



Level 2

# The Tale of the Water Hyacinth

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On the southern part of the river, there is an abundance of a plant called the water hyacinth.





Nep knows the water hyacinth has purple flowers.

She knows they like getting stuck in the propeller of canoes, making Dad's canoe hard to start.





She knows that using the water hyacinth  
to play house is so much fun.









She knows that when Mom cooks water hyacinth with braised fish, it's delicious!

Nep also knows that her sister Lily likes to eat them fried, with shrimp.











But Nep doesn't know why Mom cuts off their stems and leaves...





...and dries them.





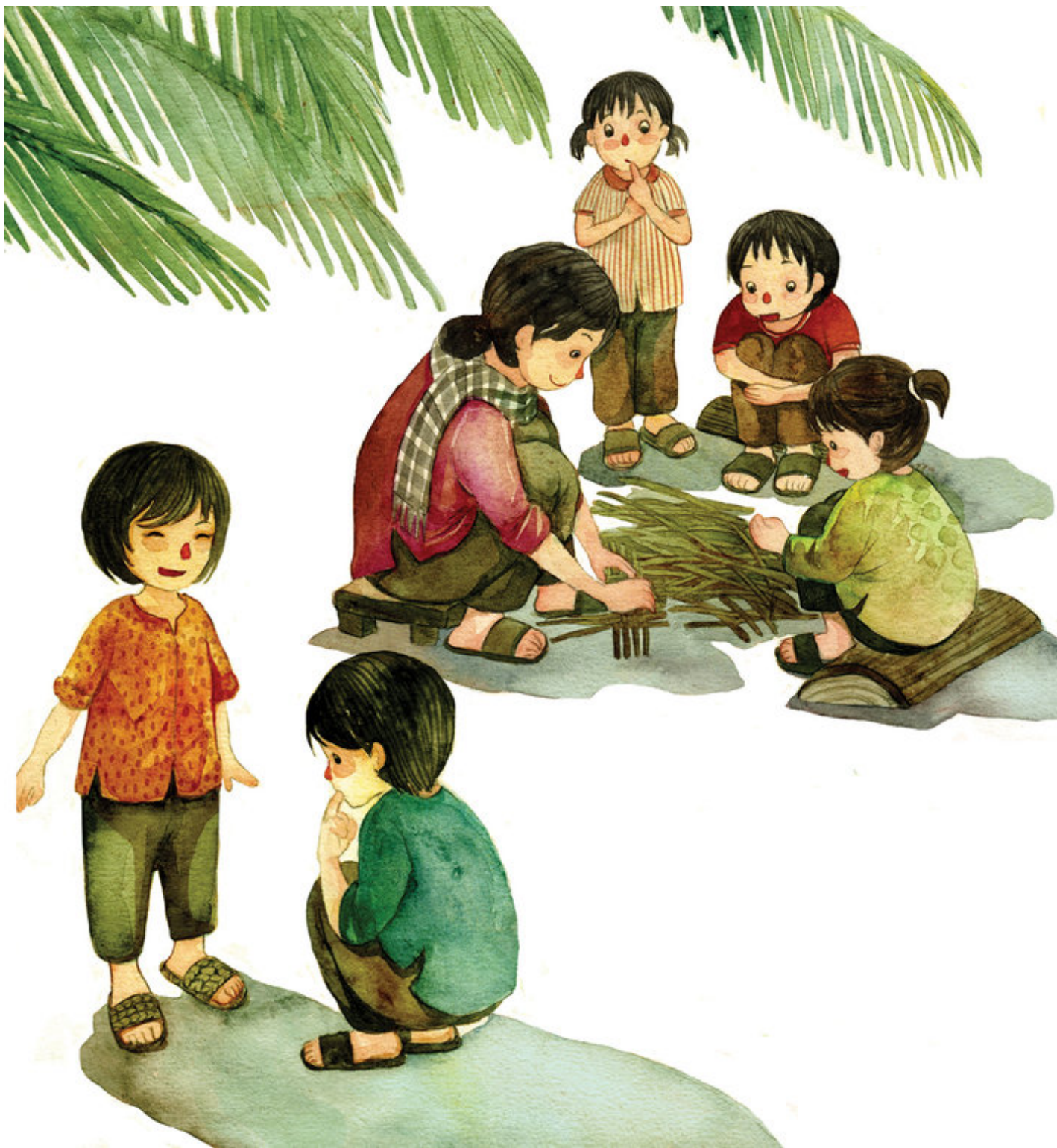
She doesn't know why  
Mom weaves the dried  
hyacinth sticks  
together.





Nep asks her Mom, but she just smiles.





Later, Mom gives her a pair of slippers woven from the water hyacinth.

Now Nep understands.





She and her friends have discovered yet another delightful use for the plant!





Later, on the southern part of the river, Nep finds that the water hyacinth is waiting to flow into the sea.





Nep starts to imagine how she can weave a house made of water hyacinth and gift it to her Mom.









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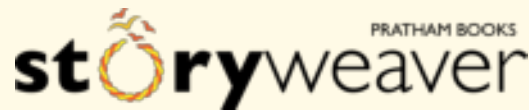
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# The Tale of the Water Hyacinth

(English)

Millions of water hyacinth plants live in the canals along the Mekong Delta near Nep's village. Nep thought that she knew everything there was to know about the plant. But when she sees her mother drying and weaving the stems of the plant, she becomes curious.

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



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