



# Dear Educators,

## Riya's Adventures in the Sky in the Classroom

Stories have an extraordinary power to touch hearts and expand minds, making them invaluable for inspiring curiosity and sparking meaningful conversations with children. *Riya's Adventures in the Sky* is written in rhyme to delight young readers with its rhythmic flow and playful language—helping build early literacy skills while encouraging them to dream boldly, embrace challenges, and see the world with wonder, just as Riya does on her journey to becoming a pilot.

Through Riya's eyes, children can explore themes of courage, perseverance, problem-solving, and kindness, while also learning about the world around them—from the environment and community care to the excitement of exploration and adventure.

In today's world, where environmental changes and natural catastrophes are becoming the new normal, it is more important than ever to educate our children about these realities. This story and companion kit provide a gentle and engaging way to introduce young learners to these concepts, helping them develop awareness, resilience, and a caring attitude toward their planet and community.

This companion kit is designed to help you bring Riya's story into your classroom. Inside you will find illustrated curiosity cards, discussion prompts, and activity ideas tailored for ages 4–7, all aimed at building critical thinking, empathy, and a love for learning. These resources are flexible so you can adapt them to your students' interests and your teaching style.

Thank you for inviting Riya into your classroom. May her adventures spark meaningful conversations, ignite big dreams, and inspire every child to believe the sky is just the beginning.

**Debjani Mukherjee**



# Environment & Nature Curiosities



## Tree Shade

Why do trees give us shade? What happens when you stand under a big tree on a sunny day?



## Flower Power

What happens if we plant lots of flowers? Who might come visit them?



## Rain Journey

Where does the rain go after it falls? Can you follow a raindrop's path?

These questions encourage children to observe nature closely and think about cause and effect in the natural world.



# More Nature Wonders

## Cloud Watching


Can clouds be different shapes and colors? What shapes do you see in the clouds today?

Activity: Have children lie on their backs and watch the clouds. Ask them to describe what they see!

## River Life

What animals live near a river? How do they use the water?

Activity: Create a river habitat mural where each child adds a different animal or plant that belongs there.

 **Teacher Tip:** Take photos of actual clouds and bring them to class for discussion if you can't go outside.



# Understanding Floods



## Full Rivers

What happens when the river gets too full? Where does the extra water go?



## Helping Others

How can we help people when the water is very high? Who are the helpers?



## Quick Decisions

What would you take first if you had to leave your house quickly?

These questions help children understand flood safety while building empathy for those affected by floods. Use a water table to demonstrate how floods happen!



# Earthquake Safety



## Why Earthquakes Happen

Why does the ground sometimes shake? The Earth has giant puzzle pieces called plates that sometimes bump into each other!

### Safety Questions:

- Where is the safest place to hide if there is shaking?
- How can neighbors help each other after an earthquake?

Practice "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" with your class. Create a helper chart showing ways children can be community helpers after emergencies.



# Water Rescue Heroes

## Helping a Dog

How would you call for help if a dog was stuck in the water?

**Activity:** Practice using your "emergency voice" - loud and clear!

## Saving a Fisherman

What could you throw to a fisherman if his boat is tipping over?

**Activity:** Practice throwing ring-shaped objects at a target.

## Rescue Heroes

Who are the people that help rescue animals and people?

**Activity:** Draw pictures of different rescue workers and their equipment.

These activities teach water safety concepts through engaging, hands-on practice without actual water danger.



# Forest Fire Safety

## Fire Safety

- Why should we not play with matches in the forest?
- Who puts out big fires in the forest?

**Activity:** Create fire safety posters for your classroom.

⊗ **Important:** Emphasize that children should NEVER try to fight fires themselves or rescue animals from real fires. Always get adult help!

## Helping Animals

What animals might need help escaping a fire?

**Activity:** Make a forest habitat and practice moving toy animals to safety. Discuss how real forest animals might escape.





# Up in the Sky!



## Bird's Eye View

What can you see from high in the sky? How do things look different?



## Runway Science

Why do planes need long runways? How does a plane take off?



## Airplane Helpers

Who works inside an airplane? What jobs help people fly safely?

**Flight Activity:** Create paper airplanes and test different designs. Which ones fly the farthest? The highest? Why?







# Healthy Food Adventures

## Food Origins

Where do fruits and vegetables come from? How do they grow?

**Activity:** Plant bean seeds in clear cups to watch roots and stems develop!

## Healthy Snacks

What's your favorite healthy snack? Why is it good for your body?

**Activity:** Create a classroom chart of favorite fruits and vegetables.

## Water Power

Why is drinking water good for us? How does water help our bodies?

**Activity:** Decorate water bottles to encourage regular drinking.

These food-focused activities connect to Riya's adventures by emphasizing how good nutrition helps us be strong and ready for our own adventures!

# Being Community Helpers



## Helping Our Community

- How can we keep our playground clean?
- What could you do to make a new neighbor feel welcome?
- Why is it good to share what we have?

**Activity:** Create a "Helping Hands" chart where children add a handprint each time they do something kind for others.

These community questions connect to Riya's adventures by showing how we all need to help each other, just like characters in the story help Riya during her journey.

