

NAL'IBALI

Indlela yokukhuthaza abafundi abamadolonzima



How to encourage reluctant readers

Ezinye izingane ziyakwazi ukuhlala zithule isikhathi eside zilalele indaba zisembhedeni, kanti ezinye azihlaliseki. Ezinye izingane zifunda izincwadi ngaso lesa sikhathi, kanti ezinye zidinga ukukhuthazwa ngokwengeziwe. Lokhu kuyinto evamile. Ingane ngayinye ihlukile, futhi izinto ezijabulelayo ziyashintsha kakhulu njengoba iqhubeka ikhula.

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 zingafuni ukufunda?

Ngezinye izikhathi abantu bacabanga ukuthi "umfundi oamadolonzima" njalo kuba "ngumfundi ongakwazi kahle ukufunda" – okungelona neze iqiniso.

- Abafundi abamadolonzima ngokuvamile kuba yizingane ezihlakaniphile ezingakaze zijwayelane nezincwadi.
- Mhlawumbe azikhulelanga ngaphansi kwesiko-mpilo lokufunda.
- Mhlawumbe azikaze zibe nezincwadi ezazikwenza kube nengqondo kuzo ukufunda.
- Noma zazingekho izindaba ezazitholakala ngolimi lwazo ezaluncela.



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.

Ungazenza kanjani zikujabulele ukufunda?

- Gxila ezintweni ezizenza kahle, hhayi ezintweni ezisilelayo kuzo**
Ezinye izingane zikuthola kuyinselele ukufunda, ngakho cishe azinakukukhetha ukufunda njengendlela yokuzithokozisa. Okungcono kakhulu ukuba uzame ukubuyisa ukujabulela ukufunda. Thola indaba noma opopayi ezibathandayo noma uziqambele indaba! Ungaziphoqi izingane zakho ukuba zifunde izincwadi ezingafuni ukuzifunda. Ukufunda kufanele kujabulise, kukwenze uphumule futhi kube umdlalo ojabulisayo ezinganeni!
- Ukubona izinto eziningi ezahlukahlukeni**
Vakashelani elayibhrari noma ezitolo zezincwadi futhi uvumele izingane zakho zikhethe izincwadi ezifuna ukuzifunda. Ukufunda incwadi ethile kungcono kunokungafundi nhlobo, ngakho ungakhathazeki uma izincwadi izingane zakho ezizikhethayo zibukeka zilula kakhulu kuzo, noma uma zikhuluma ngezihloko ocabanga ukuthi azibalulekile.
- Kwenze kuthinte ingane ngayinye**
Zibhalele izingane zakho. Zishiyele imibhalo emincane, izinkondlo noma izindaba ezimfushane esikhafutinini sazo noma esikhwameni sesikole. Lapho usuqale ukwenza ukufunda nezindaba kwaba ngumdlalo othinta umuntu ngamunye ekhaya, izingane zizoqala ukukuthanda ukufunda.

How can you get them excited about reading?

- 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!
- 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.
- 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.

Shesha uqale

Ngisho nangaphambi kokuba zikwazi ukufunda, kunezindlela ongaqala ngazo ukuhlakulela uthando lwezindaba ezinganeni ezinyaka ovodwa kuya kwemihlanu. Zifundele indaba, futhi kunokugcina lapho, yilingiseni indaba futhi ukhulume nazo ngabalingiswa! Kanjalo, ingane yakho izokujabulela ukuhlola izindaba, futhi lokhu kukhulisa kokubili umqondo wazo nekhono lazo lokubona izinto ngeso lengqondo.

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.



Bhaka ikhasi 4 ukuze uthole imiqondo yokwenza ukuba umndeni wakho ufunde njalo!

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



Drive your imagination



IT STARTS WITH A STORY.
KUQALA NGENDABA EXOXWAYO.

Izimbewu Zokufunda Nokubhala!

Imidlalo eveza amakhono isiza ukukhulisa amandla okucabanga ezingane!

Literacy Seeds!

Creative activities help grow children's thinking power!



Bazali abathandekayo nabanakekeli bezingane ezincane, ucwaningo lwamuva lubonise ukuthi ukudweba, ukufaka imibala, ukwenza imifanekiso kanye neminye imidlalo eveza amakhono kungasiza izingane ukuba zibe namakhono okuxazulula izinkinga. Lapho zenza ubuciko nemisebenzi yezandla, izingane kudingeka zicabange ngendlela edinga ikhono, zicabange ngezindlela ezihlukene zokuxazulula izinkinga, futhi zenze izinqumo ezisekelwe kulokho ezikubonayo nezikuqondayo endaweni ezikuyo.

Izingane kudingeka zihlakulele amakhono okucabanga okujulile ukuze zixazulule futhi ziqonde yonke imininingwane ezihlangabezana nayo nsuku zonke. Kudingeka zisebenzise izinzwa zazo ezihlukene ukuze ziqonde futhi zichaze yonke le mininingwane.

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.

Ukudweba, ukufaka imibala nokwenza izinto ngobumba kusiza izingane ukuba zibe nala makhono:

1. Amakhono asebenzisa imisipha emincane.

Ukusebenzisa amakhrayoni, amabhulashi okufaka imibala nokubumba ubumba kusiza izingane ukuba zithuthukise ukusebenza kwemisipha yazo emincane. Lokhu kuzozisiza lapho sezibhala, zisebenzisa amathuluzi ngendlela efanele kanye nakweminye imisebenzi lapho kudingeka zenze khona iminyakazo emincane, elawulwayo.

2. Ukukhula kokuqaphela izinto.

Ubuciko bungasiza izingane zibone futhi zikopishe ama-shape namaphethini. Zifunda nokuthi isenzo esithile siba nomphumela othile isikhathi ngasinye, isibonelo, ukuxubanisa umbala obomvu nophuzi kwenza umbala osawolintshi. Zifunda ukuhlela ukuthi zizozisebenzisa kanjani izinto ezinazo (umbala, ubumba, iphepha, amakhrayoni) ukuze zenze umsebenzi wazo wobuciko, kanye nokuchaza lokho ezikubonayo endaweni ezikuyo lapho zidweba abantu, izilwane nezinye izinto.

3. Amakhono ezibalo.

Izingane zingafunda, zakhe futhi ziqale ukuqonda imiqondo enjengemayelana nosayizi ne-shape. Zifunda mayelana nokubala, ukuqathanisa izinto ezihlukahlukene, kanye nokuthi izinto zibukeka zizinkulu noma zizincane kuye ngokuthi ziseduze noma zikude kangakanani.

4. Amakhono olimi.

Njengoba izingane zilalela lokho okushoyo nemibuzo yakho futhi zikhuluma ngomsebenzi wazo wobuciko nangendlela ezizenze ngayo, zithuthukisa amakhono olimi futhi zandise iqoqo lazo lamagama.



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.

Singazikhuthaza izingane esizinakekelayo ukuba ziqhubeke zidweba, zifaka imibala futhi zenza imisebenzi yezandla.

- * Buza imibuzo eqondile ngomsebenzi wazo wobuciko enjengokuthi, "Yini oyidwebile (noma oyifake umbala noma oyenzile)?" noma "Kungani ukhethe ukwenza lokho?"
- * Lalelisa lapho zikhuluma ngalokho ezikwenzile. Lokhu kuzokusiza uqonde ukuthi yini ebalulekile nenengqondo ezinganeni zakho. Kanti futhi kuyithuba elikahle kakhulu lokuxhumana nazo.
- * Beka umsebenzi wazo obala lapho ungase ubonwe khona kalula futhi ungangcoli noma wonakale kalula.

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



Imidlalo elula yobuciko yezingane ezisencane

1. Ukufaka umbala nge-straw Sebenzisa i-straw sokuphuza ukuthatha umbala bese uwusakaza ekhasini noma ubeke icons lombala ekhasini futhi ufuthe umoya ku-straw ukuze wenze umbala usakazeke.

2. Ukufaka umbala ngeminwe Yenza umbala oshibhile, odlwayo ngoba izingane ezincane ziyakuthanda ukufaka izinto emilonyeni yazo!

Pheka ufulawa omncane namanzi ngokushisa okusendimeni. Govuza le ngxube kancane kancane ize ibe yisitaputapu. Yiyeke iphole bese uyithatha uyifaka ezinkomishini eziningi kuye ngesidingo. Faka into yokunzela umbala ekudleni enkomishini ngayinye ukuze wenze imibala ehlukahlukene.

