



## Growing literacy

**What do you use reading and writing for? Do you use it mostly at work, to study or perhaps to organise and run your home life? You might even be lucky enough to find some time to relax and read too.**

Literacy is a right that should be enjoyed by all of us, but there are still 780 million adults in the world – many of whom are in Africa – who haven't learnt to read or write. International Literacy Day is celebrated each year on 8 September and reminds us that literacy should not just be a privilege enjoyed by some people. At Nalibali, our commitment to literacy involves helping children and teenagers experience reading and writing in joyful and satisfying ways in their lives. On 8 September 2012, we will spend some time doing what we do most often on Saturdays: volunteering at reading clubs, reading to and with our children at home... and finding some time to read for enjoyment ourselves! What will you be doing? Here are some ideas of how you could be part of International Literacy Day:

- Spend more time reading with your children than usual. Let them choose a number of their favourite stories and read them together! Or read chapters of a novel together, if your children are older.
- Tell your children about the stories and books you loved when you were a child. Talk about their favourite books too and then write and tell us what they are – include a photo of yourselves if possible! Send your letters to: [letters@nalibali.org](mailto:letters@nalibali.org)
- Think and talk with your children about the things you couldn't do if there was no reading or writing in your lives. Make a list and send it to us at [letters@nalibali.org](mailto:letters@nalibali.org)
- Visit a bookshop or library together and spend time browsing through the books there.
- Get together with friends and their children and spend time reading to each other – adults to children, children to children, and adults to adults – and talking about books and stories.
- Read a story to someone you don't usually read to! Try reading stories at an old-age home or in a children's home.
- Go through your children's bookshelf at home and let them each choose one book to donate to a reading club you know of or a school library or an organisation that donates books to children. Visit [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) to find a reading club near you where you could drop off your book donation.
- Register with the Nalibali network to show your support for using the power of stories to inspire children to want to read and write. Go to [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org)



## Ukuthuthukisa ukwazi

**Ngabe ukusebenzisela ukufunda nokubhala? Ngabe ukusebenzisa kakhulu emsebenzini, ukutadisha noma mhlawumbe ukuhlela nokuqhuba impilo yasekhaya? Kungenzeka futhi ukuthi ube nenhlanhla yokuthola isikhathi sokuphumula ufunde.**

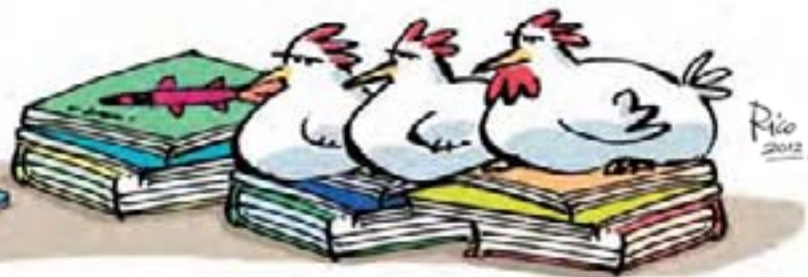
Ukwazi ukufunda nokubhala kuyilungelo okufanele engabe lithokozelwa yithina sonke, kodwa kusekhona abantu abadala abayizigidi ezingama-780 emhlabeni – futhi iningi labo lise-Afrika - abangakafundi ukufunda nokubhala. Usuku loMhlaba Lokwazi Ukufunda Nokubhala lugujwa minyaka yonke mhla ziyi-8 kuSeptemba, futhi lusikhumbuza ukuthi ukwazi ukufunda nokubhala akumele kube yinto ethokozelwa abantu abathile abakhethekile. Ukuzinikela kwethu ekwazini ukufunda nokubhala kwaNalibali kuhlenganisa ukusiza izingane nalezo ezindadlana ezineminyaka ephakathi kweyi-13 ukuya kweyi-19 ukuthi zifunde futhi zibhale ngezindlela ezithokozisayo nezizenelisayo ezimpilweni zazo. Mhla ziyi-8 Septemba 2012 sizochitha isikhathi esithile

senza lokho esijwayele ukukwenza ngeMigqibelo: ukuvolontiya kumathimba okufunda, ukufundela nokufunda nezingane zethu ekhaya... kanye nokuthola isikhathi sokufundela ukuzithokozisa thina uqobo! Uzobe wenzani? Nanka amanye amacebo okuthi ungaba kanjani ingxenye yoSuku LoMhlaba Lokwazi Ukufunda Nokubhala:

