



Edition 26
isiZulu, English

It starts with a story...

Which languages should we use?



With babies, young children, and even older children who have to learn through an additional language like English at school, it's best to share books in the language or languages you speak at home with them. It takes many years to learn your mother tongue well, and reading and talking about books in your mother tongue enriches your children's language – and it gives your children the head start they need for successful learning at school.

In South Africa, many homes are bilingual or multilingual. This is not a problem – in fact, it is a wonderful resource for children! They can transfer the concepts, knowledge and language that they learn in one language to another one. Children are also able to learn in two languages at the same time! So if, for example, Mom's mother tongue is isiXhosa and Dad's mother tongue is Sesotho, and each of them usually speaks their language to their baby, he or she will grow up learning two languages. If you and other adults in your home each want to use your mother tongue to share books with your children, this is fine. The important thing is to make sure that your baby or child understands you, and is having an enjoyable and satisfying time.

And there is even better news! Did you know that although it's a good idea to keep reading to your children in their mother tongue, when they start to learn an additional language at school, reading picture books in this "new" language will help them to learn the language more easily. So, if you are able to, once your children are of school-going age, don't be afraid of reading in your mother tongue plus other languages your child may be learning at school.

So, to help your children have the very best chance at success at school, here's the golden rule: start talking and reading to them in your mother tongue/s when they are babies, keep doing this throughout their lives and as they learn other languages at school, start reading to them in these languages too!

Yiziphi izilimi okumele sizisebenzise?

Ebantwaneni, ezinganeni ezincane, nasezinganeni ezindadlana imbala okumele zifunde ngolimi olwengeziwe olufana nesingisi esikoleni, kungcono ukwabelana nabo ngezincwadi ngolimi noma izilimi enizikhuluma ekhaya. Kuthatha iminyaka eminingi ukuthi ufunde kahle ulimi lwakho lwasekhaya, kanti ukufunda nokukhuluma ngezincwadi ngolimi lwakho lwasekhaya kunothisa ulimi lwengane yakho - futhi kunikeza isiqalo esihle esidingayo ukuze ifunde ngempumelelo esikoleni.

Emakhaya amaningi aseNingizimu Afrika kukhulunywa izilimi ezimbili noma ezinganana. Lokhu akuyona inkinga – empeleni, kungumthombo omuhle ezinganeni! Zingadlulisela imiqondo, ulwazi nolimi ezilifundayo kusuka kolunye ulimi ziluse kolunye. Izingane ziyakwazi futhi ukufunda ngezilimi ezimbili ngesikhathi esisodwa! Ngakho, uma singenza isibonelo, uMama ukhuluma isiXhosa kanti uBaba yena ukhuluma iSesotho bese yilowo nalowo ekhuluma ulimi lwakhe nomntwana wabo; umntwana uzokhula efunda izilimi ezimbili. Uma wena nabanye abantu abadala ekhaya nifuna ukusebenzisa ulimi lwenu lwasekhaya ukuze nabelane ngezincwadi nezingane zenu, akunankinga lokhu. Into ebalulekile ukuthi niqinisekise ukuthi umntwana noma ingane iyakuqonda enikushoyo, futhi inesikhathi esithokozelekayo nesiyeneliso.