3. Ukwenza into emibalabala Yenza into emibalabala usebenzisa umbala owodwa kuphela. Izingane zakho zingathola umbala wazo kumaphephandaba namaphephabhuku amadala. Zingasika noma zidabule zikhiphe izingcezu zemibala futhi zinamathisele izingcezu zephepha ekhasini lephepha.

4. Ukuphrinta ngamazambane noma ngeziponji Sika amazambane abe nguhhafu bese uqopha amaphethini alula kuwo noma uqophe ama-shape eziponjini ezindala. Izingane zakho zingabe sezicwilisa la mazambane noma iziponji ethreyini elinombala bese ziwanameka aprinte ephepheni. Zingase futhi ziprinte zisebenzisa amaqabunga. Goqa amaqabunga ami ngezindlela ezihlukahlukene. Izingane zifaka umbala ohlangothini olulodwa bese ziyawaphendula ngakolunye futhi ziwanameke aprinte ephepheni.

5. Isithombe esenziwe ngama-shape Sika ama-shape ahlukahlukene ngephepha elimibalabala bese usebenzisa la ma-shape ukwenza isithombe. Vumela izingane zakho zizenzele isithombe ngokwazo. Zinike amakhrayoni ukuze zizenzele imidwebo ezithombeni zazo zama-shape.



Easy art activities for young children

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 yokusebenzisa izindaba zethu ngezindlela ezihlukahlukene

1. Xoxela ingane yakho indaba. Funda futhi ulungiselele ukuxoxa indaba. Bese usebenzisa izwi lakho, ubuso nomzimba ukwenza indaba iphile.

2. Fundela ingane yakho indaba. Xoxa ngemifanekiso. Buza, "Ucabanga ukuthi kwenzekani ngokulandelayo?" noma "Ucabanga ukuthi kungani umlingiswa esho noma enze lokho?"

3. Funda indaba nengane yakho. Fundani indaba ndawonye ngokushintshana. Ungawalungisi amaphutha azo, futhi nikeza usizo kuphela uma zikucela.

4. Lalela ingane yakho ifunda. Lalela ungaphazamisi. Yisho ukuthi uyakujabulela ukuzizwa zikufundela ngokuzwakalayo.

5. Dlalani imidlalo ethi Yenza indaba ihlabe umxhwele! Lokhu kufanele kujabulise kuwe nasenganeni yakho.

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.



UNhlaba Yinyanga Yokuzithola Ufunda!

May is Get-Caught-Reading Month!

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.

NgoNhlaba, sinezinsuku ezingama-31 zokukhumbuzisa abantu bayo yonke iminyaka yobudala ukuthi kumnandi kangakanani ukufunda! Nayi imiqondo ethile ongangena ngayo esimweni **seNyanga Yokuzithola Ufunda** futhi uqale ukusabalalisa injabulo yokufunda ekhaya.

1. Fundani izincwadi zopopayi ndawonye

Izincwadi zopopayi ziyindlela ekahle yokukhuthaza ngisho nabafundi abamadolonzima kakhulu ukuba bafunde. Izincwadi zopopayi nezincwadi ezinemidwebo ziyajabulisa uma nizifunda ngokuzwakalayo ndawonye, ikakhulukazi lapho nishintshana futhi nisebenzisa amaphimbo ahlukeni kubalingiswa abahlukene.

2. Yenzani uhlu lwezincwadi, amaphephabhuku, izindaba nezihloko eningazifunda

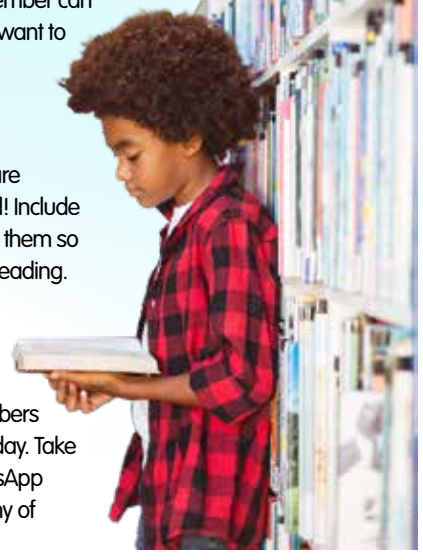
Njengomndeni, yenzani uhlu lwalokho ngamunye wenu angathanda ukufunda phakathi noNhlaba. Ngemva kwalokho hlanganiselani ndawonye endaweni eyodwa ekhaya zonke izincwadi zokufunda. Ngaleyo ndlela, ilungu lomndeni ngalinye lingathola into elifuna ukuyifunda ngokushesha nangendlela elula.

3. Yekani yonke into futhi nifunde.

Bekani isikhathi nsuku zonke lapho wonke amalungu omndeni eyeka khona lokho akwenzayo, athathe incwadi noma indaba, futhi afunde! Faka nezingane zakho ezincane ngokuzifundela ngokuzwakalayo ukuze zikhule zinothando lokufunda.

4. Xoxa ngempumelelo yakho!

Yenza umzamo okhethekile wokuqaphela nokubungaza ukufunda ekhaya kwakho. Wancome amalungu omndeni wakho – amancane namadala – ngokufunda nsuku zonke. Shuthani izithombe futhi uzifake ku-status sakho se-WhatsApp. Sithumelele nathi kunoma yiziphi izingosi zoxhumana zeNal'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.

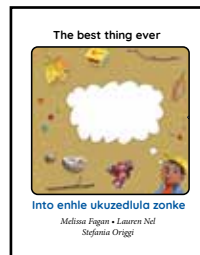
4. Share your success!

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.

Yandisa ilayibrari yakho.

Zenzele ezakho izincwadi **EZIMBILI** ozozisika uzikhiphe bese uzigcina

1. Khipha ikhasi lesi- **5** ukuya kwele- **12** alesi sithasiselo.
2. Iphepha elinamakhasi **5**, **6**, **11** kanye nele- **12** lenza incwadi eyodwa. Iphepha elinamakhasi **7**, **8**, **9** kanye nele- **10** lenza enye incwadi.
3. Sebenzisa iphepha ngalinye ukuze wenze incwadi. Landela imiyalelo engezansi ukuze wenze incwadi ngayinye.
 - a) Songa iphepha libe nguhhafu ngokulandela umugqa wamachashazi amnyama.
 - b) Lisonge libe nguhhafu futhi ulandele umugqa wamachashazi aluhlaza okotshani.
 - c) Sika ulandele umugqa wamachashazi abomvu.



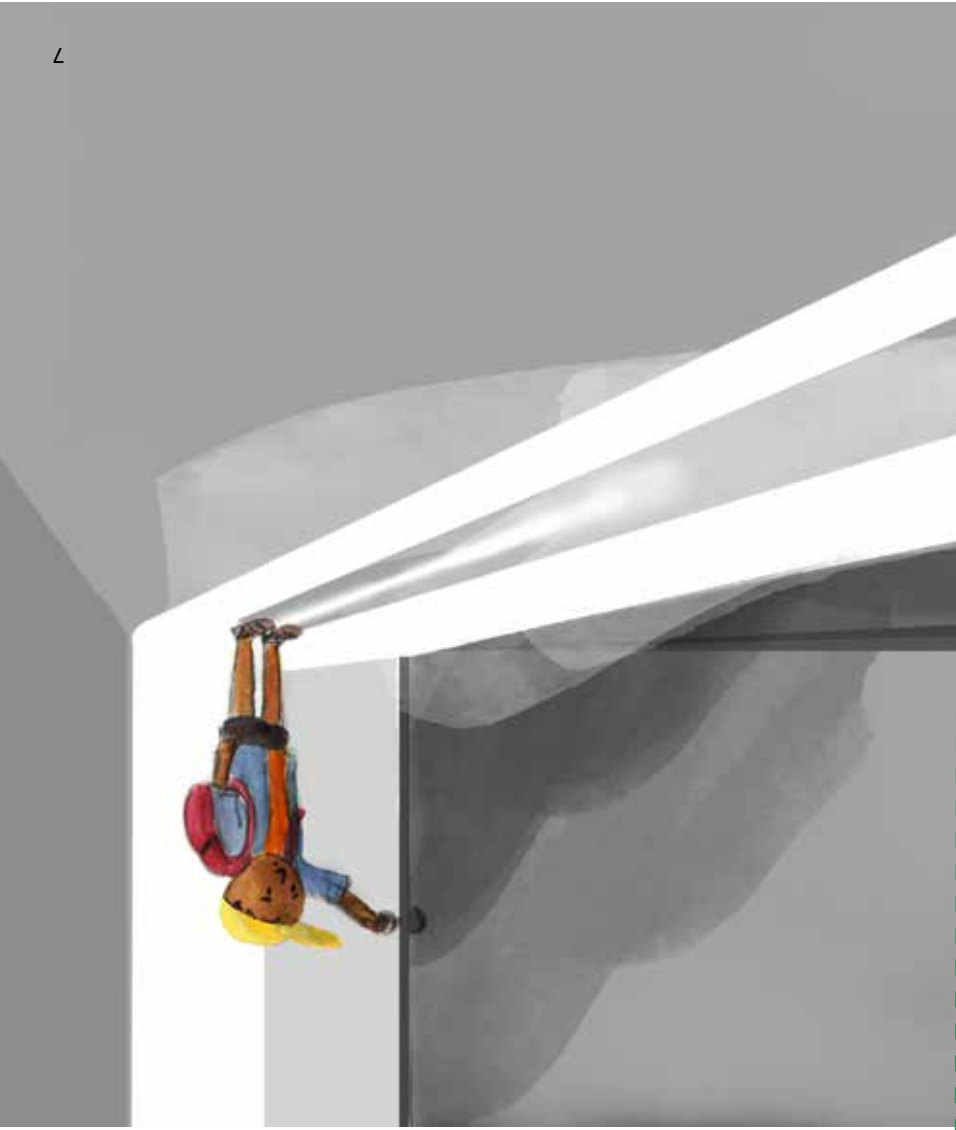
Grow your own library.

