

Pattan's Pumpkin

Your Five A Day

Written by CHITRA SOUNDAR, Illustrated by FRANÉ LESSAC
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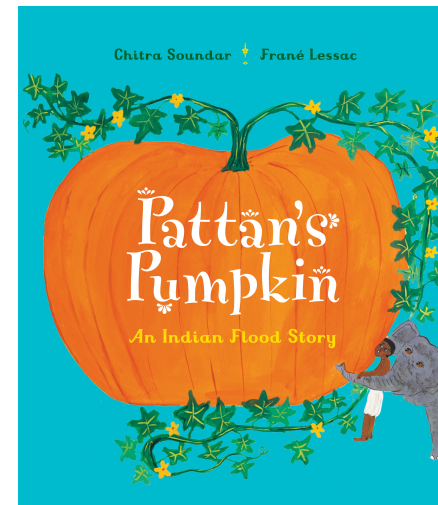
The background features several concentric circles in light grey, some solid and some dashed, creating a ripple effect. In the center, there is a large orange speech bubble with a pointed bottom. The text is centered within this bubble.

Geography & History

Key Stage 1, 2 & 3

1. The Context

- Historians and scientists believed there were big floods after the Ice Age.
- How are floods caused?
- Can they be prevented?

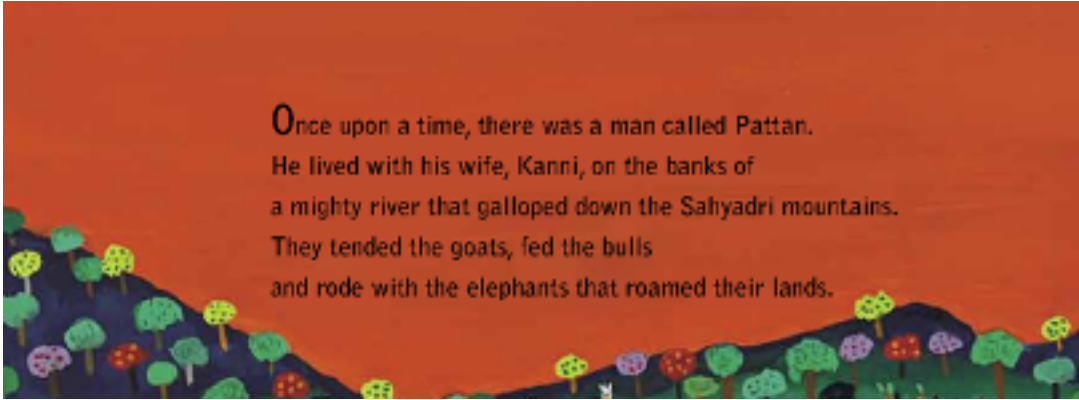


<https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/environment/2019/04/floods-explained>

Here is some help...

2. The Setting

- Find out more about Sahyadri Mountains.
 - Where are they?
 - How long is this mountain range?
 - What are the different tribes of people who live on these mountains?
 - What animals, birds and reptiles live on these mountains?
 - What plants and trees grow here?



Once upon a time, there was a man called Pattan.
He lived with his wife, Kanni, on the banks of
a mighty river that galloped down the Sahyadri mountains.
They tended the goats, fed the bulls
and rode with the elephants that roamed their lands.

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1342/>

← Here is some help...

3. The Characters



- Pattan and Kanni are part of the Irular Tribe.
- Can you find out more about this tribe?
- What kind of jobs do they do in the forests?
- What language do they speak?

Find out more here...

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irula_people

4. The Pumpkin

- Pumpkins are gourds. What are gourds? Can you find out other vegetables that are gourds?
- Do you know the different colours of pumpkins?
- Do you know how big pumpkins can grow?
- Where do pumpkins grow?
- When do they grow during the year?



<https://www.thespruce.com/guide-to-best-types-of-pumpkins-4092354>

<https://edition.cnn.com/2019/10/07/us/small-car-heavy-pumpkin-record-trnd/index.html>

Here is some help...

