



Edition 57
Sesotho, English

It starts with a story...

Read in your language!

We all have at least one language that we understand and communicate best in, although some of us may have more! People use different labels for this language – like “mother tongue” or “home language” – but it is the language we learnt first. It’s the language we think and feel in, the one in which it is easiest for us to express ourselves and communicate with others.

From birth, children hear language around them. First they understand it and then they start to use it themselves. In fact, by the time they are five years old, children’s brilliant young brains have helped them learn how to think and communicate in their home language. They do still need plenty of opportunities to hear and use their language so that they know it well enough to learn increasingly difficult concepts and skills.

Being read to in your own language should not be considered a nice optional extra for children. It is really an essential and powerful part of learning language and developing literacy. When you read regularly to children in their home language/s, you give them a strong language foundation that makes all learning easier.

If you don’t understand what you are reading, then you are not really reading – no matter how well you can say the words on the page! So, because understanding is at the heart of reading, children need to listen to stories being read in their home language. They can then concentrate completely on the flow of the story instead of struggling to understand a language they don’t know well yet.

Good stories are full of creative language that stimulates our imaginations and gets us thinking about how to solve problems. Authors carefully pick words and phrases that unlock the worlds they are creating for their readers. Like a hearty soup provides goodness to nourish our bodies, reading great stories provides goodness to nourish our minds. They inspire children to read in their home language and then, later on, to learn to read stories in other languages too.

Bala ka puo ya hao!

Hangata bohle re na le bonyane puo e le nngwe eo re e utlwisang le ho hokahana ka yona hantle ka ho fetisisa, leha ba bang ba rona ba ena le tse ngata! Batho ba sebedisa dilebole tse fapaneng bakeng sa puo ena – jwaloka “puo ya letswele” kapa “puo ya lapeng” – empa ke puo eo re ithutleng ka yona pele. Ke puo eo re nahanang le ho ba le maikutlo ka yona, eo ka yona ho leng bonolo ho rona ho ikutlwahatsa le ho buisana le batho ba bang.

Ho tloha ha ba tswalwa, bana ba utlwa puo moo ba phelang. Ba qala ka ho e utlwisisa pele mme ebe ba qala ho e sebedisa ka bobona. Hantlentle, ha ba fihla dilemong tse hlano, dikelello tsa bana tse hlalefileng haholo tse nyane di ba thusa ho nahana le ho hokahana ka puo ya bona ya lapeng. Ba ntse ba hloka menyetta e mengata ya ho utlwa le ho sebedisa puo ya bona e le hore ba tle ba e tsebe hantle hoo ba ka ithutang dintho tse ntseng di thatafala esitana le bokgoni bo itseng.

Ho ballwa ka puo ya heno ha ho a tshwanela ho nkuwa e le kgetho feela e ntle e ka etswang bakeng sa bana. Hantlentle ke karolo e hlokolosi le e matla ya ho ithuta puo le ho aha tsebo ya ho bala le ho ngola. Ha o dula o balla bana kamehla ka puo ya bona ya lapeng, o ba fa motheo o matla wa puo o tlang ho etsa hore ho ithuta ho be bonolo.

Haeba o sa utlwisise seo o se balang, e tla ba ka nnete o ntse o sa bale – ho sa kgathallehe hore o bitsa mantswa a leqepheng hantle hakae! Kahoo, kaha kutlwisiso e le kgubung ya ho bala, bana ba hloka ho mamela dipale tseo ba di ballwang ka puo ya bona ya lapeng. Jwale ba ka tsepamisa maikutlo ka hohlehohele ho phallo ya pale ho ena le ho sokolana le ho utlwisisa puo eo ba esong ho e tsebe le hantle.

Dipale tse monate di tletse puo ya boiqapelo e tsoselletsang boinahanelo ba rona mme e etsa hore re nahane ka mekgwa ya ho rarolla mathata. Bangodi ba kgetha ka hloko mantswa le dipolelwana tse notlolang mafatshe ao ba a bopileng bakeng sa babadi ba bona. Jwalo kaha sopho e monate e fana ka phepo le ho matlafatsa mmele, ho bala dipale tse lokileng haholo ho fana ka phepo e ntle bakeng sa ho matlafatsa dikelello tsa rona. Di kgothaletsa bana ho bala ka puo ya bona ya lapeng mme ebe, ha morao, ba ithuta ho bala dipale ka dipuo tse ding.

