

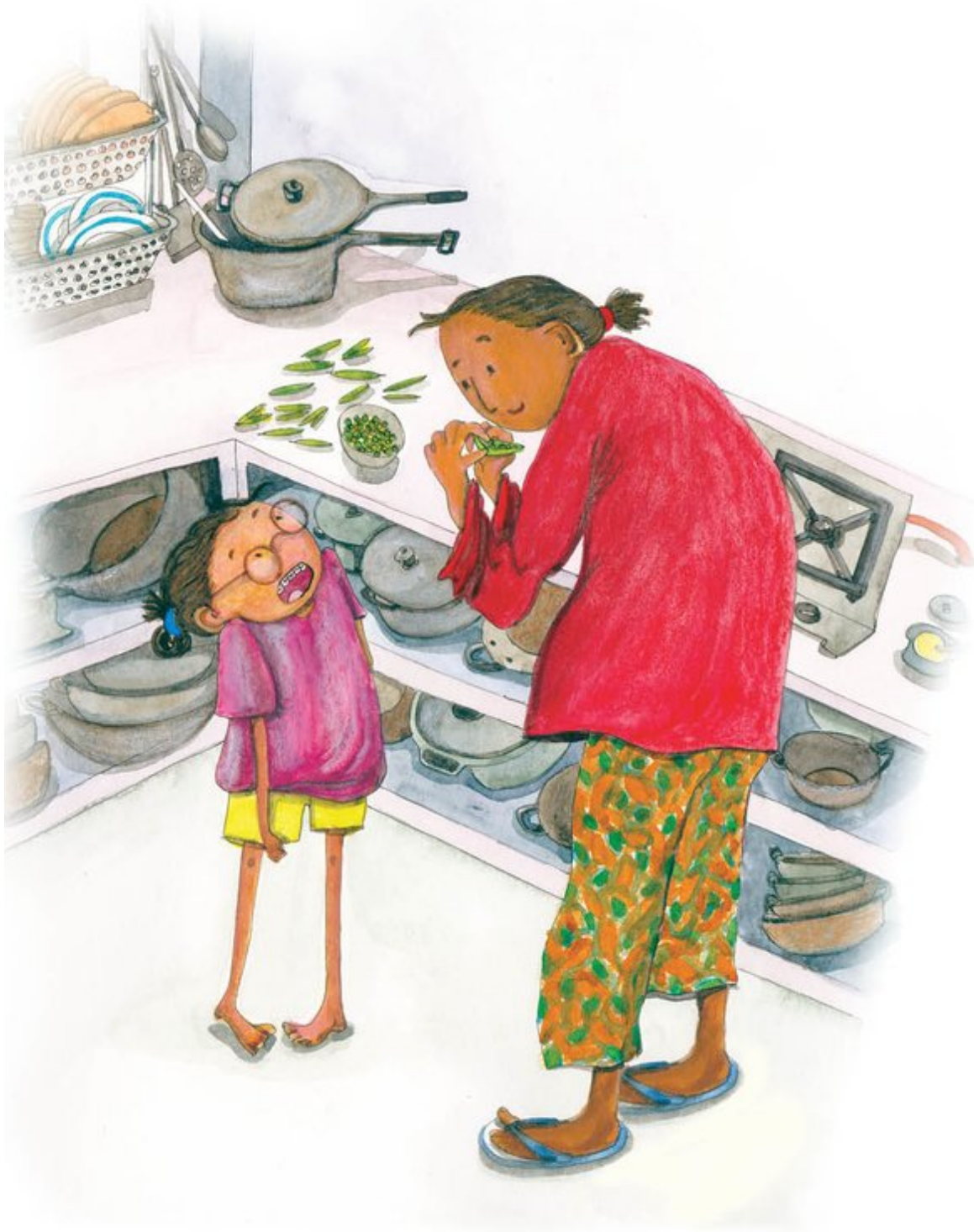


Chik-chik Girl

Author: Komilla Raote

Illustrator: Shubhshree Mathur

Level 3



“Amma, why do you make such delicious khichdi?” says Mona. Amma’s khichdi has carrots and tomatoes, peas and potatoes, and a few drops of homemade ghee. “Why, Mona?” Amma asks.

"It's not fair!" says Mona. "It's too tasty, Amma. I can't stop eating."
"Don't complain, then, Mona!
No chik-chik!" laughs Amma.
"Take a little more."



"Bedtime, Mona," says Papa. "Time to put away your storybook."

"No, please, Papa," says Mona. "My book is so exciting."

