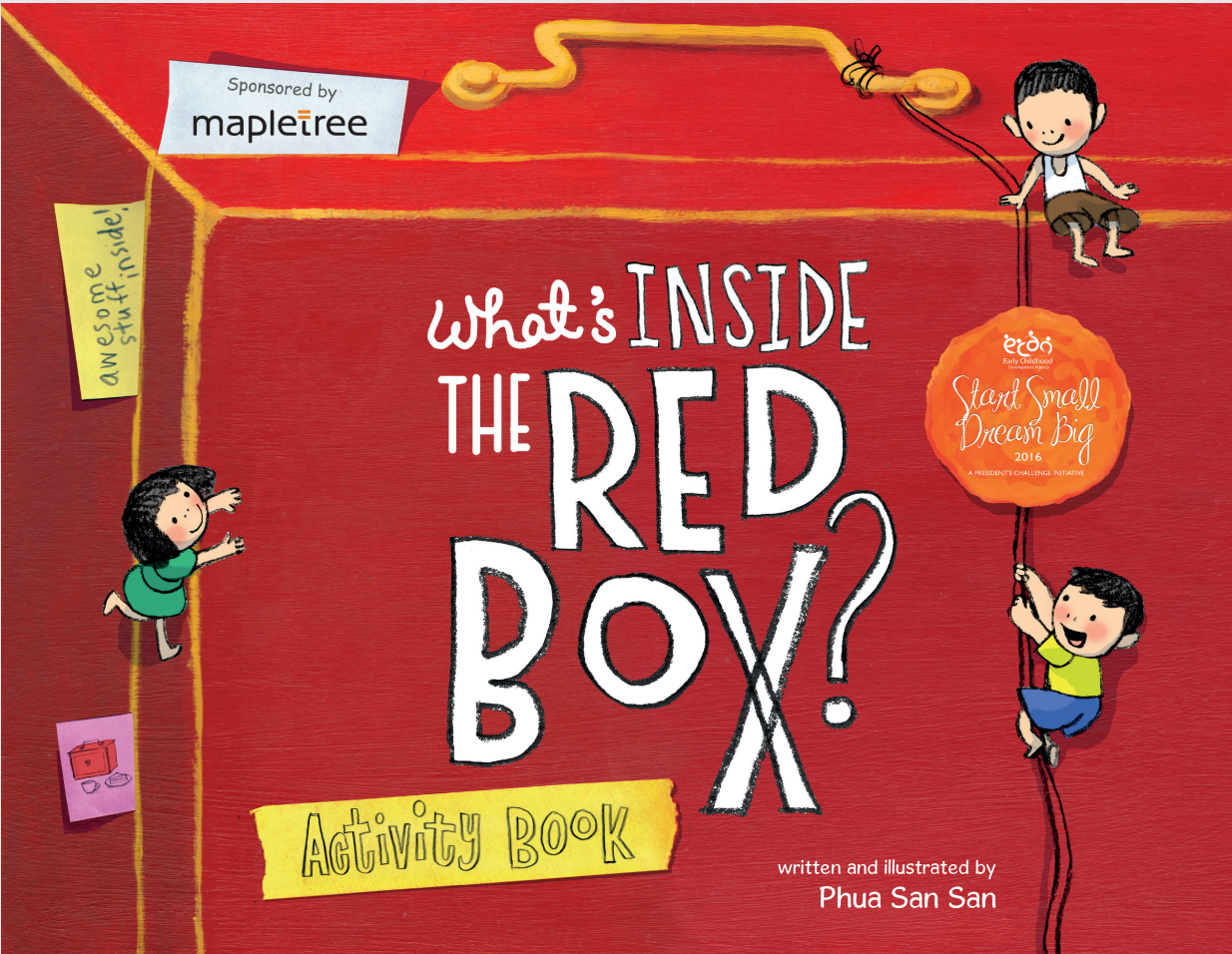


An Educator's Guide for

(FOR AGES 4 - 6)



by

specially for



Before each activity, be sure to read the book to the children with opportunities for children to respond during the story.

