

Dada Bhagwan Parivar's

July 2022

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Meri Maa



My Mother

Editorial

Friends,

“All about me you know,
Mummy isn't that so?!”

A mother is someone who knows everything about us, without us saying anything. When we were little, even before we knew how to speak, our mums knew everything; such as when we were hungry, when we were sleepy, or when we were not feeling well. And even to this day, with the same attentiveness, she fulfils all our needs. Yet, we do not even realise how many sacrifices she makes for us.

On top of this, sometimes we become upset with our mum, and also sometimes we make her angry at us. So, after reading this edition, let us understand a mother's love and resolve never to hurt her again.

- Dimple Mehta

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GNANI SAYS...



Pujyashree: What qualities should a child develop to be worthy of a mother's love?

Questioner: None at all.

Pujyashree: A mother never abandons her child; never lets her child get separated from her. A mother's *chit* (inner faculty of knowledge and vision) is always on her child. She makes sure that the child feels safe and secure. She feeds him and looks after him, whether he is well or unwell. She tirelessly comforts him in many different ways, whenever he has any problems. So, a mother has so much affection for her child, that she constantly protects him in every way.

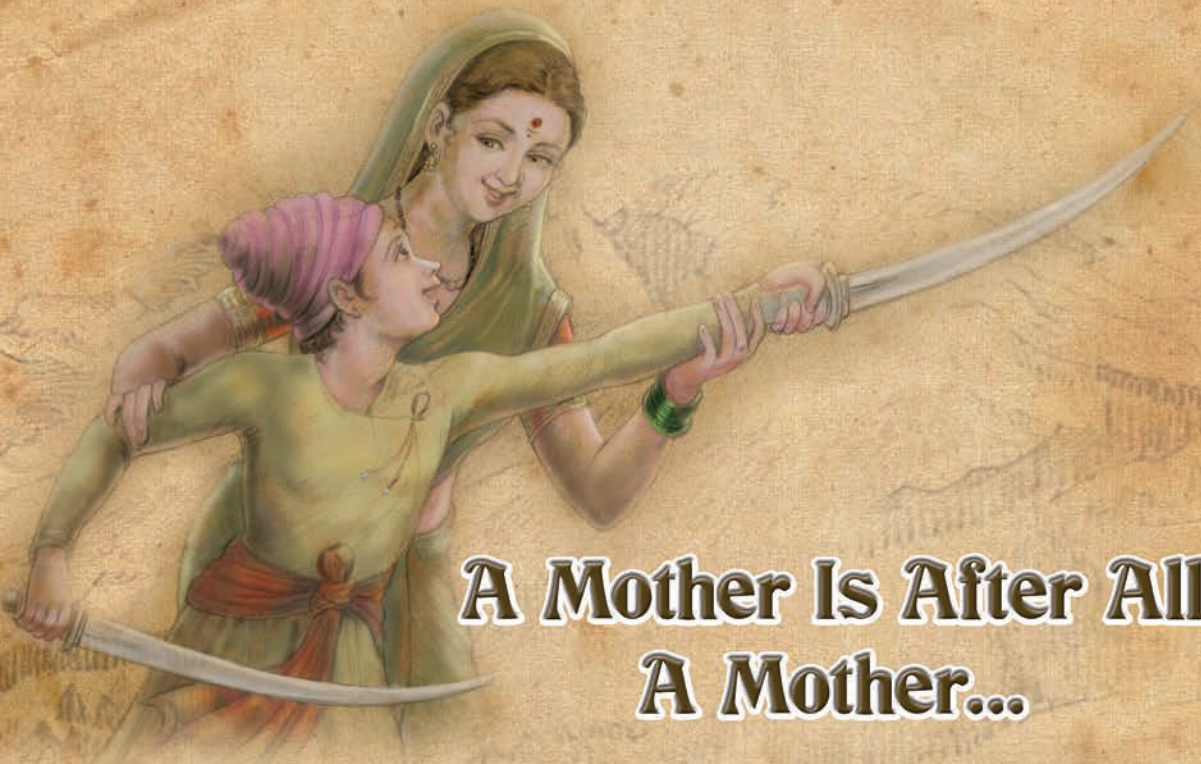
Not only in humans, but also in the lives of animals and birds, it is the mother who fights off danger for her young. And sometimes the mother might even get killed when trying to save her babies, but she will not give up without trying her utmost best. She would even chase a lion away for the sake of saving her young.

