

Finding the Cat in the Ghat

Written by Joyce Catsimpiris

Illustrations by George Carrara & Genn Lotysh



Phase 3



Teacher Reads to Students:

Student conservationists, Deepa and Tim, go on a trip to the Western Ghats with Sandesh, a wildlife photographer. Deepa has an invention that lets the team talk to the animals.





Deepa, Tim, and Sandesh go to look for a big white cat. It is a white tiger and it is hard to find.



Then a stick snaps. Tim sees a big white and black tiger. The cat runs fast into the trees. Tim clicks.

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Inspired by the story: [Cat in the Ghat](#)
Written by Ambika Rao & Published by Pratham Books

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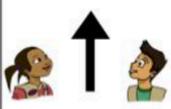
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Decodable Word Chart

Long /e/ (ee)	Short /i/	Short /e/	Short /a/	Short /u/	Short /o/	Schwa /ə/
						
sees	big	tell	cat	runs	not	a
trees	stick	next	snaps	up	frog	the
see	clicks	tells	black	cut	pond	a/bout
tree	click	then	fast	must	Pom-Pom	
creek	hill	yes	plan			
need	kids	help	Ghat			
			asks			
			branch			
			pass			
			snap			
			class			



“Oh, no!” The big white and black cat is too fast. The photo he has is a blur.

Deepa has a plan to find the tiger, which they refer to as the Cat in the Ghat. She will talk to the animals to find out where the tiger is.



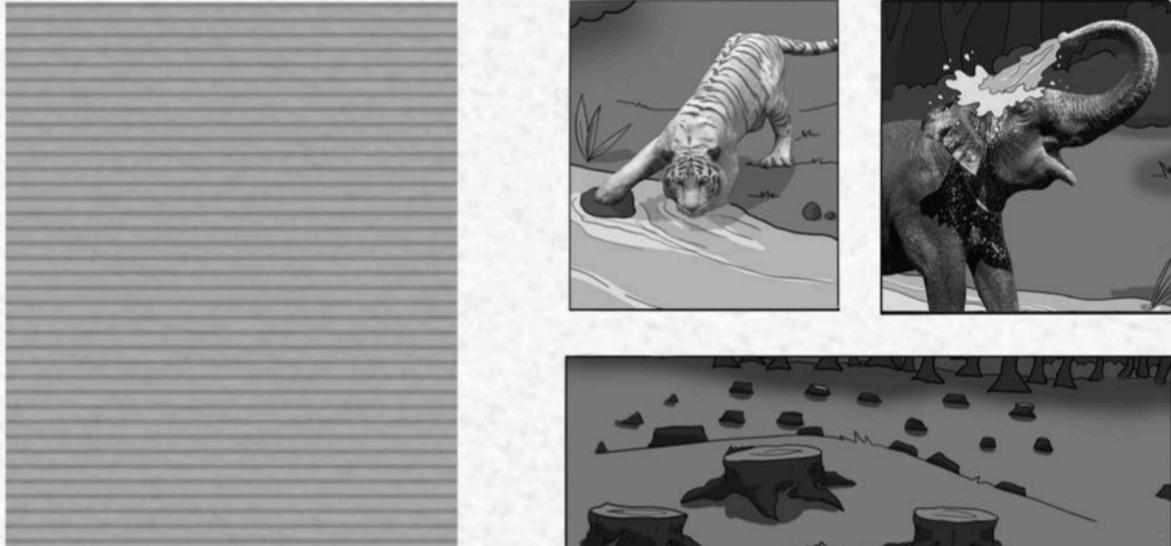
First, Tim, Deepa, and Sandesh see elephants. Deepa asks them, "Did you see a big white and black cat?"

But the elephants tell them, "No, go back!"



Deepa and Tim tell the kids in class that this is the big white and black tiger. They discuss what Pom-Pom wants people to do. The kids want to help the animals in the Western Ghats, too.

Save the Western Ghats!



Deepa, Tim, and Sandesh have a plan to tell people to help the animals in the Western Ghats. People will see the photos of the animals. They will see the animals need trees.



Next, Tim sees a tiger, but it is not the white tiger. Click!

Deepa asks the tiger, "Did you see a big white and black tiger?"

But the tiger tells them, "No, go back!"



Tim sees deer. Click!

Deepa asks, "Did you see a big white and black cat, a tiger?"

But the deer tell them, "No, go back!"



"I am Pom-Pom," says the big white and black cat. "You can snap my photo if you will help me. You must tell the people—Do not cut down all of the trees. The animals need the trees to live!"



Deepa, Tim, and Sandesh go up the hill. They see the big white and black tiger as it drinks from the creek.

Deepa asks, "Can we snap a photo of you?"



Then, Tim sees a black and white monkey on a tree branch. Click!

Deepa asks, "Did you see a big white and black cat?"

The monkey tells them, "Go find the frog at the pond. The frog will tell you."



Tim finds the frog at the pond. Click!

Deepa asks, "Did you see a big white and black cat?"

The frog says, "Yes, he is up the hill by the creek. Look at the trees as you pass by."



"Oh, no!" Deepa says, "Look at all the tree stumps! Who cut down all the trees?"

Deepa, Tim, and Sandesh are upset about the trees. The forest animals depend on trees for food and shelter.