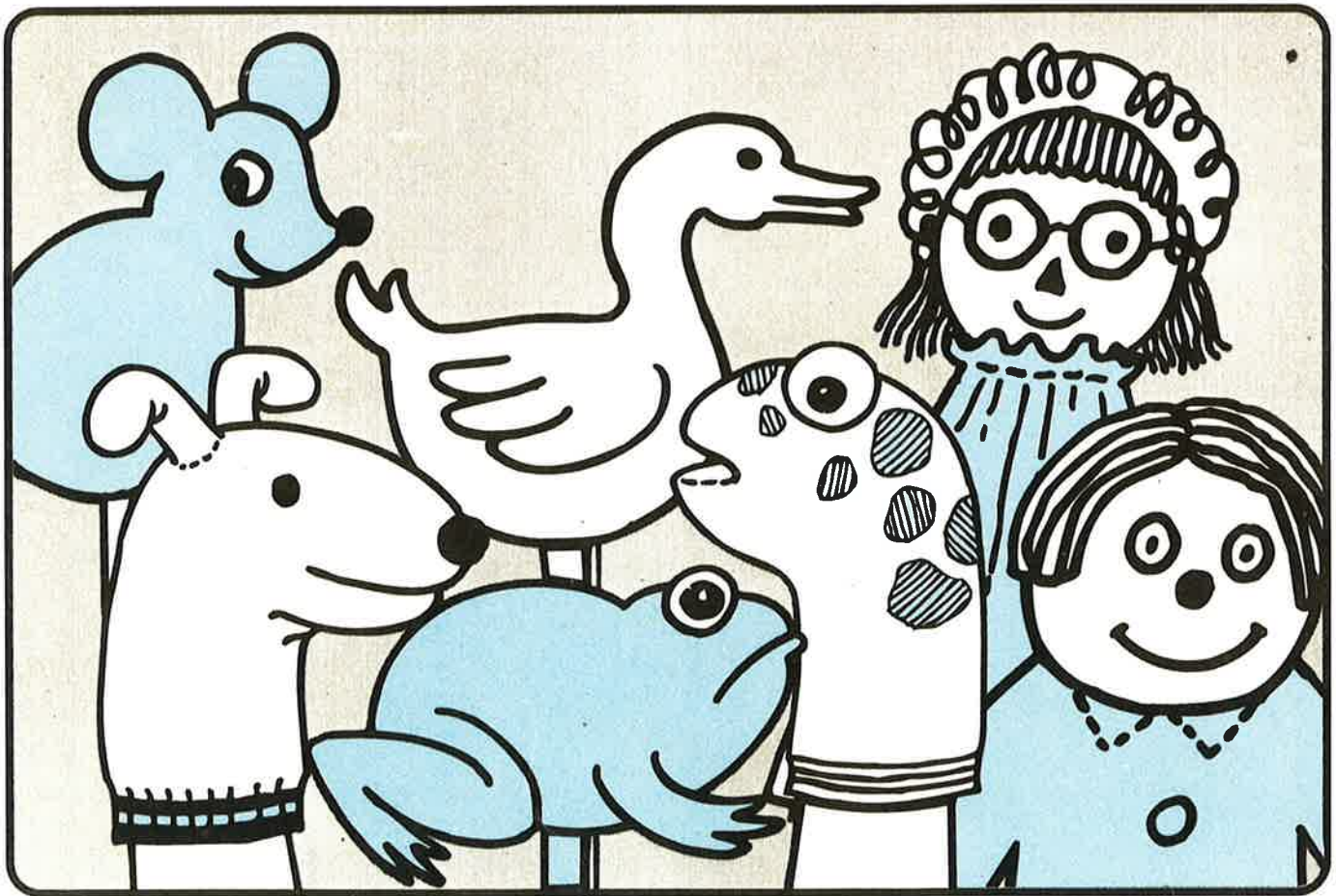


# SAFE AND SOUND



**PUPPET STORIES FOR THE YOUNG CHILD**

by Didi A. Nivedita and Ketana J. Bardwell

# SAFE AND SOUND

Puppet Stories for the Young Child

A teaching guide for the development of young children's self-esteem and personal safety.

by Didi A. Nivedita and Ketana J. Bardwell

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# PUPPET INTRODUCTION

Puppetry is a multidimensional learning experience. It easily attracts the imagination of small children, giving many opportunities to develop different skills. This book is a system of puppet stories to aid the development of communication, self-esteem, ethical attitudes and personal safety. Regular use of the puppets will familiarize the children with certain character roles and situations they will find in real life. It will help them discern what is best for a particular situation. In this creative way, children learn about making choices that affect their social development, self-esteem, and safety.

The issues dealt with in each story come from observation of young children in preschool settings. Preschoolers are often confronted with these types of dilemmas. The gentle guidance given in these stories will help children make positive choices.

## *Communication Skills*

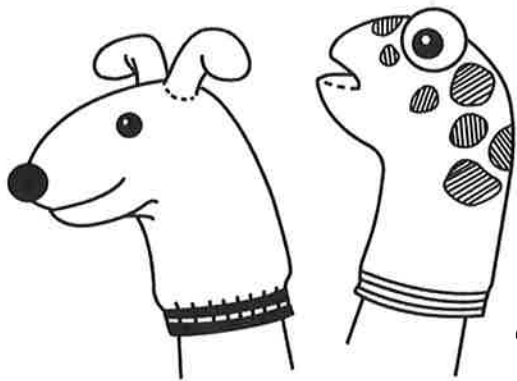
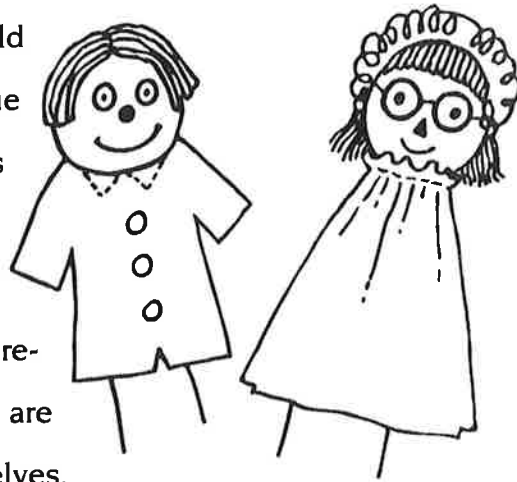
Young children develop language skills through a variety of experiences. Puppetry provides children with a non-threatening communication opportunity. Many children express themselves more freely through a puppet. Observing children playing with puppets can often give new insight into their perception of the world.

## *Self-Esteem*

Self-esteem is feeling positive and confident about oneself. If high self-esteem is established early in life, it will give the child a solid foundation to develop their full potential. Each of the puppet stories affirms the children's worth. The puppet stories always end with positive solutions being found and acted upon. They also highlight the positive and avoid negative and guilt feelings. Negativity can cause children to



Real life generally consists of making errors. The old adage, 'Learning by trial and error,' is certainly true to life. In the puppet stories, likewise, the characters often learn through the process of making mistakes. Children understand that learning through mistakes does not make them naughty. When children receive encouragement rather than criticism, they are more likely to learn and feel positive about themselves.

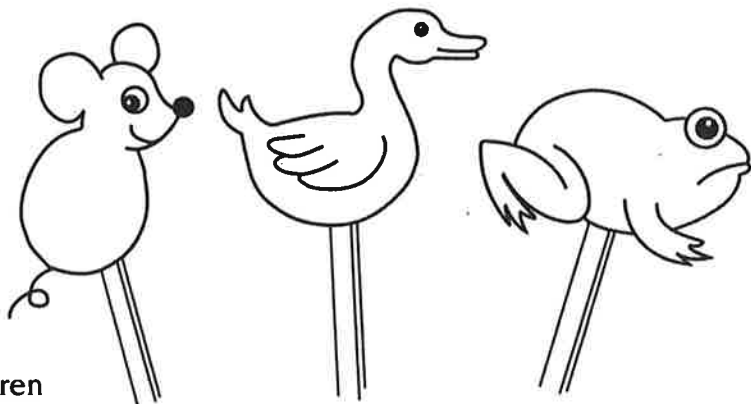


#### *Ethical Attitudes*

In resolving conflicts, the puppets explore what is best for each situation and for each character. They meet real life situations that children may face in their own social setting. The characters deal with moral dilemmas such as stealing and teasing in a cause and effect manner. Discovering what is best for all replaces entrenched ideas of right and wrong.

#### *Safety*

As children grow, they face many dangers. Some potential dangers are environmental hazards such as fire, water, poison, traffic and dangerous objects. Dangers from people can take the form of sexual, emotional and physical abuse. The stories give the children confidence and knowledge to either avoid these dangers or seek help when needed.



# HOW TO USE PUPPETS

The scripts presented in this book aim at children aged three to five years. Initially, the adult introduces the puppets to the children. He or she tells the story using the puppets. Puppetry is most effective when the characters are highly animated. Changing voices to suit the various characters and moving the puppets about as they speak helps bring them to life. The adult also should adjust the script to the audience. For example, younger children need shorter dialogues than older children. The script serves as a guide for the storyteller and may be enhanced according to the children's needs. If a new theme or situation arises which is not covered, the adult can create an appropriate story using the puppet characters.

After the children watch the puppet show, let the children tell the story using the puppets. At first, the children may need some prompting. The story does not have to be retold exactly. Let the children add in their own ideas and interpretations. After the children are familiar with the characters, encourage them to make up their own stories.

## Puppet Characters

In this system of puppets there are five distinct characters, each representing a specific role. It is important that these characters remain consistent. Use the puppets only for these stories. For instance, using any of the five puppets to help teach counting dilutes their role. When the children consistently associate the puppets with certain characteristics, they begin to see these same roles in real life.

