



Gyan Bharati School
Saket, New Delhi
Affiliated to CBSE

BEAK TALK

A Busy Month, Chapter-16
Looking Around- 4 NCERT
Class- 4
Subject- EVS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We express our sincere gratitude to all those who helped us in the process of creating our graphic novel.

The Director, Ms. Lata Vaidyanathan for her vision and initiative.

The Principal, Ms. Nishi Misra Manglik for her constant guidance, support and encouragement.

The advisor, Mr. Sandeep Sethi for his valuable inputs.

The mentor teachers, Ms. Anupama Chand and Ms. Trinu Jain for their support and guidance.

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Sources of Information:

Looking Around- 3, Looking Around- 4 NCERT

DISCLAIMER

This book is published as a reading material to enable the students to have a better understanding about birds- their beaks, claws, habitat, eating habits, migration and bird calls.

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To access the comic book and additional interactive digital content, and download DIKSHA app from Google Play store on your Android smartphone or tablet.

Learning Outcomes

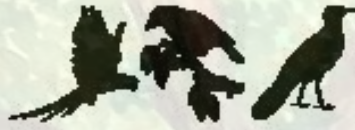
- Children will be encouraged to identify different features like beaks and claws of birds.
- Children will be encouraged to acquire awareness about birds and their eating habits.
- Their observational skills will be nourished and they will be urged to become keen bird watchers.
- Children will be acquainted with the bird calls.
- Children will be encouraged to gain more knowledge about migratory birds.
- Children will learn about different kinds of nests made by the birds and their habitats.

Grade: 4

Topic: Birds

Subject: Environmental studies

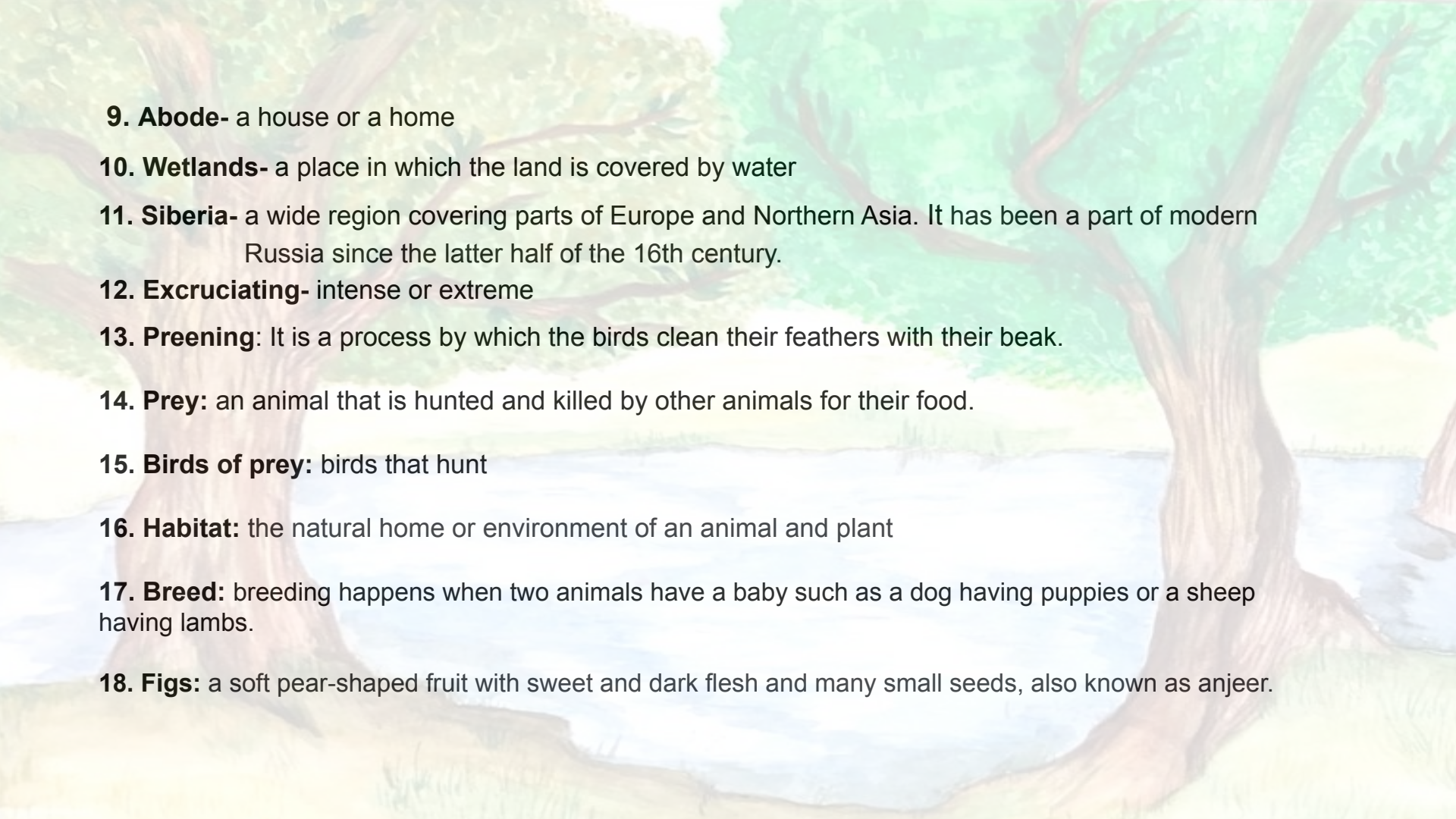
GYAN BHARATI SCHOOL



PRE-VOCABULARY



1. **Pecking-** (of a bird) strike or bite something with its beak.
2. **Chiming in-** to join in harmoniously with someone or something
3. **Chisel-** a tool with a long metal blade that has a sharp edge for cutting wood, stone, etc.
4. **Slumber-** sleep
5. **Scrumptious** - extremely tasty; delicious.
6. **Swoop-** move rapidly downwards through the air (especially of a bird).
7. **Diverse-** showing a great deal of variety; very different
8. **Giggle-** laugh lightly and repeatedly in a silly way

- 
- 9. Abode-** a house or a home
- 10. Wetlands-** a place in which the land is covered by water
- 11. Siberia-** a wide region covering parts of Europe and Northern Asia. It has been a part of modern Russia since the latter half of the 16th century.
- 12. Excruciating-** intense or extreme
- 13. Preening:** It is a process by which the birds clean their feathers with their beak.
- 14. Prey:** an animal that is hunted and killed by other animals for their food.
- 15. Birds of prey:** birds that hunt
- 16. Habitat:** the natural home or environment of an animal and plant
- 17. Breed:** breeding happens when two animals have a baby such as a dog having puppies or a sheep having lambs.
- 18. Figs:** a soft pear-shaped fruit with sweet and dark flesh and many small seeds, also known as anjeer.

