



Explore the world through books

Have you noticed how naturally curious children are? Given the chance, they will ask question after question! Use books to help them discover answers to their questions and to explore different topics together – you'll find yourself asking questions too and you'll learn things together.

Celebrate Book Lovers Day, 9 August

Whatever books you choose to explore with your children, enjoy the journey of discovery together!

Bhiyozela uSuku lwabaThandi beeNcwadi, kowe-9 kweyeThupha

Nokuba ukhetha ukuchubelana nabantwana bakho ngazo naziphi na iincwadi, lonwabeleni uhambo lwenu lokufunda ngokufumanisa ulwazi nikunye!

Phicotha ihlabathi usebenzisa iincwadi

Ukhe wayiqaphela indlela abadlalwe ngayo abantwana ngokuthanda ukufuna ukwazi? Xa bathe banikwa iithuba babuza umbuzo emva komnye! Sebenzisa iincwadi ukubanceda bafumane iimpendulo zemibuzo yabo kwaye niphicothe imiba eyahlukileyo ninonke – nawe uya kuzifumanisa ubuza imibuzo kwaye ufunda izinto kunye nabo.

Different kinds of books explore topics in different ways.

Here are a few examples.

- ★ **Realistic stories** focus on real-life problems that the characters have to solve, like how to stop someone from being bullied or how to escape a fire.
- ★ **Biographies** tell the stories of real people, like pop stars or famous scientists. These books are written by authors who have spent time finding out about someone else's life.
- ★ **Traditional stories** tell tales with a message or moral, like how we should treat the earth and one another.
- ★ **Information books** contain information and facts, for example, about the beliefs, rituals and practices of different religious groups, or how stars and planets are formed.

Iintlobo ezahlukeneyo zeencwadi ziphicotha imiba eyahlukeneyo ngeendlela ezahlukeneyo.

Nantsi imizekelo embalwa.

- ★ **Amabali ayinyani** agxininisa kwiingxaki zokwenyani zobomi ekufuneka abalinganiswa bazisombulule, ezifana nokuba umntu angenza njani ukuze aphelise ukuchukushwa nokuxhatshazwa okanye angasinda njani na emlilweni.
- ★ **Amabali angobomi babantu** okanye iibhayografi zibalisa ngabantu bokwenene abafana neemvumi okanye izazinzulu ezaziwayo. Ezi ncwadi zibhalwe ngababhali abathe bazinika ixesha bebuza kwaye befumanisa ulwazi ngobomi bomntu lowo.
- ★ **Amabali emveli** abalisa amabali anomyalezo okanye imfundiso, enjengendlela ekufuneka siwuphathe ngayo umhlaba kwanendlela ekufuneka thina bantu siphathane ngayo.
- ★ **Iincwadi ezinika ulwazi** ziqulethe ulwazi namanqaku anobunyani ngokwenzekileyo, umzekelo okuphathelele kwiinkolo, ukwenziwa nokugcinwa kwezithethe namasiko amaqela ahlukene, okanye iindlela ezidaleka ngazo iinkwenkwezi kunye neeplanethi.

When you read storybooks, you usually start at the beginning and read through to the end so that you get the whole story!

Information books work differently. Here are some ideas on how to share them with children.

- ★ **On the cover.** Read the title and draw children's attention to the pictures on the cover. Can they use these to predict what the book is about? Find the author's name together – this helps to remind children that all books are written by real people!
- ★ **What's inside?** Look at the contents page at the beginning of the book to help you choose sections that grab your children's interest.
- ★ **Start, stop and skip.** Start by reading the part of the book that most interests your children. If you've found the information they were looking for, or if they ask new questions, or if something else in the book interests them more, stop reading and skip to another part.
- ★ **Different types of information.** Spend time looking at and discussing pictures, photographs, maps and diagrams together – they offer as much food for thought as the words on the page.

Xa ufunda iincwadi zamabali udla ngokuqala ekuqaleni kwebali uze ufunde ude uyokufikelela ekugqibeleni ukuze ngalo ndlela ulifumane lonke ibali!

Iincwadi ezinika ulwazi zona azifundwa ngolu hlobo. Nazi iingcebiso onokuzisebenzisa xa usabelana ngazo nabantwana.

- ★ **Eqweqweni.** Funda isihloko uze wenze ukuba abantwana batsalwe umdla yimifanekiso eseqweqweni. Ingaba bayakwazi ukusebenzisa loo mifanekiso ukuqashela ukuba incwadi iqulethe ntoni na? Ninonke khangalani igama lombhali – oku kunceda ukukhumbuzisa abantwana ukuba zonke iincwadi zibhalwe ngabantu bokwenene!
- ★ **Kukho ntoni ngaphakathi?** Jonga kwiphepha lesiquqatho elisekuqaleni kwencwadi ukuze sikuncede ukhethe amacandelo aza kuba nomdla ebantwaneni bakho.
- ★ **Qala, ume ze utsibe.** Qala ngokufunda eyona ndawo yencwadi enomdla kakhulu ebantwaneni bakho. Ukuba ulufumene ulwazi abalufunayo, okanye baqalisa ukubuza imibuzo emitsha, okanye kukho ndawo ithile engenye apha encwadini ebanika umdla kakhulu, yeka ukufunda uze utsibe uye kufunda kwenye indawo.
- ★ **Iintlobo ezahlukeneyo zeenkukacha.** Chithani ixesha nijonge kwaye nixoxa nikunye ngemifanekiso, iifoto, iimephu kunye nemizobo – nazo ezi zinto zinika umdla ze zivuselele neengcinga njengamagama asephapheni.

GET MORE OF WHAT YOU WANT!

Parents and caregivers: Scan this code and complete a 1-minute questionnaire to tell us how we can make our supplement better.



FUMANA NGAPHEZU KOKO UKUFUNAYO!

Bazali kunye nabakhathaleli babantwana: Skena le khawudi uze ugcalise iphepha lemibuzo eza kukuthatha umzuzu nje omnye, usixelele ukuba singalwenza ngcono kanjani uhlelo lwethu.



Drive your imagination



IT STARTS WITH A STORY.
KONKE KUQALA NGEBALI.

Your story

We asked Nal'ibali team members how books and stories had made a difference in their lives. Here's the first two replies.

“ My grandfather was not an educated man, but he was blessed with the ability to tell great stories. He would tell stories about how he grew up and the places he had been to. And sometimes he told the most fantastical, original stories. This, more than anything else, is the link to my love of books and who I am. My love led to me receiving the prestigious University of Johannesburg Mardene Marais Literary Award for my contribution to literature.

The tales and fables my grandfather shared at bedtime were meant to get me to engage with stories, to bond with my family and to fall asleep talking. After all, who wants to sleep when there is one more chapter to read or one more book to pick up from the To-be-read pile?

Listening to my grandfather's stories every evening gave me an inspiring and educational childhood with many happy memories as I now sit and read books like *The Education of Little Tree* with my mom. ”

Rigardt le Roux, Mpumalanga Provincial Coordinator



Ibali lakho

Sibuze amalungu eqela likaNal'ibali ukuba iincwadi namabali ziwenze njani umahluko ebomini babo. Nazi iimpendulo zokuqala ezimbini.

“ Utatomkhulu wam wayengafundanga, kodwa wayesikelelwe ngesakhono sokubalisa amabali angummangaliso. Wayebalisa amabali ngendlela awakhula ngayo neendawo awakhe wazityelela. Yaye ngamanye amaxesha wayebalisa awona mabali amangalisayo, angawakhe. Le nto, ngaphezu kwayo nantoni na eyenye, likhonkco kuthando lwam lweencwadi kwanomntu endinguye. Olu thando lwakhokelela ekubeni ndiwongwe ngembasa ebalulekileyo i-Mardene Marais Literary Award yiYunivesithi yaseJohannesburg ngokuba negalelo kuncwadi.

Amabali neentsomi utatomkhulu awayesibalesela zona ngexesha lokulala zazenzelele ukuba nditsaleleke kumabali, sisondelelane silusapho nokuba sihlwe bubuthongo sihetha. Ekugqibeleni ngubani ofuna ukulala xa kusekho isahluko esinye sokufundwa, okanye incwadi enye yokuthathwa kwinqumbi yeencwadi zokufundwa?

Ukuphulaphula amabali kaTatomkhulu rhoqo ngokuhlwa kwandinika ubuntwana obuneempembelelo neemfundiso kwaneenkumbulo ezininzi zokonwaba njengoko ngoku ndihlala nomama sifunde iincwadi ezifana no-*The Education of Little Tree*. ”

Rigardt le Roux, uMlungelelanisi wePhondo laseMpumalanga

“ I did not choose to be in the literacy space; my love of words led me here. There is one night that I will always cherish. My grandmother told me to turn off the paraffin lamp and go to sleep. But I continued to read. I held the book up where the moon shone until my hands and wrists grew tired. That was the turning point in my love of reading.

When I joined Nal'ibali, I took part in events like the Puku Story Festival and wrote my first book, *Umtshato weNtlanzi neNkukhu*, which was translated and published in the Nal'ibali supplement so that children all over South Africa could read it.

I have trained hundreds of teachers and ECD practitioners to rekindle their love of books and teaching and was listed by Avance Media as one of the 100 most influential young people in South Africa. This year, I released two new books, *lingcinga zendoda* (a collection of poems) and *Mhla latsh' iBhayi* (a collection of short stories). My dream is to see more inspirational books about ordinary people's stories written in their mother tongues. ”

Madoda Ndlakuse, Programme Coordinator
VW Uitenhage schools



“ Andizange ndikhethe ukuba kwindawo enelitheresi; uthando lwam lwamagama lwandikhokelela apha. Kukho ubusuku obunye endiya kusoloko ndibukhumbula ngemincili. UMakhulu wandixelela ukuba mandicime isibane separafini ndize ndilale. Kodwa ndaqhubeka ndafunda. Incwadi ndayiphakamisela apho inyanga yayikhanya zade izandla zam nezihlahla zadinwa. Oko yaba kukujika kwezinto kuthando lwam lokufunda.

