

NAL'IBALI

Indlela yekukhutsata bafundzi labamadvolomatima kufundza

How to encourage reluctant readers

Labanye bantwana bayakwazi kuhlala phansi bathule sikhatsi lesidze balalele indzaba ngaphambi kwekutsi balale, kantsi labanye bayehluleka kuhlala bathule. Labanye bantwana batsatsa tincwadzi ngekushesha, kantsi labanye badzinga kukhutsatwa ngalokwengetiwe. Loku kuyintfo levamile ngalokuphelele. Umntwana ngamunye wehlukile, futsi loko labakujabulelako kushintja kakhulu njengoba bakhula.

Some children are able to sit still for a long bedtime story, while others get restless. Some children take to books immediately, and others need more encouragement. This is entirely normal. Each child is different, and what they enjoy changes vastly as they grow older.

Kungani bangafuni kufundza?

Banfu ngalesinye sikhatsi bacabanga kutsi umntfu "lomadvolomatima kufundza" ngaso sonkhe sikhatsi ngumntfu "longakhoni kufundza" – loko yintfo lengekho khashane neliciniso.

- ☉ Banfu labamadvolomatima kufundza ngalokuvamile bantwana labahlakaniphile labangakake bachumana netincwadzi.
- ☉ Kungenteka abakakhuleli esikweni lelifundzako.
- ☉ Mhlawumbe abakake baba netinfo tekufundza letisho lokutsi kubo.
- ☉ Noma betingekho tindzaba letikhona ngelulwimi labalumunya.

Why don't they want to read?

People sometimes think that a "reluctant reader" is always a "less able reader" – which can't be further from the truth.

- ☉ Reluctant readers are often bright children who have never connected with books.
- ☉ Maybe they haven't grown up in a reading culture.
- ☉ Perhaps they never had reading materials that were meaningful to them.
- ☉ Or there were no stories available in their mother tongue.

Ungabenta njani kutsi bakujabulele kufundza?

1. Naka kakhulu loko labakhona kukwenta kahle, hhayi lokubehlulako

Labanye bantwana bakutfo kumatima kufundza, ngako mancane ematfuba ekutsi bakhetse kufundza ngenjongo yekutijabulisa. Intfo lencono kakhulu kwetama kubuyisa kujabulela kufundza. Tfole indzaba noma lihlaya labalitsanzako noma ubakhele indzaba! Ungabaphoceli bantwana bakho kutsi bafundze tincwadzi labangafuni kutifundza. Kufundza kufanele kujabulise, kwente banfu bakhuleleke futsi kube mnandzi kubantwana!

2. Kuvuleleka etindzaweni letinyenti

Vakashela umtapo wetincwadzi noma sitolo setincwadzi futsi uvumele bantwana bakho kutsi bakhetse tincwadzi labafuna kutifundza. Kufundza lokutsi kuncono kunekungafundzi nje sanhlobo, ngako ungakhatsateki nangabe tincwadzi letikhetfwa bantwana bakho tibonakala tilula kakhulu kubo, noma tikhuluma ngetinfo locabanga kutsi atikabaluleki.

3. Kusebentise kubo lokufundzile

Bhalala bantwana bakho. Bashiyele lokubhaliwe lokuncane, tinkhondlo noma tindzaba letimfishane esikhafuthinini sabo sekudla kwasemini noma esikhwameni sesikolwa. Nasewucale kwenta kufundza netindzaba kube ngumsebenzi wasekhaya, bantwana batavucala kuba nebudlelwane lobuhle nekufundza.

Cala kusenesikhatsi

Ngisho noma basengakakwazi kufundza, kunetindlela longacalisa ngato kukhulisa lutsandvo letindzaba kubantwana labanemnyaka kuya kulabanemnyaka lesihlanu budzala. Bafundzele indzaba, futsi esikhundleni sekutsi uyifundze nje kuphela, yilingise lendzaba futsi ukhulume nabo ngebalingiswa! Ngalendlela, umntwana wakho, angakujabulela kuhlala tindzaba, futsi loko kungafutukisa kokubili imibono yakhe kanye nelikhona lakhe lekucabanga.

How can you get them excited about reading?

1. Focus on their strengths, not their weakness

Some children find reading challenging, so it's less likely that they will choose to read for pleasure. The best thing is to try to bring back the enjoyment of reading. Find a story or comic that they like or make up a story for them! Do not force your children to read books that they don't want to read. Reading should be an interesting, relaxing and fun activity for children!

2. Bigger exposure

Visit the library or bookshops and let your children choose books that they want to read. Reading something is better than not reading at all, so don't worry if the books your children choose seem to be too easy for them, or deal with subjects that you think are not important.

3. Make it personal

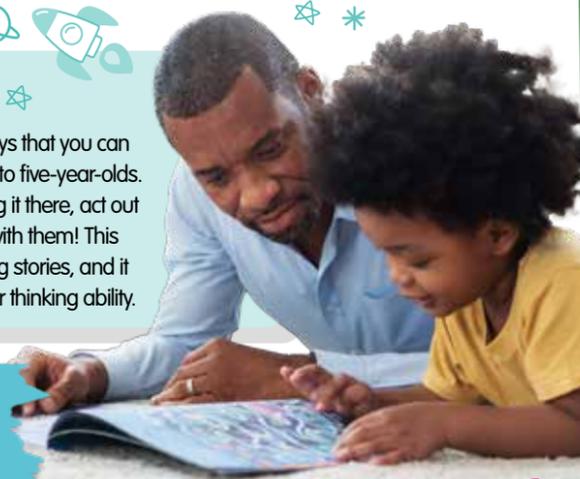
Write to your children. Leave them little notes, poems or short stories in their lunch box or schoolbag. Once you start making reading and stories a personal activity at home, children will start developing a positive relationship with reading.

Start early

Even before they can read, there are ways that you can start developing a love of stories in one- to five-year-olds. Read them a story, and instead of ending it there, act out the story and talk about the characters with them! This way, your children can have fun exploring stories, and it develops both their imagination and their thinking ability.

Buka likhasi 4 kuze utfole lokunconywako lokungenta umndeni uchubeke ufundza njalo!

See page 4 for some ideas to get your family reading regularly!



IT STARTS WITH
A STORY.

KUCALA
NGENDZABA.



Kuhlanyela Likhono Lekufundza Nekubhala!

Imisebenti yekusungula lokutsite isita ekukhuliseni emandla ekucabanga kubantwana!

Literacy Seeds!

Creative activities help grow children's thinking power!



Sanibonani batali nebanakekeli bebantwana labancane, lucwaningo lwakamuva lukhombise kutsi kudweba, kupenda, kwenta emamodeli naleminywe imisebenti yekusungula lokutsite kungasita bantwana bakhulise emakhono ekucatulula tinkinga. Nawenta buciko nemisebenti yetandla, bantwana kudzingeka bacabange ngekusungula lokutsite, bacabange ngetindlela letehlukahlukene tekucatulula tinkinga, futsi bente tiincumo ngalokusekelwe kuloko labakubonako nalabakucondzako endzaweni yabo.

Bantwana badzinga kukhulisa emakhono labalulekile ekucabanga kuze basebente futsi bacondze yonkhe imininingwane labahlangana nayo ekuphileni kwamalanga onkhe. Kufanele basebentise imiva yabo leyehlukehlukehle kuze bacondze futsi basho kutsi itsini yonkhe lemininingwane.

Dear parents and caregivers of young children, recent studies have shown that drawing, painting, making models and other creative activities can help children to develop problem-solving skills. When doing art and crafts, children need to think creatively, think about different ways of solving problems, and make decisions based on what they see and understand in their environment.

Children need to develop critical thinking skills to work through and understand all the information that they come across every day. They have to use their different senses to understand and interpret all this information.

Kudweba, kupenda nekwakha tintfo ngelubumba kusita bantwana kutsi bakhulise emakhono abo:

- 1. Emakhono ekuhambisa imisipha lemincane eminweni.** Kusebentisa emakhrayoni, emabhulashi ekupenda nelubumba lekubumba kusita bantwana batfufukise imisipha yabo. Loku kutabasita ngekubhala, kusebentisa emathulusi ngendlela lefanele naleminywe imisebenti lapho kudzingeka basebentise khona kunyakata lokuncane lokulawulwako.
- 2. Kufundza kucabanga, kucondza nekucatulula tinkinga.** Buciko bungasita bantwana babone futsi bakope emasheyiphu nemaphethini. Baphindze bafundze kutsi sikhatsi ngasinye sento lesitsite siba nemphumela lotsite, sibonelo, kuhlanganisa pendi lobovu nalomtfubi kukhipha pendi lowolentji. Bafundza kuhlela kutsi batayisebentisa kanjani imitfombo yabo (pendi, lubumba, liphepha, emakhrayoni) kuze bente umsebenti wabo webuciko, nekusho loko labakubonako endzaweni yabo nabadweba bantfu, tiwane naletinye tintfo.
- 3. Emakhono etibalo.** Bantwana bangafundza, bente futsi bacale kucondza imicondvo lefana nebukhulu nesheyiphu. Bangafundza ngekubala, ngekucatsanisa tintfo letehlukene, nekutsi tintfo tibonakala titinkhulu noma titincane kuye ngekutsi tidvutane noma tikhashane kangakanani.
- 4. Emakhono eluwimi.** Njengoba bantwana balalela lokukhulumako nemibuto futsi bakhuluma ngemsebenti wabo webuciko nekutsi bawente kanjani, batfufukisa emakhono abo eluwimi futsi bandzisa lwati lwabo lwemagama.



Drawing, painting and clay modelling helps children develop these skills:

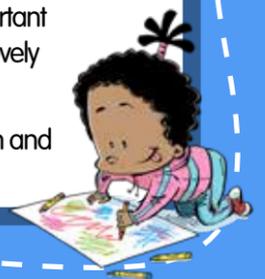
- 1. Fine motor skills.** Using crayons, paint brushes and moulding clay helps children develop their fine motor muscles. This will help them with writing, using tools correctly and other tasks where they need to use small, controlled movements.
- 2. Cognitive development.** Art can help children see and copy shapes and patterns. They also learn that a particular action has a particular outcome each time, for example, mixing red and yellow paint makes orange paint. They learn to plan how they will use their resources (paint, clay, paper, crayons) to make their artwork, and to interpret what they see in their environment when they draw people, animals and other objects.
- 3. Math skills.** Children can learn, create and begin to understand concepts like size and shape. They learn about counting, about comparing different things, and that things appear bigger or smaller depending on how near or far they are.
- 4. Language skills.** As children listen to your comments and questions and talk about their artwork and how they made it, they develop language skills and increase their vocabulary.

Singakhutsata bantwana lesibanakekelako kutsi bachubeke badweba, bapenda futsi benta imisebenti yetandla.

- * Babute imibuto lecondzile ngemisebenti yabo yebuciko njengalotsi "Yini loyidwebile (noma loyipendile noma loyentile)?" noma "Kubangelwe yini kutsi ukhetse kwenta loko?"
- * Balalelisise njengoba bakhuluma ngaloko labakwakhile. Loku kutakusita ucondze kutsi yini lebalulekile nalenengcondvo kubantwana bakho. Kuphindze kube lifuba lelikahle lekutsi uchumane nabo.
- * Beka umsebenti wabo ebaleni lapho ungabonakala khona kalula futsi kungeke kube khona lokuwungolisako noma lokuwephula melula.

