

STORIES FOR CHILDREN

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THE WISH FAIRY

WRITTEN BY AKANSHA SAHU



My name is Sierra and I live in a beautiful village. My parents are the best in the world and my younger brother Ross is my best friend. He studies in grade 1 and I am in grade 2. We both enjoy cycling, painting, catching butterflies and gardening. We also have a tiny member in the family, Pai, our pet dog. He is cute and furry. Once we get home from school, we finish lunch and spend the evenings in the garden. Pai also plays with us. He loves chasing the butterflies with us.

We have a beautiful flower garden in the backyard. We always look for new blooms and admire them for hours. My father builds trellis for the smart climbers. We have a small hoop house between the flower garden and the vegetable patch. Ross and I play hide and seek around it on Sundays since it is a holiday and we can spend more time outside. Ross loves birds; so, mother made cozy wooden shelters for them and Ross keeps the water pots for them. We receive plenty of these colourful visitors during summer.

There is a vegetable patch behind the flower garden where we grow tomatoes, potatoes, carrots, peas, cauliflowers, cabbages and spinach. My father prunes the trees and waters them everyday. Pai carries the watering can and fetches scissors for father when he works in the garden. I carry other delicate tools for him to keep the plants in shape while Ross plucks out yellow leaves and removes the withered blooms and makes room for the new blooms. Apart from chopping off the dried leaves, my father builds the shades over the plants that grow well in the less sunlight.

My mother takes care of the soil and makes compost with the kitchen waste. She goes to market to buy best pesticides for the plants and I accompany her and help her carrying the bags. My brother and I lend a hand to mother when she puts pesticides in the soil; we wear gloves to do this activity because mother says it might harm our skin.



THE WISH FAIRY

WRITTEN BY AKANSHA SAHU



One day, Ross and I were out in the garden and were playing with Pai. Suddenly, we noticed that there was something wrong with the plants; they looked sick as if they were dying. We saw mealy bugs and white insects eating the leaves while earwigs and grubs were eating the roots. There were hornworm on the plants and treehoppers on the stems. We both were worried, but decided not to tell anything to our parents and tried our best to find a solution for it. Ross reminded that our granny once told us a story about the wish fairy and she only listens to the innocent prayers of the little children.

We closed our eyes and prayed to God to send the wish fairy to save our garden. Pai also prayed with us. After a while, what we saw was magnificent. One beautiful fairy with a long hair, wearing a sparkling gown appeared in front of us. She had a golden magic stick in her hand. We looked at her in awe. She said, " I know you are worried about your garden". Then she gave us the Neem oil spray, BT spray and a special soap water to sprinkle on the leaves to remove the insects and the pests. We thanked god for sending the Wish Fairy to us. Then we share the entire story with our parents and all of us worked seamlessly for next seven days to help the plants recover and at last they became healthy again. My mother said, "We will use all the tips wish fairy gave us and keep our garden free of bugs and insects. No need to use chemical pesticides anymore."



NINCHI & CHICHI

WRITTEN BY MANDEEP KAUR KALA



Many years ago, a mother bird and a father bird lived in a Banyan tree. They had two nestlings - the elder one was Ninchi, and the young one was Chichi. Ninchi was a healthy baby, but chichi had a problem in his left wing. His left wing was small, for which he couldn't fly. Mother bird taught her fledglings to fly every morning. As soon as they started flying, mother bird found that Chichi had a problem flying high in the sky because of his wing. The next day, throughout the flying lesson, Ninchi made fun of his brother. So, Chichi got upset and cried alone, but didn't utter a word.

Days passed; their parents noticed that Ninchi could do the regular activities- starting from collecting food to making his own nest and keeping it clean, while Chichi needed special care to do so. They wanted Chichi to be self-sufficient, so they ignored him for some time, though Chichi was unaware of his parents' plan.

One fine day, while sitting on a tree, Chichi thought, "if I try to do all the work on my own and try harder to fly, my parents may pay attention to me like they do to my brother." So, the next day, Chichi started practising without his mother's help. After a while, Chichi saw that his brother Ninchi and his parents also joined him and supported him in flying high, and they all were happy for Chichi.



NINCHI & CHICHI

WRITTEN BY MANDEEP KAUR KALRA



But looking at his parents' smiling face, Ninchi thought that he was not his parents' favourite anymore, now Chichi took his place. So, Ninchi weaved a plan; he started distracting Chichi when he tried flying, and Ninchi did it every day to weaken Chichi's faith in flying.