Ndathi ndisakuzibandakanya noNal'ibali, ndathatha inxaxheba kumnyhadala ofana nePuku Story Festival ndaza ndabhalisa incwadi yam yokuqala, *Umtshato weNtlanzi neNkukhu*, eyaguqulelwa yaza yapapashwa kuHlelo lukaNal'ibali ukuze bonke abantwana boMzantsi Afrika babe nokuyifunda.

Ndiqeqeshe amakhulukhulu ootitshala nabasebenzi be-ECD ukuba bavuselele uthando lwabo lweencwadi nokufundisa ndaza ndabekwa kuluhlu lukaAvance Media njengomnye wabantu abatsha abali-100 abanempembelelo eMzantsi Afrika. Kulo nyaka ndipapashe iincwadi ezintsha ezimbini, *lingcinga zendoda* (ingqokelela yemihobe) no*Mhla latsh' iBhayi* (ingqokelela yamabali amafutshane). Iphupha lam kukubona iincwadi ezinempembelelo ngakumbi zamabali angabantu nje zibhalwe ngolwimi lwabo lweenkobe. ”

Madoda Ndlakuse, uMlungelelanisi weNkqubo kwizikolo zeVW zaseTinarha



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Every year Nal'ibali distributes 3,5 million newspaper supplements in 9 languages to homes and reading clubs across South Africa.

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YIBA NOMBONO...
WENTENGISO YAKHO
APHA!

Ngonyaka ngamnye uNal'ibali usasaza izigidi ezi-3,5 zohlelo lwephephandaba ngeelwimi ezili-9 kumakhaya kunye neeklabhu zokufunda kuMzantsi Afrika jikelele.

Kwaye, siqinisekisa elinye i-1500 ngenyanga labo bafunda kwi-intanethi!



Drive your
imagination

6 ideas for celebrating Book Lover's Day

Izimvo ezi-6 zokubhiyozela uSuku lwabaThandi beeNcwadi

1. Nursery rhymes and songs are a great way to get very young children involved in Book Lover's Day. Find books that have traditional rhymes and songs for babies and children in your home language and share them with your children.



1. Izicengcelezo kunye neengonyana zizinto ezilungileyo zokubandakanya abantwana abancinci kakhulu kuSuku lweeNcwadi lweHlabathi. Fumana iincwadi ezinezicengcelezo zentsusa kunye nezimbambazelo zeentsana nabantwana abancinci, ezibhalwe ngolwimi lwakho lweenkobe, ukuze wabelane ngazo nabantwana bakho.



2. Read the experiences of Righardt le Roux and Madoda Ndlakuse on **page 2** to children and talk to them about how having books in your life makes a difference. Then ask them to draw a picture, create a poster or a song or dance, or write a poem or rap to share their ideas with others. Remember to find an opportunity to display the children's pictures or posters, or to let them perform their songs, dances, poems or raps!

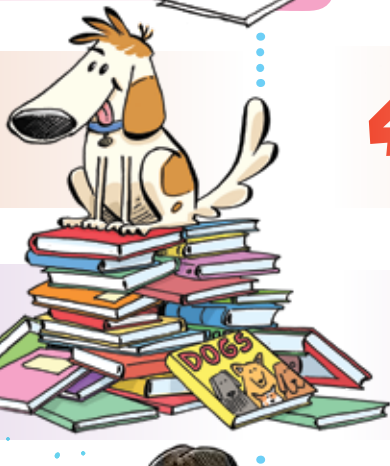
2. Fundela abantwana ngamava kaRighardt le Roux nakaMadoda Ndlakuse **kwiphepha lesi-2** uze uthethe nabo ngendlela ezenza umahluko ngayo iincwadi ebomini bakho. Emva koko bacele ukuba bazobe umfanekiso, benze ipowusta okanye baqambe ingoma okanye umxhentso, okanye babhale umbongo okanye ingoma eyirephu ukuze babelane nabanye ngeengcinga zabo kuzo. Khumbula ukufuna ithuba lokubonisa ngemifanekiso okanye ngeepowusta zabantwana, okanye ubavumele ukuba bacule iingoma zabo, benze imixhentso yabo, bacengceleze imibongo yabo okanye barephe!

3. Provide some paper, pencil crayons and pens, and get older children to create their own picture books. Then set up a time for them to read their books to a group of younger children.



3. Banike amaphepha, iipensile ezizikhayoni kunye neepeni, ukuze ucele abantwana abadalana ukuba benze ezabo iincwadi zemifanekiso. Emva koko bekela bucala ixesha lokuba bafundele iqela labantwana abancinane iincwadi zabo.

4. Have a readathon and see how many books each of you can read in a week!



4. Bambani ukhuphiswano lwe-readathon nibone ukuba zingaphi iincwadi umntu ngamnye anokuzifunda ngeveki!

5. Get everyone to draw a picture of a character from one of the stories in this supplement or from a book they have enjoyed.

5. Cela wonke umntu ukuba azobe umfanekiso womlinganiswa okwelinye lamabali akolu hlelo okanye osuka ezincwadini abakhe bazonwabela.



6. Take photographs of you and your children enjoying one of the above activities (or any other Book Lover's Day activity) and send it to us at info@nalibali.org, or post them on Facebook or Twitter using the hashtag **#BookLoversDay**. We'd love to share what you did with others on our Facebook page or in the Nalibali supplement!



6. Zifote wena kunye nabantwana bakho nonwabele omnye kule misebenzi ingentla (okanye nawuphi na Umsebenzi woSuku lwabaThandi beeNcwadi) uze uthumele kuthi loo foto ku-info@nalibali.org, okanye uyifake ku-Facebook okanye ku-Twitter usebenzisa uhashtag **#BookLoversDay**. Singathanda ukwabelana nabanye ngezinto enizenzileyo ku-Facebook wethu okanye kuhlelo lukaNalibali!

Did you know?

Our Read-Aloud Story Collection is now available at Ethnikids!



Available in all official South African languages
Ifumaneka ngazo zonke iilwimi ezisemthethweni eMzantsi Afrika

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Ubusazi na?

Ibali lethu lokufunda ngokuvakalayo liyafumaneka ngoku e-Ethnikids!

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Faka ioda yekopi yakho ku-www.ethnikids.africa!



Drive your imagination

Writing book reviews



When you ask children to write book reviews, it is a great way to get them to connect with what they read, to think critically about it and to express their opinions.

Here are some ideas of how to use book reviews in your classroom and at your reading club.

- ★ Encourage children to write down their opinion of a book they have read.
- ★ Good book reviews help people decide whether they want to read the book or not. In their reviews, the children should therefore give the basic story outline, but not give away too much about the story!
- ★ Reviews can be long or short and can also include drawings of parts of the book by the reviewer.
- ★ You can use the children's book reviews to start conversations about books.
- ★ Remind the children always to write the title of the book, the author's name and their own name on their review. They should also include the illustrator's name, if there are pictures in the book.
 - ⊗ Sometimes children need a little help with what to put in a book review. Try giving them some of these sentences to complete:
 - ⊗ This story is about ...
 - ⊗ The main characters are ...
 - ⊗ My favourite part of this book was ...
 - ⊗ My favourite character was ...
 - ⊗ I think you would enjoy this book if you like stories that ...
 - ⊗ My rating for this book is: ★ ★ ★

Ukubhala izigxeko-zincomo zeencwadi

Xa ucela abantwana ukuba babhale izigxeko-zincomo zeencwadi, leyo yindlela entle kakhulu yokubenza ukuba banxibelelane noko bakufundayo, ukuze bacinge, behluza, bekuhlaba amadlala kwaye bekuncoma oko bakufundayo baze bavakalise noluvo lwabo ngako.

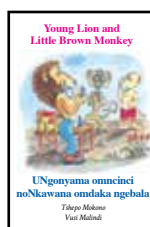
Nazi ezinye iingcebiso zokusebenzisa izigxeko-zincomo eklasini yakho nakwiklabhu yakho yokufunda.

- ★ Khuthaza abantwana ukuba babhale phantsi uluvo lwabo ngencwadi abayifundileyo.
- ★ Izigxeko-zincomo zeencwadi ezilungileyo zanceda abantu ekuthatheni isigqibo sokuba ingaba bayafuna kusini na ukuyifunda incwadi leyo okanye abafuni. Ngoko ke, kwizigxeko-zincomo abantwana bafanele ukunika isishwankathelo seballi lilonke, kodwa bangade batyhile phantse konke malunga nebali kuba bayakuwubulala umdla wokufundwa kwencwadi leyo!
- ★ Izigxeko-zincomo zisenokuba zide okanye zibe zifutshane, kanti zisenokuquka nemizobo yeendawo ezithile yomphengululi lowo wencwadi.
- ★ Usenokusebenzisa izigxeko-zincomo zeencwadi ezibhalwe ngabanye abantwana ukuqala incoko malunga neencwadi.
- ★ Bakhumbuze abantwana ukuba basoloko bebhala isihloko sencwadi, igama lombhali wayo kunye namagama abo kwizigxeko-zincomo zabo. Kananjalo kufuneka babhale negama lomzobi, ukuba kukho imifanekiso encwadini leyo bayiphengululayo.
 - ⊗ Ngamanye amaxesha abantwana badinga uncedo oluncinane malunga nabafanele ukufaka kwizigxeko-zincomo zeencwadi. Zama ukubanika ezinye zezi zivakalisi ukuba bazigqibezele:
 - ⊗ Eli bali lithetha ...
 - ⊗ Abalinganiswa abaphambili ngaba ...
 - ⊗ Eyona ndawo ndiyithandileyo kule ncwadi ibiyile ...
 - ⊗ Oyena mlinganiswa ndimthandileyo ngu ...
 - ⊗ Ndinga ukuba uya kuyithanda le ncwadi ukuba uyawathanda amabali a ...
 - ⊗ Umgangatho endiyibeka kuwo le ncwadi ngulo: ★ ★ ★



Create TWO cut-out-and-keep books

1. Take out pages 5 to 12 of this supplement.
2. The sheet with pages 5, 6, 11 and 12 on it makes up one book. The sheet with pages 7, 8, 9 and 10 on it makes up the other book.
3. Use each of the sheets to make a book. Follow the instructions below to make each book.
 - a) Fold the sheet in half along the black dotted line.
 - b) Fold it in half again along the green dotted line.
 - c) Cut along the red dotted lines.



Zenzele iincwadana EZIMBINI onokuzisika-ze-uzigcine

1. Khupha iphepha lesi-5 ukuya kwele-12 kolu hlelo.
2. Uxwebhu olunamaphepha aqala kwelesi-5, elesi-6, ele-11 nele-12 lwenza incwadi yokuqala. Uxwebhu olunamaphepha aqala kwelesi-7, elesi-8, ele-9 nele-10 lwenza eyesibini incwadi.
3. Sebenzisa uxwebhu ngalunye kula mabini ukwenza iincwadana. Landela imiyalelo engezantsi ukwenza incwadi nganye.
 - a) Songa uxwebhu phakathi kumgca wamachaphaza amnyama.
 - b) Phinda ulusonge phakathi kwakhona ulandela umgca wamachaphaza aluhlaza.
 - c) Sika ke ngoku ulandela imigca.



Drive your imagination

Kodwa uNgonyama oMncinci wayesathandabaza. Wayesifuna esaa sipho ngentliziyo yakhe yonke. Waghubeka wahamba wagoduka, wathi esahamba njalo wadibana noDyakalashe. “Unjani na mntakwethu ozelwe ngomye umama?” wabulisa njalo uNgonyama omncinci.

“Ewe,” watsho uDyakalashe, “Akukho kukhalaza kangako ... kodwa inye nje into ...” Baqalisa ke ngoko ukuthetha ngeziphho. NoDyakalashe wayengqwenela ukuba ibe ibisesakhe isiphho sokucula. “Ke, yintoni ekungandayo ukuba ungasithathi Bra Dyaki?” wabuzwa watsho uNgonyama oMncinci.

uDyakalashe watsho ngentsini yakhe enkulu yobudyakalashe. “Wonke umntu uya kuyazi lula ukuba ndim osibileyo,” watsho uDyakalashe.

“Ingenzeka njani loo nto?” wabuzwa uNgonyama oMncinci.

“Zonke izilwanyana zakumangaliswa kukuba mna, Dyakalashe, ndithi gqi sele ndikwazi ukucula kamnandi kangaka,” waphendula watsho uDyakalashe. Bobabini bahleka kakuhlu kuba wonke umntu wayelazi indlela elibi nelikrasa ngayo ilizwi likaDyakalashe.

“Ja,” said Jackal, “I can’t complain really ... but one thing ...” And they started talking about the gifts. Jackal also wished the gift of singing was his.

“So what is stopping you from taking it, Bra Jackal?” Young Lion asked.

Jackal laughed with his loud jackal laugh. “Everybody would find out so easily that I’m the one who stole it,” said Jackal.

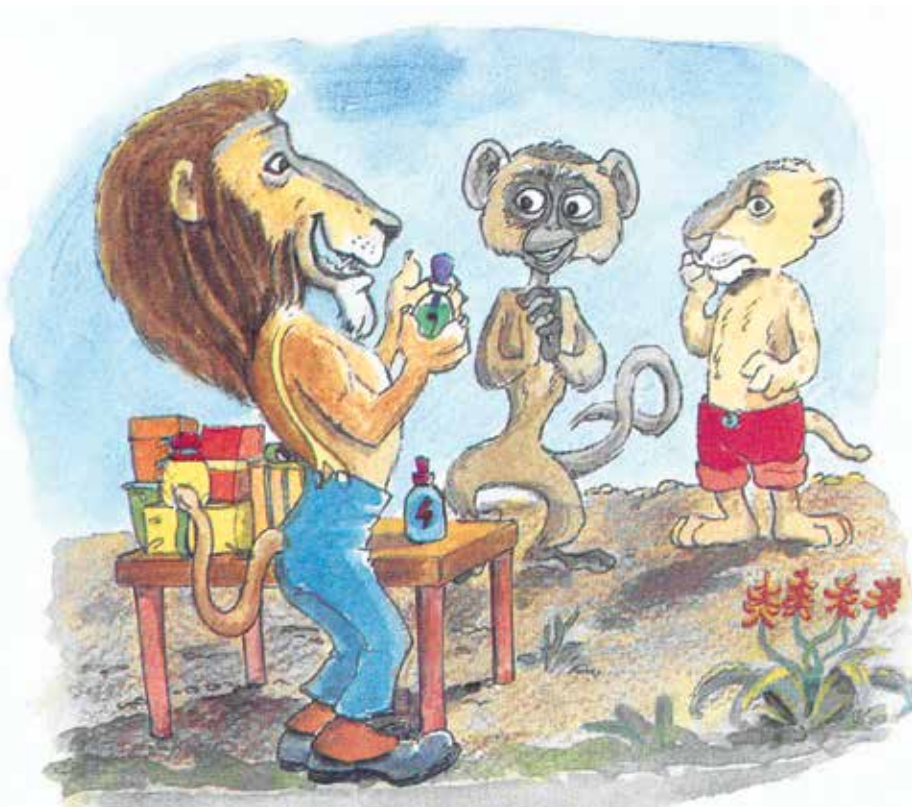
“How’s that?” asked Young Lion.

“Every animal will be surprised that suddenly I, Jackal, can sing so well,” Jackal replied. The two laughed because everyone knew how loud and scratchy Jackal’s voice was.

But Young Lion was not convinced. He wanted that gift with all his heart. He continued on his way home and further along the way he bumped into Jackal. “How are you, my brother from another mother?” greeted Young Lion.

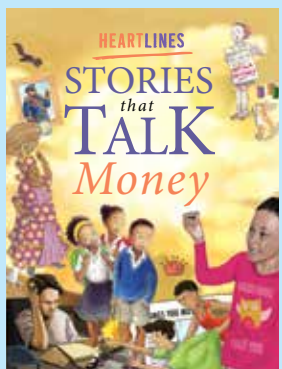
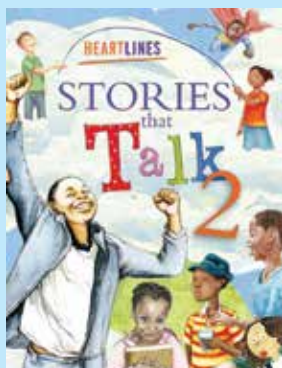
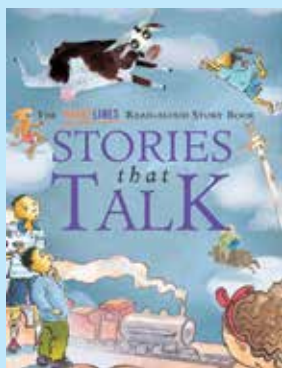


Young Lion and Little Brown Monkey



UNgonyama omncinci noNkawana omdaka ngebala

*Tshepo Mokono
Vusi Malindi*



For more information
please email
info@heartlines.org.za
or phone (011) 771 2540.

HEARTLINES
The Centre for Values Promotion

Nal'ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark and embed a culture of reading across South Africa. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi



UNal'ibali liphulo likazwelonke lokufundela ukuzonwabisa elinjongo yalo ikukuvuselela nokwendiselisa inkcubeko nesithethe sokufunda kuMzantsi Afrika uphela. Ukuze ufumane iinkcukacha ezithe vetshe, ndwendwela ku-www.nalibali.org okanye ku-www.nalibali.mobi



Drive your
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But Young Lion secretly still wanted that gift. So, in the middle of the night, when the sky was empty but covered with darkness, Young Lion put on his running shoes and ran to the monkey's house.

When he got there he could hear a crowd of monkeys joking with Little Brown Monkey about his gift. "At least one of the family will be able to sing beautifully. We all know that monkeys have been terrible singers until now." They fell around laughing.



One morning, just as the sun was about to come up, Lion, King of the jungle, ordered the village Kgosana to blow on the horn. As the sound of the horn went "Vooooo! Vooooo!" all the animals knew that the day had arrived when they were to receive gifts from the Great King.

They gathered at the King's royal place. Young Lion was there, pushing his way to the front of the crowd. But Little Brown Monkey was first in the queue, and he received the best gift ever!

Little Brown Monkey got the gift of singing. The gift was inside a small green bottle. King Lion said, "Whenever you drink this, you'll be able to sing beautifully. You'll be famous and rich. You'll be a great musician, or a great Gospel star."

Ngentsasa ethile, xa kanye ilanga lalise liza kuphuma, uNgonyama, uKumkani wehlathi, wayalela inkosana yesixeko ukuba ivuthele ixilongo. Sathi ukuba sivakale isandi sexilongo sisithi, "Vuuuuuu! Vuuuuuu!" zabe sele zisazi zonke izilwanyana ukuba ifikile imini yokuba zifumane izipho ezivela kuKumkani.

Zaqokelelana zonke apho Komkhulu. UNgonyama omncinci naye wayekho, etyhala-tyhala efuna ukuma ngaphambili kuloo ndimbane. Kodwa uNkawana omdaka wayengowokuqala emgceni, waza wafumana esona sipho sihle kubo bonke!

"Kodwa ndilusizi ukuthi, isipho sona sesikaNkawana omdaka, kwaye andikwazi ukuyitshintsha loo nto," watsho enikezela ngeliphantsi.

"Phakathi kwazo zonke izilwanyana, kungathini kukhethwe uNkawana, nditsho kuba ... laa nkawana imbi nokuba mbi ... ukuba ibe yiyo efumana esona sipho sikhethekileyo? Khawundixelele Dad' uBhadi!" wabuza uNgonyama omncinci.

"Khawutsho ke, sesiphi kanye isilwanyana ebekufanele ukuba sifumene esiya sipho?" labuza iBhadi liwubuyisela kuye umbuzo.

"Ndim, uNgonyama oMncinci, ukumkani wexesha elizayo. Bekufanele ukuba sesam. Ndim ofanele ukuba ufumene esaa sipho sokucula," waphendula ngelitshoyo uNgonyama oMncinci.

