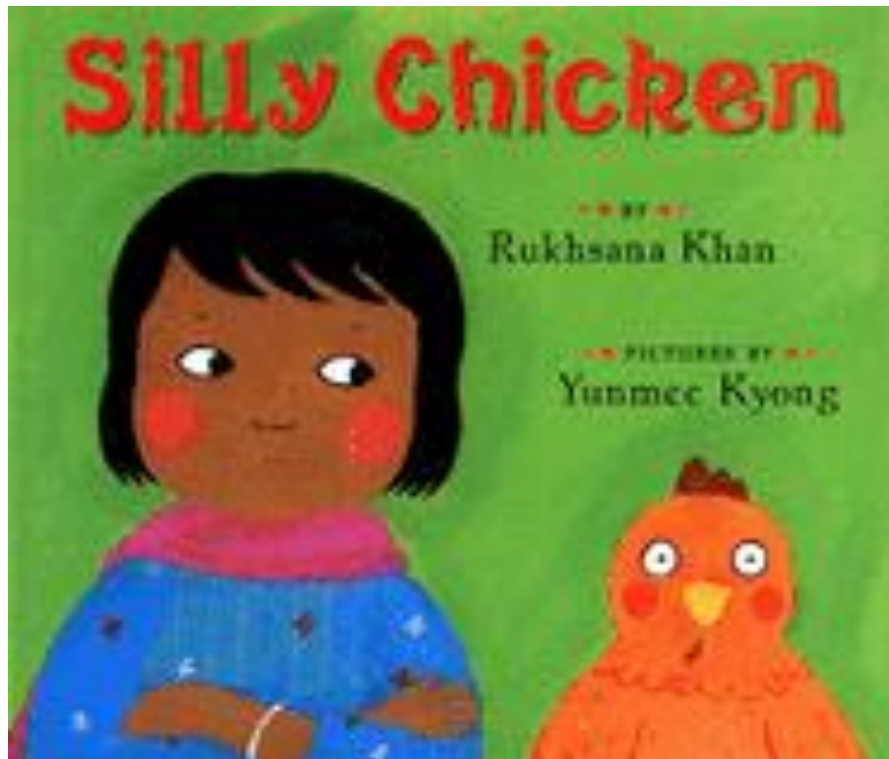


*Silly Chicken*  
**Teacher's Guide for Grades K-3**  
**With Student Activity Sheets**



by Rukhsana Khan  
[www.rukhsanakhan.com](http://www.rukhsanakhan.com)

## About Rukhsana Khan

Rukhsana has been writing seriously since 1989 with, at this point, ten books published, several of which have been nominated and/or won various awards. Along the way she also became a storyteller and has performed at numerous festivals. For more information on Rukhsana and her books please see her website:

[www.rukhsanakhan.com](http://www.rukhsanakhan.com)



Rukhsana was born in Lahore, Pakistan and immigrated to Canada, with her family, at the age of three. She began by writing for community magazines and went on to write songs and stories for the Adam's World children's videos. Rukhsana is a member of SCBWI, The Writers Union of Canada, CANSCAIP, and Storytelling Toronto. She lives in Toronto with her husband and family. Rukhsana has four children, three girls and a boy.

### Books by Rukhsana:

*Wanting Mor*

*A New Life*

*Many Windows*

*Silly Chicken*

*Ruler of the Courtyard*

*The Roses in My Carpets*

*Muslim Child*








*King of the Skies*

*Bedtime Ba-a-a-lk*

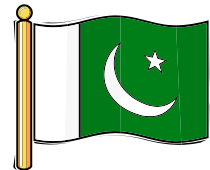
*Dahling if You Luv Me Would You Please Please Smile*






The following curriculum applications are fulfilled by the discussion topics and activities outlined in this teacher's guide:

Legend	
 writing applications	 character applications
 visual art applications	 Social Studies
 drama applications	 Music
 Science	

### Discussion topics and Activities before Reading the Book:



#### Grades K – Grade 3:

1. Find Pakistan, and then Lahore on a map. 
2. What is the climate like? How hot does it get in the daytime in summer? In winter? How cool does it get at night?
3. How can you tell right away that this story takes place in another country?
4. What kind of clothes do people in Pakistan wear? (shalwar kameez) In *Silly Chicken*, Rani and her mother are wearing a shalwar kameez. Men wear them too.
5. Colour the picture of a shalwar kameez on page 7. Remember to add in some decorations especially at the neck and sleeves. Where does the 'nala' go?  What does the nala do? (The 'nala' is a drawstring that is used to gather up the many folds of the shalwar.) 