KNOW YOUR CHARACTERS



Bindu Dada - The Owl

Bindu dada is a quiet, calm and well groomed owl. He has earned a reputation in the sanctuary for his intelligence and his quest to seek perfection in everything he does. He is assertive, handsome and proud .

Buzzy- The Woodpecker

Buzzy, with a unique fashion sense never ceases to amaze his friends at the sanctuary. He is loyal, faithful and dependable. He is always a bird call away. He is easily approachable. One can always find him buzzing around the other birds so much so that it is almost impossible to not acknowledge his presence.





Mishthi- Koel

As the name suggests, Mishthi is sweet and full of positivity, a polite bird with good manners. She is sensitive towards others' feelings and very understanding. Her melodious voice adds to her warm and loving nature.

Golu- The Parrot

The cute and cuddly Golu is the heartthrob of the sanctuary. He is always up for a conversation. He exudes positivity and owns a very easy going attitude. He is bubbly and always engrossed in his own world. He knows how to spice up the ambience with his cuteness and aura.



Olga- The Siberian Crane

Olga is a charismatic and charming crane. She is sensitive, practical, maternal, graceful and wise. Having travelled from the faraway wetlands of Western Siberia all the way to India (Rajasthan), she loves to share her experiences with the other birds.



Loki- Black Kite

Loki is cunning and serious in nature. She uses her trickery to manipulate others and get what she wants. Being an opportunist, she prefers being a scavenger.





Cheeni: An inquisitive girl, Cheeni is also a nature lover whose wish to understand bird language has come true. Amazed with this power, she urges her younger brother to join her in an adventure to peep into the bird world by listening to the birds talk. She is always upbeat about gathering new information and loves to share it with others.

Amber: Amber is an enthusiastic bird watcher. Thrilled with the idea to get a peek inside the bird world, he gears himself to find out the most amazing facts.



One bright sunny morning, Cheeni woke up and heard a lot of chitter chatter. She got out of bed and went straight to the window to see where the sounds were coming from.



She was surprised to see that there was no one there except a few birds. It wasn't just the chirps but the birds were talking to each other and she could understand what they were saying! She could understand bird talk!

(Birds to each other):
Tweet-tweet!
Hello!

Cheeni: Oh wow! My dream has come true... I can understand what the birds are talking about. Now I can peek into their lifestyle by listening to their talk!





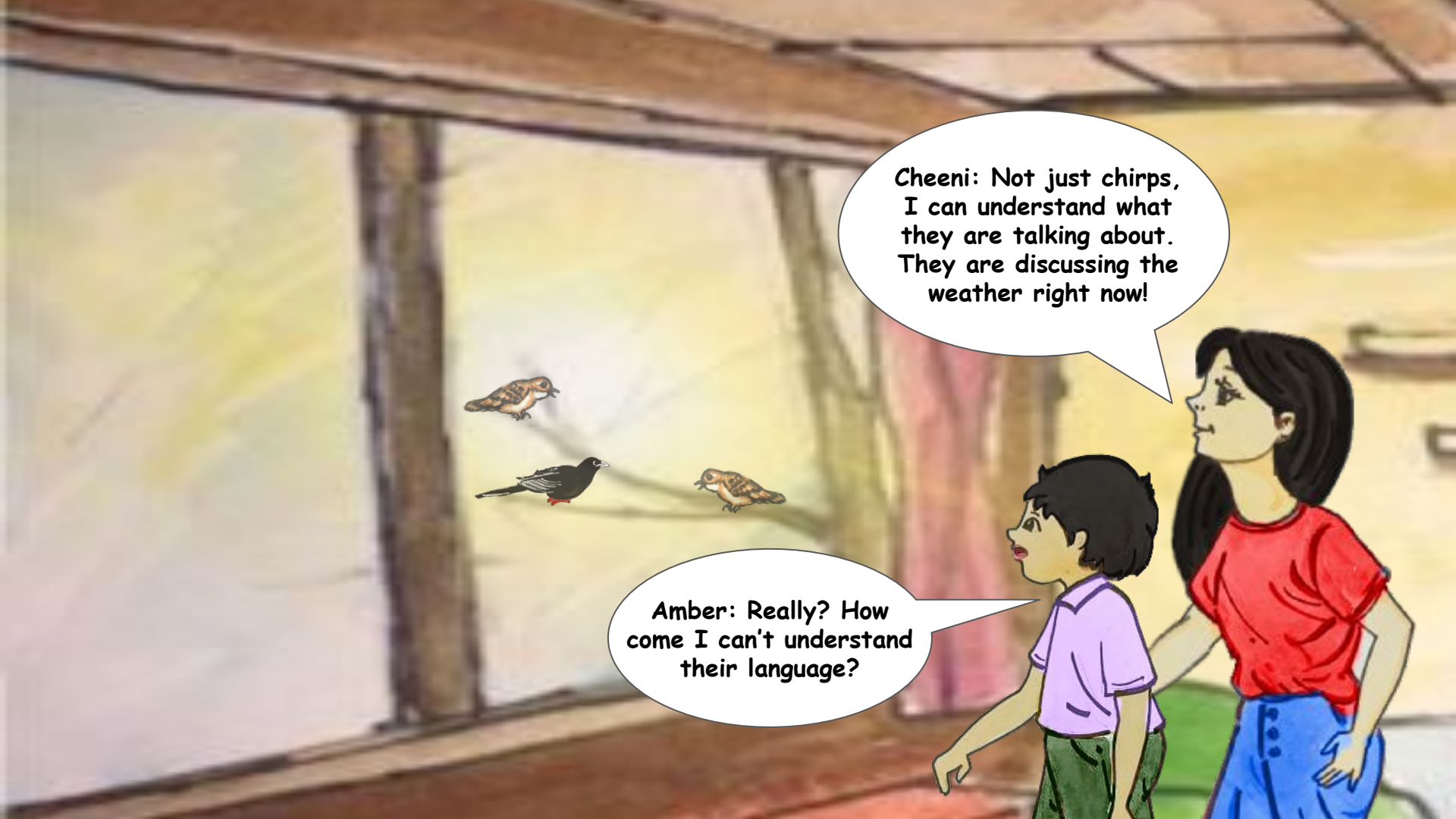
**Cheeni: Amber! Amber!
Where are you? Come
quickly..**

**Amber:
Coming didi!**



Cheeni: Can you hear the birds talking?

Amber: Birds talking? You mean birds chirping, right?

