Go swara dipuku le go boledišana ka tšona!

Motho yo mongwe le yo mongwe a ka boledišana le bana ka dipuku. Dira gore polešišo e itilele feeša. Nyaka dipuku tšo ngwana wa gago a di tšabelago, gomme o gopole go thoma ganyenyane-ganyenyane, ka matšakala a sego kae lekgeng le lengwe le le lengwe.

How to handle books and talk about them!

Anyone can talk to children about books. Let the conversation flow naturally. Look for books that interest your child, and remember to start slowly, with a few pages at a time.

Start a conversation!

“Ke ipoššiša gore puku ye o bolela ka eng ... Naa re e bole gorere me kwle?“

“I wonder what this book is about ... Shall we turn the pages and find out?“

“Yo ke mora yo a ngwadišego puku ye.”

“This is the author who wrote the book.”

Bala mantšu a ka mona gore puku gomme o alamontšho. Gore puku ye o bolela ka eng. E re ngwana wo gago a ikgone puku ye o bile a dupelele matšakala a yona. Se se thuša bana gore ba rate dipuku.

Read the blurb on the back cover and guess what the book is about. Let your children touch the book and smell the pages. This helps to create a positive relationship with books.

Talk about books helps children learn about how books work and how to explore them. It helps grow their language and self-esteem. And it helps you become confident to talk about books.

Think deeply about the story and book

★ Share opinions and ideas. Say what you think about the story, and ask your children what they think too.

★ Learn to predict. As you read a story, ask “What do you think will happen next?” at different points in the story.

★ Pay attention to detail. Ask younger children to find particular people or objects in the pictures. Ask why they think a word is larger or smaller than the other words on the page. With older children, talk about why the author might have used a particular word.

★ Respond to questions. When a child asks “Why?” you can either answer the question (“I think it is because …”) or ask “Why do you think …?”

★ Connect with stories. Many stories focus on how characters deal with difficult challenges. Help your children to connect these challenges to their own lives by saying something like: “This story reminds me of how important it is to keep a promise. What does it remind you of?”

★ Develop empathy. Help children to put themselves in a character’s place by asking them why they think a character in the story behaved in a certain way.

Go swara dipuku le go thuša bana go ithuta kamoso dipuku di tšomega ka gona le go tsaba ka ga tšona. Go ba thuša ba tsaba segapabana bana le go ba le boitšepo. E bile go thuša le wena gore a ikgone go bolela ka dipuku ka kgodišego.
New Africa Books (NAB) is a South African publishing house that specialises in publishing children's books in all 11 of South Africa's official languages. In March this year, NAB won the Bologna Prize for the Best Children's Book Publisher of the Year for Africa (BOP) 2022 award. This prestigious award has become known as “the big one” among publishing awards.

The Bologna Children's Book Fair started in 1963. Every year, children's book publishers from all over the world meet in Bologna, Italy, for four days to share their books with each other. This book fair celebrates publishers who have distinguished themselves in the regions of Africa, Central and South America, North America, Asia, Europe and Oceania.

“It's wonderful to be recognised,” said Dušanka Stojaković, a publisher at NAB. “New Africa was started 50 years ago by Marie and David Philips, who were innovators in local publishing. New Africa has continued to lead the way, publishing mother-tongue books with a focus on making beautiful, relevant and homegrown children's books since the early 1980s. We are now in the first year of the UN's Decade of Indigenous Languages, and the BOP award really highlights our work in this area.”

The winning announcement was made with the following description:

“For Africa, the winner is New Africa Books, from South Africa. New Africa Books publishes a catalogue of titles covering all the South African languages and is particularly focused on the cultural development of children and young people … Its aim is to find gaps in the book market and fill them with beautiful and meaningful works.”

Elena Pasoli (front second left), exhibition manager of the Bologna Children's Book Fair, with a group of publishers
**Get free books**

**Go Na’libali le BiblionefSA!**

Go letseka mengwaga ya renare ya 10, Na’libali e warišane le BiblionefSA go go tlətifisa dipuku tšo aketšego ka segageno! Re hwyetšise maleme a Supago a o se nago dipuku tšo di lekenago. Maleme ao ke se-Ndebele, Sepedi, Sesotho, Setswana, se-Swati, se-Venda le se-Tsonga. Ge e ba mafelson a go bolela dipuku le mešongwane ya go ihunga go bala le go ngwalo o somšiši lethe la maleme a gaba go faeto moo, o ka dira dikgopelo tšo go hwetšisa dipuku tša mahala ka maleme a.

