

# NA LIBALI

## Ndi tshifhinga tsha u whalela nthā!

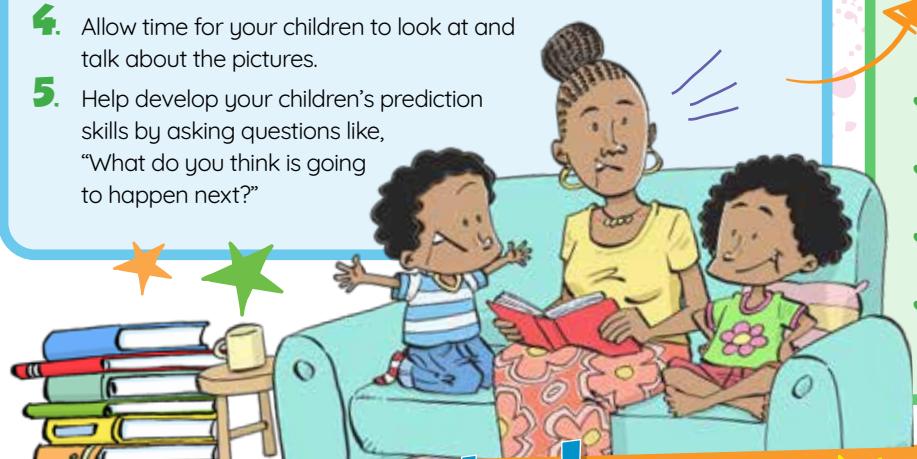
Duvha la Liphasi la u Vhalela Nthā li pembelela nwaha muñwe na muñwe u itela u tūtuwedza vhana, vhaswa vha re miñwahani ya vhufumi na vhathe vhahulwane vha sumbedzane ndila ine maipfi a vha na maanda ngayo. Li dovhā la ri humbudza vha rothe ri na pfanelo ya u vhalā, u nwala na u kovhela vhanwe zwitiori zwashu.

### Tsivhudzo dza u whalela nthā

- U whalela nthā zwi ṭoda vhuçidini tshifhinga tshothé! Itani ur iþfi įanu li vhe na madipfele o fhamba-fhambanaho.
- Didowedenzi u vhalā tshitoru lu si gathi ni sa athu tshi whalela vhana vhanu.
- Thomani nga u vhalā dzina la muñwali na muoli wa zwifanyiso vha vhanu vha zwi vhone vha bugu dzi itwa vha ngaho vhone!
- Neani vhana vhanu tshifhinga tsha u lavhelesa zwifanyiso na u amba nga hazwo.
- Thusani vhana vhanu vha humbule nga ha zwine zwa ño itea vha vhudzisa mbudziso dzi ngaho, "Ni vhona u nga hu ño itea mini nga murahu?"

### Tips for reading aloud

- Reading aloud is always a performance! Put lots of expression in your voice to create the mood.
- Practise reading the story aloud a few times before you read it to your children.
- Start by reading the name of the author and illustrator so that your children appreciate that books are created by people just like them!
- Allow time for your children to look at and talk about the pictures.
- Help develop your children's prediction skills by asking questions like, "What do you think is going to happen next?"



## Idani ni diphine!

- Iyani kha [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) ni nwalishe muta wanu, kilabu ya u vhalā kana tshikolo ni thuse vha vhathe vhanu vha dñiva li vhe tshitea tshihulwanesa kha la Afurika Tshipembe.
- Nga la 7 Luhuhi 2024, whalelani vhana vhothe vhanu vha dñiva tshitoru tshashu tsha Duvha la Liphasi la U Vhalela Nthā (Kumange kwo xelaho).
- Rumelani zwifanyiso na video dza zwa na zwi ita vha vhathe vhanu vha dñiva kha zwilelodzi zwashu zwa vhudavhidzani ni tshi shumisa heshitege [#nalibaliwrad2024](#)



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## It's time to read aloud!

World Read Aloud Day is celebrated each year to encourage children, teenagers, and adults to share the power of words. It also reminds us that we all have the right to read, to write and to share our stories.

### Zwine na nga zwi ita u pembelela

#### Duvha la Liphasi la U Vhalela Nthā

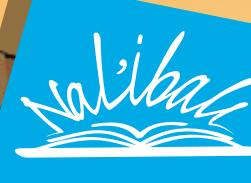
- Litshani vhana vhanu vha betsho dza Duvha la Liphasi la U Vhalela Nthā (sedzani siatari 16) hu sa athu swika la 7 Luhuhi vha kone u dzi peretedza nga Duvha la Liphasi la U Vhalela Nthā. (Ni nga wana kopí dzo engedzeaho dza betsho kana u dzi ṭoda nga dzirwe nyambo kha [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org).)
- Itani tshibugwana tsha tumula u vhulunge tsha tshitoru tshashu tsho khethieaho tsha Duvha la Liphasi la U Vhalela Nthā tshire tsha pfi Kumange kwo xelaho, kha masiati 5, 6, 11 na 12.
- Vhalelani vhana vhanzhi nga hune zwa konadzea ngaho tshitoru Kumange kwo xelaho. Iyani kha [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) ni dñivalise ni ri vhudze vha vhalā vhanu vhangana.
- Khethani miñwe mishumo ine na ño ita na vhana vhanu yo themendelwaho kha gwati la nga murahu la tshibugwana tumula u vhulunge.
- Humbelani vhana vhahulwane vha whalele vhana vhatuku mutani wanu, kilabuni ya u vhalā kana tshikoloni nga lñwe la maduvha a Duvha la Liphasi la U Vhalela Nthā.

### Ideas to celebrate World Read Aloud Day

- Let your children make their World Read Aloud Day badges (see page 16) before 7 February so that they can wear them on World Read Aloud Day. (You can get extra copies of the badge or find it in other languages at [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org).)
- Make up the cut-out-and-keep booklet of our special World Read Aloud Day story, *The lost kitten*, on pages 5, 6, 11 and 12.
- Read *The lost kitten* to as many children as you can. Go to [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) and sign up to let us know how many children you read to.
- Choose some of the activities suggested on the back page of the cut-out-and-keep booklet to do with your children.
- Ask older children to read to the younger children in your family, reading club or school sometime during World Read Aloud Day.

## Join in the fun!

- Go to [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) to sign up your family, reading club or school and help make this the biggest World Read Aloud Day event in South Africa.
- On 7 February 2024, read our World Read Aloud Day story (*The lost kitten*) to all the children in your life.
- Share photos and videos of your WRAD events on our social media sites with the hashtag [#nalibaliwrad2024](#)



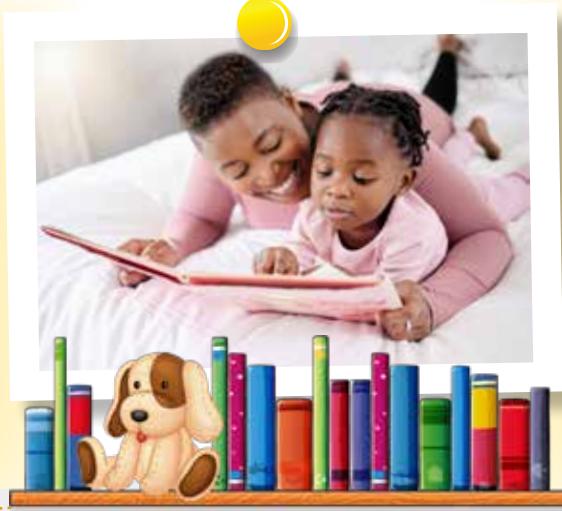
IT STARTS WITH  
A STORY.  
ZWI THOMA NGA  
TSHITORI.

# Mbeu dza Vhukoni ha u Vhala na u Nwala !

## Tsivhudzo dza u vhalela vhana na dzitshetshe dzibugu

### Literacy Seeds! Tips for sharing books with babies and toddlers

Kha vhabebi na vhat hogomeli vha vhana vhatuku, a hu na ndila i re yone kana i si yone ya u vhalela vhana na dzitshetshe dzibugu. Zwa ndeme ndi u diphina nga u twa nothe na u tevhela zwine vha khou lingedza u zwi ita. Vhalani nothe bugu lwa tshifhinga tshipufufi kana tshilapfu u ya nga hune na ṭoda ngaho - a zwi vhuyi zwa ṭoda uri ni thaphudze bugu! Ni nga lingedza u vhala ngavhuya kana nga iñwe ndila - kana ni lingedze iñwe bugu.



Dear parents and caregivers of young children, there's no right or wrong way to use books with babies and toddlers. It's more about enjoying the time you spend together and following their lead in deciding what to try next. Share a book together for as short or as long a time as you both want to - you don't have to finish the book! You can try again later, or in another way - or try a different book.

#### Ndi nga khetha bugu dzifhio?

- ▶ Arali zwi tshi konadzea, khethani bugu dzo fhambafhambanaho dzo ḥwalwaho nga luambo kana nyambo dzine ḥwana wañu a dzi shumisa hayani.
- ▶ Khethani zwitori zwine zwa amba nga ha vhana na nga ha muña na zwithu zwo ḥoweleaho zwine zwa itea ḫuvha ljhwe na ljhwe.
- ▶ Dzitshetshe dici funesa bugu dici re na zwirendo na dzine dza vha na masiatari ake a tou tibulwa.
- ▶ Dimvumvuseni nga dzibugu nahone ni vhale lunzhilunzhi bugu dzine ḥwana wañu a dzi takalela!