International Mother Tongue Day is celebrated across the world on 21 February every year. Share a story or two with your children on this day using your mother tongue!

Letsatsi la Matjhaba la Puo ya Lapeng le ketekwa lefatsheng ka bophara ka la 21 Hlakola selemo le selemo. Arolelana pale kapa tse pedi mmoho le bana ba hao ka letsatsi lena le sebedisa puo ya lona ya lapeng!



Drive your imagination

Read to me. In my language.
Mpalle. Ka puo ya ka.





Your story

Here is a praise poem originally written in isiXhosa. It is about a pet dog. Enjoy!

Qumezakhe, I am proud of you!

You have long and wide ears
With a long tail.
You are black
Like a night without the moon
Your name is Qumezakhe.
You have fluffy hair.

I'm proud of you.
You are cuddly.
When you walk, you prance
You never disappoint when you are hunting:
Even the jackal's cunning tricks
Do not succeed with you!
You recognise my voice as you approach our homestead.

You help with my father's livestock:
When the goats head off for the fields,
I call you only once, "Qumezakhe, after them!"
You run fast
To round them up.
I am very proud of my dog.

Chuma Sitofu, 9 years, Ihobe Intermediate School, Bloemfontein
This poem was written in isiXhosa and then translated into English.

"Good books acknowledge our existence. They allow us to say what we cannot and give us a feeling of control over our lives. Good books can make you feel better."
Righardt le Roux,
Westonaria
Library Services



Pale ya hao

Ena ke thotokiso eo pele e neng e ngotswe ka puo ya isiXhosa. Yona e mabapi le ntja ya lapeng. Natefelwa ke yona!

Baile, ke motlotlo ka wena!

O na le ditsebe tse telele tse sephara
Ka mohlatla o motelele.
O motsho
Jwaloka bosiu bo hlokang kgwedi
Bitso la hao o Baile.
O na le moriri o bonolo.

Ke motlotlo ka wena.
O tshwareha ha monate.
Ha o tsamaya o a sasanka
Ha o ke o ntshwabise ha o tsoma:
Ke re le maqheka a phokojwe
Ho wena mona ha a tswelle!
O lemoha lentse la ka ha o atamela lapeng.

O a thusa le ka mehlope ya ntate:
Ha dipodi di tswa ho ya naheng,
Ke o bitsa hang feela, "Baile, ho bona!"
O matha lebelo
Ho di bokeletsa.
Ke motlotlo haholo ka ntja ya ka.

Chuma Sitofu, ya dilemo tse 9, Ihobe Intermediate School, Bloemfontein
Thotokiso ena e ne e ngotswe ka isiXhosa mme ya fetolelwa Sesothong

"Dibuka tse monate di netefatsa boteng ba rona lefatsheng. Di re dumella ho bua seo re sa kgoneng ho se bua mme di re fa maikutlo a hore re laola maphelo a rona. Dibuka tse monate di ka etsa hore o ikutiwe hantle."
Righardt le Roux,
Westonaria Library
Services



Do you enjoy writing and drawing? Are you an adult who writes for children? Or, are you a child who enjoys writing poems or stories, or drawing pictures and then writing about them? We'd love to see what you've been doing! If you send us your writing and pictures, you stand a chance of having them published in the Nal'ibali supplement, or on the Nal'ibali website. Remember: it has to be all your own work!

Send your writing and pictures to: info@nalibali.co.za or PRAESA, Suite 17-201, Building 17, Waverley Business Park, Wyecroft Road, Mowbray, 7700.

Na o natefelwa ke ho ngola le ho taka? Na o motho e moholo ya ngollang bana? Kapa o ngwana ya natefelwang ke ho ngola dihotokiso kapa dipale, kapa ya takang ditshwantsho ebe o ngola ka tsona? Re ka rata ho bona seo o neng o ntse o se etsa! Haeba o ka re romella sengolwa sa hao le ditshwantsho, ho na le monyetla wa hore di phatlalatswe tlatsetsong ya Nal'ibali, kapa websaeteng ya Nal'ibali. Hopola: mosebetsi oohle e lokela ho ba wa hao!

