

Let's All Read Together



with
Talespinners

ACTIVITY GUIDE



Human Resources and
Skills Development Canada
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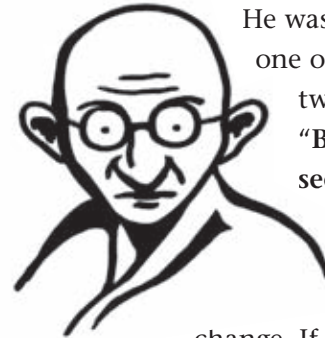
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INTRODUCTION FOR PARENTS



Hi, there. Do you know who Gandhi is? He was a great leader in India and one of the great people of the twentieth century. Gandhi said, “Be the change you want to see.” That means, don’t talk about change, don’t ask for change, don’t complain about change. *Be* the change. If you are a student in an adult literacy class, you are being the change you want to see.

If you share the joy of reading with your children, you are spending valuable time together and giving them a head start in becoming a reader. You are being the change you want to see. You are putting Gandhi’s words into action.

Let’s All Read Together will help you give your kids a head start in school and life. In this kit are four stories from the *Talespinners Collection* from the National Film Board of Canada. The stories are presented in two forms – as books and as videos on DVD. These stories will make reading with your children enjoyable, exciting and fun.

Each story was originally a book and later became a film.



Christopher, Please Clean Up Your Room! by Itah Sadu is a spirited story about a cool kid with a very uncool bedroom.



From Far Away by Robert Munsch and Saoussan Askar is about a little girl from a country torn by war and violence. She and her family leave her homeland for a better, safer place in Canada.



Lights for Gita by Rachna Gilmore is about an 8-year-old girl whose first Divali celebration in her new Canadian home is threatened by an ice storm. Divali is the Hindu Festival of Lights.



Roses Sing on New Snow by Paul Yee tells the story of a creative young chef, Maylin. She works in her father’s restaurant in a Canadian Chinatown.

There are lots of fun learning and craft activities to go along with each story. For example, you can colour drawings with your children or learn to read new words together. These activities will help families share the stories and understand them better.

The kit also includes **Family Reading Tip Sheets** that offer information about:

- How to read with children
- The connection between family literacy and school success

Have fun. Relax and read together. It is good for your child’s literacy and can help you be a better reader too. “Be the change you want to see.” Family reading is a powerful tool for change.



CHRISTOPHER, Please Clean Up Your Room!

Predict the story

Look together at the cover of the book and some of the pictures inside. Ask your child what he or she thinks the story is about. Read the title. What do you think it says about the story? Is it a happy story? Does it look funny?

Summary

A young boy has to clean up his bedroom. The thing is, his bedroom is a real mess and Christopher HATES to clean. But it's not just his friends and family members who want him to tidy up. The fish in the fish bowl do, too. They even get the cockroaches to help. Oh, yes. This is a funny story. Read it and find out more.

Tricky words

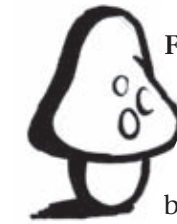
As you read the book, you may meet new words. You can look for their meanings on this list.

Chores: Jobs around the house, such as doing the dishes or taking out the garbage.

Scattered: When things are scattered, they are all over the place.

Stank: The past form of *stink*.

Cheesy: Like cheese (which sometimes stinks).



Fungi: The plural of *fungus*. Mushrooms are one kind of fungus. Bread gets a fungus called mould when it goes bad.

Funky: A word we use when something smells STRONG.

Nightmare: A BAD dream.

Murky: Cloudy, unclear. The water in the fishbowl was murky.

Cockroach: A large brown insect that is sometimes found in kitchens.



Shortcut: A way from one place to another that is shorter than the usual way.

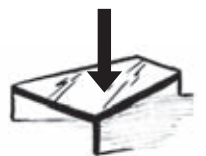
Doomed: When you can't escape something nasty, you are doomed.

Gather: To come together or to pick up. You might gather flowers for a vase.



Crawl: To move on hands and knees like a baby. Insects also crawl.

Surface: The top part of something.



Shocked: Very surprised.

Vacuum: A vacuum cleaner sucks dirt from carpets and floors. *To vacuum* is the verb.



Spic and span: Neat and clean.

Amazed: Very surprised.

Speck: A tiny little piece of something like dust or powder.

Crumb: A little piece of food, usually of bread or cake.

Joke

Q: Which insects can tell time?

A: Clock-roaches!

Read the book

Take turns reading the book together. Stop at difficult words and try to figure them out. Can you guess the meaning from the sentence around it? Can you sound out the word?

Read the first two pages out loud, or until there is a break in the story. Is the story what you both expected? What is the same? What is different? What do you think will happen next?

Talk about it

Did you like the story? This story has some interesting things for you to discuss. Christopher is a good boy but he shares something with a lot of children — he doesn't like to clean his room. Is this a problem in your family? Why is it

important to be neat and clean? What would happen if nobody cleaned your home? Is there a link between a clean home and family health? In the end, Christopher shows a lot of maturity. He takes responsibility for his room. What are the responsibilities of each person in your home?

Watch the film

Now that you know the story as a book, you can enjoy the animated film. It is on the DVD that came with this kit.

Writing fun

Finish the poem by choosing the word that rhymes.

snakes
night
room
cool
vacuum

Christopher, Christopher, please clean up your _____ !
The fish are all frightened,
You have to v_____.
Christopher, Christopher, I'm getting the shakes.
Your mother is worried,
She thinks she'll find _____ !

Christopher, Christopher, why do you fool?
At everything else, you're the king of _____ .
But this isn't right, it isn't fair.
I guess what you need is a cockroach _____mare!

Word game

Match the words that go together.

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Helpful insects (in the story) | cheesy |
| 2. Where the fish live | vacuum |
| 3. A bad dream | funky-funky |
| 4. The opposite of <i>tidy</i> | untidy |
| 5. The sandwich under his bed was so _____. | cockroaches |
| 6. Another word for <i>trash</i> . | garbage |
| 7. Where the action took place | snakes |
| 8. A cleaning machine | fishbowl |
| 9. His shoes smelled _____ - _____. | nightmare |
| 10. His mother's fear | bedroom |

Answers: 2. fishbowl 3. nightmare 4. untidy 5. cheesy 6. garbage 7. bedroom 8. vacuum 9. funky-funky 10. snakes

Activities for parents and kids

- Think of poems, jokes or riddles about stinky things. Share them with each other.
- Visit a pet store that sells tropical fish. Learn about your favourites.
- Make a cockroach. You can use a walnut shell or anything you like for the body.
- Organize your crayons, pencils, and papers. Cover cardboard boxes or cylinders with paper or cloth to make cool boxes. You could also put labels on!
- Make a hanger for your bedroom door. Decorate it so that it tells something about you.