Lepokis le le bonthla gore ke dipuku tša ka tši di lebo gore ka leleme a le tšwenyana le le tšweng le mengwaga ya bana, ka gana dira dikgopelo kapela ka mokgo o ka kgonago.

**from Na’libali and BiblionefSA!**

To celebrate our 10-year anniversary, Na’libali has partnered with BiblionefSA to bring you more books in your language! We have identified seven languages in which not enough books are available for mother-tongue speakers. The languages are isiNdebele, Sepedi, Sesotho, Setswana, SiSWati, Tsivhenda and Xitsonga. If you speak one or more of these languages in your reading club and literacy activities, you can apply to get free books in these languages.

This table shows how many books are available for each language and age group, so apply as soon as you can!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>isiNdebele</th>
<th>Sepedi</th>
<th>Sesotho</th>
<th>Setswana</th>
<th>SiSWati</th>
<th>Tsivhenda</th>
<th>Xitsonga</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-9</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-18</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>1600</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 600</td>
<td>4 200</td>
<td>2 500</td>
<td>3 400</td>
<td>1 350</td>
<td>2 000</td>
<td>950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ke bomang ba ka dirago dikgopelo?**

Dikolo, dikolo tša bomampilana, magae a go hiokormela bana, dikampa tša bonthla tša gana go lebo gore ka leleme a le go amogelwa, o se ka amogelwa, dipuku dipa gago di a pola le tša romela le go mhoemela la. Mafelson ya kohlhešieng, ya mafelson a bapile le ya metsemagaeng e la lela le tša romela le lesa lela se tša romela. Gona direga'ng ge o dira dikgopelo? What happens when you apply?

**Go direga’ng ge o dira dikgopelo?**


Khamphani ya BiblionefSA e hlotši la dipuku ya gago. Ge e ka omogelwa, dipuku tša gago di a pola le tša romela le go wena.

Diriša dipuku ka difišo ditiša le tša le bana ka bantši le mokgo o ka kagonago. Di le bana ka bantši le mokgo o ka kgonago.

Dulo o romela dipese go BiblionefSA ka phapane ya dipese di e dirilego go wena le bana.

**Who can apply?**

Schools, preschools, children’s homes, refugee camps or any other organisation that promotes reading and literacy can apply. You must attach a motivation letter on your letterhead. Organisations in townships and informal settlements and those in deep rural areas will be considered first.

Go to [www.biblionefsa.org.za/apply-for-books/](www.biblionefsa.org.za/apply-for-books/) to find the application form.

**How to use our stories in different ways?**

1. **Tell the story to your child.** Read and practise telling the story. Then use your voice, face and body to bring the story to life.
2. **Read the story to your child.** Talk about the pictures. Ask, “What do you think happens next?” or “Why do you think the character said or did that?”
3. **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.
4. **Listen to your child read.** Listen without interrupting. Say that you enjoy hearing them read aloud to you.
5. **Do the Get story active! activities.** This should be fun for you and your child.

**Mengwago Age se-Ndebele isiNdebele Sepedi Sepedi Sesotho Sesotho Setswana Setswana se-Swati se-Swati se-Venda se-Venda Tshivenda Tshivenda se-Tsonga se-Tsonga**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>3-6</th>
<th>6-9</th>
<th>9-12</th>
<th>13-18</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>2 600</td>
<td>4 200</td>
<td>3 400</td>
<td>1 350</td>
<td>2 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-9</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>2 800</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>2 500</td>
<td>3 400</td>
<td>2 000</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>1 950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>1 600</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>2 500</td>
<td>3 400</td>
<td>2 000</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>1 950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-18</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>2 500</td>
<td>3 400</td>
<td>2 000</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>1 950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Go to www.nalibali.co.za** to find more stories and activities!
Go ba le dipuku tša segagabo rena

Dušanka Stojaković o isoma khampaning ya New Africa Books, e lego khampanhi ya Afrika Borwa ya go gatlisa dipuku tša kgahlisha kudi tša bana.