Romela sengolwa sa hao le ditshwantsho ho: info@nalibali.co.za kapa PRAESA, Suite 17-201, Building 17, Waverley Business Park, Wyecroft Road, Mowbray, 7700.



Nal'ibali on radio!

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

Lesedi FM on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9.45 a.m. to 10.00 a.m.

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



Nal'ibali radiyong!

Natefelwa ke ho mamela dipale ka Sesotho le Senyesemane lenaneong la radiyo la Nal'ibali:

Lesedi FM ka Mantaha, Laboraro le Labohlano ho tloha ka 9.45 a.m. ho fihlela ka 10.00 a.m.

SAfm ka Mantaha, Laboraro le Labohlano ho tloha ka 1.50 p.m. ho fihlela ka 2.00 p.m.

Create your own cut-out-and-keep book

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

Iketsitse bukana e-sehwang-le-ho-ipolokelwa

1. Ntsha leqephe la 3 ho isa ho la 6 bukaneng ena ya tlatsetso.
2. Le mene ka halofo hodima mola wa matheba a matsho.
3. Le mene ka halofo hape.
4. Seha hodima mela ya matheba a mafubedu.



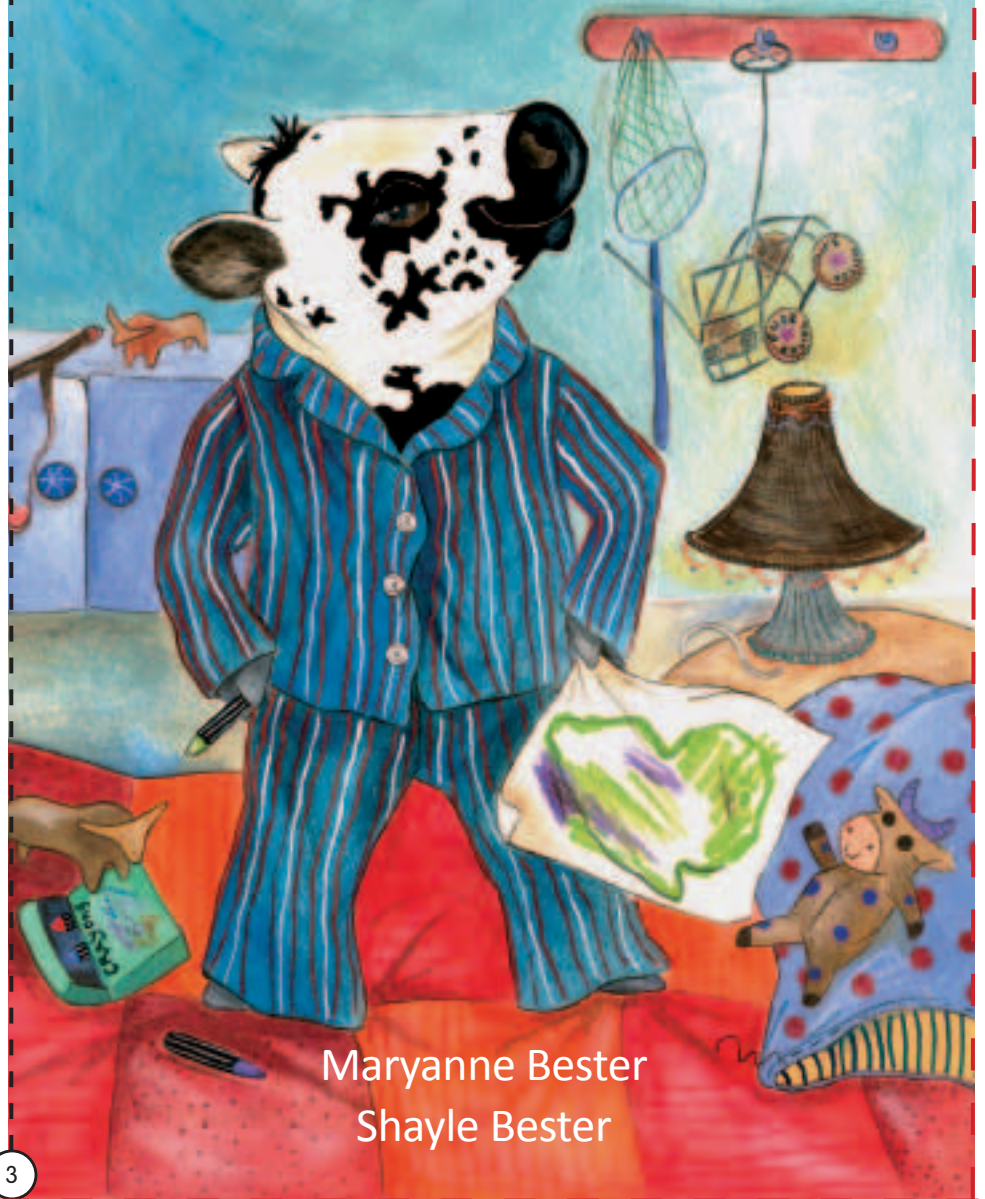


'And there is "Sugarbean", skipping in the moonlight. Look at her spots and colours. Isn't that a good name?'
 'Ho boetse ho na le "Nawa e maroboko", e tlololang kganyeng ya kgwedi. Sheba matheba le mebala ya yona. Na ha se lebitso le monate?'



'And that's not all. Just look at the hides of your relatives. There are so many kinds. Each pattern and each colour has its own name;
 'Look, there is "Caterpillars of the Marula Tree". Look closely at the stripes on her shoulders. Don't you think they look like fat black caterpillars?'

The Cool Nguni Kgomo e ntle ya Nguni



Maryanne Bester
Shayle Bester



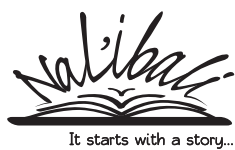
We publish what we like

This is an adapted version of *The Cool Nguni*, published by Jacana Media and available in bookstores and on-line from www.jacana.co.za. This story is also available in isiZulu, isiXhosa, Afrikaans, Siswati, Sepedi, Sesotho, Setswana, Xitsonga, Tshivenda and isiNdebele. Jacana publishes books for young readers in all eleven official South African languages. To find out more about Jacana titles go to www.jacana.co.za.

