



Children's
SOCIETY
Caring for the Future

Eli and the Teacher's Day Party



About Choo Choo Train

Choo Choo Train is a series of stories and activities aiming to inculcate good values in five and six-year-old children. Children will learn eight values through 16 stories and activities. The stories will feature Eli the elephant and his friends as they learn about each value.

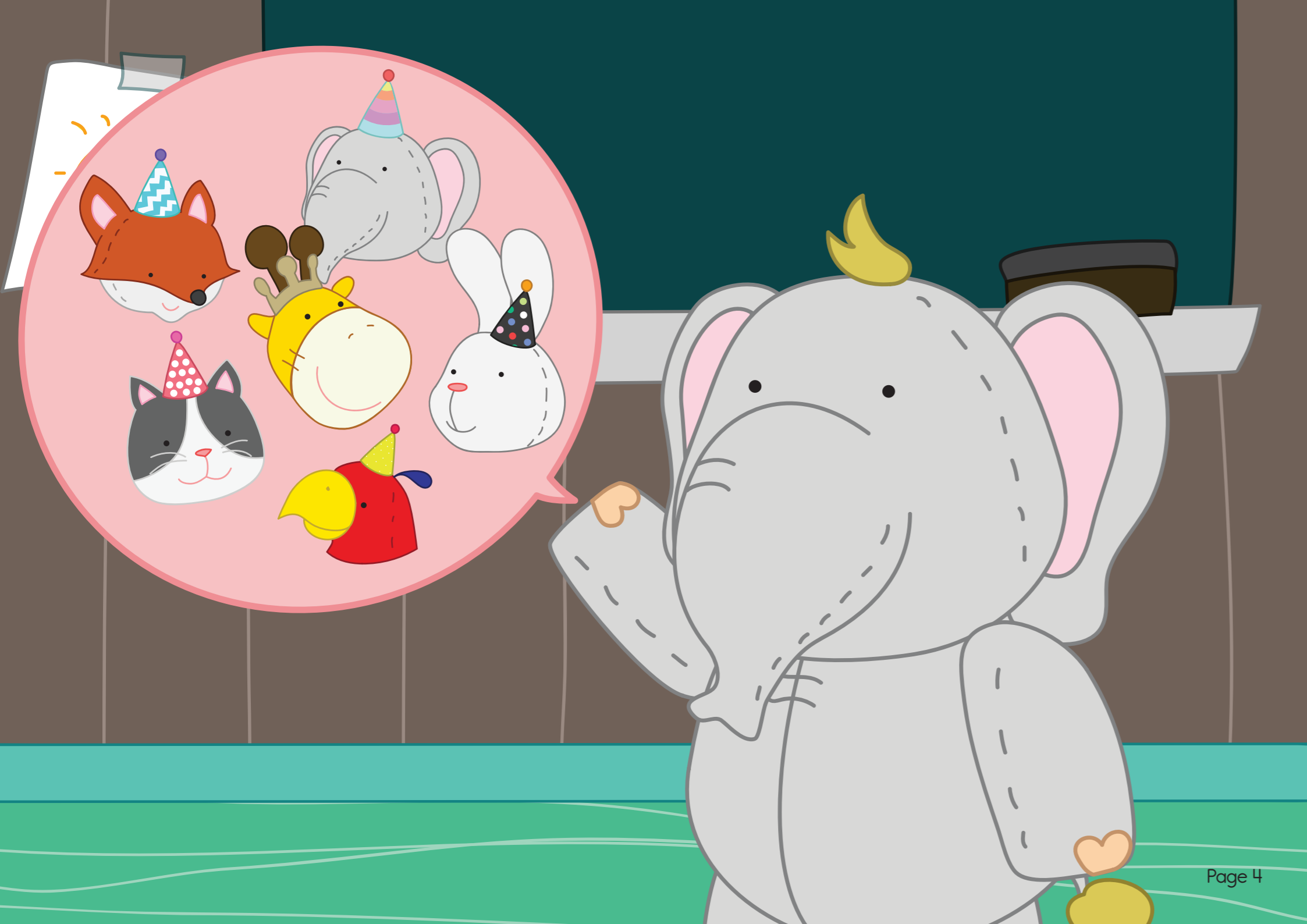
If you are a parent or an educator, there are guided questions at the end of the story that you may ask the children to build their empathy and perspective-taking skills.

