



It starts with a story...

Books and babies

From birth to the age of three, children learn an enormous amount of language – even if they do not talk a lot! So, the more stories and books you read to them, the more language they learn.

There is no right or wrong way to use books with babies and toddlers. It's more about enjoying the time you spend together and following their lead in deciding what to try next.

- Babies and toddlers love play. Have lots of light-hearted times with books, and read books that are your child's favourites again and again!
- Although you can read anywhere, it's best to relax and sit comfortably with your child on your lap, or next to you, when you share books.
- It doesn't matter for how long you read – and you don't have to finish the book! Share a book together for as short or as long as you both want.
- Make time for babies and toddlers to look at books on their own. Board books have rounded corners so that they cannot hurt your child and they are specially made to be chewed, patted and dropped!

- Talking to your children about the pictures, concepts and what is happening in the book is as important as reading the words on the page. Ask them what they think, and say what you think too – this guides them in how to explore books.
- Listen carefully to what your child says and respond to it. This makes the experience more interesting for both of you. It also helps grow your child's language, confidence and self-esteem.
- Offer your children a choice of books and then be guided by what they want to read. Start by asking, "Shall we look at/read this book?"

Babies and toddlers have moods and prefer some things to others – just like us! Their level of interest in a book will depend on a number of things: what things they like, the time of day and whether they are hungry, tired or have a wet nappy! If your child seems disinterested, don't give up! Try again later, or in another way – or try another book. Just keep sharing books together.

Want more tips and ideas about reading to babies on your cellphone? Go to www.nalibali.mobi or find us on Mxit at <http://mxitapp.com/nalibali>.



Reading club tip #8

Celebrate the children's writing by asking them to read their stories or poems aloud to other club members. If you can, also display their writing so that club members can read it at their leisure!

Keletso ya bo-8 ya tlelapo ya ho bala

Keteka mongolo wa bana ka ho ba kopa hore ba balle ditho tse ding tsa tlelapo dipale kapa dithothokiso tsa bona ba balla hodimo. Ha o ka kgona, o ka ba wa bea mongolo eo ya bona pepeneng e le hore ditho tsa tlelapo di kgone ho ipalla ha di na le nako!

Dibuka le masea

Ho tloha nakong ya tswalo ho fihlela dilemong tse tharo, bana ba ithuta boholo ba puo – esitana le ha ba sa bue hakaalo! Kahoo, ha o ba balla dipale le dibuka tse ngata, ba tla ithuta puo e ngata.

Ha ho mokgwa o nepahetseng kapa o fosahetseng wa ho sebedisa dibuka bakeng sa masea le bana ba banyenyane. Hoo e leng ha bohlokwa ke ho natefelwa ke nako eo le e qetang le le mmoho le ho latela tataiso ya bona maelana le ho etsa qeto ya se latelang seo le lokelang ho se leka.

- Masea le bana ba banyenyane ba rata ho papala. Eba le nako e ngata ya ntho tse bobebe ka dibuka mme o bale dibuka tseo ngwana wa hao a di ratang kgafetsa!
- Le ha o ka nna wa balla kae kapa kae, ho molemo ho iketla le ho dula ha monate le ngwana wa hao a dutse hodima hao, kapa pela hao, ha le arolelana ditaba tse ka hara dibuka.
- Ha ho na taba hore o bala nako e telele hakae – ebile ha se hore o tlamehile ho qeta buka!

Ballanang buka mmoho nako e kgutshwane kapa e telele kamoo le batlang ka teng.

- Nea masea le bana nako ya ho sheba dibuka ka bobona. Dibuka tsa boto di na le dihuku tse tihitja hore di tle di se ke tsa utlwisa ngwana hao bohloko mme di etseditswe hore di kgone ho hlafuneha, ho otlangwa ka hara matsoho kapa ho dihelwa fatshe!
- Ho bua le bana ba hao ka diitshwantsho, dintlha le se etsahalang ka hara buka ke ntho e bohlokwa feela jwaloka ho bala mantswa a leqepheng. Ba botse hore ba nahana eng, mme le wena o bolele hore o nahana eng – sena se ba tataisa ho tseba kamoo ba ka sibullang dibuka kateng.
- Mamela ka hloko seo ngwana wa hao a se buang mme o se arabe. Sena se etsa hore ketsahalo ena e be e natefelang ho lona ka bobedi. Hape ho thusa ho hodisa le ho eketsa puo ya ngwana hao, boitshupo le ho ikutlwisisa.
- Nea bana ba hao kgetho ya dibuka mme o tataiswe ke seo ba batlang ho se bala. Qala ka ho botsa, "Na o batla hore re shebe/bale buka ee?"

Masea le bana ba banyenyane ba a fetofetoha maikutlong mme ba ka rata dintho tse itseng ho ena le tse itseng – jwalo ka rona feela! Boemo ba bona ba ho kgahlwa ke buka bo ka itshetleha dinthong tse mmalwa: ke ntho dife tseo ba di ratang, nako ya letsatsi le hore na ba lapile, ba kgathetse kapa ba metsi na! Haeba ngwana wa hao a shebahala a sa kgahlwe ke yona, o se ke wa nyahama! Leka hape ha morao, kapa ka tsela e nngwe – kapa o leke buka e nngwe. Ha feela le ka dula le sheba le ho bala dibuka mmoho.

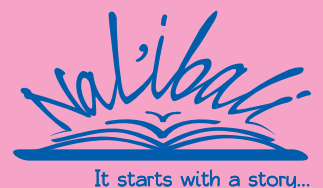
Na o batla dikeletso tse ding le mehopollo e meng bakeng sa ho balla bana selefounong ya hao? Etela ho www.nalibali.mobi kapa o ka re fumana ho Mxit ho <http://mxitapp.com/nalibali>.



Drive your imagination

Read to me.
Never too early. Never too late.

Mpalle. Qala e sa le jwale,
ha o a siuwa ke nako.





Story stars

A pram jam



Once a week, the caregivers of babies and toddlers living in Sea Point bring them to the library for a meeting of the Pram Jam Project. Roni Snitcher is a children's librarian and storyteller who started the project in 2007 because she wanted to inspire children to love stories the way she does – passionately. Nal'ibali spoke to Roni about the project and sharing stories with young children.

What happens at a "pram jam"?

Our sessions are very active! There's lots of singing, dancing, shouting and clapping. We sing a variety of children's nursery rhymes and songs in as many languages as possible. Then I read some stories. I want the Pram Jam experience to be for everyone, not just the children!

How old are the children?

Some of them are only a few months old. This may seem very young, but it is never too early to start telling stories to children. Of course, it is never too late to start, but it is hard to catch up what you have missed.

