

## A reading world

Can you imagine seeing people around you reading every day? Adults reading magazines and books on the train or in the taxi on their way to work, children enjoying books from the school library together as they wait for their lifts at the school gate, teenagers glued to the next chapter of a story on their cellphones as they walk down the road, and older people sitting on their front stoep reading the newspaper. And then, of course, reading at home too – family members reading in the morning and at night, together and on their own!

This is the kind of "reading world" that we're aiming for – a world in which children and adults experience the joy and value of reading daily. A world in which our horizons widen as we connect with the experiences, ideas and stories of people, near and far, through their writing. And it's all within our reach, as book by book, we enjoy reading together and encourage others to do so too.

Here are some of the ways you can contribute at home and at your reading club.

- Read regularly. All you need is 15 minutes each day to read aloud to your children. Most children enjoy being read to just before bedtime, but it really doesn't matter when you read books together each day – it's doing it regularly and choosing books that you all enjoy that counts!
- Suggest books. Talk to your children about which kinds of books they like stories or information books and what kind of stories they like: adventure stories, fantasy, stories about everyday life. Then help them find the ones they want, preferably in their home language/s.
- Choose books. When they start to read on their own, help your children
  to choose interesting books that are not too difficult for them, so that
  they are able to have lots of successful reading experiences. Keep the
  more difficult books for you to read to them!
- Write a review. Encourage your children to write a book review of their favourite book and then display it for others to read, or send it to Nal'ibali to publish on our website. Email your reviews to us at letters@nalibali.org or post them to Nal'ibali, PRAESA, UCT, Private Bag, Rondebosch, 7701.

For more ideas about how to get and keep children reading, visit "Tips and Topics" on www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi.

## Ihlabathi elifundayo

Ukhe uthelekelele ubona abantu abakungqongileyo befunda yonke imihla? Abantu abadala befunda iimagazini neencwadi kuloliwe okanye eteksini xa besiya emisebenzini; abantwana bonwabele kunye iincwadi abazifumane kwithala leencwadi lesikolo lo gama belinde izithuthi zokubagodusa emasangweni esikolo; abafikisayo bengafuni nokuphazanyiswa kwisahluko esilandelayo sebali kwiiselula zabo xa behamba besehla ngendlela; iinkonde neenkondekazi zihleli ezituphini zifunda amaphephandaba. Kananjalo, kufanelekile kakade ukuba bafunde kwakhona nasemakhaya – amalungu osapho efunda kusasa nasebusuku, efunda kunye kodwa ngamanye amaxesha elowo ezifundela!

Olu luhlobo "Iwehlabathi elifundayo" esijolise kulo – ihlabathi apho abantwana nabantu abadala bexhamla kulonwabo nexabiso lokufunda yonke imihla. Ihlabathi apho imida yethu iphangalalayo njengokuba sinxibelelana namava ethu, iingcinga kunye namabali abantu, abakufutshane nabakude, ngokwezinto abazibhalileyo. Kwaye konke oku kuyafikeleleka, njengoko ukufunda incwadi nganye, esithi siyonwabele kunye kukhuthaza nabanye ukuba benze njalo.

Nazi ezinye iindlela onokufaka ngazo isandla ekhaya nakwiklabhu yokufunda yakho.

- Ukufunda rhoqo. Udinga nje imizuzu eli-15 ngosuku ukuze ufundele abantwana bakho ngokuvakalayo. Abantwana abaninzi bayakonwabela ukufundelwa phambi kokuba balale, kodwa akukhathaliseki ukuba kuxesha nini enikhetha ukufunda ngalo iincwadi ninonke ngosuku ngalunye kukufunda rhoqo nokukhetha iincwadi enithi nonke nizonwabele okubalulekileyo!
- Ukucebisa ngeencwadi. Ncokola nabantwana bakho malunga neentlobo zeencwadi abazithandayo iincwadi zamabali okanye iincwadi zokwazisa kwakunye neentlobo zamabali abawathandayo: amabali amadelakufa, amabali angamampunge, namabali abalisa ngobomi bemihla ngemihla. Emva koko bancede bafumane ezo ncwadi bazithandayo, kungcono ezo zibhalwe ngolwimi lwabo/ngeelwimi zabo ukuba kuyenzeka.
- Ukukhetha iincwadi. Xa beqala ukuzifundela ngokwabo abantwana bakho, bancede bakhethe iincwadi ezinomdla nekungenzimanga ukuzifunda, ukuze bakwazi ukuba namava amyoli okuzifundela ngempumelelo. Zigcine iincwadi ezinzima ukuze wena ubafundele ngokwakho!
- Ukubhala isigxeko-sincomo. Khuthaza abantwana bakho babhale isigxeko-sincomo seyona ncwadi bayithandayo ze usixhome ekuhleni ukuze nabanye basifunde, okanye usithumele kuNal'ibali ukuze sipapashwe kwiwebhusayithi yethu. Thumela izigxeko-zincomo zakho nge-imeyili ku-letters@nalibali.org okanye uzithumele ngeposi kuNal'ibali, PRAESA, UCT, Private Baq, Rondebosch, 7701.