A cartoon illustration of a boy and a girl looking out a window at three birds. The boy, on the left, has dark hair and is wearing a light purple short-sleeved shirt and green pants. He is pointing towards the birds. The girl, on the right, has long dark hair and is wearing a red short-sleeved shirt and a blue skirt. She is looking at the birds with a slight smile. The window they are looking out of has a wooden frame and a light-colored pane. Outside the window, three birds are visible: two are brown and white, and one is black with a red beak. The background outside the window is a soft, yellowish light.

**Cheeni: Not just chirps,
I can understand what
they are talking about.
They are discussing the
weather right now!**

**Amber: Really? How
come I can't understand
their language?**

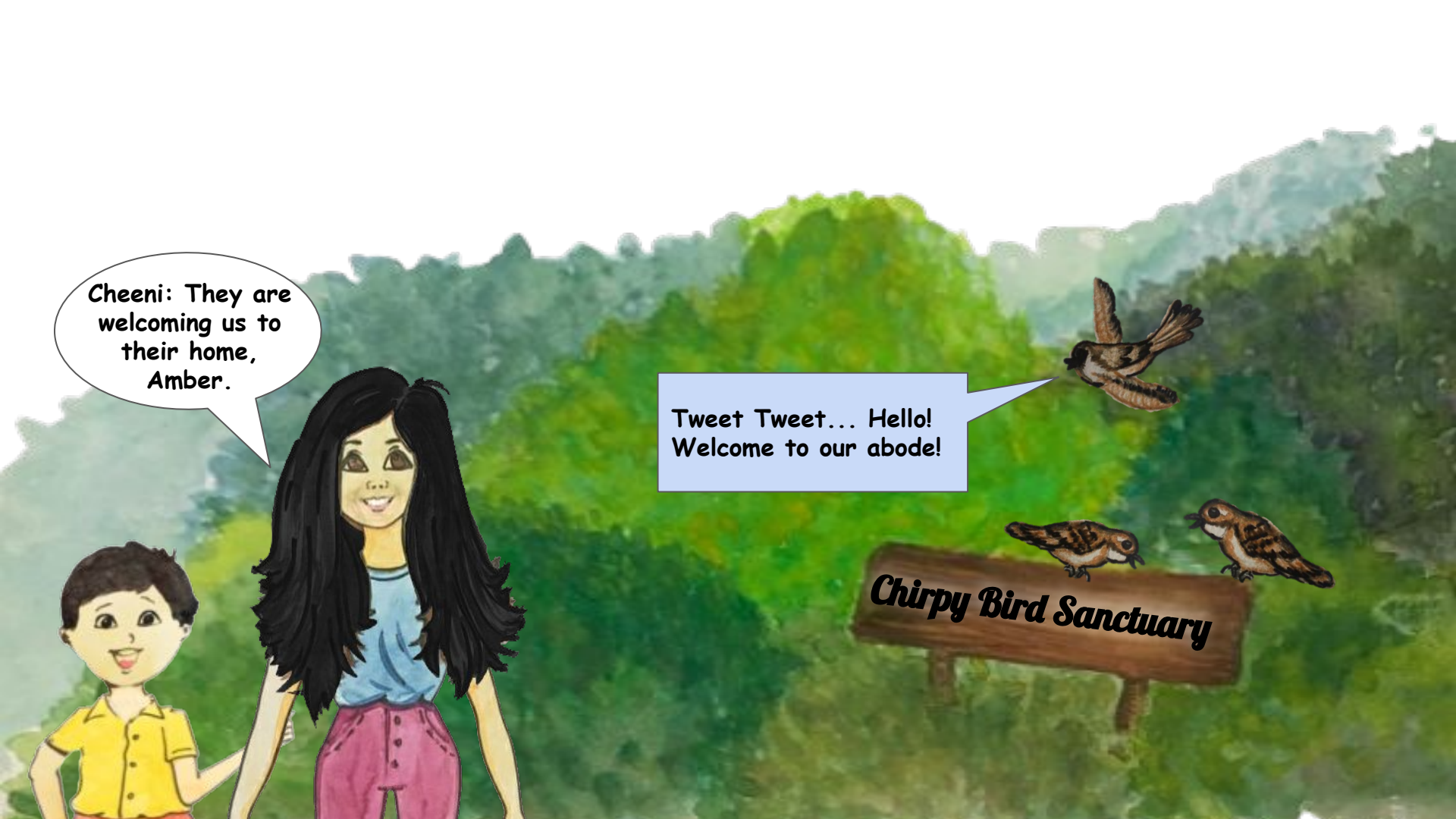
Cheeni and Amber quickly dressed up for their visit to Chirpy Bird Sanctuary.



Cheeni: Looks like my wish to understand the bird talk has come true.

Cheeni: Let's make use of this lucky day! Let's put my special powers to work!

Amber: Okay didi. Then, let's go to the bird sanctuary so that you can hear the birds and tell me more about them!



Cheeni: They are
welcoming us to
their home,
Amber.

Tweet Tweet... Hello!
Welcome to our abode!

Chirpy Bird Sanctuary

Activity time!



Bird sanctuary is an area of land in which various species of birds are protected and encouraged to breed in their natural habitat. One can view many local and migratory birds there.

*Children, would you like to have birds visiting you everyday?
Let's reuse a milk/ juice carton to create an easy bird feeder as shown in the picture.*

1. On the carton, draw outline for the openings (front and back) and wings flap (both sides).
2. Cut out the openings (front and back) with the help of an adult.
3. Cut along wings outline, leaving top of the wings attached.
4. Paint beak, wings, eyes and the bird's body.
5. Make a hole on the top of the carton and insert a string to hang.
6. Pour bird seeds into openings.
7. Hang outside to let your feathered friends fill their beaks and tummies!



Bird Seeds

Few steps inside the bird sanctuary, Mishthi, the Koel was singing her favourite song. Buzzy, the woodpecker flies in and starts pecking the tree trunk giving Mishthi's song a beat.



Cheeni: Look! Look!
There's a koel and
a woodpecker too!
They are singing a
song.



Amber: Yes,
didi! I can
hear the tune
and a tapping
sound.



