

Brahma Samhita 5.1



ishvarah paramah krsna
sac-cid-ananda-vigrahah
anadir adir govindah
sarva karana karanam

TRANSLATION

Krsna who is known as Govinda is the Supreme Godhead. He has an eternal, blissful, spiritual body. He is the origin of all. He has no other origin and He is the prime cause of all causes.

Parent's Sign: _____

Krishna's Birth and Family



Do you know who created the Sun, the Moon, the planets, the stars, the animals, the fishes, the birds and all of us?

It's Krishna! Krishna is our father. We are all part of His family.

Then who are Krishna's parents?

Actually, Krishna has no parents as He is the Supreme Lord! Still Krishna descended to earth to perform His wonderful pastimes 5000 years ago, He accepted parents just as an ordinary child - as a part of His divine lila!

Krishna had two sets of parents. He was born to Vasudeva and Devaki in a prison, where His wicked uncle Kamsa wanted to kill Him. So in the middle of the night Vasudeva carried Him, in a basket, across the river Yamuna to Gokul, placing Krishna in the safe custody of Nanda Maharaj.

Name: _____

NANDA MAHARAJ & YASHODA MAIYYA



Parent's Sign: _____



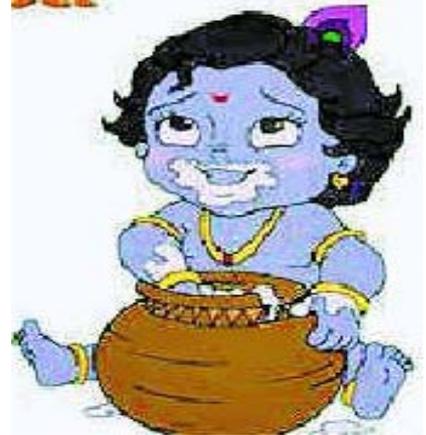
Things liked by Krishna

What is Krishna's favorite food?

Krishna's favorite food is butter and cow's milk.

What does Krishna like to wear?

Krishna likes to wear peacock feathers in His hair, Kaustubha jewel in His neck, Vaijayanti garland, yellow silk garments and anklets on His waist. He always carries a flute in His hands.

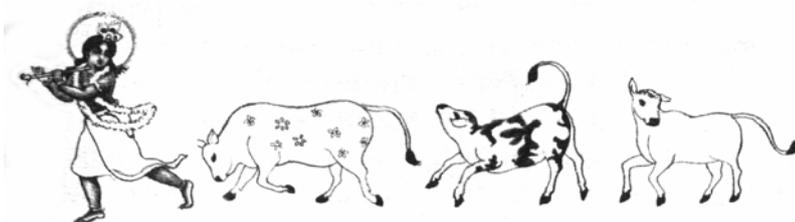


Who is Krishna's best friend?

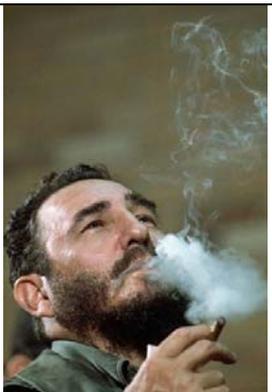
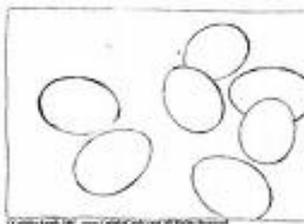
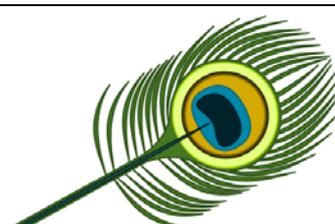
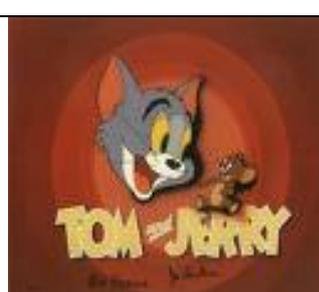
Krishna has many friends. Out of them, 1)Subala, 2)Madhumangal, 3)Arjuna, 4)Stokakrishna, 5)Sudama are few of His favorite Gopas. He even has friends who are girls, who are called Gopis. Out of them, 1)Radharani, 2)Lalita, 3)Vishakha, 4)Chitra, 5)Indulekha, 6)Champaklata, 7)Tungavidya, 8)Rangadevi and 9)Sudevi are very dear to Him.

