

Narrator- A class of fourth-graders all sit quietly while their teacher lectures.

Ms. Chang, “And this is how you solve for x in your equations, now we can go to a quick recess, who’s excited?”

Narrator- All the students exclaim and run into a line.

Narrator- Outside there is a playground. Most kids are on the playground playing a game of tag. There is a little Sikh boy, Tejpal, on the monkey bars with one of his friends. Tejpal is wearing a blue Patka and Kara. He is very shy but full of energy as he plays with his friend.

“Knock! Knock!” said Tejpal.

Shaan replied, “Whose there?”

“The Interrupting cow,” replied Tejpal.

Shaan followed with, “The Interrupting-”

“MOOOOOOOOOOO” exclaimed Tejpal.

“Hehe can you do another one?” asked Shaan.

“Haha Sure! Knock! Knock!” said Tejpal

Shaan replied, “Whose there?”

“Europe” replied Tejpal.

Shaan followed with, “Europe Who?”

“No, You're a Pool!!” exclaimed Tejpal.

Narrator- They both fall down laughing. Then, a little boy named, Tyler walks up to them.

“Hey is that an egg on your head, are you an egg head?” Tyler said as he pointed at the Tejpal’s turban.

Tejpal started to get very scared but was able to say “No” very cowardly, as he and Shaan started to walk back.

Narrator- All the other children stop playing on the playset and come to observe the confrontation.

Tyler continues, “Well it looks like an egg, can I knock it off of your head?”

Narrator- Then two little Sikh girls come and stand next to Tejpal. One girl, Keerat, also had a turban and the other, Saachi, had long hair tied in a braid, both wearing Karas.

“Hey leave him alone, why are you bullying him?” said Saachi.

“I’m not bullying him I want to know why there is an egg on his head,” replied Tyler.

“It is not an egg it is his hair, it is part of our identity as Sikhs. And you are being disrespectful and rude,” said Keerat.

“I didn’t mean to be mean,” Tyler continued

“You should learn about other people instead of laughing at them,” said Saachi.

“Ya you should have asked about his turban not assumed,” said Keerat.

“Well, why does he wear that on his head?” A little girl shouted from behind.

Tejpal finally spoke “I have long hair and I tie it up to protect it. I have never cut my hair because it is a part of my identity as a Sikh. My hair is a gift from God.”

All the kids exclaimed “ohhh.”

A few added, “That is so cool!”

“What happens when your hair touches the floor?” another boy in the crowd added.

Saachi laughed and answer, “Haha that doesn’t happen silly. People’s hair doesn’t get that long, they naturally stop growing.”

She continued and said, “Hey does anyone want to hear more of Tejpal’s jokes?”

All of the kids shouted “Yay!”

Tejpal said, “Ok, Knock! Knock!”

Everyone shouted, “Whose there?”

Tejpal replied, “Howl.”

They all shouted, “Howl Who?”

Tejpal then exclaimed, “Howl you know if you don’t open the door!”

Ms. Chang, “Everyone, time to go back to class.”

He started with, “Saachi and Keerat wait. Thank You for your help. I got very scared when he said that.”

Keerat said, “No problem. We got your back!”

Saachi continued, “Just remember we are brave and not afraid to stand up against people being mean.”

Tejpal replied, “I didn’t know we could stand up.”

Keerat said, “We always have a voice to stand up.”

Saachi continued, “Ya don’t ever forget that. And we were able to teach everyone in or class about our religion.”

Narrator- Back in class the lesson continues and right before the bell rings...

Ms. Chang said, “So, What did everyone learn today?”

Tyler raises his hand, “I learned about Sikhism and why Tejpal wears a turban.”

All the other kids agree.

Ms. Chang, “Well, that's wonderful. But did anyone learn any math?”