**Nako le sebaka seo o ka thabelang dipale le ngwana wa hao**

- Ha ho na tsela e nepheletseng kapa e fosahetseng ya ho bala le bana, ntho ya bahlókwa ke ho bala le bono! Emo re na le malebela e mmalwa bakeng sa ho thabelo ha bala le bana le hamhoho.
- Pfetela bana ba hao dipale nako ea ho leng bono hore ba tsite, e kong ka mora hore ba hlafe kapa pele ba robola bosu. Laka ha fumana nako ya kamelahlo e sebetsang hore bakeng sa hore ba le bana.
- Ka dinako tse ding bana ba banye nyane ba thalafifika ho tsapamisa mpholopolo nako e tsele. Qala ha ho bala metsose e mmalwa, mme o me e a a e kate be ho le bana. Ka mphololo, mo bate be hore na o mphololo hore ha ho mphololo hore ba le baso. Qala ho tse me o le bana. Laka ho bala metsose e mmalwa, mme o me e a a e kate be ho le bana. Ka mphololo, mo bate be hore na o mphololo hore ha ho mphololo hore ba le baso. Laka ho tse me o le bana.

**Kamoo le ka thabelang dipale hammoho**

- Dulang le atamelane e le hore ka bobedi le bone ditshwantsho le mantsebe e lehlophelo.
- Bala lebitso la mongodi, motho ya takileng ditshwantsho le mofetedi e le hore ngwana wa hao a bafe hore dipale le bana le bale ka tshwanang le yena!
- Phedsa pale ka halale kamoo o ka kgonang ha o bala. Sebedula mantsebe e tsoana bakeng sa baphetwa ba fapaneng!
- Fumana dipale tsela ha ho bala le bana. Motso Sotho e le tsa ekwe ka baleka ka bala le bale baholwanyane. Ha ho na tsela e nepheletseng kapa e fosahetseng ya ho bala le bana, ntho ya bahlókwa ke ho bala le bono! Emo re na le malebela e mmalwa bakeng sa ho thabelo ha bala le bana le hamhoho.
- Pfetela bana ba hao dipale nako ea ho leng bono hore ba tsite, e kong ka mora hore ba hlafe kapa pele ba robola bosu. Laka ha fumana nako ya kamelahlo e sebetsang hore bakeng sa hore ba le bana.
- Ka dinako tse ding bana ba banye nyane ba thalafifika ho tsapamisa mpholopolo nako e tsele. Qala ha ho bala metsose e mmalwa, mme o me e a a e kate be ho le bana. Ka mphololo, mo bate be hore na o mphololo hore ha ho mphololo hore ba le baso. Laka ho tse me o le bana.

**When and where to enjoy stories with your child**

- There is no correct or incorrect way to read with children, as long as you do it! But we do have a few tips for enjoying books together.
- Share stories when your children are ready to settle down, like after bath time or just before they go to sleep at night. Try to find a routine that works well for them and you.
- Younger children sometimes find it difficult to concentrate for long periods of time. Start with just a few minutes, and work your way up to 15 minutes (or more!). Don’t force it if your child isn’t interested – just try again tomorrow.

**How to enjoy reading stories together**

- Sit close to each other so that you can both see the pictures and words on the page.
- Read the name of the author, illustrator and translator so that your child can appreciate that books are created by people just like them!
- Read with as much expression as you can. Use different voices for the different characters!
- Find ways to draw your child into the story as you read. For example, ask them what they think might happen next, talk about the pictures or ask them to turn the pages for you.
- Invite them to read along or tell the story to you and don’t correct every mistake as long as the meaning of the story is clear.

**Find out how you can use our cut-out-and-keep books and Story corner story in different ways for your younger and older children.**
Pale ya Nal’ibali

Sepheo sa Nal’ibali ke ho balla bothabiso. Leha ho le jwalo, dipaliliso di bonthitse hore batho ba baholo ba Maafrika Borwa ba balla bothabiso ngope setshooha ebile ke sevelo ba ballang bana ba bona. Hape ha ho na dibuka tse lekaneng le dipale tse hatisitseng kwadi dipuo tse ding ntle ho Senyeseman le Seafrikance. Bana ba bangata sa Maafrika Borwa ba tlata rata ho bala jwanga haeba ba se na dibuka tse lekaneng le dipale tseo ba ka di balang ka puo ya bona ya lapeng?

Nal’ibali e le ya thewa molemong wa ho fumana, ho qapa, ho fetolela, ho etsa dithwantsho le ho arolelana dipale tsa bana tse thahasellisang, tse tsaqaisanang le moo ba dulong ka dipuo TSOLHE tsa Afrika Borwa mahala. Ke kamoo pale ya rona e qadieng kateng …

Dinthakgolo tsa pale ya rona ho fihlela jwale


Ho nka dipuo TSOLHE e le tsaa bohlokwa

Dinemong tso 10 tse fetheng, Nal’ibali e:

- entse hare batho ba lemole bohlokwa ba hare bana ba ihute ho bala ka puo ya bona ya lesetwele.
- entse lehalo le melo la hore dipuo tsa Seafrika di lumohuwe le ho ndloko di lekaneng le tse ding ntshothepeleleng ya tseo ho ya bala le ho ndla.
- tafaladitse bohlokwa ho ho rita puo ka ho e bua le ho pheto dipale.
- entse hare ho bala boithabiso e be karolo ya bohlokwa ntshothepeleleng ya tseo ho bala le ho ndla.

Valuing ALL languages

Over the past 10 years, Nal'ibali has:

- raised awareness of the importance of children learning to read in their mother language.
- actively campaigned for the recognition and equal status of African languages in literacy development.
- highlighted the importance of oral literacy and storytelling.
- positioned reading for enjoyment as essential to literacy development.

The Nal’ibali Story

Nal’ibali is all about reading for enjoyment. Yet research has shown that South African adults seldom read for enjoyment and hardly read to their children. There are also simply not enough books and stories published in languages other than English and Afrikaans. How can the majority of South African children grow a love of reading if they don’t have enough books and stories to read in their home languages?

Nal’ibali was started to find, create, translate, illustrate and share interesting, locally relevant children’s stories in ALL South African languages for free. That was the start of our story …

Highlights of our story so far

As South Africa’s reading-for-enjoyment campaign, a key part of what we do is to help develop and strengthen the literature value chain, especially for underrepresented African languages. Because we consciously focus on producing multilingual materials, Nal’ibali helps to provide opportunities for African language writers, translators and editors. Sharing our resources with partners and non-profit organisations means more stories in more languages for more children.

Ho arolelana le ba bang dithakgolo tsa thabisang tse balwang tsa sethathong, tsa boleng bo phahameng

Re entse hore dithakgolo tsa tsetsho tse balwang di fumanele mahala pampiring e hatisitseng le fumanele.

- Dipalo tse 187 tsa fihlela ya rona e ngotseng ka dipuo tse pedi e hatisitseng ka dipuo tse ngata.
- dipukana tse sehang-le-pokolokwa tse 561 dipuo tse ngata hlaho le dikarete tse dipale tse fumanele dithakgolo tsa rona.
- dipale tse 450 tse phetheng seyalemoyeng ka dipuo tsokile tsa Afrika Borwa tse 11.
- dipale, dithakgolo le dikarete tse dipale, tse 160 dipuo tse ngata.
- dipukana tse 5 tsa Pakello ya Dipale tsa ho Balla-Hodimo ka dipuo tsokile tse 11.
- disambodiwa tsa kwele, tswa ya dipale, malebela le dikatelelo.

Dithakgolo tse phetwang seyalemoyeng ka dipuo tsokile tsa Afrika Borwa tse 11.

Sharing original, high-quality, enjoyable reading resources

We have made the following reading resources available free of charge in print and online:

- 187 editions of our bilingual supplement in multiple language formats.
- 561 multilingual cut-out-and-keep books and story cards via our supplements.
- 450 radio stories broadcast in all 11 South African languages.
- 160 multilingual stories, rhymes and story cards.
- 5 Read-Aloud Story Collection books in all 11 languages.
- training materials, story guides, tips and advice.

All these resources are available for online and shared via social media regularly.
Connecting across the country

We want to reach as many children in as many homes, schools and organisations as possible by building a strong digital presence. Now you can find us at any time and from any place! And, at zero data charge!

