



The Scavenger Hunt

Author: Ajit Narra

Illustrator: Arkapriya Koley

Level 4



Lajjo lives in a village on the banks of the River Kosi.
She loves the rain.

But this year, the rains have been especially heavy.



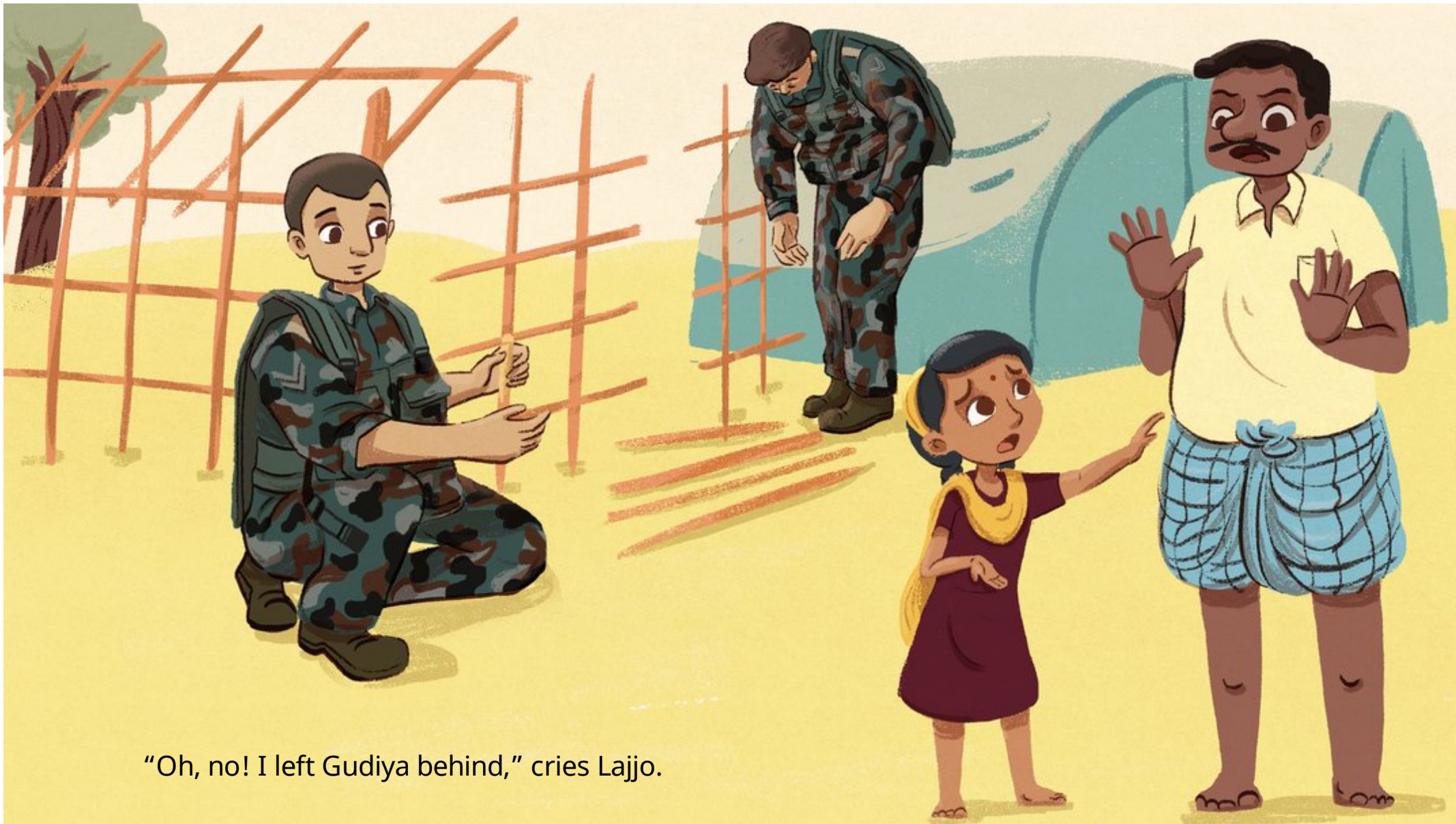
Lajjo is happy when the rain finally stops.

Then all of a sudden, the banks of the river break. In just a few minutes, the village is flooded with muddy water from the river. Lajjo is scared.



“We have to leave at once!” cries Babu. “Hurry, Lajjo! We need to get to higher ground where we’ll be safer.”

Lajjo and her family waded through the water with great difficulty. With the help of some army men, they reach a hill where their neighbours have moved to.



“Oh, no! I left Gudiya behind,” cries Lajjo.

She never goes anywhere without her doll! But Babu says that they can’t go back until things are better.

The next morning, Lajjo asks if she can go find Gudiya.

This time, Mai yells at her. "Lajjo, our home is under five feet of water. We are running out of drinking water, and all you care about is a doll."

"Don't worry, Lajjo. Gudiya will be fine," says Daadu.
"Shall we play a game?"




