

USHICILELO 200  
EDITION 200

IsiXhosa  
English



**Bhiyoza  
nathi!**

**Celebrate  
with us!**



Olu lushicilelo olukhetheke kakhulu loHlelo lukaNal'ibali – lushicilelo **lwama-200 kwaye** sibhiyozela Inyanga Yokufunda Nokubhala! Inyanga Yokufunda Nokubhala ibhiyozelwa ngabantu abakulo lonke ihlabathi abakuthandayo ukufunda nokubhala. Nyaka ngamnye, kule nyanga, uNal'ibali wenza umzamo okhethekileyo elizweni lethu wokwazisa abantu ngendlela ukufundela abantwana nokubhala kunye nabo okukuxhasa ngayo ukuphuhlisa kokufunda nokubhala kwabo.

This is a very special edition of the Nal'ibali Supplement – it's the **200th** edition **and** we're celebrating Literacy Month! Literacy Month is celebrated by people from all over the world who are passionate about reading and writing. Every year, during this month, Nal'ibali makes a special effort in our country to raise awareness of how reading to and writing with children supports their literacy development.

### Ukubaluleka kokukwazi ukubhala nokufunda

Ukufunda nokubhala kudlala indima ebaluleke kakhulu ebomini bethu. Kusinceda senze imisebenzi elula kodwa ebalulekileyo, njengokugcwalisa ifomu okanye ukufunda imiyalelo ekwibhotile yeyeza. Kodwa ukukwazi ukufunda nokubhala akupheleli nje ekukwazini ukusebenzisa ubuchule obusisiseko sokufunda nokubhala. Kukwabandakanya nokuba namandla okusebenzisa ukufunda nokubhala ukuze sifunde izinto; sibone iindlela ezahlukelelo zokujonga ihlabathi; sikwazi nokuchaza izinto esizicingayo, indlela esivakalelwa ngayo nezinto esizaziyo.



### The importance of literacy

Reading and writing play an incredibly important role in our lives. They help us to do simple but important tasks, like fill in a form or read the instructions on a medicine bottle. But being literate is not only about being able to use basic reading and writing skills. It is about having the power to use reading and writing to learn; to discover different ways of seeing the world; and to explore the world and communicate what we think, feel and know.

As from Edition 196, the Nal'ibali bilingual supplement has been available in 11 official South African languages!

Ukususela kuShicilelo 196, uhlelo lukaNal'ibali oluneelwimi ezimbini luyafumaneka ngeelwimi ezisemthethweni zaseMzantsi Afrika ezili-11!

### Imiqobo yokufunda nokubhala

Zininzi izizathu ezenza abantu bangafundi ukufunda nokubhala. Ezona zizathu ziphambili kukuba abanako abakudingayo ukuze bafunde obu buchule. Ukuze kukhuthazwe ukuphuhlisa kokufunda nokubhala, abantu kufuneka babe nezinto zokufunda ezisemgangathweni, ezisimahla nekulula ukuzifumana ngeelwimi abazifunayo.

### Barriers to literacy

There are many reasons why people don't learn to read and write. The main reasons are that they don't have what they need to learn these skills. To encourage literacy development, people need good, free and easy-to-find resources in their language.

### Siqhuba njani?

Ukususela ngowama-2012, uNal'ibali ebesenza iincwadi namabali – noshicilelo lwethu oluneelwimi ezimbini – zifumaneka simahla ngeelwimi ezisemthethweni ezininzi zaseMzantsi Afrika. Iwebhusayithi yethu, ethi [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org), ikwanawo namabali eelwimi ngeelwimi, imisebenzi kunye namacebiso okufundela abantwana.

Iingcali Zethu Ngokufunda Nokubhala, iiFunda Leaders neeStory Sparkers zisebenza kwiindawo ezisemaphandleni ukuze zise izinto kunye noqeqesho lwasimahla eluntwini kwaye zincele ekusunguleni iiklabhu zokufunda kwezo ndawo.

Nceda usindwendwele kuFacebook, kuTwitter okanye kuInstagram ukuze usixelele ukuba ucinga ntoni ngomsebenzi ophathelele ukufunda nokubhala obusenziwa nguNal'ibali ukuza kutsho ngoku!



Please visit us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram to let us know what you think about the literacy work that Nal'ibali has been doing so far!

### How are we doing?

Since 2012, Nal'ibali has been making books and stories – and our bilingual supplement – available free of charge in many of South Africa's official languages. Our website, [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org), also offers multilingual stories, activities and tips for reading to children.

Our Literacy Specialists, Funda Leaders and Story Sparkers work in urban and rural areas to bring free resources and training to communities and to help establish reading clubs there.



Drive your  
imagination



IT STARTS WITH  
A STORY.  
KONKE KUQALA  
NGBALI.

# Imbewu yokuFunda nokuBhala!

Imisebenzi yabantwana abaphakathi kwe-0 nesi-6 seminyaka

## Literacy Seeds! Activities for children 0-6 years

Bazali nani bagcini babantwana abathandekayo, kolu shicilelo siza kujonga ukubaluleka kokudlala nabantwana bethu nokuvumela abantwana "balathise" imidlalo.

Xa udlala nabantwana bakho, kuhle ukubavumela bakhokele kulo mdlalo. Ungayenza loo nto ngokubukela le nto bayithethayo okanye bayenzayo uze ulandele nawe ngokutsho okanye ngokwenza loo nto ukuze umdlalo uqhubeke. Le nto iza kugcina abantwana bakho benomdla kuloo nto niyenzayo; ibe xa abantwana benomdla entweni, maninzi amathuba okuba bafunde amagama nobuchule obutsha.

Ukukhokela kuloo nto yenziwayo kuya kunceda nasekwakheni ubuchule babo bokunxibelelana nokuzithemba kwindlela yokuphemelela izinto ezibangqongileyo.

Dear parents and caregivers of young children, in this edition we will look at the importance of playing with your children and allowing the children to "direct" the play activities.

When you play with your children, it is good to let them take the lead in the play activity. You can do this by watching what they say or do and following their lead by saying or doing things to keep the game going. This will keep your children interested in the activity; and when children are interested in something, it makes it more likely that they will learn new words and skills.

Taking the lead in an activity will also help to build their communication skills and confidence in how to influence things around them.

### Indlela yokulandela umntwana wakho emdlalweni

- Qaphela ukuba yintoni umntwana wakho anomdla kuyo, into adlala ngayo, okanye athanda ukuyenza.
- Mbuze ukuba ungajoyina na kulo nto ayenzayo.
- Linganisa loo nto ayenzayo umntwana wakho. Ukuba umntwana wakho ukhamba ibhola iqengqeleke ize kuwe, nawe yikhabe iqengqeleke ibuyele kuye.
- Buza imibuzo okanye uveze izimvo zakho ngaloo nto niyenzayo nobabini.
- Ukuba umntwana wakho uqalisa ukwenza enye into, tshintshela kuloo nto intsha ayenzayo.



### How to follow your child's lead in play

- Notice what your child is interested in, what they play with, or like doing.
- Ask if you can join in the activity.
- Copy what your child is doing. If your child rolls a ball to you, roll it back.
- Ask questions about or comment on what the two of you are doing.
- If your child starts doing something new, change to doing the new activity too.

