

A GRADED ENGLISH COURSE

TREASURE CHEST

Neil O'Brien

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BOOK

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EVERGREEN

TREASURE CHEST

A GRADED ENGLISH COURSE

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Neil O'Brien
Anjana Saha
Urmila Roy



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Jharkhand's Man on a Mission

Palamau, a drought-prone area in Jharkhand, is known as the Black Shadow zone. The average rainfall here is below normal. Kaushal Kishore Jaiswal is on a mission to bring greenery back to this area. Since 2001, he has planted around 1.1 million saplings in the region. In 2008 alone he planted as many as 300,000 saplings.

Jaiswal **launched** his mission in an interesting way during *Rakhi*. Rakhis strengthen the bonds between brothers and sisters and are a gesture of love and affection, and a symbol of the protection that a brother gives his sister. He encouraged people to tie *rakhis* around trees in the hope that the sacred *rakhis* would stop the timber traders and mafia from using saws and axes on the trees and they would not be felled.



This movement was strengthened by his plantation drive. Whenever and wherever he organizes a camp, he makes it a point to carry at least 10,000 to 15,000 saplings. Jaiswal's efforts have motivated a lot of residents in Palamau district's villages to contribute to the cause of greenery in the area. Villagers who were earlier not aware of the significance of trees and the role they play in the environment have now realised their importance. They believe that Jaiswal's mission is a much-needed one in the village. People will have a better environment and their economic condition will improve with the sale of fruits and vegetables from these trees. Scores of them are committed to preserving the environment in the area and have joined the cause of saving trees.

Jaiswal now hopes that after committing themselves to the protection of trees and the environment, the people of the region can look forward to more rainfall and more greenery. He also hopes that this place will no longer be known as a Black Shadow zone.

● Running Comprehension (oral)

21. Where did Kaushal Kishore Jaiswal start his mission?
22. What is Palamau also known as?
23. During which festival did Jaiswal start his drive to save trees?
24. How has his effort helped the villagers earn a better living?



महूँ येकार है

Exercises

Comprehension

Answer these questions :

1. Why did Mother Teresa set up the Missionaries of Charity?
2. How has Mother Teresa been honoured for her work?
3. Describe the kind of work that the Missionaries of Charity do around the world.
4. Do you think Mother Teresa really 'touched lives'? Give reasons for your answer.
5. Briefly describe how Bill Gates became the world's richest man.
6. Bill and Melinda Gates, and Warren Buffet are extraordinary people. Comment.
7. How has the Bhalo Pahar project changed the lives of the people?
8. What was the interesting way in which Kaushal Kishore Jaiswal started his drive?
9. Has Jaiswal been successful in motivating the people to join him in his initiative to save trees? Give reasons for your answer.

Creative Writing

Imagine that you are Mother Earth. You are remembering the days when there were vast stretches of forests, the mountains were breathtaking, the air was fresh, and the water was pure. You are now hurt at what man has done to you. You also fear that the survival of all living creatures will soon be under threat. Write a composition in the first person titled: A Beautiful Past; An Uncertain future.

Vocabulary

In the lesson there are words that have been spelt differently from the way we usually spell them - program. This is the American way of

Words from the lesson

embark	begin or start a new venture or project
selflessly	thinking more about the needs, happiness, and welfare of other people than about your own
descent	where a person's family originally comes from
community	a group of people who share the same religion, job, etc.
archdiocese	a district under the care of an archbishop
destitution	being without money, food and the other things necessary for life
divine inspiration	a call from god telling someone to do something
impoverished	very poor
terminally ill	suffering from a disease that cannot be cured and will lead to death, often slowly
dignity	honour and respect
sanctuary	a safe place
humanitarian	concerned with reducing suffering and improving the conditions that people live in
honorary	given as an honour, without the person having to have the usual qualifications
aide	a person who helps another person in his/her job
foreign mission	an important official job that a person or group of people is given to do, especially when they are sent to another country
contemplative	spending time thinking deeply about religious matters



