



It starts with a story...

Writing for real reasons

When adults write, they always do so for real reasons: to write a shopping list, to leave a note for someone, to fill in forms, to communicate with a friend in a letter or email, to create a story. Learning to write includes learning *why* we write and *how* to write so children learn to write most easily when they choose what and when they want to write! Here are some of the ways that children develop as writers and how you can help them.

Drawing and painting let young children express their ideas and feelings. Help them understand the connection between drawing and writing by asking them to talk about their pictures and what they would like you to write about their pictures. You can write about their picture under it. This helps them to understand that what we say can be written down.

When children realise that writing communicates meaning, they begin to experiment with it. For example, they:

- try to write their name or yours
- write to label things in their drawings
- write to organise different parts of their daily lives - for example, writing a list of birthday presents they want
- write to communicate messages to important people in their lives.

When children first start to write they usually scribble, just like babies babble before they talk! Then they go on to make up their own letter-like symbols. Eventually they start to use real letters more and more (even though they may be back to front sometimes!) and even punctuation. These things show that your children are starting to find writing useful and learning how to do it. Encourage them by asking them what their writing says.

Gradually children start writing in recognisable words, using only real letters. They usually choose letters that they think match the sounds in the words they are trying to write. Encourage your children's writing by reading it aloud or asking them to do so, displaying it around your home and by writing back to them! Over time, their spelling and handwriting will improve, and they will be people who write to communicate and express themselves.



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Ukubhalela izizathu ezithile

Uma abantu abadala bebhala babhalela izizathu ezithile: ukubhala uhlu lwezinto ezizothengwa, ukushiyela umuntu othile umlayezo, ukugcwalisa amafomu, ukuxhumana nomngani ngencwadi noma nge-imeyli, ukusungula indaba. Ukufunda ukubhala kuhlenganisa nokufunda ukuthi *kungani* sibhala nokuthi sibhala *kanjani*, ngakho izingane zifunda ukubhala kalula uma zikhetha ukuthi zifuna ukubhalani futhi zifuna ukubhala nini! Nazi ezinye zezindlela izingane ezithuthuka ngazo njengababhali, ezikhombisa nokuthi ungazisiza kanjani.

Ukudweba izithombe nokupenda kuvumela izingane ukuthi zikhombise ezikucabangayo kanye nemizwa yazo. Zisize ukuthi ziqonde ukuxhumana okukhona phakathi kokudweba nokubhala ngokuzicela ukuthi zikhulume ngezithombe zazo zisho nokuthi yini ezingafisa ukuthi ubhale ngayo ngezithombe zazo. Ungabhala ngesithombe ngaphansi kwaso. Lokhu kuzisiza ukuthi ziqonde ukuthi kungabhalwa phansi esikukhulumayo.

Uma izingane sezazi ukuthi ukubhala kudlulisa okuthile okushiwoyo, ziqala ukuzijwayeza khona. Isibonelo:

- zingazama ukubhala amagama azo nawakho
- zingabhala ukuze zichaze ukuthi ziyini izinto ezisemidwebeni yazo
- zingabhala ukuze zihlele izingxenye ezahlukene zezimpilo zazo zansuku zonke - isibonelo, ukubhala uhlu lwezipho zezinsuku ezizalwe ngazo ezizifunayo
- zibhala ukuze zidlulisele imilayezo ebalulekile kubantu ababalulekile ezimpilweni zazo.

Uma izingane ziqala ukubhala zijwayele ukubhala amahliphilphi njengoba nezingane zimpompa nje ngaphambi kokuba zikhulume! Ziyaqhubeka bese zizenzela izimpawu zazo ezifana nezinhlamvu zamagama. Ekugcineni zigcina sezisebenzise izinhlamvu zamagama angempela (noma kungenzeka ziphendukezelwe ngesinye isikhathi!) nezimpawu zokuloba. Lezi zinto zikhombisa ukuthi ingane yakho iyaqala ukubona ukuthi ukubhala kunosizo oluthile, futhi ifunda ukuthi kumele kwenziwe kanjani. Zigqugquzele ngokuba uzibuze ukuthi ngabe kusho ukuthini lokho ezikubhalile.

