

Educational Tales for Children  
From 8 to 10 years

# The Birds' Home



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## *Preface*

These entertaining and educational tales are meant to meet the reading needs of 8 to 10 years old children. They also provide easy and enjoyable reading for children slightly order.

This series seeks to achieve the following objectives:

1. Suitability of the story subject to the addressed age group.
2. Choice of words that are within the range of this age-group's vocabulary.
3. Necessity of having a lively story language: a simulation of the child's world, thinking, and psychological life.
4. Language expressed easily and simply, with no complicated expressions or difficult structures.

To achieve these objectives, we made it a point to:

1. Enrich the story with bright and expressive visuals that fuel the child's imagination and speak to his senses and sentiments.
2. Match the visual with the reading text to help child understand the situation and relate to similar situations.
3. Use large, readable characters.

We have all through aimed at creating an exciting atmosphere in which the child recognizes the language, uses the story, and identifies him/herself with the main characters. In this sense, the child's sense of creation will develop, and his/her skills and abilities will grow in a balanced world that combines interest with fun.

The child may need some help at the beginning but later he/she should be left on his/her own for independent reading, starting from the second half of the eighth year.

A long time ago, a flock of birds lived safely in a shady garden. Safi, the group leader, would get up every morning and sing poems.



Then, the others would get up to join him in singing. They were all happy and thankful.



Farfoor asked Safi to let him sleep because he had played with his brothers the day before and trained how to fly for several hours.



“No, Farfoor. We birds play melodies to thank God in the morning and evening. Get up to join us in prayers and singing,” Safi answered.



“Would you allow my little friends and me to play after prayers and singing?” asked Farfoor.

“Of course, but after the little



birds help their families care for the orchard and make it the most beautiful home. And don't forget the flying class, Farfoor!" Safi replied.



It occurred to Farfoor to fly away to the high hill after work and class. The birds followed him and began to play and sing.



A black crow saw them. He wondered,  
“Why do these birds seem happy?”



The crow followed the little birds on their way back to their garden. When he saw the place, he shouted, "This is such a



wonderful garden. I should think of a way to scare these birds away and then tell my friends to come and live with me here.”



He went to his friend, Sweidan, and told him about his plan. At sunset, the crows headed for the bat cave.



The bat leader said, "We don't get up except at night. What is our business with this garden?"

The two crows said, "No, it is better than this terrifying cave. The bats will adore this shady place."



A wicked bat said, "In the first place, why do we allow these birds to live and fly?"

The bat leader asked, "How can we sneak into the birds' home when they are always alert?"



Swaidan said,  
“We let them  
sleep, and then we  
sneak in. When  
they wake up,  
they will find  
flocks of bats  
and crows  
everywhere.”