#### What books do I choose?

- ▶ Choose lots of different books in your child's home language(s), wherever possible.
- ▶ Choose some stories that have other children in them as well as ones that are about family and familiar everyday experiences.
- ▶ Rhyme and flap-books are very popular with toddlers.
- ▶ Have lots of playful times with books and read books that are your child's favourites again and again!

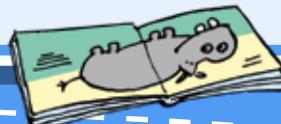
#### Zwine na nga zwi ita musi ni tshi khou vhala bugu

- ▶ Musi ni tshi khou vhala bugu, dzulani ni ḫigede no takula ḥwana wañu kana e nga tsini na iñwi.
- ▶ Sumbedzani ḥwana wañu zwifanyiso ni ambe nga zwithu zwo sumbedzwaho, vhabvumbedzwa na zwine zwa khou itea kha bugu. Sumbani muñwe muthu kana tshiñwe tshithu ni ambe uri tshenetsho tshithu ndi mini kana vhenevho vhathu ndi vhonnyi na zwine vha khou zwi ita.
- ▶ Sumbani maipfi musi ni tshi khou vhala. Hezwi zwi thusa ḥwana wañu uri a gude maipfi na "vhubvo" ha maipfi ake na khou a bula.
- ▶ Shumisani mbonalo dza tshifhatuwo na zwanda uri tshitoris tshi nge ndi tsha vhukuma.
- ▶ Vhudzisani mbudziso nga ha zwine zwa khou itea kha bugu. Dzi fhinduleni kana ni tendele ḥwana wañu a dzi fhindule arali a tshi nga kona na musi a tshi ṭoda u ita nga u ralo.
- ▶ Thetshelesani nga vhuronwane zwine ḥwana wañu a khou zwi amba kana u zwi ita ni mu aravhe. Hezwi zwi ḫo takadza vhuvhili ha vhoiwe nahone zwa ita uri ḥwana wañu a ḫivhe luambo.
- ▶ Wanani zwipiða zwa tshitoris tshi nge ndi tsha vhukuma. Sa tsumbo: a nga bula mitaladzi ine ya dovhololwa kha tshitoris tshi kana u ita mibvumo ya vhabvumbedzwa kana zwithu zwi re kha bugu.



#### What to do while reading the book

- ▶ Relax and sit comfortably with your child on your lap, or next to you, when you share books.
- ▶ Draw your child's attention to the pictures and talk about the concepts, characters and what is happening in the book. Point to someone or something and say what or who it is and what they are doing.
- ▶ Point to the words as you read them. This helps your child learn what words are and where the words you are saying "come from".
- ▶ Use facial expressions and gestures to make the story come alive.
- ▶ Ask questions about what is happening in the book. Answer them yourself or allow your child to answer, if he or she can and wants to.
- ▶ Listen carefully to what your child says or does and respond to it. This makes the experience more interesting for both of you and helps to develop your child's language.
- ▶ Find parts of the story where your child can join in. For example: saying sentences that are repeated in the story or making the sounds and noises of the characters or objects in the book.





## Ndila ya u shumisa tshiṭori Kumange kwo xelaho

1. Humbelani ḥwana waṇu uri a vhale na inwi – ni songo vhuya na mu kombetshedza.
2. Wanani fhethu hu si na phosho hune na nga vhalela hone no dīgedā. Dzimani radio, TV na lūtingo thendeleki.
3. Dzulani tsini na ḥwana waṇu kana ni tou mu takula.
4. Thomani nga u lavhelesa gwati ḥa nga phanda ḥa bugu na u amba nga haļo. Vhalani ḫohoh ya tshiṭori na madzina a muṇwali na muoli wa zwifanyiso.
5. Lavhelesani zwifanyiso kha siatari ḥinwe na ḥinwe. ḫuṭuwedzani ḥwana waṇu uri a nukhedze, a fare kana a kwame masiatari.
6. Itani uri tshiṭori tshaṇu tshi nge ndi tsha vhukuma! Shumisani maiſpi a sa fani kha Neo, Bella, vhabebi vha Neo na Gina.
7. Kha zwipiḍa zwi sa fani zwa tshiṭori vhudzisani uri, “Ni vhona u nga hu do itea mini nga murahu?” Mbudziso dzo raloho dzi ḥo ita uri ḥwana waṇu a humbule.
8. Ambani noṭhe nga ha tshiṭori. Haseledzani mbudziso dzi ngaho, “Ni a takalela zwimange zwituku? Ndi ngani Noodle yo huvha kumange? Ndi ngani Bella o vha o ḫungufala musi Gina a tshi ḥa u dzhia kumange?”
9. Vhudzani ḥwana waṇu zwine na zwi takalela nga ha zwifanyiso. Vhudzisani ḥwana waṇu nga ha zwine a zwi funa nga ha zwifanyiso.
10. Zwa ndeme vhukuma, dīphineni nga u vhala bugu nahone ni lingedze u ita vhudzidini uri ni dīphine nga u vhala tshifhinga tshoṭhe!



## How to use the story The lost kitten

1. Invite – never force – your child to read with you.
2. Find somewhere quiet and comfortable to read. Turn off the radio, TV, and cell phone.
3. Sit close together or with your child on your lap.
4. Start by looking at and talking about the book's front cover. Read the story's title and the names of the author and illustrator.
5. Look at the pictures on each page. Encourage your child to smell, hold or touch the pages.
6. Make the story come alive! Use different voices for Neo, Bella, Neo's parents, and Gina.
7. Ask, “What do you think is going to happen next?” at different parts of the story. Such questions will help to stimulate your child's imagination.
8. Talk to each other about the story. Discuss questions like, “Do you like kittens? Why did Noodle bark at the kitten? Why was Bella sad when Gina came to fetch the kitten?”
9. Tell your child what you like about the illustrations. Ask your child what they like about the illustrations.
10. Most of all, enjoy sharing the book, and always try your best to make reading fun!

## Zwine zwa nga itwa kha mutambo wa Kumange kwo xelaho

Duvha ḥoṭhe (na musi ni tshi khou ita mishumo ya hayani!), ni nga ita zwithu zwi takadzaho na vhana vhaṇu:

- ✿ Imbani luimbo nga ha zwipuka na mibvumo ine zwa i ita.
- ✿ Lavhelesani vhana vhaṇu nahone ni ri, “Hallo! Nne ndi pfi Ginger. Miauu, miauu, miaau!” kana “Hallo! Nne ndi pfi Noodle. Huum, huum, huum!” Nwalani na zwiṇwe zwipuka na mibvumo ine zwa i ita.
- ✿ ḫuṭuwedzani vhana vhaṇu uri vha ole tshimange, mmbwa kana tshiṇwe tshithu tshine vha tshi takalela.



## Activity ideas for The lost kitten

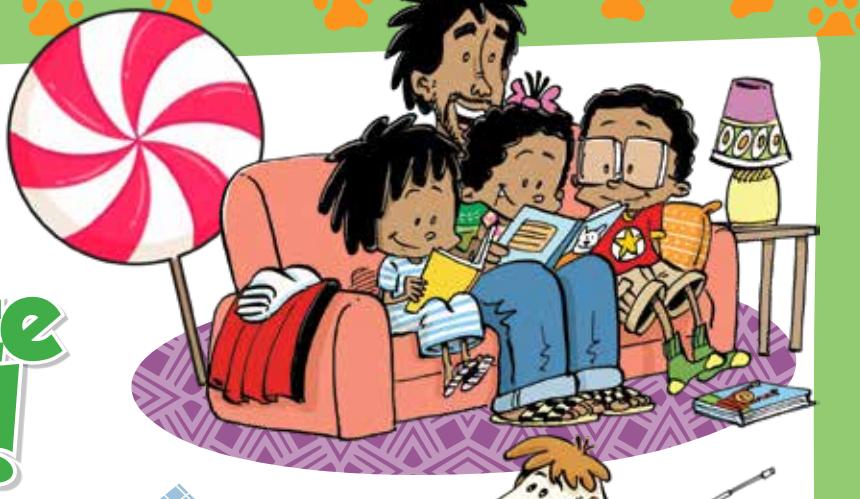
Throughout the day (even when you are doing chores!), you can do fun activities with your children:

- ✿ Sing a song about animals and the sounds that they make.
- ✿ Look at your children and say, “Hello! My name is Ginger. Meow, meow, meow!” or “Hello! My name is Noodle. Woof, woof, woof!” Include other animals and the sounds they make.
- ✿ Encourage your children to try drawing a cat, a dog, or another animal.
- ✿ Invite your children to tell stories about cats, dogs, or anything else that interests them.



# Maduvha ane a pēmbelelwa nga Luhuhi!

## Days to celebrate in February!



2 February/  
Luhuhi

### Duvha la Lifiasi la Thangasi

Li ita uri vhatu vha ṭhogomele uri fhethu hu re na thangasi ndi ha ndeme itela u tsireledza zwitshavha na zwithu zwi tshilaho kha mvelelo dza tshanduko ya kilima.

### World Wetlands Day

Create awareness about how important healthy wetlands are for protecting communities and ecosystems from the effects of climate change.



14 February/  
Luhuhi

### Duvha la Valentine

Sumbedzani vharwe ndila ine na vha funa ngayo!

### Valentines Day

Let others know how much you love them!



