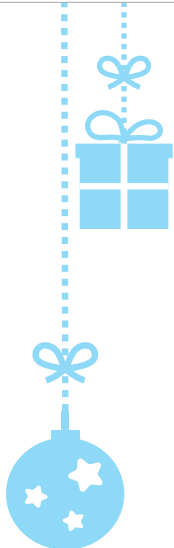
He then realized that the stork wanted him to enjoy the entire soup.

He felt ashamed for how he had earlier treated the stork. He decided that he would be a changed fox and start a better life from

then on. So since that very day the fox was very kind and polite and never bullied other animals and insects again.

Moral: Setting an example with good manners and behaviour is sometimes more effective.





The Dishonest Monkeys

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There was once a troop of monkeys living in a forest, which was evergreen, sunny and bright. This wasn't any ordinary troop of monkeys; it was a troop of dishonest monkeys.

Everyday the monkeys would play a trick on all the animals.

They would torture and scare all the animals by screeching and saying that a huge python would come and attack all the jungle animals. All the animals rushed off to pack up all their

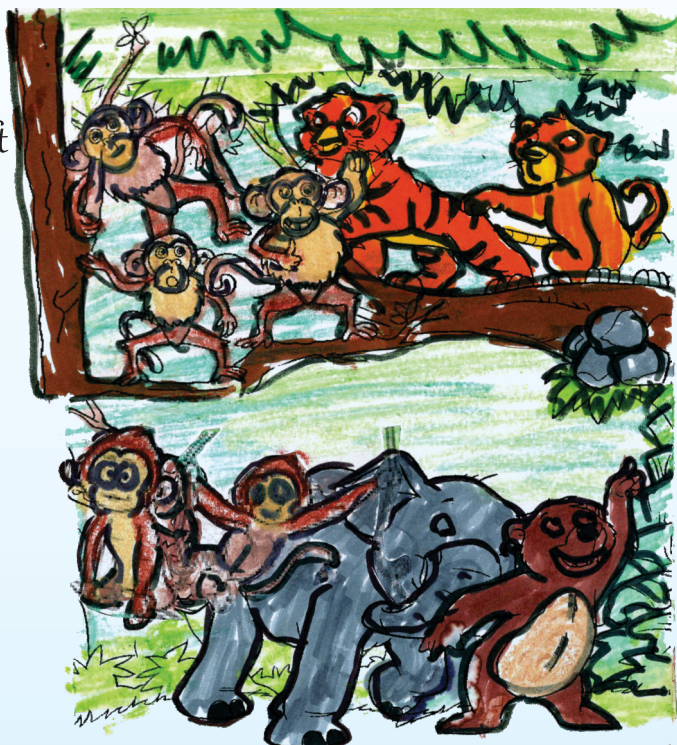
belongings,

wanting to shift

so that the

python won't

attack them.



All the monkeys started laughing and exclaimed to all the animals that there was no such python coming to attack them and that they had fooled everyone. This lying and fooling went on for days till finally all the animals got so angry that they locked their doors and did not step out of the house. They decided to ignore the dishonest monkeys.



The next day the monkeys yelled at the top of their voices saying, "Help! Python on the loose!! " They shouted so loudly that the python living on the nearby hill heard it and rushed to attack.

All the monkeys were still laughing so much that their stomachs were hurting and there were tears in their eyes. The python was able to locate the monkeys in forest faster because of all the noise! No one came to help when the monkeys actually yelped for actual help. The python gobbled up a few of the monkeys while the rest managed to escape.



The dishonest monkeys learned an important and expensive lesson that day.

Moral: Never lie as lies only bring trouble.

