



Exploring our world through books

Have you noticed how naturally curious children are? Given the chance they will ask question after question! Use books to help them discover answers to their questions and to explore different topics together – you'll find yourself asking questions too and you'll learn things together.

Different kinds of books explore topics in different ways. Here are a few examples.

- **Realistic stories** focus on real-life problems which the characters have to solve, like how to stop someone from being bullied or how to escape a fire.
- **Biographies** tell the stories of real people, like pop stars or famous scientists. These books are written by authors who have spent time finding out about someone else's life.
- **Traditional stories** tell tales with a message or moral, like what happens if people pollute the earth's water and Mother Earth gets upset.
- **Information books** contain information and facts, for example, about the beliefs, rituals and practices of different religious groups, or how the stars and planets are formed.

When you read storybooks you usually start at the beginning and read through to the end so that you get the whole story! Information books work differently. Here are some ideas on how to share them with children.

- **On the cover.** Read the title and draw children's attention to the pictures on the cover. Can they use these to predict what the book is about? Find the author's name together – this helps to remind children that all books are written by real people!
- **What's inside?** Look at the contents page at the beginning of the book to help you choose sections that grab your children's interest.
- **Start, stop and skip.** Start by reading a part of the book that interests your children. If you've found the information they were looking for, or if they ask new questions, or if something else in the book interests them more, stop reading and skip to another part.
- **Different types of information.** Spend time looking at and discussing pictures, photographs, maps and diagrams together – they offer as much food for thought as the words on the page.

Whatever books you choose to explore with your children, enjoy the journey of discovery together!



Ukufuna ukwazi ngomhlaba wethu ngokusebenzisa izincwadi

Ngabe usuke waqaphela ukuthi izingane zihlale zifuna ukwazi ukuthi kuzokwenzekani okuzenzekela ngokwemvelo? Uma zinikezwa ithuba zibuza umbuzo emva komunye! Sebenzisa izincwadi ezizozisiza ukuthi zizitholele izimpendulo zemibuzo yazo nokuthi nibheke izihloko ezahlukene nindawonye – uzozithola sewubuza imibuzo nawe, futhi nizofunda izinto ndawonye!

Izinhlobo ezahlukene zezincwadi zibhekana nezihloko ngezindlela ezahlukene. Nazi izibonelo ezimbalwa.

- **Izindaba ezingamaqiniso** zigxila ezinkingeni ezenzeka ngempela empilweni abalingiswa okumele bazisombulule, ezifana nokuthi kungaqedwa kanjani ukwenziswa komuntu ngenkani into angayithandi noma ukuphuma emlilweni.
- **Amabhayografi** axoxa izindaba zabantu bangempela abafana nabaculi be-pop noma

ososayensi abadumile. Lezi zincwadi zibhalwa ngababhali abachitha isikhathi bethola kabanzi ngempilo yomunye umuntu.

- **Izindaba zomdabu** zixoxa izindaba ezinomlayezo noma isifundo, ezifana nokuthi kwenzekani uma abantu bengcolisa amanzi oMhlaba bese uMama uMhlaba ethukuthela.
 - **Izincwadi ezinika ulwazi** ziqukethe ulwazi nokungamaqiniso, isibonelo, ngokuphathelene nezinkolelo, ukwenziwa nokugcinwa kwamasiko athile amaqembu ahlukene ezenkolo noma ukuthi zakhiwe kanjani izinkanyezi namaplanethi.
- Uma ufunda izincwadi zezindaba uvamise ukuqala ekuqaleni bese ufunda uze uyofika ekugcineni ukuze uthole indaba yonke! Izincwadi ezinika ulwazi zisebenza ngendlela ehlukile. Nanka amanye amacebo okuthi ungabelana kanjani ngazo nezingane.
- **Ekhaveni.** Funda isihloko bese wenza ukuthi izingane zinake izithombe ezisekhaveni. Ngabe bangakwazi ukusebenzisa lokhu ukuqagela ukuthi incwadi imayelana nani? Tholani

kanyekanye igama lombhali – lokhu kusiza ukukhumbuzisa izingane ukuthi zonke izincwadi zibhalwa abantu bangempela!