Ena ke kgatiso e fetotsweng ya *Kgomo e ntle ya Nguni*, e phatlaladitsweng ke Jacana Media mme e fumaneha mabenkeleng a dibuka le inthaneteng ho www.jacana.co.za. Pale ena hape e fumaneha ka isiZulu, isiXhosa, Afrikaans, English, Setswana, Xitsonga, Tshivenda le isiNdebele. Jacana e phatlalatsa dibuka bakeng sa babadi ba banyane ka dipuo tsohle tse 11 tsa mmuso tsa Afrika Borwa. Ho fumana haholwanyane ka dihlooho tsa Jacana eya ho www.jacana.co.za.

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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 tsoseletsa 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



'Ho boetse ho na le "Nawa e maroboko",
e tlotlolang kganyeng ya kgwedi. Sheba
mathaba le mebala ya yona. Na ha se lebitso
le monate?'



'Now who is that tired old one resting in his
chair? He is called "Boiled Mealie Grains".
Look into the pot the next time we cook
mealies, and that is what you will see.'

'Ah... Nguni cattle. Star cattle. Strong cattle.
... DESIGNER cattle!' said Mama Nguni Cow.

Nguni Calf smiled.

'COOL NGUNI!' he said.



'O... Kgomo ya Nguni. Naledi ya Kgomo. Kgomo
e matla.

... Kgomo YA MOHLOLO!' ha rialo Mme Kgomo
ya Nguni.

Namane ya Nguni ya bososela. 'KGOMO E NTLE
YA NGUNI!' ya rialo.

Fold

'Lelala o shebe hodimo. Sheba mehlapa ya Nguni
mahodimong. Sheba moo di fulang kganyeng
e kgolo. Ho na le dikgomo tse ngata tsa Nguni
ditlhako tsa tsona di phunya masoba mahodimong!
Mme di tlatsetse mahodimo ka dinaledi!'

'Look up. Look up at the Nguni herds of the sky.
Look where they graze in the great light. There are
so many Nguni cattle that their hooves stamp holes
in the heavens and set the sky ablaze with stars.'



Little Nguni Calf was worried. 'I'm not cool
enough,' he said to Mama Nguni Cow.