“Afrika Borwa, batho ba bantši ga be kgone go bala le go ngwala ka baka la mabaka a mmalwa. Bana ga ba balewile dipuku ka segagabo bana, malapeng a mantši ga go na dipuku gomme gantši makgobapuku a kgoe e bi le qa na dipuku tša bana ka segagabo bona. Bana ga ba balelwe dipuku ka kgahliša le go bala le go ngwala kudi tša bana.”

1. Naa go na le yo a kilo a go anegela dikanegelo ge o be a sa le ngwana? Ee, tate a be a dira bijilo ka Seserbo-Croat.
2. Naa go na le yo a bako a go bolela dipuku? Puku ya pale yeo Immal a re baleletša yona re ne le ka ye Hédi, ka Seisemane.
3. Naa wena o kite wa bolela bana ba gago? Ke na le morwa, yo o gapele a nago le mene ngwane e 32. Ke mmelelite dipuku ka Seserane go floga a sa na le dikwegedi tša tšehe. Ge a bolela bana ba gago, ke nako ya go ba le bana ka tšehe e kgethegile – lefelo la ya gatšo māo ba langa ne ke sa tša tšehe ke go boleldiša le wena.
4. Ge ke be be bolela ngwana/a? Ke ke be mmelelite dipuku tša kgahlisha le tša go khobile. E bile go bohlokweswe ga baka ka matšaile le go tsehelo bophelo kanelego.
5. Thuto e kgalokgalo yea ke hlihitši yona ka pulung goba kanelego. Ke hlihitši gore go bohlokweswe ga se lelhale tša le go dula o leka, le go tše bophelo di tša go matšaile a.
6. Puku yeo e ilego ya dira gore ke le tše he yo ya … Black Beauty acria Anna Sewell.
7. Puku yeo e ilego ya dira gore ke le tše he yo ya … Granpa Zombie ya Jaco Jacobs.
8. Bophelo nilo le dikangela … bo tša Tšuvaši le go Naka more."
The story of Albertina Sisulu (an adaptation)

Get story active!

- Albertina's mother had a motto: “Together we're strong!” Do you or your family have a motto? If not, what would you like your family's motto to be?

- Is there a strong, brave woman who you admire? Draw a picture of her and, underneath the picture, write what makes her strong and brave in your eyes.

- Turn to page 13 to read about the women's march to Pretoria on 9 August 1956.

Dira gore kanegelo e be le bophelo!

- Mmago Albertina o be a na le moano wa gore. “Ge re le mmogo, re na le maatla!” Naa wena goba ka lapeng la geno le na le moano? Ge e ba go se bala, o ka rata gore moano wa geno e be afe?

- Naa go na le mosadi yo maatla le yo sebete yo o ma tshego? Terao seswanthla sa gogwe, ke moka ka fise ga sana o ngwane gore ke ka baka la eng wena o bona o na le maatla le sebete.

- Bulo go letlakala 13 gamme o bale ka basadi bao ba ilego ba gwantela Pretoria ka di-9 Ba August 1956.

MMOGO RE NA LE MAATLA
Kanegelo ya Albertina Sisulu (kanego-leswa)

Together we’re strong

The story of Albertina Sisulu (an adaptation)

Liesl Jobson • Alice Toich • Nazli Jacobs

Nal'ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark and embed a culture of reading across South Africa. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi
Her mother was often sick and needed Albertina to look after the home. In her last year of primary school, Albertina was the oldest pupil in the school. She was chosen to be the head girl and wore her badge with pride.

Her best friend, Betty, told her about a competition, saying, “You must apply, my clever friend.”

“What is the prize?” asked Albertina, growing curious.

“A scholarship to high school!” said Betty. “You must apply. You’ll win it, for sure.”

Albertina studied until the candle burned down. She practised sums. She practised spelling.

Her best friend, Betty, told her about a competition, saying, “You must apply, my clever friend.”

Her mother was often sick and needed Albertina to look after the home. In her last year of primary school, Albertina was the oldest pupil in the school. She was chosen to be the head girl and wore her badge with pride.

Police came in the middle of the night, banging on the door. She would support her husband who kept many secrets and hid from the police.

She joined the women and worked to organise a march to Pretoria. The women refused to carry a pass. They sang, “Wathint’ abafazi; wathint’ imbokodo! You strike a woman; you strike a rock!”

Walter was jailed on Robben Island for 26 years. Albertina, also, was sent to jail many times.

But even on the darkest nights, she could see a sliver of moon through the window in her cell. She sang the song that Ma Monikazi sang before she was born: “Be strong, little one. Winter’s not long. Be brave, little one. Together we’re strong!”
One harsh winter, many people in the land were sick. Ma Monikazi’s cheeks burned. Sweat dripped from her body. Under her blanket she held her belly and sang to the baby inside her:

“Be strong, little one. Winter’s not long. Be brave, little one. Together we’re strong!”

One bright night the moon was bigger, fatter and pinker than ever. Her breath came fast. The baby was ready. When Monikazi held her beautiful daughter in her arms, she knew she was a special girl, a fighter.

What a blessing! Her name is Nontsikelelo. She will be the mother of all blessings.
On her sixth birthday she went to school.

"You must choose an English name," said the Presbyterian teacher, but Ntsiki liked her own name. The teacher scowled and read the names aloud: “Adah, Agnes, Albertina, Anna.” Ntsiki liked the long name best. Albertina! The name had rhythm. The name had bounce. Albertina was a name you didn’t mess with.

On her sixth birthday she went to school.

Walter Sisulu was a brave and clever man who dreamed of freedom for South Africa. His big smile captured Albertina’s eye. Walter wanted Albertina to be the mother of his children.

Bright ribbons decorated the Bantu Men’s Social Centre on their wedding day. Albertina’s long-sleeved dress had a swirling train of lace.

Within a year, Max was born. Albertina had become a mother. One day people would call her the mother of the nation.

Max had his mother’s black button eyes and his father’s round chin. He was the hope for their future. Albertina wanted to fight for a new South Africa, so that Max could be free.

When he cried, she sang: "Be strong, little one. Winter’s not long. Be brave, little one. Together we’re strong!"
Nal’ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark and embed a culture of reading across South Africa. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi

Phama le thoro ya lefela

Margot Bertelsmann • Chantelle Thorne • Burgen Thorne

Phama and the mealie pip

A huge voice boomed.

“Sniff-splutter-snort-fart! I smell the blood of a young upstart!”

It was the nasty giant.

“Catch me if you can,” teased Phama.

Phama saw a magic bag. Inside was all the gold the nation ever mined. Phama saw a magic singer. He knew all the songs the nation ever sung. Phama saw a magic goose. She laid enough golden eggs for everyone.

“I will come back with treasure for you,” Phama shouted down to Gogo on the ground.

Gogo sighed.

Ideas to talk about:

Is it right for Phama to take the giant’s treasure without asking? Why/why not? What do you think Phama is going to do with the giant’s treasure bag and the singer? What would you have done differently if you were Phama?

Get story active!

★ Draw your own picture of Phama and the nasty giant that shows how big the giant is.

★ Be a word detective! Look closely at the story. Can you find the things that Phama or the nasty giant smelled, saw or tasted?

★ Imagine that Phama is writing in his diary about the day on which he climbed to the top of the mealie stalk. You could start like this: Dear Diary, You will never guess what happened today …

Dira gore kanegelo e be le bophelo!

★ Iterowele seswantšho sa Phama le lekgema le lebe ka tsela ya go bontšha gore lekgema e be e le le lebe.

★ E sa le le lebe ka tsela. Le lekgema le lebe ka tsela ya go bontšha gore lekgema e be e le le lebe.

★ Akanagana Phama a ngwalo letšatši ya gagwe ka lekgema le lebe ka tsela ya go bontšha gore lekgema e be e le le lebe.

This story is an adapted version of Phama and the mealie pip, published by Cadbury in partnership with Nal’ibali as part of the Cadbury Dairy Milk #InOurOwnWords initiative. Each story is available in the eleven official South African languages. To find out more about the Cadbury Dairy Milk #InOurOwnWords initiative titles go to https://cadbury.one/library.html

This is a natural reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark and embed a culture of reading across South Africa. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi

Phama and the mealie pip

Margot Bertelsmann • Chantelle Thorne • Burgen Thorne


Ideas to talk about:

Is it right for Phama to take the giant’s treasure without asking? Why/why not? What do you think Phama is going to do with the giant’s treasure bag and the singer? What would you have done differently if you were Phama?
Phama had a mealie pip. Mama did not know it was a magic pip.

“One day, this pip will feed a nation,” Phama said.