- **Kukhonani ngaphakathi?** Bheka ikhasi lokuqokethwe ekuqaleni kwencwadi ukuze kukusize ukuthi ukhethe izigaba ezihlaba umxhwele ezinganeni zakho.
- **Qala, yeka bese uyeqa.** Qala ngokufunda ingxenye yencwadi ehlaba umxhwele ezinganeni zakho. Uma usuthole ulwazi ebeziludinga noma uma zibuza eminye imibuzo emisha noma okunye okusencwadini okuzihlaba umxhwele kakhulu, yeka ukufunda bese weqela kwenye ingxenye.
- **Izinhlobo ezahlukene zeminingwane.** Chithani isikhathi nibheka futhi nixoxa ngemifanekiso, izithombe, amabalazwe nemidwebo nindawonye – kunikeza okuningi eningacabanga ngakho, njengamagama asekhasini.

Noma ngabe yiziphi izincwadi enikhetha ukubheka izihloko zazo nezingane zakho, thokozelani uhambo lokuthola okusha ndawonye!



Drive your
imagination

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





Wow! This is wonderful cheering and uplifting news for mothers! I have a three-year-old who has just started day care. She likes to be given pen and paper and just to scribble, so she will really enjoy listening to me read to her. I feel I should commend you all for the wonderful and exciting work you do. I will go to the nearest library and borrow children's storybooks because you have encouraged me to take some time off and give to my baby. I thought she was too young to understand what is going on. I am often away from her so when I get home we will do some fun reading. Thanks for the insightful tips on how to get children involved in reading even though they can't read on their own yet. I have been encouraged by you – thank you, thank you!

Ntomboxolo Fotoyi

Oh, I love the Nal'ibali website SO much! Now that I have become a gogo to a brand new baby boy, it makes my heart glad and I have already started to buy books for him. My son and daughter-in-law are both avid readers. Please keep in touch always.

Yvonne Assis

I just read two stories from Nal'ibali's mobi site to my son, Naanda, in hospital. He has a fever that won't break and has been struggling to sleep. Now he is fast asleep. Thanks Nal'ibali.

Lulamile Mzamo

We as Foundation Phase educators want to thank you for the excellent resources that you are providing in the Nal'ibali supplements. Most of our learners do not own storybooks and so this is such a treat for them. We are excited about this initiative.

E.L. Jacobs, Head of Department, Venterspost Primary

Ngcingci! Lena yindaba emnandi, ejabulisayo nekhuthazayo komama! Nginengane eneminyaka emithathu esanda kuqala enkulisa. Iyathanda ukunikezwa ipeni nephepha futhi ithanda ukubhalabhala, ngakho izokuthokozela ukungilalela lapho ngiyifundela. Ngizizwa kufanele nginincome nonke ngomsebenzi omuhle nohlaba umxhwele eniwezayo. Ngizoya kumtapo wezincwadi oseduze nami bese ngiboleka izincwadi zezindaba zezingane ngoba ningigugquzele ukuthi ngibeke eceleni isikhathi esithile ngisinikeze ingane yami. Bengicabanga ukuthi usemncane kakhulu ukuthi angaqonda ukuthi kwenzekani. Isikhathi esiningi angisichithi naye ngakho uma ngifika ekhaya sizozithokozisa ngokufunda. Ngiyabonga ngamacebo amahle okuthi singazibandakanya kanjani izingane ekufundeni noma zingakakwazi ukuzifundela zona ngokwazo. Ningikhuthazile - ngiyabonga, ngiyabonga!