The puppets can be purchased or constructed. Puppet stages can also easily be made to enhance the puppet play. Examples given throughout the book give ideas for making your own puppets and stages. Animal puppets are best as they are more neutral figures. Children tend to identify more easily with imaginative animal characters. Following are the five characters:

Jack and Jill - a brother and sister (animal) puppet representing the children. Their character is the 'learner'. These puppet characters are in the process of developing appropriate actions for different situations.

Frog - a puppet representing ignorance. He is naïve and unguided. Frog is not necessarily naughty but suggests dangerous and unkind things he hears from others. He likes to try new things without thinking of the results of the actions.

Honk Honk - represents the first warning twinges of conscience. The bird flies above the children and honks if he senses something wrong.

Wise Mouse - is thoughtful and rational. Looking at the whole situation, Wise Mouse finds positive and kind solutions to problems when the children are in a dilemma. She gives the cause and effect of different actions.

# HINTS

## FOR WORKING WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

Young children are active learners. They need to touch, see, hear, and taste the world around them. Telling a young child something does not necessarily mean that they have understood or will remember what you said. Children learn best when they 'do'. Using puppets allows children to fully experience new information.

### *Use Fantasy*

The preschooler naturally responds to fantasy. Much of their day involves imaginative play. Pretending they are super heroes or talking to their teddy bear, the children occupy themselves in a fantasy world. Adults who are able to enter this world of fantasy will find that children will respond in a positive way.

However, while trying to teach ideas of ethics and personal safety, children need to be reminded when it is okay to pretend and when it is not. For example: a four year old boy was asked what he would do if a stranger invited him to get in his car. The boy replied, "I would grab my laser gun and blast him. Then I would get my bucket and his bullets would bounce off of my bucket." *Safe Passages*. Karla Hull. ( USA: Dawn Sign Press, 1986). While this response would be appropriate during dramatic play, the children need to be gently reminded what they would do if it were real. While the puppet stories involve fantasy, they teach children realistic responses to problems.



### *Check for Understanding*

Repeat the stories frequently and check for understanding. Children need to experience new information repeatedly before they fully absorb it. Add new twists to the story and ask questions that will show the child's understanding. Avoid closed 'yes' and 'no' answers. For example, a closed question is: 'Should the children take their mother's glass jug?' An open-ended question is: 'What might happen if the children take their mother's glass jug?' Once the children have grasped the idea, retell the story every few months to check for understanding and any new insights.

### *Short Attention Span and Simple Language*

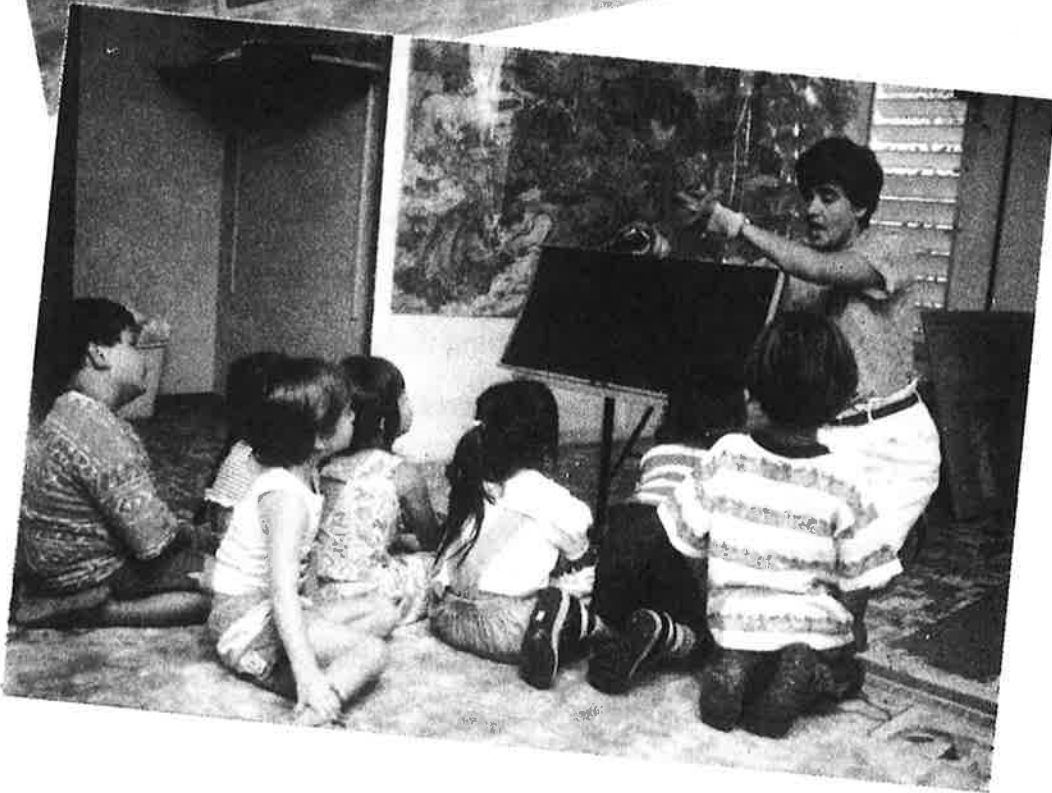
In general, young children have limited attention spans. Unless a child feels involved and interested in an activity, they will not participate. Keep the puppet sessions short, ten to fifteen minutes. Use simple and concise sentences. Young children rarely take in more than ten words at a time. Speak slower than usual and use an animated voice, this will help keep the children's attention.

### *Relax*

If the teacher or parent is nervous or stressed while telling the stories, the children also will reflect this mood. Children learn more effectively in a relaxed state. Before beginning the story, sing a song or play a quiet game. This will help the children and teacher both to relax.

### *Modeling*

Children are constantly looking to adults for examples of how to behave. Even more than we realize, children are watching. Adults need to be aware of this and model consistent behavior. For example, a teacher tells a story about listening to others, later, she does not acknowledge a child who speaks to her. The child will pick up the incongruity. It will appear that it is okay to just listen sometimes. It is nearly impossible to be a perfect model, but children see the effort to be a good model.



# THE STORIES and THEIR THEMES

## *Self-esteem Stories*

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<b>Teasing</b>	Teasing
<b>Yes I Can</b>	Not giving up
<b>Dont Give Up</b>	Not giving up
<b>The New Classmate</b>	Making friends
<b>Giving Is Great</b>	Expressing love
<b>Mother Is Calling</b>	Listening to others
<b>Best Friends</b>	Listening to others

## *Ethical Stories*

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<b>The Glass Jug</b>	Trust
<b>The Fruit Stand</b>	Non-stealing
<b>The Lost Purse</b>	Non-stealing
<b>Bathroom Words</b>	Inappropriate language
<b>The Injured Bird</b>	Care for plants and animals
<b>The Garden</b>	Care for plants and animals
<b>Different Is Nice</b>	Respect for others
<b>Any Job is Important</b>	Respect for others
<b>The Best Language</b>	Care for plants and animals
<b>The Clean Campers</b>	

## *Personal Safety Stories*

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<b>Good Touches, and Bad Touches</b>	Good touches, bad touches
<b>Good Secrets, Bad Secrets</b>	Good secrets, bad secrets
<b>Big People Who Listen To You</b>	People who can help
<b>Stranger Danger</b>	Dealing with strangers
<b>Lost at the Store</b>	Getting lost
<b>The Sharp Knife</b>	Sharp objects
<b>What Goes in Our Nose?</b>	Body care
<b>Seat Belt Safety</b>	Road safety
<b>Fire Safety</b>	Fire safety
<b>Bottles of Poison</b>	Danger of poison

# PUPPET SCRIPTS



# TEASING

*Jack, Jill and Frog are drawing together. Frog looks at Jill's picture and teases her.*

**Frog** : "My picture is better than yours; your drawing is messy."

*Jill feels sad and then throws her crayons on the ground.*

**Jill** : "I'm not going to draw any more."

*Honk Honk flies above the house and hears Frog teasing Jill; he swoops down.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk, I think someone is using unkind words."

*Wise Mouse hears the honking and scampers quickly to the house.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Jill, what's the matter?"

**Jill** : "Frog was teasing me, I'm not going to draw ever again."

*Wise Mouse talks to Frog.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Your words hurt Jill, how does she feel now?"

**Frog** : "She feels sad and now I feel sad. I'm sorry Jill."

*Jill stops crying.*

**Jill** : "I'm still not going to draw anymore."

*Wise Mouse looks at her drawing.*

**Wise Mouse** : "I think it is very nice; Frog was teasing you to make you feel angry. Did you like your drawing before Frog teased you?"

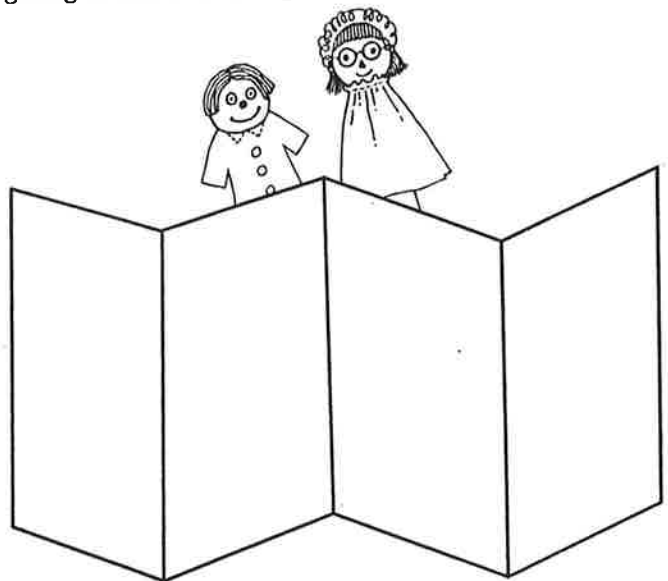
**Jill** : "Yes."