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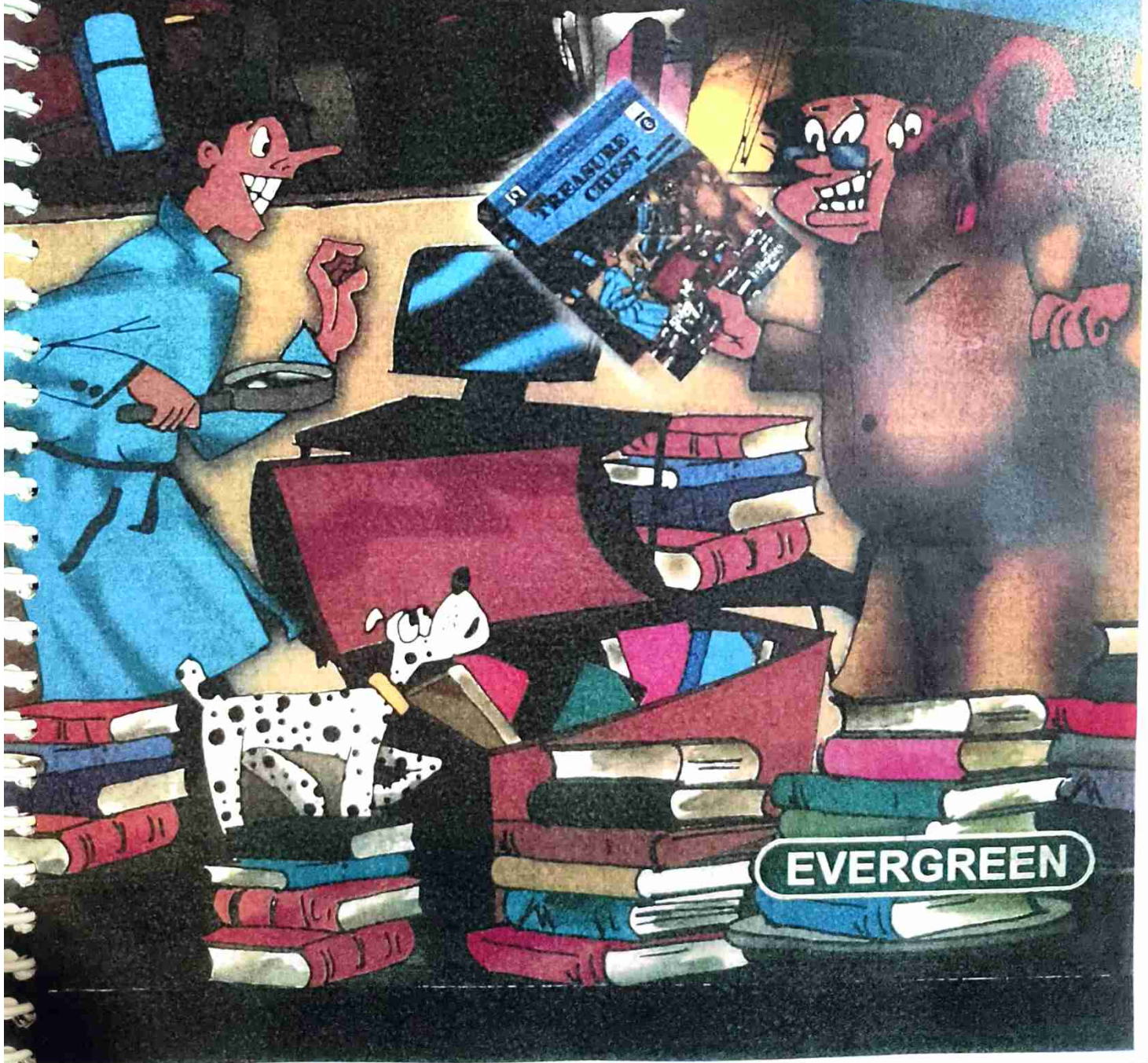
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TREASURE CHEST