UNtomboxolo Fotoyi

O, ngiyithanda KAKHULU iwebhusayithi yakwaNal'ibali! Manje njengoba sengingugogo womfanyana osanda kuzalwa nje, lokhu kwenza inhliziyoyami yethabe kakhulu, futhi sengiqalile ukumthengela izincwadi. Indodana yami nomakoti wakwami bangabafundi abanomdlandla. Ngicela sihlale sithintana.

UYvonne Assis

Ngiqeda ukufundela indodana yami, uNaanda, esibhedlela izindaba ezimbili ezivela ku-Nal'ibali mobisite. Unemfiva engapheli futhi bekungavumi alale. Manje ulele zwi. Ngiyabonga Nal'ibali.

ULulamile Mzamo

Thina njengothisha baMabanga Aphansi sifuna ukunibonga ngezinsiza ezinhle kakhulu enizihlinzeka ezithasiselweni zakwaNal'ibali. Izingane zethu eziningi azinazo izincwadi zezindaba ezingezazo ngakho lokhu kuyingqayizivele kuzona. Lusihlaba umxhwele lolu hlelo.

E.L. Jacobs, Inhloko YoMnyango, eVenterspost Primary

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

Write to
Nal'ibali at: PO Box 1654,
Saxonwold, 2132, or
letters@nalibali.org
Bhalela kwaNal'ibali
ku-PO Box 1654, Saxonwold,
2132 noma ku-
letters@nalibali.org



What makes the sun shine? Where does water come from? Why is there day and night, and summer and winter? It's Earth Day on 22 April. Take this opportunity to marvel at our wonderful planet by sharing stories and books with your children. Not sure which books to use? Find our Earth Day recommended reads on www.nalibali.org.

Yini eyenza ukuthi ilanga likhanye?
Aphumaphi amanzi? Kungani kukhona imini nobusuku, ihlobo nobusika? Usuku Lomhlaba (Earth Day) lumhla zingama-22 Ephreli. Thatha leli thuba uke ubungaze ubuhle bomhlaba wethu ngokwabelana ngezindaba nezincwadi nezingane zakho. Ngabe awunasinqiniseko ngokuthi yiziphi izincwadi ongazisebenzisa? Thola izincwadi esincoma ukuthi zifundwe ngoSuku Lomhlaba ku-www.nalibali.org.



Reading club tip #5

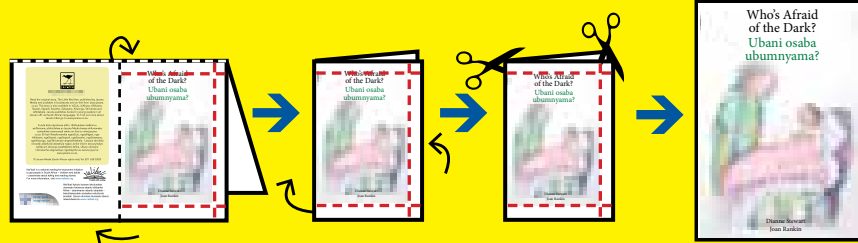
Need a place to store the mini-books and story cards you have made from the stories in your Nal'ibali supplements? Do the earth-friendly thing and reuse ice cream containers, cereal and shoe boxes, and photocopy paper boxes and lids to store your club's reading resources.

Icebo lesi-5 lethimba lokufunda

Ngabe udinga indawo yokugcina amabhukwana namakhadi ezindaba owenze ngezindaba ezisezithasiselweni zakho zakwaNal'ibali? Yenza into ewuphatha kahle umhlaba uphinde usebenzise iziqukathi zika-ice cream, amabhokisi amasiriyeli nawezicathulo, amabhokisi nezivalo zamaphepha okwenza amakhophi ukuze ugcine izinsiza zethimba lakho lokufunda.

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.



Umama kaSanele wayemoyizela ngesikhathi eza ekamelweni.
 'Ungesabi, Sanele, umsindo wokuhona kukababa wakhoi' esho ehleka. 'Akukho bhubesi lapha endlini.'
 Namanje uSanele wayesabusa kakhulu ubumnyama, ubuthongo babungafiki!