Create **TWO** cut-out-and-keep books

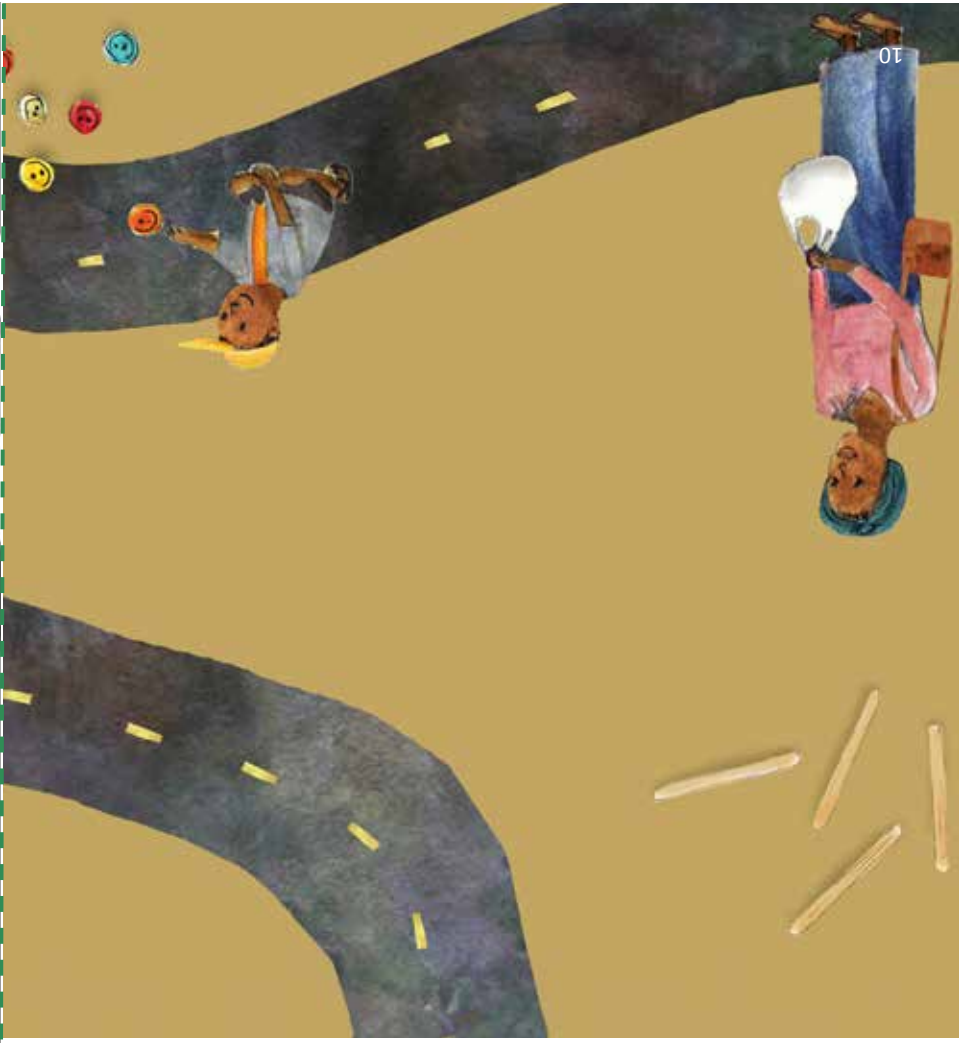
1. Take out pages **5** to **12** of this supplement.
2. The sheet with pages **5**, **6**, **11** and **12** on it makes up one book. The sheet with pages **7**, **8**, **9** and **10** on it makes up the other book.
3. Use each of the sheets to make a book. Follow the instructions below to make each 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.



Drive your imagination



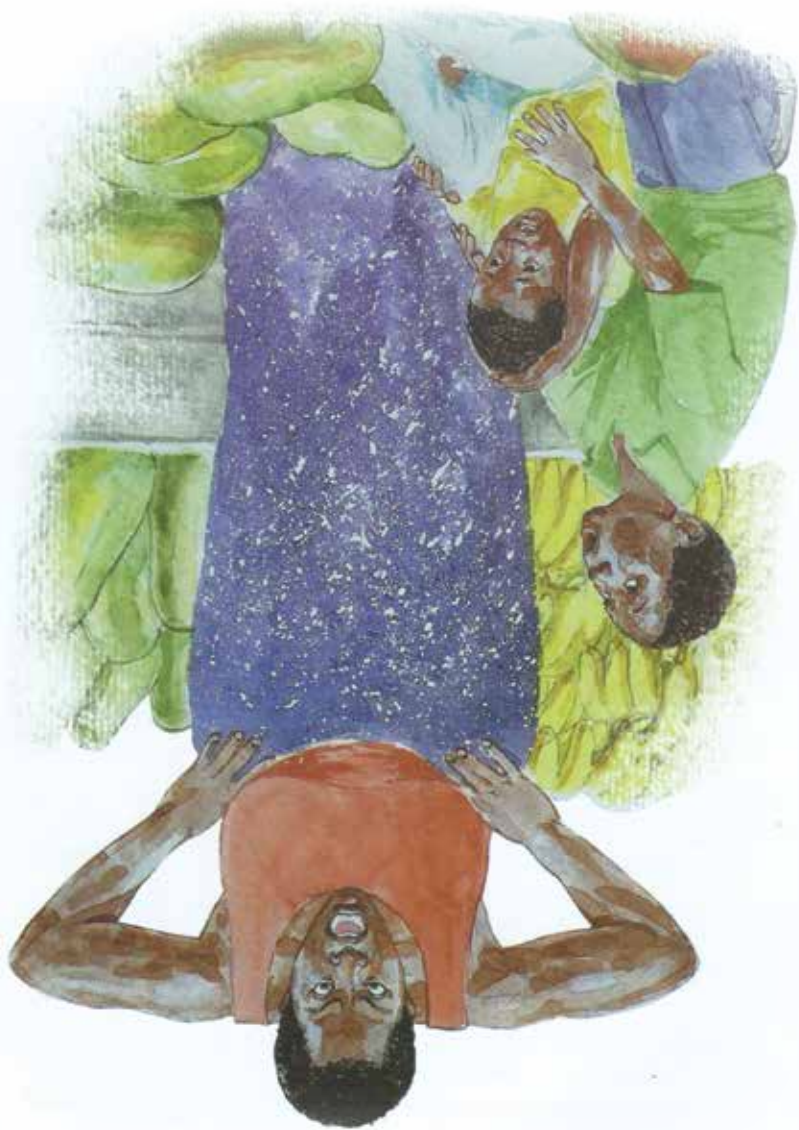
He is sad. Without his toys, how can he build the best thing ever?
 Udumele. Ngaphandle kwamathoyisi akhe, angayakha kanjani into enhle kakhulu ukuzedlula zonke?



On the road to uGogo's, Muzi finds many things. Long things and short things. Round things and square things.
 Lapho esendleleni eya kwagogo, uMuzi uthola izinto eziningi. Izinto ezinde nezinto ezimfushane. Izinto eziyindilinga nezinto eziyisikwele.

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

UMuzi uyathanda ukwakha izinto. Uphupha ngokwakha into enhle ukuzedlula zonke.