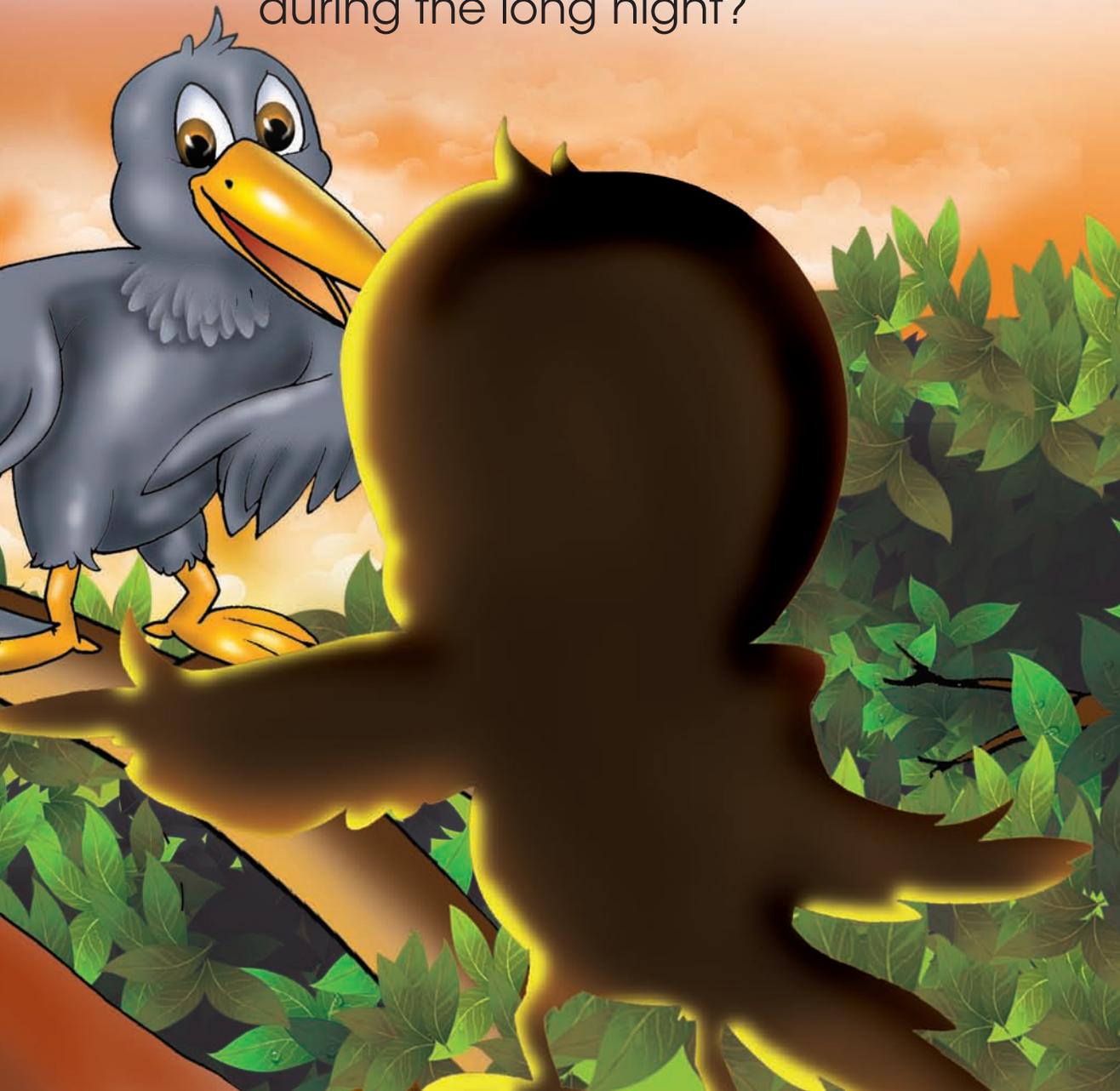


The crows hurried to Safi, the leader.  
The birds gathered around them.

Astonished, he asked them, "What do  
you want?"



They told him that they had seen the little birds play far away on the high hill. They said, "This is dangerous. Why don't you allow them to play and dance in the garden after prayer and singing during the long night?"



The little birds insisted that Safi allow them to stay up and play that night.

Farfoor said, "We promise to wake up early to sing and work hard."



Until dawn the birds held a party under the care of the cunning crows. When the birds slept, the flocks of crows and bats sneaked into the garden.



In the morning Safi cried, trying to wake up the tired birds.

After an hour, they woke up.



What horrible things they saw and heard! The crows and the bats were making horrible sounds.

A black army drove them away from their home and garden.



On the high hill, the birds gathered, and some of them shouted, "What will we do



now? Will we be without a home?

Let us search for another home.

Why don't we share life in the garden?"



Farfoor shuddered and shouted, "No, we will not leave this wicked gang to play in our playgrounds and fly in our sky. Let us get our land back!"



Farfoor and some brothers flew to tell the other flocks of birds what had happened.



All nightingales, hoopoes, blackbirds, and goldfinches decided to help the birds cast the crows and bats out of the garden.



The birds remembered how crows  
always stole food and how bats  
attacked fruit and trees...



The next morning, the flocks of birds hovered over the garden and surrounded the place. All the birds attacked the crows



and the bat gang. With their wings, they flapped furiously, and they struck with their beaks and legs while singing enthusiastic chants.



The bats woke up, and they were terrified. The crows escaped. The garden restored peace and safety. Its residents were happy to return to their home. They spent their day working, cooperating with each other while keeping their eyes on the sky and land of their home so that enemies would not covet their homeland.



***1. Answer the following questions.***

***1. Where did the group of birds live?***

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***2. Are the birds allowed to play? Explain.***

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***3. How are Farfoor and Safi different?***

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***4. Name two chores Farfoor should do.***

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***5. How did the crow feel when he saw the birds? Why?***

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***6. Why did not the bat like the idea of living in a garden at first?***

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**II. Circle the correct answer.**

**1. Safi wants to sleep because :**

- a. he is lazy.
- b. he is tired after training to fly.
- c. he is sick.
- d. it is still dark.

**2. Farfoor says that birds play melodies :**

- a. to scare away other birds.
- b. to thank God.
- c. to wake up other animals.
- d. to tell people it is time to wake up.

**3. The \_\_\_\_\_ saw the birds and envied them :**

- a. little bird
- b. black crow
- c. Sweidan
- d. the bat

**4. The black crow is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- a. kind-hearted
- b. mean
- c. happy
- d. helpful

**5. The birds were able to regain their house because**

- a. the bats did not like the garden.

- b. the crows found a more beautiful place and decided to leave.
- c. they all worked together.
- d. it rained really hard, so all the bats and crows escaped.

**III. List in order the steps the black crow followed to take the birds' garden.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

**IV. Write a paragraph using the given sentences. Put the sentences in order to tell how the birds regained their house**

1. The crows and the bats escaped.
2. All the birds decided to help and cast the crows and bats out of their garden.

- 3. They struck them with their beaks and legs.
- 4. The birds attacked the crows and the bats.
- 5. The flocks of birds hovered around the garden and surrounded the place.
- 6. Farfoor and the other birds flew to tell the other flocks what had happened.

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