



Edition 64
IsiZulu, English

It starts with a story...

Start early and don't stop!

Often, when people talk about the importance of reading to children, they mean reading to children who are three years or older – some people even mean children over the age of five! But more and more research is showing that it is better to start reading to children from birth.

Doctors all over the world are giving the same advice to new parents: start reading to your baby immediately and keep reading to him or her. Why? Because we know that children's brains develop the most from two weeks after the baby is conceived to the time the baby is three months old. Recent research also shows that reading to children under the age of three, helps them to meet important brain development milestones. In fact, the later you leave introducing your children to books, the more difficult it is for them to develop the literacy skills they need to be successful at school.

When babies don't yet understand many words, sharing books with pictures, rhymes and simple stories helps teach them vocabulary and language – and it gets their brains thinking! It's also a wonderful way to relax and bond with a baby.

As babies grow, the more you read aloud and talk to them, the more words they hear, and very soon you'll hear them using the words themselves! They will also find out how the print has meaning and how we tell stories. But most importantly, when parents and caregivers read often to very young children, these youngsters grow up seeing reading as fun and worthwhile. So, they are more likely to choose to read in their free time when they are older. This is important because the more children read, the better they become at reading ... and the more pleasure they get from reading, the more likely they are to read!

These are all great reasons to follow the doctors' orders: read regularly to babies and children and keep giving them books!

Sheshe uqale ungabe usayeka!

Imvamisa uma abantu bekhuluma ngokubaluleka kokufundela izingane, bakhuluma ngokufundela izingane ezineminyaka emithathu nangaphezulu – abanye abantu basuke besho nezingane ezineminyaka engaphezu kwemihlanu! Kodwa ucwango oluningi olwenziwayo lukhombisa ukuthi kungcono ukuqala ukufundela izingane kusukele ekuzalweni kwazo.

ODokotela emhlabeni wonke bababebisa ngendlela efanayo abazali abaqalayo ukuthola abantwana: qala ukufundela usana lwakho masinyane, bese uqhubeka nokufundela. Ngani na? Ngoba siyazi ukuthi izingqondo zezingane zithuthuka kakhulu kusukela emasontweni amabili unina esekhulelwe kuze kube yisikhathi lapho ingane isinezinyanga ezintathu. Ucwango luyakhombisa futhi ukuthi ukufundela izingane ezineminyaka engaphansi kwemithathu, kuzisiza ukuthi zisheshe zifinyelele emabangeni okuthuthuka komqondo abalulekile. Empeleni, uma wephuza ukwethula izincwadi ezinganeni zakho, kuzoba nzima kuzo ukuthi zikwazi ukuthuthukisa ukwazi ukufunda nokubhala ezizokudinga ukuze zikwazi ukufunda ngempumelelo esikoleni.

Ngesikhathi abantwana bengakawaqondi amagama amaningi, ukwabelana nabo ngezincwadi ezinezithombe, imilolozelo kanye nezindaba ezilula kuyabasiza ngokubafundisa amagama kanye nolimi – futhi kwenza ukuthi imiqondo yabo icabange. Kuyindlela enhle futhi yokuthi nawe ukuphumule uphinde ube nesikhathi sokuxhumana nomntwana.

Ngesikhathi abantwana bekhula, uma ubafundela futhi ukhuluma nabo kakhulu, uma bedebenza amagama amaningi, uzobezwa sebewasebenzisa lawo magama maduze nje! Bazophinde bathole futhi ukuthi yini eyenza okubhaliwe kuchaze okuthile, nokuthi sizixoxa kanjani izindaba. Kodwa okubaluleke kakhulu ukuthi, ngesikhathi abazali kanye nabantu abanakekela izingane befundela izingane ezincane kakhulu, lezi zingane zikhula zibona ukufunda kuyinto emnandi nokufanele yenziwe. Ngakho, maningi amathuba okuthi zikhethe ukufunda ngesikhathi sokungenzi lutho olunye uma sezikhulakuhlile. Lokhu kubalulekile ngoba uma izingane zide zifunda kakhulu, ziya ngokuba ngcono ekufundeni okubhaliwe... futhi uma zithola injabulo enkulu ekufundeni okubhaliwe, ayanda amathuba okuba zikuthande ukufunda!

Yizo zonke lezi izizathu ezibalulekile ekulandeleni umyalelo kadokotela othi: fundela abantwana nezingane ezindadlana njalo bese uqhubeka nokuzinikeza izincwadi!



Drive your imagination

Read to me. In my language.
Ngifundele. Ngolimi lwami.





Drive your imagination

Celebrating our mothers!

Each year on the second Sunday in May, we celebrate how important mothers are in our lives. Follow the instructions to make a card for your mom or the mother-figure in your life!

Make a Mother's Day card

1. Cut out the card along the red line.
2. Fold the card along the dotted black line.
3. Glue the two parts together.
4. On the side with the picture, write a message to the person you will give the card to. Colour in the picture.
5. On the other side, draw a picture of you and this person together, or write a poem or longer message.