We can encourage children in our care to continue drawing, painting and doing crafts.

- * Ask specific questions about their artwork like, "What did you draw (or paint or make)?" or "Why did you choose to make that?"
- * Listen carefully as they talk about what they have created. This will help you to understand what is important and meaningful to your children. It is also a lovely opportunity to connect with them.
- * Display their work where it can easily be seen and won't get dirty or broken easily.





Imisebenti lemelula yebantwana labancane yekwakha lokutsite



Easy art activities for young children

1. Kupenda ngelifumbu lekunatsa Sebentisa lifumbu lekunatsa kuze umunye pendi bese uwufutsela ephepheni noma ubeke licashata lapendi kuleliphapha bese ulifutsa ngalelifumbu kuze wente lopendi usakateke yonkhe indzawo.

2. Kudweba ngemuno Yakha pendi loshiphile lodlwako, ngoba bantwana labancane bayatsandza kufaka tintfo emlonjeni yabo!

Pheka fulawa ngemanti esitofini lesishisa ngalokusesilinganisweni. Tamatisa loku lokuhlanganisile ngalokuchubekako kudzimate kube njengentfo yekugcobisa. Kuyekele kuphole bese ukufaka etinkomishini letinyenti kuye ngaloko lokudzingako. Hlanganisa tintfo letenta kudla kube nembala enkomishini ngayinye kuze wakhe bopendi bemibala leyehlukene.

3. Buciko bekwakha sifombe Yakha sifombe usebentisa umbala munye kuphela. Bantwana bakho bangatfola umbala wabo emaphephandzabeni lamadzala nakubomagazini. Babese basika noma bakhipe lamaphisi alombala futsi banamatsisele lawo mapheshana ephepheni lelikhulu.

4. Kubhaceka lizambane noma sipontji lesinapendi ephepheni Sika emazambane abe yihhafu bese usika emaphethini lamelula kuwo noma emasheyiphu etipontjini letindzala. Bantwana abafake lamazambane noma tipontji kuthreyi yapendi bese bawabhaceka ephepheni ngaloluhlangotsi lolunapendi. Bangaphindze babhaceke emacembe. Gcogca emacembe emasheyiphu lehlukahlukene. Labantwana abapende lamacembe eluhlangotsini lunye bese bayawagucula bawabhaceke ephepheni.

5. Emasheyiphu esifombe Sika emasheyiphu lehlukene ephepheni lelimibalabala bese usebentisa lamasheyiphu kuze wakhe tiffombe. Vumela bantwana bakho kutsi bakhe sifombe sabo. Banikete emakhrayoni kuze bakwati kufaka letinye tintfo letisite kumasheyiphu etiffombe tabo.



1. Straw painting Use a drinking straw to pick up some paint, and splatter it onto a page or put a drop of paint onto the page and blow through the straw to make the paint spread out.



2. Finger painting Make cheap, edible paint because young children love putting things in their mouths!

Cook some flour and water over medium heat. Stir the mixture constantly until it turns into a paste. Let it cool, and scoop the paste into as many cups as you need. Mix food colouring into each cup to make paints of different colours.

3. Colour collage Make a colour collage using only one colour. Your children can find their colour in old newspapers and magazines. They then cut or tear out the colour pieces and paste the bits of paper on a sheet of paper.

4. Potato or sponge printing Cut potatoes in half and cut some simple patterns into them or cut shapes from old sponges. Your children can then dip the potatoes or sponges into a tray of paint and print them onto paper.

They can also make leaf prints. Collect leaves of different shapes. The children paint the leaves on one side then turn them over and print them onto paper.

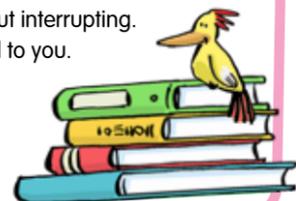
5. Shape picture Cut different shapes out of coloured paper and then use the shapes to create a picture. Allow your children to create a picture on their own. Give them crayons so that they can add details to their shape pictures.

Indlela longasebentisa ngayo tindzaba tetfu ngetindlela letinyenti

- 1. Tjela umntwana wakho lendzaba.** Fundza futsi uphakhize kucoca lendzaba. Ngemuva kwaloko sebentisa livi lakho, buso nemtimba kuze wente lendzaba iphile.
- 2. Fundzela umntwana wakho lendzaba.** Khuluma ngetiffombe. Mbute, "Ucabanga kutsi yini leyentekako ngemuva kwaloku?" noma "Ucabanga kutsi kungani lomlingiswa ashito noma ente loko?"
- 3. Fundza lendzaba ukanye nemntwana wakho.** Shintjanani nifundze lendzaba ndzawonye. Ungawalungisi emaphutsa abo, futsi ubasite kuphela nabacela lusito.
- 4. Lalela umntwana wakho njengoba afundza.** Mlalele ngaphandle kwekumphatamisa. Batjele kutsi uyakujabulela kubalalela bakufundzela ngalokuvakalako.
- 5. Yenta imisebenti yencenye letsi-Yenta indzaba ibe nemlandla!** Kwenta loku kufanele kube mrandzi kuwe nakumntwana wakho.

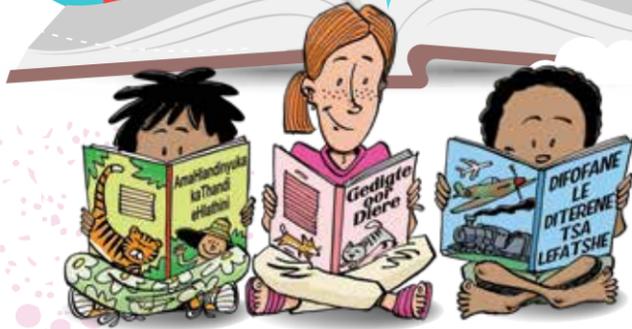
How to use our stories in different ways

- 1. Tell the story to your child.** Read and practise telling the story. Then use your voice, face and body to bring the story to life.
- 2. Read the story to your child.** Talk about the pictures. Ask, "What do you think happens next?" or "Why do you think the character said or did that?"
- 3. Read the story with your child.** Take turns to read the story together. Don't correct their mistakes, and only help if they ask for it.
- 4. Listen to your child read.** Listen without interrupting. Say that you enjoy hearing them read aloud to you.
- 5. Do the Get story active! activities.** This should be fun for you and your child.



INkhwekhweti yiNyanga Yekutfolakala Ufundza!

May is Get-Caught-Reading Month!



NgeNkhwekhweti, sinemalanga langu-31 ekukhumbuta banifu babo bonkhe budzala ngekutsi kujabulisa kangakanani kufundza! Naku lokunye lokunconywako lokungakwenta ungene emoyeni weNyanga Yekutfolakala Ufundza futsi ucale kusakata injabulo yekufundza ekhaya.

In May, we have 31 days to remind people of all ages just how much fun it is to read! Here are some ideas on how you can get into the spirit of **Get-Caught-Reading Month** and start spreading the joy of reading at home.



1. Fundzani ndzawonye tincwadzi temahlaya

Tincwadzi temahlaya tiyindlela lekahle yekwenta ngisho nalabo labamadvolomatima kufundza kutsi bafundze. Tincwadzi temahlaya nemanoveli emifanekiso kumnandzi kuwafundza ngalokuvakalako nindzawonye, ikakhulukati nanishintjiana futsi nisebentisa emavi lehlukene kubalingiswa labehlukene.

2. Yenta luhla lwetincwadzi, bomagazini, tindzaba netihloko lotatfundza

Njengemndeni, yakhani luhla lwaloko ngamunye wenu latawutsandza kukufundza ngeNkhwekhweti. Bese nihlanganisa tonkhe letinfo tekufundza endzaweni yinye ekhaya lenu. Ngaleyo ndlela, lilunga lemndeni ngalinye lingatfola lokutsite lelifuna kukufundza ngekushesha nakalula.

3. Yekela konkhe futsi ufundze

Bekela eceleni sikhatsi onkhe malanga lapho onkhe emalunga emndeni atawuyekela lakwentako, atsatse incwadzi noma indzaba, futsi afundze! Mbandzakanya banfwana bakho labancane ngekutsi ubafundzele ngalokuvakalako kuze bakhule bakutsandza kufundza.

4. Hlanganyela nabo imphumelelo yakho!

Yenta umetamo lokhetsekile wekucaphela nekubungata kufundza ekhaya lakho. Wancome emalunga emndeni wakho – lasemasha nalamadzala – ngekufundza onkhe malanga. Shuthani tiffombe futsi niitfakhe ku-status seWhatsApp. Futsi niitfakate kitsi kunoma nguyiphi inkhundla yekuchumana yakaNal'ibali.

1. Read comic books together

Comic books are a great way to persuade even the most reluctant of readers to read. Comic books and graphic novels are fun to read aloud together, especially when you take turns and use different voices for different characters.

2. Make a list of books, magazines, stories and articles to read

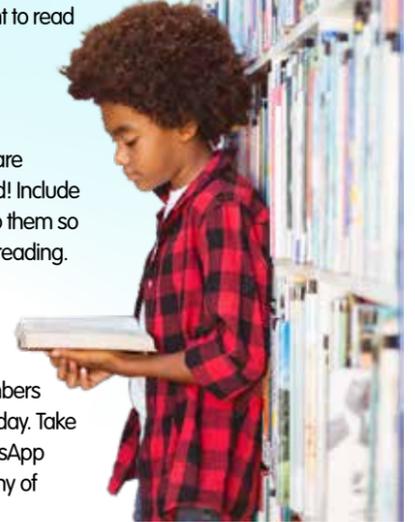
As a family, make a list of what each one would like to read during May. Then gather all the reading material into one place in your home. That way, each family member can find something that they want to read quickly and easily.

3. Drop everything and read

Set aside a time every day when all family members will stop what they are doing, grab a book or story, and read! Include your young ones by reading aloud to them so that they can grow up with a love of reading.

4. Share your success!

Make a special effort to recognise and celebrate reading in your home. Compliment your family members – young and old – on reading every day. Take photos and post them on your WhatsApp status. And share them with us on any of Nal'ibali's social media sites.



Yakha wakho umtapo wetincwadzi.

Yakha tincwadzi **LETIMBILI** leticingwako letisi kiwe takhishwa

1. Khipha emakhasi le- **5** kuya kule- **12** alesengeto.
2. Liphepha lelinemakhasi le- **5**, **6**, **11** kanye nele- **12** kulo lenta yinye incwadzi. Liphepha lelinemakhasi le- **7**, **8**, **9** kanye nele- **10** lenta lenye incwadzi.
3. Sebentisa liphepha ngalinye kwakha incwadzi. Landzela leticondziso letingentasi kwakha incwadzi ngayinye.
 - a) Goba liphepha libe yihhafu ulandzele umugca wemacashati lamnyama.
 - b) Ligobe futsi libe yihhafu ulandzele umugca wemacashati laluhlata.
 - c) Sika ulandzele imigca yemacashati labovu.