**Wise Mouse** : "Well it is still nice. What you think about your drawing is the most important."

*Jill smiles and looks at her drawing.*

**Jill** : "Yes, it is still a nice drawing."

*The three children continue to draw together.*





# YES

## I CAN

*Jill, Jack and Frog were playing outside near some trees. The trees are just right to climb.*

**Jack and Jill** : "Let's climb the tree, Frog. The branches are low."

*Jack and Jill climbed up the tree. Frog tried to climb but he fell down. He looked sad.*

**Frog** : "I can't climb."

*Frog sat under the tree, sulking.*

**Jack and Jill** : "Come on Frog, try again."

**Frog** : "I can't do it. The tree is too tall for my frog legs."

*Honk honk was also sitting in the tree.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk Honk, Frog needs to change his thinking."

*Wise Mouse jumped over from another tree.*

**Wise Mouse** : "What's the matter, Frog?"


**Frog** : "I can't climb the tree."

**Wise Mouse** : "Well, no wonder. If you think you can't climb, you never will. Try and think,  
'Yes I can; yes I can'."

**Frog** : "Yes I can; yes I can."

*Then he tried to climb the tree. He fell down a few times but he kept on thinking, "Yes I can; yes I can." Before long, Frog was up in the tree with Jack and Jill.*

**Jack and Jill** : "Hooray for Frog!"



# ***DON'T*** GIVE UP

*Jack, Jill and Frog are playing catch. But Jack doesn't want to play, he folds his arms and pouts.*

**Jack** : "I can't catch the ball, and you all run faster than me."

**Jill** : "Let's play something else then."

**Jack** : "Don't bother, I'm too small to do anything right."

*Honk Honk watches Jack pouting.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk, I hear somebody feeling sorry for himself."

*Wise Mouse listening nearby quickly scurries to the children.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Jack, do you know the story of the caterpillar who wanted to give up. He felt slow and ugly. The other caterpillars told him that if he gave up he would never turn into a beautiful butterfly, so he kept trying. Then, one day he made a cocoon. Soon he came out of the cocoon as a beautiful butterfly. As he went flying into the air he said, "I'm so happy I never stopped trying."

**Jack** : "I wish I was like that butterfly."

**Wise Mouse** : "You can be if you try."

**Jack** : "Yes, I will try."

*Jack ran off to play with Frog and Jill, but he never forgot about the beautiful butterfly.*



# THE NEW CLASSMATE

*There was a new boy in school. Jack, Jill and Frog were playing catch in the playground.*

**Jill** : "Shall we ask him to join us in a ball game?"

**Frog** : "No. He probably can't catch. Let's not play with him."

*Honk Honk is sitting on a tree branch watching the children play.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk, someone is saying something unkind."

*Wise Mouse came down from a nearby tree to the three friends.*

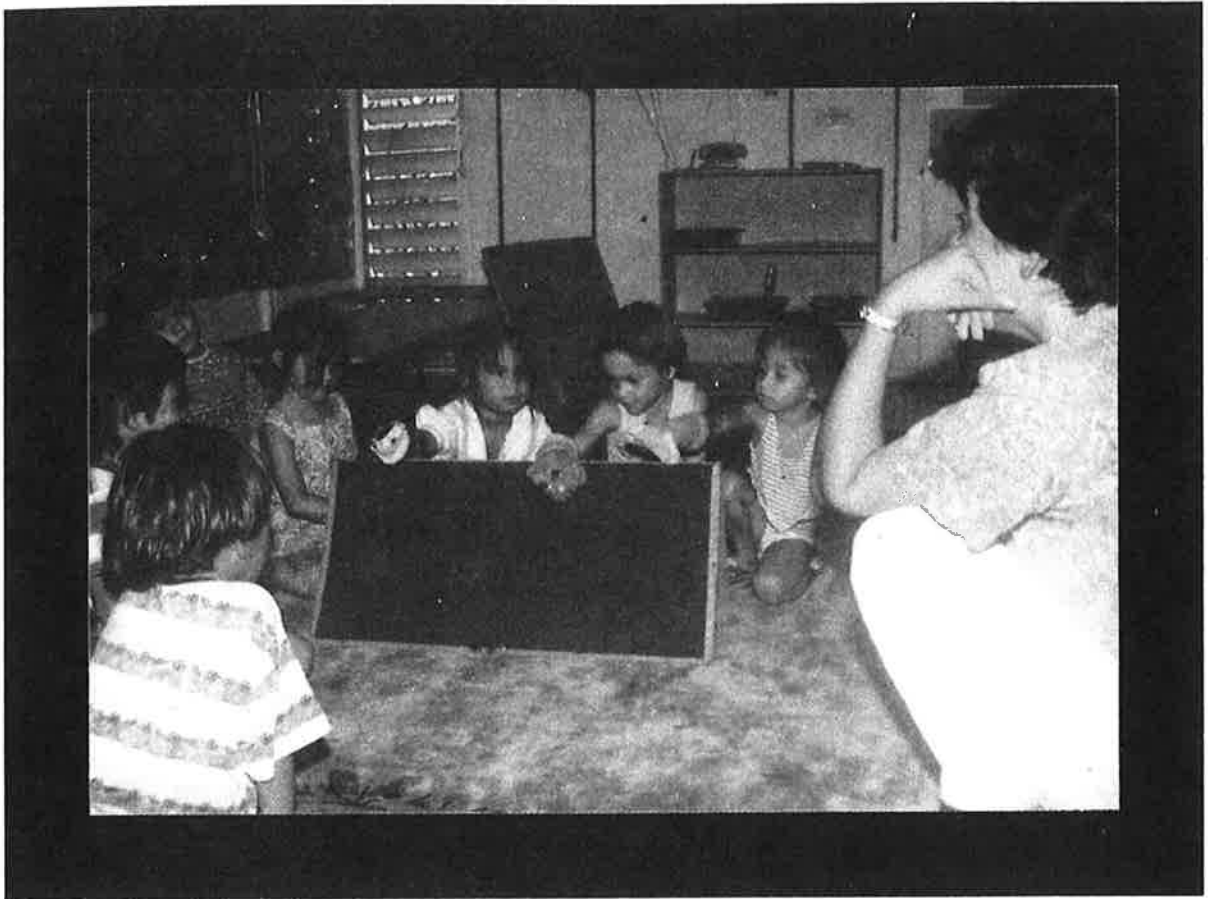
**Wise Mouse** : "If you were new in school, would you want someone to play with you? It is nice to be friendly to new classmates."

**Jack** : "Yes, I would want friendly classmates if I were new."

**Jill** : "I am going to invite the boy to play."

*The new boy was so happy to be asked to play. He was also very good at playing catch. The three friends played with their new friend for the rest of the day.*





# GREAT

## GIVING IS

**Jack** : "It's Mother's birthday and I want to give her a present."

**Jill** : "I want to give a present too."

**Frog** : "You don't have to bother. She will love you anyway."

*Honk Honk was perched on the window and heard the children.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. Someone needs to think more about others."

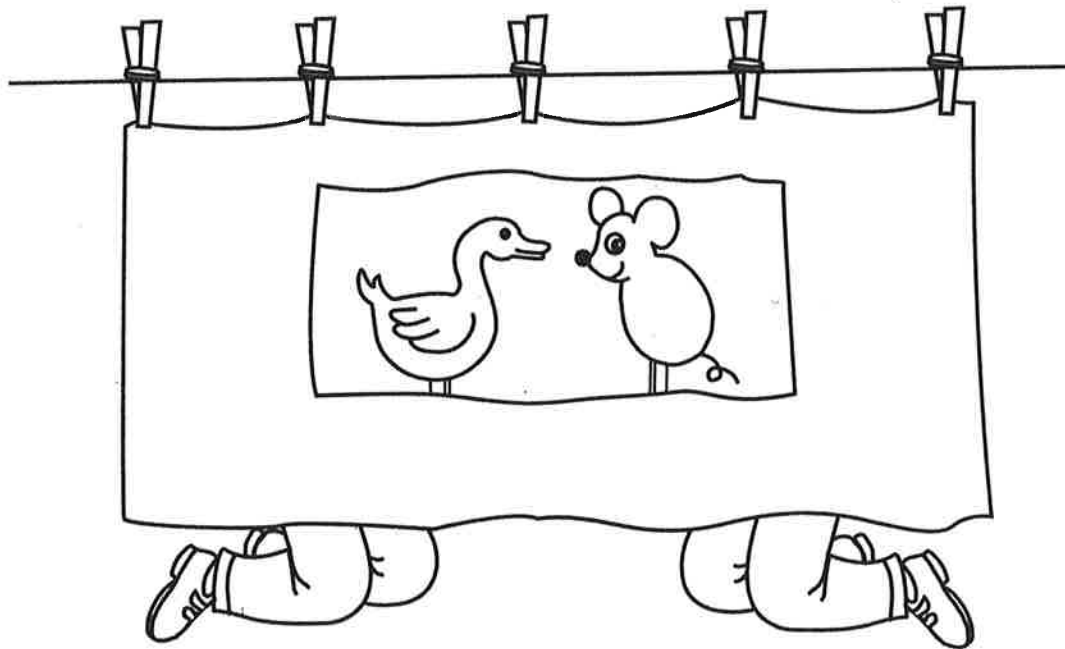
*Wise Mouse hears the honk and scampers quickly to the house.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Children, it's nice to give gifts to show our love. The gift can be made or bought. It is the giving which is most important."

**Jack and Jill** : "We are going to give our mother a gift. I think she would like a book. That will make her feel happy."

**Frog** : "Okay, that sounds nice. I will make your mother a birthday card."

*Frog spent the rest of the afternoon making a birthday card while Jack and Jill went shopping for a book.*



MOTHER IS

# CALLING

*Frog, Jack and Jill were playing outside. Frog's mother called Frog to come home.*

**Jack and Jill** : "Frog, your mother is calling."

**Frog** : "I don't want to go. I will pretend I don't hear her."

*Honk Honk flying nearby hears Frog.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. I hear your mother."