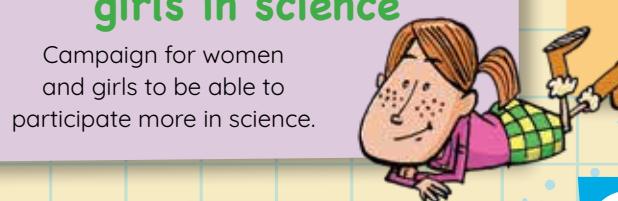
11 February/  
Luhuhi

### Duvha la vhafumakadzi na vhasidzana kha saints

Fulo la vhafumakadzi na vhasidzana uri vha kone u shela mulenzhe nga ho engedzeaho kha saints.

### Day of women and girls in science

Campaign for women and girls to be able to participate more in science.



13 February/  
Luhuhi

### Duvha la Radio la Lifiasi

Pemelelani ndeme ya khasho ya radio ine ya hasha mafhungo, muzika, mihibulo na tshenzhelo u mona na shango loṭhe.

### World Radio Day

Celebrate the importance of radio broadcasts that share news, music, ideas, and experiences from around the world.

20 February/  
Luhuhi

### Duvha la Lifiasi la Vhulamukanyi ha Matshilisano

Ambani nga ha zwine na nga zwi ita na vhukando vhune na nga vhu dzhia u itela u kunda u shaye ha mishumo, vhushai na milayo na vhudifari zwine zwa ita uri vharwe zwi vha kondele u dīdzhia vhe tshipida tsha vhadzulapo.

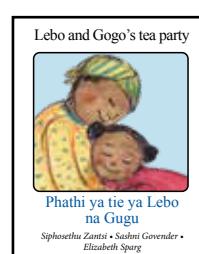
### World Social Justice Day

Share ideas and actions on how to fight against unemployment, poverty and laws and behaviour that make it difficult for others to be part of society.



### Tandavhudzani laiburari yanu. Itani bugu MBILI dza tumula u vhulunge

- Bvisani masiaṭari 5 u ya kha 12 a yeneyi ṭhumetshedzo.
- Bammbari li re na masiaṭari 5, 6, 11 na 12 li ita bugu nthihi. Bammbari li re na masiaṭari 7, 8, 9 na 10 li ita iñwe bugu.
- Shumisani bammbiri liñwe na liñwe u ita bugu. Tevhelani nyelshedzo dzi re afho phasi u ita bugu iñwe na iñwe.
  - Petani bammbiri nga vhukati kha mutalo mutswu u re na zwithoma.
  - Dovhani ni li pete nga vhukati kha mutalo mudala u re na zwithoma.
  - Gerani kha mitalo mitswku i re na zwithoma.



### Grow your own library. Create TWO cut-out-and-keep books

- Take out pages 5 to 12 of this supplement.
- 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.
- Use each of the sheets to make a book. Follow the instructions below to make each book.
  - Fold the sheet in half along the black dotted line.
  - Fold it in half again along the green dotted line.
  - Cut along the red dotted lines.

Who thoma naga u ja laiburrari, naga murahu vha ja vhengele ni nadhone musi vho livilaha hayani muhura a vha tendelia ur i phostara gethe ni vha nambatedze jawe. Vha sia phostara nithili ur i vha i nambatedze kha bodo ya ndivhaddzo tshikoloni ngaga Musumbuluwo.



Musi who no ita phosatarra nuya, Baba wha ni, "Ndi vhonu u niga dzu edzana. Kha ni yé u dzi nambateda".

Kha ri mbo di thomda” a ralo Neo.  
Kuvhatedza Kumangge.  
te phostara”, a ralo Beilla a tshi Khou  
mbabambari na dzikhirayoni uru ni  
matsheloni-tsheiloni. “Ndo dà na  
Beilla a swika naga Mugivhela naga  
mbabambari na dzikhirayoni uru ni  
te phostara”, a ralo Beilla a tshi Khou  
Kuvhatedza Kumangge.  
Kha ri mbo di thomda” a ralo Neo.

Neo, Bella and Noodle are enjoying themselves in Neo's front garden. Suddenly, Noodle jumps up and starts barking. Just then, a tiny kitten crawls out from under a bush. Bella immediately falls in love with the little kitten. But it looks like it belongs to someone else. What will Neo and Bella do?



Neo, Bella na Noodle vha khou diphina nga u tamba ngadeni ya Neo i re nga phanda ha nndu. Noodle ya mbo di thoma u huvha i tshi khou thamukana. Ndi izwi-ha kumange ku tshi kokovha kwa bva tshtakani. Bella a mbo di funa konoko kumange Fhedzi ku tou naqku naq mupe. Neo na Bella vha do ita mini?

## Get story active!

-  Draw a picture of your favourite part of the story.
  -  Why don't you try acting out this story or a part of it with a group of your friends and family? You can even have someone pretend to be Ginger and Noodle. Use actions, words, and voices to make it fun!
  -  Make a poster of your pet or a pet you would like to have. Draw a picture of your pet. Write or ask someone to help you write the size, colour, and name of your pet.

**Itani uri tshitori tshi nyanyule!**

- Olani tshifanyiso tsha tshipida tshine na tshi funesa tsha tshitori.
  - Zwi nga vha hani arali na lingedza u tamba tshenetshi tshitori kana tshipida tshatsho na khonani dzanu kana vha mutani? Ni nga kha di humbela uri muñwe a diite Ginger na Noodle. Shumisani zwanda, mai pfi na mibvumo uri zwi takadze!
  - Itani phostara ya tshifuwo tshanu kana tshifuwo tshine na nga takalela u vha natsho. Olani tshifanyiso tsha tshifuwo tshanu. Nwalani kana ni humbele muñwe muthu uri a ni thuse u nwala vhuhulwane, muvhala na dzina la tshifuwo tshanu.

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](http://www.nalibali.org)



First they went to the library, then they went to the shop and on their way home the neighbour let them put a poster on her gate. They saved one poster and put it on the school's notice board on Monday.



Once they had made four posters, Dad said, "I think that's enough. Let's go put them up."

"Let's get started!" said Neo.

On Saturday morning, Bella arrived very early. "I brought paper and crayons to make posters," said Bella as she hugged the kitten.

# The lost kitten



# Kumange kwo xelaho

*Stacey Fru • Rico Schacherl*

**Ideas to talk about:** Do you or does someone you know have a pet? How would you feel if the pet got lost? What could you do to try and find the lost pet? How would you feel if you found it again?

**Zwine ha nga ambiwa nga hazwo:** Naa ni na tshifuwo kana ni a ñivha mutuha re na tshifuwo? No vha ni tshi nga ñipfa hani arali tshenetsho tshifuwo tsha xela? No vha ni tshi nga ita mini u lingedza u wana tshifuwo tsho xelaho? No vha ni tshi nga ñipfa hani arali na tshi wana?



haci kwa farwa nga kohfhe.

Kwia ja thumbu ja dala ja tou tattanana nakhone kwe vha shela madi o kunacho kha tsingodelo tschihulwane. Vhuphuhve-phuhve. Baba who ku nea zwilwa nakhone kade urti a itele kwonokwo kumangge mimbete wa hayani, Neo a wana bogisi ja zwieenda na dzhesi ja Musi Mma vha tshi khu fhelekedza Bella na Noodle nambatdedza. Khamusi muñe wakwo u do dzivhona. "Ri ngagisitsha vha wana ñamusi ngauri lo no kohela," vha ralo Mma. "Fhedzi matshelo nga matsheloni ri vha takusa mato. "Ri teu ilingedza u wana vhanee edza kumangge kwavho," vha ralo.



"Hello, my name is Gina," said the girl. "She looked worried. "I think the kitten you found may be mine. Her name is Ginga and she has a blue collar around her neck."

"Oh, hello," said Neo when he saw a girl he had not met before standing at the door.

All the noise gave the kitten such a fright that it ran and hid under the couch. Noodle barked excitedly. "Who is it, Neo?" asked Bella. Neo ran to open the door. "Knock! There was someone at the door. Kitten were playing in the lounge. Knock, knock, knock! On Tuesday afternoon, Neo, Bella, Noodle and the

On Friday afternoon, Neo and Bella were playing in Neo's garden. Noodle was sleeping peacefully in the sun.



Suddenly, Noodle jumped up and started barking. Woof, woof, woof!

"What's wrong, Noodle?" Bella asked.

Bella's face lit up. "Thank you!" she said. "Neo and I would love to visit tomorrow afternoon."

"But," said Neo, "I think Noodle should stay home." And everyone agreed that this was probably a very good idea.



Bella a mbo di nwethuwa. "Ndo livhuwa!" a ralo. "Nne na Neo ri do da matshelo nga masiari."

"Fhedzi," ndi Neo a no ralo, "ndi vhona u nga ri nga si de na Noodle." Vhothe vha tenda uri khamusi ndi muhumbulo wavhuqi wonoyo.



"Ni mpafale, ndi nge si kone u ya. Moloi  
aisikhirimu"

manzhi a re na zwitambiswa zwavhudi na  
namusil! Ri nge ya moloni. Hu na mavhengele  
"Gugu, Gugu, ndi a diwha urti nge ita mini  
Lebo a giidimela kamarrani ya u dzula.  
vha dzula kha sofa vha awela.  
Musi vha tshi swika hayani ha Lebo, Gugu

will get so tired."

"I'm afraid I can't. The mall is too big, and I  
toys and ice cream!"

I know what we can do today! We can go to  
the mall. There are lots of shops with nice  
Lebo dashes into the lounge. "Gogo, Gogo,  
rests on the sofa.

When they arrive at Lebo's home, Gogo

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### Get story active!

