

Barkhaa: A Reading Series for 'All'
An Introductory note for Viewers (for website)

Barkhaa: A Reading Series for 'All'

The *Barkhaa: A Reading Series for 'All'* has forty stories. The stories have been knit around children's contexts and their everyday experiences. All the characters of *Barkhaa* are children of the intended readers' age. Every story in the Series revolves around a small event or thing that the children of this age-group find interesting and exciting. The stories are spread across *four levels* (Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 and Level 4) and *five themes* (Relationships, Birds-Animals, Musical Instruments, Games and Toys, Around Us and Food). The number of sentences and the complexity of the plots increase as we move up across the levels. Lively illustrations are given on every page helping the child connect with the written text.



Promoting Inclusion with Barkhaa: A Reading Series for 'All'

In an attempt to promote inclusion and with a belief that all children should be given an opportunity to read the same book in the early years, recently the ***Department of Education of Groups with Special Needs (DEGSN)*** at NCERT has adapted the original Barkhaa Series* into *Barkhaa: A Reading Series for 'All'*. This initiative is supported by MHRD. The Reading Series in Hindi consists of 40 story books across four levels and five themes. It is an attempt to provide reading material with additional features which helps to include all children by focusing extensively on those who are widely excluded due to their special needs.





The Barkhaa: Reading Series for 'All' is available in both ***print and digital version***.

Digital Version

The *digital version* has the following salient features:

- A 'How to Use Page' for viewers to facilitate navigation through the digital version (Hindi & English).
- A friendly packaging of the story booklets included in the form of a bookshelf.
- An introductory audio-video note in regular and sign language.  
- Key visuals on each page made in high resolution.

*The original *Barkhaa Series* was created by the Department of Elementary Education (DEE) at NCERT. http://www.ncert.nic.in/departments/nie/dee/index_dee.html

- Choice of colour combinations for text. 
- Ease of navigation with arrows. 
- Green and red dots to indicate the beginning and end of sentences. 
- Flash cards to reinforce key words through real images. 
- A note for teachers and parents in Hindi and English at the end of each story to help them facilitate early reading process in the classroom and at home.

The digital version has been released by the Hon'ble State Minister of MHRD Shri. Upendra Kushwaha on the 56th Foundation Day of NCERT (1st September, 2016).

Accessing the Digital Version

The digital version is made available on *NCERT website* and also on *e-pathshala*. It can be accessed by children, teachers, parents and others on computers, mobile phones, laptops and tablets. As mentioned earlier, navigation is facilitated by following simple instructions given on 'How to Use' page (Hindi and English).

Print Version

The *print version of Barkhaa: A Reading Series for 'All'* in the form of 40 booklets in A-4 size with Braille and text on the same page and other additional features for all children to read in inclusive settings is close to culmination.

For further details on *Barkhaa: A Reading Series for 'All'* please click the following link to view the brochure: [Updated brochure link](#)

A NOTE FOR ALL VIEWERS

All viewers are requested to Send their suggestions and comments on this email. :-
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