

NAL'IBALI

Tsela ya go hlohleletša ba go dikadika go bala

How to encourage reluctant readers

Bana ba bangwe ba kgona go dudišega ge ba balelwa kanegelo e telele pele ba robala, mola ba bangwe ba sa dudišega. Bana ba bangwe ba rata go bala dipuku ka pela, mola ba bangwe ba hloka go hlohleletšwa kutšwanyana. Se ga se makatše. Bana ga ba swane, gomme dilo tše ba di ratago di fetoga kudu ge ba dutše ba gola.

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.

Ke ka baka la'ng bana ba sa rate go bala?

Ka dinako tše dingwe batho ba nagana gore "motho wa go dikadika go bala" ke "motho wa go se kgone go bala gabotse," eupša seo ga se nnete.

- ☉ Gantši bana ba go dikadika go bala ke bona ba bohlale, e no ba gore ga se ba ka ba rutwa go rata dipuku.
- ☉ Mohlomongwe ga se ba golela malapeng a go rata go bala.
- ☉ Mohlomongwe ga se ba ka ba le dipuku tše di bego di ba tšwela mohola.
- ☉ Goba mohlomongwe go be go se na dipuku tša dikanegelo ka segagabo bona.

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.

O ka ba thuša bjang gore ba natefelwe ke go bala?

1. Lebelela kudu bokgoni bja bona, e sego mafokodi

Bana ba bangwe ba thatafalelwa ke go bala, ka gona ga se gantši ba ka no balela go ipshina. Selo sa bohlokwa kudu ke gore o ba thuše go ipshina ka go bala. Hwetša kanegelo goba nonwane ye ba e ratago goba o ba hlamele kanegelo! O se ke wa gapeletša bana ba gago go bala dipuku tše ba sa nyakego go di bala. Go bala e swanetše go ba selo sa go ba thabiša, sa go ba lapološa le sa go ba kgahla!

2. Dira gore ba tšwaelane le dipuku

Etela makgobapuku goba mabenkele a dipuku gomme o dumelele bana ba gago go ikgethela dipuku tše ba nyakago go di bala. Go bala se sengwenyana go phala go se bale selo le gatee, ka gona se tshwenyega ge bana ba gago ba kgetha dipuku tše bonolonolo, goba tša go bolela ka dilo tše o naganago gore ga di bohlokwa.

3. Rata go bala wena ka bowena

Ngwalela bana ba gago. Ka mekotleng ya bona ya dijo tša sekolong goba ya dipuku, tsenya dilankana tša melaetšana, direto goba dikanegelo tše dikopana. Ge o dira gore go bala le dikanegelo e be karolo ya bophelo bja lapa la gago, bana ba tlo thoma go rata go bala.

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.

Thoma e sa le nako

Le pele ba ka kgona go bala, go na le ditsela tša go thuša bana ba ngwaga o tee go ya go e mehlano go rata dikanegelo. Ba balele kanegelo, gomme go e na le go no dira seo feela, diragatšang kanegelo yeo le le mmogo le go boledišana ka baanegwa! Se se tla thuša bana go ithuta mo gontši ka dikanegelo, gomme ba kgona go bona dilo ka leihlo la kgopolo le go ja marapo a hlogo.

Start early

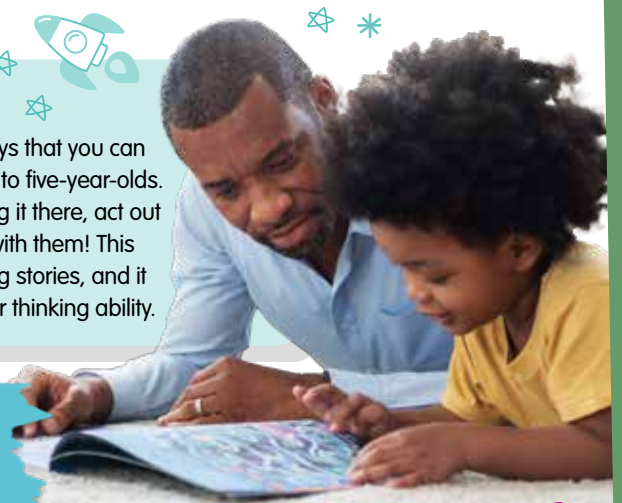
Even before they can read, there are ways that you can start developing a love of stories in one- to five-year-olds. Read them a story, and instead of ending it there, act out the story and talk about the characters with them! This way, your children can have fun exploring stories, and it develops both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

Bona letlakala 4 bakeng sa maele a gore lapa le bale ka mehla!

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



Drive your imagination



IT STARTS WITH A STORY.
GO THOMA KA KANEGELO.



Dipeu tša go Ithuta go Bala le go Ngwala!

Mešongwana ya bohloki e thuša bana go šomiša mabjoko!

Literacy Seeds!

Creative activities help grow children's thinking power!



Lena batswadi le bahlokomedi ba rategago ba bana, dinyakišišo tša morago bjale di bontšhitše gore go terowa, go penta, go bopa dilo le mešongwana e mengwe ya bohloki di ka thuša bana go ithuta go rarolla mathata. Ge bana ba dira dilo tša bokgabo le go betla, ba swanetše go šomiša mabjoko, ba nagane ka ditsela tša go se swane tša go rarolla mathata, le go dira dipheho go ya ka se ba se bonago le go se kwešiša go ba dikologa.

Bana ba swanetše go ithuta go ja marapo a hlogo gore ba kgone go sekaseka le go kwešiša dilo ka moka tše ba di bonago letšatši le letšatši. Ba swanetše go šomiša dikwi tša bona go kwešiša le go hlatha dilo tše ka moka.

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.

Go terowa, go penta, go bopa dilo ka letsopa go thuša bana go ba le bokgoni bjo bo latelago:

1. Go šomiša mešifa e menyenyane ya diatla le menwana.

Go šomiša dikherayone, diporatshe tša go penta le letsopa go thuša bana go kgona go šomiša mešifa ya bona ya diatleng le menwaneng. Se se tla ba thuša go kgona go ngwala, go šomiša didirišwa gabotse le go dira mešongwana e mengwe yeo e ba nyakago gore ba šomiše matsogo le menwana ya bona ka bokgoni le katlego.

2. **Go gola monaganong.** Bokgabo bo ka thuša bana go bona dibopego tša dilo le go di kopiša. Gape ba ithuta gore ka mehla se re se dirago se ba le mafelelo a itšego a swanago, ka mohlala, go hlakanya pente e khwibidu le e serolane go tšweletša pente ya mmala wa namune. Ba ithuta go rulaganya kamoo ba tlogo go šomiša dilo tša bona (pente, letsopa, pampiri, dikherayone) go dira dilo tša bona tša bokgabo, le go kwešiša dilo tše ba di bonago go ba dikologa ge ba terowa batho, diphoofolo le dilo tše dingwe.

3. **Bokgoni bja dipalo.** Bana ba ka kgona go ithuta, go hlama le go kwešiša dilo tša go swana le bogolo bja dilo le dibopego. Ba ithuta ka go balela, go bapetša dilo tša go se swane, le gore dilo di bonagala e le tše dikgolo goba tše dinyenyane go ithekjile ka gore di kgauswi goba di kgole gakaakaang.

4. **Bokgoni bja leleme.** Ge bana ba dutše ba ekwa o bolela ka dilo tša bona tša bokgabo, o ba botšiša dipotšišo tša gore ba hlamile dilo tše bjang, ba ithuta leleme le go oketša tlhlotšišo ya bona.



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.

Re ka hlohleletša bana ba re ba hlokometšego gore ba tšwele pele ba terowa, ba penta le go bopa dilo.

- * Ba botšiše dipotšišo tša go lebanya ka dilo tše ba di hlamilego, go swana le gore, "Ke'ng se o se terowilego (goba o se pentilego goba o se bopilego)?" goba "Gore'ng o kgethile go dira selo seo?"
- * Theetša gabotse ge ba go hlaloseiša seo ba se hlamilego. Se se tla go thuša go kwešiša dilo tše bana ba gago ba bonago di le bohlokwa le go di rata. Gape ke sebaka se sebotse sa go ba le tswalano ya kgauswi le bona.
- * Bea dilo tše ba di hlamilego moo bohle ba kgonago go di bona le mo di ka se šilafalego goba go senyega gabonolo.

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.



Drive your imagination

Mešongwana e bonolo ya bokgabo ya bana

Easy art activities for young children

1. Go terowa ka lethontswana Šomišang lethontswana la go nwa dino go nopa pente gomme le e gašetše pampiring goba rothetšang pente pampiring gomme le e butšwetše ka lethontswana leo gore e gašane pampiring.

