

Stories With Art: **Animal Personalities**

The process of giving non-human things (including animals, birds and non-living objects) human characteristics is called **anthropomorphism**. Anthropomorphism has been used as a storytelling and artistic device through centuries and across cultures. For example, in India the Jataka stories and collection of fables such as the Panchatantra are filled with examples of anthropomorphism.

The Mahakapi Jataka tells the story of a kind monkey-king named Mahakapi who sacrifices himself for the safety of his tribe. This is a representation of the story on a Buddhist stupa in Sanchi.

On the top register, you can spot Mahakapi stretching himself across a river so the other monkeys can cross it by using him as a bridge.

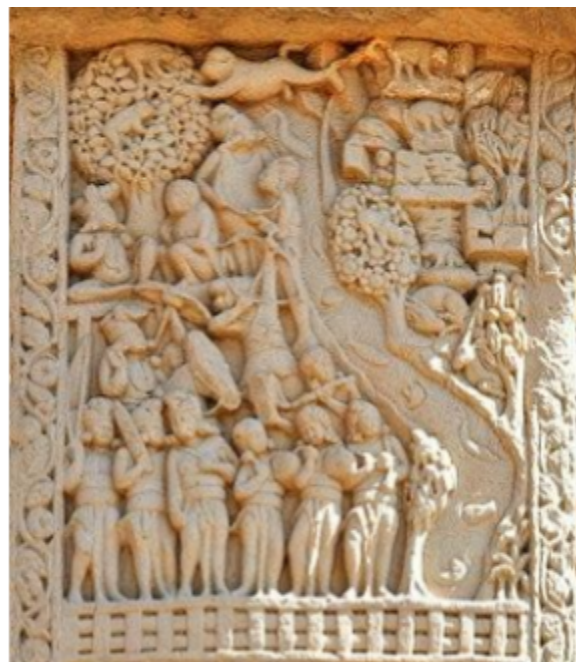


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Create your own anthropomorphic characters and tell us their stories!

How about giving some animals human personalities now based on what we see and can deduce from that? **On the following pages you will find some works from the MAP collections and prompts to get you started.**

Look closely and carefully at the animal and its surroundings to learn all you can about it, then try and think of what traits the animal might have.

Once you have done that, how about creating a short story involving these animals and adding some more from your imagination? Give your animal characters names, dialogues and have them perform various actions.

Do you want your characters to go on an adventure, solve a mystery or resolve a family fight? Maybe you want them to throw a party, save a kingdom or go on a road trip? The story can be whatever you'd like, but make sure that it fits in with what you know and have written down about your characters. Make sure your story has a starting point, a middle segment where a problem arises and an end where this problem is resolved.



Don't forget to take photographs of your worksheets and DM it to us on Instagram @mapbangalore. You can also email them to us at education@map-india.org

Name of the Character:



Physical Attributes:

Personality Traits:

Name of the Character:



Physical Attributes:

Personality Traits:

Name of the Character:



Physical Attributes:

Personality Traits: