

**PRATHAM  
BOOKS**

A Book in Every Child's Hand

Level 2

Serpy, the Snake Author: Rajiv Tambe  
Illustrator: Rijuta Ghate

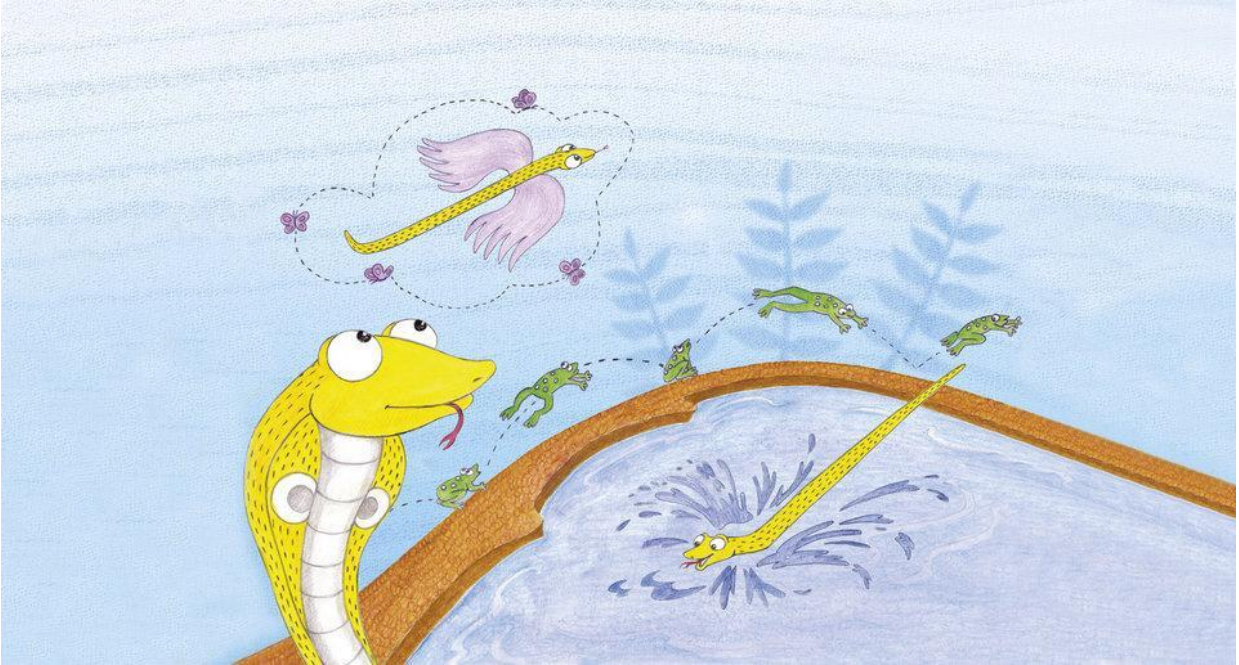




In a thick, dark forest lived Serpy, the snake. A snake does not have legs. A snake cannot walk. It cannot run. A snake does not have wings. A snake cannot fly. A snake cannot swim in a straight line.

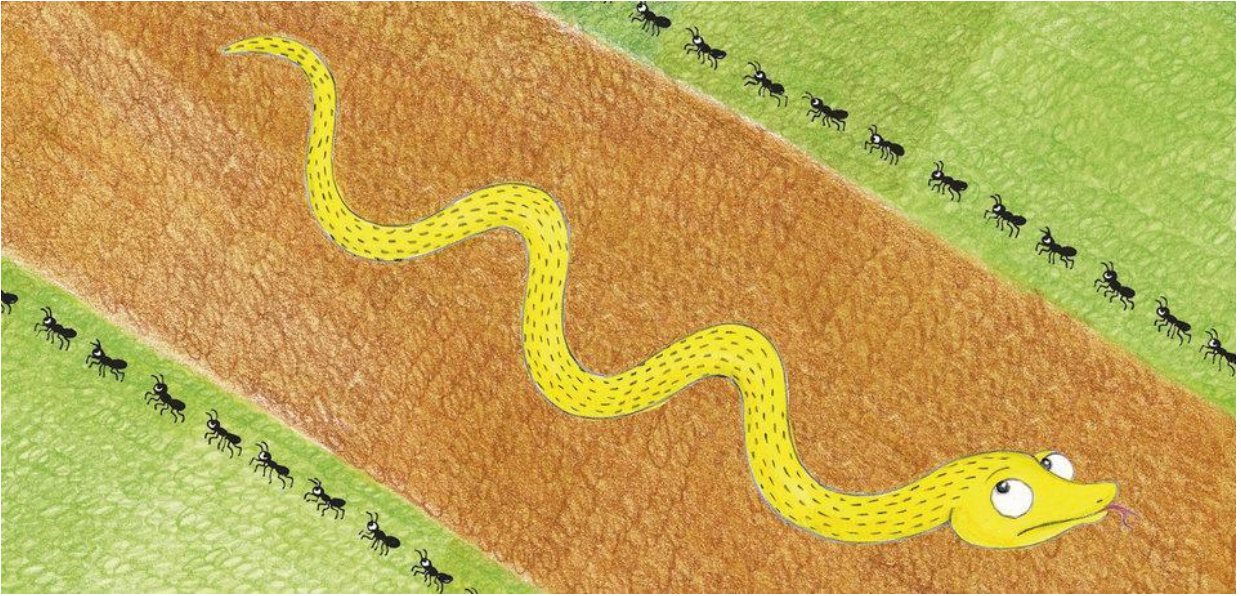


But Serpy wanted to walk, run, fly  
and swim in a straight line. That was  
all he could think of.