What happens next

For 2022-24, we are focusing on:

- Building family reading habits in homes
- Supporting read-aloud time in ECD centres, preschools and community reading clubs
- Scaling up access to free reading materials
- Using media and research to raise awareness and spark action

What Nal’ibali hopes to be doing by 2024:

- Providing free reading materials to 5 000 physical sites
- Supporting 3 000 people with government stipends to work in communities
- Supporting 8 600 reading clubs
- Reaching about 400 000 children via reading clubs and partner organisations
- Reaching 41 million people via mass media and national calls to action

Nal’ibali’s journey has been an exciting one so far. But this is just the beginning and we will continue with our mission until every child in South Africa has the opportunity to learn to love books and stories in the languages they speak and understand.

Help us make our dream a reality: a South Africa where every child enjoys a story every day!
Iqapele!

Mokgwa wa ho sebedisa dipale tsa rona ka ditsela tse sa tshwaneng

Tlatsetsa ka ringwe ena le dibuka tse sehlang-le-ko-ipolokelwa tse pedi tseo o k di etso dibuka tse nyenye; le pale ya Hukung ya dipale eo o k a sehlang, wa e kgamatesa khathebotong le ho e kwa kheka ka palaseti khe hore e dule nako e telele.

Pale ka ringwe e ka sebediswa baneng ba dikemo tse sa tshwaneng. Esisa le bana ba banyenyane ba eso tsebe ho ispalla ba ka thabela dipale tsena. Mokgwa ke ona:

- **Phetele ngwana wa hao pale.** Qala ka ho bala pale le ho ikwetisksa ho la e pheta. Sebedisa lentse, sefaileho le mmele wa hao ho prediso mophetwa e mong le e mong. Ka mohlala, sebedisa mantswe a fapaneng bakeng sa baphetwa ba fapaneng, etsa hore sefaileho sa hao e be se u vlwile boholoko haebra mophetwa a u vlwile boholoko, mme e sekalame ka mono le ka mane haebra mophetwa a tsmaysa ka isene kapa ka tlehesi.

- **Bala pale le ngwana wa hao.** Fapanetsanang ka ho bala pale. O se ke wa mo lokisa ha a etsa difphao, mo thu se lela ha a kapa hore a mo thuse.

- **Mamela ha ngwana wa hao a bala.** Mamela ntle le ho kena hanang. Thusa ngwana wa hao lela haebra a kapa a o mo thuse. Mo bolele hore a thabelo ha uvlwia ha a ntse a o bala ka lentse, lela la phahameng.

- **Etsang mesebetsi e sa mahlahlahlah ka pale!** Ha etsa mesebetsi e sa bana ba hao ho lokela ho le natefela.

Get creative!

How to use our stories in different ways

Each supplement has two cut-out-and-keep books which you can make into little books and a Story corner story to cut out, paste on a piece of cardboard and cover with plastic to make it last a long time.

Each story can be used with children of different ages. Even young children who are not yet able to read on their own can enjoy the stories. Here’s how:

- **Tell the story to your child.** First read and practise telling the story. Use your voice, face and body to bring each character to life. For example, use different voices for different characters, make a sad face if the character feels sad, and sway from side to side if the character is travelling in a train or taxi.

- **Read the story to your child.** Sit close together so that everyone can see the story pages. Talk about the pictures. While you read, ask, “What do you think happens next?” or “Why do you think the character said or did that?” a couple of times.

- **Read the story with your child.** Take turns to read the story together. Don’t correct their mistakes, and only help if they ask for it.

- **Listen to your child read.** Listen without interrupting. Only help if your child asks for help. Say that you enjoy hearing them read aloud to you.

- **Do the Get story active! activities.** Doing the activities with your children should be fun for you and them.

Grow your own library. Create TWO cut-out-and-keep books

1. Take out pages 5 to 12 of this supplement
2. The sheet with pages 5, 6, 11 and 12 on it makes up one book. The sheet with pages 7, 8, 9 and 10 on it makes up the other book.
3. Use each of the sheets to make a book. Follow the instructions below to make each book:
   a) Fold the sheet in half along the black dotted line.
   b) Fold it in half again along the green dotted line.
   c) Cut along the red dotted lines.

4. Each supplement has two cut-out-and-keep books which you can make into little books and a Story corner story to cut out, paste on a piece of cardboard and cover with plastic to make it last a long time.

5. Each story can be used with children of different ages. Even young children who are not yet able to read on their own can enjoy the stories. Here’s how:

6. Tell the story to your child. First read and practise telling the story. Use your voice, face and body to bring each character to life. For example, use different voices for different characters, make a sad face if the character feels sad, and sway from side to side if the character is travelling in a train or taxi.

7. Read the story to your child. Sit close together so that everyone can see the story pages. Talk about the pictures. While you read, ask, “What do you think happens next?” or “Why do you think the character said or did that?” a couple of times.

8. Read the story with your child. Take turns to read the story together. Don’t correct their mistakes, and only help if they ask for it.

9. Listen to your child read. Listen without interrupting. Only help if your child asks for help. Say that you enjoy hearing them read aloud to you.

10. Do the Get story active! activities. Doing the activities with your children should be fun for you and them.

Drive your imagination
The next day, Gogo sends Lungile to the shop to buy bread.

"I will help you," says Lungile.

"Thank you, Lungile!"
"Ouch!"
Mama Heron hurts her wing and leg on barbed wire.

"Itjhu!"
Mme Heron o lematsa lepheo la hae le leoto la hae terateng.

"Ke a leboha, Mme Heron."
"Thank you, Mama Heron."
Eva mahlahalahaha ka pale!

- Taka di追寻tso kuku ya ho ya hela ka tswa la o a kakatsang ho e e tsetswa.
- Bopadileng popadi ena le le lela. Qalo ka mantswa ana nako ye. Moketjana ke lele... Motlho wa pele a bolele se ho am. Motlho wa bobedi o re. Moketjana ke lele... ebe o pheta se bo lelosweleng ka matlho wale pele o be a eketse ka se le se eng. Motlho wale botleng o qalo ka tela a tshwane, a bolele di o pedi tse sedi di boletsweleng mme o eketse ka se sa hae, jwalojwalo. Motlho di matlho wale ho qeta ya tla kga ho hopola di o tlo ho tse fapaneng tse boletsweleng.

Get story active!

- Draw pictures of your dream birthday cake.
- Play this game as a family. Each time start like this: At the party, I ate … The first person says one type of food. The second person says: At the party, I ate … and repeats the first food type and adds another kind of food. The next person starts the same way, says the first two foods and adds another one and so on. The winner is the last person who can remember all the different kinds of food.

Moketjana

The Party

Gcina Mhlophe • Arnold Birungi

Then there was one piece of cake left. But it was stuck in the corner.

"No! We will get into trouble," said Lunga.

"Can I have just one piece of cake?" asked Madoda.

Madoda cut the biggest piece in the corner.

Mehopolo eo le ka buang ka yona: Bua ka diketsahelo leha e le dife tse kgethehileng tsa lelapa tseo le di ketelelelelele lema. Ho hwang ho fapaneng ho emela mopho, dijo, kapa matlho ya itse ng ya kgethehileng hore a fihle?

Ideas to talk about: Talk about any special family occasions that you have celebrated together. How does it feel to have to wait for a present, for the food, or for someone special to arrive?
On Friday Lunga and Madoda helped to pick the vegetables from the garden. They picked pumpkins and sweet potatoes and beans and spinach. They helped with the baking and they put the sweets into bowls.

Finally, the sun rose on the long-awaited day. The sky was a clear blue and the cock crowed to wake them up:

"Cock-a-doodle do-o-o; cock-a-doodle-do-o-o!"

The cooking started in the early morning. Slowly, the delicious smells filled the air as the meat and other good foods cooked in big pots.

As soon as they had greeted Gogo, the children went back to the cake. It was hot in the bedroom and one of the icing flowers had slipped down the side.

"Should I just take this flower, Lunga? No one will notice," suggested Madoda.

"No! Wait. It will taste much better if you wait," said Lunga.

"Can I just put the tippy-tip of my finger in the icing at the bottom, Lunga?" pleaded Madoda.

"No!" scolded Lunga. "Go outside and play, and stop thinking of the cake!"

Madoda was sad. How much longer must she wait to taste the cake?

"I don't want to see you eat the cake," said Madoda.

He put a piece in his mouth. The icing stuck to his lips as the soft, sweet inside crumbled in his mouth. Lunga looked at his cousin. "How is it, Madoda?"