Ngokuhamba kwesikhathi izingane ziqala ukubhala amagama abonakalayo, zisebenzisa izinhlamvu zamagama zangempela. Zivamise ukukhetha izinhlamvu zamagama ezicabanga ukuthi zihambisana namagama ezizama ukuwabhala. Gqugquzela izingane zakho ukuba zibhale ngokuthi ufunde kakhulu lokho ezikubhalayo noma uzicele ukuthi zona zenze kanjalo, ngokubeka lokho ezikubhalile ezindaweni ezahlukene zekhaya lakho nangokuphinde uzibhalele futhi! Ukupela amagama nokubhala kuzoya ngokuba ngcono ngemuva kwesikhathi esithile, futhi zizoba ngabantu ababhalayo ukuze zedlulise imilayezo ziphinde zisho lokho ezikuzwayo.



Drive your
imagination

Connect with your child.
It starts with a story...
Xhumana nengane yakho.
Kuqala ngendaba exoxwayo...

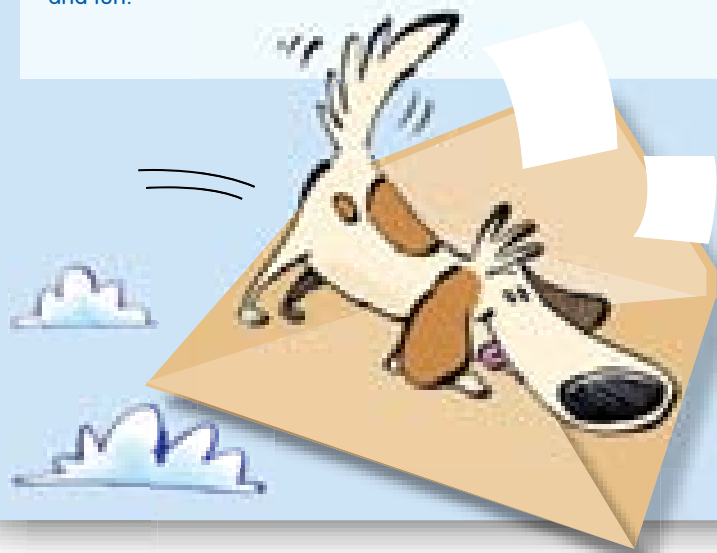




Q: I have been reading to my 5-year-old son since he was a baby and he loves books. My friends say that parents shouldn't try to teach their children how to read and also that children have to be in Grade 1 before they can learn to read. My problem is that when my son is looking at a book on his own he pretends to read most of the words and then often stops and asks me 'What does this word say, Mom?' I don't want to confuse him by teaching him things he will learn later at school but he is so interested in reading and I want to do everything that I can to encourage him. What should I do?

Fatima Adams, Johannesburg

A: Learning to read is a process that unfolds in its own time – it cannot be pinned down to a specific age or place. It is not at all unusual for five-year-olds who have been read to over many years to learn to read before they go to school. Some five-year-olds may be able to read on their own. Others (like your son) may already know that the words on the page tell the story, always stay the same and have meaning. Other five-year-olds might have just discovered books. Our job as parents and caregivers is to support our children's learning at whatever stage they are. Your son is asking you to help him decode the words on the page because he wants to unlock their meaning. This is another step in his development as a reader. Follow his lead, and read the words when he asks you to and, most importantly, keep reading to him regularly as you have done his whole life! Even five minutes a day is good, as long as it's positive and fun!



Dear Nal'ibali...
Nal'ibali othandekayo...