Mama laughed.
Nontsikelelo was beautiful and strong with crinkling black button eyes. She loved her older brother, Mcengi. Mcengi chased the chickens that scratched in the garden where Ma Monikazi grew spinach and squash to feed her family. Ntsiki ran after him as her legs grew strong.

Ma Monikazi had another baby boy, Velaphi, and another, Qudalele. Finally another sister, Nomyaleko. Little Ntsiki picked up her baby brother when he cried and tickled him till he laughed.

She taught them to sing: "Be strong, little one. Winter is gone. Be brave, little one. Together we're strong!"
Qingqiwe, her grandfather, raised horses. His favourite was Shishi, a glossy black mare. As soon as Ntsiki was old enough, he hoisted her on to the saddle in front of him. He laced the reins through her fingers.

Qingqiwe, rakgolo wa gagwe, o ruile dipere. O be a rata Shishi, peretshadi ye ntsho ya go phadima. Ntsiki o rile go gola, a mo kuka a mmea saleng pele ga gagwe. O ile a tsenya maleisele menwaneng ya gagwe.

E rile ge tatago Ntsiki, Bonilizwe, a boa gae ka Keresemose, go tšwa meepong, a inametsa mokokotlong wa Shishi o mophara. O ile go mo gahanetsa boemapase ka peretshadi. Ntsiki o ile a dula thwii ka botelele bja gagwe. O be a swere maleisele ka menwana ye boleta.

Bonilizwe o ile a ikantsha ka morwedi wa gagwe. Ntsiki o bone myemyelo ye a sa kago a e bona sefahlegong sa tatagwe.

Albertina took a train to Johannesburg. She bought a smart white uniform, new navy shoes and a shiny red fountain pen. Sick people came all day to the hospital. When the babies cried, she sang: “Be strong, little one. Winter’s not long. Be brave, little one. Together we’re strong!”

Some nights Albertina worked till dawn. She looked out the window and thought of her family. Who was riding Shishi? She missed the scent of the earth. There was no vegetable garden here. There was nowhere for a horse.

Albertina never went to parties. She saved every shilling. On her days off she learned to play tennis. Always, she wished for a little more money to send home.
On 9 August 1956, 20 000 women from all over the country marched on the Union Buildings in Pretoria to protest against the pass laws. These laws required people who were classified as black African by the apartheid South African Government to carry a travel pass with them at all times.

Basadi ba ka godimo ga 20 000, bao ba bego ba eteletšwe pele ke Lilian Ngoyi, Helen Joseph, Sophia Williams le Rahima Moosa, ba ile ba romela mokaela o kwaqalagago wa gore ba ka se thibje melomo gabo ga amogwalo toloko ya bama. Basadi ba la dia ditloko tšu 14 000 ile di bego di na le kwa ile ka 100 000 go mongwaledi ya mokaela. Melano yo e be e nyaka gore Maafrika ao go bego go thwe ke bathobaso lea tlaše ka Pulo ya kagetelela ya Afrika Borwa (apartheid), ba dule ba swere ditloko ka dimoka tšöhle.

On 9 August 1956, 20 000 women from all over the country marched on the Union Buildings in Pretoria to protest against the pass laws. These laws required people who were classified as black African by the apartheid South African Government to carry a travel pass with them at all times.

Over 20 000 women, led by Lilian Ngoyi, Helen Joseph, Sophia Williams and Rahima Moosa, sent a clear message that they would not be silenced or have their freedom taken from them. They handed 14 000 petitions with 100 000 signatures to the prime minister’s secretary and stood in absolute silence for 30 minutes. Then the women began to sing a song that had been written for the occasion.

"Wathint' abafazi, Wathint' imbokodo." The message was clear. “Now you have struck the women, you have struck a rock.”

Women are the people who are going to relieve us from all this oppression and depression. The rent boycott that is happening in Soweto now [in 1956] is alive because of the women. It is the women who are on the street committees educating the people to stand up and protect each other.

Albertina Sisulu

The march was described as one of the most disciplined, dignified and emotional demonstrations the country had ever seen. The women sang Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika at the very end of their protest before walking away.

Every year, on 9 August, and throughout the month of August, we celebrate the achievements of South African women.

