

INSTRUCTIONS AND IDEAS

Tell your audience to listen carefully and when they hear a living creature mentioned (an animal, insect or bird), they need to make its sound. For example, when they hear the word **'snakes'**, they should **hiss**; when they hear **'parrot'**, they say **'pretty Polly'**; when they hear **'goat'**, they say **'mehhh'** or **'baaa'**!

With younger children, tip them off first about the kind of creatures they need to listen out for and ask them what noise each creature makes. Sit everyone in a circle and place a picture of each creature on the floor: point to the relevant picture when you mention a creature in the story.

For older children, you could make things a little bit harder with extra interactive words. **'Toilet'**; The children stand up and say **'flush'** or make a flushing sound. **'Sick'**; Stand up, clutch your stomach and say **'oh no'**!

Run around

You could turn this story into a game by pinning up around the room pictures of all the living creatures mentioned in the story ie goats, birds, flies, chickens, snakes, parrot. Each time a creature is mentioned, the children have to run to the relevant picture, make the creature's noise and mimic its movements.



Mira's story

This is a true story about a girl called Mira who lives in a country called Nepal.

Her village is high up in the hills. Close by are some mountains called the Himalayas which are so high that even the **BIRDS** can't reach the top.

You have to huff and puff your way up the hills to get to Mira's village. There are no shops to buy food in and no doctors to help when people are **sick**.

The people grow rice to feed their families. Some of them, like Mira's family, keep **GOATS**, which give them milk so they are very precious. Some have **CHICKENS** too, to lay eggs.

Not so very long ago, the houses didn't have proper **toilets**. So most people went to the **toilet** out into the fields – where there are poisonous **SNAKES**.

And when Mira's family needed water, she had to walk a long way to a stream and carry it home in a bucket.

Can you imagine what it would be like if you didn't have a **toilet** or you didn't have water in your taps at home?

Because people were going to the **toilet** outside, there were lots of **FLIES** buzzing around and spreading germs.

When Mira was 14, she was really poorly because the germs made her **sick**. She had to stay in hospital for nearly a month. She missed a lot of school and she felt as **sick** as a **PARROT**.

Then some kind people came to the village, huffing and puffing up the steep hill. They taught Mira and her family that they needed a **toilet** to be healthy and they showed them how to build one.

They also taught them to wash their hands properly so they wouldn't have germs and they wouldn't get **sick**.

Mira's dad was so excited about having a new **toilet** that he sold some of his precious **GOATS** so he could get money to pay for the **toilet**.

And when the new **toilet** was ready, do you know what he did? He invited all his neighbours round to come and try it out!

Now lots of other families have built a **toilet** too. Everyone washes their hands and the village is clean.

The **FLIES** have buzzed off. Hurrah! And even better, Mira is much healthier and much happier – all because she has a proper **toilet**.



Continue the conversation

Here are a few questions to start a discussion among older children:

- Can you imagine inviting your neighbours to come and see your toilet?
- Can you imagine what it would be like if you didn't have a toilet?
- What happened to Mira before she has a toilet?
- What might happen to you if your toilet broke?
- Does Mira's story make you think differently about your toilet at home?

Email info@toilettwinning.org
or call **0300 321 3217** for more info

Toilet Twinning is part of Tearfund: Registered Charity No. 265464 (England and Wales) and No. SC037624 (Scotland).