Why do you think the adults enjoy coming?

It is fun and safe. It is an opportunity to meet people. It is a chance to enjoy the blessings that books can bring!

How do you grab your audience's attention?

I choose books which are really good for reading aloud and when I'm reading aloud, I hold the book so I can read and my listeners can see the pictures at the same time. Sometimes I dress up and other times I use puppets.

What are some of your favourite stories?

The Sneetches by Dr Seuss and fairytales – I love, love, love, love fairy tales and always have!

How can ordinary South Africans help create a reading nation?

Help in any little way you can. It all counts! Be at your local library when children come out of school. Some children cannot read or write, and many have slipped through the cracks. The library staff can show you how to help them.



Pic courtesy of the Pram Jam Project

Dinaledi tsa dipale

Pram Jam

Hang ka beke, bahlokamedi ba masea le bana ba banyenyane ba dulang Sea Point ba ba tlisa laeboraring bakeng sa kopano ya Pram Jam Project. Roni Snitcher ke mosebetsi wa laeboraring le mopheti wa dipale tsa bana ya qadileng porojeke ena ka 2007 hobane o ne a batla ho kgothaletsa bana ho rata dipale ka tsela eo yena a di ratang ka yona – ka pelo ya hae yohle. Nal'ibali e ile ya buisana le Roni ka porojeke ena le ka ho phetela bana ba banyenyane dipale.

Ho etsahala eng ho "pram jam"?

Dikopano tsa rona di tletse diketsahalo! Ho binwa haholo, ho a tantshwa, ho a hoeletswa ebile ho opuwa matsoho. Re bina mefuta e fapaneng ya diraeme le dipina tsa keretjhe ka dipuo tse ngata kamoo re ka kgonang. Jwale ebe ke bala dipale tse itseng. Ke batla hore monate o fumanwang Pram Jam e be wa batho bohle, e seng bana feela!

Ke bana ba dilemong tse kae?

Ba bang ba bona ba na le dikgwedi tse mmalwa feela. Tsena di ka etsa hore ba shebahale ba le banyenyane haholo, empa ho molemo ho qala ba sa le banyenyane ho balla bana dipale. Ehliile, nako ha e eso o siye bakeng sa ho ka qala, empa ho boima ho fumana se seng se o fetile.

O nahana hore ke hobaneng ha batho ba baholo ba natefelwa ke ho tla?

Ho monate ebile ho bolokehile. Ke monyetla wa ho kopana le batho. Ke monyetla wa ho natefelwa ke thabo eo dibuka di ka e tlisang!

O etsa jwang hore bamamedi ba hao ba tsepamise maikutlo ho wena?

Ke kgetha dibuka tse hlileng di le monate bakeng sa ho ballwa hodimo mme ha ke balla hodimo, ke tshwara buka ka tsela eo bamamedi ba kgonang ho bona ditshwantsho ha ntse ke bala. Ka nako e nngwe ke apara diaparo tsa baphelela mme ka nako e nngwe ke sebedisa diphapete.

Ke dipale dife tseo o di ratang ka ho fetisisa?

The Sneetches ka Dr Seuss le ditshomo – ke rata ditshomo rati-rati, mme haesale ke di rata!

Maafrika Borwa a sa tumang a ka etsa jwang ho thusa ho bopa setjhaba se balang?

O ka thusa ka tsela efe kapa efe e nyane kamoo o ka kgonang. Tsohle di bohlokwa! O ka tla laeboraring ha bana ba tswa sekolong. Bana ba bang ha ba kgone ho bala kapa ho ngola, mme ba bangata ba tlohetse sekolo hara nako feela. Basebetsi ba laeboraring ba ka o bontsha kamoo o ka ba thusang kateng.

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. To nominate a Story Star, visit www.nalibali.org/story-stars.



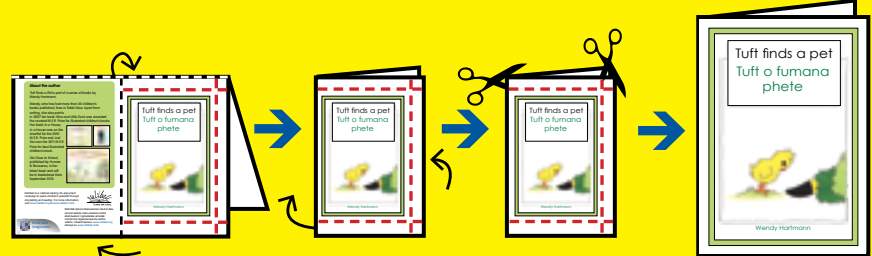
* For terms and conditions that apply, go to www.nalibali.org/story-stars

Ho potoloha naha, batho ka bongwe le mekgatlo ba iphumanela mekgwa ya ho etsa ho bala le ho ngola hore ebe karolo ya maphelo a kamehla a bana. Bakeng sa ho leboha, Dinaledi tsa Dipale tse hlahisitsweng di tla fumana divautjhara tsa dijo* tse ntshitsweng ke Wimpy bakeng sa ho natefelwa le bana bao ba ba tlisetsang phetoho maphelong a bona. Bakeng sa ho thonya Naledi ya Pale, etela www.nalibali.org/story-stars.

* Bakeng sa melawana le dipehelo tse sebediswang, eya ho www.nalibali.org/story-stars

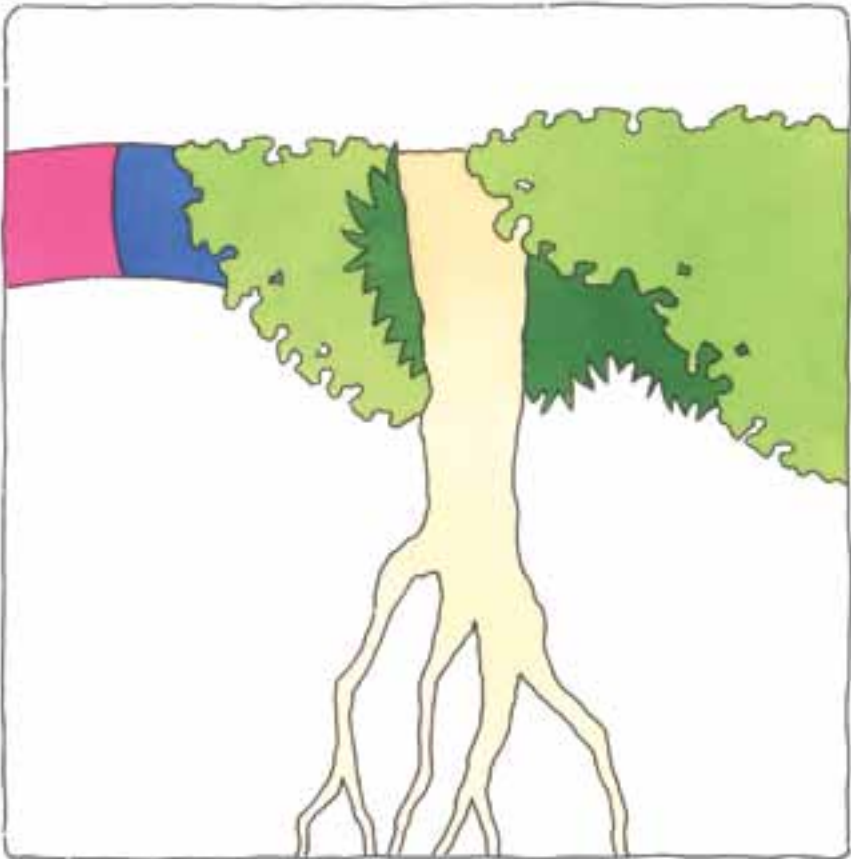
Create your own mini-book Iketsetse bukana ya hao

