



Is This My Home?
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Let's  Read

 The Asia Foundation



One night a little girl who lived not far away from you was woken up by a strange sound.



She was surprised to see a mouse making a home in her bedroom wall.



"What are you doing?" the little girl asked. "You can't live here. This is my home!"

"No, this is your house. Your home is much bigger," said the mouse.

"Bigger?" thought the little girl to herself. "Really?"



So she ran to the kitchen where she saw her pet cat, Nat.

"Is this house my home?" asked the girl.

"No," said Nat the cat. "Your home is bigger."



Outside in the garden it was windy. Very windy. So the little girl had to shout so the trees could hear her.

"Is this garden my home?"

"No," answered one of the trees. "Your home is bigger."

"Gosh," the little girl thought to herself. "I wonder how big it is."



The little girl went to the town square. It was full of pigeons trying to hide from the rain. "Is this town my home?" she asked. "No," the wettest one said. "Your home is bigger." Then he sneezed.



She walked a long, long way and arrived in the countryside where some sheep were grazing after a long day in the hot hot heat. "Is this countryside my home?" she asked. "No," said the sheep all together. "Your home is bigger."



The little girl made her way to a rainforest. It was buzzing with creepy mosquitos.

"Make yourself at home," said one of them. He couldn't wait to bite her.

"No thank you," said the polite little girl. "I think my home might be bigger."



In search of something bigger the little girl climbed a mountain. At the very top she saw a shy snow leopard trying to hide in the last of the snow.

"Is this mountain my home?" she asked.

"No," whispered the snow leopard. "Your home is bigger."



In the desert the tired little girl sat down on a rock in the shade next to some sort of lizard.

"Is this your home?" she asked.

"Not anymore. I need to move to where there's more water," said the lizardy thing.

Then it asked, "Where's your home?"

"I'm not sure," the girl answered.



"Hey! Where did you go?" said the little girl.
"Nowhere. I'm a chameleon," said the
chameleon.



After the desert the little girl sailed far into the ocean where she met a hungry whale.

"Hi whale," said the little girl.

"Hi little girl," said the whale.

"Is this ocean my home?" asked the girl.

"No," answered the whale. "Your home is much, much bigger."



The little girl couldn't think of anything bigger than an ocean.



So she made the long...



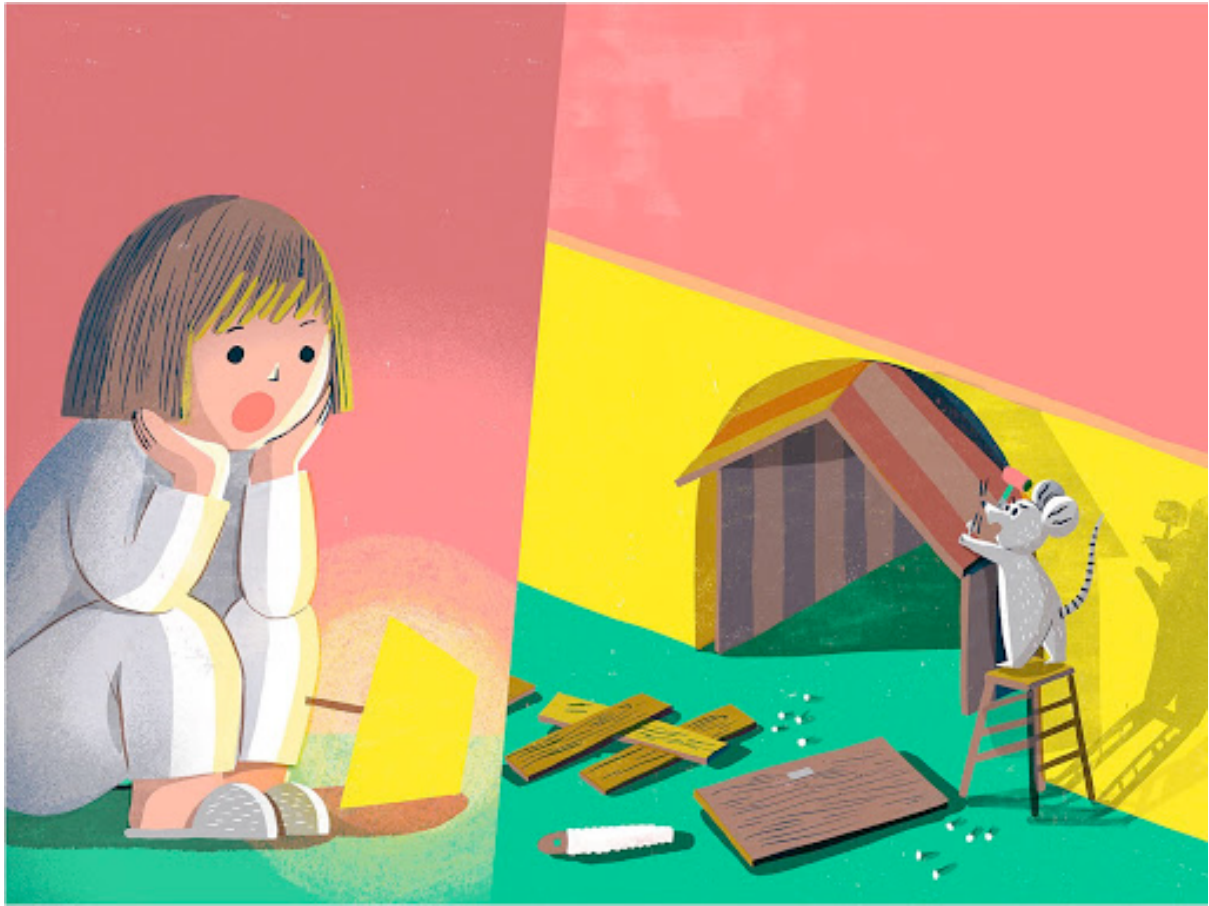
...journey...