Recommended activities are also included for a wholesome experience in learning these values!

About this story

In this story, we will explore the value of gratitude. Teacher's Day was approaching. Eli and his friends had wanted to plan a surprise party for Miss Gina. However, Ray did not want to join in the planning. Will Ray show gratitude? Read on to find out more.





It was a bright and sunny morning. The class was planning a surprise for Miss Gina.

“Hi everyone, Teacher’s Day is coming and I think we should throw a party for Miss Gina to thank her for teaching us,” Eli suggested to the class.

With the exception of Ray, everyone else was excited about Eli’s suggestion.

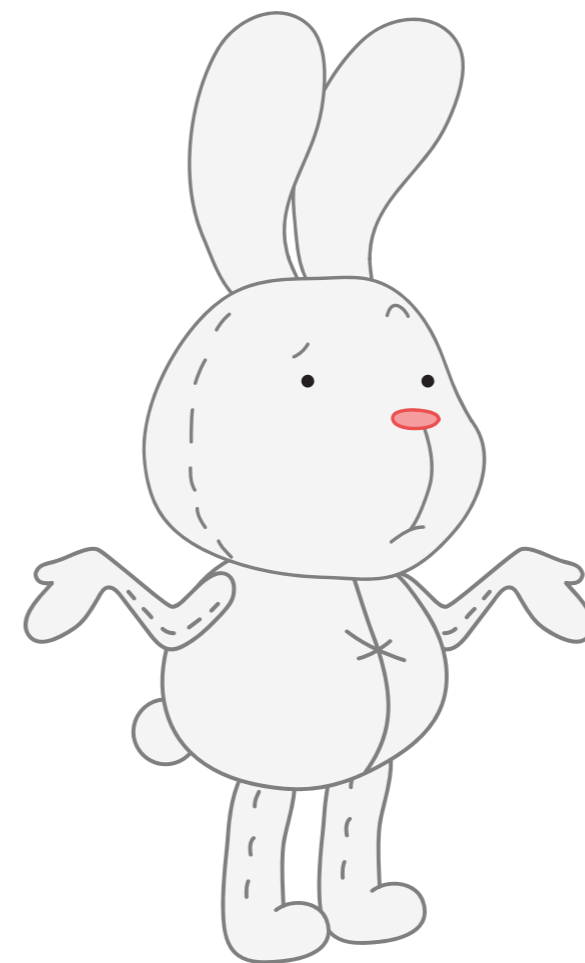


“Good idea!”

“I love parties!”

“Will we have food?” His friends replied.

Thank you, Miss Gina!



“Why do we need to have a party for Miss Gina?” Ray asked.

“We want to thank Miss Gina for being our teacher!” Eli replied.

“Why should we thank her? She is just doing her job as a teacher,” Ray said.