2. Go terowa ka monwana Dirang pente ya go se ture le yeo e sego kotsi ge e ka lewa ka gobane bana ba rata go tsenya dilo ka ganong!

Apeang folouru le meetse ka phišo ya magareng. Huduang motswako woo leboelela go fihlela e eba motepa. O tlogeleng o fole gomme le o tšheleng ka dikomiking tše dintši ka mokgo le nyakago. Tšhelang motswako wa go fetša mmala wa dijo o itšego ka komiking e nngwe le e nngwe go dira dipente tša mebala ya go se swane.

3. Go dira seswantšho ka go bataganya mebala Dirang seswantšho sa mmala le šomiša mmala o motee feela. Bana ba gago ba ka hwetša mmala wo ba o ratago ka dikuranteng le ka dimakasineng tša kgale. Ke moka ba ripe goba ba kgeile diriparipa tša mmala woo gomme ba di kgomaretše pampiring e kgolo.

4. Go terowa ka matapola goba sepontšhe Ripang matapola ka bogare gomme le ripe dibopego tše dingwe gape go matapola ao, goba dirang seo ka dipontšhe tše le sa di šomišego. Ke moka bana ba gago ba ka ina matapola ao goba diripana tša dipontšhe ka gare ga pente ke moka ba di gatiše godimo ga pampiri gore di terowe.

Ba ka gatiša le ka matlakala. Kgoboketšang matlakala a dibopego tše di fapafapanego. Bana ba penta lehlakore le tee la matlakala ke moka ba a sokološa gomme ba a gatiša godimo ga pampiri.

5. Seswantšho sa dibopego Ripang dibopego tša go se swane pampiring ya mmala gomme le šomišeng dibopego tšego go dira seswantšho. Dumelela bana ba gago go itirela diswantšho tša bona. Ba nee dikherayone gore ba kgabiše diswantšho tša bona tše ba di dirilego ka dibopego.

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.



Kamoo o ka dirišago dikanegelo tša rena ka ditsela tša go se swane

- 1. Anegela ngwana wa gago kanegelo.** Bala kanegelo gomme o itlwaetše go e anega. Ke moka diriša lentšu la gago, sefahlego le mmele go phediša kanegelo.
- 2. Balela ngwana wa gago kanegelo.** Boledišanang ka diswantšho. Mmotšiše gore, "O nagana gore go tlo direga eng ka morago?" goba "O nagana gore ke ka baka la'ng moanegwa yo a boletše selo se goba a dirile selo se?"
- 3. Bala kanegelo le ngwana wa gago.** Šiedišanang ka go bala kanegelo le le mmogo. O se ke wa mo phošolla mo a dirago dipošo, mo thuše feela ge a kgopela thušo.
- 4. Theetša ngwana wa gago ge a bala.** Mo theetše ntle le go mo tsena ganong. Mmotšiše gore o thabela go mo kwa a go balela.
- 5. Dirang mešongwana ya Dira gore kanegelo e be le bophelo!** Mešongwana ye e swanetše go thabiša wena le ngwana wa gago.

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.



May ke Kgwedi ya Hwetšwa o Bala!

May is Get-Caught-Reading Month!



Ka May, re na le matšatši a 31 a go gopotša batho ba mengwaga ka moka gore go bala go monate kudu bjang! A ke maele a kamoo o ka bago le moya wa Kgwedi ya Hwetšwa o Bala gomme wa thoma go phatlalatsa lethabo la go bala ka gae.

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. Balang dipuku tša dinonwane mmogo

Go bala dipuku tša dinonwane ke tsela e botse ya go hloheletša le batho bao ba tlogago ba dikadika go bala gore ba rate go bala. Dipuku tša dinonwane le tša diswantšho di monate ge le di bala mmogo, kudukudu ge le bala ka go šielana gomme le šomiša mantšu a go fapafapana go baanegwa.



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. Ngwalang lenaneo la dipuku, dimakasine, dikanegetelo le dihlogo tše le nyakago go di bala

Le le lapa, ngwalang seo yo mongwe le yo mongwe a nyakago go se bala ka May. Ke moka beang dilo tše ka moka lefelong le tee ka gae. Ka tsela yeo, yo mongwe le yo mongwe ka gae a ka hwetša gabonolo le kapejana seo a ratago go se bala.

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. Tlogelang dilo ka moka, le baleng

Beelang nako ka thoko le tšatši le tšatši moo yo mongwe le yo mongwe ka lapeng a tlogelago se a se dirago, gomme a tšea puku goba kanegelo, ke moka a bala! Akaretšang bana ba banyenyane ka go ba balela ka go hlaboša gore ba gole ba rata go bala.

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.

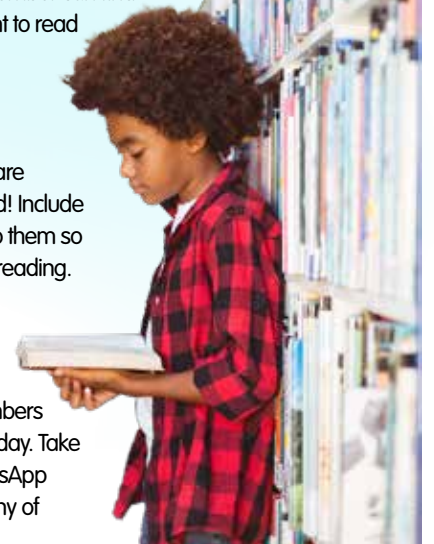
4. Bontšhang ba bangwe katlego ya lena!

Dirang maiteko a kgethegilego a go tšeela godimo go bala ka lapeng la lena. Reita ba lapa la gago – ba bagolo le ba banyenyane – ge ba bala le tšatši le tšatši. Tšeang dinepe gomme le di beeng go seteithase sa Watsapo. Gape le re romeleng tšona le šomiša mekero ya poledišano ya Nal'ibali.



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.



Godiša bokgobapuku bja gago.

Itlhamele dipuku tša ripa-o-boloke tše PEDI

- Nišha matlakala a **5** go fihla ka **12** a tlaleletšo ye.
- Letlakala la pampiri la go ba le matlakala a **5**, **6**, **11** le **12** le dira puku e tee. Letlakala la pampiri la matlakala a **7**, **8**, **9** le **10** a dira puku ye nngwe.
- Diriša letlakala la pampiri le lengwe le le lengwe go dira puku. Latela ditaelo tša ka tlase go dira puku ye nngwe le ye nngwe.
 - Mena letlakala ka bogare go bapela le mothaladi wa marontho a maso.
 - Le mene ka bogare gape go bapela le mothaladi wa marontho a matalamorogo.
 - Ripa go bapela le methaladi ya marontho a mahubedu.



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.



Drive your
imagination

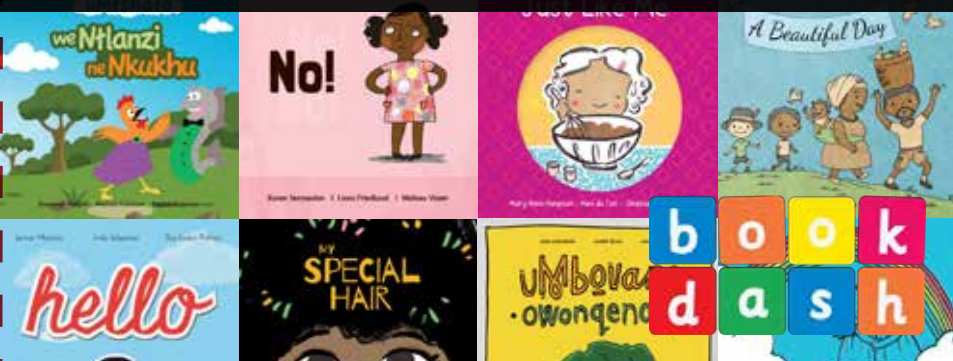
Muzi o tlelwa ke kgopolo e mpsaha ya go aga selo se sebotse go di phala ka moka. Muzi has a new idea for building the best thing ever.



At the bus stop, Muzi is amazed. He sees red things and blue things. Small things and big things. New things and old things. Boemapeseng, Muzi o maketše. O bona dilo tše dihwibidu le tše talalerata. Dilo tše dingyane le tše dikgolo. Dilo tše diswa le tša kgale.



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.

Dira gore kanegelo e be le bophelo!

- ★ Terowa seswantšho sa selo se o ka ratago go se aga ka dilo tša go lahlwa. Ka fase ga seswantšho seo, ngwala lefoko le tee goba a mabedi la go hlalosa se o se agilego le motho yo o ka ratago go mo fa selo seo.
- ★ Ke dilo dife tše dingwe tše Muzi a di šomišitšego go agela Koko ntlo ya thoye?
- ★ Nyaka dikonope tša kgale, dipheta, dilo tša go lahlwa tšeo di ka šomišegago gape, letsopa goba folouru ya go bapadiša gomme o ikagele ntlwana.