Ukubungaza omama bethu!

Minyaka yonke ngeSonto lesibili kuNhlaba, sigubha ukuthi babaluleke kangakanani ezimpilweni zethu omama. Landela imiyalelo ukuze wenze ikhadi likamama noma umuntu ofana nomama empilweni yakho!

Yenza ikhadi loSuku Lomama

1. Sika ikhadi ngokulandela umugqa obomvu.
2. Goqa ikhadi ulandele umugqa wamachashazi amnyama.
3. Hlanganisa lezi zingxenywe ezimbili ngegglu.
4. Ohlangothini olunesithombe, bhala umyalezo oya kumuntu ozomnikeza ikhadi. Hlobisa isithombe ngombala.
5. Ngakolunye uhlangothi dweba isithombe sakho nalo muntu nindawonye, noma ubhale inkondlo noma umyalezo omude.



Nalibali on radio!

Enjoy listening to stories in isiZulu and in English on Nalibali's radio show:

Ukhozi FM on Monday to Wednesday from 9.20 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.

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



UNalibali usemsakazweni!

Thokozelani ukulalela izindaba ngesiZulu nesiNgisi ohlelweni lomsakazo lukaNalibali:

Ku-Ukhozi FM ngoMsombuluko ukuya kuLwesithathu kusukela ngo-9.20 ekuseni ukuya ku-9.30 ekuseni.

Ku-SAfm ngoMsombuluko, ngoLwesithathu nangoLwesihlanu kusukela ngo-1.50 emini ukuya ku-2.00 emini.

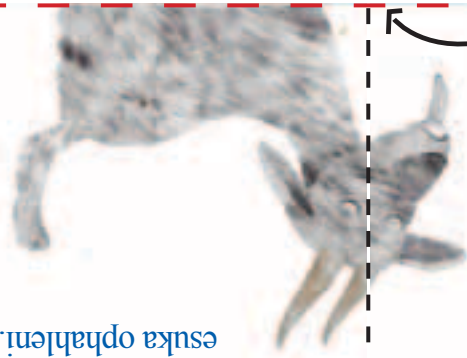
Create your own cut-out-and-keep book

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.

Zakheleni eyenu incwadi enizoyisika niyikhiphe bese niyigcina

1. Khipha amakhasi 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.





ezibanjeni zesikhwama.
 ngesikhathi ezama ukufaka amanqina akhe angaphambili
 isikhwama esidonsele phezu kophahla. Zambuka
 zabukela ngesikhathi uNguluban encane ezitholela
 Ngokuhamba kwalolo suku, izilwane zaphinde zama



kukhononda imbuzi endala.
 “Ubani ozocosha leziya zinsiba?”
 isikhukhukazi.
 “Ngimtshelele ukuthi uzolimala,” kusho
 kusho inkomazi.
 “Bengazi ukuthi leli yisu eliwubwula,”
 to get his front legs into the handles.
 onto the roof. They watched him struggle
 watched as Little Pig found a packet and dragged it up
 Later in the day, the animals once again stood around and
 old goat.

“Who is going to pick up those feathers?” complained the
 “I told him he would get hurt,” said the hen.
 “I knew it was a stupid plan,” said the cow.

UNguluban encane kwadingeka ukuthi azibonele
 ukuthi umisa kanjani. Ekugcineni, wakwazi ukufaka
 amanqina akhe angaphambili ezibanjeni zesikhwama.
 Waphinde wagijima futhi wase ... EGXUMA
 esuka ophahleni.

“Ungangibheki nakungibheka,” kusho imbuzi endala.
 “Ngumsangano phela le nto yakho.”
 “Ngeke,” kusho isikhukhukazi. “Yingozi embi le.”
 “Ngeke ngikwazi,” kusho inkomazi. “Ngimatasatasa.”
 engiyizamayo ngalesi sikhwama.”
 uNguluban encane. “Kulukhuni ukwenza le nto
 “Ningangisiza kodwa bandla?” kumemeza

again he ran and ... JUMPED off the roof.
 Eventually, he got his front legs into the packet. Once
 Little Pig had to keep struggling all on his own.
 “Don’t look at me,” said the old goat. “It’s just too crazy.”

“No,” said the hen. “Too dangerous.”
 “I can’t,” said the cow. “I’m busy.”
 “Could you help me?” called Little Pig. “I’m finding this
 packet a bit difficult.”

HEARTLINES

Can Little Pig fly? Angandiza uNgulub'encane?



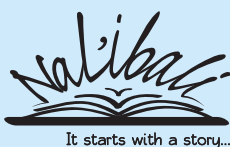
HEARTLINES

For copies of *Heartlines' Stories that Talk* (in all 11 languages), and *Stories that Talk 2* (English only) please email orders@heartlines.org.za or phone (011) 771 2540.



