



# Saving the Cat in the Ghat

Written by Linda Rae Liss

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## Characters

## Saving the Cat in the Ghat

Inspired by the story: **Cat in the Ghat**  
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# Vowel Syllable Pattern Chart

Long Vowel Digraph Vowel Team			Variant Vowel Vowel Team		Diphthong Vowel Team	
speak	screeches	need	new	good	frowns	points
speech	creek	wails	zooms	look	spouting	join
team	green	trail	scoots	woods	prowl	boys
seen	reaches	wait	knew	because	grouchy	joy
leaves	seeking	own	too		down	voice
near	fears	moans			about	
deeper	keep	doe			doubt	
hear	stream	knows			out	
deer	feels	croacks			sound	
meets	trees	show			ground	



Today, Deepa and Tim take a trip to the Western Ghats forest. They are with Sandesh, a wildlife photographer. He takes photos of wild animals.

Tim plans to take photos of animals in the Western Ghats. Deepa wants to use her new invention to speak with the animals in the forest. She can convert the sounds of animals into speech.



First, they see a huge white tiger with black stripes. Tim really wants to get a photo of the huge feline. Just as he zooms in his camera, the cat scoots into the forest.

## Western Ghats Facts

- Considered one of the top 10 hotspots in biological diversity in the world.
- The mountains of the Western Ghats are older than the Himalayan mountains.
- There are at least 139 species of mammals in the Western Ghats region.
- The forests and rivers of the Western Ghats are considered critically endangered by the World Wildlife Federation.



## Map of India



Tim frowns because his photo is fuzzy. "Oh, no!" he whines. Tim wants a good photo of the wild cat because no one has ever gotten close enough before to take a photo of this rare tiger. So, Tim and his team make a plan to find the huge white cat with black stripes. They will use Deepa's invention to ask the other animals for help.

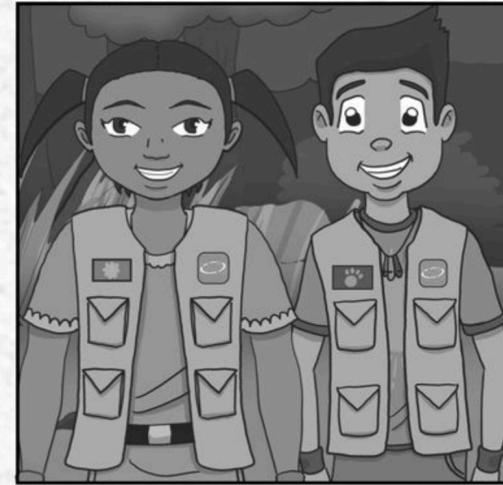


First, the team spots a herd of elephants bathing in the lake. Deepa asks the family of elephants, "Have you seen the huge white cat with black stripes?"

One elephant wails, "No, do I look like a tiny cat? We are the biggest animals here. We have our own problems. Go away!"

As the team leaves, Tim takes a photo of the huge elephant spouting water from the lake.

## STUDENTS WANT TO SAVE THE WESTERN GHATS



Sandesh, Deepa, and Tim write a newspaper story about the problems in the forests of the Western Ghats. They say that people are cutting down too many trees. The animals need the trees to survive.

They show photos of all the animals they met in the Ghats. They even show a photo of the black and white Cat in the Ghat!



Deepa and Tim speak with the girls and boys in their class about the animals in the forest and their problems.

The students are filled with joy to see pictures of the Cat in the Ghat. They will use their voice to convince people to help preserve the forests of the Western Ghats.



Next, they see a tiger resting on the grassy ground near the woods. They ask the tiger, "Have you seen the huge white cat with black stripes?"

The tiger moans and tells them, "No, can't you see I am not a huge white tiger with black stripes, but I am a huge orange tiger with black stripes? I cannot help you. I have my own problems. Go away!"



Then, the team goes deeper into the forest. They hear quiet footsteps. It is a herd of deer. Deepa asks the deer, "Have you seen the huge white cat with black stripes?"

A doe, a female deer, shakes her head. She says, "No, we are afraid of huge cats. They prowl the forest and hunt us. We have our own problems. Go away!"

The team does not want to give up, so they go deeper into the forest.



Deepa says, "No one has ever seen a photo of the Cat in the Ghat before. If we can take your photo, we can use it to inspire people to protect your habitat."

"Hmmm," says Pom-Pom. "That's a good idea! You may take my photo if you use it to tell the world to preserve the homes of the animals in the Western Ghats."



Finally, the team reaches the stream, where they see the Cat in the Ghat, of so much fame, drinking water. As the team approaches, he starts to turn away, but Deepa yells, "Wait, Pom-Pom. We need your help to save the Western Ghats."

Pom-Pom replies, "The only people that come to this mountain forest want to cut down the trees. How can you possibly help?"



Next, the team meets a monkey. Deepa asks the monkey, "Have you seen a huge white cat with black stripes?"

The grouchy monkey screeches, "Why should I help you, after what people have done to the forest? I have my own problems. Go away!"

Deepa replies, "We just want to take pictures of beautiful animals like you."

The monkey smiles, "You think I'm beautiful? Okay, I will help you. Go to the creek and find the green frog with the yellow stripe down his back. The frog knows everything about the forest." The team thanks the monkey and goes down the trail to the creek.



When the team reaches the creek, Deepa spots the frog with the yellow stripe on its back. Deepa asks the frog, "Have you seen the huge white cat with black stripes?"

The frog croaks back, "Yes, you are seeking Pom-Pom. He is the Cat in the Ghat of great fame. He is the only white tiger in the Western Ghats, but he fears people because of what they have done to the forest. If you want to find Pom-Pom, keep walking towards the stream. But I doubt Pom-Pom will want to talk to you."

The team feels confused and walks away from the frog.



As the team walks towards the stream, they see that many trees are cut down. Deepa cries out, "This is the problem the animals were talking about! Their homes are being cut down, and they have nowhere to live."

Tim has a plan. "We need to show the world what is happening in the Western Ghats. Let's take photos to show people at home."

Sandesh points out, "That is a good plan. If people knew about the fantastic animals that live here, they would want to join us to preserve the forest and save the animals."