



# Kokila's Playful Pot

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Art by Sujata Singh



a 300m thinkbook from Katha 



“Come buy! Come buy!” It was Ramkumar, the special potter. He always brought just one thing to sell - but it was always special!



“Remember his little clay hen that laid eggs?” asked Manjari.

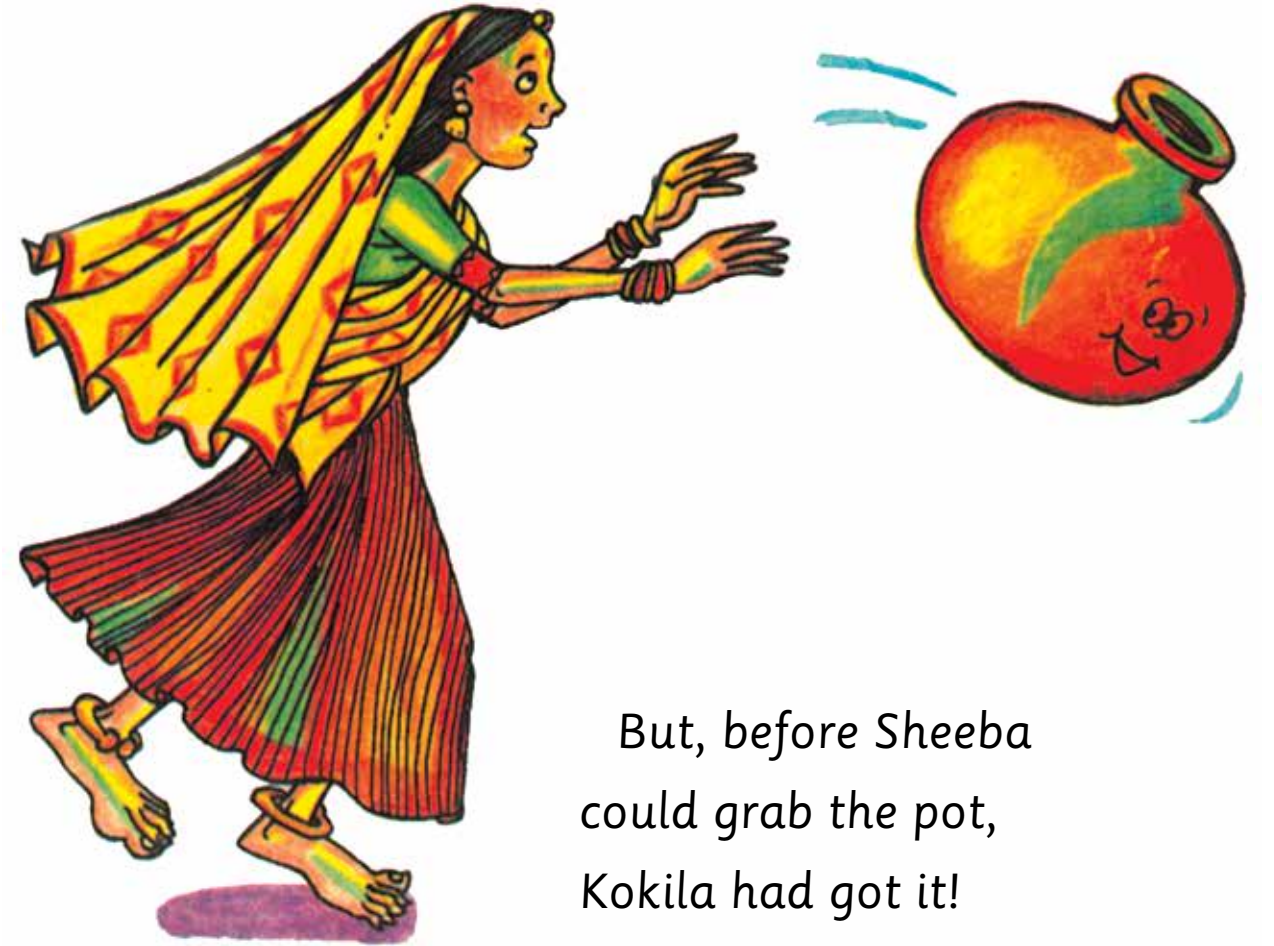




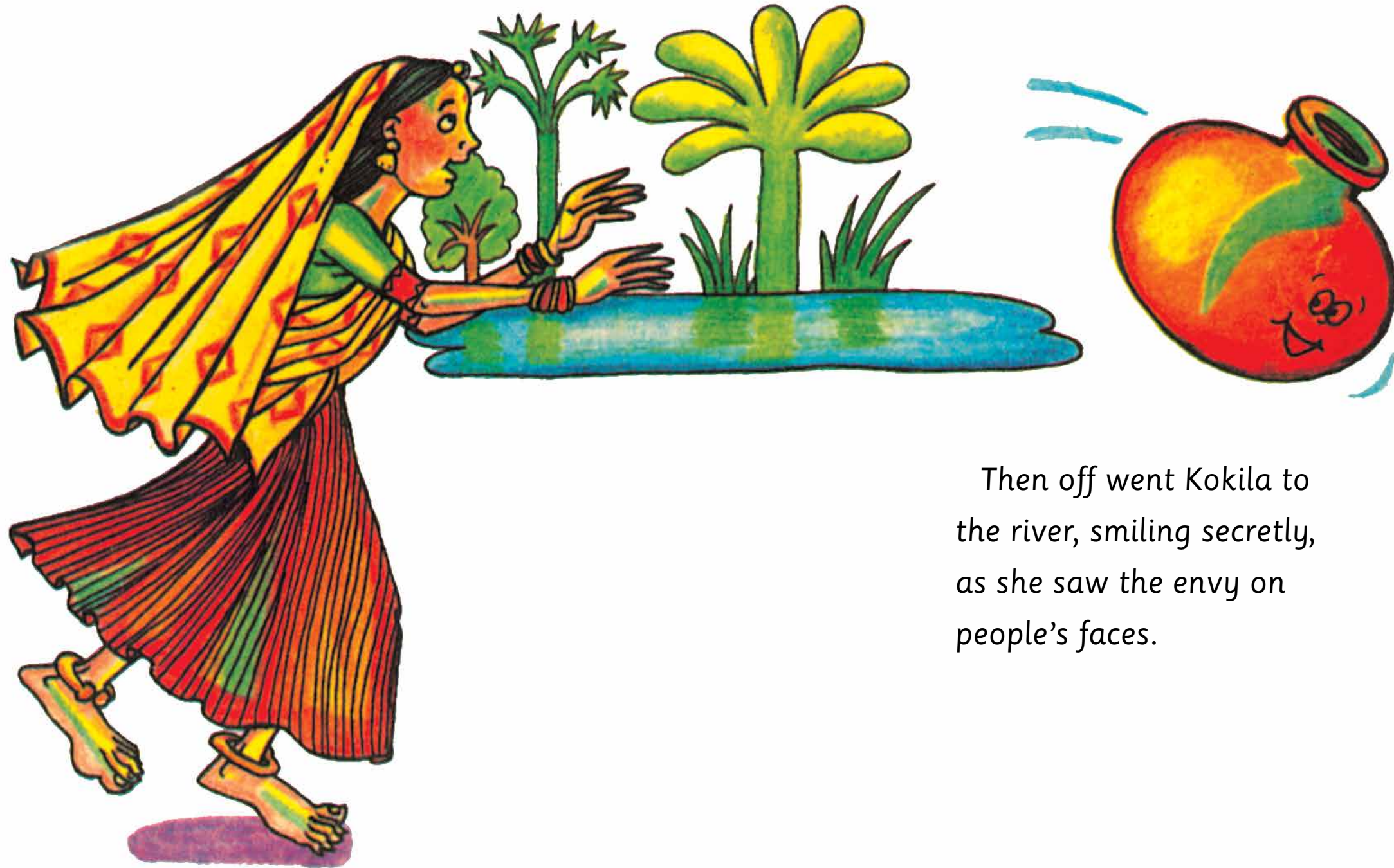
“And his magic clay elephant who helped water our patch of forest!” said Sheeba, the farmer’s wife.