- ★ Imagine that you are going to have a tea party for your family and friends. Make a list of the food you would make.
- ★ Write a message to invite your family and friends to your party. It can be an invitation card, a letter, an SMS or a WhatsApp message.
- ★ Now draw a picture of you and your family and friends at the tea party.

### Itani uri tshitoro tshi nyanyule!

- ★ Kha ri ni khou ṭoda u ita phathi ya tie na vha muṭa waṇu na dzikhonani. Nwalani mutevhe wa zwiliwa zwine na do zwi lugiselela.
- ★ Nwalelani muṭa waṇu na dzikhonani mulaedza uri vha de phathini yaṇu. Ni nga kha di vha ramba nga garata, vhurifhi, SMS kana mulaedza wa WhatsApp.
- ★ Zwino olani tshifanyiso tshaṇu na vha muṭa waṇu na dzikhonani ni phathini ya tie.

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](http://www.nalibali.org)



Nal'ibali ndi fulo ja lushaka ja u vhalela u diphina u itela u karusa na u ṭahulela ndowelo ya u vhala kha ḥothe ja Afurika Tshipembe. U wana mafhungo nga vhuḍalo, dalelani [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org)

## Lebo and Gogo's tea party



## Phathi ya tie ya Lebo na Gugu

Siphosethu Zantsi • Sashni Govender •  
Elizabeth Sparg

**Ideas to talk about:** Have you ever been to a tea party? What kind of food do you think should be at a party? How is a tea party different from other kinds of parties?

**Zwine ha nga ambiwa nga hazwo:** Naa no no vhuya na ya phathini ya tie? Ni vhona u nga hu tea u vha na zwiliwa zwa mufuda-de phathini? Phathi ya tie yo fhambana hani na miñwe mifuda ya dziphathi?

Gugu vha do hu dalela doroboni.  
fhethu hu takadzaho hune ene na  
tshiduloni. A humbula naga ha  
a thamukana musi o dzula  
Musi vhe golomi, Lebo  
ralo o takala.

Ri do diphima vhuskumai! Lebo a  
“Gugu, vha teu u tuwa na rine.



have in the city.  
adventures she and Gogo will  
She thinks of all the wild  
Lebo bounces on her seat.  
During the drive,  
fun! Lebo says, excitedly.  
We will have so much  
“Gogo, you must come.



Lebo is at Gogo's farm. She is bored with chasing the animals.

“Now you chase me, Gogo!” Lebo shouts as she races past.

“Slow down, Lebo,” Gogo says, hurrying to catch up.

Gogo trips over a rock while chasing Lebo.

“Ouch!” she screams. Gogo has hurt her ankle.

Lebo u bulasini ya Gugu.  
O netiswa nga u pandamedza  
zwipuka.

“Ndi humbela uri vha  
mpandamedze, Gugu!” Lebo  
u a huwelela a tshi khou pfuka  
nga luvhilo.

“Imaninyana, Lebo,” Gugu  
vha ralo, vhe nga murahu  
hawe vho tou vhilula.

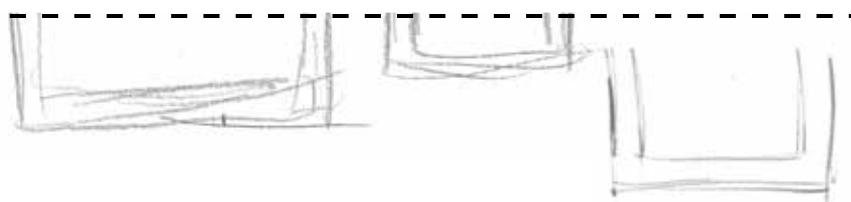
Gugu vha mbo di  
khukhulwa nga tombo musi  
vha tshi khou gidimedza Lebo.

“Mmawee!” vha tzhema.  
Gugu vho vhaisala gona.



uda wela phasi.  
gidima nahone dzi naga nthula uda dovha  
Mmbwa dzi re phakhani dzi do gidi-ma-  
“Ni mpafrele, zwi naga si ite lin.  
mini namusil! Ri naga ya phakhani!

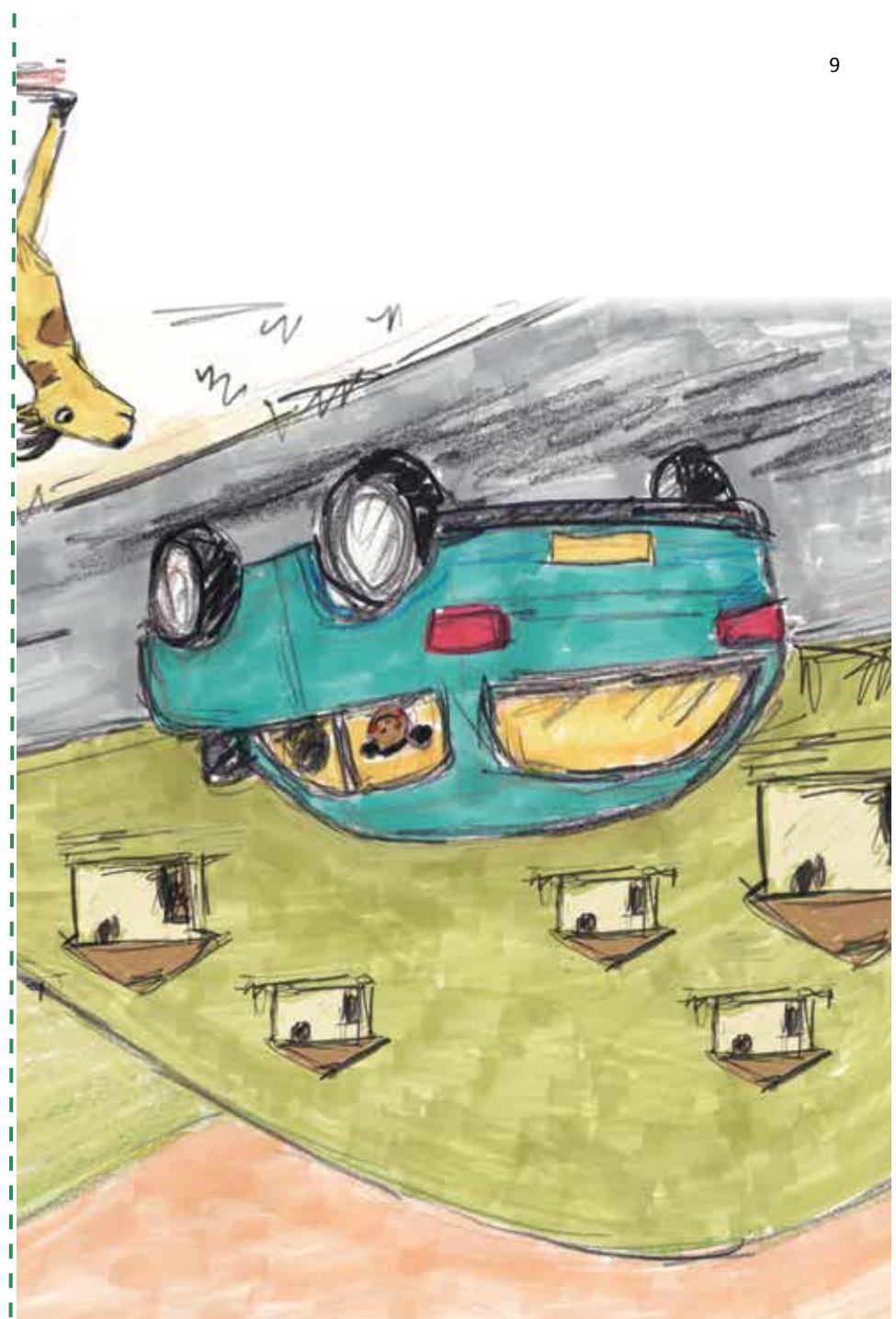
“Gugu, ndi a divha urit naga ita  
make me fall again.”  
in the park will run around and could  
“I'm afraid that won't work. The dogs  
do today! We can go to the park!”  
“Gogo, Gogo, I know what we can