Kuba nokududulana okungazelelwe ngasemuva. Siyadyazela futhi siqumbeka phansi phezu kopopo abathile. Manje, abanye babo bayacindezeka. Ngikhathazekile ukuthi uPiwai kungenzeka ulimle, kodwa ngiyajabula ukumbona ehleka. Ukhotha isandla sakhe ususa upopo kuso. Owestizane osecitolo sikapopo ngokushesha uyalinguza bese ememeza uPiwai, "Uyazi ukuthi upopo ubiza imali engakamanani? Ucindezele opopo ababili. Ngifuna imali yami manje?"

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.

Ukuze uthole ulwazi olwengeziwe, sicela uthumele i-imeyili ku-info@heartlines.org.za noma ufowunele kule nombolo (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?

Yenza indaba ihlabe umxhwele!

- ★ Yini oyicabangayo ngendlela umthengisi kapopo aziphathe ngayo kuPasi noPiwai? Yini enye engabe uyishilo futhi/noma uyenzile lapho ethola ukuthi abafana bacindezele ngephutha opopo?
- ★ Dweba umfanekiso wendlela ocabanga ukuthi imakethe ibukeka ngayo.
- ★ Lingisa lokho ocabanga ukuthi kwenzekile ngemva kokuba le ndaba isiphelile. Lapho uPasi noPiwai befika ekhaya, ucabanga ukuthi yini umama wabo uyishilo futhi wayenza?

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.



UNal'ibali umkhankaso kazwelonke wokufundela ukuzithokozisa wokokhela inhlansi nokuzinza isiko lokufunda eNingizimu Afrika yonkana. Ukuze uthole eminye imininingwane, vakashela ku-www.nalibali.org.



Drive your
imagination

The market Superman



U-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 okungaxoxwa ngayo: Ukube ubungaba namandla amakhulukazi, ubungathanda abe yini? Ingabe ubuyowasebenzisa ukuzuzisa abantu abaswele noma wena uqobo kuphela? Yini obungayenza ngamandla akho amakhulukazi?

Sihamba sidlula izitowana eziningi nezindunduma zamagwava anakayo, avuthwe kakhulu. Sibona ama-butternut, amantongomane nezinye izinhlobo zamantongomane. Sibona amawolintshi. Esinye isitowana sinengwaba yamaklabishi. Abanye abantu bathengisa ubhontshisi oluhlaza nophizi oluhlaza. Kukhona ne-broccoli ne-cauliflower engcolile. UMama uhlala i-cauliflower uma imhlophe gwa kuphela. Kukhona nabathengisa upelepela obomvu obaba ha. UPiwai uyawazi upelepela obabayo ngoba ubaba wake wamnika ingcosana ukuba ayinambithe futhi wakhwela, wakhala uMama waze wamphuzisa ubisi. Asikwazi ukhamba sisheshe emakethe. Silokhu sishayisana nabantu. Abanye abantu bayasidudula, futhi abanye bayadela. UPiwai mncane, futhi abanye abantu abamboni nokumbona, ngakho kudingeka ngimvikele. Ngifisa sengathi ngabe uMama uzile wazozithengela ithanga ngokwakhe. Sescishe sike esitolo sethanga. Sengiyayibona kakade indunduma enkulu yamathanga.

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.



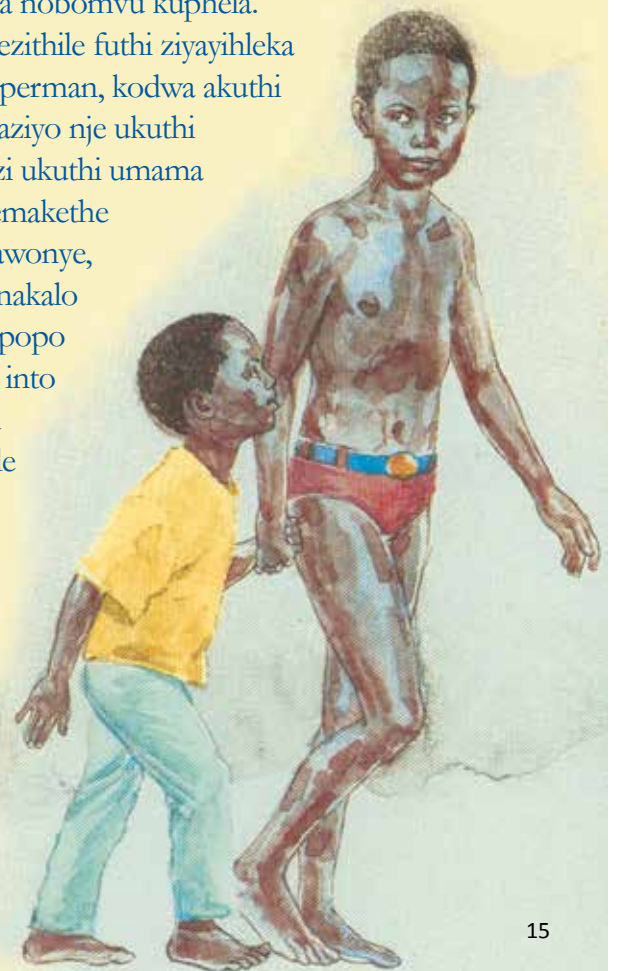
My name is Pasi. I am ten years old and live in Mbare in Zimbabwe. Our house is near the famous big vegetable market. Today we are having visitors and Mother is busy in the kitchen. I can smell the food from where I am playing with Piwai.

"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.

Ngingacabangi nokucabanga, ngikhumula iyembe lami ngokushesha, izicathulo nebhlukwe futhi ngimnike. Uyazithatha futhi ahambe. Mina ngiya ekhaya ngisalokhu ngibambe uPiwai ngesandla. Okusele nje kimi yi-anda ka-Superman enombala oluhlaza nobomvu kuphela. Kudlula izingane ezithile futhi ziyayihleka i-anda yami ka-Superman, kodwa akuthi shu kimi. Engikwaziyo nje ukuthi ngijabulile. Ngiyazi ukuthi umama wami uzobuyela emakethe kanye nami. Sindawonye, sizolungisa lo monakalo nalo mthengisi kapopo ocasukile. Kodwa into ebaluleke kakhulu ukuthi ngimvikelile umfowethu omncane.

Ngingu-Superman wasemakethe!



UPiwai akagondi ukuthi kwenzekani. Ngibona amehlo akhe ehlangazela izinyembezi ngoba lo wesifazane umgqolozele ngobuso obucasukile. Ngiziphoba ukuba ngikhulume futhi ngithi, “Ngiyaxolisa, Mama, basidudulle ngasemva. Besingaqondile ukukucasula.” “Ukungicaculali? Cha, anicasulanga mina, niphazamise opopo bami. Yilokho enikwenzile!” ememeza. Sengethukile, kodwa angazi ukuthi yini enye engingayisho. Angimjwayele umuntu omdala okhuluma ngolaka kanje. Lo wesifazane usebomvu klebhu ebusweni, futhi usathethisa uPiwai. UPiwai ukhathazekile kakhulu futhi ukhala ngokuzwakalayo. Kudingeka ngisuke kuloo wesifazane ocasukile. “Ngiyaxolisa kakhulu, Mama, kwenzeke ngengezi,” ngisho. “Okunye, ngicela ukhulume nami, hhayi nomfowethu, akakuzwa ngoba uyisithulu.” “Yini ezolandela?” ememeza lo wesifazane, eshaya unyawo phansi. Ube esebona imali engiyiphethe. “Mama, uphethe nemali?” esho ehafuzela futhi ehogela njengobhenge ocasukile.

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 chili. Piwai knows hot chili 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.

Igama lami uPasi. Ngineminyaka eyishumi futhi ngihlala eMbare eZimbabwe. Indlu yethu iseduze nemakethe yezitshalo enkulu edumile. Namuhla, sinezivakashi, futhi umama umatasa ekhishini. Ngizalwa iphunga lokudla ngilapho ngidlala khona noPiwai.

“Pasi, mfana wami, woza lapha,” uMama engibiza esekhishini. Ngiyaya kuye, futhi uthi, “Ngifuna uye emakethe uyongithengela ithanga. Ngifuna ube usubuyile ngemizuzu emihlanu.”

Ngiyavuma ngekhandu njengoba uMama enginika isikhwama nemali. Ngija kothatha izicathulo zami. UPiwai uyangilandela futhi naye aqale ukufaka ezakhe izicathulo. UPiwai ngumfowethu. Uneminyaka emithathu ubudala. UPiwai uyisithulu.

“UPiwai ufuna ukuhamba nami,” ngimemeza uMama.

“Pasi, angifuni ukuthi uPiwai ahambe nawe. Ngifuna lelo thanga manje.”