- Chitha isikhathi esiningana ufunda nezingane zakho kunalokho okwejwayelekile. Zivumele ukuthi zikhethe izincwadi ezizithandayo eziningana bese nizifunda ndawonye! Noma nifunde izahluko zenoveli ndawonye, uma izingane zakho sezindadlana.
- Xoxela izingane zakho ngezindaba nezincwadi owawuzithanda useyingane. Xoxani nangezincwadi abazithandayo bese nisibhalela nisishele ukuthi yiziphi – fakani nesithombe senu uma kungenzeka! Thumelani izincwadi zenu ku-: [letters@nalibali.org](mailto:letters@nalibali.org)
- Cabangani bese nixoxa nezingane zakho ngezinto ebeningeke nikwazi ukuzenza uma beningakwazi ukufunda noma ukubhala. Yenzani uhlu bese nisithumelela ku-[letters@nalibali.org](mailto:letters@nalibali.org)
- Vakashelani isitolo sezincwadi noma umtapo wezincwadi ndawonye, bese nichitha isikhathi nibuka izincwadi.
- Hlanganani nabangani nezingane zabo bese nichitha isikhathi nifundelana – abantu abadala befundela izingane, izingane zifundela abantu abadala, nabantu abadala abafundela abanye abantu abadala – nokukhuluma ngezincwadi nezindaba.
- Fundela indaba umuntu ongajwayele ukufundela! Zama ukufunda ekhaya labantu abadala noma ekhaya eligcina izingane.
- Bhakani eshalofini lezincwadi lezingane zakho ekhaya bese uvumela ukuthi ingane ngayinye ikhethe incwadi eyodwa ezoyinikela ethimbeni lokufunda enilaziyo noma kumtapo wezincwadi wesikole noma enhlanganweni enikelela izingane izincwadi. Vakashela ku-[www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) ukuze uthole ithimba lokufunda eliseduze nawe lapho ungahambisa khona umnikelo oyincwadi.
- Bhalisa ohlelweni lweNalibali ukuze ukhombise ukuxhasa ukusetshenziswa kwamandla ezindaba ukuze kugqaguzelwe izingane ukuthi zifunde ukufunda kanye nokubhala. Iya ku-[www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org)



Noodle



Dreaming big for our children  
Ukuba namaphupho amakhulu ezingane zethu





# Story stars



## Giving children a head start

One of Nal'ibali's partners, The Family Literacy Project (FLP), works in the rural areas of KwaZulu-Natal to help parents and carers develop the literacy and language skills of their young children, while they improve their own literacy skills at the same time. We chatted to FLP Director, Lynn Stefano, about reading clubs and giving children the best start in life by developing literacy skills from an early age.

### Why is reading for enjoyment important for literacy in South Africa?

Most of the reading children are encouraged to do is related to schoolwork and achieving results in examinations. Reading for pleasure allows people to unwind, relax and enjoy themselves, in other words it is a pleasurable leisure activity. At the same time as one reads for pleasure, one develops one's literacy skills. In this way the cycle of reading and learning and improving is continually fuelled.

### Why are reading clubs a good idea?

There are many reasons: mainly because the children are encouraged to be readers and are guided. Also, the clubs give children access to books and others who have similar interests and intentions.

### What reading club are you involved with as part of the Nal'ibali initiative?

In April 2012, we started the United Reading Club for teenagers at one of our literacy sites at Mkhobeni, KZN. About 16 children attend the club every Sunday afternoon and it is run by Tholakele Mkhize, who is a literacy facilitator with FLP. Two volunteers from the local village assist her.

### What has been the reading club's greatest achievement so far?

The club is very new, but one of the successes we already see is that teenagers are very motivated to meet and read together.

### What has been the biggest challenge?

There are a number of challenges – finding volunteers in the village who have sufficient literacy skills to guide younger readers is one. Another is the lack of appropriate reading materials for teens in Zulu.

### What are you most proud of?

That we are providing a creative environment for young people with very few opportunities and resources.



United Reading Club

# Abavelele ezindabeni

## Ukusiza izingane ukuthi zibe nesiqalo esihle

Enye yezinhlangano ezisebenzisana noNal'ibali, i-The Family Literacy Project (FLP), isebenza ezindaweni ezisemakhaya zaKwaZulu-Natali ukusiza abazali nabanakekela izingane ukuthi bathuthukise amakhono okwazi ukufunda nokubhala, kanye nawolimi ezingane zabo ezisencane ngesikhathi benza ngcono nawabo amakhono okwazi ukufunda nokubhala ngesikhathi esifanayo. Sixoxe noMqondisi we-FLP uLynn Stefano mayelana namathimba okufunda kanye nokunikeza izingane isiqalo esihle empilweni, ngokuthuthukisa amakhono okwazi ukufunda nokubhala zisencane.