Grow your own library.

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.

Muzi has a new idea for building the best thing ever.
Muzi unembono lomusha wekwakha intfo lekahle kakhulu.



At the bus stop, Muzi is amazed.
He sees red things and blue things.
Small things and big things.
New things and old things.
Esteshini sebhasi, Muzi umangele.
Ubona tintfo letibovu naletiluhlata kwesibhakabhaka.
Tintfo letincane naletinkhulu.
Tintfo letinsha naletinzala.



Lots more free books at bookdash.org



Get story active!

- ★ Draw a picture of something that you would like to build out of throwaway things. Under your drawing, write one or two sentences about what you have made and who you would give it to.
- ★ What are some of the things that Muzi used to build a toy house for uGogo?
- ★ Gather old buttons, beads, recyclable materials, clay or play dough and build your own little house.

Yenta indzaba ibe nemdlandla!

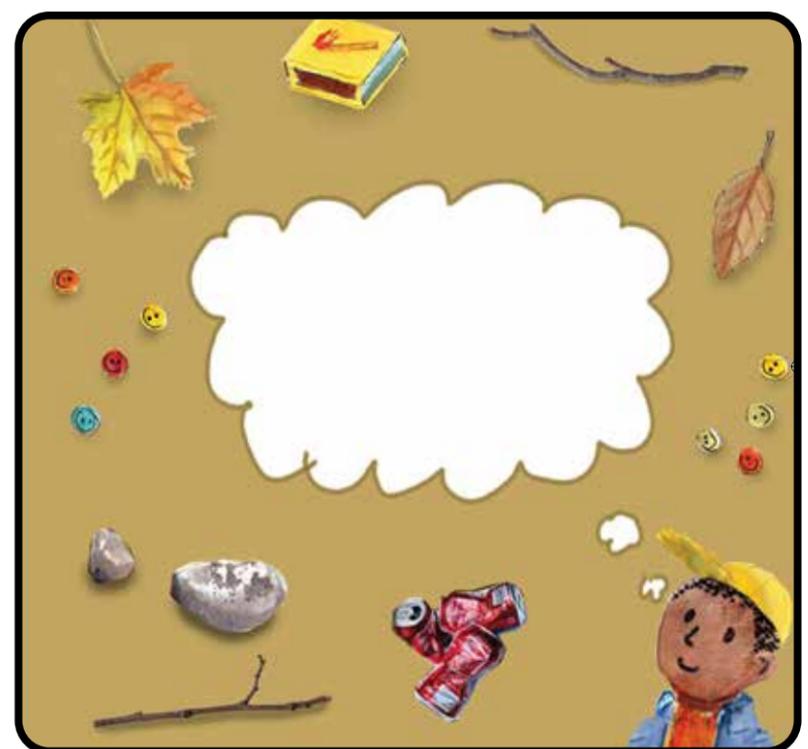
- ★ Dwweba siifombe sentfo letsite longatsandza kuyakha ngetintfo letilahlwako. Ngephansi kwemdwewo wakho, bhala umusho noma lemibili mayelana nalako lokwentile nekutsi utakunika bani.
- ★ Ngutiphi letinye tetintfo Muzi latisebentisa kuze akhe indlu yemathoyisi yaGogo?
- ★ Butsa emakinobho lamadzala, buhlalu, netintfo letilahlawe letingaphindze tisetjentiswe, lubumba noma inhlama yekudlala futsi wakhe indlu yakho lencane.

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



INal'ibali ngumkhankhaso wavelonkhe wekufundzela kutijabulisa kuvusa nekucinisa lisiko lekufundza eNingizimu Afrika yonkhana. Kuffola lolunye lwati, vakashela www.nalibali.org

The best thing ever



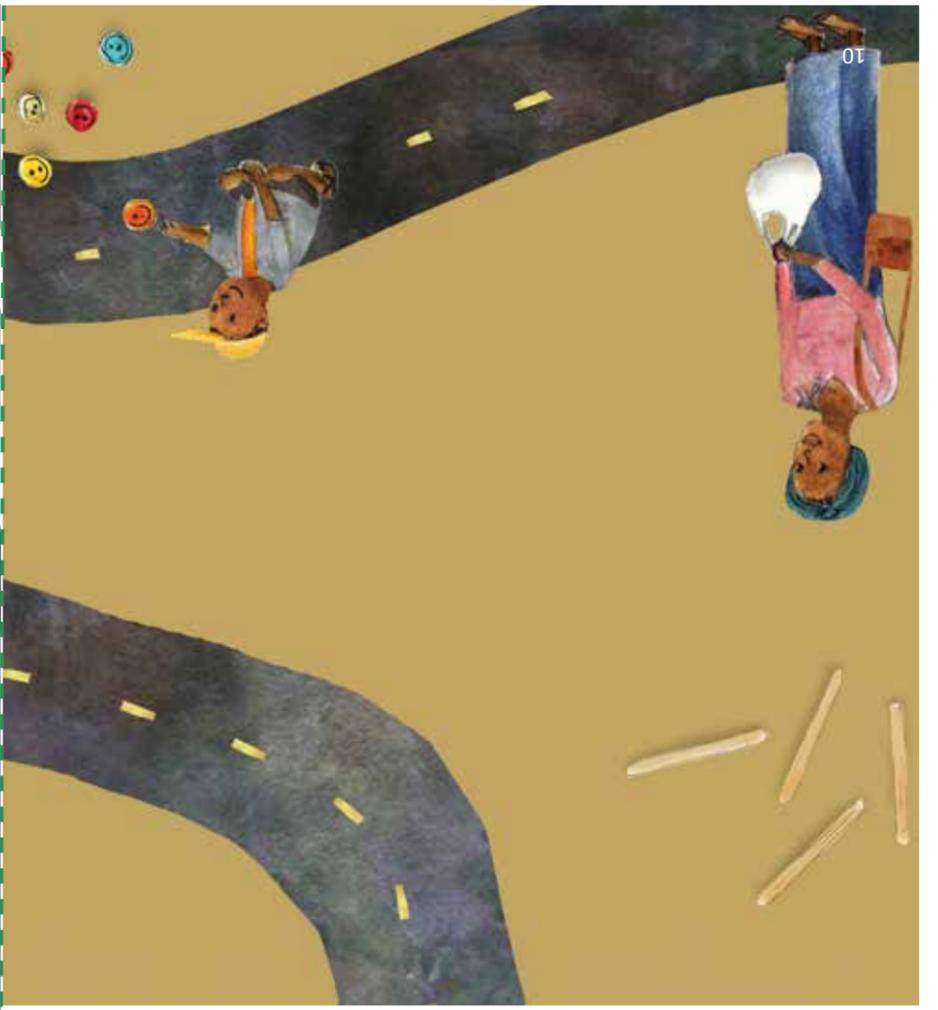
Intfo lekahle kakhulu

*Melissa Fagan • Lauren Nel
Stefania Origi*

Ideas to talk about: What is your "best thing ever"? Is it something that you will share with others? Look at the cover of this booklet. What do you think the story is about?
Imibono lokungakhulunywa ngayo: Yini "intfo lekahle kakhulu" kuwe? Yintfo lotayihlanganyela nalabanye yini? Buka ikhava yalobhukwana. Ucabanga kutsi lendzaba imayelana nani?

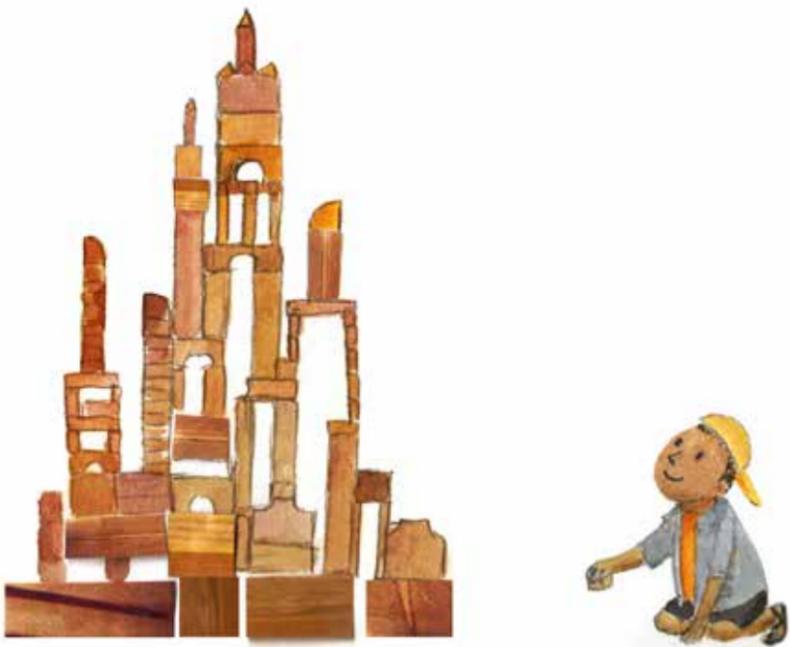


He is sad. Without his toys, how can he build the best thing ever?
 Uva buhlungu. Ngaphandle kwemathoyizi akhe, angayakha njani intfo lekahle kakhulu?



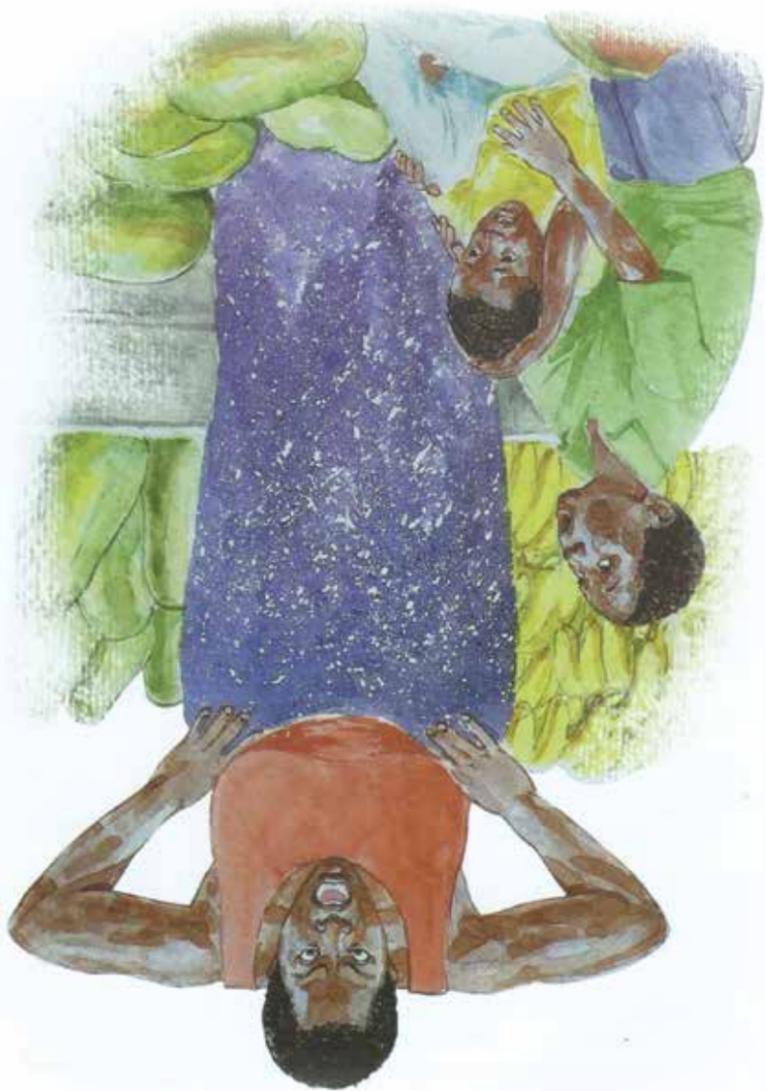
On the road to uGogo's, Muzi finds many things. Long things and short things. Round things and square things.
 Endleleni leya kagogo, Muzi utfola intfo letingenti. Tintfo letindze naletimfisha. Tintfo letiyindingilizi naletsikwele.

