



THE MISSING LETTERS

It was summer time at school! All the children had gone away for their holidays, and the letters in the alphabet were left all alone. They felt unhappy. The teacher felt sorry for the letters and took all of them out on a picnic to a children's park.

The park had lots of trees, flowers, and also a special play area! Oh how the letters enjoyed themselves! They played 'hide-and-seek'. They had so much fun! Finally, it was time to go back school. The teacher started counting the letters - Now let's see - how many letters are there in the alphabet? Twenty-six!

Yes - A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, - what is the next alphabet? R, of course. But where was R? Oh no! R was missing!

The teacher wanted to ask somebody about R. So what comes after R? S! So, where was S? Oh no! S was

missing too! And all the other letters coming after S were missing as well! The teacher started searching for the missing letters. But it was already dark, and she could not see well. So, the teacher asked the other letters not to move. Who could help her now?

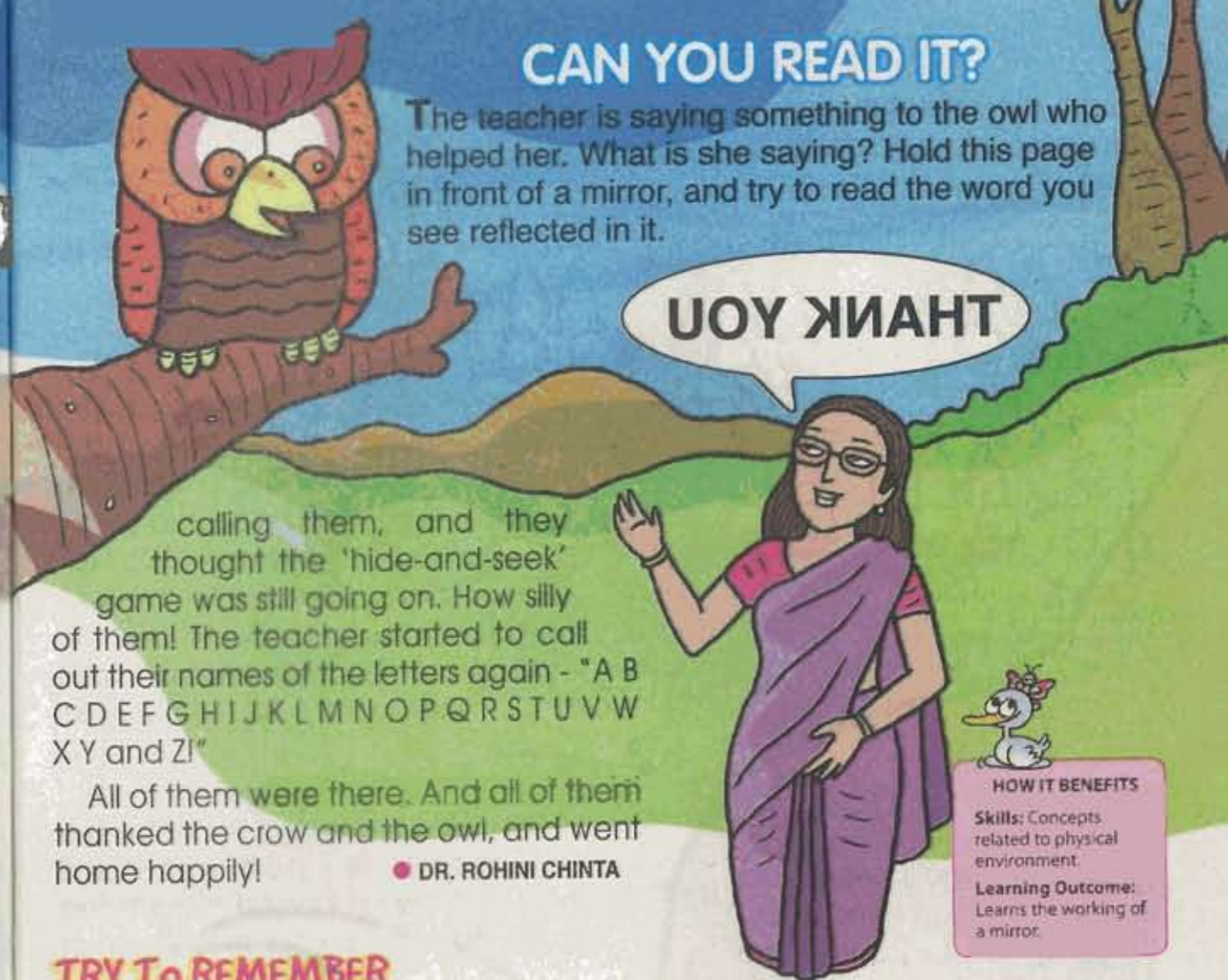
The teacher sat under a tree, feeling very unhappy and sad. A crow living on the tree saw her and asked her what had happened. She told the crow about the missing letters, and asked if he could help to find them. "I cannot see very well at night. Neither can the sparrow, nor the parrot," replied the crow. "But I know that the owl can see very well at night! Let's ask the owl to help us," suggested the crow.

So the teacher and the crow went to the owl, and asked for help. The owl searched the park, and found the letters hiding behind a bush! The letters had not heard their teacher



CAN YOU READ IT?

The teacher is saying something to the owl who helped her. What is she saying? Hold this page in front of a mirror, and try to read the word you see reflected in it.



calling them, and they thought the 'hide-and-seek' game was still going on. How silly of them! The teacher started to call out their names of the letters again - "A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y and Z!"

All of them were there. And all of them thanked the crow and the owl, and went home happily!

● DR. ROHINI CHINTA



HOW IT BENEFITS

Skills: Concepts related to physical environment.

Learning Outcome: Learns the working of a mirror.

TRY TO REMEMBER

You have seen a similar picture on Page 13. But some things are missing in this picture. Try to remember them, and say their names out loud.