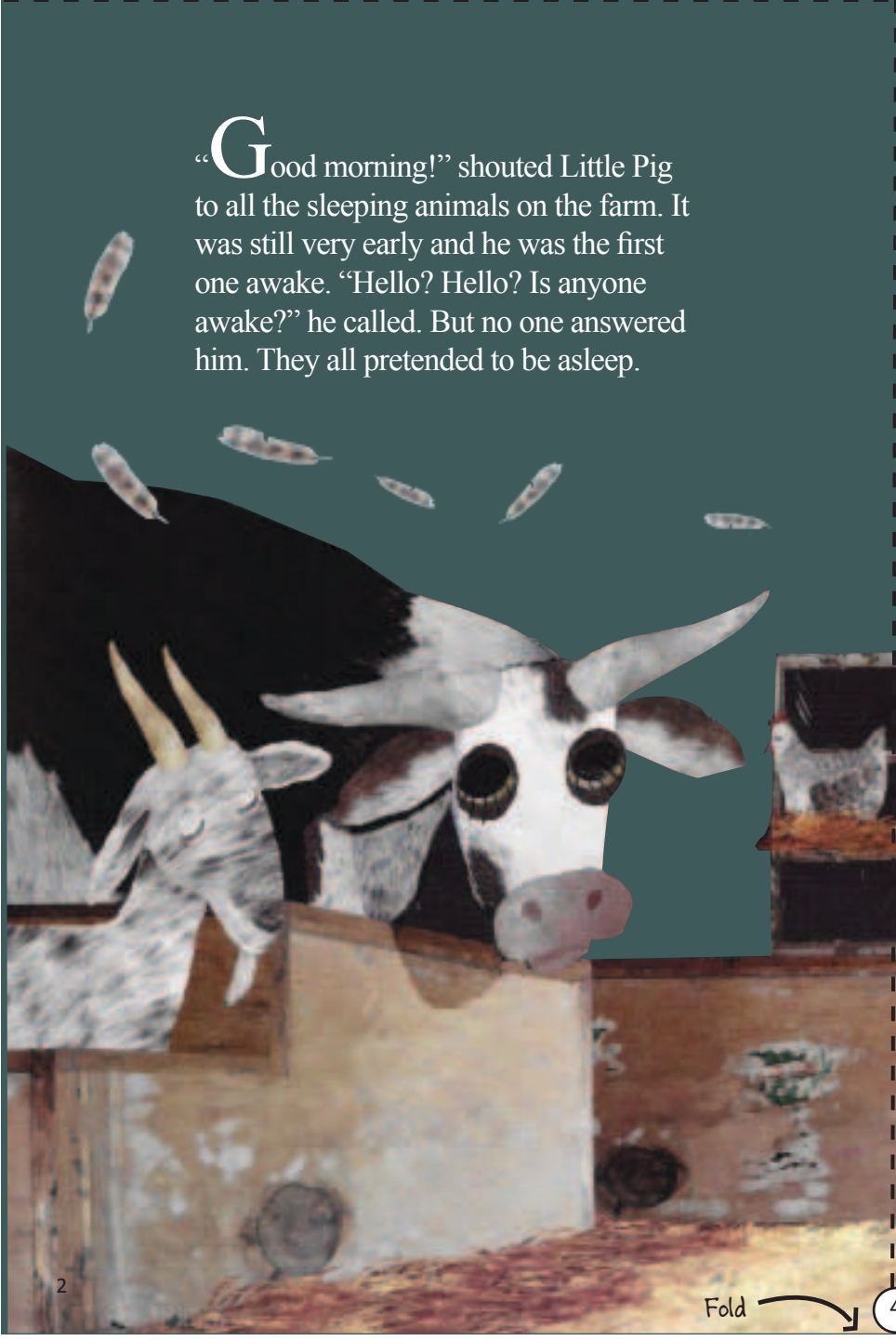
Bridget Krone
Diek Grobler

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 imininingwane, vakashela ku-www.nalibali.org noma ku-www.nalibali.mobi





“Good morning!” shouted Little Pig to all the sleeping animals on the farm. It was still very early and he was the first one awake. “Hello? Hello? Is anyone awake?” he called. But no one answered him. They all pretended to be asleep.



CRASH! Little Pig landed on the ground with a big bump.

He stood up and shook his head. He wiggled each of his legs and found that nothing was broken. Then he saw his wings lying on the ground beside him. They were in pieces.

“Oh well,” he said bravely, “I’ll have to make another plan.” And he set off to look for a new idea, thinking to himself, “All things are possible if you believe and have hope.”

BHAKLAI UNguluban’encane wawela phansi kabuhlungu.

Wasukuma wanikika ikhanda lakhe. Wanyakazisa umlenze wakhe ngamunye wathola ukuthi akukho okwephukile. Wase ebona amaphiko akhe ewele phansi. Ayezizicucu.

“Akulutho,” esho ngelekhulu iqholo, “Ngizozama elinye isu.” Ngesikhathi ehamba eyozama elinye isu, wayezitshela ukuthi, “Konke kungenzeka uma ukholwa futhi unethemba.”