Namane e nyane ya Nguni e ne e kgathatsehile.
'Nna ha ke motle,' ya rialo ho Mme Kgomo
ya Nguni.



Fold

'Look at this one admiring himself in the mirror. Do you think he knows that his hide looks like a bowl of sour milk with flies buzzing around it? For he is called "Sour Milk and Flies";'



'Ho boetse ho na le "Nawa e maroboko", e tlotlolang kganyeng ya kgwedi. Sheba matheba le mebala ya yona. Na ha se lebitso le monate?'



'Those cattle from over the sea – they're cool. The Longhorn cattle from the wild, Wild West. Cowboy cattle. Rodeo cattle. Bucking cattle. YEE-HAH! That's cool!'

'Mmmmm,' said Mama Nguni Cow.



'Dikgomo tsane tse tswang mose ho mawatle – tsona di ntle. Kgomo e nakaletelle e tswang hole, hole Bophirima. Kgomo ya badisa ba dikgomo. Kgomo e kgunong. Kgomo mmu! Se lla moreneng. MMUUU! MMUU! Kgomo tse ntlentle!'

'Mmuuuu!' ha rialo Mme Kgomo ya Nguni.



'Mmmmm,' said Mama Nguni Cow, 'come with me. I have something to show you; And Mama Nguni Cow took him outside. 'Mmuuuu,' ho lla Mme Kgomo ya Nguni, 'tsamaya le nna. Ho na le seo ke batlang ho o bontsha sona; Mme Kgomo ya Nguni a tswela le yena ka ntle.'

Fold

'The Brahman cattle from India. Velvet cattle. Sacred cattle. Street cattle. OMMMM! That's cool!' said Little Nguni Calf.

'kgomo ya Lebramane e tswang India. kgomo e boreledi. kgomo e tlotlehang. kgomo ya mmleng. HELEHELE! O motle!' ha rialo Namane e nyane ya Nguni.



'The Highland cattle from Scotland. Shaggy cattle. Craggy cattle. OCH-AYE! That's cool!' 'Mmmmm,' said Mama Nguni Cow.



'Kgomo e tswang dihlabeng tsa Scotland. Kgomo e boyaboholo. Kgomo e makgisa. Helele!-Helele! O motle!' 'Mmuuuu!' ha rialo Mme Kgomo ya Nguni.



'Now look at you and me. I am "Stones of the Ngoye Forest". You have seen the little stones that lie on the pathways between the trees – see them scattered across my arm!

And you, you are "Gaps Between the Branches". When you rest in the shade of a tree, the sun makes shadows. The gaps between the branches shine brightly and make many interesting shapes. Just look at the shapes on your hide! Aren't you glad we can't wash them off?'



'Jwale sheba nna le wena. Ke "Majwe a Moru wa Ngoye". O bone majwana a qhalaneng pela tsela dipakeng tsa difate – a bone a hasane ho phatlalla le sephaka sa ka!

Mme wena, o "Mahlasedi dipakeng tsa Makala". Ha o phomotse meriting ya difate, letsatsi le etsa meriti. Mahlasedi dipakeng tsa difate a kganya ka kganya e kgolo mme a etsa matheba a mangata a dibopeho tse kgahlehang. Sheba matheba a letlalong la hao! Ha o thabe hobane re ke ke ra a hlakola ka ho a hlatswa?'



Get story active!

Here are some activities based on the story, *The Cool Nguni*, for you and your children to try.

As you read the story together

- Make comments and ask open-ended questions that help your children explore the story. For example, after reading page 1, you could say, "I wonder what made Little Nguni Calf think he wasn't cool enough. Can you think what might have happened?"
- Draw your children's attention to the details in the illustrations. For example:
 - talk together about how the cows on pages 3, 4 and 5 look similar in some ways and different in others
 - spend time finding the patterns on the cows on pages 8 to 13 that are described in the words on these pages.

After you have read the story

- Talk together about what it means to be "cool". Ask, "Who decides what is 'cool'? Why do these people get to make this decision? Is that fair?"
- Ask your children to describe some of the things that make them special or "cool". Tell them what you think makes them special.
- Encourage your children to write a list called "10 things that make me cool". Let older children write for themselves – even if they don't always get the spelling and punctuation correct! Help younger children with their lists by writing down the words they tell you. Display your children's list in their bedrooms or on the fridge!



