

‘Mother’s Magic Hands’



My mother is a ‘magic mother’, and her hands are ‘magic hands’. To you she may seem like any other mother and her hands may seem like any other hands...but for me they are the most magical hands in the whole wide world.



**My mother's magic hands wipe my tears when I cry, they soothe
me when I am sick and hold me when I am about to fall and even
pat me to sleep when I am restless.**



My day usually begins with her hands running over my face and tummy and tickling me awake, those magic hands of my mother.



Once I am up I go to the toilet. The moment I come out of the toilet my mother ensures that I wash my hands with soap. I ask her why and she explains that there are invisible germs on my hands which don't get washed away with plain water. These can make me sick and miss school and if I miss school often I will fail!

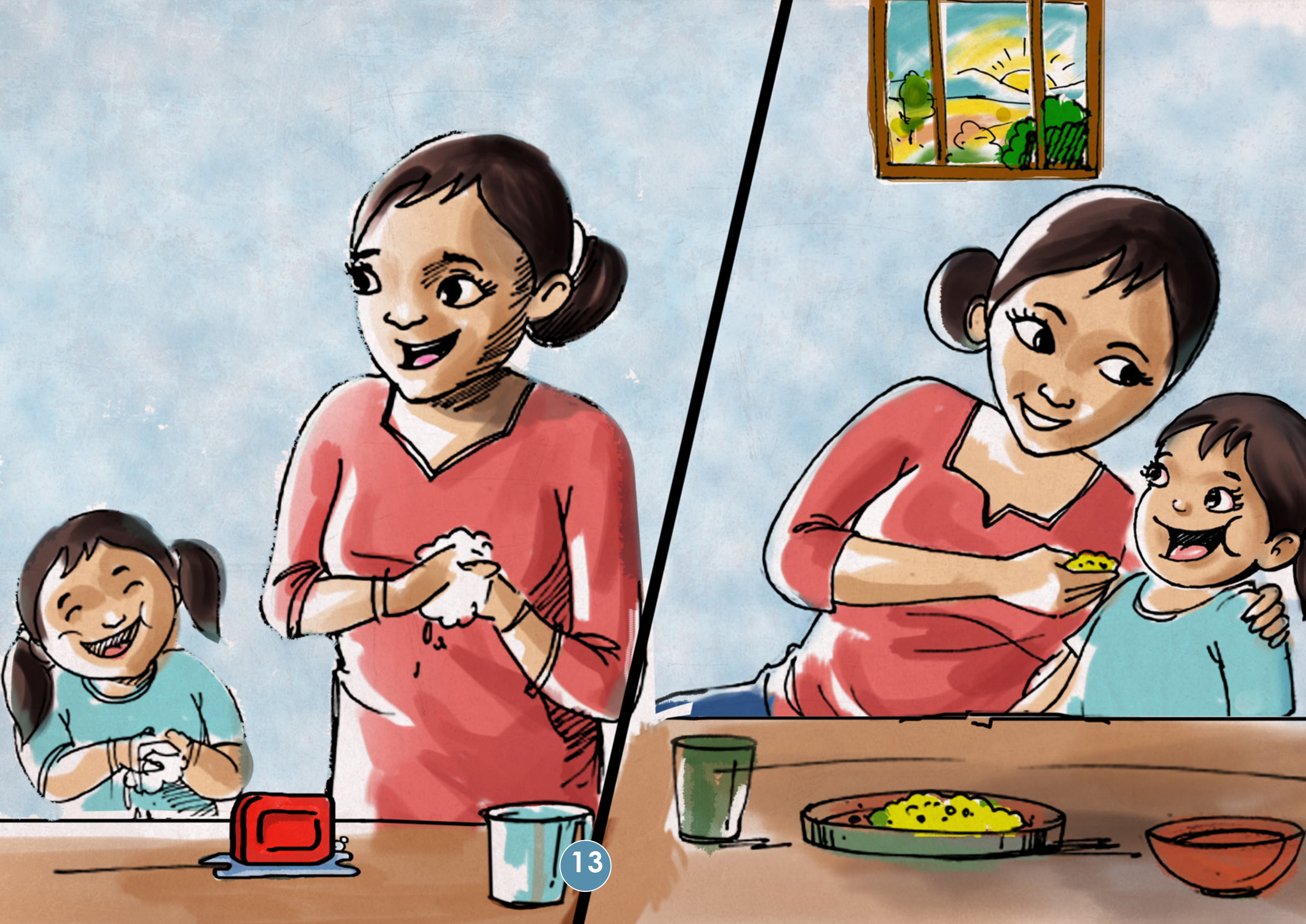
The promoter : How intelligent her mother is! She is advising her child to always wash her hands with soap after toilet. You should remember this...you and your children must always wash your hands with soap and water after toilet.



So I wash my hands carefully imitating my mother's magic hands as they rub the soap all over themselves, every little crevice and tip. Afterall I want to attend school and get the first rank. Then we smell our hands and remark how fragrant they are.



After this she would straight away march me off to the bathroom. ‘You must always brush your teeth, comb your hair, bathe and cut your nails. How else will you grow up to be a successful and respectable woman?!’ she says, while buttoning up my uniform with her magic hands.



Soon the delicious aroma of breakfast wafts through the air. I am so hungry and greedy! I run to breakfast. If I were to forget to wash my hands with soap, my mother reminds me- 'Zindagi mein jaana hain door, tho soap se haath dhona zaroor!' We wash our hands together. I start eating by myself, but soon I persuade her to feed me. Food tastes so much better from her magic hands!!

The promoter : Remember you should wash your hands, just like this magic mother and her child, with both soap and water before breakfast or feeding your child.



**When we walk back from the market and I do my best to help mother.
All the women accompanying us appreciate me. Someone says ‘Oh!
how clean and fresh your daughter looks!’ Someone else says ‘Oh! She
is so well-mannered and respectful of elders!’. ‘You make me proud!’
mother says as she pats me on the head with her magic hands.**



When I am at school I work hard so that the teacher is happy with me and my mother is proud of my achievements. At lunch during the mid-day meal I ensure that I wash my hands with soap, I remember mother telling me – ‘Always wash your hand with soap before eating breakfast, lunch or dinner.’