“I want the pot he’s got now!”

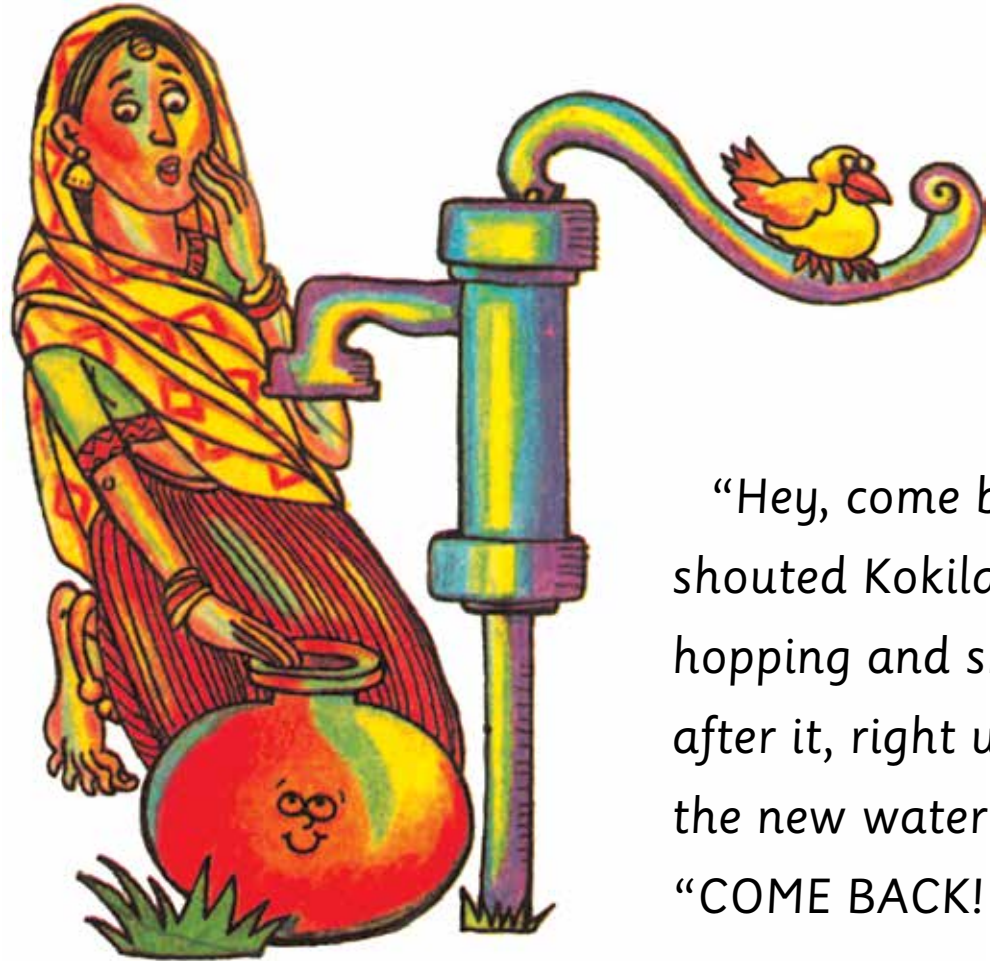


But, before Sheeba could grab the pot, Kokila had got it!



Then off went Kokila to the river, smiling secretly, as she saw the envy on people's faces.

But, Kokila's pot didn't like the lake. It didn't like the pond. Or the well!



“Hey, come back!” shouted Kokila, hopping and skipping after it, right up to the new water pump, “COME BACK!”

Water from the pump is not so tasty!” She called out. But the pot didn't listen.

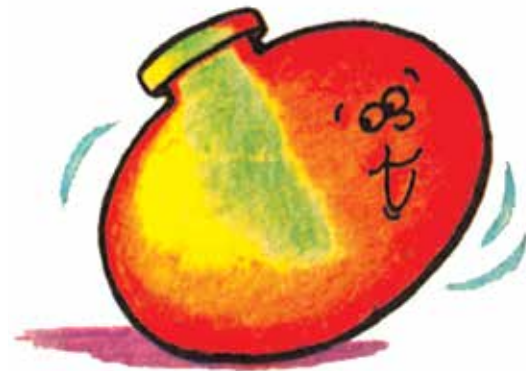


“So, cooking with pump water, Kokila?” taunted Sheeba from her doorway.

