

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://mxittapp.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!

Icebo lethimba lokufunda le-8

Thokozela okubhaliwe ngokucela izingane ukuthi zifundele kakhulu izindaba noma izinkondlo zazo amanye amalungu ethimba. Uma ungase ukwazi, beka obala lokho ezikubhalile ukuze amalungu ethimba ezokwazi ukuzifundela ngesikhathi sawo!

Abantwana abancane nezincwadi

Kusuka zizelwe ukuya eminyakeni emithathu, izingane zifunda inani elikhulu lolimi – noma zingakhulumi kakhulu! Ngakho, uma ziningi izindaba nezincwadi ozifundela zona, zifunda kakhulu nolimi.

Ayikho indlela efanale nengafanele yokusebenzisa incwadi nabantwana abancane nezingane ezicathulayo. Kuphathelele kakhulu nendlela enithokozela ngayo isikhathi enisichitha ndawonye nokulandela lokho ezikushoyo ekunqumeni ukuthi yini elandelayo enizoyizama.

- Abantwana nezingane ezicathulayo ziyakuthanda ukudlala. Yiba nezikhathi eziningi ezimnandi nezincwadi futhi ufunde izincwadi eziyizintandokazi zezingane zakho uziphindaphinde!
- Ngisho ungafunda noma ikuphi, kungcono ukukhululeka bese uhlela ngokunethezeka ubeke ingane yakho emathangeni akho, noma eduze kwakho, uma wabelana nayo ngezincwadi.
- Akunandaba ukuthi nifunda isikhathi esingakanani – futhi akudingeki ukuthi nize niqede incwadi! Yabelanani ngencwadi isikhashana noma isikhathi

eside ngendlela nina nobabili enifuna ngayo.

- Yenza isikhathi sokuthi abantwana abancane nezingane ezicathulayo zibeke izincwadi zizodwa. Izincwadi ezinoqwebeme zinamakhona angacijile ngakho angeke ziyilimaze ingane yakho futhi zenzelwe ngokukhethekile ukuthi zilunywe, zishaywe futhi ziwiswe!
- Ukuxoxa nezingane zakho ngezithombe, imiqondo kanye nokwenzeka encwadini kubaluleke ngendlela efanayo nokufunda amagama asekhasini. Zibuze ukuthi zicabangani, bese usho ukuthi nawe ucabangani futhi - lokhu kuzikhombisa ukuthi zingajula kanjani nezincwadi.
- Lalela ngokucophelela lokho okushiwo ingane yakho bese wenza okulindelekile. Lokhu kwenza ukuthi okwenzekayo kuhlabe umxhwele kini nobabili. Kusiza nangokuthi kukhulise ulimi, ukuzethemba nendlela ezibona ngayo ingane yakho.
- Nika ingane yakho izincwadi ezahlukene bese ulandela lokho ezifuna ukuthi zikufunde. Qala ngokubuza ukuthi, "Ngabe singayibheka noma singayifunda le ncwadi?"

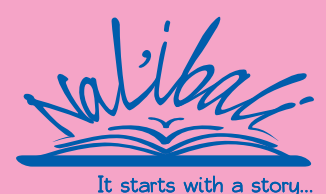
Iyashintshashintsha indlela abantwana nezingane ezicathulayo ezizizwa ngayo futhi zincoma izinto ezithile kunezinye – njengathi nje! Amazinga azo okuthanda izincwadi azoncika ezintweni eziningana: izinto ezizithandayo, isikhathi sosuku nokuthi ngabe zilambile, zikhathele noma amanabukeni azo amanzi yini! Uma ingane yakho ibukeka ingenandaba, ungapheli amandla! Zama ekuhambeni kwesikhathi futhi, noma ngenye indlela – noma uzame enye incwadi. Qhubekani nokwabelana nayo izincwadi nindawonye.

Ngabe ufuna amanye amacebo nemiqondo mayelana nokufundela abantwana kuselula yakho? Iya ku- www.nalibali.mobi noma usithole ku-Mxit ku-<http://mxittapp.com/nalibali>.



Drive your imagination

Read to me.
Never too early. Never too late.
Ngifundele. Ungesheshe kakhulu.
Ungelibale kakhulu futhi.





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. Nalibali 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



Abavelele ezindabeni

I-pram jam

Kanye ngesonto, abanakekela abantwana abancane nezingane ezicathulayo abahlala eSea Point baletha izingane emhlanganweni we-Pram Jam Project. URoni Snitcher ungumsizi wakumtapo wezincwadi nomxoxi wezindaba owaqala le phrojekthi ngo-2007 ngoba efuna ukokhela inhansi yokuthanda izindaba ezinganeni ngendlela enza ngayo – ngothando olukhulu. UNalibali ukhulume noRoni mayelana nephrojekthi nokwabelana ngezindaba nezingane ezincane.

Kwenzekani ku-"pram jam"?

Kushikisha ufudu emhlanganweni yethu! Kuyaculwa, kuyadanswa, kuyamenyezwa kushaywe nezandla kakhulu. Sicula izinhlobo eziningi zemilolozelo namaculo ngezilimi eziningi ngendlela esingakwazi ukwenza ngayo. Bese ngifunda ezinye zezindaba. Ngifuna ukuthi okwenzeka ku-Pram Jam kube okwawo wonke umuntu, kungabi okweziningane nje kuphela!

Izingane zineminyaka emingaki?

Ezinye zazo zinezinyanga ezimbalwa. Lokhu kungabukeka sengathi zincane kakhulu, kodwa ungesheshe kakhulu ukuqala ukuxoxela izingane izindaba. Kanti futhi, ungelibale kakhulu futhi ukuqala, kodwa uma usulibele kunzima ukuthi ungazama ukufica lokho ongakwenzanga.

Ucabanga ukuthi kungani nabadala bekuthokozela ukuza?

Kumnandi futhi kuphephile. Kuyithuba lokuhlangana nabantu. Ithuba lokuthokozela izibusiso ezingalethwa izincwadi!

Wenza kanjani ukuthi izethameli zakho zikubuke futhi zikulalele?

Ngikhetha izincwadi ezimnandi kakhulu zokufundwa kakhulu futhi ngesikhathi ngifunda kakhulu, ngibamba incwadi ngendlela ezokwenza ukuthi ngikwazi ukufunda nabangilalele bakwazi nabo ukubona izithombe ngesikhathi esifanayo. Ngezinye izikhathi ngigqoka izingubo zokulingisa, ngezinye izikhathi ngisebenzisa amaphaphethi.

Iziphi ezinye zezindaba ozithanda kakhulu?

U-*The Sneetches* ka-Dr Seuss nezinumansumane – Ngiyazithanda, ngiyazithanda, ngiyazithanda ngempela izinumansumane selokhu kwathi nhlo!

Bangasiza kanjani abantu baseNingizimu Afrika ukwenza isizwe esifundayo?

Siza ngendledlana yakho encane ongenza ngayo. Kuyasiza konke! Yiba kumtapo wezincwadi wangakini uma izingane seziphuma esikoleni. Ezinye izingane azikwazi ukufunda noma ukubhala, futhi kukhona nezingazange zithole ukusizakala. Abasebenzi bomtapo wezincwadi bangakukhombisa ukuthi ungazisiza kanjani.

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.



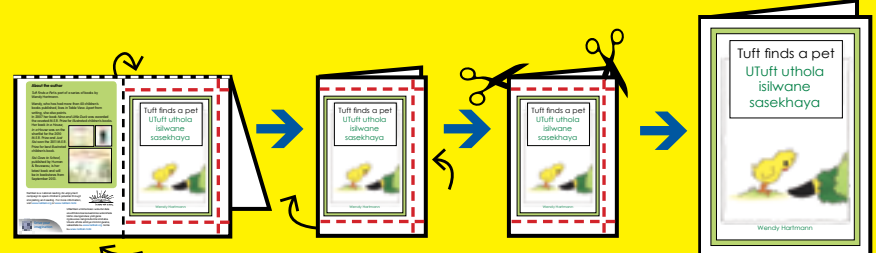
* For terms and conditions that apply, go to www.nalibali.org/story-stars

Ezweni lonke, umuntu ngamuye kanye nabezinhlango bathola izindlela zokwenza ukufunda nokubhala kube yingxeny yempilo yezingane yansuku zonke. Ukuze sibabonge, **Abavelele Ezindabeni** okubhalwe ngabo bazothola amavawusha okudla* ngezilokotho ezinhle zakwaWimpy ukuze bawathokozele nezingane abenza umehluko ezimpilweni zazo. Ukuze uqoke ovelele endabeni, vakashela ku-www.nalibali.org/story-stars.

* Ukuze uthole imigomo nemibandela esebenzayo, iya ku-www.nalibali.org/story-stars

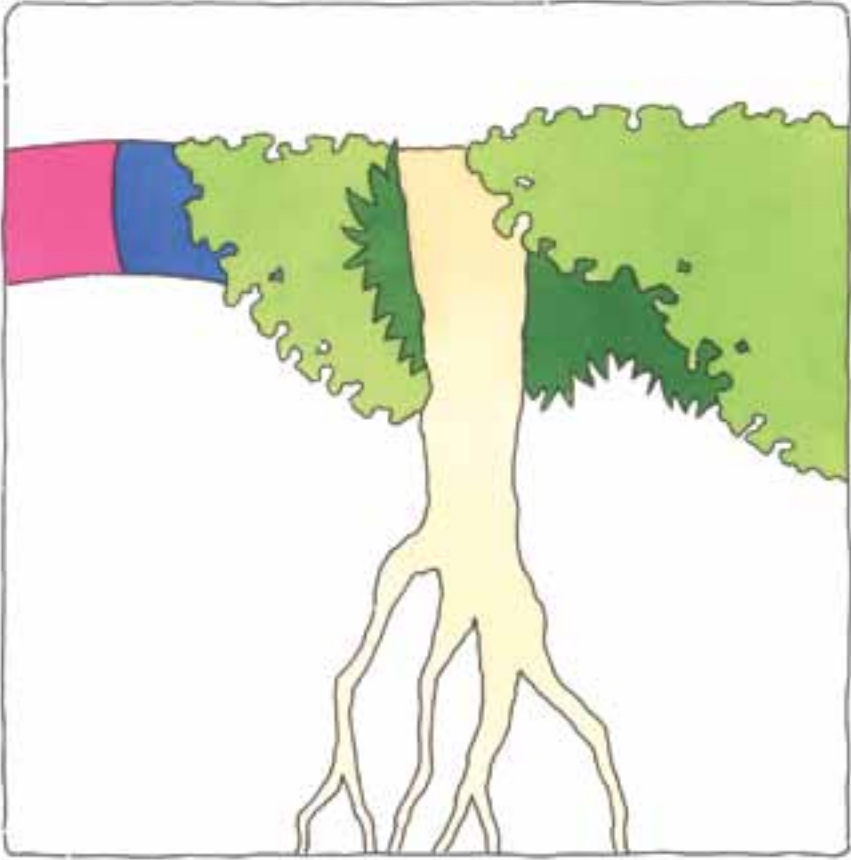
Create your own mini-book Zakhele ibhukwana lakho

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.



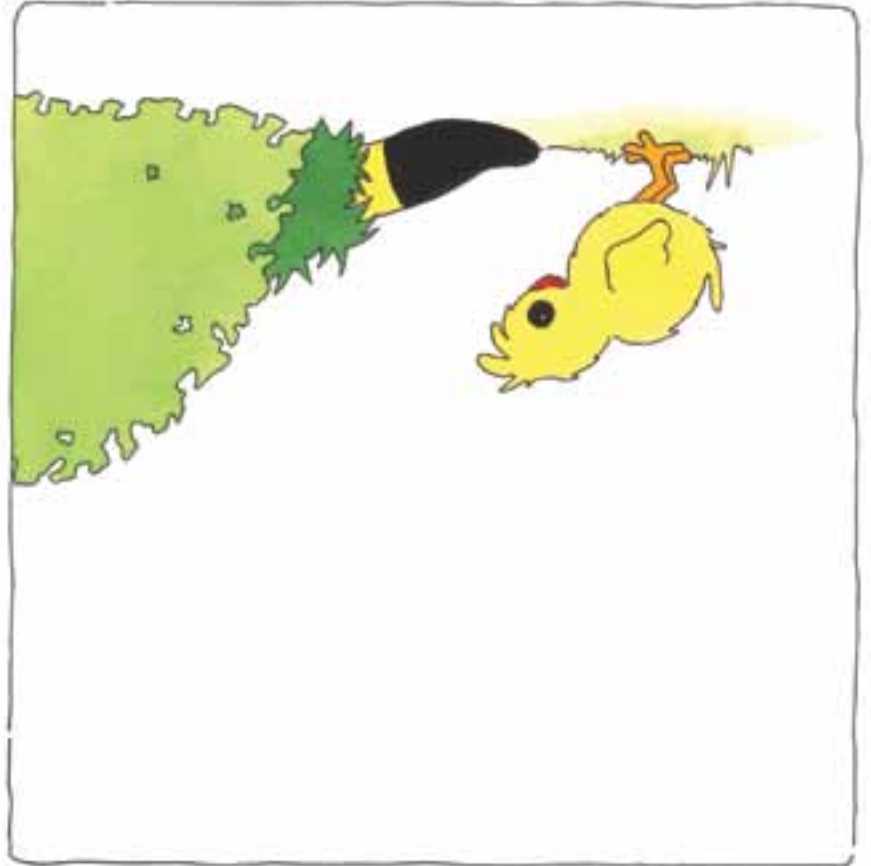
... enye ingxenye yayikude kakhulu.

... the other end was far away.



UTuft wabona umsila.
Wawuseduze, kodwa ...

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



About the author

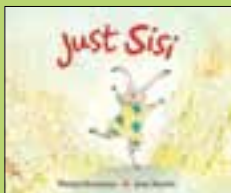
Tuft finds a pet is part of a series of books by Wendy Hartmann.

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

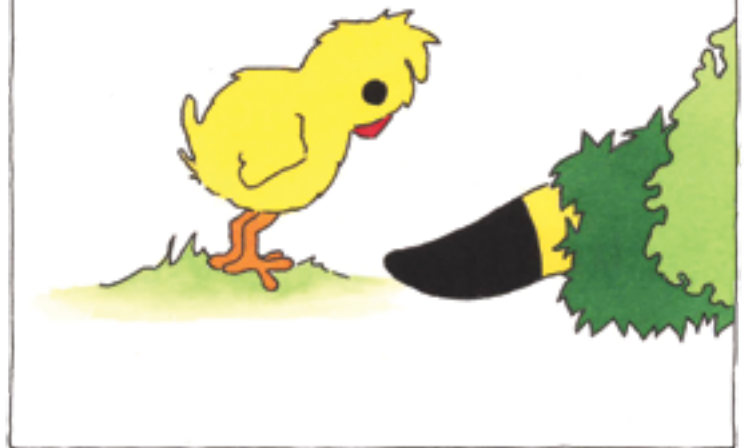
In 2007 her book *Nina and Little Duck* was awarded the coveted M.E.R. Prize for illustrated children's books.

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.

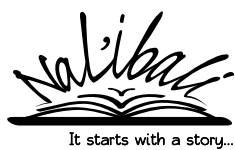


Tuft finds a pet
UTuft uthola
isilwane
sasekhaya



Wendy Hartmann

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



UNal'ibali umkhankaso wokufundela ukuzithokozisa kazwelonke wokokhela lokho okungenziwa yizingane ngokuxoxa nangokufunda izindaba. Ukuze uthole eminye iminingwane, vakashela ku-www.nalibali.org noma ku-www.nalibali.mobi



Drive your imagination

Fold

... noma lapho sikude kakhulu."

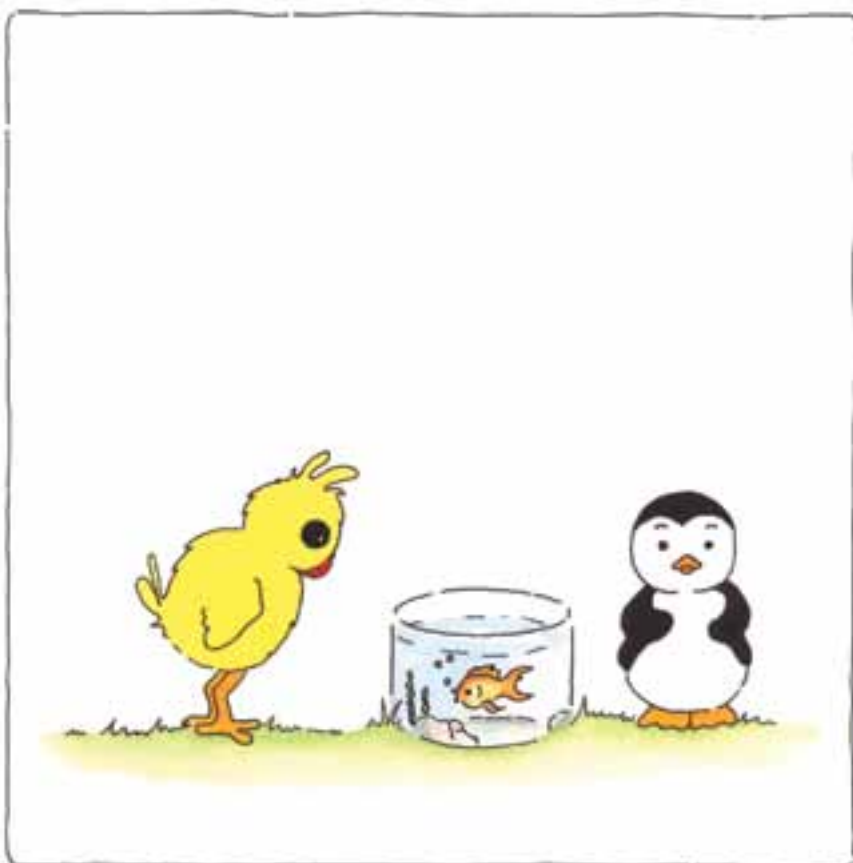
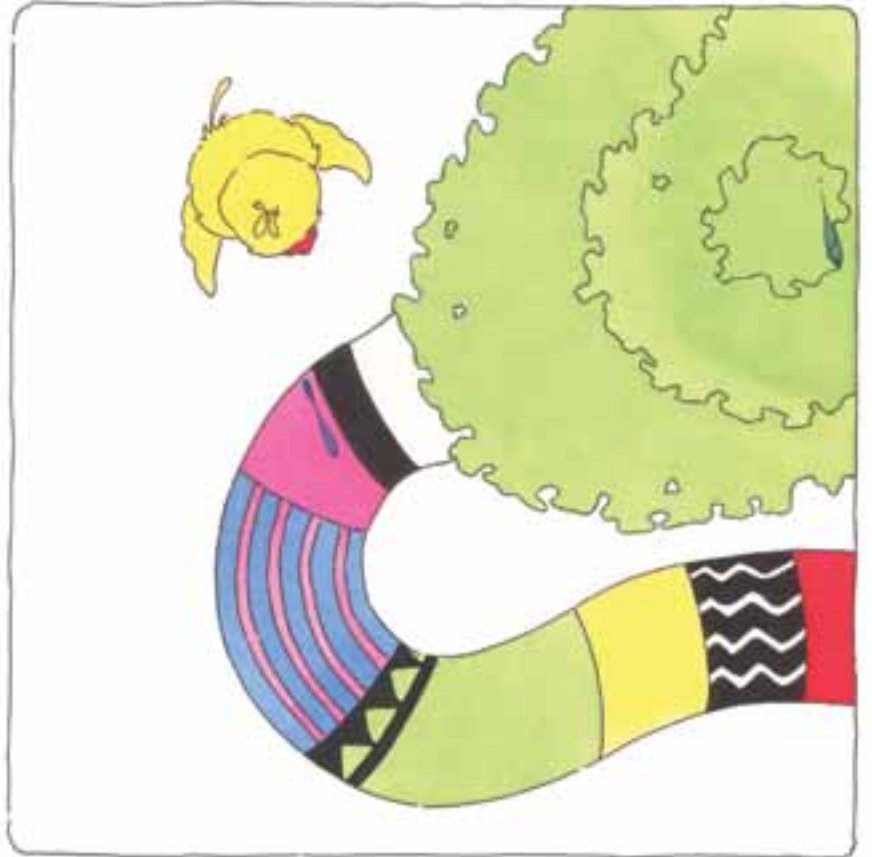
... or when it is far away."



