

SHASVID

Class, Section	:	II, Citrine, Charoite, Cordierite
Garland (Story)	:	Creatures of the Garden
Flowers (Characters)	:	Raghu, Ranga, Grasshopper
Thread (Strategy)	:	Conversation, Discussion
Fragrance (Moral/Message)	:	Help Elver – Hurt Never
Vibrancy (Facts)	:	Facts About Insects – Grasshopper, Butterfly, Dragonfly, Honeybee

Creatures of the Garden



On a certain evening Ranga and Raghu were playing in a garden. Suddenly a grasshopper, an insect made its appearance before Ranga. On seeing it, he was excited and stopped playing.

Raghu enquired, "Ranga! What made you stop playing?"

Ranga replied, "Raghu! Look at this small insect, a grasshopper. It's trying to fly but fails."

Raghu observed and said, "I think someone must have hurt it."



Ranga said, "Yes. You are right."

Out of humanity, Ranga managed to pick it and shifted to a safer place and nursed it.

Raghu whispered, "It's getting dark. We better go home soon."



After having observed a big tree at the corner of the garden, Ranga suggested his friend, "Raghu! Can we leave this grasshopper in a tree hole so that it will regain its lost energy and be safe?" Raghu appreciated the sight of the safer place of the grasshopper. So, out of compassion Ranga took out a very thin and small thread from his red T-shirt and tied it to the grasshopper's legs gently.





Then both of them placed the grasshopper in the tree's big hole and then they left for their homes.

Out of anxiety, in the morning they went to see the condition of the grasshopper. They were shocked to see its absence in that particular place where they had left it the previous night. They were disappointed and worried even.

Ranga said to Raghu, "Some mightier animal or bird must have attacked and eaten it."

"I too think so. The poor small insect must have failed to protect itself from the enemy", said Raghu.

At that instance, Ranga had a thrilling experience. The same grasshopper came flying and sat on Ranga's shoulder with affection.

Ranga not only glanced at the grasshopper, but also noticed the red-coloured thread at its legs.

On seeing the grasshopper once again, their happiness knew no bounds. They were



astonished at the affectionate and friendly nature of the grasshopper.

Ranga said, "Grasshoppers can jump up to 200 times their own size. It's typically around 20 feet (higher than other insects can reach), where others may not. So, they are specially called grasshoppers."

"Yes, you are right Ranga," said Raghu and he added, "There are over 10,000 different species of grasshoppers. Grasshoppers create music by rubbing their legs with their wings!"

While the discussion was going on, the grasshopper made a sign and led them to the place where swarms of butterflies were enjoying themselves.



Watching the mesmerizing scene, Ranga said, "Wow! So many colorful butterflies."



Then Raghu said, "I have read in a book that there are around 15,000 to 20,000 different species of butterflies exist in nature."

Having seen the numerous butterflies with unique colours they were dumb found.

Raghu said to Ranga, "There is an interesting fact about butterflies is that they have taste



buds on their feet. This is a strange thing to note. Not only that, as long as they are caterpillars they feed on fresh leaves. Once they transform themselves into butterflies, they shift to flowers where they suck nectar." "Yes, Raghu, but it is unfortunate that their life span is very short, may be a month or even less than that", Ranga said sadly.

The grasshopper once again came and sat on Ranga's shoulder and observed his gloomy mood. So it moved its legs and tried to console him. In addition to that the grasshopper led them to a small pond in the garden where they would be delighted. At the sight of the shiny dragonflies, Raghu said to his friend, "Ranga! Often



these dragonflies swarm near water. But sometimes they travel far away from water for hunting. I have some knowledge that there are more than 5000 species among dragonflies."



can view or divert its vision to nearly 360-degree. This insect can even fly backwards!"

Ranga said, "I think dragonflies are also insects and they must be friendly creatures. Also, they don't usually harm humans. Besides that, this insect has a very interesting and intuitive quality wherein it

Raghu said, "It's really a wonderful thing, Ranga. Another important point to be noted is that dragonflies are human friendly and so they protect us from mosquitos."

Ranga eagerly said to Raghu, "What? Repeat it please."

Raghu laughed and said, "Yes, Ranga! Do you know, just a single dragonfly can hunt over a hundred mosquitos in a day. Thus, this is quite a human friendly insect."

The grasshopper started hopping towards some other place.

