

# The Drum

A Reading A-Z Level H Leveled Book  
Word Count: 227

## Connections

### Writing and Art

What is something kind you can do for someone else?

Draw a picture and write about it.

### Social Studies

Discuss with your class where India is located and how its location compares to where you live.

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# The Drum

An Indian Folktale  
Retold by Katherine Follett  
Illustrated by Teresa Martinez

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## Focus Question

What lesson does this story teach about kindness?

## Words to Know

deeds	musicians
goods	robbers
hungry	struggling

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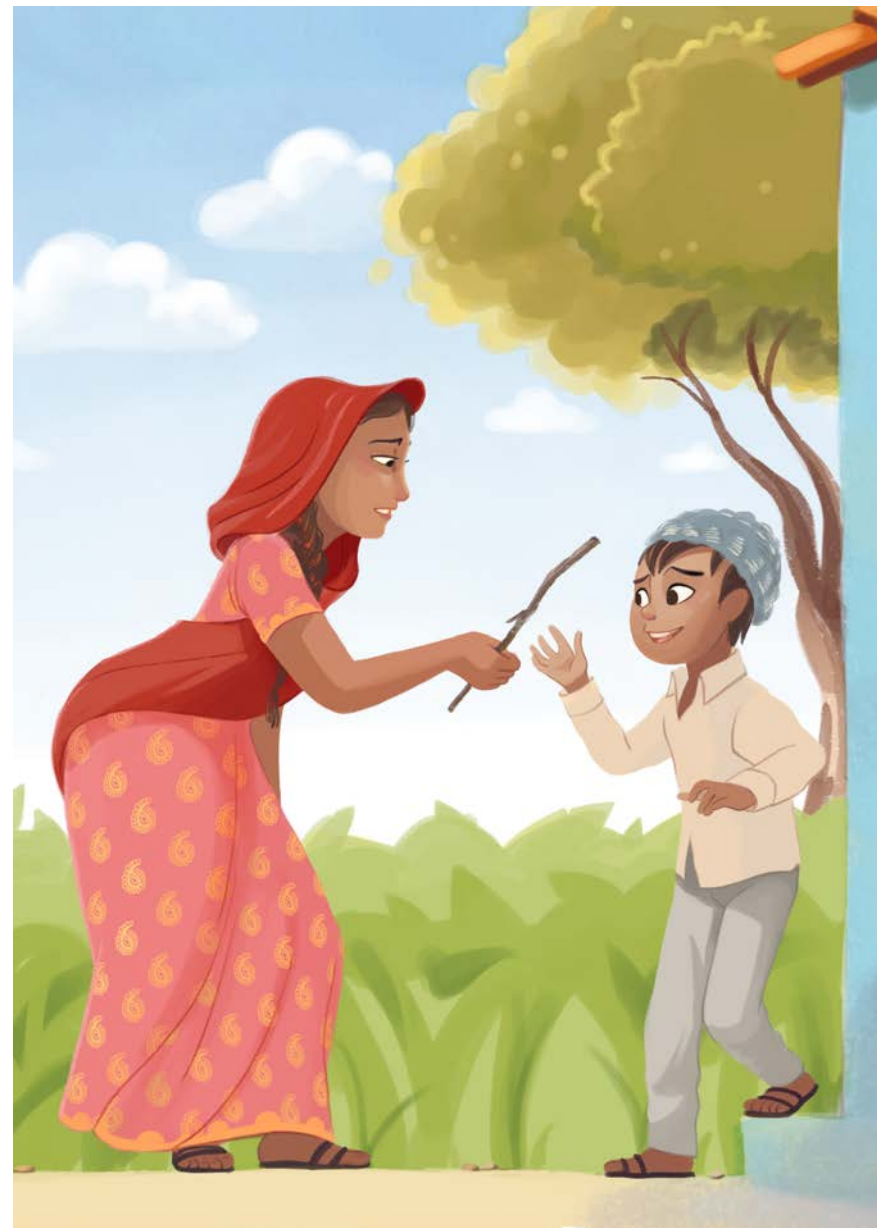
## Correlation