Reading club tip #2

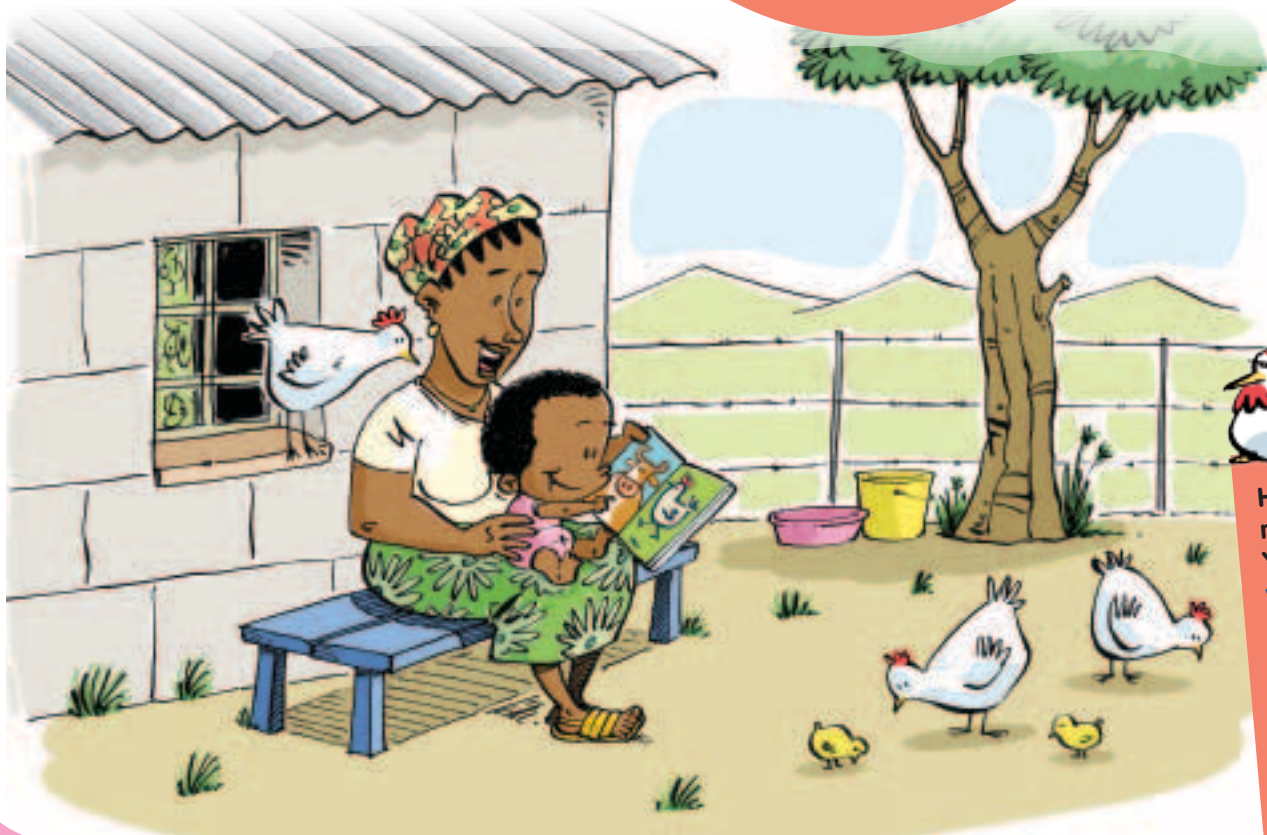
Both you and the children can have fun learning to read in two languages. Try first reading the mini-books in the Nalibali supplement in your most familiar language and then in the other language.

Icebo lesi-2 lethimba lokufunda

Izinhlangothi zombili, wena kanye nezingane zakho, ningazithokozisa ngokufunda ngezilimi ezimbili. Ningaqala ngokuzama ukufunda amabhukwana ezithasiselo zeNalibali ngolimi enilujwayele bese nifunda nangalolu olunye futhi.

Futhi kunezindaba ezimnandi kakhulu! Ngabe bewazi ukuthi noma kuyisi elihle ukuthi uqhubeka nokufundela ingane yakho ngolimi lwayo lwasekhaya, uma seziqala ukufunda ulimi olwengeziwe esikoleni ngokufunda izincwadi ezinezithombe ngalolu limi 'olusha' kuzo kuzozisiza ukuthi zifunde ulimi kalula. Ngakho, uma ungase ukwazi, uma izingane zakho seziseminyakeni yokungena esikoleni, ungesabi ukufunda ngolimi lwakho lwasekhaya kanye nolunye ulimi okungenzeka ukuthi ingane yakho iyalufunda esikoleni.

Ukuze usize izingane zakho ukuthi zibe semathubeni okuba ziphumelele esikoleni, nanku umthetho okumele ulandelwe: qala ukukhuluma nokuyifundela ngolimi noma izilimi zasekhaya ngesikhathi zisengabantwana, qhubeka nokwenza lokhu impilo yazo yonke, kanti ngesikhathi zifunda izilimi esikoleni, qala ukuzifundela nangalezi zilimi futhi!



Join us on Facebook every Monday for Multilingual Mondays. Go to www.facebook.com/nalibaliSA for a new post in English and a different South African language each week. Add your translations so we can learn from one another and celebrate the rich collection of languages in our country.

Hlanganyela nathi ku-Facebook njalo ngeMisombuluko, ngaleyo Misombuluko Yokusebenzisa Izilimi Eziningi. Iya ku-www.facebook.com/nalibaliSA ukuze uthole okusha okubhalwe ngesiNgisi nangolunye ulimi lwaseNingizimu Afrika oluhlukile isonto ngalinye. Faka okuhumushile ukuze lowo nalowo afunde kwabanye bese sigubha iqoqo elinithile lezilimi zasezweni lethu.



Drive your imagination

Read to me. Again! Again!
Ngifundele.
Phinda, ubuye uphinde!