What do we do to make Krishna happy?

If we simply offer a leaf, flower, fruit or water with love and devotion, Krishna will accept it.



CIRCLE THE OBJECTS THAT ARE CONNECTED TO KRISHNA

 <p>DEVOTEE</p>	 <p>GAMBLING</p>	 <p>TEMPLE</p>	 <p>SMOKING</p>
 <p>DOG</p>	 <p>RADHARANI</p>	 <p>EGGS</p>	 <p>PRASAD CAKE</p>
 <p>FLUTE</p>	 <p>PEACOCK FEATHER</p>	 <p>CONCH</p>	 <p>CAR</p>
 <p>EAGLE</p>	 <p>TULSI</p>	 <p>HANUMAN</p>	 <p>TOM & JERRY</p> <p>USELESS CARTOONS</p>
 <p>COWS</p>	 <p>TILAK</p>	 <p>COCA-COLA</p>	 <p>CHANTING BEADS</p>



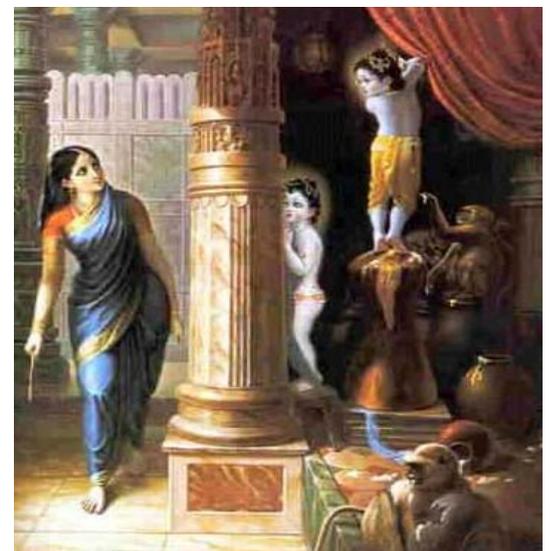
1. KRISHNA - the Butter Thief

Both Krishna and Balaram used to crawl on Their hands and knees. Sometimes these naughty babies crawled into the cowshed and held onto the tails of the calves that would run with them here and there over clay and cow dung. To see this fun, Mother Yasoda and Mother Rohini would call all their neighbors, friends, the gopis and laugh very loudly.

