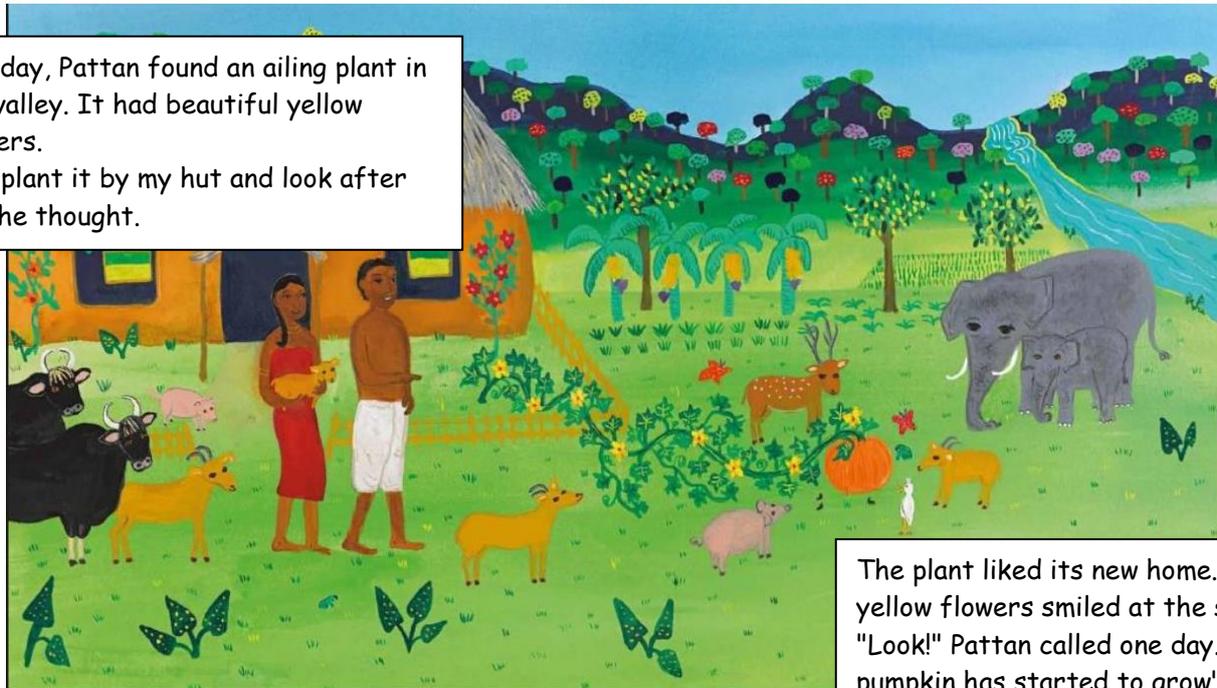


Pattan's Pumpkin by Chitra Soundar. Illustrated by Frané Lessac

Monday 27th April Introducing the Book

Look and discuss picture and text.

One day, Pattan found an ailing plant in the valley. It had beautiful yellow flowers.
"I'll plant it by my hut and look after it," he thought.



The plant liked its new home. Its yellow flowers smiled at the sun.
"Look!" Pattan called one day. "A pumpkin has started to grow".

Where do you think this story is set?

What is it like there?

How can you tell?

Who is Pattan?

What is he doing?

Re-read the first sentence: 'One day, Pattan found an ailing plant in the valley.' What do you think the word 'ailing' means? What makes you think this? Check the meaning of the word in a dictionary.

Think about what Pattan does with the 'ailing plant' and how he treats it. What does this tell us about him? What do you think he is like as a person? Now think about what happens in this passage. How much time do you think has passed between the two pieces of text? Does a pumpkin grow immediately? How long do you think it took for the pumpkin to start to grow?

Find out more about where the story has been set:

<http://www.chitrasoundar.com/picture-books/pattans-pumpkin/>

Think of how the flowers are described in the text: 'Its yellow flowers smiled at the sun.'

'How does this description make you think about the pumpkin flowers? Do you have a favourite flower, plant or vegetable? Can you think of a way to describe it so someone else can imagine it? How could we describe the pumpkin? How about: 'Its round body swelled in the soil?' How does this make you picture the pumpkin?

Look at the fruits and vegetables you have in your home. What stands out to you as you look at them? Can you **draw** your favourite fruit or vegetable for someone else to see? Look carefully at its shape, colour and texture, perhaps cut the fruit or vegetable in half and draw it.