Cut a small piece of paper or felt to make the head and legs. Glue the head and legs part under the shell so the shell is the cockroach's back. Use a marker to make its eyes.



From Far Away

Predict the story

Look together at the cover of the book. Then look at the pictures but don't read the words. What do you think the story is about? What does the title tell you about the book? Does the story begin in a peaceful place? Be sure to look at the back cover also. It shows a photo of the girl Saoussan, who inspired the book.

Summary

Saoussan has just moved to Canada from a country at war. In her new home, she is safe, but her life is still not easy. She cannot speak English. She does not know the customs of her new home in Canada. She can't even ask the teacher if she can go to the bathroom! She must learn the hard way how to fit in. This is the easiest story to read of the four books. It is an excellent place for new readers to start.

Tricky words

As you read the book, you may meet new words. You can look for their meanings on this list.



Buddy: A friend.

Crawl: To move on hands and knees like a baby or an insect.



Hallowe'en: A festival on October 31. Children put on costumes and go from house to house getting candy and treats.

Skeleton: The structure of bones that support the body.



Evil: Very bad. Very wrong. The opposite of *good*.

Scream: A loud cry usually caused by fear or excitement.



Guilty: When you have done something wrong, you feel guilty.

Ashamed: Embarrassed. If you feel this way, your face might turn red.

Complain: To say you are not happy about something. If your food is cold in a restaurant, you would complain.

Mask: A covering for your face.



Trick-or-treating: Going from house to house on Hallowe'en.

Kindergarten: The first year of school, before Grade 1.

Joke

Q. Where's a good place to find bugs?
A. The flea market!

Read the book

Take turns reading the book together. Stop at difficult words and try to figure them out. Can you guess what a word means from the sentence around it? Can you sound out the word?

As you read, ask questions like these:

- How do you think Saoussan and her family feel about moving so far away?
- Have you ever felt like Saoussan did when she did not understand anything that was being said?
- Why did she crawl under the desk when she needed to go to the washroom?
- What do you do when you are afraid?
- When Saoussan felt at home in Canada, she changed. How did she change?
- Do you know any other books by Robert Munsch? Do you have a favourite one?

Talk about it

Is Hallowe'en scary? Everybody has things they are scared of. Are there things you used to be scared of but not any more? How did you learn NOT to be afraid?

Who has a reading buddy? If somebody does, what do they do together?

The name of the girl in the story is Saoussan. How did you get your name? Were you named after someone special? What does your name mean?

What would your "very good scream" sound like?

Watch the film

Now that you know the story from the book, you can enjoy the animated film based on the book. The film is on the DVD that came with this kit.

Writing fun

How would you welcome a newcomer to your classroom? If she didn't speak English, what words would you teach her? Write them down.

Word search

Find the 10 words in the puzzle and circle them.

1. war
2. Saoussan
3. Beirut
4. school
5. Canada
6. pee
7. Munsch
8. English
9. Hallowe'en
10. Talespinners

T A L E S P I N N E R S
 B E I R U T X R T N G A
 Q D Y S C H O O L G C O
 P E E S A B M K V L T U
 L U M U N S C H P I D S
 H B J W A R G S K S R S
 L T V Z D B S P P H I A
 E C A Y A K L U O H R N
 H A L L O W E ' E N M O
 W N T M X B E P A V L H

Activities for parents and kids

Check at the library for any new books by Robert Munsch. Borrow those you find interesting.

