

Moh Hom

Mission

Story : Ajarn Chai, Phi Gap, and Team
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"The shirts we wear to school every Friday are indigo
—just like the sky!" Manoi said.

"Yeah, but why are they called Moh Hom shirts?"

"Did someone boil them in a pot or something?"

"Hey! Suea Kom, don't bite my shirt!"

Sompur scolded.

Lohng Laang, Lohng Laang!

"Uncle Som is here! He knows everything—let's go ask him!"
Ma-Khwaen shouted with excitement.

"Uncle Som! Why does your shirt look so cool?"

Manoi asked, her eyes wide with curiosity.

"And why is it called Moh Hom? Did someone really boil it in a pot?"

"Oh... I've worn this one for three years already,"

Uncle Som replied with a gentle smile.

"It's not just any shirt—it's a special treasure
from our hometown, Phrae."



"Mom, Dad, can I go to Auntie Kham's Moh Hom house?"
Manoi asked eagerly.

"Who are you going with?" Dad replied.

"With Uncle Som!"

Manoi answered quickly. Ma-Khwaen grinned mischievously.

"I'll help Auntie Kham stir the indigo dye—I promise I won't make a mess!"
Ma-Khwaen declared.



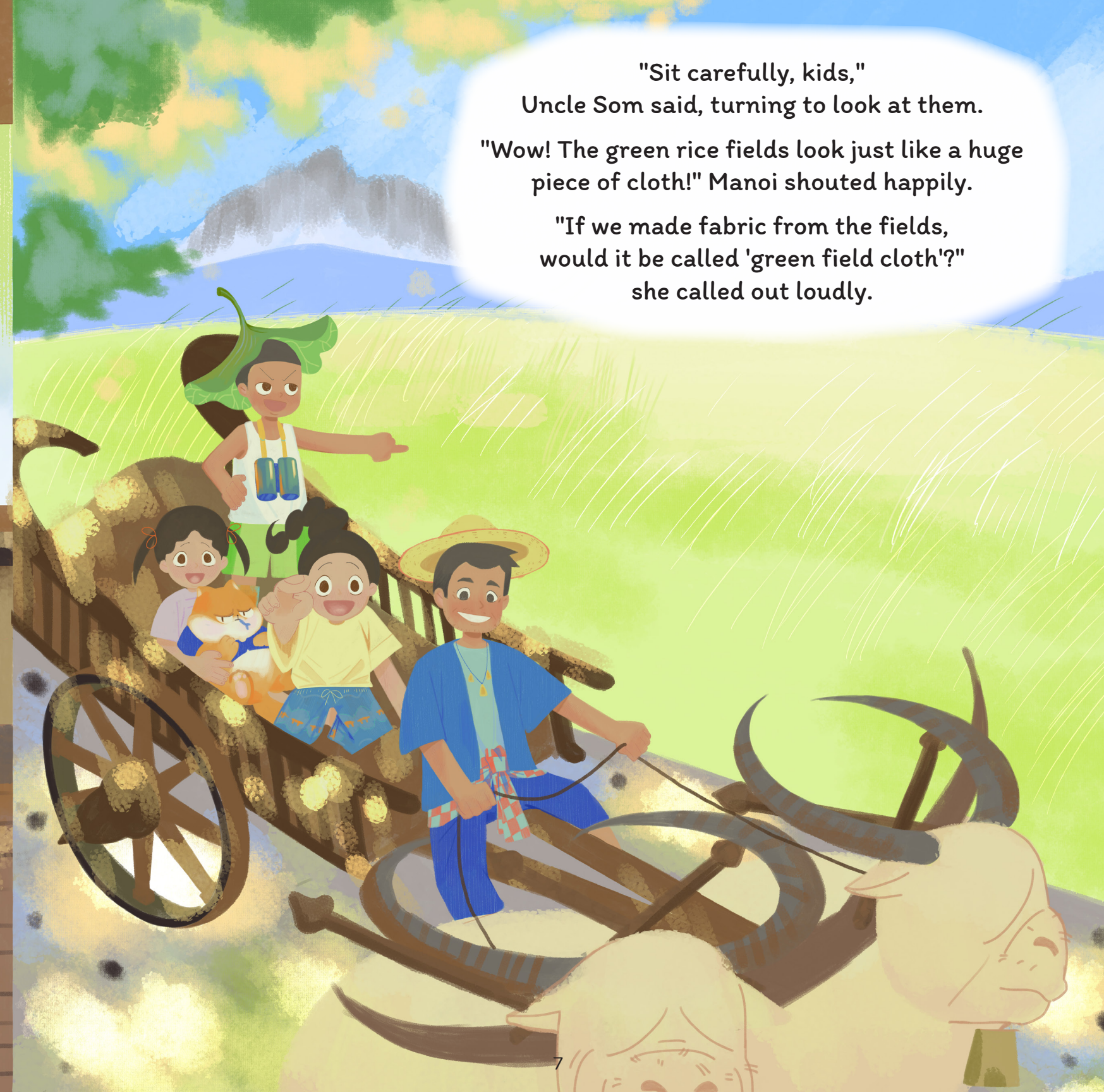
CRASH!