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.



Nal'ibali ke lesolo la go-balela-boipshino la boseshaba la go utolla le go tsenyeletša setšo sa go bala go selaganya Afrika Borwa ka bophara. Go hwetša tshedimošo ye nngwe, etela www.nalibali.org.

The best thing ever



Selo se sebotse go di phala ka moka

*Melissa Fagan • Lauren Nel
Stefania Origgi*

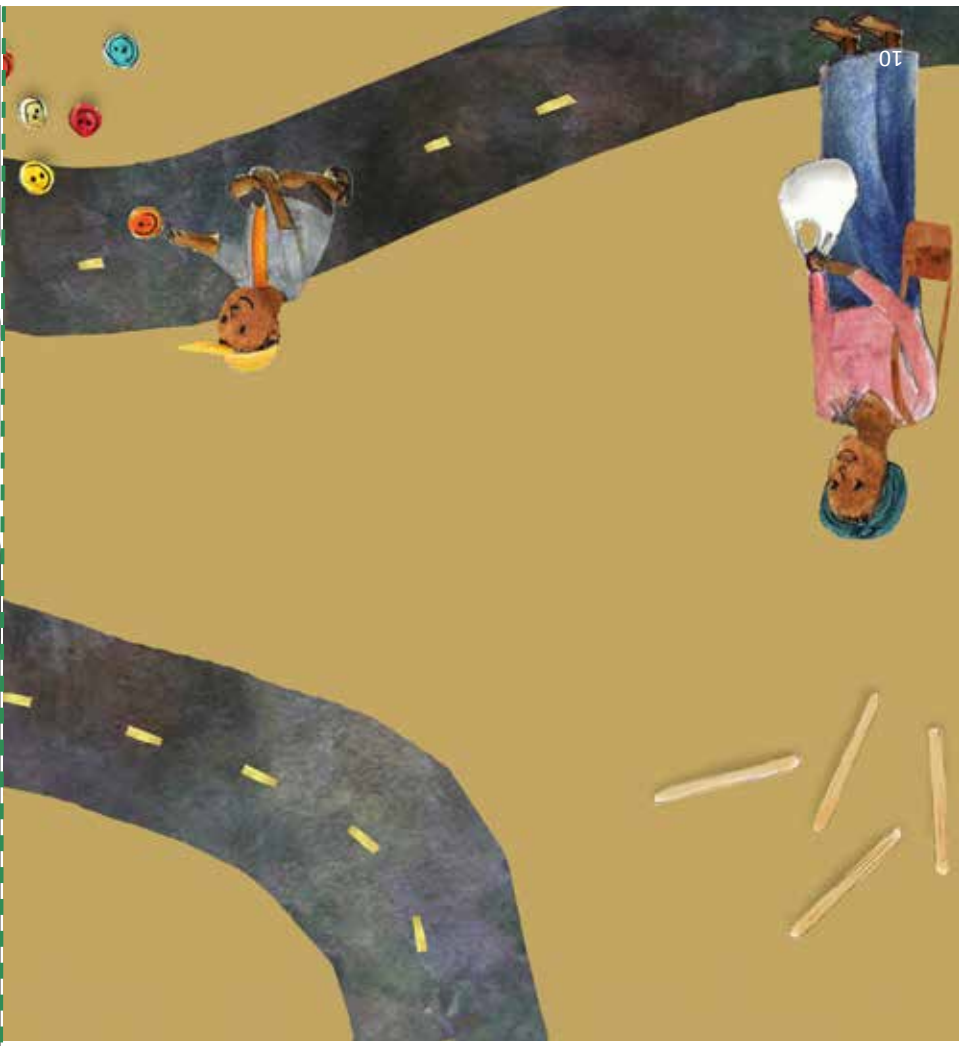
Ideas to talk about: What is your "best thing ever"? Is it something that you will share with others? Look at the cover of this booklet. What do you think the story is about?

Dikgopolo tše le ka bolelago ka tšona: Selo "se sebotse go di phala ka moka" ke eng go wena? Na ke selo seo o ka se abelanago le ba bangwe? Lebelela letlakala la ka ntle la pukwana ye? O nagana gore kanegelo ya gona e bolela ka eng?

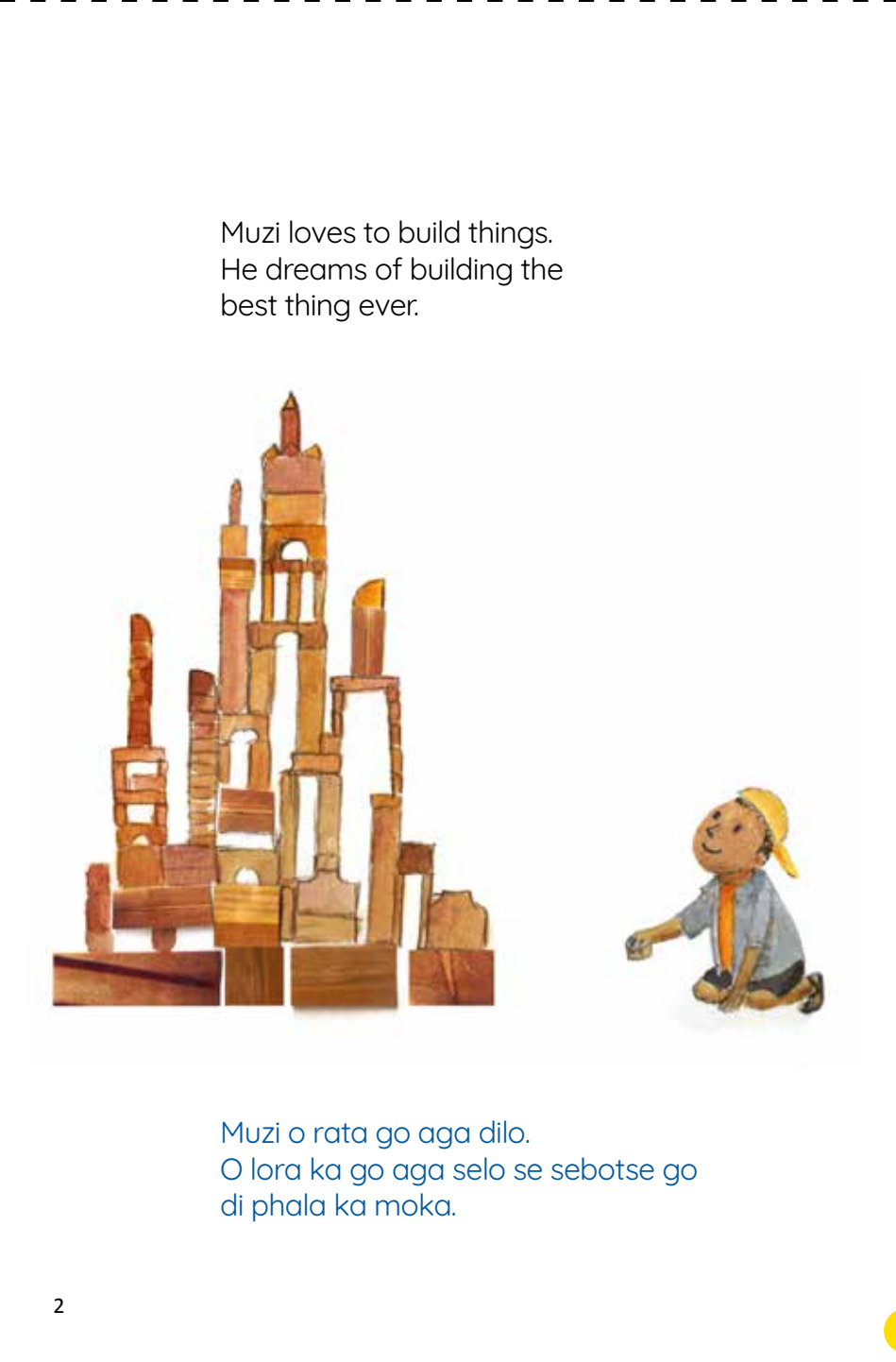




He is sad. Without his toys, how can he build the best thing ever?
 O nyamile. Ntle le ditlhoye tša gagwe, o tla aga bjang selo se sebotse go di phala ka moka?



