

Maitreyi Kale

CSHD 90

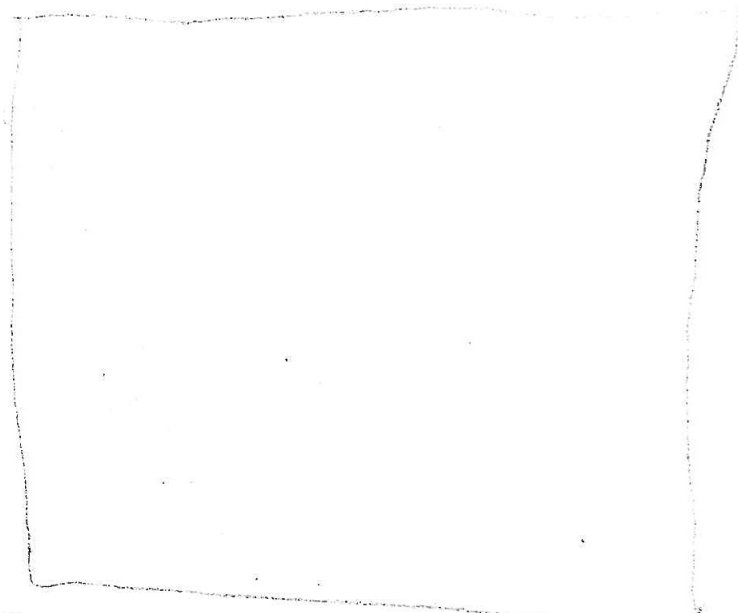
Author's Statement: Why knot?

Close your eyes and hold the laces of your shoes in your hands. Notice how much of the shoelace feels the same to your fingers, until you reach the tip of the shoelace, the hard plastic aglet. Now, imagine that you must tie your shoelaces like this, without the aid of your eyes, with only your hands.

When I began writing this book, I hoped that it would serve as a fun way for parents to teach their children how to tie their shoelaces using the "Circle" technique. While this technique is less well-known, I felt that it was best suited to the strengths of children with visual impairments, as it was very easy to describe through tactile information. The "zig-zag" structure of the book allows readers to lay the whole story out and access any part of the instructions without having to flip through its pages. The book also comes with actual laces in bright colors, so that children can practice tying knots as their parents read aloud to them. Additionally, a pre-recorded audio version of the book can be accessed by scanning the QR Code provided inside the front cover. To help the parents guide their children better, I have also illustrated every step of the instructions with different colors for the right and left laces.

I hope that this book serves as a useful resource while still being exciting to young children.

One evening, X was playing by the swings in the park.