Ma-Khwaen had accidentally
dropped a rice bowl.

"Sit carefully, kids,"
Uncle Som said, turning to look at them.

"Wow! The green rice fields look just like a huge
piece of cloth!" Manoi shouted happily.

"If we made fabric from the fields,
would it be called 'green field cloth'?"
she called out loudly.



"Oh my, who has Uncle Som brought to cause some fun today?"
Auntie Kham said with a smile.

"It's me, Ma-Khwaen! I came to dye the—uh—the Moh Hom cloth!"
Ma-Khwaen answered quickly.

"I came too! I want to help pick Hom leaves!"
said Sompur, raising her hand.

"And I want to learn everything!" Manoi added with a big grin.

"Well then," Auntie Kham laughed,
"Get ready for green fingers and messy shirts!"



"These are Hom plants. We pick the leaves and
soak them in water first," Auntie Kham explained.
"This jar has been soaking since yesterday."

"It smells like rotten leaves!"
Ma-Khwaen said, wrinkling his nose.

"Don't sniff too hard, Ma-Khwaen—your nose
might turn green!" Manoi warned.

"Or you might turn into Green-Nose Ma-Khwaen!"
Sompur giggled.



"First, we soak the Hom leaves to get green water," Auntie Kham explained.
"Then we mix it with betel nut lime and let it settle. The soft blue paste at the bottom is called Wet Hom—that's what we use to make the dye."

"This jar is ready!" Auntie Kham said.
"Alright, kids—get your cloth. Dip it in the dye layer by layer. Gently knead it so the color slowly soaks into the fabric. Then lift it out, twist it dry, unfold it, and give it a light shake. At first, it'll look green... but soon it will turn deep blue."
Auntie Kham showed them how to do it.

"What if we dip ice cream in there? Will we get vanilla-flavored Moh Hom?" Ma-Khwaen teased.

"You'll get a bellyache-flavored one for sure!" Auntie Kham laughed.



"This time, we're going to dye real shirts!" Auntie Kham announced, holding one up. "They're made from handwoven cotton—cool and comfy to wear."

"I want mine to look like a superhero shirt!" Ma-Khwaen interrupted.

"There's no such thing! These are Moh Hom shirts," Sompor said, rolling her eyes.

"Now let's all work as a team!" said Sompor, giving orders. "Ma-Khwaen, you do the kneading. Manoi, you twist. I'll be in charge of hanging it up!"

"Alright! I'll be the Chief of Mess!" Ma-Khwaen declared.

"Well done, kids!" Auntie Kham said with a big smile.

"But... can we make pretty patterns on them, Auntie Kham?" Manoi asked.

"Of course!" Auntie Kham beamed. "I've got lots of fun things ready—string, rubber bands, and tiny stones. Just right for making beautiful designs!"



"Alright, kids! Time to dip your shirts into the indigo vat," said Auntie Kham. "Don't worry about getting messy—this is the good stuff!"

"Back when I was a boy, I dyed my whole arms blue! And I had to soak in lemon juice for days!" Uncle Som shouted from afar.

"To make tie-dye, you need a plan and a big imagination," said Auntie Kham. "Every time you tie the fabric, the pattern will be one of a kind."

"Then I'll make mine look like a spinning tornado!" Ma-Khwaen said.

"I want a blue flower right in the middle of my back," Sompor said.

"I'll tie a heart shape—so I can give it to my mom," Manoi said with determination.

"My heart shape came out a little wonky... but I love it," Manoi said with a proud smile.

"My spinning tornado looks more like a snail!" Ma-Khwaen said.

"And my flower turned into a spider in a storm!" Somporn laughed.

"The patterns may not be just as you imagined," Auntie Kham said kindly,
"But they're beautiful in their own special way. That's the magic of real art."