Sengiyamshiya uPiwai. Ulokhu ezama ukufaka lesi esinye isicathulo sakhe njengoba mina ngiphuma ngokushesha endlini.



“Pasi, Pasi,” uMama uyangibiza futhi. Ngiyaphenduka futhi ngiyambona emi emnyango enoPwai. Izihlati zikaPwai zigcwele izinyembezi. “Kungcono uhambe naye uPwai. Ngicela nisheshe.” Kuyaphithizela emakethe. Kunabantu abaningi abamemezayo nabaxoxayo, abathengayo nabathengisayo, abaqulula izinto, abazithwele nabadudulayo. UPwai uhleka indoda ethengisa amawolintshi. Iphonsa amawolintshi amathathu emoyeni ngokushiyana. Iyamenza ithi noma ubani ongenza leyonto angathola isaphulelo. Ngibamba isandla sikaPwai ngiyasigqinisa njengoba sidlula phakathi kwezindimbane zabantu.



“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.”

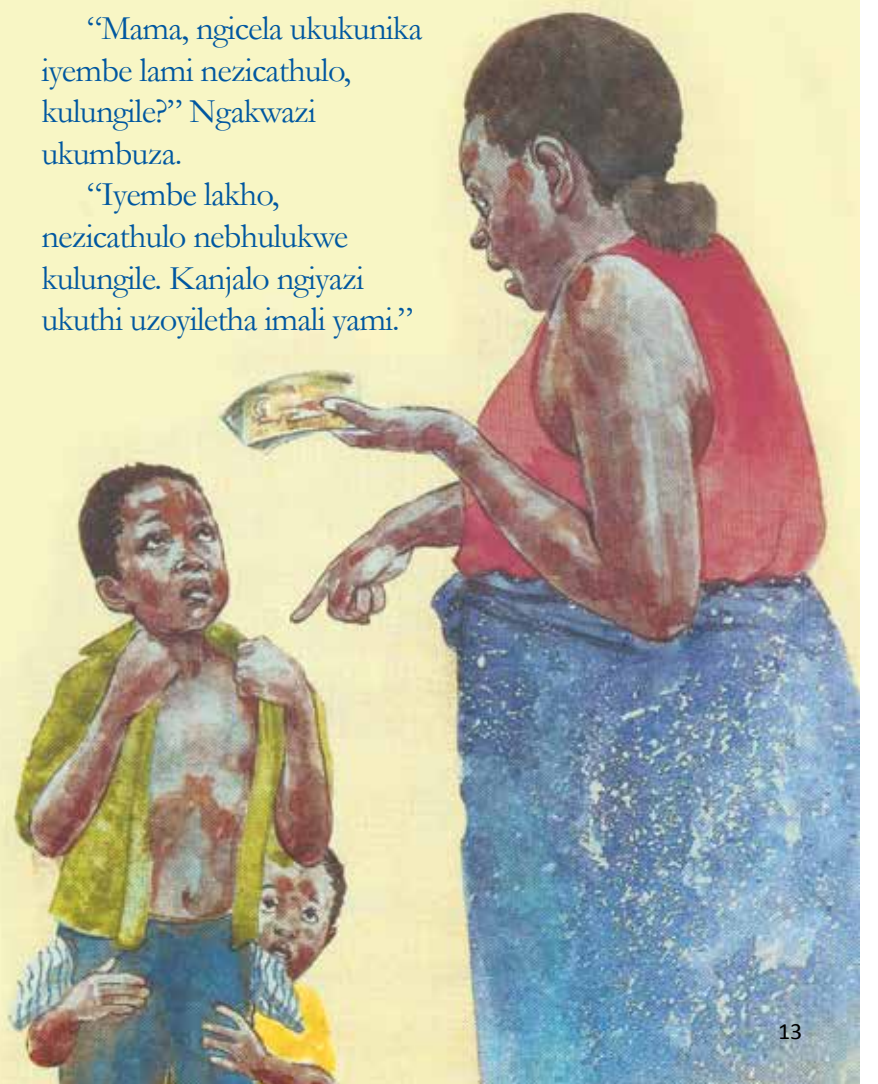
It is busy at the market. There are many people shouting and talking, buying and selling, lifting, carrying and pushing. Piwai laughs at the man selling oranges. He is juggling three oranges in the air. He shouts that anybody who can do the same can get a discount. I hold Piwai’s hand firmly as we weave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

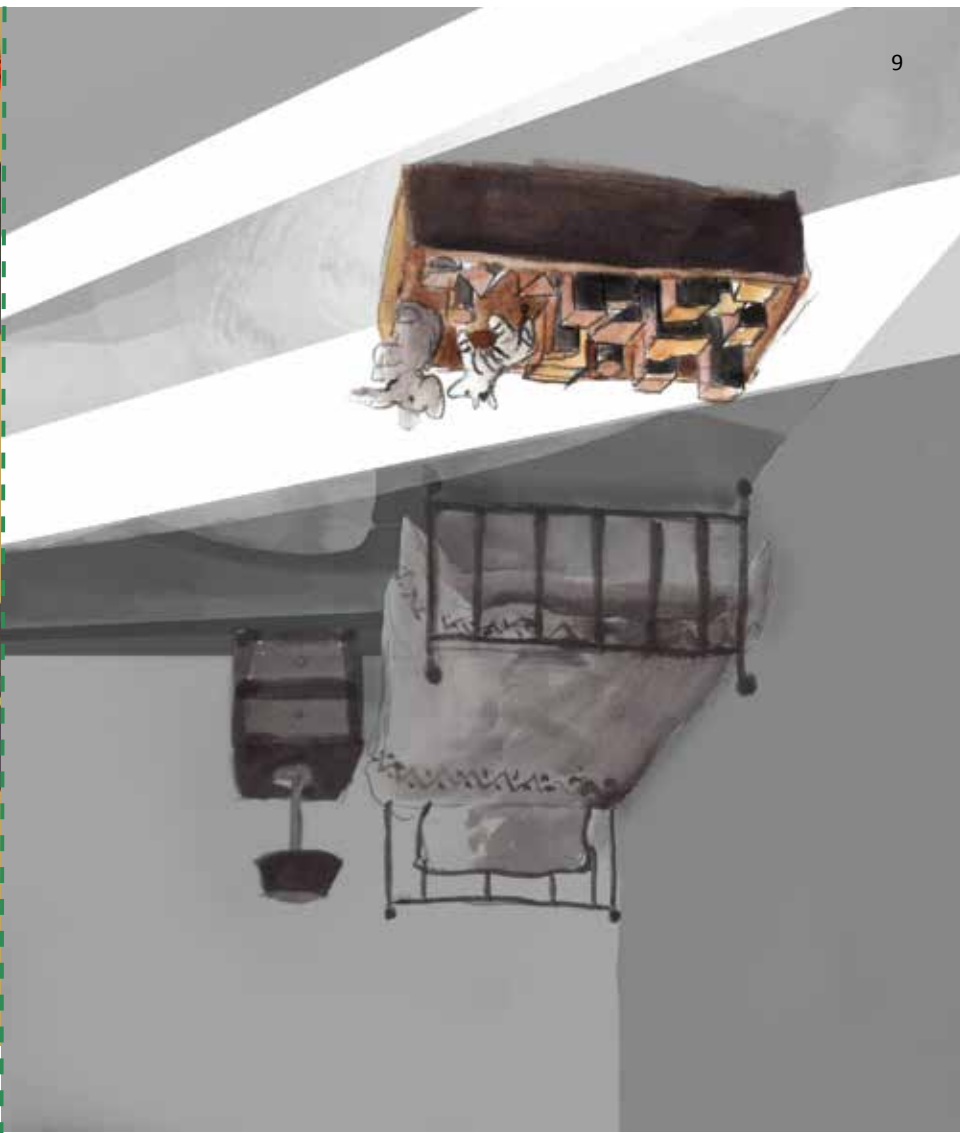
I nod. The other people in the market seem not to notice this woman and what she is doing to us. I feel so small against this big, angry woman. The woman snatches my bag and money. She counts the money and says it can only pay for one pawpaw. Then she says, “I will take this money and your brother until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

Ngayuma ngekhandla. Abanye abantu lapha emakethe babukeka ngathi abamboni lo wesifazane nalokho akwenzayo kithi. Ngibukeka ngiyiqashana elincane kunalona wesifazane ongunomdondoshya, nocasukile. Ube esengphuca isikhwama nembali. Uyayibala imali bese ethi ingakhokhela upopo owodwa kuphela. Ube esethi, “Ngizothatha imali nomfowenu uze ulethe imali yalona omunye upopo?” Ngiyethuka. Angikwazi ukumshya ngemuva uPwai. Mubi kabi lo wesifazane, futhi uPwai usemcanane kakhulu. Kudingeka ngimvikele. Angikwazi ukumshya ngemuva. Ngizwa ngjuluka futhi inhliziyoyami ishaya ngamandla.