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Take out pages 3 to 6 of this supplement. | 1. Ntsha leqephe la 3 ho isa ho la 6 a tokomane ena ya flatsetso. |
| 2. Fold it in half along the black dotted line. | 2. Le mene ka halofo hodima mola wa matheba a matsho. |
| 3. Fold it in half again. | 3. Le mene ka halofo hape. |
| 4. Cut along the red dotted lines. | 4. Seha hodima mela e matheba a mafubedu. |



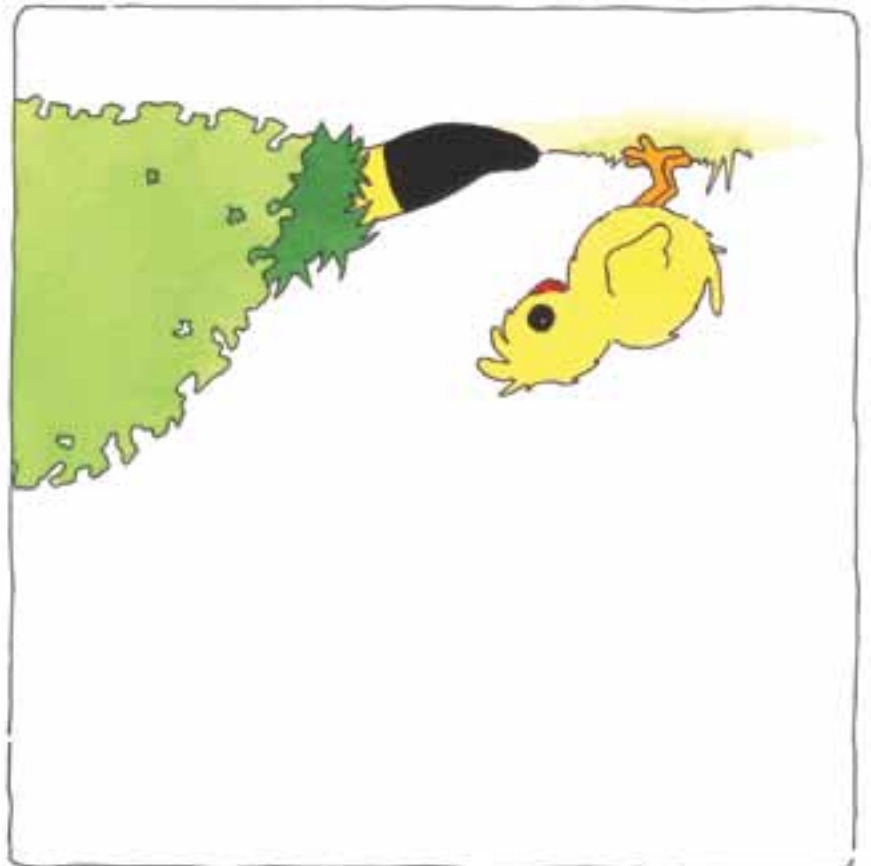
... getelo e nngwe e ne e le hole kwana.

... the other end was far away.



Tuft a bona mohatla.
O ne o le haufi, empa ...

Tuft saw a tail. It was near, but ...



About the author

Tuft finds a pet is part of a series of books by Wendy Hartmann.

Wendy, who has had more than 40 children's books published, lives in Table View. Apart from writing, she also paints.

In 2007 her book *Nina and Little Duck* was awarded the coveted M.E.R. Prize for illustrated children's books.

Her book *In a House, in a House* was on the shortlist for the 2010 M.E.R. Prize and *Just Sisi* won the 2011 M.E.R. Prize for best illustrated children's book.

Sisi Goes to School, published by Human & Rousseau, is her latest book and will be in bookstores from September 2013.



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



Nal'ibali ke letsholo la naha la ho-balla-boithabiso bakeng sa ho rotloetsa bokgoni ba bana ka ho ba balla le ho ba phetela dipale. Bakeng sa tlhahisoleseding e nngwe, etela www.nalibali.org kapa www.nalibali.mobi

Tuft finds a pet
Tuft o fumana
phete

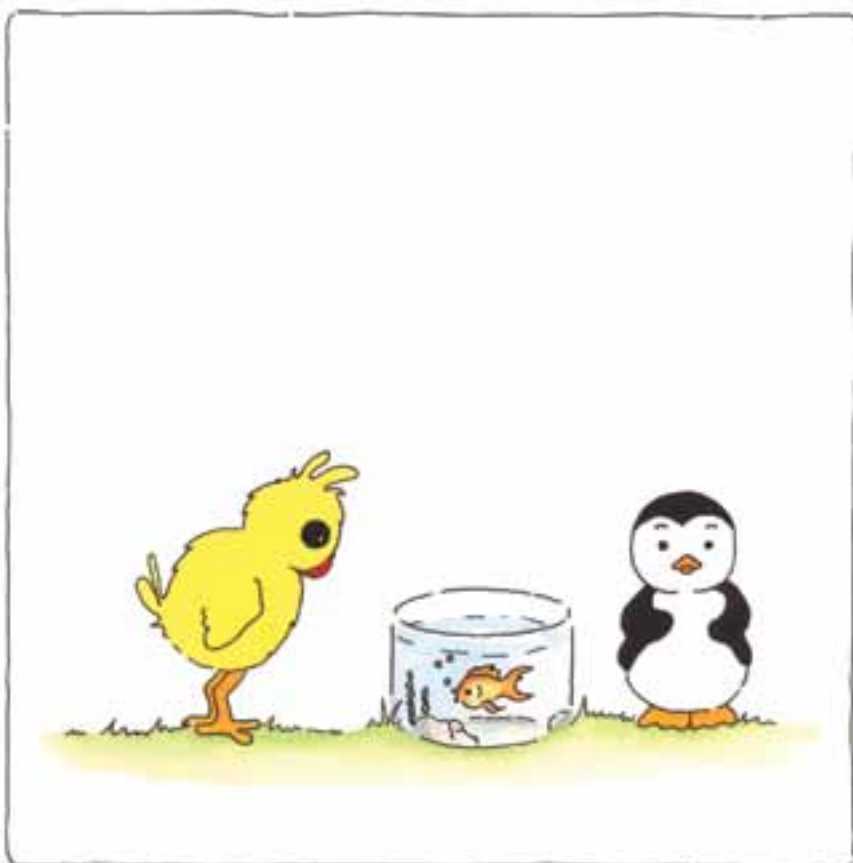


Wendy Hartmann



... kapa e le hole kwana."

