How Bittu Bottu Got Better

Author: Ashok Rajagopalan
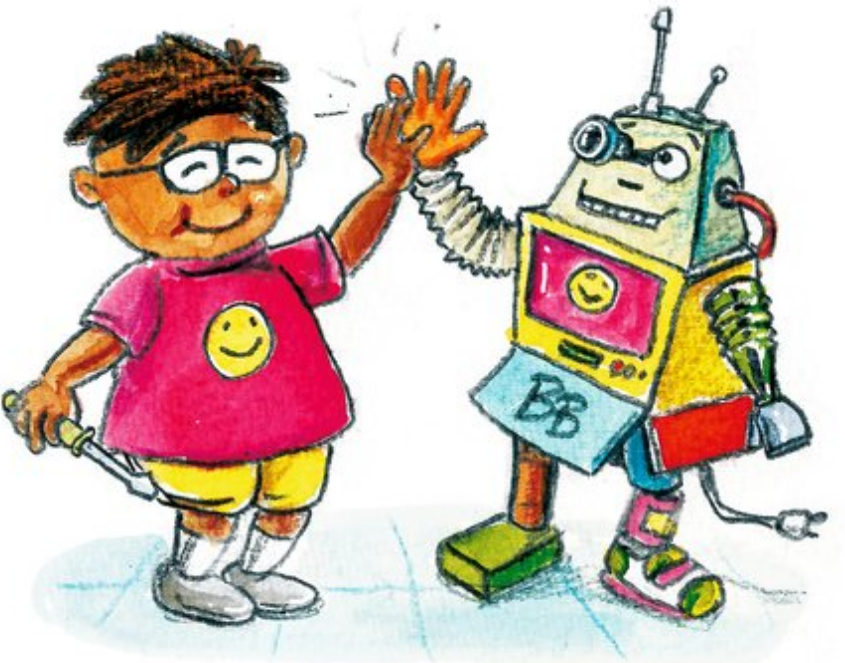**Illustrator:** Ashok Rajagopalan

Level 3

Andy Prakash was only eight years old,
but he studied in Class 10.

He had more brains than the whole school.
More brains than the students, more brains
than the teachers and even more brains
than the principal!

The walking, talking proof of his super-intelligence was Bittu Bottu, a robot he had built all by himself.
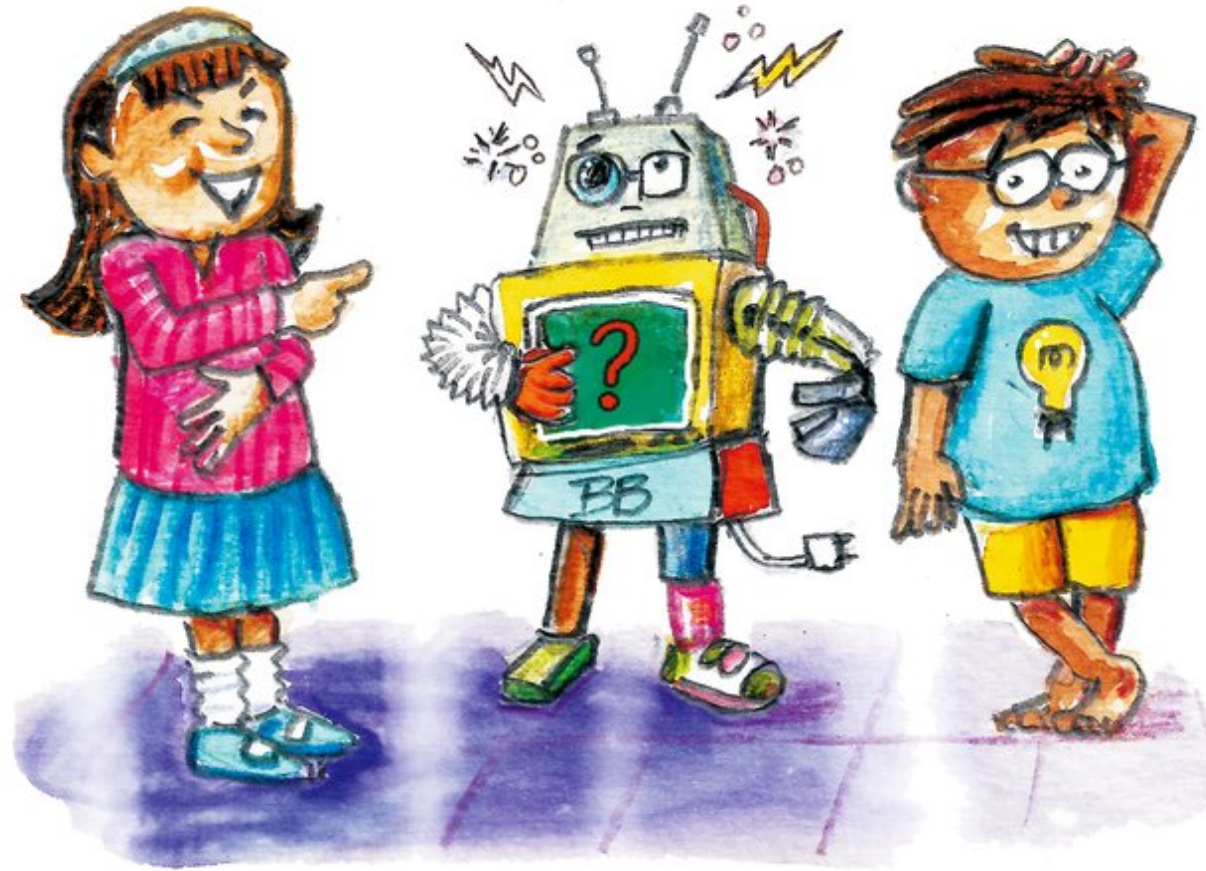
Bittu Bottu could answer any question.

