



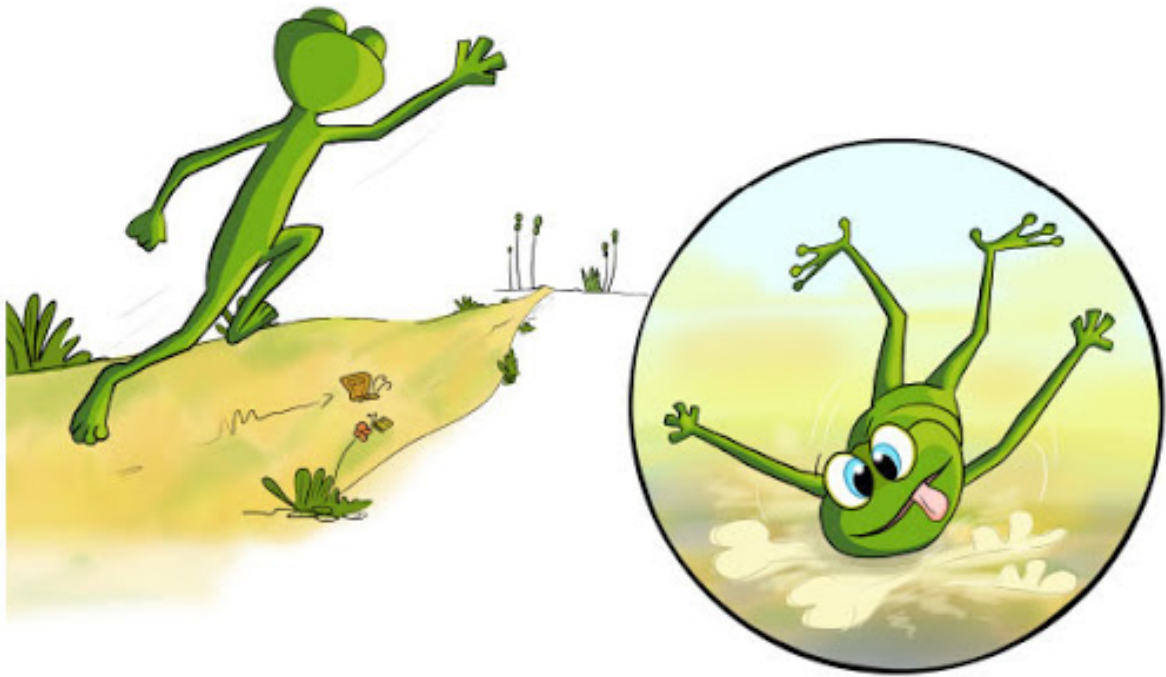
The Clever Frog  
Sat Dich  
Sorn Srey Neang



Joke Joke was always busy building things. He never wanted to splash around, and he was skinnier than everyone else. The other frogs laughed at him for being different.



One day, Joke Joke worked so hard on his latest project that he missed lunch! His stomach began to growl loudly.



He ran home as fast as he could. He ran so fast that he tripped and fell down!





"Mother, I am hungry! Where is my lunch?"  
Joke Joke asked when he got home.  
But his mother was in bed. She did not look well. "I am very sick, my son. I fell in the sewer while looking for food. The chemicals have given me a rash, and I cannot stand up."  
"

"I must go to the mountain to find medicine for you, Mother."

Joke Joke's mother coughed and said, "No, it is

too far and too dangerous.”

“Don’t worry, Mother. I am brave and clever. I can do it!”



Joke Joke set off for the mountain. But he soon came to a big river. How would he cross it?



Suddenly, a plastic bottle floated by. Joke Joke got an idea!

"I will use the bottle to make a boat and float across the river."





The bottle made an excellent boat. But a school of fish soon surrounded Joke Joke. "Where are you going, frog?" the largest fish asked.

"Please don't eat me," begged Joke Joke. "I am going to fetch medicine for my sick mother." The fish took pity on Joke Joke and pushed his boat in the right direction.