Raghu and Ranga followed the grasshopper. This time it led them to the place where a bee-hive hanged off to a branch of a big tree in the garden. Seeing the bee-hive Raghu was scared that the bees might be aggressive and that they would harm them.



Ranga said, "Usually, insects or animals don't harm us unless we provoke them. They become aggressive to protect themselves."

"Yes, of course. What about honey bees? Are they also insects?" said Raghu.

"Yes, exactly", replied Ranga.

Ranga shared some of the amazing features of honey bees to Raghu.

He said, "Raghu! You know bees have 5 eyes, 6 legs and 2 pairs of wings which they use in a specific manner. Honey bees live in large swarms called colonies. They even create colonies to live and protect themselves."



Ranga added, "It is a unique thing to note that every hive or a bee colony has a Queen, a Drone and Workers, which is a naturally nature made system."



"Wow! It's a great thing to know", Raghu exclaimed.

Raghu said, "I have been heard that a bee-hive can hold around 50,000 bees."

"Yes. You are right", said Ranga and added, "They not only use their stings to suck nectar from flowers but also use to harm enemies. It is displeasing to say that when they are attacked or hurt, they chase and sting animals or people.

But once they sting them, they lose their important limbs, their stings.

Then Raghu asked, "I suppose they die after stinging. Am I right?"

Ranga replied, "Yes. You are correct. These insects have a very short life span. Their life is eco-friendly. They do not harm nature like we human beings do. Today we have gained and shared much knowledge about different species. So, every human being must learn many important lessons from insects, birds and animals."

"Yeah. Hope for the best. It seems it's getting dark. Better we get back home soon. The grasshopper also has to return to its safe place", said Raghu.

Both of them gently left the grasshopper on a big tree in the garden and went home happily and confidently as they have achieved something.

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SHASVID

Class, Section	:	II, Citrine, Charoite, Cordierite
Garland (Story)	:	Play to win
Flowers (Characters)	:	Krish, Mahi, Chukki, Baloo, Coach
Thread (Strategy)	:	Conversation, discussion
Fragrance (Moral/Message)	:	(i) Learn to Play and Win (ii) Keep trying until you succeed
Vibrancy (Facts)	:	Physical and Mental Fitness

Play and Win

Krish Said, "Mahi, Chukki and Baloo, can you tell me what is special today? Why is our city stadium decorated so grandly? Why do many sports-lovers gather there?"

Mahi said, "Oh, don't you know it? 29th August is celebrated as 'National Sports Day in India.' Well, many sports are organized on this day."



Mahi asked,
"Wow! Can we
go and see those sports?"



"Yes, of course", replied Mahi. "Our senior team is also participating in some of those events and our coach called us to encourage our senior team."

"I have heard that some of the sports men were sharing their experiences and their achievements with the gathering", said Baloo.

Chukki exclaimed, "Oh! It's great! We too will get some knowledge about the events organized there. Let's go."

Krish was very happy and said to his friends, "Guys, what are you waiting for? Let's get ready to go to the stadium."

[All of them went to the stadium.]

Chukki said, "The stadium is seeming as Olympic games are being planned. Here everything is well organized."

"What! Olympic games? How to play these games", asked Baloo.

Mahi Laughed and said, "The Olympic games are organised as international sports festival. They are held once every four years."

"Look at these colorful rings. What are they?", asked Baloo.



“Baloo, have you observed the symbol. It has five rings with different colours. They are blue, yellow, black, green and red on a white region. They are interlocked. They are known as ‘Olympic Rings’. That is the symbol for Olympic games”, said Krish.



“Hello guys, I am very happy to see you all”, said the coach and joined them.

All the friends enjoyed the Opening Ceremony of the sports day. The Chief Guest has delivered his speech about the importance of sports in one’s life.

He explained that playing sports really play a vital role in strengthening one’s physical and mental fitness. Sports help in developing one’s self-confidence, team spirit along with mental and physical health. He Urged the Gathering to Play Either Indoor or Outdoor games.



Baloo said, “What is the difference between indoor and outdoor games?”

Chukki answered, “Indoor games are those games which are played in a room or under the roof of a house. Some Indoor games are **Ludo, Carrom, Puzzles, Card games, Chess, Table tennis, board games.**”

Then Mahi said, “Outdoor games are my favorite games. They are played in huge grounds (without any roof) or in open environment. Some Outdoor games are Cricket, Golf, Kho-Kho, Football, Hockey.”