‘If I had legs, I would walk in a straight line. If I had wings, I would fly in a straight line.’





‘But oh, I am so weird! I can’t walk straight, can’t run straight! I can’t fly straight, can’t swim straight. I can only slither zig zag , zig zag , zig zag .’



Serpy saw some birds flying in the sky one day. They were going up, going down, going around in circles and arcs. Not a single bird was flying straight. This made Serpy t h i n k !





Looking across the plains one day,  
Serpy saw some fawns. The fawns ran  
here and there. They ran in the most  
zigzag way. Not a single fawn walked  
in a straight line. This made Serpy t h  
i nk !



Serpy went towards the river. The fish in the river wiggled and waggled as they swam. This made Serpy t h i n k !

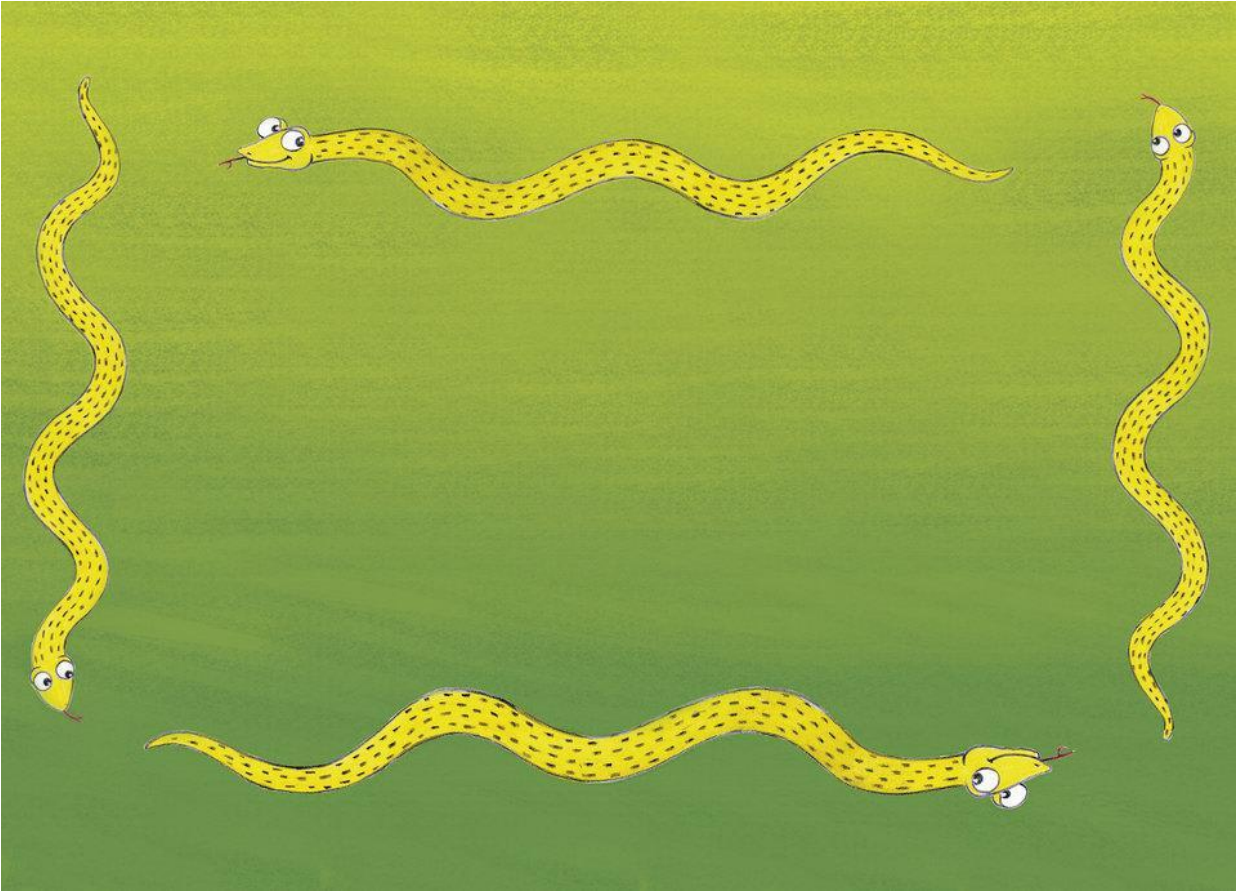


Serpy sat on the river bank, lost in thought. Just then a crab came by. Serpy moved aside. The crab walked past. But not in a straight line! The crab had half a dozen legs and yet could not walk straight! This made Serpy think some more!