Fold

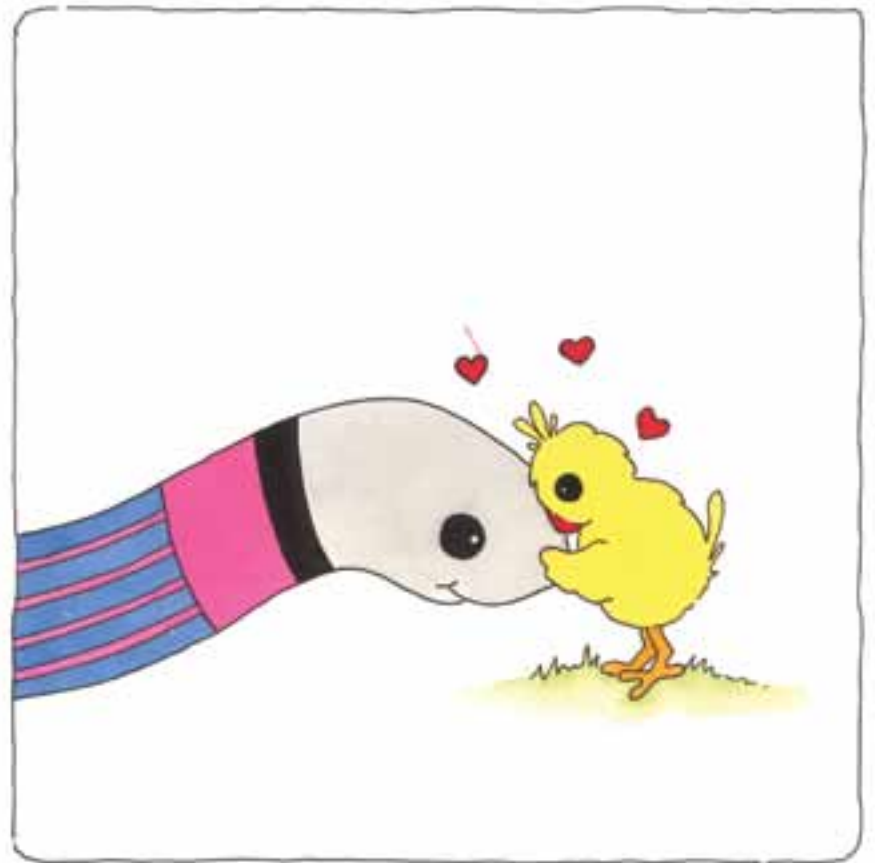
Wathola inhlwathi enhle. Inhlwathi yayibukeka idangele kakhulu.

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



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

"Sawubona, Tuft," kusho iphengwini. Ngabe uyasithanda isilwane sami sasekhaya?"

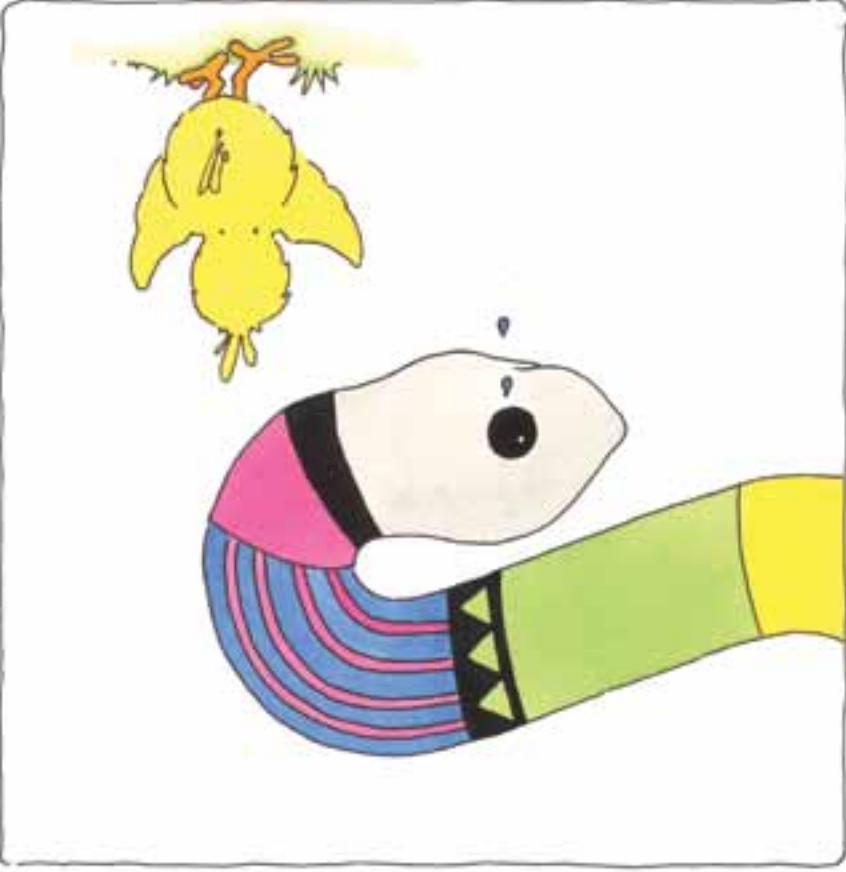


Tuft hugged the python. "I shall call you Patch," Tuft said. "Patch, my very own pet python."

UTuft wayigona inhlwathi. "Ngizokubiza ngoPatch," kusho uTuft. "UPatch, inhlwathi yami eyisilwane sami sasekhaya."

