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Barkha, the graded reading series is developed for students of Grade I and II. The objective of the series is to provide opportunity to young children to engage with books and read meaningfully. Gradation across levels has been achieved by variation in syntax, number of words and complexity of sub-plots. Barkha facilitates reading for pleasure in children and helps them become fluent readers. Children find everyday events as interesting as stories; hence, all the stories of Barkha are based on their daily life experiences. The stories of Barkha are spread out in four levels and five themes— (i) Relationships; (ii) Birds-Animals; (iii) Musical Instruments, Games and Toys; (iv) Around us and (v) Food. Another objective of the reading series is to provide plenty of books to children. It also helps in cognitive development of children in all curricular domains.

It is suggested that *Barkha* books be kept at a place in the classroom where children have easy access.

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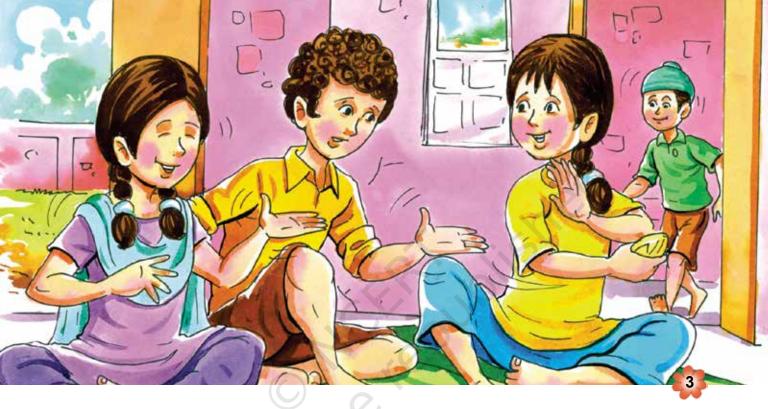
: Om Prakash

Let's make a Whistle





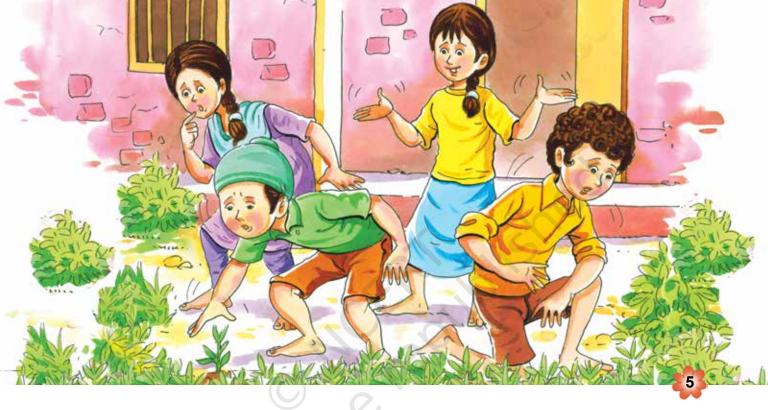
One day, Babli was very happy. She was going around the whole house whistling pee-pee. She had made a whistle for herself. The whistle made a loud sound.



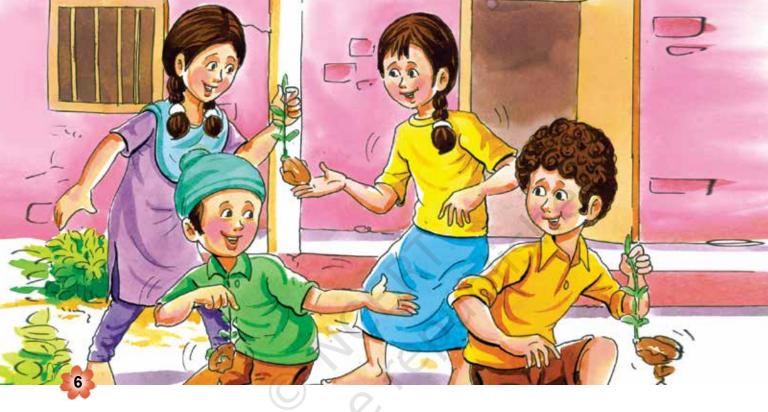
Naziya and Madan had come to her house. Madan too wanted to blow on the whistle. He asked Babli for the whistle. Babli refused to give the whistle.