...back.



And when she finally reached her bedroom she felt a little sad.



"I have been everywhere and I still didn't find my home," the little girl said to the mouse.

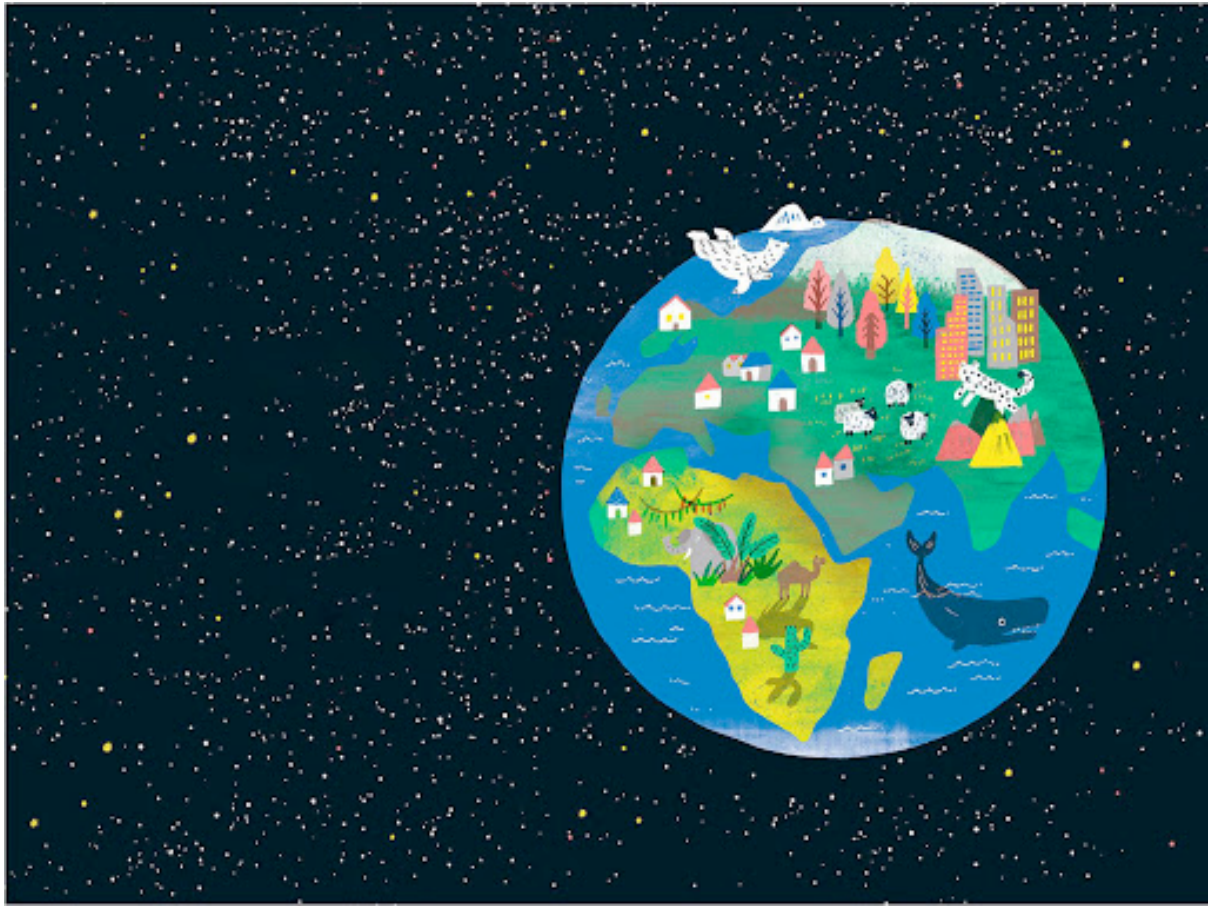
"Yes, you did!" the mouse said. "Because your home is not just your room or your house. It's not even just the country you live in. It's bigger.

Your home is the whole world – and the world is everybody's home.

And we have to be kind to it so it remains a beautiful place for all of us."



The little girl nodded and switched off her lamp. She lay in the darkness, thinking of all the wonderful creatures she shared her home with. She knew what to do. And so do you...



Love Your Home



"Hi there! Our home is a beautiful place. But humans have to be kind to it so it stays that way.

I'm sure you noticed during the little girl's journey some heavy rain and the weather getting hotter and snow melting and oceans becoming polluted.

But there's still hope for our home. We just need to care for it better. It's not so hard. And you've already learned that loving your

home is one of the most important things to do. For the benefit of everyone – you, me, the animals and that little girl who just fell asleep. Goodnight!”

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Original Story

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