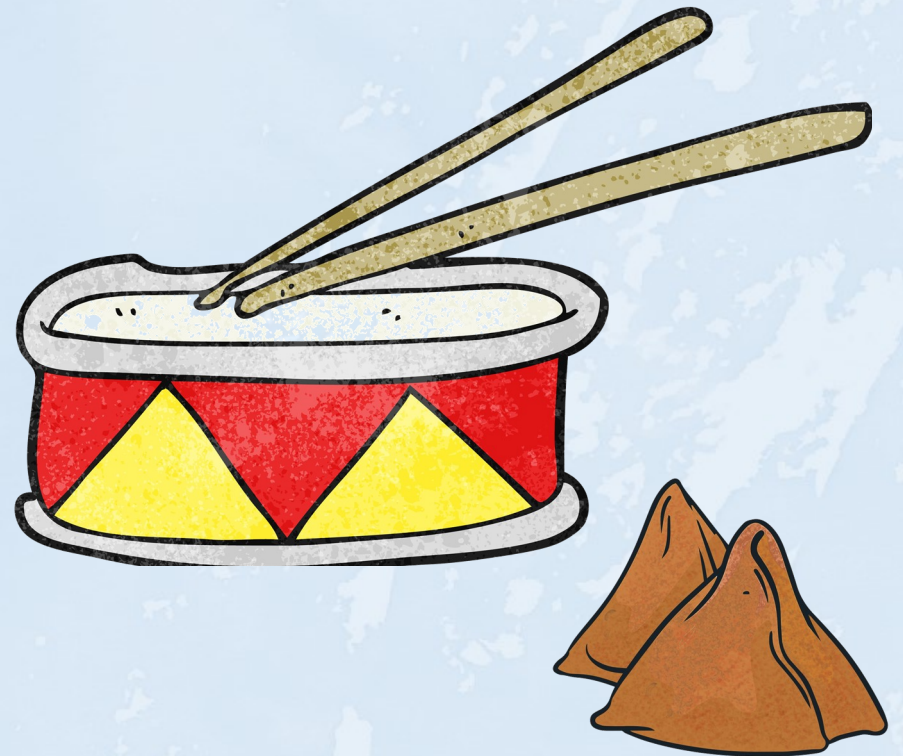


A boy learns to persevere,
and that helping people can
help you too!

The Drummer Boy



A traditional tale

The market was bustling and no matter how much he shouted, his voice was lost in the busy market place.



Ghopal sat down and began drumming different rhythms. The beats were hypnotic and attracted a large crowd, and soon all his pakoras had been sold.

A man in a gold embroidered kurta asked, "How much is that drum, young boy?"

"Sorry Sahib," Ghopal replied. "My drum's not for sale." He would never part with his drum!

At the end of the day, he made his way home with coins clinking in his pocket, and he played a drum beat as he sang his song...



The Drummer Boy

In a village in Gujarat in India lived a boy called Ghopal. Once, he saw the drummers play during the festival of Navaratri and, ever since he felt those flip flop flutters, he had really wanted a drum.

He spent his days helping his mother. She made a living by pounding flour for the shopkeepers. While helping her, he would drum rhythms on overturned pots and sing:

*If I had a drum, a big drum,
a big bass drum,*

*My heart would boom,
boom, boom.*

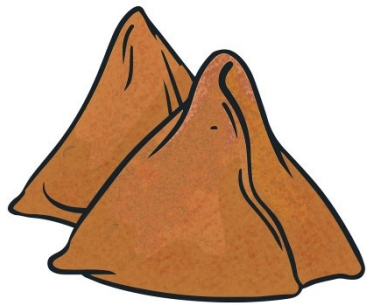
*Tak dhama dhoom dhoom
dhoom!*



One day, when Ghopal's mother was in a cheery mood, he asked her: "Ma, I want to buy a drum."

She looked confused. "A drum will not fill your stomach," she joked.

He knew she was right, but Ghopal could only think about the flip flop flutters he felt when he heard the drums and the magic he felt in his fingers.



With the leftover flour, Ghopal's mother made some pakoras – his favourite! He ate a few and wrapped the rest in cloth to sell at the market.

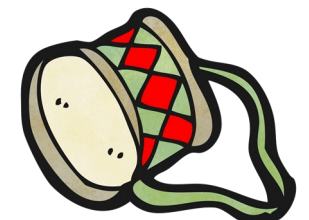
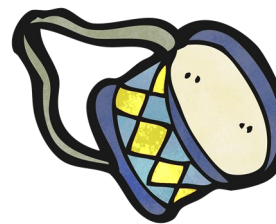
"Thank you, kind boy, how can I repay you? Is there anything you want?" the bride asked.