There was a loud *WHOOHING* noise as the wind caught the packet which billowed out behind him.

Then there was a loud CRASH as Little Pig hit the ground hard. This time he landed on his snout. It hurt a lot and he began to cry.

“It’s no use crying,” said the cow. “I told you that this was a silly idea. But you didn’t want to listen.”

“I’m not crying,” pretended Little Pig. “This bump on my snout is just making my eyes water.” And he walked away, sniffling. He held his head up high and blinked back the tears.

Kwaba khona umlando omkhulu othi HASHA HASHA ngesikhathi umoya ungena esikhwameni, sikhukhumala emva kwakhe. Kwaba khona UKUBHAKLAZEKA okukhulu ngesikhathi esewa uNgulub’encane. Kulokhu-ke wafike washayisa ngekhalo kuqala. Kwaba buhlungu kakhulu, wase eqala ukukhala.

“Akusizi ukukhala,” kusho inkomazi. “Ngikutshelile ukuthi wubulima lobu obenziyo. Kodwa awufunanga ukulalela.”

“Angikhali mina,” kuphika uNgulub’encane. “Leli qhubu elisekhaleni lami lenza amehlo ami abe zinyembezana.” Wahamba, ehogela emoyeni. Waphakamisa ikhanda lakhe wacwayiza ezama ukubamba izinyembezi.



Suddenly, over the hill, came the cow. She was running as fast as she could. And holding tightly onto her horns, with beautiful wings streaming out behind him, was ... Little Pig! He was *flying* at last!

Kusenjalo, phezu kwegquma, kwaqhamuka inkomazi. Yayigijima kakhulu ngendlela eyayikwaze ukwenza ngayo. Kanti owayebambelele ezimpondweni zayo, enamaphiko amahle andiza emva kwakhe, kwakuwu- ... Nguluban'encane! Ekugcineni wayesendiza!

A while later, the animals were surprised to see Little Pig dragging two big branches towards the roof. He tried and tried but he was not strong enough to lift them up and they kept falling on top of him.

“He’s very stupid if he thinks that he can fly with those branches,” said the cow.

They all turned to look at Little Pig. He was crying, “It’s too hard!” he sobbed. “I can’t do this.” Big tears rolled down his cheeks and fell into the dust.

The animals were quiet. They looked at Little Pig. They looked at each other. They felt very uncomfortable. “Little Pig ...” said the hen slowly. “I’m sorry we didn’t help you. Please don’t give up.”

Ekubambeni kosuku, izilwane zamangaliswa ukubona uNguluban’encane edonsele amagatsha amabili amakhulu ophahleli. Wazama wazama kodwa wayengenawo amandla anele okwaphakamisa, yingakho ayelokhu ewela phezu kwakhe nje. “Uyobe uyisilima uma ecabanga ukuthi angandiza ngala magatsha amabili,” kusho inkomazi.

Zaphenduka zonke izilwane zabheka uNgulub’encane. Wayekhala. “Kwaze kwanzima!” esho ekhala. “Angikwazi ukwenza lokhu.” Kwagathaka izinyembezi ezinkulu zawela phansi emlabathini. Zathula zonke izilwane. Zabuka uNgulub’encane. Zabukana. Zazizwa zingakhululekile nje. “Ngulub’encane ...” kusho isikhukhukazi ngokumensa. “Siyaxolisa ngoba asikwazanga ukukusiza. Ungadikibali.”



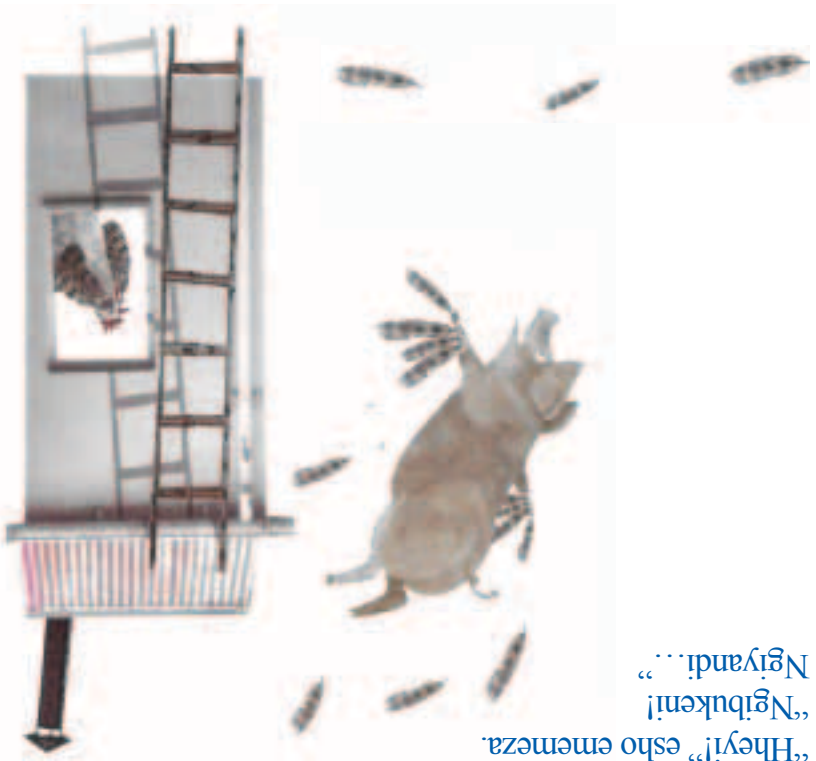
“Sanibonani bo!” kumemeza uNguluban’encane esho kuzo zonke izilwane zasepulazini. Kwakusekuseni kakhulu, futhi nguye yedwa owayevuke kuqala. “Sanibonani? Sanibonani? Ngabe ukhona kodwa osevukile?” kumemeza yena. Kodwa akaphendulwanga muntu. Zonke izilwane zenza sengathi zilele.