Muzi loves to build things.
 He dreams of building the best thing ever.



Muzi utsandza kwakha lokutsite.
 Ubhudza akha intfo lekahle kakhulu.





Ngokushesha kunekufushana ngemuva kwetu. Siyadzayitela futsi siwela kumaphopho. Manje, lamanye awo sekapitjikele. Ngikhatatsatekile ngekutsi kungenteka Piwai ulimle, kodwa ngiyajabula kumbona ahleka. Ukhotisa lamaphopho lasandleni sakhe. Lona westifazane losendzaweni yekutsengisa emaphopho amemete Piwai, “Uyati kutsi libita malini liphopho? Upitjite emaphopho lamabili. Ngifuna imali yami nyalo.”

There is a sudden push from behind. We stagger and land on some pawpaws. Now some of them are squashed. I am worried that Piwai might have been hurt, but I am happy to see him laugh. He licks the pawpaw off his hand. The woman at the pawpaw stall suddenly leans over and shouts at Piwai, “Do you know how much money a pawpaw costs? You have squashed two pawpaws. I want my money now.”

HEARTLINES
The Centre for Values Promotion



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

Kutfola lokunyenti sicele ufumele i-email info@heartlines.org.za noma ushayele ku-(011) 771 2540.

Get story active!

- ★ What do you think of the way that the pawpaw seller behaved towards Pasi and Piwai? What else could she have said and/or done when she found that the boys had accidentally squashed the pawpaws?
- ★ Draw a picture of what you think the market looks like.
- ★ Act out what you think might have happened after the story ended. When Pasi and Piwai got home, what do you think their mother said and did?

Yenta indzaba ibe nemdlandla!

- ★ Ucabangani ngendlela lomtsengisi wemaphopho latiphatsa ngayo kubo Pasi naPiwai? Yini lokungenteka mhlawumbe bekufanele ayisho/ noma ayente nakatfolo kutsi labafana ngeliphutsa bapitjite emaphopho akhe?
- ★ Dwweba sifombe sendlela locabanga kutsi lemakethe ibukeka ngayo.
- ★ Lingisa loko locabanga kutsi kwentekile ngemuva kwakuphela kwalenzaba. Ngesikhatsi Pasi naPiwai befika ekhaya, ucabanga kutsi make wabo yini layishito nalayentile?

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



INal'ibali ngumkhankhaso wavelonkhe wekufundzela kutijabulisa kuvusa nekucinisa lisiko lekufundza eNingizimu Afrika yonkhana. Kutfola lolunye lwati, yikashela www.nalibali.org

The market Superman



Superman wasemakethe

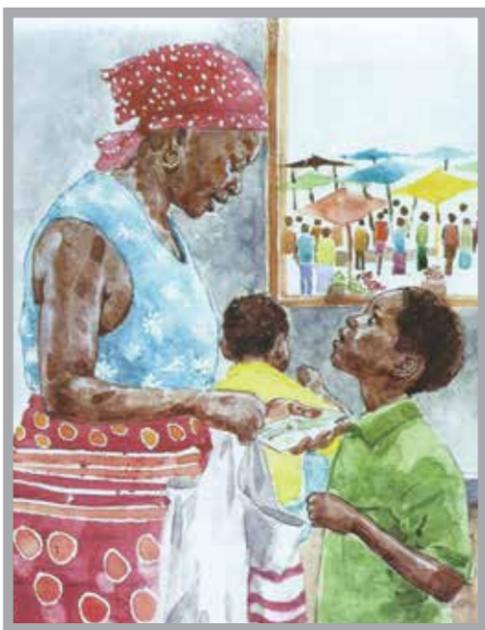
Ignatius Mabasa • Joseph Mugisha

Ideas to talk about: If you could have superpowers, what would you like them to be? Would you use it to benefit people in need or yourself only? What would you do with your superpowers?

Imibono lokungakhulunywa ngayo: Nangabe bewungaba nemandla lamakhulu, bewungatsandza kutsi abe wani? Ungawasebentisa kuze kuzuze banifu labanesidzingo yini noma kuze kuzuze wena kuphela? Yini lobewungayenta ngemandla akho lamakhulu?

Sihamba sendula titebele letinyenti
 netindvunavuma letinukako, temagwava
 lavutsiwe. Sibona ematsanga, emantongomane
 nemantongomane layindilingizi. Sibona emawolintji.
 Lesinye sitebele singentsaba yemakhabishi. Labanye
 bantfu batsengisa emabhontfisi laluhlata ngembala
 nemaphizi laluhlata ngembala. Kune-brocchi
 nekholifulawa lengcolile. Make ikholifulawa
 uyitsandza kuphela nangabe imhlophe cwe.
 Kuphindze kubde nalabatsengisa peleplele lobabako.
 Piwai uyawati peleplele ngoba Babde wake wamnika
 lomncane kuzwe awunambitse futisi wakhwehela
 wakhala wadzimate Make wamnika lubisi.
 Asikwati kuhamba siphangise emakethe. Sihlale
 sisihayisana nebantfu. Labanye bantfu dayasifusha,
 kantisi labanye baluhlata. Piwai mncane, futisi labanye
 bantfu abomboni nekumbona, manje kufancle
 ngibe sivikelo sakhc. Ngifisa shengatsi Make ngabe
 utitele kutowutsenga lehitsanga. Cishc sesindzaweni
 lapho kutsengiswa khona ematsanga. Kakadze
 sengiyawabona ematsanga lamanyenti.

Piwai doesn't understand what is going on. I see
 tears welling up in his eyes because the woman's angry
 face is scaring him.
 I force words out of my dry mouth and say, "I am
 very sorry, Mama, we got pushed from behind. We did
 not mean to upset you."
 "Upset me? No, you did not upset me, you upset
 my pawpaws. That is what you did!" she shouts.
 I am scared, but I don't know what else to say. I
 am not used to such angry adult talk. The woman is
 red in the face and she is still shouting at Piwai. Piwai
 is very upset and is sobbing loudly. I have to get away
 from this angry woman.
 "I am very sorry, Madam, it was an accident," I say.
 "Also, will you talk to me and not my brother, he can't
 hear you because he is deaf."
 "What next?" she shouts, stamping her foot.
 Then she sees the money I am holding. "Boy, is that
 money in your hand?" She snorts and sniffs like an
 angry rhino.



My name is Pasi. I am ten years old and live in Mbare in Zimbabwe. Our house is near the famous big vegetable market. Today we are having visitors and Mother is busy in the kitchen. I can smell the food from where I am playing with Piwai.

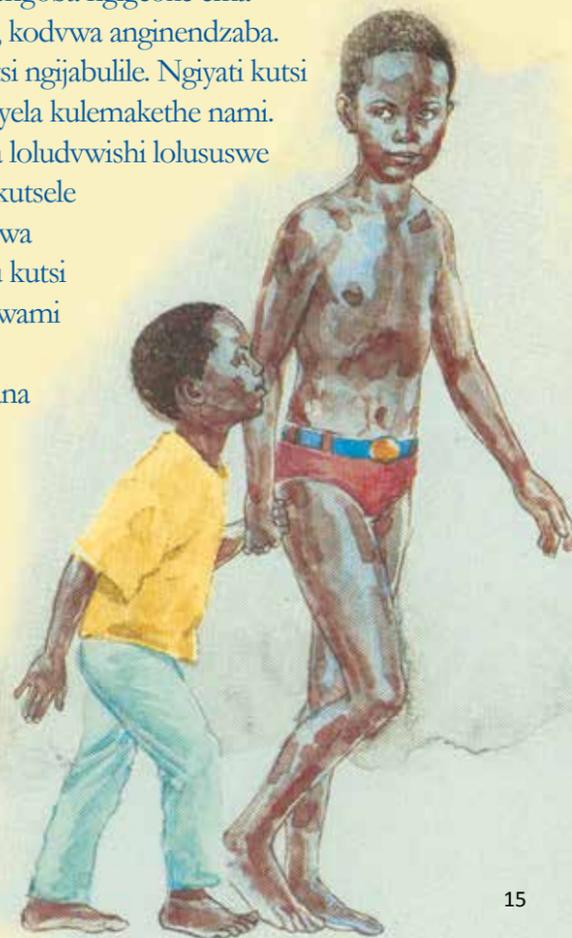
"Pasi, my boy, come here," Mother's voice calls from the kitchen. I go to her and she says, "I want you to go to the market and buy me a pumpkin. I want you back in five minutes."

I nod as Mother hands me a bag and some money. I go to fetch my shoes. Piwai follows me and also starts putting on his shoes. Piwai is my brother. He is three years old. Piwai is deaf.

Ngaphandle kwekucabanga, ngekushesha
 ngakhumula lihembe lami, ticatfulo nelibhuluko
 ngamniketa. Watitsatsa wahamba. Ngahamba
 ngabuyela ekhaya solo ngibambe sandla saPiwai.
 Lebengikugcokile kwakungema-anda laluhlata
 kwesibhakabhaka nalokubovu lana-Superman.

Labanye bantfwana bahamba eceleni kwami
 futsi bayangihleka njengoba ngigcokile ema-
 anda lana-Superman, kodvwa anginenzaba.
 Lengikwatiko nje kutsi ngijabulile. Ngiyati kutsi
 make wami utawubuyela kulemakethe nami.
 Sobabili, sitalulungisa loludvwishi lolususwe
 ngulomtsengisi lotfukutsele
 wemaphopho. Kodvwa
 lokubaluleke kakhulu kutsi
 ngimsindzisile bhuti wami
 lomncane.

Ngingu-Supermana
 wasemakethe!