Krish said, “All of the participants seem very confident looking at these relay sports.”



Baloo said, “I heard that athletics is very unique. Athletic games are also called track-and-field events. They are quite challenging games.”

“You are right Baloo. You know as there are many varieties of races that will be held under athletics like

running, walking, jumping, and throwing events”, said Chukki.



Mahi said, “Whoever wins these National level competitions will be awarded medals. First place winner gets gold medal, second place winner gets silver medal and for third place a bronze medal. If a player wins a



medal, it's proud for his/her nation."

'Yes, it's true", said Chukki.

Krish said, "Our national game hockey has 11 players in each team, including 10 field players and one goalkeeper.



Similarly, the popular game cricket also played with 11 players in each team."

Baloo said, "Can you tell me the number of players in each team of Kabaddi?"

Krish replied, "It's 7 in each team. In kho-kho game there are 9 players in each team."



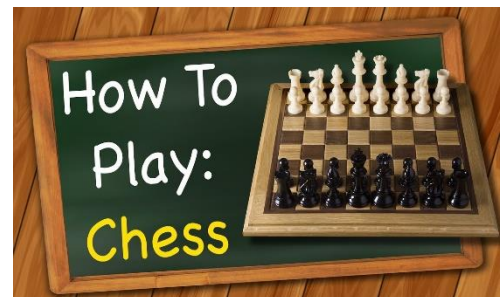
"Even indoor games are very interesting. Chess is one of the oldest and most popular board games. It is played by two opponents on a square chessboard with 64 black and white squares arranged in an eight-by-eight grid", said Chukki.

"Wow! Chukki you know many things about chess game. I think it is difficult and a strategy game. Can you please teach me how to play chess?"

Asked Mahi.

Baloo immediately said, "I know it very well."

Mahi was amazed, "Really Baloo! Please teach me, I too would like to play chess."



Chukki replied "Don't trust him. The last time when we played chess, he tried to save his Queen instead of his King."

All of them started laughing



"When we want to play, we have to learn how to play and we have to try until we succeed", said Baloo.

Their coach clapped for his spirit and remarked, "Well said my boy, never give up until you succeed! Learn to play and win. Sporting spirit is very

important while playing. This kind of spirit developed through only from games. Games make us physically and mentally fit and healthy."

All the friends along with the coach went back to their houses happily.

SHASVID

Class, Section	:	II, Citrine, Charoite, Cordierite
Garland (Story)	:	The way to save the earth
Flowers (Characters)	:	Bunny, Sunny, Monkeys, Elephant, Deer Forester
Thread (Strategy)	:	Conversation, discussion
Fragrance (Moral/Message)	:	(i) Stop using plastics (ii) Enjoy nature and save it.
Vibrancy (Facts)	:	Reduce usage of plastic, reuse, recycle

THE WAY TO SAVE THE EARTH

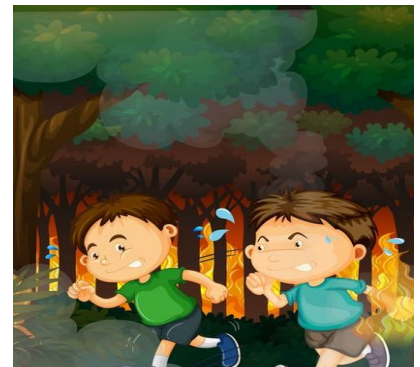
Two friends Bunny and Sunny were living in a city. They planned to go to a forest



to enjoy their vacation. They carried some food, cloth, playing things, etc. After reaching the forest, they sat under a tree and started eating some food which they carried along with them. They threw plastic bags of food packets wherever they wanted.

A monkey noticed this and started chasing them.

The two friends ran away from there. The monkey passed this message to all his friends and soon all the monkeys surrounded Bunny and Sunny near a water pool.



The two friends were scared, and Bunny asked the monkey, "Why are you angry with us?" At the same time an elephant and a deer came there to drink water and enquired what it was going on there. One of the monkeys collected the plastics thrown out by them in the forest and brought them there.