LET's TALK!

Some questions to ask during storytelling:

Prompting questions

- What do you see on the cover of the book?
- What do you think this story is about?
- Have you ever seen this little red box somewhere?
- What do you think is inside the box?

Allow children to guess and share, but not revealing the answers before reading

Guiding questions

- Why do these people say the man is doing good things?
- Who do you think this man is?
- What are his dreams?
- What did this man do with his dreams?
- How do his dreams help people?
- Where do you think he got his dreams?
- What does the man say about making your dreams come true?
- What has he done for Singapore?

Ask while reading, to see what children understand and infer from the story

Application questions

- What kind of dreams do you have?
- Do our dreams forever remain in our minds? Can they become real one day?
- What kind of dreams do you think can really come true?
- How can you make them come true?
- What do you think we can do to make Singapore a better place to live in?
- Does everything have to change?

Ask at the end of story and they can be used as triggers to story extensions

Write down all of the children's responses and plan activities that surround what children have shared after the story



Suggested Activities for K1/K2 children:

Let's PLAY! (Level 1)

Story content/comprehension

1. True OR False?

- Teachers create a variety of statements based on the story order and children have to say if it's T/F
- Use movements to indicate T/F
- Invite children to create their own statements based on the story

2. Beautiful Sights of Singapore

- Have children draw the beautiful sights of Singapore, based on Mr. LKY's dreams
- One drawing per square
- Create a wall mural/large display of the beautiful sights in Singapore

3. Building our Garden City

- Have 2 dice, 1 with numerals, the other with items like skyscrapers, trees, flowers, etc.
- In groups, children will take turns to roll both dice and add to the blank sheet of paper whatever is shown on the top face of the dice.
- Their goal is to create a beautiful garden city like Singapore. This can be used as a mural or backdrop for short skits on National Day celebrations
- Children can use this as a photo booth background and frame it up, while penning a wish for Singapore under it.

4. Singing about the Box

- Write a song or poem based on the book, or about the dreams in Mr. LKY's red box.
- Use familiar tunes for the songs, perhaps 1 verse/stanza for 1 dream (If children are able, they could select a favourite tune too)
- Include a verse about Starting Small and Dreaming Big, to encourage everyone to dream dreams for their future!

5. What Happens Next?

- Create story cards of a few episodes in the story and get children to sequence them
- Have 2 question mark cards for children to guess what comes before/after

- Children retell the story in their own words based on the visual story sequence
- This can be done as a class or in groups, with one child describing a card each