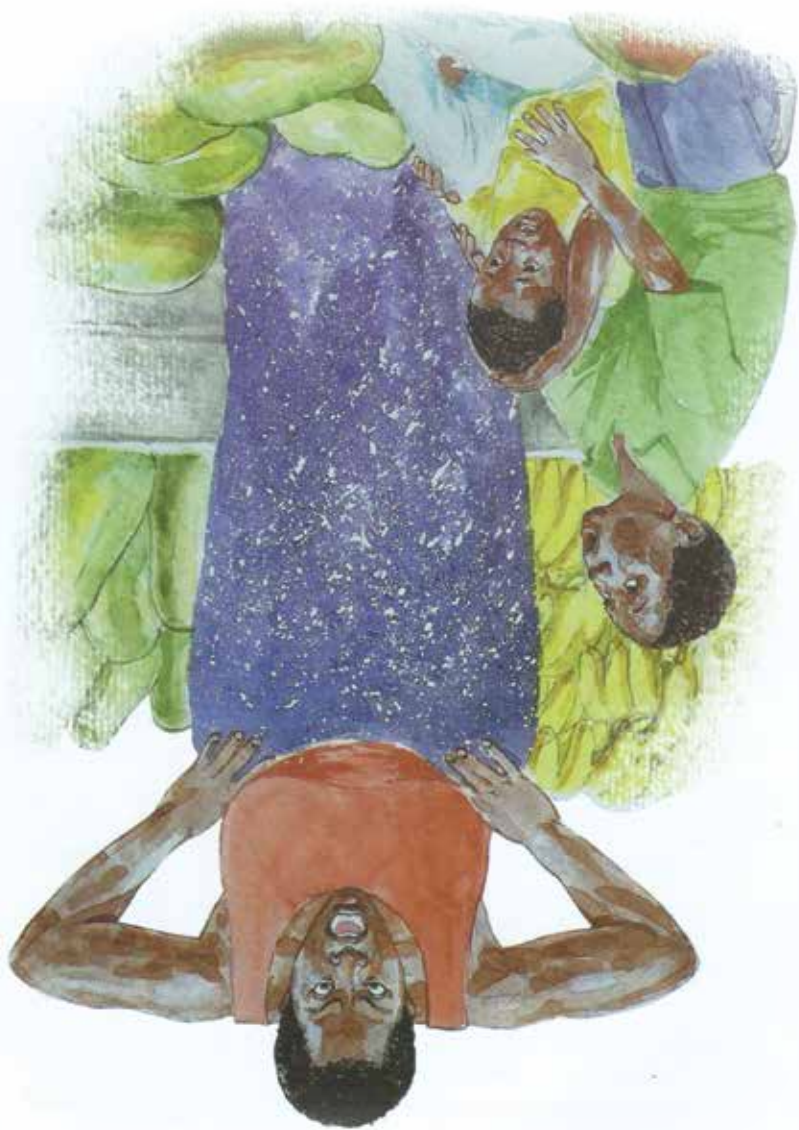
On the road to uGogo's, Muzi finds many things. Long things and short things. Round things and square things.
 Tseleng ya go ya go koko, Muzi o hwetša dilo tše dintši.
 Dilo tše dithelele le tše dikopana. Dilo tša nkgokolo le tša dikhona.



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

Muzi o rata go aga dilo. O lora ka go aga selo se sebotse go di phala ka moka.





Gateete re kwa re kgometswa. Ra tekateka gomme ra wela godimo ga diphopho. Bale tse dingwe tsa tsona di pshatlagane. Ke tshwenyegile gore Pwai a se be a gobetsa, cupsa ke thabile go bona a sega. O a itatswa phopho ye e salatsago mo letsogong.

Gateete mosadi wa go rekisa diphopho tseo o ile a inamela Pwai gomme a mo omanyana, "Naa o a tseba gore phopho ke bokae? O pshatle diphopho tse pedi. Mphe tshelere ya ka gona bale?"

"There is a sudden push from behind. We stagger and land on some pawpaws. Now some of them are squashed. I am worried that Pwai 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 Pwai, '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.

Go hwetša tshedimošo ka botlalo hle emeilela info@heartlines.org.za goba o leletše (011) 771 2540.

Get story active!

- ★ What do you think of the way that the pawpaw seller behaved towards Pasi and Pwai? 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 Pwai got home, what do you think their mother said and did?

Dira gore kanegelo e be le bophelo!

- ★ O nagana eng ka tsela ye morekisi wa diphopho a swerego Pasi le Pwai ka yona? Ke eng se sengwe se nkabego a se boletše le/goba go se dira ge a hwetša gore bašemane ba ba pshatlagantše diphopho ka phošo?
- ★ Terowa seswantšho sa mmaraka.
- ★ Diragatšang ka mokgwa wa papadi, se le naganago gore se diragetše ka morago ga gore kanegelo e fele. Ge Pasi le Pwai ba fiha gae, le nagana gore mmago bona o itše'ng goba o dirile eng?

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.



Nal'ibali ke lesolo la go-balela-boipshino la boseshaba la go utolla le go tsenyeletša setšo sa go bala go selaganya Afrika Borwa ka bophara. Go hwetša tshedimošo ye nngwe, etela www.nalibali.org.



Drive your
imagination

The market Superman



Suphamene wa mmarakeng

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?

Dikgopolo tše le ka bolelago ka tšona: Ge o be o ka ba le matla a go dira mehlolo, o be o ka rata gore e be a mohuta mang? Naa o be o tla a šomiša go thuša batho goba wena o nnoši? O be o tla dira eng ka matla ao a gago?

Re feta kgaswi le mafelo a mantši a go pakilwego mkgobo ya dikwaba tša go nkgala tša go butšwa kudu. Re bona mafodi, dimake le didoo. Re bona le dinamune. Mmarakane o mongwe ke mkgobo o mogolo wa dikhabetše. Ba bangwe ba rekisa diponkisi le dinawa tše tala. Go na le porokholi le khohfolawa ya ditšhila. Mma o rata feela khohfolawa ge e le e tšhweu twal

Gape go na le ba go rekisa dipheterere tše khwibidu tša go baba. Pwai o tseba pheterere ye ka gore Tate o kile a mo latšwa yona gomme a gohlola le go lla go fhlela Mma a mo nea maswi.

Ga re kgone go sepediša mmarakeng. Re tšama re thulana le batho. Ba bangwe ba a re kgarametša, gomme ba bangwe ba bogale. Pwai ke yo monyenyane mo e lego gore ba bangwe ga ba mmona, ka goma ke swanelwa ke go mo šireletša. Ke duma ge nkabe Mma a idetše ka noši go tlo ithekela lefodi. Gabjale re kgaswi le go fhla lefelong la mafodi. Ke šetše ke bona mkgobo wa ona o mogolo.



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.

Pwai 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.

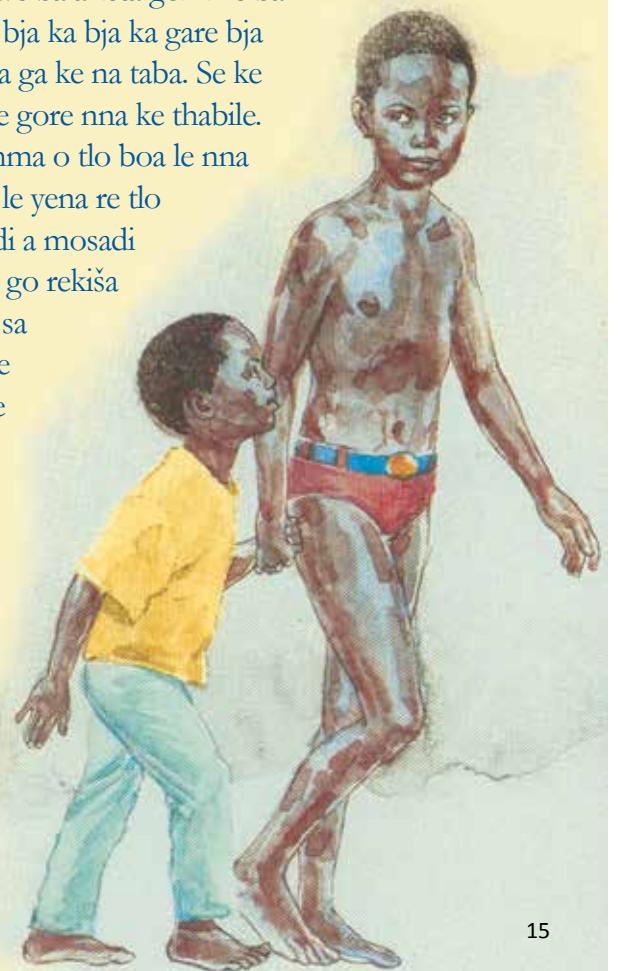
“I am very sorry, Madam, it was an accident,” I say. “Also, will you talk to me and not my brother, he can’t hear you because he is deaf.”