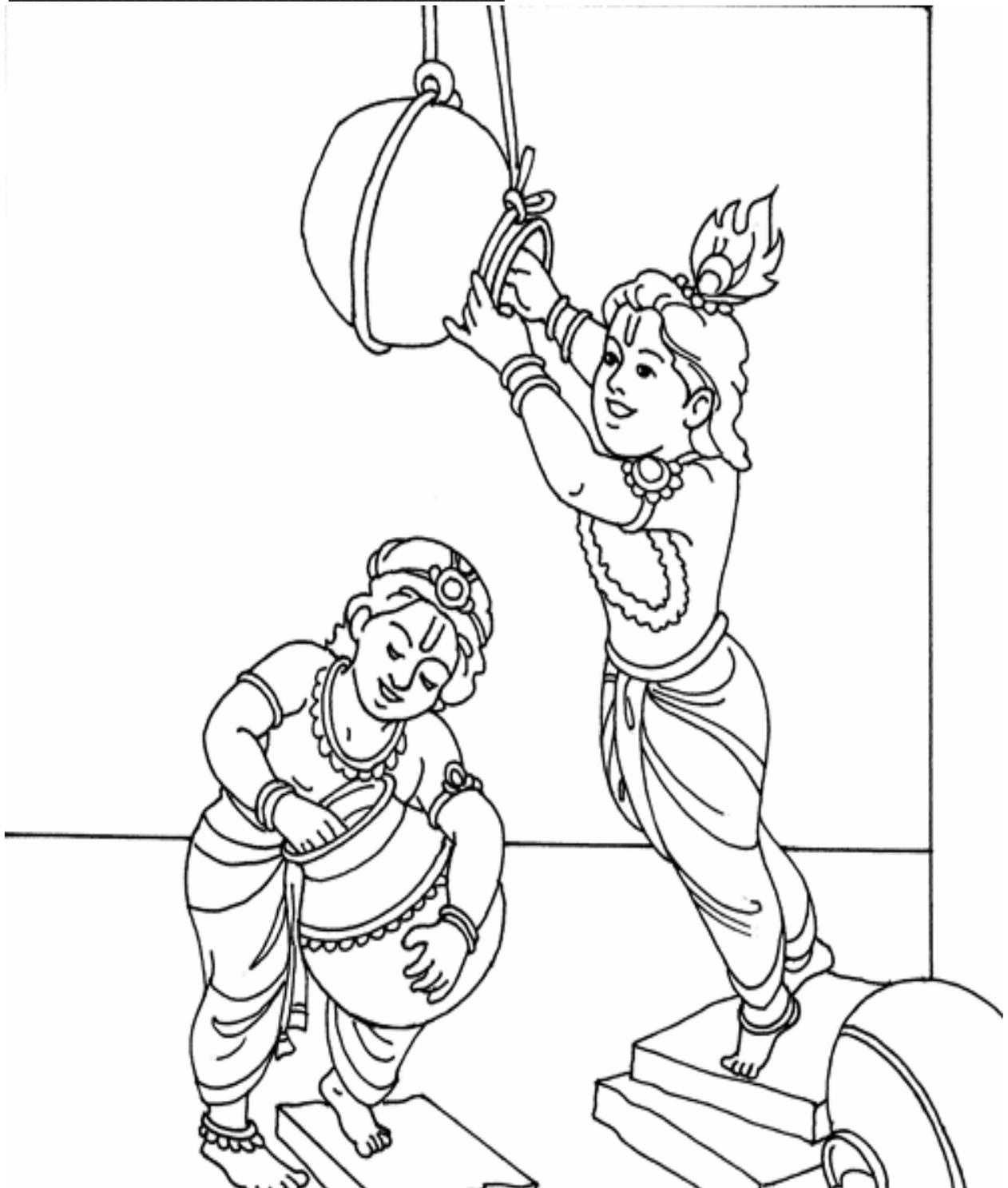


Soon, when Krishna and Balaram could walk around, the older gopis began to complain to Yasoda. "Your naughty Krishna comes to our houses along with Balaram every morning, and before we milk the cow, they let the calves loose to drink all the milk from the cows. And we can get no milk from them. If we warn Krishna and Balaram, They simply smile charmingly. We catch them stealing yogurt and butter and then they all give it to monkeys. When the monkeys are full, your boys break the pots and throw them hither and thither.

If we keep our yogurt and butter too high, hanging on a swing from the ceiling, They arrange to reach it by piling up all kinds of wooden boxes. And if they cannot get it, they make hole in the pot. Even without bangles and sparkling jewels, they can see everything in the darkness just from the bright light shining from their bodies "



Name: _____



Parent's sign: _____

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Appearance of Lord Krishna

Once upon a time, the Goddess of Earth, Bhumi, took the form of a cow and went to ask Lord Brahma for help while crying. She said, "The whole world is upset because of the demoniac kings." So Lord Brahma, the father of the universe, along with Bhumi and all other demigods went to the ocean of milk to see Lord Vishnu on His planet of Svetadvipa and prayed sincerely by reciting nice prayers.

Lord Vishnu conveyed message in the heart of Lord Brahma, "Soon, I will come down to the earth as the son of Vasudeva, along with My brother and sister, Balaram and Yogamaya. All of you demigods should take birth on earth in the Yadu family. Then, I will come Myself as the Supreme Lord Krishna to save all the devotees and to kill all the demons." Lord Brahma conveyed that message to the other demigods.

Some time later, Vasudeva, the son of the Yadu King Surasena, married Devaki, the beautiful daughter of Ugrasena. After the wedding, Devaki's brother Kamsa drove them home on a wonderful golden chariot. There were hundreds of other gold decorated chariots, horses and elephants, along with wonderful music.

Suddenly, a great voice was heard from the sky: "Kamsa, you are such a fool, the eighth son of you sister will kill you." Kamsa became afraid. Immediately he caught Devaki's hair and raised his sword to kill her. Vasudeva, her husband, stopped him and said, "My dear brother- in- law, please do not kill your own sister. She will never give you trouble. Right now you are safe. I promise to give you all the children born to her." Kamsa knew that Vasudeva would keep his promise, so he did not kill her.