"Linda elakho ithuba kunyaka ozayo, xa uKumkani ephinda ephisa ngezizipho; mhlawumbi uya kusifumana kunyaka ozayo. Izinto ezilungileyo nezinexabiso ziyalindwa," lacedisa latsho iBhadi.

UNgonyama oMncinci wathi, "Unyanisiile. Kufuneka ndilinde unyaka ozayo."

Ezi zilwanyana zozibini zawangawangisa zohlukana, iseso sahamba indlela yaso.

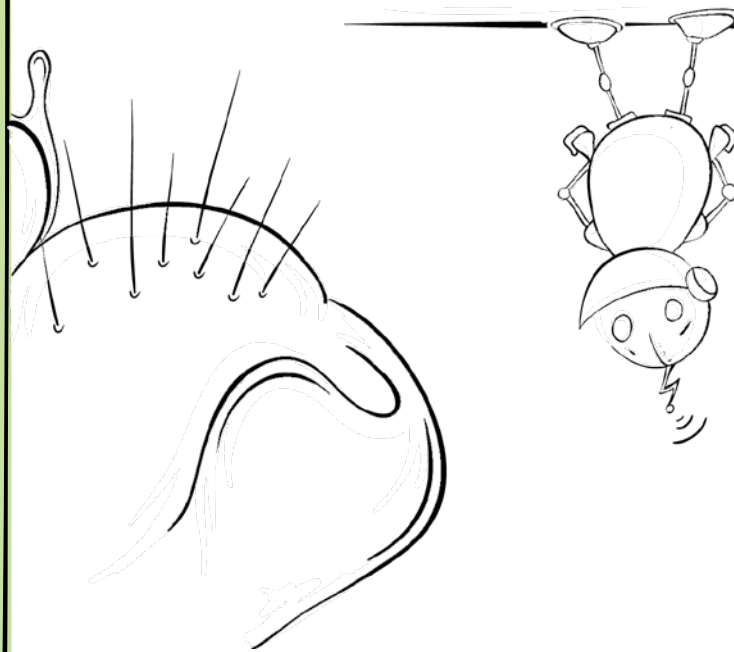


"Enwa o batla a na le setswalle," ha nahana Tim Roboto.



"At least he's friendly," thought Tiny Tim.

Tim Roboto a tswela pele a batlana le munga konopo.



"Whoa!"
Tiny Tim carried on looking for the owner of the button.



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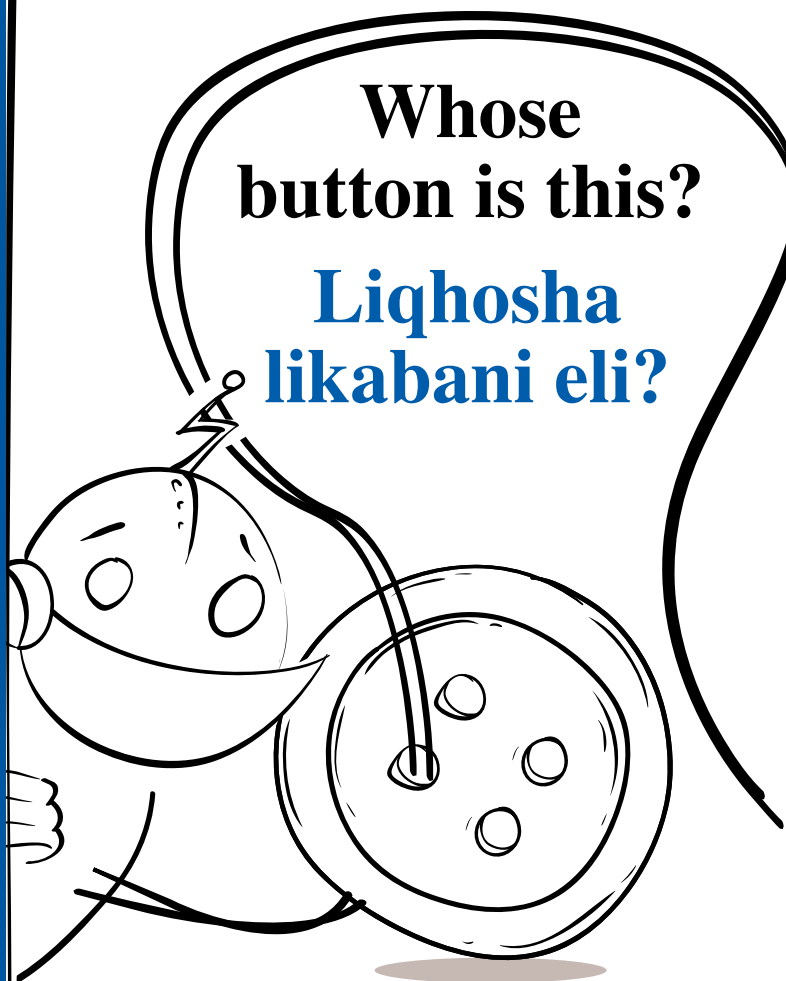


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Drive your
imagination

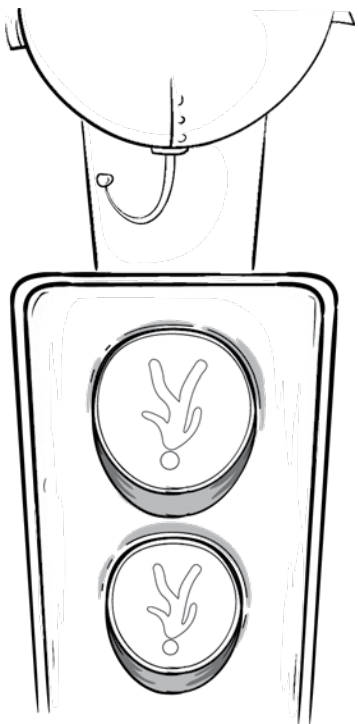
Whose
button is this?
**Liqhosha
likabani eli?**



Paul Kennedy
James Woolley
Louise Gale

7

He just turned red.
"What a rude person," thought
Tinny Tim.

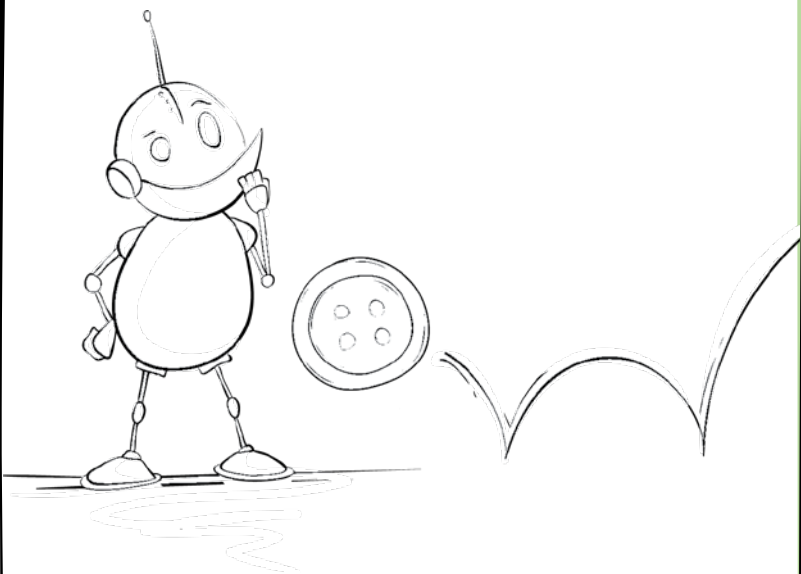


A fetoha a ba motubedu.
"Ke motho ya tala hakaakang,"
Tim Roboto a nahana iwalo.

2

8

Tinny Tim was standing on the
side of the road when a button
bounced his way.



Tim Roboto o ne a eme lehlakoreng
la tsela ha konopo e thetehela ka
ho yena.

2

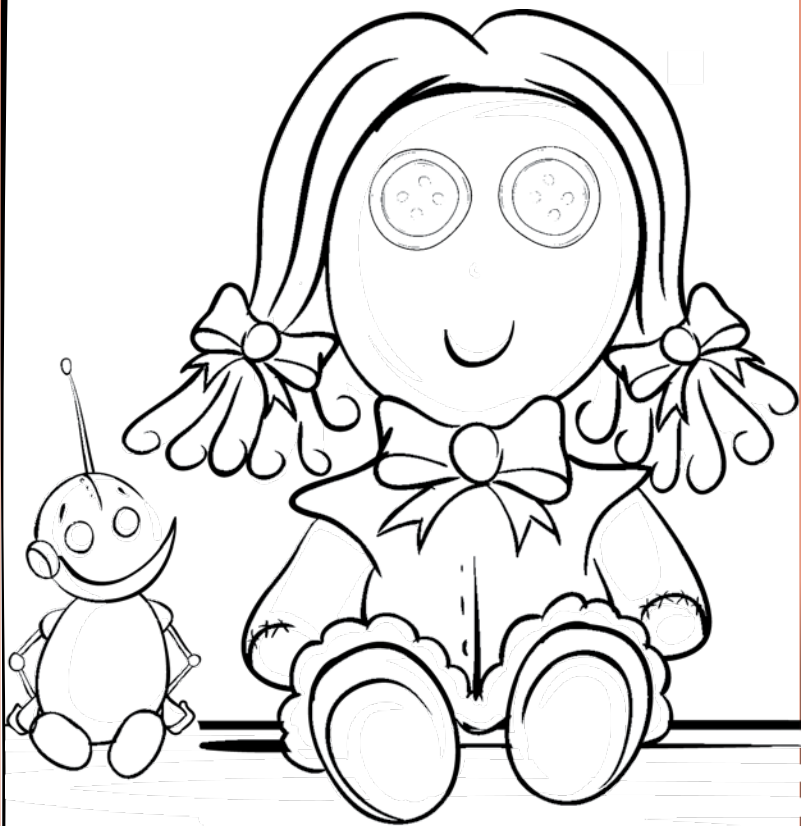
10

"I've got to get to the other side of
the road. I'm sure that's where this
button comes from."
SPLASH!
"That was close," said Tinny Tim.
He waited for the cars to pass
before he carried on.