I observe the mother of a newborn baby. I too must have been that little once, and it makes me wonder how much my mother would have looked after me. When I look, then I realise, Oh! So much?! For a mother, her child is her everything. Even if she is hungry or thirsty, she disregards her own needs and cares for her child first.

When the child gets older he should feel that, Oh how amazing that my mummy showered me with so much motherly love! She gave me so much love! But then, due to worldly attractions, the child forgets everything. In fact, children should never forget how much they owe to their mother!

There is sacrifice and dedication in a mother's love. There is no greed or selfishness in that love. That love is so pure that it is praised throughout the whole world.





A Mother Is After All A Mother...

A mother is ever-ready to do anything when it comes to her child's upbringing and progress! So come, let us meet some amazing mothers, who have played many different roles in the lives of their children.

Mother – A Warrior!

You must have heard of Chhatrapati Shivaji! He was a great king, who defeated the Mughals and established the kingdom of Maharashtra. But the real credit for his victory should go to his mother, Jijabai, and the training she gave him.

Jijabai taught Shivaji the art of swordsmanship, spearmanship, horse riding, and archery! Not only that, but she also taught him the art of self-defence. Right from his childhood, Jijabai moulded Shivaji to be an ideal ruler by sowing seeds of righteousness and devotion to his country. She became an inspiration for him to become a great warrior!

Mother – A Storyteller!

Queen Jijabai was not just a warrior. She was also a storyteller for young Shivaji. When Shivaji was little, she used to narrate to him the epic religious stories of Ramayana and Mahabharat. And it was through these stories that Shivaji's mother instilled within him values like bravery, devotion and patience.

Mother – Instiller of Good Values!

A child from a poor family used to live with young Vinayak and his family in their home. Sometimes when there was not enough hot food for everyone, Vinayak's mother would eat cold and stale food. Sometimes she even gave Vinayak stale food. However, she would never give that poor child cold or stale food.

How wonderful was this mother! She taught her child how to sacrifice his own happiness for others. It is not surprising that the son of a mother, who nurtured such values in him, would be extraordinary too. That boy, Vinayak, grew up to be the world-renowned Saint Vinoba Bhave. His mother's name was Rakhubai.

Mother – Total Surrender!

When Vinayak turned twenty-one he decided to go to Kashi (a holy city in India) to practise spirituality.

When this news started to spread amongst the villagers, one woman started criticising him, "One cannot rely on today's youths! We have to overcome so many difficulties to raise them. But ultimately they run away and abandon us!"

Vinoba's mother straight away said, "My son has not run away. He has renounced his family life to practise spirituality and for the good of the people."

Mother Rakhubai had no expectations that her son would look after her in her old age. Instead, she was proud to surrender her son for his own spiritual progress and for the greater good of others! What amazing divine qualities! And Vinoba also made his goddess-like mother's sacrifice worthwhile! Saint Vinoba Bhave joined Mahatma Gandhi's mission and devoted the rest of his life for the salvation of the country!

Mind you, we should not think that such mothers were only to be found in the past! Even today there are such mothers who devote their whole lives to their children!



Mother – My Shadow

Aditi Ashok created history at the age of twenty-four by coming fourth in the golf tournament at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Behind Aditi's success was her mother, Maheshwari, who stood by her like a shadow.

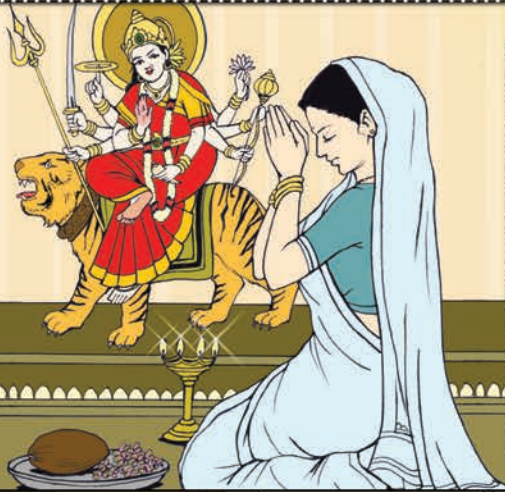
While in cricket there are bats, golf is played using golf clubs. Different clubs are used for different shots. Each golf player has a helper, called a caddie, to look after all these golf clubs and various other equipment. Aditi's mother, Maheshwari, was her caddie! As a caddie she would look after Aditi's golf clubs and hand them to her as and when required. For this, she had to learn all the technical information about how golf is played; how to play across different terrains etc.