But he locked up Vasudeva and Devaki and his own father Ugrasena inside the prison. Then Kamsa made himself the king. He began to disturb all the Yadu family and even killed all the baby boys born to Devaki and Vasudev, one after another.

Krishna's sister Yogamaya took Devaki's seventh baby, Balarama, away and put Him safely in womb of Rohini, one of the wives of Vasudeva, when she was staying in the house of Nanda and Yashoda. Then Lord Krishna entered Devaki's womb. As the days went by, an

ocean of hate grew in Kamsa's heart. He waited for the child to be born; hoping to kill Him as he had killed Devaki's other six sons. He was always thinking of Krishna twenty-four hours a day. While sleeping, eating, working while talking, sitting or walking, all Kamsa could see around him was Krishna.

At the time of Krishna's birth, there were good signs everywhere.

Then in the darkness of night, during a heavy rain storm, Lord Vishnu appeared as the Supreme Personality of Godhead before Devaki. Vasudeva saw his wonderful baby son with four hands holding a conch shell, club, disc and lotus flower, and flashing His bright effulgence within the room. He had the special mark of Srivatsa in His chest and the jeweled necklace with the Kaustubha stone around His neck. He was dressed in yellow silk, valuable golden



bracelets, bangles, earrings and other ornaments all over His body. He had hair on head and wore a helmet with the Vaidurya stone. Vasudev prayed and bowed down with folded hands to offer prayers, "My Lord, You are the Supreme Personality of Godhead and You have so kindly appeared in my home to kill the demoniac kings of the world like Kamsa. Knowing that You will kill him and his followers, Kamsa has already killed Your six baby brothers before You. As soon as he hears that You took birth, he will try to kill You, too." Devaki was very afraid of her brother and prayed, "My dear Krishna. Please save me from the cruel hands of Kamsa. As soon as he knows that You have taken birth, he may hurt You. So please hide Your four-armed form from our eyes."

Krishna answered, "I know you are thinking about Me out of great love and are afraid of Kamsa. Therefore, take Me now to Gokul Vrindavan and exchange Me with the daughter who has just been born to Yashoda."



Then the Lord turned Himself into a small baby. Vasudeva quietly took his little son out of prison. Because of Krishna's power, everyone in Kamsa's palace including the doorkeepers, were in deep sleep and all the doors automatically opened. The night was very dark and it was thundering and raining. While Vasudeva carried little Krishna in the heavy rain, Lord Ananta Sesha spread His serpent hood over the head of Vasudeva like an umbrella. Yamuna was roaring with big waves and foam. But Vasudeva could cross it by Krishna's mercy. On the other side, he went to the home of Nanda Maharaj in Gokul Vrindavan, where everyone was in deep sleep because of Krishna's power. He walked inside quietly and put Krishna down next to Mother Yashoda. Then he picked up Yashoda's baby girl and went back with her to the prison of Kamsa, where he put her next to Devaki. Prison doors closed on their own because of Krishna's power.

Later the gatekeepers woke up and heard the new baby crying. They informed Kamsa. Kamsa was so afraid that his hair stood on end. He jumped out of bed and cried; "Now the cruel death of my life is born!" Then he hurried to the prison.