"Ke lokela ho tshela ka ngane
ho mmila. Ke tshepa hore ke moo
konopo ena e tswang teng."
PHAKGAI
"E batile e ntlhaisa," ha rialo Tim
Roboto. A emela dikoloi hore di
fete pele a ka tswela pele.

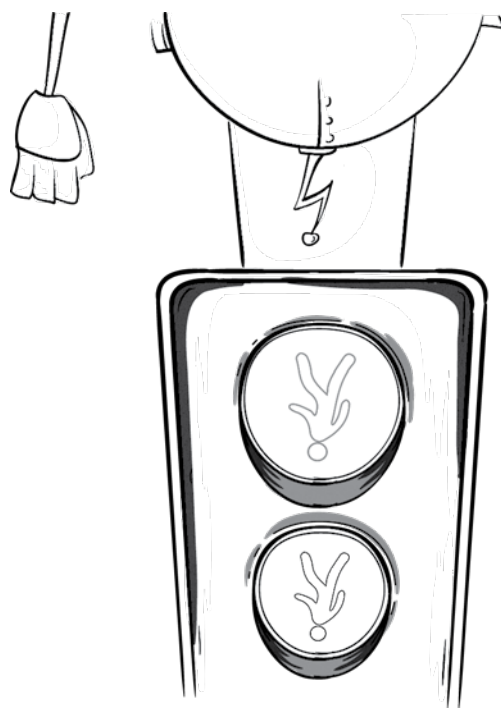
15

15

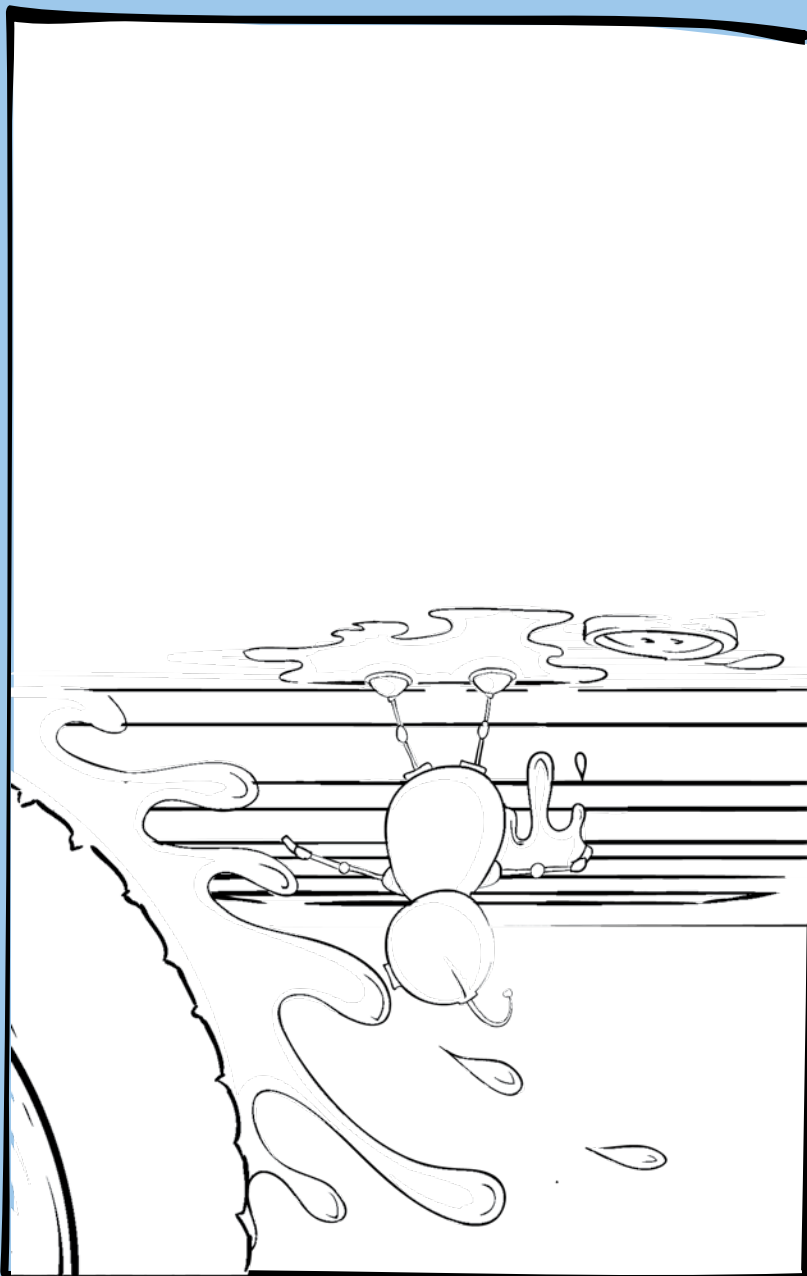


15

“Dumela wena, na ke konopo ya hao ee?” ha boisa Tim Roboto.
Mona e mola a se ke a re leho.



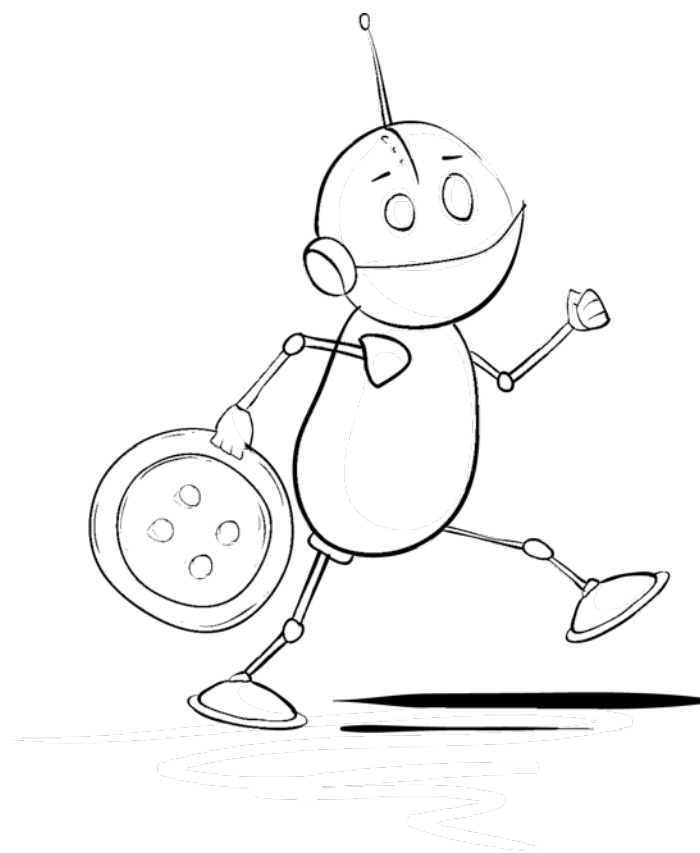
“Hey there, is this your button?”
asked Timmy Tim.
The green man said nothing.



“Thank you, little robot.
Can we be friends?”

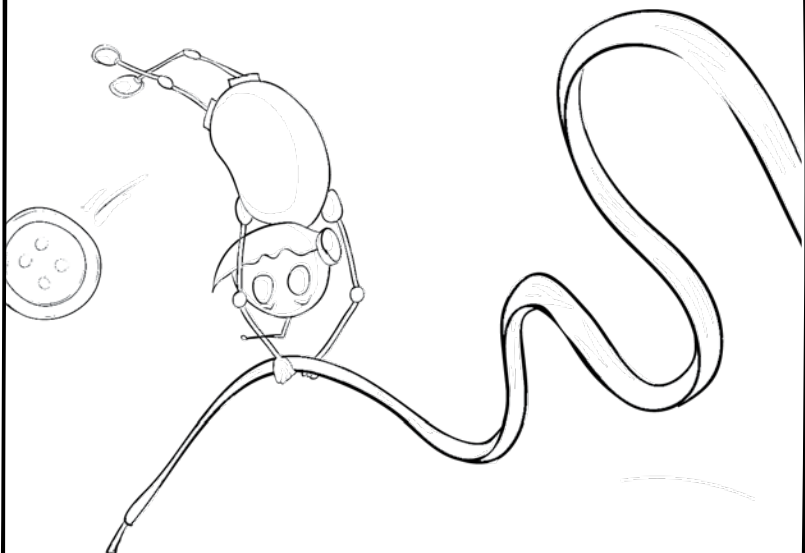
“Ke a leboha, roboto e nyane.
Na re ka ba metswalle?”

“I wonder where this comes from,”
he said. He wanted to find out.



“Ke a ipotsa hore ebe ntho ena
e tswa kae,” a rialo. O ne a batla
ho batlisisa.

O phonyohile ka sobana la nale.
“Ho a tshosa ka ntle ka mane,”
a rialo.



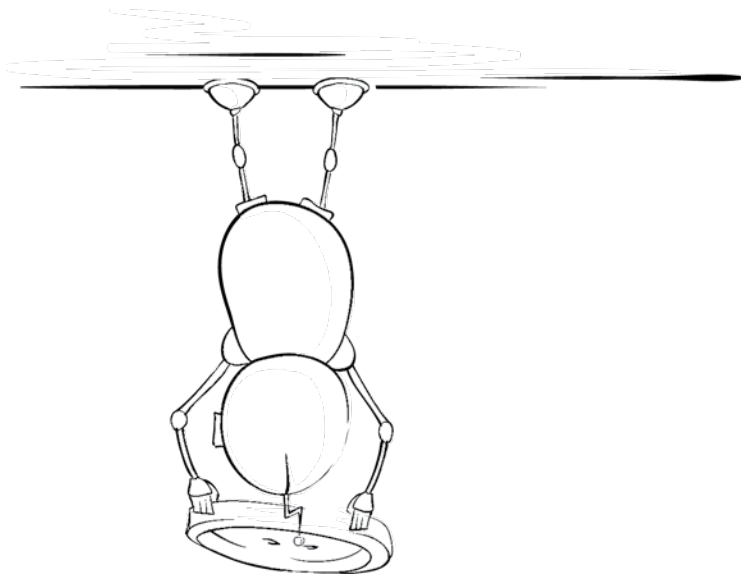
He made a lucky escape.
“It’s scary out here,” he said.