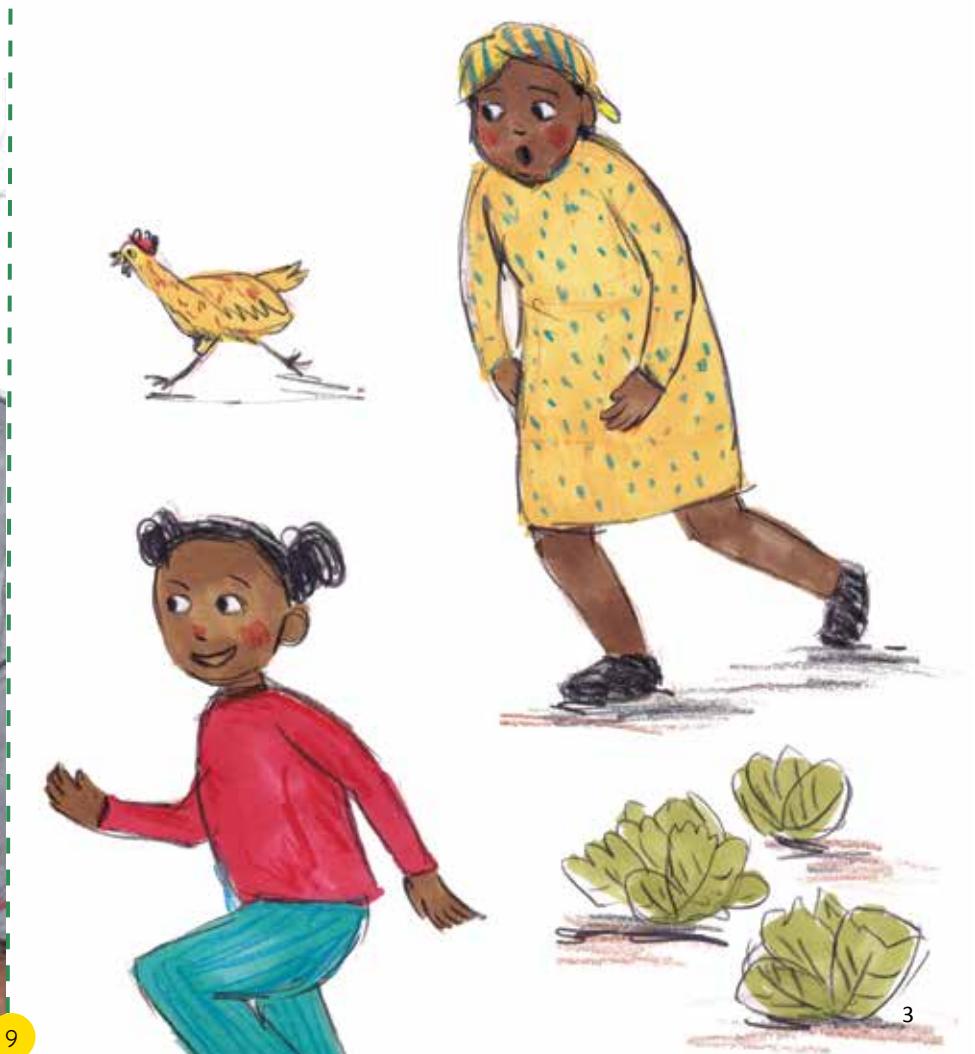
Lebo o vha o difhumulela musi Gugu  
vha tshi khou luka.

A mbo di delwa nga munwe  
muhumbulo! “Gugu, Gugu, ndi a divha  
zwine ra naga ita namusi! Kha ri ite phathi  
ya tie. Gugu, vha naga dzula hafha. Ndi  
do vha disela zwithu zwothe ngauri vho  
vhaisala.”





Lebo is quiet while Gogo knits.  
Suddenly she has an idea! "Gogo,  
Gogo, I know what we can do today!  
Let's have a tea party. Gogo, you can  
sit here. I will bring everything to you  
because you are hurt."





Gugu vha tshi khou daddaza.  
Ndi ḍo kona nga nne mune, "Vha ralo  
Ndi nge si vhye nda sia bulasi yanga.  
tħogħmelā," vha ralo mme a Lebo.  
tsħi vħuyel ħa doroboni u tħi konne u vha  
"Gugu, kha vha tħuwe na tħie muši ti  
butsu l-o khetħeħaħo na thongħa.

"Ni mpafrel, Lebo. Ndi oħra u  
ita nħamusi. Kha ti ye bitsħimi."  
Gugu, nidi a dħiha zwilwe zwiñe ra nge  
a hweħħuwa zwihlu nge dakħal. "Gugu,  
Nga murahū ha tħiħi għanġana, Lebo  
muħavħabi."

A second later, Lebo's eyes are wide  
with excitement. "Gogo, Gogo, I know  
what else we can do today. Let's go to  
the beach."  
"I'm sorry, Lebo. I'm afraid my  
crutches will sink into the soft sand."



Gogo comes back from the doctor with a special boot and crutches.

"Gogo, come back to the city with us so that we can take care of you," says Lebo's mom.

"I won't leave my farm. I will manage on my own," Gogo replies, stubbornly.





lutoombo mukuloni!“

wana ndi kwanga. Ku pfi Gingera, ku na kholgara ja  
yauu laiburari. Ndi vhonaa u ngaa kumangge kwe na ku  
vhandala a tshi ngaa ho ngo takala. „Ndo vhonaa phostara  
„Aa, nüe ndi pfi Gina“, a ralo onyo musidzana. O

a sa mu dívhí o imá munangoni.

„Tshoo, hu riñi“, a ralo Neo musi a tshi vhonaa musidzana

shavha kwa dzumbamfa thasi ha sofa.  
Honoho u huvha ha tshuwisa kumangge lwe kwa  
takala.

Noodle ya huvha i tshi khou dzungudza mutshila yo

„Neo, ndi nyi?“ hu vhudzisa Bella.

Neo a gídima uri a yé u vula vothi.

hu na muthu ane a khou khokhonya.  
u dzula. Khokhokho, khokhokho, khokhokho! Ho vha  
kumangge who vha vha tshi khou tamba ngadeni ya Neo  
Nga Łavhułanu nga masiari, Neo, Bella, Noodle na



was fast asleep.

While Mom walked Bella and Noodle home, Neo  
found a shoebox and an old jersey to make a cosy  
bed for the kitten. Dad fed it and gave it a big bowl  
of clean water. Soon the kitten had a full belly and

see the posters.“

lost kitten and put them up. Maybe the owner will

tomorrow morning we can make posters about the

„It's too late to find them tonight“, said Mom. „But

he said.

probably very worried about their lost kitten.“  
Mbalii. „We should try to find the owners. They are  
Dad looked up from the book he was reading to

Nga Łavhułanu nga masiari, Neo na Bella vho  
vha vha tshi khou tamba ngadeni ya Neo.  
Noodle yo vha yo díedetshela duvhani.



Noodle ya mbo dí  
vukuluku, ya thoma u huvha:  
Huuu, huuu, huuu!

“Mulandu ndi mini, Noodle?” hu vhudzisa Bella.

“Ginger! I missed you,” said Gina hugging her kitten. She was very happy too. “Thank you for taking such good care of her, Bella and Neo.”

“I’m happy that you found your kitten,” said Bella. “But I’m a bit sad that we won’t see Ginger again.”

Neo put his arm around Bella’s shoulder. He could see that she was about to cry.

“Oh, don’t worry!” said Gina. “We live close by. You are welcome to visit Ginger whenever you like.”

“Ginger! ndo ni Łuvha zwone,” a ralo Gina o kuvhatedza kumange kwave. Na kone ko vha ko takala zwihulu.  
“Bella na Neo, ndi a livhuwa nge na ku Łhogomela.”

“Ndo takala nge na wana kumange kwańu,” a ralo Bella.  
“Fhedzi ndo Łungufhalanyana ngauri a ri tsha do dovha ra vhonaa Ginger.”

Neo a vhea tshanda kha shađa įa Bella. O zwi vhonaa uri o vha a tshi khou Łoda u lila.

“Ohh, ni songo vhila!“ a ralo Gina. “Ri dzula heneffa tsini.  
Ni nga dalela Ginger tshifhinga tshińwe na tshińwe musi ni tshi funa.”

Kwa xelq!

a ralo Bella. „Ndi fulfheila ur kumangge a ko ngo dovha kwonokwo kumangge kwe ndi bva vhubvo. „Yowee, nandil!“ Fhedzi musi vha tshi dzhena kamarani ya u dzula,

Kwawee, „Dzhenanil“ a ralo Bella.

Gina u tea u vha o vha a tshi khou ja mbili nga kumangge kumangge urku vhe kwawee, fhedzi o vha a tshi zwi dzhiva ur Belia a tshenwa. O vha a tshi todka u dzhia kwonokwo



“Mom, Dad, look! We found a kitten in the garden!” shouted Neo as they ran into the lounge.  
“We think it’s lost, but it must belong to someone because it has a blue collar around its neck,” said Neo.  
“Maa, Baba, kha vha vhone! Ro wana kumangge ngadenil!“ hu huweleia Neo a tshi khou gidimela kamgarani ya u dzula.

Then they heard another sound coming from the bushes. Meow, meow, meow! A tiny ginger kitten crawled out from under a bush. Bella rushed over and picked it up very carefully. “Look at its cute furry face,” she said, showing Neo.

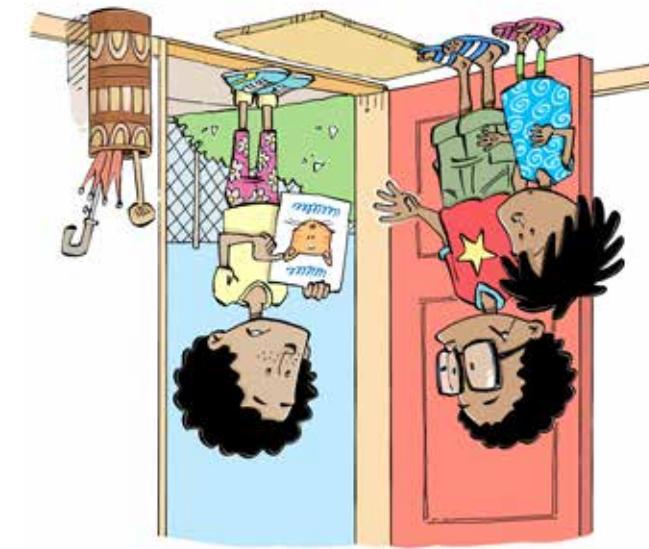
“And it has a pretty blue collar around its neck,” said Neo.

Noodle wanted to see too, but his barking scared the kitten, so Neo and Bella took it inside.