### Kungani ukufundela ukuzithokozisa kubaluleke kakhulu ekwazini ukufunda nokubhala eNingizimu Afrika?

Ukufunda okuningi izingane ezigqogquzelwa ukuthi zikwenze kuhambisana nomsebenzi wesikole nokuzuza imiphumela ekuhlolweni. Ukufundela ukuzithokozisa kwenza ukuthi abantu kebabe nesikhathi sokuziphumulela nje, baziithokozele, ngamanye amazwi ukufunda yinto emnandi. Kanti kuthi ngesikhathi umuntu efundela ukuzithokozisa, ubuye athuthukise awakhe amakhono okwazi ukufunda nokubhala. Ngale ndlela isiyingi sokufunda, ukufunda okuthile nokuthuthuka siyaqhubeka.

### Kungani kungumqondo omuhle ukuba namathimba okufunda?

Ziningi izizathu: ikakhulukazi ngoba izingane zikhuthazwa ukuthi zibe ngabafundi, futhi ziyaholwa kulokhu. Futhi amathimba azenza zikwazi ukufinyelela ezincwadini nokuhlangana nabanye ezithanda okufanayo nabo, nabanezinjongo ezifana nezazo.

### Yiliphi ithimba lokufunda ozibandakanya nalo njengengxeny yomkhankaso wakwaNal'ibali?

Ngo-Ephreli ka-2012 sasungula i-United Reading Club yezingane ezineminyaka ephakathi kweyi-13 ukuya kweyi-19 kwesinye sezizinda zethu saseMkhobeni, eKZN. Zilinganiselwa kweziyi-16 izingane eziba yingxeny yethimba ngeSonto emini futhi liholwa uTholakele Mkhize, ohlelela umsebenzi wokwazi ukufunda nokubhala kwi-FLP. Kunamavolontiya amabili amsizayo avela kolowo muzi.

### Yini enkulu esike yazuzwa yithimba lokufunda kuze kube yimanje?

Liselisha ithimba kodwa ezinye zezinto eselizizulele ukubona ukuthi izingane ezineminyaka ephakathi kweyi-13 ukuya kweyi-19 zinogqozi lokuhlangana nokufunda ndawonye.

### Yini esibe yinselele enkulu?

Kunezinselele eziningana – enye yazo ukuthola amavolontiya emzini anamakhono okwazi ukufunda nokubhala ngokwanele ukuze akwazi ukuhola abafundi abasebancane. Enye futhi ukungabikho kwezinsizakufunda ezifanele zezingane ezineminyaka ephakathi kweyi-13 ukuya kweyi-19 ngesiZulu.

### Yini eniziqhenya ngayo kakhulu?

Ukuthi sihlizeka indawo yokuveza amakhono ezinganeni ngamathuba nezinsiza ezincane esinazo.

**Stop!**

If you aren't going to use this supplement, please give it to someone who will! Deliver it to a school, community centre, library or someone you know.



**Yima!**

Uma ungeke usisebenzise lesi sithasiselo sicela usinikeze umuntu ozosisebenzisa. Sihambise esikoleni, esikhungweni somphakathi, kumtapowolwazi noma kumuntu omaziyo.

To nominate an individual, organisation or even yourself as a Story Star, visit [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) and complete our online nomination form or email your nomination to [letters@nalibali.org](mailto:letters@nalibali.org)

Ukuze uqoke umuntu othile, inhlangotho noma wena uqobo njengoVelele Endabeni, vakashela ku-[www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) bese ugcwalisa ifomu lokuqoka elitholakala ensizeni yekhompyutha noma uthumele igama lalowo omqokayo ku-[letters@nalibali.org](mailto:letters@nalibali.org)

## Create your own mini-book Zenzele ibhukwana lakho

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.
1. Khipha ikhasi 3 ukuya ku 6 kulolu shicilelo.
  2. Lisonge libe nguhhafu lapho kunomugqa (ulayini) wamachashaza amnyama khona.
  3. Lisonge libe nguhhafu futhi.
  4. Sika lapho kunomugqa wamachashaza abomvu khona.





## Get story active!

After you and your children have read *Mama Mabena's magic*, try out some of these ideas.

### If you have 10 minutes...

- Look at the patterns that Mama Mabena paints as well as the pictures that the children painted (pages 14 and 15). Ask your children what colours, shapes and other things they can see.
- Look at the animals in some of the pictures and ask your children to suggest what they are doing and thinking.

### If you have 30 minutes...

- If you have some powder or watercolour paint, give your children some styrofoam or plastic trays and let them have fun mixing red, yellow and blue paint together in different ways to create new colours.

### If you have one hour...

- Fill large plastic containers with water and collect some thick paintbrushes – the kind used to paint a house. Take your children outside and let them paint pictures on pathways and the side of your house using the water.
- Encourage your child to write a story about their own magic! Begin by discussing the things that they are good at and love doing. Let younger children draw pictures to create their stories and then write the words they tell you to. Allow older children to try writing on their own – emphasise composing a fabulous story, rather than correct handwriting and spelling!

**Colour your Na'ibali bookmark and then cut it out and paste it together.**

**Faka umbala i-bookmark yakho yakwaNa'ibali bese uyisika uynamathisele ndawonye.**



## Yenza indaba ihlabe umxhwele!

**Ngemuva kokuba wena kanye nezingane zakho senifunde *Umlingo kaMama Mabena*, zamani eminye yale miqondo.**

### Uma ninemizuzu eyi-10...

- Bhekani amaphethini adwetshwe uMama Mabena kanye nezithombe ezidwetshwe yizingane (ikhasi le-14 nele-15). Buza izingane zakho ukuthi zibona miphil imibala, izimo nezinye izinto ezikwazi ukuzibona.
- Bhekani izilwane ezikwezinye izithombe bese ucela izingane zakho ukuthi zisho ukuthi zenzani.

### Uma ninemizuzu engama-30...

- Uma unophawuda noma upende osuseka ngamanzi, nikeza izingane zakho i-styrofoam noma amathreyi eplastiki bese uzivumela ukuthi zizithokozise ngokuxuba upende obomvu, oluhlaza okotshani noluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka ndawonye ngezindlela ezahlukene ukuze zakhe imibala emisha.

### Uma unehora...

- Gcwalisa ngamanzi eziqokathini ezinkulu bese uqoqa amabulashi okupenda amakhulu – uhlobo olusetshenziselwa ukupenda indlu. Khiphela izingane zakho ngaphandle bese uzivumela ukuthi zipende izithombe zezindledlana okuhanjwa kuzona kanye nasohlangothini lwendlu, nisebenzisa amanzi.
- Gqugquzela izingane zakho ukuthi zibhale indaba yazo yomlingo! Qalani ngokudingida izinto izingane ezikwazi ukuzenza kanye nezithanda ukuzenza. Vumela izingane ezincane ukuthi zidwebe izithombe ukuze zenze izindaba zazo bese ubhala amagama ezikutshela wona. Vumela izingane ezindala ukuthi zibhale zodwa – gcizelela ukuthi ziziqambele indaba emnandi, kunokuthi ulungise ukubhala nokupela amagama!

**Paste each side of your bookmark on a piece of cardboard (like from a cereal box) to make it last longer!**

**Namathisele icala ngalinye le-bookmark kucwezu lwekhalibhothi (elifana nebhokisi lesiriyeli) ukuze ihlale isikhathi eside!**



Neo

## Story corner

Here is a story about making friends for you to read aloud or tell.

### The colour of love by Ntombizanele Nkence

Leon, the young lion king, had nobody to play with. Everyone thought he was different because he was king. As he watched Harry, the hyena, and Lippy, the leopard, playing in the stream, he thought: 'They seem to be having fun. I wish I could play with them.'

But then he looked at his beautiful coat and remembered that if he went into the water, it would be ruined. But what good is a beautiful coat if you don't have friends? So, Leon headed over to the stream – and jumped into the water!

'We don't want to play with you!' growled Harry, as he climbed out of the water, waving his paw for his friend, Lippy, to follow him.

'I'm so lonely. Do you want to be my friend?' Leon asked Lippy.

Lippy blushed. He felt so pleased. 'Yes,' he said.

Smiling, Lippy threw a handful of mud at Leon. Leon looked down at his dirty coat and smiled too. But the new friends didn't see the jealous Harry watching them from behind the bushes.

