LEAF ZOO

Composed by
Arvind Gupta

Published on behalf of
National Council for Science & Technology Communication
by
Vigyan Prasar
C-24, Qutub Institutional Area
New Delhi - 110 016
Foreword

What you will see and appreciate in the beautiful creations out of leaves on the accompanying pages, and the thoughts these pictures will trigger in your mind, all have elements of the 'scientific temper', of the 'scientific attitude' about which you would have perhaps come across countless mentions and discussions on earlier occasions. But you would have found few solid examples of what's meant by these words! In this lovely booklet, you will find several examples which contain the elements aforementioned. Several others you will be able to create you self. We do hope that you actually will-for, only then would the basic objective behind bringing out this booklet be met.

New Delhi
February 28, 1991

Narender K. Sehgal
Director
National Council for Science
& Technology Communication

Foreword
(to the 4th reprints)

This is the fourth time that this publication is being reprinted. This is an indication of its immense popularity with children all over the country.

We have tried to improve the overall look and presentation. The price too had to be raised somewhat to offset atleast part of the increased printing and paper costs. While we do receive appreciative comments from teachers and other adults, we haven't received many direct reactions, comments and suggestions from children themselves. We would love to hear their ideas and suggestions for additions to the contents of this book, or for entirely new titles.

New Delhi
October 1999

Narender K. Sehgal
Scientist 'G' & Head NCSTC &
Director, Vigyan Prasar
Leaf Zoo

There are many kinds of trees
with lots and lots of different leaves
Some are broad some are thin
Some have faces with a chin

Have you seen leaves on trees
Dancing in the summer breeze
But have you ever seen how
Leaves pretend to be a cow

Stroke a leaf, feel its hair
Watch it turn into a bear
Hold it softly against you cheek
Don't be frightened if it squeaks

Press few leaves in a book
once in a while sneak a look
See the green turn ochre to rust
Touch them gently if you must

Peepal, Banyan, Mango, Rose
Each has a distinctive pose
Ones a beak, another a claw
This a stomach, that a paw

Stick them neatly with some glue
And after you have made a few
Go ahead, discover some more
How about trying a dinosaur?

Farida Mehta
पत्तियों का चिड़ियाघर

पेड़ों के कपड़े पत्ते हैं
यहीं तो उनके लत्ते हैं
पेड़ों के बस्ते में किलने
खेल खिलाने सत्रे हैं

इन सुखे पत्तों से खेलो
मन फर्जी से सजाओ तुम
यह चारे दिलचस्प नमूने
कागज पर चिपकाओ तुम

पत्तों का है एक संसार
पत्तो के हैं कई प्रकार
हर पत्ते का एक आकार
कोई बरगद कोई अनार

पीपल का पेट, ढंढी की पूंछ
हरी घास की लम्बी मूंछ
कने के पैर, नींद की नाक
कहीं पे बूल, कहीं पे ढाक

पत्ते नहीं होते वेजान
उनकी होती हास जवान
कोई पत्ता बनेगा चेहरा
और कोई बनेगा कान

अखबारों की तह के भीतर
उनकी नींद गुलाओं तुम
अगर नींद से जन उठे बैठे
गुन-गुन गीत गुलाऊं तुम

पेड़ों के पत्तों से बच्चों
बनाए सुन्दर चिड़ियाघर
शैल करो तुम आज उसी की
जलदी आओ करो सफर

अरविन्द गुप्ता