"Bittu Bottu, how tall is Mount Everest?"
"About 8,848 metres above sea level," Bittu Bottu replied.

"Bittu Bottu, why did the chicken cross the road?"

Well, *almost* any question.

Bittu Bottu did Andy's homework.

Bittu Bottu did Andy's housework.

"**Andy!** Clean your room yourself!"

Bittu Bottu did Andy's lab work.

"Who bought all this? Diodes, resistors, capacitors and transistors... And look at the electricity bill! **ANDY!**"

One day, Andy sent Bittu Bottu
to school in his place.

"Andy Prakash!"
"Present, teacher."

The class teacher kept Bittu Bottu back at school
and sent Andy's parents an angry text message.

"ANDY!"

"Ma, I want Bittu Bottu back.
I miss him! Please write the teacher
a letter," Andy told Amma.

"That robot spoils you.
I won't write it."

"Pa, please write a letter
to my teacher!"

"What, and get big electricity bills
in return? No, of course not."

Andy climbed into school that night.

That was when he found...

a diode

an IC

a transistor

Andy followed the trail of Bittu Bottu's parts to the computer lab.

"Bittu Bottu is falling apart! I must have overworked him," he thought.
"Where are you, my poor BB?"
"Are you in the computer lab? I have your parts, BB!"

Andy found the lab locked.
CRUCK CRUCK
Someone was coming!

Andy hid behind a pillar as Security Anna walked past the computer lab. What could he do now? How would he give the parts to Bittu Bottu?

"Hey, Bittu Bottu," Andy whispered.

Bittu Bottu was too weak
to walk or talk.

Andy threw the diode, IC and transistor
into a bag and pushed it through
the window.

