



Author: Ashok Rajagopalan

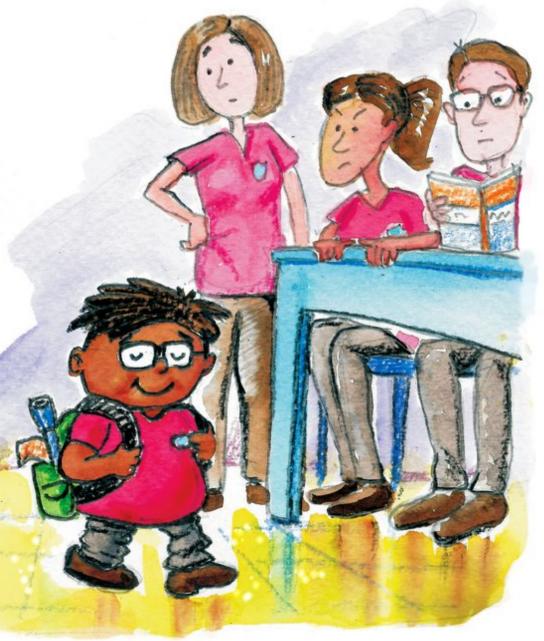
How Bittu Bottu Got Better

Illustrator: Ashok Rajagopalan

Level 3

Andy Prakash was only eight years old, but he studied in Class 10.

He had more brains than the whole school. More brains than the students, more brains than the teachers and even more brains than the principal!



The walking, talking proof of his super-intelligence was Bittu Bottu, a robot he had built all by himself.

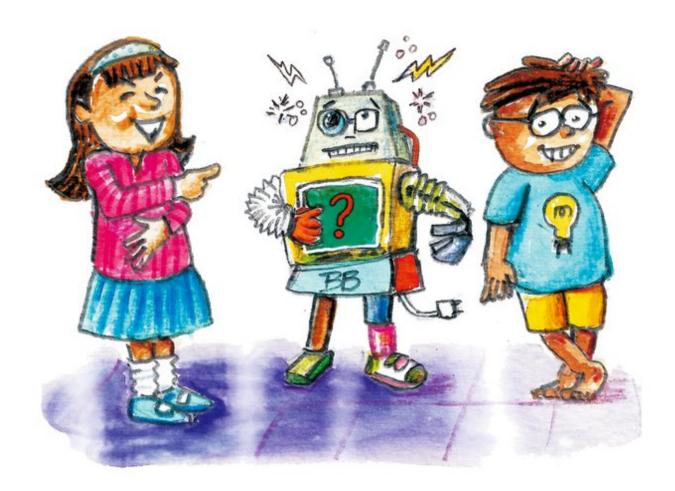




Bittu Bottu could answer any question.
"Bittu Bottu, how tall is Mount Everest?"
"About 8,848 metres above sea level," Bittu Bottu replied.



"Bittu Bottu, why did the chicken cross the road?"



Well, *almost* any question.



Bittu Bottu did Andy's housework.

"Andy! Clean your room yourself!"



Bittu Bottu did Andy's lab work.



"Who bought all this? Diodes, resistors, capacitors and transistors... And look at the electricity bill! **ANDY!**"

One day, Andy sent Bittu Bottu to school in his place.

"Andy Prakash!"
"Present, teacher."





The class teacher kept Bittu Bottu back at school and sent Andy's parents an angry text message.

"ANDY!"



"Ma, I want Bittu Bottu back. I miss him! Please write the teacher a letter," Andy told Amma.

"That robot spoils you. I won't write it."

"Pa, please write a letter to my teacher!"

"What, and get big electricity bills in return? No, of course not."



Andy climbed into school that night.

That was when he found...



a diode



an IC



a transistor

Andy followed the trail of Bittu Bottu's parts to the computer lab.

"Bittu Bottu is falling apart! I must have overworked him," he thought. "Where are you, my poor BB? Are you in the computer lab? I have your parts, BB!"



Andy found the lab locked.