But Little Pig took no notice of them and went on trying to drag his wings up onto the roof. At last he managed. Then he strapped them on. He flapped them once, twice, three times, then stood up on his back legs and ran and JUMPED off the roof.

“Hey!” he shouted. “Look at me; I’m fli...”

Kodwa uNguluban’encane akabagqizanga qakala, waqhubeka nokuhudula amaphiko akhe ecaca eya ophahleli. Wagcina esefinyelele. Wawabophela amaphiko. Wabhakuzisa ngamaphiko akhe kanye, kabili, kathathu, wase ema ngamananzwana ...

“Hey!” esho ememeza. “Ngibukeni! Ngiyandi...”

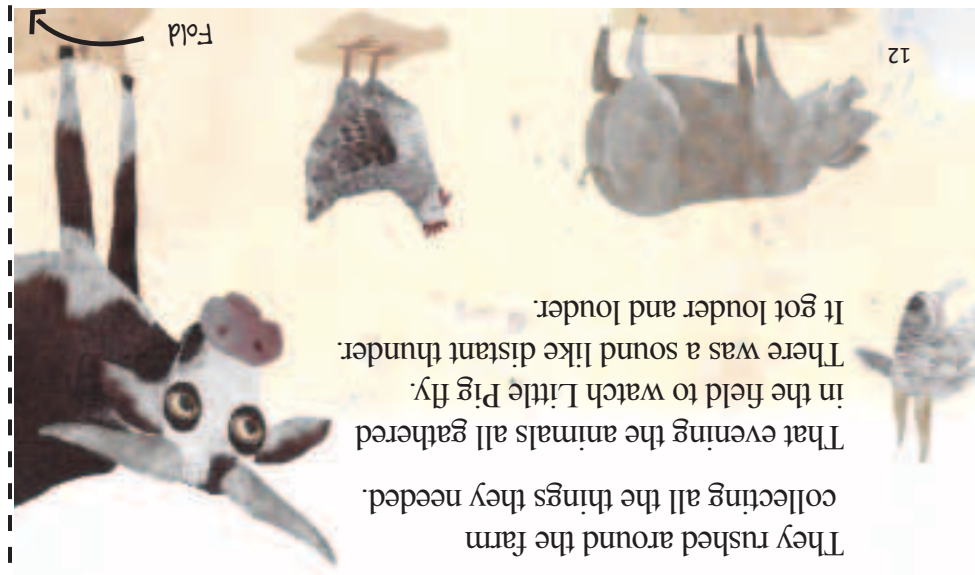




“What are you doing?” asked the cow.
 “I’m trying . . .” panted Little Pig, “. . . to climb up onto this roof. I’ve made some wings, you see, and I’m hoping to fly. Could you help and pass me those feathers?”
 “No,” said the cow. “That sounds like a very bad plan, and I don’t want anything to do with it.”
 “You’ll hurt yourself,” warned the hen.
 “And you are making a mess,” complained the old goat.
 “Wenzani?” kubuza inkomazi.
 “Ngizama . . .” kuhafuzela uNguluban’encane, “. . . ukugibela kulolu phahla. Sengizenzele namaphiko, njengoba ubona nje, nginethemba lokuthi ngizondiza. Ningangisiza nedlulisela kimi lezo zinsiba bandla?”
 “Hhayi, cha,” kusho inkomazi. “Lokhu kuzwakala kuyisu elingelihle, futhi angifuni ukuba yingxenye yalo.”
 “Uzozilimaza,” kwexwayisa isikhukhukazi.
 “Futhi uyangcolisa nje,” kukhononda imbuzi endala.



“Yes,” said the cow. “You must always have hope, Little Pig. Life without hope is very . . . empty. And sad.”
 “And boring,” said the old goat.
 “So if you really, really want to fly, we will help you,” said the hen.
 Little Pig sniffed and wiped away his tears. “Really?” he asked. “Will you help me?”
 “Yes. We will!” Suddenly all the animals had ideas about how to help Little Pig fly.
 “Where are those guinea fowl feathers?”
 “I’ll get some more . . .”
 “And bring those branches!”
 “I think we might need that packet too.”
 “No! Find a bigger packet. That one’s too small.”
 They rushed around the farm collecting all the things they needed.
 That evening the animals all gathered in the field to watch Little Pig fly.
 There was a sound like distant thunder.
 It got louder and louder.