“Why not?” asked Kokila angrily. “Pump water is good for my family. Even Dai



keeps saying that  
but no one listens  
to her!”



She bounced up to the pot  
and started pumping.






The pot quivered. It did a jiggle and a juggle and then disappeared.



Back it came grasping a lid!  
“Kokila always has special things,” muttered Kamla.




Kokila glared at the pot but it sat smiling sweetly as she filled water.

Then, it wore its lid and grinned all the way home.

Every day after that, the pot acted as if it was the lord of the house!

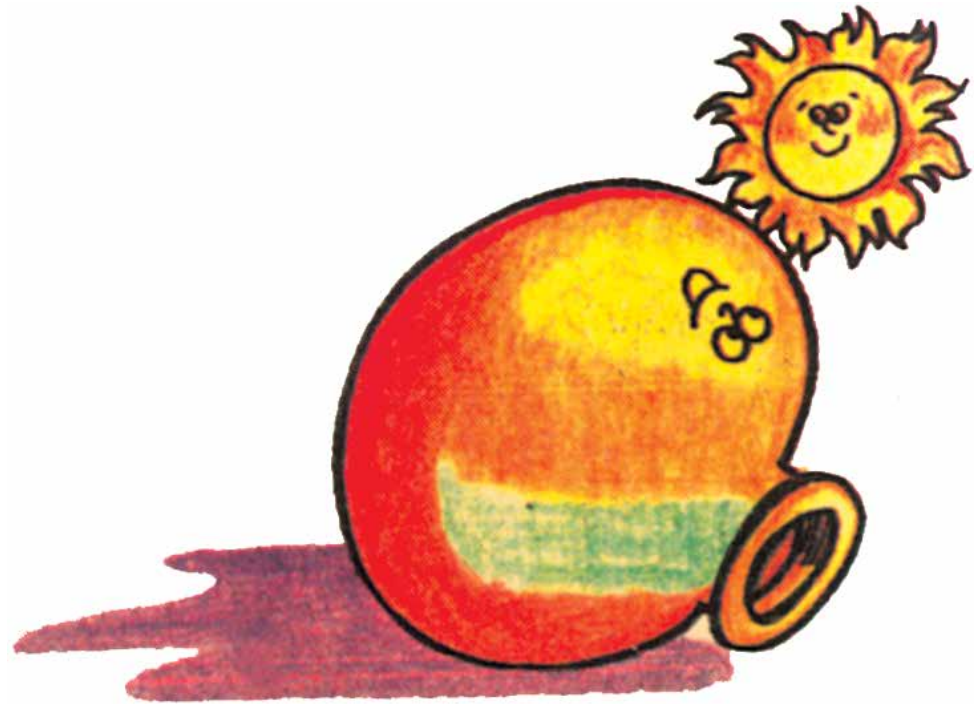


Ramu, Kokila's husband, hated Kokila dancing around it!



