

YO, YOGI!

Hey kids, get a load of this. Stories, puzzles, poems and more just for you every month. Hope you like it. Write and tell us if you do, or if you don't

TIME WITH ANANDA

DOUBLE THE DOSE OF LOVE

A little boy's penny fell on the road and he started crying. Rohit looked briefly and went closer but did not stop to help.

Observing this, Ananda said: Rohit, I would like to tell you about a little incident from my brother Raj's life.

A little boy was carrying a heavy load of books in his sack. A heavy bag under which he seemed to be crumbling. Raj saw him and asked, "Shall I help?" The boy shook his head, not even looking up at Raj. "Hey, come on," said Raj and took the bag from him. "This is larger than you, Chottu. How many books do you read in a day?" he said and patted him on his back. Chottu did not speak much but Raj kept talking. Making jokes and funny observations.

They reached the end of the road, where Chottu said he lived, and they parted.

Many years passed and they never met.

One day, at a quiz show, where Raj was one of the organisers, a young boy came and gave him a warm hug.

"You don't remember me? I am Chottu," he said and narrated the whole incident.

Raj vaguely remembered the incident. He had hesitated to offer help, thinking it could delay him a lot, but then had made the decision to do so. Chottu now had become a tall,

strapping boy.

"That day, you saved my life," whispered Chottu.

"What?" asked Raj, taken aback.

"Yes, I had decided to end my life that day because my parents were mad at me for not doing well in school. I took all my books and decided to jump into the river with them. Initially, I was irritated with you but then, I warmed to you when you started speaking to me. By the end of the walk, I felt much better and went back home."

Raj was stunned. Such a small act of his had such a great impact!

After a pause, Anand continued, "Often, we hesitate to reach out, because we don't want to interfere or just because we are too wrapped up in our own selves."

"What difference would it make anyway?" is what we think. Let us not make the mistake of underestimating the power of loving actions. They can do wonders.

Doctors know this too well. A physician with 30 years of practice was asked, "What works best with patients?" He replied, "Love is always the best medicine." He was then asked, "What if love doesn't work?" The physician's answer was plain and simple, "Double the dose!"

Apply it: *Be kind and reach out to others.*

THE ASCETIC

A young ascetic had acquired great powers through rigid penance. He was once disturbed by a crane. Irritated, he burnt the bird to ashes.

After this incident, he went asking for alms as per the custom in those days. The lady of the house asked him to wait as she was serving her husband. Though not too pleased, he waited for

a while. She was taking too long to come. He got more and more irritated. She finally came and smilingly said "Sorry to have kept you waiting, but I needed to attend to my duties first. My husband needed to go back to work." When the ascetic glowered, she said

FABLE

ACTION STATION

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softly "I am not a crane which you can burn with your anger."

The ascetic was stunned. How could the woman have known about the crane? He realised the woman's powers were greater than his.

Chastised, he bowed to her and asked her for guidance. She asked him instead to go to a man in the next village, who, she said, was even more evolved.

The ascetic went to the village and found, to his astonishment, the man the lady talked about was a butcher.

He observed the butcher the entire day, serving his customers smilingly. An annoying customer asked him to chop meat in different ways several times and the butcher did so, patiently, without getting annoyed. "Didn't you get annoyed?" the ascetic asked, "No, it is part of my job," the

butcher answered, "Many of us lead lives not knowing what we want in life. This poor fellow did not know what he was really looking for."

At the end of the day, he cleaned his shop cheerfully and returned home. He invited the ascetic home and served him dinner along with his old parents. He then massaged the feet of his parents and talked to them about his day.

"Our parents just want our love, you know," he told the ascetic, peering into his eyes.

The ascetic learnt to be more loving and accepting and returned home to his old parents, whom he had abandoned.

Apply it: *Be good and kind to all. It not only makes others feel loved and cared for, but it helps us also to develop inner happiness and peace.*



MIND BUSTERS

The strongest chains will not bind it
Ditch and rampart will not slow it down
A thousand soldiers cannot beat it
It can knock down trees with a single push

Ans: Wind

The one who made it
Didn't want it
The one who bought it
Didn't need it
The one who used it
Never saw it

Ans: My mirror

THE ENIGMA OF SPACE: BLAST FROM THE PAST

Ans: A Coffin

Look in my face
I am somebody
Look at my back
I am nobody

A man leaves home and makes three left turns.
When he returns home he is met by two men
one of whom is wearing a mask. Who are they?

Ans: An umpire and a catcher

AMAZING FACTS

About 160,000 years ago, an enormous explosion lit the galaxy today known as the Large Magellanic Cloud. An ageing star has ended its days as a supernova, dying in flames 100 million times brighter than the sun. But not until February 1987 did the light of that demise reach earth. For the first time, astronomers were able to study a nearby supernova with modern instruments and test the accuracy of their theories about the birth and death of stars.

Scientists believe that the supernova will help them to determine whether the universe will collapse or continue to

expand forever. The event could give us advance knowledge of the future of the universe.