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 There was a sound like distant thunder.
 It got louder and louder.

“Well,” said Little Pig, “I have things to do.”
 And off he trotted.

“Thank goodness he’s gone,” muttered the old goat. “It’s just too early for his nonsense.”

Eventually the animals got up and did what they always do. Stand around. Chew. Scratch. Moan. Scratch a bit more. Moan.

Only Little Pig was busy. All morning he ran around the farm, humming a little hum. The other animals watched as he rushed backwards and forwards with things in his mouth.

“Kulungile,” kusho uNguluban’encane, “Kuningi engihlose ukukwenza.” Washaya wachitha.

“Kungcono ngoba uhambile,” kukhononda imbuzi endala. “Kusekuseni kakhulu ukuthi singamelana nalo mbhedo wakhe.”

Ekugcineni zavuka zonke izilwane zaqhubeka nemisebenzi yazo. Zazima nje; zetshise; zizenwaye; zibubule; zizenwaye kakhudlwana; ziphinde zibubule.

UNgulub’encane kuphela owayematasatasa. Wayetshakadula epulazini usuku lonke, kuzwakala imvunge encane ayishayela phansi. Ezinye izilwane zazimbuka ngesikhathi eya emuva naphambili ephethe okuthile ngomlomo.



“Kunjalo,” kusho inkomazi. “Ubohlala njalo unethemba, Ngulub’encane. Impilo engenalo ithemba . . . iyize leze. Futhi iyadabukisa.”

“Futhi-ke inesidina,” kusho imbuzi endala.

“Ngakho uma ufuna ngempela, ngempela ukundiza, sizokusiza,” kusho isikhukhukazi.

UNguluban’encane wesula izinyembezi zakhe.

“Ngempela?” kubuza yena. “Ningangisiza ngempela?”

“Yebo. Sizokusiza!” Ngokushesha zonke izilwane zaba nemibono yokusiza uNguluban’encane ukuba andize.

“Ziphi leziya zinsiba zempangele?”

“Ngizoyothatha ezinye zazo . . .”

“Bese ngiza nalawo magatsha!”

“Ngicabanga ukuthi sizosidinga naleso sikhwama futhi.”

“Cha! Tholani isikhwama esikhudlwana. Lesi sincane kakhulu.”

Izilwane zazehla zenyuka nepulazi lonke ziqoqa izinto ezizozidinga.

Ngalobo busuku izilwane zaqoqana ensimini zizobona uNguluban’encane endiza. Kwaba khona umsindo owawuzwakala sengathi yizulu lidumela kude.

Waya ngokukhula umsindo.



Sawubona! Good news, our first supplement for this year arrived on Friday! We had an opportunity to go through it with the reading club team on Friday and we were all inspired by the content of this edition. I guess the word "inspiration" sums up the whole edition: from Sello Phemelo's well-written poem (well done!) to our favourite story, *The elders at the door*. This story connects with us in different ways and we believe it will do the same for our children as we share it this week in our clubs.

I recently met a parent of one of our reading club children. She told me about how her five-year-old child, Kwanele Nxusa, had recently started to share things with his siblings without her having to ask him to do this. When she asked him why he had started sharing more, he said that he didn't want to be like the little monkey he'd read about in a story at his reading club – *Baby Monkey's Bananas* by Sue Hepker and Graeme Viljoen (supplement 42). He told his mother how the monkey landed up lonely and surrounded by dangerous animals because of his greediness!

This scenario made me realise that stories go a long way in children's lives. They are not only about fun, but they shape them in a mysterious way!

Ngiyabonga.

Gcinumuzi Radebe, Nal'ibali Cluster Mentor

Dear Nal'ibali... Nalibali Othandekayo...

Write to Nal'ibali at
**PRAESA, Suite 17-201, Building 17,
Waverley Business Park, Wycroft
Road, Mowbray, 7700, or at
letters@nalibali.org.**

**Bhalela uNal'ibali
ku-PRAESA, Suite 17-201, Building 17,
Waverley Business Park, Wycroft
Road, Mowbray, 7700 noma
ku-letters@nalibali.org.**



Sawubona! Izindaba ezimnandi ukuthi isithasiselo sethu sokuqala nonyaka safika ngoLwesihlanu! Saba nethuba lokusifunda sonke nethimba lokufunda ngoLwesihlanu, futhi kwasifaka intshisekelo okuqukethwe yilolu shicilelo. Ngiyacabanga ukuthi igama elithi "intshisekelo" lisho konke ngalolu shicilelo: kusukela enkondlweni eyayibhalwe kamnandi kaSello Phemelo (Usebenzile!) ukuya endabeni esayithanda kakhulu, *Abantu abadala emnyango*. Le ndaba isithinta kakhulu futhi siyakholwa ukuthi izokwenza okufanayo nasezinganeni zethu.

