THE JUNGLE BOOK: MOWGLI BROTHERS KAA’S HUNTING TIGER! TIGER! On the night of a big hunt, Father Wolf and Mother Wolf discover a man’s cub in the bushes, abandoned and naked. Mother Wolf immediately decides she will raise him as one of her own cubs, much to the tiger Shere Khan’s dismay. Shere Khan believes the child was his to eat, and he is not happy to be turned away. Mother Wolf names the child Mowgli, which she says means frog. At the wolf Pack Council, Mowgli is accepted by the other wolves only after Baloo, a kind bear who teaches the cubs about the Jungle Law, and Bagheera, the black panther, vouch for him. Mowgli grows up enjoying his wild jungle surroundings, but one day he tells Baloo and Bagheera that he has befriended the Bandar-log, the monkey-people.

His friends are horrified, knowing that the Bandar-log are a proud, stupid race who have no laws and no leaders. Suitably warned, Mowgli is still caught unawares when the Bandar-log arrive and kidnap him. Luckily, Baloo and Bagheera enlist the help of Kaa the python who is the only creature the monkeys fear, and they are able to rescue Mowgli. But Shere Khan is not to be forgotten. Mowgli soon realizes the tiger means to exact his revenge by deposing wolf Pack leader Akela, leaving Mowgli vulnerable to attack. Anticipating this, Mowgli steals some of the human’s Red Flower, Bagheera’s name for fire, and drives away Shere Khan and his allies. The Pack then casts him out, but Mowgli vows to return someday with Shere Khan’s hide. On the run, Mowgli finds a small town of humans like himself and gets adopted by a couple. He learns human language and customs, but is not impressed.

A friend from his old Pack, Grey Wolf, keeps him apprised of Jungle news, and one day he brings word that Shere Khan is preparing to attack again. Mowgli, Grey Wolf, and Akela herd a pack of buffalo into the ravine that the tiger is hiding in, and the resulting stampede kills Shere Khan. His Pack offers to take him back now, but Mowgli refuses, content to hunt with only his four wolf brothers from now on. The other stories extend the scope of Kipling’s jungle setting. Kotick the baby seal is horrified by the Aleutian islanders that club his fellow seals to death, and leads thousands of seals to a secluded and safe home. Rikki Tikki Tavi is a young mongoose taken in by a 19th century English family who saves his new family from deadly king cobras Nag and Nagaina.

Little Toomai is the son of an elephant driver who gets the thrilling opportunity to see the elephants dance. And finally, a British soldier cannot believe his ears when he ears the camp animals chatting after a long day.------------SOFIYA BHANJI 7A 7011 DJHS T