Ukuze ufumane ezinye iingcebiso malunga nokukhuthaza nokugcina abantwana befunda, ndwendwela icandelo lethu elithi "Tips and Topics" ku-www.nalibali.org okanye ku-www.nalibali.mobi.



Read to me. Explore a story.

Ndifundele.

Masichubelane ngebali.



www.nalibali.org



# Story stars \*\* \*\* Creating magic with books

Tracey Muir has been a librarian at Cape Town's Central Library for 12 years. She is now their Children's Librarian, which allows

her to spend time doing one of her favourite things: sharing stories with children. We spoke to her about libraries and reading.

#### What is the value of stories and books?

Reading and listening to stories allows children to broaden their thinking. Books spark children's imaginations and teach them valuable life lessons.

#### What do libraries offer, besides books?

For many children, libraries are a safe haven after school. Our library offers storytelling in English and isiXhosa, holiday programmes, an after-school reading programme to help children improve their reading, and chess clubs. We also have computers which people can use. They get free access to the internet

which helps them to find jobs, keep in touch with their families through email or social networking, and do research.

#### What is your favourite children's story to read aloud?

Winnie, the Witch by Valerie Thomas! I love getting the children to pretend to do the magic with Winnie as she turns her cat different colours. The children enjoy listening to this story, and they enjoy making magic just as much as I do!

#### How do you keep the children interested?

I show my enthusiasm and passion for books as I read! I try to choose books where the children can interact with the story and I also use expression and different voices for characters. I have so much fun when I'm reading aloud that I'm sure this helps the children to enjoy the stories too!

#### How can parents get their children interested in reading for enjoyment?

Children learn by example and so they need to see their parents reading if they are going to want to do it too! It is also important to start reading to your children from when they are very young and to read lots of different kinds of reading material with them picture books, pop-up or flap books, audio books, cloth books, board books and magazines.



### Iimbalasane zamabali Ukwenza imilingo ngeencwadi

UTracey Muir ube ngusothala eCape Town Central Library iminyaka eli-12. Kungoku nje nguSothala kwiincwadi zabaNtwana

kwalapho, nto leyo emvumela ukuba abe nexesha lokwenza enye yezona zinto azithandayo: ukwabelana ngamabali nabantwana. Sincokole naye malunga namathala eencwadi kunye nokufunda.

#### Yintoni ixabiso lamabali kunye neencwadi?

Ukufunda nokuphulaphula amabali kuvumela abantwana ukuba bacinge ngokuphangaleleyo. lincwadi zivuselela intelekelelo ebantwaneni kwaye zibafundisa nezifundo ezibalulekileyo ngobomi.

### Ngaphandle kweencwadi, zeziphi ezinye izinto ezinikezwa ngamathala eencwadi?

Kubantwana abaninzi, amathala eencwadi yindawo ekhuselekileyo abahlala kuyo ukuphuma kwesikolo. Kwithala lethu leencwadi

sinofundo lwamabali ngesiNgesi nangesiXhosa, sinenkqubo yexesha leeholide, sinenkqubo yokufunda emva kokuphuma kwesikolo ukunceda abantwana baphucule ukufunda kwabo, kwakunye neeklabhu ze*chess*. Kananjalo sikwanazo neekhompyutha ezinokusetyenziswa ngabantu. Bafumana i-intanethi simahla, nto leyo ibanceda bafumane imisebenzi, bahlale benonxibelelwano neentsapho zabo nge-imeyili okanye ngamajelo entlalo onxibelelwano, benze nophando abalufunayo.

