



What's in the Lunch Box?

Mithusan's keeps staring at his lunch box all day. But there's no food in there, so why can't he take his eyes off of it? Find out what's in the box and the power of being compassionate.



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Somesuntharam Shanmugapriya



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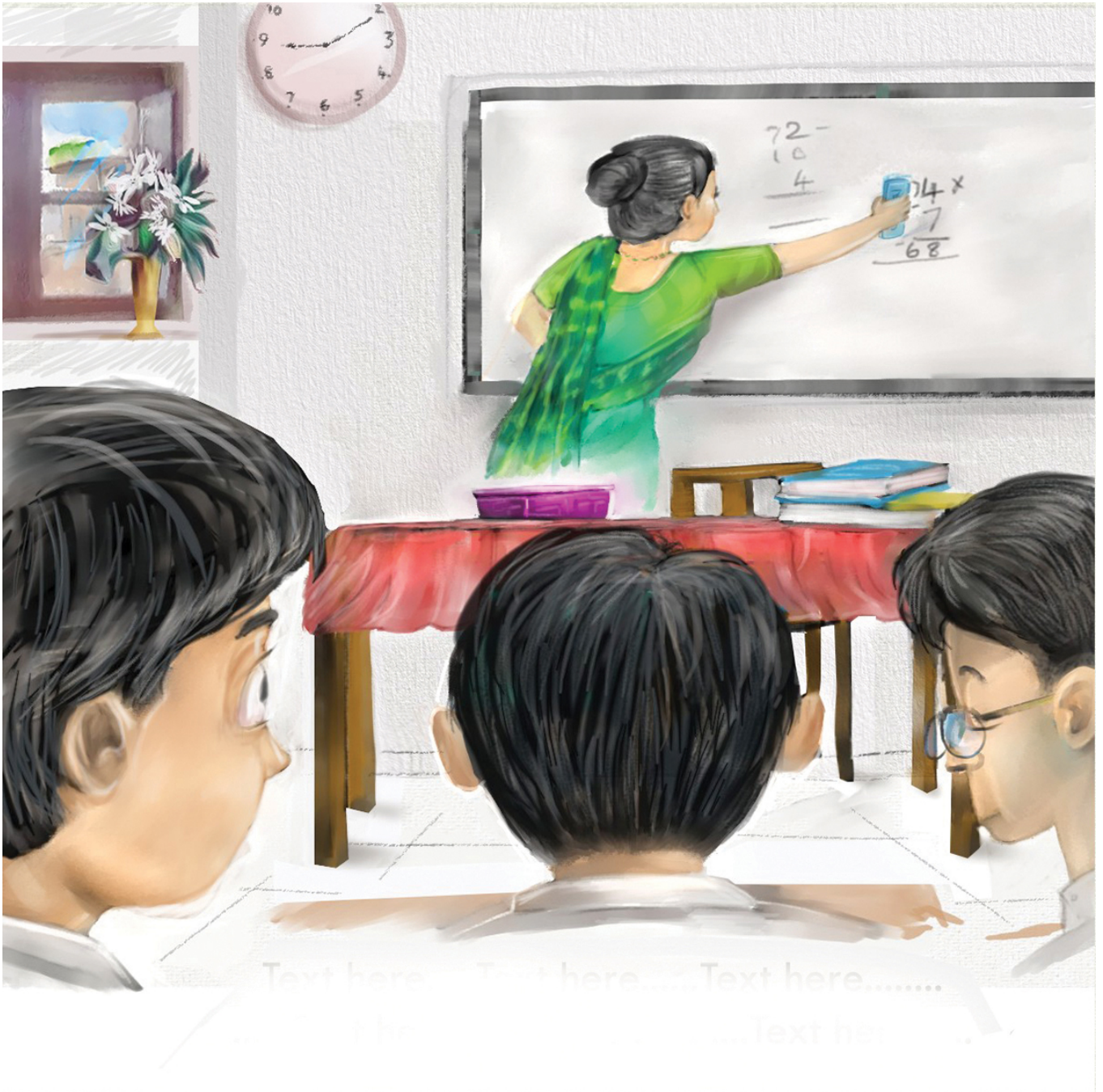
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“Mithusan, what do you have in the box?” Kabilan asked. “Nothing,” Mithusan said, shaking his head.



But Mithusan kept opening his tiffin box and closing it. The teacher noticed and said, “Mithusan, come keep your lunch box on my desk.”



Mithusan was worried. What if the teacher opened it? He couldn't concentrate on the lessons. He was fully focused on his lunch box.



The lunch bell rang and Mithusan ran to the desk and grabbed his box. But he didn't open it at all. Instead, he took a packet of crackers from his bag and ate them.



“Oh, did you forget your lunch today? Is that why you've been staring at your lunch box?” his friends asked, laughing. “It's okay, we can share our food,” Kabilan said.



After lunch in the science lab, Mithusan wondered, “What if someone opens the box? Where should I keep it?” He found the perfect place to keep the box safe.



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At the end of the day Mithusan retrieved his box and happily headed home. "Thank god nobody saw me!" he exclaimed. Suddenly he turned around, Kabilan was behind him and had seen inside the box.



"Mithusan, why did you bring it to the school? What if the teachers saw it? Where did you bring it from?" Kabilan asked.



"Over there," Mithusan explained. "That pond's water dried up, and it had been flapping on the side of the road. Poor thing! That's why I put it in my lunch box."



"So where's the food that was in your lunch box?" Kabilan asked. "The fish was hungry, so I gave the food to it." Kabilan was very proud of his friend. So was Mithusan. "Thank you Kabilan, you didn't tell anyone my secret," said Mithusan.



"Amma, Amma!" Mithusan called out to his mom as he came into the house. "We have a new guest in our house, it's going to stay with me." Amma laughed when she saw the fish. She said, "This fish is from a pond. It will jump. It will grow big. It can't grow in this small lunchbox." They decided they would put the fish back in the pond; but...



Mithusan felt worried. "How will this small fish survive in the pond if the water keeps drying up?" he asked. His parents agreed. "Fish, you stay here. When you grow big I'll find you a nice big pond." So the fish stayed with Mithusan.

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