Not only that, but in the Olympic games, where even the best get nervous, Maheshwari stood by her daughter Aditi and gave her courage and support. Due to which Aditi could play calmly and without any tension!



Zaverba's Instilling of Good Values...

Jhaverba had vowed to Goddess Amba Ma to not have any ghee, and after about eight years a son was born. So she named him Ambalal, meaning 'Son of Amba Ma'!



As a child Ambalal (Dada Bhagwan) was adorable. He was very clever and brave. He also had a naughty streak to him. Due to his chubby angelic face, Puniba, a neighbour, nicknamed him 'Galgotia' (marigold flower). People in the village lovingly called him 'Galo'.

Ambalal was lucky to get warmth and closeness from his mother as a child. When he was quite young, if Jhaverba had to go away somewhere, she would leave her soft saree for him to hold. Ambalal would feel that his mother was right next to him!



When children grow up in the presence of their mother, they learn some of the most valuable lessons. Jhaverba instilled fine values in Ambalal to build a good moral character. If given good care the plant is bound to blossom well.



One evening, Ambalal returned home after playing with his friends.

Ambalal, why are you late today?

Today, while playing I had a quarrel with a boy. I hit him and he started to bleed.

Well, just as you did, if someone hits you and bruises you, I would have to apply medicine, wouldn't I?

yes, mother.

Wouldn't that boy's mother be applying medicine to his wounds right now?

yes, mother

I never thought of that!

He must be crying a lot and must be in lot of pain.

Look son, from now on, never hurt anyone. If you come home hurt, I will take care of you.

Such high values imparted by a mother would indeed make the child a superhuman (Mahavir). Don't you think so?



Best Queen and Princess



Meera had just picked up her guitar in her hand when she heard her mum's voice, "Meera, my dear, come here please ... Charu is not coming today."

"Oh no! That means mummy is calling me to help with the dishes. There's no getting out of it." Unwillingly, Meera proceeded to wash the dishes.

After finishing the chore, she went to her room and lay down on her bed with her phone. She started searching the internet, "Oh dear! Dishwashers are very expensive ...". She was just about to put the phone away when she saw an ad pop up on the screen.

"Wow! Look at this..." On seeing the ad, she straight away got up and ran to her mum.

"No way! No..."

"Oh, but mummy, what is the harm in trying? There's nothing to lose."

Sudha saw her daughter's hope-filled eyes and agreed to take part in the 'Best Queen and Princess' contest.

Sudha and Meera were shortlisted for the contest. They were invited to a grand hall.

"Hello and greetings, Friends! I am your host and friend, Aman Ahuja. A warm welcome to this interesting, thrilling and lively 'Mother-Daughter' contest. Ten contestants in total have been shortlisted."

Sudha and Meera glanced at the other nine 'Mother-Daughter' pairs who were much like them.

"There are three rounds in total in this contest. I'm sure you all know the prize for this amazing contest! The winning 'Mother-Daughter' pair will get a fabulous Ultra Wagon dishwasher." There was a big round of applause.

"Friends, this journey may not be easy! But yes, one thing is guaranteed. Everyone will have lots of fun. So, let's start the first round,

which is called ... 'Dare 2 Pair'."

On hearing the name of the first round, Sudha got goose-bumps and Meera's heart started racing. "So, in this first round, every mother-daughter team will be given a dare. After hearing the dare, you will decide which one of you from the team will complete it. So, are you ready?"

Every pair was given a different dare. Now it was Meera and Sudha's turn.



A dish was placed in front of them which contained pav bhaji (soft bread with vegetable curry). Meera thought, Surely, it can't be such a simple dare!

"This pav bhaji looks very tasty. However, it is three times spicier than normal. So tell me, out of the two of you, who will come to eat this pav bhaji?" asked Aman Ahuja with a grin on his face.