Q: We speak isiZulu at home. My youngest child is in Grade 2 and I'm happy that, although he is learning English at school, all his other lessons are in isiZulu. His older sister is in Grade 6. When she went to Grade 4 suddenly all her lessons were in English even though she still did isiZulu as a subject. It was very difficult for her, and her marks dropped a lot. I want to help prepare my son for the switch to English in two years' time so that he does not struggle as much as she did. Do you think I should help him by speaking and reading to him only in English and not in isiZulu like I am doing at the moment?

Thokozile Dlungwana, Kwamashu

A: It is extremely difficult for children to do well at school when they have to learn in a language that they have not yet mastered properly. One of the ways you can help prepare your son for the "switch" to English is to continue doing what you are already doing – use his mother tongue, isiZulu, at home! Use it for everyday conversations and reading and writing! Being able to use his mother tongue well will build a firm foundation for him to learn another language. You can also help him make the connections to English by sometimes reading English picture books to him and by singing and saying English songs and rhymes together. In this way you will be growing his mother tongue and adding to his language skills by helping him learn a new language in a natural and fun way.

Q: Sikhuluma isiZulu ekhaya. Uthumbu wami useBangeni 2, kuyangithokozisa lokho, noma efunda isiNgisi esikoleni, wenza zonke ezinye izifundo zakhe ngesiZulu. Udadewabo omdala useBangeni 6. Ngesikhathi esefika eBangeni 4 zonke izifundo zakhe zashintsha zaba ngesiNgisi noma wayesaqhubeka ukufunda isiZulu. Kwaba nzima kakhulu kuyena, namamaki akhe ehla kakhulu. Ngifuna ukulungiselela indodana yami ekushintsheleni esiNgisini eminyakeni emibili ezayo ukuze ingahlangabezani nobunzima udadewabo ahlangabezana nabo. Ngabe nicabanga ukuthi kumele ngimsize ngokukhuluma nokumfundela ngesiNgisi ngingamfundeli ngesiZulu njengoba ngenza manje?

UThokozile Dlungwane, KwaMashu

A: Kunzima ezinganeni ukuthi zenze kahle ezifundweni zazo uma kudingeka ziyofunda ngolimi ezingelalubambi kahle. Enye indlela engakusiza ukuthi ulungiselele indodana yakho 'ukushintshela' esiNgisini ukuthi uqhubeke wenze lokhu okwenzayo njengamanje - ukusebenzisa ulimi lwasekhaya, isiZulu, ekhaya! Sisebenzisele ukuxoxa kwansuku zonke, ukufunda nokubhala! Ukwazi kwakhe ukusebenzisa kahle ulimi lwakhe lwasekhaya kuzomsiza ukuthi akhe isisekelo esiqinile sokuthi afunde olunye ulimi. Ungamsiza futhi ukuthi abe nokuxhumana nesiNgisi ngokuthi umfundele izincwadi zesiNgisi ezinezithombe ngesinye isikhathi, ngokucula nangokusho amaculo nemilolozelo yesiNgisi ndawonye. Ngale ndlela uzobe uthuthukisa ulimi lwakhe lwasekhaya, wengeza nakumakhono akhe olimi ngokumsiza ukuthi afunde ulimi olusha ngendlela yemvelo nokuzithokozisa.

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Nal'ibali Othandekayo...

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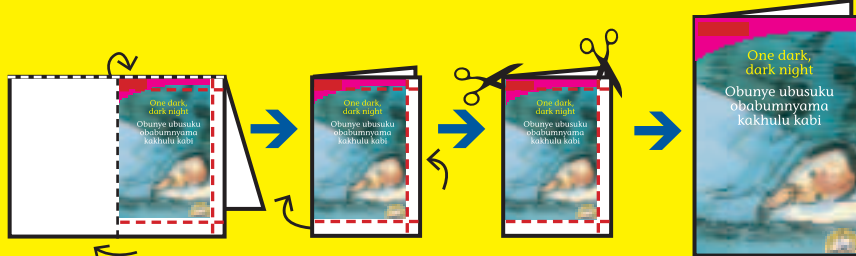


21 February
is International
Mother Tongue Day!

Umhlaka-21 Febhruwari
Usuku Lomhlaba
Wonke Lolimi
Lwasekhaya!

Create your own mini-book Zakhele 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 kulesi sithasiselo.
 2. Lisonge libe nguhhafu lapho kunomugqa (ulayini) wamachashaza amnyama khona.
 3. Lisonge libe nguhhafu futhi.
 4. Sika lapho kunomugqa wamachashaza abomvu khona.