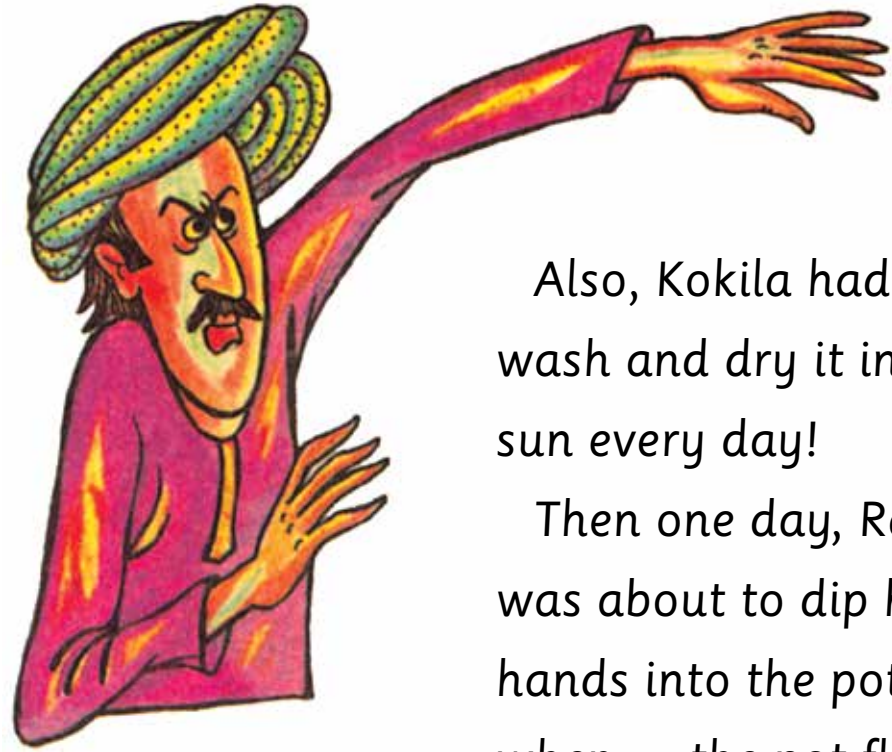


And the pot  
wanted so many  
things ...



A stool to sit on,  
a long-handled cup,  
clean hands ...





Also, Kokila had to wash and dry it in the sun every day!

Then one day, Ramu was about to dip his hands into the pot when ... the pot flew out of his hands!



“You ... you!” Ramu said angrily. He took the pot and threw it down before Kokila could stop him!



Kokila cried and cried. "Ever since the pot came one year back, Guddi has not fallen sick even once! Oh ...! What am I going to do now?"



But, that night she had a wonderful dream. In her dream was her pot. It said, "Kokila, I was not magical ! Any pot can keep Guddi healthy, if you treat it well."



“How?” asked Kokila, puzzled.

“Do all the things you have done for me.” answered the pot.

Kokila smiled “I’ll miss you, dear pot”, she said softly, “How can I thank you?”



“Just by talking to the other village women about this,” said the pot as it slowly vanished.

Today, if Kokila’s village is the healthiest village in the whole district, you know why?

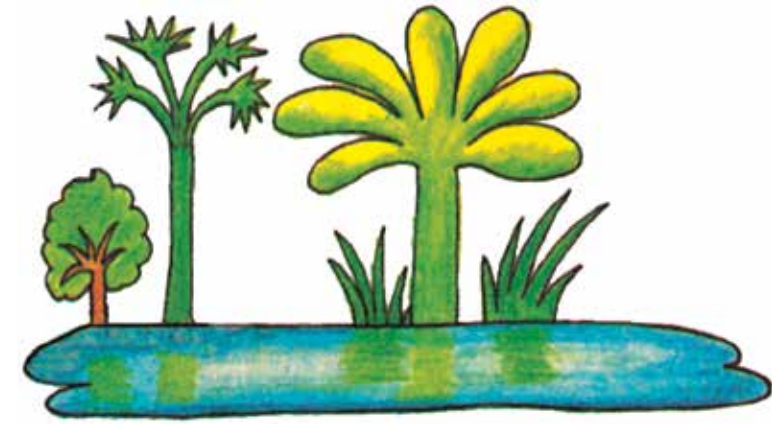
# Fun Facts!

Have you ever thought where the water we drink comes from?

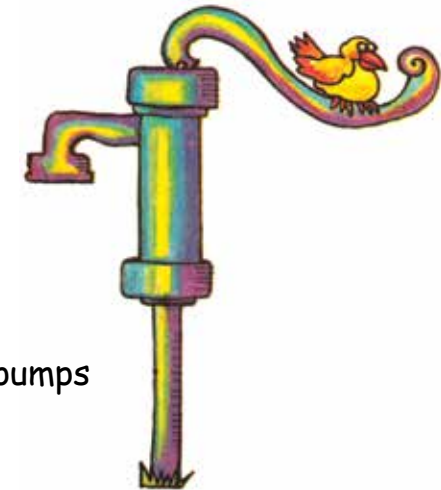


From waterfalls

From rivers



From lakes and ponds



From handpumps



From taps and wells too!