NEIL O'BRIEN
DENISE O'BRIEN



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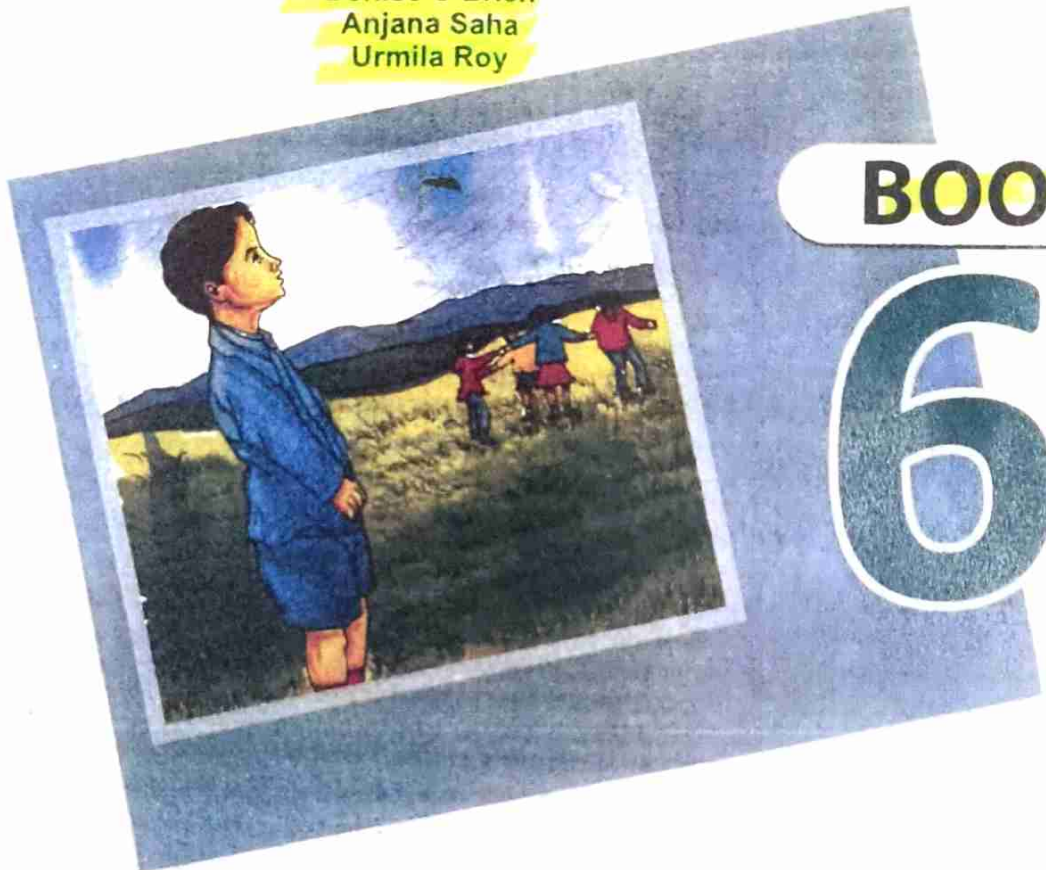
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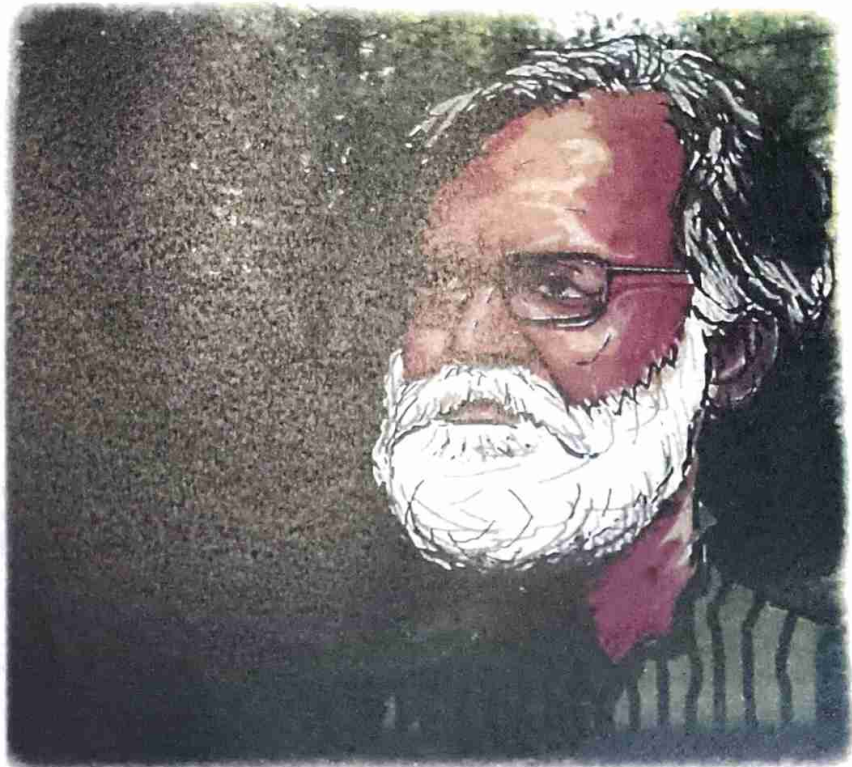
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Over the last few years, several like-minded people have joined them in their work. They also run Bhalo Pahar School that has many Santhal children, many of whom come from 15 km away. They get uniforms, stationery, mid-day meals, books, and are taught how to keep themselves clean and healthy. Special care is taken to teach English, Bengali, General Knowledge, drawing and singing. The students are trained to take care of the trees and flower gardens of the School.