It was busy on the side of the road.
“Woah!”
Tinny Tim nearly got squashed!



Ho ne ho le sephethephethe ka thoko
ho tsela.
“Jowee!”
Tim Roboto o batlile a tihaiswa!

Yaba Tim Roboto o bona motho e
mong a etla. Mohlomong e ne e le
yena eo a mmalang.



Then Tinny Tim saw someone
coming. Maybe this was who he
was looking for.
“Hello, who are you?” he asked.

“I’m Ruby Rags,” said the someone.
“I think this is yours,” said Tinny Tim as
he gave her the button.

“Ke Ruby Rekese,” ha bua motho
e mong.

“Ke nahana hore ntho ena ke ya
hao,” ha rialo Tim Roboto a mo
neha konopo.



Young Lion sat outside and waited until the other monkeys had gone home. He waited until he was sure Little Brown Monkey was fast asleep. Then he crept in, took the small green bottle from the top of the table, and tiptoed out the room. He had stolen the gift. It was his now!

Kodwa uNgonyama omncinci yasoloko imhleli into yokusifuna esiya sipho. Kuthe ke, ezinzulwini zobusuku, xa kuthe zole, isibhakabhaka sigqunywe bubumnyama, uNgonyama oMncinci wanxiba izihlangu zokubaleka wathi ngqee ukuya kwindlu kaNkawana.

Wathi akufika apho weva ukuba kukho igela leenkawu ezazincokola zihlekisa ngesi sipho siKaNkawana. “Noko uza kubakho omnye apha kolu sapho okwaziyo ukucula kamandi ngoku. Sonke siyazi ukuba iinkawu zezona zilwanyana zicula kakubi ukuzakuthi ga ngoku sithethayo.” Zonke zahleka zaza ngapha nangapha.

UNgonyama oMncinci wahlala apho phandle elinde ukuba ezinye iinkawu zide zigoduke zize kwawazo amakhaya. Walinda wada waqiniseka ukuba uNkawana omdaka ulele yoyi. Wachwechwa wangenana, wayithatha ibhotilana encinci eluhlaza phezu kwetafile, wacwashuza ukuphuma endlwini. Wayesibile isipho. Ngoku yayisesakhe!

And so, after a long time thinking . . . Young Lion decided to return the gift.

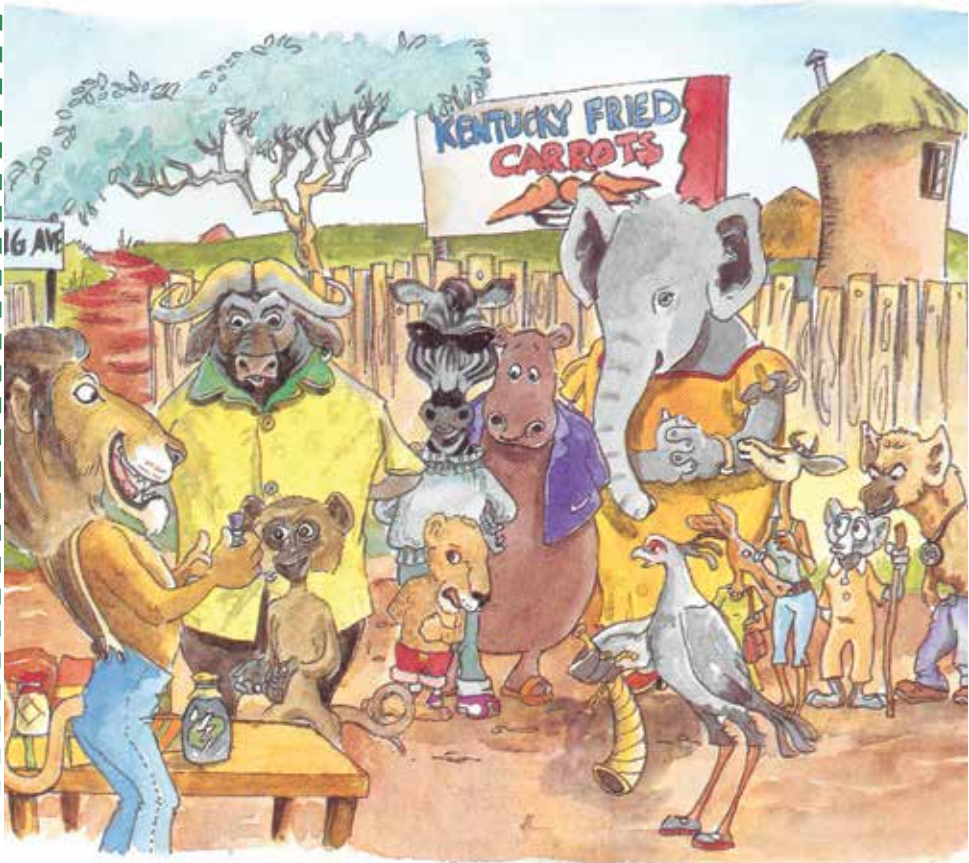
He ran as fast as his running shoes would take him back to Little Brown Monkey’s place. He sneaked into the house and returned the bottle of singing gift to the table where it had been before.

Then he crept out and headed home. As he ran, his heart felt light and his feet felt free – freer than he had felt all day!

Kuthe emva kwexesha elide ecinga . . . uNgonyama oMncinci wagqiba ekubeni asibuyisele isipho eso.

Wabaleka kangankuba zazinokumthwala izihlangu zakhe zokubaleka, ephindela kwaNkawana omdaka. Waphinda wachwechwa ukungenana kuloo ndlu, wayiphindisela ibhotile yesipho sokucula etafileni eyayikuyo ngaphambili.

Waphinda wachwechwa waphuma, wagoduka. Wathi ngethuba ebaleka, wayiva ikhaphu-khaphu intliziyo yakhe, neenyawo zakhe waziva zikhululekile – zazikhululeke ngaphezulu kokuba zazinjalo ngayo yonke loo mini!



UNKawana omdaka wafumana isipho sokucula. Esi siphosasiphakathi kwibhotilana encinci eluhlaza. UKumkani uNgonyama wathi, “Ngalo lonke ixesha uthe wasela oku, uyakukwazi ukucula kamnandi kakhulu. Uza kubaluleka ube sisityebi. Uza kuba yimvumi eyaziwayo, okanye imvumi ephambili yezomculo weGospel.”

Later that day, Young Lion bumped into Springbok on the road and shouted, “Howzit, Sister Springbok?” They hurried through their greetings so that they could get to the topic of the gift. Springbok, just like Young Lion, and Antbear, wished the monkey’s gift was hers.

“But I am sad to say, the gift belongs to Little Brown Monkey and I can’t change that,” Springbok sighed.

“Out of all the animals, how come the monkey, I mean . . . the ugly little monkey . . . is the one that got such a special gift? Tell me, Sister Springbok?” Young Lion asked.

“Well, which animal deserves that gift?” Springbok asked in turn.

“Me, Young Lion, the future king. I deserve it. I deserve that singing gift,” Young Lion answered.

“Wait your turn until next year when the King brings gifts; maybe you will get it next year. Good things are always worth waiting for,” Springbok advised.

Young Lion said, “You are right. I should wait for next year.”

The two animals waved goodbye and went their separate ways.

Ekubambeni kwemini kwanqolo suku, uNgonyama omncinci wadibana neBhadi lisazihambela ngendlela, walikhwaza esithi, “Kunjani, Dad’ uBhadi?” Bakhawulezisa ukubulisana kuba befuna ukude bafikelele kwindaba zeziphazaloo mini. IBhadi, nalo njengoNgonyama omncinci, kunye neHodi, lalingwenela ukuba ibe ibisesalo isiphosikaNkawana.

Ihodi lamxela uNgonyama omncinci ukuba nalo belingwenela ukuba akwaba isipho sokucula ibisesalo. “Ke ngoku yintoni ekunqandayo ukuba ungasithathi MaHodi?” wabuza watsho uNgonyama omncinci.

Young Lion started for home, and on his way he muttered to himself, “That singing gift should be mine, mine, mine and mine. I’m going to steal it away from Little Brown Monkey.”

On his way, Young Lion met Antbear. They greeted each other. They talked about what they had eaten for breakfast, about the weather, about New Year's resolutions and about the gifts-gathering at the King's kraal.

Antbear told Young Lion that she also wished the singing gift was hers. “So what is stopping you from taking it, Ma Antbear?” asked Young Lion.

Antbear said, "I want to treat others in the way I want them to treat me. I don't want my things to be stolen, so I should not steal from others."

Young Lion nodded. He understood that.

Kwangoko uNgonyama omncinci weva endleleni egoduka, kwaye endleleni wayehamba ethetha yedwa esithi, “Esaa sipho sokucula sifanele ukuba sesam, sesam, sesam, sesam ndodwa. Ndiza kusiba phaya kuNkawana omdaka.”

Endleleni, uNgonyama omncinci wadibana neHodi. Babulisana. Bancokola ngezinto abazityileyo ngesidlo sakusasa, ngemozulo, ngezigqibo zoNyaka omtsha, nangendibano yezipho zikaKumkani.

Young Lion began to run. He ran as though something was chasing him. As he ran, he remembered what Mother Antbear had said about treating others in the way you want them to treat you. The thought made him stop running, and he stood still and thought. He thought about how he would feel if he was Little Brown Monkey and somebody stole his gift. "I would not like it. I'd feel sad and angry," he thought.

As he stood, he recalled what Jackal had said. Jackal was right – everybody knew that Young Lion was also a bad singer. It would be easy for them to spot him as the one who had stolen Little Brown Monkey's gift.

Young Lion sat on a rock and thought more about the gift in the bottle. "Maybe Springbok is right too; maybe the gift will be mine next year."