#### Leliphi elona bali labantwana uthanda ukulifunda ngokuvakalayo?

Libali elisihloko sithi, *Winnie, the Witch* elibhalwe nguValerie Thomas!

Ndiyakuthanda ukwenza abantwana ukuba benze ngathi benza imilingo
noWinnie xa etshintsha-tshintsha imibala yekati yakhe. Abantwana
bayakonwabela ukumamela eli bali, kwaye bayakonwabela nokwenza imilingo
njengoko nam ndikonwabela!

#### Ubagcina njani abantwana benomdla?

Ndibonakalisa uthakazelelo nothando lwam oluvuthayo lweencwadi xa ndifunda! Ndizama ukukhetha iincwadi apho abantwana banokuzibandakanya kwibali ngokwentatho-nxaxheba, ndize ndisebenzise iimbonakalo namazwi ohlukileyo ukuvakalisa abalinganiswa. Ndonwaba kakhulu xa ndifunda ngokuvakalayo kangangokuba ndiqinisekile ukuba oko kunceda abantwana bawonwabele nabo amabali!

### Abazali bangawudala njani umdla wokufundela ukuzonwabela ebantwaneni babo?

Abantwana bafunda ngokubona, ngoko ke kufuneka babone kumzekelo wabazali babo befunda ukuze nabo bafune ukwenza njalo! Kubalulekile ukuqalisa ukubafundela abantwana bakho besebancinane kakhulu, kwaye ufunde iintlobo ezohlukileyo zokufundwayo kunye nabo — iincwadi zemifanekiso, iincwadi ezizivulekelayo kuvele umfanekiso wokuthile okanye ezinamaqweqwe amakhulu, iincwadi ezinokumanyelwayo, iincwadi zelaphu, iincwadi zebhodi kunye neemagazini.

Across the country, individuals and organisations are finding ways to make reading and writing part of children's daily lives. To say thank you, our featured Story Stars will receive meal vouchers\* courtesy of Wimpy to enjoy with the children in whose lives they are making a difference.



\* For terms and conditions that apply, go to www.nalibali.org/story-stars.

Kulo lonke ilizwe, abantu nemibutho bafumana iindlela zokwenza ukufunda nokubhala inxalenye yobomi bemihla ngemihla babantwana. Ukubabulela, iiMbalasane zamaBali zethu ekubhalwe ngazo ziza kufumana iivawutsha zokutya\* ezizinikwa ngembeko nangoncedo lwabakwaWimpy ukuze bazonwabele nabantwana abenza umahluko ebomini babo.

\* Ukufumanisa imimiselo nemiqathango esetyenziswayo, yiya ku-www.nalibali.org/story-stars.

#### Create your own mini-book

- 1. Take out pages 3 to 6 of this supplement.
- 2. Fold it in half along the black dotted line.
- 3. Fold it in half again.
- 4. Cut along the red dotted lines.

#### Zenzele eyakho incwadana encinane

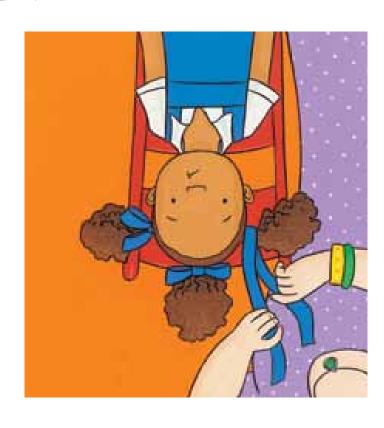
- Thabatha iphepha lesi-3 ukuya kwelesi-6 kolu hlelo.
- 2. Wasonge esiphakathini kumgca wamachaphaza amnyama.
- 3. Phinda uwasonge esiphakathini kwakhona.
- 4. Sika kwimigca yamachaphaza abomvu.





Ngaloo mini uLauren nabahlobo bakhe baziqikaqika engceni. Badlala nakwibala lesanti. Bajinga, iintloko zajonga ezantsi koojingi.