Sanele's mother was smiling when she came into the room.
 'Don't be afraid, Sanele. It's just your father snoring!' she laughed. 'There's no lion in this house.'
 Still Sanele was afraid of the dark and couldn't sleep.

The next night, Sanele had just drifted off to sleep when she heard the sound of a lion roaring in the house.
 'Mama, come quick! Come quick!' she shouted.
 'There's a lion in the house!'
 Ngelelango ellilandelayo, uSanele wayeqeda ukulala ngesikhathi ezwa umsindo wokubhonga kwabhubesi endlini.
 'Mama, woza ngokushesha! Shesha!' ememeza kakhulu. 'Kukhona ibhuhesi endlini!'



Fold



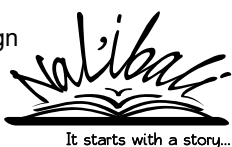
We publish what we like

This is an adapted version of *Who's Afraid of the Dark?*, 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.

Funda indaba yokuqala, *Ubani osaba ubumnyama?*, eyashicilelwa ngabakwa-Jacana Media kanti itholakala ezitolo zamabhuku kanye naku-inthanethiekhelini elithi: www.jacana.co.za. Le ndaba iyatholakala futhi ngesiNgisi, isiXhosa, isiBhunu, isiSiswati, isiPedi, isiSotho, isiTswana, isiSonga, isiVenda nesiNdebele. Abakwa-Jacana bashicilela amabhuku abafundi abasha ngazo zonke izilimi ezisemthethweni zaseNingizimu Afrika. Ukuthola ulwazi ngezihloko ze-Jacana ngena ku: www.jacana.co.za.

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



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

Who's Afraid of the Dark? Ubani osaba ubumnyama?



Dianne Stewart
 Joan Rankin



Fold



Drive your imagination

USanele namanje
wayesabusa
kakhulu ubumnyama.
Kwakumkhatha
amhoro amaningi
ephenduphenduka
emhedeni ngaphambi
kokuba azumeke.



Still Sanele was afraid of the dark. For hours she tossed and turned in her bed before she fell asleep.

Sanele was afraid of the dark. She did not like to see night cover the earth like a blanket.

'I'm afraid,' Sanele cried to her mother. 'It's so dark in my room and there are monsters under my bed.'

USanele wayebusaba
kabi ubumnyama.
Kwakumkhathaza kakhulu
ukubona ubumnyama
bumboza umhlaba
njengoblankethi.
'Ngiyesaba,' kusho uSanele
ekhalela umama wakhe.
'Kumnyama bhuge,
ekamelweni lami futhi
kunezinunu ngaphansi
kombhede wami.'



Fold

Fold



The night after that Sanele did not want to go to bed and begged her mother to let her stay up later. But her mother said, 'I'll sit by your side and hold your hand until you go to sleep. I did this when your older sister could not sleep.'
Ngobusulu obulandelayo uSanele wayengatfuni ukuyolala emhedeni wakhe, wancenga umama wakhe ukuba amvumele ukuthi angasheshi dale. Kodwa umama wakhe wathi, 'Ngizohlala eduze kwakho ngikubambe isandla ngilinde uze ufikelele ubuthongo. Ngangenza kanjena uma udadewenu engakwazi ukulala.'



... I'm no longer afraid of the dark.
... angisabusabi ubumnyama.'

With her hand resting in her mother's warm fingers, Sanele fell asleep.
But she woke later, 'Mama, I'm scared,' she cried, going into her parents' room.
Isandla sakhe sasiphumule kamnandi phezu kweminwe efudumele kamama wakhe. USanele wafikelela ubuthongo walala.
Kodwa waphaphama emuva kwesikhathi, 'Mama, ngiyesaba,' esho ekhala egijimela ekamelweni likama wakhe.



From then on, Sanele's black kitten slept beside her on her bed.