"What's the story about?" he asks.

"Five children, and their dog. They are detectives. They are cleverer than the policeman."

"Wake up early and read," says Papa.



"It's not fair!" grumbles Mona. "Why do people write exciting books I can't stop reading?"

Papa laughs.

"Tell me, who reads books they want to stop reading?"



Dadi hums a song as she massages Mona's hair with her secret recipe of mustard oil. Sometimes Dadi's fingers feel like she's playing a tabla, dham-ta-dham on her head. Other times her fingers feel like raindrops.

"Will my hair grow quickly, Dadi?" Mona asks.

"Yes. Your hair will be soft and long."

"How long?"

"Down to your knees," says Dadi. "As long as mine."





"It's not fair, Dadi," says Mona. "How will my friends' hair grow strong and long? They don't have your magic recipe."

"Not fair, not fair!" Always doing chik-chik, chik-chik!" says Dadi.



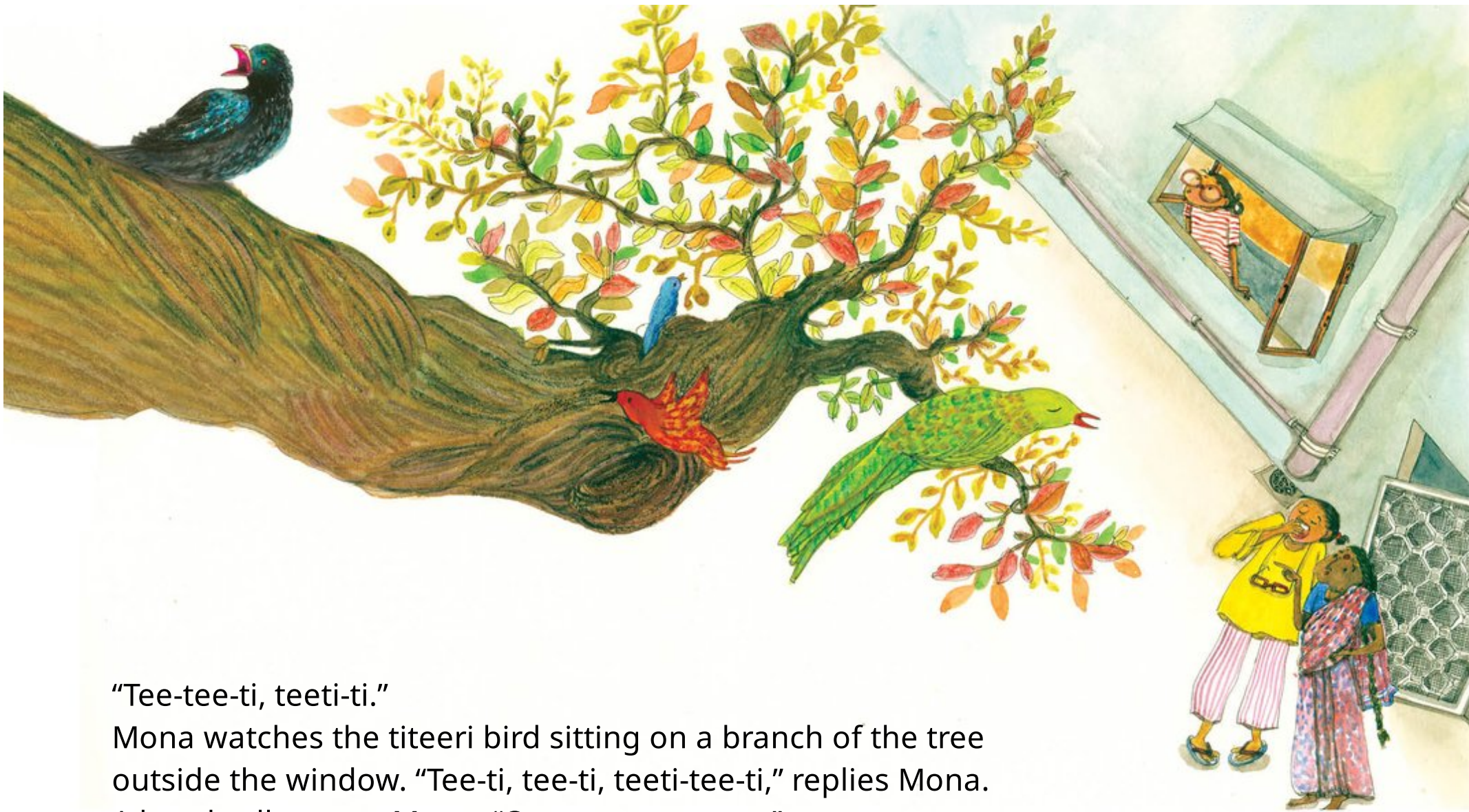
Dada and Mona are walking back from the market.
"Dada, it's not fair! You walk so fast, I can't keep up
with you," says Mona.