Meera thought, Oh no! We don't eat spicy food at all. A stumbling block in the very first round!

Meera's face dropped.

But then Sudha stepped forward to volunteer and said, "I will do this dare."

Before Meera could say anything, her mum had already started eating the pav bhaji. Sudha very comfortably and heartily finished the food, and she completed the dare.

Meera kept staring at her mum. "Mummy, isn't your mouth burning? You can't usually tolerate spicy food. I have never seen you cook or eat anything spicy."

Sudha smiled and said, "That's because my children do not like spicy food..."

"What?!" Meera was really surprised. She thought about how easily and willingly mum had let go of her own taste preferences and without making anyone aware of it. This might have been a small matter for her mum, but for Meera this counted as a big sacrifice by her mum.

Sudha and Meera got through to the next round.

"So, the next round is called 'The Power of Truth'. Yes, it's about the power of honesty. In this round, both mother and daughter will take part. Both of you will have to tell each other something which you have kept a secret until now. And then we will see the power of the truth. So, is everyone ready?"

Dramatic music signalled the start of the round. As the teams came forward, one after another, the judges caught on to the contestants' truth and also their lies. Then it was Sudha and Meera's turn. They both had realised that, to win the round, it was important to tell the truth.

The microphone was handed to Meera. Her heart was thumping.

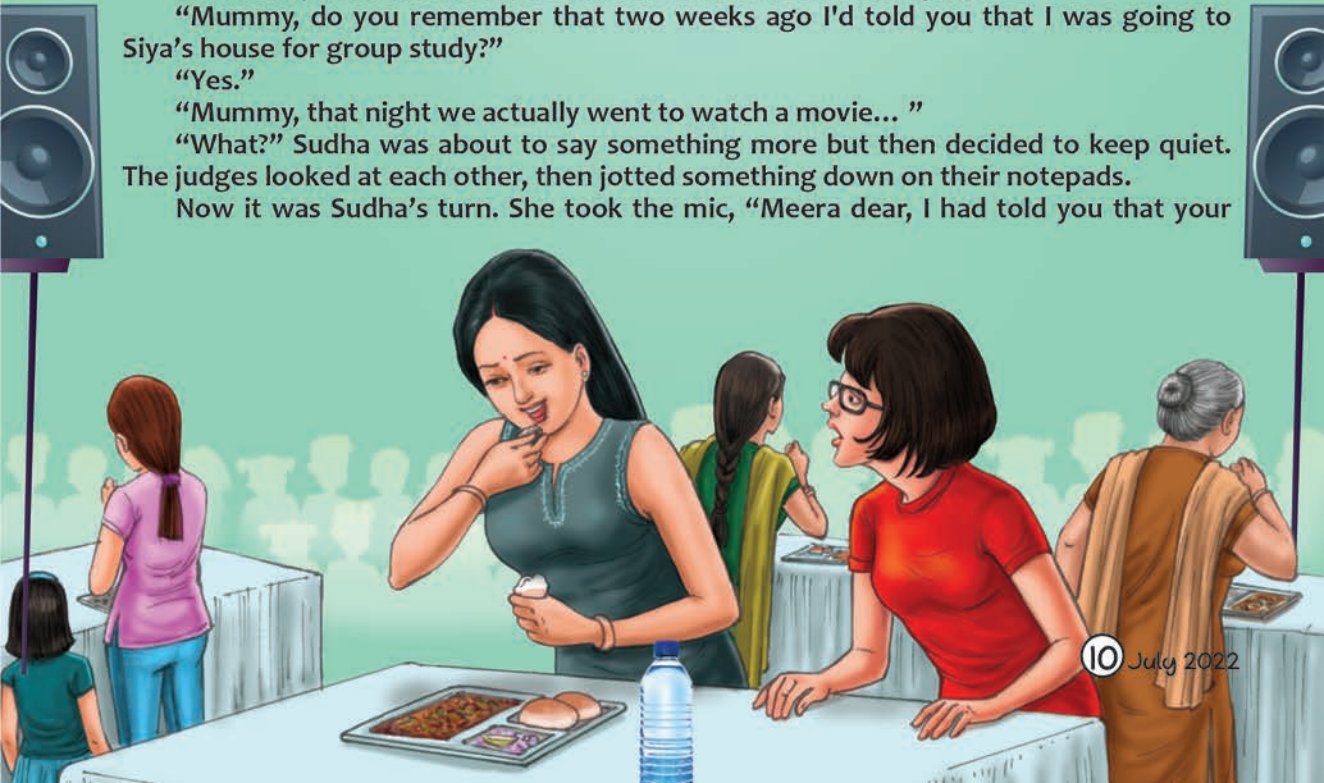
"Mummy, do you remember that two weeks ago I'd told you that I was going to Siya's house for group study?"