“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.”

Ntle le go nagana, ke hlobola hempe, dieta le borokgo gomme ka mo nea tšona. O a di tšea gomme o a gwanta šole! Ke boela gae ke swere Piwai ka letsogo. Ke šetše feela ka borokgwana bja ka bja ka gare bja Suphamene bja mmala o talalerata wa go tswakana le o mohwibidu.

Bana ba bangwe ba a feta gomme ba sega borokgwana bja ka bja ka gare bja Suphamene, eupša ga ke na taba. Se ke se tsebago feela ke gore nna ke thabile. Ke a tseba gore mma o tlo boa le nna mmarakeng. Nna le yena re tlo lokiša mararankodi a mosadi yo a galefilego wa go rekiša diphopho. Eupša sa bohlokwa kudu ke gore ke phološitše ngwanagešo.

Ke nna
Suphamen wa
mmarakeng!



Piwai ga a kwešise se se diragago. Ke bona a thoma go sekasckisa meckgo ka gore sefahlego sa mosadi yo wa go galefa se a mo tšhoša. Ke pšhile le mare ka gamong ke re, “Ke maswabi hle Mme, ba re kgarameditše. Ga se ra le senyetša ka boomo.”

“Ga se la ntshenyetsa? Ee, ga se la ntshenyetsa, eupša le senyeditše diphopho tše tša ka. Ke se le se ditlego!” o omanya bjalo.

Ke tšhogile, eupša ga ke sa tseba gore ke reng. Ga se ka tswela go galefwa ke batho ba bagolo ka tšela ye. Mosadi yo o hwibitše sefahlego, o sa omanya Piwai. Piwai o nyamile kudu e bile o lla ka go hlaboša. Ke swanetše go tloga go mosadi yo wa go galefa.

“Tšhwarelo hle Mme, ke phošo,” ke realo. “Gape ke kgopela gore le bolele le ma, e sego ngwana gešo, ga a le kwe ka gore ke sefoa.”

“Ke mokar? o a goletša, a retha fase ka leoto. Ke moka o bona tšhelete ye ke e swerego.” Wena mošeman, ke tšhelete ye o e swerego?” O realo a šutša bjalo ka tšhukudu ye e tšewego ke pelo.

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.

Leina la ka ke Pasi. Ke na le mengwaga e lesome gomme ke dula motseng wa Mbare, Zimbabwe. Ntlo ya gešo e kgauswi le mmara o mogolo wa go tuma wa merogo le dienywa. Lehono re tlo ba le baeng, gomme mma o swaregile ka go apea ka khitšhing. Ke kgona go kwa monkgo wa dijo tše a di apeago ke le mo ke ralokago le Piwai.

“Pasi, ngwanaka, etla mo,” gwa realo Mma a bitša a le ka khitšhing. Ke ya go yena, gomme o re, “Eya mmarakeng o yo nthekela lefodi. Ke go fa metsotso e mehlano.”

Ke dumela ka hlogo ge Mma a mpha mokotla le tšhelete. Ke ya go rwala dieta. Piwai o a ntatela, le yena o rwala dieta tša gagwe. Piwai ke ngwana gešo. O na le mengwaga e meraro. Piwai ke sefoa.

“Piwai o nyaka go ya le nna,” e le nna ke goletša Mma. “Pasi, ga ke nyake Piwai a sepela le wena. Ke hloka lefodi leo gona bjale.”

Ke šia Piwai. Ge ke be ke etšwa ka ntlong, o be a sa lwa le go rwala seeta sa bobedi.



“Pasi, Pasi,” gwa realo Mma a mpitša gape. Ke a retologa gomme ke mmona a eme mojakong le Pwai. Pwai marama a detše meokgo. “Go kaone o sepele le Pwai. cupša le boeng ka pela.”

Mmarakeng ke lemaema. Batho ke ba bantši e bile ba tladiše lešata, ba a bolela, ba a reka, ba a rekša, ba kuka dilo, ba rwelc dilo mola ba bangwe ba kgarametša dilo. Pwai o sega monna wa go rekša dinamune. O ralokšetša dinamune tše tharo moyeng. O re mang le mang yo a ka mo ekšago o tla hwetša dinamune ka theko ya fase. Ke diparela letsogo la Pwai ge re dutše re šwahla ka gare ga lešaba leo la batho.

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 papraw. Then she says, “I will take this money and your brother until you bring money for the other papraw?”

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.

Ke dumela ka hlogo. Go bonala batho ba bangwe mmarakeng ba sa bone mosadi yo le se a re dirago sona. Ke be ke ipona ke se selo ge ke ipapetša le mosadi yo yo mogolo le yo a beletšwego.

Mosadi o mphamola mokotla le tšhele. O bala tšhele yeo gomme o re e ka kgona go letlela phopho e tee feela. Ke moka o re, “Ke tšca tšhele ye le ngwana gemo go fhlela o tšša tšhele ya phopho ya bobedi.”

Ka omela. Nka se dlogle Pwai mo. Mosadi yo o na le Nka se mo dlogle. Ke thoma go fufulelwa le pelo ya ka e betha ka maada.



“Pasi, Pasi,” Mother calls again. I turn around and see her standing at the door with Pwai. His cheeks are wet with tears. “You had better take Pwai. Please hurry.”

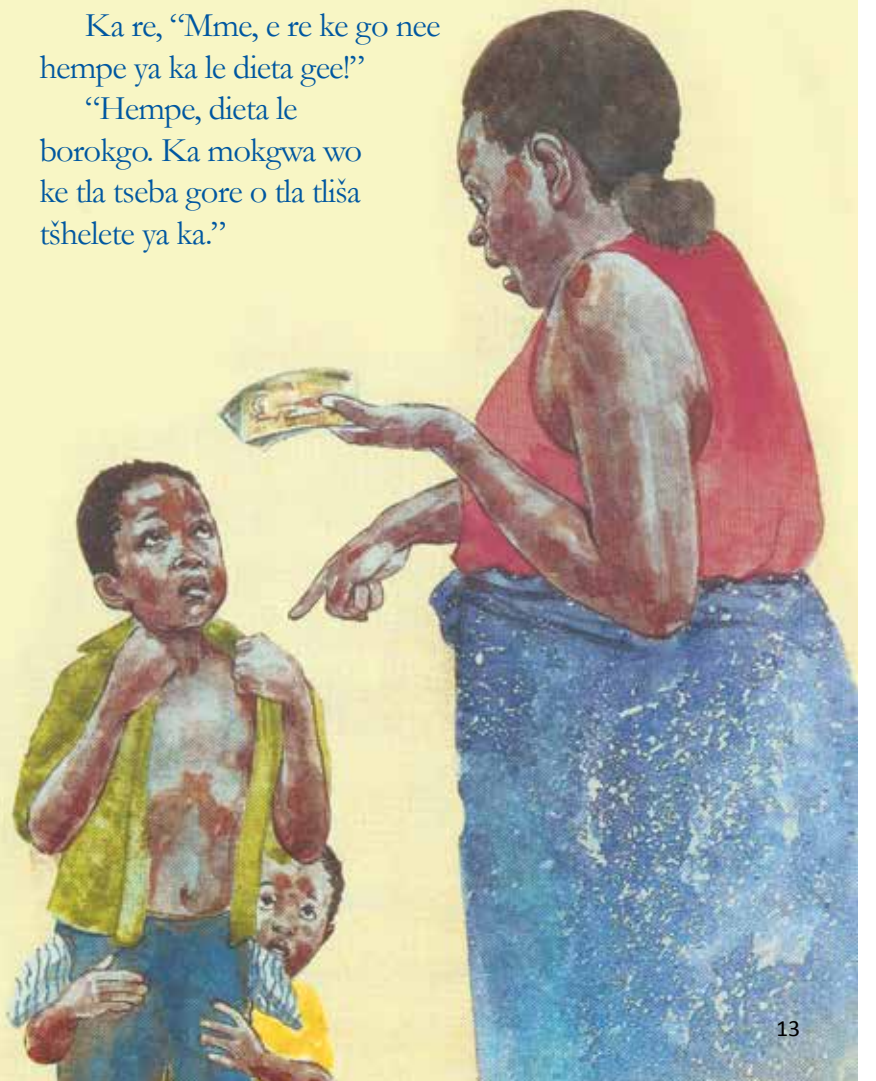
It is busy at the market. There are many people shouting and talking, buying and selling, lifting, carrying and pushing. Pwai laughs at the man selling oranges. He is juggling three oranges in the air. He shouts that anybody who can do the same can get a discount. I hold Pwai’s hand firmly as we weave through the forest of people.