The promoter : Remember to also wash your hands with both soap and water before lunch. Let's see what the little girl has to say now...



Once I get back from school, it's time to do my homework. mother sits beside and helps me when I need help. If my eyes linger too long she pulls my ear gently with her magic hands ...



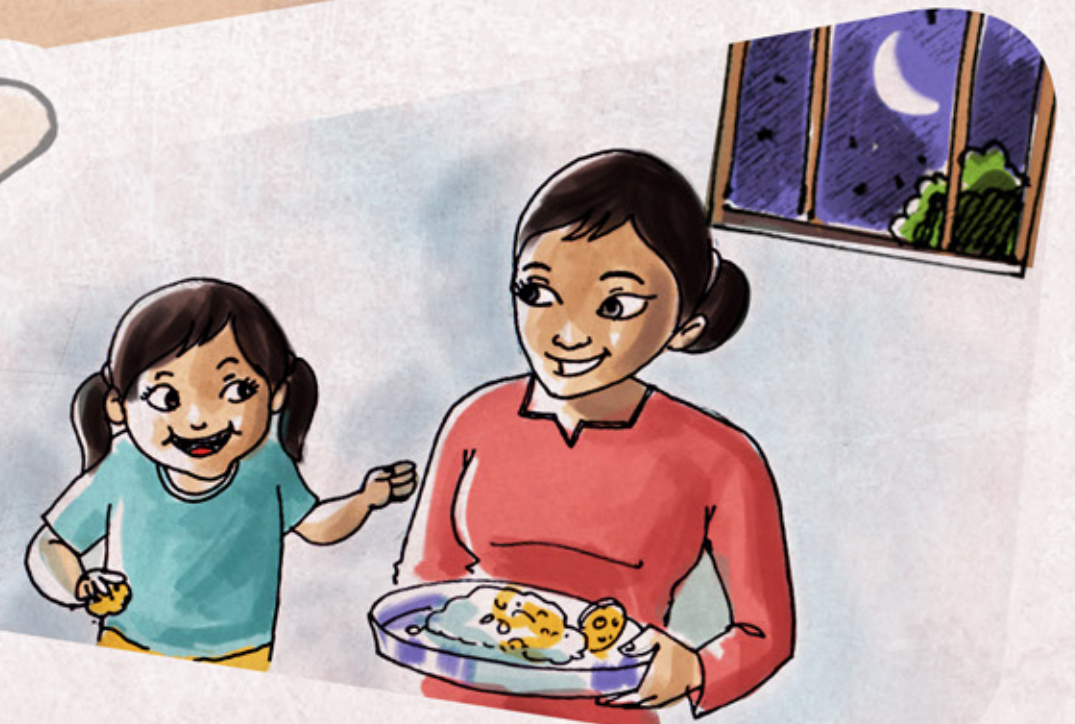
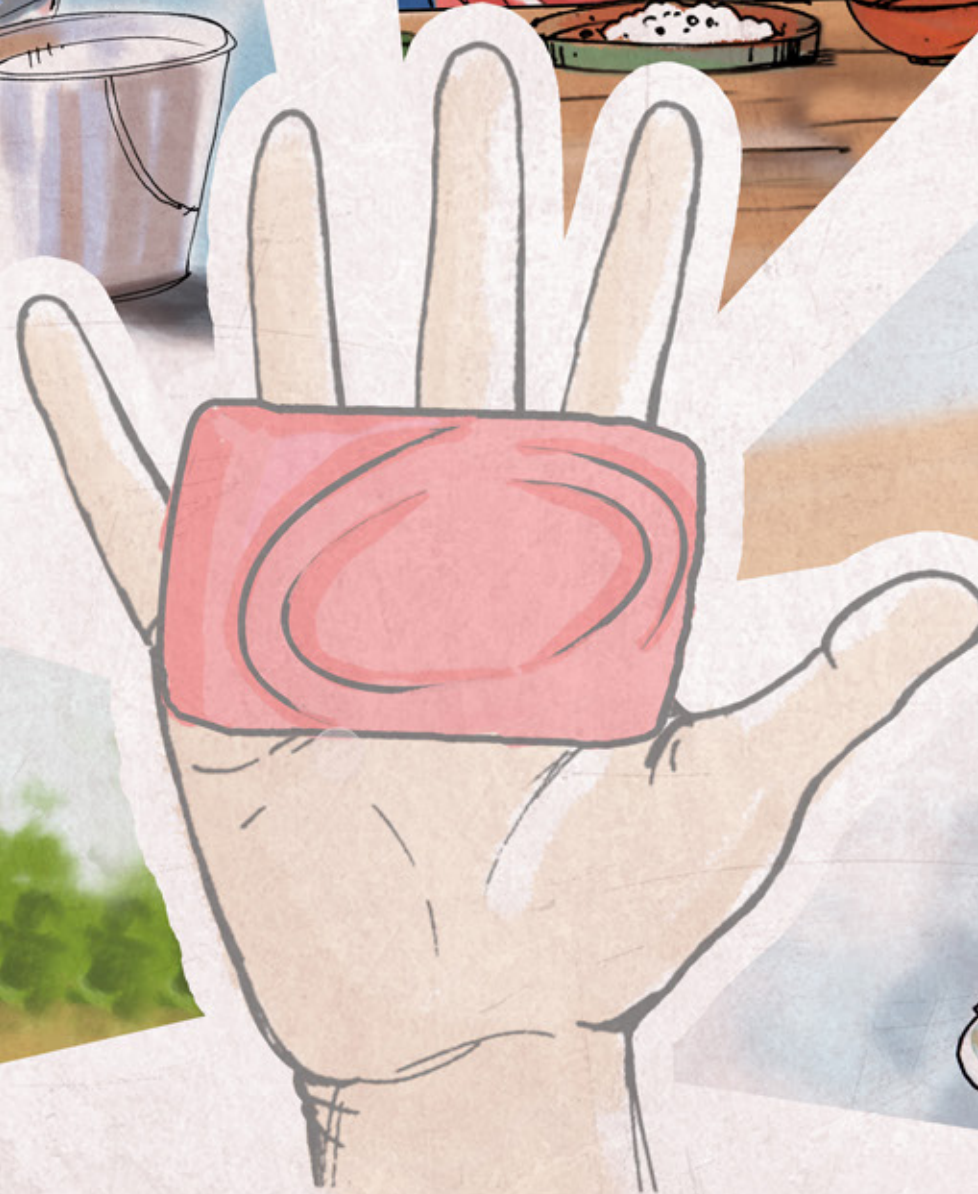
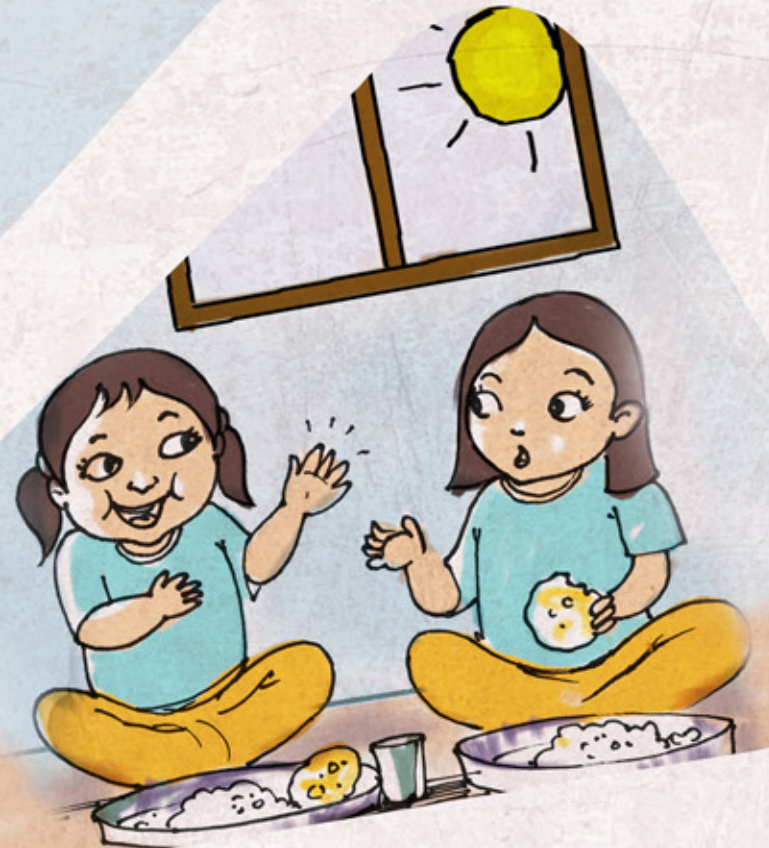
After homework comes the most favourite part of my day- playtime.