It was a very dark night. The dog
barked. The cat called.
The chicken clucked. And then I
heard something scary!
Kwakuwubusuku obumnyama
kakhulu kabi. Inja yakhonkonkotha.
Ikati labiza. Izinkukhu zakukuza.
Ngase ngizwa okuthile
okusabekayo!

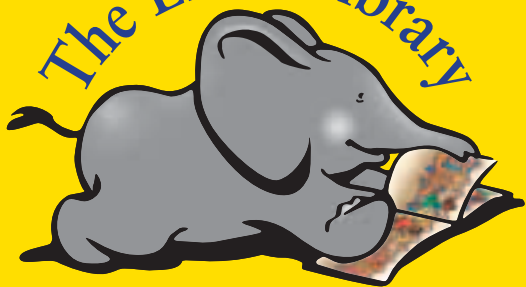


Fold

When it's dark, we shut the door.
We are safe in our house.
We all close our eyes. But
sometimes I lie awake. I listen,
in case something comes.
Uma sekumnyama sivala umnyango.
Siphaphile endlini yethu. Sonke
sivala amehlo ethu. Kodwa kwesinye
isikhathi angilali. Ngiyalalela uma
kungenzeka kuze okuthile.



The Little Library

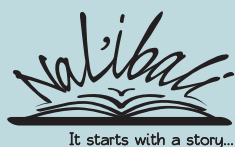


One dark, dark night is one of 36 stories available in the Little Library Kits for Numeracy, Literacy and Life Skills. Each kit contains 60 readers (5 copies of 12 stories), 12 big books, 12 posters and a comprehensive teacher's guide. The readers and the big books are available in all 11 official languages. For more information please visit our website www.cup.co.za.

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Nal'ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to get people in South Africa – children and adults – passionate about telling and reading stories. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org



Nal'ibali umkhankaso kazwelonke wokujabulela ukufunda ukwenza ukuthi abantu baseNingizimu Afrika – izingane nabantu abadala – babenogqozi lokuxoxa kanye nokufunda izindaba. Ukuthola ulwazi olunabile, vakashela e: www.nalibali.org