Ngisanda kuhlalanga nomzali wenye yezingane ezisethimbeni lethu lokufunda. Wangitshela ukuthi ingane yakhe eneminyaka emihlanu, uKwanele Nxusa, useqale ukwabelana ngezinto ezithile nezingane zakubo umzali engamcelanga ukuthi enze lokhu. Wathi uma umzali embuza ukuthi kungani eqale ukwabelana nabanye kangaka, wathi wayengafuni ukuba njengenkawana ayefunde ngayo endabeni yethimba lokufunda ethi – *Obhanana beNkawana* kaSue Hepker noGraeme Viljoen (esithasiselweni sama-42). Waxoxela umama wakhe ukuthi inkawana yagcina iyodwa futhi izungezwe izilwane eziyingozi ngenxa yomhobholo!

Le ndaba ingenze ngabona ukuthi izindaba zibamba iqhaza elibalulekile ezimpilweni zezingane. Azigcini nje ngokuthokozisa, kodwa zakha izimilo zezingane ngendlela emangalisayo!

Ngiyabonga.

UGcinumuzi Radebe, i-Nal'ibali Cluster Mentor

SMS

Thanks so much for the nice, interesting story, *The Magic Paintbrush*. My child enjoyed the story very much and my kids at school love it as well!

Maureen

Thumela i-SMS

Siyabonga kakhulu ngendaba emnandi, nehlabane umxhwele, *Ibhulashi Lokupenda Elinomlingo*. Izingane zami ekhaya kanye nasesikoleni ziyithokozele kakhulu!

UMaureen



Get story active!

After you and your children have read *Can Little Pig fly?* try discussing some of these things.

- Why do you think Little Pig didn't give up trying to fly?
- Is there something that you really want to do? What is it?
- Ask open-ended questions (questions that have no right or wrong answer and instead, can be answered in different ways). For example:
 - Do you think the animals treated Little Pig well? Why or why not?
 - Are hope and having dreams the same thing? Why or why not?
 - Do you agree with the cow that we should always have hope? Why or why not?

Yenza indaba ihlabe umxhwele!

Ngemva kokuba wena kanye nezingane zakho senifunde indaba ethi, *Angandiza uNgulub'encane?* zamani ukudingida ezinye zalezi zinto.

- Ngabe ucabanga ukuthi kungani uNguluban'encane engazange ayeke ukuzama ukundiza?
- Ingabe ikhona into ofuna ukuyenza ngempela? Yini leyo?
- Buza imibuzo evulelekile (imibuzo engenayo impendulo efanele noma engafanele kunalokho, engaphendulwa ngezindlela ezahlukeni). Isibonelo:
 - Ngabe nicabanga ukuthi izilwane zamphatha ngendlela efanele uNguluban'encane? Niyavuma noma cha, ngani?
 - Ngabe ithemba noma ukuba nephupho elithile kuyinto efanayo? Niyavuma noma cha, ngani?
 - Ngabe niyavumelana yini nenkomazi ekutheni kumele sikhale sinethemba? Niyavuma noma cha, ngani?



Story corner

Here is the first part of the story about Amina and her special toy-friend, Whatzit, for you to enjoy reading aloud or telling.

Whatzit (Part 1) by Jude Daly

It was raining, really bucketing down, and Amina was fed up and lonely. None of her friends could come and play and everyone in the house was busy. Everyone was always busy! It was no fun being the youngest.

Amina lay on her bed. And she stood on her head. Then she put on her fairy wings and started to dance. Amina twirled and whirled. She scurried and flurried. She even rocked and rolled. Then she flopped back on her bed. Nothing helped. She was still fed up and she was still lonely.

So Amina unpacked her toys. Most of them were hand-me-downs from her big sisters, even the toy box was a hand-me-down. She put Eli, Dassie, Rabbit and Mouse on her bed. They were going to have a tea party as soon as she found the teapot.

She searched the toy box again and that's when Amina found Whatzit. It was lying forgotten at the bottom of a sewing basket, at the bottom of the toy box.

Amina turned Whatzit over to see its face, but it didn't have one. Poor forgotten Whatzit! It had a shape, sort of roundish-squarish, but no face or arms or legs or wings or tail or anything.

Amina propped Whatzit up on the bed between Eli and Dassie and opposite Rabbit and Mouse. She found the tea pot and poured the tea. Eli, Dassie, Rabbit and Mouse finished their tea in no time, so did Amina. But Whatzit didn't. Well, how could it without a mouth!

So, Amina took Whatzit and the sewing basket and went to find her granny.

"What's that?" asked her granny.

"Whatzit," said Amina. "Whatzit needs a mouth."

"Okay," said Amina's granny, "but we must be quick, I am very busy and still have so much to do."

Amina's granny helped her sew a mouth for Whatzit; a nice smiley mouth.