As I run off, I see mother is washing her hands before starting cooking. She never touches food without washing her hands, whether it is to cook, eat or feed.



Then we sit down to have our dinner. I remembered to wash my hands with soap this time. I tell mother all about my day. About how I played and that I washed my hands with soap before coming to the dinner. She is overjoyed and pats me on my back remarking about how good a child I am!

The promoter : Look! They even wash their hands before dinner...so that makes it five occasions. As we will see in the next frame.



During Bath



Before Breakfast



Before Lunch

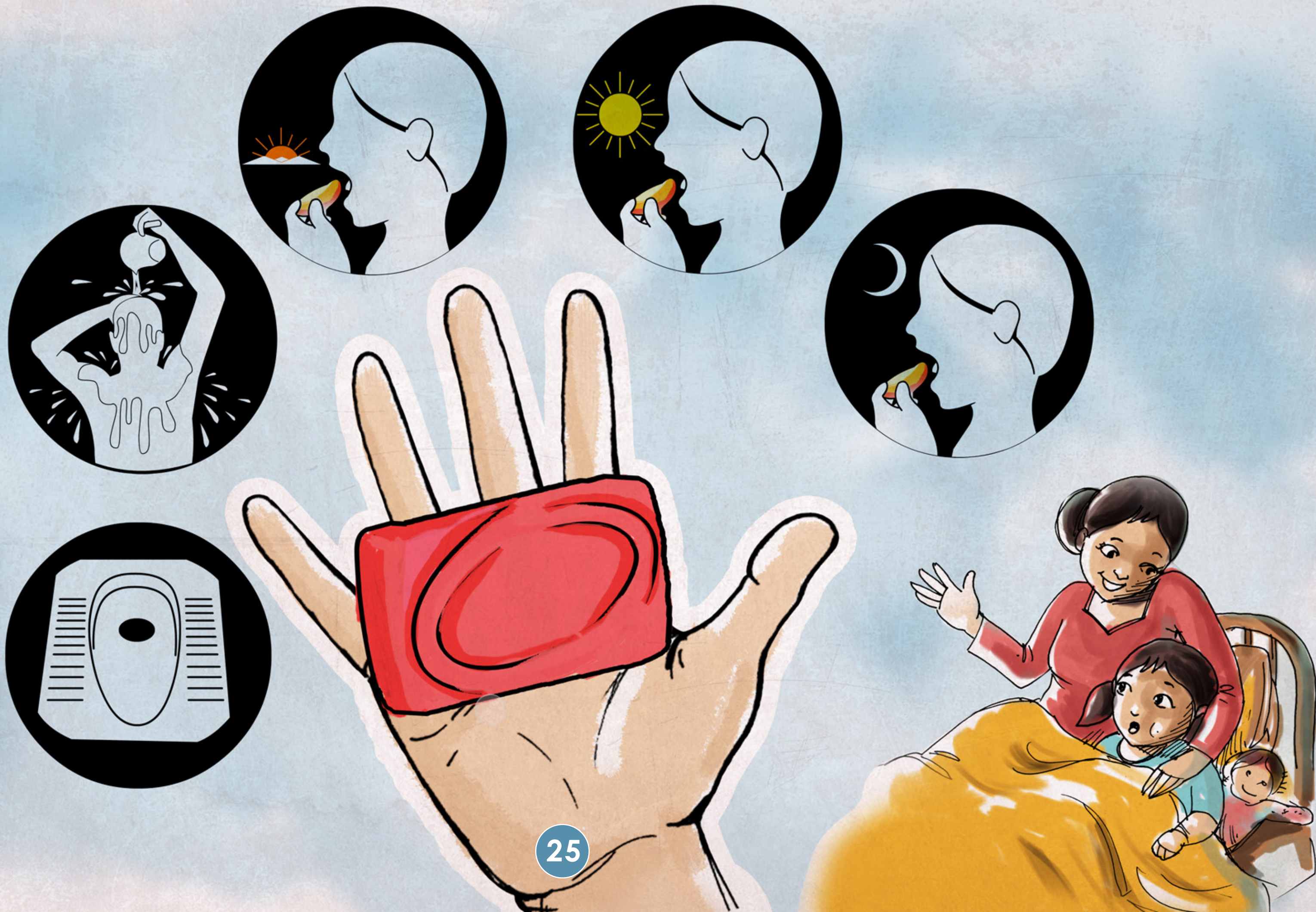


After Toilet



Before Dinner



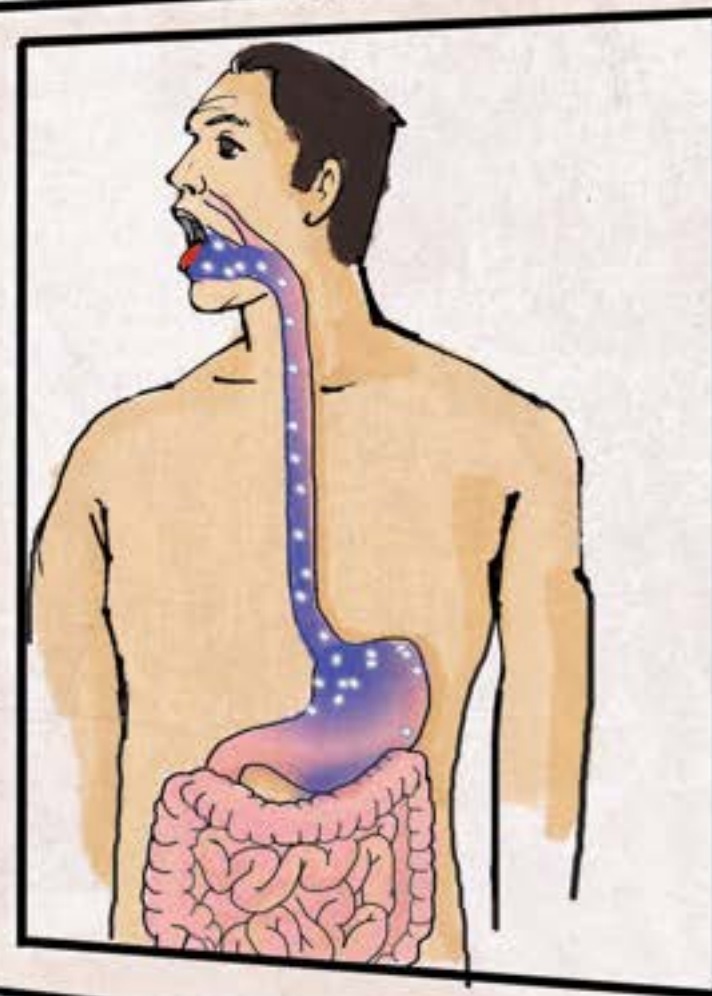
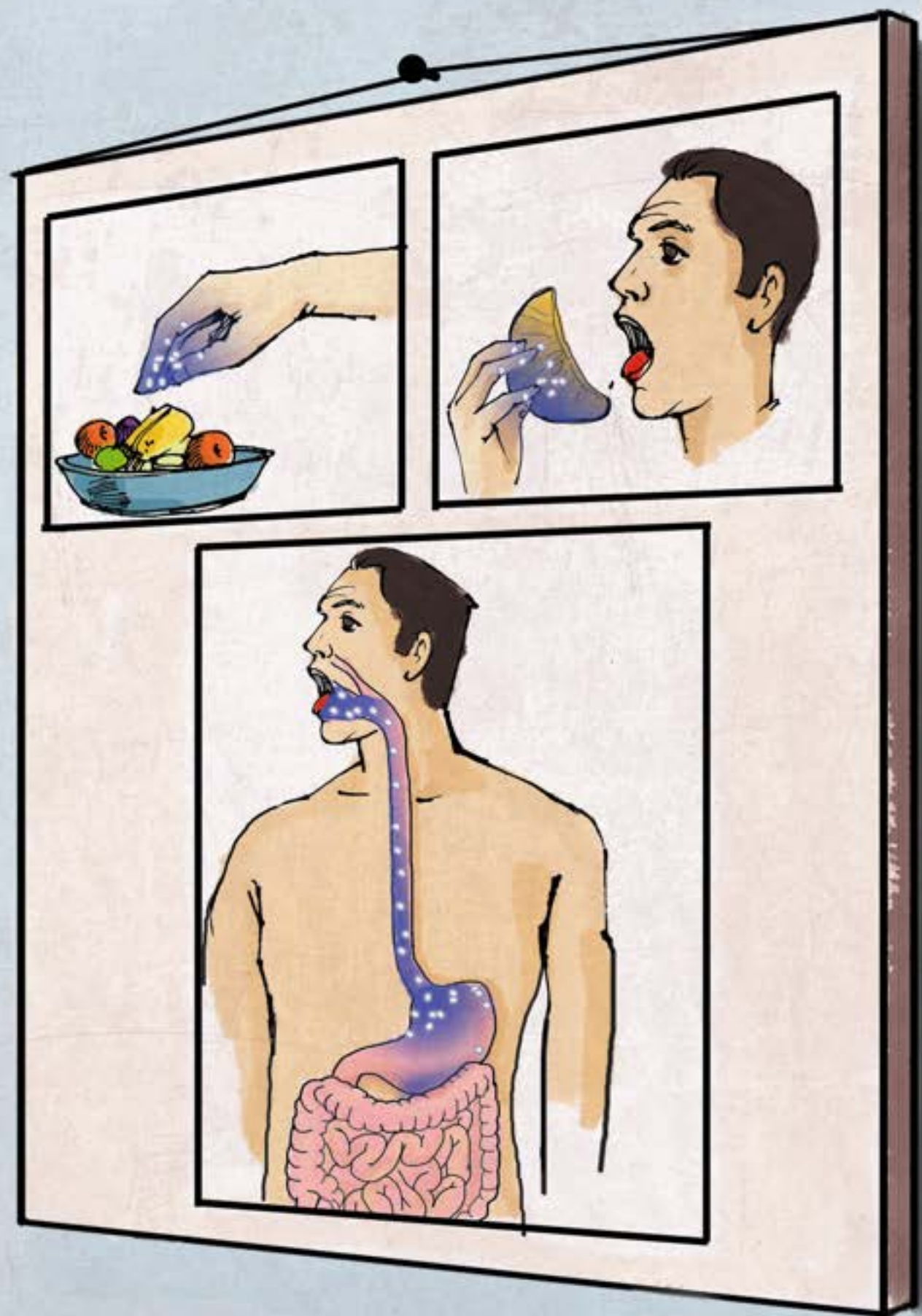