"If you climb the trees in the back garden,
go swimming, drink milk, and eat paalak,
daal, and fruits..."

"I will grow up big and strong, I know," says Mona.
"... you will soon walk faster than I do."

"One day my legs will be as long as yours,
Dada!" says Mona.
"Yes, they will." Dada smiles and ruffles her hair.





"Tee-tee-ti, teeti-ti."

Mona watches the titeeri bird sitting on a branch of the tree outside the window. "Tee-ti, tee-ti, teeti-tee-ti," replies Mona. A koyal calls out to Mona: "Oo-ee-u, oo-ee-yo."

"Oo-ee-u, oo-ee-yo, koyal!" says Mona.

"Did you know we had a koyal in our house?" Dadi asks Amma.



Mona swoops around the house singing,
"Oo-ee-u, oo-ee-yo, oo-ee-u, oo-ee-yo."

"Chee-chee, chew-chee, chrrr. Chee-chee, chew-chee, chrrr..."

"How did so many sparrows fly into our house?" says Dada.

"Whee-ta-whee-yu, whee-ta-whee-yu, whee-ta-whee-yu," sings Mona.

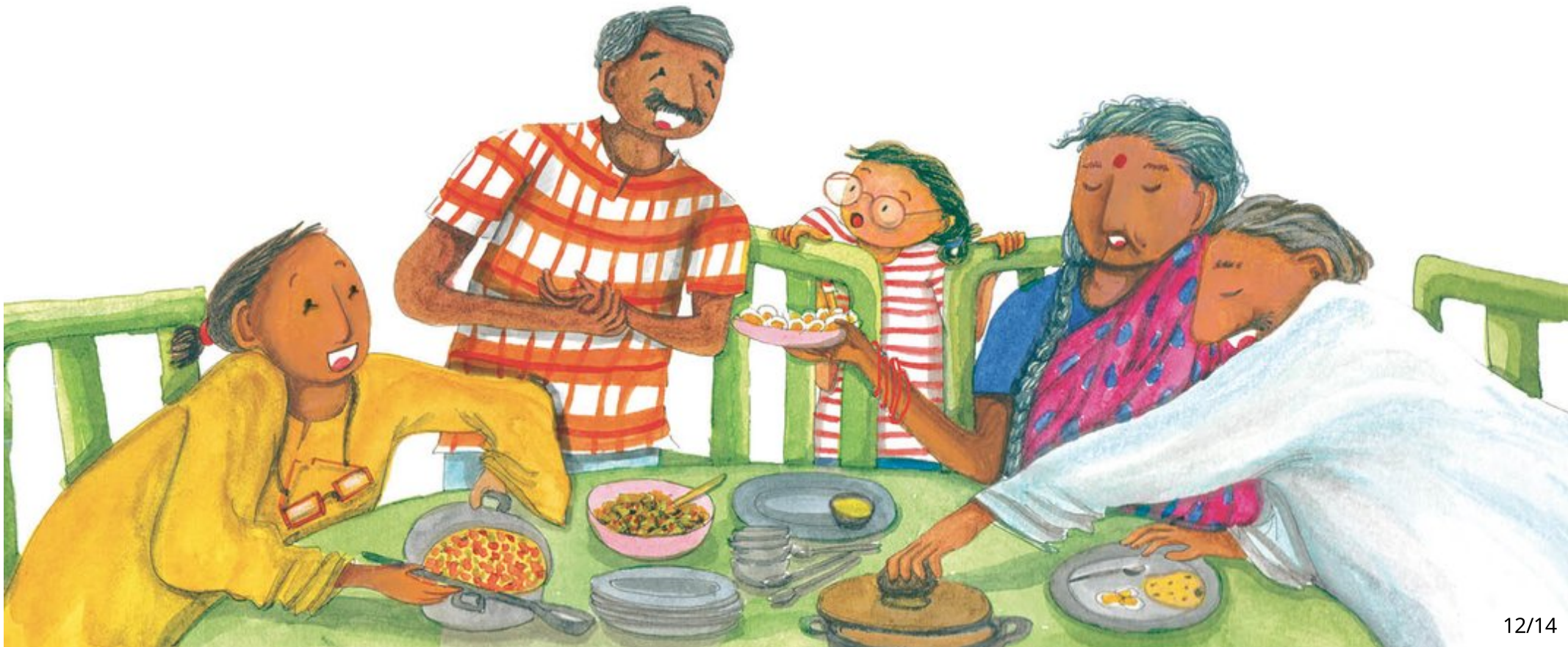
"The bulbul in our house sings better than the bulbul outside, doesn't she?" says Amma.



