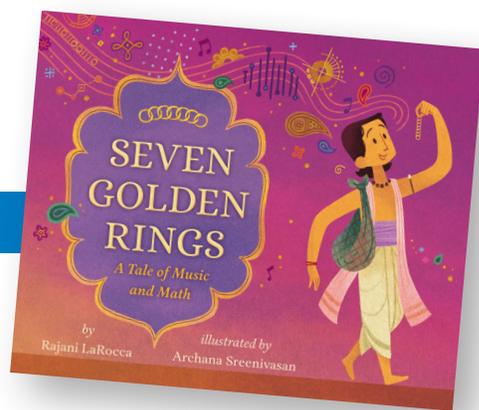


Seven Golden Rings: A Tale of Music and Math



A RIF GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

Themes: Aspirations, Family, Perseverance, Problem Solving

Grade Level: Kindergarten to 3rd grade

Book Brief: In ancient India, a boy named Bhagat travels to the rajah's city, hoping to ensure his family's prosperity by winning a place at court as a singer.

Author:
Rajani LaRocca

Illustrator:
Archana Sreenivasan

TIME TO READ!



Before reading, build background: This story is set in ancient India. With your child, look for India on a map. Ask your child what ancient means. What details in the pictures show you that this story takes place a very long time ago?

While reading, make predictions: How do you think Bhagat will solve his problems throughout the story by using music and math?

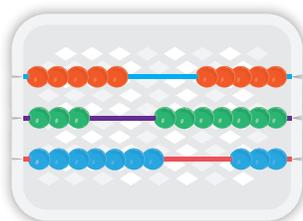
After reading, ask questions:

- Why does Bhagat want to audition for the rajah's royal troupe?
- What did the innkeeper tell Bhagat when he arrived at the inn?
- How did Bhagat think about the rings at the goldsmith? What did he decide to do with the rings?
- How did the innkeeper's wife help Bhagat at the end?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

AT-HOME ABACUS

Materials: 30 beads, 3 pipe cleaners, a large clean Styrofoam tray (Helpful hint: grocery stores will donate unused trays), tape, scissors, pencil



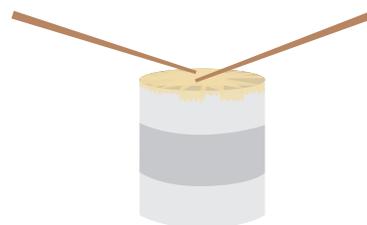
Thread 10 beads onto each of the pipe cleaners. Place the Styrofoam tray vertically and lay the beaded pipe cleaners on top with space between them. Make a mark at the left

and right edges to show where each pipe cleaner is placed. Use scissors to cut small slits where you made pencil marks. Wrap each pipe cleaner into the slits on each side of the tray and use tape to hold it in place on the back of the tray. Now you are ready to practice adding and subtracting!

MAKE A PERCUSSION INSTRUMENT

Materials: empty can (Helpful hint: cans from coffee, tomatoes, or juice); wide transparent packing tape; small sticks (Helpful hint: chopsticks work great)

Remove the top of the can and smooth the inside so there are no sharp edges. Use the wide tape to make an X across the top of the can. Pull the tape tightly to stretch it. Keep adding more X's across the top until all openings are filled. Now play notes like Bhagat.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



OTHER BOOKS ABOUT MATH

- **The Boy Who Loved Math: The Improbable Life of Paul Erdos (2013)**
- **What's Your Angle, Pythagoras? A Math Adventure (2004)**
- **Cinderstella: A Tale of Planets Not Princes (2016)**