After finishing my dinner and brushing my teeth, I lie down. I complain to mom that I find it tough to remember all my lessons. She says it's just a matter of finding a smart way of reminding oneself, for example, five fingers for five occasions of handwashing with soap – After going to the toilet, while bathing, and before touching food, be it before during breakfast, lunch or dinner! Five fingers, five occasions, I repeat to myself. I smile as I fall asleep.

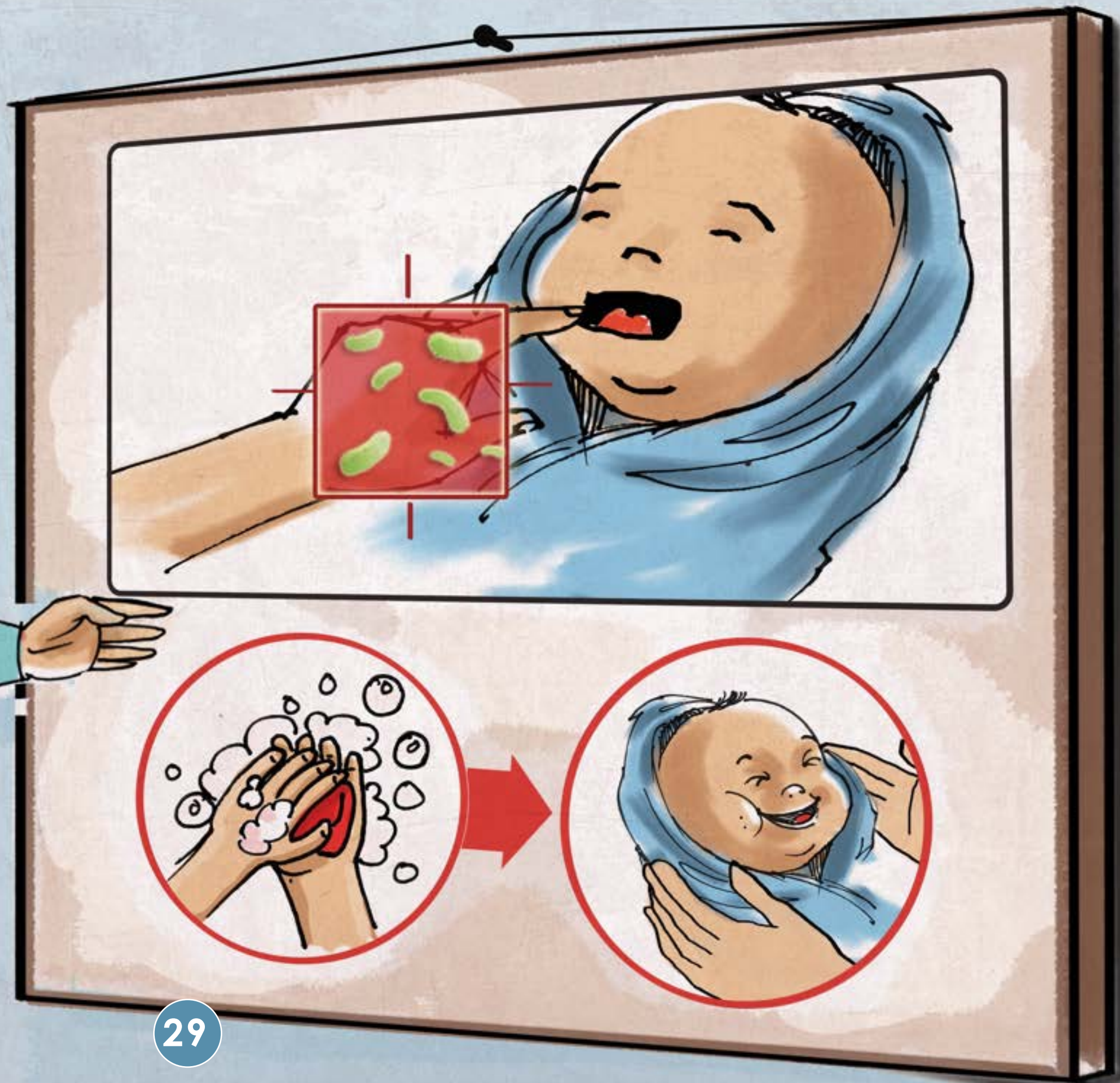
The promoter : Will you remember these five occasions?

Repeat them aloud!

Do you know what happened to this little girl when she grew up following all that her mother taught her?! Guess.