That day Lauren and her friends rolled on the grass. They played in the sandpit. They swung upside down from the jungle gym.



NgoLwesithathu kusasa, uNksk Bee wayesele elinde ngasemnyango. Wazibopha waziqinisa iinwele zikaLauren zaba yimitshoba emithathu eneeribhoni ezintathu ezityebileyo.

On Wednesday morning, Mrs Bee was waiting at the door. She tied Lauren's hair into three tight ponytails with three big, fat ribbons.

Lauren's new hairdo is from the Rainbow Reading series by Cambridge University Press. Rainbow Reading is a graded series for primary schools. It provides a wealth of original stories and factual texts, which will help learners to develop the reading skills and vocabulary they need to meet the requirements of the curriculum – in all learning areas. Rainbow Reading consists of 350 titles which are grouped by level and theme. For further information, visit www.cup.co.za



Cambridge University Press P O Box 50017, V&A Waterfront, 8002 Tel 021-4127800 | Fax 021 4198418 Email info@cup.co.za



Nal'ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark children's potential through storytelling and reading. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi



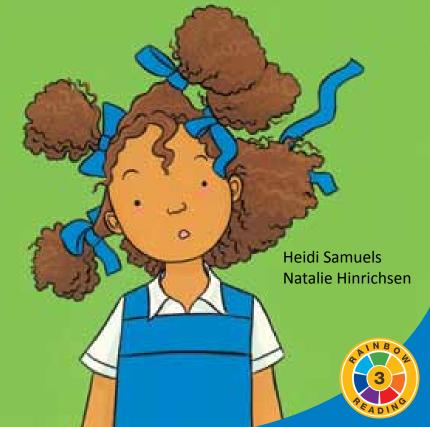
Fold

INal'ibali liphulo likazwelonke lokufundela ukozonwabisa nokuvuselela umdla ebantwaneni ngokubalisa amabali nokufunda. Ngeenkcukacha ezithe vetshe, ndwendwela ku-www.nalibali.org okanye ku-www.nalibali.mobi



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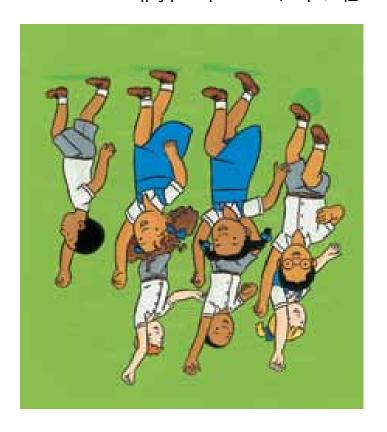




L

Ngaloo mini uLauren wadlala umdlalo othi, 'landela inkokeli yakho'. ULauren nabahlobo bakhe bamatsha, babaleka, baziqikaqika behleka.

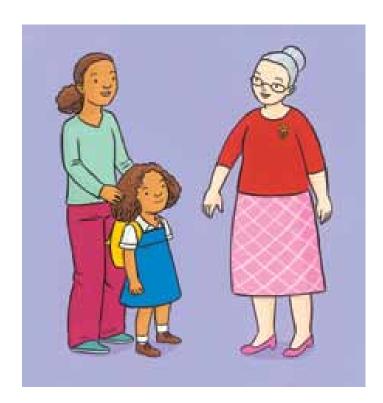
That day Lauren played followthe-leader. Lauren and her friends marched and ran, rolled and laughed.



NgoLwesine kusasa, uNksk Bee wayesele elinde ngasemnyango. Wazibopha waziqinisa iinwele zikaLauren zaba yimitshoba emine ngeeribhoni ezine ezityebileyo.

On Thursday morning, Mrs Bee was waiting at the door. She tied Lauren's hair into four tight ponytails with four big, fat ribbons.





Mum and Lauren went to see Lauren's new school.

"Hello Lauren," said Mrs Bee. "Would you like to see where the boys and girls play?"

UMama kunye noLauren baya kubona isikolo esitsha sikaLauren.

"Molo Lauren," watsho uNksk Bee.

"Ungathanda ukubona apho amakhwenkwe
namantombazana adlala khona?"

2

Lauren pulled out the big, fat ribbons. She ran to Mum with her hair flying free. And she was beautiful.