... or when it is far away."

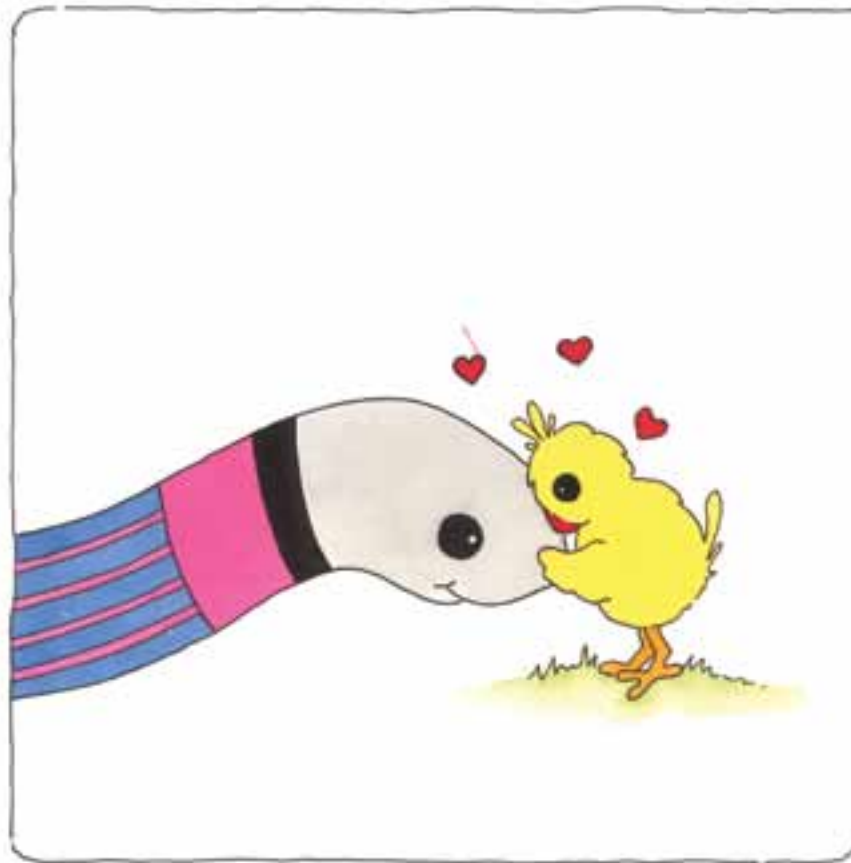
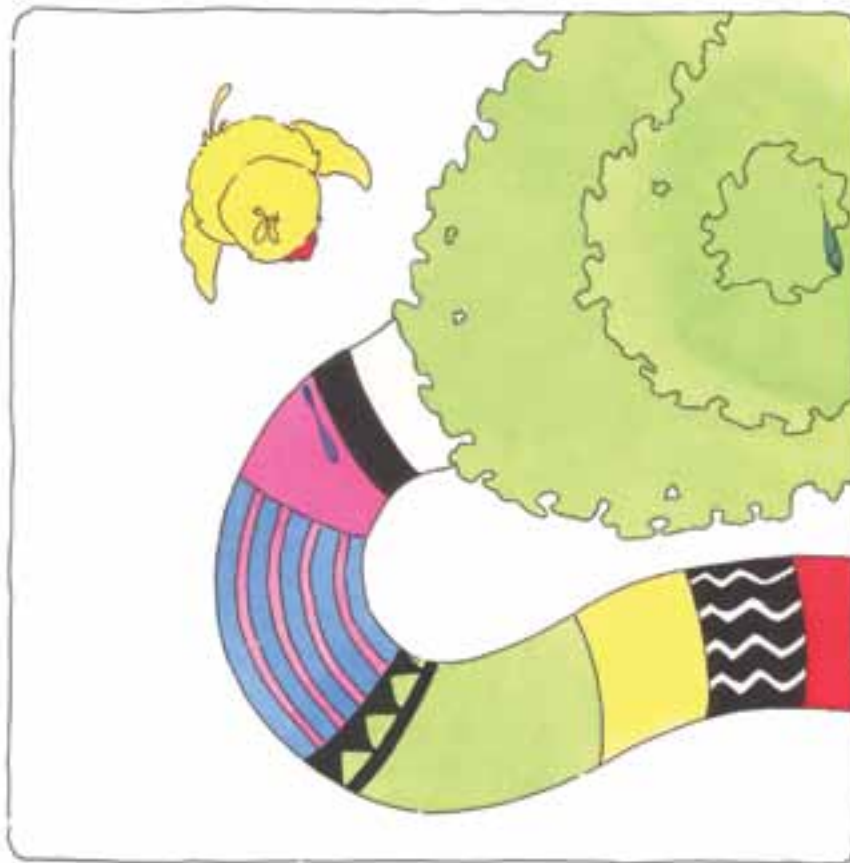


"Hello, Tuft," said the penguin. "Do you like my pet?"

"Dumela, Tuft," ho rialo phenkwine. "Na o rata phete ya ka?"

O ile a fumana noha ya masumo e ntle.
Empa masumo e ne e shebahala e hloname.