Circle of Friends*

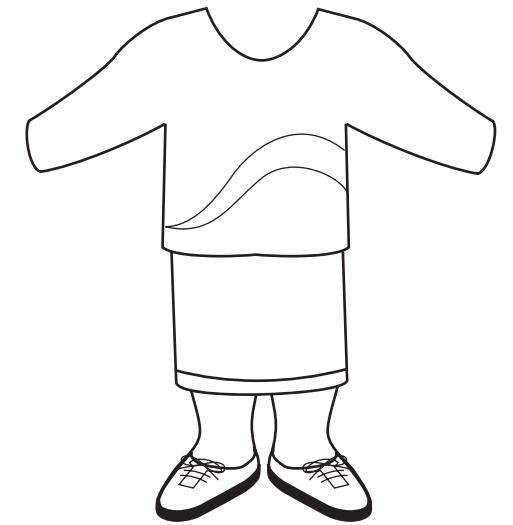
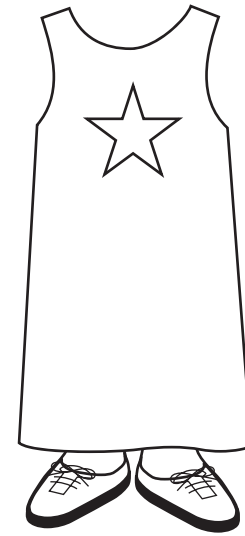
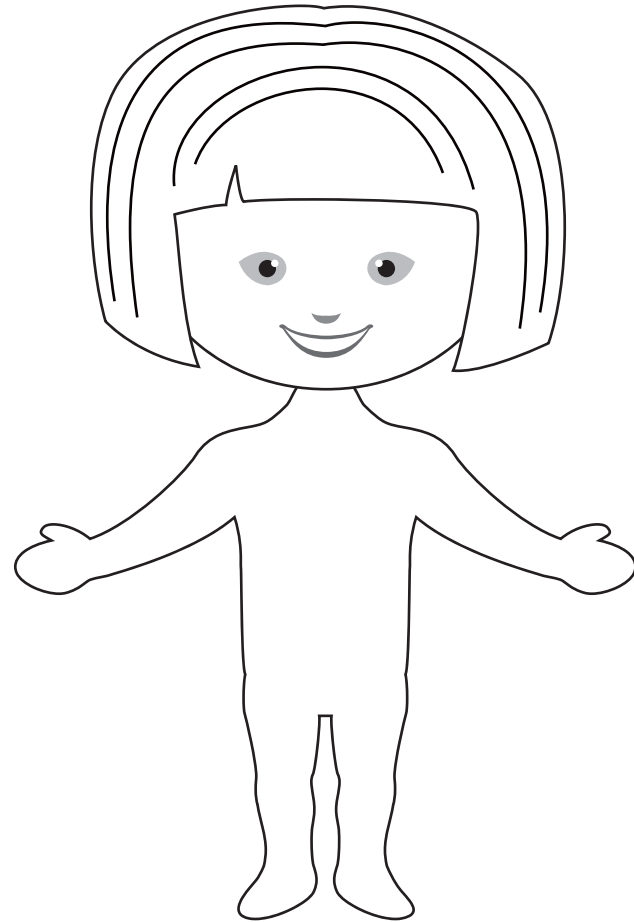
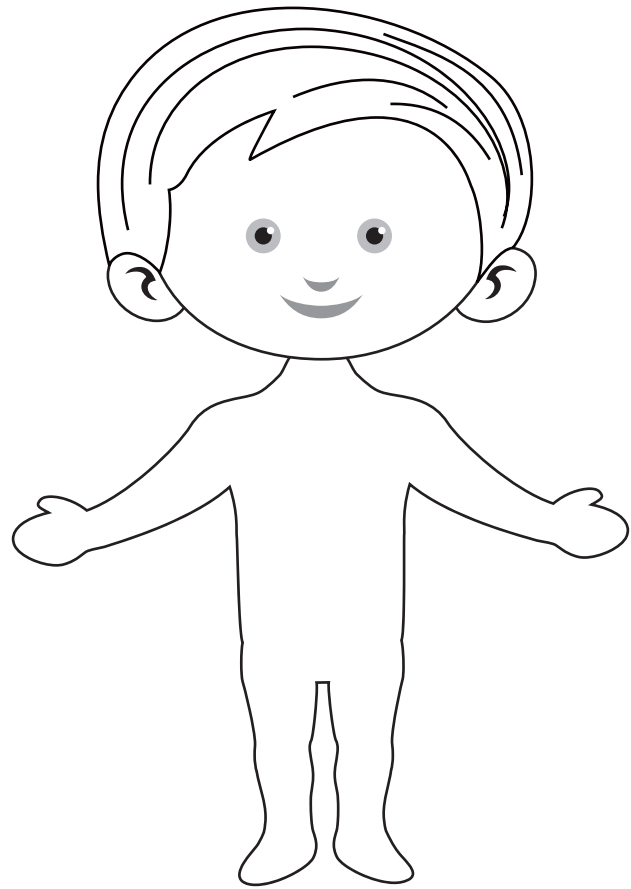
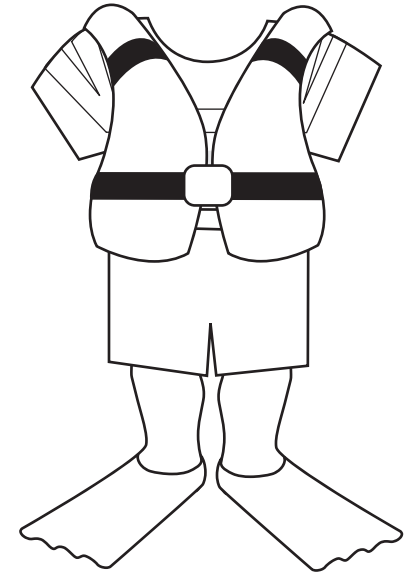
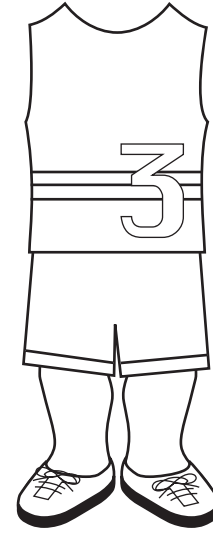
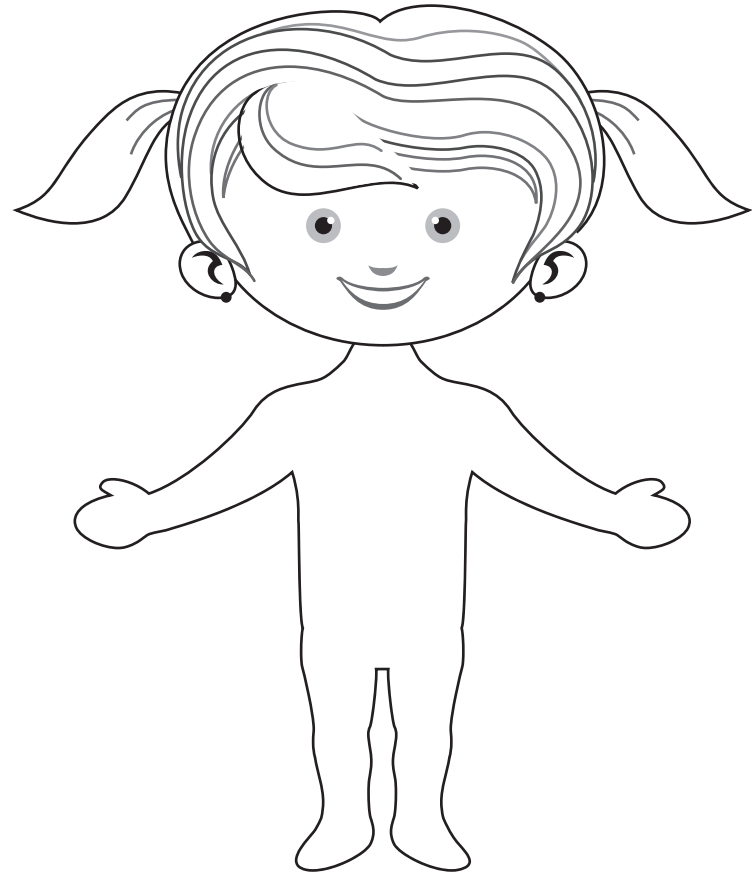
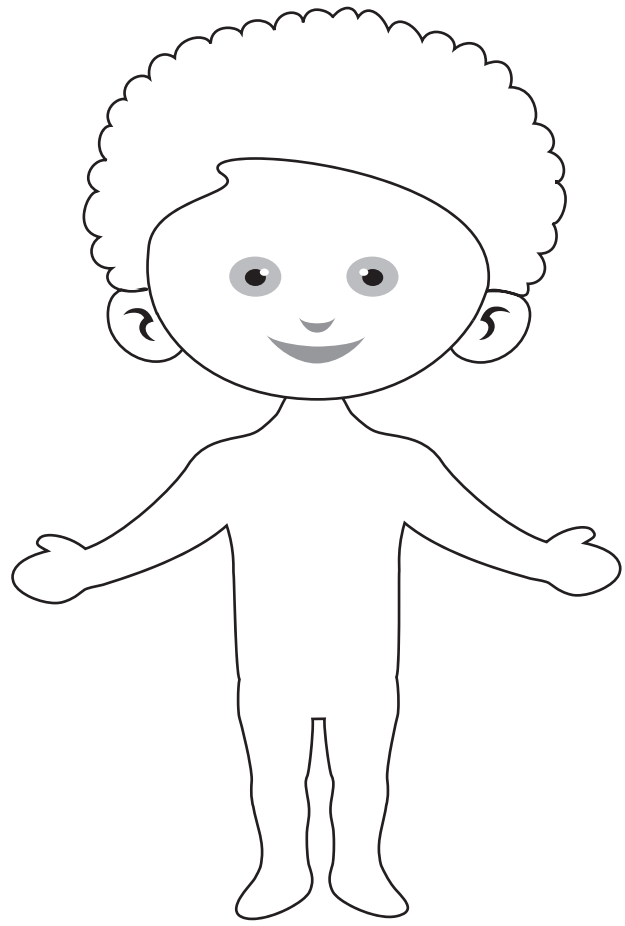
1. Colour and cut out the bodies and clothing on the following pages.
2. Dress your friends. Glue on the clothes.
3. Arrange friends in a flat circle so that they are holding hands and their feet are in the centre of the circle. Glue or tape together and hang or display.
4. Instead of gluing friends together, you can play with them separately.