### Kwaneentsana zingakwazi ukukhokela xa kudlalwa.

- ★ Qaphela into eziyijongayo uze uyisondeze loo nto kuzo. Zivumele ziyibambe okanye ziyidlikidle.
- ★ Thetha nosana lwakho. Sebenzisa isigama esiqhelekileyo kodwa esilula. Zekelela xa uthetha, uwaphinde amagama kwaye uzibaxe izimbo zobuso.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/parenting/child-development/baby-talk-class>



### Even babies can take the lead during play.

- ★ Notice what they look at and move the object closer to them. Let them try to hold or shake it.
- ★ Talk to your baby. Use normal but simple language. Speak slowly, repeat words and use exaggerated facial expressions.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/parenting/child-development/baby-talk-class>

### Ukudlala niliqela

Kudla ngokulungiselelwa indawo yokudlala kanye ngeveki nabantwana abangekaqalisi isikolo kunye nabazali okanye nabagcini babo. Abantwana:

- banokonwabela ukujonga iincwadi nokumamela umculo.
- banokuzama ukwenza izinto ezintsha nokudlala ngezinto zokudlala ezintsha.
- banokudlala nabantwana abakubudala obahlukeneyo.
- banokufunda indlela yokuqhubana nabantu abadala abangengabo abazali okanye abagcini babo.
- banokufunda ukwabelana nabanye, ukutshintshisana nokwakha ubuhlobo.



### Playing in a group

Playgroups are usually arranged once a week for children who haven't yet started school and their parents or caregivers. The children can:

- enjoy looking at books and listening to music.
- try out new activities and toys.
- play with children of different ages.
- learn how to interact with adults that are not their parents or caregivers.
- learn to share, take turns and make friends.



Drive your imagination

## Iindawo zokudlala ziyabanceda abazali nabagcini babantwana

Ungakwazi:

- \* ukudibana nabantu uze wakhe ubuhlobo.
- \* ukwabelana nabanye ngeengcebiso, izimvo namava.
- \* ukufunda kwabanye abazali nabagcini babantwana.
- \* ukwazi ngamaziko anyamekela abantwana, ngeziko nangezinye iinkonzo ezikwindawo okuyo.



## Playgroups are good for parents and caregivers.

You can:

- \* meet people and make friends.
- \* share tips, ideas and experiences.
- \* learn from other parents and caregivers.
- \* learn about childcare centres, schools and other services in your community.

## Imidlalo yasimahla nengabizi kangako

Akuyomfuneko ukuba ukudlala kubize imali eninzi. Ezona mathiriyali zifanelekileyo ukuba abantwana abancinane badlale ngazo zizinto ezinokusetyenziswa ngeendlela ezininzi ezahlukileyo nangabantwana abakubudala obungafaniyo.

Iintyatyambo, amagqabi nezinti, isanti namanzi zifumaneka kuyo yonke indawo kwaye zisimahla! Kodwa, ngokomzekelo, uluthi lungaba likrele, umhlakulo okanye intonga yokwenza ubugqi. Lungayinto ongakha ngayo, uyitsibe okanye ulinganise ubungakanani bezinto ngayo.

Okukhona abantwana kufuneka basebenzise uthelekelelo lwabo, basombulule iingxaki, basebenzise imizimba neengqondo zabo xa bedlala, kokukhona iingqondo nemizimba yabo ifundayo kwaye ikhula.



## Free and low-cost play activities

Play does not have to cost a lot. The best materials for young children to play with are things that can be used in lots of different ways and by children of different ages.

Flowers, leaves and sticks, sand and water are everywhere and are free! But a stick, for example, can be a sword, a spade or a magic wand. It can be something to build with, to jump over or to measure with.

The more children need to use their imagination, solve problems and use their bodies and minds when they're playing, the more their brains and bodies learn and develop.



## Izinto ekungadlalwa ngazo

- \* Abantwana abancinane badinga ukuba wena uqhubane nabo ngobubele ngaphezu kokuba bedinga izinto zokudlala. Bayakuthanda ukujonga ubuso bakho, ukumamela ilizwi lakho nokuba kunye nawe nje.
- \* Iintsana ziyazithanda izinto zokudlala eziyimibala eqaqambileyo nezenza isandi, esinjengesinkqonkqayo. Bayazithanda nezinto zokudlala ezinobuso okanye ezinephatheni ezivakala zinoboya, zimpuluswa okanye zithambile xa uzichukumisa, njengeetteddy bear neencwadi zelaphu.
- \* Iintsana nabantwana abancinane bayakuthanda ukumamela umculo otsholo phantsi okanye izandi zezilwanyana ezisetyenziswa kwizicengcelezo zabantwana.
- \* Iimbiza zakho, amapani, iikhonteyina zeplastiki nezinto ezininzi eziqhelekileyo ezikwikhaya lakho ziya kuyithimba ingqondo yomntwana wakho omncinane! Ungalibali ukujonga kuzo iindawo ezisikayo, imingcipheko yokuminxwa nezinye iingozi ngaphambi kokuba unike umntwana wakho izinto zasekhaya ukuba adlale ngazo.
- \* Ukufunda neentsana nabantwana abancinane yenye yezona zinto zimnandi onokuzenza. Khethe iincwadi ezinemifanekiso enemibala eqaqambileyo nezinezicengcelezo.

Le nkcazelo isekelwe kwinkcazelo efumaneka kwisayithi ethi <https://raisingchildren.net.au>.

## Things to play with

- \* Young children need warm interaction with you more than they need toys. They love looking at your face, listening to your voice and just being with you.
- \* Babies enjoy brightly coloured toys and those that make a sound, like a rattle. They also like toys with faces or patterns and that feel furry, silky or soft, like teddy bears and cloth books.
- \* Babies and toddlers enjoy listening to soft music or animal sounds that are used in nursery rhymes.
- \* Your pots, pans, plastic containers and many ordinary things around your home will fascinate your toddler! Remember to check for sharp edges, choking risks and other hazards before you give your child household items to play with.
- \* Reading with babies and toddlers is one of the most enjoyable things you can do. Choose books with bright illustrations and rhymes.

This information is based on information found at <https://raisingchildren.net.au>.



# Ukufunda nokubhala ngolwimi lwam

# Literacy in my language

Ukufunda ngolwimi lwabo lweenkobe kuyimfuneko ukuze abantwana baphumelele ekuziqondeni izinto abazifundayo kwaye baqhubeke bephumelela esikolweni. Oku kuthetha ukuba abantwana bethu kufuneka bakwazi ukufumana izinto zokufunda ezibangela umdla nezinika inkcazelo ngolwimi lwabo lweenkobe. Izinto zokufunda – iincwadi, amaphephandaba, amabali namanqaku – zifanele zigubungele imibandela eyahlukileyo eya kubangela umdla ebantwaneni ukususela beebancinane zize zibagcine befundela isikolo, ukufumana inkcazelo nokuzonwabisa!

Learning in their mother tongue is necessary to support children's success in learning to read with understanding and to experience ongoing success at school. This means that our children need to have access to a variety of interesting and informative reading material in their mother tongue. The reading materials – books, newspapers, stories and articles – should cover many different topics that would interest children from a very young age and keep them reading for school, for information and for enjoyment!

Kubantu abadala abanabantwana abancinane abakwaziyo ukufunda nokubhala ulwimi lwesiNtu nabafunda nabantwana babo:

- ♥ bangama-74% sithethanje abafunda nabantwana babo ngolwimi lwesiNtu
- ♥ bangama-72% abakhetha ukufunda nabantwana babo ngolwimi lwesiNtu
- ♥ bangama-73% abanezinto zokufunda ngeelwimi eziliqela

Of the adults with young children who read and write an African language and who read with their children:

- ♥ 74% currently read with their young children in an African language
- ♥ 72% would prefer to read with their children in an African language
- ♥ 73% have reading materials in multiple languages

Ngokutsho koPhononongo Lokufunda Elizweni oluqhutywe nguNalibali Trust kunye neNational Library yaseMzantsi Afrika, bamalunga nesi-8 kwabali-10 abemi boMzantsi Afrika abebenokubafundela ngakumbi abantwana babo ekhaya ukuba bebenezinto zokufunda:

- ♥ zasimahla
- ♥ ezisekelwe kwimibandela, kumabali okanye kwinkcazelo **ebangela umdla nelulutho kubo**
- ♥ ngolwimi abalukhethayo

According to the National Reading Survey conducted by Nalibali Trust and the National Library of South Africa, about 8 out of every 10 South Africans would read more with the children in their home if they had reading materials that were:

- ♥ free
- ♥ based on interesting topics, stories or information that was **meaningful to them**
- ♥ in their **preferred language**

UNalibali ukhuthaza ukusetyenziswa kolwimi lweenkobe njengenxalenye ebalulekileyo yokufundela ubumnandi. Kangangeminyaka engaphezu kwelishumi uNalibali ebasasaza iintlelo ezineelwimi ezimbini zokufundela ubumnandi simahla kwiiklabhu zokufunda, kwimibutho yoluntu, kwiilayibrari, ezikolweni nakwamanye amahlakani kulo lonke eli loMzantsi Afrika. Ezi ntlelo zikwafumaneka nokuze uzidawunlowude simahla kwiwebhusayithi yethu ethi [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org).

Nalibali promotes the use of the mother tongue as an essential part of reading for enjoyment. For more than ten years, Nalibali has distributed bilingual reading-for-enjoyment supplements free of charge to reading clubs, community organisations, libraries, schools and other partners throughout South Africa. The supplements are also available to download without cost from our website at [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org).

Yandisa ithala lakho leencwadi. Zenzele iincwadana **EZIMBINI** onokuzisika-ze-uzigcine

1. Khupha iphepha lesi-5 ukuya kwele-12 kolu hlelo.
2. Uxwebhu olunamaphepha aqala kwelesi-5, elesi-6, ele-11 nele-12 lwenza incwadi yokuqala. Uxwebhu olunamaphepha aqala kwelesi-7, elesi-8, ele-9 nele-10 lwenza eyesibini incwadi.
3. Sebenzisa uxwebhu ngalunye kula mabini ukwenza incwadana. Landela imiyalelo engezantsi ukwenza incwadi nganye.
  - a) Songa uxwebhu phakathi kumgca wamachaphaza amnyama.
  - b) Phinda ulusonge phakathi kwakhona ulandela umgca wamachaphaza aluhlaza.
  - c) Sika ke ngoku ulandela imigca yamachaphaza abomvu.



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.



UTopo wahlala wathi cwaka ecinga kwisitiphu esingemva sendlu yakowabo. Utata wakhe weza kuhlala ecaleni kwakhe. Utata wayesazi ngendlwana yentaka namqanda ayo, kwaye wabonakala esazi ngeengcinga zikaTopo ezimenza azive enomisingo futhi aphinde abe nosizi. “Ngamanye amaxesha, Topo” watsho utata wakhe “kuyafuneka sizincame izinto sincamele abanye abantu abangenako ukugqina nokomela njengathi. Maxa wambi, kuyafuneka siluyike uluvo lokukhathalelana ibe lulo olubalulekileyo ngapheszu kwemisindo yethu. Luqine nangapheszu kokuzisizela kwethu.”

Utata wamgona wamanga nTopo, wabuya wangena endlwini. UTopo wahlala wathi cwaka wacinga ngezinto azithethileyo utata.

Topo sat still and thoughtful on the back step. Father came to sit next to him. Father knew about the nest and the eggs, and he seemed to know about Topo's angry and sad feelings. “Sometimes, Topo,” said his father, “we need to give things up for others who are not as strong as us. Sometimes, we have to let the caring feeling be stronger than our anger. And stronger than our sadness for ourselves.”

Father hugged Topo and went inside. Topo sat still and thought about what he had said.

**HEARTLINES**  
The Centre for Values Promotion



For more information, please email [info@heartlines.org.za](mailto:info@heartlines.org.za) or phone (011) 771 2540.

Xa ufuna inkcazelo engakumbi nceda uthumele i-imeyili kwidilesi ethi [info@heartlines.org.za](mailto:info@heartlines.org.za) okanye ufowunele kule nombolo (011) 771 2540.

### Get story active!

- ★ Topo chose to leave his tree house for a while so that the dove could nest there. Do you think this was a good choice? What would you have done?
- ★ Read the story again. How can you tell that Topo's father loves him and cares about his feelings?
- ★ Draw a picture for a part of the story that does not have an illustration. Write the story's words under your picture.

### Yenza ibali linike umdla!

- ★ UTopo wakhetha ukuyishiya indlu yakhe esemthini kangangethutyana ukuze ihobe likwazi ukwakha indlwana apho. Ucinga ukuba wenza ukhetho olululo? Ubuya kwenza ntoni wena?
- ★ Phinda ulifunde eli bali. Wazi njani ukuba utata kaTopo uyamthanda kwaye uyikhathalele indlela avakalelwa ngayo?
- ★ Zoba umfanekiso ngenxalenye yebali engenawo umfanekiso. Bhala amagama ebali phantsi komfanekiso wakho.

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](http://www.nalibali.org)



UNal'ibali liphulo likazwelonke lokufundela ukuzonwabisa elinjongo yalo ikukuvuselela nokwendiselisa inkcubeko nesithethe sokufunda kuMzantsi Afrika uphela. Ukuze ufumane iinkcukacha eziithe vetshe, ndwendwela ku-[www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org)



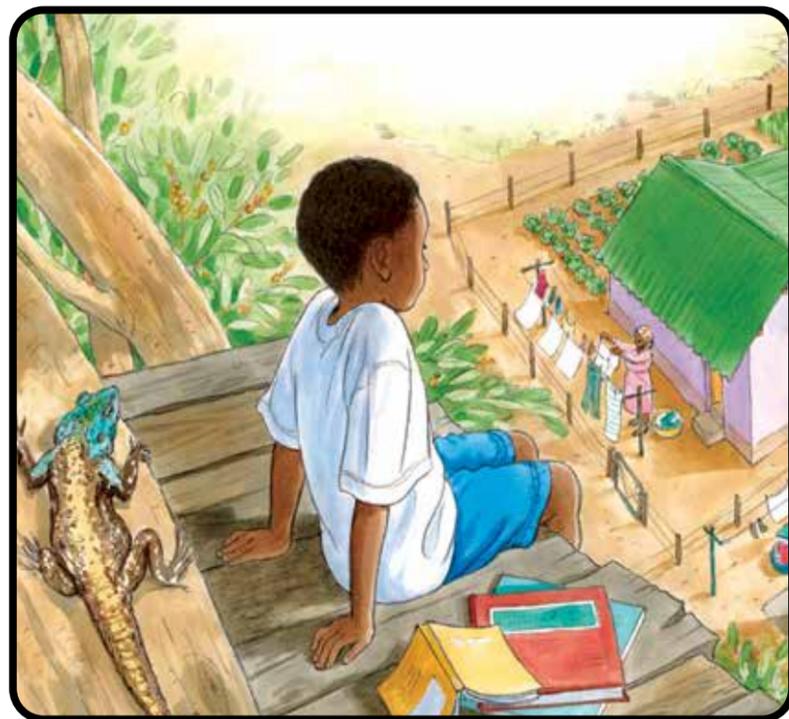
Drive your  
imagination

UTopo waziva elusizi kakhulu. Waziva enomisingo. Wazibona engamcingeli omnye umntu. Indlu yasemthini yayiyeyakhe kwaye wayengafuni ukuphuma kuyo.