Eba mahlahlaha bakeng sa pale!

Tsena ke diketsahalo tse theilweng hodima pale ena, *Kgomo e ntle ya Nguni*, tseo o ka di lekang mmoho le bana ba hao.

Ha le ntse le bala pale mmoho

- Tshwaela mme o botse dipotso tse bulehileng tse thusang bana ba hao ho sibolla pale. Ho etsa mohlala, kamora ho bala leqephe la 1, o ka re, "Ke a ipotsa hore ebe ke eng e entseng hore Nguni e Monyane wa Namane a nahane hore ha a "khulu". Na o ka nahana hore ebe ho ka be ho etsahetse eng?"
- Etsa hore bana ba hao ba eellwe dintlha tse ditshwantshong. Mohlala:
 - buisanang kamoo dikgomo tse leqepheng la 3, la 4 le la 5 di tshwanang ka teng ka tsela tse itseng le kamoo di fapaneng dintlheng tse ding.
 - nkang nako e itseng le batlana le dipaterone tse dikgomong tse leqepheng la 8 ho isa ho la 13 tse hlalositsweng mantsweng a maqepheng ao.

Kamora hoba le badile pale

- Buisanang ka hore ho bolela eng ho ba "khulu". Botsa, "Ke mang ya kgethang hore ntho e "khulu" ke efe? Hobaneng ha ele batho baa ba etsang qeto e jwalo? Na ho lokile?"
- Kopa bana ba hao ho hlalosa tse ding tsa dintho tse ba etsang hore ba kgethehe kapa ba be "khulu". Ba bolelle hore wena o nahana hore ke eng e ba etsang hore ba kgethehe.
- Kgothaletsa bana ba hao ho ngola lenane le bitswang "dintho tse 10 tse nketsang hore ke be "khulu". E re bana ba baholwanyane ba ingolle ka bobona – leha ka nako tse ding ba sa pelete hantle le ho ngola matshwao a puo hantle! Thusa bana ba banyenyane ka manane a bona ka ho ngola mantswa ao ba o bolellang ona. Maneha manane a bana ba hao dikamoreng tsa bona tsa ho robala kapa hodima sehatsetsi!

Collect the Nal'ibali characters

Cut out and keep all your favourite Nal'ibali characters and then use them to create your own pictures, posters, stories or anything else you can think of!

About Hope

Age: 10

Friends: Neo, Josh

Favourite fruit: bananas

Favourite sport: karate

Books she likes: novels about the daily lives of children her own age, and information books about wild animals or karate

Bokella baphetwa ba Nal'ibali

Seha le ho ipelokela baphetwa bohle bao o ba ratang ba Nal'ibali mme o ba sebedise ho iketsetsa ditshwantsho tsa hao, diphousetara, dipale kapa ntho efe kapa efe eo o ka e nahanang!