Things to do on National Women’s Day

- Find out about South African women who are making their mark on South Africa today. Search https://www.sagoodnews.co.za/south-african-females-whose-names-you-should-know-this-womens-day/
- Write a thank you letter to a girl or woman who has made a positive difference to your life. It could be a granny, aunt, teacher or neighbour.
- Read books about female characters or by female South African writers like Sindiwe Magona, Beverley Naidoo, Maryanne Bester, Zukiswa Wanner and others.
- Write a poem about the women in your life.
Dira gore kanegelo e be le bophelo!

Ke selo sefe se se sa twaletsegago kudu se o kilego wa se si? Terowa sele seo. Ke fase se seswantšho, hlaloa monga wa sele sele le tato ya sona.

Ngwala phetho e mpsha ya kanegelo. Go be go fio direga'ng ng nkabe Kgomo a be a se na furu yeo a ka e jago a e fihla gae? Gopola, sele sele se sengwe le se sengwe se ka direga!

---

Selo se sengwe le se sengwe se ka direga

Ka Dorah Masigo • Diswantšho ka Samantha van Riet

Kgalekgaleng, Kgogo le matswiana a gagwe a mararo, o be a phela le Kgomo lefeleng le lete. Kgomo o be a rata go fula bjang ge a dutše a phatša lefeleng leo a le tselelang ya go etela mogwera wa gagwe Kgogo. Eupša bophelo bo be bo le thata. Pula e be e nele Itala ngwageng wo, ka gona go be go se na bjiang bjo bontši. Kgomo o be a svenve ke Itala kudu ge a dutše a ilikgosa e aya hokong ya Kgogo. Rapolase o be a lebešišo go reka furu. Kgogo o be a thabile kudu ge a bona Kgomo. “Dumela mogwera,” gwa realo Kgogo. “E re ke go tiele le meetse a monate le a go tonya gore o nw. O swanetšišo go ba o nyorwele ka morago ga leeto le le letele.” Ke moka Kgogo o ile a kite la gomme a yo kgele Kgomo meetse.

Ge Kgomo a be a kwaetši ka fase go mariti wa mohlare o mogolo le wo kgale wa meetlwa, matswiana a mararo a be a rala ka go dikologo. A be a nnonne gomme e le a maserolane, a swana le matšoba a mohlare wo o lešiša tsebubui, ao Kgomo a bego a fela a a bono ka seruthwa.

Mala a Kgomo a be a Ila e bile a duma ge a dutše a bogaaši matswiana ao a rala. O ile a tsaša ke kgotho gomme a lelela ka mahlokongen ka moka a itwa ke leswa la. O ile a thoma ka go lebelela ka go le letona, a lelela ka go le letshadi, ke moka a lelela ka go le letona gape. O ile a lemoga gore Kgogo ga a gona mo kgwasa.

Bjale, dikgomo ka fwoelo ga di je nama, eupša gopola, selo se sengwe le se sengwe se ka direga! Kgomo o be a svenve ke Itala kudu moo ntle le go naga, a liego a tsoga gomme a thoma go kilemiša matswiana ale a go nona le a maserolane!

Matswiana ale a mararo o ile a phatlalala ka pele ga Kgomo, a mo lelela ka mahtong gomme a re: “Re na le lebelela la mmutla. O ka se re sware le go o ka dirang. Re na le lebelela la mmutla. O ka se re sware le ge o ka dirang.” A realo a dutše a tswišišiša e bile a hwile ka disego.

Kga a se no sobelela, Kgomo o ile a thoma go kilemiša matswiana ale gape, a leka ka gohle gore bonyenyane a sware leswa la. Eupša a ile a mo šia, a dutše a opela a re: “Re na le lebelela la mmutla. O ka se re sware le ge o ka dirang. Re na le lebelela la mmutla. O ka se re sware le ge o ka dirang.”

Ge Kgogo o boa, ke ge lelerne la Kgomo le lekeletše ka ntle, ke moka a metša gatee meetse ao Kgogo a mo ketšeng le ona.

“Bana ba ca ka ba rata go farafarao baeng. Ba ithatele go rala,” gwa realo Kgogo. “Eupša ke kgothošiša ke go tsebanga gore ka se jewe ke segošišane, yoo a dulago a ba tomoketešišo mohlo a le kgolekgole.” Kgogo o ile a lelela godimo ka letšhogo ke moka a myemeyo a mogwera wa gagwe Kgomo gomme a re go yena. “Ke leboga go nihokomelela bana ge ke be ke sa potširi ke mo.”