Topo felt sad. He felt angry. He felt selfish. The tree house was his place, and he did not want to move out.

## Topo's treehouse



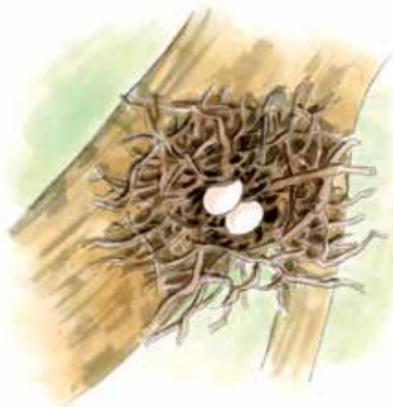
## Indlu kaTopo esemthini

Kopano Sechele • Sally MacLarty

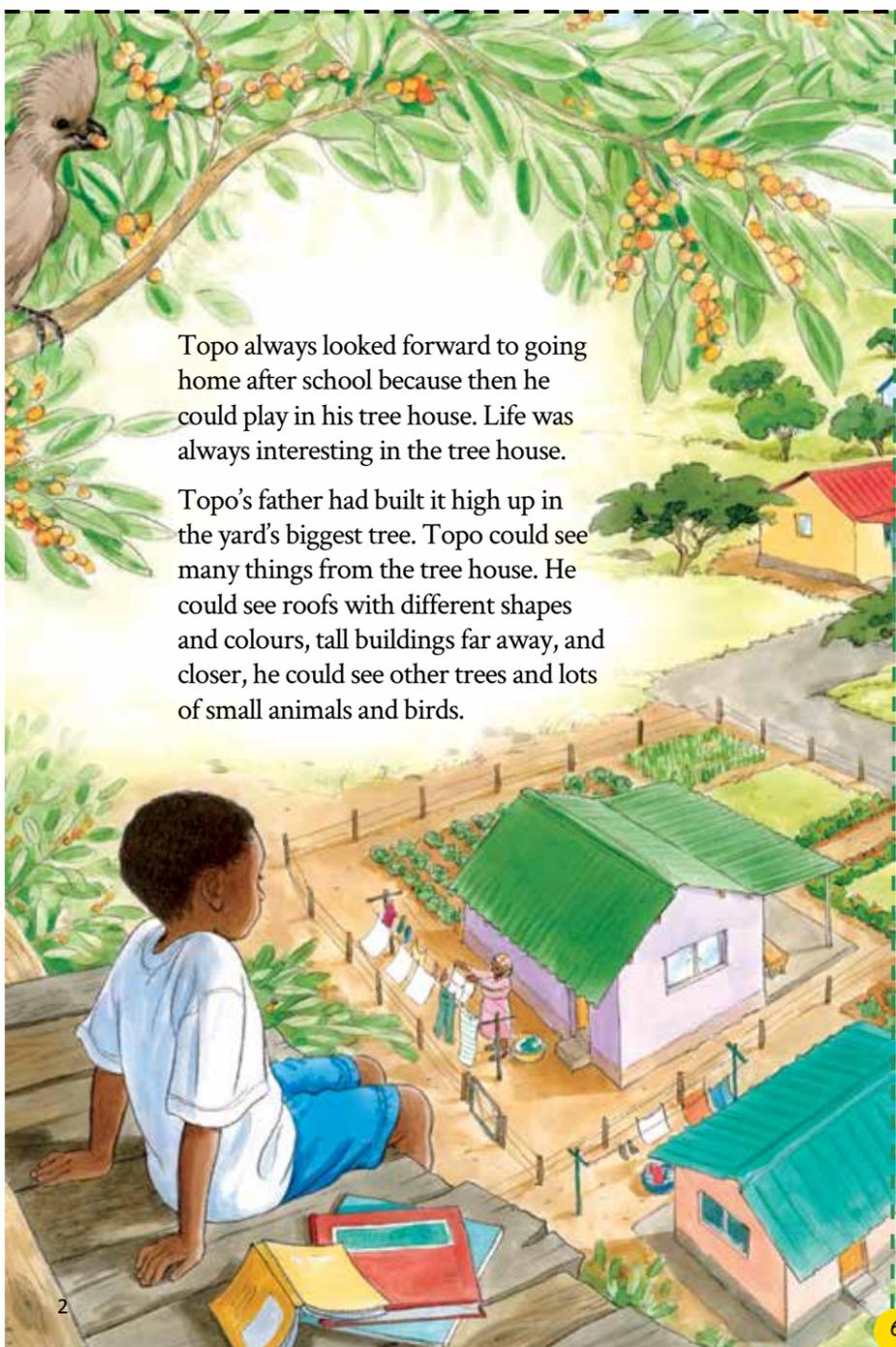
**Ideas to talk about:** Have you ever seen a bird's nest? Nesting birds do not like to be disturbed. If they are disturbed, they may leave the nest, and the eggs will not hatch. What do you think will happen if we disturb many nesting birds?

**Izinto eninokuthetha ngazo:** Wakha wayibona indlwana yentaka? Iintaka ezihleli kwindlwana azithandi kuphazanyiswa. Xa ziphazanyisiwe, zingayishiya loo ndlwana, aze amaqanda angaqanduselwa. Ucinga ukuba kuza kwenzeka ntoni ukuba siphazamisa iintaka ezininzi ezihleli kwiindlwana zazo?

Wathi xa kanye wayesazama ukujongisisa kakuhle, labhabha langena kwakhona ihobe elingumzali wamaqanda. "Hamb' umke apha," labonakala ngokungathi litsho. "Hamb' umke apha." "Yindu yam le," wacinga wenjalo uTopo. "Ndiza kuhambelani ke kuyo?" Kodwa uTopo wayesazi ukuba akazukukwazi ukhlalisana nehobe endlwini yakhe. "Iza kubu ngamaqanda, okanye ibe ndim," wacinga njalo uTopo.



But just as he tried to see better, the mother bird flew into the tree again. "Go away," she seemed to say. "Go away." "This is my tree house," thought Topo. "Why should I go away?" But Topo knew that he couldn't share his tree house with the dove. "It's the eggs or me," he thought.



