

## Panchatantra Stories - 6

### The Shepherd and the Wolf

Once, a shepherd used to live in a village. He was the owner of a large flock of sheep. Every morning, he used to take his flock out for grazing. Once, because of some work, he had to go to the city for three days. So, he called his son, Ramu and told him that he would have to take care of the sheep for the three days that he would be away. "Take good care of the sheep, Ramu," his father warned him. "There are many wild animals like tigers and wolves in the forest nearby who might kill our sheep. Keep them safe, son. They are your responsibility."

Ramu assured his father that he would follow his advice. The next day, Ramu took the flock of



sheep to the hillside for grazing. While the sheep were grazing, Ramu started feeling bored. Being a mischievous boy, he wanted to have some fun. He thought of an idea. He stood up and started shouting, "Help! Wolf! Wolf!"

Ramu's cry for help was heard by the villagers. Carrying big sticks with them, they rushed to the spot to help the boy. But, on reaching, they found that there was no wolf. Ramu laughed and said, "There is no wolf here. It was just a joke I played on you." The villagers went back to their homes, irritated.

Next day, the same thing happened. The villagers heard Ramu crying for help and went to help him but again, they found that the boy had tricked them again. This time, the villagers were very annoyed and went back to their homes, cursing the boy.

On the third day, when Ramu took his sheep for grazing, a wolf actually came there. The wolf looked so ferocious that Ramu was terrified. The wolf was advancing towards the sheep. Ramu shouted, "Help! Help! Wolf!"

The villagers heard Ramu's cry and thought that it must be the boy's silly trick once again. No one went to help him. Ramu could not keep the wolf off the sheep all by himself. The wolf killed many of Ramu's sheep. Ramu went back to his home weeping.

***Moral: This story tells us that people do not believe liars. This is why it is said that we must not lie.***

## A Fox and a Crane

Once a fox and a crane became friends. So, the fox invited the crane to dinner. The crane accepted the invitation and reached the fox's place at sunset.



The fox had prepared soup for his mate. But as we all know that foxes are cunning by nature, he served the soup in flat dishes. So, he himself lapped the crane's share with his tongue enjoying its relish a lot. But the crane could not enjoy it at all with his long beak and had to get back home hungry. The shrewd fox felt extremely amused.

After few days, the crane invited the fox to dine in with him. The fox reached his place well in time. The crane gave him a warm welcome and served the soup in a jug with a long and narrow neck.

So, the crane enjoyed the soup with great relish using his long beak. The fox's mouth couldn't reach the soup through the narrow neck of the jug. He had to return home hungry. Now he realized that he had been repaid for his behaviour with the crane.



***Moral: One bad turn deserves another.***

***Vishnu Stotra:***

**Shuklambharadharam Vishnum Shashivarnam Chaturbhujam,  
Prasanna Vadanm Dhyayet Sarva Vignopa Shantaye**

**Rama Mantra:**

**Sri Rama Rama Rameti, Rame Rame Manorame  
Sahasranama tattulyam, Rama Nama Varanane**

**Durga Stotra:**

**Om Sarva Mangala Maangalye Shive Sarvaartha Saadhike  
Sharanye Triyambake Gauri, Naaraayani Namostute**

**<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PfKdcmpprVY>**

**Ganesh Sloka:**

**Vakra Tunda Mahaa Kaaya  
Suryakoti Samaprabha  
Nirvighnam Kurume Deva  
Sarvakaaryeshu Sarvadaa**

**Guru Stotra**

**Gurur Brahmaa Gurur Vishnu  
Gurur Devo Maheshwarah  
Guruh Saakshaat Parabrahma  
Tasmai Shree Gurave Namah**

**Saraswati Stotra**

***Saraswathi Namasthubyam  
Varade Kamaroopini  
Vidyarambham Karishyami  
Siddhir Bhavatume Sada***

**Hanuman Mantra:**

**Manojavam Maarutatulyavegam  
Jitendriyam Buddhimataam Varistham  
Vaataatmajam Vaanarayoothamukhyam  
Sriramadootam Sirasa Namami**

**<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QiSqpM2V2A>**

Coloring exercise:

