

LESSON 7 SANATON AND HIS ROAD

NOTES:

STORY SUMMARY:

It was raining heavily throughout the night and it made the road so muddy that life became miserable for everyone who had to walk on it in the morning. The shoes and uniform of the school-going children were splattered with the mud. As Sanaton worried over the road an idea suddenly struck him. He met several of his neighbours and sounded his idea to them. People turned down his proposal as everyone was of the opinion that it was the duty of the government to look after the roads.

Sanaton however did not lose heart and was determined to do the work on his own. A beautiful line from Tagore's song, "If no one responds to your call, then take the road alone." encouraged him to take up the work all by himself. Sanaton and his wife continued to work with the spade and the baskets and the stretch of the road that had been raised grew longer and longer. To their surprise many men and women came out and began to dig and carry the earth. Within a few days the repairing of the road was completed and the people celebrated the happy occasion of the completion of the work they had so boldly taken up.

WORD MEANINGS:

Splattered : made dirty with mud

Disgust : a feeling of revulsion

Thwarted : prevented him from doing what he wanted to do

Trifling : not important

Tenacity : determination

Slime : unpleasant liquid

Mess : situation that is full of problems

Feat : a work that needs skill and courage

Confided : told secretly what was in one's mind

Inspiration : encouragement

Cynicism : disapproving; not believing in the goodness of people

Lethargy : the state of having no energy

Perseverance: the quality of doing something in spite of difficulties