Write to
Nal'ibali at PO Box
1654, Saxonwold, 2132 or
letters@nalibali.org

Bhalela ku-Nal'ibali e: PO Box
1654, Saxonwold, 2132 noma
letters@nalibali.org



Q: Bengilokhu ngifundela indodana yami eneminyaka emi-5 kusukela isengumntwana omncane futhi iyazithanda izincwadi. Abangani bami bathi abazali akumele bazame ukufundisa izingane zabo ukuthi kufundwa kanjani nokuthi izingane kumele zibe seBangeni loku-1 ngaphambi kokuba zifunde ukufunda. Inkinga yami ukuthi uma indodana yami ibuka incwadi iyodwa iye yenze sengathi ifunda amagama amaningi bese ima ingibuza ukuthi 'Ngabe lithini leli gama, Mama?' Angifuni ukumenza adideke ngokumfundisa izinto azozifunda esikoleni ekuhambeni kwesikhathi, kodwa unentshisekelo enkulu ekufundeni futhi ngifuna ukwenza konke okusemandleni ami ukuthi ngimkhuthaze. Kumele ngenzenjani?

UFatima Adams, eGoli

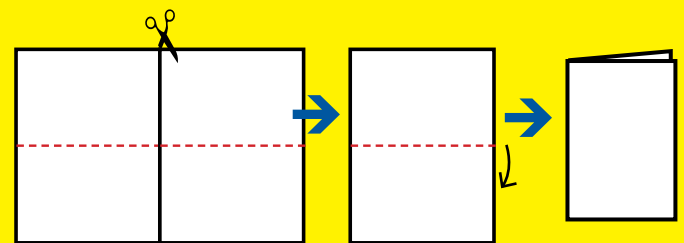
A: Ukufunda ukufunda okubhaliwe kuyinto eyenzeka ngesikhathi sayo – ayikwazi ukuthi ibe eneminyaka yobudala ethile noma indawo ethile. Akuyona neze into engajwayelekile ezinganeni ezineminyaka emihlanu ebezifundelwa iminyaka eminingi ukuthi zifunde ukufunda ngaphambi kokuba ziye esikoleni. Ezinye izingane ezineminyaka emihlanu zingakwazi ukuzifundela zodwa. Ezinye (njengendodana yakho) kungenzeka ukuthi sezivele ziyazi ukuthi amagama asekhazini achaza indaba, ahlale njalo futhi ashokuthile. Ezinye izingane ezineminyaka emihlanu kungenzeka ukuthi sisanda kuhlanguzana nezincwadi. Umsebenzi wethu njengabazali nabantu abanakekela izingane ukweseka ukufunda kwezingane zethu kunoma isiphi isigaba ezikusona. Indodana yakho ikucela ukuthi uyisize ukuthi ushintshe amakhawudi amagama asekhazini ngoba ifuna ukuthola ukuthi achaza ukuthini. Lesi esinye isinyathelo sokuthuthuka kwayo njengomuntu ofundayo. Yenza lokho ekufunayo, ufunde amagama uma ikucela ukuthi wenze kanjalo, okunye okubaluleke kakhulu ukuthi uqhubeke nokuyifundela njalo njengoba bewenza impilo yayo yonke esiyiphilile!

Get the story ready to read!

1. Take out pages 3 to 6 of this supplement.
2. To separate the pages, cut down the middle of pages 4 and 5.
3. Fold along the red dotted line.
4. If possible, keep the story in a plastic pocket to protect it.

Lungiselelani indaba enizoyifunda!

1. Khipha amakhasi 3 no-6 alesi sithasiselo.
2. Ukuze uhlukanise amakhasi, sika amakhasi 4 no-5 phakathi nendawo.
3. Goqa ulandele umugqa wamachashazi abomvu.
4. Uma ningakwazi ukwenze njalo, gcinani indaba eplastikini ukuze niyivikele.