### LEVEL H

Fountas & Pinnell	H
Reading Recovery	13-14
DRA	14



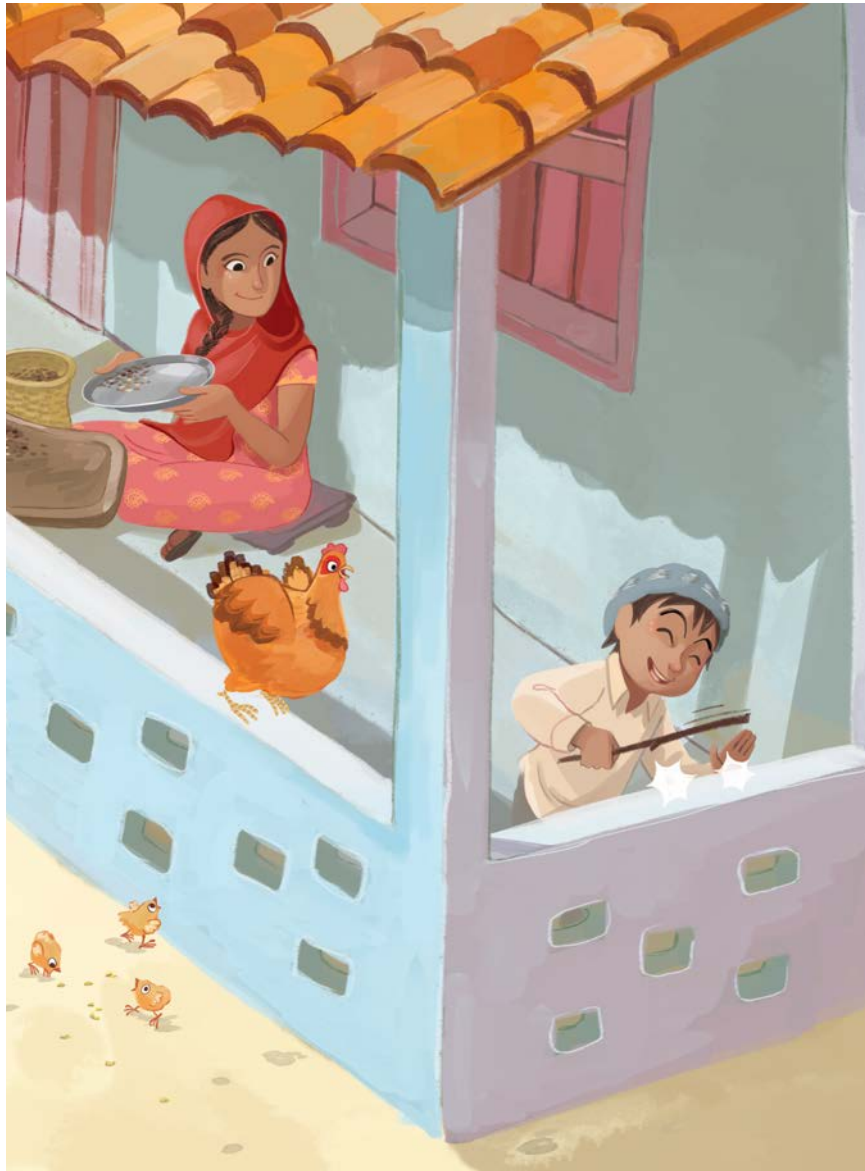
Once there was a poor boy who lived with his mother in India. More than anything else, the boy wanted a drum.



One day, Mother gave the boy a stick.



The boy tapped on everything with his stick.



As he went tapping along, he saw a woman **struggling** to light her stove. “Take this stick to light your stove,” he said.