6. If there are South Asian children in the class ask them to bring in a shalwar kameez and nala to show the class.
7. In the story *Silly Chicken* the girl Rani brings some ‘ice cold lussi’ for her mother. Make some lussi for the students to taste. This drink was often used to cool people during the long hot Pakistani summers.
8. Could the story take place where you live? Explain your answer.

**Make some lussi!** Mix one part buttermilk with one part water. Add some salt and sugar to taste and mix well. Serve with ice cubes.

Note: Plain yogurt can be substituted for buttermilk, just make sure to add more water!

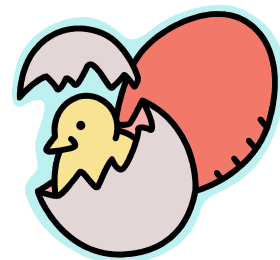
### Class Project

1. This book works very well with chick hatching projects done in primary classrooms. What temperature did it have to be where Rani was living for the chick to hatch? (Note: This story is based on a real story where a chick really did hatch in a cupboard in Pakistan.)



### A Helpful Website to start up a Chick Hatching Project:

[www.multiscope.com/hotspot/brooder8.htm](http://www.multiscope.com/hotspot/brooder8.htm)



### Discussion topics and Activities after Reading the Book:

#### Grades K - 3

1. How would the story be different if Bibi told the story?
2. How would the story be different if Ami told the story?
3. Rani’s name means ‘Queen’ and Bibi’s name means ‘Miss’. Why do you think the author chose these names for the story?
4. If you wrote a story about a pet how would it be different?

5. There are some foreign words in the story: tonga, lussi, buchi. With help from the illustrations explain what these words mean.
6. Do you think Bibi understood Rani when Rani told her she'd like to eat her?
7. How did the chick get in the cupboard?
8. What happened to Bibi?



**Activities:**

1. Write a story about a time when you may have felt the same way as Rani.
2. Check the illustrations throughout the book. Are Bibi's legs really that long and unusual for a chicken? Why does Rani say this about Bibi?
3. Act out the story.
4. Write a song or chant that Rani might compose about Buchi.





## Student Question Sheet for Silly Chicken

### Grades 1-3

1. According to Rani, when did Ami start showing Bibi too much attention?

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2. Do you think Bibi the chicken is really as silly as Rani thinks she is? Explain.

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3. Why does Rani dislike Bibi the chicken so much?

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4. Circle the best word that describes how Rani feels about Bibi:

happy          sad          angry          jealous          surprised

5. Why does Rani get angry when Ami makes a nest for Bibi in the cupboard?

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6. Do you think she's right to get angry? Would you be angry if that happened to you? Explain.

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7. Why doesn't Rani want Bibi to have her old dress?

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8. Describe how Rani acts when they hear the strange noise?