Seeing the plastic materials, the deer said "Plastics are cheap to manufacture and have many uses. So many people are using this but; they are made from materials that are a threat to the environment. When these are burnt, they release toxic gases and pollute the fresh air." Sunny replied, "I used only three carry bag covers. They are not so harmful to the earth."



The Elephant became furious. The elephant trumpeted loudly and said, "Single-use plastics are thrown away after one use. They do not break down into the soil. Our disposable lifestyle means more than 8 million tons of plastic are dumped into the oceans every year, killing birds and aquatic animals.



The monkey continued and said "18 billion pounds of waste plastic flows into oceans. Due to these, many seals, sea turtles, sea lions, sea birds, fish, whales and dolphins lose their lives. Their existence and survival became worse.

Bunny and Sunny felt very bad after listening to them.



A forester observed this situation and came to help them. But he too felt that they had made a mistake. He said to them that "We use plastic on a daily basis, in the form of shopping bags, plastic straws, water bottles, ear-buds etc. moreover 40% of the plastic is generated for packaging". These all produce plastic pollution.

Bunny said "If plastic is so harmful, we will take a step to reduce or minimise the usages of plastic pollution by exchanging these single-use plastic products, for reusable purposes."

"Yes, you are right", said Sunny and continued, "It's time to switch to a traditional packing material like glass storage jars, wrapping paper made up of cycled cardboard and other great eco-alternatives are Corn-starch packing, using mushroom roots, and seaweed packing. These are really exciting ways to getting eco-friendly."

The forester said, "Well said Sunny. Even these wild animals are also trying to say the same thing exactly." Do you know that Himachal Pradesh was the

first state in India to ban the use of plastic bags in 2009. Now the Indian Government has banned the usages of 19 single use plastics since July 1 2022.





They are ear buds with plastic sticks, plastic sticks for balloons, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice-cream sticks, plates, cups, glasses, cutlery such as forks, spoons, knives, straws, trays, wrapping or packaging films around sweet boxes, invitation cards, etc.

Bunny and Sunny realised their mistake and

apologised to the wild animals. They both thanked the forester for explaining to them the way to save the environment and save the wild animals.

The Elephant requested the human beings, "You may visit the forest but don't spoil the beauty of it and help save the forest and wildlife." While going out of the forest Bunny and Sunny cleaned that area and fixed a board displaying that



ENJOY NATURE – STOP USING PLASTIC
AND SAVE THE MOTHER EARTH.

REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE.

SHASVID

Class, Section	: II, Citrine, Charoite, Cordierite
Garland (Story)	: Looking at the sky
Flowers (Characters)	: Dhanu, Manu, Grandfather and Astronomer
Thread (Strategy)	: Dream Conversation
Vibrance (Facts)	: Solar System
Fragrance (Moral/ Message)	: (i) The Universe has lots of surprise (ii) Each one has to have a dream to achieve (iii) Work hard to get success

Looking at the Sky

One night a poor boy named Dhanu was sleeping on the terrace glancing at the dark sky, twinkling stars and the shining moon. He was enjoying the nature in the breeze. Then a thought flashed in his mind to study about space. After some time, slowly he closed his eyes and went into a deep sleep.

He went to a village and met his grandfather and his best friend Manu. Manu and Dhanu were discussing about space.



Accidentally a person observed them and said, "Are you interested to know more about space?" Dhanu nodded his head and said, "Who are you?" The stranger said, "I am an astronomer". Manu thought a while very curiously and said to him, "Oh! It's amazing. It seems you have more knowledge about space?"

Dhanu immediately said, "We too are interested to become astronomers. Can you help us to know the secrets about space?"

"Yes why not." said the astronomer.

Manu said, "I request you that can we both become your students?"

The astronomer laughed and said, "Yes, of course, by all means, my dear little scientists. I will give you some basic knowledge about space. "Yes. Mr. Astro we are ready", curiously responded the two little scientists.

"Dear young ones, Earth is the only planet where we can live, though there are so many planets in the space." Mr. Astro said.