"Yes."

"Mummy, that night we actually went to watch a movie..."

"What?" Sudha was about to say something more but then decided to keep quiet. The judges looked at each other, then jotted something down on their notepads.

Now it was Sudha's turn. She took the mic, "Meera dear, I had told you that your



uncle had gifted you the guitar. However, the truth is that, I didn't really like my gold chain so..."

Sudha wasn't able to go on. But Meera was able to read the truth in her mum's eyes, and the judges were able to make their decision.

Sudha and Meera were selected for the third and final round.

"Okay, so now for the third and final round, we will meet again next Sunday, same place same time! The name of the last round is ... 'Together, We are Talented'. In this round the mother and daughter team will have to make an item together. It's as simple as that. The only condition is that it's important for both of them to have equal participation." Aman Ahuja made the announcement.

It did not take long for Sudha and Meera to decide what to make. Sudha was an expert at making cakes and Meera wanted to learn how to bake.

The day of the third round was finally upon them. All the necessary items were laid out on the table. The buzzer sounded and everyone started their final challenge. Sudha and Meera worked together to mix all the ingredients together.

"Mummy, let me mix the batter," said Meera as she took the spoon from her mum. After a little while, Meera was tired.

"Come on mummy, let's put it in the oven now."

"No, my dear, it still needs to be stirred some more," said Sudha.

"No, mummy, it is ready."

"Give it to me if you are tired. I will do it."

Meera was frustrated. "No mummy, it's not that I can't do it. It's that it doesn't need to be stirred anymore."

Sudha took the spoon from Meera's hand and stirred it for a while longer before putting the mixture in the oven. Meera was even more frustrated now. When they took the cake out, it did not look good.

Sudha was calm but Meera got angry. "Mummy, the cake is ruined because of you. I'd told you that it didn't need so much stirring."

The results of the contest were going to be announced the following week. While going back home, Sudha remembered something. "Meera, my dear, you go home first. I'll be home in a little while."

The rest of the way Meera kept blaming her mum in her mind. She forgot all the good things that she had noticed in the first two rounds. The only thing that stuck in her mind was that the cake was ruined because of her mum. On reaching home, she decided to lie down for a bit, when suddenly someone rang the doorbell.

"Is ... is this the correct house ... ?" asked a young man who was out of breath. Meera recognised the brown purse he was holding.

"Yes, this purse belongs to my mum. What's happened?"

"This lady has been involved in an accident. She has been taken to hospital."



Meera was shocked. Her body started shaking. It was like her whole world had turned upside down in the blink of an eye.

She started thinking, What if something serious has happened to my mum? What would life be like without her? If I hadn't argued with mum then maybe she wouldn't have taken a detour.

Meera felt extremely remorseful. Tears were streaming down her cheeks. She dried her eyes and pressed the button in the lift. After a few seconds the lift door opened and Meera's mum stepped out of the lift.

As soon as Meera saw her mum, she threw her arms around her and hugged her tight. "Oh! Madam was arguing with me just now, and now suddenly what's this?"

Meera showed the purse to her mum. "Someone came to our home to tell us that the lady who owns this purse had been involved in an accident."

"Oh, that's sad! My purse got exchanged with someone else's on the bus. Come, let's go to the hospital." Meera was thoroughly relieved. The whole of the following week she stuck to her mum's side like a shadow.

On the day of the contest results, Sudha and Meera reached the studio on time.

"Today, we will finally be introduced to the Best Queen-Princess Pair. Any guesses as to which pair it might be?" Aman Ahuja asked.

They could hear different names being shouted out from the audience. Aman Ahuja opened the envelope and announced the name, "The best pair is ... Queen Darshna and her Princess, Saloni!"