ULauren watsala ezo ribhoni zityebileyo. Wabaleka waya kuMama, iinwele zakhe ziphephezela, zikhululekile. Kwaye wayemhle kakhulu.



Fold

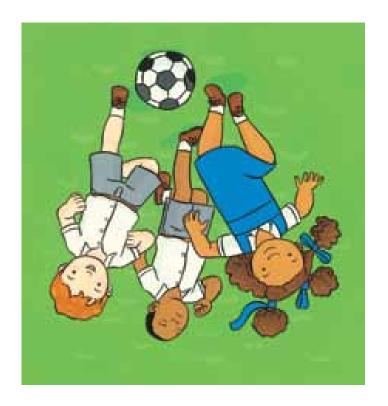
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kwesinye isibonda esiya kwesinye koojingi.

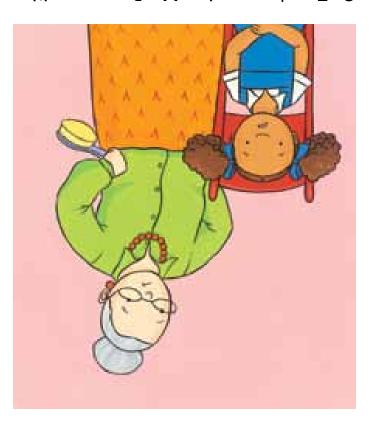
Ngaloo mini uLauren wadlala ibhola ekhatywayo nolake. Wadlala necekwa nabahlobo bakhe. Watsiba-tsiba ukusuka

That day Lauren played soccer with Jake. She played tag with her friends. She jumped from pole to pole on the jungle gym.



UgoLwesibini kusasa, uNksk Bee wayesele elinde ngasemnyango. Wazibopha iinwele zikaLauren zaba yimitshoba emibini emide eneeribhoni ezimbini ezityebileyo.

On Tuesday morning, Mrs Bee was waiting at the door. She tied Lauren's hair into two high ponytails with two big, fat ribbons.





When Mum came to fetch Lauren, Mrs Bee was waiting at the door. She looked at Lauren's hair. She threw her hands in the air.

"I give up!" she said. "I've tried everything! I'm going to let your hair just do as it chooses!"

Wathi xa uMama eze kuphuthuma uLauren, uNksk Bee wabe sele elinde ngasemnyango. Wajonga iinwele zikaLauren. Waphosa izandla zakhe emoyeni ebonakalisa ukunikezela.

"Hayi ndincamile!" watsho. "Ndizame konke endinako! Ndiza kuziyeka iinwele zakho zibe yiloo nto zikhetha ukuba yiyo!"

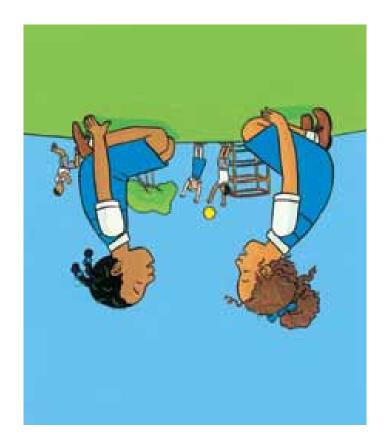


Mum and Lauren had a look. There was a jungle gym, a slide and a sandpit. All the children were very busy, very noisy, and very neat.

UMama noLauren baya kubona. Kwakukho oojingi, umtyibilizi kunye nebala lesanti. Bonke abantwana babexakeke kakhulu, bengxola kakhulu kwaye becoceke kakhulu.

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S



ULauren wonwaba kakhulu ngosuku lwakhe lokuqala. Wafumana umhlobo omtsha. Badlala undize noqulukubhode.

Lauren had a great first day. She made a new friend. They played hide-and-seek and did cartwheels in the wind.

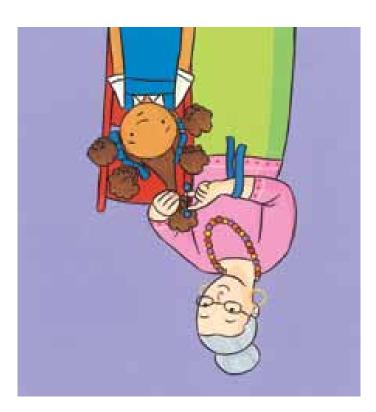
On Monday morning, Mrs Bee was waiting at the door. She tied Lauren's hair into a high ponytail with a big, fat ribbon.