5. The Monsoon



- Pattan was in the middle of a monsoon thunderstorm. What are monsoon rains? When do they occur?
- In the west of India, when do monsoon rains hit the mountain range?
- How does the rain benefit the mountain range and the forests?
- How do the rains harm those who live on these mountains?

Find out more here...

<https://indiaclimatedialogue.net/2016/03/21/varying-rainfall-threatens-biodiversity-western-ghats/>

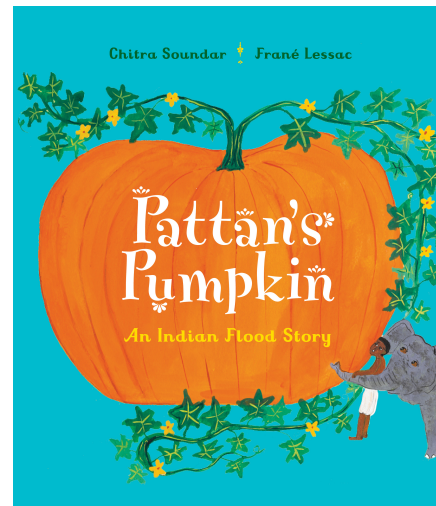
The background features a series of concentric, overlapping circles in light grey and dashed grey. A large, solid orange shape is centered on the page, resembling a speech bubble or a callout box. It has a rectangular top and a pointed bottom. The text is centered within this orange shape.

English

Key Stage 1, 2 & 3

1. The Story

- The cover page says – *An Indian Flood Story* - Explore this caption.
- What are other flood stories do you know about?
- Where are those stories from?
- Can you find other flood stories from India?
- Can you find other flood stories from other cultures?



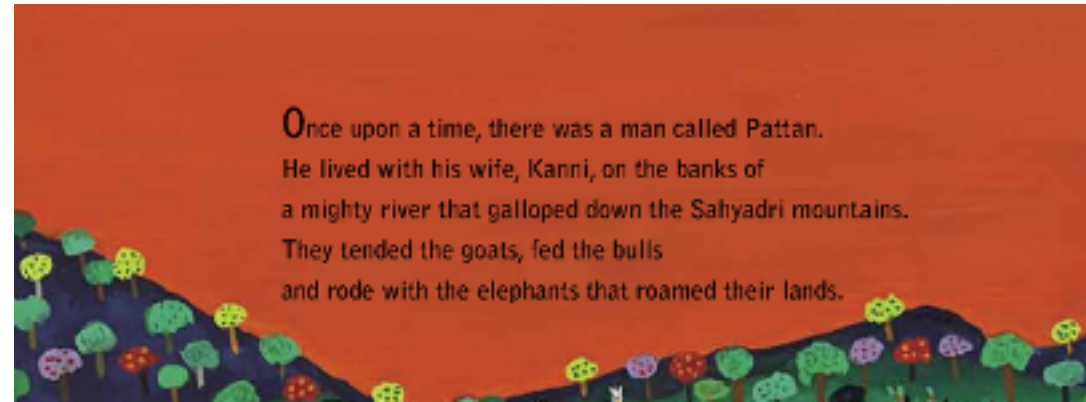
Why don't you retell a flood story you like? In your own words and pictures.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_flood_myths

Here is some help...

Story Starters

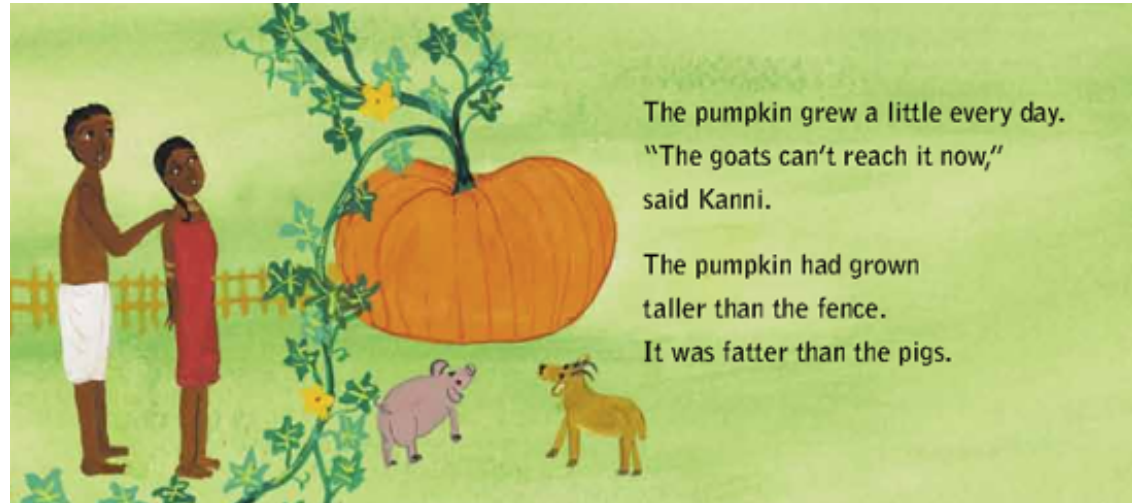
Find out more here...