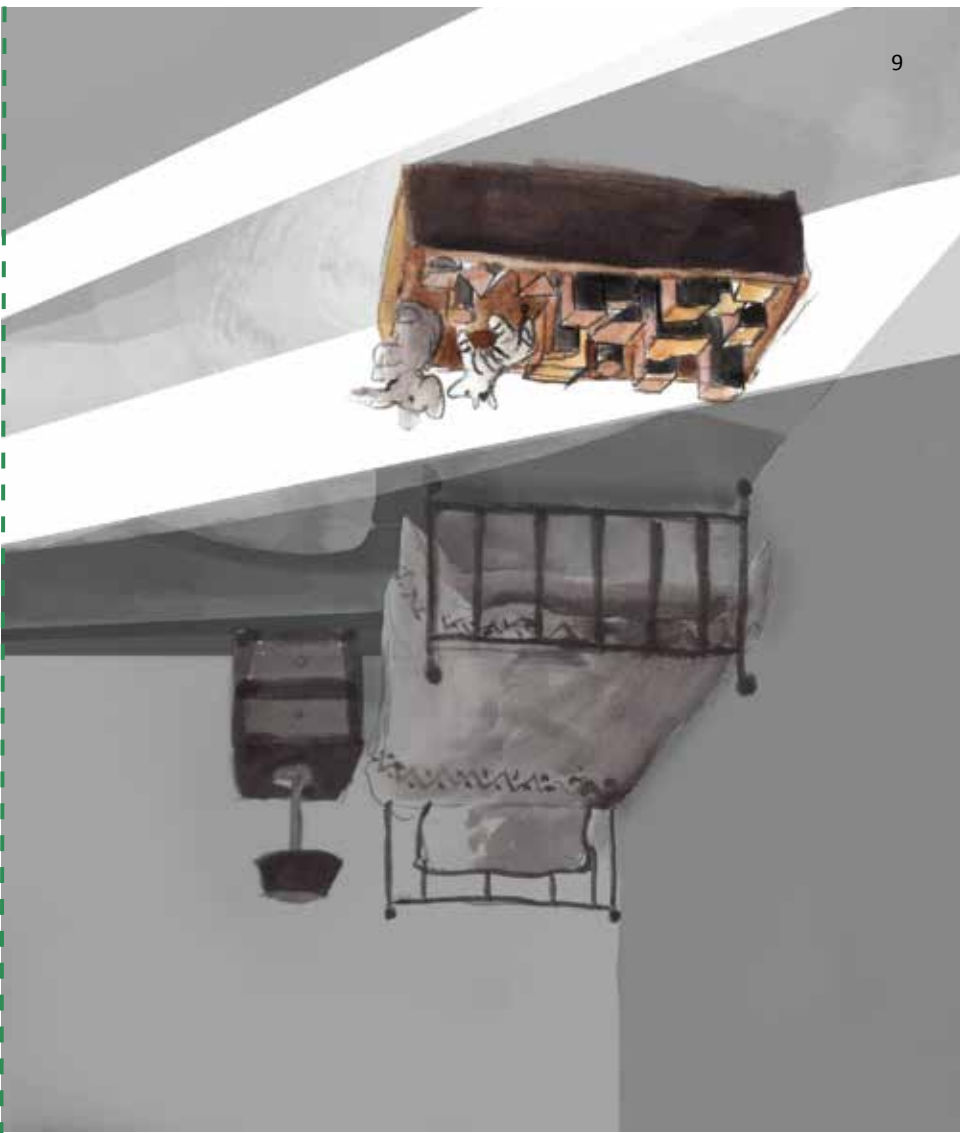
“Madam, can I give you my shirt and shoes instead?” I manage to ask.

“Your shirt, shoes and trousers will do. That way I know you will bring my money.”

Ka re, “Mme, e re ke go nee hempe ya ka le dieta gee!”

“Hempe, dieta le borokgo. Ka mokgwa wo ke tla tseba gore o tla tliša tšhelete ya ka.”





Today Muzi is going to
visit uGogo.
Lehono, Muzi o etela
Koko.



By the riverside, Muzi finds more things.
Soft things and pointy things. Green things
and brown things.
Kgawswi le noka, Muzi o hwetša dilo tše dintši.
Dilo tša boleta le tša go hlabā. Dilo tše ditāla le
tše porawene.



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

“Ijo, Muzi,” gwa realo Koko a sega, “O nkagetše ntlo. Se ke selo se sebotse go di phala ka moka!”

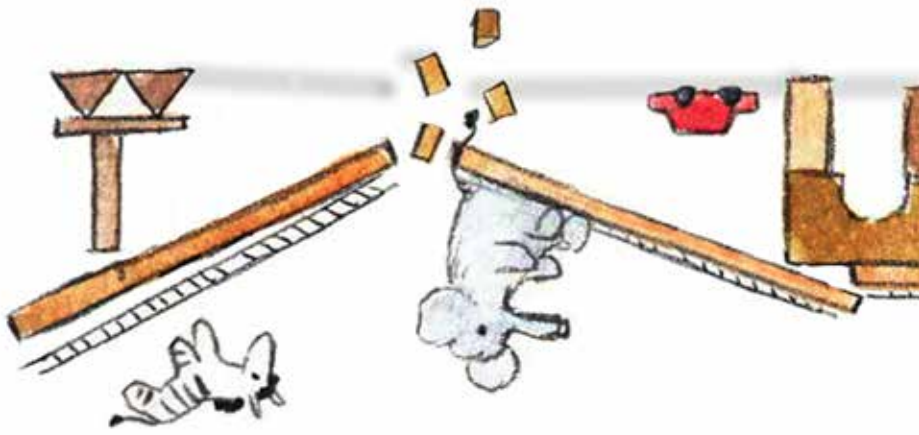


Once he built a shelter for his toys.

O kile a agela dithoye tša gagwe ntlwana.

But it wasn't the best thing ever.

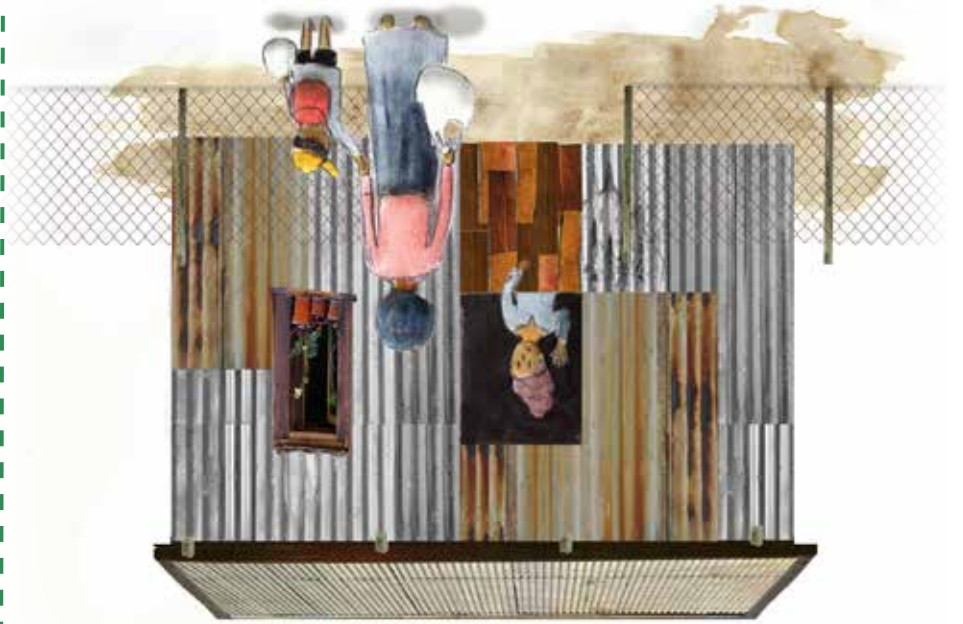
Eupša ntlwana yeo e be e se selo se sebotse go di phala ka moka.



It was a good thing,
 But not the best...
 Le be le kgahliša. Eupša
 e se selo sa go di phala
 ka moka ...

Yesterday he built a bridge
 for his animals.

Maabane o agetše diphoofolo tša
 gagwe leporogo.



Look, Muzi! We are here.
 Muzi, bono! Re fihille.



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

Ge Koko a pakela baeti
 bao ba swerwego ke
 tlaša ...
 Muzi yena o a aga.

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

“Koko, Koko!
 Lefase le tletše
 ka dithoye.
 Bona gore
 ke kgona go
 aga eng,”
 gwa realo
 Muzi.



**Difolaga
tše 54 tša
Afrika!**

**54 flags
for Africa!**

Dirisa wulu e tshesane le diphini go dira gore folaga nngwe le nngwe e lebagane le naga ya yona.