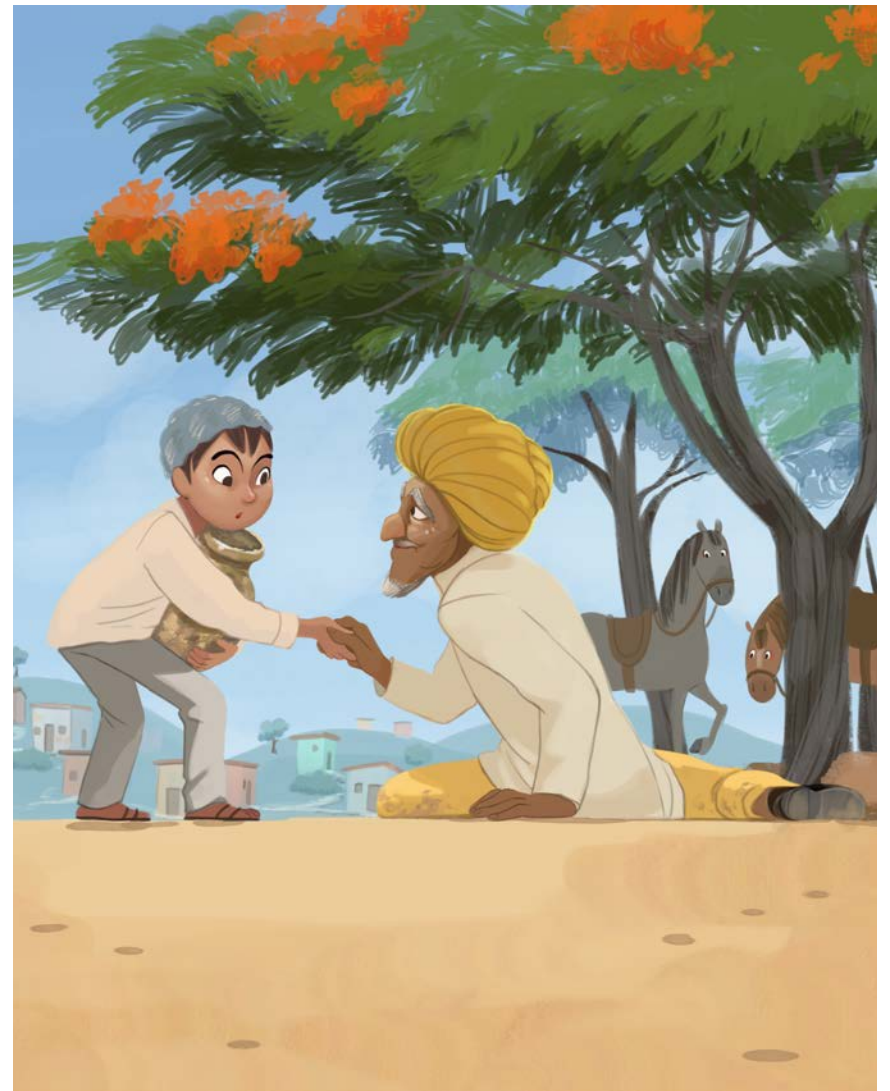
The woman gave the boy some bread as thanks.  
Then, the boy heard a **hungry** baby crying.



“Take this bread,” the boy said  
to the baby’s mother.

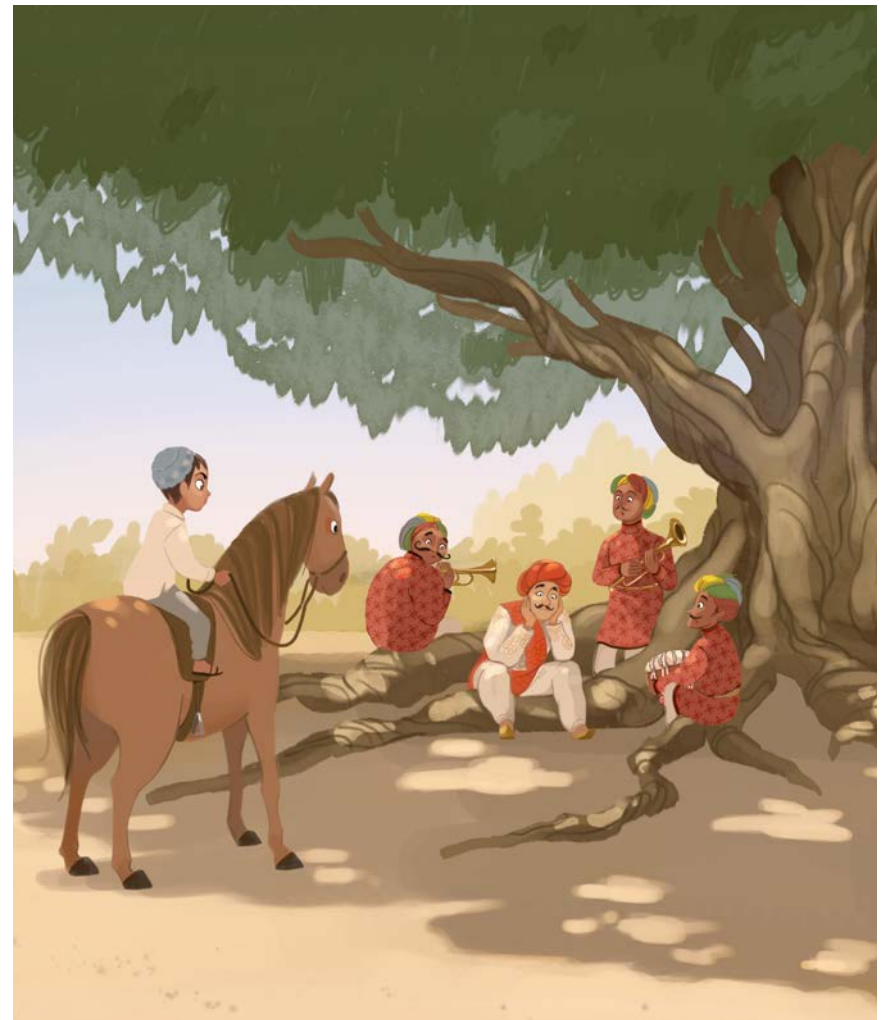


The mother gave the boy a large jug as thanks.  
Then, the boy saw an old man lying in the dirt.