Mishthi:
Coo cooo Ki
ki ki ki



Buzzy: tuk
tuk tuk tuk
tuk

Mishthi turns towards Buzzy excitedly and says

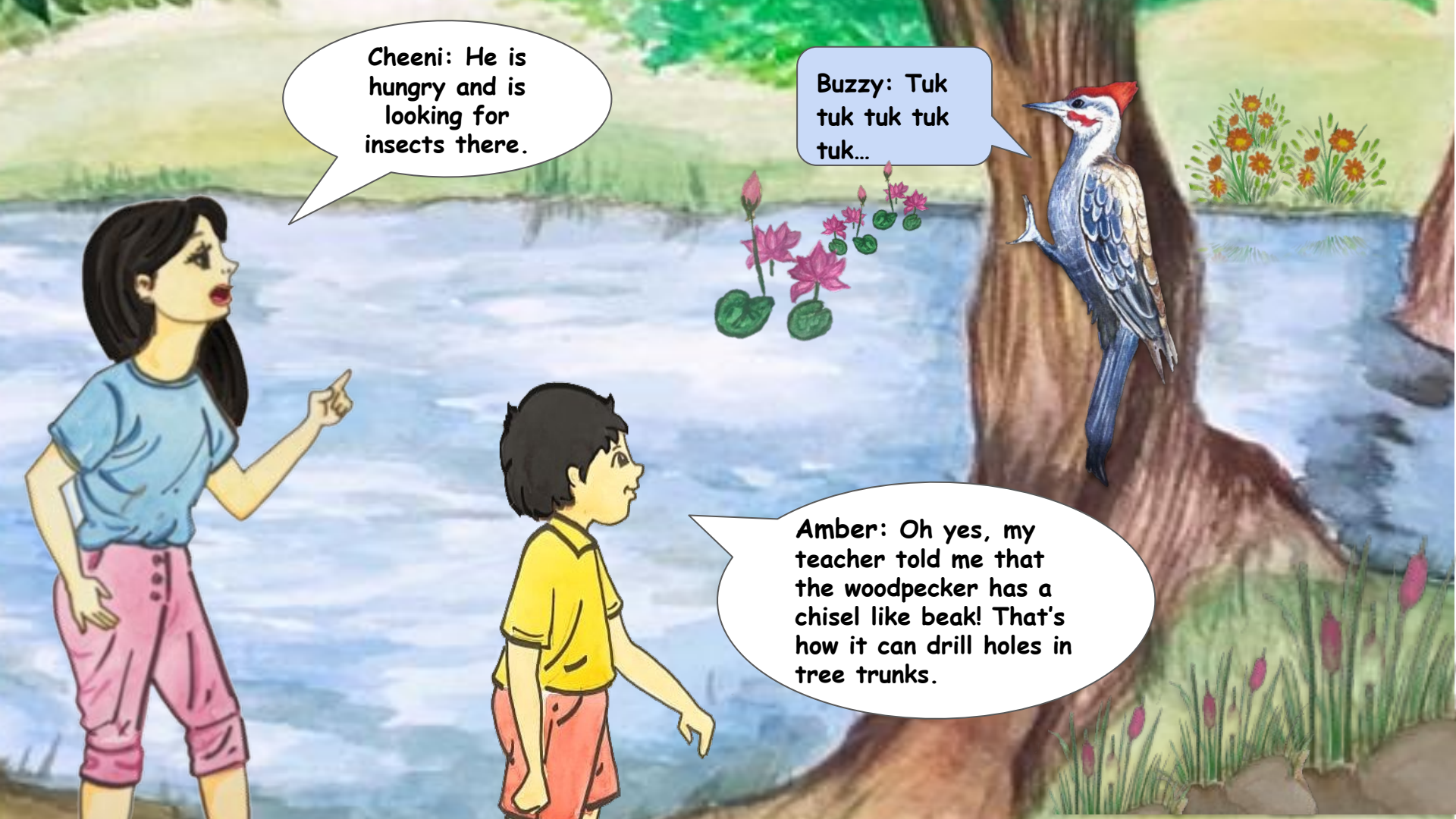
Mishthi: Hi Buzzy! Thanks for chiming in! Are you building a new home for yourself inside the tree trunk?

Buzzy: Hi Mishthi! No, I was so hungry and I knew I would find insects here so I.... tuk tuk tuk tuk tuk...
(he continues pecking the wood)

Cheeni: Amber, can you hear the sound the woodpecker's sharp and long beak is making while pecking?

Amber:
Oh yes,
Didi!





Cheeni: He is hungry and is looking for insects there.

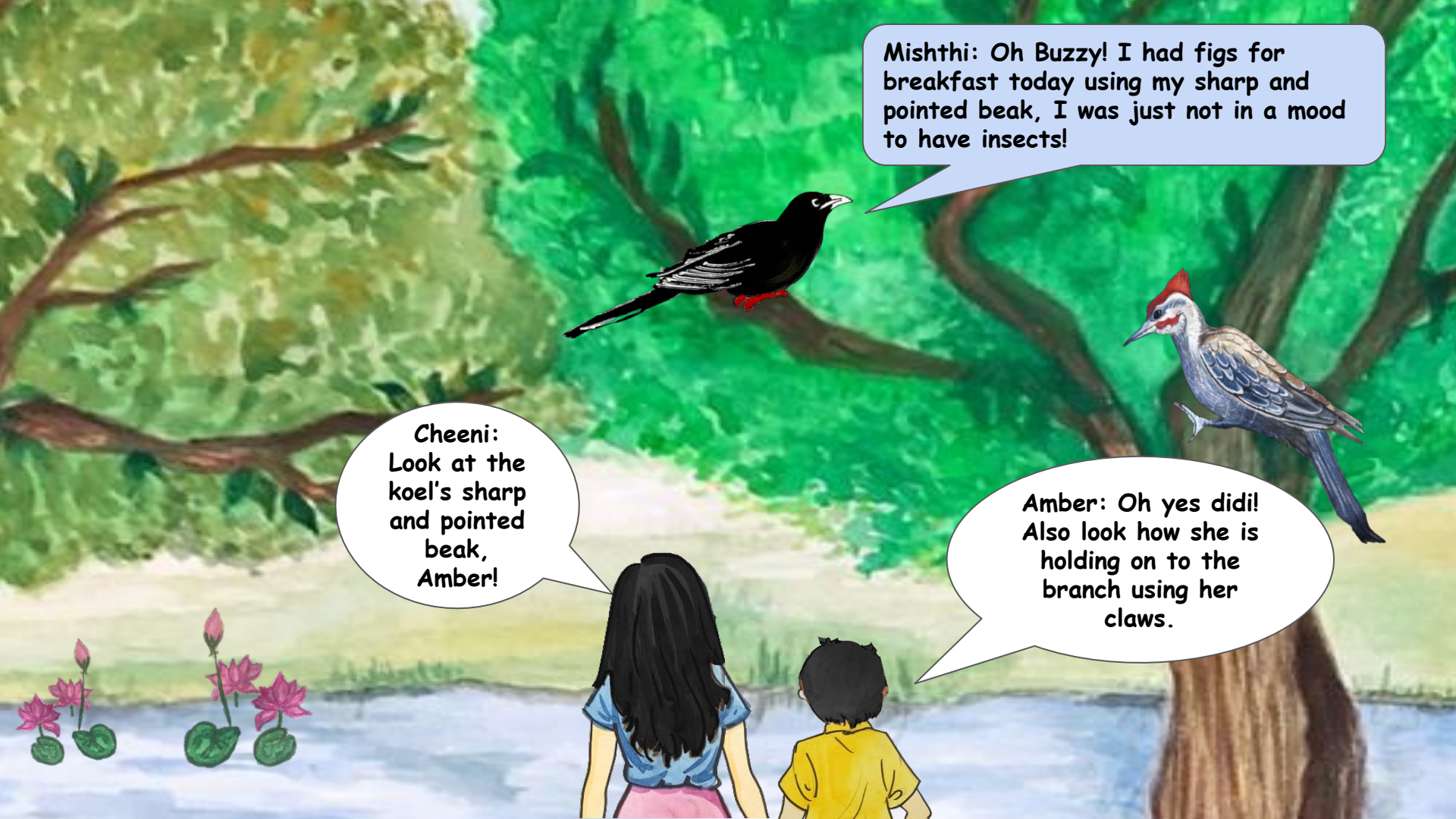
Buzzy: Tuk tuk tuk tuk tuk...

