

ONE NIGHT IN A BAMBOO  
IN THE WESTERN GHATS...

DAD! DAD!  
PLEASE!

WE WANT  
TO HEAR OUR  
FAVOURITE STORY!  
PLEASE!

OKAY.  
SETTLE DOWN,  
LITTLE ONES.



"LONG AGO, OUR ANCESTORS FROM THE CHALAZODE  
COMMUNITY\* WERE DISCUSSING IMPORTANT MATTERS."

WE'VE BEEN  
BREEDING IN  
WATER FOR YEARS,  
BUT WE'RE NOT  
SAFE ANY MORE.  
WE NEED TO DO  
SOMETHING.

*\*FROG SPECIES FOUND IN THE KALAKAD MUNDANTHURAI TIGER RESERVE IN SOUTH INDIA*

WE'RE BEING HUNTED BY  
PREDATORS. THE WATER  
ISN'T SAFE FOR LAYING OUR  
EGGS. AND OUR TADPOLES  
NEED CARE TOO.

UHM... HAVE  
YOU ALL HEARD  
OF DIRECT  
DEVELOPMENT?

WHAT ARE  
YOU TALKING  
ABOUT?

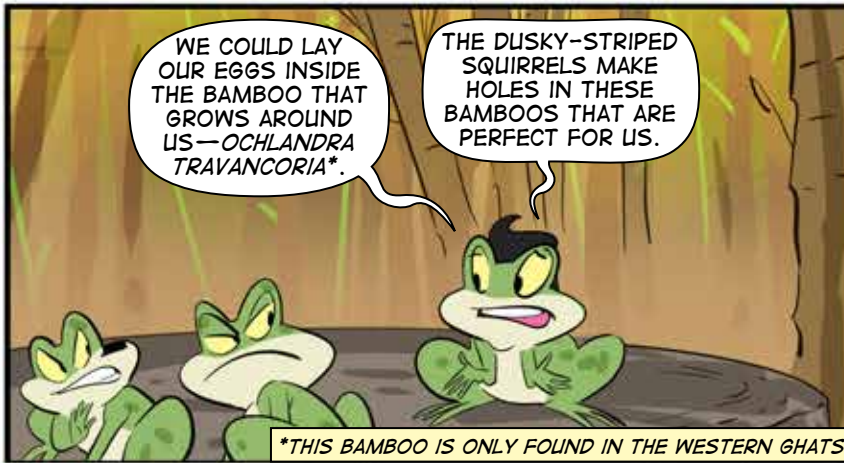
WE CAN LAY OUR  
EGGS IN SMALL, SAFE  
SPACES. THEN WE CAN CARE  
FOR THEM UNTIL THEY HATCH  
AND BECOME FROGLETS.

**NONSENSE!**  
WE CANNOT  
WASTE TIME  
SITTING AND  
WAITING FOR OUR  
KIDS TO GROW  
UP! LET'S GO,  
FRIENDS!

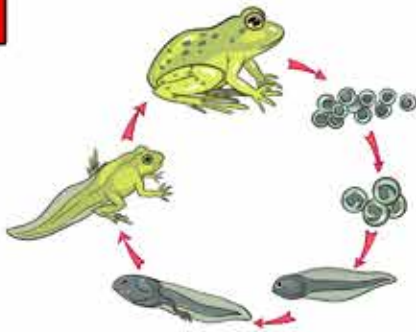
BUT WE'LL  
BECOME EXTINCT!  
OUR FRIENDS  
BEYOND THE  
PALGHAT GAP\* USE  
THIS STRATEGY  
TO STAY SAFE.

*\*A 60-KM WIDE GAP IN THE WESTERN GHATS IN A PLACE CALLED PALAKKAD, KERALA*





"SO WHILE OUR FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD LAY EGGS THAT TURN INTO TADPOLES..."



"...OUR EGGS HATCHED AND OUT YOU CAME! BUT YOUR LIFE HASN'T ALWAYS BEEN EASY."



"WHEN YOUR MUM AND I DECIDED TO GIVE BIRTH TO YOU IN THIS BAMBOO HOLE, IT BECAME MY RESPONSIBILITY TO WATCH OVER YOU."



"I WAS ON ALERT, DAY AND NIGHT. NO ONE WAS ALLOWED TO COME NEAR MY LITTLE BABIES."





"AND THAT'S HOW I SAVED YOU FROM YOUR UNCLE!"



I CAN'T BELIEVE OUR UNCLE TRIED TO HARM US! DID HE NOT LIKE US, DAD?

ALL YOUR UNCLES ARE GOOD FROGS WHO WERE WATCHING OVER THEIR EGGS.

BUT THAT MEANT THEY COULDN'T GO LOOKING FOR FOOD VERY OFTEN. SO, WHEN THEY GOT HUNGRY, THEY HAD TO FIND FOOD NEARBY.

SOME UNCLES COULD JUST BE LOOKING FOR A HOME FOR THEIR BABIES. SO, WHILE OUR HOME WAS LINGUARDER, THEY THOUGHT THEY COULD TAKE OVER.

BUT WE'RE FACING A BIGGER DANGER NOW. OUR COMMUNITY, THESE BAMBOOS, AND THE SQUIRRELS THAT MAKE HOLES FOR US ARE UNDER THE THREAT OF EXTINCTION.



D-DOES THAT MEAN WE'RE IN TROUBLE, DAD?



YES, MY CHILD. BUT THE HUMANS CAN HELP US. THEY CAN PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT AND MAKE SURE WE HAVE A BEAUTIFUL FOREST AND HOME TO CALL OUR OWN.

FROGS ARE PREDATORS THAT CONSUME INSECTS AND INVERTEBRATES. CHALAZODE FROGS MEASURE ABOUT HALF THE SIZE OF AN ADULT HUMAN'S THUMB. THEY WERE THOUGHT TO BE LOST TO SCIENCE AND WERE RE-DISCOVERED INSIDE BAMBOOS AFTER 130 YEARS!