Piwai akacondzi kutsi kwentekani. Ngibona tinyembeti emehlweni akhe ngoba lona wesifazane lonibuso lobufufukutsele uyametfusa. Ngeta ma kukhuluma ngemlomo wami lowomile ngatsi, “Ngiyacolisa kakhulu, Make, basifusha ngenyava. Besingakacondzi kukucansula?” “Kungicansula? Cha, anikangicansuli, nicansule emaphopho ami. Nguloko nje lenikwenti!” amemeta. Ngatfukile, kodwa angati kutsi yini lenye lengingayisho. Angikayeyetayehi inkhulumo yentfukutsele lengaka kumuntfu lomdzala. Lona wesifazane ubovu ebusweni, usamemeta Piwai. Kufanele ucansuke kakhulu futsi uyakhala kakhulu. Kufanele ngisuke kulona wesifazane lofufukutsele. Ngitsi kuye, “Ngiyacolisa kakhulu, Medemu, kubehiphutsa. Futsi, ngicela ukhulumo nami hayi nabhuti wami, akakuva ngoba akeva etindlebeni.” “Nitsi ngenge njani-ke?” amemeta, ashaya lunyawo lakhe phansi. Abone lemali lengiyiphutse. “Yewena mfana, yimali lena lelapho esandleni sakho?” Akhiphe umoya futsi awudvovonse njengemvubu letfukutsele.

We walk past many stalls and heaps of smelly, overripe guavas. We see butternuts, peanuts and round-nuts. We see oranges. Another stall has a mountain of cabbages. Some people are selling green beans and green peas. There is broccoli and dirty cauliflower. Mother only likes cauliflower if it is snow-white. There are also vendors selling red hot chilli. Piwai knows hot chilli because Father once gave him a little to taste and he coughed and cried until mother gave him some milk. We can't walk fast in the market. We keep bumping into people. Some people push us and some are rude. Piwai is small and some people don't even see him, so I must act as his shield. I wish Mother had come to buy the pumpkin herself. We are almost at the pumpkin stall. I can already see the huge mound of pumpkins.



Without thinking, I quickly remove my shirt, shoes and trousers and hand them to her. She grabs them and stomps off. I walk home still holding Piwai's hand. All I have on are my blue and red Superman underpants.

Some children walk by and laugh at my Superman underpants, but I don't even care. All I know is that I am happy. I know my mother will go back to the market with me. Together we will sort out the mess with the angry pawpaw seller. But the most important thing is that I have saved my little brother.

I am the market Superman!

“Piwai wants to come with me,” I shout to Mother. “Pasi, I don't want Piwai going with you. I want that pumpkin now.”

I leave Piwai behind. He is struggling to put on his other shoe as I dash out of the house.

Ligama lami nginguPasi. Ngineminyaka lelishumi budzala futsi ngihlala eMbare eZimbabwe. Indlu yetfu idvutane nemakethe lenkhulu yetibhidvo ledvumile. Lamuhla, sinetivakashi, futsi make umatasatasa ekhishini. Ngiyaliva liphunga lalokudla lapho ngidlala khona naPiwai.

“Pasi, mfana wami, buya lapha,” Ngibitwa nguMake ekhishini. Ngiye kuye, atsi, “Ngifuna ungiyele emakethe uyongitsengela litsanga. Ngikufuna ubuyile ingakapheli imizuzu lesihlanu.”

Ngivume ngenhloko njengoba Make anginiketa sikhwama nemali. Ngihambe ngiyolandza ticatfulo tami. Piwai angilandzele naye agcoke ticatfulo takhe. Piwai ngubhuti wami. Uneminyaka lemitsatfu budzala. Piwai akeva etindlebeni.

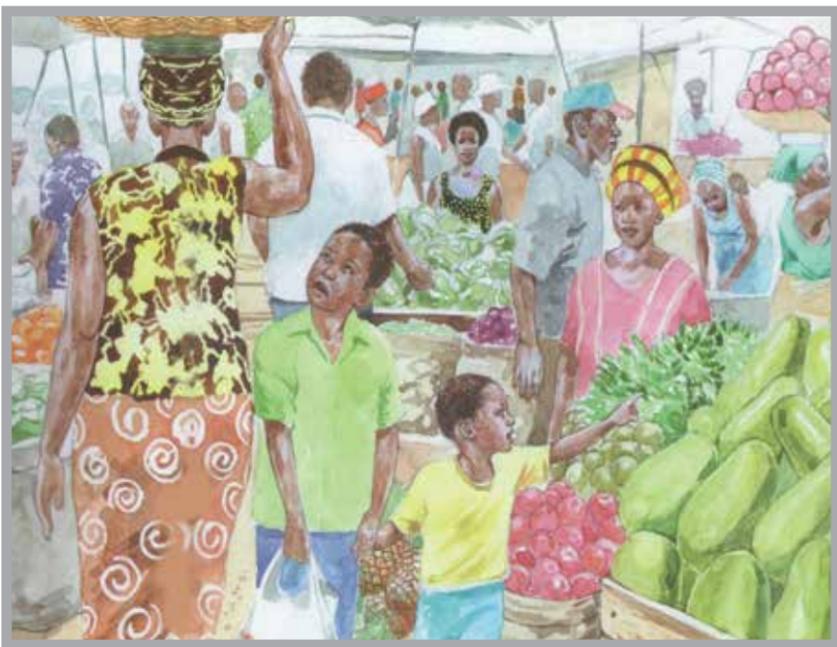
“Piwai ufuna kuhamba nami,” Ngimemeta ngitjela Make.

“Pasi, angifuni Piwai ahambe nawe. Ngifuna lelitsanga nyalo.”

Ngiyamshiya Piwai. Kumatima ngaye kugcoka lesi lesinye sicutfulo sakhe njengoba ngiphuma ngigijima endlini.



“Pasi, Pasi,” Make uyangbita futsi.
 Ngicucuke futsi ngimbone eme emyanggo
 akanye naPwai. Tihlatsi takhe tigwele
 tinyembeti. “Kuncono uhambe naPwai.
 Ngicela uphangise.”
 Kumatasatasa emakethe. Kunebantfu
 labayenti labamemetako nalabakhulumako,
 labatsengako nalabatsengisako, labaphakamisa
 tinfu, nalabetswala lokutsite nalabachilitanako.
 Pwai ahleke lendvoda letsengisa emawohntji.
 Uphonsela emawohntji lamatsatu emoyeni.
 Uyamemeta utsi noma ngubani longenta
 loku lengikwenta uawutfole sephulelo.
 Ngibambe sandla saPwai ngisicimise njengoba
 singena sitfungatsa kulesicuku sebantfu.



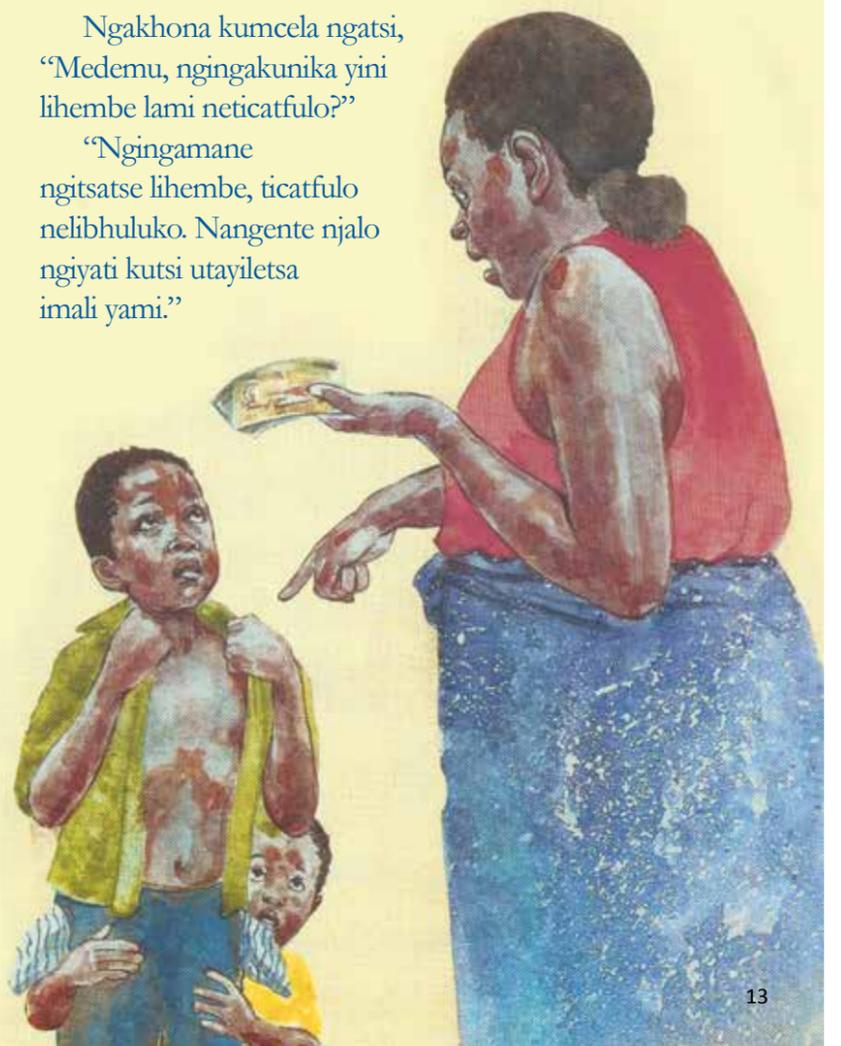
“Pasi, Pasi,” Mother calls again. I turn around and see her standing at the door with Piwai. His cheeks are wet with tears. “You had better take Piwai. Please hurry.”
 It is busy at the market. There are many people shouting and talking, buying and selling, lifting, carrying and pushing. Piwai laughs at the man selling oranges. He is juggling three oranges in the air. He shouts that anybody who can do the same can get a discount. I hold Piwai’s hand firmly as we weave through the forest of people.

I nod. The other people in the market seem not to notice this woman and what she is doing to us. I feel so small against this big, angry woman.
 The woman snatches my bag and money. She counts the money and says it can only pay for one pawpaw. Then she says, “I will take this money and your brother until you bring money for the other pawpaw.”
 I panic. I can’t leave Pwai behind. This woman is mean and Pwai is so small. I have to protect him. I won’t leave him behind. I feel hot and my heart pounds.

Ngumme ngenhloko. Laba labanye bantfu kulemakethe kubonakala shengatsi abamcaphele lona wesifazane naloko lakwenakoko kutsi. Ngitwa ngimcane nangitcatisanisa nalona wesifazane lomkhulu lotfukutsele.
 Lona wesifazane ulhufula silhwama sami nembali. Ubala lemali futsi utsi ingakhona kubhadala liphopho linye kuphela. Ngemuva kwaloko utsi, “Ngitawutsatsa lemali lena nabhuti wakho kuze kubc ngulapho uletsa imali yaleli lelinye liphopho.”
 Ngiyachachabela. Angeke ngimshye Pwai. Lona wesifazane unelunya, futsi Pwai mcanane kakhulu. Kufancele ngimvikele. Angeke ngimshye. Ngwa kushisa futsi inhlityo yami iyashaya.

“Madam, can I give you my shirt and shoes instead?” I manage to ask.
 “Your shirt, shoes and trousers will do. That way I know you will bring my money.”

Ngakhona kumcela ngatsi,
 “Medemu, ngingakunika yini lihembe lami neticatfulo?”
 “Ngingamane ngitsatse lihembe, ticatfulo nelibhuluko. Nangente njalo ngiyati kutsi utayiletsa imali yami.”