Amber: Oh yes, my teacher told me that the woodpecker has a chisel like beak! That's how it can drill holes in tree trunks.



Amber: Didi, look how he is holding the tree trunk and balancing using his four strong claws. There are two pointing forward and two backwards.

Cheeni: Yes Amber, these sharp claws help them climb the tree trunk upright.



Mishthi: Oh Buzzy! I had figs for breakfast today using my sharp and pointed beak, I was just not in a mood to have insects!

Cheeni:
Look at the
koel's sharp
and pointed
beak,
Amber!

Amber: Oh yes didi!
Also look how she
is holding on to the
branch using her
claws.



Amber:
What is the
koel saying
didi?

Cheeni: She is
telling the
woodpecker that she
just ate figs for
breakfast. Looks
like she relishes
berries and ripened
fruits.

Activity time!

Look around and find out what else the birds use their beaks for?

Out of the options given below, tick the ones that you found out and observed.

- Catching and killing their prey
- Fighting with their enemies
- Preening their feathers
- Weaving nests
- Helps them to carry seeds and pollen grains which grow into new plants
- Cracking nuts
- Eating seeds and insects
- Catching fish
- Sucking nectar
- To sing and make mating calls
- Feeding their young ones



Thanks Mumma,
for the yummy
insects!



Amber: Didi,
look at the
owl inside the
tree hole.

Cheeni: Yes, that's
where he lives and
listening to all this
chitter-chatter he
got disturbed and
came out.

Bindu Dada: Oh dear lord! What is this
cooing all about? It's disturbing my
slumber... Don't you have anything better
to discuss.... Fruits and insects UGHHH!



Bindu Dada:
Too- Hwit
Too- Hwoo

Suddenly, Bindu Dada, Mishthi and Buzzy hear giggles. On looking around they spot Golu having a hearty giggle.



Cheeni: Look! There is a beautiful parrot there. He is complimenting the owl on his hooked beak.

Amber: Oh yes Didi! Do you know who else has a hooked beak? The Eagles, Falcons and Kites!



Bindu Dada: What's with all those giggles?



Golu: He.. he... Nothing really! I was just admiring your beak. It looks like a hook.



Bindu Dada turns around with pride, fluffs his feathers and replies

Bindu Dada: I use my sharp, pointed and hooked beak to eat food that I grab with my sharp claws.

Bindu Dada: Birds with a beak like mine can relish frogs, lizards, squirrels and snakes.

Amber: Look Didi, he has such sharp claws, three facing forward and one backwards.



**Cheeni: That's right Amber,
Owls along with Eagles,
Falcons and Kites are birds
of prey. They have sharp and
very powerful claws which
they use to capture their
prey and sharp beaks to help
tear the flesh.**



Golu, the parrot goes and sits inside his tree hole.

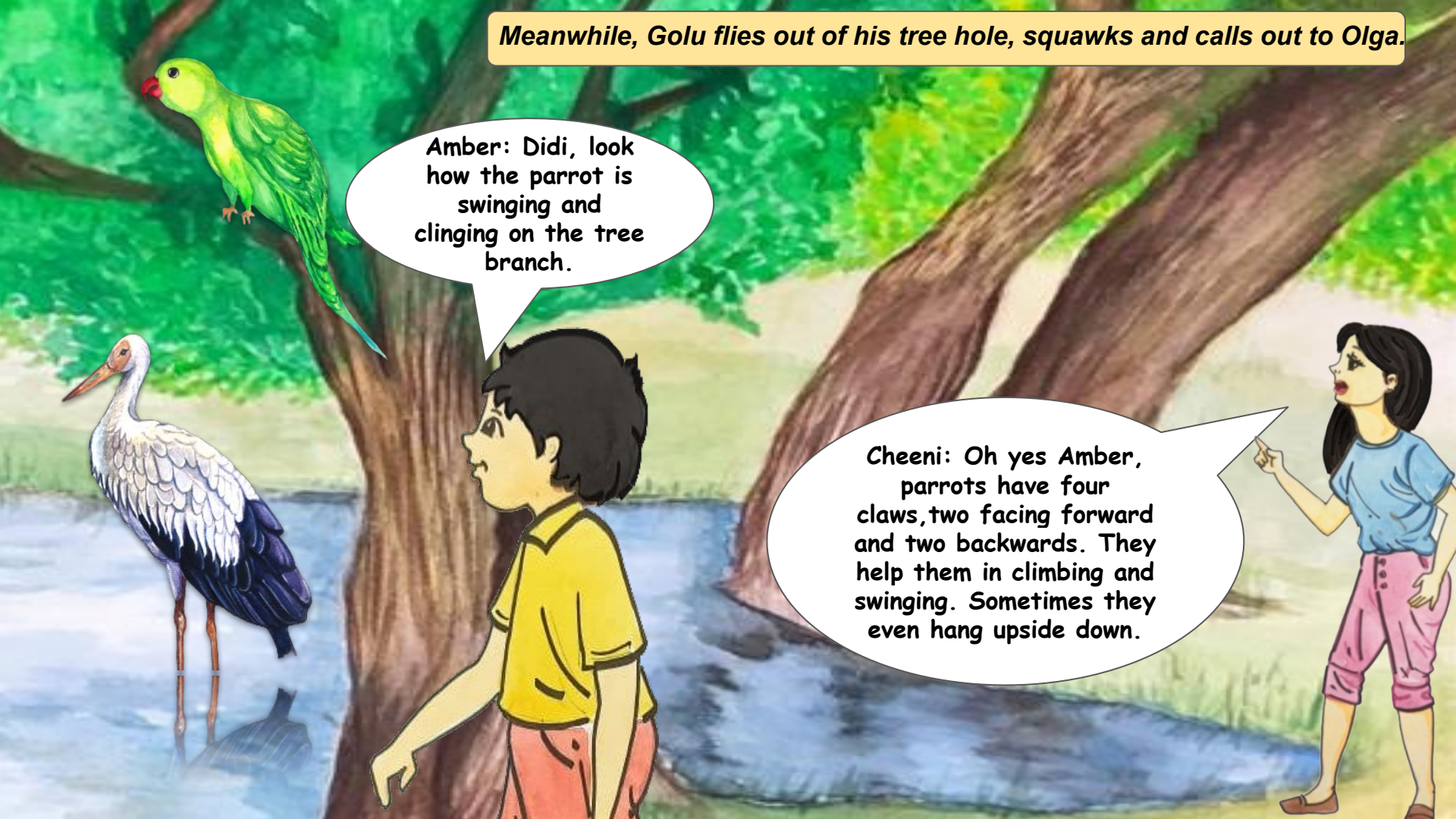
Cheeni: You know Amber, Parrots, Parakeets and Macaws have the same kind of beak which helps them eat seeds, nuts and fruits.