“A game!” says Lajjo, brightening up.

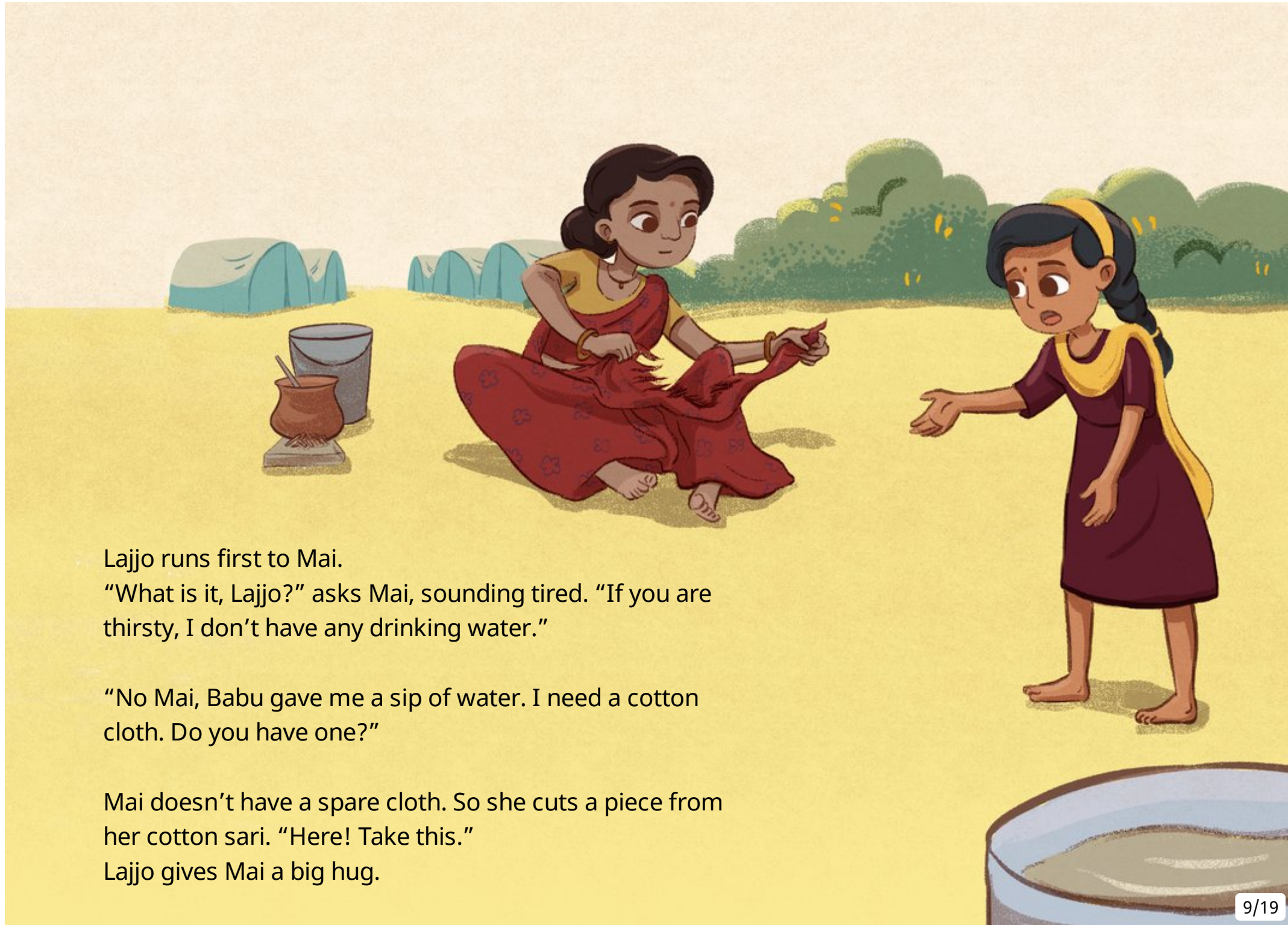
“Yes! It’s a scavenger hunt. You have to find all the items on this list. As soon as you do, I will show you something amazing.”



Lajjo looks at Daadu's list.

"I'll start searching right away," she says, jumping with excitement.

- 
- An illustration showing a person from the back, wearing a dark blue headscarf with a yellow band, looking at a list on a white sheet of paper. The person's hand is visible, pointing to the list. The background is a stylized landscape with rolling green hills, a yellow field, and a light sky. The list contains six items:
1. 1 bucket
 2. 1 cotton cloth
 3. Gravel
 4. Sand
 5. 1 hammer
 6. 1 hole punch



Lajjo runs first to Mai.

“What is it, Lajjo?” asks Mai, sounding tired. “If you are thirsty, I don’t have any drinking water.”

“No Mai, Babu gave me a sip of water. I need a cotton cloth. Do you have one?”

Mai doesn’t have a spare cloth. So she cuts a piece from her cotton sari. “Here! Take this.”