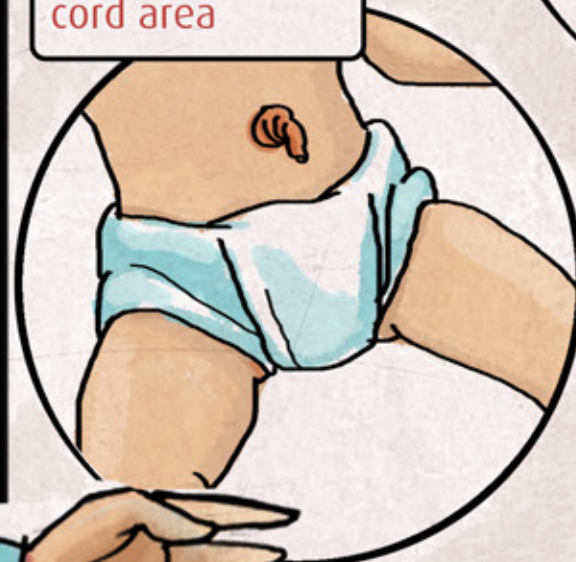
Today I am a doctor! Many of my friends would fall ill at school but I never missed even a single day. Probably because of her insistence on washing hands with soap. When we wash with just plain water our hands look clean, but there are invisible germs which pass on from our hands and infect us and our children. Wash away those invisible germs with soap so that you don't transmit illnesses to your children!



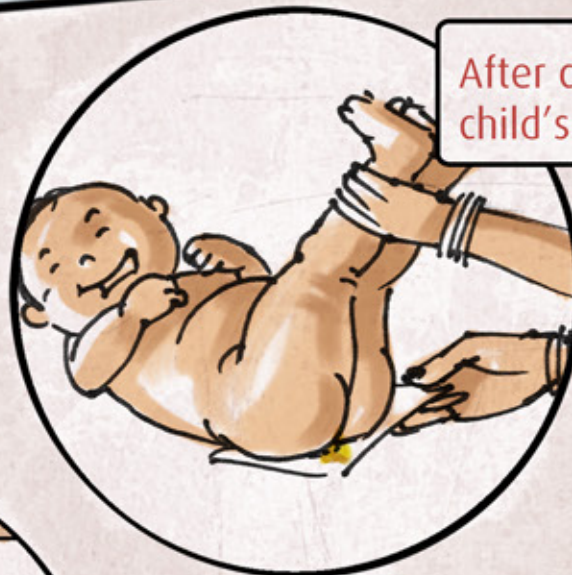
Especially new mothers! You have to be even more careful because your children are so much smaller and susceptible to illness.