*Wise Mouse overhears Honk Honk and comes quickly to the children.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Your mother is calling you because she cares about you. If you don't answer it makes her feel sad. How would you feel if you called her and she did not listen?"

**Frog** : "I don't think I would like it. I better go, my mother is calling. Bye."

*Frog hopped quickly off to his mother. When Frog went inside, he was glad he listened. His mother had made cookies for him.*



# BEST FRIENDS

*Frog, Jack and Jill are playing with blocks. Jack knocks down Frog's tower.*

*This makes Frog very angry.*

**Frog** : "Hey, you knocked my tower down. I'm not your friend anymore."

**Jack** : "Please be my friend, Frog."

**Frog** : "No. I won't. Jill, don't be Jack's friend anymore."

**Jill** : "I don't know what to do."

*Honk Honk flying nearby hears the friends quarrel.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk, someone needs to think before he talks."

*Wise Mouse was taking a nap nearby. When she heard the honking, she woke up and ran over to see what had happened.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Frog, are you feeling angry?"

**Frog** : "Yes, I am not Jack's friend anymore."

**Wise Mouse** : "Did he make you feel angry? (Frog nodded.) Instead of saying, you are not his friend, tell Jack that he made you angry. You can still be friends even if you are angry."

**Frog** : "But I still don't want to play with him."

**Wise Mouse** : "Tell Jack that you will play with him later."




*Frog thought for a moment.*

**Frog** : "Jack, you made me angry when you knocked my tower down. I will play with you later."

**Jack** : "I'm sorry, Frog. I will not knock your tower down any more."

*Frog felt better when Jack said he was sorry. After a little while all the children were playing together again.*

**Jill** : "I like it when we all are best friends."



# THE GLASS JUG

*Jack, Jill and Frog are playing tea party together. They have little cups and saucers, and some small bowls.*

**Frog** : "I wish we had a milk jug for our tea party."

**Jill** : "My mother has a beautiful glass one in the kitchen."

**Jack** : "Do you think we could use it?"

**Frog** : "Sure, why not?"

**Jill** : "We better ask Mother's permission first."

**Frog** : "If you ask her, she might say no. Let's just use it."

*Honk Honk is flying above the house and hears Frog. He swoops down.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk, I think you better not take it without asking your mother."

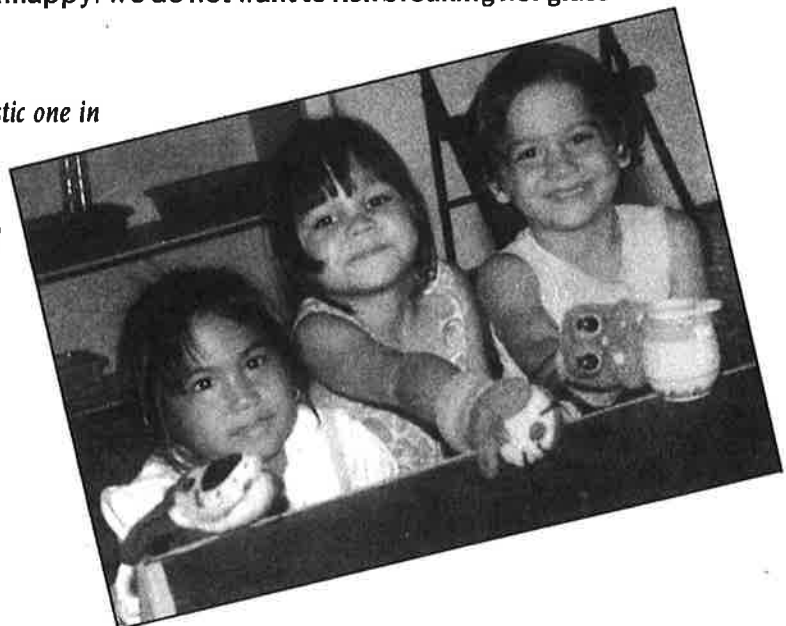
*Wise Mouse, who was taking a walk nearby, hears the honk and scampers quickly to the house.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Jill and Jack, if you take the glass jug and it breaks, what would your mother feel? "

**Jill and Jack** : "She would be unhappy. We do not want to risk breaking her glass jug. We want Mother to trust us."

*They left the glass jug and found a plastic one in another cupboard.*

*The friends continued playing tea party with the plastic jug.*



# THE **FRUIT** STAND

*Jill, Jack and Frog were in the market looking at the fruit stand.*

**Jack** : "Look at the delicious apples. I wish we had money to buy one."

**Frog** : "The shopkeeper is not watching. We could take one."

**Jill** : "I don't know if we should do that."

*Honk Honk flying over the market hears the children.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk, the children are not thinking clearly."

*Wise Mouse, who was shopping for bread, hears Honk Honk and hurries over to the children.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Children, if someone stole a toy of yours would you like it?"

**Jill** : "I would not like it if someone stole my toy."

**Frog** : "It doesn't make me feel nice when I steal something."

**Jack** : "It would make the store owner unhappy. We could get in trouble."

**Wise Mouse** : "Yes, taking fruit or anything without paying doesn't make anyone feel happy."

**Jack, Jill & Frog** : "Thank you, Wise Mouse, for helping us."





# THE LOST PURSE

*Jill, Jack and Frog went to the store to look at all the toys. Frog sees a woman drop her purse. He runs over and picks it up.*

**Frog** : "Look what I've got. There is a lot of money in here. We could buy some toys."

**Jill** : "Where did you get that, it is not yours."

**Frog** : "That woman dropped it. But I found it, so it's okay to keep the purse."

*Honk Honk was flying over the heads of the children and heard Frog.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. What are the children going to do?"

*Wise Mouse was shopping nearby and heard Honk Honk.*

**Wise Mouse** : "If you lost something, wouldn't you want to get it back?"

**Jack and Jill** : "Yes, we would."

**Wise Mouse** : "That woman wants her purse back too. It is not honest to keep something that is not yours."

**Jack** : "Let's go and give it back. I think I would feel better."

**Frog** : "I think I would feel better too. I'll run and catch up to the woman."

*The children returned the purse to the woman. She was very happy that they were honest.*

# BATHROOM WORDS

*The children are playing with blocks. Frog begins to tease Jack.*

**Frog** : "Jack's building looks like poo poo."

**Jill** : "Ha, ha, ha."

**Jack** : "It does not and I don't like you."

**Frog** : "Ha, ha, your building is like poo poo."

**Jack** : "I am not going to be your friend if you say that."

*Honk Honk hears Frog saying unkind words.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. Someone is saying something unkind."

*Wise Mouse is nearby and hears Honk Honk.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Children, some words are private and some words are for the bathroom only.

These words are not for play time."

**Frog** : "Poo poo is a bathroom word so I won't say it to my friends while we are playing."

**Jack** : "Then I will play with you."

*The children happily began playing with the blocks again.*



## THE INJURED

# BIRD

*One day Jack, Jill and Frog saw a small bird. It was laying on the ground. It looked hurt. A cat also saw the bird and began to creep towards it.*

**Jill** : "Let's help the bird. I think it is hurt."

**Jack** : "Yes, and I think that cat wants to eat it."

**Frog** : "We don't have to do anything. It's just a little bird."

*Honk Honk saw the bird in danger. .*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. An animal friend needs our help."

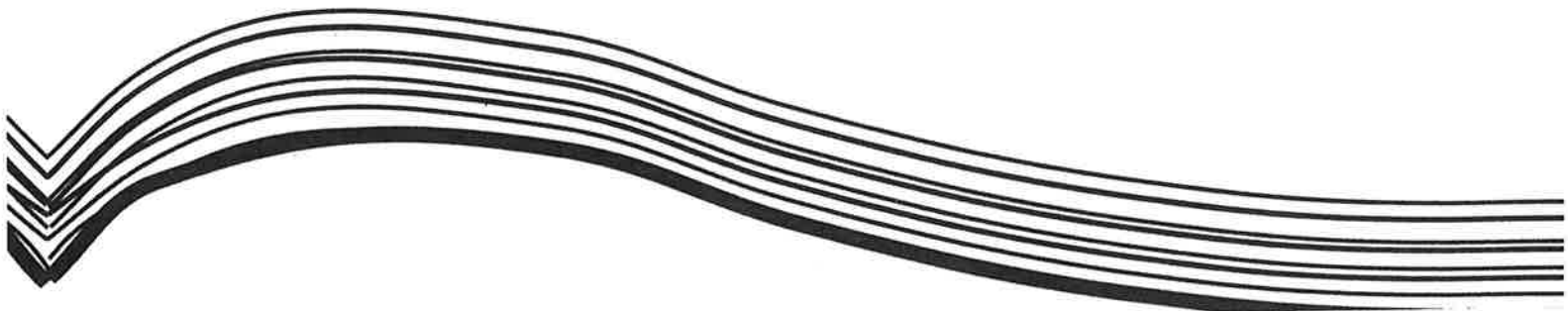
*Wise Mouse scurried from her house to the children.*

**Wise Mouse** : "It's best to do all the good we can; to as many as we can; for as long as we can. That bird needs help."

**Jack and Jill** : "We are going to help that bird. Let's get a box and some water for it."

**Frog** : "Okay, I suppose it does feel good to help."

*The children looked after the bird until it could fly again. Then they let it go in the forest. The little bird was very thankful.*







# THE GARDEN

*Jack, Jill and Frog are taking care of their garden. Frog starts to pull leaves off the vegetable plants. Jack and Jill watch him.*

**Jill** : "Frog, what are you doing?"

**Jack** : "You are pulling off the leaves."

**Frog** : "It is fun to pull them off."

*Honk Honk sitting in a nearby tree sees what is happening.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk, the poor plants."