Lajjo gives Mai a big hug.

Babu helps Lajjo find a bucket. She fills it with sand.
"Yay! Three things off my list!"



“Lajjo, I’m thirsty. Do you have some water?” asks her friend Prateek.

“Sorry, Prateek. We finished all our water.”

“That’s okay,” he says. “Are you looking for something?”

“ I’m looking for gravel,” says Lajjo.

“There! You can use that.”

Only two more things for Lajjo to find!



Then Lajjo goes to find the village carpenter.
“Fixer Baba, Fixer Baba, may I borrow your
hammer and hole punch?”
“What is it for, Lajjo?”



“It’s for a game I’m playing with Daadu,”
she says.
“A game! Who has time for games when
the whole village is thirsty?”
Though he grumbles a little, he gives the
tools to Lajjo.



Lajjo lays out all the items in front of Daadu. "Done!" she says proudly. Daadu smiles and turns the bucket over. He makes a hole in it with the hammer and punch.

Lajjo watches eagerly as he places the cotton cloth at the bottom of the bucket.



Then, he pours fine sand over the cloth into the bucket.



“Lajjo, will you help me fill the bucket with gravel?” asks Daadu.

Lajjo helps Daadu pick out all the tiny stones, and put them in the bucket. They then fill the bucket with larger stones.



Daadu takes a bottle filled with muddy river water and pours it into the bucket.

“Why did you do that?” Lajjo asks, puzzled.

Daadu just smiles. Not long after, clear water starts dripping down from the hole in the bucket.

Daadu collects it in a glass.





“Lajjo, we made a filter that changes muddy water into clean water,” says Daadu. “Go give this glass of water to your Mai and Babu.”

Mai and Babu are overjoyed! They boil the water and drink it.

Soon Prateek, Fixer Baba, Mai and Babu surround the bucket. “Great work, Lajjo!” they cheer.

The next day, the army comes in boats laden with supplies for the flood survivors. Lajjo's family is relieved.

And in their boat is a special surprise for Lajjo!





Make Your Own Water Filter

Materials Needed:

- 1 plastic bottle
- 1 pair of scissors
- 1 clean cotton cloth
- Sand
- Gravel (fine and coarse)





What to Do

Use a pair of scissors to cut off the bottom of the water bottle.

Punch a small hole in the bottle cap with the pair of scissors.

Stuff the bottom of the bottle with a cotton cloth.

Pour fine sand into the bottle till the 1/4 mark.

Fill the bottle with fine gravel till the 1/2 mark, followed by coarse gravel till the 3/4 mark.

Pour water slowly from the top. You will find clean water dripping down from the bottom.

Note: Boil the water before drinking it in order to kill harmful germs.



Story Attribution:

This story: The Scavenger Hunt is written by [Ajit Narra](#) . © Pratham Books , 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Other Credits:

This book was first published on StoryWeaver by Pratham Books. The development of this book has been supported by Oracle. Guest Editor: Karishma Mahbubani, Guest Art Director: Nafisa Nandini Crishna

Images Attributions:

Cover page: [Girl looking at piece of a paper](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 2: [Girl looking out of a window](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 3: [Girl standing on stool during flood](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 4: [People walking through water during a flood](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 5: [Men building tent](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 6: [Woman scolding a girl](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 7: [An old man and girl looking at a piece of paper](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 8: [Girl reading from a piece of paper](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: [Girl talking to woman](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 10: [Man holding a bucket](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 11: [Girl collecting pebbles](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Disclaimer: https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms_and_conditions



Some rights reserved. This book is CC-BY-4.0 licensed. You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission. For full terms of use and attribution, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

ORACLE®

The development of this book has been supported by Oracle.

Images Attributions:

Page 12: [Man talking to a girl](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 13: [Girl sitting watching her grandfather](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 14: [Pebbles in a bucket](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 15: [Old man holding a bucket](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 16: [People are celebrating](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 17: [Army men on a boat](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 18: [Scissor and water bottle](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 19: [A bucket and glass](#), by [Arkapriya Koley](#) © Pratham Books, 2019. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Disclaimer: https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms_and_conditions



Some rights reserved. This book is CC-BY-4.0 licensed. You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission. For full terms of use and attribution, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

ORACLE®

The development of this book has been supported by Oracle.

The Scavenger Hunt

(English)

Lajjo has to find all the items on her list in order to win Daadu's game. The family is puzzled. Why is Daadu sending Lajjo on a scavenger hunt in the middle of a crisis?

This is a Level 4 book for children who can read fluently and with confidence.



Pratham Books goes digital to weave a whole new chapter in the realm of multilingual children's stories. Knitting together children, authors, illustrators and publishers. Folding in teachers, and translators. To create a rich fabric of openly licensed multilingual stories for the children of India and the world. Our unique online platform, StoryWeaver, is a playground where children, parents, teachers and librarians can get creative. Come, start weaving today, and help us get a book in every child's hand!