'My cat's my best friend,' she said excitedly. 'When I can't sleep at night, I reach out and hold him. Do you know what, Mama? With my kitten next to me, I fall asleep easily and...'



Kusukela ngalelo langa, ikati elincane likaSanele lilala eduze kwakhe embhedeni wakhe.

'Ikati lami ngumngane wami omkhulu,' esho ngokujabula. 'Uma ngingakwazi ukulala ebusuku, ngikhipha isandla sami ngilibambe. Uyazi ukuthini Mama? Uma ikati lami liseduze kwami ngisheshe ngifikelwe ubuthongo kalula ...'

Her mother opened the curtains and looked into the night.
'It's just a branch scraping against the window. Tomorrow I'll cut off that branch from the avocado tree,' she said.
'I'll help you,' said Sanele.
Uma wakhe wavula ikhethini wabhaka ngaphandle ebumnyameni obunzulu.
'Yigatsha lesihahla leli elikwebha efasiteleli. Kusasa ngizosika leli gatsha lesihahla sikakotapheya,' kusho umama.
'Ngizokusiza,' kusho uSanele.



'No child,' said her mother, bending over to look under the bed. 'There's nothing there, Sanele. Only dust. No monsters. I'll leave the light on for you. Now go to sleep.'

But Sanele was still afraid of the dark and couldn't sleep.



'Cha mntanami,' kusho umama, egoba ebhaka ngaphansi kombhede. 'Akunalutho lapha Sanele. Uthuli kuphela. Akunazinunu. Ngizoshiya isibani sikhanya. Manje ungasal'ulale.'

Kodwa uSanele wayebusaba ubumnyama. Ubuthongo abuzange bufike.



'Mama, come quick.
There's someone at my
window.'

'Mama, woza
ngokushesha.
Kukhona umuntu
osefasiteleni lami.'

Fold

Ekuseni ngakusasa, uSanele, umama wakhe kanye nomakhelwane babephuza iitye ekhishini. 'Ikati lami liqeda ukuthola abantwana,' kusho umakhelwane. 'Angizukwazi ukubagcina. Kuzofanele ngiphisane ngabo.' Amehlo kaSanele agcwala injabulo. 'Mama, ngicela ukuthatha ikati elilodwa. Kulungile?' Umama wakhe wahleka kancaane. 'Wo, kulungile,' kusho yena.



In the morning, Sanele, her mother and a neighbour were drinking tea in the kitchen. 'My cat has just had kittens,' said the neighbour. 'I can't keep them. I'll have to give them away.' Sanele's eyes sparkled. 'Please can I have a kitten, Mama?' Her mother frowned and then smiled. 'Oh, all right then,' she said.

The next night, there was a great storm and while lying awake, Sanele heard tapping at the window.



Ngobusku obulandelayo, kwakuna imvula enkulu. USanele owayecambalele engalele wezwa sengathi kukhona okuthinta efasiteleni.



Sanele chose a tiny black kitten from her neighbour's litter of kittens.

USanele wakhetha ikati elincane elimnyama phakathi kwamakati kamakhelwane.

Fold



Get story active!

Many children are afraid of the dark. Reading stories about characters who also have this experience can help them. After you and your children have read *Who's Afraid of the Dark?*, try out some of these ideas.

- Talk about the story with your children. Ask them what they think Sanele was afraid of. (If they need help with this, suggest that they look carefully at the pictures in the book.) Are they afraid of these things too? Are there other fears that they have? Discuss how Sanele dealt with her fear of the dark. Remind your children that you are always there to support them.
- Read an information book suited to your children's ages about what causes day and night.
- Encourage your children to draw or paint pictures of the things they are most afraid of. Help younger children to write what they want to about their pictures. Let older children try writing by themselves.
- Help your children to each write "My plan for dealing with fear". Together write down the steps they will follow the next time they feel afraid. Then encourage them to refer to the plan when they feel afraid.



Yenza indaba ihlabe umxhwele!