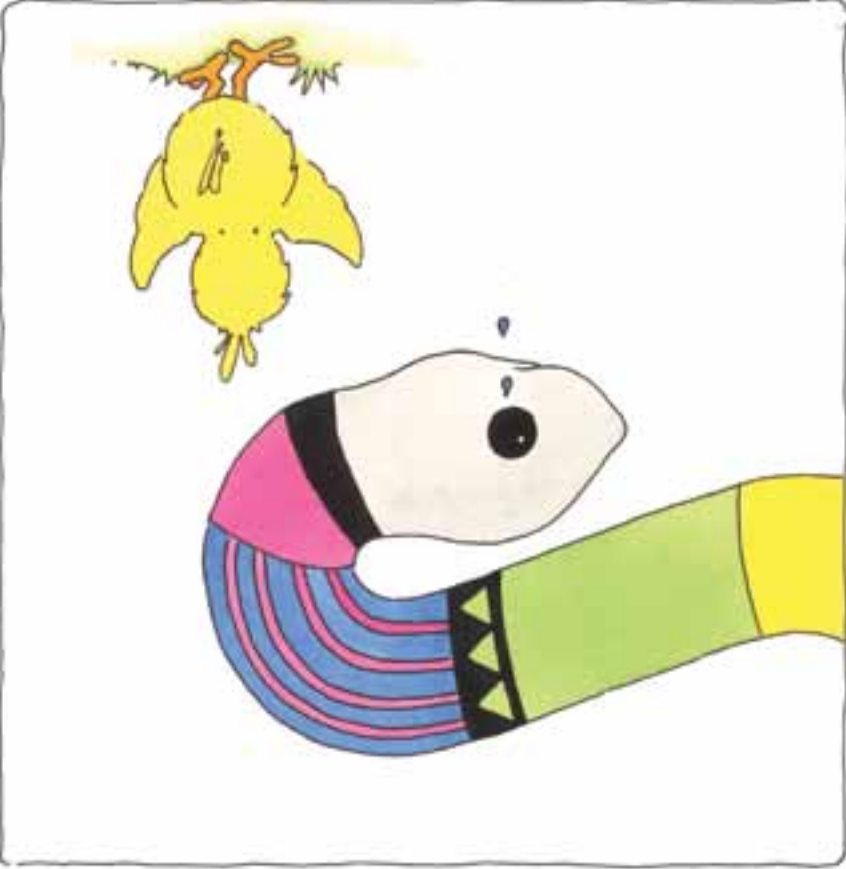
He found a pretty python. The python looked very sad.



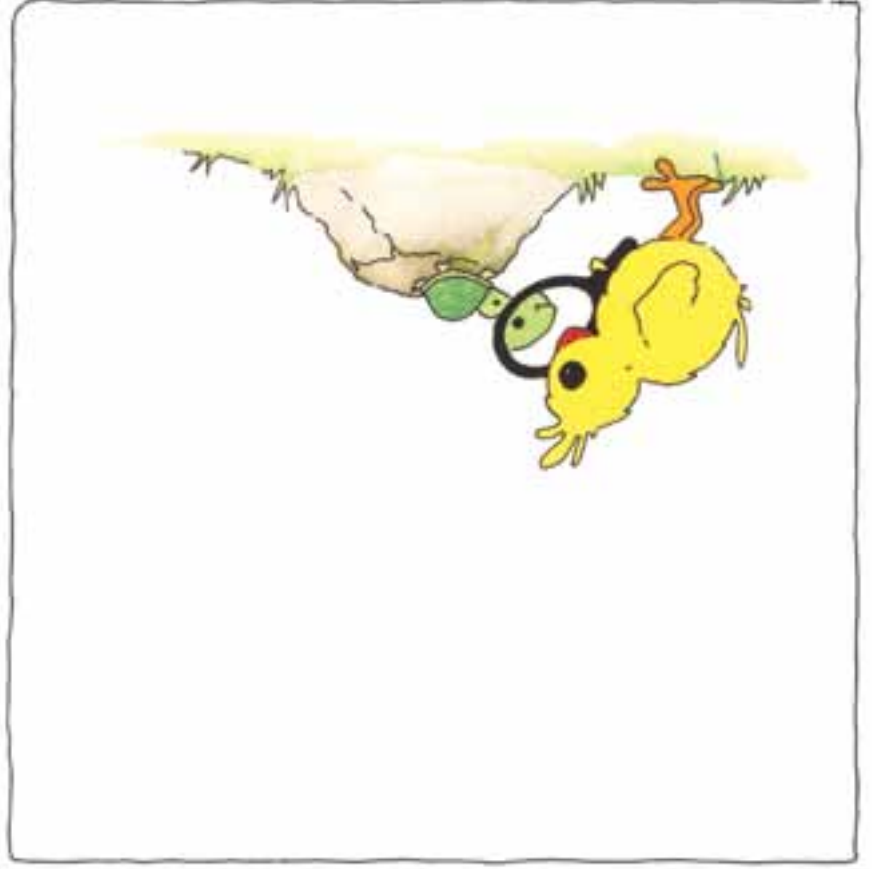
Tuft hugged the python. "I shall call you Patch," Tuft said. "Patch, my very own pet python."

Tuft a haka masumo eo. "Ke tla o rea Patch," Tuft a rialo. "Patch, phete ya ka ka sebele."

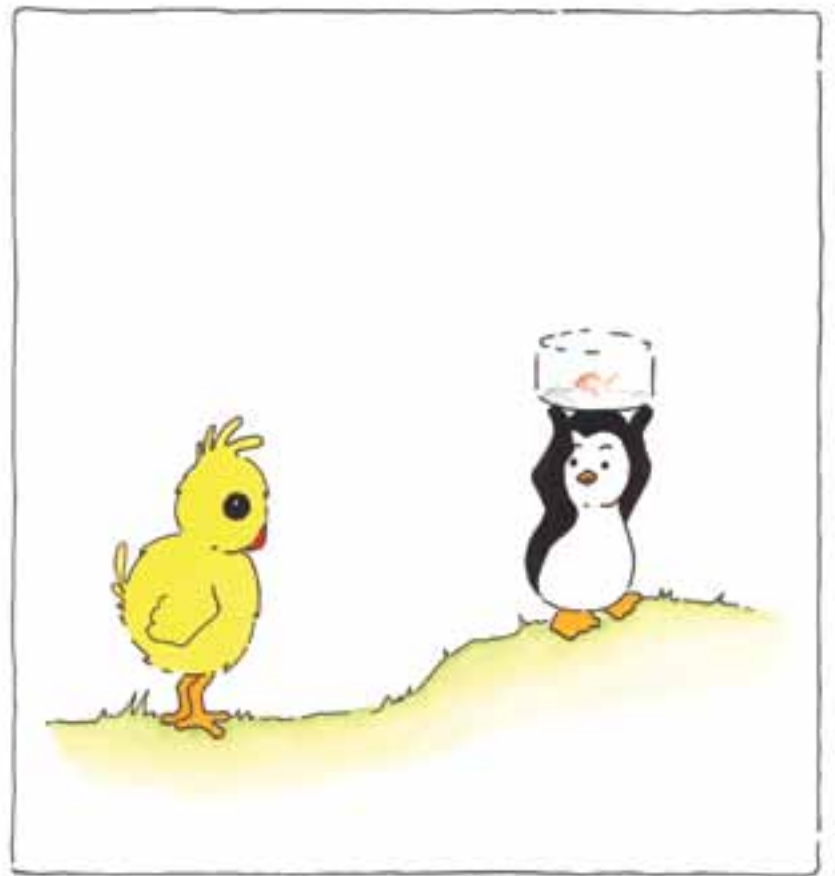
"Hello," said Tuft. "Why are you crying?"
"Dumela," ho rialo Tuft. "O hlangang?"