“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.”

“Mama, ngicela ukukunika iyembe lami nezicathulo, kulungile?” Ngakwazi ukumbuza.
 “Iyembe lakho, nezicathulo nebhulukwe kulungile. Kanjalo ngiyazi ukuthi uzoyiletha imali yami.”





Today Muzi is going to
visit uGogo.
Namuhla, uMuzi
uzovakashela uGogo.



By the riverside, Muzi finds more things.
Soft things and pointy things. Green things
and brown things.
Ngasemfuleni, uMuzi uthola izinto ezengeziwe.
Izinto ezithambile nezinto ezicijile. Izinto
eziluhlaza nezinto ezinsundu.

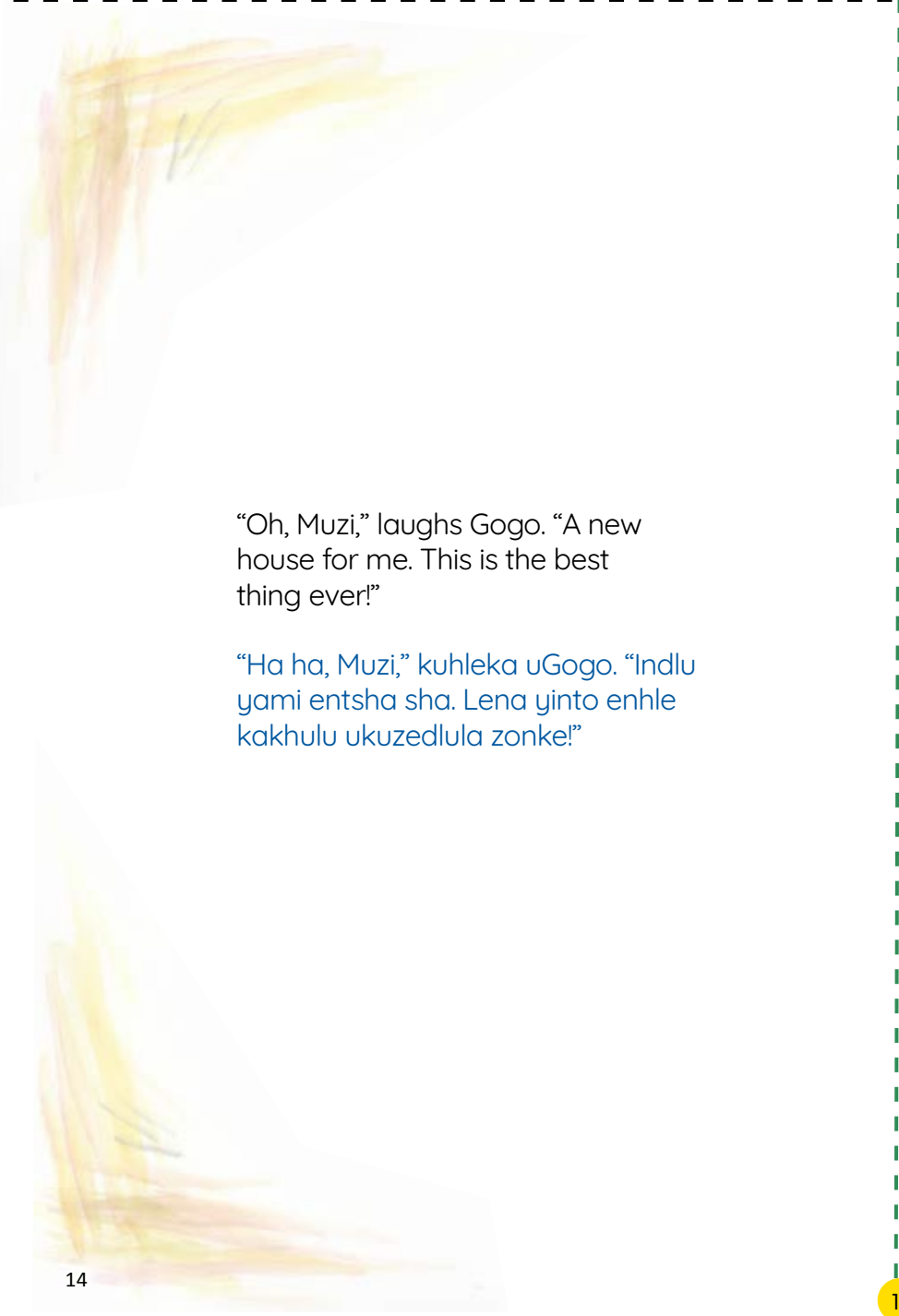


Once he built a shelter for his toys.

Ngelinye ilanga, wakha indawo
yokubeka amathoyisi akhe.

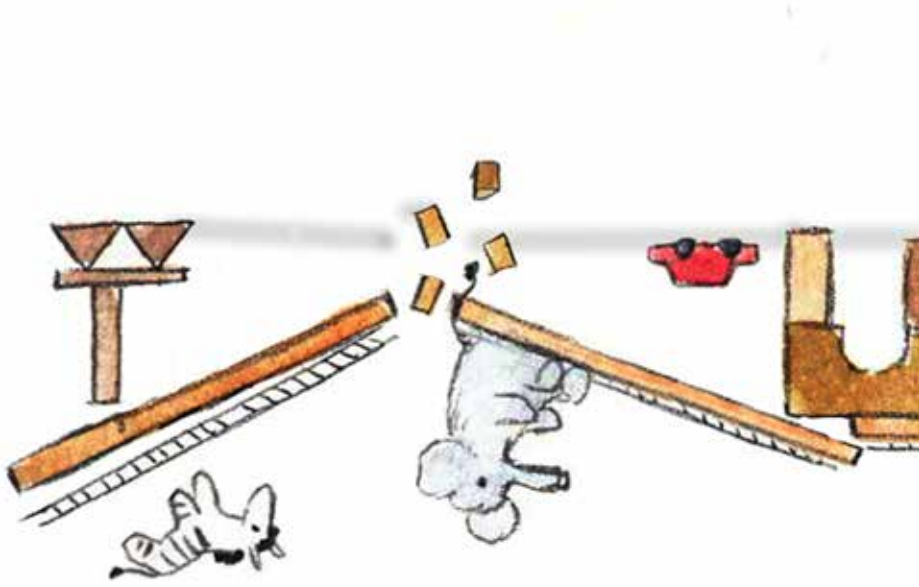
But it wasn't the best thing ever.

Kodwa kwakungeyona into enhle
kakhulu ukuzedlula zonke.

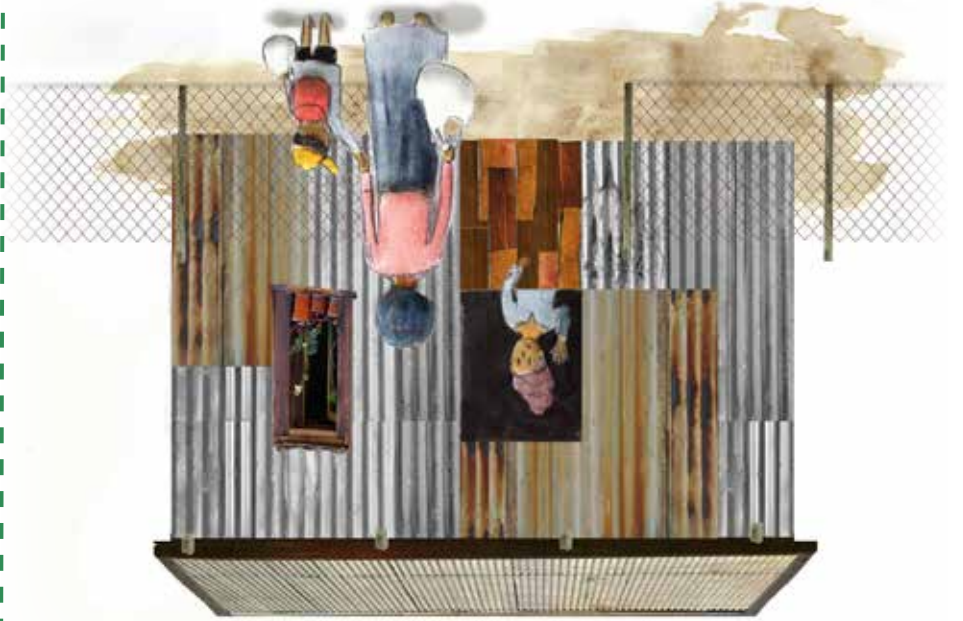


"Oh, Muzi," laughs Gogo. "A new
house for me. This is the best
thing ever!"