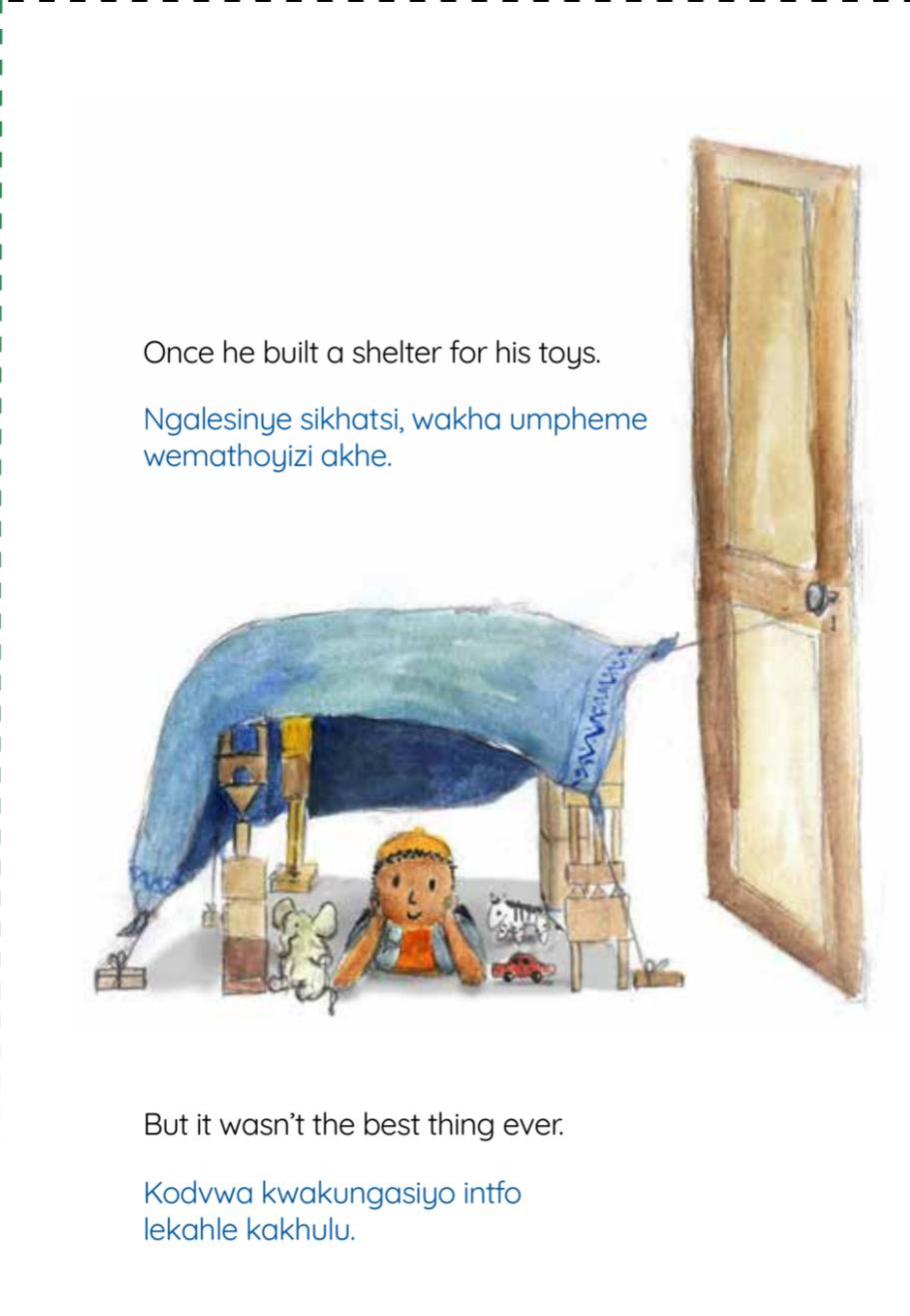




Today Muzi is going to
visit uGogo.
Lamuhla, Muzi
uyovakashela Gogo.

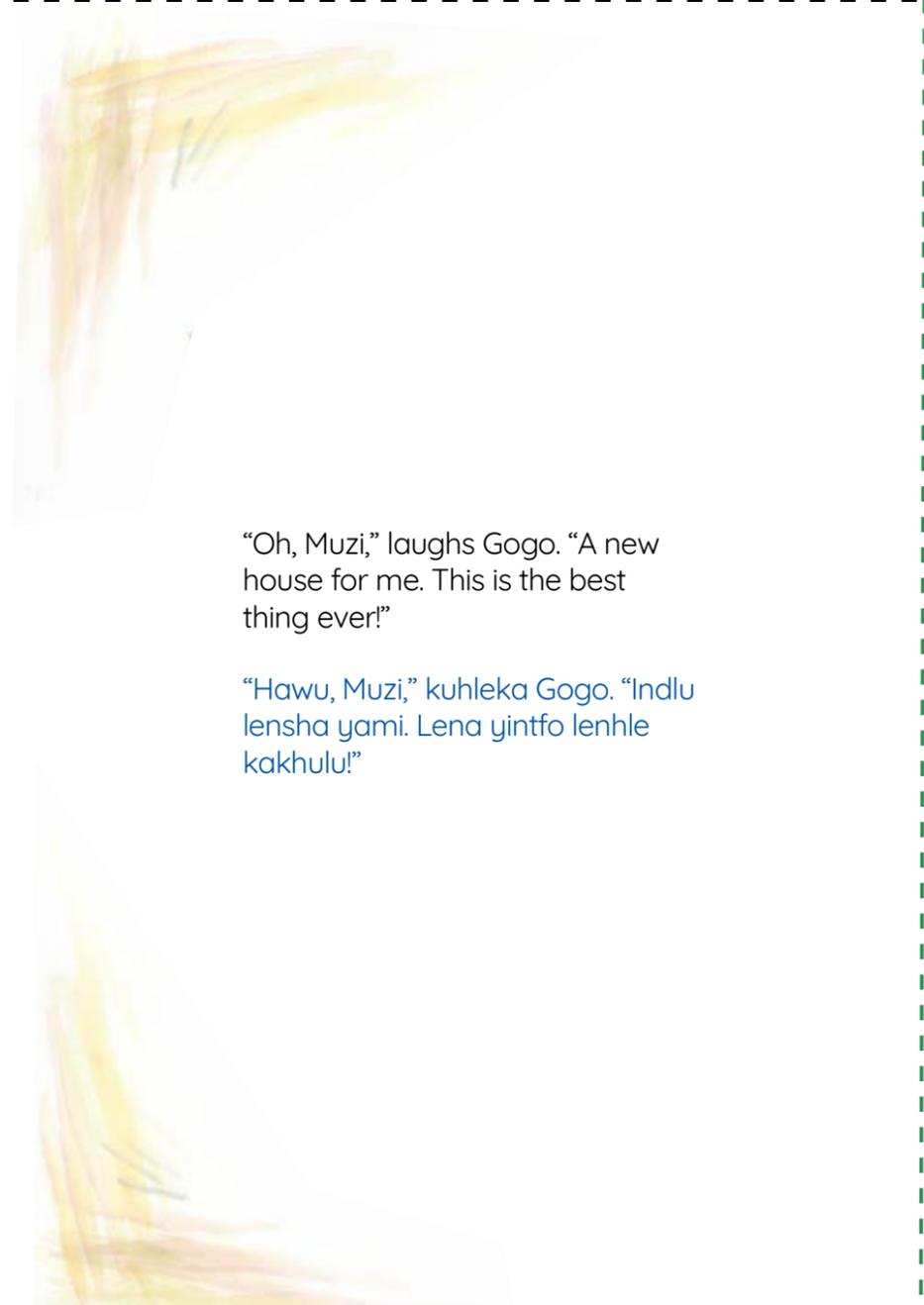


By the riverside, Muzi finds more things.
Soft things and pointy things. Green things
and brown things.
Ngasemfuleni, Muzi uthola tintfo letingenti.
Tintfo letitsambile netintfo leticijile. Tintfo
letiluhlata naletinsundvu.



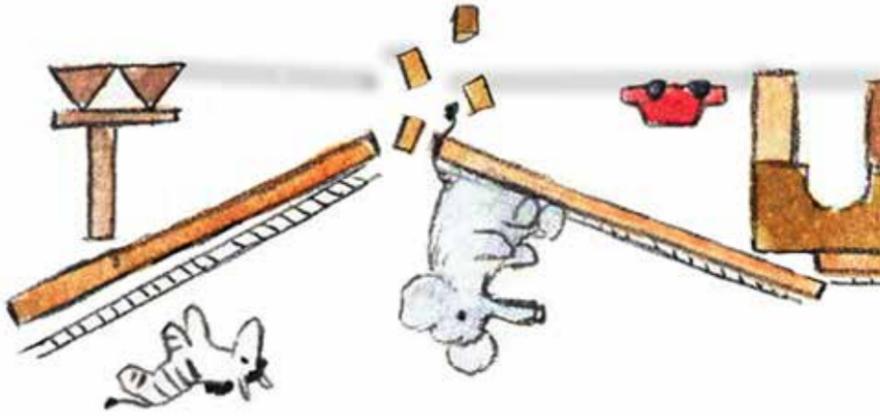
Once he built a shelter for his toys.
Ngalesinye sikhatsi, wakha umpheme
wemathoyizi akhe.

But it wasn't the best thing ever.
Kodvwa kwakungasiyo intfo
lekahle kakhulu.



"Oh, Muzi," laughs Gogo. "A new
house for me. This is the best
thing ever!"

"Hawu, Muzi," kuhleka Gogo. "Indlu
lensha yami. Lena yintfo lenhle
kakhulu!"



It was a good thing,
 But not the best...
 Bekuyintfo lekahle, Kodvwa lengasigo
 lekahle kakhulu...



Look, Muzi! We are here.
 Buka, Muzi! Silapha.

Yesterday he built a bridge
 for his animals.

Itolo, wakhe libhuloho
 alakhela tilwane takhe.



While uGogo bakes for
 the hungry travellers ...
 Muzi builds.

Ngesikhatsi Gogo
 abhakela tihambi
 letilambile...
 Muzi uyakha.

"Gogo, Gogo!" says
 Muzi. "The world is full
 of toys. Look what I
 can build."

"Gogo, Gogo!"
 kusho Muzi.
 "Umhlaba
 ugcwele
 emathoyisi.
 Buka loko
 lengingakwakha."



Imijeka lengu-54 yase-Afrika!

54 flags for Africa!

Sebentisa ihuli lencama nemaphini kuze uhlobanise umjeka ngamunye nelive lawo.

Use some thin wool and pins to match each flag to its country.