In your next Nal'ibali supplement:

- How to read aloud
- Meet the winners of our mini-library competition
- Mini-book, *Crocodile's sore tooth*
- A read-aloud story, *Running for life*

Need more resources? Nal'ibali is here to help! Visit the resource section on www.nalibali.org for posters, bookmarks, checklists and tip sheets! You can also find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/nalibaliSA



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Esithasiselweni sakho esilandelayo sakwaNal'ibali:

- Kufundwa kanjani kakhulu ngokuzwakalayo
- Naba abaphumelele emncintiswaneni womtapo wezincwadi omncane
- Ibhukwana, *Izinyo elibuhlungu Lengwenya*
- Indaba efundwa kakhulu, *Ukugijimela ukuzigcina uphilile*

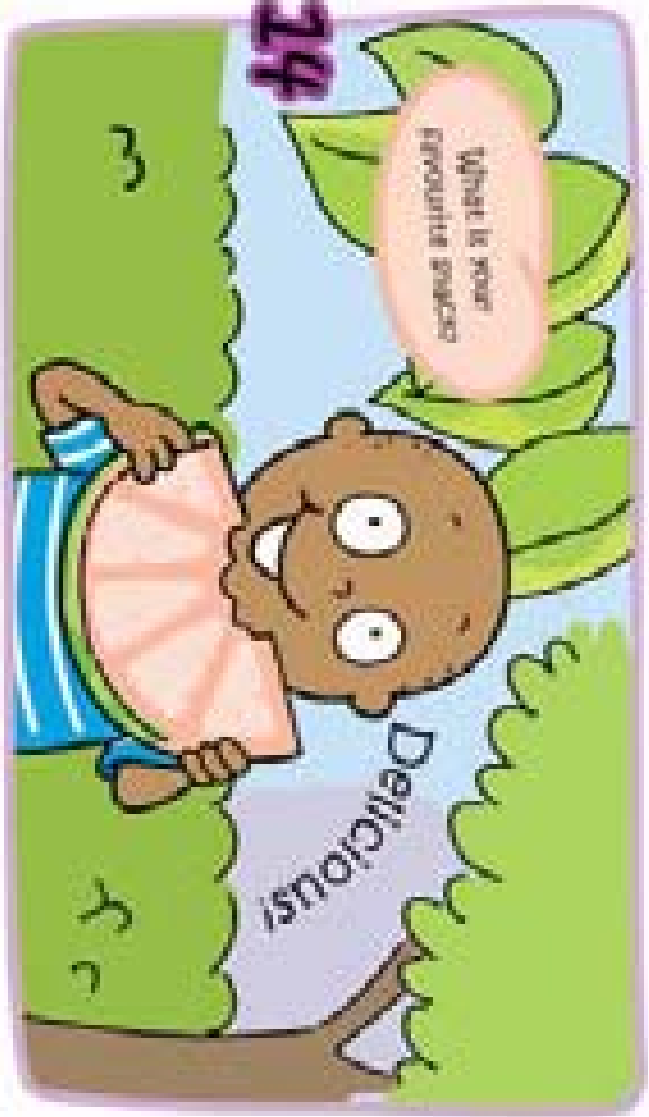
Ngabe awukwazi ukulinda kuze kube ngesonto elizayo ukuze ufunde nangokunye kanye namathiphu endaba, amathuluzi kanye nemiqondo evusa usinga? Vakashela ku-www.nalibali.org futhi ungasithola naku-Facebook: www.facebook.com/nalibaliSA



Then Dad and Ben played soccer together. Mom played too.



After that they went hungry, so Dad cooked Ben's favorite dinner ... watermelon!



Story time Just now, Ben



Ben's mom was in the kitchen, reading his book. "Mom, please sit you next to me!" asked Ben, handing his mom his favorite book.



"Oh, Mom is here. Please sit you play with me!" asked Ben, handing his flower to his



But Dad was Ben's mom. "You're Ben, Ben, when I've read the paper," replied Dad while looking at his newspaper.