Ma-Khwaen said, "I'm going to show mine to Dad, and I'll tell him I tied it and got all messy by myself!"

"I'm wearing mine to school next Friday!"
Somporn said, her eyes sparkling.

"I'm giving mine to Mom as a birthday present,"
Manoi added softly.

"You little naughty really did it all—from mess to masterpiece,"
Uncle Som said with a fond smile.



"Wow, your shirts are beautiful! Where did you make them?
Next time, bring your friends too,"
the teacher asked, admiring their work.

"We didn't just dye the fabric," Somporn answered proudly.
"Auntie Kham said we also learned to be patient and work together."

"I almost dyed Suea Kom, too,
but he scratched me first!"
Ma-Khwaen added with a grin.

"Meow... Oh dear...
who would want to be a tie-dye cat, meow?"

End-of-Book Note

The Local Knowledge Picture Book is a core activity of the One Book One City project, implemented across ten provinces by the Thailand Knowledge Park (TK Park). The initiative aims to create a platform for exchanging knowledge in order to produce children's picture books inspired by the intellectual and cultural heritage of each locality.

The project is designed to encourage participation from representatives of all provincial network partners, guided by experts in children's picture book production. The process covers every stage—from generating ideas, outlining stories, writing manuscripts, and illustrating, to publishing—ensuring that each book is not only a genuine source of local pride, but also meets professional quality standards. These books convey embedded local wisdom that can be shared with readers both in Thailand and around the world.

For the Phrae Province, the following contributors took part in the project and co-created this storybook for Phrae's children :

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3. **Mr. Thitipong Wongsane** – Head of Branch Office, Phrae Distance Learning Center
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End-of-Book Activity : Let's Have Fun with Tie-Dye!

Hey kids! Have you ever seen cool shirts with amazing colorful patterns? Today, we're going to make tie-dye ourselves! It's easy, super fun, and you can create unique designs that no one else has!

Get Your Supplies Ready!

Before we start our colorful adventure, let's gather everything we need :

1. **White Cotton Fabric** : A bandana, a plain white t-shirt, or even a piece of cloth!
2. **Fabric Dyes** : Pick your favorite colors! (Cold water dyes are safest and easiest for kids.)
3. **Rubber Bands** : Grab a bunch!
4. **Gloves & Apron** : To keep you clean!
5. **Basin/Bucket, Water, Spoon** : For mixing and dipping.

Let's Tie-Dye!

Ready to get creative? Here's how to do it :

1. **Prepare Your Fabric** : Get your white fabric wet by soaking it in water, then wring it out so it's just damp.
2. **Tie Your Fabric** : This is where the magic happens! Use rubber bands to create different patterns.
 - * **Circles** : Pinch a small part of the fabric and wrap a rubber band tightly around it. Make a few!
 - * **Lines** : Fold your fabric like an accordion (like a fan), then tie rubber bands in sections.
 - * **Crumple** : Crumple the fabric into a ball, then wrap rubber bands all around it.
 - * **Be Creative** : Try out your own ideas for tying the fabric. The tighter you tie, the clearer your patterns will be!
3. **Dye Your Fabric** :
 - * **Mix the Dye** : Prepare your fabric dyes according to the instructions on the package.
 - * **Dip or Drizzle** : Dip your tied fabric into the dye and let it soak for 10-20 minutes (or longer for darker colors). You can also use a squeeze bottle to drizzle dye onto specific spots!
4. **Rinse & Dry** : Gently remove the rubber bands. Rinse your fabric under clean water until the water runs clear and all the extra dye is gone. Then, hang it up to dry completely!

How did your tie-dye turn out? Is it colorful and beautiful? Tie-dyeing is so much fun, right? Remember to always have an adult help you with this activity!



Illustration Team

Lead Artist : Panida Ounarrom

"I was born and raised in Phrae. Before graduating from the Faculty of Fine Arts at Chiang Mai University (CMU), I always enjoyed drawing whatever I saw, both people and things. I love the peaceful atmosphere of Phrae, so I want to convey its charming aspects to people, showing them it's more than just a transit city."

Assistant Artist/Inker : Aunchitha Kaeosutthi

"Since high school, I've been interested in art and creative storytelling. In my 11th grade, I had the opportunity to work on several projects, including creating comics for online platforms. Currently, I'm a student in the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology at Silpakorn University."

Background Artist/Inker : Amornrat Butkaew

"My nickname is 'Komkam,' a freelance character design artist from Phrae province. I'm currently a first-year student in the Faculty of Architecture at Khon Kaen University."

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