Later, Leon and Lippy went fishing and they asked Harry to join them.

'NO! I'd rather fish on my own!' said Harry as he headed off for a fishing spot down at the waterfall.

It wasn't long before Leon and Lippy heard a scream coming from the other side of the river. They rushed to where the scream had come from. When they got there, they were terrified by what they saw... Harry was hanging onto a rock and the water was thundering below him!

Quickly, Leon threw his fishing line to Harry and told him to hang onto it. He didn't notice that as he tried to pull Harry to safety, his crown fell off.

Lippy hung on to Leon's tail and Leon pulled on the fishing line. Eventually, Harry's head appeared over the edge of the rocks... then his arms and legs. And guess what was hanging on Harry's foot? Leon's precious crown!



Adapted from: *The Colour of Love/Umbala Wothando*.  
Published by New Africa Books. © 2003.

### In your next Nal'ibali supplement:

- Reading with 6-9 year olds
- Find out about the famous children's author, Roald Dahl
- Mini-book, *Lizo's song*
- A read-aloud story, *Haruki's tail*

Can't wait until next week for more reading and story tips, tools and inspirational ideas? Visit [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) or find us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/nalibaliSA](http://www.facebook.com/nalibaliSA)



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## Ikhona lezindaba

Nansi indaba emayelana nokwenza ubungani nokufunda umemeze noma uxoxe kakhulu.

### Umbala Wothando nguNtombizanele Nkence

ULeon, inkosi yebhubesi encane wayengenamuntu ayezodlala naye. Wonke umuntu wayecabanga ukuthi wayehlukile ngoba wayeyinkosi. Ngesikhathi ebuka uHarry, impisi, noLippy ingwe, babedlala esihlanjeni, wacabanga ukuthi: 'Babukeka sengathi bajabule. Ngifisa sengathi ngingadlala nabo.'

Kodwa wabe esebuka ibhantshi lakhe elihle wakhumbula ukuthi uma engangena ngalo emanzini lizomosheka. Lingakwenzelani ijazi elihle uma ungenabo abangani? Ngakho uLeon waqhubeka waya esihlanjeni – wagxumela emanzini!



Illustrations by Brendon Ruiters  
Imidwebo yenziwe uBrendon Ruiters

'Asifuni ukudlala nawe?' kuvungama uHarry, ngesikhathi ephuma emanzini, eqhweba umngani wakhe u-Lippy ngesidladla sakhe ukuze amlandele.

'Nginesizungu. Uyathanda ukuba ngumngani wami?' ULeon wabuza uLippy.

Waba namahloni uLippy. Wajabula. 'Yebo,' kusho yena.

ULippy wamamatheka wajikijela uLeon ngodaka olugcwele isandla. ULeon wabuka ibhantshi lakhe elingcolile wamamatheka naye. Kodwa abangane abasha abazange bambone uHarry onomona owayebabheke engemuva kwezihlahla.

Ekuhambeni kwesikhathi uLeon noLippy bayodoba, bacela uHarry ukuthi ahambe nabo.

'NGEKE! Ngingamane ngidobe ngedwa!' kusho uHarry ngesikhathi eya endaweni yokudoba ezansi empophomeni.

Kwakungekudala lapho uLeon noLippy bezwa ukukhala okwakwela ngokwelinye icala lomfula. Baphuthuma lapho ababezwe khona ukukhala. Ngesikhathi befika lapho, beihuswa yilokho abakubona... uHarry wayelenga edwaleni ezwa namanzi ehuba ngaphansi kwakhe!

ULeon waphonsela uHarry udobo lwakhe ngokushesha wamtshela ukuthi abambelele kulo. Akazange abone ukuthi umqhele wakhe wawa ngesikhathi ezama ukusindisa uHarry.

ULippy wabambelela emsileni kaLeon, uLeon wadonsa udobo. Ekugcineni ikhanda likaHarry lavela emadwaleni... kwalandela izingalo nemilenze yakhe. Ake uqagele ukuthi yini eyayilenga onyaweni lukaHarry? Umqhele kaLeon oyigugu!