The community of Bhalo Pahar stresses on neighbourhood

development, organising cultural events and sports meets. The people of the area also spend time in the library and in gardening. Some of them look after the cattle and poultry farms of the School. Bhalo Pahar also has a medical clinic in the locality.

Kamal believes in his own God; his name is Brikshya Nath, the tree god, who provides all basic needs for living to human beings.

Jharkhand's Man on a Mission

Dalamau, a drought-prone area in Jharkhand, is known as the Black Shadow zone. The average rainfall here is below normal. Kaushal Kishore Jaiswal is on a mission to bring greenery back to this area. Since 2001, he has planted millions of saplings in the region. He tells others to do as he does, but makes sure to practise what he preaches.

Jaiswal started his mission in an unusual way during the festival of Rakhi. *Rakhis* strengthen the bond between a brother and sister. They show their love and affection for each other, as the brother promises to protect his sister. Jaiswal encouraged people to tie *rakhis* around trees. They hoped that the sacred *rakhis* would stop the timber traders from using saws and axes on the trees.

His movement was strengthened by his plantation drive. He says that people's response to his call has been very positive and encouraging. Whenever and wherever he organises a camp, he makes it a point to plant at least 10,000 to 15,000 saplings each time.



Many people in the villages of Palamau district have followed in the footsteps of Jaiswal. They collect money to buy saplings and plant them. Earlier, villagers did not know why trees were important and the role they play in helping the environment – now they do! They believe that Jaiswal's mission is a much-needed one in the village. People will have a better environment. Also, they will be able to earn a living by selling the fruits and vegetables that grow on these trees.

Jaiswal is hopeful that with the people coming forward to protect trees and the environment, the district will benefit by getting more rainfall and becoming much greener. He also hopes that in future this place will no longer be known as a Black Shadow zone.

● Running Comprehension (oral)

17. Who is the founder of the Bhalo Pahar School?
18. Who has helped him in his effort?
19. Where did they buy land?
20. Who is his god?
21. When and where did Kaushal Kishore Jaiswal start his mission?
22. What is Palamau also known as?
23. During which festival did Jaiswal start his drive to save trees?