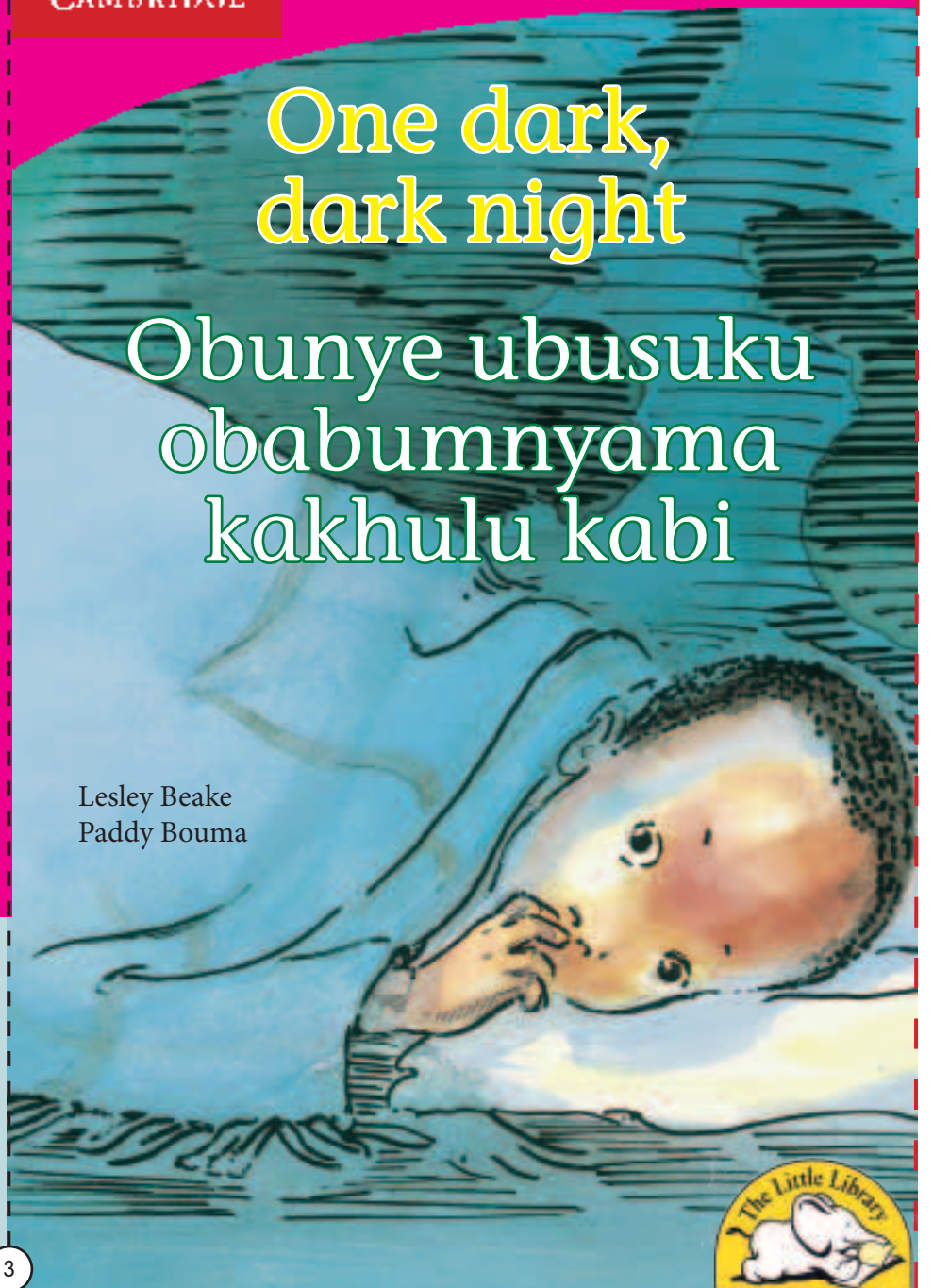
Fold

CAMBRIDGE

One dark, dark night

Obunye ubusuku obabumnyama kakhulu kabi

Lesley Beake
Paddy Bouma





Sonke
siyameza
sithi, "Hamba
Nuisance!"



And we
all shout,
"Go away,
Nuisance!"



My Grandmother is old and thin.
My Mama is young and fat.

Ugogo wami ugugile futhi uzacile.
UMama wami usemusha futhi ukhuluphele.

Shshsssi
Dum! Dum! Dum!
Kungabe yini kona loko?

Shshsssi
Doem! Doem! Doem!
What could it be?



... Nuisance, the donkey.
He wanted to say goodnight!

... imbongolo uNuisance.
Yayifuna ukuthi nilale kamnandi!

Ngaleso sikhathi umama wagxuma.
 "Yoooo!" kukhala umama. "Ingokai
 Ingokai! Izodla izinkukhu zam!"
 Then Mama jumped up.
 "Yoooo!" Mama said. "Snake! Snake!
 It will eat my chickens!"



I held the baby. Grandmother
 opened the door slowly.
 Was it a snake?
 Was it an elephant?
 Grandmother switched
 on the torch.
 What was it?

It was ...

Mina ngagodla ingane.
 Ugogo wawuvula
 kancane umnyango.
 Kungabe kwakuyinyoka?
 Kungabe
 kwakuyindlovu?
 Ugogo wakhanyisa
 ithoshi.
 Kungabe kwakuyini?

Kwakuyi ...



I am small and short.

Ngimncane futhi ngimfushane.



Ugogo ubiza
 izinkukhu ebusuku.
 "Kip-kip-kip!" Bese
 uNuisance naye eze.
 Umama ubiza inji.
 UNuisance naye
 abe eseza.
 Ngibiza ikati,
 "Ssk-skk-ski!"

Grandmother
 calls the chickens
 at night.
 "Kip-kip-kip!" And
 Nuisance comes.
 Mama calls the
 dog. And Nuisance
 comes.
 I call the cat, "Ssk-
 ssk-ski!"



Sinembongolo ebizwa uNuisance.

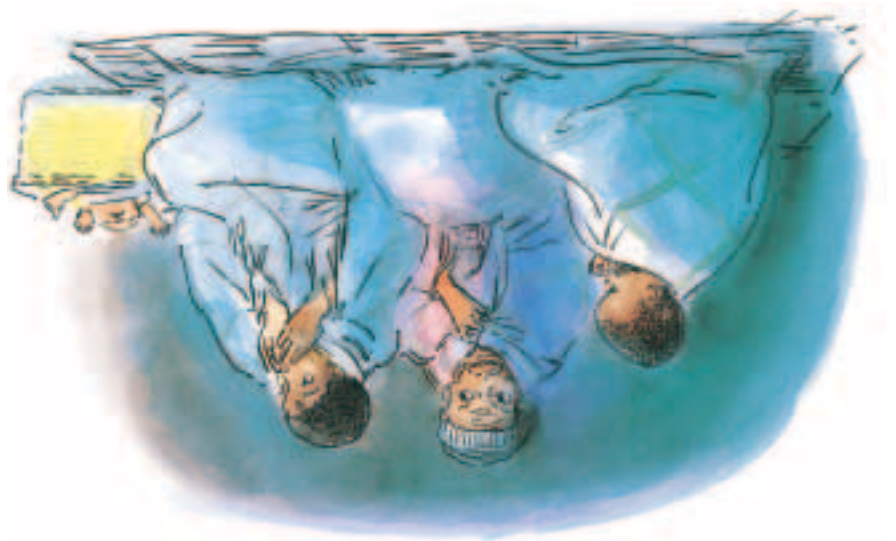
And we have a donkey called Nuisance.