CRUCK CRUCK

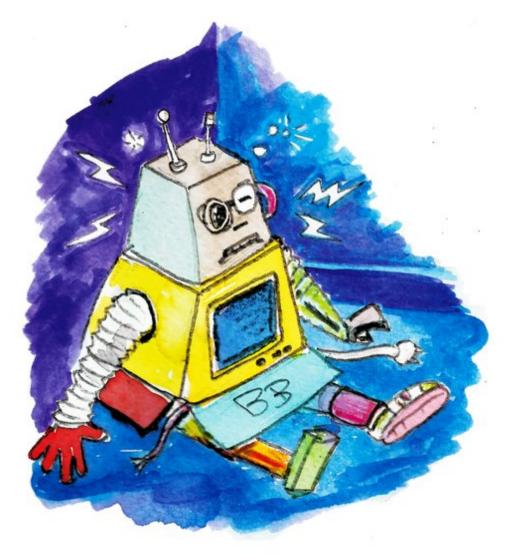
Someone was coming!



Andy hid behind a pillar as Security Anna walked past the computer lab. What could he do now? How would he give the parts to Bittu Bottu?

"Hey, Bittu Bottu," Andy whispered.

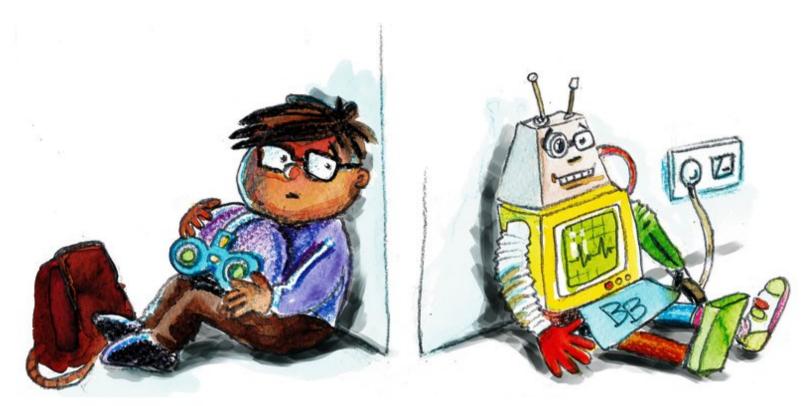
Bittu Bottu was too weak to walk or talk.





Andy threw the diode, IC and transistor into a bag and pushed it through the window.

Bittu Bottu fixed himself with the components. He crawled, little by little, to a corner.

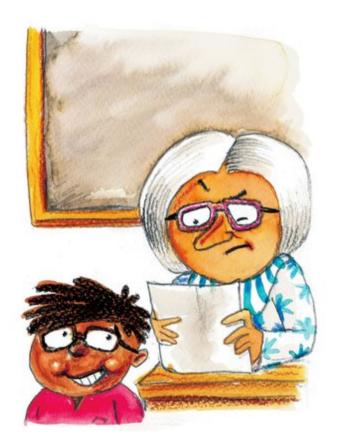


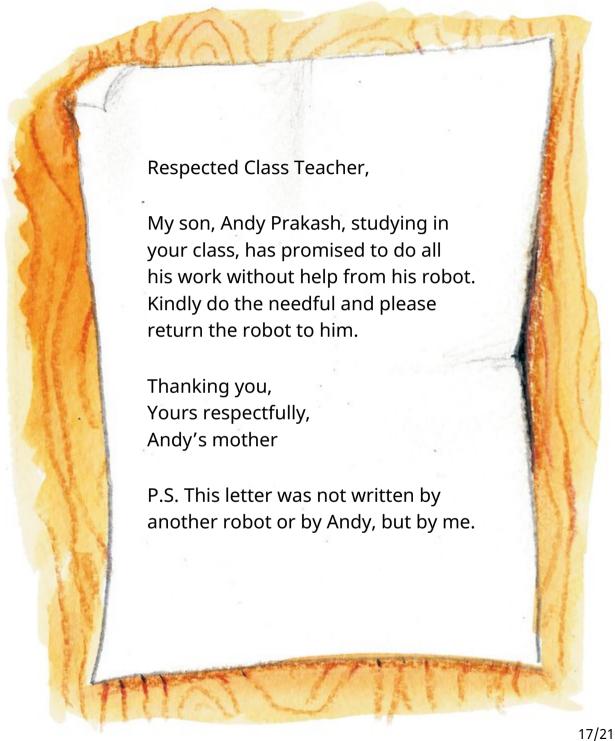
"I am charging my battery, Andooo..."

"Ah, good boy! But don't call me Andooo!"

"Okay, Andooo..."

The next morning, Andy gave the teacher a letter from his mother.





Bittu Bottu was allowed to go home with Andy that day.



Now Andy did the housework himself.