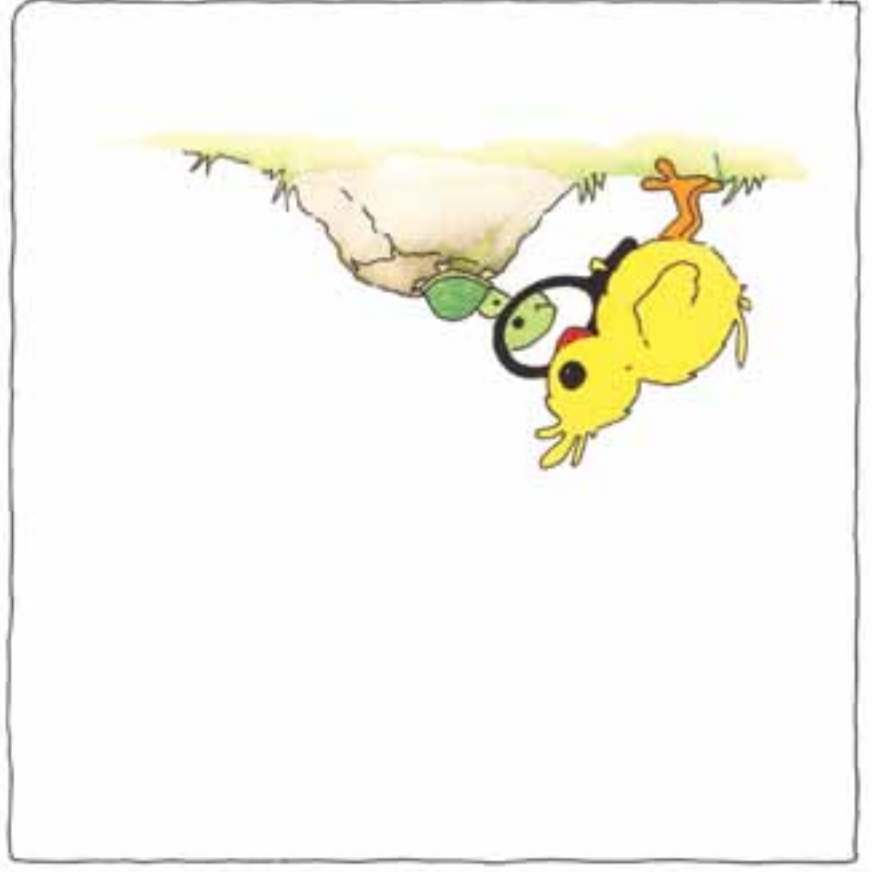
Fold

“Hello,” said Tuft. “Why are you crying?”
 “Sawbona,” kusho uTuft.
 “Ukhalelan?”



Fold

“It must be a very special pet. A pet I
 can see when it is near ...
 “Kumele kube isilwane sasekhaya
 esikhetheke kakhulu. Isilwane
 engizosibona uma siseduzane ...



The python smiled.
 “I would love to be your pet.”
 Yamamatheka inhlwathi.
 “Ngingathanda ukuba isilwane
 sakho sasekhaya.”

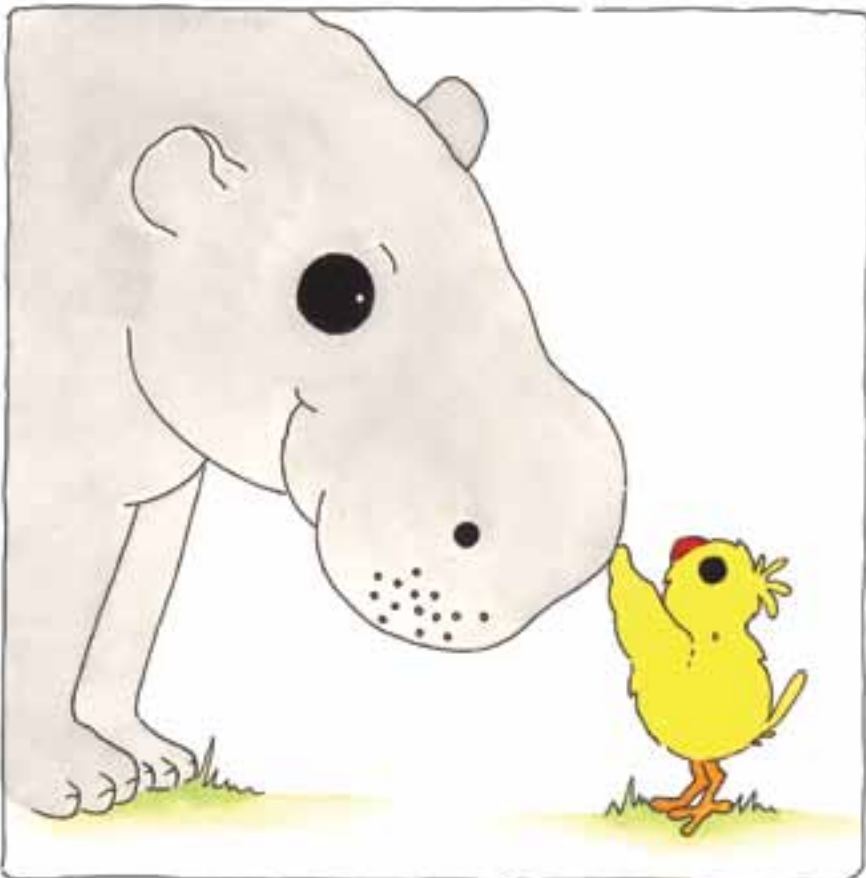


“I wish I had a pet,” said Tuft sadly.
 “Ngiyafisa sengathi ngabe nami
 nginesilwane sasekhaya,” kusho
 uTuft kalusizi.

Fold

... noma sibe sincane kakhulu."

... or too small."



"But it must not be too big ...