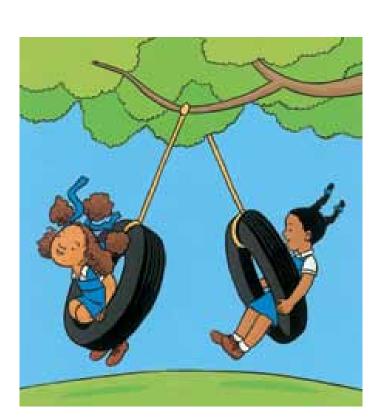
NgoMvulo kusasa, uNksk Bee wayesele elinde ngasemnyango. Wazibopha iinwele zikaLauren zenza itshoba elide elineribhoni etyebileyo.



NgoLwesihlanu kusasa, uNksk Bee wayesele elinde ngasemnyango. Wazibopha waziqinisa iinwele zikaLauren zaba yitshoba emihlanu ngeeribhoni ezintlanu ezityebileyo.

On Friday morning, Mrs Bee was waiting at the door. She tied Lauren's hair into five tight ponytails with five big, fat ribbons.





That day Lauren felt freer than ever. She swung from the tyres on the trees with her friends. They zoomed around on their scooters.

Ngaloo mini uLauren waziva ekhululeke kakhulu kunangaphambili. Wadlala ujingi obotshelelwe emavilini nasemithini kunye nabahlobo bakhe. Bajikeleza yonke indawo bekhwele izithuthuthu zabo.



### Get story active!

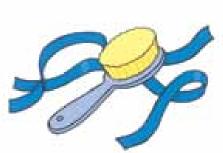
After you and your children have read *Lauren's new hairdo*, try out some of these ideas.

- Look at the pictures again with your children. Draw their attention to how Lauren's hairstyle changes each day when a ponytail is added, as well as the expression on her face as Mrs Bee does her hair. Let them comment on how Lauren appears to feel about her hairstyles, as well as what they think about them.
- Look at the kinds of things the children in the story do like playing hide-and-seek and rolling on the grass. Discuss which of these things your children enjoy and then do some of them together!
- With younger children, suggest that you all play a pretend game of hairdresser-hairdresser. Or turn the story around – you can pretend to be Mrs Bee while your children make up five different hairstyles for you!
- Suggest that your children draw or paint a picture of themselves with the funniest or craziest hairstyle they can imagine.

### Yenza ibali linike umdla!

Emva kokuba wena nabantwana bakho nifunde ibali elisihloko sithi, *Indlela entsha yokwenza iinwele zikaLauren*, zamani ezinye zezi ngcebiso zilandelayo.

- Jongani imifanekiso kwakhona kunye nabantwana bakho. Bakhombise iindlela ezitshintsha
  ngazo iinwele zikaLauren xa kongezwe itshoba elinye kusuku ngalunye, kwakunye nendlela
  akhangeleka ngayo ebusweni xa uNksk Bee esenza iinwele zakhe. Bavumele baphawule
  ngendlela akhangeleka eziva ngayo uLauren ngeendlela ezibotshwe ngazo iinwele zakhe,
  kwaye bachaze nokuba bona bacinga ntoni ngezi ndlela zokubopha iinwele.
- Jongani iintlobo zezinto abantwana abazenzayo kwibali ezifana nokudlala undize nokuziqikaqika engceni. Xoxani ngokuba, phakathi kwale midlalo yeyiphi abantwana bakho abayonwabelayo, ze niyidlale eminye yayo nikunye!
  - Xa ukunye nabantwana abancinane, cebisa ukuba nidlale umdlalo wokwenza ngathi ningabantu abenza umsebenzi wokwenza iinwele. Okanye liguqule ibali - usenokwenza ngathi unguNksk Bee lo gama abantwana bakho bekubonisa iindlela ezintlanu ezohlukileyo zokukama nokubopha iinwele zabo!
  - Cebisa abantwana ukuba bazobe okanye bapeyinte umfanekiso wabo bezikame, bazibopha iinwele zabo ngeyona ndlela ihlekisayo okanye imbi abanokuyicinga.