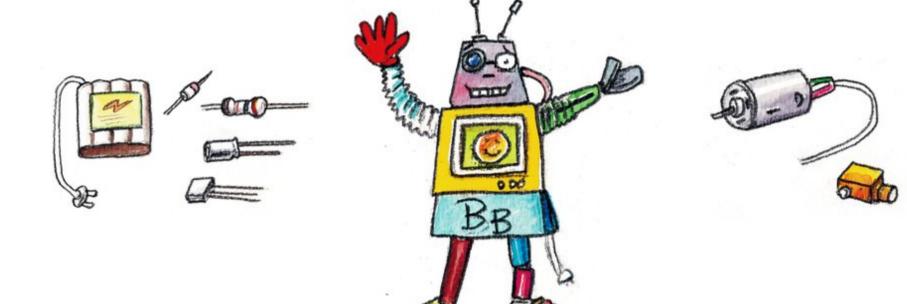
He did his lab work himself.



Andy even did his homework himself...



Bittu Bottu is made of four basic parts.



1. Power Supply

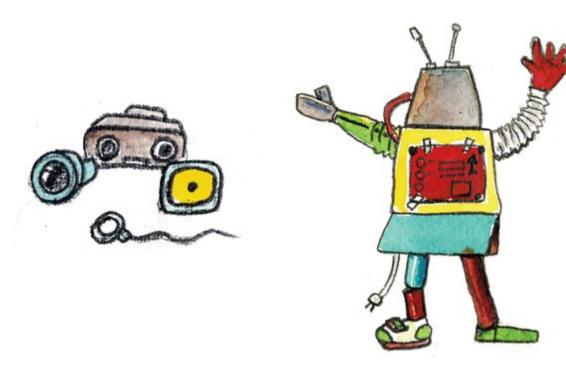
Robots need electricity to do work.

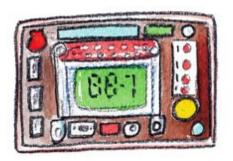
Bittu Bottu has a rechargeable battery inside and solar powered cells outside.

Diodes, resistors, transistors and capacitors control the power as needed.

2. Actuators

Actuators are motors that use power to help the robot move. Big motors help Bittu Bottu move from place to place. Little motors move his head and arms.





3. Sensors

Sensors allow a robot to see and hear.

Bittu Bottu's sensors are cameras
and microphones that work as
his eyes and ears.

4. Controller

The controller is the brain of a robot.

It understands the information from the sensors and tells the actuators what to do. It can be programmed to follow human commands. A controller is usually made of integrated circuits (ICs).



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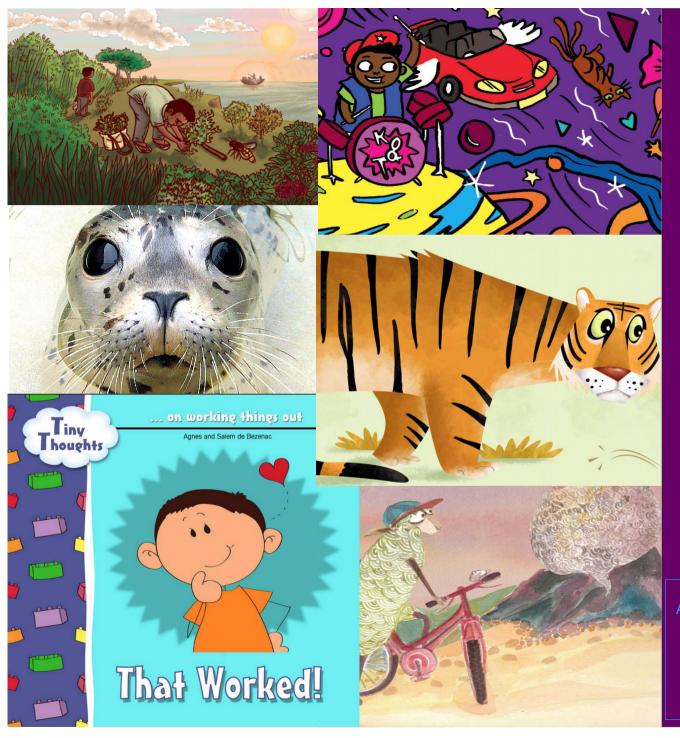
How Bittu Bottu Got Better (English)

Andy's robot Bittu Bottu did everything for him, from his housework to his homework. But when Bittu Bottu got in trouble, would Andy be there for him?

This is a Level 3 book for children who are ready to read on their own.



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