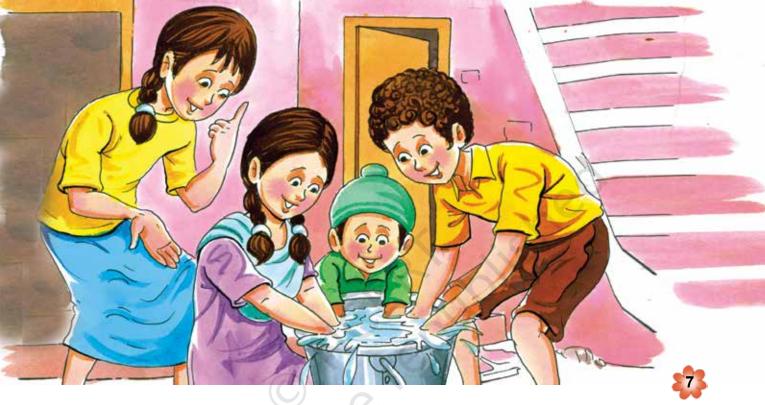
Madan asked her to teach him to make a whistle. Naziya too wanted to make a whistle. Babli agreed to teach them. She took everyone outside the house.



Babli asked everyone to look for Mango seeds. Many small plants of mango could be seen outside. Many plants had popped out of the seeds. Everyone got busy in looking for mango seeds.



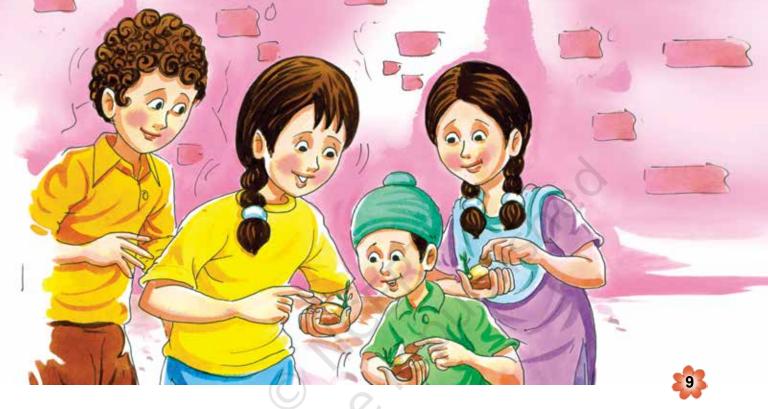
Babli explained the type of mango seed they needed. A tiny plant should be sprouting out of the seed. First, Naziya found a mango seed like that. Later, Madan and Jeet too found such seeds.



Babli asked everyone to wash the seeds. There was a bucket full of water in the courtyard. Everyone cleaned their seeds in the bucket. Everyone enjoyed putting their hands together in the bucket.



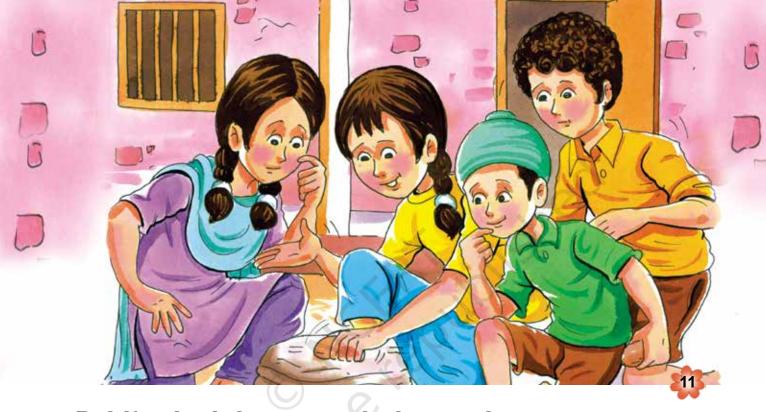
Water in the bucket had turned muddy. Everyone then washed their seeds at the tap. The dirt on the seed got totally washed off from the stream of tap-water. Everyone's seeds were absolutely clean.