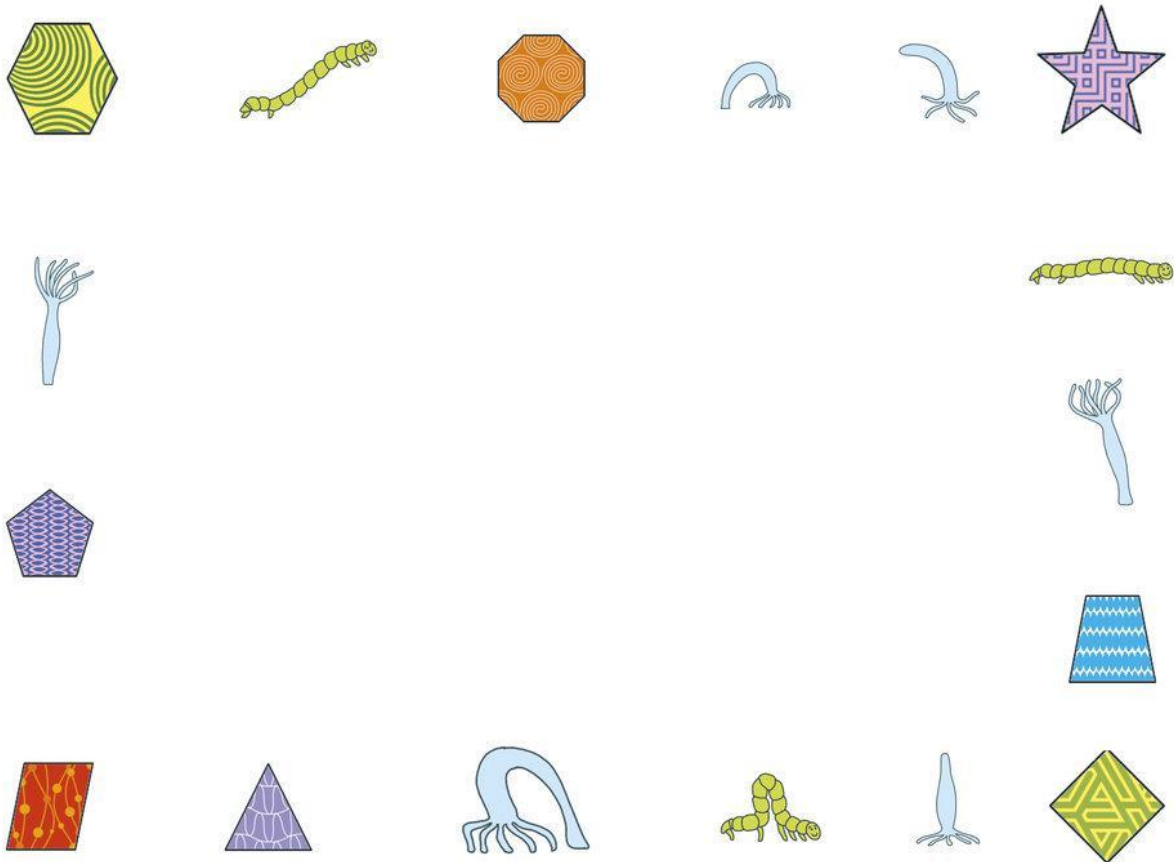




Serpy thought, did he really need wings? Did he really want those legs? Now zigzag, then criss-cross, is not the way he moved.



‘I am fine the way I am. My slithering ways are always the same. My zigzag ways are the same each day. And the rest of them are silly any which way!’



Do it yourself! 1. Draw five geometric shapes made out of straight lines. 2. Name five animals that move in funny ways. 3. Look around you. See if you can spot at least five living things that are made up of straight lines.





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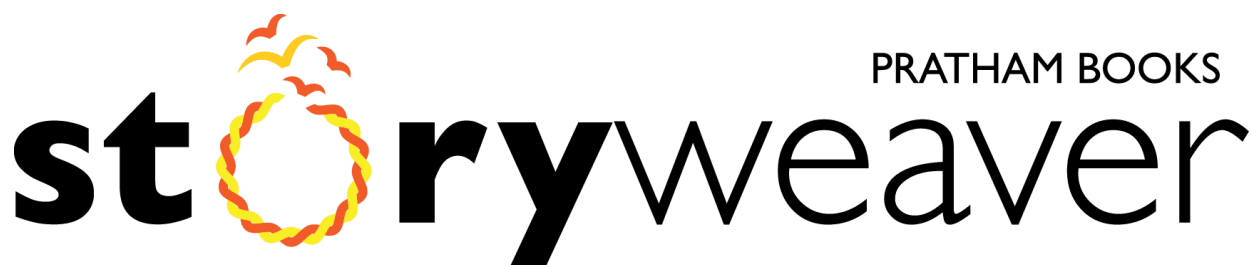
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Serpy, the Snake (English) Serpy wants to move in straight lines. But have you ever seen a snake move in a straight line? Serpy looks at the world around him and comes up with a straight answer! This is a Level 2 book for children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help.



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