

**Hi! I am Kyra**



# Hi! I am Kyra

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Tech support : [www.authortv.in](http://www.authortv.in)

I am in school now. Ms. Noni is at the gate. She smiled at me. I smiled too.

Should I wait here next to Ms. Noni?

Should I go up to Pre-K class?

From downstairs I can hear some of the Pre-Ks talking in class.



“Do you see this very big-small scratch on my knee? I did not cry. I was brave.”

**That is Jasdeep.**



"I am three year old today! My mamma says I am awesome."

That's Nia. She is smiling in her blue T-Shirt with a shiny pink butterfly on it.

I also wore a new dress on my birthday to school.



"Guess what I have in my lunch box today! 2 doughnuts and 2 chicken sausages."

Ethan is holding his lunch box out. Is he going to eat it now? But it's not lunch time! First we have song-time and then snack-time. Then we have reading-time and after that is lunch-time.

I like song-times. I know many songs that my Patti has taught me.

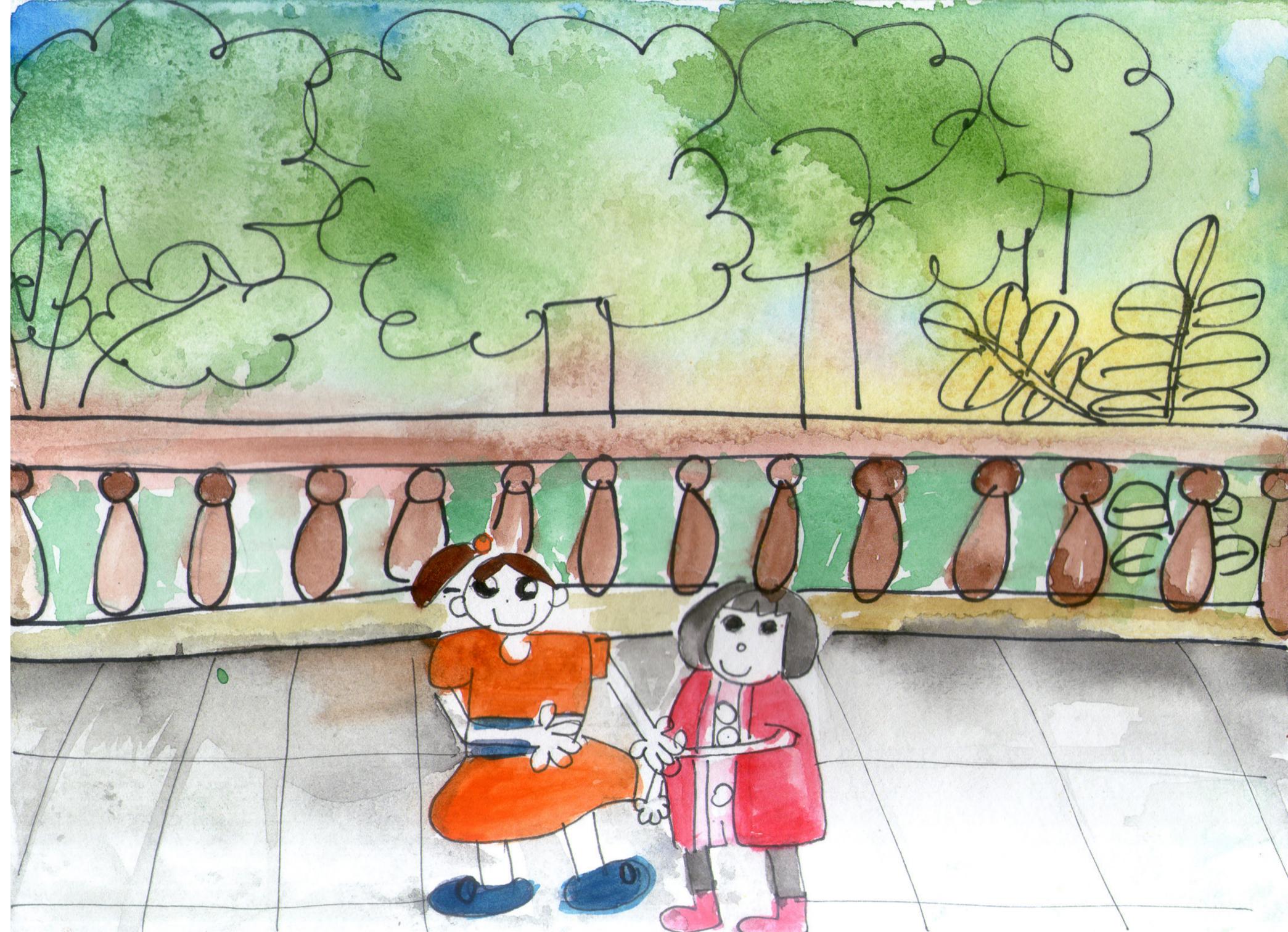


“I have got a very little baby sister and her color is like milk chocolate. Will you be my best friend for sometime-forever?”