Mabapi le Hope

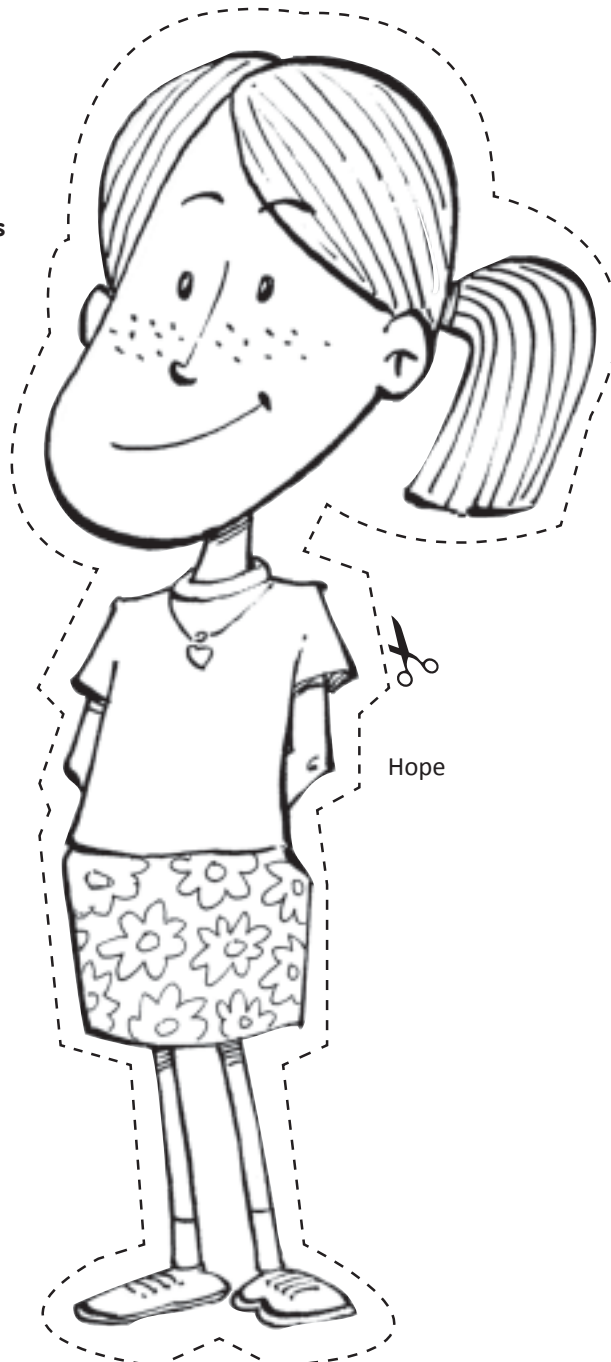
Dilemo: 10

Metswalle: Neo le Josh

Tholwana eo a e ratisang: dipanana

Papadi eo a e ratisang: karate

Dibuka tseo a di ratang: dinobele tse mabapi le maphelo a kamehla a bana ba lekanang le yena ka dilemo, le dibuka tsa tlhahisoleseding tse mabapi le diphoofolo tse hlaha kapa karate



Here's an idea...

- Cut out and colour in the picture of Hope and then paste it on a large sheet of paper. Next draw a thought bubble above Hope's head. Then draw a picture inside the thought bubble to show Hope thinking about competing in her next karate competition.
- Or, keep the picture in a safe place and when you have collected all the Nal'ibali characters, use them to create your own Nal'ibali poster!

Mohopolo ke ona...

- Seha o ntshe o be o kenye mebala setshwantshong sa Hope mme o se manamise leqepheng le leholohadi. Kamora moo taka pudulana ya monahano ka hodima hlooho ya Hope. Jwale taka setshwantsho ka hara pudulana eo ya monahano ho bontsha hore Hope o nahanne ka ho ba tlhodisanong ya karate.
- Kapa, boloka setshwantsho seo sebakeng se bolokehileng mme ha o se o bokelletse baphetwa bohle ba Nal'ibali, ba sebedise ho bopa phousetara ya hao ya Nal'ibali!

Story corner

Here is the first part of a story for you to enjoy reading aloud. It is about Malusi and his sister, Zandi ... and monsters!

Malusi and the Bath Monster (Part 1)

by Leo Daly

Every word that follows is true. Cross my heart that I won't lie, and if I do I'll eat a fly!

My older sister, Zandi, and I like to play in the garden. We stamp around in the mud and dig deep holes. Bare feet are best. You get to feel the mud squishing up between your toes!

Mama says, "Ai, you two! Only pigs like mud that much." But it's okay, because there's nothing better than a warm bath after playing in the garden.

Zandi is worse than me – much worse. I just get my hands and feet dirty. Zandi gets everything dirty. She jumps right into the holes and rolls around in the mud. She gets her hair and arms dirty. She even gets her nose dirty.

Mama says, "It's bath time you two!"

But Zandi won't come inside. "Malusi," she says to me, "I'm staying right here – in this hole!"

I tell her that she'll have to come inside for a bath, but Zandi just shakes her head.

But I love all the soapy bubbles. I scrub the dirt off my feet. I scrub and scrub. Next I clean my face. That feels so good.

Then Zandi walks in. She's still dirty all over. "Malusi," she says, "aren't you scared of the Bath Monster?"

"There's no such thing as a Bath Monster," I laugh.

"Oh yes, there is," says Zandi. "It comes up through the plug hole and has three arms and four eyes and it's always hungry." I think Zandi is just trying to scare me.

"And I'll tell you something," says Zandi, "there's nothing the Bath Monster likes more than to eat *clean* children."

Now I'm just a little bit scared. Maybe there really is a Bath Monster.