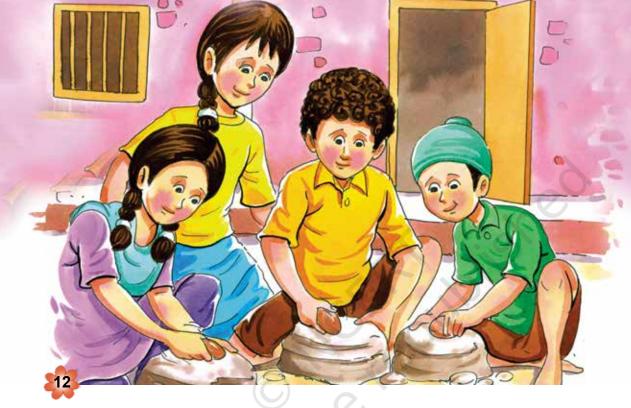
Now, Babli asked them to peel off the skin of the seed. She peeled off the skin of one of the seeds. Everyone peeled of the skin of their own seeds. Another seed came out of the peels.



They looked carefully at the inner seed. The seed was smelling of mango. Each seed had a plant sprouting out of it. Everyone carefully separated the plant from the seed.



Babli asked them to rub the seeds on a stone. Babli explained that the seeds need to be rubbed gently. Rub the seeds till two slices can be seen. Babli rubbed one of the seeds to show them.



Everyone started rubbing their seeds on the stone. They all wanted their whistle to be perfect. Madan rubbed his seed very slowly and gently, Naziya rubbed her seed hard. Jeet also rubbed his seed.



Gradually, the two parts of all the seeds were visible. Babli said the whistle was ready. She inspected everyone's whistle in her hands. Babli rubbed Madan's whistle a little more.



Babli asked them to blow in the whistle.

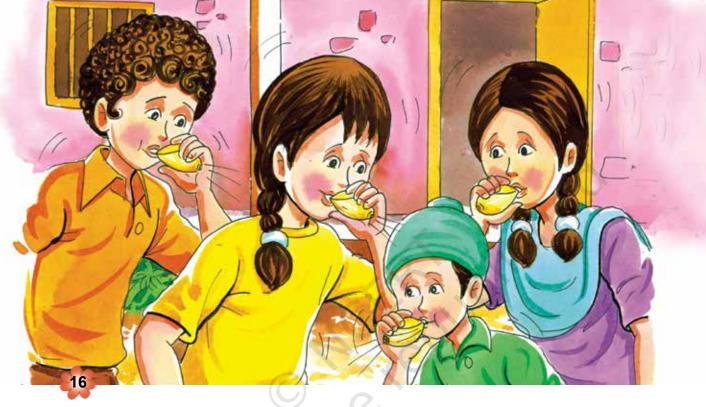
Madan started blowing his whistle, pee-pee!

He ran - Pee! Pee!

Nazia's whistle did not work.



Babli asked Nazia to bring another seed. Nazia brought one more seed. She washed and rubbed the seed. This time Naziya's whistle worked.



Naziya blew her whistle loudly.

Madan was also blowing his whistle loudly.

Jeet's whistle was also blowing.

They all happily blew on their whistles.

Stories of Jeet and Babli

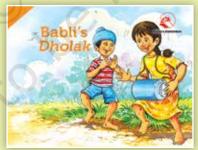








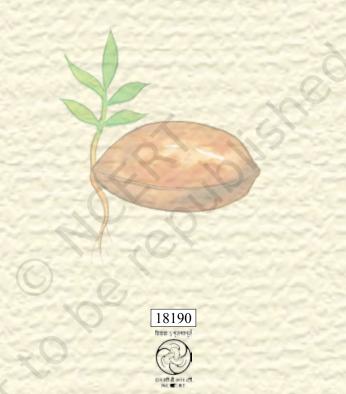












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