6. Story Cubes

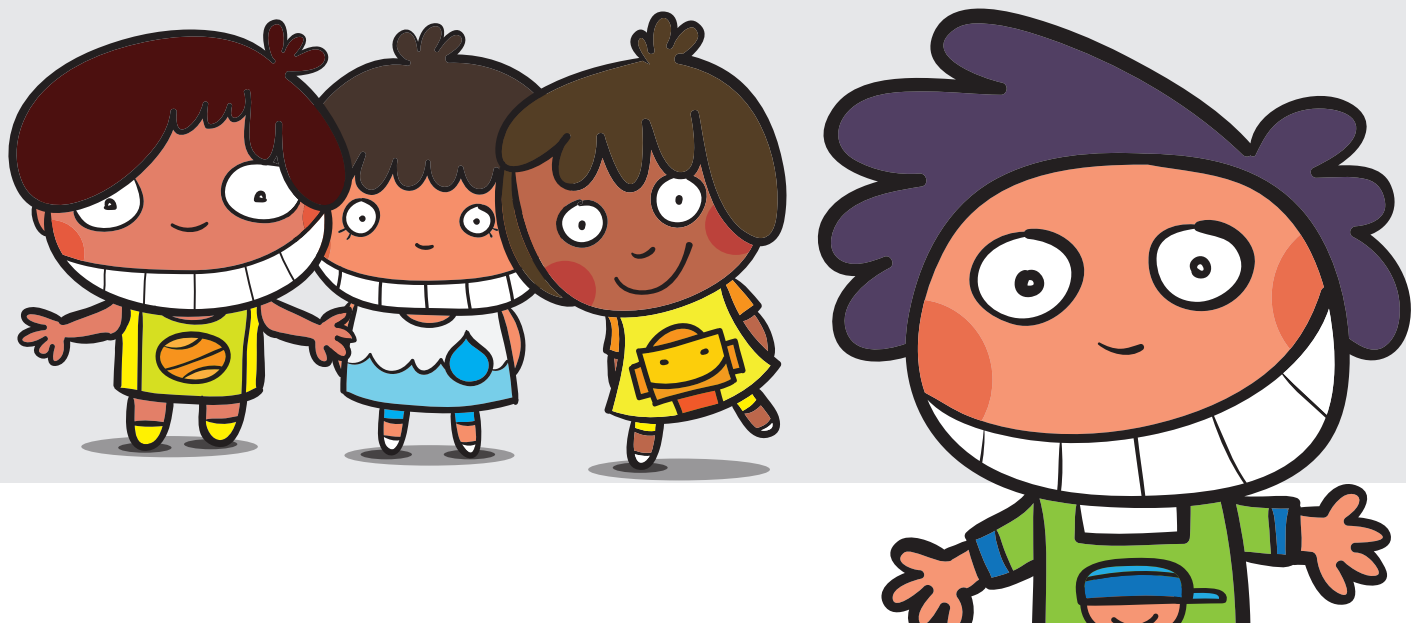
- Using a giant cube (20cm x 20cm), the teacher decides on 6 things from the story, such as Mr. LKY, a staircase, a red box, Singapore Flyer, etc. to be pasted on each side of the giant cube
- Class is divided into 2 groups, each group taking turns to toss the cube
- K1: The group that tosses the cube will share that bit of the story where that item is featured
- K2: The group that tosses the cube will ask a question to the other group about that particular item facing up on the cube
- The other group answers based on recollection of story, then rolls the die next.

7. Our Little Red Box

- Every class to create a red box, where children can draw their dreams for Singapore and pop them in
- Children can also write suggestions to make Singapore a better place!
- Teachers to share the ideas in the box and devise little action plans out of those suggestions or proposals

8. Table Top Activities

- Maze Play: Help Mr. LKY get to his dream (going through the maze represents hard work, overcoming obstacles and failure, finding solutions to problems)
- Crossword puzzle/Word Search: Use words from the story to create word puzzles
- Board games: A Trip Around Singapore, containing questions about Singapore and the beautiful places developed while Mr. LKY was alive (Can be done as a mega board game in a large space, where children can physically move from one square to another)



Suggested Activities for K1/K2 children:

Let's PLAY! (Level 2)

Thinking beyond the story, about ideas relating to Singapore (Past, Present and Future)

1. Can Make The World A Better Place!

- Teacher to elicit children's ideas to make Singapore or the world a better place
- Write down their ideas in a brainstorm web
- Pick out 3 ideas that you can further develop into hands-on activities over the next 2 weeks
- Children can illustrate their ideas to create "A Peek into our Future" display

2. Dear Singapore...

- Brainstorm for ideas about children's wishes for Singapore and what they plan to do to realize those dreams
- Share their dreams for Singapore by drawing or writing them out
- They can be pasted all over as pop-outs on a large background of the Singapore map

3. Singapore: Blast From The Past

- Show pictures of the old Singapore that could have triggered the dreams that Mr. LKY had for Singapore
- Children imagine what life would be like if they were living in those times
- Discuss the challenges the people faced and the feelings of Mr. LKY during the past
- Compare and contrast the differences between the past and the present

4. Singapore: I Love My Home

- Share about what they love best about the Singapore they live in today, why they are proud to live in Singapore
- Discuss how Singapore has changed to become what it is today
- Recreate Mr. LKY's roadmap for change based on what they think has changed from years before
- Teachers and children to create a pathway/road, large enough for them to walk alongside, that contain children's ideas about what they love best about Singapore and alternate that with written thoughts of what Mr. LKY could have been dreaming of
- Children can be paired up, 1 pretending to be a tour guide, the other, a visitor. They can role-play taking their friends on a tour around sunny Singapore.