Use this in a personal writing or drawing journal to describe a scene or event in your life. Use the prompts to help you get started. Write about a person, place, or thing that you love. Use your imagination to create a story.

Smart-kids

Smart-kids is a series of fun activities for kids to do at home or in school. The activities are designed to help you learn more about your child and yourself. For more information, visit www.smartkids.com.





5

Ben went back to Mum, he sat and waited for Mum to finish getting ready ... but he had to wait for a very, very long time.



6

Who rejects the newspaper in your house?

Ben went back to Dad, he sat and waited for Dad to finish reading the newspaper ... but he had to wait for a very, very long time.



7

"I've tried of writing," thought Ben. So he looked at his book by himself. It was good. But he liked the way Mum read to him better.



8

Then he kicked his ball against the wall. It was fun, but he liked kicking the ball with Dad better.



9

"Mum" shouted Ben.



10

Suddenly Ben's mum and dad appeared. "Hello, Ben, I'm ready to read to you now," said Mum. "I'm ready to play with you now," said Dad.



11

How do you know Ben's friends?

First, Mum and Ben read his favourite book. Dad listened.



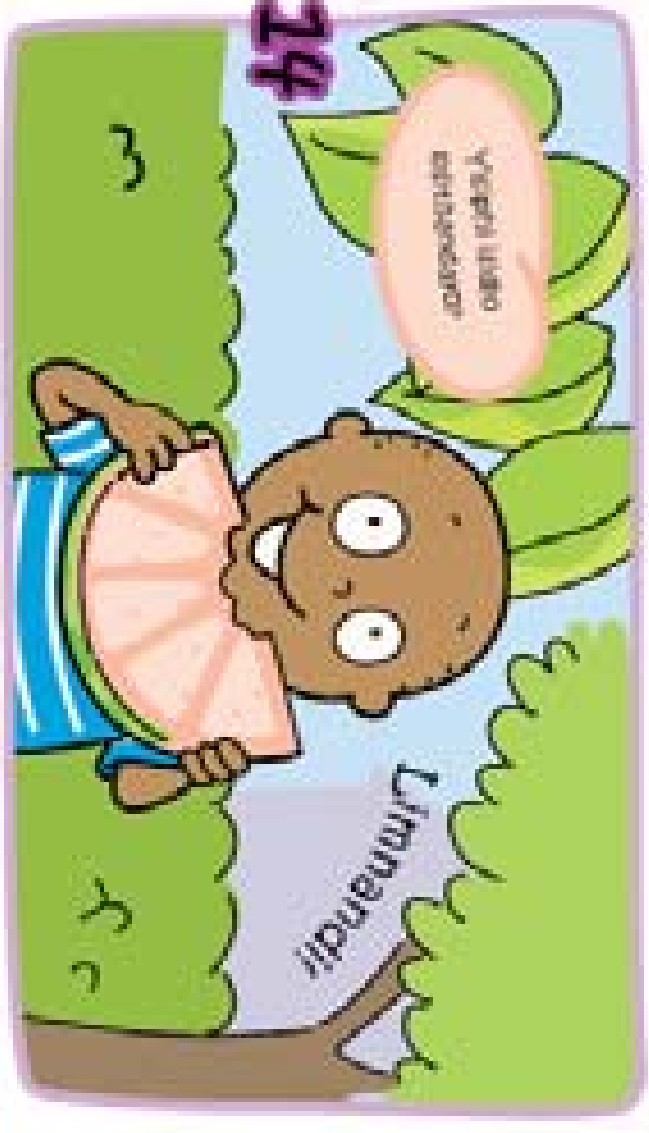
12

Baru beradu! Barua uduka ndaba, uMama wadula saye.



13

Baru bebona! Baruba, ngomisa bebona, ngokho uduka wadula wabo esikhumbeni kakhulu. Uben... Uben!



14



Isikhathi sendaba Ayume kancane nje Ben



2

U-Mama udini ngomisa equnjelile kungqondo: "Ben, ngokhathalekile kancane kancane?" Uben uben, endle emama wadla bebon! Ngomisa kakhulu.