Bittu Bottu fixed himself with the components. He crawled, little by little, to a corner.
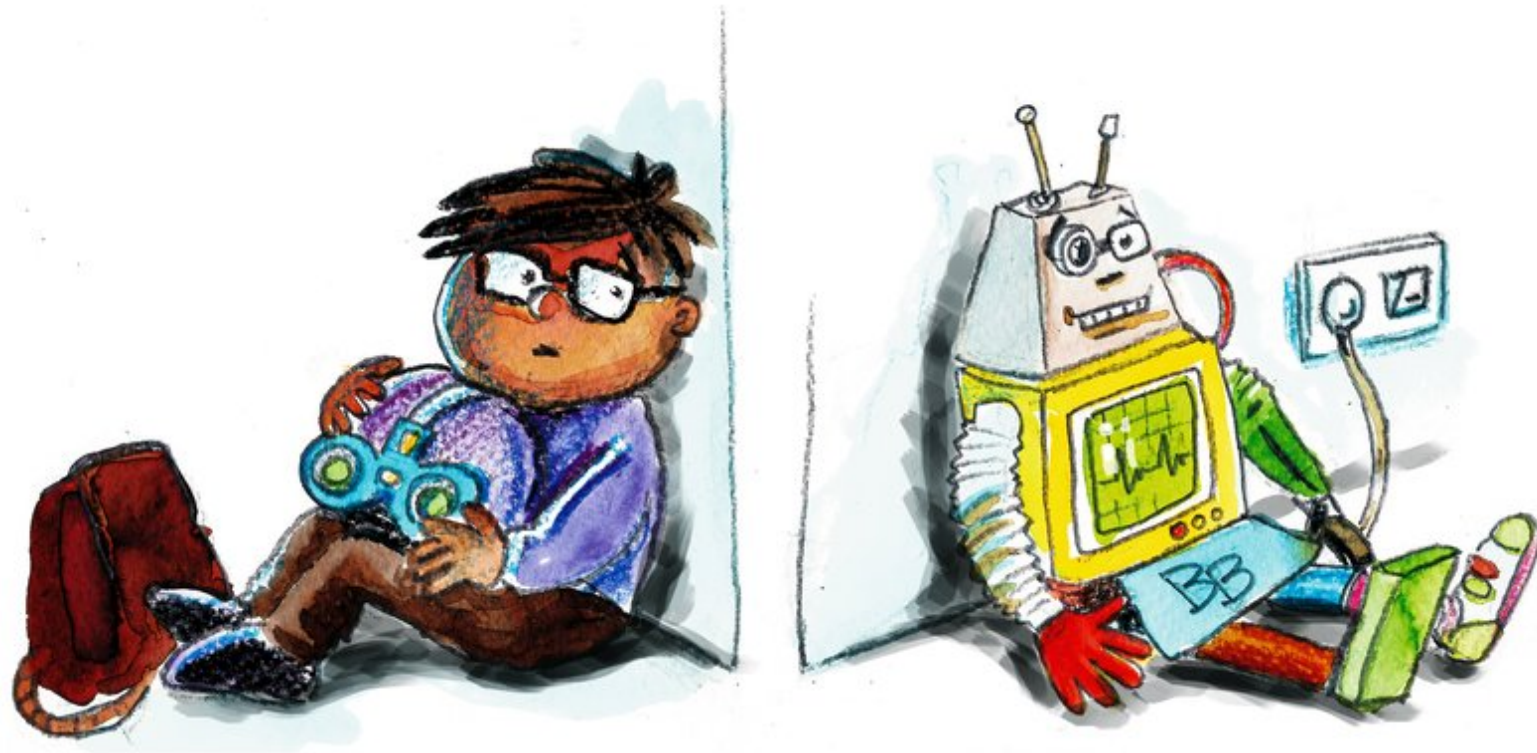
"What are you doing, Bittu Bottu? Are you okay?" asked Andy.
"I am charging my battery, Andooo…"
"Ah, good boy! But don't call me Andooo!"
"Okay, Andooo…"

The next morning,
Andy gave the teacher
a letter from his mother.

Respected Class Teacher,

My son, Andy Prakash, studying in
your class, has promised to do all
his work without help from his robot.
Kindly do the needful and please
return the robot to him.

Thanking you,
Yours respectfully,
Andy's mother

P.S. This letter was not written by
another robot or by Andy, but by me.

Bittu Bottu was allowed to go home with Andy that day.

Now Andy did the
housework himself.

He did his lab work himself.

Andy even did his
homework himself...

But not always.