Zandi gives me a big smile, "Okay, Malusi. Enjoy your bath – but don't get eaten up!" She walks out of the bathroom and goes straight to bed. She's going to make her bed all dirty, but at least she won't be eaten by the Bath Monster.

Do you think there really is a Bath Monster? Find out next week if Malusi ever gets to meet it, or whether Zandi is just teasing him.

Hukung ya dipale

Ena ke karolo ya pele ya pale eo o ka natefelwang ke ho e balla hodimo. E mabapi le Malusi le kgaisedi ya hae, Zandi ... le ditshosa!

Malusi le Setshosa sa Bateng (Karolo ya 1)

ka Leo Daly

Lentswe le leng le le leng le tla latela mona ke nnete. Ke a hlapanya nkeke ka bua leshano, haeba nka bua leshano, ke tla ja tshintshi!

Nna le kgaisedi ya ka e moholo ho nna, Zandi, re rata ho bapalla ka tshimong. Re tilatila ka hara seretse mme re tjeheke mekoti e tebileng. O mamella ha monate ha seretse se kenella pakeng tsa menwana ya hao!

Mme a re, "Hei, lona ba babedi! Ke dikolobe feela tse ratang seretse jwalo." Leha ho le jwalo, ho lokile hobane ha ho ntho e molemo ho feta ho hlapa ka metsi a futhumetseng kamora ho bapalla ka tshimong.

Empa Zandi yena o ditshila le ho feta nna – o ditshila haholo. Nna ke silafatsa matsoho le maoto feela. Zandi yena o silafatsa ntho tsohle. O tlolela hantle ka hara mekoti mme a pitike ka hara seretse. O silafatsa moriri wa hae esitana le diphaka tsa hae. Ke re o silafatsa le nko ya hae.

Mme o re, "Lona ba babedi, ke nako ya ho hlapa!"

Empa Zandi ha a batle ho kena ka tlung. "Malusi," o rialo ho nna, "ke sala hona mona – ka hara mokoti ona!"

Ka mmolella hore o lokela ho kena ka tlung ho tla ithatswa, empa Zandi a sisinya hlooho ya hae feela.

Empa nna ke rata lekweba lane la metsi a sesepa. Jwale ke nako ya ho kutletsa ditshila tse maotong. Ke a ikutletsa, ke ikutletse ke be ke ikutletse. Jwale ke nako ya ho ithatswa sefahleho. Ke ikutlwa hamonate.

Jwale Zandi o a kena. A ntse a le ditshila mmele oohle. "Malusi," a rialo, "na ha o tshabe Setshosa sa Bateng?"

"Ha ho na ntho e bitswang Setshosa sa Bateng mona," ka itshehela.

"Ehlile, se teng," Zandi a rialo. "Se tswa se hlaha le lesobeng leno la metsi mme se na le matsoho a mararo le mahlo a mane mme se dula se lapile," ke nahana hore Zandi o mpa a leka ho ntshosa feela.

"Mme ke tla o bolella ntho e nngwe ke ena," ho rialo Zandi, "ha ho ntho eo Setshosa sa Bateng se e ratang ho feta ho ja bana ba *hlwekileng*."

Jwale ekare ke se ke qala ho tshoha hanyane. Mohlomong Setshosa sa Bateng se fela se le teng.

Zandi a bososela haholo a nijhebile, "Ho lokile Malusi. Natefelwa ke ho hlapa – feela o lemohe o se ke wa jewa!" A tswa ka phaposing ya ho hlapela mme a leba betheng ho ya robala. O ilo silafatsa bethe ya hae haholo, empa he, a ke ke a jewa ke Setshosa sa Bateng.

Na o nahana hore ho hlile ho na le Setshosa sa Bateng? Fumana nnete bekeng e tlang hore ebe Malusi o tla qetela a kopane le sona, kapa ebang Zandi o mpa a mo tshosa feela.

Illustration by Magriet Brink
Setshwantsho ka Magriet Brink



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Na o batlana le dipale tseo o ka di phetelang batho kae kapa kae, neng kapa neng? Etela www.nalibali.mobi bakeng sa dipale tse ngotsweng ka dipuo tse 6 tsa Afrika Borwa tse ka o thabisang mmoho le bana ba hao.

