

# When monkeys opted out of fast



Oodles of energy, children who were all smiles, music, art and a whole lot of 'monkeying' around - as all these ingredients for a fun-filled evening were readied by the Oxford Bookstore, kids and parents had a great time watching 'Monkeys on a fast', a colourful skit presented by Isha Home School Theatre at Cha Bar on Saturday.

Isha's talented young pool of actors Abhinanath, Rajendran, Hari, Siddarth, Ananthita and Vashnavi got the evening going with a whacky dramatised reading of the story of fat monkeys who went on a fast to lose weight. They tickled the funny bone by animatedly explaining how the clever monkeys tricked their weight-conscious chief 'Chakku' to break the fast that he had announced on the occasion of ekaadashi. Finally when Chakku grabbed the bananas, the audience roared with laughter.

This was followed by a fun art workshop where Anna from Isha School taught the children how to draw a monkey in quick easy steps. As the workshop progressed, the parents and adults present also tried their hands at drawing the simians.

The fun did not stop there as the young group then engaged the audience in a sing-along. As the rhyme 'Chips and chocolate we like to eat....' from the story echoed through the little bookstore, the audience were left in splits because of their antics.

The function was conducted in connection with the launch of the audiobook 'Monkeys on a fast' at Oxford Bookstore. It is among the first five titles released as part of 'Will you read me' by Karadi Tales under their new audiobook series.

'Will you read me', a campaign designed to promote reading habit among children, features an array on youth icons like Vidhya Balan, Sanjay Dutt, Rahul Dravid and Konkona Sen Sharma. The rest of the thirteen titles in the series will be introduced over the next nine months.



'Monkeys', students from Isha Home School Theatre Group, engaging the audience in a sing-along at Cha Bar, Oxford Bookstore on Saturday

Photos: V Sakthi