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

**BO DIKELA BJA SAHARA
WESTERN SAHARA**

**MAURITANIA
MAURITANIA**

**BURKINA FASO
BURKINA FASO**

**MALI
MALI**

**MOROCCO
MOROCCO**

**ALGERIA
ALGERIA**

**TUNISIA
TUNISIA**

**NIGER
NIGER**

**LIBYA
LIBYA**

**CHAD
CHAD**

**REPABLIKI YA BOGARE BJA AFRIKA
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

**EGIPITA
EGYPT**

**CAPE VERDE
CAPE VERDE**

**SENEGAL
SENEGAL**

**GAMBIA
GAMBIA**

**GUINEE-BISSAU
GUINEA-BISSAU**

**GUINEA
GUINEA**

**SIERRA LEONE
SIERRA LEONE**

**LIBERIA
LIBERIA**

**COTE D'IVOIRE
COTE D'IVOIRE**

**GHANA
GHANA**

**TOGO
TOGO**

**EQUATORIAL GUINEA
EQUATORIAL GUINEA**

**SÃO TOMÉ LE PRINCIPE
SÃO TOMÉ AND PRINCIPE**

**GABON
GABON**

**CONGO
CONGO**

**CAMEROON
CAMEROON**

**NIGERIA
NIGERIA**

**REPABLIKI YA BOGARE BJA AFRIKA
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

**BORWA BJA SUDAN
SOUTH SUDAN**

**ETHIOPIA
ETHIOPIA**

**SOMALIA
SOMALIA**

**UGANDA
UGANDA**

**KENYA
KENYA**

**ANGOLA
ANGOLA**

**ZAMBIA
ZAMBIA**

**MALAWI
MALAWI**

**MOZAMBIQUE
MOZAMBIQUE**

**MADAGASCAR
MADAGASCAR**

**NAMIBIA
NAMIBIA**

**BOTSWANA
BOTSWANA**

**LESOTHO
LESOTHO**

**AFRIKA BORWA
SOUTH AFRICA**

**ESWATINI
ESWATINI**

**LESOTHO
LESOTHO**

**MADAGASCAR
MADAGASCAR**

**SEYCHELLES
SEYCHELLES**

**COMOROS
COMOROS**

**MAURITIUS
MAURITIUS**

**MADAGASCAR
MADAGASCAR**

**GABON
GABON**

**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO**

**ANGOLA
ANGOLA**

**ZAMBIA
ZAMBIA**

**NAMIBIA
NAMIBIA**

**BOTSWANA
BOTSWANA**

**AFRIKA BORWA
SOUTH AFRICA**

**LESOTHO
LESOTHO**

**ESWATINI
ESWATINI**

**ZIMBABWE
ZIMBABWE**

**MALAWI
MALAWI**

**MOZAMBIQUE
MOZAMBIQUE**



Talente ya sekhukhununu

Ka Vianne Venter ■ Diswantšho ka Heidel Dedekind



Mafelelong go be go fihlile letšatši la moletlo wa gore dikhukhwane di fiwe difoka! Dikhukhwane ka moka di be di tšhogile kudu. Ke mang a bego a tla thopa sefoka sa go ba le matla goba sa ralebelo wa maleba? Ke mang a bego a tla thopa sefoka sa go ba botsana goba sa go ba yo bohlale? Gohle mo o lebelelago, dikhukhwane di be di eya godimo le fase, di itshenka manakana le go loutša mabokgoni a tšona, di kgantšhetsana le go rumulana. Eupša, e sego sekhukhununu.

"Ola, ola! Na wena ga se wa tšhoga Sekhukhununu?" gwa botšiša Lephene le e tla le kitima.

"Mang, nna?" gwa realo Sekhukhununu. "Nna ga go se se ntšhošago. Ga ke na lebelo go swana le wena Lephene. Ga go yo a go fetago ka lebelo."

"Ka nnete? Ke a leboga Sekhukhununu," gwa realo Lephene le myemyela. "Eh, Mohumagatšana Mmasebotsana šoowe o e tla... E re ke sepele. Ke tla go bona." La realo Lephene le kitima.



"Hallo," gwa realo Serurubele, se dutše se phupusetša maphego a sona letšatšing. "Sekhukhununu, o ska tlwaela go bolela le sekebekwa sela."

"Aa Lephene ga le na bothata. Le lokile kudu... ge o ka le tlwaela," gwa realo Sekhukhununu se sega.

"Hai, moriri wo mara!" gwa realo Serurubele, se leka go lokiša moriri wa sona. "E be ke bomang ba tlo thopago difoka lehono."

"Nna yena nka se thope selo, ke na le bonnete bja seo," gwa realo Sekhukhununu se sega. "Ga ke botsana go swana le wena Serurubele. Ga go na yo a go phalago ka bobotse."

"Eish, Sekhukhununu, o ntheta kudu," gwa realo Serurubele se myemyela le bobotsana bja sona. "Ai, Tsebanyana šewe e e tla!" gwa realo Serurubele, se okeiša ka go sebaseba gore, "Hai, le go ba khukhwane ga se khukhwane, wa tseba." Ge Serurubele se boletše bjalo, sa fofa gore se yo iphošonka.

Segokgo sa ikgogela go Sekhukhununu se akgofile, se dutše se bolela se nnoši se re, "... pedi hlakantšha le pedi ke nne, nne hlakantšha le nne ke seswai, seswai hlakantšha le seswai ke lesometshela, lesometshela... Ola Sekhukhununu! Ei, serurubelenyana sela se a ipona ne? Ga se tsebe gore e no ba selotsoko?"

"Hei, wena Segokgo," gwa realo Sekhukhununu se sega. "Serurubele se no ba se rata bobotse."

"Ga se taba ya gore o bogega bjang wa tseba! Ke taba ya gore ka mo go na le eng!" gwa realo Segokgo, se bethabetha hlago ya sona ka monwana. "Monna kgale ke dutše ke bala. Ke tloga ke nyaka go thopa mmetale wa go ba khukhwane ya go hlalefa kudu. Wena?"

"Aa, lehono nka se thope selo. Ga ke bohlale go swana le wena Segokgo. O khukhwane e bohlale go re phala ka moka!"

"Ka nnete? Ke leboga mantišu ao Sekhukhununu! O na le botho e le ruri... Oh, eh! Tšhošwane šowe o e tla. Ga ke na nako ya memenekano ya gagwe. Ke sa ilo bala gape," gwa realo Segokgo, se tšama se gata kua le kua.

Tšhošwane ya tla e rwele leswika la go e feta ganne ka bogolo! Sekhukhununu sa tšhoga ge Tšhošwane e le lahlela fase: *kutuu!* "Mpotše mo Sekhukhununu, Mohumagatšana Ke-tseba-dilo-ka-moka o be a re'ng?"

"Aowa Tšhošwane, se bolele bjalo hle!" gwa realo Sekhukhununu. "Segokgo o no ba a ithatela go bala. Wena Tšhošwane, o a tseba gore ka moka re ka se be boramaatla go swana le wena."

Tšhošwane ya phaphatha Sekhukhununu ka magetleng, e sega. "Yaa, ke na le matla ne? Bjale mpotše, wena o tlo thopa sefoka sefe lehono?"

"Eish Tšhošwane, nna yena ga ke tsebe selo," gwa realo Sekhukhununu se nyamile. "Ga ke na lebelo, ga ke botsana, ga ke bohlale, e bile ga ke na matla, Ke no ba khukhwane ya go se re selo."

"Eh, ke nagana gore o khukhwane ya go se re selo ye kaone," gwa realo Tšhošwane. "Ke nagana gore o re phala ka moka... Bona, e šetše e le nako ya moletlo wa go fiwa difoka. Ga o tle?" Tšhošwane e ile ya akgofera leswikeng leo dikhukhwane ka moka di bego di kgobokane go lona bakeng sa moletlo wa go thopa difoka, gomme Sekhukhununu sa ikgoga sa sepela le yona.

Dikhukhwane ka moka di be di homotše. Mmaselepiana o ile a emišetša mmetale wa mathomo godimo. "Ngwageng wo mmetale wa khukhwane ya lebelo-belo, o ya go... Lephene!" gwa realo Mmaselepiana. Dikhukhwane ka moka tša betha matsogo. Sekhukhununu sa betha matsogo ka matla-matla.

"Mmetale wa khukhwane e botsebotse...," gwa realo Mmaselepiana, "... o ya go... Serurubele!" Bohle ba goeletša ka lethabo. Sekhukhununu sa goeletša le go feta.

"Mmetale wa khukhwane e bohlalehlale o ya go... Segokgo!" gwa realo Mmaselepiana. Gwa kwala ge lešaba ka moka le re wuuuu! Sekhukhununu sa realo le go feta.