That is Sima talking to Tina in the balcony of our class.

I like to look at the big **Puli** tree from there.

Puli is sweet and sour. My **Patti** uses it for cooking **Sambhar**. She calls me **Killi-Kyra**.



I think I will just keep my bag on my back and wait near the staircase. Just for a little bit.

I like to play and sing.

I am slowly learning to speak English.



“Kyra! Kyra!! Come, to the cycle track.”

I can see Kavya at the bottom of the staircase. Both our names begin with the “k” sound.

I know all the alphabet sounds but my favourite is “k” and this a secret.

I will keep my bag now and go down to play with Kavya.



Kavya also keeps her bag next to the light table and holds my hand.

I like talking to Kavya. She speaks quickly. I am a bit slow sometimes, but we take turns to talk and play.

I speak sometimes in Tamil. Like my grandmother. Some times in English, like Ms.Nohi.



*Vrooom ...Vrooom ...*

*Drrrrr... Drrrrr...*

*Peeeee... Peeeee*

**We are racing on our cycle track! The ducky scooters are making so much noise!! We are also making so much noise!!!**



“Look here” I said very softly to Kavya.

There it was, the big black butterfly with yellow dots in the flower patch next to cycle track. It comes everyday.

I like dots a lot and I like triangles and squares too. I have a dress which has all of these. Ms. Bena calls them shapes. We draw, paint and make shapes in her class.



**Kavya is flapping her hands like wings. I will do it too.**

**Both of us are now butterflies. This is so much fun!**



“Kavya! come let’s sit in the spinner and sing”. **I will teach her my butterfly song now.**

*“I am a little butterfly, I have wings...  
I fly around and see all things...  
When I see a flower that looks great...  
I call out to all my mates.”*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eBNGcLMMV8A>



“Come on Pre-Ks, song time in the class” Ms. Noni is calling us upstairs to the class.

Maybe Kavya and I can share our butterfly song in the class today.



## **Narrative**

This story is narrated in first person from the point of view of Kyra, a 3 and a half year old girl. The narration is in her language of communication, almost all through in her mind. She is communicating with herself in response to others around her. She is shy with spoken words but is a good listener and has many descriptive words in her vocabulary. In the entire story, Kyra speaks aloud barely some 10 words but is engaged emotionally with what others are doing and her environment. As the story progresses, Kyra gets comfortable with sharing her thoughts in a few spoken words.

## **Language**

It is written in first person and is age appropriate thought language for most 3 year olds.

## **Illustrations**

The illustrations vary from being in neutral shades to bright primary and secondary colors. The children of the class are depicted as chirpy and bright with lot of energy and movement. Kyra is seen as a quiet, shy, a little aloof most of the time from the goings on but happy and comfortable in her environment. Starting out as a peripheral character in the illustrations she grows in proportion to the environment as the story progresses. The story line along with the illustration style and perspectives try not to show compare and contrast of Kyra with her peers and environment, but that of co-habit and collaborate. It is water colors on paper with no defined boundaries marking the edges of the drawings giving the reader a sense of fluidity and calm.

## **What helped Kyra a shy child, to communicate confidently**

This is a story of a shy and quiet Kyra who is welcomed into school by her teacher's reassuring smile. She is hesitant to play with her friends initially but as she gets comfortable in the environment and finds a friend, she not only plays with her but is also ready to share a song she knows with the whole class. The opportunity of time, space and conversations along with carefully considered non-intervention by the adults in the environment plays a key role throughout this process.

Children with their mother tongues as thought language sometimes take time to communicate in English. Communication in spoken words may be slow or less because they are shy and need just a little more time, a patient adult, a special friend or some specific activity to warm up to a conversation. Communication by children happen in both verbal and non-verbal ways. It is an ongoing process with which a child arrives at his or her own understanding about someone or something while creating and sharing the same with each other and also with adults.

The process of communication takes time and needs a conducive environment. Both must be provided to the children by adults so that they can understand themselves, connect with each other and make sense of the world around them. Language and literacy are significant aspects of communication. They need the scaffold of patience, a clam and stress free environment along with many opportunities of listening.

## Glossary

**Kyra** word's origin is in Celtic. It's Irish meaning is little 'dark-haired' one.

**Kavya** word's origin is in Sanskrit. It means a sonnet or a poem.

**Pulli** in Tamil means Tamarind, a leguminous fruit which is sour when green but gets sweeter as it ripens.

**Sambhar** is a lentil based vegetable stew infused with tamarind broth.

**Patti** is grandmother in Tamil.

**Killi** means parrot in Tamil.

Every event has a story in it  
and every story is waiting to be  
shared.

Share yours with the TanaBana  
team.