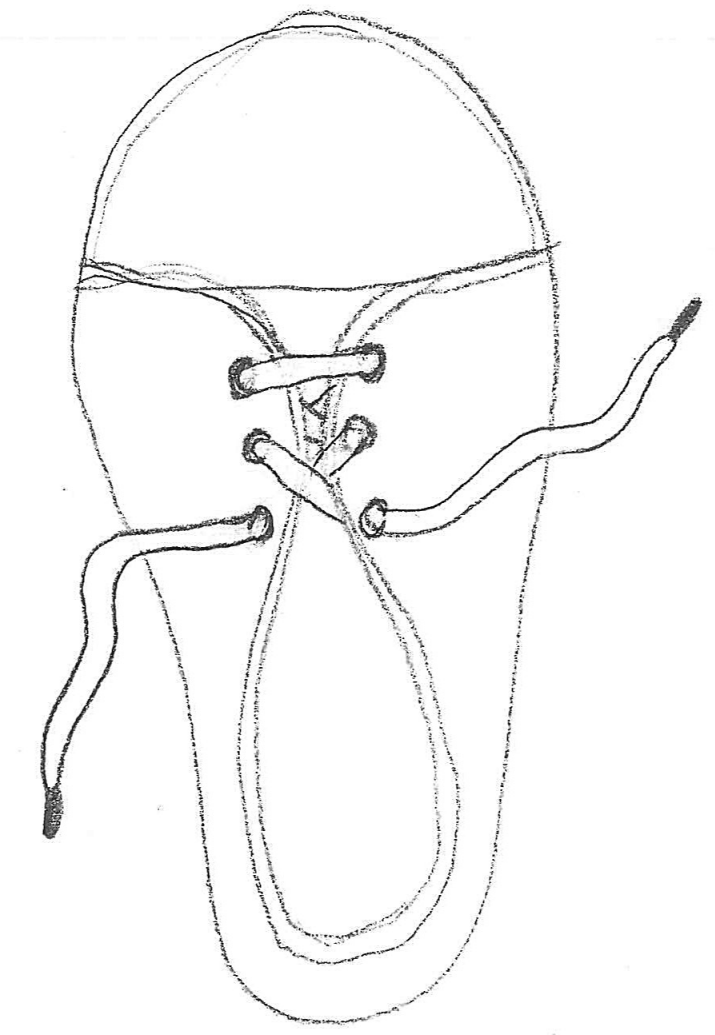


Suddenly, she saw her friend waving to her from the slides.

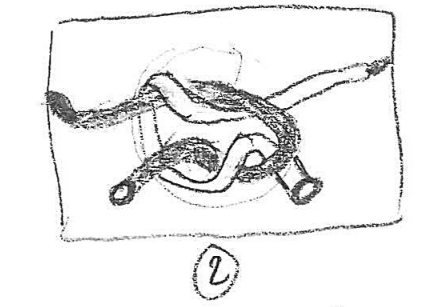
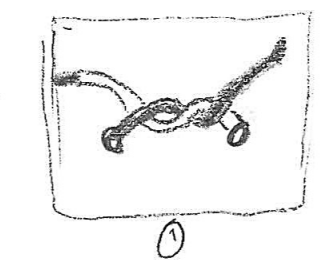
X runs over to Y to play with her ... but she trips and falls, because her shoelace was untied.

X crying

Oh no, she's crying! Let's help her tie her shoelaces so that she doesn't fall down again.



First, hold both shoelaces in your hands and cross the right one over to the left, and then the left one over to the right, to make an X.



Then, take the hard plastic end of the top shoelaces and move the end towards you by going under the other shoelace. Pull both laces tight. We just made a basic knot!

Now, repeat the steps above to make another knot, but this time, don't pull tight! Leave a small circle in the middle, between the two knots.

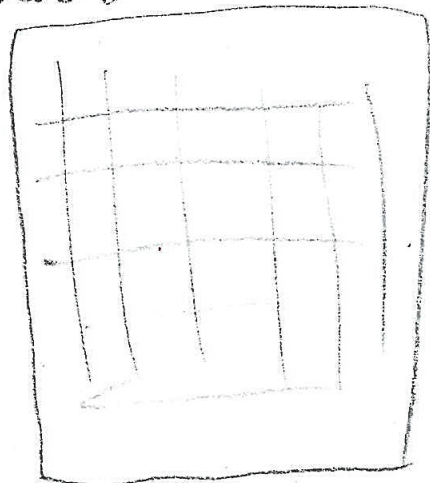
[2 more pages of instruc.]

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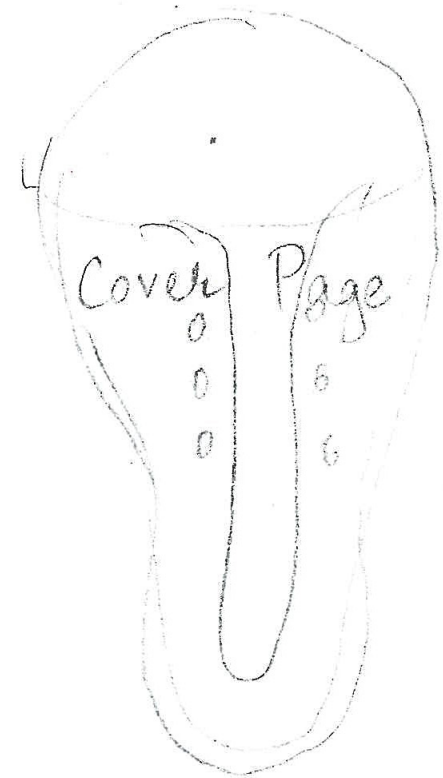
"Yay! We helped Nuha tie her shoes! Now she and Amy can play together!"



QR code linking to
audio recording



Nuha's shoelaces



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