"A drum!" Ghopal replied. His heart went **boom**.

The bride smiled.

"We have lots of drums," she said, and beckoned for the musicians to bring them over. "Big drums, small drums, hard drums, soft drums, drums of every colour! You can pick whichever you like."

Ghopal's eyes lit up. He chose a big bass drum. He thanked the bride and trotted off on his horse as he carried on to the market, feeling like the luckiest boy in the world.



Up ahead, in a shady patch beneath the trees, he saw a crowd gathered under a shimiana – a bright red awning hosting a wedding party! Ghopal drew closer, eager to see the bride, when he heard people playing drums. His heart ached for one of his own.

Suddenly a priest emerged, shouting, “The groom is delayed. The position of the stars will change! We must cancel this wedding!”

The bride began to cry. Whispers broke out among the guests and the drummers stopped playing.

“Wait,” cried Ghopal. “This wedding will go on. I will

fetch the groom on my horse!”

And he returned very soon with the groom.



As he set off singing, he came across a potter lady with a crying baby. He felt sorry for the little boy and offered him a pakora. The baby ate it and stopped crying.

“You are very kind,” said the potter lady. “I cannot pay you with money, but please accept this pot instead.”

It wasn’t a drum, but Ghopal felt happy to help. He carried on his way, singing his song.

The sun was beating down and Ghopal grew thirsty. He stopped at a gurgling stream and filled his new pot with water.



As he was there, he heard an angry man yelling at his wife, "You broke the pot!"

The poor washerwoman sobbed into her hands and replied, "I'm sorry, I didn't mean to!"

Ghopal felt sorry for her. He said, "You can have my pot, I don't need it any more".

She smiled. "Bless your heart," she said. "Please take this shawl as payment." She held out a shawl woven with beautiful colours.

It wasn't a drum, but he felt happy to help. He carried on his way, singing his song.



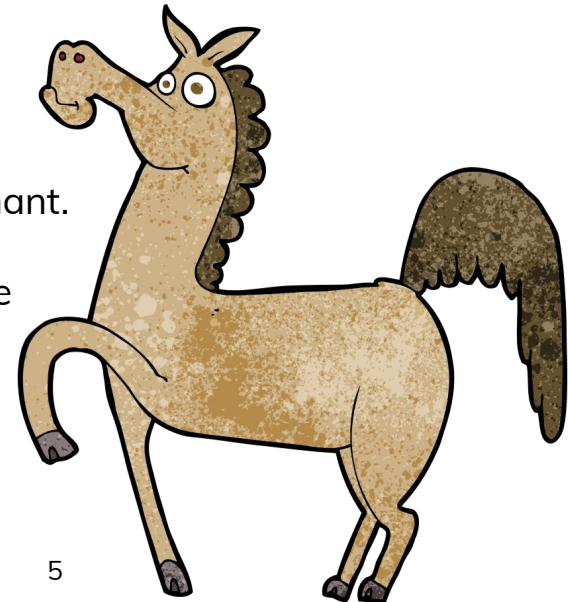
He soon passed a rich merchant on a horse. The merchant stopped suddenly as he saw the shawl on Ghopal's back.

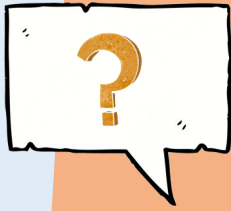
"Young boy, where did you buy that beautiful shawl?" he asked. "It is exactly the kind my sick wife would love. I have bought a dozen at the market, but none are as beautiful as yours."

Ghopal imagined the man's wife lying in pain and he felt sorry for her. "Sir, give your wife my shawl," he said as he handed it to the merchant.

"Bless you, kind boy. Will you take my horse as payment for your shawl?" said the merchant.

It wasn't a drum, but he mounted the horse and rode away singing.





Read the story together and talk about it. You could ask questions beginning with...

what

when

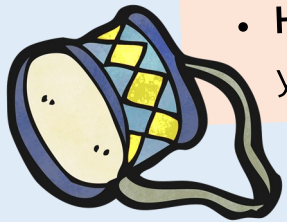
why

who

how

where

- **What** are some of the ways you have helped people in the past?
- **How** does it make you feel when you help someone?



You could ask questions about how the characters in the story are feeling...

How did Ghopal feel when he finally got the drum he wanted?

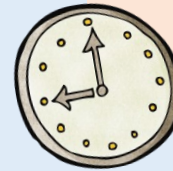
Why do you think he felt like that?