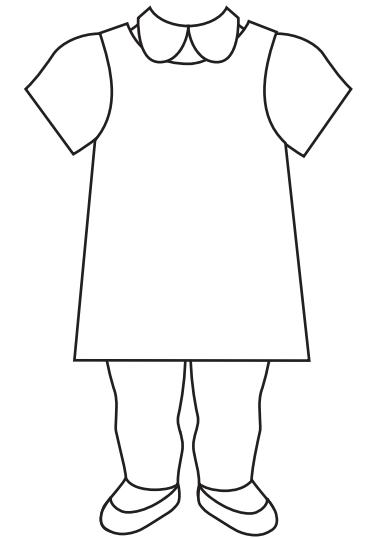
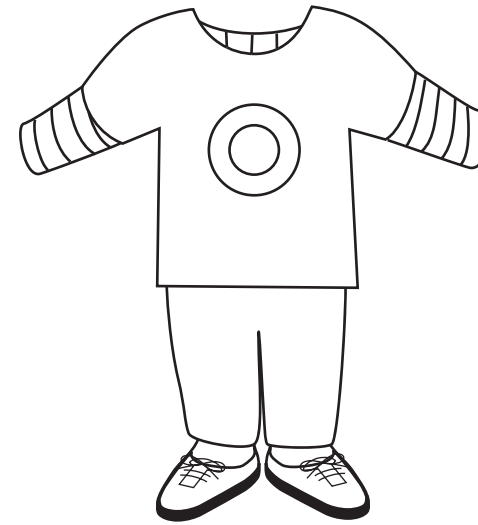
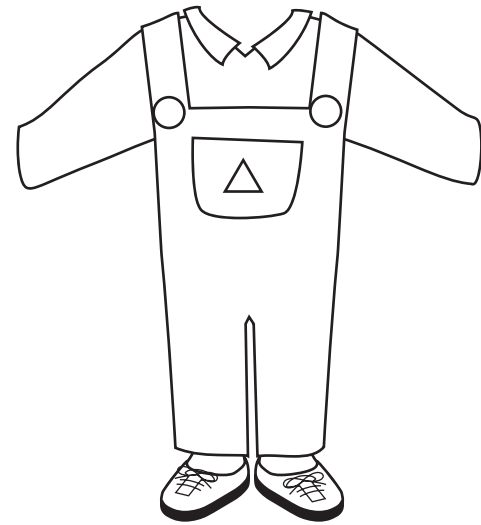
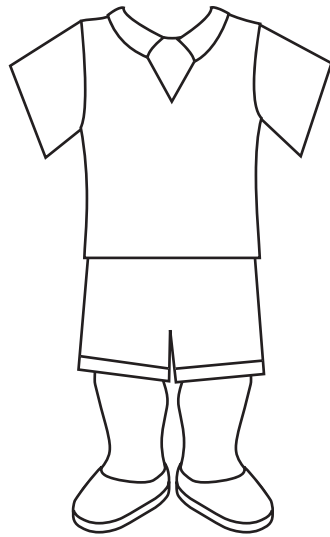
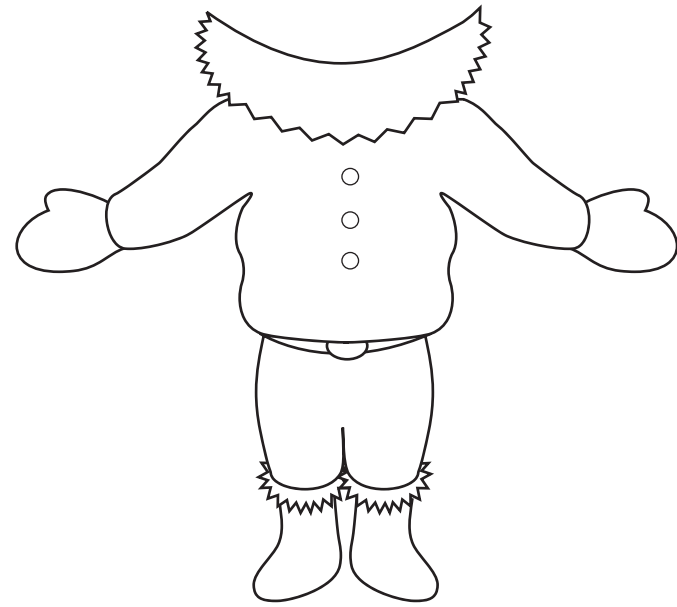
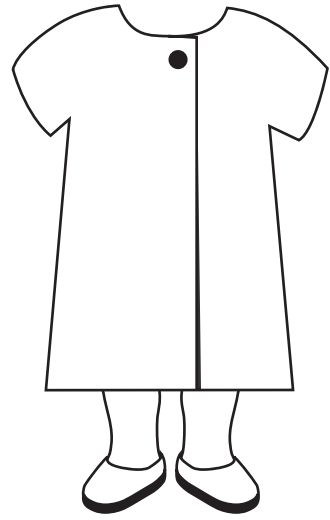
* For other templates, visit this Web site:

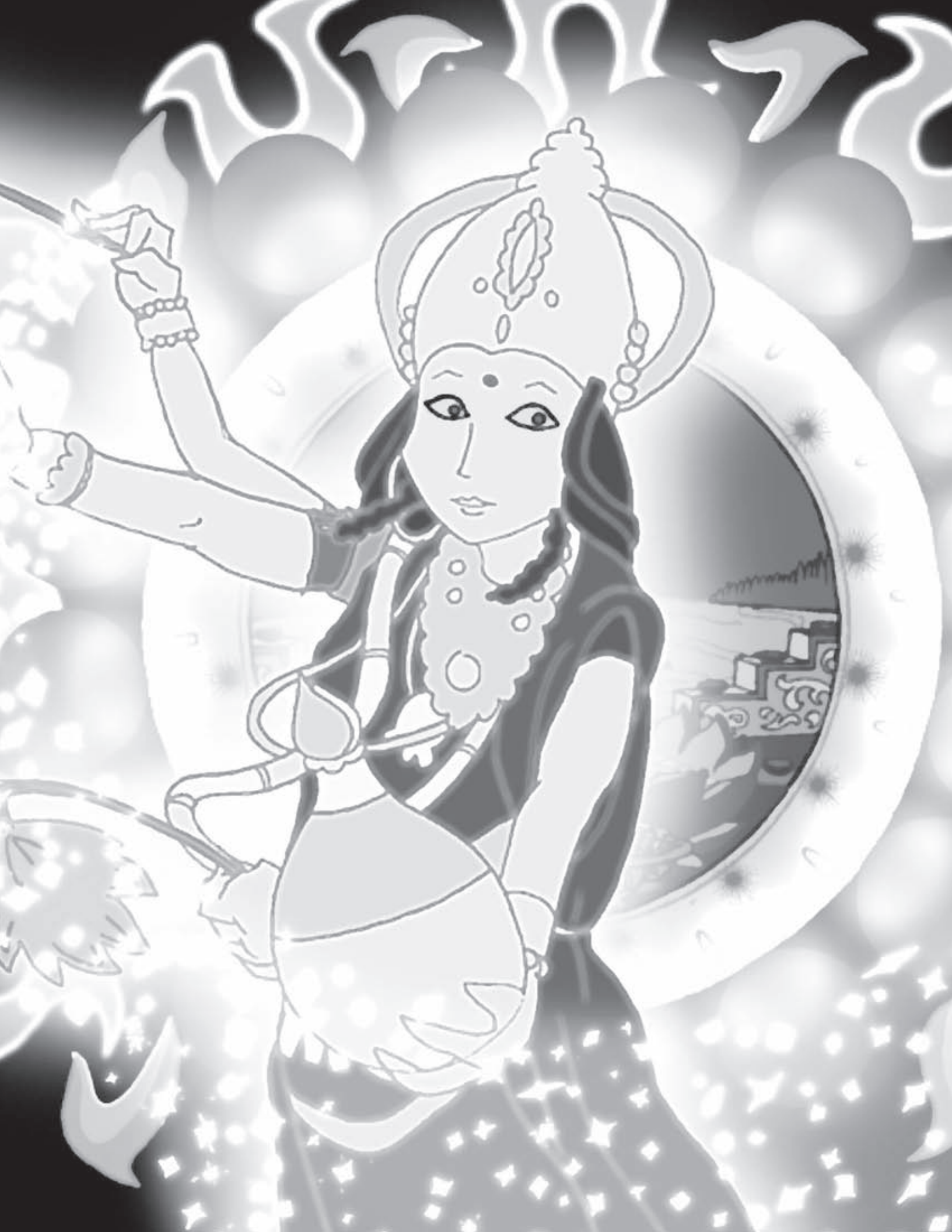
www.makingfriends.com. There are many useful crafts and ideas to use at home or in school.

H T L A V L H
 W N T M X B E P A V L H
 H A L L O W E ' E N M O
 M O H A L L O W E ' E N M O
 N R E C A Y A K L U O H R N
 I A H L T V Z D B S P P H I A
 S R S H B J W A R G S K S R S
 S D S L U M U N S C H P I D S
 T U P E E S A B M K V L T U
 O C Q D Y S C H O O L G C O
 A N L T V Z D B S P P H I A
 S T A L E S P I N N E R S

Answers:







Lights for Gita

Predict the story

Look together at the cover of the book. Then look at the pictures but don't read the words. What do you think the story is about? What time of year is it? What kind of clothes is the mother wearing?

Summary

Gita has just moved to Canada from India. She is excited about celebrating the Hindu tradition of Diwali, the Festival of Lights. (Hinduism is a major religion that was born in India.) But in her new home, her Canadian friends have never heard of Diwali before. With help from her parents, Gita is planning a party. Then the famous Canadian winter arrives.

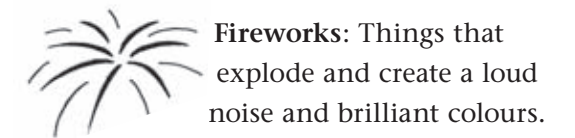
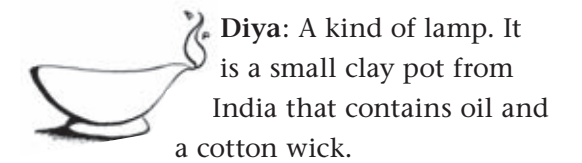
Tricky words

As you read the book, you may meet new words. You can look for their meanings on this list.

Diwali: The Festival of Lights celebrated in October or November by Hindus all over the world.

New Delhi: The capital of India.

Celebration: *Celebrate* is the verb. *Celebration* is the noun. A special event people enjoy, such as a birthday or Canada Day.



Perras, jallebies: Indian sweets.



Glare: To stare at something or someone hard, like you are angry.

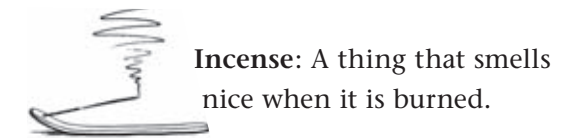
Forecast: To predict the weather.

Freezing rain: Cold rain that freezes when it touches a tree or the ground.

Windowsill: The bottom area of a window where you might put a houseplant.



Crackers, Catherine wheels: Types of fireworks.



Impatiently: How a person might act if they are kept waiting. The opposite of *patiently*.

Tightened: When something is tightened, it is NOT LOOSE any more. You might tighten your shoelaces or the top of a jar.

Glitter: To sparkle or shine, like the lights on a Christmas tree.

Glisten: To shine, like bright light on a wet surface.



Blaze: To throw brilliant light like a big fire.

Hide and seek: A children's game where one person hides and the other players look for him or her.

Sob: To cry really hard. The past tense is *sobbed*.

Joke

Q. What did the mother broom say to the baby broom?

A. Have a good sweep!

Read the book

Now you are ready to read the book together. Take turns reading. Stop at difficult words and try to figure them out. Can you guess what a word means from the sentence around it? Can you sound out the word?

Talk about it

Does your family have an immigration story? Perhaps you had a relative who moved from another country, or maybe someone moved from the city to the country. Share your family stories about people who made new beginnings in new places.

Talk about storms. What is the biggest storm you have ever seen?

Have you seen the magic of winter lights shining on ice or the frost on trees? Have you ever seen the Northern Lights?

What special times do you celebrate? Does your family light something special, like diyas? Talk about it.

Gita and her friend were going to play hide and seek. What games do you like to play?

Where in Canada do you think this story took place? Why do you think so?

Watch the film

Now you know the story as a book. It's time to enjoy the animated film. It is on the DVD that came with this kit.

Writing fun

Lights are clearly very important for Divali. What other celebrations use lights? Make a list.

Word game

Unscramble the words. The first one is done for you.