# Water Cycle

It heats up all the water bodies

S



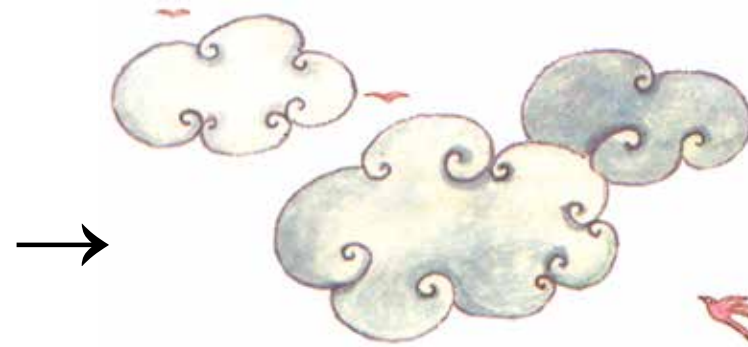
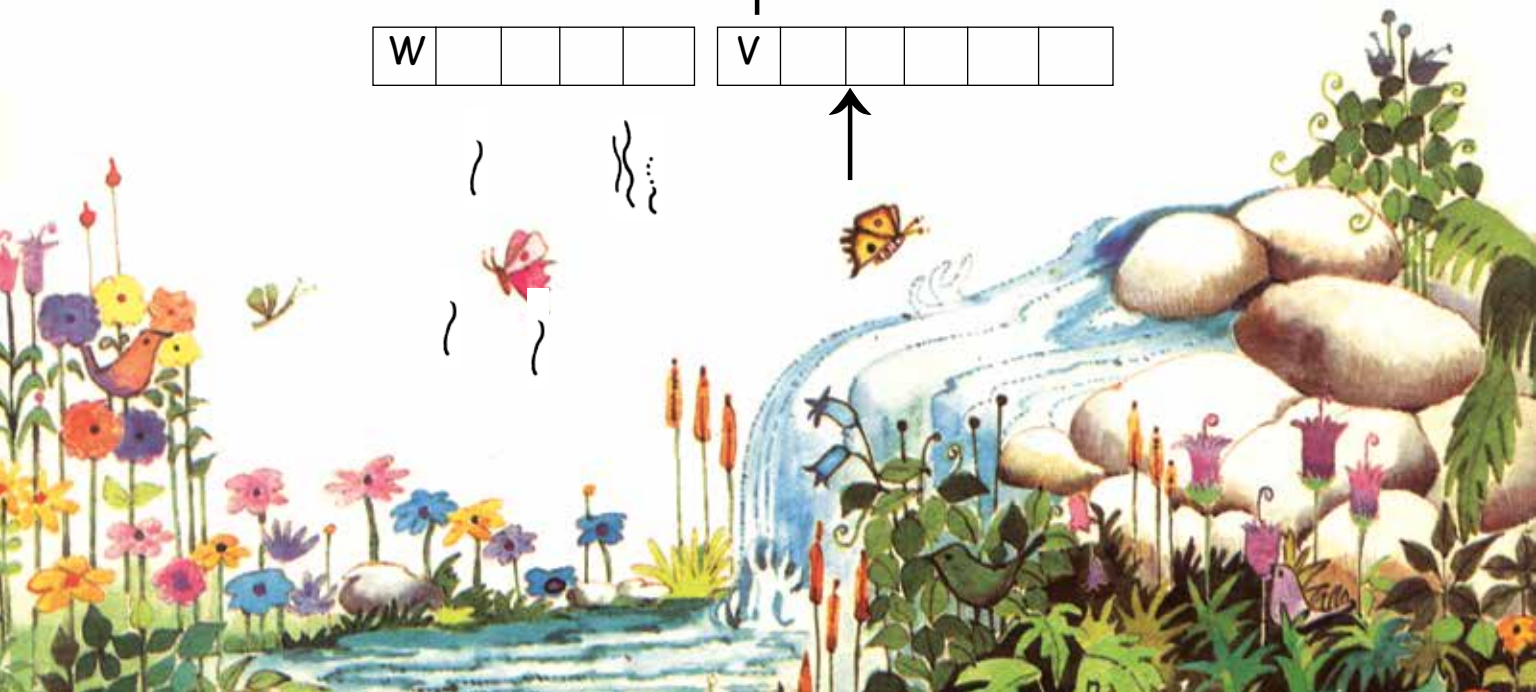
These are a collection of tiny rain drops