"Shh," says Mona. "The birds will cry if they hear you. It's not fair if I sing better than a real bulbul, is it?"

"We have a chik-chik bird in our house," says Dada, laughing.

At dinner, Amma says, "Did you know, cooking tasty khichdi is not fair?"
"And it's not fair for anyone to write exciting books," says Papa.
"Or to sing as sweetly as a bird," Amma goes on.
"Or to have long hair," says Dadi.
"Or to have long legs," says Dada, stretching his legs out under the table.





"My Amma makes the best khichdi," says Mona.
"My Papa brings exciting books for me to read.
My Dada has the longest legs, and my Dadi's hair oil
is a magic potion! I am the luckiest girl in the world."

"Not fair!" says Amma.
"Oh, not fair!" says Papa.
"That's not fair!" says Dada.
"Tch-tch, so unfair!" says Dadi with a sniff.



"You are all doing chik-chik now," says Monna.
"Yes!" Amma, Papa, Dadi and Dada say together.
"We are a chik-chik family!"

Story Attribution:

This story: Chik-chik Girl is written by [Komilla Raote](#) . © Pratham Books , 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Other Credits:

'Chik-chik Girl' has been published on StoryWeaver by Pratham Books. The development of this book has been supported by P.A.N.I. Foundation. www.prathambooks.org.

Images Attributions:

Cover page: [Girl sitting on a tree branch talking to a cat and a bird](#), by [Shubhshree Mathur](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 2: [Girl complaining to her mother preparing dinner](#), by [Shubhshree Mathur](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 3: [Girl and mother eating khichdi on the dining table](#), by [Shubhshree Mathur](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 4: [Girl reading a book while father folds the laundry](#), by [Shubhshree Mathur](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 5: [Grandmother giving a hair oil massage to granddaughter](#), by [Shubhshree Mathur](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 6: [Grandmother massaging hair oil on girl's head](#), by [Shubhshree Mathur](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 7: [Girl catching up with her grandfather in the market](#), by [Shubhshree Mathur](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 8: [Happy girl listening to her grandfather](#), by [Shubhshree Mathur](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: [Birds singing on the branch while girl, mother and grandmother look up at them](#), by [Shubhshree Mathur](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 10: [Girl swooping and singing with a red bird](#), by [Shubhshree Mathur](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 11: [Grandfather and mother amused at girl dancing and singing in the house](#), by [Shubhshree Mathur](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Disclaimer: https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms_and_conditions



Some rights reserved. This book is CC-BY-4.0 licensed. You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission. For full terms of use and attribution, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>



This book was made possible by Pratham Books' StoryWeaver platform. Content under Creative Commons licenses can be downloaded, translated and can even be used to create new stories - provided you give appropriate credit, and indicate if changes were made. To know more about this, and the full terms of use and attribution, please visit the following [link](#).

Images Attributions:

Page 12: [Family having dinner at the dining table](#), by [Shubhshree Mathur](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Page 13: [Family having a fun discussion while girl gets a hair massage](#), by [Shubhshree Mathur](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 14: [Family standing and laughing together](#), by [Shubhshree Mathur](#) © Pratham Books, 2024. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Disclaimer: https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms_and_conditions



Some rights reserved. This book is CC-BY-4.0 licensed. You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission. For full terms of use and attribution, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

Chik-chik Girl

(English)

Mona loves to complain. Sometimes about the tasty khichdi her Amma cooks and sometimes about Dada's long legs. Meet the chik-chik girl and her family.

This is a Level 3 book for children who are ready to read on their own.



Pratham Books goes digital to weave a whole new chapter in the realm of multilingual children's stories. Knitting together children, authors, illustrators and publishers. Folding in teachers, and translators. To create a rich fabric of openly licensed multilingual stories for the children of India and the world. Our unique online platform, StoryWeaver, is a playground where children, parents, teachers and librarians can get creative. Come, start weaving today, and help us get a book in every child's hand!