Madoda's mouth was too full; he couldn't say a word! But his smile did the talking. Now that was worth waiting for!
Qetellong, Nkgono a seha kuku. A nka leqhetshwana la pele mme a sheba bana ba mo potileng.

"Leqhetshwana la pele,“ a rialo, "ke le tshwaela Madoda – hobane o shebahala eka o tla phatloha ha a ka lokela ho ema ho feta mona!"

Kuku e ne e latsweha ha monate – ho feta kamoo Madoda a neng a nana ka teng! Sekgabis sa itshwareleto molomong wa hae, ha bohare bo bonolo, bo tswekere bo robellana ka lehanong la hae.

Lunga a sheba ka ho motswalae. “E jwang, Madoda?”

Molomo wa Madoda o ne o tletse haholo; ha a ka a kgona ho bua letho! Empa ho bososela ha hae ha bua ditaba. Sena e ne e le seo motho a ka se emelang!
Then everyone came inside to change into their best clothes for the party. The first people arrived. More and more people arrived. Someone turned up the music. Everyone was talking and laughing and eating.

Jwale he bana ba mo thusa. “Potlaka, Nkgono, potlaka!”

They couldn’t wait to taste the pink icing, and the soft cake inside. The flowers around the edge seemed to be singing, “Eat us, eat us!”

The next week there was a shopping trip to town. The boys went along to help the grown-ups. They needed rice, flour for baking, custard, jelly, balloons, decorations and lots of sweets.

“Can we have some sweets now?” asked Madoda.

“No!” said Mother. “You must wait for the party. You will spoil the party if you eat the sweets now.”

“Just one, ple-e-ease?” begged Madoda.

“No!” said Aunt. “You must learn to wait. Things are much nicer if you have waited for them.”

At last Mother and Aunt fetched the cake. The children ran to the big table outside. Gogo tried to blow out the candles, but there were too many. So the children helped her. “Hurry, Gogo, hurry up!”

The children ran to the big table outside. Gogo tried to blow out the candles, but there were too many. So the children helped her. “Hurry, Gogo, hurry up!”

The children ran to the big table outside. Gogo tried to blow out the candles, but there were too many. So the children helped her. “Hurry, Gogo, hurry up!”

The children ran to the big table outside. Gogo tried to blow out the candles, but there were too many. So the children helped her. “Hurry, Gogo, hurry up!”

The children ran to the big table outside. Gogo tried to blow out the candles, but there were too many. So the children helped her. “Hurry, Gogo, hurry up!”
Eish! The money is gone.

"Don't come home until you find that money!"

Jowee! Tjhelete e nyametse.

"O se ke wa la hae ho Fumana Tjhelete o!"

Jowee! Tjhelete nyametse.

"Ke tla o thusa."

Mahlo a bohale a Mme Heron a bona tjhelete e benyang ka metsing.

"I will help you."

Mama Heron’s sharp eyes see the coins shining in the water.
"Why are you crying, Lungile?"

"O llelang, Lungile?"

"Ke kopa ntsuso le.""Please help me."

"Ke lemetse. Ha ke kgone ho ya lapeng baneng ba ka."

"I am hurt. I can't get home to my children."

"Ke lahlile tjhelete eo Nkgono a neng a itse ke ilo reka bohobe ka yona. Jwale ha re na dijo tsa mantsiboya."

"I lost the money Gogo gave me to buy bread. We have no supper now."
Celebrate the joy of reading!

Let every child enjoy a story every day!
Khanya le lephele

E ngotswe ke Lori-Ann Preston D; Ditswanthso ka Chantelle le Burgen Thorne

“Ke nako ya ho robala, Khanya,” ha riodo Mme.
“Tjhe, lekgale,” ha araba Khanya. “Ha ke le robala mma ka kgena Mme.”
“Lebako le le de lefotse Mme! E se le bolebeke Mme mosoana se ya se kobong,” ha riodo Mme a sa tshabela se.
“Ha ke le robala babone ke tshaba maphele,” ha riodo Khanya.
“A-e bo! Khanya,” ha riodo Mme. “Ha re na maphele ka tsho fona ka munja.”
“Tsho!” Khanya a e le tla ke o utlwa. Ke durelela hore a leka le fokise lese ke ka baso.
“Tsha le hore ba tsebile,” ke le sa ba tsebeng.”