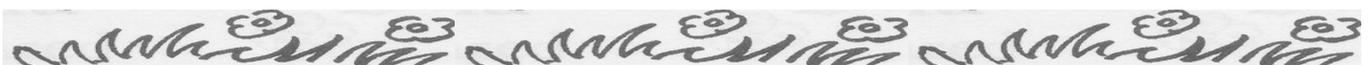
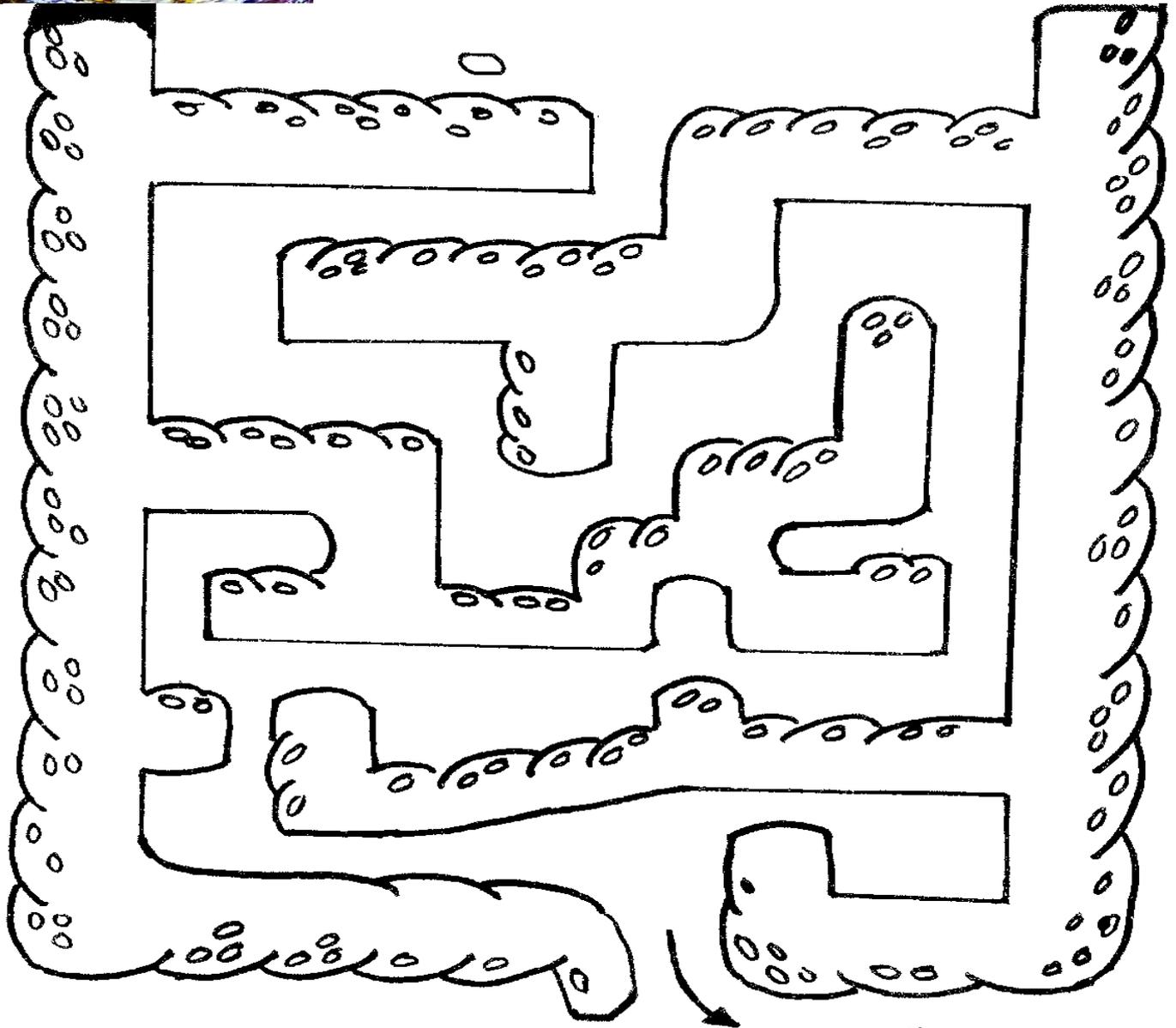
Devaki said, "My brother, Kamsa, please do not kill this baby girl. You won't be killed by a girl." Cruel Kamsa grabbed the new born child to throw her down hard on the stone. But that baby slipped right out of his hands and went into the sky! Actually she was Goddess Durga. She wore a beautiful dress, flower garlands and shining jewels and ornaments. In her eight hands she held a bow, spear, arrows, bell, conch shell, disc, club and shield. The goddess Durga shouted at Kamsa, "You rascal, you cannot kill me! The child, who will kill you, is already born before me somewhere within this world. Don't be cruel to your poor sister." Then she disappeared.