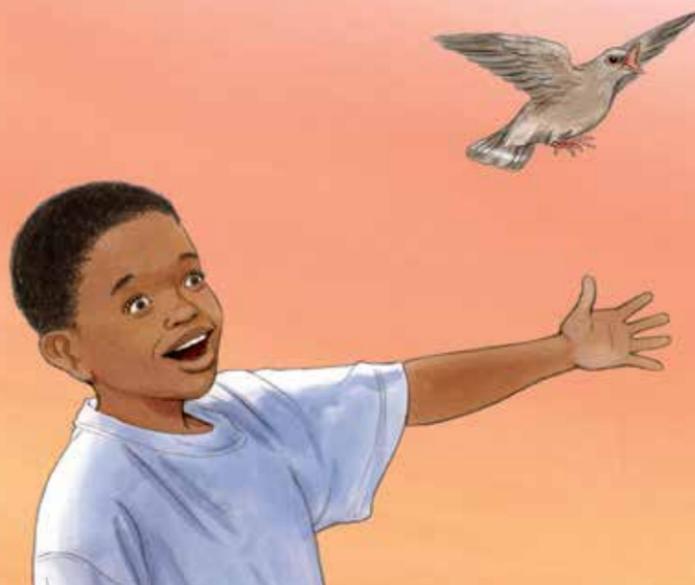
Topo always looked forward to going home after school because then he could play in his tree house. Life was always interesting in the tree house. Topo's father had built it high up in the yard's biggest tree. Topo could see many things from the tree house. He could see roofs with different shapes and colours, tall buildings far away, and closer, he could see other trees and lots of small animals and birds.

UTho wayawathanda amaqanda amahle. Kodwa wayesazi ukuba xa athe wahlala phaya kwindlu yaseMthini naye, amaqanda ayengasayi kuqanduselwa. Ngoke ke wathatha isigqibo: ihobe malyithathe indlu yakhe yaseMthini kangangoko lityituna, yena uza kuhlala kwisetyana elikude kufuphi alibukele. Uthe ngoke ke uTopo wafumana isebe kwelinye icala lendlwana esemthini, wahlala wabukela. Waphela ukuba ihobe lalingawashiyi ithuba elide amaqanda. Ixsha elininzi belihlala phezu kwamaganda, lwakhusela. Kodwa ngenye imini, xa kanye ihobe lalisathe tshalala, kwasuka kwakho umoya omkhulu, aze amasebe omthi aphephuka, enyuka eshla, aphinde aye ngapha nangapha macala onke. Ihobe lalingekho endlwani yalo. UTopo wayekhathazekile ecinga ukuba indlwana yentaka iza kumka nomoya. Walinda, walinda elindele ukuba ihobe libuye.

Topo loved the beautiful eggs. But he knew that if he was in the tree house, the eggs would not hatch. So he made a decision: the dove could have his tree house for as long as she needed it, and he would sit on a branch nearby to watch her. So Topo found a branch on the other side of the tree house and sat and watched. He noticed that the dove never left the eggs for long. She spent most of the time sitting on them to protect them. But one day, while the dove was away, it became very windy, and the branches waved up and down and from side to side. The dove was not at her nest. Topo was worried that the nest would be blown away. He waited and waited for the dove to come back. UTho wayawathanda amaqanda amahle. Kodwa wayesazi ukuba xa athe wahlala phaya kwindlu yaseMthini naye, amaqanda ayengasayi kuqanduselwa. Ngoke ke wathatha isigqibo: ihobe malyithathe indlu yakhe yaseMthini kangangoko lityituna, yena uza kuhlala kwisetyana elikude kufuphi alibukele. Uthe ngoke ke uTopo wafumana isebe kwelinye icala lendlwana esemthini, wahlala wabukela. Waphela ukuba ihobe lalingawashiyi ithuba elide amaqanda. Ixsha elininzi belihlala phezu kwamaganda, lwakhusela. Kodwa ngenye imini, xa kanye ihobe lalisathe tshalala, kwasuka kwakho umoya omkhulu, aze amasebe omthi aphephuka, enyuka eshla, aphinde aye ngapha nangapha macala onke. Ihobe lalingekho endlwani yalo. UTopo wayekhathazekile ecinga ukuba indlwana yentaka iza kumka nomoya. Walinda, walinda elindele ukuba ihobe libuye.

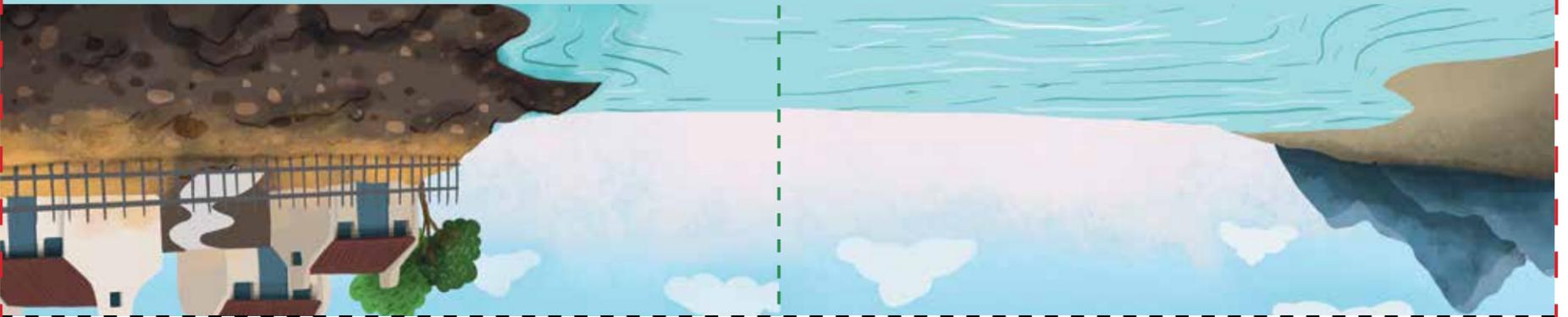
Just as Topo was getting tired, the little dove flapped its wings harder than ever and flew up higher and higher. This time, it did not come down. Topo stopped running, and watched. He watched as the little bird flew further and further and higher and higher. He was so happy he shouted out loud. It felt like he had just learnt to fly too!

Wathi xa kanye aqalisa ukudinwa uTopo, ihobe elincinci lawaphakuzelisa amaphiko alo ngamandla kakhulu kunangaphambili, lanyuka ukuya phezulu, phezulu. Kweli thuba, alizange libuye ihobe elincinci. UTopo wema wayeka ukubaleka, wabukela. Wabukela ngethuba ihobe elincinci libhabha lisiya kude, linyuka ngokunyuka. Wayevuya kakhulu, wakhwaza kakhulu. Waziva ngokungathi naye ukufundile ukubhabha!



UTamkhulu uDawid wancuma. "Ndingathanda ukuphila emhlabeni apho wonke umntu amkhathelelayo omnye. Nokuba ungandiqhatha undiqhathe, ndiza kuhlala ndikuthemba kwaye ndibe ngumhlobo wakho." "Le yeyona nto ibhanxekileyo endakhe ndayiva," yatsho i-galjoen enamehlo amthubi, inyamalala ngaphantsi kwamazaza. Zaqengqeleka inyanaga. UTamkhulu uDawid ngoku wayelambe kakhulu kwaye enqine kangangokuba xa eze ngecala wayengabonakali. Kodwa, waqhubeke nokuloba kwaye enethemba lokubamba into yokutya.

Oom Dawid smiled. "Well, I'd like to live in a world where everyone is kind to each other. So, even if you trick me over and over, I'll always trust you and be your friend." "That's the silliest thing I've ever heard," said the amber-eyed galjoen, disappearing beneath the waves. Months passed. Oom Dawid was now so hungry and skinny that when he turned sideways, you could hardly see him. Still, he kept fishing and hoping to catch something to eat.



Oom Dawid had fished on the West Coast since he was a little boy. Over time, the fish became scarce and Oom Dawid became very hungry and skinny. He could no longer catch enough fish to sell at the market and earn a living. Then, one day, he caught an amber-eyed galjoen!