We have a big dog. We have a small cat. We have many chickens.

Sinenja enkulu. Sinekati elincane. Sinezinkukhu eziningi.

Grandmother sat up. "Ooooo!" Grandmother said. "Elephant! Elephant! It will knock down our house!" Ugogo wawuka wahlala ngezinge. "Ooooo!" kukhala ugogo. "Indlovu! Indlovu! Izakwisa indlu yethu!"



Grandmother got the torch. Mama got the big stick.

Ugogo wathatha ithoshi. Umama wathatha induku enkulu.

Get story active!

After you and your children have read *One dark, dark night*, try out some of these ideas.

If you have 10 minutes...

- Look at the illustrations together and talk about them. For example, ask your children if they can tell how many chickens the family has by counting them on pages 4 and 5. And ask them to suggest what the dog is howling at on page 10.

If you have 30 minutes...

- Play a detective game together! Ask your children if they know who is telling the story. (You might need to read the story together again so that they can work this out!) Then, together, write down what you know about the little girl from the information given in the story.
- Read the story again and ask your children to make the noises of the different animals when you read about them. They could act out being those animals too.

If you have one hour...

- Make up a story with your children, that begins with "One dark, dark night...". Take turns adding different bits to this new story. When you have finished, ask your children to draw or paint a picture to illustrate a scene from it.

Yenza indaba ihlabe umxhwele!

Ngemuva kokuba wena kanye nezingane zakho senifunde *Obunye ubusuku obumnyama kakhulu kabi*, zamani eminye yale miqondo.

Uma ninemizuzu eyi-10...

- Bhekani nindawonye imidwebo bese nikhuluma ngayo. Isibonelo, buza izingane ukuthi zingasho yini ukuthi umndeni unezinkukhu ezingaki ngokuba zizibale ekhasini lesi-4 nelesi-5. Bacele basho ukuthi ngabe bacabanga ukuthiinja ikhonkothani ekhasini le-10.

Uma ninemizuzu engama-30...

- Dlalani ndawonye umdlalo wokwenza uphenyo! Buza izingane zakho ukuthi ngabe ziyazi yini ukuthi ubani oxoxa indaba. (Kungenzeka nidinge ukufunda indaba ndawonye futhi ukuze nixazulule lokhu!) Bese nibhala ndawonye lokho enikwazi ngentombazanyana enikususela emininigwaneni esendabeni.
- Fundani indaba futhi bese ucela izingane zakho ukuthi zenze imisindo yezilwane ezahlukene uma usufunda ngazo. Zingazingisa futhi lezo zilwane.

Uma ninehora elilodwa...