### Esithasiselweni sakho esilandelayo sakwaNal'ibali:

- Ukufunda nezingane ezineminyaka eyi-6 ukuya kweyi-9
- Thola kabanzi ngombhali wezincwadi zezingane odumile uRoald Dahl
- Incwadi encane, *Iculo likaliza*
- Indaba efundwa kakhulu kuzwakale, *Umsila kaHaruki*  
Ngabe awukwazi ukulinda kuze kube ngesonto elizayo ukuze ufunde nangokunye kanye namathiphu endaba, amathuluzi kanye nemiqondo evusa usinga? Vakashela ku-[www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) futhi ungasithola naku-Facebook: [www.facebook.com/nalibaliSA](http://www.facebook.com/nalibaliSA)





*Mama Mabena's magic* is one of 36 stories available in the Little Library Kits for Numeracy, Literacy and Life Skills. Each kit contains 60 readers (5 copies of 12 stories), 12 big books, 12 posters and a comprehensive teacher's guide. All the readers and the big books are available in all 11 official languages. For more information please visit our website [www.cup.co.za](http://www.cup.co.za).

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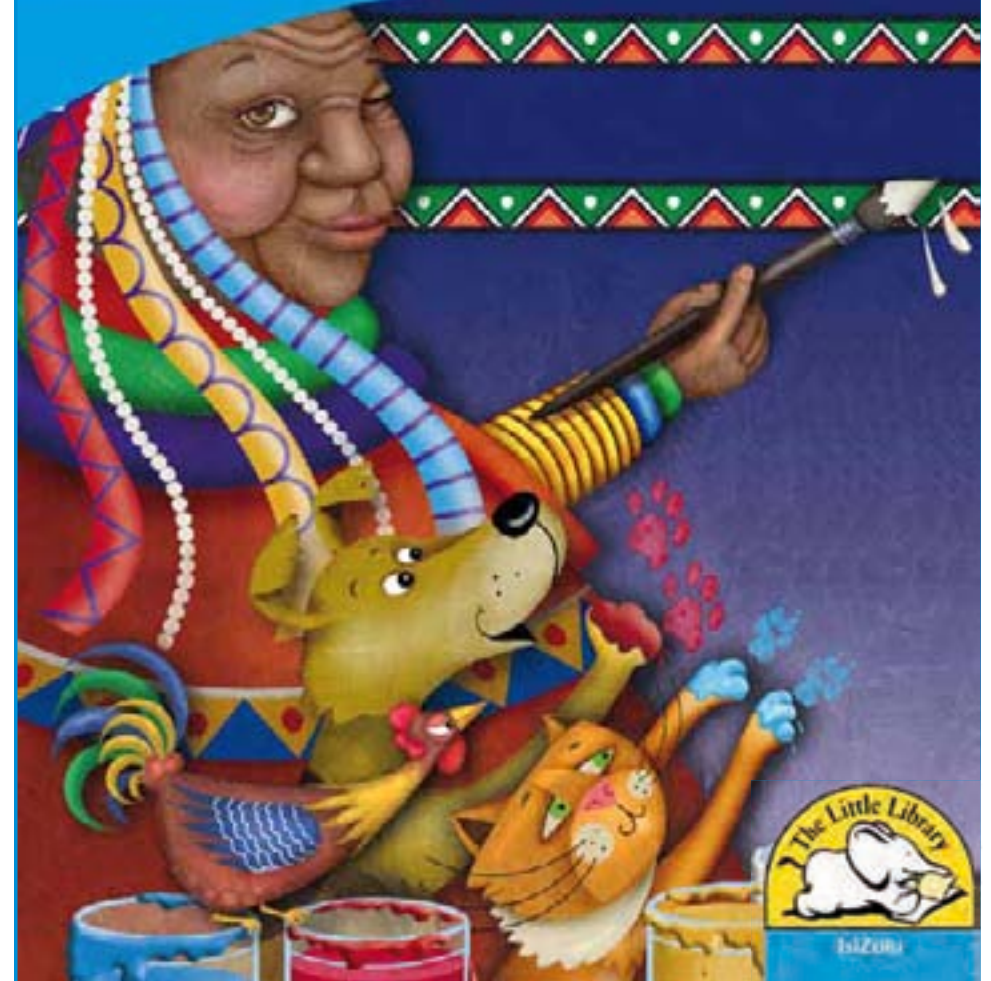
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Nal'ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment initiative to get people in South Africa – children and adults – passionate about telling and reading stories. For more information, visit [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org).



Nal'ibali umkhankaso kazwelonke wokujabulela ukufunda ukwenza ukuthi abantu baseNingizimu Afrika – izingane nabantu abadala – babenqozi lokuxoxa kanye nokufunda izindaba. Ukuthola ulwazi olunabile, vakashela e: [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org).