"And Whatzit needs a nose," said Amina. But already her granny was not listening.

Will Amina find someone to help her give Whatzit all the things he needs? Find out next week – and discover where Whatzit comes from!



Illustration by Magriet Brink
Umdwebo wenziwe nguMagriet Brink

Ikhona lezindaba

Nansi ingxenye yokuqala yendaba ngo-Amina nomngani wakhe oyithoyizi, uKuyini ozoyifunda kakhulu noma ozoyixoxa.

UKuyini (Ingxenye yoku-1) nguJude Daly

Lalina, liyidliva ngempela, kanti u-Amina wayesecikekile ngalokhu, futhi enesizungu. Akekho noyedwa kubangani bakhe owayekwazi ukuzodlala kanti wonke umuntu osendlini wayematasatasa. Bonke abantu babehlale bematasatasa! Kwakungemnandi ukuba ngomncane kunabo bonke abantu.

U-Amina walala embhedeni wakhe. Wama ngekhandu. Wafaka amaphiko eferi wase eqala ukudansa. U-Amina waphenduka wase ejikajika. Wakhwishiza wase ebhakuza. Waze wenza nomdanso wokugxuma maqede aphenduke. Wase eshaya ungqimphothwe ebuyela embhedeni wakhe. Akukho nokukodwa okwamsiza. Wayesacikekile futhi esazizwa enesizungu.

Ngakho u-Amina wakhapha amathoyizi akhe. Iningi lawo ilawo ayewashiyelwe odadewabo abadala, nebhokisi lamathoyizi nalo wayelishiyelwe yibo. Wabeka u-Eli, uMbila, uNogwaja noGundane embhedeni wakhe. Babezoba nedili lokuphuza itiye uma esethole ithibhothi lakhe.

Wabheka ebhokisini lakhe futhi, kwaba ilapho u-Amina athola khona uKuyini. Wayelele eseyinto abayikhohliwe phansi kubhasikidi onomthungo, ngaphansi kwebhokisi lamathoyizi.

U-Amina waphendula uKuyini ukuze abone ubuso bakhe, kodwa wayengenabo. UKuyini wabantu wayeseyinto abayikhohliwe nje! Wayenesimo esingathi siyindilinga, kodwa wayengenabuso, engenangalo, engenamaphiko, engenamsila, ngishoni nje.

U-Amina wahlalisa uKuyini embhedeni phakathi kuka-Eli noMbila, phambi kukaNogwaja noGundane. Wathola ithibhothi wathela itiye. U-Eli, uMbila, uNogwaja noGundane baqeda itiye labo kungaphelanga nasikhathi, kanjalo no-Amina. Kodwa akubanga njalo kuKuyini. Empeleni wayezophuza kanjani ngoba wayengenamlomo?

Ngakho-ke, u-Amina wathatha uKuyini nobhasikidi womthungo wayofuna ugogo wakhe.

"Yini leyo?" kubuza ugogo wakhe.

"UKuyini," kusho u-Amina. "UKuyini udinga umlomo."

"Kulungile," kusho ugogo ka-Amina "kodwa kumele sisheshise, ngimatasatasa kakhulu futhi kusekuningi okumele ngikwenze."

Ugogo ka-Amina wamsiza wamthungela umlomo kaKuyini, umlomo omuhle omamathekayo.

"UKuyini udinga nekhala futhi," kusho u-Amina. Kodwa ugogo wakhe wayevele engasamlalele.

Ngabe u-Amina uzomthola umuntu ozomsiza ukuthi anike uKuyini konke akudingayo? Thola kabanzi ngesonto elizayo – bese uthola ukuthi uvelaphi uKuyini.

In your next Nal'ibali supplement:

- Easy ways to inspire children to read
- Story Star: Judith Sephuma talks to us about reading to her children
- Collect the Nal'ibali characters: Gogo
- A cut-out-and-keep book, *Perfectly me*
- The final part of the Story Corner story, *Whatzit*

Looking for audio stories for your children? Visit www.nalibali.mobi and go to the "Downloads" section for audio stories in a range of South African languages to play from your mobile phone!



Illustration by Magriet Brink

Esithasiselweni sakho esilandelayo sakwaNal'ibali:

- Izinto ezilula zokukhuthaza izingane ukuthi zifunde
- Ovelele Ezindabeni: UJudith Sephuma uxoxa nathi mayelana nokufunda nezingane zakhe
- Qoqa abalingiswa bakwaNal'ibali: uGogo
- Incwadi ozoyisika uyikhiphe uyigcine, *Nami anginasici*
- Ingxenye yokugcina yendaba yeKhona Lezindaba ethi, *UKuyini*.

Ngabe ufunela izingane zakho izindaba ezilalelwayo? Vakashela ku-www.nalibali.mobi bese siya ku-"Downloads" ukuze uthole izindaba ezilalelwayo ezingezilimu zaseNingizimu Afrika eziningi ozozidlala kumakhalekhukhwini wakho!