Sudha was not upset at not winning but she was sorry that Meera's dream had been shattered. Meera whispered quietly in her mum's ear, "My real prize is right next to me." Sudha burst out laughing.

A week later Sudha received a phone call from Charu again to say that she was not going to come. As soon as Meera heard this, she came out of her room. "Your dishwasher is here! I am at your service!"

Mum and daughter embraced each other and happily washed the dishes together.

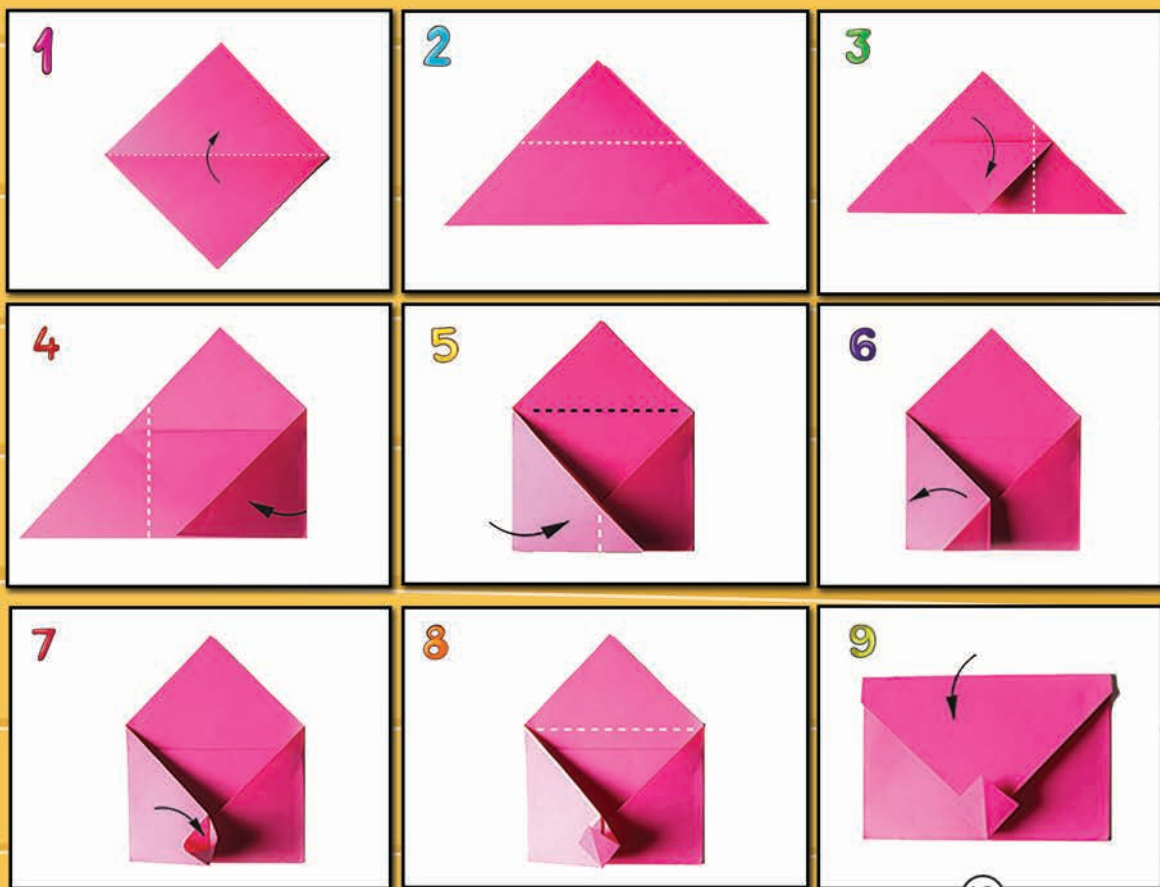


My Creation



There must be so many things up until today that you have not told your mum. If you ever got a chance to open your heart and tell her everything, what would you tell her? Come, let us write a letter to our own mum in which we open our heart and tell her everything.

And yes, make a lovely envelope in the craft activity and give the letter to your mummy! Take a photo of your envelope & send it to  9313665562



WHY, MUM?



Sunny, my child, welcome to this world!



Hi Mum!

Before Sunny could say anything further, Sandra kicked him.



Why, mum? Why did you kick me?