Nga murahu ha zwenezwo vha pfa tshoko-tshoko zwitakani. Miauu, miauu, miauu! Kumange kwa muvhala wa dzhinzha kwa kokovha ku tshi bva tshitakani. Bella a mbo di ku gidimela, a ku takula nga vhuronwane. “Edzanu vhona tshifha tuwo tshakwo tsho nakaho tshi re na mamvele,” a ralo a tshi khou ku sumbedza Neo.

“Tshi na kholara yo nakaho ya lutombo mukuloni,” a ralo Neo. Na Noodle yo vha i tshi todka u vhona, fhedzi u huvha hayo ho tshuwisa kwonokwo kumange, ndi izwi-ha Neo na Bella vha tshi dzhena nakwo nduni.



Isn’t lost again!“ nowhere to be seen. “Oh no!“ said Bella. “I hope the kitten was But when they walked into the lounge, the kitten was worried about her kitten. “Come in,“ said Bella. Bella’s heart skipped a beat. She really wanted to keep the kitten, but she knew that Gina must have been very worried about her kitten. “Come in,“ said Bella.

Neo, Bella and Gina looked all over the lounge, but they couldn’t find the kitten anywhere. Gina looked very sad.

Then they heard Noodle in the kitchen. Woof, woof! This was followed by a loud CRASH!

The children hurried to the kitchen. There sat the kitten. It had knocked over its water bowl when Noodle barked and was now very wet. Bella scooped it up and quickly dried it. Then she handed the kitten to Gina.

Purr, purr, purr.

The kitten was very happy!



Neo, Bella na Gina vha lavhelesa hothe kamarani ya u dzula, fhedzi vha si ku wane. Gina a tungufhala zwi hulu.

Ndi izwi-ha vha tshi pfa Noodle i tshi khou huvha khishini. Huuu, huuu! Nga murahu ha pfala BOLONGONDO!

Vhenevho vhana vha gidimela khishini. Vha wana kumange kwo dzula. Kwo gekha tshigodelo tshakwo tsha mađi musi Noodle i tshi huvha, nahone zwino ko vha ko tou nu nga mađi. Bella a ku takula, a ku phumula nga u tāvhanya. Nga murahu a ku nea Gina. Purr, purr, purr. Kumange kwo vha ko takala zwi hulu!

# Mafhungo a Nal'ibali

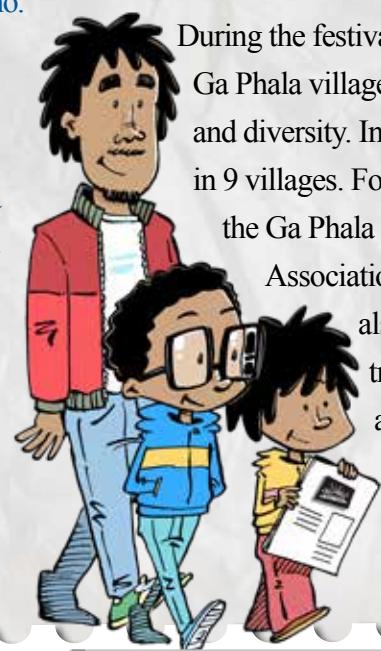


# Nal'ibali News

## U PEMBELELA ZWIȚEZA ZWA NDEME (CELEBRATING MILESTONES)

Mushumo wa U Nwala wa Lebalelo wo thomiwa nga Shundunthule 2023. Nga tshifhinga tsha mushumo we wa itwa na vhabebi, ro lavhelesa ndila ine ra nga sikela ngayo vhana zwibuli two engedzeaho zwa pfunzo na u guda zwi takadzaho na zwine zwa ita uri vha shele mulenzhe. Ro dzhia tsheo ya uri ri do ita vhutambo ha vhana nga Khubvumedzi 2023, samusi u Nwedzi wa Vhukoni ha u Vhala na u Nwala na wa Vhufa. Vhutambo hashu ho vha vhu tshi do katela mitambo, madzulo a u anetshelana zwitiori, mitshino na minwe mitambo ine ya do takadza na u seisa vhana vhutuku vho daho.

Nga tshifhinga tsha vhutambo he ha farelwa ngei Kwata Primary School muđanani wa Ga-Phala, ro livhisa thogomelo kha u tutuwedza ndivho ya mvelele na ndila ye vhatu vha fhambana ngayo. Ho vha ho da vhagudisa vha 160 vha bvaho zwikoloni zwa 12 miđanani ya ṭahe. Vhatu vhahulwane vha linganaho 49, u katela na vhadededzi, mirado ya Vhurangaphanda ha Mvelele ha Ga-Phala, vha Dzangano ja Lebalelo ja u Shumisa Mađi na Vhashumi vha Laiburari vha Masipala wa Fetakgomo na vhone vho shela mulenzhe kha u sumbedza mvelele na masialala a sa fani u itela uri vhana vha gude na u dzhiela ntha ndila ye Afurika Tshipembe ja pfuma ngayo siani ja mvelele. Nga mishumo i ngaho muzika na mitshino, vhana vho sumbedza na u ṭahulela vhukoni havho ha vhusiki na ha u humbula.



The Lebalelo Writing Project was launched in May 2023. During a workshop with parents, we looked at how we could create more educational and learning opportunities for children that were fun and engaging. We decided that we would have a children's festival in September 2023, as it is both Literacy and Heritage Month. Our festival would include interactive games, storytelling sessions, dance and other activities that would bring joy and laughter to the young attendees.

During the festival, which was held at Kwata Primary School in Ga Phala village, we focused on promoting cultural awareness and diversity. In attendance were 160 students from 12 schools in 9 villages. Forty-nine adults, including teachers, members of the Ga Phala Traditional Authority, the Lebalelo Water User Association, and the Fetakgomo Municipality Librarians also joined us to showcase different cultures and traditions so that the children could learn about and appreciate South Africa's cultural richness. Through activities like music and dance performances, the children expressed and developed their artistic and imaginative abilities.

Inwe ya mvelelo dza ndugiselelo dzashu dza vhutambo ndi u bveledza ha bugu yo nwalelwaho vhana yo nwalelwaho nga vhana na vhabebi vhavho. Ro ramba zwikolo zwapo uri zwi khethe vhana vhane vha do gudisa u nwala zwitiori na u ola nga vhatuwedzi vhashu vha zwitiori vha Nal'ibali na muñwali, Realance Mashigo.

Nga Fulwana 2023, zwitiori zwe zwa nwala vha tshikolo na vhabebi vhavho khathihna zwithu zwe vha zwi ola, two rumelwa uri zwi gandiswe kha bugu i re na tshiþoho tshire tsha ri "Ke Leeto story collection", ye tha thomiwa nga ja 30 Khubvumedzi 2023 tshifhingani tsha Vhutambo ha Vhana ha Lebalelo.



One of the outcomes of our festival preparations was the development of a book written for children by children and their parents. We invited local schools to select children who would be trained in story writing and drawing by our Nal'ibali story sparkers and Realance Mashigo, an author.

In July 2023, the stories written by the school children and their parents as well as some children's drawings were submitted for publishing as a book titled "Ke Leeto story collection", which was launched on 30 September 2023 during the Lebalelo Children's Festival.



Vhutambo vhu nga ita uri vhana vha vhe na fhethu ho tsireledzeaho, hune vha nga ambedzana hone na thangana dzavho dza murole dzine dza bva kha zwiñe zwikolo, vha wana khonani ntswa na u ṭahulela vhutsila ha u tshilisana na vhañe vhatu.

Festivals can provide a safe and social environment for children to interact with their peers from different schools, make new friends and develop social skills.



Vhutambo ha vhana vhu nga tanganya zwitshavha nga u katela mabindu apo, zwikolo na madzangano. Hezwi zwi thusa u fhaña maya wa tshumisano na u dikhoda.

Children's festivals can bring communities together by involving local businesses, schools, and organisations. This helps build a sense of community and pride.

Vhana vho da na vhadededzi vhavho.

The children are accompanied by their teachers.





# Tshithu tshine Vho-Matsane vha tshi funesa



Nga Siphiliselwe Makhanya ■ Zwifanyiso nga Magriet Brink na Leo Daly

Duma o vha a tshi funesa bola. Musi a sa khou tamba bola kana u i ṭalela kha TV, o vha a tshi gera zwifanyiso zwa vhatambi vhothe kha magazini wa kale wa khotsi awe, a zwi nambatedza nthā ha mmbete wawe. Nga maduvha ane mvula ya vha i tshi khou na, Duma na khonani yawe Simphiwe vho vha vha tshi ita vhatambi vhatuku vha bola nga mabammbiri nahone vha tamba navho mitambo minzhi ya bola.

Muthu muthihi fhedzi we a vha a tshi funesa bola u fhira Duma ndi khotsi awe, Vho-Matsane. Vho-Matsane vho vha vha tshi funesa bola lwe vha ira murwa wavho dzina li fanaho na ja mutambi ane vha mu funesa - Duma "Lupenyo" Nyawo. Musi Vho-Matsane vha tshi vhabna Lupenyo a tshi khou tamba kha TV, vho vha vha tshi takuwa. Musi yeneyo ngwena ya bola i tshi khou raha bola yo livha mapalani, vho vha vha tshi anzela u huwelela vha ri, "BASHEEEAYE! NGEZULU! Vha rwe nga lupenyo!" Nga murahu ha zwenezwo vha lindela, vho kotamela kha TV zwa tou nga Lupenyo u do vha pfa nga kha tshikirini tsha ngilasi.