Before touching
child's umbilical
cord area



After cleaning
child's faeces



Before
breast feeding

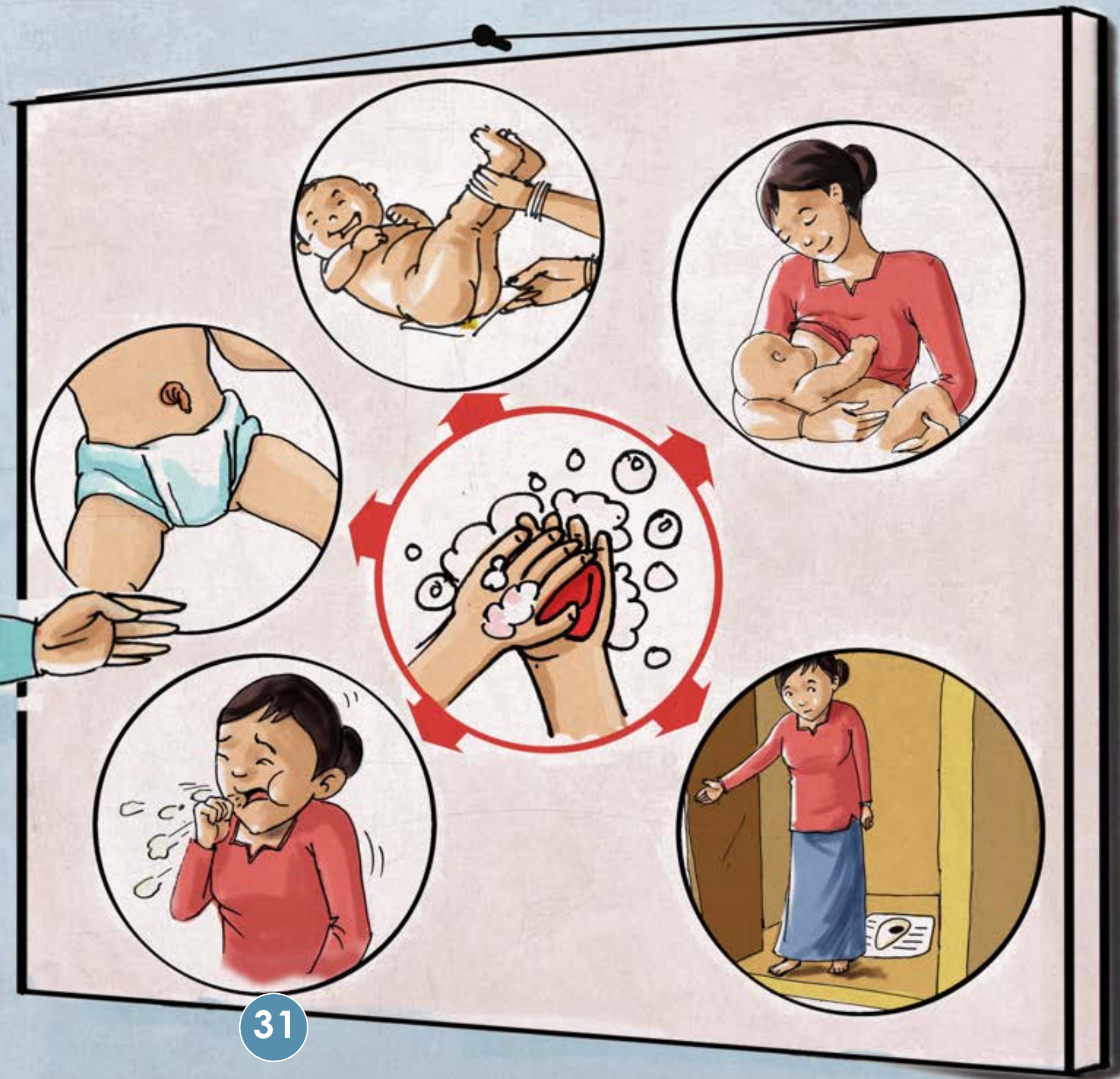


After using
the toilet

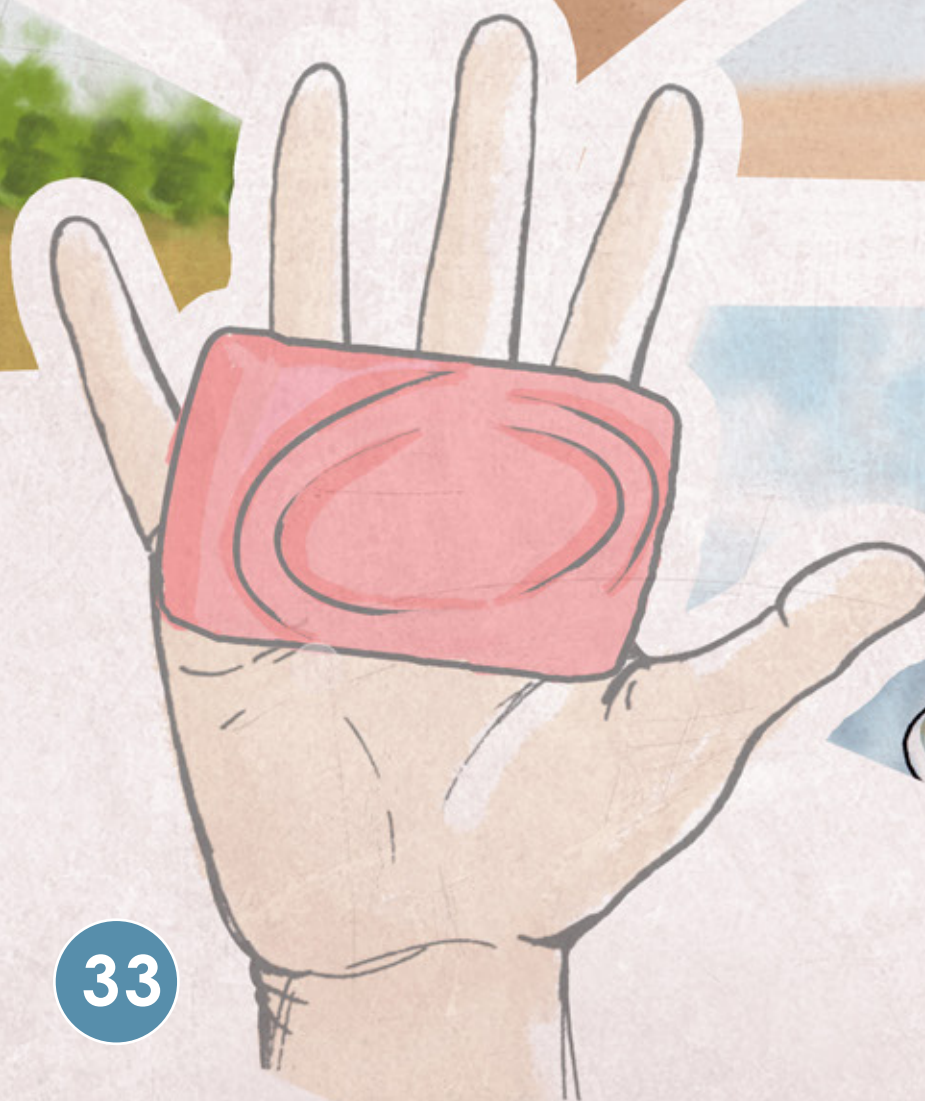


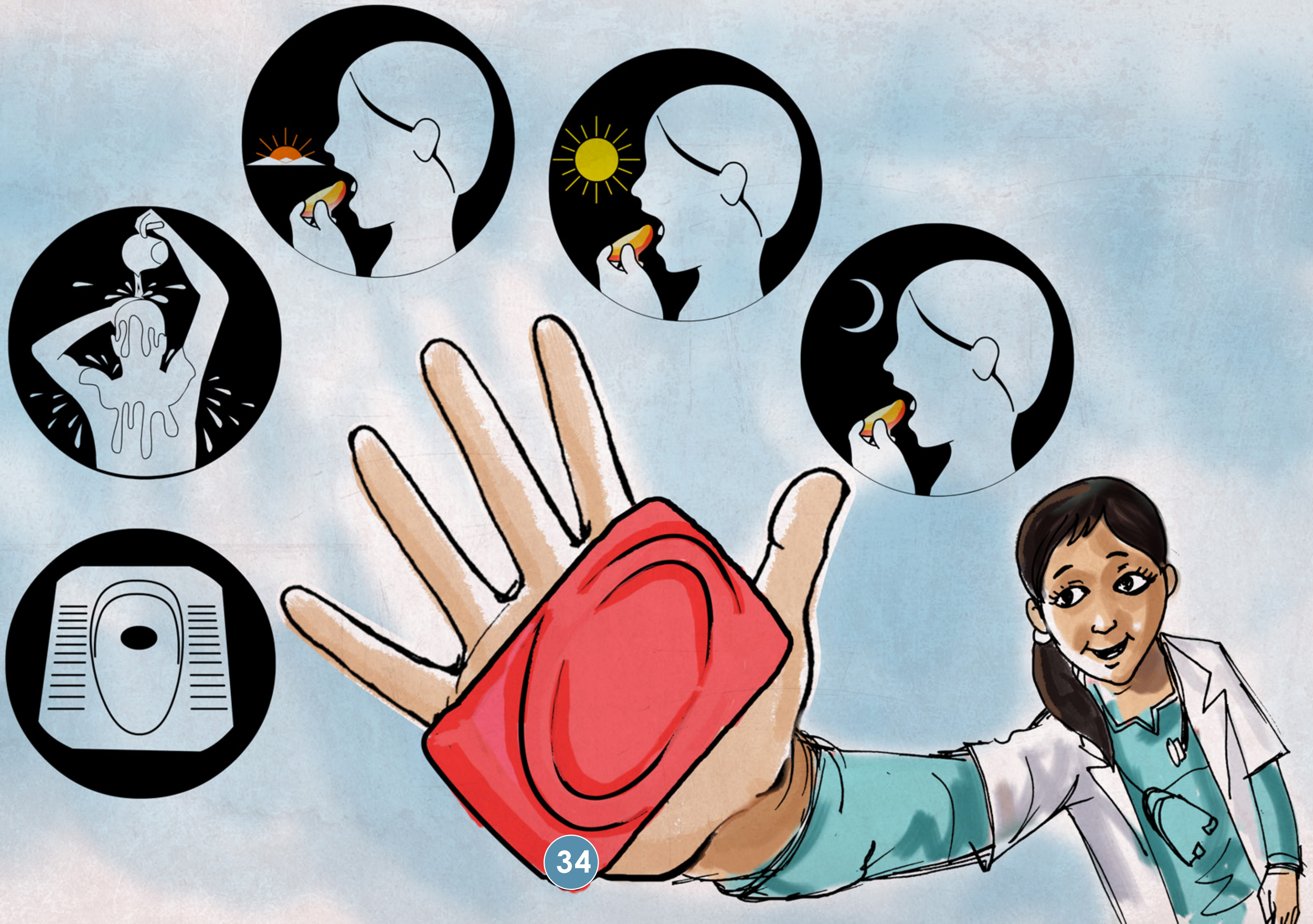
After coughing
or sneezing



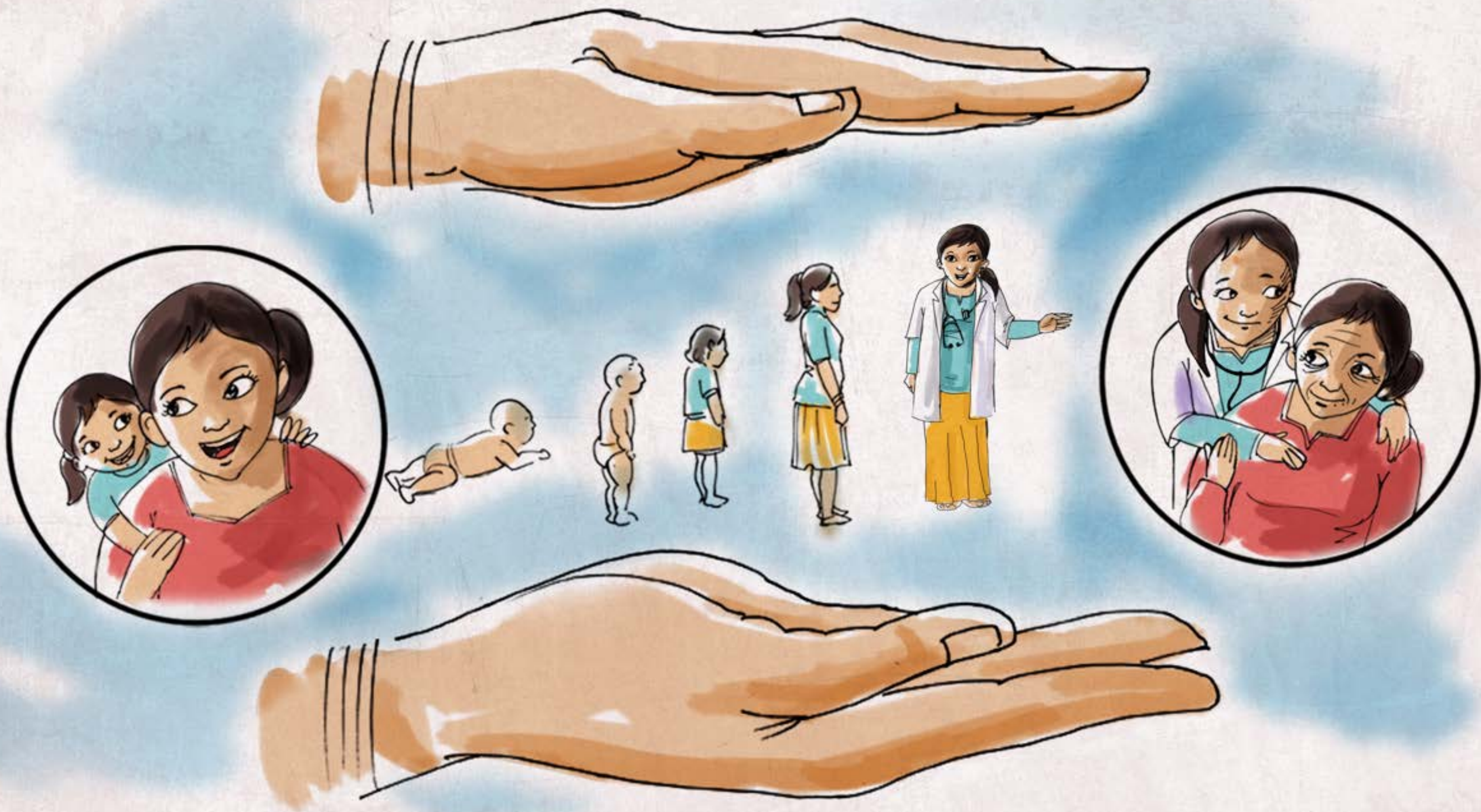


Remember to wash your hands with soap before breast feeding or feeding, after using the toilet, after cleaning child's faeces, before touching child's umbilical cord area and after coughing or sneezing if you have a cold.





Now after all these years, my life is testimony to mother and her magic hands. So pay careful attention to these little things. As my mother did, ensure that you instill good manners in your children and also the habit of washing hands with soap after going to the toilet, while bathing, and before touching food, be it before breakfast, lunch or dinner. After all, it's your magic hands that shape the destiny of your child.



Now, each time people tell me that I have God's blessings; I tell them that may be so, but the blessings came through the magic hands of my mother. Without it I would not be where I am today.

The promoter : And so ends the wonderful story of the little girl and her magic mother and magic hands...