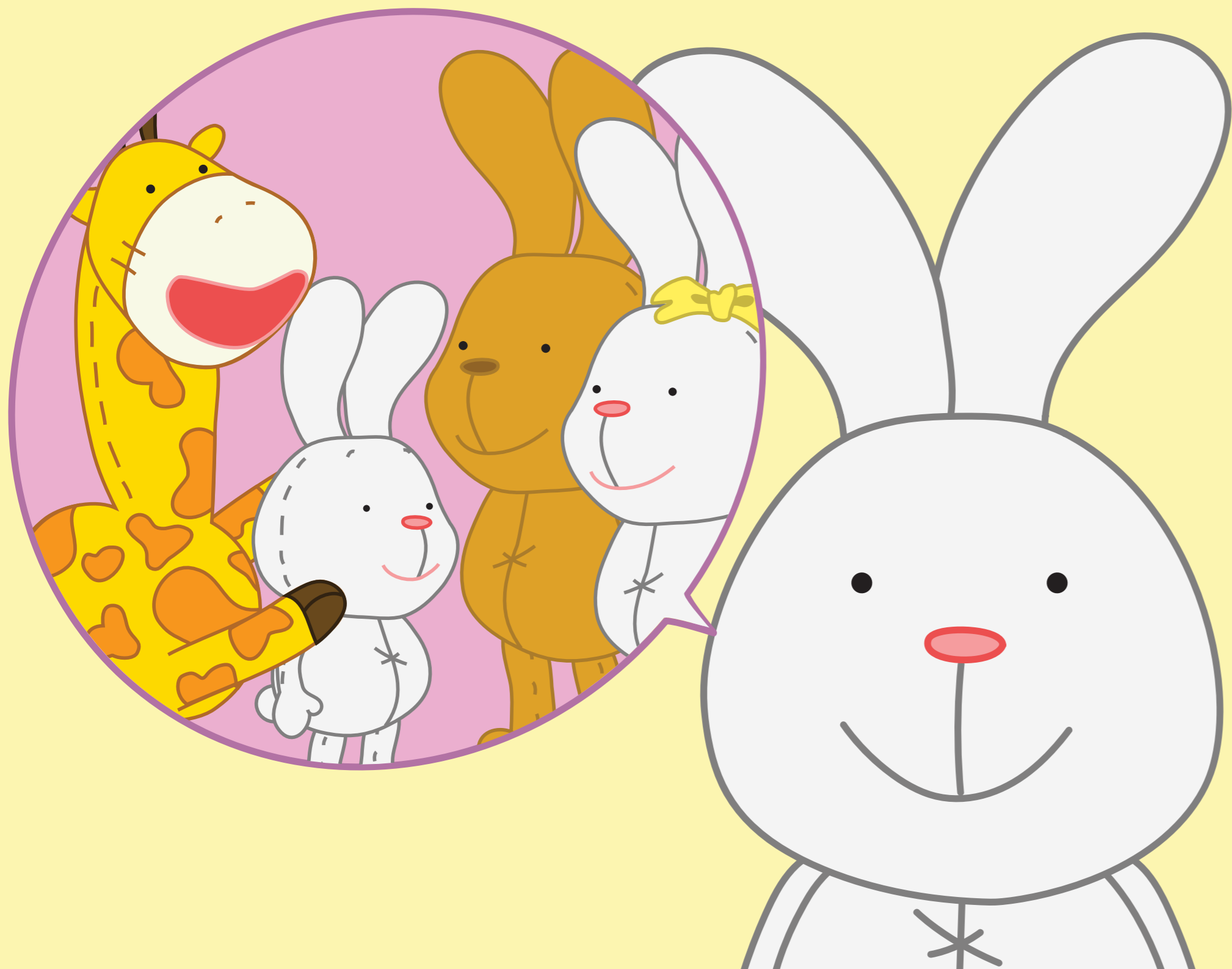
“Ray, Miss Gina has done many good things for us. We want to show our gratitude to Miss Gina by doing something nice for her,” Eli said.



“That’s right, Ray! Remember the times when we felt like giving up on completing our relay run but Miss Gina encouraged us and told us to try our best?” Felix said.

“And the times when we felt like we were not good enough but Miss Gina said she is always proud of us because she saw that we put in our best efforts,” Pat continued.

“Not forgetting all the care and love that Miss Gina has shown us. We want to show her our appreciation!” Eli added.



Ray thought about the times when Miss Gina brought up good things about him to say to his parents, and how Miss Gina had been supportive and encouraging towards him.

“Okay, I get what you are saying. I, too, want to show my gratitude towards Miss Gina and I want to do something nice for her too!” Ray said.