Tshaba hona hoo, hape Mme wa ka o nthutile hore ke se ke ka bua le batho bao.
“Nna ke na le mekgwa,” ke Khanya eo a hwesheletsa ka kobong. “Empa ke o hore ho o be le mekgwa?”

“Ha o na mekgwa hakakang!” ha rialo lephele. “Mme wa hao o lebetse ho o ruta ikupeditse ka kobo.

“Khanya a thola tu! A se ke a tshatsa le ho sisinyeha mme a tswela pele a Rocky Roach, ekaba o ntso ya jwang?” la mo dumedisa.

hlooho mme a qala ho thothomela. La fihla la tsorama betheng ya hae.

Jonna wee! Khanya a hula kobo a ikwahela bo loileng, la tla le tsamaya dikgareteneng tse ntle tse tshehla, la ntano fofa mme.

ka tshohanyetso ha hlaha lephele le lebe ka ho fetisisa, le mmala o mosootho a meho, a se a tshaba le ho hema hona ha ho hema.

utlwahala haholo.

kgwaqatsang, o hlabang, dikgaretene tsa qala ho sisinyeha mme modumo oo wa mohlolo. Yare moo a nahanang hore e tlameha ebe o ne a lora modumo o kgwaqaletsang tlase, o hlabang, a utlw modumo o sa tlwaelehang. KRRRR! KRRRR! A tsebile ho sisinyeha. A omella, a se ke a botse le ho sisinyeha.

Eba mahlahlahla ka pale!

Ka tshohanyetso ha hlooho mpele le lebe ka ho fetisisa, le mmala o mosehla bo tsebaleng, la tla le basong maflegakereeng ba ritsa tse tshelihla, la tshana folo mme ka fihlo ka tsoroana be hithang ya hae. Jonna wee! Khanya a hula kobo a kwakalece ho hlooho mme a qa ho thothomela.

Helang, jwaile Khanya a mako le a utlwa lephele lena le ba. “Ke nna Monghadi Rocky Roach, ekaba o ntso ya jwang?” la mo dumesa.

Khanya a thola tse! A se ke a qala ho sisinyeha mme a tswela pele a phefeletse ka kobo.

“Ha o na melagwa hakakang!” ha ralo lephele. “Mme wao hao ho lebetse ho o ruta hore a ba la te la melagwa?”

“Nna ke na le melagwa, "Khanya eo a hwesheletsa ka kobo. Empa ke o tshaba hona hoo, Hope Mme wao ka o nthutile hore se ke ka bua le batho bao se ka ba tsebeng.”

“Moo o bua ntho, Ho o wa lokela ho bua le batho bao o sa ba tsebeng,” ha durelele lephele. “E re ke efe tsa, ke tla ya ho mme wao hao ke lo tsebilela yeno le hore ke se ke ka hlola ke ba mofho eo o sa ba tsebeng.”

Khanya a o tsebile a pita le ka fosa kobo, “Ha ke nthumane se le lebile Monghadi Roach.”

“Molela!” ha botsa lephele le mafakate kaha le le ne nika hore oo ke mopologa o mofho ka ho fetisisa!

“Hobane jwalo kapa wong o fia hlelweta ho a o bona,” ha araba Khanya. “Hope, a ka nna o a phethse ka lefelo.”

“Jonna weel!” lephele le hemo lo ho hlelweta ho nkatse ka tshaba le hampie.”

“Manghadi Roach,” ke Khanya eo. “Ha nika ikupulula hlooho, na o rethepha hore o ke ke wa rama?”

“E be ke ke le o loso eng jwalo?” ha botsa lephele le shwele ka ditsehelo.

Khanya a ikupulula hlooho mme a arabela, “Afe le hae ya ntho ei mpele a eeltsa e a eeltsa.”

“Ha o ho ritsa e jeho!” ha rialo lephele.

“Kanne! Afe jwalo le eltse ho o saletsa!” ha botsa Khanya.

“Re otsa dintho tse ngtha, ha hlooho lephele. "Moho o ke ratong ho e eta ka ho fetisisa ke ho tsho tshi ka ho tapatapo. Moo ho ke a ipabola kaha ke na le moato a tsheletseng.”

Lephele la qala ho tambhisha Khanya fulunung ya mapologaka.

“Hele!” ha araba Khanya. “O ipabola e le kanna. Eke ke le nna nka be ke lo le moato a tsheletseng. Ke eng ho he e ka olu a e eltse?”