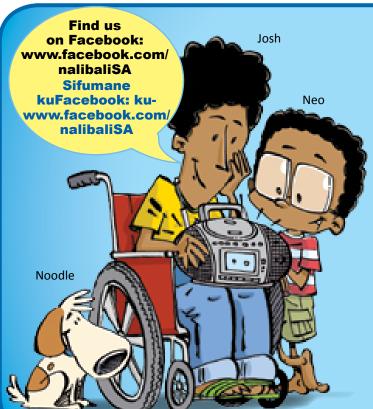
### Meet Hope!

Hope is the newest Nal'ibali character! She is 10 years old and she lives with her mom and dad. Their home is close to Neo's and she is good friends with him and Josh. They often come and watch her when she takes part in karate competitions. Hope reads in English, but she can also speak and read a bit in Afrikaans and Zulu because she's been learning these languages at school. She enjoys short novels about children her age and their daily lives. She is a great animal-lover, so you'll also often find her looking at books about wild animals and their babies, and learning about where and how they live. And, of course, she loves books about karate!

### Yazana noHope!

UHope ngoyena mlinganiswa mtsha weNal'ibali! Uneminyaka eli-10 kwaye uhlala nomama notata wakhe. Ikhaya lakhe likufutshane nelikaNeo kwaye yena noNeo noJosh bangabahlobo abakhulu. UJosh noNeo basoloko besiza kumbukela xa ethatha inxaxheba kukhuphiswano lwe*karate*.UHope ufunda ngesiNgesi, kodwa uyakwazi ukuthetha nokufunda kancinane i-Afrikaans nesiZulu kuba ezi lwimi uyazifunda esikolweni. Uyakonwabela ukufunda iinoveli ezimfutshane ezimalunga nabantwana abangangaye kunye nobomi babo bemihla ngemihla. Uzithanda kakhulu izilwanyana, ngoko ke uza kusoloko umfumana ebuka iincwadi zezilwanyana zasendle namathole azo, aze afunde malunga nendawo ezihlala kuzo nendlela eziphila ngayo. Kananjalo, uyazithanda neencwadi ezimalunga ne*karate*.





### Nal'ibali on radio!

Enjoy listening to stories in isiXhosa and in English on Nal'ibali's radio show:

Umhlobo Wenene FM on Monday to Wednesday from 9.30 a.m. to 9.40 a.m.

SAfm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1.50 p.m. to 2.00 p.m.

## UNal'ibali kunomathotholo!

Yonwabela ukuphulaphula amabali ngesiXhosa nangesiNgesi kwinkqubo kanomathotholo yeNal'ibali:

Umhlobo Wenene FM ngoMvulo ukuya ngoLwesithathu kusasa, ukususela ngo-9.30 ukuya ngo-9.40.

SAfm ngoMvulo, ngoLwesithathu nangoLwesihlanu emini, ukususela ngo-1.50 ukuya ngo-2.00.

## Story corner

Here is the first part of a story about a young girl who loved the wind! Enjoy reading it aloud or telling it!

## Thembela in the wind (Part 1) by Leo Daly

"Haai, Thembela!" calls Mama. "It's too windy to be outside. Come in or you'll catch a cold."

But Thembela doesn't listen because she's having too much fun. Her hair lifts up-up-up above her head, and now it's flapping all around her ears. Her dress feels like a kite and Thembela is sure that if she wanted to, she could fly away – right into the sky.

"The wind is wonderful, Mama," she laughs. "I don't want to come inside."

"You have to, Thembela," replies Mama. "It's no good out there – too dangerous."

Thembela lifts her arms out to her sides and flaps them up and down like a bird. "Okay, okay," she smiles. "I'll come inside."

And with that, she takes a jump. Off she goes across the garden and she feels like she's flying. The wind wraps itself around her and carries her all the way back to Mama, who closes the door behind her.

"Shoo, Thembela! Aren't you tired from all that flying? Why don't you take a warm bath and then it's straight to bed."

When Mama comes to tuck Thembela in, she says, "Haai, Thembela, you must be the only person in the whole world who likes the wind." Before Mama leaves, Thembela asks for the curtains to be opened so that she can watch the clouds as they sail on by and the tops of the trees as they sway here-and-there. She kisses her Mama goodnight and falls asleep.