Arali Lupenyo a kundwa u kora bola, Vho-Matsane vho vha vha tshi difarelela ṭohoh, vha gomela, u fana na zwine zwa itwa nga vhatale vhothe vha bola kha TV. Fhedzi musi Lupenyo a kora, Duma na khotsi awe vho vha vha tshi fhululedza nahone vha kuvhatedzana. Vha thamukana nahone vha tshina zwituku, vha fheleledza nga u dzungudza zwanda muyani nga ndila yo khetheaho. Nga murahu ha zwenezwo, vha humela murahu vha hoṭomela sofani, vha sea.



Kamarani yavho ya u dzula, kha khabodo ya ngilasi, khotsi a Duma vho vha vha vhea tshithu tshine vha tshi funesa u fhira zwithe shangoni-bola yo sainiwaho nga Lupenyo nga dzawe. "Ndi mutukana wa hayani hoyu!" Khotsi a Duma vho vha vha tshi vhudza vhatu musi vha tshi vha sumbedza yeneyo bola. "O alutshela heneha murahu ha tshikwara he ha vha hu tshi dzula muta wa hashu. Edzanu vhabna ura zwino o no vha ngwena yavhuđi lungafhani!"

Simphiwe na ene o vha a tshi funesa bola u fana na Duma na khotsi awe. Liñwe ḋuvha vhenevho vhatukana vhavhili vha re dzikhonani, vho vha vha tshi khou tamba bola nga murahu ha ndu ya ha Simphiwe. Dzharata ya hone yo vha i tshi guma tsini na mulambo.

"Muthaseli wa khwine ndi nnyi - ndi Maake kana Zondi?" hu vhudzisa Duma.

"Khotsi anga vha ri Maake ndi muthaseli wa khwine," u ralo Simphiwe. "A nga raha nga mulenzhe wa tsha monde kana wa tsha u ja. Zondi u anzela u rala nga mulenzhe muthihi."

"Fhedzi Zondi a nga raha e kule vhukuma," a ralo Duma.

"Zwi nga vha hani arali ra ita mutatisano, inwi na ḋita Zondi, nne nda ḋita Maake?" hu themendela Simphiwe.

"Zwo luga!" Duma a tenda.

Vhenevho vhatukana vho vha vha tshi khou raha bola yo itwaho nga vumba, gurannha na mapulasitiki. Simphiwe a lingedza u raha bola nga mulenzhe wa tsha monde uri i pfuke nga vhukati ha matombo e vha a shumisa sa mapala. "Hezwi zwi a konda-wee," a ralo. "Heyi bola a i khou ita zwine nda khou ṭoda! Ndi ngani zwi tshi konda nga u rali?"

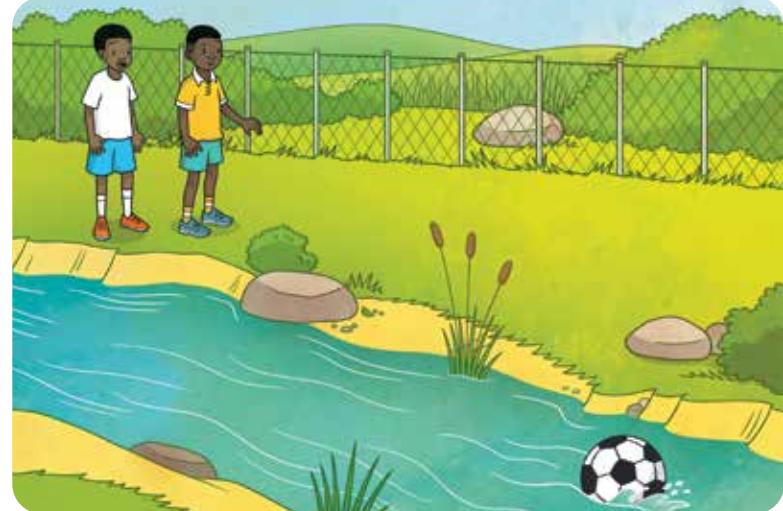
"Ndi vhabna u nga ndi bola," a ralo Duma. "Khotsi anga vho mmbudza uri myua u re kha bola u nga ita uri mutambo u takadze kana u sa takadze."

"Fhedzi a ri na bola i re na myua ngomu," a ralo Simphiwe. "Khamusi ri do tea u lindela u swikela ri tshi vha na bola yo teaho uri ri kone u ita mutatisano washu."

Duma o vha a sa tsha ṭoda u ima-ima. A sinalala nahone a humbula lwa tshifhinganyana. Nga khathihi fhedzi, a mbo di nwethuwa nahone a vhabna o takala. "Ndi a ḋivha hune ra nga wana hone bola!" a ralo. "Nndindeleni heneha, ndi khou vhabna zwenezwino."

Duma a mbo di ḋavhanya a vhabna, o vha o fara tshithu tshine khotsi awe vha tshi funesa - bola yo sainiwaho nga Lupenyo. Zwino mutambo wa vho thoma u takadza vhukuma. Duma a ḋita Zondi, a drivhula a pfuka vhatambi vhothe. E! Zondi a vhabna tshibuli tsha u kora. Duma a raha shotho khulwane. Ya ya yo livha mapalani nahone ya bammbela kha matombo. Ya mbo di ḋufufha, asiila, ya wela mulamboni phasi ha dzharata.

"YOWEE, NANDI!" ndi Duma ane a khou gomela musi o lavhelesa bola. O vha o tshuwa lwe a vha a sa koni na u tsukunya. Simphiwe a mbo di giimedza bola, fhedzi ya kunguluwa nga luhvilo luhulwane. KUMBVU! Bola ya wela mulamboni. Duma a giidima a livha kha khonani yawe. Vhuvhili havho vha lavhelesa musi yeneyo bola i tshi khou ṭana u ṭukufala musi i tshi khou kumbiwa nga lutsinga lwa madi.



Vhabebi vha vhenevho vhatukana vha thoma u vhilaela nge vha sa vhabne hayani eneo masiari. Vhahura vhothe vha thusa u ṭoda na Duma na Simphiwe lwa awara nnzhi-nnzhi, fhedzi vhenevho vhatukana vhe ndi bva vhubvo.

Musi ḋuvha li tshi vho kovhela, Vho-Matsane vha rwela lutingo mapholisa. Vha ḋa na mmbwa khulwane ine ya pfi Jopie u thusa u ṭoda Duma na Simphiwe. FEMBE, FEMBE, FEMBE, ndi Jopie, i tshi khou fembedza zwiambaro zwa vhenevho vhatukana, FEMBE, FEMBE, FEMBE. Musi yo no fhedza u fembedza munukho wa vhenevho vhatukana, ya dzungudza mutshila, ya ṭuwa nga u giidima, vhatu vhothe vhahulwane vha i sala murahu. Vho i sala murahu vha tshi khou giidima u swika phasi ha buroho, phasinyana mulamboni. Duma na Simphiwe vho vha vho ḋidzulela heneha. Vho vha vho guguvhala, vha tshi khou tetemela, vho ḫaramudza zwikipa vha fukedza milenzhe uri vha dudel. Tshedza tsha thotshi dza mapholisa tsha vhabnetshela zwifhatuwo zwavho zwo khakhathelaho miđodzi.

"Vha mpfarele, Baba," a ralo Duma musi vho no swika hayani. "Ndo vha ndi songo ḋiimisela u xedza tshithu tshavho tshine vha tshi funesa, tsha ndeme vhukuma. Ri do tshi vhuyedzedza." A thoma u vusa tshililo hafhu nahone a lila lu ṭungufhadzaho.

Vho-Matsane vha moṇa Duma muṭanani nahone vha nwethuwa. "Ni khou amba nga ha mini mathina?" vha vhudzisa. "Hejla bola ya kale yo vha i yavhuđi, fhedzi yo vha i si tshithu tsha ndeme vhukuma vhutshiloni hanga." Nga murahu ha zwenezwo, Vho-Matsane vha kotama, vha kuvhatedza Duma. "Duma, ni tshithu tsha ndeme vhukuma vhutshiloni hanga!" vha ralo. Zwenezwi zwa ita uri Duma a ṭode u tshinanyana.

## Itani uri tshitorī tshi nyanyule!

**Paw** Hu na mutambo une na u funesa? Hu na mutambi ane na mu funesa kha wonoyo mutambo?

**Paw** Hu na tshithu tshine na tshi funesa? Ndi mini zwine zwa ita uri tshi vhe tsha ndeme?

**Paw** Olani zwifanyiso zwa zwithu zwine na zwi funesa. Hu nga kha di vha zwiambaro zwine na zwi funesa, zwiliwa, tshipuka kana muthu.





# Mr Matsane's favourite thing

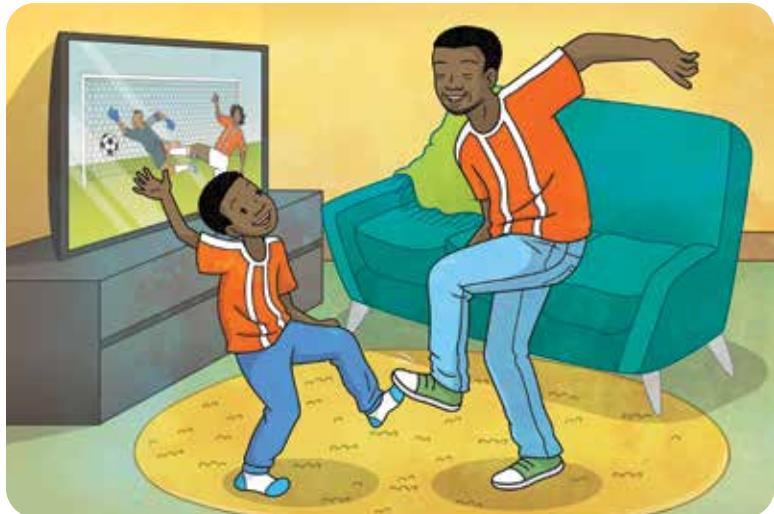
By Siphiliselwe Makhanya Illustrations by Magriet Brink and Leo Daly

Story corner

Duma was crazy about soccer. When he wasn't playing soccer or watching it on TV, he cut out pictures of all the players from his dad's old soccer magazines and stuck them above his bed. On rainy days, Duma and his friend Simphiwe made tiny soccer players out of paper and played many soccer games with them.