The map shows the following countries and their corresponding flags (from top to bottom, left to right):

- ENSHONALANGA SAHARA / WESTERN SAHARA
- EMAURITANIA / MAURITANIA
- EBURKINA FASO / BURKINA FASO
- EMALI / MALI
- EMOROCCO / MOROCCO
- E-ALGERIA / ALGERIA
- ETUNISIA / TUNISIA
- ENIGER / NIGER
- ELIBYA / LIBYA
- ECHAD / CHAD
- ECENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC / CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
- EGIBHITHE / EGYPT
- ESUDAN / SUDAN
- E-ERITREA / ERITREA
- EDJIBOUTI / DJIBOUTI
- ESOMALIA / SOMALIA
- ETOPIYA / ETHIOPIA
- ENINGIZIMU SUDAN / SOUTH SUDAN
- EKENYA / KENYA
- E-UGANDA / UGANDA
- ERWANDA / RWANDA
- EBURUNDI / BURUNDI
- ECOMOROS / COMOROS
- EMAURITIUS / MAURITIUS
- EMADAGASCAR / MADAGASCAR
- EMOZAMBIQUE / MOZAMBIQUE
- EMALAWI / MALAWI
- ESWATINI / SWAZILAND
- ELESOTHO / LESOTHO
- ENINGIZIMU AFRIKA / SOUTH AFRICA
- ENAMIBIA / NAMIBIA
- EBOTSWANA / BOTSWANA
- E-ANGOLA / ANGOLA
- EZAMBIA / ZAMBIA
- ECAMEROON / CAMEROON
- E-EQUATORIAL GUINEA / EQUATORIAL GUINEA
- ESAO TOME AND PRINCIPE / SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE
- ECONGO / CONGO
- EGABON / GABON
- EDEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO / DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
- E-ANGOLA / ANGOLA
- EZAMBIA / ZAMBIA
- ENAMIBIA / NAMIBIA
- EBOTSWANA / BOTSWANA
- ENINGIZIMU AFRIKA / SOUTH AFRICA
- ELESOTHO / LESOTHO
- ESWATINI / SWAZILAND
- EZIMBABWE / ZIMBABWE
- EMALAWI / MALAWI
- EMOZAMBIQUE / MOZAMBIQUE



Lithalenta leliBhungane



Ibhalwe ngu-Vianne Venter ■ Imidwebho yentiwe ngu-Heidel Dedekind

Ekugcineni bekulilanga lemzimbi wemihlomelo yetilokatana! Tonkhe letilokatana beteffuke kakhulu. Ngubani lotawuwina indondo yekuba nemandla noma yekuba yingijimi lehamba phambili? Ngubani lotawuhloniyeliswa ngekuba ngulomuhle noma ngekuba ngulohlaniphele? Yonkhe indzawo lobuka kuyo, tilokatana letincane betehla tenyuka, tikama tinto tato letindze letisatiphondvo futsi tiivocavoca emakhono ato, tibukisa futsi tiifukutselelana. Nguloko betikwenta, ngaphandle kweliBhungane.

"Kunjani! Awuketfuki, Bhungane?" Liphela libuta njengoba ligijima.

"Bani, mine?" kuphendvula liBhungane. "Kute mine lokungangefusa. Ngite ematubane, njengawe, Liphela. Kute lonematubane kunawe."

"Usho mbamba? Maye vele ngulokuhle loko ngawe, Bhungane," Kumamatseka Liphela. "Hawu, nako kuchamuka silokatana Lesihle Kakhulu ... Sengihambile. Ngitawubuye ngikubone." Liphume ligijima.



"Yewena," kusho Livivane, lihambisa emaphiko alo liwayisa etulu naphansi elangeni. "Akukafaneli ukhulumelane nalesigebengu, lesinguBhungane."

"Ya, Liphela alisilibi. Ecinisweni likahle ... nawungasondzalana nalo," kuhleka liBhungane.

"Hayibo, lesitayela setinwele lesi!" kusho Livivane, libamba tinwele talo. "Ngiyatibuta kutsi ngubani lotawuwina lemihlomelo lamuhla."

"Ngiyati nakanjani kutsi kute lengitakuwina," kuhleka liBhungane. "Angisimuhle njengawe, Vivane. Kute lomuhle kwendlula wena."

"Maye vele unemusa, Bhungane," kusho Livivane limamatseka kamnandzi. "Awu, sasho sachamuka Sihlakaniphi!" Ngemuva kwaloko lahleba latsi, "Uyati asisiso nesilokatana." Futsi ngemuva kwekusho loko, Livivane lashaya timphiko talo lahamba layotibuka i-make-up yalo.

Sayobe sahamba ngekushesha saya eBhunganeni, sikhonona sishi, "... lokubili nawukubhica nalokubili kukhipha lokune, lokune nawukubhica nalokune kukhipha lokusiphohlongo, lokusiphohlongo nawukubhica nalokusiphohlongo kukhipha lokulishumi nesitfupha, lishumi nesitfupha ... Heita, liBhungane! Sje, kodwa lelivivane linesimo sengcondvo lesingasisihle! Alati yini kutsi limane nje lisilokatana?"

"Hawu, Sayobe," kuhleka liBhungane. "Uyatsandza kubukeka amuhle."

"Uyati akuyi ngekubukeka, uyabona! Kuya ngekutsi unani lapha!" kusho Sayobe, sitsintsa inhloko yaso. "Bengisololo ngifundza. Ngifuna mbamba kuwina indondo yekuba silokatane lesihlakaniphele. Wena?"

"Wo, kute indondo lengitayiwina lamuhla. Angikahlakaniphi njengawe, Sayobe. Usilokatana lesihlakaniphele kutendlula tonkhe!"

"Hawu! Ngiyabonga ngekutsi usho njalo! Unemusa kakhulu ... Nako-ke kuchamuka Intfufwane. Angikasifoli sikhatsi sekufundza indlela lehambisa ngayo emamasela ayo. Ngisayofundza lokwengetiwe," kusho Sayobe, sihamba ngekushesha.

Intfufwane beyihamba yetfwele litje ngebukhulu leliyiphindza tikhatsi letine inhloko yayo! LiBhungane lesaba kakhulu njengoba Intfufwane ilijikijela emhlabatsini lenta umsvindvo lomkhulu! "Manje, inkhosatana Lecabanga kutsi ihlakaniphele itsiteni?"

"Hawu, Ntufufwane ungabi ngulongenamusa!" kusho liBhungane. "Sayobe siyatitsandza tincwadzi taso. Angeke sonkhe sibe nemandla njengawe."

Intfufwane yabambhatsa liBhungane emgogodleni, ihleka. "Nginemandla mbamba, akunjalo? Ngako-ke, ngumuphi umhlomelo lokhetsekile lotawuwina lamuhla?"

"Kute lokukhetsekile ngami, Ntufufwane," kusho liBhungane lingakajabuli. "Ngite ematubane, noma buhle, noma kuhlakanipha noma emandla. Ngisilokatane nje lesivamile."

"Ngiyakuva, ngicabanga kutsi usilokatane lesivamile lesikahle," kusho Intfufwane. "Mhlawumbe futsi lesihamba phambili ... Hawu, uyati sekucishe kube sikhatsi semzimbi wemihlomelo. Uyeta?" Intfufwane yahamba yaya ngakulelitje lapho tonkhe letilokatana betibutsene khona tite emcimbini wemihlomelo, futsi liBhungane lahamba ngekushesha lema eceleni kwayo.

Tonkhe letilokatane betitshule. Mashisindlu waphakamisa indondo yekucala. "Kulomnyaka indondo yalonematubane, itsatfwa ... Liphela!" amemetela. Tonkhe letilokatana tashaya tandla. LiBhungane kwaba ngilo lelishaya tandla kakhulu.

"Indondo yesilokatana lesihle ...," kuchubeka Mashisindlu, "... itsatfwa ... Livivane!" Tonkhe tilokatana tamemeta ngenjabulo. LiBhungane ngilo belimemeta ngenjabulo kakhulu.

"Indondo yesilokatana lesihlakaniphele itsatfwa ... Sayobe!" kumemetela Mashisindlu. Lesicuku setilokatana sabanga umsvindvo sihalalisa. LiBhungane labanga umsvindvo kutendlula tonkhe lihlahisa.

Besekusele indodo yinye kuphela. "Indondo yesilokatane lesinemandla itsatfwa ... Yintfufwane!" Mashisindlu amamatseka. Tonkhe letilokatane tamemeta tashaya tinkwela futsi tashaya tinyawo tato phansi emhlabatsini. LiBhungane labonakala lijabule kakhulu. Belibajabulele bangani balo!

Ngesikhatsi tonkhe tilokatane setitshule, Mashisindlu watsi, "Ekugcineni, kulomnyaka sinendondo lekhetsekile ... umhlomelo losezingeni lelisetulu, njengoba uvotelwe ngini nonkhe. Lona ngumhlomelo wenhlonipho lesetulu kakhulu, umhlomelo lohamba phambili kakhulu ..." Asho acalata emaceleni. Emehlo akhe lamakhulu atsi njo esilokataneni lesisite. Silokatane lesivamile, lesinganakeki, lokute lokukhetsekile ngaso. "Umhlomelo losezingeni lelisetulu, umhlomelo loyindondo lehamba phambili utsatfwa ... LiBhungane."

LiBhungane lacishe lawa limangele. "M-m-me?" lingingita. "Kodwa ... kodwa mine akukho lengihamba phambili ekukweneni. Kute lengikhetseke kuko." LiBhungane belingacandzi. Belicabanga kutsi kwenteke liphutsa. Bonkhe bangani balo bebamatseka, shengatsi bebatilokutsite lebelingakwati.

"Bhungane lelitsandzekako," kumamatseka Mashisindlu. "Leti letinye tilokatane nami sitsandza kukuhlomelisa ngalendondo yeligolide ... ngekuba silokatane lesinemusa kitsi."

"Uhamba phambili!" kumemeta Liphela.

"Awusiso nakancane silokatane lesivamile nje," kusho Livivane, limamatseka.

"Ukhetsekile!" kusho Sayobe.

"Ungulolunye luhlobo lwesilokatane, Bhungane! Akekho lofana nawe! Lithalenta lakho ngumusa," kuchaza Intfufwane.

"Kodwa ... kodwa noma ngubani angaba nemusa," kusho liBhungane, lididekile.

"Ucinisile, Bhungane," kusho Mashisindlu. "Noma ngubani angaba nemusa, kodwa nguwe kuphela lokhetse kuba nemusa ngaso sonkhe sikhatsi."

Ngemuva kwaloko bangani belibhungane balitsatsa, bahalalisa njengoba baletfwele ngetinhloko tabo, bakhuphuka nalo baya etulu etjeni.



LiBhungane belingakaze lativa likhetseke ngalendlela, noma lijabule kangaka, ekuphileni kwalo konkhe. Lokukuphela kwaloko belikuhleba kutsi, "Bonkhe bangani bani banemusa!"

Yenta indzaba ibe nemdlandla!

- ★ Ngalinye tikhatsi siphosifuku akusiko loko lesingakhona kukwenta, kodwa yindlela lesenta labanye bative ngayo. Nguliphi lithalenta lakho lelikhetsekile?
- ★ Usakhumbula kutsi silokatane ngasinye yini lebesikhona kuyenta kahle? Yakha luhla lwesilokatane ngasinye kulendzaba. Eceleni kweligama lesilokatane ngasinye, bhala loko lesikwenta kahle.

