PRATHAM BOOKS
A Book in Every Child's Hand

Level 2

I Spy!

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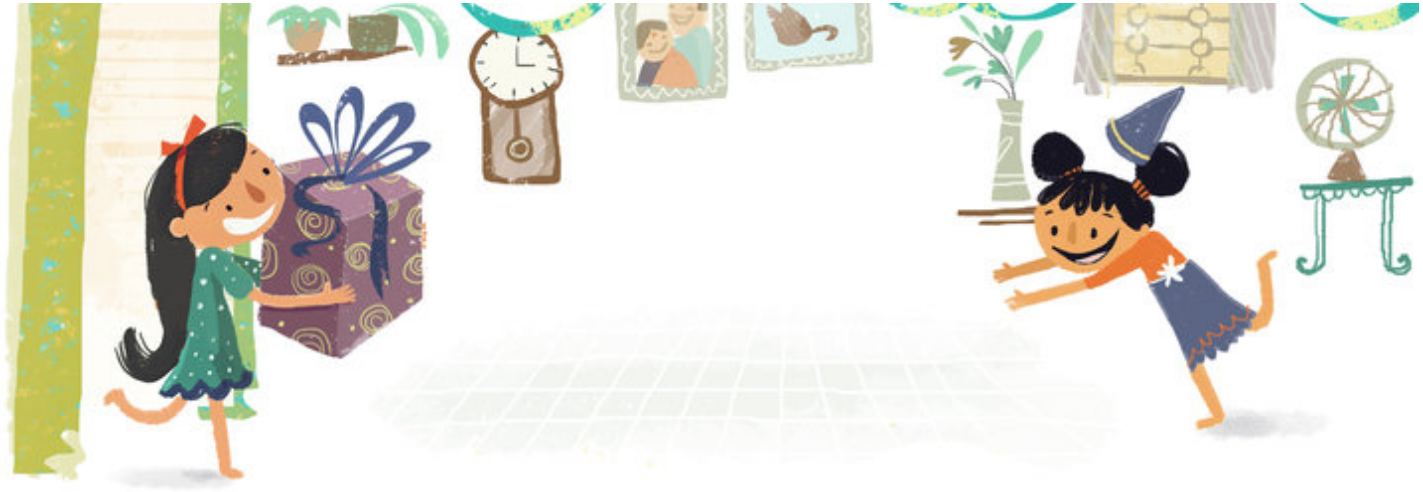
Sania was excited. She was turning six today!

Papa was making his Very Special Pav Bhaji. And Sania's BEST friends - Aman, Zoya, Harpreet, Jude, Karan, Maria, Priya (who was very bossy), Rohan, and Shaan - were coming for the party.



Knock-knock! It was Maria. She had brought a BIG present. Ooooh!

Knock-knock! Knock, knock!

Soon, all **NINE** guests had arrived. **Hurray!**

"Let's play I Spy!" said Sania.

Sania loved I Spy because she knew how to stay very, very quiet. Once, Maria could not find her for a whole hour!

"The birthday girl should count!" yelled Priya (who was very bossy).

Knock-knock!
Who could it be now?

It was Jude's Papa, looking smart. He drove cars for a big hotel.

"I have been called in to work," he said. "Jude has to go home to his baby sister. I'm sorry, Jude. Happy birthday, Sania."

Jude left, looking sad. Sania was sad too.

Now there were only **EIGHT** guests at her party.

"Come ON!" yelled Priya (who was very bossy). "Let's start the game!"
Sania glared at her, but then closed her eyes and began to count.

"1, 2, 3..." Karan rolled himself into a mat.

"4, 5, 6..." Priya hoisted herself into the loft.

"7, 8, 9..." Harpreet ran out of the door.

"TEN!" yelled Sania. "Ready or not, here I come!"

EIGHT people to find!

Sania ran around the room like a mad thing, and tripped over the mat.

"Ow!" said Sania.

"Ow!" said the mat.

"I spy Karan!" sang Sania. Poor Karan!

How many left to find?
SEVEN!

"**BOW BOW BOW!**" Sania's dog Raja dashed into the room with a pink dupatta. Zoya came running in behind him.

"Bad dog!" she shouted. "Naughty dog!"

"I spy Zoya!" laughed Sania.

That was easy!

How many left to find? **SIX!**

Sania dashed into the bedroom.

No one behind the mattresses.

Nothing inside the trunk.

"**ACHOOOO!**" sneezed the cupboard.

Sania yanked the door open. "**ACHOOO!**" sneezed Rohan again.

"Too much dust here," grumbled Aman.

"I spy Rohan AND Aman!" clapped Sania.

How many left to find?
FOUR!

Sania climbed up to the roof. Something moved behind the water tank. Sania crept closer.

"Hisss!" The cat shot out, straight into the clothesline.

"Yaaaaaa!" Mamma's saree yelled with fright and fell in a heap on the ground.

"I spy Shaan!" cheered Sania.

How many left to find? **THREE!**

"SHOOO! GO AWAY! NOOOO!"

What was going on? Sania hurried into the garden. Behind the hibiscus bushes, she saw two scared girls and one fat bee.

"I spy Harpreet!" shouted Sania, running away from the bee. "And Maria!"

How many left to find?
ONE!

The smell of the Very Special Pav Bhaji filled the house. Sania's stomach began to growl.

"Cake-cutting time, Sania!" called Mama. "We are all waiting!"

"Happy birthday tooo youuuu!" sang everyone.

"Hello!" yelled an angry voice. **"You haven't found me yet!"**

"I spy Priya!" Sania tried not to laugh. "Cake?"

Harpreet giggled. Zoya chuckled.

"How dare you laugh at..." Priya shook her fist.

THUD! She fell out of the loft onto a pile of pillows.

Sania did not laugh. She helped Priya up, and cut her a big slice of cake.

"Thank you," said Priya. She didn't sound bossy anymore. "Happy birthday, Sania."

Sania smiled. How many left to find?

ZERO!

TAKE IT AWAY!

NINE of Sania's friends came to the party. When Jude left, there was ONE LESS THAN NINE, i.e., EIGHT friends. ONE friend was TAKEN AWAY from the group. We can write this as:

9 (friends) - 1 (Jude) = 8 (friends left).

When there were SIX friends left to find, Sania found Rohan AND Aman. Now there were TWO LESS THAN SIX friends to find. TWO friends were removed, or TAKEN AWAY.

We can write this as:
6 (friends) - 2 (Rohan and Aman) = 4 (friends left).

This 'TAKING AWAY' of a small number from a bigger number is called **SUBTRACTION**.

But subtraction does not work only with friends.

It works just as well with rajma seeds...

If you TAKE AWAY 3 rajma seeds from 9, how many are you left with?

9 (seeds) - 3 (seeds) = _____ (seeds left)
And it works even with rupee coins.

If you take away 4 rupee coins from a stack of 8 rupee coins, how many do you have left?

8 (rupees) - 4 (rupees) = _____ (rupees left)

Isn't that amazing?

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I Spy!
(English)

A simple game of 'I Spy' at Sania's birthday party turns into a hilarious misadventure when bees and cats and dogs decide to join in. Does Sania find ALL her hidden friends in the end? COUNT DOWN with the birthday girl to find out!

This is a Level 2 book for children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help.

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