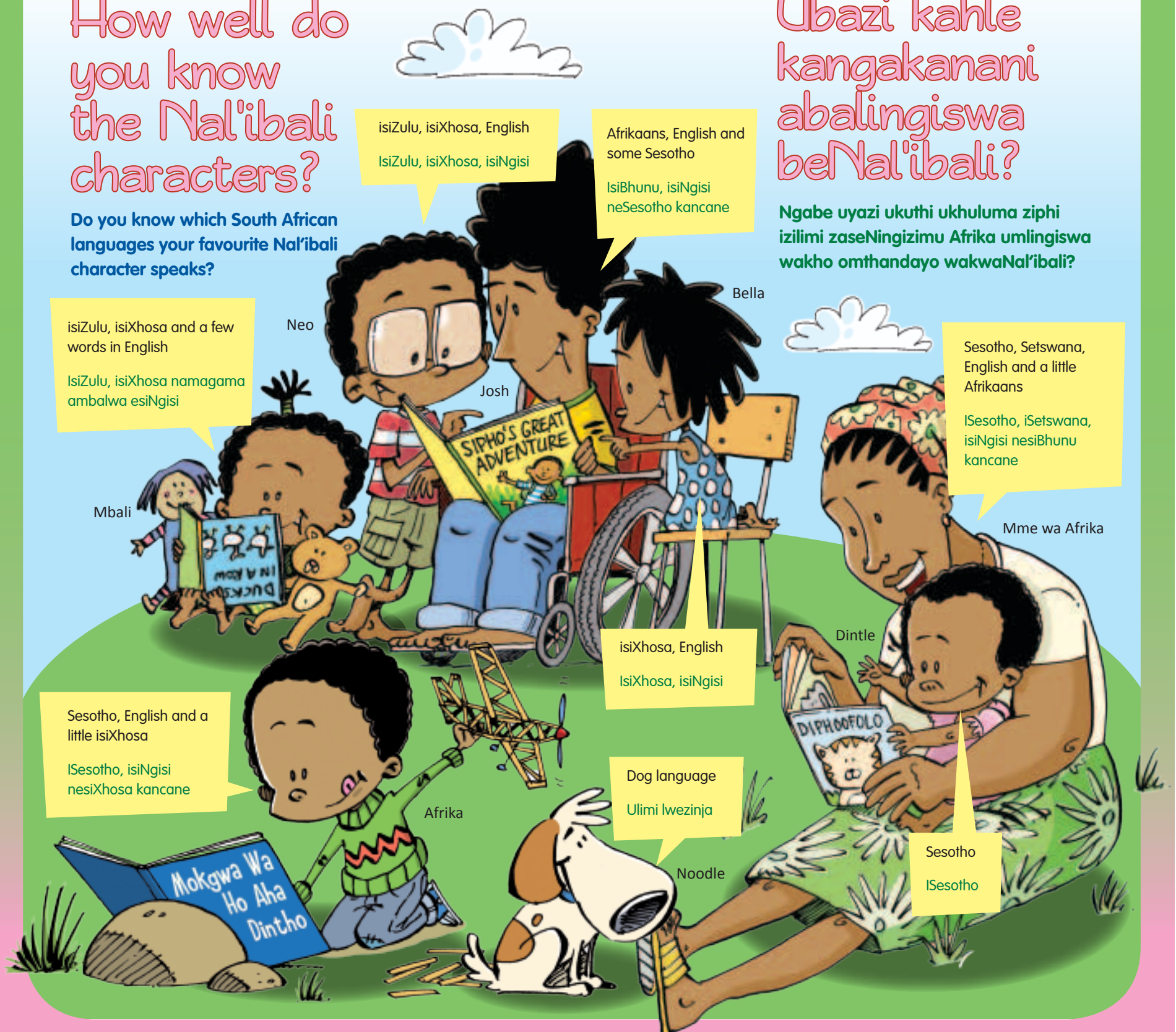
- Zakheleni indaba nezingane zakho eqala ngokuthi: "ngobunye ubusuku obumnyama kakhulu..." Shintshanani nifakele okuthile kule ndaba entsha. Uma seniqedile, cela izingane zakho ukuthi zidwebe noma zipende umdwebo ochaza isiqephu esivela endabeni.

How well do you know the Na'ibali characters?

Do you know which South African languages your favourite Na'ibali character speaks?

Ubazi kahle kangakanani abalingiswa beNa'ibali?

Ngabe uyazi ukuthi ukhuluma ziphi izilimi zaseNingizimu Afrika umlingiswa wakho omthandayo wakwaNa'ibali?



Story corner

Here is the first part of a story about a very special bird for you to read aloud or tell.

The rain bird (Part 1) Retold by Joanne Bloch

A little village stood at the edge of a forest. In the heart of this forest, in the highest branches of an enormous tree, lived a very special bird – the bird that made rain. The villagers had always taken the time to keep this bird happy. Every week they would take pieces of bread and fruit, and fresh coconut milk to lay at the base of the tree. Then someone would play a simple tune on the thumb piano and the bird would fly down to the ground to eat and drink. When it had finished, it would raise its dark, shiny blue wings and sing a beautiful song. Within minutes, rain would begin to fall.

For many years rain fell regularly, the crops grew abundantly and there was plenty of food for everyone. But gradually things began to change ... the villagers started to neglect the rain bird. "It will rain anyway," they decided.

But gradually the rain stopped falling. Their crops began to die and their animals grew thin and weak. But still nobody went into the forest to feed the bird that brought the rain - they were all too busy trying to find money to buy food in a neighbouring town.

One day, Ketti went into the forest. She walked and walked until she came to the tall tree in which the rain bird lived. Ketti stared up at the tree, remembering how her granny used to take her into the forest to feed the bird. She took a piece of bread out of her bag and laid it at the base of the tree. Then, because she had no thumb piano, she sang a song.