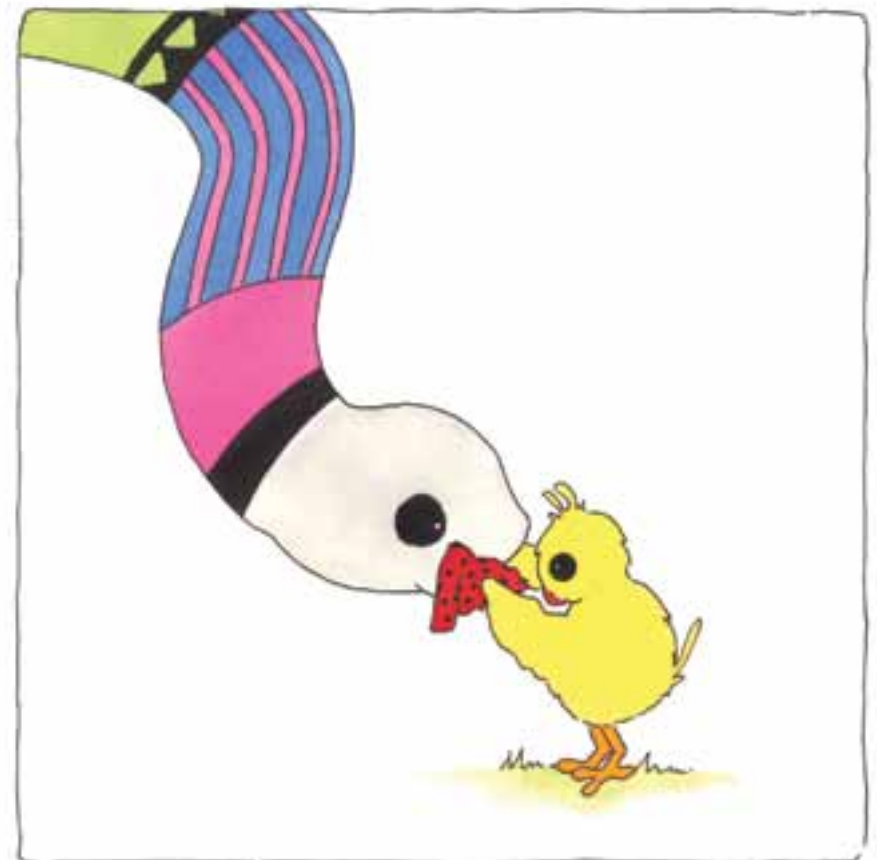
"Kodwa akumele sibe sikhulu kakhulu ...

"Ngifuna ukuba nomnikazi."

"Nginesizungu," kusho inhlwathi.

"I want to belong to someone."

"I am so lonely," said the python.



Tuft dried the python's tears.

"Please will you belong to me? I have been looking for a special pet," said Tuft.

UTuft wasula izinyembezi zenhlwathi.

"Ngicela ube ngowami? Bengilokhu ngifuna isilwane sasekhaya esikhethekile," kusho uTuft.

Get story active!

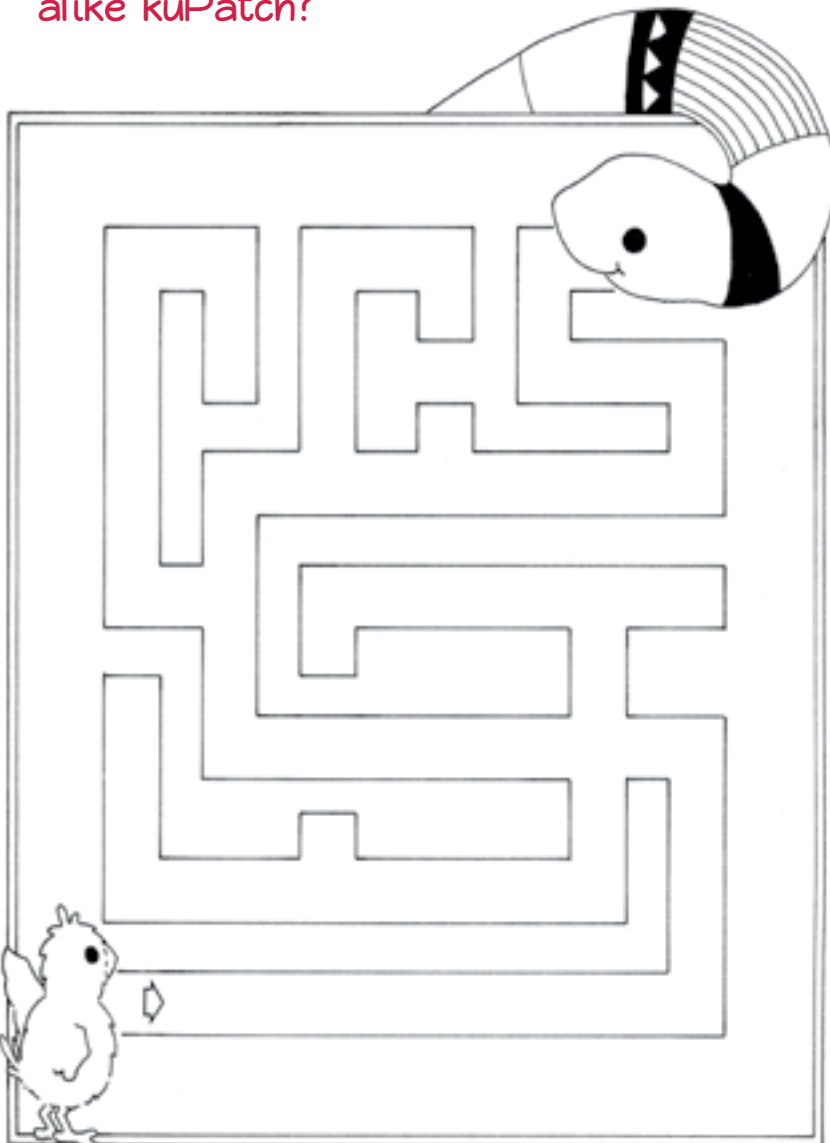
Here are some ideas to try out as you read *Tuft finds a pet* with your children. Draw your children's attention to the details in the illustrations and the story by commenting on them or asking questions. For example:

- **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?