The only person who loved soccer more than Duma was his dad, Mr Matsane. Mr Matsane loved soccer so much that he gave his son the same name as his favourite player – Duma "Lightning" Nyawo. Whenever Mr Matsane saw Lightning playing on TV, he stood up. As the soccer star dribbled the ball towards the goal posts, he always shouted, "BASHAAAAYE! NGEZULU! Strike them with lightning!" Then he waited, leaning towards the TV as though Lightning had heard him through the glass screen.

If Lightning missed the goal posts, Mr Matsane held his head and groaned, just like all the soccer fans on the TV did. But when Lightning scored, Duma and his dad cheered and grabbed each other. They jumped up and did a little dance, ending with a special wave. Then they flopped back onto the sofa, laughing.



In their lounge, in a cupboard with glass doors, Duma's dad kept his favourite thing in the whole world – a soccer ball signed by Lightning himself. "That's my homeboy!" Duma's dad liked to tell his friends when he showed them the ball. "He grew up just over the hill from where my family lived. Look what a star he is now!"

Simphiwe was just as soccer mad as Duma and his dad. One day, the two friends were playing soccer in the backyard of Simphiwe's house. The yard ended near the river.

"Who is a better striker – Maake or Zondi?" asked Duma.

"My father says Maake is the best striker," said Simphiwe. "He can kick with the left foot or the right foot. Zondi always kicks with the same foot."

"But Zondi can kick from very far away," said Duma.

"How about you pretend that you're Zondi and I'll pretend that I'm Maake, and we can have a contest?" suggested Simphiwe.

"Okay!" agreed Duma.

The boys were using a soccer ball made of mud, newspaper and lots of plastic shopping packets. Simphiwe tried using his left foot to kick the ball between the rocks they used as goal posts. "This is hard," he said. "This ball won't do what I want it to do! Why is it so difficult?"

"I think it's the ball," said Duma. "My dad says the air in the ball can make the game good or bad."

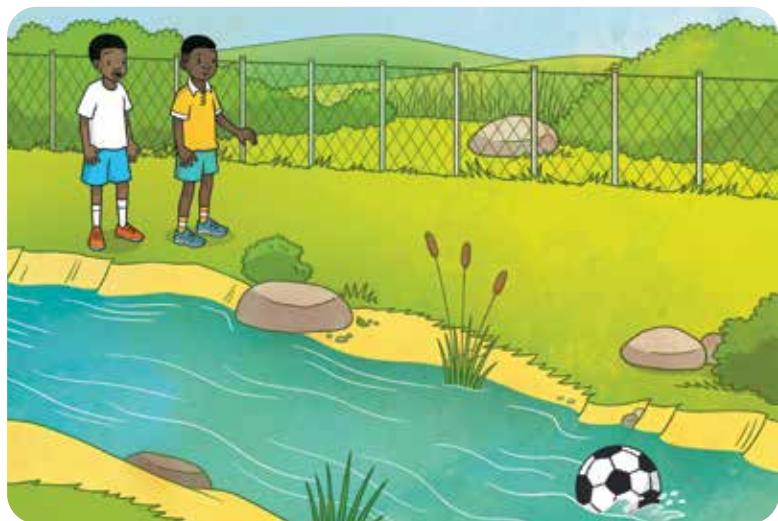
"But we don't have a ball with air inside it," said Simphiwe. "Maybe we have to wait until we get a proper ball to have this contest."

Duma didn't want to wait. He frowned and thought for a little while. Suddenly, he smiled and looked excited. "I know where we can get a ball!" he said. "Wait here, I won't be long."

Soon Duma came back, carrying his dad's favourite thing – the soccer ball that Lightning had signed. Now the game was very exciting. Duma pretended he was Zondi, dribbling the ball past all the other players. Yes! Zondi could see his chance to score. Duma kicked the ball as hard as he could. It shot towards the goal posts and bounced off one of the rocks. Then it flew away, spinning straight towards the river at the bottom of the yard.

"OH NO!" groaned Duma as he watched the ball. He was so scared that he couldn't move. Simphiwe rushed after the ball, but it rolled too fast. *SPLASH!* The ball landed in the river. Duma ran to his friend. Together they watched the ball growing smaller and smaller as the rushing water carried it further and further away.

When the boys didn't come home that afternoon, their parents started to worry. All the neighbours helped search for Duma and Simphiwe for hours and hours, but the boys were nowhere to be found.



At last, as the sun was setting, Mr Matsane called the police. They brought a big dog named Jopie to help them find Duma and Simphiwe. *SNIFF, SNIFF, SNIFF,* went Jopie, smelling the boys' clothes, *SNIFF, SNIFF, SNIFF.* As soon as she caught the boys' scent, she wagged her big tail and raced off, and all the adults ran along behind her. The chase led them to a place under the bridge further down the river. There sat Duma and Simphiwe. They were huddled together, shivering, with their T-shirts pulled over their knees to keep warm. The light from the policemen's torches shone on their tear-streaked faces.

"I'm sorry, Dad," said Duma once they were safely home. "I didn't mean to lose your favourite, most important thing. We were going to put it back." He started to cry all over again and he cried harder and harder.

Mr Matsane rubbed Duma's back and smiled. "What are you talking about?" he asked. "That old soccer ball was nice, but it was never the *most* important thing in my life." Then Mr Matsane leaned down and gave Duma a big hug. "Duma, you are the *most* important thing in my life!" he said. And this made Duma want to do a little dance.

## Get story active!

Do you have a favourite sport? Do you have a favourite player in that sport?

- Do you have a favourite thing? What makes it special?
- Draw pictures of your favourite things. It can be your favourite clothes, food, animal or person.

# Zwi takadzaho nga ha Nal'ibali

## Nal'ibali fun

1.

### Itani betsho

1. Gerani betsho kha mutalo **mutswuku** u re na zwithoma.
2. Khalarani tshifanyiso.
3. Gerani tshitengeledzi tshire tsha lingana na yeneyo betsho kha khadibogisi lisekene, **lī** ngaho bogisi **la cereal**.
4. Shumisani guuu u nambatedza betsho kha **lenele** khabidogisi.
5. Shumisani tshinambatedzi kana theipi ya u nambatedza, ni peretedze nga tshiperete nga murahu ha betsho. Kana ni ite buli **ntha** ni lunzedze ulu kana thambo uri ni kone u i kungela.
6. Diphineni musi no kungela betsho yanu musi ni tshi khou vhalala na u thetshelesa zwitiori nga Duvha **la Liphasi** **la u Vhalela Ntha**.

### Make a badge

1. Cut along the **red** dotted line to cut out the badge.
2. Colour in the picture.
3. Cut a circle the same size as the badge from some thin cardboard, for example, a cereal box.
4. Use glue to paste the badge onto the cardboard.
5. Use sticky tape or masking tape to attach a safety pin to the back of the badge. Or make a hole at the top and thread some wool or string through it so that you can hang it around your neck.
6. Enjoy wearing your badge as you read and listen to stories on World Read Aloud Day.



2.

**Todani maledere uri ni wane maipfi  
mañanu a bvaño kha Kumange kwo  
xelaho are a talusa kumange.**



NZHADZHI

AXEL

KOVHAKO

HONAKO

LEMVEMA

Unscramble the letters to find five words from *The lost kitten* that describe the kitten.

NGIREG

TSOL

YTNI

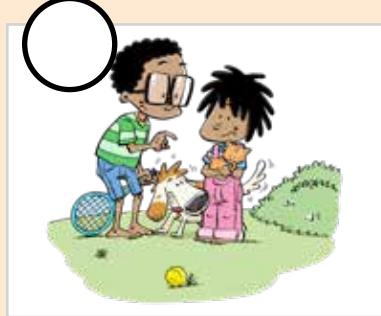
ECTU

RYUFR



3.

Lavhelesani hezwi zwifanyiso zwi bvaho kha Kumange kwo xelaho. Nwalani nomboro yazwo uri zwi kone u tshimbizana nga ndila ye zwithu zwa itea ngayo kha tshitiori. Shumisani zwenezwo zwifanyiso ni dovhe ni anetshele tshitiori.



Look at these pictures from *The lost kitten*. Number them so that they match the order in which things happened in the story. Now use the pictures and retell the story.



Answers: 2. ginger, lost, tiny, cute, fury; 3. 2, 1, 4, 3.

Dziphindulo: 2. dzhinzha, xela, kokovha, nakacho, mawvelo; 3. 2, 1, 4, 3.

Nal'ibali yo itelwa u ni tūtuwedza na u ni tikedza. **Ri kwameni** nga iñwe ya dzenedzi ndila:

Nal'ibali is here to motivate and support you. Contact us in any of these ways:



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