Kgomo o be a tseba gore o be a sa dire seo, e bile ka ge a be a ipona molato, o ile o a duma ka hiqo a tšepile. Mo nakong ye, Ila e be e mo sello ka Soro. Go kilemiša le matswiana ale go be go mo feditsišišišiši.

Ka morago ga nako e itšego, Kgomo o ile a emelela gomme a Isela Kgalo, Kgogo, a dutše a ipošiša ge e be a ila ba le mača a go sepela leeto le letelele la go boela lešakeng la gagwe.

Kgomo o ile a fihla lešakeng ge leswisiše le go swara. O ile a imologa kudu ge a bono mokgoba o mogolo wa furu yeo e itšišišišo ke rapolase. O itšišišišo go thoma go ja a se sa nyaka le go kgaotša. O ile a ja a ja a flatša lempa go fhiela a tšwato ke moyo gomme a lelela lela faufaung oakere ka paluni. O se ke wa makala, gopola gore se sengwe le se sengwe se ka direga!
Once upon a time, Hen, together with her three little chicks, shared a field with Cow.

Cow loved grazing as she walked all the way across the field to visit her friend, Hen. But times were hard. The rain had come late this year, and there was very little grass. Cow was very hungry as she plodded slowly over to Hen's coop. The farmer had forgotten to buy hay.

Hen was happy to see Cow. “Hello, my friend,” said Hen. “Let me bring you some cool, fresh water to drink. You must be thirsty after your long walk.” Then Hen rushed off to fetch some water for Cow to drink.

As Cow was lying in the shade of a big, old thorn tree, the three little chicks were playing around her. They were plump and yellow, just like the blooms of the tabebuia tree that Cow sometimes saw in springtime.

Cow's tummy growled and rumbled as she watched the chicks playing. She raised her head and looked over her shoulder guiltily. First right, then left and then right again. There was still no sign of Hen.

Now, cows don't usually eat meat, but remember, anything can happen! Cow was so hungry that before she could think, she jumped up and started chasing after the little balls of yellow plumpness!

"Cow is playing catch with us,” peeped the chicks, falling over each other, legs in the air.

"But she is too slow,” they cheeped. Then they jumped up and ran through Cow's legs to show how fast they were.

"Don't tire out our friend,” Hen clucked at her brood before walking away to fetch more refreshments for Cow.

As soon as Hen was out of sight, Cow was after the chicks again, trying her best to catch at least one. But they scurried away, singing: “We turn on a dime and give you nine cents change. You can't catch us even if you try. We turn on a dime and give you nine cents change. You can't catch us even if you try.”

By the time Hen returned, Cow's tongue was hanging out of her mouth, and in one big gulp, she swallowed the water Hen had placed in front of her.

“They are always under one's feet. So playful,” said Hen. “But at least I know they are safe from the falcon, who is always watching from afar.” Hen nervously looked up at the sky and then smiled at Cow. “Thank you for keeping an eye on them while I was gone,” she told her friend.

Cow knew that this was not what had really happened, and although she felt sad, she only nodded tiredly. By now, she was faint with hunger. Running around after the chicks had used up all her energy.

After some time, Cow got up and said goodbye to Hen, wondering whether she would even be able to make the long walk back to her shed.

Cow stumbled into the shed just as the evening shadows started to stretch out on the floor. She was relieved to see a big pile of hay brought in by the farmer. And once she started eating, she couldn’t stop. She ate and ate and ate until she was so full that she floated right up to the moon like a big, patchy balloon. Because remember, anything can happen!
1. E le go keteka mengwaga e 10 ya Nal’ibali ya matla a dikanelelo, ripa seswantšho so ka mo tlase gamme o se khalare. Foreiming ya seswantšho se, ngwala mantšu oo a tlago ka monaganong ge a nagana ka go bala.

2. Beakanya ditlhaka tše gabotse gore o hwetše dilo Tšeo Phama a di tšerego go lekgema kanegelong ya Phama le thoro ya lefela.

To celebrate 10 years of Nal’ibali story power, cut out the picture below and colour it in. In the frame around the picture, write the words that you think of when you think about reading.

Can you unscramble the letters to find the things that Phama took from the giant in the story Phama and the mealie pip?

Nal’ibali fun

Nal’ibali e fa go go hlohleletša le go go thekga. Nal’ibali is here to motivate and support you. Contact us in any of these ways:

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