Izingane eziningi ziyabesaba ubumnyama. Ukufunda izindaba ngabalingiswa abahlangabezane nalokhu kungazisiza. Ngemuva kokuba wena kanye nezingane zakho senifunde *i-Ubani osaba ubumnyama?*, zamani eminye yalawa macebo.

- Khulumani ngendaba nezingane zakho. Zibuze ukuthi ngabe zicabanga ukuthi uSanele wayesabani. (Uma zidinga ukusizwa ngalokhu, phakamisa ukuthi zibheke ngokucophelela izithombe ezisencwadini.) Ngabe nazo ziyazesaba lezi zinto? Ngabe kukhona okunye ezikwesabayo? Xoxani ngokuthi uSanele wabhekana kanjani nokwesaba kwakhe ubumnyama. Khumbuza izingane zakho ukuthi uhlale ukhona ukuze uzeseke.
- Fundani ukuthi yini eyenza imini nobusuku encwadini enika ulwazi ehambisana neminyaka yezingane zakho.
- Khuthaza izingane zakho ukuthi zidwebe noma zipende izithombe zezinto ezizesaba kakhulu. Siza izingane ezincane ukuthi zibhale lokho ezifuna ukukubhala ngezithombe zazo. Vumela izingane ezindadlana ukuthi zizame ukuzibhalela ngokwazo.
- Siza ingane yakho ngayinye ukuthi ibhale "Uhlelo lwami lokubhekana nokwesaba". Bhalani ndawonye izinyathelo ezizilandela ngesikhathi esizayo uma zizizwa zesaba, bese uzikhuthaza ukuthi zibheke uhlelo lolo uma zizizwa zesaba.



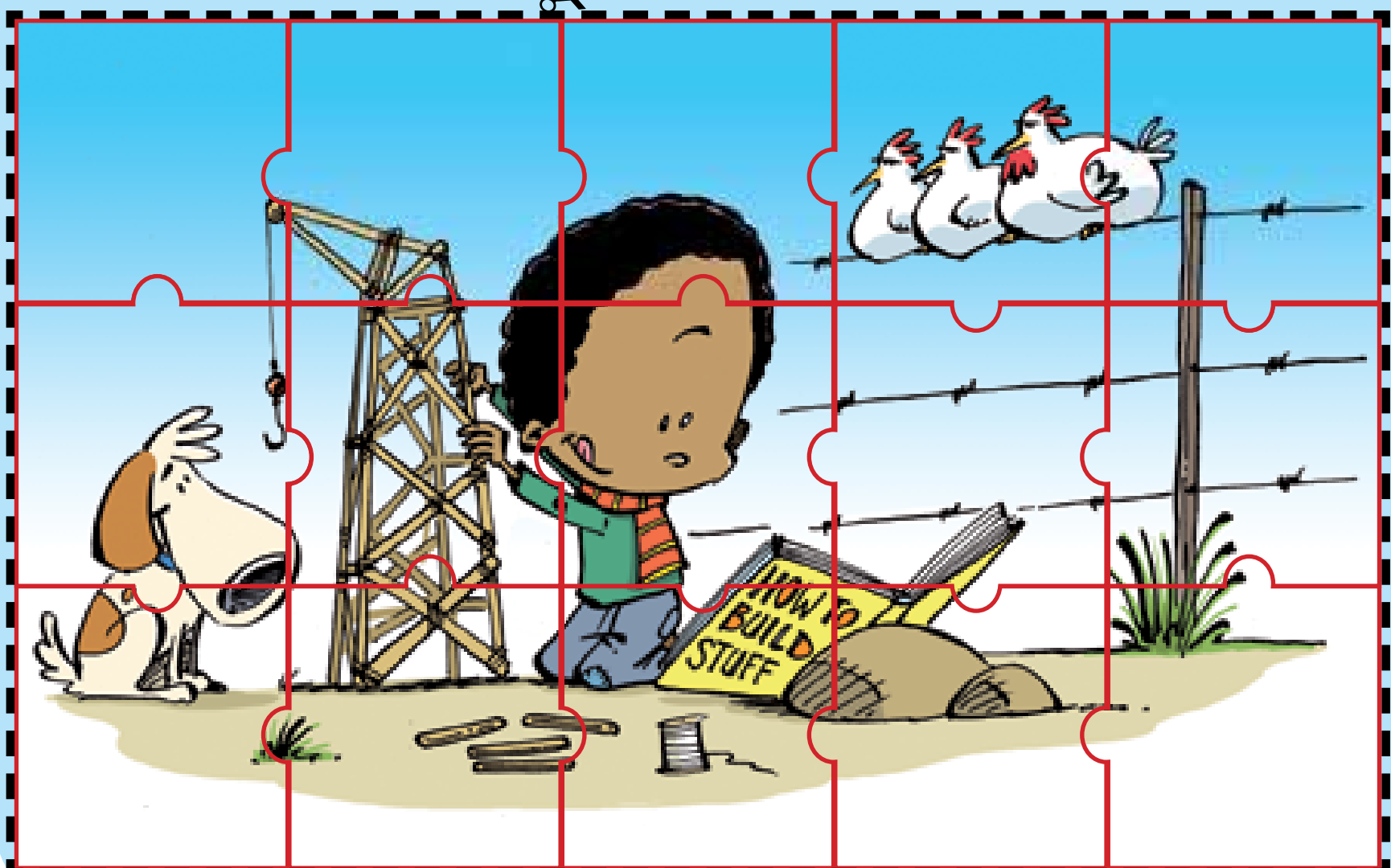
Make your own puzzle!