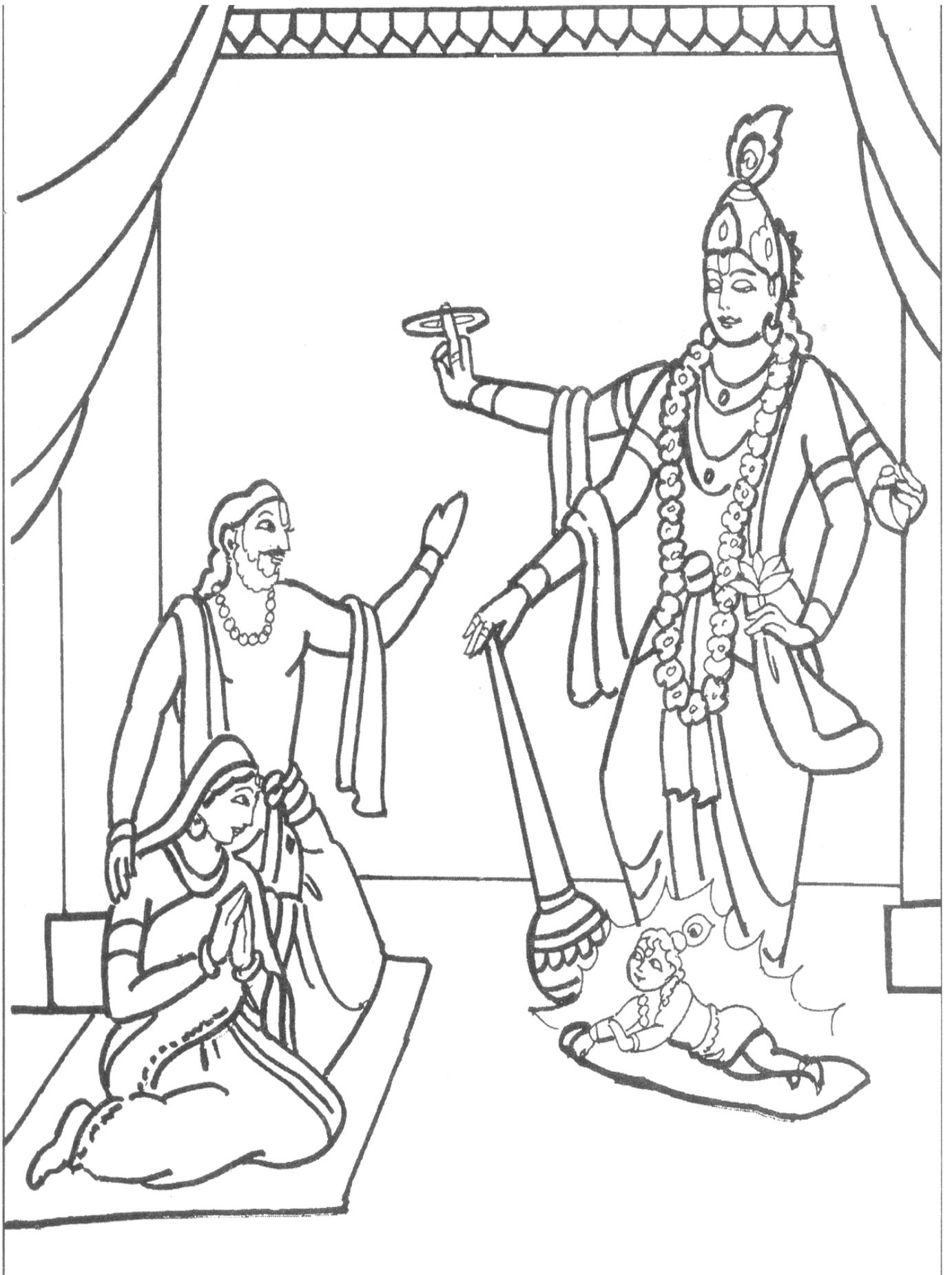
Kamsa became more afraid. He said, "My dear Vasudeva and Devaki, I have been just like a demon to kill your six babies. Please excuse my terrible behaviour." He unlocked them

But the next day, he had change of heart. Kamsa, who was the greatest rascal, ordered his demon friends to disturb all kinds of saintly persons and to kill all the children born in the last ten days.

In Vrindavan it was declared that a baby boy was born to Yashoda. On this occasion Nanda Maharaj gave away 2,00,000 well-decorated cows, mountains of grains, golden-bordered cloth and ornaments to the brahmanas, musicians and singers. The brahmanas chanted different Sanskrit hymns for the good fortune of the child. All the cowherd men and their wives, the gopis, dressed up nicely and brought gifts for the new baby. When they visited Nanda Maharaj and Yashoda's house, the gopis gave their blessings to Krishna by mixing turmeric powder, oil, yogurt, milk and water and sprinkling it on baby Krishna and on everyone there. The cowherd men saw the fun and they in turn, joyfully threw yogurt, milk, ghee and water on the gopis! Then everyone began to throw butter on each other! Nanda Maharaj was very happy to see everyone enjoying Krishna's birth ceremony and prayed to the Supreme Personality of Godhead to protect his child.