- ★ Nyalo bhala luhla lwabo bonkhe bantfu ekhaya kini, futsi ubhale loko ngamunye lakwenta kahle, kufaka ekhatsi nawe!



Beetle's talent

By Vianne Venter ■ Illustrations by Heidel Dedekind

Story corner



It was finally the day of the bugs' awards ceremony! All the bugs were feeling very nervous. Who would win the medal for strength or for being the best runner? Who would be named the prettiest or the cleverest? Everywhere you looked, little bugs were hurrying up and down, combing their feelers and practicing their skills, showing off and getting grumpy with each other. That is, all except Beetle.

"Howzit, howzit! Aren't you nervous, Beetle?" Cockroach asked as he rushed up.

"Who, me?" replied Beetle. "There's nothing for *me* to be nervous about. I'm not fast, like you, Cockroach. No one's as fast as you."

"Really? That's very nice of you, Beetle," Cockroach smiled. "Uh oh, here comes Miss Beauty Pageant ... I'm off. See you later." And off he ran.



"Hey," said Butterfly, moving her wings up and down in the sunlight. "You shouldn't talk to that skebenga, Beetle."

"Oh, Cockroach is not so bad. He's actually quite a nice guy ... if you can keep up with him," laughed Beetle.

"*Hayibo*, this hairstyle!" said Butterfly, fussing with her hair. "I wonder who's going to win the prizes today."

"I won't be winning anything, that's for sure," Beetle laughed. "I'm no beauty, like you, Butterfly. No one's as beautiful as you."

"Eish, Beetle, you are too sweet," said Butterfly flashing her prettiest smile. "Uh oh, here comes Smarty Pants!" Then she added in a whisper, "She's not even an insect, you know." And with that, Butterfly fluttered off to check her make-up.

Spider scuttled up to Beetle, muttering to herself, "... two plus two is four, four plus four is eight, eight plus eight is sixteen, sixteen ... *Heita*, Beetle! *Sjoe*, but that butterfly has got an attitude! Doesn't she know she's just a *gogga*?"

"Oh, Spider," laughed Beetle. "She just likes to look good."

"It's not about looks, you know! It's about what you have up here!" said Spider, tapping her head. "I've been studying and studying. I really want to win the medal for being the cleverest bug. And you?"

"Oh, I won't be taking home any medals today. I'm not as clever as you, Spider. You're the cleverest bug of all!"

"Wow! Thanks for saying so! You're very kind ... Uh oh! Here comes Ant. I haven't got time for his muscle manoeuvres now. I'm off to study some more," said Spider, scuttling off.

Ant marched over, carrying a stone four times his size! Beetle got a fright as Ant dropped it on the ground with a loud *thunk*! "So, what did Miss I-think-I'm-so-clever have to say for herself?"

"Oh, Ant, don't be unkind!" said Beetle. "Spider just loves her books. We can't all be superstrong like you."

Ant clapped Beetle on the back, laughing. "I am really strong, aren't I? So, what special prize are you going to win today?"

"There's nothing really special about me, Ant," said Beetle sadly. "I'm not fast, or pretty, or clever, or strong. I'm just an ordinary bug."

"Well, I think you are a *good* ordinary bug," said Ant. "Maybe even the best ... Hey, it's almost time for the awards ceremony. Are you coming?" Ant marched off towards the rock where all the bugs had gathered for the awards ceremony, and Beetle scurried along beside him.

Everyone was quiet. Mantis held up the first medal. "This year's medal for the *fastest* runner, goes to ... Cockroach!" she announced. All the bugs clapped. Beetle clapped the loudest.

"The medal for the *prettiest* bug ...," continued Mantis, "... goes to ... Butterfly!" Everyone cheered. Beetle cheered the loudest.

"The medal for the *cleverest* bug goes to ... Spider!" announced Mantis. The crowd whooped. Beetle whooped even louder.

There was only one medal left. "The medal for the *strongest* bug goes to ... Ant!" Mantis smiled. All the bugs yelled and whistled and drummed their feet on the ground. Beetle grinned from ear to ear. She was so happy for her friends!

When everyone had quietened down, Mantis said, "Finally, this year we have a special medal ... the top prize, as voted for by all of you. This is the highest honour, the best award ...". She looked around. Then her large eyes settled on one particular bug. One completely ordinary, unremarkable, nothing-special-about-her bug. "The highest honour, the best award and the biggest medal goes to ... Beetle."

Beetle almost fell over in surprise. "M-m-me?" she stammered. "But ... but I'm not the best at anything. I'm not special in any way." Beetle didn't understand. It must be a mistake, she thought. But all her friends were smiling at her, as if they knew something that she didn't.

"Dear Beetle," Mantis smiled. "The other bugs and I would like to award you this gold medal ... for being the *kindest* bug amongst us."

"You're the best!" shouted Cockroach.

"You're not ordinary at all," said Butterfly, smiling.

"You *are* special!" said Spider.

"You are one of a kind, Beetle! The only one like you! Your talent is kindness," explained Ant.

"But ... but *anyone* can be kind," said Beetle, confused.

"Exactly, Beetle," said Mantis. "Anyone can be kind, but only you choose to be kind all the time."

Then Beetle's friends picked her up, cheering as they carried her over their heads, all the way up to the top of the rock.



Beetle had never felt so special, or so happy, in all her life. And all she could whisper was, "How *kind* all my friends are!"

Get story active!

- ★ Sometimes our gift is not about what we can do, but how we make others feel. What is your special talent?
- ★ Can you remember what each insect was good at? Make a list of each insect in the story. Next to each insect's name, write down what they were good at.

- ★ Now make a list of all the people in your home, and write down what each one is good at, including you!

Kwekutijabulisa KwakaNa'ibali

Na'ibali fun



1.

Ungatihlembisa yini kabusha letihlavu temagama kuze wakhe emagama etibhidvo netitselo Pasi naPiwai labatibona emakethe kulenzaba letsi, "Superman wasemakethe"?

Can you unscramble the letters to make the names of the vegetables and fruit Pasi and Piwai saw at the market in the story *The market Superman*?



vagamewa	.....	saausgv
luwihlakofia	.....	fauleliocrw
blihikhisa	.....	acebabg
teniwolimja	.....	ragosen
biociclor	.....	cliorocb
gastalin	.....	mkinupp

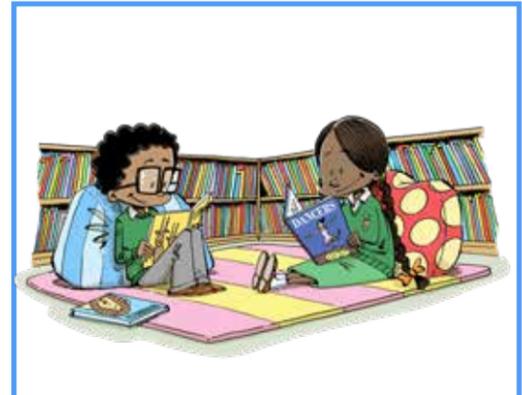


2.

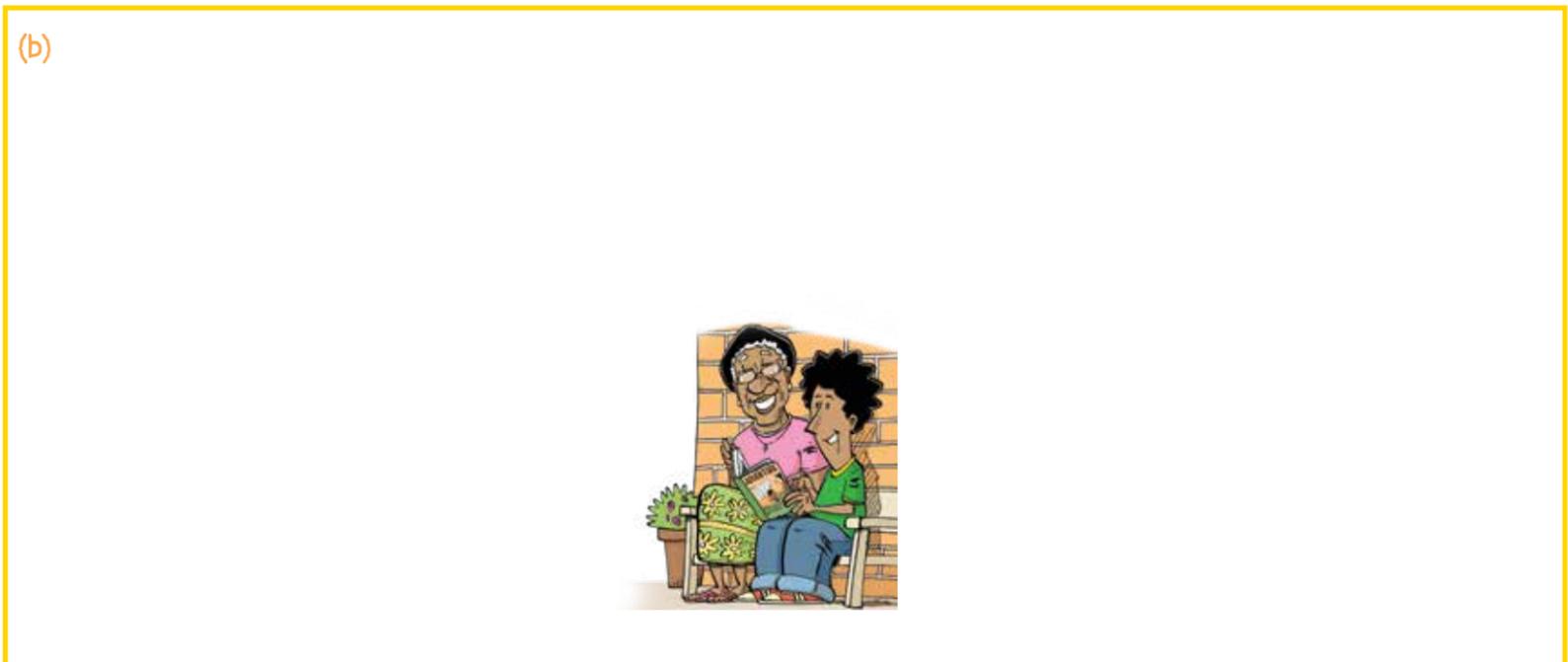
a) Ucabanga kutsi labantfu laba batfolakele kuphi bafundza?
b) Nyalo dvweba indzawo lapho ucabanga kutsi Gogo na-Josh bafundzela kuyo!

a) Where do you think these people were caught reading?
b) Now draw the place where you think Gogo and Josh are reading!

(a)



(b)



INal'ibali ikhona kute kutsi ikukhutsate futsi ikwesekela. Tsintsana natsi nobe ngayiphi lenye yaletindlela leti:

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

TheNalibaliChannel
 nalibaliSA
 @nalibaliSA
 @nalibalisa
 @nalibalisa
 nalibalisa
 The Nal'ibali Trust
 +27 64 801 5496

Produced by The Nal'ibali Trust. Translation by Mosekola Solutions. Na'ibali character illustrations by Rico.

UMLAZI
EYETHU

POLOKWANE
OBSERVER