"It must be a very special pet. A pet I can see when it is near ...
"E lokela hore e be phete e ikgethileng haholo. Phete eo nka e bonang ha e le hau! ..."



The python smiled.
"I would love to be your pet."
Noha ya bososela.
"Nka thabela ho ba phete ya hao."



"I wish I had a pet," said Tuft sadly.
"Ke lakatsa eka nka be ke ena le phete," ho rialo Tuft a hloname.

Fold

Fold 5

... kapa ya eba nyane haholo.

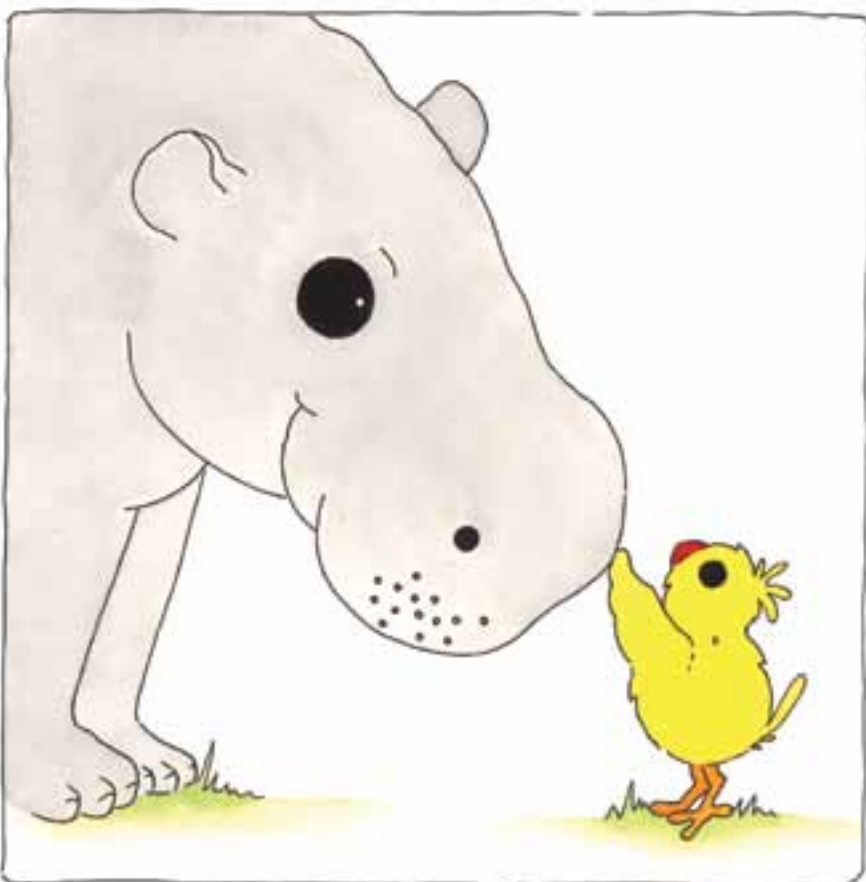
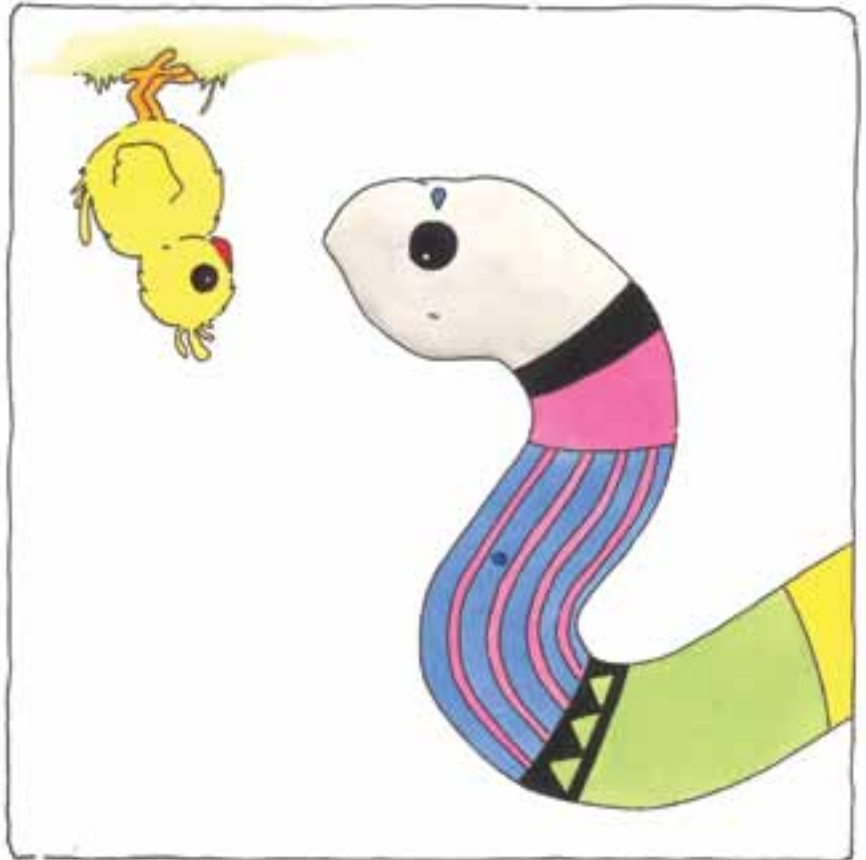
... or too small.



