ABOUT THE BOOK

A long time ago, there lived a princess named Cinnamon.

Cinnamon had pearls for eyes.

Cinnamon did not talk.

Her father and mother offered many riches to anyone who could get Cinnamon to speak. One day, a tiger came to the palace, armed with knowledge of the world, and everything changed.

STORYTIME ACTIVITIES

- **EXPLORE INDIA:** Where do you think this story took place? How do you know? What clues are there either in the words or in the illustrations of this book? How is this setting different from where you live? Discuss the many landforms in India (Himalaya Mountains, Ganges River, Thar Desert, Andaman Islands). Have the children color a map of India.

- **SAVE THE ANIMALS!** Tigers are an endangered species. Scientists estimate that only about 3,500 tigers exist worldwide, and many of them (about 3,000) live in India. Have the children research other endangered animals and then design a poster to educate their classmates about the animal they chose.

- **FULL OF SURPRISES:** Many unexpected things happen in this tale, which makes the plot difficult to predict. Ask the children to share what surprised them in the story. What did you think was going to happen, and what actually occurred? Did any characters change from the beginning of the story? Do you think Cinnamon will ever return home? Why or why not?

- **TALES FROM AROUND THE WORLD:** Provide the children with fairy tales from around the world. As they read, ask them to think about how the setting of the story affects the plot. Then in pairs or small groups, have the children summarize the tales. Children can then swap stories based on their interests.

- **WHERE IN THE WORLD?** Cinnamon decides to explore the world outside her home. Ask children to think about where they would go if they could leave home to explore someplace new. Where would they choose to go? Why? What would they want to learn about this new place? If possible, use Google Expeditions or another similar interactive site to virtually “visit” places around the world.
Cinnamon decides to explore the world outside her home with the tiger. Where in the world would you go to explore someplace new? Write the name of the place below, and list the reasons you want to travel there.

__________________________

1. _________________________

2. _________________________

3. _________________________

4. _________________________
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

At the end of the story, Cinnamon leaves her home with the tiger to explore the world. What do you think happens next? Draw a picture of what you think happens to Cinnamon and the tiger.