**Tell me
a joke!**

Why is a drummer
never late?

He always
beats the clock!

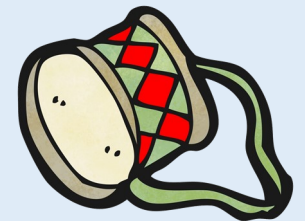


Can I tell you
another drummer
joke?

Yes, but it'll be
hard to **beat** the
last one!

How can you tell
there is a
drummer at the
door?

The knocking gets
faster!



Do you know any more jokes?

Can you make up your own?

The Drummer Boy



Talk about...

The Drummer Boy



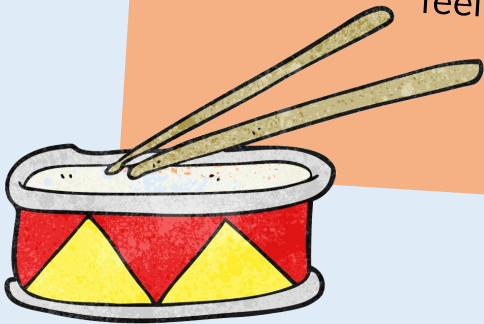
Talk about...



For Ghopal, hearing the drumming and playing the drums gives him the 'flip flop flutters' feeling because he is so excited.

Talk about what excites you and what gives you the 'flip flop flutters' feeling?

What about your friends and family?
What gives them the 'flip flop flutters' feeling?



Did you know?



Drums are percussion instruments which means they make noise when they're hit.

The oldest drum to be discovered is the Alligator Drum. The Alligator Drum was used in ritual ceremonies, and dates back as early as 5500 BC.

Drums are all made of different materials that all produce different sounds.



The world's largest drum kit has 813 pieces and it took 36 years to build!

The longest recorded drum session by an individual is 122 hours and 25 minutes from December 27th, 2011 to January 1st, 2012.

The Drummer Boy



Talk about...

The Drummer Boy



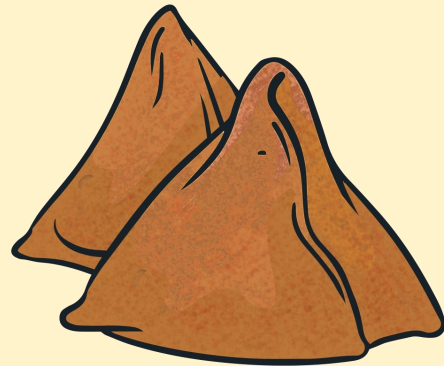
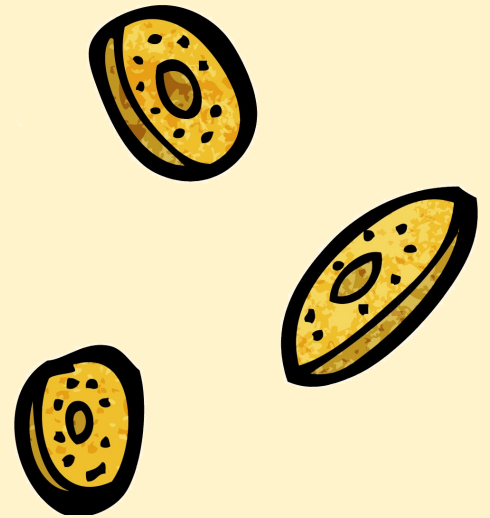
Talk about...

Story sequence cards

Cut out these cards and use them to help you tell the story. You may need to use some of the cards more than once!

Can you shuffle them and then put them in the right order?

Can you change the order to make a silly story?



The Drummer Boy



Sequence



The Drummer Boy



Sequence



The Drummer Boy



Sequence



The Drummer Boy



Sequence



The Drummer Boy



Sequence



The Drummer Boy



Sequence



The Drummer Boy



Sequence

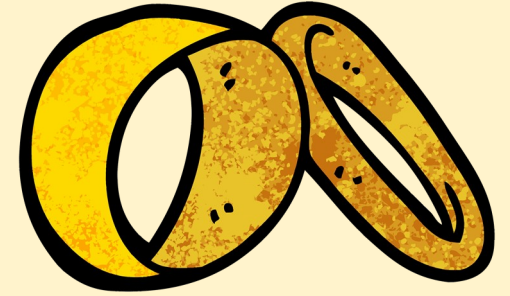


The Drummer Boy



Sequence





You could use these blank
cards to draw your own
versions of the story!

Is there something you
think should have been
included?

Do you want to add
another character?