Amber:
Oh, that's interesting!

Golu: Meat, ewwww...
Me and my friends use our strong and curved beak to crack open hard nuts.



Meanwhile, Golu flies out of his tree hole, squawks and calls out to Olga.



Amber: Didi, look how the parrot is swinging and clinging on the tree branch.

Cheeni: Oh yes Amber, parrots have four claws, two facing forward and two backwards. They help them in climbing and swinging. Sometimes they even hang upside down.

Activity time!



Bindu Dada: Children, do you know that the Koel does not make its own nest? It lays its eggs in a crow's nest and the crow hatches them along with its own eggs.

Loki: Yes, and I build my nest as a rough platform of twigs and rags on a tree.

Children, can you look around, observe and think about why birds need nests and what all do they use to build them?



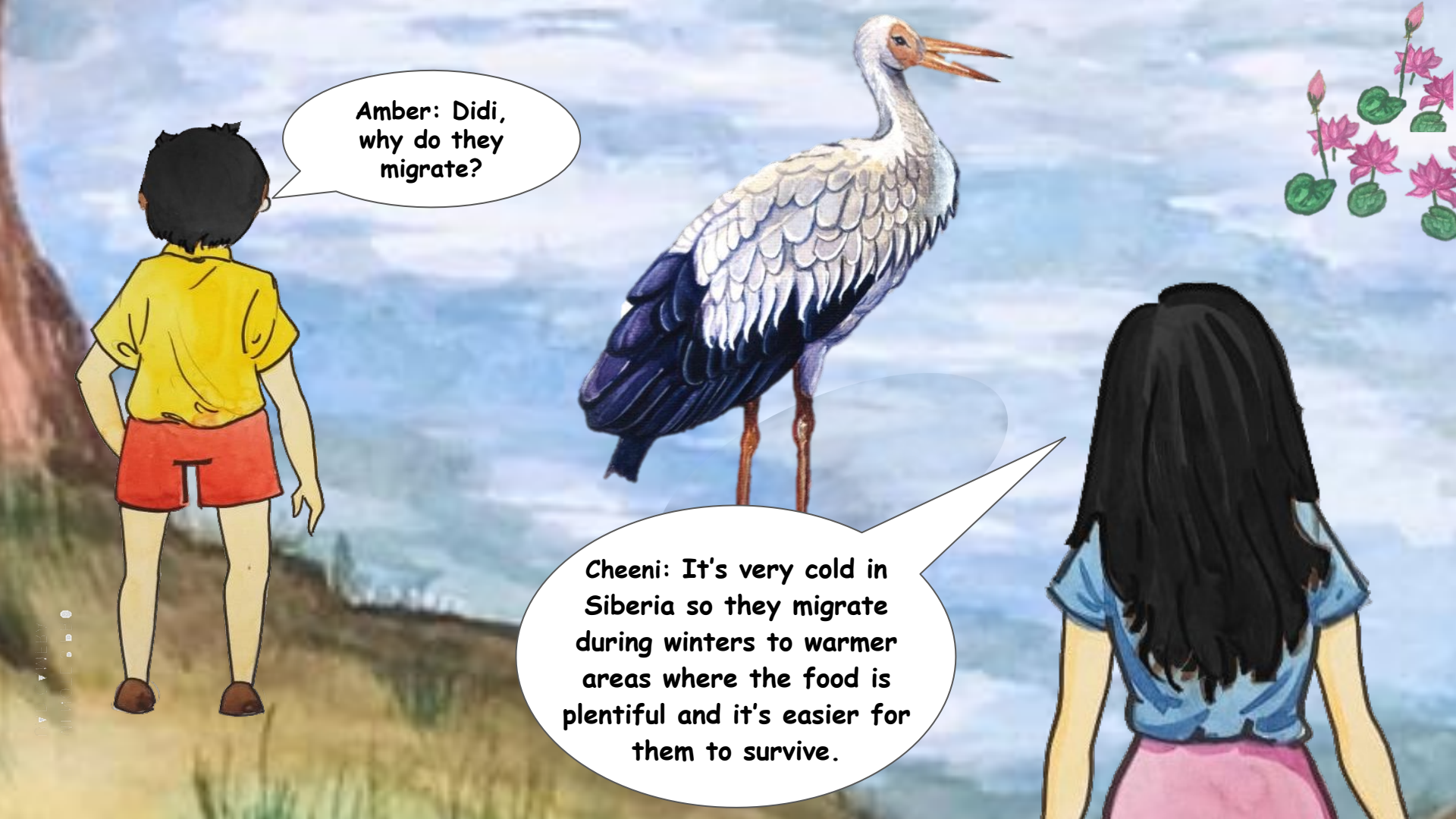
Can you name a bird that-

1. Builds a nest in the hollows of trees or on walls.
2. Makes holes in tree-trunks with its chisel-like beak.
3. Weaves twigs and grass to make a nest.
4. Lays its eggs in the nests of crows.



Amber: Didi, look
there! Such a
beautiful snowy white
bird standing tall by
the lake, sunbathing!

Cheeni: That snowy
white bird is a
Siberian Crane.
She is a migratory
bird.

A cartoon illustration showing a boy and a girl from behind, looking at a stork standing in a pond. The boy is on the left, wearing a yellow shirt and red shorts. The girl is on the right, with long black hair, wearing a blue shirt and a pink skirt. The stork is in the center, with white and grey feathers, a long orange beak, and long orange legs. The background is a blue pond with some pink lotus flowers in the top right corner.