Manghadi Rocky Roach a phuladutsa melagwa ho ho. “Nika folo, fhe le hoja e se hantle hoko ho ke se ke juqala ntho fele.”

“O-o-o, ekare le nna nka be ke lo na le melagwa jwalo ja lema,” ha araba Khanya.

“Ke dintho dife tse ding tse kholo ho le ka di eltse?”

“Ke na le mananaka ana,” ha araba lpelehe, le

“Ona o eltse?” ha botsa Khanya, eo ka nako ena o neng se le a dutse gehefa ya bethe.

“A nthusa hore ke etse qeto ya hore na ke lebe ho hoko,” ha hlooho lephele.

“O-o-o, ekare le nna nka be ke na lo na mananaka,” ha rido Khanya. “Ha e le hantle, ke lokatse eka nka ke le lephele!! Empa ho rika rato ho ba le melabola – moholomong le ema le motlou a peng le maledi leke a pherese a le malsehla.”

“Ho monate hampe ho ba lephele,” ha rido lephele. “Empa ha Khanya, o wi tseba hore ho le se leka ke fokileleke akere komoo a leng kating?”


“Ke nna ke thabece ho o tseba.”

“Ha o ca rato ho lebe ho leka ka?”

“E ile, nka thabece,” ha araba Khanya a thabile. “Ba hoko?”

“Ba phela ka fosa mapolanka a fuluro ena ya kamore ya hao, mane,” ha rido lephelele le supa ka le tsho la moato a lana khorung ya kamore ya Khanya.

“Ke tsebile,” ha rido Khanya. “Ke tsebile hore ho na le melagwa ka kamoreng ena ya ka. Le baka ne la kalela laempa?”

“Re seketse le pedi,” ha araba lepheleke ka sekalhe se fetisegotse se pososele e kigole.
“Bedtime, Khanya,” said Mama.
“No, no,” replied Khanya. “I’m not going to bed tonight, Mama.”
Mama was not pleased, “Why not, my child? It is late and you have school tomorrow.”
“I’m not going to bed because I’m scared of cockroaches,” said Khanya.
“But, Khanya,” said Mama, “we don’t have cockroaches in our house.”
“We do!” argued Khanya. “I’ve heard them. And I’m sure they fly in through my window during the night.”
“Let’s go check your room,” suggested Mama. “After that, we’ll close your window.”
Mama and Khanya searched the room for cockroaches. They looked everywhere: under the bed, behind the door, under the mat, in the toy box and in the cupboards. Once Khanya was satisfied that there was not one cockroach in her room, Mama gave her a good night kiss, switched off the light and closed the bedroom door.

But, the two of them had spent so much time searching for cockroaches, that they had forgotten to close the window!
Khanya snuggled under her duvet, cuddled her teddy bear and thought about her day at school tomorrow. She was just about to fall asleep when she heard a strange sound. CRRRR! CRRRR! Her eyes shot open. She lay absolutely still.

CRRRR! CRRRR! There was definitely a soft clicking, chirping sound coming from somewhere in her room. But where? What was making the sound? Was it a cockroach? Khanya slowly stretched her arm to the side and switched on her bedside lamp.
She looked around the room. Phew! Thankfully, she couldn’t see anything strange. Just when she thought she must have dreamed the clicking, chirping sound, the curtains started to move and the sound got louder. CRRRR! CRRRR! Khanya was absolutely terrified. She stared at her curtains, not even daring to breathe.

Suddenly, the ugliest dark-brown cockroach came crawling across her pretty yellow curtains then flew across and landed on her bed. Oh no! Khanya pulled the duvet over her head and began to shake.

