

KADOOBOO!

A Silly South Indian Folktale

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Illustrated by **Darshika Varma**

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ACTIVITY GUIDE

Kadooboo! Golden brown, puffy, sweet, and crunchy, it's fresh from the pan—a delicious treat!

As soon as it's ready, Kabir runs home with some to share.

He's got to be quick, before the rain! But wait ... can he remember the treat's name? (His Amma is sure to ask!)

Of course he can. That is, if fun and friends aren't too distracting along the way.

As Kabir makes his way, the sights and sounds of the street and interactions with friends start to jumble his memory. A cool new comic, and suddenly the treat is book-oo-doo! When a ball whizzes toward him—duck-oo-boo! With so much fun to be had, Kabir reaches home with a trail of friends ... and a jumble of names. Could he possibly remember the right one?

This modern retelling of a South Indian folktale blends playful wordplay with delightfully quick pacing in a story about friends, family, and food—the perfect recipe for a satisfying story time.

Shruthi Rao writes books for children. She loves books, trees, hikes, benches, eating kadooboos, and hanging out with her daughter. More than 100 of her articles, columns, and short stories have been published in newspapers, magazines, and literary journals in India, the United States, and Canada. She lives in California with her family.

Darshika Varma is a freelance illustrator based in Mumbai, India. She loves drawing characters in vibrant scenes and adorning them with emotions. She spends her free time traveling, birdwatching, and reading books.