1. Cut out the picture below.
2. Paste it onto cardboard, for example, a flattened cereal box.
3. Cut along the red lines to create the puzzle pieces.
4. Have fun putting the puzzle together.



Zenzele eyakho iphazili!

1. Sika ukhiphe lesi sithombe esingezansi.
2. Sinamathisele ekhalibhothini, isibonelo, ibhokisi lesiriyeli elenziwe layisicaba.
3. Sika ulandele amachashazi abomvu ukuze wakhe izingcezu zephazili.
4. Thokozelani ukhlanganisa iphazili nindawonye.



Story corner

Here is the last part of the story about Mini Meerkat and the THING for you to read aloud or tell.

Mini Meerkat makes a friend (Part 2) Retold by Joanne Bloch

Mini Meerkat rushed past Rabbit, who was fast asleep, but stopped when she reached Jackal. "Help!" she panted. "There's a THING in the pool! What shall I do?"

"Don't worry," said Jackal, "take a big stone with you and show it to the THING! That will frighten it away!"

So Mini Meerkat picked up a big stone and returned to the pool. But when she got to the middle of the tree bridge and looked down at the THING, it was holding a stone too! She dropped the stone and ran back along the tree bridge until she reached the foot of the tree in which Owl was snoozing. "Owl, Owl!" she called in a squeaky, scared voice. "Help me! There's a THING in the pool! What shall I do?"

"Hmmm," said Owl thoughtfully. "Take a stick with you and show it to the THING! That will do the trick!"

So Mini Meerkat found herself a big, long stick, and returned to the tree bridge. But when she held the stick in the air and looked down at the water, she saw that the THING was holding a big stick too! Terrified, Mini Meerkat ran home and told Mama Meerkat what had happened.

"Don't worry, little Mini," said Mama Meerkat in a soothing voice. "I know exactly what you need to do. After you've had a rest, go back down to the pool. When you get to the middle of the tree bridge, look down at the water again, but this time, when you see the THING, smile at it!"

"Smile?" asked Mini Meerkat surprised. She could hardly believe what her mother was saying.

"Yes, smile," said Mama Meerkat. "I promise you it will work."

So later, when Mini reached the middle of the tree bridge, she looked down and smiled. To her great surprise, the THING smiled back at her in the friendliest possible way! Mini Meerkat waved at the THING and it waved back at her. Mini was thrilled!

