

## TOPIC 6: LIFE IN THE MOUNTAINS

### STORY: MEET PEMBA AND HER FAMILY



My name is Pemba and I am nine years old.

I live with my mum and dad, my big sister who is 15 years old, and my little brother who is five.

My house has one big room where we all eat and spend time together. We have one room where we play and do homework and it has the fire where we cook our meals. I also sleep in this room with my sister and brother.

Our house has one other smaller room. My mum and dad sleep in there.

My dad works as a carpenter, which means he makes and fixes wooden furniture. My mum weaves baskets to sell and grows vegetable to sell and for us all to eat.

The first thing I do in the morning is help my big sister with chores. We help to get breakfast ready and wash the dishes.

I eat a large breakfast of *Dal Bhat*, which is a soup made from lentils. I have this with rice and tarkari, which is a vegetable curry. We don't eat at school but I have something to eat when I get home from school at about 4pm.

In the morning, before I go to school, I usually have some homework to finish. If she has time, my big sister helps me with my homework. But she also has to collect water from the nearby tap so we have water we can use in our home.

I use my reflection in the window to do my hair and then I wait by the window to spot my best friend who lives further down the valley.

When my best friend reaches my house we walk to school with my sister and some of our friends.

School starts at 9.45am. Some children have to walk a long way to get to school.

When we get to school, we have assembly and then do morning exercises known as 'brain gym'.

After school I like to play kitchen and cooking at home. I also like to help my mum.

My favourite subject at school is social studies and I want to be a teacher at when I grow up.

I really like school, it's important that I go to school and work hard so I can do well in my exams.

My mum didn't go to school but she says education is the most important thing. She says if I work hard at school then I can be whatever I dream of when I grow up.

I am very lucky to be able to go to school.

