



An Amazing World

Written by Manju Gupta

Illustrated by Ajanta Guhathakurta



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प्रकाशक की लिखित अनुमति के बिना इस पुस्तक का कोई भी अंश पुनःमुद्रित नहीं किया जा सकता है।

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Room to Read seeks to transform the lives of millions of children in developing countries by focusing on literacy and gender equality in education. Working in collaboration with local communities, partner organizations and governments, we develop literacy skills and a habit of reading among primary school children, and support girls to complete secondary school with the relevant life skills to succeed in school and beyond.



World Change Starts
with Educated Children.®

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अनोखा संसार

कहानी: मंजू गुप्ता

चित्र: अजंता गुहाठाकुरता



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The Seetabadi Fair takes place every year in a village in Rajasthan. This year, Lalchand set up shop — a shop of turbans. He decorated the shop with colorful turbans from all over the country and set aside the Rajasthani turbans for sale.



Not only did the colourful shop attract people at the fair, it also drew huge crowds from the villages nearby. Anybody who looked at the shop of turbans was amazed at the variety!





Slowly, night fell. The sweet shops and the merry-go-rounds closed down. Lalchand was also tired. He rolled the shutters of his shop down and went to sleep. Now, the turbans were left alone to themselves. Aha! Then began a round of introductions.



The turban from Rajasthan said,

“Colourful, I fly, up in the sky!
I’m the honour and pride
of the kings, that’s why.”



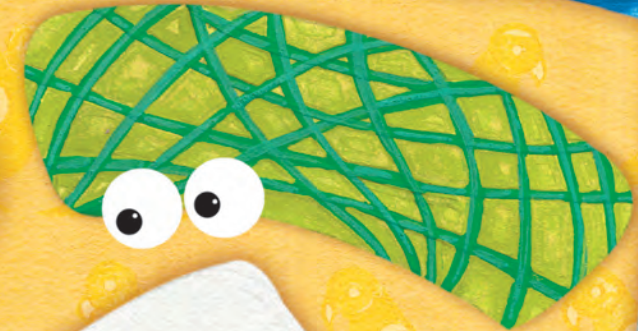
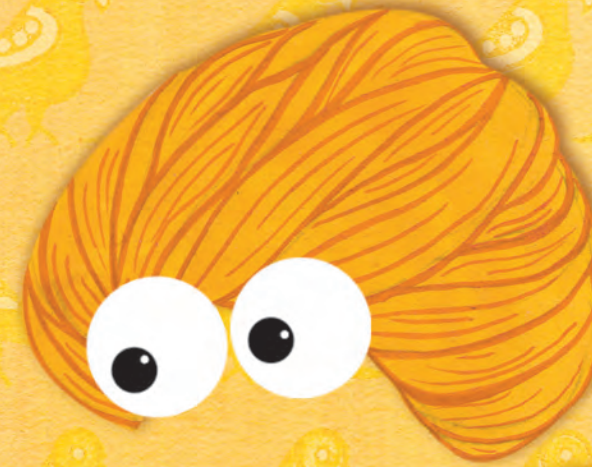


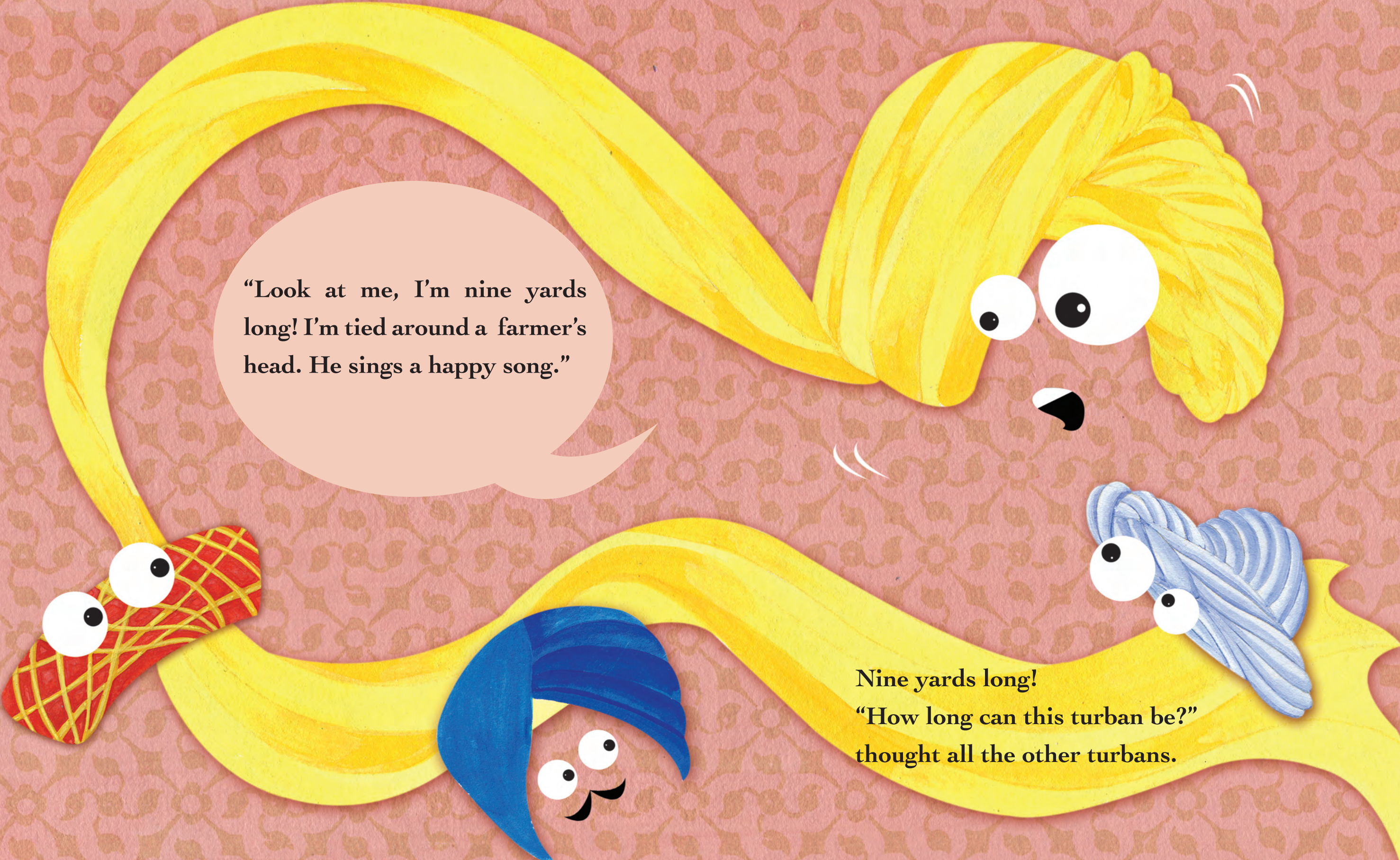
Singing and dancing,
The turban from Punjab said,