That weekend, Mama has to go into the city, so Aunt Ida comes over to stay.

"Oh my," says Aunt Ida with a great, big sigh, "I heard on the news that there's a storm on the way!"

All day long the clouds gather in the sky until it's as dark as night. Then the rain starts to fall. Thembela can't believe her eyes. It's more rain than she has ever seen and soon there are big puddles everywhere. But Thembela smiles. She pulls on her raincoat and puts on her gumboots and out she goes.

"No, Thembela!" cries Aunt Ida. "You come in right now!"

Aunt Ida sounds cross! Will Thembela listen to her, or does she just love being in the wind too much? Find out next week.

## Ikona yamabali

Nantsi inxalenye yokuqala yebali elimalunga nentombazanana eyayithanda umoya! Yonwabela ukulifunda ngokuvakalayo okanye ulibalise!

### UThembela emoyeni (Inxalenye 1) Ibhalwe nguLeo Daly

"Heyi, Thembela!" wakhwaza uMama. "Kuvuthuza umoya ombi phandle. Ngena endlwini okanye uza kungenwa yingqele."

Kodwa uThembela akakuphulaphulanga oko kuba wonwabe kakhulu. Inwele zakhe ziyaphaphazela zinyuke ziye phezulu zize zithi gqume phezu kweendlebe zakhe. Ilokhwe yakhe yayinaathi yikayiti kwaye uThembela wayeqinisekile ukuba

xa ebefuna, ebenokukwazi ukubhabha – abhabhe aye phezulu esibhakabhakeni.

"Umoya uphephezela kamnandi, Mama," uhleke watsho. "Andifuni kungena ngaphakathi."

"Kunyazelekile ungene, Thembela," uphendule uMama. "Akulunganga ukuba ube phandle – kuyingozi kakhulu apho."

UThembela uphakamisa iingalo zakhe azelule emacaleni, aze amana ezinyusa ezithoba okwentaka ebhabhayo. "Kulungile ke, kulungile," utsho encumile. "Ndiza kungena endlwini."

Wanele nje ukuba atsho, watsiba. Wanqumla iyadi kwaye eziva ngathi uyabhabha. Umoya wamgubungela waza wamthwala wambuyisela kuMama, othe wavala ucango esakungena.

"Shu, Thembela! Awudinwanga kokwakubhabha kungakaya ubukwenza? Kutheni ungangeni ebhafini uhlambe ngamanzi ashushu uze emva koko uye ngqo ebhedini yakho nje?"

Xa uMama esiza kombathisa uThembela, uthe, "Hayi, Thembela, inokuba nguwe kuphela umntu othanda umoya apha ehlabathini." Phambi kokuba uMama ahambe, uThembela ucele ukuba avule umdiyadiya ukuze abone amafu ehamba abone nemithi ishukuma kancinane apha naphaya. Uphuze uMama wakhe walala yoyi.

Ngaloo mpelaveki, uMama kwakufuneka aye edolophini, ngoko ke uMakazi u-lda kwakufuneka aze kuhlala naye.

"Owu Nkosi yam," utshilo uMakazi u-Ida enesingqala, "ndive ezindabeni ukuba kuza kubakho isiphango!"

Amafu afingiza esibhakabhakeni imini yonke kwade kwamnyama ngathi kusebusuku. Emva koko kwaqalisa ukunetha. UThembela akazange akukholelwe oko akubonayo. Kwakusina ngohlobo angazange alubone kwaze ngokukhawuleza kwakho amadama kuyo yonke indawo. Kodwa uThembela uncumile. Unxibe isikhwehle sakhe kunye neegambutsi zakhe waze waphuma phandle.

"Hayi, Thembela!" wakhwaza uMakazi u-Ida. "Ngena ngaphakathi ngoku!"

UMakazi u-Ida uvakala enomsindo! Ingaba uThembela uza kummamela, okanye ingaba uthanda kakhulu ukuba semoyeni? Funda ukuze ufumanise okwenzekayo kwiveki ezayo.



Illustration by Magriet Brink Umfanekiso nguMagriet Brink

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Daily Dispatch

The Herald



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