1. eNw lhDei = New Delhi

2. duHni

3. refiksrwo

4. srmot

5. tryap

6. eesstw

7. yidas

8. gnlizzad

Answers: 2. Hindu 3. fireworks 4. storm 5. party 6. sweets 7. diyas 8. dazzling

Activities for parents and kids

What would the sky look like if you were celebrating Divali? Draw a picture with lots of fireworks.

Play hide and seek.

Make a book about your family. Begin with the cover. Draw a picture or cut a design for your cover. Glue the cover on to a scribbler or scrapbook. For the pages of your book, put photos or drawings of each person in your family, and write something about each of them.

Make a family tree.

See page 20-21 for this activity.

1. Trace or copy as many leaves as you need, one to represent each member of your family.

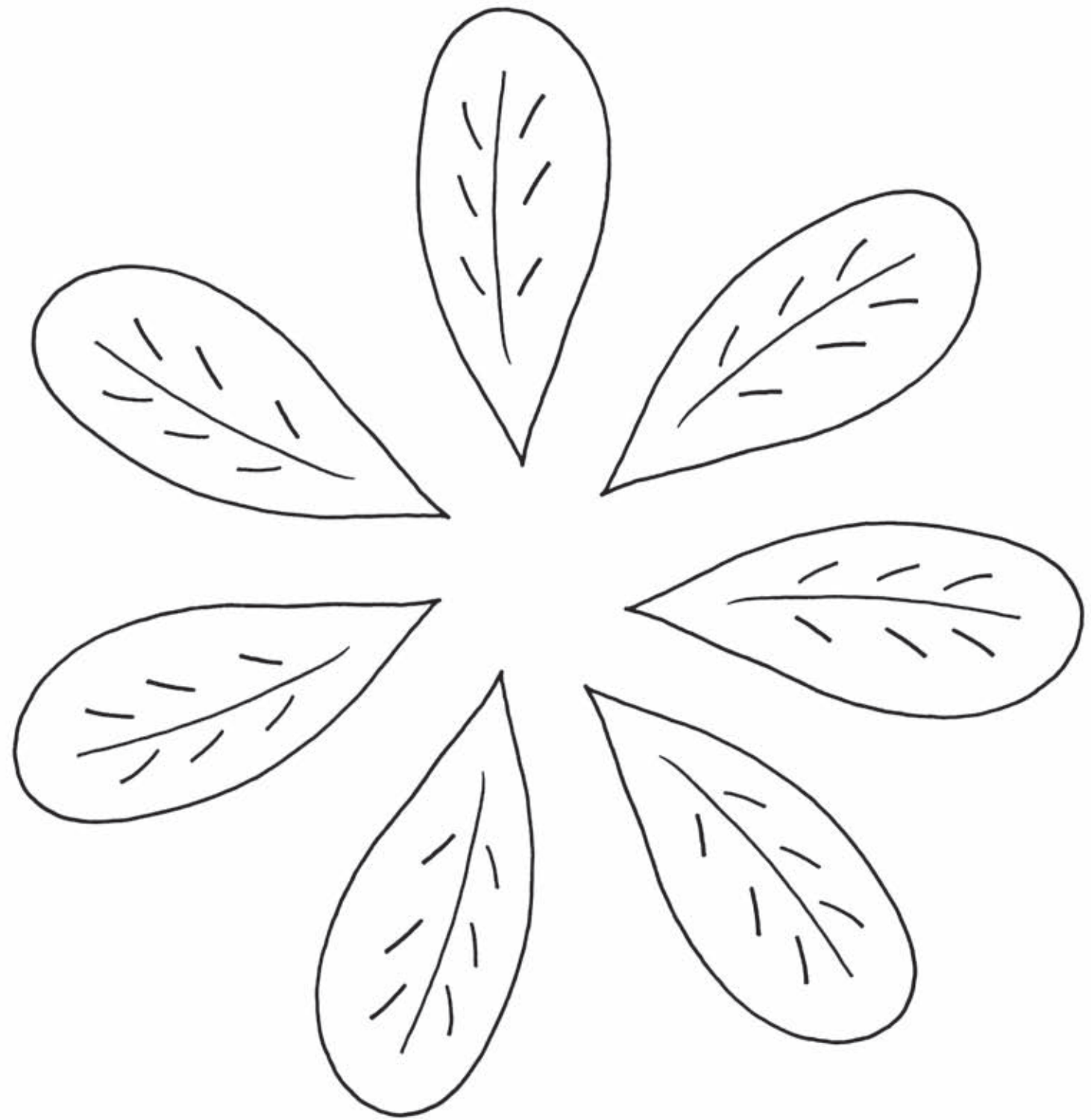
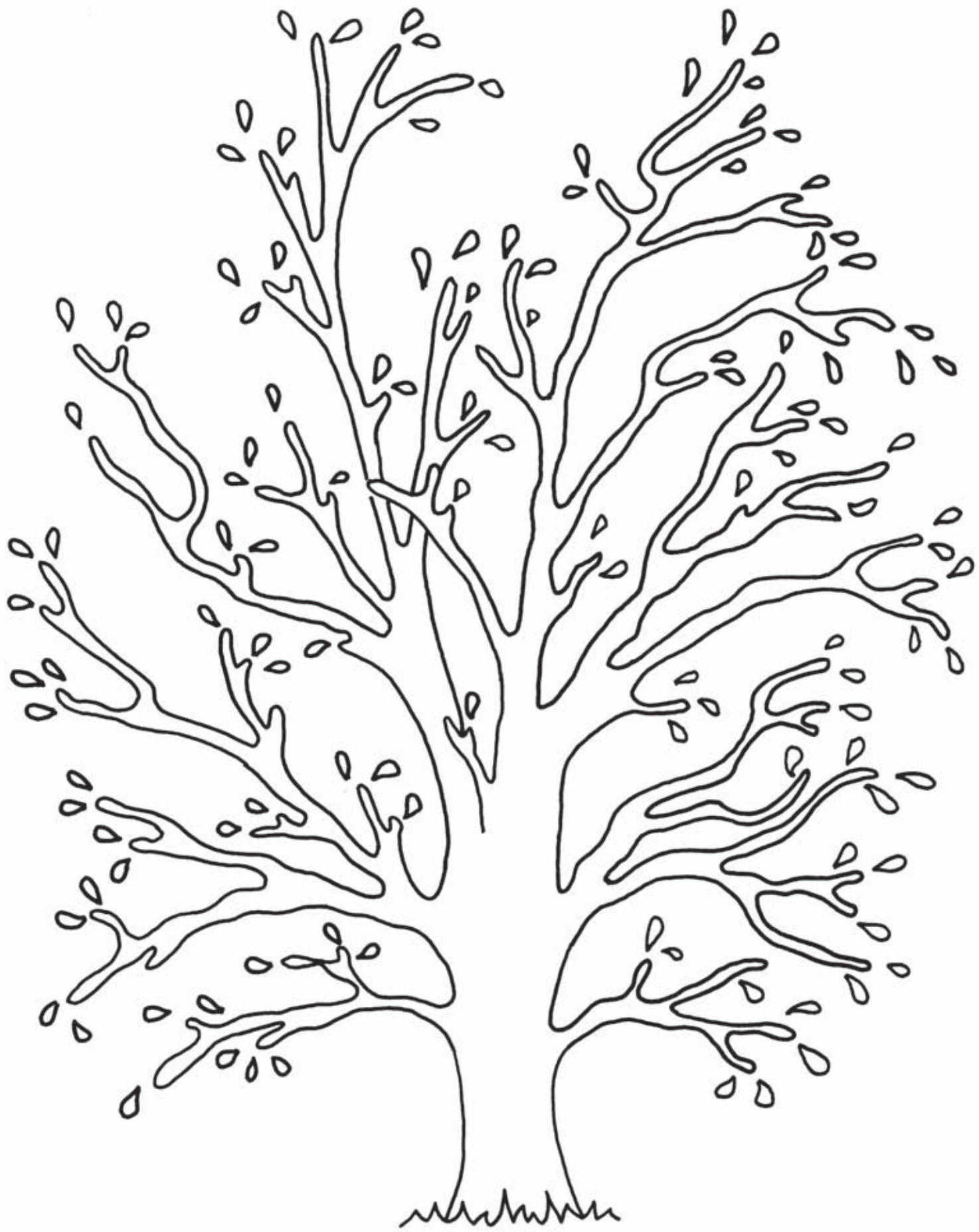
2. Colour the tree trunk and enough branches for all the family.

