

Comets Stage 3

Title: Laila's Lion and Stories from Other Cultures
Authors: Chris Ashley, Kathryn White, Elizabeth Laird, Ruskin Bond
Year: 5
Genre: Multi-cultural Stories

Summary

Laila's Lion
Laila's grandfather has a new job – Crossing Patrol at Laila's school. Her classmates make jokes (what's yellow and black and carries a warning?), and Laila is ashamed. Things could get worse when Grandfather comes to talk to the class, but they are enchanted with his story about the time he and his brother Baginze were trapped by a lion. Baginze was killed in the end, not by the lion but by the most dangerous thing to children – a car.

The Hunt
Sunil is always getting into trouble, so when the school art display is ruined just before the festival, everyone blames him. Sunil sits up all night watching for the real culprit. It's a monkey, but he will have to catch it to prove his innocence. The chase leads Sunil into the jungle, where he meets a hungry tiger. At the last moment he distracts the tiger by shining his torch in her eyes. By dawn, he is back in the village, with the guilty monkey to show everyone.

Mr Hashini's Garden
In a war zone, separated from his parents, Sami is desperately looking for his brother. As the fighting grows worse, he stumbles across an oasis of calm – Mr Hashini is still potting geraniums in his nursery garden. Soon the fighting is right on top of them. Sami realizes that his brother is probably dead, and that he should try to find his parents. Whatever happens, Mr Hashini says, nature always wins. The garden will bloom again next year.

The Eye of the Eagle
High in the Himalayas, Jai and his dog Momo are helping Grandfather by watching the newborn lambs in the pastures. A Golden Eagle has already taken one lamb, wounding Momo, and is waiting for another opportunity. When it swoops, Jai has only Grandfather's stick to protect himself and the flock. He does his best, but the eagle's mate joins the attack. Only the combined efforts of Momo and the rest of the family keep the eagles at bay.

Primary Framework Objectives:
YS strand 7: Use evidence from across a text to explain events or ideas
YS strand 7: Explore how writers use language for comic and dramatic effects

Laila's Lion and Stories Guided Reading Card: Literacy World Comets Stage 3

By Chris Ashley, Kathryn White, Elizabeth Laird

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