Exercises

I Comprehension

Answer the following questions:

1. Write about two events or activities that Roger Federer has organised to raise money.
2. Why, according to Federer, is education very important?
3. Briefly describe the work that the RFF is doing in Malawi.
4. Briefly describe how Bill Gates became the world's richest man.
5. What is the main focus area of the work being done by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in developing nations?
6. Write a paragraph on the Bhalo Pahar project.
7. What did Kaushal Kishore Jaiswal do with *rakhis*? Why?
8. Has Jaiswal been successful in motivating the people to join him in his mission to save trees? Give reasons for your answer.

II Creative Writing

Imagine that you are Mother Earth. You are remembering the days when there were vast stretches of forests, the mountains looked beautiful, the air was fresh, and the water was pure. You are now pained at what man has done to you. You also fear that the very survival of all living creatures will soon be under threat. Write a few paragraphs in first person about what you feel.

III Vocabulary

1. In the lesson there are words that have been spelt differently from the way we usually spell them.

Words from the lesson



generous and selfless people	people who help others; unselfish
humanitarian	concerned with reducing suffering and improving the conditions that people live in (Arthur Ashe was a tennis champion in the 1970s who did a lot of humanitarian/charitable work before he died of AIDS)
Grand Slam	the four most important tennis tournaments in the year are called Grand Slam tournaments (Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon, US Open)
auctioned	sold things to people who offered the most money for them
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
tsunami	an extremely large wave in the sea usually caused by an earthquake
funds	an amount of money that is raised or set aside for a particular purpose
accomplishments	successes; achievements
AIDS	a life-threatening disease (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)
contribution to society	what you do for the good/benefit of others/people in society
opportunity	a chance; when it is possible to do something
relief	help given in the form of food, money, medicine, etc.
attorney	a lawyer



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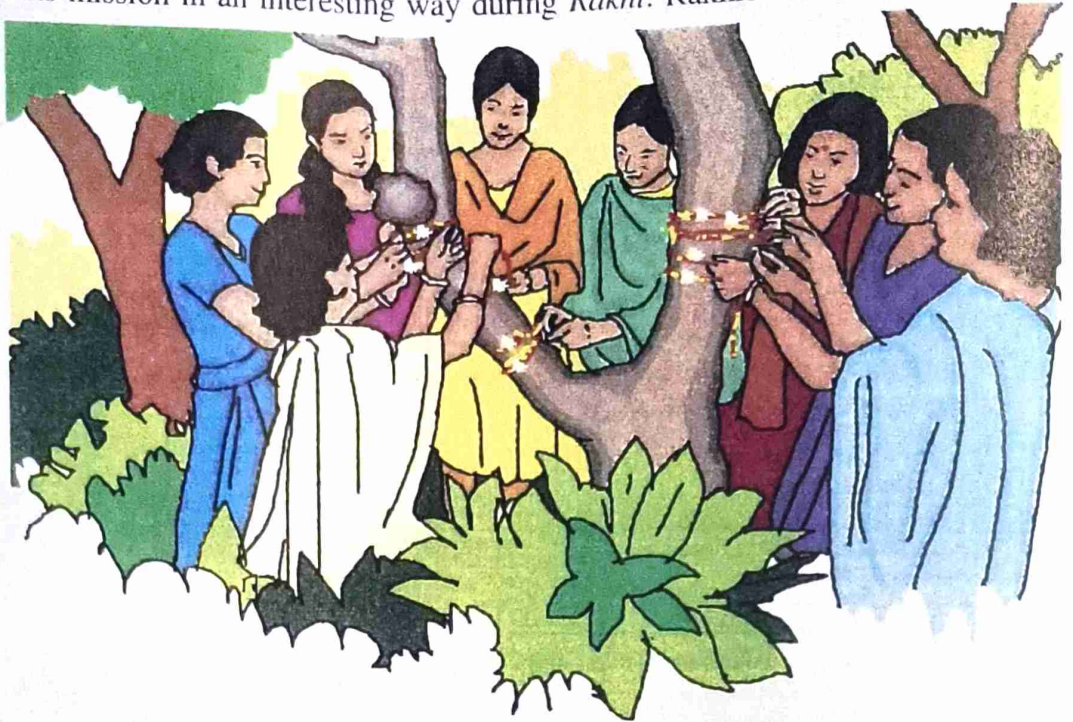
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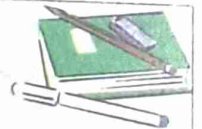


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Answer these questions :

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contemplative	spending time thinking deeply about religious matters

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NEW FIND OUT

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE FOR THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

BOOK 8

NEIL O'BRIEN
BARRY O'BRIEN

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Environmentalists

These courageous people have helped protect our environment. Name them in this oral exercise.