2

Akukho uben ukuphila kwakhe kwenza ngokho.

"Nawo bebon! Ng, Ben, ngokhathalekile kancane kancane!"

Ngokhathalekile kancane kancane: "Ngokhathalekile kancane kancane!" Uben uben, "Ngomisa kancane kancane!"



3

U-Mama ukhathalekile kancane kancane: "Ben, ngomisa kancane kancane?" Uben uben, abonisa bebon! Ngomisa kakhulu.



4

Kodwa ukhathalekile kancane kancane: "Nawo bebon! Ng, Ben, ngokhathalekile kancane kancane!" Uben uben, ngomisa kancane kancane!"

Drive your Imagination

Smart-Kids

Phila kakhulu! Imibono emihle yezintombi ezintathu ezingama-5 kuya kama-10. Imibono emihle yezintombi ezintathu ezingama-5 kuya kama-10. Imibono emihle yezintombi ezintathu ezingama-5 kuya kama-10.



5

Ufuna wafurika kutayana. Wafurika wafurika
 afurika afurika na afurika afurika afurika.
 kutana kutafurika afurika afurika afurika
 afurika afurika.



7

"Ngafurika afurika" kutafurika afurika.
 ngafurika wafurika afurika afurika. Wafurika
 afurika, kutana wafurika afurika afurika afurika
 afurika afurika afurika afurika.



6

Dhani ofurika
 afurika afurika
 afurika

Kufika wafurika afurika, afurika
 afurika afurika afurika afurika afurika
 afurika afurika. kutana wafurika afurika
 afurika afurika afurika afurika.



8

Wafurika afurika afurika afurika afurika
 afurika, kutana afurika, afurika
 afurika afurika afurika afurika afurika
 afurika afurika.



9

Ngafurika afurika afurika afurika
 afurika afurika afurika.
 "afurika afurika, afurika,
 afurika afurika afurika afurika
 afurika," kutana afurika.
 "afurika afurika afurika afurika
 afurika," kutana afurika.



10

"Ngafurika" kutana afurika.



11

Dhani afurika
 afurika afurika
 afurika

Kufurika afurika afurika, afurika afurika afurika afurika. afurika afurika.



Play a game! Dlala umdlalo!

Have fun playing this game together!
Zithokoziseni nidlala lo mdlalo ndawonye!

Finish
Kwaphela

happy
ujabule 12

How to play

You will need a dice, one counter for each player (a stone, button or bottle-top) and one or two people to play with. Take it in turns to roll the dice and move the counter the number of spaces it shows. Only use numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4 on the dice. Roll it again if you get a 5 or 6.

Use your face and whole body to act out the feeling in each square your counter lands on.

Indlela odalwa ngayo lo mdlalo

Udinga idayisi, isidal icounter kumdlal ngamanye izidal, inkumbho nomo isidal ezikhodaka kunye nomuntu omdala nomo abantwana abalala nabo.

Shintshani ngokugqina idayisi kanye nathando. Isidal kanti kufikela nakufikela idayisi. Sebenzani kwi zimbalwa ezikhodakani ezikhodakayo kaphela, u-1, 2, 3 no-4. Akaphinde ngqina idayisi kufi ngqina kwenkomo u-5 nomo u-6.

Sebenzisa ubuso nomzimba wakho wonke ukuya ukhombisa indlela ozama ngayo emibizeni ngokuya isidal emingeni kuzama.

Start
Qala

1 grumpy
udiniwe

11 hurt
ulimele

2 pleased
wenamile

10 scared
uyesaba

9 sad
udangele

3 surprised
umangele

8 angry
uthukuthele

4 loving
unothando

5 shy
unamahloni

6 excited
unesasasa

7 tired
ukhathele



Lalelali
Carole Bloch
Xolisa Guzula
Jean Fullalove



Listen

1

8

... and snails make no sound at all.