Parent's Sign: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Lord Krishna and the Fruit Vendor



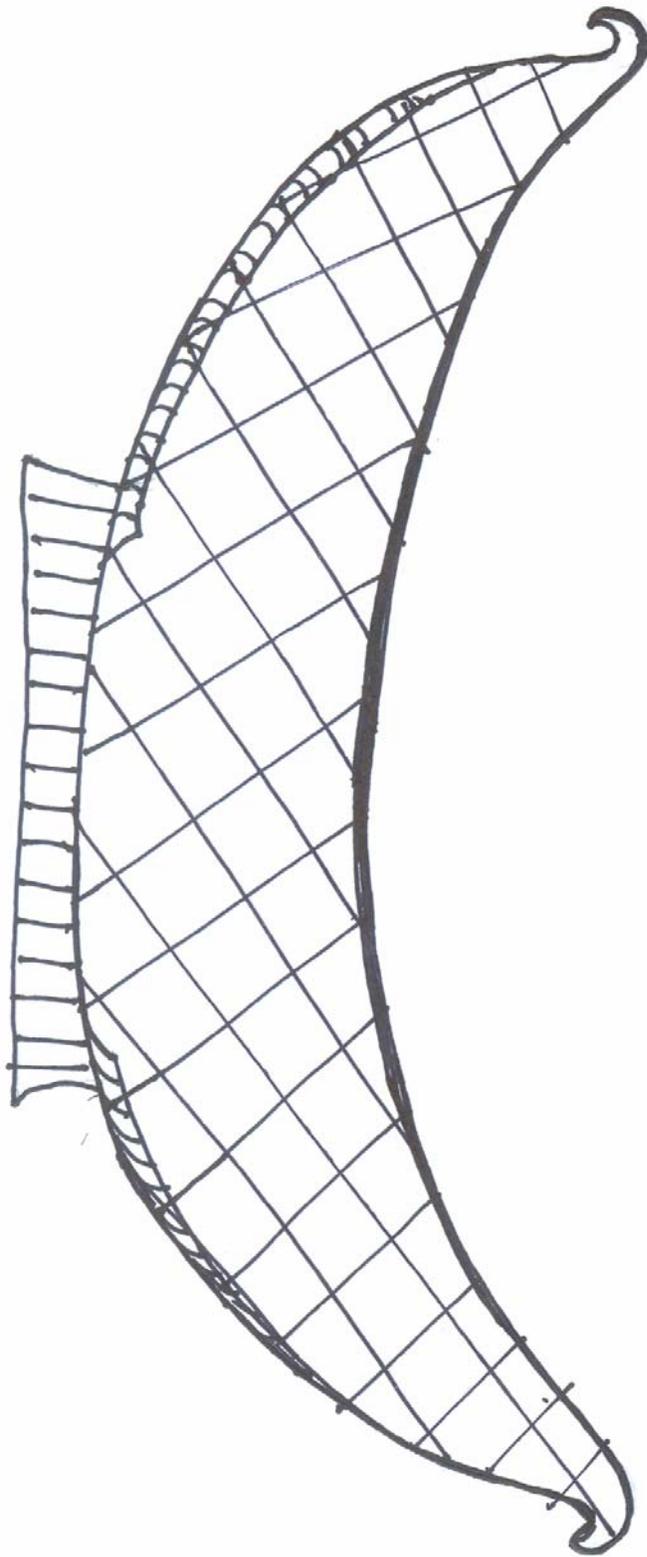
One day, a fruit lady came down the road in front of Nanda Maharaj's house. She called out, "If anyone wants fruits, please come and take them from me!" The child Krishna took some grains of rice in His hands as He had seen the older people do to exchange them for fruits. But His hands were very small and He was not so careful to hold the grains very well. So He dropped most of them as He walked.

The Lord was so very beautiful and charming that the fruit lady just filled His hands and arms with as many fruits as the child could hold. When she looked back at her basket at home, she saw that it is filled with jewels in place of fruits. Just by giving few fruits to Lord Krishna, she got a great fortune in return.



