



# Rani's First Day of School

By Cheryl Rao

Today is my first day of school. Mummy is holding my hand and walking with me. "I am grown up now," I say. "Let go, let go!" Mummy holds my hand very tightly.

There are many children near my new school. Some come by bus. Some come by car. Others come by rickshaw. A few of them cycle. And some walk like me. When we reach the gate, Mummy lets go of my hand. She stays at the gate, so I have to go inside alone. There are so many new faces all around me!

I take one step. I take another step. I look back. Mummy gets smaller and smaller as I walk away. Will she disappear?





I run back to her. I don't feel so grown up anymore. I hold her hand. "Please don't go away," I say. Everyone but me is inside now. I am the only one outside.

The teacher comes out and smiles at me. I smile back. Mummy says, "Rani, I will be here when you come out." I let go of her hand and she waves goodbye to me. I run inside thinking "Mummy will be there after school!"

THE END

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