*Wise Mouse is nibbling a nut nearby and hears Honk Honk. Wise Mouse scurries over to the children.*

**Wise Mouse** : "If you pull the leaves off a plant, it will die. The plant breathes through its leaves. It doesn't want to die until it is big and old."

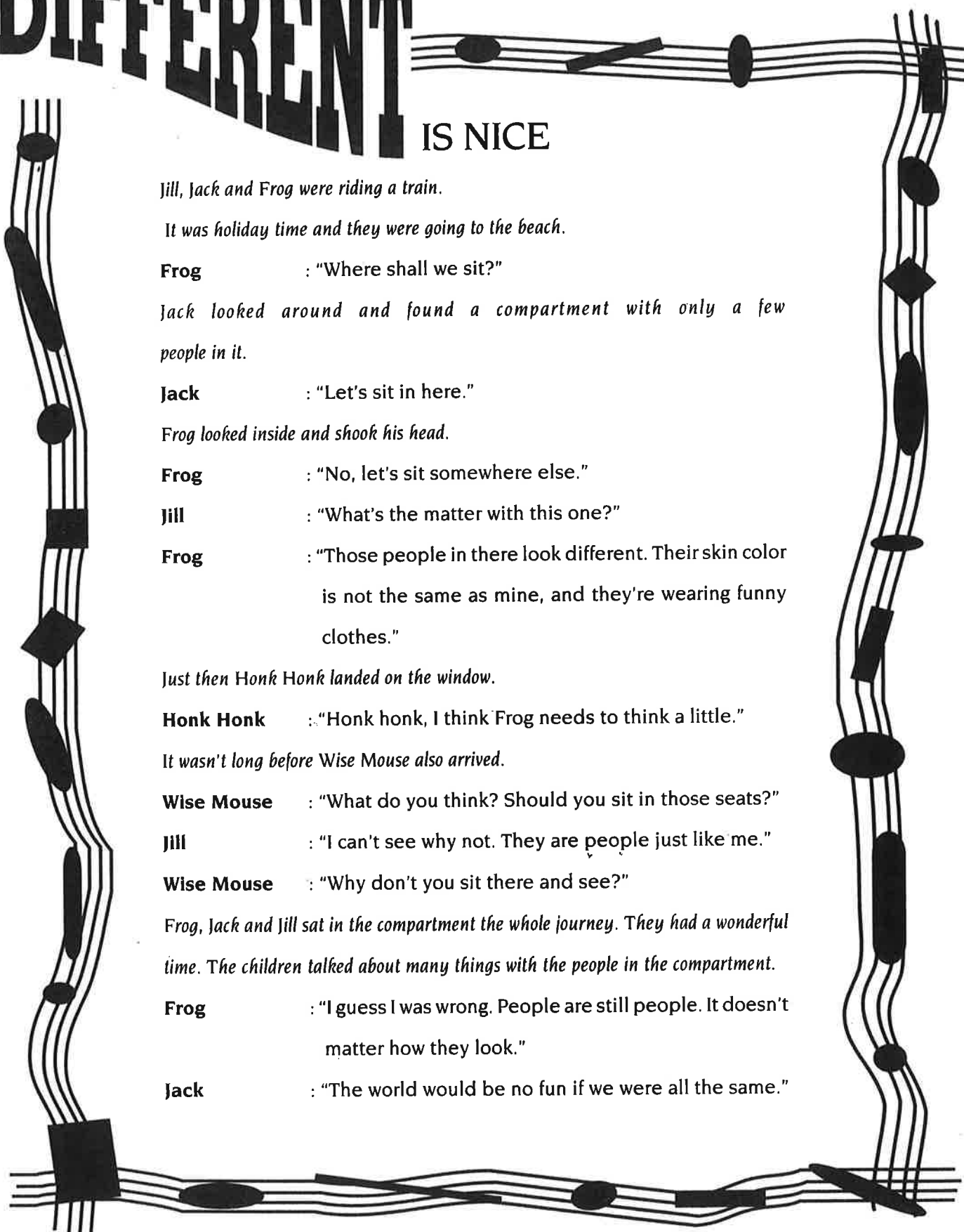
**Jack** : "Don't pull the leaves off, Frog. It makes the plant unhappy. This plant gives us vegetables."

**Jill** : "We want the vegetables to grow. You can only pull the weeds."

*Frog stops and helps his friends pull weeds. Then the children water the garden.*



# DIFFERENT IS NICE



*Jill, Jack and Frog were riding a train.*

*It was holiday time and they were going to the beach.*

**Frog** : "Where shall we sit?"

*Jack looked around and found a compartment with only a few people in it.*

**Jack** : "Let's sit in here."

*Frog looked inside and shook his head.*

**Frog** : "No, let's sit somewhere else."

**Jill** : "What's the matter with this one?"

**Frog** : "Those people in there look different. Their skin color is not the same as mine, and they're wearing funny clothes."

*Just then Honk Honk landed on the window.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk, I think Frog needs to think a little."

*It wasn't long before Wise Mouse also arrived.*

**Wise Mouse** : "What do you think? Should you sit in those seats?"

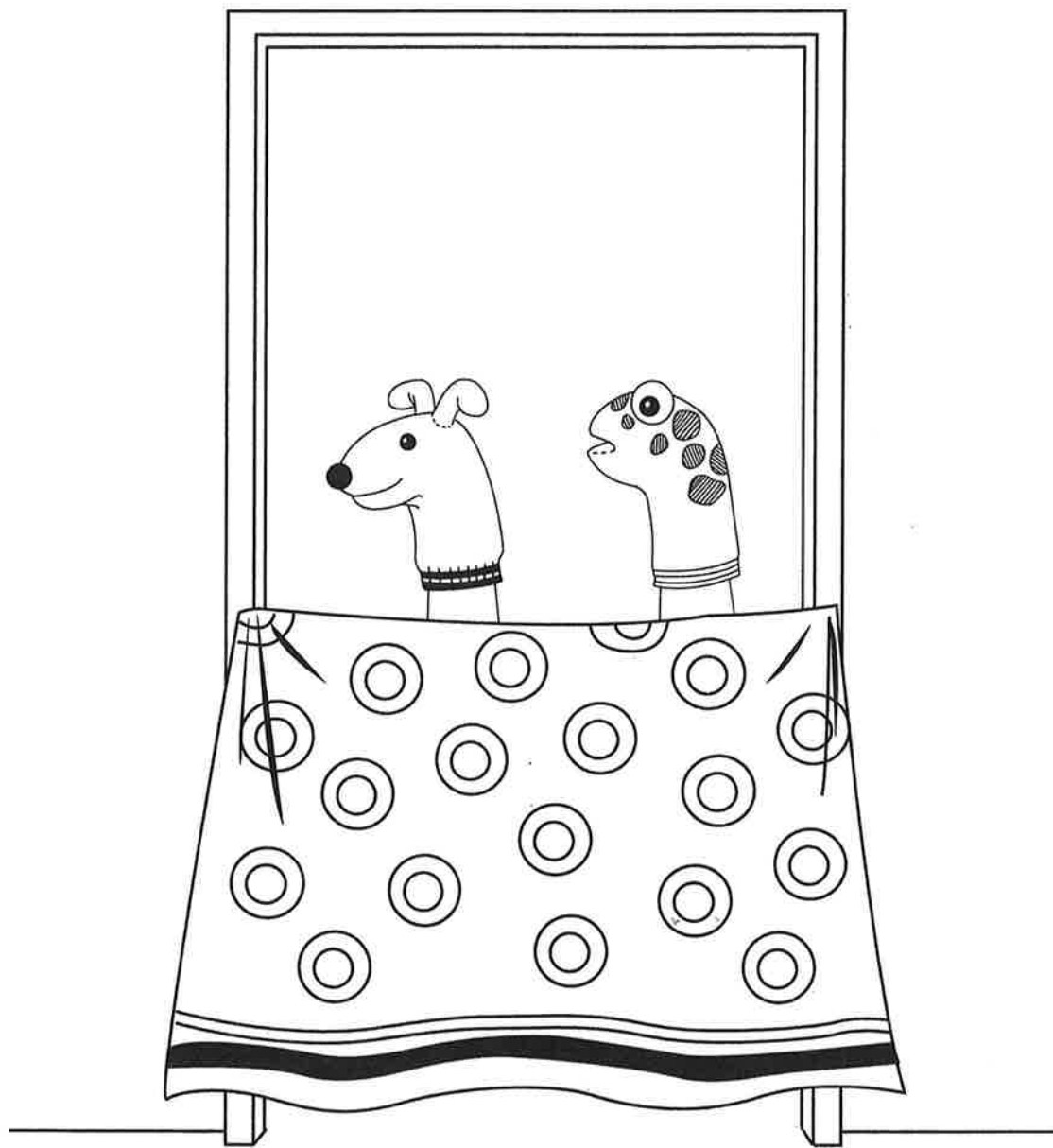
**Jill** : "I can't see why not. They are people just like me."

**Wise Mouse** : "Why don't you sit there and see?"

*Frog, Jack and Jill sat in the compartment the whole journey. They had a wonderful time. The children talked about many things with the people in the compartment.*

**Frog** : "I guess I was wrong. People are still people. It doesn't matter how they look."

**Jack** : "The world would be no fun if we were all the same."



# ANY JOB IS IMPORTANT

**Jack** : "My father is a carpenter. I want to be a doctor when I grow up."

**Jill** : "I am going to be an astronaut."

**Frog** : "Being the President is the best job. Other jobs are not as good."

**Jack** : "You are wrong. Lots of jobs are good."

**Frog** : "No, being the President is the only good job."

**Jill** : "It is not."

**Frog** : "It is too."

*Honk Honk is watching the children.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. The friends are beginning to argue."

*Wise Mouse hears the honk and scampers quickly to the house.*

**Wise Mouse** : "We need many kinds of jobs. Any job is important.

The job you like is the best job for you."