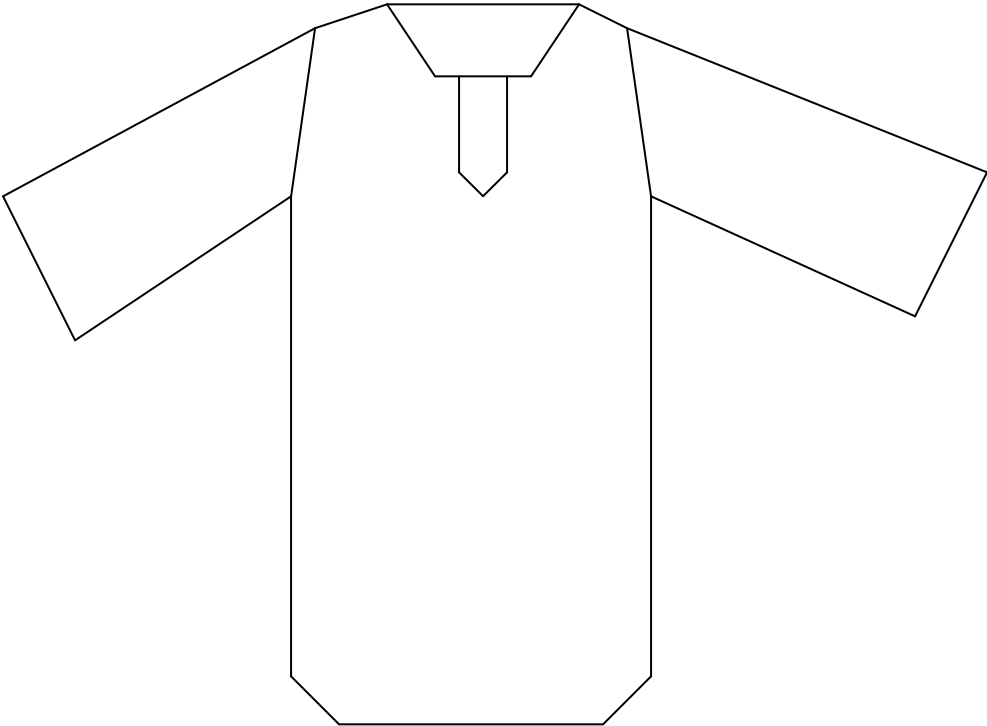
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9. What do you think will happen after the story?

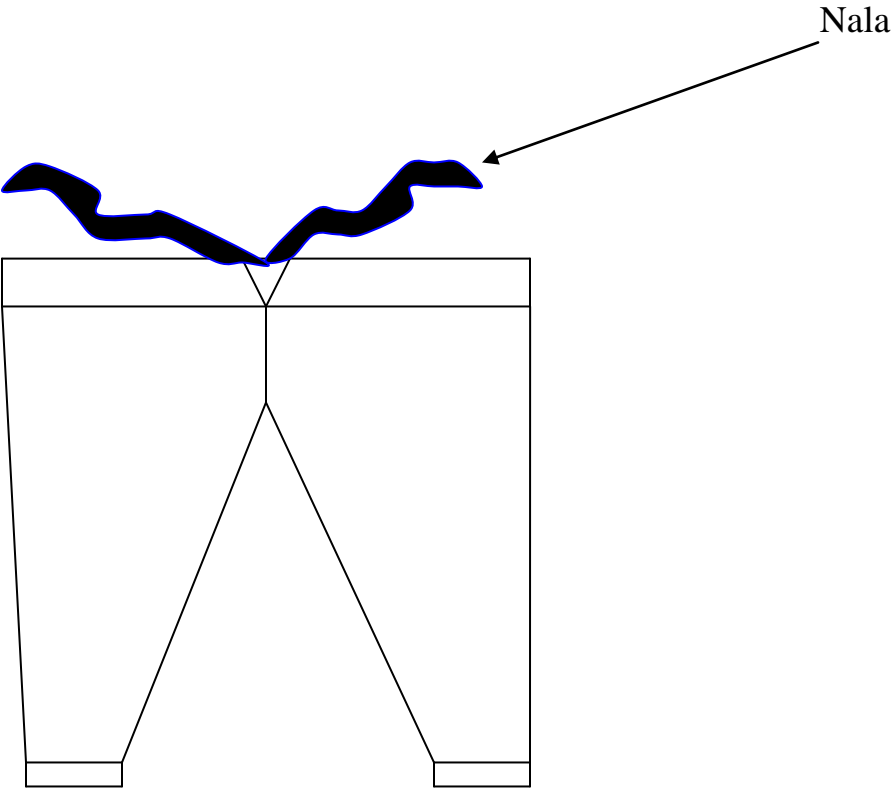
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**Student Activity Sheet: Colour the Picture**

Kameez



Shalwar



Other Related Books:

*Ruler of the Courtyard* by Rukhsana Khan

*Emma's Eggs* by Margriet Ruurs

*Emma at the Fair* by Margriet Ruurs

*Emma and the Coyote* by Margriet Ruurs

*Emma's Cold Day* by Margriet Ruurs

*Wake up Henry Rooster* by Margriet Ruurs