Go be go šetše mmetale o mo tee feela. "Mmetale wa khukhwane ya go ba le matla kudu o ya go... Tšhošwane!" gwa realo Mmaselepiana a myemyela. Dikhukhwane ka moka di ile tša goeletša ka lethabo le go kibakiba fase ka maoto. Sekhukhununu se myemyela se ntšhiše le meno a moseo. Se be se thabetše bagwera ba sona!

Ge dikhukhwane ka moka di homotše, Mmaselepiana a re, "Sa mafelelo, ngwageng wo re na le mmetale wa go ikgetha... sefoka sa go di phala ka moka, e bile khukhwane ya gona e boutetše ke lena ka moka. Sefoka se ke sa moswananoši, ke sa maemo a godimodimo..." gwa realo Mmaselepiana a gaša mahlo ka mo le ka mo. Ke moka mahlo a gagwe a magolo a tsepelela khukhwane e tee feela. Ye ke khukhwane ya go se re selo, ya go tlwaelega, yeo e sego ya tuma ka selo. "Mmetale wa moswananoši, wa maemo a godimodimo, o ya go... Sekhukhununu."

Sekhukhununu se ile sa ba sa nyaka se idibala ka makalo. "N-n-a?" sa realo se kakametša. "Eupša... eupša nna ga ke kgone selo mos. Ga ke na bokgoni go swana le ba bangwe." Sekhukhununu se be se sa kwešiše. Se be se nagana gore go dirilwe phošo. Eupša bagwera ba sona ka moka ba be ba thabile le sona, go le bjalo ka ge eka ba tseba selo se sengwe seo sona se sa se tsebego.

"Sekhukhununu morategi," gwa realo Mmaselepiana a myemyela. "Nna le dikhukhwane tše dingwe re rata go go nea mmetale wo wa gauta... ka gobane o khukhwane e botho kudu gare ga rena ka moka."

"O sekgwari!" gwa goeletša Lephene.

"Ga o khukhwane ya go se re selo le gatee," gwa realo Serurubele se myemyela.

"O khukhwane ya go ikgetha!" gwa realo Segokgo.

"O wa moswananoši Sekhukhununu! Ga go yo a swanago le wena! Talente ya gago ke go ba le botho," gwa realo Tšhošwane.

"Eupša... eupša ka moka re ba botho mos," gwa realo Sekhukhununu se gakanegile.

"O bolela nnete, Sekhukhununu," gwa realo Mmaselepiana. "Ka moka re ka ba botho, eupša ke wena feela o dulago o le botho ka dinako tšohle."

Ke moka bagwera ba Sekhukhununu ba se kukela godimo, ba goeletša ka lethabo ba dutše ba se rwele dihlogong, ba namelela leswika go ba go fihla ntlaneng ya lona.



Sekhukhununu ga sa nka sa kwa bose ka tselo ye le go thaba bophelong bja sona ka moka. Mantišu feela ao se bego se a bolela ka go sebaseba e be e le a gore, "Bagwera ba ka ka moka ba botho gore!"

Dira gore kanegelo e be le bophelo!

★ Ka dinako tše dingwe mpho ya rena ga seo re kgonago go se direla ba bangwe, eupša ke kamoo re dirago gore ba ikwe ka gona. Wena talente ya gago e ikgethago ke eng?

★ Naa o sa gopola gore khukhwane e nngwe le e nngwe e be e kgona eng? Ngwala maina a dikhukhwane ka moka tša kanegelong. Ke moka, kgauswi le khukhwane e nngwe le e nngwe, ngwala seo e kgonago go se dira.

★ Bjale ngwala maina a batho ba lego ka geno ka moka, ke moka o ngwale gore yo mongwe le yo mongwe o kgona eng, go akaretša le wena.



Drive your
inagination



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!



Boipshino bja Na'ibali

Na'ibali fun



1.

Beakanya maletere a gore a bope maina a merogo le dienywa tše Pasi le Piwai ba di bonego mmarakeng kanegelong ya, *Suphamene wa mmarakeng*.

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*?



adibkwa

hkwoliolafa

škaethbe

undiamen

Irokhpooi

dilfeo

saausgv

fauleliocrw

acebabg

ragosen

cliorocb

mkinupp

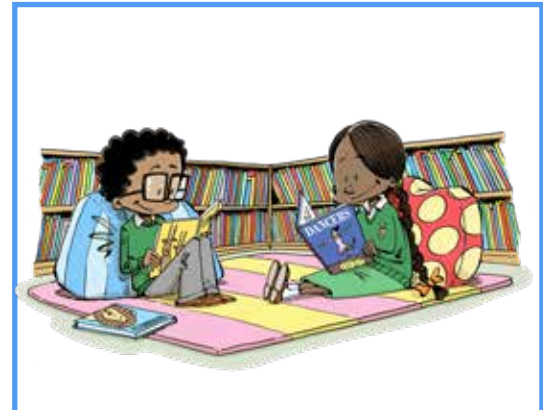


2.

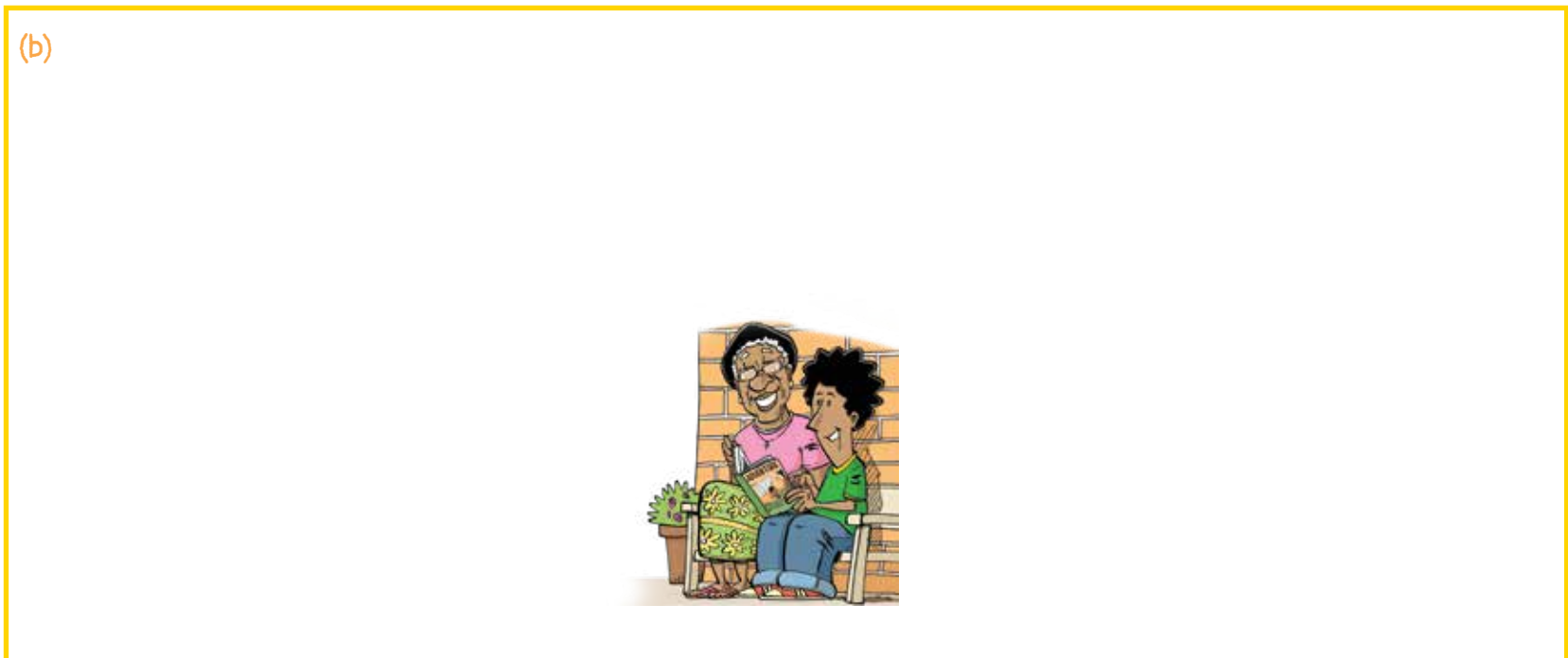
a) O nagana gore batho ba ba hweditšwe ba bala kae?
b) Terowa seswantšho sa lefelo le o naganago gore Koko le Josh ba bala ba dutše go lona!

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)



Na'ibali e fa go go hlohletša le go go thekga. **Ikopanye le rena** ka efe goba efe ya ditsela tše:

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

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