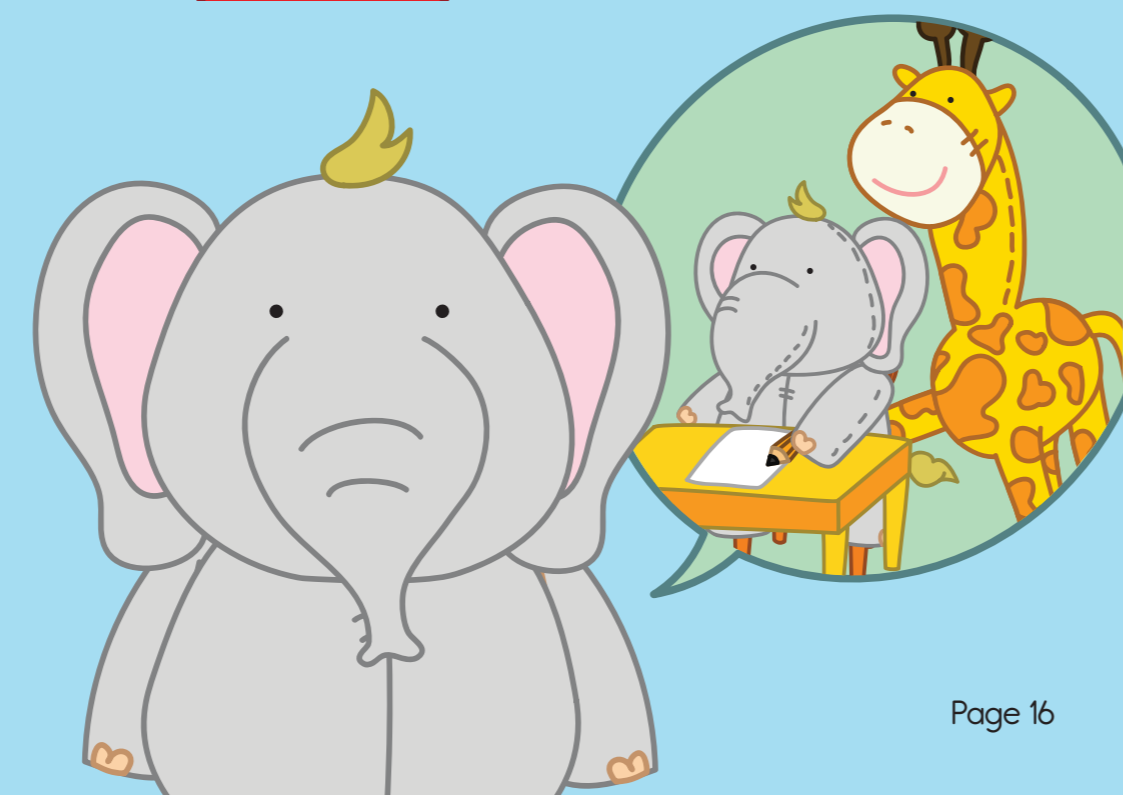
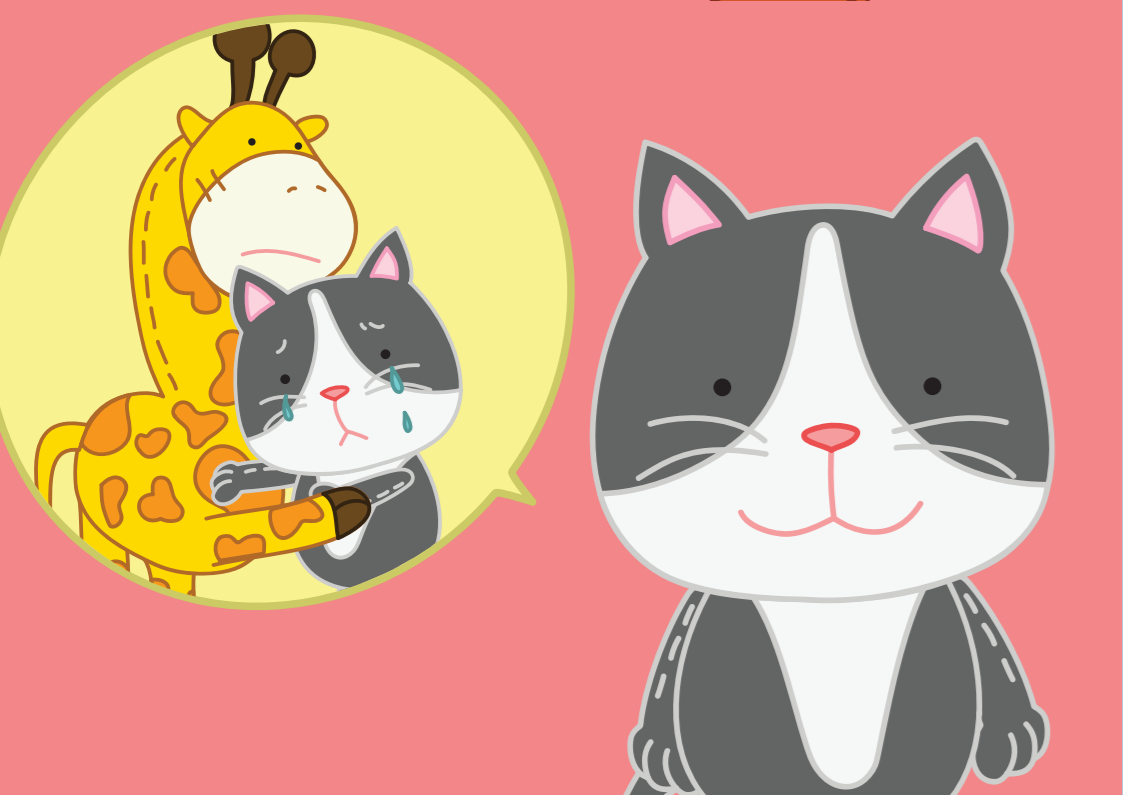
The day that everyone had been waiting for finally arrived! The class had prepared a big party for Miss Gina.