The boy filled the jug with water for him.  
The man said that **robbers** stole his **goods**.

“Take this jug to sell,” the boy said.  
The man gave the boy one of his  
horses as thanks.



The boy rode down the street.  
He saw a sad man and some  
**musicians.**  
The man had no horse  
to ride to his wedding.



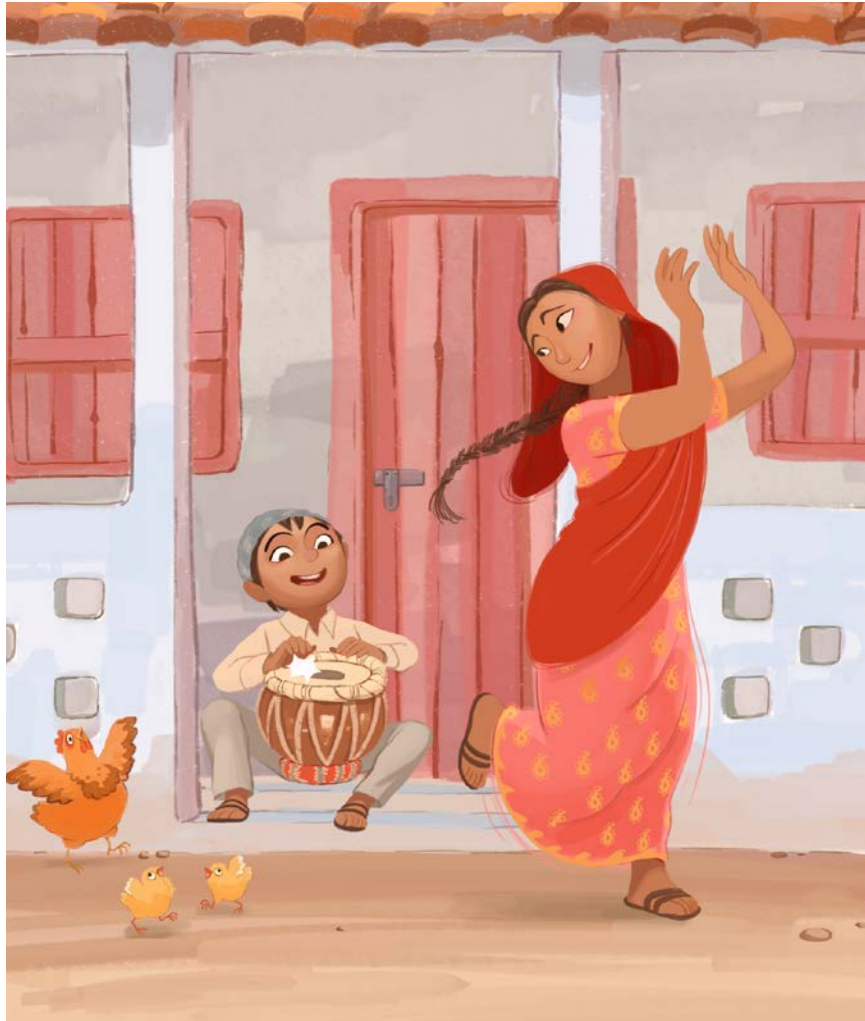
“Take this horse!” the boy said  
as he hopped off.  
The musicians gave the boy a drum  
as thanks.



The boy shouted with joy  
and banged on his drum.  
Later, the boy told Mother  
the whole story.



“When you are kind, your good **deeds** come back to you,” Mother said.  
It was a lesson the boy never forgot.



## Glossary

- deeds** (*n.*) actions done on purpose, often ones that are kind, noble, or brave (p. 15)
- goods** (*n.*) things that can be bought and sold to meet people’s wants and needs (p. 10)
- hungry** (*adj.*) wanting or needing food (p. 7)
- musicians** (*n.*) people who make music (p. 12)
- robbers** (*n.*) people who steal from others by force or the threat of force (p. 10)
- struggling** (*v.*) having a hard time reaching a goal (p. 6)