**Frog** : "I would like to be a fire fighter."

**Jack** : "Let's pretend we are fire fighters."

**Jill** : "Yes, come on. Let's play."

*The children run off making sounds like a siren.*

# THE **BEST** LANGUAGE

*Frog, Jill and Jack were climbing the jungle gym at the park. Two more children climbed up and started to talk to each other. Jack, Jill and Frog couldn't understand what they were saying. The other children were speaking Japanese.*

**Jill** : "That boy is speaking a different language."

**Jack** : "I can't understand what he is saying."

**Frog** : "Ha, ha it sounds silly. He should speak our language."

*Honk Honk is sitting on a tree branch watching the children play.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. The children are saying unkind things."

*Wise Mouse comes from a hole in the tree to see why Honk Honk is calling.*

**Wise Mouse** : "There are many different languages in the world."

**Jill** : "More than a hundred?"

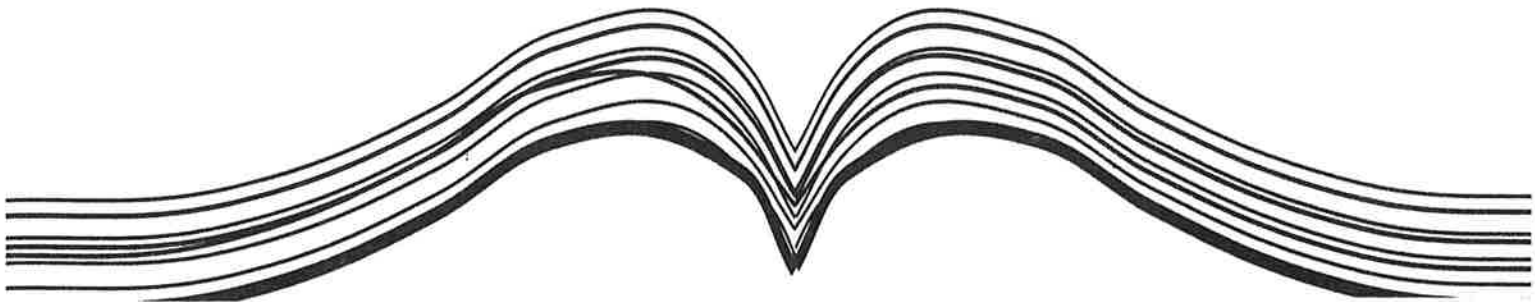
**Wise Mouse** : "Yes, Jill, and they are all important. It is nice to know many languages, then you can talk with many different people. "

**Jack** : "I also wouldn't want them to laugh at me."

**Frog** : "I am going to learn all the languages in the world."

**Wise Mouse** : "Ha, ha. That would take a long time. But I am sure that you will learn many if you try."

*Saying that, Wise Mouse winked at them, twitched her whiskers and ran off.*









# THE CLEAN CAMPERS

*Jack, Jill and Frog were camping. When it was time to go back, Jill started to pick up the plastic plates and other garbage around the tent.*

**Jill** : "We have to pick up our garbage."

**Frog** : "We don't have to, they are meant to be thrown away."

**Jack** : "Is it okay to leave this mess?."

**Frog** : "Sure, other people do it."

*Honk honk is flying overhead and sees the children leaving their garbage.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. It's such a mess."

*Wise Mouse hears the honk and scampers quickly to the tent.*

**Wise Mouse** : "If you leave the plastic plates there and no one picks them up, after a hundred years they will still be there. Garbage will make the animals and plants sick. It doesn't look nice either."

**Jack** : "I don't want to make the animals sick."

**Jill** : "we have to pick up this mess."

**Frog** : "We can pick up the garbage that other people left too."

*The children pick up all the garbage in the area and leave the camp ground looking clean and beautiful.*

# GOOD Touches And BAD Touches

*Jack, Jill and Frog were rolling a round on the floor together. They were laughing and tickling each other. Frog started to tickle Jill on her private parts. Jill stopped laughing.*

**Jill:** "I don't like to be tickled there."

**Frog** : "I think it is fun to tickle you there. I can make you laugh."

**Jill:** "I won't play with you if you do. It does not make me feel nice inside."

*Honk Honk is sitting on a tree branch watching the children play.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. Someone needs to listen to his friend."

*Wise Mouse hears the honk and quickly hurries there.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Children, that is the special part of your body that is just for you. Don't let anyone touch you there if you don't like it."

**Jack** : "But sometimes Mommy helps wash me in the bath."

**Wise Mouse** : "Does that make you feel nice inside?"

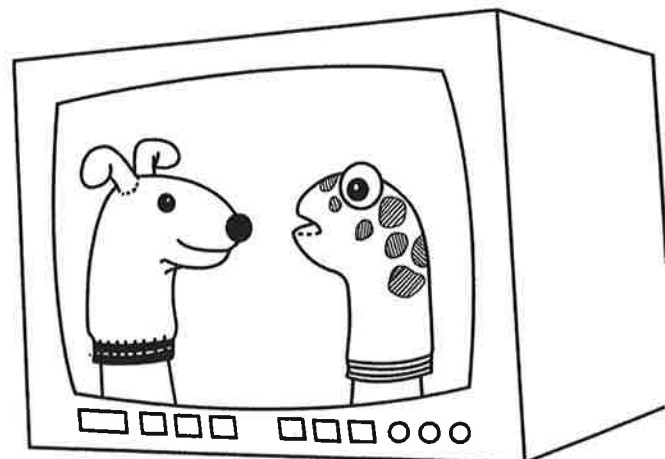
**Jack** : "Yes, I like it when she rubs my back."


**Wise Mouse** : "Then it's okay. She is just helping you wash."

**Jack and Jill** : "No one should touch us if we don't feel nice inside."

**Frog** : "I'm sorry, I won't tickle you there anymore. Let's play something else."

*The children decided it would be much more fun if they played astronauts.*





**GOOD**

SECRETS ,

**BAD** SECRETS



*Frog, Jack and Jill are playing inside. The next day is Jill's birthday and the children are talking about her presents.*

**Jack** : "I've got a present for you, Jill. I'm not going to tell you what it is. It is a secret."

**Jill** : "Please tell, I can't wait until tomorrow."

**Frog** : "Jack can't tell you. You are never allowed to tell secrets."

*Honk Honk is sitting in a nearby tree.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk, I think the children need to learn about secrets."

*Wise Mouse comes running from her house.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Do you know some secrets, children?"

**Frog** : "Yes, Jill's birthday present is a secret and I know another one that the babysitter told me."

**Wise Mouse** : "Does the birthday secret make you feel nice inside?"

**Frog** : "Yes, it is a surprise secret."

**Wise Mouse** : "Does the baby sitter secret make you feel nice inside?"



**Frog** : "No, she said I would get in trouble if I told. I'm too scared to tell."

**Wise Mouse** : "Secrets are only for surprises. They make you feel nice inside. When someone tells you not to tell or they will hurt you, that is not a secret. You should tell a big person you trust."

**Frog** : "I'm so glad, I didn't like keeping the babysitter's secret. She went out and left me by myself. She said it was a secret and I would get in trouble if I told. I'm going to tell my mother now."

*Frog hops off to tell his mother.*

**Jill** : "It's okay to keep the secret about my birthday present. Let's not keep any secrets that make us feel scared."



# BIG PEOPLE

## WHO LISTEN TO YOU

*Jack and Jill were playing in the park. Frog hopped up to them looking very sad.*

**Jack** : "What's the matter Frog? You look sad"

**Frog** : "I hurt my finger and my mother is not at home to help me."

**Jack** : "Why don't you ask someone else to help?"

**Frog** : "Only my mother or father can help me."

*Honk Honk is sitting nearby watching the children play.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk, there are lots of people who can help you."

*Wise Mouse wakes up from her nap when she hears the honking.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Did you hurt yourself, Frog?"

**Frog** : "Yes, and my mother and father are at work, I have no one to help me."

**Wise Mouse** : "There are lots of big people who could help you. Children, can you think of some big people who could help you if your mother and father were away or would not listen?"