“SURPRISE!” the class shouted as Miss Gina walked into the classroom.

“What’s this?” Miss Gina asked with widened eyes.

“Happy Teacher’s Day, Miss Gina! This is a party we have prepared for you to show our gratitude to you. Thank you for everything you have done for us!” Eli said.

“A party to thank me?” Miss Gina said as tears welled up in her eyes.



“Yes! Thank you for always asking me to try my best, Miss Gina! You always try your best too!” Felix said.

“Thank you for always reminding me about my good points, Miss Gina. You are an encouraging teacher!” Pat said.

“You always give me a hug when I’m feeling sad. Now it’s my turn to give you a thank you hug in return,” Cathy said as she gave Miss Gina a big hug.

“Thank you for teaching us with love and patience, Miss Gina. We love you!” Eli said.



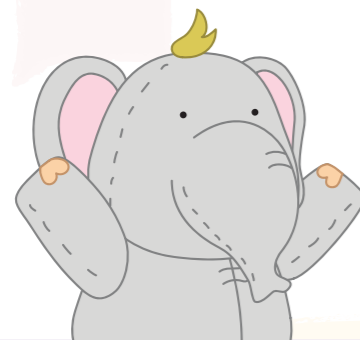
“Thank you for being the best students! I love all of you too!” Miss Gina cried as she felt touched by her students’ gratitude.

Ray was glad that he had learnt about gratitude that day.



Ask and Discuss

Here are some questions to further the discussion with your child. The suggested responses serve as a guide.

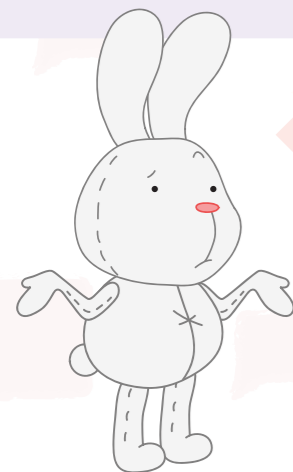


What value does this story teach?

This story teaches about courtesy. Courtesy is showing good manners to the people around us.

What happened in the story?

Eli suggested throwing a party for Miss Gina to show their gratitude to her for being a wonderful teacher. However, Ray did not understand the need to have a party for Miss Gina as he felt that Miss Gina was just doing her job as a teacher.