Sandra did not answer Sunny. Instead, she kicked him again!



If I want to escape these kicks, then I must get up.

But Sunny's legs felt very weak. He somehow managed to stand up.



Just then his mummy kicked him a third time and he fell down.



It really hurts. I have to get away from here.

It was not easy for Sunny, but he felt there was no other option.

On the way, Sunny saw a baby monkey sleeping in its mother's lap.

That baby is so lucky! His mummy loves him so much!

Sunny glanced at a tree.

That mummy bird is feeding her chicks such yummy food!

Further ahead,

Wow! How gently the mummy panda is rocking her baby in a swing!



All the mums love their babies so much. Why does my mummy not love me?



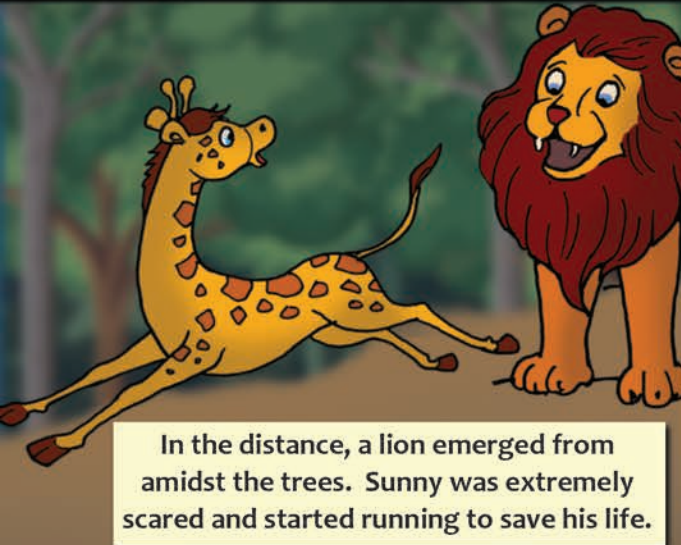
I have just entered this world. Am I that bad that my mum kicks me instead of loving me?! Will mum always be upset with me?



But then Sunny heard a roar. When he looked around ...



What is that? Who do those two shining eyes belong to?



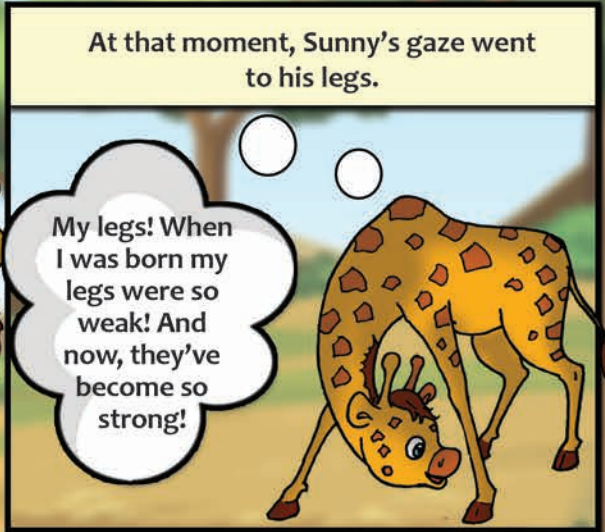
In the distance, a lion emerged from amidst the trees. Sunny was extremely scared and started running to save his life.



The lion started chasing Sunny and was close behind. Suddenly Sunny made a sharp turn and sprinted off. He hid amongst the long grass, out of the lion's sight.



What a scary lion!
Had I not run fast
enough, I would
have been eaten!



At that moment, Sunny's gaze went
to his legs.

My legs! When
I was born my
legs were so
weak! And
now, they've
become so
strong!



How did this
happen? Had
mum not kicked
me, I never
would have
learnt to run.



That means
that mum was
making me strong by
kicking me.



Mum definitely
loves me! It's just
that her style of
expressing love
is different to all
the other
animals!



Sunny hugged Sandra
when he reached home.

Thank you, Mum! I am
safe with you. And it
was also you who made
me strong enough to
stay safe in the jungle
by myself!

Why is the whole world not like you!!

1.