UTamkhulu uDawid wayelobe kuNxweme OluseNtshona ukusulela oko wayeyinkwenkwana. Ethubeni, iintlanzi zaya zinqaba ibe uTamkhulu uDawid walamba kakhulu waza wabhitya. Wayengasakwazi ukubamba iintlanzi ezaneleyo ukuze athengise emarikeni kwaye azondle naye. Kuthe, ngenye imini, wabambisa i-galjoen enamehlo amthubi!

### Get story active!

- ★ This activity is great to do as a family or with friends.
  - Find or draw pictures of different kinds of sea creatures.
  - Name each sea creature and then cut out the pictures.
  - Place the pictures in a jumbled order on the floor or table.
  - Then call out the name of one of the creatures and take turns to "go fishing" to find it!

### Yenza ibali linike umdla!

- ★ Lo msebenzi mnandi xa uwenza nentsapho okanye nabahlobo.
  - Funani okanye nizobe imifanekiso yezidalwa zaselwandle ezahlukeneyo.
  - Chaza igama lesidalwa saselwandle ngasinye emva koko nisike imifanekiso.
  - Beka imifanekiso phantsi okanye etafileni ngokuyixuba.
  - Emva koko biza igama lesinye sezidalwa nize nitshintshane "ngokuya kuloba" ukuze nisifumane!

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](http://www.nalibali.org)



UNal'ibali liphulo likazwelonke lokufundela ukuzonwabisa elinjongo yalo ikukuvuselela nokwendiselisa inkcubeko nesithethe sokufunda kuMzantsi Afrika uphela. Ukuze ufumane iinkcukacha ezithe vetshe, ndwendwela ku-[www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org)

## The amber-eyed galjoen



## Intlanzi enamehlo amthubi, i-galjoen

Kai Tuomi • Subi Bosa

**Ideas to talk about:** Did you know that the galjoen is South Africa's national fish? What other national symbols do you know? Is it important to keep our promises? What if keeping the promise is difficult or costly, do we still need to keep it?

**Izinto eninokuthetha ngazo:** Ubusazi ukuba i-galjoen yintlanzi yesizwe yaseMzantsi Afrika? Zeziphi ezinye iimpawu zesizwe ozaziyo? Ngaba kubalulekile ukugcina isithembiso? Kuthekani ukuba kunzima okanye kuziindleko ukugcina isithembiso, ngaba kusafuneka sisiphumeze?



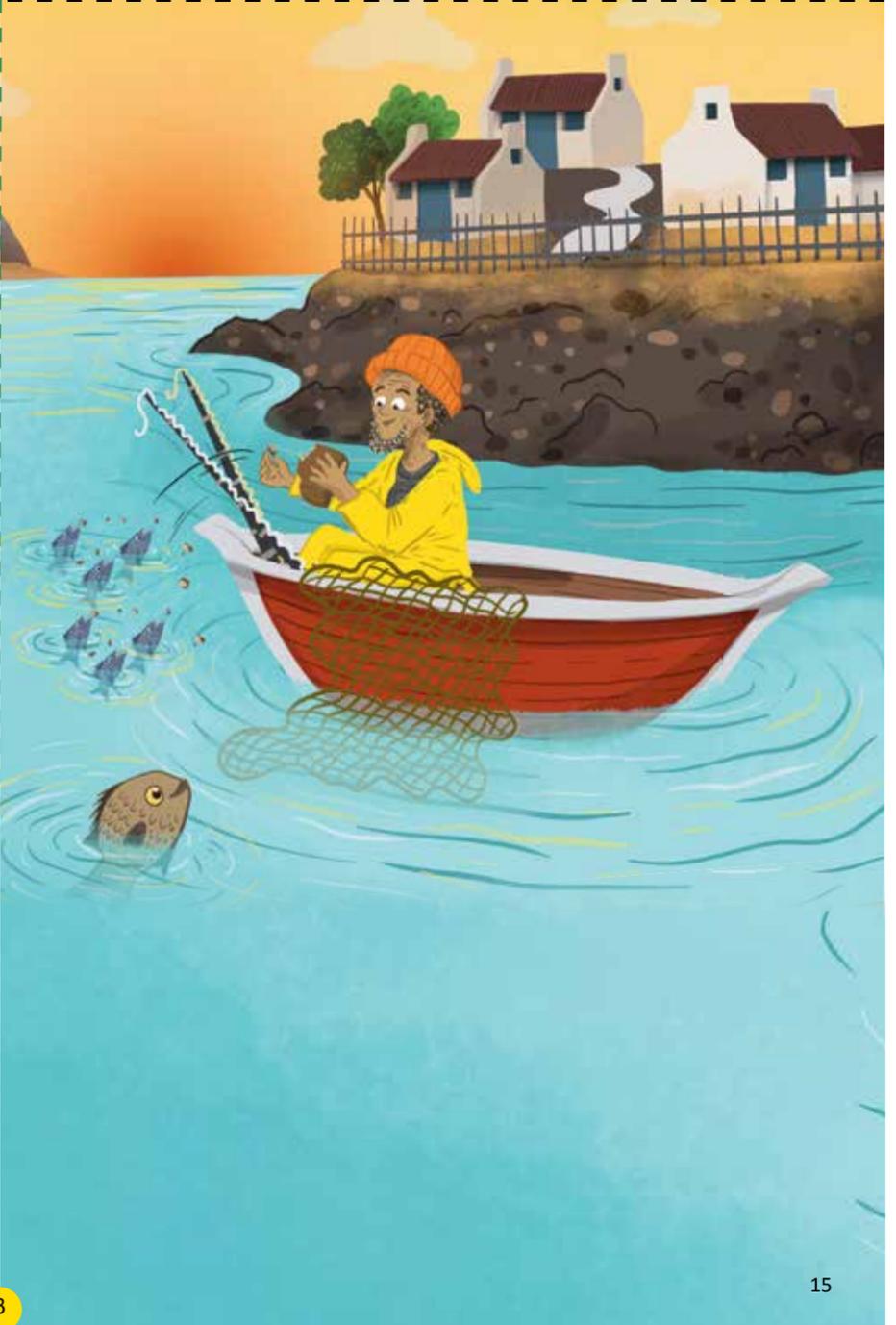
Drive your  
imagination



Intlanzi yamhleka idadela kude. "Ndikugqhatshile! Bekungamelanga undithembe." Emva kweeveki ezininzi, uTamkhulu uDawid wayeloba enzulwini yolwandle, wabona futhi ubugolide nobubomvana emnatheni wakhe. UTamkhulu uDawid wayelambe kakhulu kwaye enqinile, kwakumele anxibe idyasi yakhe enkulu ukuze umoya ungamphethekisi. "Kulungile," yatsho intlanzi, "Uphinde wandibamba. Ukuba undiphosela emanzi, ndiza kukuxelela ngenene imfihlo yokubamba iintlanzi ezininzi." UTamkhulu uDawid wacinga okomzuzwana, nangona isisu sakhe sasikhala, wayiphosela emanzi intlanzi. Kwathi xa seyiphakathi emanzi, intlanzi yahlaka yathi, "Kutheni undithemba kwakhona?"