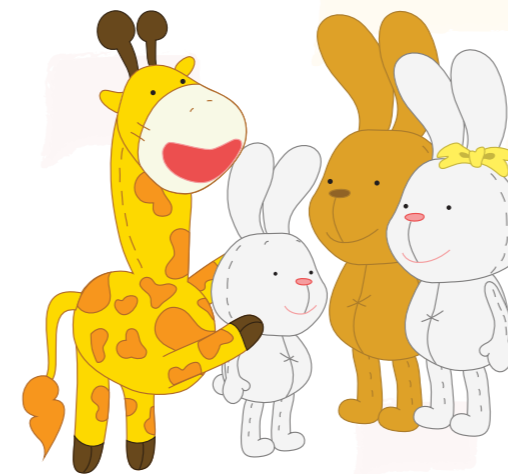
When was Ray not showing gratitude? Why do you think Ray did not show gratitude?

When Ray did not want to throw a party for Miss Gina for Teachers' Day. Ray did not show gratitude because he thought that Miss Gina was just doing her job as a teacher and thus, they do not have to show gratitude towards her.

How would you feel if you were Miss Gina and Ray does not show gratitude towards you?

I would feel hurt/unappreciated.

(Parents/educators can ask children why they would feel this way and what they would do when they feel this way to encourage children to think about their responses to such feelings.)



Why should Ray show gratitude?

Ray should show gratitude because Miss Gina has been a wonderful, encouraging and kind teacher and he should express his thankfulness for all the things she has done for her students.

What would happen if Ray continued not to show gratitude?

Ray may not be as open to the happiness of feeling thankful. Miss Gina would not feel appreciated by Ray.



Activity: Pass the Gratitude Bag!

In this activity, children will discuss about the different ways to show gratitude to different people.

1. Parent/educator/caregiver to print pictures from the next page. (Should a printer be unavailable, parent can discuss the following without the use of pictures.)
2. Put the printed pictures in a bag and tell the child that you will pass the bag as you sing the gratitude song below. (Should there be more than one child, children and parent/educator/caregiver can sit in one circle to pass the bag.)
3. When the song ends, the one who has the bag will pick out one picture. After you have picked out the picture, ask the questions on the picture to discuss how one can show gratitude to these characters in their different roles.
4. Repeat until all pictures have been picked out.

Gratitude song (to the tune of 'If You're Happy and You Know It Clap Your Hands')

To show gratitude, you need to say thank you
To show gratitude, you need to say thank you
To show gratitude, you need to say thank you to this person
To show gratitude, you need to say thank you



Teacher

1. What about your teacher are you thankful for?
2. How do you show gratitude to them?



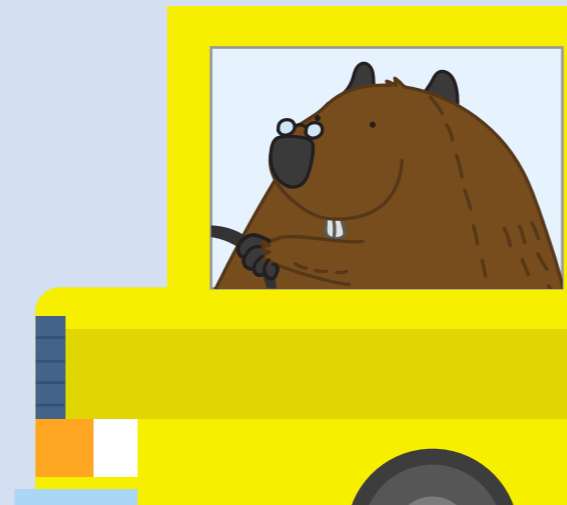
Cashier

1. What about the cashier are you thankful for?
2. How do you show gratitude to them?



Parents

1. What about your parents are you thankful for?
2. How do you show gratitude to them?



Bus Driver

1. What about the bus driver are you thankful for?
2. How do you show your gratitude to them?



Construction Worker

1. What about the construction worker are you thankful for?
2. How do you show gratitude to them?



Cleaner

1. What about the cleaner are you thankful for?
2. How do you show your gratitude to them?

SURPRISE



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ABOUT SINGAPORE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Singapore Children's Society has been helping disadvantaged children, youth and their families in Singapore since 1952. We are an independent and non-profit organisation that relies predominantly on public support for many of our programmes and public education initiatives such as Choo Choo Train.

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