1. In 1995, this retired civil engineer joined the **Leh Nutrition Programme** and had a channel dug to control the flow of water. The water freezes to form a glacier, and in summer, melts and provides water to all the farmers in the area. Now, similar glaciers are being constructed all over **Ladakh**.
2. This lawyer began his battle to **protect the Taj Mahal** in 1984. The mausoleum was losing its sheen due to air pollution. After 10 years, he succeeded in moving the coal-based industries to a safe distance.
3. One of the forces behind the **Chipko Movement**, he encouraged women to hug trees to prevent them from being cut down and to afforest the **Alaknanda Valley**. He created awareness among the people of the mountains about deforestation that had ravaged the ecology of the valley, causing destructive floods.
4. Also known as **Kisan Baburao**, he transformed the Ralegaon Siddhi village into a modern, self-sufficient one, by spending his entire life savings on it, after it had been struck by drought. Inspired by his selflessness, the villagers too began voluntary work to help the cause.
5. His **Clean Ganga** campaign earned him the title of One of the Heroes of this Planet in *TIME* magazine.
6. The winner of the first National Award for Science Popularization amongst children, he has initiated the making of **low-cost, eco-friendly toys** from recyclable materials.
7. His mission to '**save the tiger**', is something he has been striving towards single-mindedly for over 30 years. He has written 14 books and set up the **Ranthambore Foundation** in 1988 to try and find peace and harmony amongst people, tigers and the forests.



Did You Know ?

- Vijay Sharma of Nagpur manufactures environment-friendly bicycles made of bamboo and glass fibre—the frame and handles are made of bamboo. It is lighter and cheaper than conventional bicycles.
- Kaushal Kishore Jaiswal has devoted himself to the cause of expanding the green cover in the drought-prone district of Palamau in Jharkhand. He took up the plantation drive in 2001 and has since planted well over a million saplings in the region.

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General Knowledge for the Middle School

