



Green
your
life

Green your Home

Mariam Karim-Anlawaf
Bharat Shekhar



Terrapin

An illustrated book for future green geniuses

From the Desk of Dr R K Pachauri

India has been growing rapidly in recent years, and even with the current economic downturn, the prospects for healthy economic growth are very bright. At the same time urbanization of the population has been taking place rapidly, with massive migration from rural to urban areas. Today India is also a very young country with the largest number of people below the age of 25 years than any country has experienced historically.

Economic development is associated with improved standards of living, better health facilities, and a brighter future for generations yet to come. But is it just the benefits and advantages, the freedom and rights that we need to focus on or do we also need to look at the responsibilities attached to these assets as well? The answer seems to lie in the words of John D Rockefeller, Jr: "Every right implies a responsibility; every opportunity, an obligation; every possession, a duty."

The Green Genius Guide series looks at various lifestyle-borne issues through various habits and activities of two characters, namely, Gopu chacha and his son Popu, who carelessly indulge in wastage and thus harm the environment. But the wise-beyond-his-years Green Genius, with his bunch of squirrels, mice, and birds as friends, tries to undo the harm. What's more, he also teaches us several simple, yet important lessons of life! Set in locations like the home, the neighbourhood, the school, and shopping centre, the series instills in us the mantra of Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle, and seeks to inspire us to lead a life in harmony with nature.

But we as a society have not only forgotten our long standing tradition of veneration for nature, but have also been derelict in our responsibility towards future generations. A totally materialistic approach towards life has led to massive cutting of trees, pollution of air and water across the length and breadth of the country, the annihilation of animals and birds, and an overuse of resources of various kinds in a cold and insensitive manner. In other words, the footprint of our pattern of so-called development has grown larger than what Mother Earth can absorb.



R K Pachauri

Director-General, TERI

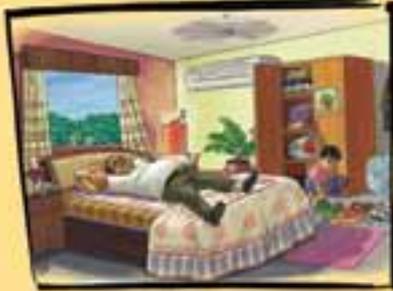
Chairman, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change



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IN THE

LIVING ROOM

An open window not only lets in the breeze, but also dust and pests!



Secure the window with a mesh

Be good, listen to Gopu Chacha!



Bye!

Listen to Chacha? If I do, everything will be a mess!

Keep the windows open to let in natural light. Save electricity

Close the windows when the AC is on



Paint and reuse plastic bottles as pots for your plants

Watch TV for a SHORT fixed time. The volume should not be too loud.

Nice pot and plant!



Cotton curtains are yummy!

CFL – good way to save electricity.



What noise!



- Using paper napkins
 - Watching TV at a high volume
 - Eating junk food
- GOPU CHACHA'S GAFFES

Sometimes use candles at night and save electricity





Don't throw away used paper. Use the other side as well

We burn coal to make electricity – and that means lots and lots of carbon dioxide – a harmful gas – in the air.

Painting the exterior walls white keeps the house cool in summers

Use a cooler in summer. It is better than an AC! Save electricity!



Clean your cooler on a regular basis. Don't let mosquitoes breed inside

Use CFL bulbs. They use a very little amount of electricity and are safer

Spot Gopu Chacha's gaffes

Ah! That's cool!

Switch off when not in use



Don't waste paper napkins. Wash hands after eating

Bamboo takes 3–4 years, Salwood takes 7–8 years, while Teak takes 10–12 years to grow into a tree. It takes a short while to cut it down. Use recycled wood for furniture. Save trees



But don't touch used CFL bulbs with your hands! Use paper or cloth



To make furniture, trees have to be cut for their wood!

IN THE BEDROOM

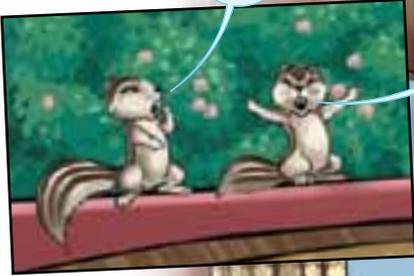
Ceiling fans spread cool air and save electricity

Use an AC only when it is very hot and humid

Use light coloured fabrics for curtains and bedsheets to keep your room cool

Eaten too much!

Time to sleep in the bedroom.



Brrr...

Spot Gopu Chacha's gaffes

Poor fish!



Give enough space to your pets. Treat them with love

Ethnic tie-n-dye print

Use handmade products of our craftsmen





Donate clothes that you have outgrown.

Check the energy star labels on all electrical appliances
More stars mean more energy saved

Use cloth bags instead of plastic



Going green begins at home.

Save Trees.
Save the Earth

A clean room is a happy room.

Begin your green campaign right from your own home!

Clean us!

Keep your room dirt-free

- Lying on bed with shoes on
- Switching on the light during daytime AC
- Wasting electricity by running both AC and fan when the window is open

GOPU CHACHA'S GAFFES

IN THE

STUDY

Borrow the books you can, don't buy them. Save trees!



What are the squirrels doing in the study room?



The baby squirrels have gone to explore the study, with Gopu Chacha after them!

Cotton curtains are eco-friendly!

Hey! Don't nibble at the books! They are borrowed from the library!

I love non-toxic paint!

What fun to tear! Easy-peasy!

Interesting! Like tree bark!



Don't throw away pencil shavings, put them in your plant-pots!

Formaldehyde is harmful for health

NO FORMALDEHYDE

I was the tyre of a car before!

Use non-toxic paints and reuse the empty paint buckets

Recycled rubber from car tyres



What you can rip apart, you can recycle



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