- This story starts with the line “Once Upon a Time...” – discuss what that really means?
- What are other phrases you can start a story with?
- Can you think of three new story starters?

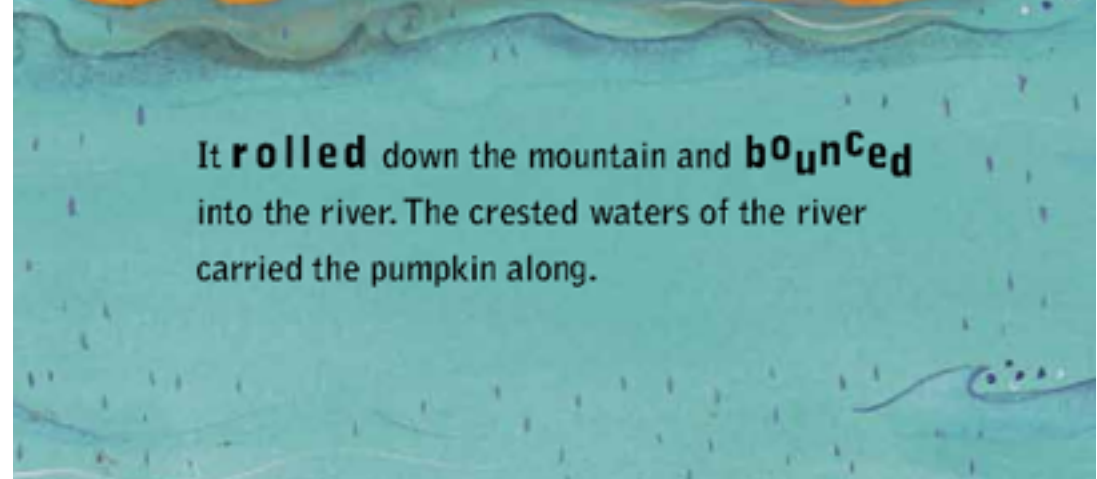
<http://www.chitrasoundar.com/story-starters/>

Comparative Language



- What is the pumpkin's size being compared to?
- Read the two phrases
 - Taller than the fence
 - Fatter than the pigs
- How would you compare the pumpkin's weight, size, height and colour?
- Can you find other comparisons in the story?

Writing in Motion



- The words “rolled” and “bounced” depict movement of the pumpkin. Can you find other words that show movement?
- What words would you replace them with?
- Can you write 3 sentences about the animals in this story showing their movements?

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/45032/fog-56d2245d7b36c>

← Here is a movement poem

Writing Songs and Poems

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/podcasts/74803/the-pumpkin-tree>

Kanni sang a lullaby to soothe the baby animals and birds.

*“While the gods of rain and thunder send us a storm,
Here inside the pumpkin we are safe and warm.
One day we will return to our mountain peak,
But in this great darkness, light is what we seek.”*

- What is a lullaby? Do you know any?
- Can you write a lullaby for your little brother or sister or pet animal?
- What makes you feel safe during a thunderstorm? Can you write a different poem about being safe?
- Can you write a pumpkin poem?

Listen to a pumpkin poem

- **Teachers! If you enjoyed these resources, do get in touch with me and share your class work!**

Get in Touch



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