“Balle, balle!!
In the land of Punjab, I stand tall.
We dance all night and have a ball!”

Lying on the ground was a beautifully decorated turban.
This turban certainly looked different from the others. She
said,

“Here comes the jolly groom
with his wedding band!
On his head, I sit with pride,
looking very grand.”





"Look at me, I'm nine yards long!
I'm tied around a farmer's head.
He sings a happy song."

Nine yards long!
"How long can this turban be?"
thought all the other turbans.

All the turbans had introduced themselves, except for one. Eyeing the other turbans as they spoke about themselves, she waited for her turn. She smiled and said,

My master is so roly-poly,
goes to bed with a puffed-up belly.
A name that's spread so wide and
far...I am the turban from Marwar.



The night grew darker. The turbans chatted away merrily, so much so that they lost track of time. The whole fair had gone to sleep, but from the turban shop chattering could still be heard.

Lalchand got up in the morning and opened his shop.

Slowly and steadily, children began to gather around.

Lalchand, the turbans and the children were so happy.

पगड़ियों की दुकान



कहानी: मंजू गुप्ता

बी. एड. करने के बाद मंजू गुप्ता ने शिक्षा को अपना कार्यक्षेत्र चुना। अपने आरंभिक दिनों में इन्होंने हैदराबाद और ग्वालियर के स्कूलों में बतौर शिक्षिका काम किया और बाद में प्रिंसिपल के रूप में भी कार्य किया। भाषा और व्याकरण पर इनकी गहरी पकड़ है। मंजू हमेशा ही बच्चों से सिखने के लिये तत्पर रहती हैं और उनमें शिक्षा की गुणवत्ता को बेहतर करने की सामर्थ्य है। इन्हें ऐसी रचनाएं लिखना भाता है जिसे पढ़कर बच्चे आनंद से भर उठें।

Story: Manju Gupta

Following the completion of her B.Ed., Ms. Manju Gupta went on to work as an English teacher and later as a principal in schools in Hyderabad and Gwalior. She has a remarkable grasp of grammar and language. Ms. Manju possesses a natural instinct to be able to learn "with the child" and has a capacity to enhance the quality of education whenever and wherever required. She enjoys writing and spreading happiness among children.



चित्र: अजंता गुहाठाकुरता

अजंता गुहाठाकुरता ने दिल्ली कॉलेज ऑफ आर्ट से ललित कला की पढ़ाई की है। इन्होंने भारत के अनेक प्रतिष्ठित प्रकाशन संस्थानों की किताबों के लिए इलस्ट्रेशन और डिज़ाइन का काम किया है। इन्हें २०१२ में इंटरनेशनल बोर्ड ऑन बुक्स फॉर यंग पीपल की ओर से सर्टिफिकेट ऑफ ऑनर प्रदान किया गया। अजंता चित्रकार हैं और बच्चों के लिए कार्यशालाएं भी करती हैं।

Illustration: Ajanta Guhathakurta

Ajanta Guhathakurta studied fine arts at the College of Art in Delhi and has illustrated and designed books for various leading publishers in India. She was awarded a Certificate of Honor from the International Board on Books for Young People in 2002. Guhathakurta also paints and conducts creative workshops for children.

Turbans are synonymous with cultural tradition of India. The story is an informational narrative about different kinds of turbans which are commonly worn in India. The turbans have been personified to introduce themselves one by one in an interesting poetic form. Vibrant, striking and colorful illustrations add life to the story.



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