Fold

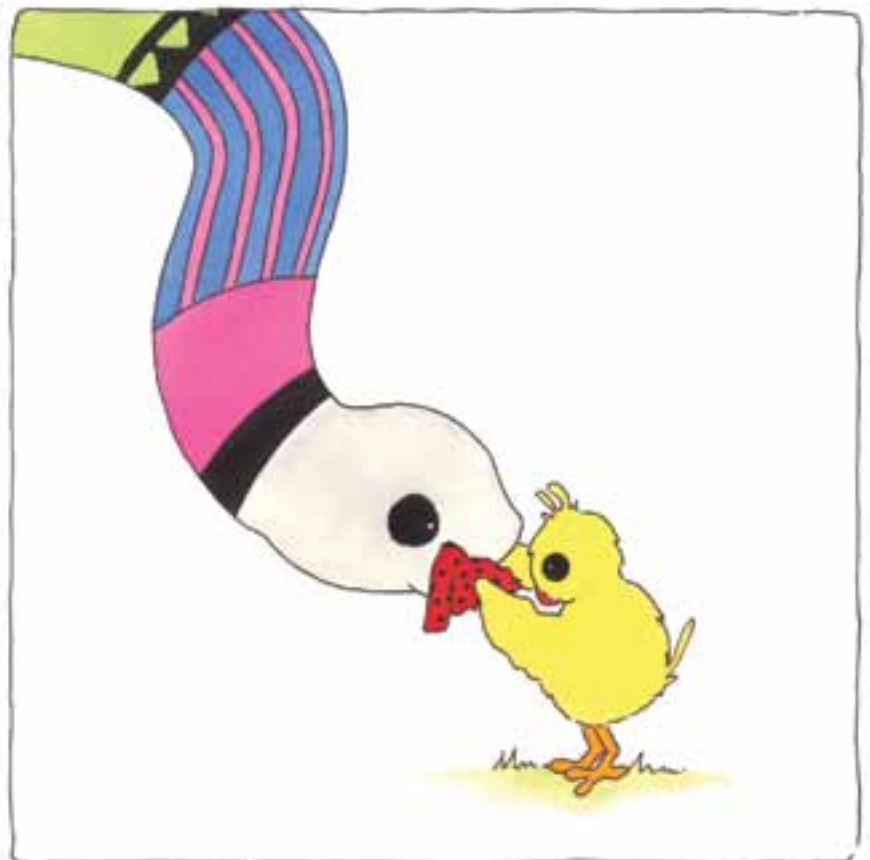
"Ke phela ke le mong," ho rialo masumo. "Ke batla ho ba le mongaka"

"I am so lonely," said the python. "I want to belong to someone."



"But it must not be too big ...

"Empa e se ke ya ba kgolo haholo ...



Tuft dried the python's tears. "Please will you belong to me? I have been looking for a special pet," said Tuft.

Tuft a hlakola meokgo ya masumo. "Ka kopo, na o ka ba wa ka? Haesale ke ntse ke batlana le phete e ikgethileng," ho rialo Tuft.

Fold 6

Get story active!

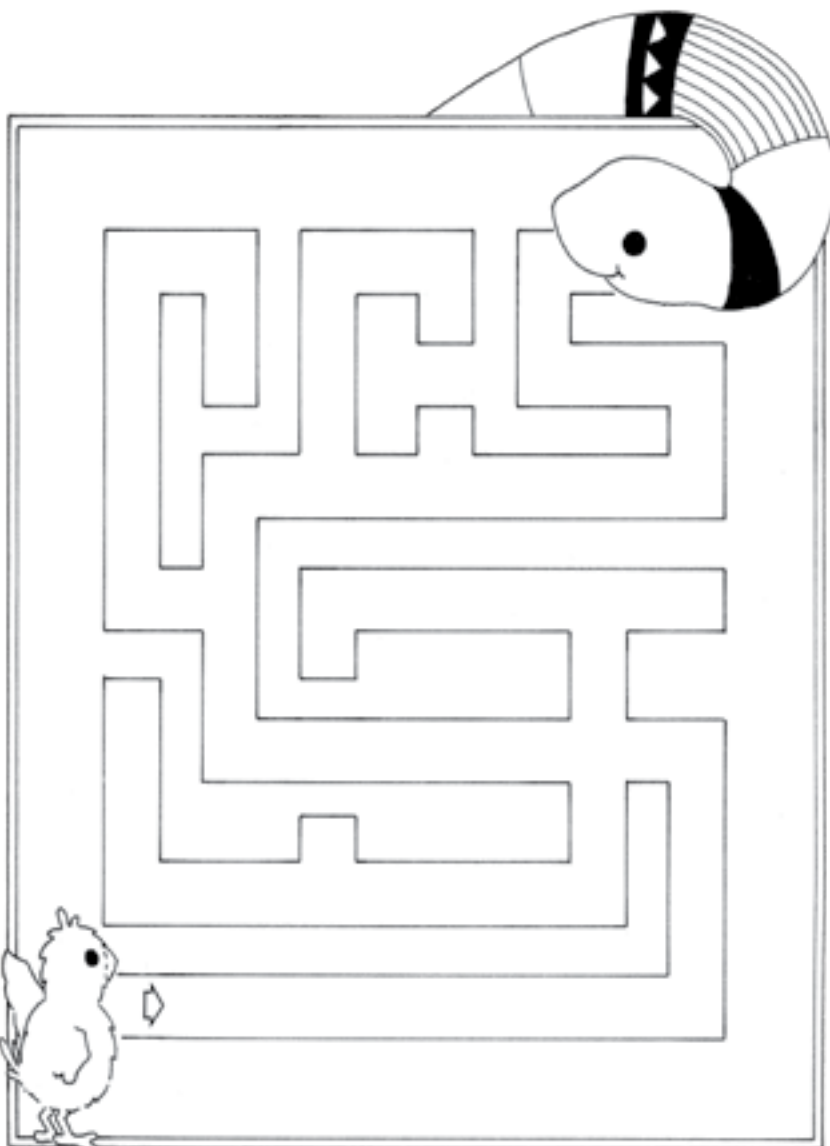
Here are some ideas to try out as you read *Tuft finds a pet* with your children. Draw your children's attention to the details in the illustrations and the story by commenting on them or asking questions. For example:

- **page 2:** What is the penguin's pet? How do you think he feels about his pet?
- **page 4:** What kind of animal is that? Do you think it would make a good pet?
- **page 5:** What kind of animal is that? Do you think this one would make a good pet?
- **page 6:** What is Tuft doing? Have you ever looked through a magnifying glass? It makes things look much bigger than they really are!
- **page 7:** Look at what Tuft is doing! He's looking at the bird through binoculars. They make things that are far away look like they are really close by.
- **page 8:** Who do you think the tail belongs to? Let's read on and see.
- **page 9:** That looks like a very long and colourful tail!
- **pages 10 and 11:** What kind of animal is a python? Look how sad the python looks!
- **page 12:** Who do you belong to?
- **pages 14 and 15:** How do you think Patch and Tuft feel now?



Can you help Tuft get to Patch?

Na o ka thusa Tuft ho ya ho Patch?



Eba mahlahlaha bakeng sa pale!