... kanti iminenke yona ayiwenzi nje umsindo.

2

Crickets chirp.



Izinyekevu ziyatswiriza.

FOLD

7

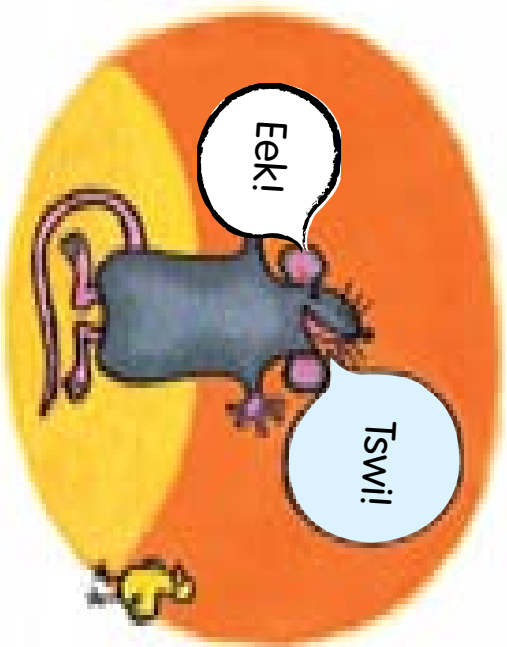
Cows moo ...



Izinkomo zikhala zithi mmo-o ...

3

Mice squeak.

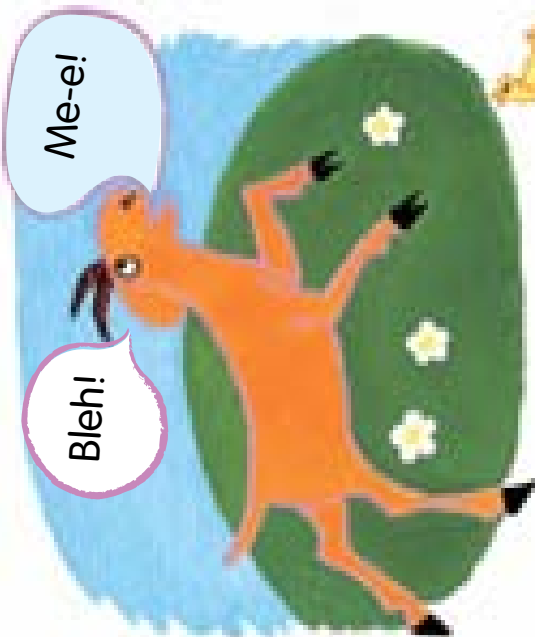


Amagundane ayantswininiza.

FOLD

9

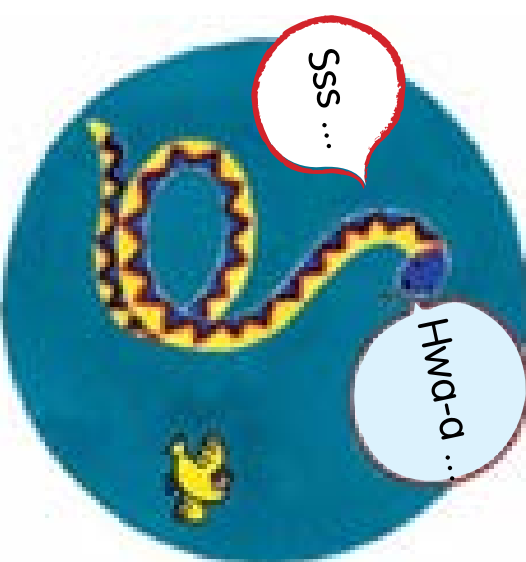
Goats bleat.



Izimbuzi zikhala zithi mme-e.

4

Snakes hiss.



Izinyoka ziyahwahwaza.

5

Dogs bark.



Izinja ziyakhonkotha.



Drive your imagination