Waqalisa ukubaleka uNgonyama oMincinci. Wayebaleka ngokungathi ikho into emleqayo. Wathi esabaleka, wacinga into eyayithethwe lihodi malunga nokubaphatha abanye abantu ngenhlela ofuna bakuphathhe ngayo nawe. Le ngcinga yamenza wayeka ukubaleka, wema wacinga. Wacinga indlela ebenokuba ngayo yena xa ebenguNkawana omdaka, kufike umntu abe isipho sakhe. “Bendingenakuyithanda kwaphela loo nto. Bendiza kuba lusizi ndibe nomlando,” wacinga njalo.

Wathi esamile, wakhumbula into eyayithethwe nguDyakalashe. UDyakalashe wayenyanisile. Wonke umntu wayesazi ukuba uNgonyama oMncinci ucula kakubi kakhulu. Kuya kuba lula ukuba aqatshelwe ukuba nguye obe isipho sikaNkawana omdaka.

UNgonyama oMncinci wahlala phezu kwelitye wacinga nzulu ngesipho esisebhotileni. “Mhlawumbi iBhadi linyanisile nalo, mhlawumbi esi sipho siya kuba sesam kunyaka ozayo.”

Get story active!

Here are some activities for you to try. They are based on all the stories in this edition of the Nal'ibali Supplement: *Young Lion and Little Brown Monkey* (pages 5, 6, 11 and 12), *Whose button is this?* (pages 7 to 10) and *You're too small* (page 14).



Yenza ibali linike umdla!

Nantsi imisebenzi emaniyizame. Isekelwe kuwo onke amabali akolu shicilelo loHlelo lukaNal'ibali: *UNgonyama omncinci noNkawana omdaka ngebala* (amaphepha 5, 6, 11, 12), *Liqhosha likabani eli?* (amaphepha 7 ukuya kwele-10) nelithi *Umcinci kakhulu* (iphepha 15).

Young Lion and Little Brown Monkey

After listening to or reading *Young Lion and Little Brown Monkey*, think and talk about some of these things.

- ★ Why did Young Lion think he deserved the gift? Do you think this is a good reason?
- ★ What advice did Young Lion get from Antbear, Springbok and Jackal? Whose advice do you think was best?
- ★ Why did Young Lion return the gift eventually?
- ★ If you had been Young Lion, would you have given the gift back? Why or why not?
- ★ How do you think Young Lion felt when he put the gift back? Why do you think he felt like this?
- ★ Have you ever thought about taking something that belonged to someone else without asking their permission? What did you do about it? How did you feel?
- ★ Do you think honesty is important? Why or why not?



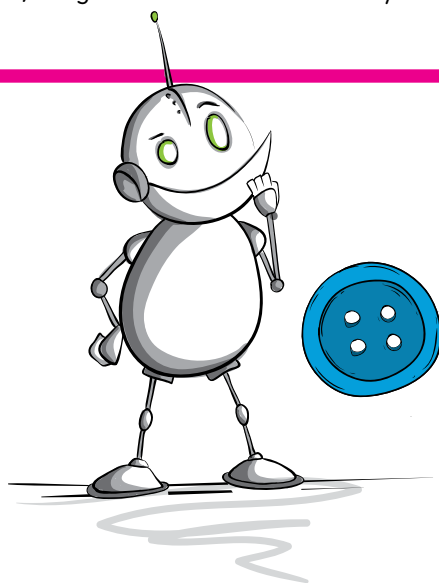
UNgonyama omncinci noNkawana omdaka ngebala

Emva kokuphulaphula okanye ukufunda *UNgonyama omncinci noNkawana omdaka ngebala*, cingani nithethe ngezinye zezi zinto.

- ★ Kwakutheni uNgonyama oMncinci ukuze acinge ukuba nguye ofanele ukufumana esi siph? Ucinga ukuba sisizathu esilungileyo eso wasinikayo?
- ★ Lalisithini icebo uNgonyama oMncinci awalifumana kwiHodi, kwiBhadi kunye noDyakalashe? Leliphi icebo ocinga ukuba lelona laliphilile?
- ★ Kwakutheni ukuze uNgonyama oMncinci asibuyisele isiph ekugqibeleni?
- ★ Ukuba ubunguNgonyama oMncinci, wawuza kusibuyisela wena isiph? Kutheni wawuza kusibuyisela okanye kutheni wawungasayi kusibuyisela?
- ★ Ucinga ukuba uNgonyama oMncinci waziva njani xa esibuyisela isiph? Kutheni ucinga ukuba waziva ngolu hlobo?
- ★ Wakhe wacinga ngokuthatha into yomnye umntu ngaphandle kokucela imvume yakhe? Wenza ntoni ngayo? Waziva njani?
- ★ Ucinga ukuba ukuthembeka kubalulekile? Kutheni ucinga njalo okanye kutheni ungacingi njalo?

Whose button is this?

- ★ Follow the instructions on page 4 to make the cut-out-and-keep books. Celebrate National Colouring Book Day on 2 August by colouring in the pictures for the story *Whose button is this?*
- ★ Use sheets of newspaper, old buttons and socks, pieces of fabric, some wool, and glue. Make the doll from the story.



Liqhosha likabani eli?

- ★ Landela imiyalelo kwiphepha lesi-4 ukwenza iincwadi ozisika-uzigcine. Bhiyozela umhla weLizwe wokuFakela imiBala ngomhla wesi-2 kweyeThupha ngokufakela imibala kwimifanekiso yebali elithi *Liqhosha likabani eli?*
- ★ Sebenzisa amaxwebhu ephephandaba, amaqhosha amadala neekawusi, iziqwengana zamalaphu, iwulu neglu. Yenza unodoli osebalini.



You're too small

- ★ Everyone in Thapelo's family does something special for their mom's party. What would each of your family members do for a special party?
- ★ Draw a picture of your family from the tallest person to the shortest one.



Umcinci kakhulu

- ★ Wonke umntu kusapho lukaThapelo unento ekhethekileyo ayenzayo yetheko likamama wabo. Ingaba umntu ngamnye kusapho lwakho angenza ntoni yetheko elikhethekileyo?
- ★ Zoba umfanekiso wosapho lwakho usukela koyena mntu mde uye koyena mfutshane.



Drive your imagination



You're too small

Written by Dorothy Dyer ■ Illustrated by Magriet Brink and Leo Daly

Mama Tau was coming home! She had been away for a long time studying, and her family missed her. Everyone was very excited. But Thapelo, the youngest of all her children, was the most excited.

On the day of Mama Tau's arrival, the family spent the morning preparing. The sun was shining outside. Thapelo kicked his ball around on the grass. He wanted to show his mother how much better his soccer was since the last time she had seen him. "Catch this one, Bless," he shouted to the dog. But Bless just looked at the ball and went inside.

Thapelo followed the dog and went to find his older sister, Refilwe. Refilwe was a DJ. She was so cool that she wore her sunglasses even inside the house. Refilwe was in her room getting music to play for when Mama walked through the front door. "I'm not going to play any of that rap she complains about," Refilwe said. "Today we will only hear jazz. Just how Mama likes it." She took off her sunglasses and winked at Thapelo. "Maybe you can dance with Mama."

Then Refilwe put on her headphones and started nodding her head to the music.

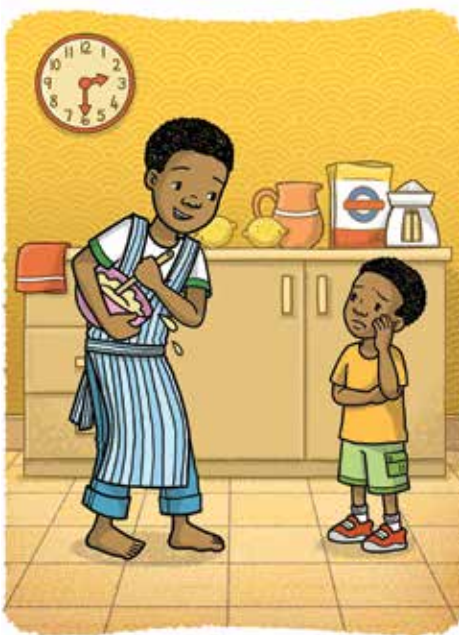
"Can I help you?" asked Thapelo.

"What?" said Refilwe, taking off her headphones. "What did you say?"

"Can I help you?" Thapelo shouted.

"No need to shout," Refilwe said. "I can hear you perfectly." Then she shook her head. "This is all on the computer, Thapelo. So, you can't help. You're too small.

Thapelo went to find his brother, Saul. He was in the kitchen, baking one of his very special cakes. Whenever there was a special occasion, Saul made a cake. For Thapelo's last birthday, he had made a chocolate cake with Smarties on top.



Saul was wearing a striped apron and was stirring the cake mixture in a big bowl. "This is a lemon cake," he told Thapelo. "Mama's favourite."

"Can I help you?" asked Thapelo.

"No," he said. "Last time you dropped an egg. Sorry, Thapelo. You're too small."

He went to find his other sister, Mampotoko, who was putting up decorations in the lounge. There were paper chains and balloons. "Can I help you?" he asked.

"Here, see if you can blow these up," she said, handing Thapelo some balloons. He chose a red one and started blowing. He tried and he tried but he couldn't get enough air into it.

"Oh no," he said sadly. "I'm too small."

So Thapelo went to find Ntate. He was sitting at the table, wrapping up a bead necklace for Mama. "This necklace has her favourite colours," he said. "Purple and green. Isn't it beautiful?"

Thapelo saw the wrapping paper with stars on it.

"Can I help you wrap the necklace?" asked Thapelo.

"No, sorry, Thapelo, you're too small," his father said.

Thapelo felt sad. He looked at their dog, Bless, sitting next to Ntate. "Come, Bless," he called. But Bless just sat there. "Even Bless thinks I'm too small," Thapelo thought.

Thapelo went outside and sat on the front step. "I wish I could grow as tall as a giant," he thought. "Then they'd all be scared of me and nobody would say, 'You're too small.'"

Just then he heard a loud shout from inside the house. "Bless! Bless, come back!"