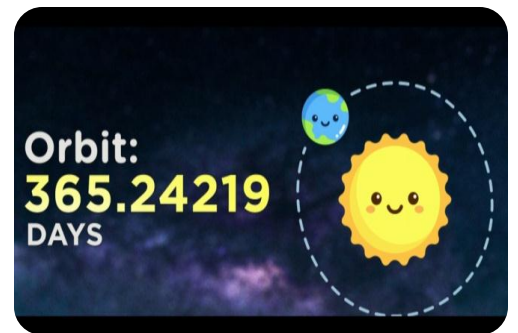


Dhanu's Grandfather immediately said, "God has given us everything on the earth. But we human beings are cutting trees, polluting air and water for our greedy and selfish purposes. We are spoiling the beauty of nature of this planet." "Yes sir, we welcome your supreme knowledge", said Mr. Astro

and continued, "Earth goes around the star in an elliptical path. Can you tell me the name of the star?"

Dhanu thought and said "Earth goes around the Sun, I think Sun is the star?"

"Yes Dhanu. You are right. The Sun is also a star. Do you know the fact that the earth takes 365 days to revolve around the Sun?" said Mr. Astro.

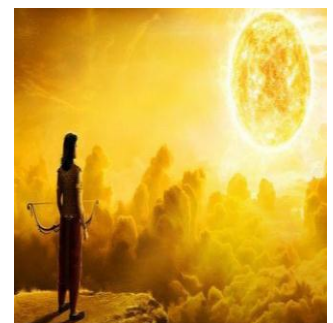


Manu said, "Oh my God, so many days! It's interesting." Mr. Astro added, "Another stunning fact is that the earth rotates around itself and it takes 24 hours or one day for one rotation. Hence we experience days and nights."



Grandfather said to the two kids, "The sun is treated as God Surya Dev in Treta yuga and Dwaapara yuga as well. The hero of the Ramayan, Sri Rama and, the

generous person and great warrior Karna of the Mahabharat belong to



Surya Dev family. The star sun is also called 'The Eye of the Universe' as per the Mahabharata."

Mr. Astro said, "It's wonderful sir to know about the mythological information." Manu said, "I think that the sizes of the Sun and the Moon are the same. Am I right Mr. Astro?"

Astro said, "It's a misconception. In fact, the Sun is 400 times larger than the Moon. Also the Sun is 400 times far away than that of the moon from the Earth."



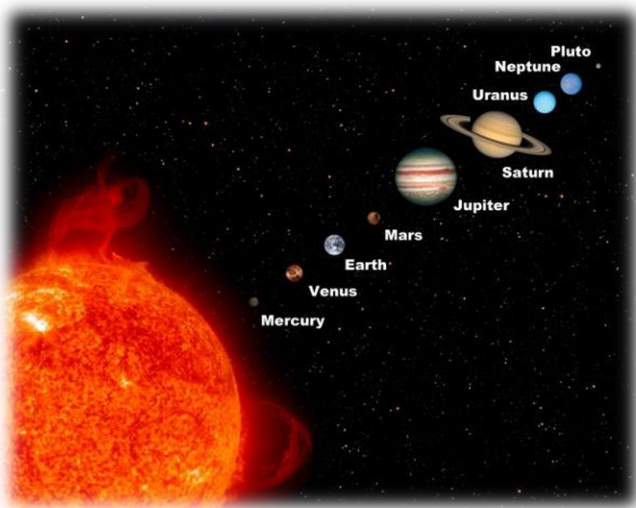
Dhanu said, "Is it so? Though the sun is very far from us, we feel very hot in summer."

Mr. Astro can you please tell me, "What about the nearest planet?"

Manu started laughing and said, "Planet looks like Dhanu's angry face." Everyone laughed.

Grandfather replied to Dhanu, "Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun. You know, Mercury is the smallest planet in our solar system."

"I think mercury is the very hottest planet." Dhanu enquired curiously.



Mr. Astro said, "No, the hottest planet is Venus."

"Mr. Astro, can you please tell us the names of the planets of our solar system"

Mr. Astro said, "Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune are the eight planets of our solar system that revolve around the star Sun. They are in the order that is nearer to the Sun."

Grandfather said to Manu, "Dhanu's face matches with some other planet and that is also called 'The Red Planet'."

Manu said, "What! Red planet? Mr. Astro is it true?"

Mr. Astro saw Dhanu's face and nodded his head and said, "Manu, Mars is often called the Red Planet." Everyone looked at Dhanu and laughed, Dhanu also smiled.

The noisy dog barked. The poor boy Dhanu woke up and noticed that his pet was there beside him.

Then he tapped his head and realised that he was in a dream. He said to himself "I hope this dream would come true so that in the future I would become an astronomer."