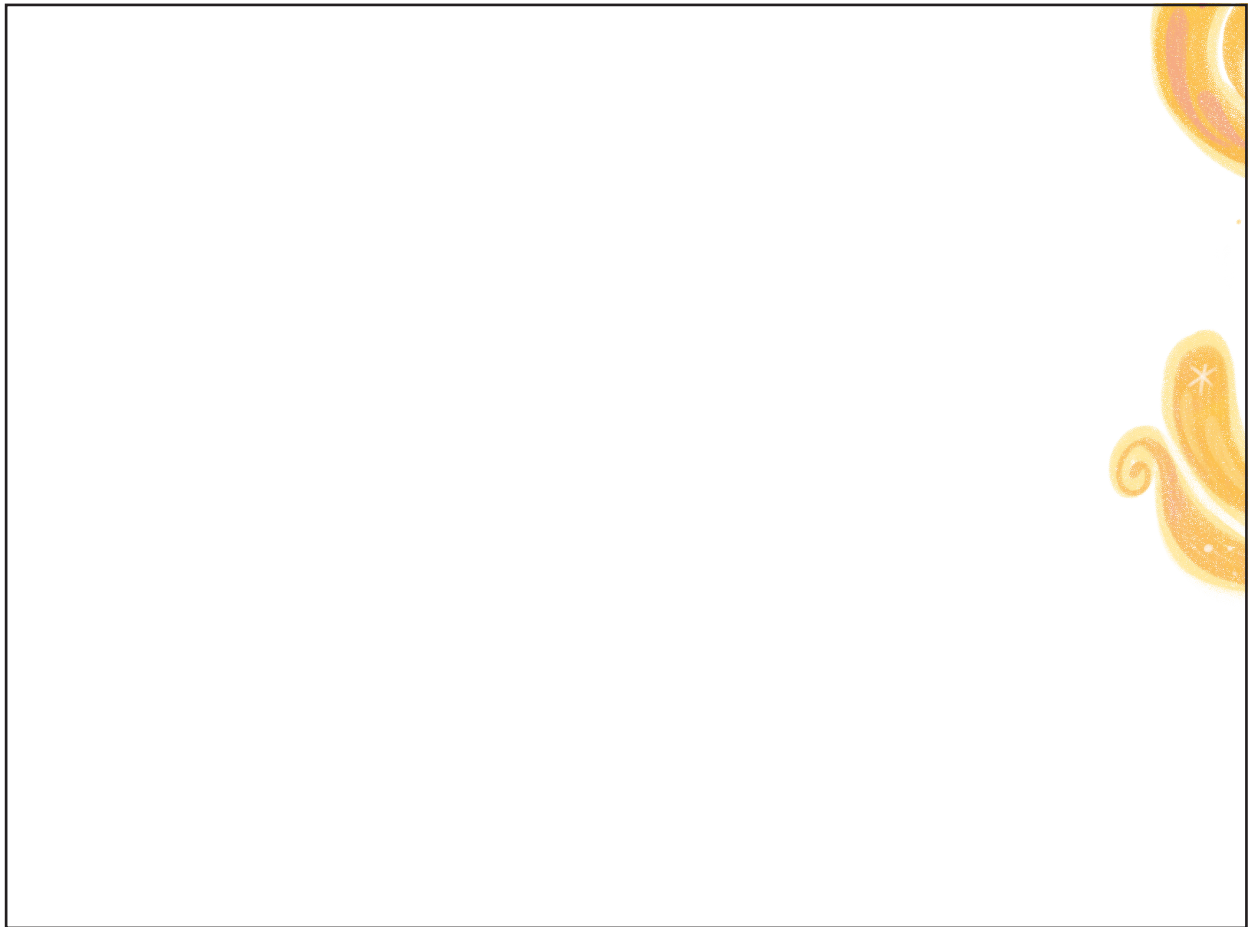
OUR FAVORITE FOOD



Kadooboo—golden brown, puffy, sweet, and crunchy—is one of Kabir and his friends' favorite treats.

What's one of your favorite foods? **Draw** it below.

My favorite food is _____.



AROUND MY NEIGHBORHOOD

Kabir's neighborhood has so many different sights, sounds, and smells.

After reading the book, walk around your own neighborhood. What do you see?
What do you hear? What do you smell?

In my neighborhood, I see....

In my neighborhood, I hear....

In my neighborhood, I smell....

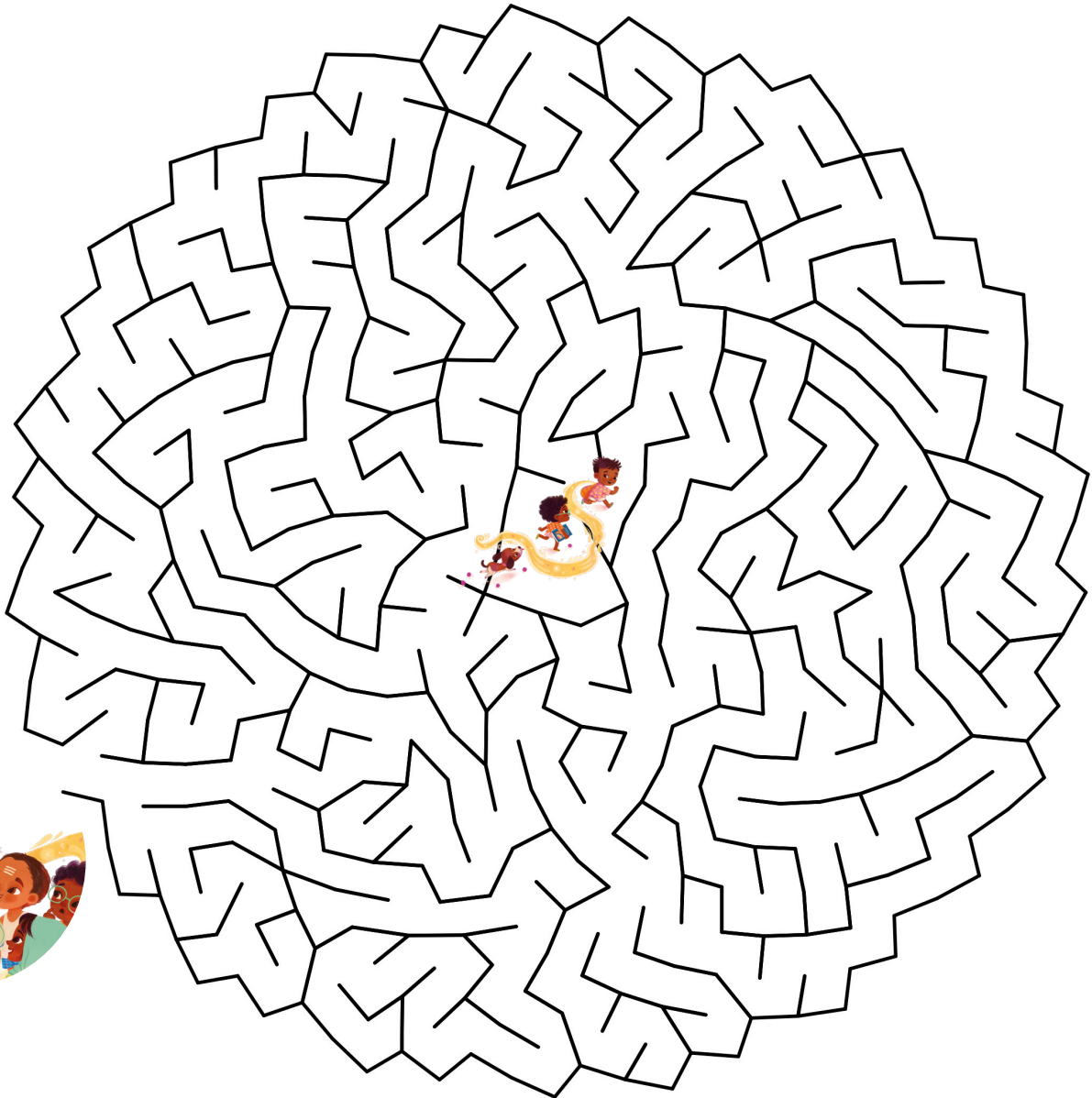
Other things in my neighborhood....