3. Cut out the leaves.

4. Find or make pictures of each person's face and glue them onto leaves.

5. Stick them to the tree branches with the oldest at the top and the youngest at the bottom.

Plan a celebration for someone special to you. What will you eat? What will you do for fun?





Roses Sing on New Snow

Predict the story

Look together at the cover of the book. Then look at the pictures but don't read the words. What do you think the story is about? What can you say about the woman with the bicycle on the cover? Is there a lot of cooking and food in the book?

Summary

A young woman is a brilliant cook in a family restaurant. Her father and brothers steal the credit for her cooking. An important visitor comes from China. There is a contest for the cook who can prepare the best dish. Will Maylin receive the credit she deserves? Or will she be forced to work silently in the kitchen?

Tricky words

As you read the book, you may meet new words. You can look for their meanings on this list.

Compliments: Nice things said about a person. For example, "I like your shoes" or "Your cooking is delicious."

Ingredients: The foods that go into making something, such as onions in soup.

Announce: To tell the public something. If there is a bad storm, schools might announce on the radio that schools are closed.

Banquet: A big formal meal for many guests.



Imagination: The ability to create new things. When someone draws a picture, or cooks a new dish, they are using imagination.

Flavor: Also spelled *flavour*. Salt, sugar and garlic add flavour to food.

Herbs: Plants we use to flavour food, such as parsley and basil.

Aromas: Good smells that come from cooking.

Spices: Nutmeg, ginger and pepper are spices used to flavour food.

Lie: To say something that is not true.

Reward: To give someone a gift for doing something good.

Chop: To cut up into small pieces. The past form is *chopped*.

Carve: To cut something into a shape. You can carve wood or even ice.

Blend: To mix things together to make something new. You blend flour and eggs to make noodles.

Imposter: Someone who pretends to be someone else.

Blame: To consider someone or something responsible for doing something wrong. For example, police might blame a snowstorm for slowing traffic.



Quake: To shake. If you quake with fear, you shake because you are so afraid.

Astounded: Very surprised. If you see a flying pig, you will be astounded.

Shame: What people feel when they are caught doing something wrong.

Creation: Bringing something new and unique into the world. A child is a creation. So is a garden or a new recipe or a painting.

Ignore: Not to pay attention to somebody or something.

Threaten: To say you will do harm to someone if they don't do what you tell them to.

Gasp: To make a sound of surprise by sucking in your breath.



Wok: A pot for Chinese cooking.

Secret: Knowledge that is protected and kept private. Your bank PIN number should be a secret.

Identical: Something exactly the same as something else. Are the spoons in your drawer identical?

Renowned: Famous for having a special ability.

Joke

Q: Why was Mr. Cookie so sad?
A: Because he was feeling crummy!

Read the book

Now you are ready to read the book together. Take turns reading. Stop at difficult words and try to figure them out. Can you guess what a word means from the sentence around it? Can you sound out the word? After reading the first page, ask your child: Is the New World a real place? Where do you think it might be? Where is the Old World?

Talk about it

- What does the story tell you about honesty?
- Why do you think people say, "Be careful because one lie leads to another"?
- Maylin was a creative cook. Do you both enjoy being creative? How?
- What are your favourite ingredients in food?

Watch the film

Now that you know the story as a book, you can enjoy the animated film. It is on the DVD that came with this kit.

- Is the book like the video? How is it the same? How is it different?

Writing fun

Choose one favourite dish and write down the recipe together.

Word game

True or false? Write T for true and F for false.

	T	F
1. Maylin was a great chef.		
2. Maylin took lots of holidays so she could rest for work.		
3. Maylin cooked to make the lonely men feel better.		
4. She used whatever ingredients she could find to cook with.		
5. Her brothers were skinny from working too hard.		
6. Her father used to lie to his customers.		
7. The governor from China hated to eat.		
8. Maylin went to the harbour for greens and herbs.		
9. Maylin went to her garden for fresh fish.		
10. She told the governor that he could not take the dish home with him.		
11. When she showed the governor how to make Roses Sing on New Snow, their dishes tasted exactly the same.		
12. Maylin is now known as a great chef and a wise person.		

ANSWERS: 1.T 2.F 3.T 4.F 5.F 6.T 7.F 8.T 9.F 10.F 11.F 12.T

Activities for parents and kids

Prepare the favourite recipe you wrote down together. Give it a new name, like Roses Sing on New Snow. Serve it to someone special.

Find a Chinese cookbook at the library. Make a simple dish and try eating it with chopsticks. A noodle soup would be fun but messy!