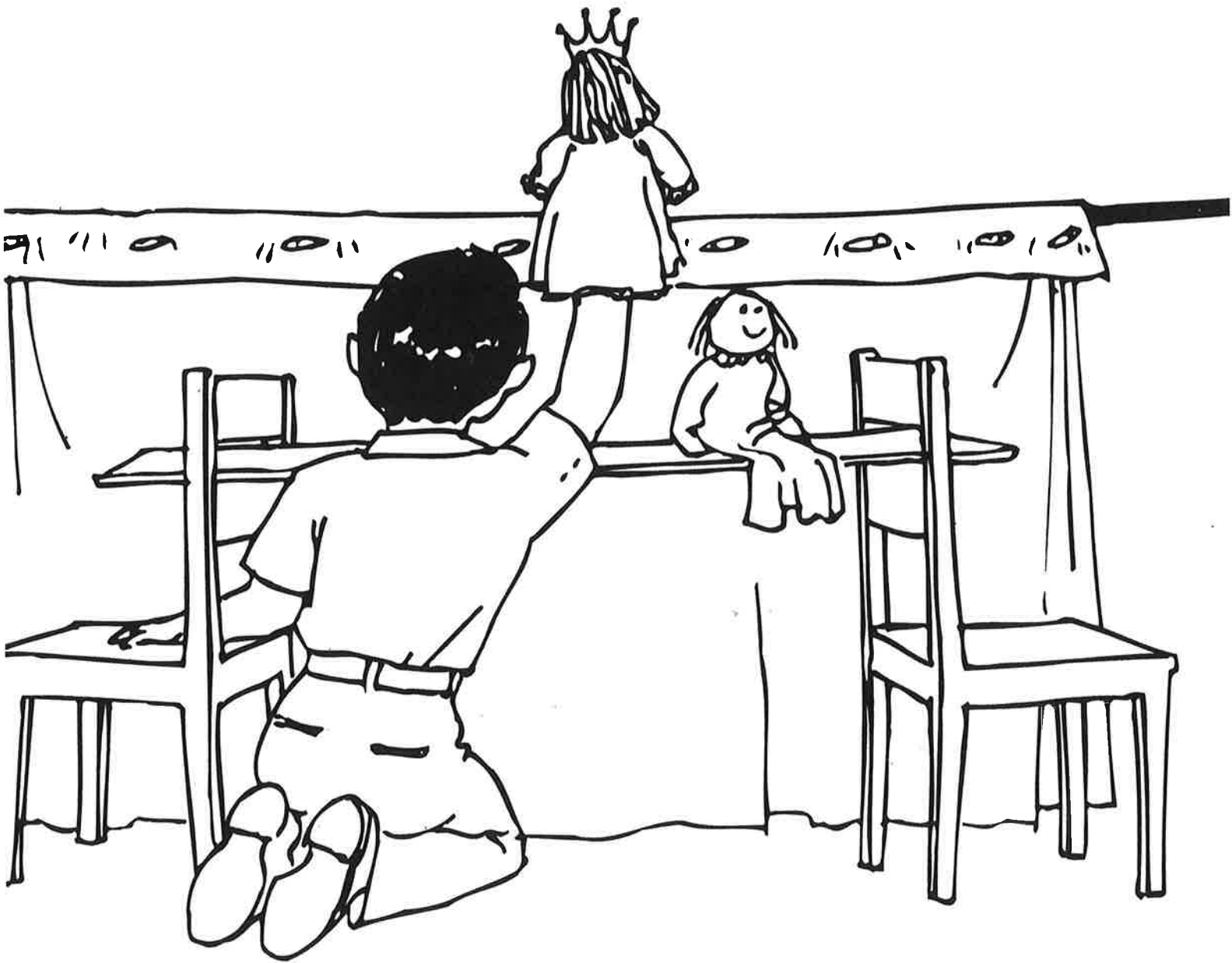
**Jill** : "I could ask my teacher for help, she is nice. I could also ask my neighbors. We sometimes play at their house."

**Jack** : "My grandmother always listens to me, I could tell her. If something really bad was happening, I would ask the police officer."

**Frog** : "I suppose there are some big people who can help me. My auntie always listens to me. I will ask her to fix my hurt finger."

*Frog hopped off to his auntie's house, thinking of all the big people who could help him.*





# STRANGER

# DANGER

*Frog, Jack and Jill are playing at the park. A man is watching them play.*

**Jill** : "Look, that man is watching us; do you know him?"

**Frog** : "No, let's go and say hello."

*Jack and Jill are reluctant, but follow Frog. Frog starts to talk to the man.*

**Frog** : "My name is Frog; what's yours? We live over there, our mothers left us here while they are shopping."

**Jill** : "Don't tell him that, let's go."

*But Frog doesn't listen. The man asks if the two would like to go for a ride on his motorcycle. Frog is excited, he likes motorcycles.*

**Frog** : "Yes! Yes!"

*Just then Honk Honk sees and warns the children.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk, I don't think that's a good idea. We don't know who he is."

*Wise Mouse comes running from her house.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Wait! Did your mother or father say it was okay for you to go with him?"

**Frog** : "No, do they have to say it is okay?"

*Just then the man rides away on his motorcycle.*

**Wise Mouse** : "You don't know him. You don't know if he is a good or bad person. He might have hurt you. Always tell your parents if a stranger asks you to go with them."

*All the children nod.*

**Frog** : "We don't know what could happen. It's safest to say 'no'."

*Frog and the children run to the shop to tell their mothers what happened.*

# LOST

## AT THE STORE

*One day the children went with*

*Jack and Jill's mother to the shopping mall. It was very big and crowded.*

*The children ran over to look at a toy shop. They did not tell their Mother where they were going. Soon, they were lost and could not find Jack and Jill's mother.*

**Jack** : "I cannot see Mother."

**Jill** : "I'm afraid. We have to find her."

**Frog** : "Let's walk around and look for her."

*Honk Honk hears the children and begins to worry.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. The children are lost."

*Wise Mouse hears Honk Honk cry for help and hurries to the store.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Children, calm down, your mother will find you. What do you do when you are lost?"

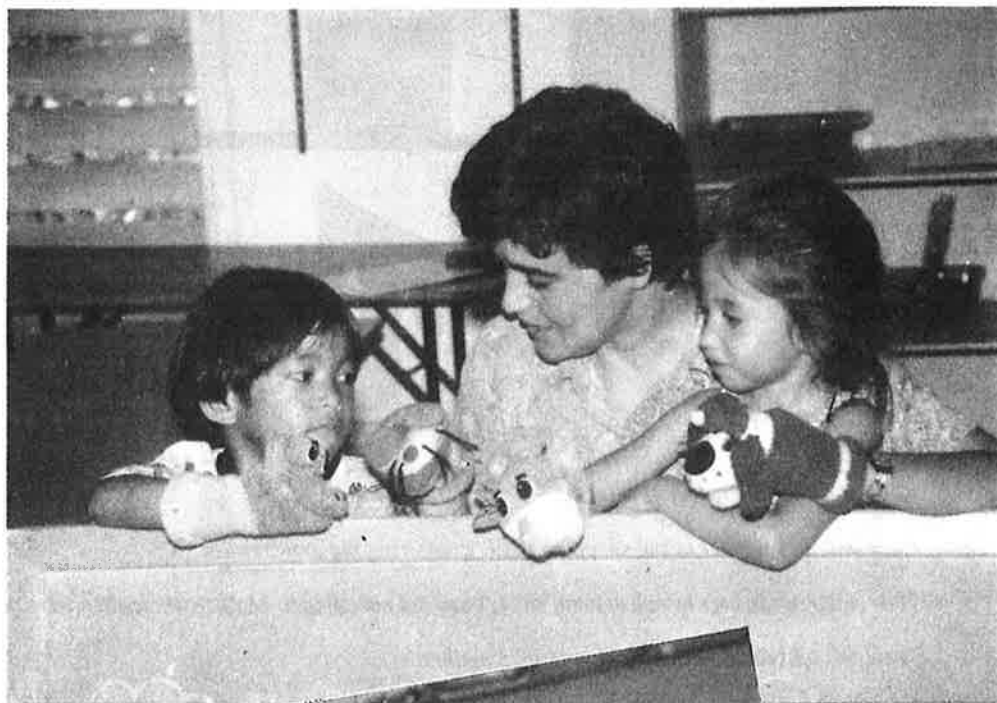
**Jack** : "We don't know what to do?"

**Wise Mouse** : "If you keep on walking around, it will be harder for your mother to find you. You will become more lost by walking around. Ask a police officer or store keeper to help you."

**Jill** : "Let us go to the shop attendant for help."

**Frog** : "Yes, let's not walk around. We may get more lost."

*The children ask the nearby store attendant to help them find their mother. She called over a loud speaker that the children were lost. Their mother heard the loud speaker and rushed to the store. She was so happy to find the children that she gave them all a big hug.*







# THE SHARP KNIFE

*(Put real objects in a bag for the puppet show.)*

One day Frog went to Jack and Jill's house. He brought his bag of special things.

**Frog** : "Do you want to see what I have?"

**Jill** : "Yes, open your bag and show us."

*Frog did and showed them a shiny coin, a sticker, a ball of string and a knife.*

**Frog** : "I got this knife from the kitchen. It is sharp. Do you want to hold it?"

**Jill** : "Yes, I want a turn."

**Jack** : "No, I want a turn first."

*The children tried to grab the sharp knife.*

*Honk Honk sees Frog's toys. He is worried about the sharp knife.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. Be careful. That knife is sharp."

*Honk Honk was too late, as Jack pulled the knife away he cut his finger.*

**Jack** : "Ouch, my finger is cut."

*Wise Mouse who was gathering seeds nearby hears Honk Honk's warning and scampers over to the children.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Are you all right, Jack?"

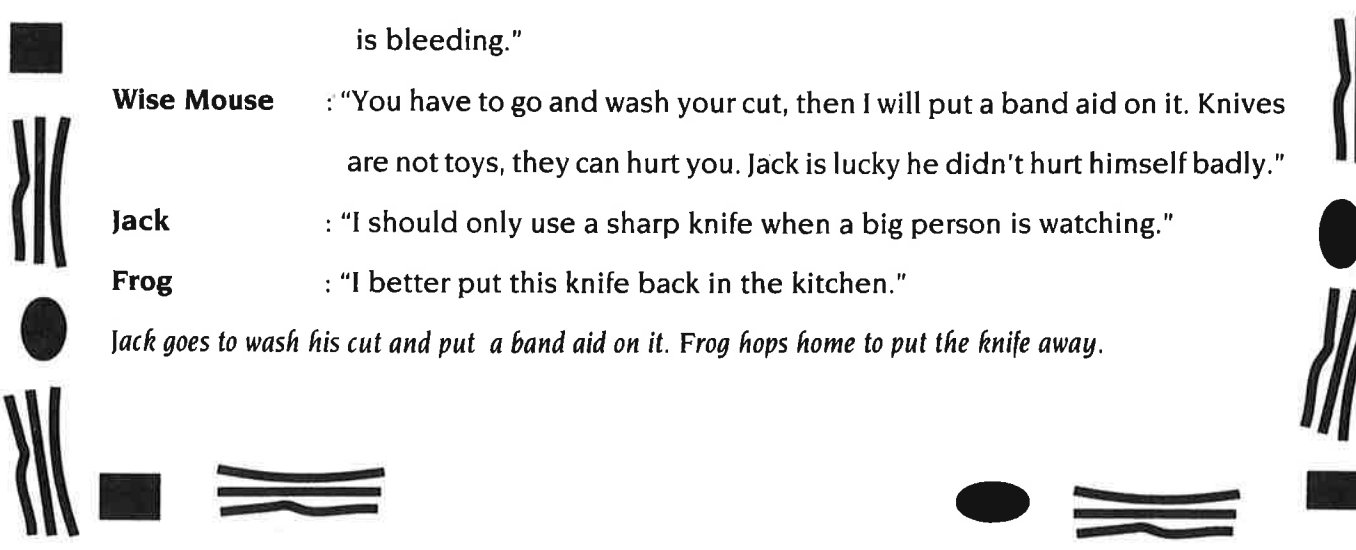
**Jack** : "I cut my finger with the knife. It's not a very bad cut, but it hurts and is bleeding."