5. Singapore: Ride Into The Future

- Show current pictures of things/places uniquely Singapore (could be places of interest, neighbourhood playgrounds, coffee shops, etc.)
- Children discuss ideas to enhance the current state of those things/places
- Children can draw or write to explain their ideas, either redesigning certain objects or even introducing new ideas to Singapore

6. When I Grow Up...

- Discuss ambitions with children
- Teacher shares his/her ambition, how and why they are working as teachers today
- Children to share about what they want to be in relation to making Singapore/the world a better place
- Children draw a picture of their ambitions and explain the reason for choosing what they have selected.

7. Our Dreams in Song – “I Can Do My Part!”

- Children share their dreams for Singapore and the part they each can play to realizing the dream
- Create a song, rhyme or rap about what different children can do to make Singapore a better place

8. My Little Red Box

- Each child has a pizza box
- Paint each box red and allow children to express their dreams in 3-D form



Suggested Activities for K1/K2 children:

Let's PLAY! (Level 3)

A Celebration of Dreams

1. Same but Different!

- Have a picture representing each of the 4 main races in Singapore (Chinese/Malay/Indian/Eurasians and others)
- Depending on the races which are represented among the children in the class, show only the relevant pictures
- Children are to group themselves accordingly and describe their similarities within the group
- Discuss the differences between races and record them down
- Take a group picture and display it in the class, writing a short narrative about the diversity in the class in celebration of our similarities and differences!

2. Living in Harmony

- Discuss the things we do every day together in school or with their families
- Create an obstacle course where they move in pairs
- Talk about the process and how it would not have been possible for them to work alone

3. Many Hands Make Light Work

- Come up with a list of group tasks that cannot be completed alone
- Have children guess if many hands will make the job easier, predicting the outcome
- Investigate if it takes a longer or shorter time to complete a task with 2 children or 10 children by attempting the group task
- Share observations and processes as a large group

4. What's Cooking?

- Invite parents in to introduce/cook foods from the various ethnic groups
- Compare tastes, textures and methods of cooking
- Make parallel comparisons to the diversity they see around them in Singapore

5. A Mix of Goodness

- Make a dish of salad or rojak
- Have children talk about the similarities and differences of the people in Singapore in

comparison to the rojak and salad

- As each ingredient is added to the bowl, the children can say something about the unique features of Singapore

6. Sing/Dance in Harmony

- Choose a song or a familiar dance that you children may know
- Play the music and sing/dance along with it
- Talk about the relationship that the music has with the lyrics/movements
- Repeat the song/dance, this time, not synchronizing the music and movements
- Discuss the result of it and have children share their responses
- What if Singapore was that way?
- How do people live in harmony just like the song and its lyrics/movements?

7. A Family of Wishes

- Collaborate with their grandparents and parents to talk about their wishes for Singapore
- Store them in a red box at home and invite the families to bring in their red boxes in to school to share their dreams

8. “Thank You, Mr. Lee Kuan Yew!”

- Have children talk about what they see in Singapore, and what they think Mr. Lee Kuan Yew and the government has done for the country.
- Make a list of things and have children pen down notes of thanks for all they are enjoying in Singapore today.
- Collect the notes and compile them into a book of thanks, to remember and revisit on Mr. LKY’s birthday, 16 September.
- Discuss how we will carry on Mr. LKY’s dream after him, what children can do to preserve, extend or share what he has done for Singapore.