Bless ran past Thapelo and around the corner of the house. And after Bless ran Ntate. Then Saul. Then Refilwe. And then Mampotoko. "That dog has stolen Mama's present!" Ntate shouted as he passed Thapelo. Thapelo joined them and ran after Bless too.

Bless jumped through a hole in the fence, into the yard next door. "Come back, Bless!" they called. And after a while Bless did come back ... but without the present!

"Oh no, he's left it next door!" Ntate groaned. "And the Sitholes are away till tomorrow! So, it's stuck on the other side of the fence till they come back!"

"I could climb through the hole and fetch it," suggested Thapelo.

"No," they all said together. "You're too ..." They stopped. They looked at Thapelo.

"Will you fit?" asked Refilwe.

"Are you small enough?" asked Saul.



Thapelo crouched down and squeezed himself through the hole. He just fitted through. There, on the grass in the Sithole's yard, was the wrapped present, with just a little bit of the wrapping paper torn. He picked up the present and squeezed back to the other side of the fence.

"Oh, Thapelo," said Ntate. "You **are** a star!"

"Three cheers for Thapelo!" Saul said, and they all hugged him.

Later that afternoon there was a knock on the door. It was Mama! Thapelo rushed into her arms.

"How you've grown, my boy," she said. "Look at how tall you are now."

"But I'm still too small, Mama," he said.

"No!" everyone shouted.

"No, you're not!" said Ntate, "You're just the right size!"



Drive your
imagination

Umncinci kakhulu

Libhalwe nguDorothy Dyer ■ Imizobo nguMagriet Brink noLeo Daly

UMama uTau wayegoduka! Kwakulixesha elide engekho eyokufunda, yaye usapho lwakhe lwalumkhumbula. Wonke umntu wayechulumancile. Kodwa uThapelo, oyena mncinci kubantwana bakhe, wayengoyena unemincili ukubadlula bonke.

Ngosuku lokufika kukaMama uTau, usapho lwachitha intsasa lulungiselela. Ilanga lalikhanya phandle. UThapelo wayekhabakhaba ibhola engceni. Wayefuna ukubonisa umama wakhe ukuba ukukhaba kwakhe ibhola kwakubhetele kangakanani ukusukela ukugqibela kwakhe ukumbona. "Yibambe, Bless," wakhwaza watsho enjeni. Kodwa uBless wasuka wayijonga ibhola waza wangena endlwini.

UThapelo walandelainja waza waya kukhangela udadewabo, uRefilwe. URefilwe wayeyiDJ. Kangangokuba wayezithanda wayenxiba iindondo zakhe zelanga nasendlwini. URefilwe wayesegumbini lakhe ekhangela umculo aza kuwudlala xa umama wakhe engena kumnyango ongaphambili. "Andizukudlala nayiphi na irep asoloko eyikhalazela," watsho uRefilwe. "Namhlanje siza kumamela kuphela ijez. Ngohlobo kanye uMama athanda ngalo." Wakhulula iindondo zakhe waqobela uThapelo iliso. "Mhlawumbi ungadanisa noMama."

Waza uRefilwe wafaka izimameli zakhe waqalisa ukunqwala intloko kwisandi somculo.

"Ndingakuncedisa?" wabuza uThapelo.

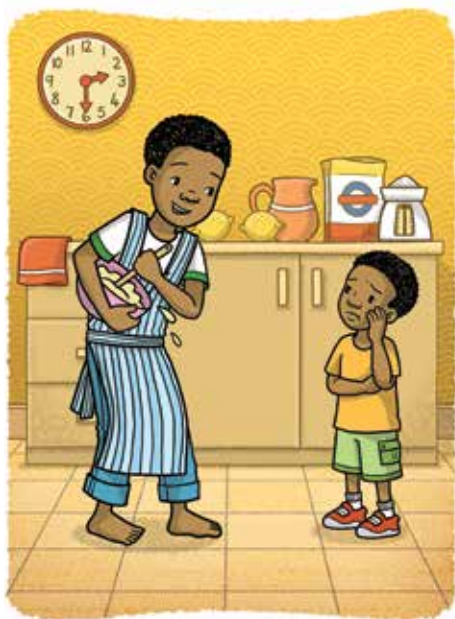
"Intoni?" watsho uRefilwe, esusa izimameli zakhe. "Ubusithini?"

"Ndingakuncedisa?" wakhwaza uThapelo.

"Akukho sidingo sokuba ukhwaze," watsho uRefilwe. "Ndikuva kakuhle."

Waze wanikina intloko. "Yonke le nto ikwikhompuyutha, Thapelo. Ngoko ke, awunakunceda. Umncinci kakhulu."

UThapelo waya kukhangela umnakwabo, uSaul. Wayesehitshini, ebhaka enye yeekeyiki zakhe ezikhethekileyo. Ngalo lonke ixesha kwakukho isehlo esikhethekileyo, uSaul wayebhaka ikeyiki. Kwitheko lokugqibela lomhla wokuzalwa likaThapelo, wayenze ikeyiki yetshokholethi eneeswiti iiSmarties ngaphezulu.



USaul wayenxibe ifaskoti enemigca kwaye wayezamisa umxube wekeyiki kwisitya esikhulu. "Yikeyiki yelamuni le," waxelela uThapelo. "Eyona ayithanda kakhulu uMama."

"Ndingakuncedisa?" wabuza uThapelo.

"Hayi," watsho. "Kwixa elingaphambili wawisa iqanda. Uxolo, Thapelo. Umncinci kakhulu."

Wahamba waya kukhangela omnye udadewabo, uMampotoko, owayexhoma imihombiso kwigumbi lokuhlala. Kwakukho amatyathanga ephepha neebhaloni.

"Ndingakuncedisa?" wabuza.

"Ina, bona ukuba ungakwazi na ukuzivuthela ezi," watsho, enika uThapelo ezinye iibhaloni. Wakhetha ebomvu waza waqalisa ukuvuthela. Wazama, wazama kodwa zange abe nakho ukufaka umoya owaneleyo kuyo.

"Owu hayi," watsho kalusizi. "Ndimncinci kakhulu."

Ngoko ke uThapelo wahamba waya kukhangela uTata. Wayehleli etafileni, esongela uMama intsimbi yentamo yamaso. "Le ntsimbi yentamo inemibala ayithandayo," watsho. "Umfusa noluhlaza. Ayintlanga?"

UThapelo wabona iphepha lokusongela elineenkwenkwezi.

"Ndingakuncedisa ukusongela intsimbi yentamo?" wabuza uThapelo.

"Hayi, uxolo, Thapelo, umncinci kakhulu," watsho utata wakhe.

UThapelo waziva elusizi. Wajongainja yabo, uBless, ehleli ecaleni koTata.

"Yiza, Bless," wakhwaza. Kodwa uBless wazihlalela nje apho. "NoBless ngokwakhe ucinga ukuba ndimncinci kakhulu," wacinga uThapelo.

UThapelo waphuma phandle waza wahlala kwinqwanqwa elingaphambili.

"Ndingwenela ukunga ndingakhula ndibe mde njengesigebenga," wacinga.

"Ngoko ke bakundoyika bonke yaye akukho mntu uya kuthi, 'Umncinci kakhulu.'"

Ngelo xesha kanye weva ilizwi elikhwazayo liphuma ngaphakathi endlwini.

"Bless! Bless, buya!"

UBless wabaleka wegqitha kuThapelo waza wajikela ekoneni yendlu. Yaye emva koBless kwakubaleka uTata. Kulandela uSaul. Kulandela uRefilwe.

Kwalandela uMampotoko. "Loo nja ibe isipho sikaMama!" UTata wamemeza njengoko wayedlula kuThapelo. UThapelo wazibandakanya nabo waleqa uBless naye.

UBless watsiba wangena ngomngxuma oselucingweni, kwiyadi esebumelwaneni. "Buya, Bless!" bakwaza. Kwaza emva kwethutyana wabuya uBless ... kodwa ngaphandle kwesipho!

"Owu hayi, usishiye kwammelwane!" wancwina uTata. "Yaye abakwaSithole abekho bakubuya ngomso! Ngoko ke sixinge kweliya cala locingo bade babuye!"

"Ndingatyhoboza emngxunyeni ndiyokusithatha," wacebisa uThapelo.

"Hayi," batsho bonke ngaxeshanye. "Um ..." Bema. Bajonga kuThapelo.



"Ungathubeleza?" wabuza uRefilwe.

"Umncinci ngokwaneleyo?" wabuza uSaul.

UThapelo wazisonga waza watyhudisa wangena emngxunyeni. Wenela ukuba athubeleze. Apho engceni eyadini kaMama uSithole, yayisisipho esisongiweyo, likrazuke kancinci nje iphepha lokusonga. Wasithatha isipho waza watyhudisa waphumela kwelinye icala locingo kwakhona.

"Owu, Thapelo," watsho uTata. "Ubalasele!"

"Masimqhwebale kathathu uThapelo!" watsho uSaul, baza bonke bamanga.

Emva kwexeshana ngaloo njikalanga kwankqonkqozwa emnyango.

YayinguMama! UThapelo wangxama ukuya kuzifaka ezingalweni zakhe.

"Awusakhule ngako, nyana wam," watsho. "Jonga indlela omde ngayo ngoku."

"Kodwa ndisemncinci kakhulu, Mama," watsho.

"Hayi!" bakhwaza bonke.

"Hayi, awunjalo!" watsho uTata, "Ungumlinganiselo ofaneleke kakuhle!"

A cartoon illustration of a family of four sitting on a light blue sofa. The father, on the left, has dark skin and curly hair, is wearing a green shirt and tan pants, and has his arms raised in excitement while holding a red book. The mother, on the right, has dark skin and glasses, is wearing a blue and white striped shirt, and is smiling while holding a blue book. Between them are two children: a girl with dark skin and curly hair wearing a yellow shirt with a red bow, and a boy with dark skin and glasses wearing a blue and white striped shirt. To the right of the sofa is a large stack of colorful books. In the background, a yellow book and a pink book are floating in the air. The background is a solid pink color with a white wavy line at the bottom.

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