Parent's Sign: _____

Name: _____



WORSHIPPING GOVARDHAN HILL

One day, Krishna and Balaram watched the cowherd men preparing a ceremony. Krishna asked, "My dear father, what is this all about?" Nanda Maharaj said, "My dear boy, our family does this every year. Because we need water so much, we must show thanks to Indra for sending us the clouds to pour down enough rain. Water is very important because without rainfall we cannot farm or produce grain, and without grain we cannot live."

But Krishna asked His father to stop the sacrifice. Whatever benefit is supposed to be derived from the demigods is actually bestowed by the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Without the permission of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, one cannot bestow any benefit upon others. So Krishna explained, "There is no need for this. Please begin a special ceremony to worship the local brahmanas and the Govardhan Hill and let us have nothing to do with Indra. Make very nice foodstuffs like Dahl, halvah, pakora, puri, sweet rice, sweet balls, sandesh, rasagulla and laddu. Ask brahmanas to chant Vedic songs and offer grains to the fire. Then decorate all the cows and feed them well. Give money and grains in charity to the brahmanas and feed every man and animal with nice prasadam. After feeding grass to the cows, the ceremony known as Govardhan Puja may begin. This ceremony will certainly satisfy Me."

And so Nanda Maharaj called the brahmanas and began worshipping Govardhan Hill by chanting and offering tasty prasadam. Everyone in Vrindavan came with their decorated cows. After feeding them, they kept the cows in front and went around Govardhan Hill. The gopis dressed up nicely and sat in bullock carts, chanting about the wonderful pastimes of Krishna. The brahmanas gave their blessings to the cowherd men and their wives. Then, in front of everyone, Krishna turned Himself into a huge and wonderful form. He said, "I am Govardhan Hill," and He began to eat the food offered there.

When Lord Indra saw that his sacrifice was stopped by Krishna, he became very angry.



Indra called for the terrible Samvartaka clouds and said, "Go over Vrindavan and cover everything with floods. I will also go riding on my elephant along with great storms. I shall use all my strength to punish the people in Vrindavan."

Ordered by King Indra, all the dangerous clouds went over Vrindavan

and began to pour water with all their strength and power. There was constant thunder and lightning, severe winds and rain. Every man and animal in Vrindavan was shaking with cold and went to Krishna to take shelter.

Little Krishna then picked up Govardhan Hill with one hand, exactly as a child picks up a mushroom from the ground. He looked at all the devotees, "My dear brothers, My dear father, My dear friends, now come under the umbrella of Govardhan Hill, which I have just lifted. Do not be afraid that the hill will fall from My hand." Everyone with their animals stayed there for seven days and seven nights, without feeling hungry or thirsty. They were simply amazed to see how Krishna held up the mountain with the little finger of His left hand. Krishna is thus known as Giridhari, the lifter of Govardhan Hill

Seeing the wonderful power of Krishna, Indra, the King of Heaven, called for all the clouds and asked them to stop. There was sunshine again and strong winds stopped. He said, "My dear friends, now you can leave and take your families and things back to your homes because the danger has ended. The floods are finished." After they had cleared out everything, Lord Krishna very slowly put Govardhan Hill down where it had been before. Then, with His dear friends and animals, He went back to His own home.

Indra, the King of Heaven, understood now that he had behaved very badly, and came to apologize to Krishna with the help of Krishna's dear devotee, the Surabhi cow. "My dear Lord, I was so proud that I thought You were taking my share of the offerings away. Now, by Your grace, I understand that You are the Supreme Lord. Therefore, my Lord, please forgive me and bless me so that I do not act so foolishly again."

Lord Krishna smiled and said, "My dear Indra, I have stopped your sacrifice only to show you that I am always your master. You should always remember that everything you have is coming from Me. Everyone should always remember that I am the Supreme Lord."

After this, King Indra, the demigods and the Surabhi cow worshiped Lord Krishna. They bathed Him with Ganges water and milk from the Surabhi cows, which could give anything you wished for. Everyone sang and danced and the demigods poured showers of flowers from the sky. The cows flooded the ground with their milk and the rivers watered the trees, making nice fruits and flowers of different colors and tastes and smells. The trees poured drops of honey, and the hills and mountains gave nice plants and jewels. Because of Krishna all these things happened very nicely. And so King Indra went back to his heavenly kingdom along with all the demigods.





Parent's Sign: _____