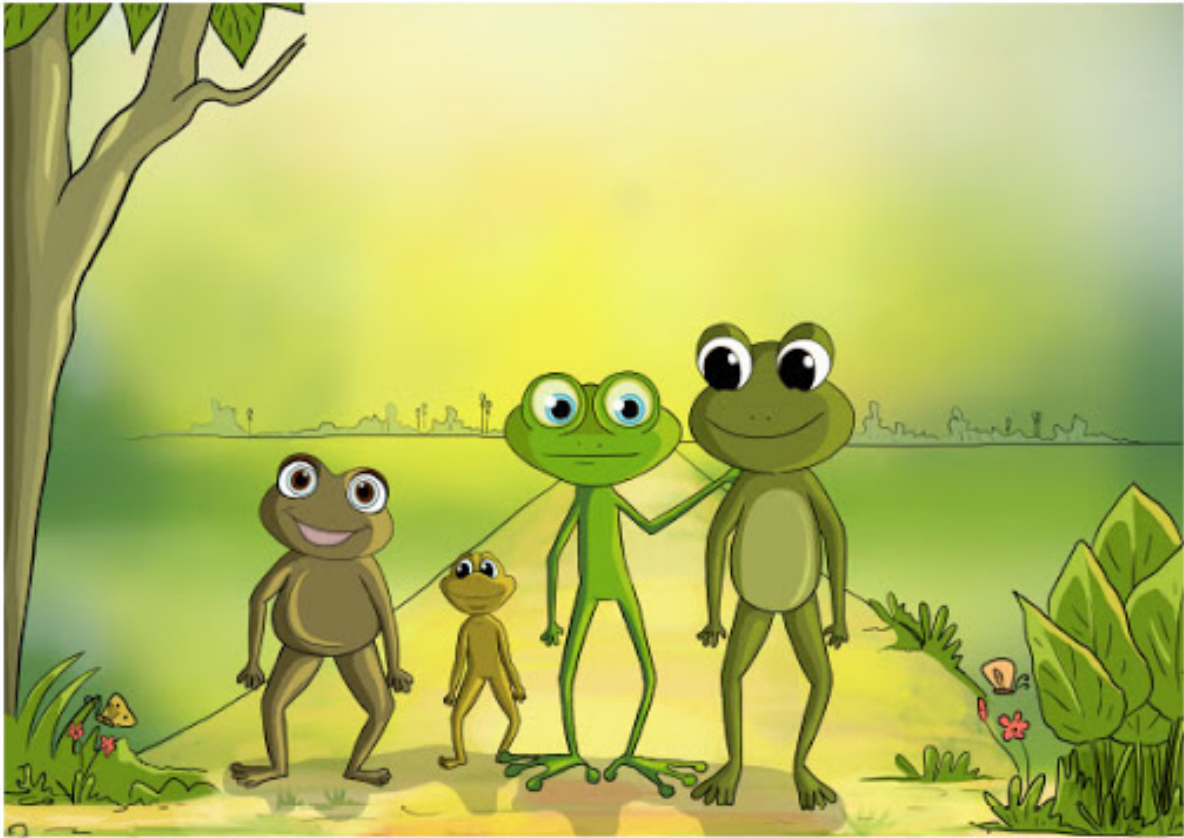


Soon, Joke Joke saw some frogs.

"Cool boat!" one of them shouted.

"Thank you," he replied. "Do you know where the mountain is?"

"Yes, we can show you!"



Joke Joke enjoyed traveling with his new friends. They listened to his ideas and never laughed at him. But he was still worried about his mother.



Soon the mountain was in sight, and it was time for the other frogs to go home. Joke Joke had to be brave and continue alone.





At last, he reached the place on the mountain where special leaves grow. These leaves could be used to make medicine to help his mother. "Hooray! I did it!" Joke Joke exclaims.





When Joke Joke was ready to go home, he got a new clever idea.

“Those plastic bags floating in the wind will carry me home!”



Joke Joke jumped into the air!  
But it soon began to rain, knocking his  
parachute out of the sky.



With a thud, Joke Joke landed on an elephant. The elephant was quite startled. "What is that on my back?"

"It is me, Joke Joke the frog. I am trying to find my way home to give my sick mother this medicine. Can you help me?"



The elephant gave Joke Joke a big toss into the air.

"Woo-hoo! Here I go!" Joke Joke exclaimed. Just then, a hungry falcon spotted the frog flying in the air.



"I've got you, frog!" she cried.

"Don't eat me!" Joke Joke begged. "I need to bring this medicine to my mother. She is very sick."

"Okay, I will help you," the falcon agreed. "

You are too skinny to make much of a meal anyway."

The falcon carried Joke Joke all the way back to his home.







"Mother, I am here! I brought medicine for you!"



Joke Joke's mother soon recovered.

"How did you ever get to the mountain and back?" she asked.

Joke Joke told her of his big adventure and how he was able to cleverly use trash to make new things that would help him on his way.

"I am so proud of you, Joke Joke," his mother said.



Joke Joke no longer worried about what the other frogs thought of him. He knew that he was different in a good way. He could help people, and he could make cool things!

"I have so many new ideas. Wait until you see what I make next!"



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## More About the Environment

To reduce the use of plastics, all supermarkets in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, are now required by law to charge customers for plastic carry-out bags.

The government has also created an outreach campaign to educate people about the negative impact of plastics on the planet and how to reduce the use of plastics.

For more information, please visit:

<https://plasticfreecambodia.com/individuals/>

<https://youtu.be/Wyt3H0XGThM>

Additional environmental information provided by Conservation International in collaboration with the Asia Foundation.







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### **Original Story**

*កញ្ចាញ់ចេកសម្បូរ (The Clever Frog)*, Author: Sat Dich. Illustrator: Sorn Srey Neang. Published by The Asia Foundation - Let's Read, © The Asia Foundation - Let's Read. Released under CC-BY-NC-4.0.

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