Bittu Bottu is made of four basic parts.
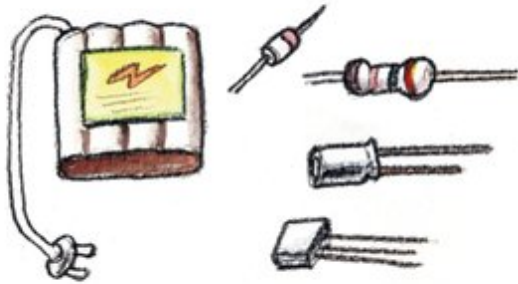
1. Power Supply
Robots need electricity to do work.
Bittu Bottu has a rechargeable battery
inside and solar powered cells outside.
Diodes, resistors, transistors and
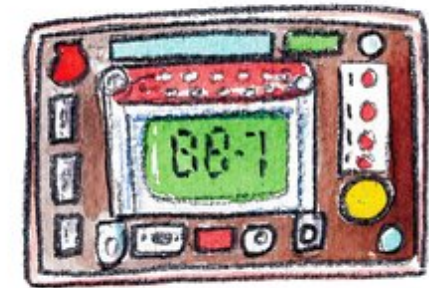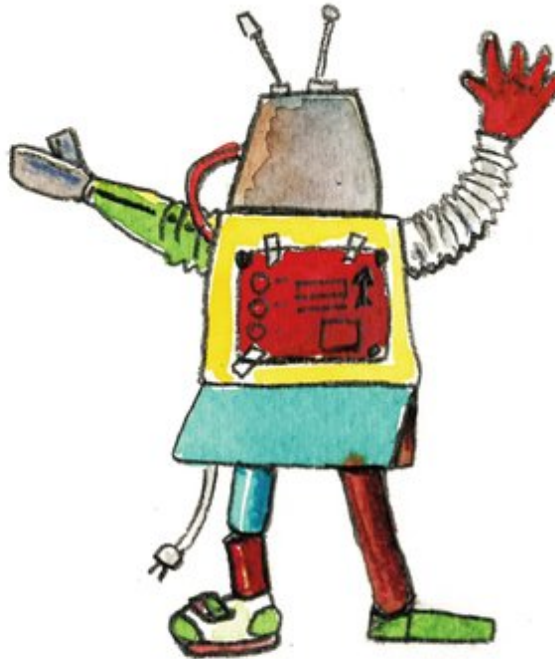capacitors control the power as
needed.
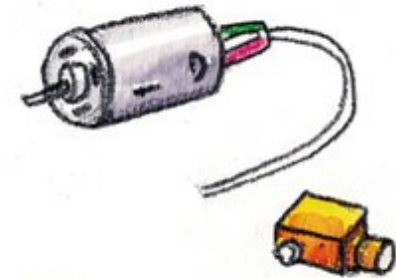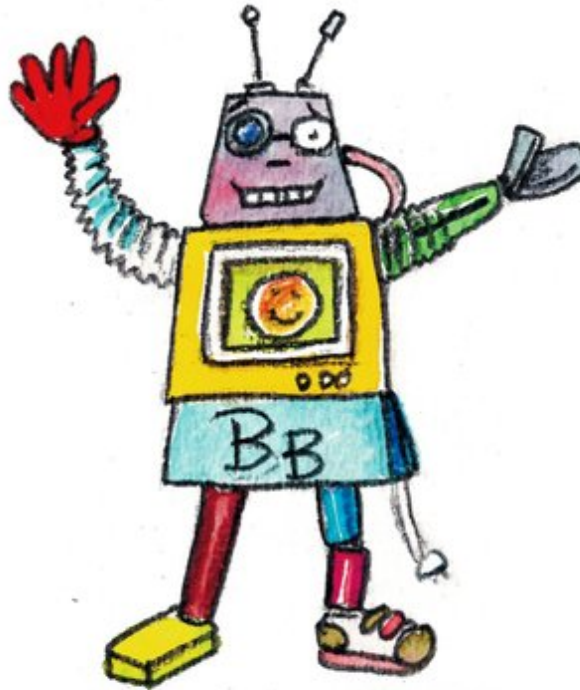
2. Actuators
Actuators are motors that use power
to help the robot move. Big motors help
Bittu Bottu move from place to place.
Little motors move his head and arms.
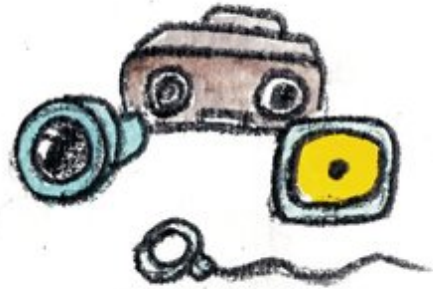
3. Sensors

Sensors allow a robot to see and hear. Bittu Bottu's sensors are cameras and microphones that work as his eyes and ears.

4. Controller

The controller is the brain of a robot. It understands the information from the sensors and tells the actuators what to do. It can be programmed to follow human commands. A controller is usually made of integrated circuits (ICs).

Story Attribution:

This story: How Bittu Bottu Got Better is written by Ashok Rajagopalan . © Pratham Books , 2020. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Other Credits:

'How Bittu Bottu Got Better' has been published on StoryWeaver by Pratham Books. The development of this book has been supported by CISCO. www.prathambooks.org.

Images Attributions:

Cover page: A boy and his robot surrounded by parts by Ashok Rajagopalan © Pratham Books, 2020. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 2: A boy walks into school, by Ashok Rajagopalan © Pratham Books, 2020. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 3: A boy building a robot with different parts lying around home, by Ashok Rajagopalan © Pratham Books, 2020. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 4: A boy with his robot and family by Ashok Rajagopalan © Pratham Books, 2020. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 5: A girl points at a robot and laughs by Ashok Rajagopalan © Pratham Books, 2020. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 6: A boy showing his homework to his teacher, by Ashok Rajagopalan © Pratham Books, 2020. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 7: A robot does work while a boy relaxes, by Ashok Rajagopalan © Pratham Books, 2020. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 8: A robot goes to school and gets cuaght by the teacher, by Ashok Rajagopalan © Pratham Books, 2020. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: A mom and dad yell angrily, by Ashok Rajagopalan © Pratham Books, 2020. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 10: A mom and dad scold a boy by Ashok Rajagopalan © Pratham Books, 2020. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 11: A boy sneaks into school at night and finds a part, by Ashok Rajagopalan © Pratham Books, 2020. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Images Attributions:

How Bittu Bottu Got
Better
(English)

Andy's robot Bittu Bottu did everything for him, from his housework to his homework. But when Bittu Bottu got in trouble, would Andy be there for him?

This is a Level 3 book for children who are ready to read on their own.