Oom Dawid had fished since he was a little boy. He caught all kinds of things – yellow-tailed fish, snoek, lobsters that snapped, and sometimes even a seabream or two. But then, suddenly, everything disappeared. Day after day Oom Dawid caught nothing, and he became very hungry. One day, Oom Dawid rowed out into the sea. There he set out his net and waited. A few hours later, he pulled the net back in, hopeful and hungry. He saw a flash of gold and red. In the net was the most beautiful fish he'd ever seen. It was an amber-eyed galjoen.

UTamkhulu uDawid wayengumlobi ukusukela eseyinkwenkwana. Wayebamba zonke iintlobo zezinto – iintlanzi ezinomsila otyheli, usinuku, iinkala ezinqakrazayo kunye nezinye iintlanzi. Kodwa, kwathi ngesiquphe, yonke into yanyamalala. Imini emva kwemini uTamkhulu uDawid awayengabambanga nto ngayo, walamba kakhulu. Ngenye imini, uTamkhulu uDawid waya enzulwini yolwandle. Apho wafika waphosa umnatha wakhe walinda. Emva kweeyure ezimbalwa, watsala umnatha, enethemba kwaye elambile. Wabona ubugolide nobubomvana. Emnatheni, kwakukho eyona ntlanzi intle angazange wakhe wayibona. Yayiyi-galjoen enamehlo amthubi.



Again Oom Dawid caught the amber-eyed galjoen and again he tossed it back into the water when it begged for its life. But this time the amber-eyed galjoen didn't laugh. Instead, it looked at Oom Dawid for a long time, then swam slowly away. Soon Oom Dawid got too hungry to leave his little house. One day, as he sat on his stoep, he saw a flash of gold and red in the waves. It was the amber-eyed galjoen. "I've been thinking about what you said, Oom Dawid. I don't know any secrets about catching plenty of fish, but maybe these will help you," said the fish tossing something to Oom Dawid with a flick of its tail.



Waphinda wabamba i-galjoen enamehlo amthubi, waphinda wayiphosela emanzini xa icengela impilo yayo. Kodwa ngeli ixesha i-galjoen enamehlo amthubi zange ihleke. Kodwa yamjonga uTamkhulu uDawid ixesha elide, yadadela kude ngokucothayo. Kungekudala uTamkhulu uDawid walamba kakhulu engenako nokuphuma endlwini yakhe encinci. Ngenye imini esahleli esitupini, wabona ubugolidana nobubomvana emazeni. Yayiyigaljoen enamehlo amthubi. "Oko ndicinga ngento owayithethayo Mkhulu Dawid. Andazazi iimhlo zakubamba iintlanzi ezininzi, kodwa mhlawumbi oku kungakunceda," yatsho intlanzi iphosela into uTamkhulu uDawid ngomsila wayo.



The next day, Oom Dawid sold the pearls for a lot of money. He bought coffee and food for himself, and a nice loaf of bread to thank the amber-eyed galjoen for the pearls.

That afternoon, Oom Dawid took his little boat out into the sea. He broke the bread into pieces and threw the pieces into the water. He watched as other smaller fish ate them, but he never saw the amber-eyed galjoen again.

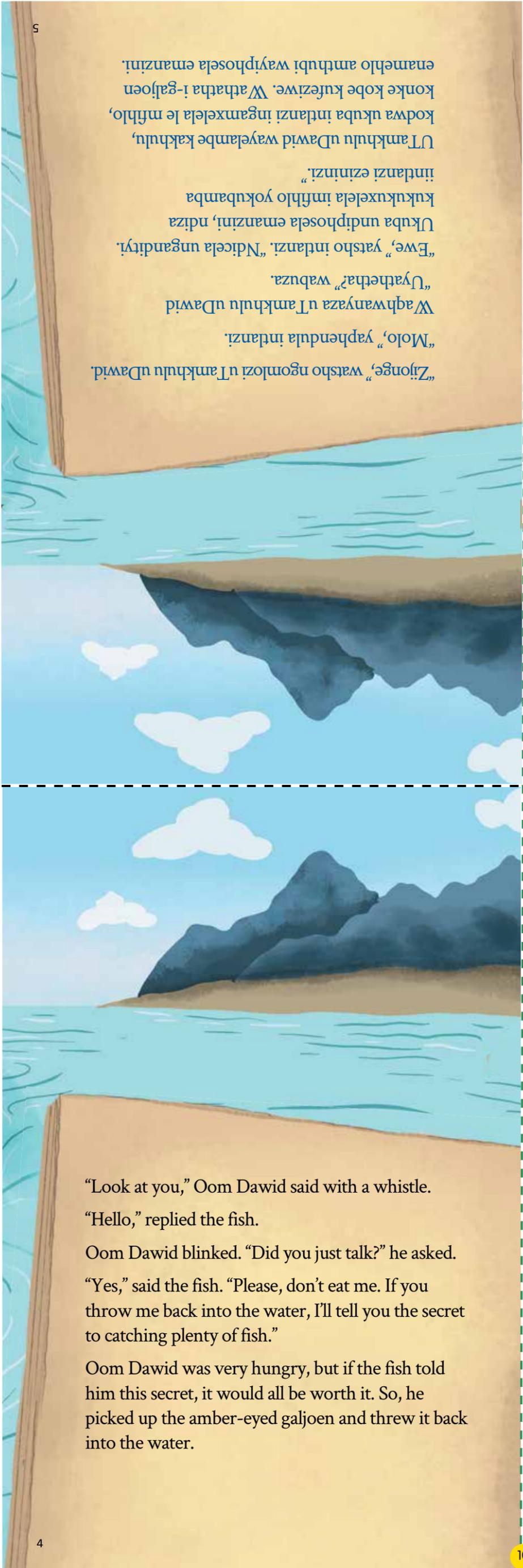
Ngosuku olulandelayo, uTamkhulu uDawid wathengisa amaso ngemali eninzi. Wazithengela ikofu kunye nokutya kunye nelofu yesonka emnandi ukubulela i-galjoen enamehlo amthubi ngamaso.

Ngaloo mva kwemini uTamkhulu uDawid wathatha isikhethshana sakhe waya enzulwini yolwandle. Waqhekeza isonka sangamasuntswana wasiphosa emanzini. Wazibukela ezinye intlanzana zisitya kodwa zange aphinde ayibone i-galjoen enamehlo amthubi.



The fish laughed as it swam off. "I lied to you! You really shouldn't have trusted me." Many weeks later, when Oom Dawid was fishing in the sea, he again saw a flash of gold and red in his net. Oom Dawid was now so hungry and skinny, he had to wear his big jacket so that the wind didn't blow him over. "Okay," said the fish, "you've caught me again. If you throw me back, I'll really tell you the secret to catching plenty of fish." Oom Dawid thought for a moment, and though his tummy rumbled, he tossed the fish back into the water. As soon as it was in the water again, the fish laughed and said, "Why would you trust me again?"





Oom Dawid bent to pick up a small parcel of seaweed tied with amber coral. Inside were three pearls, brilliant and white, and worth a small fortune. “Thank you, my friend,” said Oom Dawid, but the fish was nowhere to be seen.

UTamkhulu uDawid wagoba wachola ipasile yokhula lwaselwandle lubotshwe ngekhorali emthubi. Ngaphakathi kwakukho amaso amathathu, amahle amhlophe kwaye ingawexabiso.

“Enkosi mhlobo wam,” watsho uTamkhulu uDawid, kodwa intlanzi yayingasabonakali ndawo.