Amber: Didi,
why do they
migrate?

Cheeni: It's very cold in
Siberia so they migrate
during winters to warmer
areas where the food is
plentiful and it's easier for
them to survive.



Golu: Hi Olga! Do you want to join me for a quick snack?

Olga: Oh Golu, nuts must be so crunchy. I use my long and thin beak to catch fresh and soft fish from the water.

Cheeni: Look how she caught a fish using her long beak!

Amber: Didi, Herons and Egrets too have beaks like her! They all stay near wetlands.

A cartoon illustration of a boy and a girl observing a crane by a pond. The boy, with short black hair, is wearing a yellow short-sleeved shirt and red shorts. He is pointing his right index finger towards a crane on the left. The girl, with long black hair, is wearing a blue short-sleeved shirt and a pink skirt. She is standing with her back to the viewer, looking at the crane. The crane is white with a long orange beak and long orange legs. It is standing on a grassy bank next to a blue pond. In the background, there are large green trees and some green bushes with small red flowers. Two speech bubbles are present: one from the boy pointing at the crane, and another from the girl explaining the crane's long legs and claws.

Amber: Look
at the long
legs of the
crane!

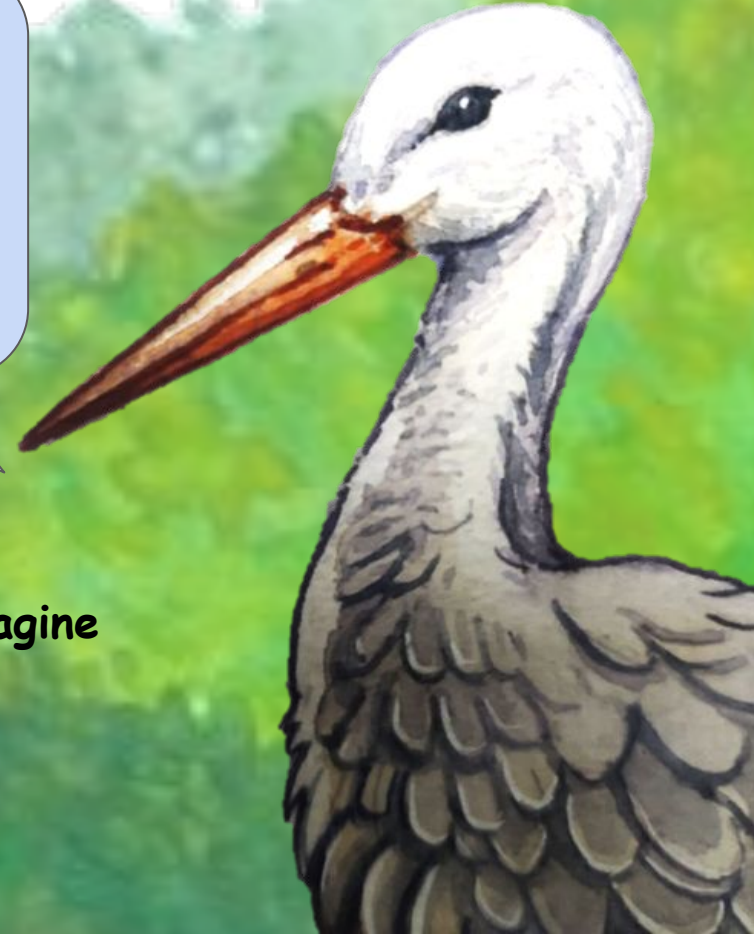
Cheeni: Yes, her long
legs help her to walk on
land and her claws
spread out so she can
walk easily in shallow
waters.

Activity time!

Let's Imagine

Olga: Hello children!
I am a Siberian crane, I have travelled from the far away wetlands of Western Siberia. It's excruciatingly cold there. Sadly, we are critically endangered species now.

Children you've just read about Mishthi-the koel, Buzzy- the woodpecker, Bindu Dada- the owl, Golu-the parrot and Olga-the Siberian crane. Imagine if you could become one of these birds for a day. Which bird would you like to be and why?



As Cheeni and Amber walk around the lake, Loki, the Black Kite swooshed in flapping her strong angled wings.



Amber: Look at the sharp and pointed beak of the black kite Didi.



Cheeni: Yes, Amber!
He is telling his friends about his eating habits which are quite similar to that of an owl.



Loki to Olga (with a smirk):
Fish alone? With my sharp, pointed and hooked beak, I can eat mice, hamsters and more, just like Bindu Dada!



Loki: I just relished a scrumptious hamster using my sharp beak.

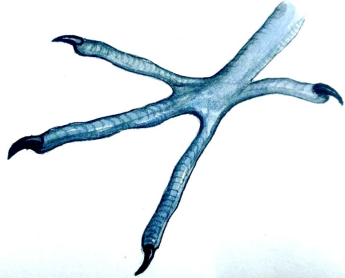
While soaring high up in the sky, I spotted it, swooped down and grabbed it with my sharp claws.

Bindu Dada:
Yumm!!

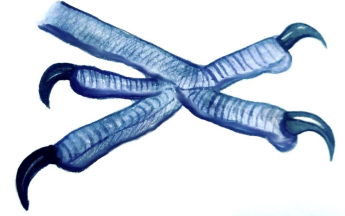
FUN FACTS



Birds of prey have Sharp claws, three facing forward and one backwards.
Example: owls, kites



These type of claws help the birds to hold on to the tree branch firmly.
Example: crows, sparrows



Four strong claws, two pointing forward and two backwards help in balancing and climbing upright.
Example- parrots, woodpecker



Long legs that help birds walk on land and claws which spread out so they can walk easily in shallow waters. Example: cranes, storks

Activity time!



Golu: All birds have different types of feet and claws. Let's look around and observe these birds and find out how their claws help them in different ways.

Mishthi: You must have heard so many poems and rhymes on birds. Time to put on your creative hat and write your own poem on birds.



Golu starts giggling and says..



Golu: Oh! How the six of us have discussed our beautiful and diverse beaks.



Olga: Golu, Look at those two children watching us... so sweet!



Amber: Wow Didil! Your special power to understand bird language has turned out to be a boon for us.

Cheeni: Yes Amber, isn't it amazing to know such interesting facts about the birds from them?