"Ha ha, Muzi," kuhleka uGogo. "Indlu
yami entsha sha. Lena yinto enhle
kakhulu ukuzedlula zonke!"



It was a good thing,
 But not the best...
 Bekuyinto enhle. Kodwa
 bekungeyona ezedlula zonke...



Look, Muzi! We are here.
 Bheka, Muzi! Sesilapha.

Yesterday he built a bridge
 for his animals.

Izolo, wakhele imfuyo
 yakhe ibhuloho.



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



Lapho uGogo
 esabhakela izihambi
 ezilambile ...
 UMuzi uyakha.

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

"Gogo, Gogo!"
 kusho uMuzi.
 "Umhlaba
 ugcwele
 amathoyisi.
 Bheka into
 engiyakhile."



Amafulege angama-54 ase-Afrika!

54 flags for Africa!

Sebenzisa iwulu encane namaphini ukwenza ifulege ngalinye lihambisane nezwe lalo.
Use some thin wool and pins to match each flag to its country.



ENTSHONALANGA 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



ECAPE VERDE
CAPE VERDE



ESENEGAL
SENEGAL



EGAMBIA
GAMBIA



EGUINEA-BISSAU
GUINEA-BISSAU



EGUINEA
GUINEA



ESIERRA LEONE
SIERRA LEONE



ELIBERIA
LIBERIA



ECOTE D'IVOIRE
COTE D'IVOIRE



EGHANA
GHANA



ETOGO
TOGO



EBENIN
BENIN



ENIGERIA
NIGERIA



ECAMEROON
CAMEROON



E-EQUATORIAL GUINEA
EQUATORIAL GUINEA



ESAO TOME AND PRINCIPE
SAO TOMÉ AND PRINCIPE



ECONGO
CONGO



EGABON
GABON



EDEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF CONGO
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF CONGO



E-ANGOLA
ANGOLA



EZAMBIYA
ZAMBIA



ENAMIBHIYA
NAMIBIA



EBOTSWANA
BOTSWANA



ENINGIZIMU
AFRIKA
SOUTH AFRICA



ELISUTHU
LESOTHO



ESWAZINI
ESWATINI



EZIMBABWE
ZIMBABWE



EMALAWI
MALAWI



EMOZAMBIQUE
MOZAMBIQUE





Ithalente likaBhungane

NguVianne Venter ■ Imidwebo nguHeidel Dedekind



Ekugcineni lwase lufikile usuku lomcimbi wemiklomo yezinambuzane! Zonke izinambuzane zazethuke kakhulu. Ubani owayezonqoba athole indondo yokuba namandla noma yokuba ngumsubathi ophuma phambili? Ubani owayezophuma phambili ngokuba ngunobuhle noma isihlakaniphi esizedlula zonke?

Nomaphi lapho wawubheka khona, izinambuzane ezincane zazezela zenyuka, zikama izimpondo zazo futhi zilolonga amakhono azo, zibukisa futhi zilokhu ziqudulelana. Zonke, ngaphandle kukaBhungane.

"Kunjani ngalapho! Awethukanga, Bhungane?" uPhela ebuza njengoba edlula ephuthuma.

"Ubani yena, mina?" kuphendula uBhungane. "Ayikho into engangenza ngethuke *mina*. Angikwazi ukushesha, njengawe, Phela. Akekho oshesha njengawe."

"Ngempela? Kuhle ukukuzwa lokho, Bhungane," kusho uPhela emamatheka. "Haa, nangu uNkosazane Nobuhle eza ..."

Awuthi ngihambe. Ngizobuye ngikubone." Wabaleka kanjalo-ke.



"Hayi," kusho uVemvane, enyakazisa izimpiko zakhe zehla zenyuka elangeni. "Akufanele ukhulume naleso *sgebengu*, Bhungane."

"O, uPhela akamubi kangako. Empeleni uyinsizwa ekahle ... uma nje ukwazi ukumbekezelela," uBhungane esho ehleka.

"Hayibo, zenzani lezi zinwele!" kusho uVemvane, ekhathazeka ngezinwele zakhe. "Ngiyazibuza ukuthi kazi obani abazothola imiklomo namuhla."

"Mina akukho engizokuthola, ngiyaqiniseka ngalokho," uBhungane esho ehleka. "Angimuhle njengawe, Vemvane. Akekho omuhle njengawe."

"Eish, Bhungane, unomoya omuhle kakhulu," kusho uVemvane emamatheka kamnandi. "Haa, nango eza uMabhulukwe Amahle!" Bese ehleba ethi, "Akasona ngisho nesinambuzane, lo." Ngalokho, uVemvane wasuka wahamba eyohlola izimonyo zakhe.

USicabucabu washesha weza kuBhungane, ekhuluma yedwa esholo phansi, "... okubili ukhulanganisa nokubili kune, okune ukhulanganisa nokune kuyisishiyagalombili, okuyisishiyagalombili ukhulanganisa nokuyisishiyagalombili yishumi nesithupha, ishumi nesithupha ... *Eita*, Bhungane! *Mpintshi yami*, kodwa lowo vemvane ucabanga ukuthi uyazi! Akazi yini ukuthi umane nje uyinunu?"

"O, Sicabucabu," kuleka uBhungane. "Umane nje uthanda ukubukeka kahle."

"Uyazi, akuphathelele nendlela obukeka ngayo! Kumayelana nalokho okula phezulu!" kusho uSicabucabu, ezithinta ekhanda. "Bengilokhu ngitadisha ngiphindelela. Ngiyafuna ngempela ukuthola indondo yokuba yisinambuzane esihlakaniphe kunazo zonke. Wena?"

"O, akukho zindondo engizozithola mina namuhla. Angihlakaniphile njengawe, Sicabucabu. Wena uyisinambuzane esihlakaniphe kunazo zonke!"

"Hawu! Ngiyabonga uma usho kanjalo! Awuve unomusa ... Haa! Nakho-ke sekuza uNtuthwane. Anginasikhathi sokubukisa kwakhe ngamandla okwamanje. Awuthi ngiyozitadishela ngokwengeziwe," kusho uSicabucabu, esho ehamba.

UNtuthwane weza ethwele itsho elikhulu ngokuphindwe kane kunaye! UBhungane wethuka njengoba uNtuthwane eliwisela phansi ngomkhulu *umdumo*! "Utheni-ke, uNkosazane Ngicabanga-ukuthi-ningusiyazi lapho ezikhulumela?"

"O, Ntuthwane, musa ukuba nonya! kusho uBhungane. "USicabucabu uyazithandela nje izincwadi zakhe. Asinakuba yizikhondlakhondla sonke njengawe."

UNtuthwane waqhweba uBhungane emhlanje, ehleka. "Nginamandla ngempela, akunjalo? Manje-ke, wena yimuphi umklomo okhethekile ozowuthola namuhla?"

"Akukho ngempela okukhethekile ngami, Ntuthwane," kusho uBhungane ngendumalo. "Angikwazi ukushesha, noma angimuhle, noma angihlakaniphile, noma anginamandla. Ngiyisinambuzane nje esivamile."

"Nokho, ngicabanga ukuthi uyisinambuzane esivamile *esikahle*," kusho uNtuthwane. "Mhlawumbe esikahle kunazo zonke ... Hheyi, sekucishe kube yisikhathi somcimbi wemiklomo. Uyeza?" UNtuthwane wahamba waya ngasedwaleni lapho zonke izinambuzane zazibuthanele khona emcimbini wemiklomo, futhi uBhungane naye wamlandela.

Bonke bathula cwaka. USithwalambiza waphakamisa indondo yokuqala. "Indondo yalo nyaka yomsubathi *obedlula bonke*, iya ku ... Phela!" ememezela. Zonke izinambuzane zashaya ihlombe. UBhungane walishaya kakhulu kunabo bonke.

"Indondo yesinambuzane *esihle kunazo zonke* ...," kuqhubeka uSithwalambiza, "... iya ku ... Vemvane!" Bonke bahalalisa. UBhungane wahalalisa ukubedlula bonke.

"Indondo yesinambuzane *esihlakaniphe ukuzedlula zonke* iya ku ... Sicabucabu!" kumemezela uSithwalambiza. Isixuku samemeza ngenjabulo. UBhungane wamemeza ngenjabulo ukubedlula bonke.