One day, an aeroplane passed over Ninchi's head, and he lost his balance and began to fall towards land. His younger brother, Chichi, saw him falling and flew high to save his brother. Unfortunately, he failed in the first attempt but he tried harder and harder to reach Ninchi. Finally, he managed to fly high, and they both touched the ground safely.

That day Ninchi realised how his little brother Chichi loved him and saved his life. He apologised for his meanness and told his brother that he would never do this in life. Chichi was happy to see that his big brother finally appreciated his effort. Their parents are proud of their birdies, and they all lived happily ever after.



THE SUCCESSFUL GIRL

WRITTEN BY VANSHIKA VAID



Geeta was nine years old and lived in a village with her family. Geeta's father is Ram, and he is a farmer. Her mother is Sita, and she is a potter. They earned money with which they were able to fill their bellies. Geeta wanted to study and become a Space Scientist, but her parents couldn't send her to school for months, as they did not have enough money to afford her school fees. Although Geeta was a mature girl, she could not hold her tears on the thought of not going to school.

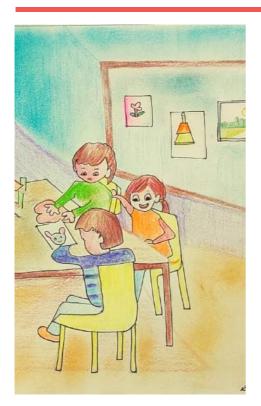
One day his father received the news from his friend that the government declared - every child must go to school; parents who could not afford the school fees could register their children's names to the government schools.

The parents from rural areas could avail the reduced fees scheme for their wards. On hearing about this opportunity, father rushed home and gave this good news to Sita and Geeta. They were delighted and slept peacefully that night. In the morning, Geeta woke up early and thanked God for giving her another opportunity to begin her studies after all ordeals. Geeta was getting ready for school, and her mother prepared a lunchbox for her; then, she set out for school. She was very excited that day because she would meet new classmates and the teachers. Her father dropped her at school.



THE SUCCESSFUL GIRL

WRITTEN BY VANSHIKA VAID



She was friendly to all her classmates and talked with everyone. Soon after a few classes, she realized that her friends made fun of her poverty; naturally, she was upset about it. But she continued her studies without thinking much about her classmates and their silly jokes. She was a bright student; whenever the teacher asked questions in the class, she would always be the first one to answer them. So, many of her classmates were jealous of her. A few months later, when the students had to prepare for their annual exams, all were found it very difficult to study, as the portion was lengthy. But it was easy for Geeta because she had prepared her lessons throughout the year. And the friends who made fun of her came to her asking doubts, as they didn't pay attention in the class.

Geeta was a kind-hearted girl, so she helped her friends and solved their doubts. After the exam, her friends apologized to her and became real friends.

Geeta wanted to make her parents proud by excelling in her studies. Her mother was her support system, and she was always there to boost her confidence and help her stand firmly.

On the exam day, Sita gave her a spoon of curd and prayed for her success. She went to school and took the exam. She finished her paper early and went home. Seeing her early, her mother asked if things were fine. Geeta told her mother that her exam went well, and she should score good marks in all subjects. After a month, when Geeta and her parents reached school to collect her report card, one of her classmates told her that she failed in all subjects. Geeta got extremely nervous and couldn't believe her ears. Her parents were also shocked hearing it. When she saw the results, she found she topped in the class. She was happy that she finally made her parents proud.



THE SUCCESSFUL GIRL

WRITTEN BY VANSHIKA



After a month, when Geeta and her parents reached school to collect her report card, one of her classmates told her that she failed in all subjects. Geeta got extremely nervous and couldn't believe her ears. Her parents were also shocked hearing it. When she saw the results, she found she topped in the class. She was happy that she finally made her parents proud. And she saw her friends were smiling and told her that they tried to scare Geeta with the news. Finally, they were happy and went home peacefully.

Twenty years later...

Geeta topped again in the entrance test and eventually became a space scientist. She was awarded by the state government and got a trophy and fifty thousand rupees. A couple of years later, she registered herself with the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and became one of the prominent scientists in the country. She led many international projects and finally bought a house for her parents.





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You can write to us at beproficientinenglish4@gmail.com



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