Mishthi:
Coo Coo ki
ki ki ki

Golu:
Squawk..
Squawk



Olga:
Crooo
Prooo



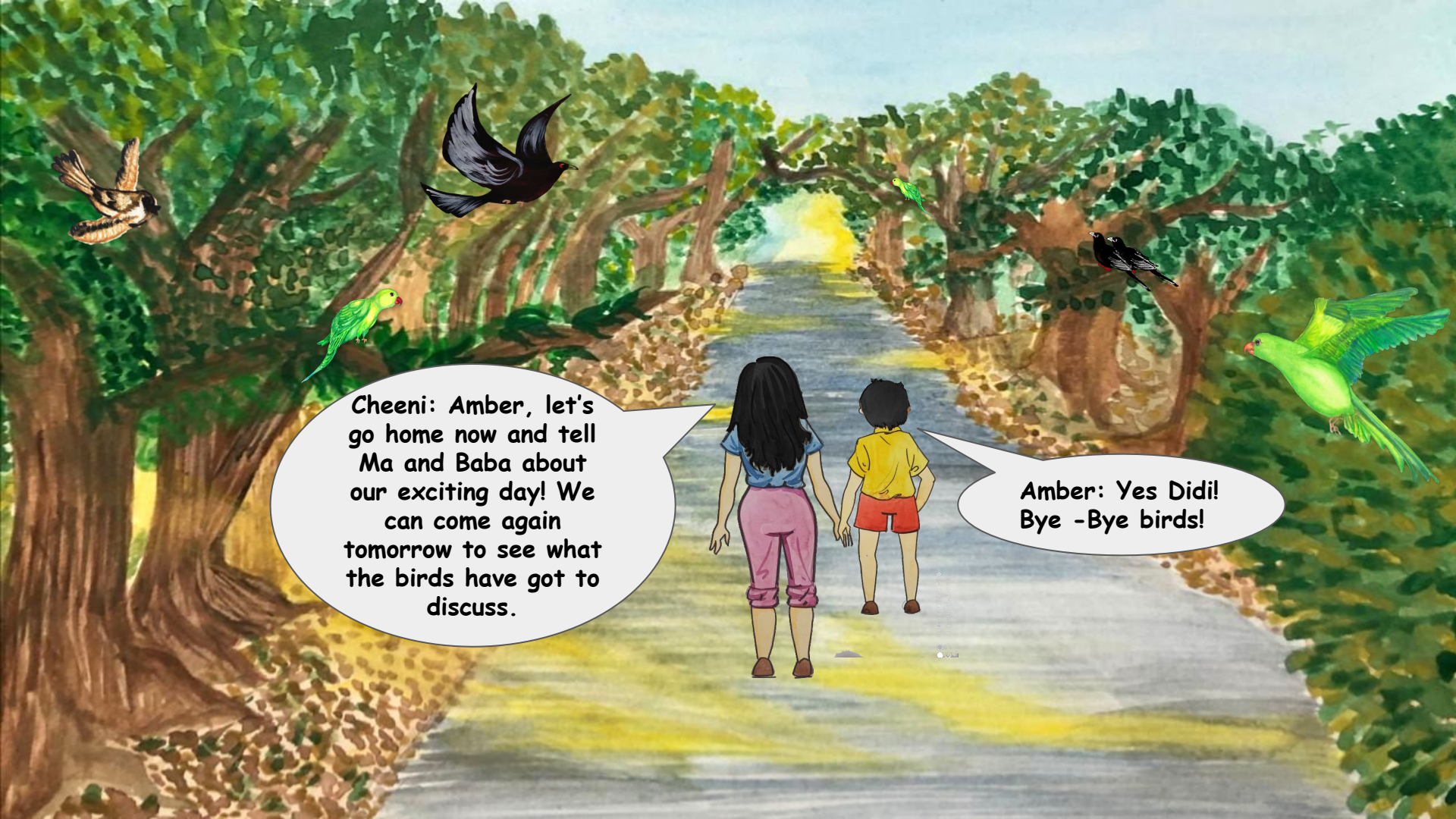


Loki: Chii kr kr
kr

Chii kr kr kr

Buzzy:
tuk tuk
tuk tuk
tuk

Bindu Dada:
Too-Hwit
Too-Hwit
Hwoo



**Cheeni: Amber, let's
go home now and tell
Ma and Baba about
our exciting day! We
can come again
tomorrow to see what
the birds have got to
discuss.**

**Amber: Yes Didi!
Bye -Bye birds!**

Activity time!

Let's see if you remember what Cheeni and Amber have told us about different bird beaks and their functions.

Match the beak to its functions.

		Hooked, sharp and pointed beak used to eat mice, hamsters and more
		Strong and curved beak used to crack open hard nuts, seeds and fruits.
		Sharp and pointed, chisel like beak used to drill holes in the tree trunk.

Golu: Children, do you know that the tailor bird uses its beak to sew its own nest?





Long and thin beak to catch fresh and soft fish from the water.



Hooked, sharp and pointed beak to tear and eat meat.



Sharp and pointed beak to eat berries, fruit and insects

Mishthi: The sunbird uses its long and thin beak to suck nectar from the flowers.



Down

- ### Across

-
- A crossword puzzle grid is displayed against a background of green foliage. The grid consists of white squares for letters and black squares for empty space. The numbered squares are:
- 1: Top left vertical word.
 - 2: Top center vertical word.
 - 3: Middle left vertical word.
 - 4: Middle center vertical word.
 - 5: Middle left horizontal word.
 - 6: Middle right horizontal word.
 - 7: Bottom center horizontal word.
 - 8: Bottom left horizontal word.

Key: 1. Crane, 2. Woodpecker, 3. Kite, 4. Owl, 5. Sunbird, 6. Koel, 7. Parrot, 8. Stork



**Golu: Bye Bye!
See you soon!**

Principal's pen



We at the Gyan Bharati School sincerely hope that this graphic novel BEAK TALK, created by teachers of the Primary Section on a theme from the EVS syllabus of class 3 and 4 will prove greatly beneficial to educators and students alike.

The popularity of the Graphic Novel is on the rise and it is steadily being recognised as a visual literacy tool for educating. I feel that a child's engagement with this genre whether as a writer, illustrator or a reader can bring about enhancement in learning, skill building and engagement with books, in a joyful manner. Surely, this format will help encourage the love for reading, develop comprehension and vocabulary and an understanding of grammar rules along with the much needed reading confidence in the reluctant reader.

A few pages of Beak Talk in particular, have been shared by the teachers with differently abled children and the feedback is encouraging. It is felt that children struggling with learning disabilities will find this book easy to read without getting overwhelmed as they do with lessons mostly comprising text.

I appreciate the efforts of Ms. Anupama Chand and Ms. Trinu Jain for their contribution in this venture.

I take this opportunity to express our thankfulness while acknowledging the constant support and guidance of Mr. Sandeep Sethi (Director Education, MGIS Museum Trust) as he mentored our teachers on this journey of new learnings.

Ms. Nishi Misra Manglik
Principal



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