Kwase kusele indondo eyodwa kuphela. "Indondo yesinambuzane *esinamandla ukuzedlula zonke* iya ku ... Ntuthwane!" USithwalambiza wamamatheka. Zonke izinambuzane zamemeza futhi zashaya amakhwelo futhi zashaya nezinyawo zazo phansi. UBhungane wahleka kwavela elomhlathi. Wayebajabulele kakhulu impela abangane bakhe!

Lapho sebethule bonke, uSithwalambiza wathi, "Ekugcineni, kulo nyaka sinendondo *ekhethekile* ... umklomo omkhulu kunayo yonke, ovotelwe yini nonke. Ungowudumo olukhulu kakhulu, umklomo owedlula yonke ..." waqalaza yonke indawo. Amehlo akhe amakhulu ayeseqila esinambuzaneni esisodwa ngokukhethekile. Isinambuzane esijwayelekile ngokuphelele, esingaphawuleke ngalutho, okungekho lutho olukhethekile ngaso. "Udumo olukhulu kakhulu, umklomo owedlula yonke nendondo enkulu kunazo zonke kuya ku ... Bhungane."

UBhungane wacishe wawela phansi ngenxa yokumangala. "Mi-mi-na?" esho engingiza. "Kodwa ... akukho engingcono ngakho kunoma yini. Angikhethekile nganoma iyiphi indlela." UBhungane wadideka. Kumele ukuthi benze iphutha, ecabanga. Kodwa bonke abangane bakhe babemamatheka bembhekile, njengokungathi kukhona ababekwazi yena angakwazi.

"Bhungane Othandekayo," kusho uSithwalambiza emamatheka. "Ezinye izinambuzane kanye nami sithanda ukukhulomela ngale ndondo yegolide ... ngokuba yisinambuzane *esinomusa ukuzedlula zonke* phakathi kwethu."

"Uyisihlabani!" kumemeza uPhela.

"Awuyona neze into ejwayelekile," kusho uVemvane, emamatheka.

"*Ukhethekile!*" kusho uSicabucabu.

"Awufani namuntu, Bhungane! Nguwe wedwa qhwaba! Ithalente lakho *umusa*," kuchaza uNtuthwane.

"Kodwa ... kodwa *noma ubani* angaba nomusa," kusho uBhungane, edidekile.

"Kunjalo, Bhungane," kusho uSithwalambiza. "Noma ubani angaba nomusa, kodwa nguwe wedwa okhetha ukuba nomusa ngazo zonke izikhathi."

Khona-ke abangane bakaBhungane bamqokola, behalalisa njengoba bemthwele ngamakhanda, indlela yonke baze bayofika phezulu edwaleni.



UBhungane akakaze azizwe ekhetheke kakhulu kangaka, noma ejabule kangaka, kukho konke ukuphila kwakhe. Wamane nje wahleba wathi, "Yeka indlela *abanomusa* ngayo bonke abangane bamii!"

Yenza indaba ihlabe umxhwele!

- ★ Ngezinye izikhathi isiphiwo sethu asiphathelene nalokho esingakwenza, kodwa indlela esenza abanye bazizwe ngayo. Yiliphi ithalente lakho elikhethekile?
- ★ Ungakhumbula yini ukuthi yini isinambuzane ngasinye esasiyenza kahle kakhulu? Yenza uhlu oluneminambuzane ngasinye esisendabeni. Eceleni kwagama lesinambuzane ngasinye, bhala lokho esikwenza kahle kakhulu.

- ★ Manje yenza uhlu lwabo bonke abantu abasekhaya kini, futhi ubhale phansi ukuthi ngamunye yini ayenza kahle kakhulu, kuhlanganisa nawe!



Drive your
imagination



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!



Okokuzithokozisa kwakwaNa'ibali

Na'ibali fun



1.

Ungazihlanganisa yini izinhlamvu zamagama ukuze wakhe amagama amaveji nezithelo uPasi noPiwai abazibona emakethe endabeni ethi, "U-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*?



vagamawa

ufaillelicrow

blihkisa

taniwolimsha

biociclor

gatahin

saausgv

fauleliocrw

acebabg

ragosen

cliorocb

mkinupp

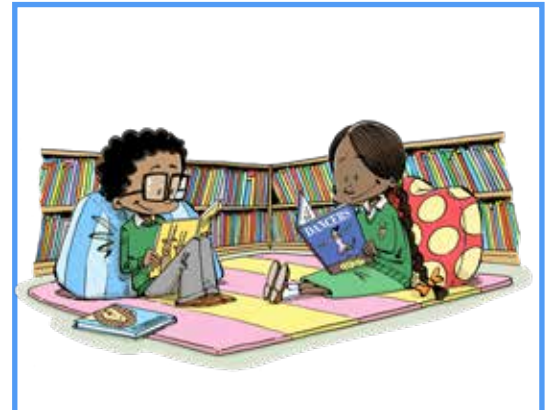


2.

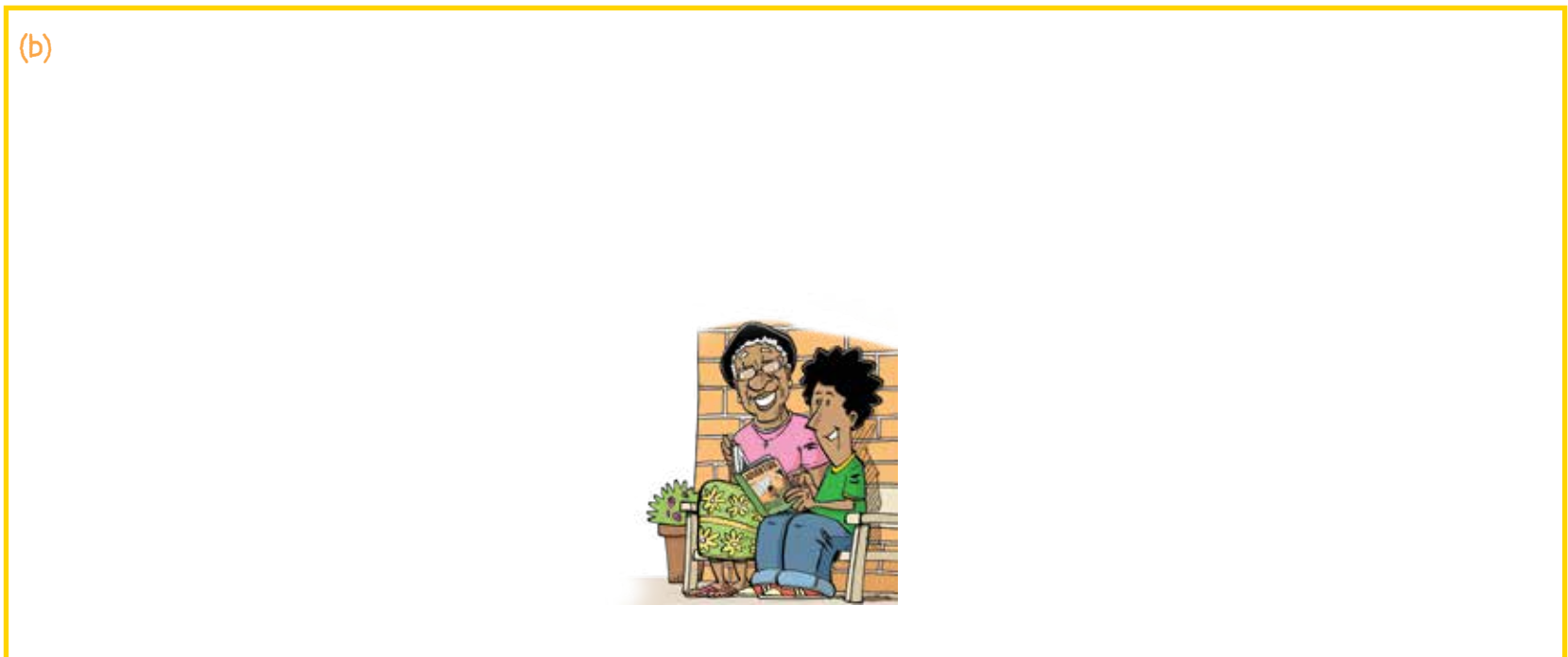
a) Ucabanga ukuthi laba bantu batholwa befunda bekuphi?
b) Manje dweba indawo ocabanga ukuthi uGogo noJosh bafundela kuyo!

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)



UNa'ibali ulapha ukukukhuthaza nokukusekela. Sithinte noma kungeyiphi yalezi zindlela:

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



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Drive your imagination