CAMBRIDGE



# Mama Mabena's magic Umlingo kaMama uMabena

Dianne Hofmeyr • Karen Ahlschläger



Mama Mabena was very old and she had magic in her hands. She painted beautiful patterns on the walls.

UMama Mabena wayesekhule kakhulu futhi wayenomlingo ezandleni zakhe. Wayedweba amaphethini amahle ezindongeni.

Mtazi and Ndelete watched her paint. 'Can we help you, Mama? We want to paint too,' said Mtazi. Mama Mabena smiled.

UMtazi noNdelete babembuka edweba. 'Singakusiza Mama? Sifuna ukudweba nathi,' kusho uMtazi. UMama Mabena wamamatheka.





'Here are three pots of paint,' said Mama Mabena. She put red paint, yellow paint and blue paint in front of the girls.

'Kukhona amathini kapende amathathu,' kusho uMama Mabena. Wabeka upende obomvu, upende ophuzi nopende oluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka phambi kwamantombazane.

Mama Mabena also gave the children three empty paint pots. "See if you can find the magic," she said.

UMama Mabena wanikeza izingane nezindishi ezintathu zokufaka upende. 'Bonani ukuthi ningawuthola yini umlingo,' kusho yena.



Ndelete poured a lot of yellow paint into the first empty pot. Mtazi poured in a little of the blue paint. Then they stirred the colours together.

'Let's take yellow; let's take blue  
Mix them up; make something new.'

Then the magic started to happen.  
'Look! We've made green!' shouted Ndelete.  
Mama Mabena smiled.