Dikeletso tse ding ke tsena tseo o ka di lehang ha o ntse o bala *Tuft o fumana phete* le bana ba hao. Eelliswa bana ba hao dintlha tse ditshwantshong le paleng ka ho bua ka tsona kapa ka ho botsa dipotso. Ho etsa mohlala:

- **leqephe la 2:** Phete ya phenkwine ke eng? O nahana hore o ikutlwa jwang ka phete ya hae?
- **leqephe la 4:** Ke mofuta ofe wa phoofolo oo? Na o nahana hore e ka etswa phete e lokileng?
- **leqephe la 5:** Ke mofuta ofe wa phoofolo ola? Na o nahana hore ena yona e ka etswa phete e lokileng?
- **leqephe la 6:** Tuft o etsang? Na o kile wa sheba ka galase e hodisang? E etsa hore dintho di shebahale di le kgolo ho feta kamoo di leng ka teng!
- **leqephe la 7:** Sheba seo Tuft a se etsang! O shebile dinonyana ka dibaenokhula. Di etsa hore dintho tse hole kwana di shebahale eka di haufi.
- **leqephe la 8:** Na o nahana hore mohatla ke wa mang? Ha re tsweleng pele ho bala re tle re bone.
- **leqephe la 9:** O shebahala e le mohatla o molelehadi le o mebalabala!
- **maqephe a 10 le 11:** masumo ke mofuta ofe wa phoofolo? Bona kamoo masumo e shebehang e hloname ka teng!
- **leqephe la 12:** Na wena o wa mang?
- **maqephe a 14 le 15:** O nahana hore Patch le Tuft ba ikutlwa jwang jwale?

How well do you know the Nal'ibali characters?

Do you know who the youngest members of the Nal'ibali family are? Yes, that's right – Dintle and Mbali. Here are a few facts about them!

O tseba baphetwa ba Nal'ibali ho le hokae?

Na o a tseba hore ditho tse nyenyane ka ho fetisisa tsa lelapa la Nal'ibali ke bomang? E, ho jwalo - Dintle le Mbali. Dintlha tse mmalwa mabapi le bona ke tsena!



Dintle

Age: 9 months
Older brother: Afrika
Speaks: Sesotho
Likes books about animals and babies.

Dintle

Dilemo: Dikgwedi tse 9
Moholwane: Afrika
O bua: Sesotho
O rata dibuka tse maelana le diphoofolo le masea.

Mbali

Age: 2 years
Older brother: Neo
Speaks: Zulu
Likes books with nursery rhymes in them.

Mbali

Dilemo: Dilemo tse 2
Moholwane: Neo
O bua: isiZulu
O rata dibuka tse nang le diraeme tsa keretjhe.



Story corner

Here is the first part of a story for you to read aloud or tell. It is about a little girl who loved mermaids.

The mermaid's purse (Part 1)

by Jude Daly

It was late when Nolitha eventually fell asleep, her head full of mermaids, seals and sailors. Outside stars twinkled and the African moon cast shadows on the dried out earth. Tomorrow she was going to the seaside for the very first time.

The journey seemed to take forever. Through brown hills folded into each other and over a craggy mountain pass. But then, at last, Nolitha saw the edge of the earth sink into the vast ocean.

Salt air rushed at Nolitha. Waves thundered. Seagulls squalled. Cormorants dive-bombed. It wasn't like that in her picture book! While

Mama unpacked, Nolitha explored this new world where twirly-shelled sea snails burrowed into the wet sand and fish darted for shelter in rock pools.

Nolitha collected shells including mermaid's money, tuning into the sounds and smells of the ocean, as she made her way to a cluster of rocks. From the top of the rocks, Nolitha waved her "I'm okay" wave to Mama. Then she counted out her mermaid's money and day-dreamed about how she would spend it.

"Lunch time," shouted Mama.

How quickly the morning had gone! But, the sea air had made Nolitha very hungry and Mama's yellow corn bread and pickled fish sandwiches tasted so good.

Find out next week what happens at the beach after lunch.



Illustration by Magriet Brink
Setshwantsho ka Magriet Brink

Hukung ya dipale

Ena ke karolo ya pele ya pale eo o ka e ballang hodimo kapa wa e pheta. E maelana le ngwanana e monyane ya neng a rata bomamolapo.

Sepatjhe sa mamolapo

(Karolo ya 1) ka Jude Daly

E ne e se e le bosiu haholo ha Nolitha a qetella a kgalehile, hlooho ena ya hae e ne e tletse bomamolapo, diqibi le basesisi ba dikepe. Ka ntle dinaledi di ne di phatsima sepakapakeng le kgwedi ya Afrika e thea meriti lefatsheng le ommeng. Hosane o ne a tlo ya lewatle lekgetlo la pele bophelong ba hae.

Leeto lena e ne e ka le hana ho fela. Dithabaneng tse sootho tse rokahaneng le ka hodima matsatsa a kgorong ya thaba. Empa, yare qetellong, Nolitha a bona pheletso ya lefatsheng e monyane lewatlang le batsihadi.

Moya o letswai wa potlakela ho Nolitha. Maqhubu a dumaela. Dinonyana tsa lewatle tsa etsa lerata. Dinonyana tse ntsho tsa lewatle di tlolatlola. Ho ne ho se jwalo ka bukeng ya hae ya ditshwantsho! Ha Mme a ntse a pakolla, Nolitha a qala ho sibolla lefatsheng lena le letjha moo dikgofu tsa lewatle tse ikgarileng di neng di itshuntse lehlatheng le mongobo mme dihlhapi di ntse di sesetsa kamora diqanthana tsa mafika ho itshireletsa.

Nolitha a bokella dikgaketta tse akgang le tjehele ya mamolapo, tsa baka medumo le menko ya lewatle, ha a ntse a tsamaya ho ya seqhoqhong sa mafika. Ha a se a dutse ka hodima mafika, Nolitha a tsoka letsoho le

bolelang "Ke bolokehile" ho Mme wa hae. Yaba o bala tjehele ya hae ya mamolapo mme a itorela kamoo a tlang ho e sebedisa ka teng ha a reka.

"Ke nako ya dijo tsa motsheare," ha hoeletsa Mme.

Nako ya hoseng e fetile kapele hakaakang! Empa moya wa lewatle o ne o lapisitse Nolitha haholo mme disementjhise tsa Mme tsa polokwe e entsweng ka poone e tshela le tlhapi e phehilweng di ne di hlabosa.

Fumana bekeng e tlang hore ho etsahalang lebopong la lewatle kamora dijo tsa motsheare.

In your next Nal'ibali supplement:

- Find out about running small reading clubs
- Story Stars: A 17-year-old published author
- A mini-book, *Baby Monkey's bananas*
- The final part of the story, *The mermaid's purse*

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