Rudolph

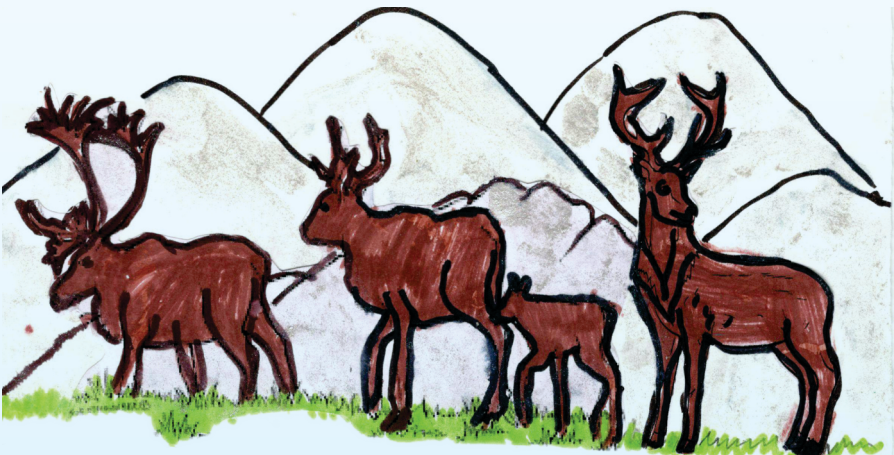
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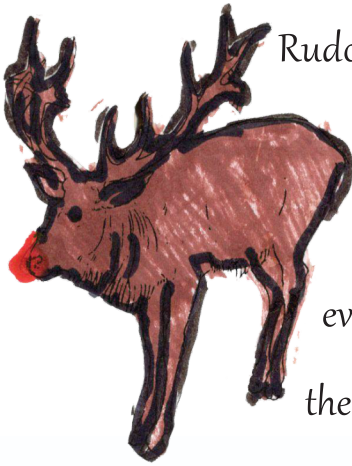


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There once was a reindeer named Rudolph. Rudolph had a red nose instead of a black or brown one. He lived with a herd of reindeer in the Arctic near the North Pole. Rudolph was sweet and kind. There was one problem Rudolph had and that was his herd always teased him, as his nose was red. However Rudolph never reacted. He usually was all by himself, all the time. Whenever he wanted to play a game with the rest of the reindeer, he would get thrown out.





Rudolph always came back home looking sad. He would never complain about his friends even if they were mean to him. As the days went by Rudolph became more and more lonely and sad. His

Mom sensing his unhappiness got him inside and told him not to give up hope. She asked him, "What is the matter Rudolph?"

Rudolph said, "The others are mean to me and show off as they don't have a red nose like I do." Rudolph's Mom understood and said, "Remember that when a friend makes you feel bad and criticizes you, it means that he or she doesn't respect you." Rudolph felt sad and dejected that his friends did not respect him. But his Mom said, "Never give up hope, good things are to come soon."



One evening Rudolph was sitting and watching the other reindeer play, when suddenly a bright light came down from the sky!!! It was Santa landing!!! One of Santa's reindeers leapt so high that it injured itself and could not carry on.

Now Santa had to choose a reindeer to ride his sleigh and so he chose Rudolph. All the other reindeer jerked their heads in surprise!!! Why did Santa not choose them? What was wrong with them? Were they weak or unhealthy? Why was Rudolph chosen instead of them?

Santa read their minds and loudly said, "No!!!" Santa said, "I chose Rudolph because of his kindness. Everyone is unique and special in his or her own way. Be nice and learn to respect everyone." All the reindeer felt sad and ashamed and promised never to be mean and rude again. From then onwards during Christmas all the reindeer never forget to sing:



Rudolph was a reindeer,

Whose nose was quite queer.

Because of his red nose,

He wasn't one that his friends chose.

As he couldn't play,

He sat out everyday.

This made him sad,

As his friends were acting bad.

Rudolph felt lonely,

As he was treated meanly.

When he came back home,

He felt alone.

His Mom read his mind,

And was very kind.

She told him not to be dejected,





Even if he felt rejected.

She said never give up hope,

As I know you will cope.

Good things will come soon,

Go outside and trust the moon.



Suddenly a bright light came from the sky,

As bright as a neon disco colour dye.

It turned out to be Santa,

On his sleigh sipping Fanta.

Santa chose Rudolph to ride his sleigh,

As he felt there was no other way.

Be nice to Rudolph, Santa exclaimed,

So the other reindeer felt ashamed.

From that day the reindeer were not rude,

And called Rudolph their best dude!

Moral: Never give up hope, as good things are to come soon.