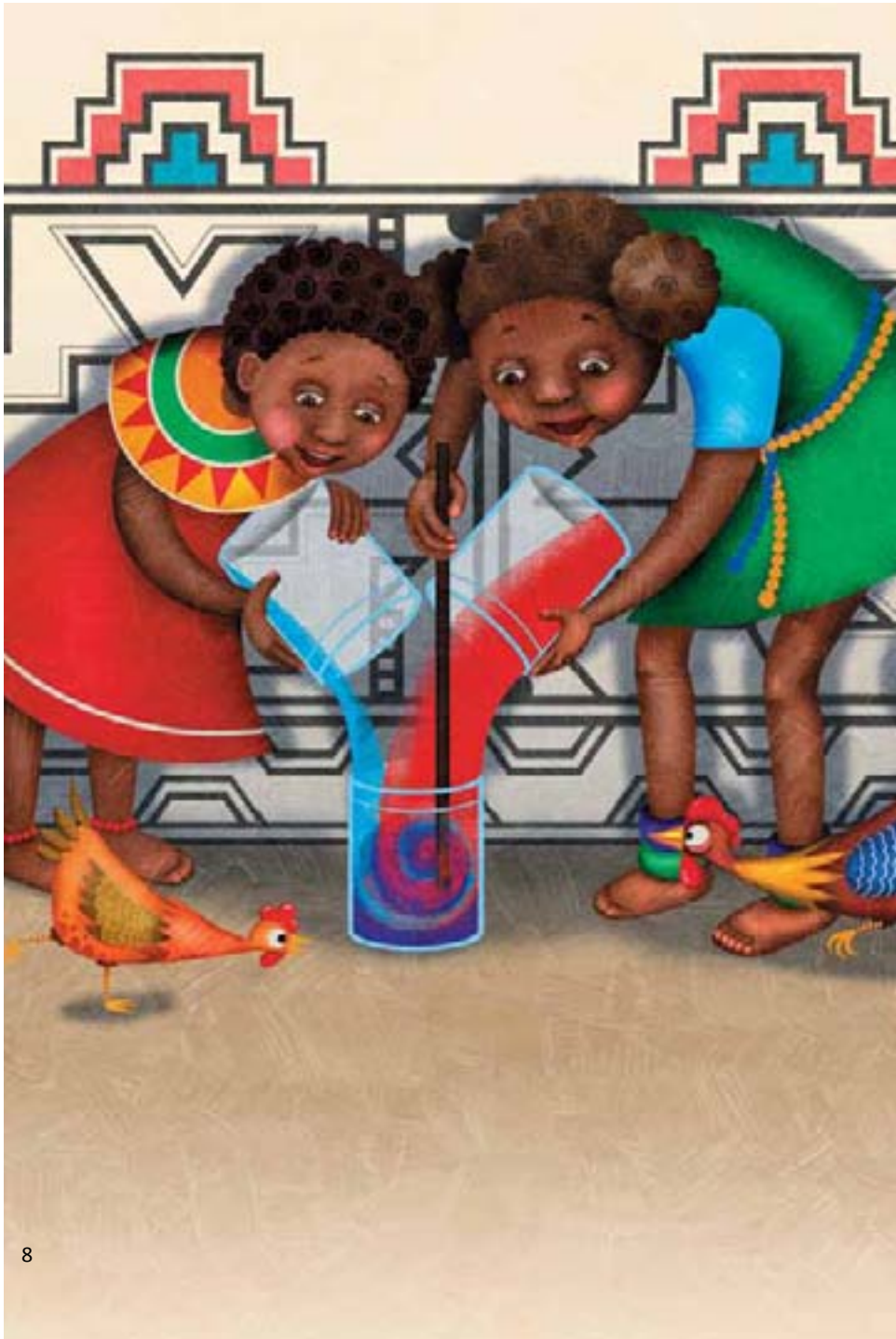


UNdelete wathela upende ophuzi esitsheni sokuqala esingenalutho. UMtazi wathela upende omncane oluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka. Base begovuzwa upende bewuxuba.

'Ake sithathe umbala ophuzi, sithathe nombala oluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka. Yihlanganiseni; nenze okusha.'

Wase uqala ukwenzeka umlingo.  
'Bheka! Senze umbala oluhlaza okotshani!' kumemeza uNdelete.  
UMama Mabena wamamatheka.





Ndelete poured a lot of red paint into the next empty pot. Mtazi poured in a little of the blue paint. They stirred the colours together again.

'Let's take red; let's take blue  
Mix them up; make something new.'

The magic happened again. This time the new colour was purple. The girls were having fun!

UNdelete wathela upende obomvu esitsheni esilandelayo esingenalutho. UMtazi wathela upende omncane oluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka. Base begovuzwa upende bewuxuba.

'Ake sithathe umbala obomvu, bese sithatha umbala oluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka Yihlanganiseni; nenze okusha.'

Kwenzeka umlingo futhi. Ngalesi sikhathi umbala omusha kwaba umbala onsomi. Amantombazane ayenesikhathi esimnandi!



Then Ndelete poured a lot of yellow paint into the last empty pot. Mtazi poured in a little red paint.

'Let's take yellow; let's take red  
Mix them up; make orange instead.'

'We've found the magic! We've found the magic!' sang the girls. They danced around the pots.

UNdelete wathela upende ophuzi esitsheni sokugcina esingenalutho. UMtazi wathela upende omncane obomvu.

'Ake sithathe umbala ophuzi, bese sithatha umbala obomvu  
Yihlanganiseni; okungcono yenzani umbala osawolintshi.'

'Siwutholile umlingo! Siwutholile umlingo!  
kusho amantombazane kanyekanye.  
Ayedansa ezungeza izitsha zikapende.





OOPS! The pots went flying. The paint splashed onto Mama Mabena's beautiful wall.

MAMO! Kwabheka phezulu izitsha zikapende. Upende wathela udonga oluhle lukaMama Mabena.

'Quick, fix it up!' said Mtazi. The girls tried to wipe the paint off the wall. 'We've spoilt the shapes and patterns,' said Ndelete. 'Mama Mabena will be cross with us.'

'Sheshani asilulungise!' kusho uMtazi. Amantombazane azama ukusula upende odongeni. 'Sonakalise izimo namaphethini,' kusho uNdelete. 'UMama Mabena uzosithukuthelela.'



But Mama Mabena looked at the wall and smiled.  
'That's wonderful!' she said. 'Can you see the pictures you have made? There's a butterfly and a lion.'

Kodwa uMama Mabena wabuka udonga wamamatheka.  
'Kwaze kwakuhle!' kusho yena. Niyalubona uvemvane nehubesi enilenzile? Kukhona uvemvane nehubesi.



The girls looked at the colours on the wall.  
'I can see a crocodile!' said Mtazi.  
'I can see a flower and a bird!' said Ndelete.  
Mama Mabena laughed and said, 'And I can see you have found the magic in your hands!'

Amantombazane abuka imibala odongeni.  
'Ngibona ingwenya!' kusho uMtazi.  
'Ngibona imbali nenyoni!' kusho uNdelete.  
UMama Mabena wahleka wathi, 'Nami ngiyazibonela ukuthi seniwutholile umlingo ezandleni zenu!'