To our young readers......
Enjoy reading this book on your own in both languages! You could refer to the story in English to help you to read and understand it in Marathi.

To parents and teachers......
The words and sentence-structures in this story are graded appropriately for young readers. The text of the story is therefore simplified. At the same time, a word-for-word translation from one language to the other has been avoided, so as to preserve the unique rhythm of the story in each language.

Read the story aloud in both languages to preschool children. Talk about the pictures. Help older children to use the familiar English text where necessary in order to make sense of the Marathi.
सिंह आणि उंदीर
The Lion And The Mouse

मराठी अनुवाद : अंजली पिंपळखरे
Marathi Translation
Anjali Pimpalkhare

आर्टवर्क : जयंती मनोकरण
Artwork
Jeyanthi Manokaran

Developed by
Centre For Learning Resources, Pune
एके दिवशी जंगलात हलकासा वारा चुटला होता.
Pक्षी झाडांतून गाणी गात होते.
चोहिकडे फुलं फुलली होती.

One day, a soft breeze was blowing in the jungle.
The birds were singing in the trees.
There were flowers everywhere.
A little mouse popped his head out of his hole.
“What a lovely day!” he said.
“I must visit all my friends.”
Near his hole was a big, fierce lion, fast asleep in the warm sun.
Now the little mouse was busy thinking about his friends. He wasn't looking at the path at all. So he stepped on to the lion's tail. The lion woke up with a start. "Who dares to wake me?" he growled. "Oh, it's you, you silly mouse. How dare you wake me up! I will gobble you up. That will teach you a lesson."
The lion looked at his tail and gave it a great big flick. The mouse flew through the air, and the lion caught him right away.
"I am sorry, lion", squeaked the little mouse.
"Please don't eat me. I really didn't mean to wake you. If you let me go, I will help you when you are in trouble."
“How can a tiny mouse help a great big lion like me?” roared the lion. “But never mind. I am letting you go. You are too small to fill my stomach anyway.”

The mouse was very happy. He made up his mind to help the lion.
In the same jungle there was a hunter. He laid out his net and said, “I will catch a big lion and sell him to the zoo. I will make a lot of money. I will be rich.”
......he was trapped!
He tried and tried to get out of the net.
He waved his big paws.
He lashed his long tail.
But he could not get out.
छोटा उंदीर घरी निघाला होता।
त्यानं बप्पितलं, सिंह जाव्यात पूर्ण गुरफटून गेलाय।
बिचान्या सिंहानं त्याव्याकडे बप्पितलं।
“काही काढजी करू नका,” उंदीर म्हणाला। “मी सोडवतो तुम्हाला।”
“फार उपकार होतील रे,” सिंह म्हणाला। “पण तू तर खूपच छोटा आणि किरकोठ आहेस。”
“तुमचं चुकतंय,” उंदीर म्हणाला। “शोडसं थांबा नि मग बघा。”

The little mouse was on his way home.
He saw the lion all tangled up in the net.
The poor lion looked at him.
“Don't you worry,” said the mouse. “I will set you free.”
“It's kind of you,” said the lion. “But you are too small and weak.”
“You are wrong,” said the mouse. “Just wait and see.”
The mouse started to nibble at the net with his sharp teeth. One by one the ropes started to break.
At last there was a big hole in the net. 
The lion came out. He was happy to be free. 
"You were very right, little mouse," he said. "You are very small. 
You are not as strong as I am. But you are very clever. 
You got me out of the hunter's trap. 
Thank you, mouse, for your help."
When the hunter came back, the net was empty.
The lion and the mouse were far away.
They were now the best of friends.
The Lion And The Mouse

This bilingual storybook can be enjoyed in both English and Marathi. The Centre For Learning Resources is developing a range of graded, bilingual reading materials for young children, based on the globally-researched understanding that a known language can fruitfully be used to learn a new one.

The Centre For Learning Resources (CLR) is a non-governmental educational institution involved in training, research, materials development, advocacy and consultancy for educational programmes. Its main goal is to improve the quality of education and development of socially and economically disadvantaged children in India.

Jeyanthi Manokaran created the artworks. She is a well-known, award-winning Indian illustrator of children's books. She has had extensive experience in writing and illustrating children's educational resources for print and multimedia.

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