Ngabe ungakwazi ukusiza uTuft afike kuPatch?



Yenza indaba ihlabe umxhwele!

Nansi eminye imiqondo eningayizama nezingane zakho ngesikhathi nifunda *UTuft uthola isilwane sasekhaya* nezingane zakho. Khombisa izingane zakho imininingwane okudwetshwe ngayo izithombe nasendabeni ngokuphawula ngakho noma ngokubuza imibuzo. **Isibonelo:**

- **ikhasi lesi-2:** Siyini isilwane sasekhaya sephengwini? Ngabe ucabanga ukuthi lizizwa kanjani ngesilwane salo sasekhaya?
- **ikhasi lesi-4:** Ngesaluhlobo luni lesi silwane? Ngabe ucabanga ukuthi sizoba isilwane sasekhaya esikahle?
- **ikhasi lesi-5:** Ngesaluhlobo luni lesi silwane? Ngabe ucabanga ukuthi lesi-ke sizoba isilwane sasekhaya esikahle?
- **ikhasi le-6:** Wenzani uTuft? Ngabe wena wake wabuka ngengilazi yesikhulisi? Senza ukuthi izinto zibukeke zinkulu kakhulu kunendlela eziyiyo!
- **ikhasi le-7:** Buka ukuthi wenzani uTuft! Ubheka inyoni ngezpopolo. Yizo ezenza ukuthi izinto ezikude zibukeke ziseduze kakhulu.
- **ikhasi le-8:** Ngabe ucabanga ukuthi okabani umsila? Ake siqhubeke nokufunda sibone.
- **ikhasi le-9:** Lo kubukeka kungumsila omude kakhulu nonemibala eminingi!
- **ikhasi le-10 nele-11:** Inhlwathi iwuluphi uhlobo lwesilwane? Buka ukuthi ibukeka idangele kangakanani inhlwathi!
- **ikhasi le-12:** Ingabe ungokabani wena?
- **ikhasi le-14 nele-15:** Ucabanga ukuthi bazizwa kanjani manje oPatch noTuft?

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!

Ubazi kahle kangakanani abalingiswa bakwaNal'ibali?

Ngabe uyazi ukuthi angobani amalungu asemancane omndeni wakwaNal'ibali? Yebo, kunjalo – uDintle noMbali. Nakhu okumbalwa okungamaqiniso ngabo!



Dintle

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

UDintle

Ubudala: Izinyanga eziyi-9
Umfowabo omdala: U-Afrika
Ukhuluma: ISesotho
Uthanda izincwadi ezimayelana nezilwane nabantwana abancane.

Mbali

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

UMbali

Ubudala: Iminyaka emi-2
Umfowabo omdala: UNeo
Ukhuluma: IsiZulu
Uthanda izincwadi ezinemilolozelo.



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.



Illustration by Magriet Brink
Umdwebo wenziwe
nguMagriet Brink

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

Ikhona lezindaba

Nansi ingxenye yokuqala yendaba ozoyifunda kakhulu noma ozoyixoxa. Imayelana nentombazane eyayithanda amakhosazane asolwandle.

Isikhwama senkosazane yasolwandle (Ingxenye yoku-1) ebhalwe uJude Daly

Kwase kusebusuku kakhulu ngesikhathi uNolitha ezumeka, ekhanda lakhe kwakugcwele amakhosazane asolwandle angumuntu ngenhla nenhlanzi ngezansi, izinja zasolwandle namatilos. Ngaphandle kwakuthi benye benye izinkanyezi, nenyanga yase-Afrika yayenza amathunzi emhlabeni owomile. Ngakusasa wayezoya ogwini okokuqala empilweni yakhe.

Uhambo kwakungathi alusabafikisi lapho ababeya khona. Babehamba phakathi kwamagquma ansundu ayebelethene bechusha nasezintabeni ezinamawa. Kwathi ekugcineni, uNolitha wabona unqenqema lomhlaba olwalwehlela olwandle olukhulu.

UNolitha wahlangatshezwa umoya ogcwele usawoti. Kwaduma amagagasi. Kwakhala izinyoni zasolwandle. Zaziphoseka emanzini izinyoni okuthiwa yimiphishamanzi. Kwakungenzeki lokhu encwadini yakhe enezithombe! Ngesikhathi uMama ethulula izimpahla, uNolitha wayehlola lo mhlaba omusha lapho iminenke yasolwandle eyayinamagobolondo azungelezayo yayimba khona esihlabathini esimanzi, nezinhlanzi ziphonsekela ukucasha emanzini asemadwaleni.

UNolitha wacoshwa amagobolondo kanye nemali yenkosazane yasolwandle, wade ephenduka uma ezwa imisindo nephunga lasolwandle, ngesikhathi eya emadwaleni ayehlangene. Esephezu kwamadwala, uNolitha wathathazelela uMama wakhe echaza ukuthi "konke kusahamba kahle". Wabe esebala imali yakhe yenkosazane yasolwandle, ephupha nangokuthi konje uzoyisebenzisa kanjani.

"Isikhathi sesidlo sasemini manje," kumemeza uMama.

Sasheshe sadlula isikhathi sasekuseni! Kodwa, umoya wolwandle wase umlambise kakhulu uNolitha, kanti amasemishi esinkwa sommbila nenhlanzi enongiwe ayemnandi kakhulu.

Thola ngesonto elizayo ukuthi kwenzakalani olwandle ngemuva kwesidlo sasemini.

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