That evening, after Mini Meerkat had told Mama what had happened at the pool, Mini said, "I think the THING wants to be my friend!" Then Mini Meerkat thought for a while and said, "But Mama what is the THING?"

So Mama Meerkat told her. What do you think Mama Meerkat said?



Illustration by Jiggs Snaddon-Wood
Imidwebo yenziwe uJiggs Snaddon-Wood

Ikhona lezindaba

Nansi ingxenye yokugcina yendaba emayelana noBubhibhi uMini neNTO ozoyifunda kakhulu noma ozoyixoxa.

UBubhibhi uMini uthola umngani (Ingxenye yesi-2) Ixoxwa kabusha nguJoanne Bloch

UBubhibhi uMini wagijima wadlula uNogwaja, owayelele, kodwa wama uma efika kuMpungushe. "Ngisize!" esho ehafuzela, "kukhona INTO esesizibeni! Kumele ngenzenjani?"

"Ungakhathazeki," kusho uMpungushe, "thatha itshe elikhulu bese uyikhombisa lona le NTO! Lizoyethusa!"

Ngakho uBubhibhi uMini wathatha itshe elikhulu wase ebuyela esizibeni. Kodwa wathi uma efika maphakathi nebhuloho lesiqu somuthi wabheka phansi kuleya NTO, nayo yayiphethe itshe elikhulu! Walahla itshe wagijima wabuyela emuva ngebhuloho lesiqu somuthi, wedlula uNogwaja noMpungushe, waze wafika ngaphansi komuthi okwakulele kuwo uSikhova. "Sikhova, Sikhova!" ememeza ngezwi elivezelayo elikhombisa ukwethuka.

"Ngisize! Kukhona INTO esesizibeni! Kumele ngenzenjani?"

"Hmmm," kucabanga uSikhova. "Hamba nenduku bese ukhombisa leya NTO induku! Kuzokusiza lokho!" kusho yena.

Ngakho uBubhibhi uMini wazitholela induku enkulu, ende, futhi wayezwa selwehlile uvalo, wabuyela ebhulohweni lesiqu somuthi. Kodwa wathi uma ephakamisa induku ebuka phansi, wabona INTO iphetha induku enkulu nayo futhi! Ethukile, uBubhibhi uMini wagijima waya ekhaya watshela uMama uBubhibhi ukuthi yini eyenzekile.

"Ungakhathazeki Mini omncane," kusho uMama uBubhibhi ngezwi eliduzayo. "Ngiyazi ukuthi yini okumele uyenze. Ngemuva kokuphuma kancane, buyela esizibeni. Uma ufika maphakathi nebhuloho lomuthi, ubheke emanzini futhi, kodwa ngalesi sikhathi, uma ubona INTO, uyimamathekele!"

"Ngimamatheke?" kubuza uBubhibhi uMini ngokumangala. Wayengakholwa ukuthi umuzwe kahle umama wakhe.

"Yebo, umamatheke," kusho uMama uBubhibhi. "Ngiyakwethembisa ukuthi kuzosebenza lokhu."

Kamva ngesikhathi uMini efika maphakathi nebhuloho lesiqu somuthi, wabuka phansi wamamatheka. Kwamumangaza kakhulu ukuthi, neNTO yambuka ngobuso obunobungani ngendlela angazange ayicabange! UBubhibhi uMini wathathazela INTO nayo yamthathazela. UMini wajabula kakhulu!

Kusihlwa ngalelo langa, ngemuva kokuba uBubhibhi uMini esexoxele uMama ngokwenzeke esizibeni, uMini wathi, "Ngicabanga ukuthi INTO ifuna ukuba umngani wami!" UBubhibhi uMini wathi ukucabanga isikhashana wase ethi, "Kodwa Mama iyini leya NTO?"

Ngakho uMama uBubhibhi wamthshela. Ngabe ucabanga ukuthi wathini uMama uBubhibhi?

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