The rain bird swooped down and began to eat the bread. When it had finished, it sang a few high notes and raised its shiny wings. Then Ketti heard the rumble of thunder and by the time she reached home, giant rain drops were pelting down.

Ketti told her parents what had happened. "Nobody believes in that bird anymore! Don't waste your bread on it!" scolded her mother.

"If only Granny were alive," thought Ketti, "she would have believed me!" But Ketti's granny had died a few years ago leaving Ketti only her old thumb piano.



Find out next week whether the rain bird really does have magical powers.

Ikhona lezindaba

Nansi ingxenywe yokuqala yendaba emayelana nenyoni ekhethekile ozoyifunda kuzwakale noma ozoyixoxa.

Inyoni enisa imvula (Ingxenywe yoku-1) Ixoxwa kabusha nguJoanne Bloch

Kwakukhona umuzi owawusekugcineni kwehlathi. Phakathi naleli hlathi, emagatsheni aphezulu esihlahleni esikhulu kakhulu, kwakuhlala inyoni yekhethele ngempela – inyoni eyayikwazi ukunisa imvula. Abantu babehlala benesikhathi sokugcina inyoni ithokozile. Babethatha izingcezu zezinkwa, izithelo nobisi olusha lukakhukhunathi masono onke bakubeke phansi kwesihlahla. Omunye wabo wayedlala upiyano oludlalwa ngezithupha, inyoni yayindiza yehlele phansi ukuze idle iphuze. Uma isiqedile, yayiphakamisa amaphiko ayo aluhlaza okwesibhakabhaka akhazimulayo bese icula iculo elimnandi. Kungakapheli namizuzu emingaki, yayiqala ukuna imvula.

Imvula yayina njalo iminyaka eminingi, izitshalo zazikhula kakhulu, futhi kunokudla okuningi emzini. Kodwa izinto zaqala ukushintsha kancane kancane ... abantu basemzini baqala ukungayinaki inyoni enisa imvula. "Kuzonetha vele," kunquma bona.

Imvula nayo yayeka ukuna. Izitshalo zaqala ukufa, nezilwane zazaca futhi zababuthakathaka. Noma kunjalo akekho umuntu emzini owaya ehlathini ukuyopha ukudla inyoni eyayinisa imvula - babematasatasa bonke bezama ukuthola imali yokuthenga ukudla edolobhaneni eliseduze.

Ngelinye ilanga, uKetti waya ehlathini. Wahamba, wahamba, waze wafika esihlahleni eside okwakhulala kusona inyoni enisa imvula. UKetti wabuka phezulu esihlahleni, ekhumbula ukuthi ugogo wakhe wayaye dhambe kanjani naye beze ehlathini bezopha inyoni ukudla. Wakhapha ucezu lwesinkwa esikhwameni sakhe walubeka phansi kwesihlahla. Njengoba wayengenalo upiyano oludlalwa ngezithupha, wacula iculo.

Kwezwakala umsindo omkhulu inyoni enisa imvula yehlele phansi yase iqala ukudla isinkwa. Uma seyiqedile, yacula amanothi ayingcwenga ambalwa yase iphakamisa amaphiko ayo akhazimulayo. UKetti wezwa ukuduma kwezulu, ngesikhathi efika ekhaya kwase kuqalile ukuna kwamathonsi amakhulu emvula.

UKetti watshela abazali bakhe ukuthi kwenzekeni, "Akusekho muntu okholelwa kuleya nyoni! Ungamosi isinkwa sakho upha leya nyoni!" kuthetha uMama.

"Ukuba uGogo ubesaphila," kucabanga uKetti, "ubezongikhulwa!" Kodwa ugogo kaKetti wayeshone eminyakeni embalwa eyedlule, emshiyele upiyano lwakhe oludala oludlalwa ngezithupha.

Thola ngesonto elizayo ukuthi ngabe inyoni enisa imvula inawo ngempela yini amandla okwenza umlingo.

In your next Nal'ibali supplement:

- Join our celebration of World Read Aloud Day
- Story stars: find out about children who enjoy reading aloud to other children
- Read a story especially written for us by one of South Africa's most loved children's authors, Niki Daly
- Story time activities
- The final part of the story, *The rain bird*

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

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- Funda indaba esiyibhalelwe ngokukhethekile ngomunye wababhali bezincwadi zezingane abathandwa kakhulu eNingizimu Afrika, uNiki Daly
- Imisebenzi engenziwa ngesikhathi seNdaba
- Ingxenywe yokugcina yendaba, *Inyoni enisa imvula*

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