Neil O' Brien • Barry O' Brien

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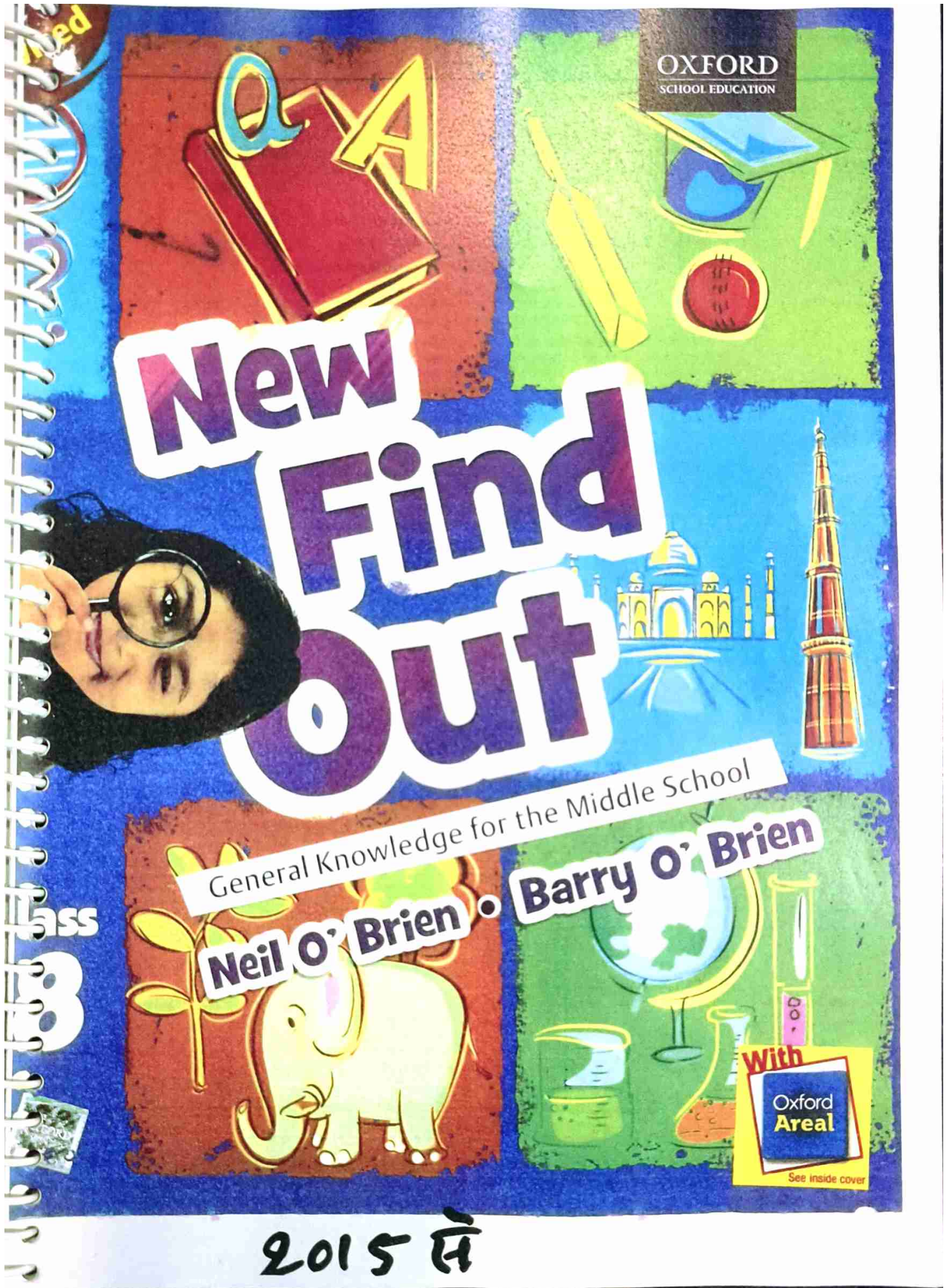
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Class

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Med





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3. One of the forces behind the **Chipko Movement**, he encouraged women to hug trees to prevent them from being cut down and to afforest the Alaknanda Valley. He created awareness among the people of the mountains about deforestation that had ravaged the ecology of the valley, causing destructive floods. In 2013, he received the Gandhi Peace prize.



4. His **Clean Ganga** campaign earned him recognition as one of the seven 'Heroes of this Planet' by *TIME* magazine.



5. He founded **SELCO**, India's leading solar technology firm, which has lit over 1,20,000 homes in India. He won the Ramon Magsaysay Award for Emergent Leadership for 2011.



6. His '**Save the Tiger**' mission is something he has been striving towards single-mindedly for over 30 years. He has written more than 14 books and set up the **Ranthambore Foundation** in 1988 to try and inculcate peace and harmony amongst people, tigers and the forests.

Did You Know?

- Vijay Stanna of Nagpur manufactures environment friendly bicycles made of bamboo and glass fibre - the frame and handles are made of bamboo. The bicycle is lighter and cheaper than conventional bicycles
- Kanchal Joshi, an IAS officer, has dedicated himself to the cause of expanding the green cover in the drought-prone district of Palamuru in Jharkhand. He took up the plantation drive in 2001 and has since planted well over a million saplings in the region
- 17-year old New Zealander, Britany Triford, won Date with History - an opportunity for young people to inspire leaders to act on issues important for the future of our planet - and went on to address the Rio+20 UN Summit in 2012



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GENERAL KNOWLEDGE FOR
THE MIDDLE SCHOOL



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Neil O'Brien
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