Orangutan

The bond between an orangutan and its mother is very strong. For the first two years of its life, a baby orangutan is completely dependent on its mother for food and for getting around from one place to another. By the time they are around seven years old, the mother teaches them how to find food, how to eat and how to build a nest. This is why even when orangutans are no longer babies, they still go and meet their mothers!

You are already fifteen years old and yet you are still going to your mum!

Yes ... because I miss my mummy!



2.

Polar Bear

Do you live in this hole?

Yes. So that Chinti and Chintu can keep warm!

A polar bear, most commonly, gives birth to two cubs. She digs a den in the snow to shelter and protect the cubs from the harsh arctic (very cold) conditions. They live in the den for about three months until the babies get used to the cold and learn some basic life skills. Until then the mother bear nurses the babies and keep them safe with her milk and warmth.



3.

Cheetah

A cheetah's mother brings up her young in a secluded place where they can't be found. Until they are eighteen months old, she changes her home every four days, so that predators (beasts of prey), cannot trace their scent and hunt them down.

Mummy, why do we have to go somewhere else again? We've only been here for four days!

For only eighteen months my child! Then you are free...



Mummy ... Mummy ... Mummy has gone and left us on our own!

Your mummy has gone to get food for you...

4.

Penguin

As soon as a mummy penguin lays eggs, she passes them to the daddy penguin, for them to be protected and kept warm, while she goes off in search of food. The mother travels as far as eighty kilometres to get fish for her babies. Then, when she returns, she feeds her babies and snuggles them to keep them warm.



5.

Panda

When pandas are born, as well as being blind, they are quite tiny. They only weigh between one to three kilograms. Whereas a grown panda can weigh around 1,360 kg. For the first three months, to prevent the baby panda from getting hurt, the mummy panda constantly either keeps it in her lap or carries it around.

Mama ... I cannot see anything.

My dear, don't worry! Mama is here with you!



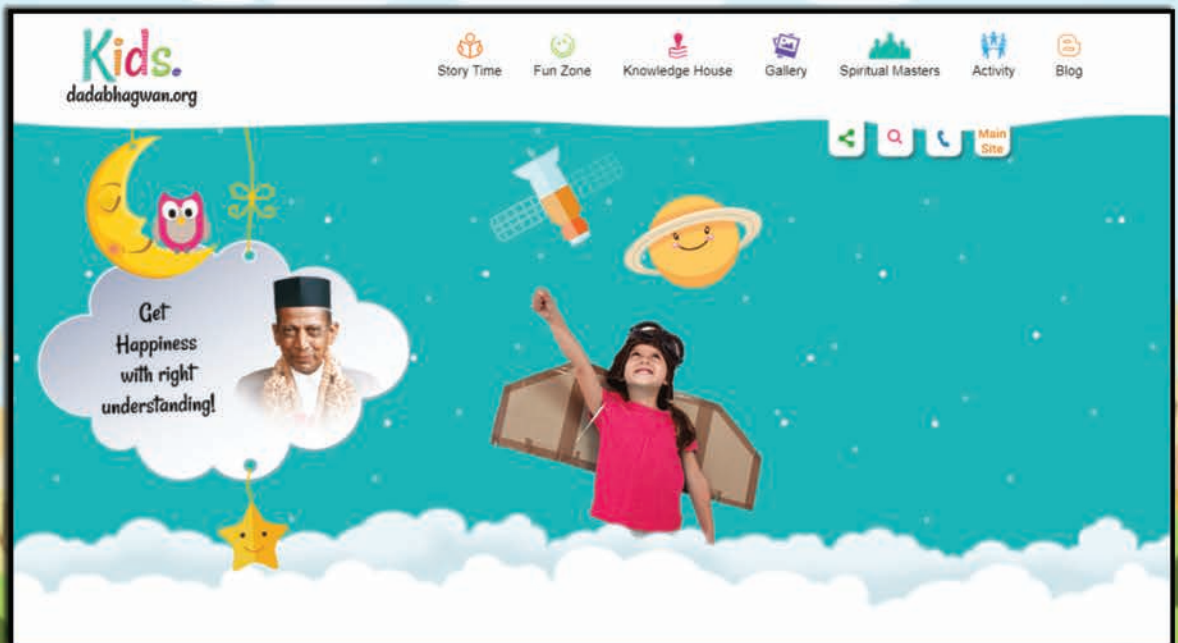
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