“Because she’ll definitely scream when she sees you,” replied Khanya. “And she will also probably whack you with our broom.”
“Oh no!” gasped the cockroach. “Brooms and screaming mamas are very scary.”
“My Roach,” said Khanya. “If I take this duvet off my head, will you promise not to bite me?”
“Why on earth would I bite you?” asked the Cockroach, laughing.
Khanya took the blanket off her head and replied, “Isn’t that what cockroaches do?”
“Certainly not!” replied the cockroach.
“Oh! Well then, what do you do?” asked Khanya.
“Mr Roach spread out his wings, “I can fly of course, but not very well, I must admit.”
“Oh, I wish I had wings like you,” replied Khanya. “What other cool tricks can you do?”
“I have these antennas,” replied the cockroach, swinging his head from side to side.
“What are those for?” asked Khanya, who was now sitting on the edge of her bed.
“They help me decide where to go,” explained the cockroach.
“Wow,” replied Khanya. “You really are very good at that. I wish I had six legs. What else can you do?”
Mr Rocky Roach spread out his wings, “I can fly of course, but not very well, I must admit.”
“Oh, I wish I had wings like you,” replied Khanya. “What other cool tricks can you do?”
“I have these antennas,” replied the cockroach, swinging his head from side to side.
“What are those for?” asked Khanya, who was now sitting on the edge of her bed.
“They help me decide where to go,” explained the cockroach.
“Wow,” replied Khanya. “You really are very good at that. I wish I had six legs. What else can you do?”

Khanya snuggled under her duvet, cuddled her teddy bear and thought about her day at school tomorrow. She was just about to fall asleep when she heard a strange sound. CRRRR! CRRRR! Her eyes shot open. She lay absolutely still.

To Khanya’s complete surprise, suddenly she heard the cockroach speak. “I’m Mr Rocky Roach, and how do you do?” it greeted.
Khanya said nothing. She kept very still and continued to hide under her duvet.
“Mr Roach,” said Khanya. “If I take this duvet off my head, will you promise not to bite me?”
“Certainly not!” replied the cockroach.

Khanya was absolutely terrified. She stared at her curtains, not even daring to breathe.

Suddenly, the ugliest dark-brown cockroach came crawling across her pretty yellow curtains then flew across and landed on her head. Oh no! Khanya pulled the duvet over her head and began to shake.

“Because she’ll definitely scream when she sees you,” replied Khanya. “And she will also probably whack you with our broom.”

To Khanya’s complete surprise, suddenly she heard the cockroach speak. “I’m Mr Rocky Roach, and how do you do?” it greeted.
Khanya said nothing. She kept very still and continued to hide under her duvet.
“I have got manners,” whispered Khanya from under the duvet. “But I’m very, very scared of you, and besides my mama taught me not to speak to strangers.”

“Wow,” replied Khanya. “What other cool tricks can you do?”
“I have these antennas,” replied the cockroach, swinging his head from side to side.
“What are those for?” asked Khanya, who was now sitting on the edge of her bed.
“They help me decide where to go,” explained the cockroach.
“Wow,” replied Khanya. “You really are very good at that. I wish I had six legs. What else can you do?”
Mr Rocky Roach spread out his wings, “I can fly of course, but not very well, I must admit.”
“Oh, I wish I had wings like you,” replied Khanya. “What other cool tricks can you do?”
“I have these antennas,” replied the cockroach, swinging his head from side to side.
“What are those for?” asked Khanya, who was now sitting on the edge of her bed.
“They help me decide where to go,” explained the cockroach.
“Wow,” replied Khanya. “You really are very good at that. I wish I had six legs. What else can you do?”

Get story active!

★ Are you afraid of cockroaches? Draw a picture of a scary cockroach. Now draw another picture of a friendly cockroach.
★ Be a word detective! Find each of these words in the story and then find what each of them describes: chirping, ugliest, screaming, cool, colourful

Which insect would you choose to be? Pretend to be an insect by moving your arms like wings or your hands like feelers. Make the sounds the insect makes.
1. Na'libali e dilemo di 10 selemong sena!
   Fumana hore na o reng ka dipuo tsohle tse 11 tsa semmuso tša Afrika Borwa ha o re “mahlohonolo a letsatsi la tswalo”.

2. Fumana “mantswe a letsatsi la tswalo” dibolokong tsa ho batla mantswe.
   Find the “birthday words” in the word search blocks.

3. Na o ka fumana diphapang tse tseleletseng pakeng tse ditshwantsho tse pedi tsee?
   Can you find six differences between these two pictures?

Na'libali is here to motivate and support you. Contact us in any of these ways:

www.nalibali.org  www.nalibali.mobi  nahlibaliSA  @nalibaliSA  @nalibaliSA  info@nalibali.org

Produced by The Na'libali Trust. Translation by Mosekola Solutions. Na'libali character illustrations by Rico.

Drive your imagination