Discuss with a friend: How is your neighborhood different from Kabir's? How is it similar?

HELP KABIR MAKE IT HOME

Kabir is hurrying home with freshly made kadooboo for his Amma. And yikes, it looks like rain!

Complete the maze below to help Kabir make it home from Anya's house in time.



Maze design courtesy of KrazyDad.com/puzzles



WHO'S WHO?

As Kabir runs home, the sights and sounds of his neighborhood and meetings with friends start to jumble his memory.

Draw a line from the right Kadooboo “name mix-up” to the friend Kabir tells it to.

Duck-oo-boo

Dub-boo-doo

Dub-oo-koo

Buck-a-duck-a-doo

Buck-oo-doo

Book-oo-doo



Zara



Josh



Ganesh

MESSAGE MIX-UP

(Group activity; Break group into teams of 3-4. Have each team line up single file.)

Materials needed: small balls and buckets to toss them in

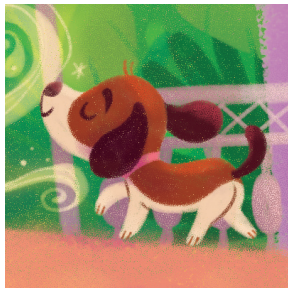
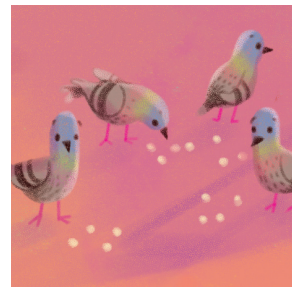
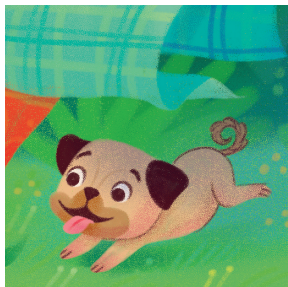
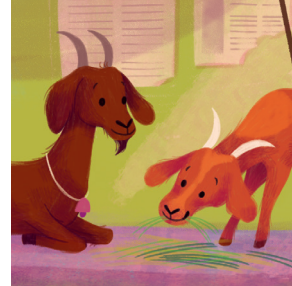
Instructions:

1. Each team is given a message that they must try to deliver as correctly as possible. Some example messages could be:
 - “Sizzle, Hiss, Pop! Something’s cooking!”
 - “Golden, brown, puffy, sweet, Kadooboo is a delicious treat!”
 - “Hurry home! It looks like rain!”
 - “Kadooboo! Can Kabir remember its name?”
2. The first team member is given the message.
3. Before passing on the message, each team member must retrieve a ball and then toss this ball into their team’s bucket.
4. Once they successfully toss the ball into their bucket, each team member must whisper the message to the next team member.
5. Once the message reaches the last team member, and they toss a ball into the team’s bucket, they’ll announce the message they heard.
6. The team that gets their message closest to the original wins!
7. To make the game easier or more challenging:
 - Change up the wording or length of the messages
 - Remove or add in different “challenges” as the message is passed on.



ANIMAL SEEK AND FIND

There are so many animal friends in Kabir's neighborhood. **Check off** the following animals as you find them in the book:



Circle your favorite animal friend from the book!

KABIR'S MEMORY MATCH

Directions:

1. Cut out the tiles below, and lay them out in a grid.
2. Carefully look at the pictures for 30 seconds, paying close attention to the matching pairs.
3. Turn the tiles over so the pictures aren't showing.
4. Using your memory, try to select the matching pairs from the grid.
5. If you get a matching pair correct, it's your turn to try again. If you're incorrect, it's the next person's turn.
6. Whoever makes the most matching pairs wins!