**Wise Mouse** : "You have to go and wash your cut, then I will put a band aid on it. Knives are not toys, they can hurt you. Jack is lucky he didn't hurt himself badly."

**Jack** : "I should only use a sharp knife when a big person is watching."

**Frog** : "I better put this knife back in the kitchen."

*Jack goes to wash his cut and put a band aid on it. Frog hops home to put the knife away.*





# WHAT GOES IN OUR NOSE ?

*The children were outside playing with flowers.*

**Jack** : "These flowers smell nice."

**Jill** : "Let's pick some flowers."

**Frog** : "Look at me. I have flowers in my ears and a bud up my nose."

**Jill** : "You look funny. Let me try it."

*Honk Honk was flying in the sky over the children and saw them.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. The children can get hurt."

*Wise Mouse came out of her hole in the tree to see what worried Honk Honk.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Eyes, ears, and nose need care. Sticking things in your nose and ears can be dangerous. If it got stuck, you would have to see a doctor. It could make you sick."

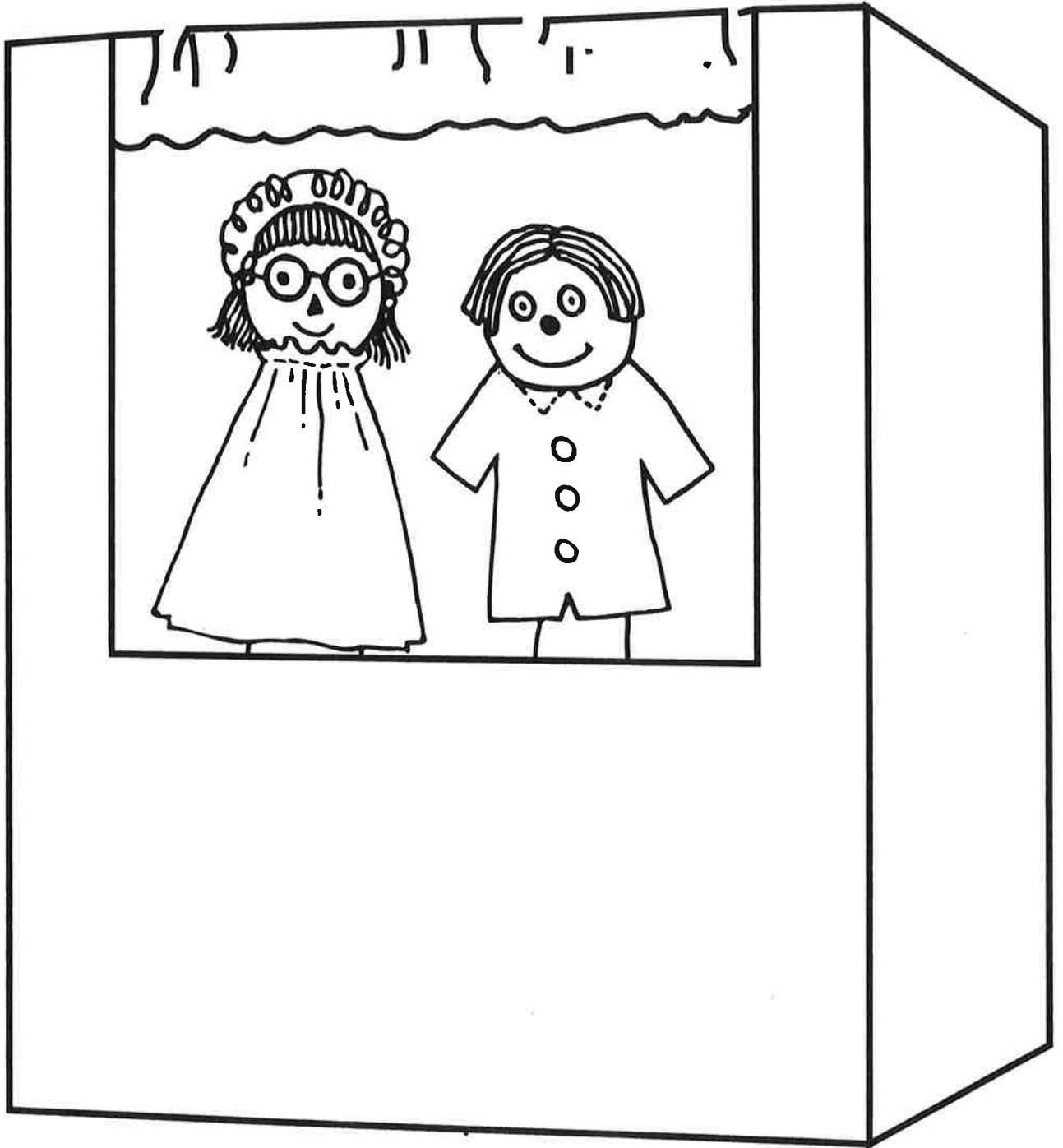
**Frog** : "Help, I think the bud is stuck in my nose."

**Wise Mouse** : "Stay calm, you will be all right."

*Wise Mouse looked in Frog's nose and saw the stem. She carefully pulled it out from his nose.*

**Frog** : "Thank you, Wise Mouse, I don't want to do that again."

*The children continued to pick flowers, but they didn't stick any more flowers in their ears and nose.*





# SEAT BELT SAFETY

*The friends were going to their Grandmother's house in the car. They climbed in the car and waited for Mother.*

**Jack** : "Let's put on our seat belts."

**Jill** : "I have to make mine smaller."

**Frog** : "I don't like to wear seat belts."

**Jack** : "You need them."

**Frog** : "I cannot see out the window when I wear a seat belt. I will not wear it."

*Honk Honk was flying near the car. He heard the children talking about seat belts.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. The children could be in danger."

*Wise Mouse heard the honking and scurried over to the car.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Children, do you all have your seat belts fastened?"

**Frog** : "I don't like them, and I'm not going to wear mine."

**Wise Mouse** : "If you are in an accident, the seat belt holds you to your seat so you don't get hurt. If you don't wear one, you may get seriously hurt or even die. "

**Frog** : "All right, if it will stop me from getting hurt in an accident, I will wear it."

*All the children put their seat belts on and their mother drives off to their grandmother's house.*

# FIRE

## SAFETY

*The children were alone playing at Jack and Jill's house.*

**Jill** : "I smell smoke."

**Jack** : "I smell it too. Maybe the house is on fire."

**Frog** : "Let's run outside."

*Honk Honk saw the smoke coming from the children's house and flew over.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. Children, be careful."

*Wise Mouse runs inside to help the children.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Children, if there is a fire you must not run without checking first. Before you open a door, touch it to see if it is hot. A hot door means fire is on the other side."

*The children touch the door.*

**Jill** : "It's not hot."

**Jack** : "Open it."

*The children open the door. They see smoke coming from the kitchen.*

*The smoke is in the hallway.*

**Wise Mouse** : "There is more smoke near the ceiling. You must crawl on the floor. Then you can breathe better."

*The children crawl quickly through the hallway and out the door.*

**Jill** : "I will run to the neighbor's to call the fire fighters."

*Soon the fire fighters arrive and put out the fire in the kitchen. The fire fighters were pleased that the children knew what to do in a fire.*



# BOTTLES OF POISON

*Frog, Jack and Jill are in the kitchen. They look in the cabinet under the sink. There were many cleaning bottles.*

**Frog** : "Look at all those colorful bottles."

**Jack** : "Mother uses that to clean the house."

**Jill** : "This one is a pretty blue color."

**Frog** : "Let's smell them."

*The children open a bottle.*

**Jack** : "This one smells nice. It looks like juice."

**Frog** : "Let's taste it. Jill, you drink some of it first."

**Jill** : "I don't know if I should."

**Frog** : "Let's all taste it."

*Honk Honk sees the children through the kitchen window.*

**Honk Honk** : "Honk honk. Children, that is dangerous."

*Wise Mouse hears Honk Honk and goes inside through the crack under the door.*

**Wise Mouse** : "Those bottles are for cleaning. They will make you very sick if you drink them."

**Jack** : "I don't want to get sick."

**Jill** : "We better not taste or touch them."

**Frog** : "Let's not play in the kitchen. We can go outside and play."

## **SAFE and SOUND**

This book is a system of puppet stories to aid the development of communication, self-esteem, ethical attitudes and personal safety.

Puppetry is a multidimensional learning experience.

It easily attracts the imagination of small children, giving many opportunities to develop different skills.

Regular use of the puppets will familiarize the children with certain character roles and situations they will find in real life.

It will help them discern what is best for a particular situation.

In this creative way, children learn about making choices that affect their social development, self-esteem, and safety.

### **About the authors**

The authors, Didi A. Nivedita and Ketana J. Bardwell, have a combined experience of twenty four years in early childhood education. Didi has opened and directed pre-schools in the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia and Guam. In Australia, Ketana taught primary school and developed and directed a toddler's play school. Ketana formerly taught primary school with the Australian Capital Territory Department of Education. Didi and Ketana began collaborating on new teaching practices in Sydney, Australia in 1990, they established in Guam a highly successful pre-school and daycare facility serving forty five children. Didi and Ketana gathered the material for this book through practical teaching experience and useful observation. Both are authors of two other teacher guide books, **I can draw the Sun** and **Who am I?**