Autobiography of Squirrel I am pleased to share the happening(s) in my life, by way of penning down my autobiography. My mother once said, I was born in a nest made up of grass in military compound of Malad East, Mumbai. Baby squirrels being blind, I was totally dependent on my mother for first two or three months. I live in family of five, consisting of my parents and two sisters. My name is Pinu, I am an Indian Palm squirrel, gray brow in color with three conspicuous white stripes which runs from head to tail. It is said that we got these three stripes from Lord Rama’s fingers, when he caressed our ancestors back who contributed in the construction of Ram Setu.

I have a long tail which helps me to balance when I run up or down and from tree to tree. I also use my fluffy tail as an "umbrella", to shade me from hot sunlight, sheild me from rain, warm me during cold weather, and also as a flag to communicate with other squirrels We are a happy going family and my day starts at 7 o’ clock in the morning when my family and I wander in the military area in search of food, especially nuts and fruits which we all relish.

My mom says nuts are rich in protein, carbohydrates, and fats. In search of food or sometimes playing with my sisters, we cross over to the residential building named Blissful Universal Society. We all like the chickpeas or chana as we say in hindi, as offered by Mrs. Chaphekar, in a small vessel in her 7th floor balcony. We, squirrels are of the very few wild animal species which will eat out of a person’s hand. While we eat and run around, Mrs. Chaphekar’ small little daughter named Pratiksha enjoys watching us and always asking her mom that why don’t we go inside their house?. I don’t like to go inside the homes. I am an expert climber; I can leap a span 10 times the length of my body and run around up and down in the trees, buildings, temples or cars. I am snapped a lot by various residents of the Society and I sometimes purposely loiter around the balcony or kitchen window, to enable a good snap of mine. I am a good observer and learn various traits from humans and other species.

Like, while crossing the road to my other playground, I do watch people waiting and cross when they cross. Post our lunch, we all meet together at our home. I have been trained by mom to sharpen my teeth every day by chewing tree branches, as our teeth’s grow continuously. At night we sleep in a small borough and I am very vocal, with a cry that sounds like "chip chip chip" when danger is present. I do feel frightened with our homes and our playground being taken away, by constant cutting of trees. I would like to tell all children that they all should be very agile and active, jump a lot, eat lot of proteins, keep their teeth strong and help others to get blessed from GOD and elders.