

Mohan's Wonderful Mouth

Kids Story



From the Shri Krishna Eating Earth collection

Shri Krishna Mrityika Bhakshan

Before We Begin



This story is inspired by the kirtans in Shri Krishna Eating Earth (Shri Krishna Mrityika Bhakshan) from pushtikirtan.com. These kirtans express the divine experiences of Pushtimargiya poets. The pictures are based on their descriptions. This little book is for younger children who cannot yet read or understand the kirtans, so they may experience a little of their beauty and divinity.

This is a fictional story adaptation inspired by the kirtans. We do not claim that it is an authentic account. Please forgive any mistakes.



The Children's Report

The cowherd children stood beside Krishna's mother. They were Krishna's companions, the children who shared his company. Now they had something to tell her. They said that Krishna had eaten earth. His mother listened to their report about her little boy, whom she called Mohan.



Mother's Question

Mother Yashoda turned to Mohan. She wanted to know why he had eaten earth. To her, he was her own dear child, standing before her while his companions spoke. The kirtan calls her Jasumati, another name for Yashoda. It lets us hear a mother's question to her beloved little son.



Mohan's Answer

Mohan denied what the children had said. He said he had neither heard nor seen such a thing. Their story, he said, was made up. His companions had given their report, and now his mother had heard his answer. Little Krishna stood before her, with the question still between them.



Her Beloved Gopal

Another kirtan lingers over the same motherly concern. Yashoda asks her beloved Gopal to spit out the earth. Gopal is another loving name for Krishna. She holds a small stick in her hand, but the poem describes no blow. Her words are the words of a mother addressing her dear child.



A Little Open Mouth

Then Krishna opened his mouth wide. He showed it to his mother as proof of his answer. This was the little mouth she had been asking about. Yet the poets describe something far greater than an ordinary child showing his mouth. Through this small gesture, Krishna revealed his wondrous divine play.



The Whole Earth

Within Krishna's mouth, Yashoda was shown the whole earth. The poem gives this great wonder in just a few words. Her little boy had opened his mouth, and there was a sight larger than she could have expected. The earth itself was revealed through the child standing before her.



Mother's Wonder

Yashoda gazed into Krishna's mouth. She became completely absorbed in what she saw. The mother who had asked about a little earth now beheld the whole earth. The kirtan stays with her wonder, letting us pause beside her as she looks at the extraordinary sight in her dear child's mouth.



Eyes Closed in Wonder

In the other kirtan, the poet describes Yashoda closing her eyes after a long while. She is overwhelmed by Krishna's divine play and cannot find words for it. The poem pictures confusion falling away like a curtain. We pause with this mother, whose little child has shown her such a wonder.



Close to Her Heart

Surdas brings us back to a mother's embrace. Yashoda drew her dear child against her heart. The boy who had revealed the whole earth was still her beloved Mohan. She held him close. The poem's great wonder rests beside this simple, tender sight: Krishna in the arms of his mother.



A Mother's Loving Care

Yashoda used salt and mustard seeds in a traditional gesture of protection for her child. This was a mother's way of expressing loving care and wishing harm away. Surdas leaves us with her tenderness toward Krishna. After the question and the wondrous vision, the little boy is held close to her heart.

Kirtans Used

Collection: Shri Krishna Eating Earth

Shri Krishna Mrittika Bhakshan

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1. Mohan Tem Mati

Mohan, why did you eat earth?

Poet: Surdas (named in the verse).

Story pages 1–3, 5–7, 9–10 (PDF pages 3–5, 7–9, 11–12).

[Read the kirtan · no. 467](#)

2. Ugalau Pyare Bal

Spit it out, beloved little Gopal.

Poet: Surdas (named in the verse).

Story pages 4–5, 8 (PDF pages 6–7, 10).

[Read the kirtan · no. 468](#)

An original English retelling of two complementary poetic descriptions of the same lila, or divine play. The page about closed eyes follows the second poem's perspective; the embrace and protective gesture follow the first.

Source collection consulted October 24, 2026.