FAMILY READING TIP SHEETS

Literacy & Language Links

- Literacy begins at birth – long before children start school.
- Even babies are ready to start learning about language and books.
- To learn to read, children need to first experience language.
- First comes **experience**, then comes **understanding** and finally **language**.
- Children learn language best through interaction with others. They take cues from facial expression, intonation, inflection and environment.
- Children's earliest and best learning happens when they feel loved and cared for – at home, with their families.
- Literacy, learning and healthy child development are interconnected.
- A strong understanding of a language, not only English, is the best start for children's literacy.
- Speak **with** your children, not at them.
- Use open-ended questions (not just yes/no questions) with your child to find out what they think, and to check for understanding.
- Don't forget to **listen** to what your child has to say!
- Rhymes, chants, songs and storytelling create a rich environment for language development. Use any language you want!
- Children learn through **rhythm, rhyme** and **repetition**.
- Book sharing is a way to explore a world of beauty, imagination and magic with children.
- By reading **with** children, you are helping them develop skills they will use forever.
- Literacy does not begin in school – it begins at home, in families!
- It's never too early or too late to talk, sing, and read with your children.

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Signs of Reading and Writing Development in Young Children.*

Reading

- Showing interest when someone reads
- Turning pages
- Pointing to pictures
- Pretending to read
- Naming letters
- Joining in or repeating phrases of a familiar story
- Asking what a word “says” or asking where a certain word is on a page
- Picking out letters, such as those in their names, or words on a page

Writing

- Watching closely when another person writes
- Scribbling
- Making scribbles that look a bit like letters
- Telling you what a scribble “says”
- Producing what look like “words” for others to read
- Writing labels for objects
- Making lists
- Using their own spellings for words

** Children will show these signs of literacy growth across the preschool and early school years, depending on how much experience they have with language, books and writing.*

Choosing Quality Children’s Books

- There is a wide range of good children’s books available.
- Good books help children think about experiences all people have.
- Excellent illustrations support and extend stories.
- Children often like simple books – children’s books don’t need to be complicated.
- Different topics appeal to boys and girls and to children of different ages.
- Good children’s books reflect a family’s culture and language.
- Children should be encouraged to question the information in books.
- Children need to see books and other reading materials in their native language.

Recommended Authors

Look for these authors and illustrators whose names are on quality children’s books. Please use the following books and authors as guidelines rather than as must-haves. Not all of them will be available at your library or bookstore.

- Paulette Bourgeois
- Sandra Boynton
- Marc Brown
- Eric Carle
- Kay Chorao
- Tomie de Paula
- Eugenie Fernandes
- Mem Fox
- Bill Gillham
- Mirra Ginsburg
- Eric Hill
- Tanya Hoban
- Shirley Hughes
- Rachel Isadora
- Dorothy Kunhardt
- Jonathon London
- Mercer Mayer
- Harry McNaught
- Robert Munsch
- Laura Numeroff
- Helen Oxenbury
- Peggy Parish
- Barbara Reid
- Eve Rice
- Dr. Seuss
- Nancy Shaw
- Jane Simmons
- Peter Spier
- Cyndy Szekeres
- Nancy Tafuri
- Rosemary Wells
- Cindy Wheeler
- Nancy Wilcox Richards
- Margaret Wise Brown
- Audrey Wood
- Harriet Ziefert

Types of Books for Young Children

Board books

- These books are for infants and toddlers.
- The thick cardboard pages are easier for children's small hands and are very durable.
- These books can be wiped off, chewed on and crawled across.
- Check for safety – are there parts that will rip off and could be a choking hazard?

Folktales and Fairytales

- These can be traditional tales or more contemporary ones.
- The original stories have been passed on from one person to the next by word of mouth.
- Each culture has its own stories; however, many cultures have differing versions of the same story.

Information or Concept books

- These books usually explore one subject, like the alphabet, counting or shapes.
- They may use just pictures or pictures and words.

Picture books

- In these books, much of the meaning comes through the pictures.
- Readers can jump from words to pictures and back.
- The pictures support the printed word.

Predictable books

- Patterns are repeated throughout these books.

- The reader can join in the repeated parts and actively experience the book.
- Predicting and repetition help children understand how stories are organized.
- Read these books with a child rather than to a child.

Simple Themes and Stories

- These books go a step beyond the naming and pointing type of book.
- They feature one main character, few words on a page, a repetitive style and objects or situations that are connected in some way.

Touch and Feel, or Tactile books

- These books encourage exploration.
- They may have flaps to open, buttons to push, different textures, noises, thicknesses and sliding pieces.
- Check for safety. Don't give a child a book that has a long cord or a piece that could break off and be swallowed.

Wordless books

- These books have few or no words. The illustrations tell the story.
- These books can lead to conversation or story telling and encourage children to talk about what they see in the pictures.
- These are great for children and parents whose first language is not English. Use your own language or use the English words you know to tell the story.

Tips for Sharing Books

Getting Started

1. Let your child choose a book. Share the book with your child, reading slowly.
2. Have your child close to you when you read.
3. Tell your child the name of the book and say what it is about.

Reading along

1. From time to time, as you read, move your finger along the words from left to right so your child sees how the words work on the page. Point out details in the pictures to help your child understand what is happening.
2. Use your voice to hold the child's attention. Children love it when you use expression when you read.
3. Encourage children to repeat important phrases. This helps the child to be included as a reader.
4. You can try "paired reading" where you read together to help build your child's confidence in reading aloud.
5. Encourage your children to act out what is being read. For example, if a character is swimming, pretend to swim.

Talking about it

1. Talk about the story with your child.
2. Help your child connect actions, themes or characters with other books they have read.
3. Encourage children to interact throughout the story by pointing to the pictures and by asking questions.

Family Literacy – an ABC for Parents

Act out a story with your child.

Babies enjoy looking at pictures with bright colours and faces.

Connect what happens in the book to your child's life.

Decide to make time to read with your child.

Even babies enjoy snuggling up with you to share a book.

Find comfortable places to read.

Go for a walk and read the signs along the way.

Help your child explore the world of numbers and words.

If you read to your child, he'll likely become a good reader.

Jump in and play with your child.

Keep TV time to no more than one hour a day.

Let your child see you reading for yourself.

Make a pretend store and count out the change together.

Notice the words in your home. Read them together with your child.

Open a book and read with your child every day.

Put books in easy-to-reach places.

Questions your children ask are a bridge to understanding.

Read a variety of books to your child.

Support your child in her efforts to become a good reader.

Take time to talk about what you read in a book.

Use events that happen every day to teach your child about the world.


Visit your local library and let your child choose a book.

Write a letter or a shopping list together.

Xpect your child to be a reader.

Your baby loves to hear you talk, sing and read to him.

Zzz – a good time to read is just before bed.



Let's All Read Together is a family literacy kit. The materials are inspired by four stories from the *Talespinners Collection* produced by the National Film Board of Canada:

Christopher, Please Clean Up Your Room!
From Far Away
Lights for Gita
Roses Sing on New Snow

Let's All Read Together consists of these components:

- A **Booklet** with the four stories
- An **Activity Guide** for parents and children
- A **DVD** with the four stories and a short film, *Any Time Is Story Time*

By reading each story and watching the film, families can build a tradition of reading together! This kit is also available in French as *Lisons en chœur*.