**The
Drummer Boy**



Sequence



**The
Drummer Boy**



Sequence



**The
Drummer Boy**



Sequence



**The
Drummer Boy**



Sequence



**The
Drummer Boy**



Sequence



**The
Drummer Boy**



Sequence



**The
Drummer Boy**



Sequence



**The
Drummer Boy**



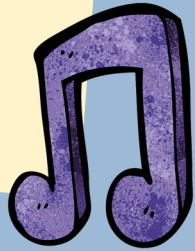
Sequence





Singing Journeys

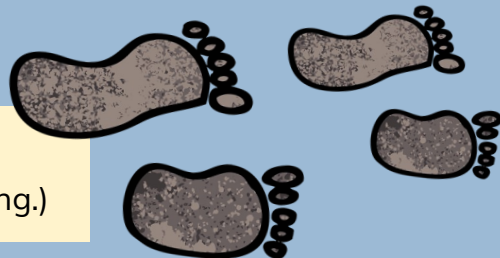
When Ghopal walks towards the market he sings a song.



Why don't you make up your own songs while you are making the journeys that you make everyday. Why not make a walking to school song? It doesn't have to make sense and it's so much fun!



(This is a good way to talk about journeys through song.)



Marketplace



In the story, Ghopal trades lots of different things as well as selling pakoras for money.



Find an object of yours and trade between family members. See what you can swap for it! Something that you don't need may be helpful for someone else in your family.



What can you swap for a cushion? Or a spoon? Use different objects around the house to set up a mini market!



The Drummer Boy



Play out!



The Drummer Boy



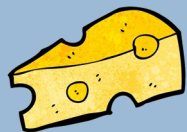
Play out!



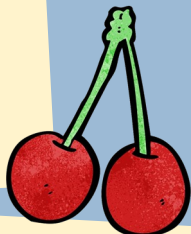
Head over to your local park and bring some healthy snacks with



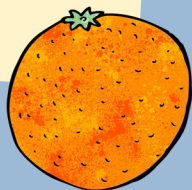
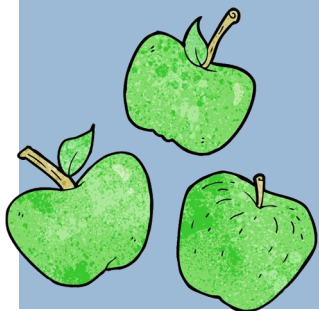
Snack Trading



See what you can find in the park to trade for the healthy snacks you brought from home!



How many leaves can you trade for an apple?
How many twigs does a bottle of water cost?



Stuck in the Mud



All you need for this game is an open space and 3 or more people—a park is perfect!

Collect twigs and leaves from around the park. You'll need these to trade later in the game.



One person is on. They have to chase the others and tag them.



When they have tagged someone, that person is 'stuck in the mud'.

They stand with legs and arms out and they cannot move.

The only way to release them is if another person who is not stuck trades an item with them.



The Drummer Boy



Play out!



The Drummer Boy

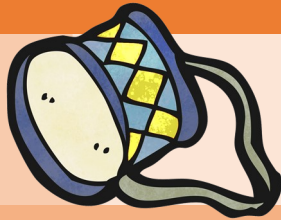


Play out!



The thing Ghopal wanted the most was a drum. Why not try to make your own drum?

Make your own drum



You will need:

- An empty container—you could use a jar, a crisp tube or anything you have lying around.
- Something for the drum skin. This is the bit that you hit. Try using different materials to see what sounds you can make! You could use:
 - Paper
 - A balloon (not inflated)
 - Kitchen roll
- Something to secure the drum skin, e.g. tape, string or an elastic band.



1. Stretch the material of your choice over the top of the container
2. Secure the material tightly around the container
3. Play your different rhythms! Be gentle and see how hard they need to be hit and how the sound changes.



Shawl weaving

You will need:

- A circle of cardboard. You could cut out your own, or use a paper plate.
- Scissors
- Tape
- Wool, ribbon or string

Ghopal is given a woven scarf. You could try weaving a small, circular shawl!



1. Cut an **odd number** of notches around the edge of the circle
2. Wind the wool or string across the circle in a star shape. You will have to end on the same notch you start. Cut the wool and tape the ends to the back.
3. Tie your first piece of wool or ribbon around the middle of the star.
4. Now thread it under one strand, over the next, under, over, and so on, around the circle.
5. You can add in other colours or types of wool
6. When you have finished, cut the strands on the back to free the shawl from the cardboard.

You can find more detailed instructions online by searching “circle weaving”.

The Drummer Boy



Make it!

The Drummer Boy



Make it!