C

Water changes into this and rises

W

V



When they become heavy with water



Then it falls with a pitter-patter

R

The water bodies brim with water again.



**Geeta Dharmarajan** loves writing stories for children. She was one of the editors of Target, a magazine for children, and The Pennsylvania Gazette, the magazine of the University of Pennsylvania. She was awarded the prestigious Padma Shri in 2012 for her distinguished service in the fields of literature and education.

**Sujata Singh** is an artist and a visual arts teacher. She has worked as a designer and illustrator on many children's books, and has also held several exhibitions of her work in India and abroad.

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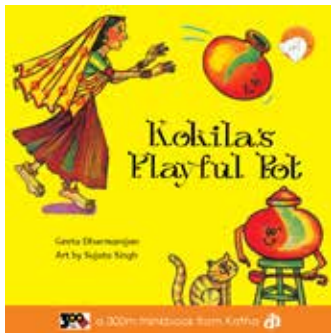
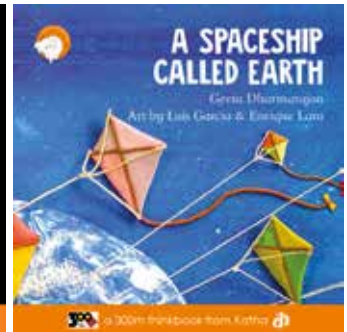
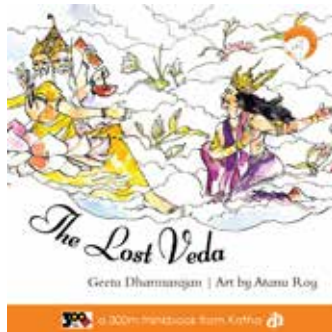
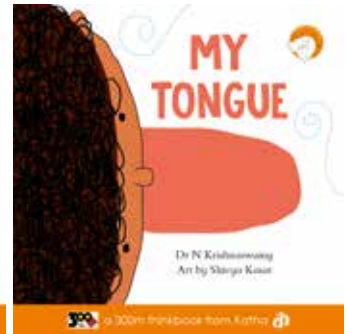
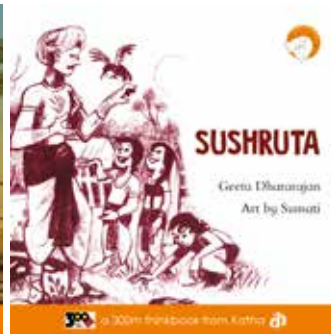
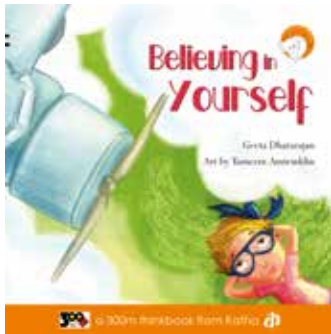
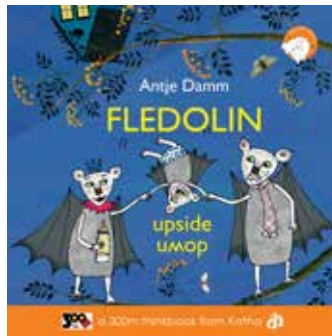
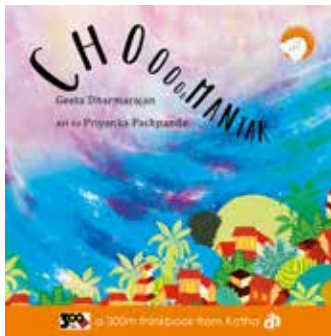
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