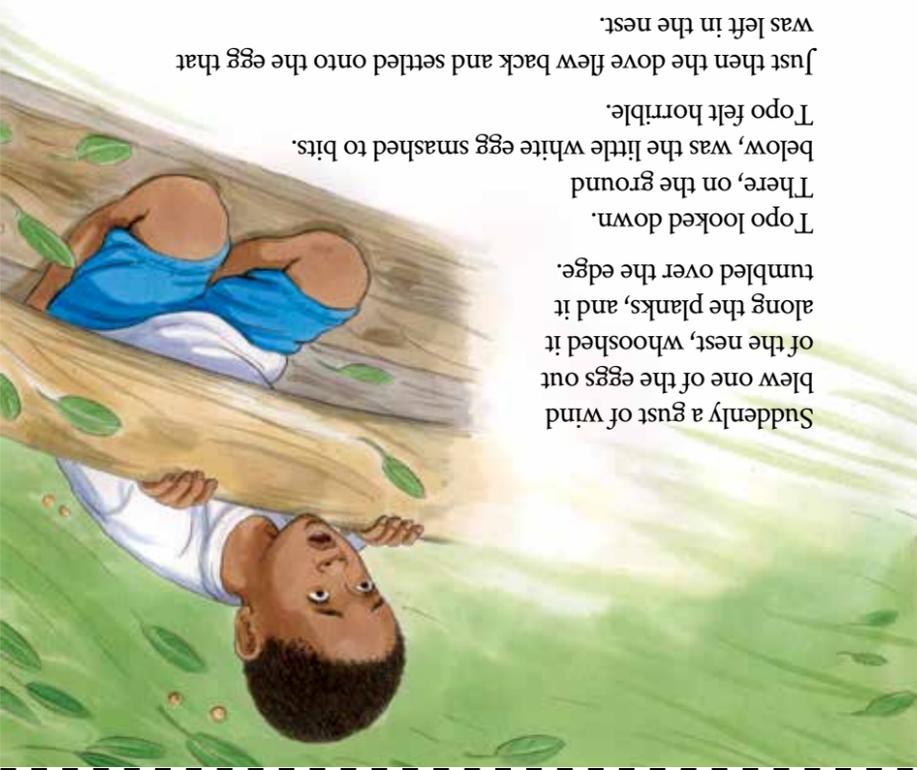
Ngaphanyazo isivuthe-vuthe somoya salithatha elinye iqanda lawela ngaphandle kwendlwana yentaka, lagengqeleka emaplangeni laya kuwa ezantsi. UTopo wajonga ezantsi. Phaya phantsi emhlabeni, nalo iqandana elimhlophe ligubekwe apho lazizicwili. UTopo waziva ekhathazake kakhulu. Kanye ngele xesha labuya ihobe laya kuhlala phezu kweganda elishiyekileyo endlwaneni.



Just then the dove flew back and settled onto the egg that was left in the nest.

Topo felt horrible. There, on the ground below, was the little white egg smashed to bits.

Topo looked down. Tumbled over the edge, along the planks, and it blew one of the eggs out of the nest, whooshed it along the planks, and it tumbled over the edge. Topo looked down. There, on the ground below, was the little white egg smashed to bits.



After school each day, Topo sat and watched the nest. The mother dove spent most of her time with her little dove. It grew bigger and bigger. It spent a lot of time flapping, flapping, flapping its wings.

One morning, as Topo was walking out of the kitchen, he stopped suddenly. There was the little dove in front of him on the grass, trying, trying, trying to fly. Topo was very excited, but he stood very still and watched.

The little dove flapped its wings very hard and flew up into the air for a short distance, then came down again. Topo followed the little dove across the yard and over the fence. The little dove tried over and over and over again.

Yonke imihla ukubuya kwakhe esikolweni uTopo wayesiya kuhlala emthini agade indlwana yehobe. Umama wehobe wayechitha ixesha elininzi ehleli nentshontsho lakhe. Ihobe elincinci laya likhula ngokukhula. Ixesha elininzi lalichitha ngokuphaphazela, liphaphazele, liphaphazelisa amaphiko alo.

Ngenye intsasa, xa uTopo wayephuma ekhithshini, wasuka wema bunxe. Nalo ihobe elincinci phambi kwakhe engceni, lizama, lizama, lizama ukubhabha. UTopo wavuya kakhulu akubona oku, kodwa wema ethe cwaka, wabukela.

Ihobe elincinci laphaphazelisa amaphikwana alo kakhulu lanyuka laya phezulu, ixeshana elifutshane, labe labuyela phantsi. UTopo walilandela ihobe elincinci kuloo yadi yakowabo, liqabela nasecingweni. Ihobe elincinci lamana lizama, liphinde lizame, liphinde lizame.

Ngemini elandelayo akuba ebuyile esikolweni uTopo warhbuluza apho kwindlu yakhe esemthini, wachwechwa ekroba indlwana yentaka leyo. Wabona amaganda amabini elapho. La maganda mahle kakhulu; amonwabisa kakhulu uTopo. Wayesazi ukuba kuloo maganda kuza kuphuma amahotyezana amancinci.

The next day after school Topo crept up into the tree house and looked into the nest. He saw two eggs there. The eggs were beautiful; they made Topo happy. He knew that young doves would hatch out of those eggs.



UTopo wayesoloko eyithanda into yokugoduka ukuphuma kwesikolo, ukuze athi akufika ekhaya aye kudlala kwindlu yakhe esemthini. Ubomi bebusoloko bunomdla kwindlu yakhe yasemthini.

Utata kaTopo wayemakhele phaya phezulu kowona mthi mkhulu kwiyadi yakhe. UTopo wayekwazi ukubona izinto ezininzi ezenzekayo xa ekule ndlu yakhe esemthini. Wayekwazi ukubona iindidi zamaphahla ezindlu ezinemibala ngemibala, izakhiwo ezide ezikude nezikufuphi, eminye imithi nezilwanyana neentaka ezininzi nezincinci.



UTopo wahlala ixesha elide kwisitephu sangasemva sendlu yakowabo ngaloo mini. Kwakhona utata wakhe waphinda wafika wahlala ecaleni kwakhe. "Owu Topo," watsho utata, "ubomi busoloko bubonakala njengento engenancoba. Asingekhe sisoloko sisazi ukuba kutheni na izinto zisuka zenzeke ngohlobo oluthile. Kodwa kuhle xa ubonakalisa inkathalo. Ndiyazi ukuba ngenye imini uyakukhula ube ngutata olungileyo oya kubathanda abakhusele abantwana bakhe."

Bobabini bahlala apho bacinga ngeqanda elaphukileyo, nehobe elabuya lahlala ngobugorha likhusele iqanda elalishiyeke endlwaneni.

UTopo sat on the back step for a long time that afternoon. Once again, Father came and sat beside him. "Oh, Topo," he said, "life often seems unfair. We cannot always understand why things happen the way they do. But it is good that you care. I know that one day you will grow up to be a good father who will love and protect his children."

Together they sat and thought about the broken egg and the little dove who sat bravely protecting the egg that was still in the nest.

Ngenye imini uTopo waqaphela ukuba kukho inqumbana encinci eyenziwe ngeentsasana zomthi kwelinye lamasebe awayekufuphi nendlwana yakhe esemthini. Ihobe labhabha leza emthini landandazela phezu kwaloo ndawo. Kodwa lathi lakubona uTopo loyika. Laphinda labhabha lemka. Kungoko ke uTopo wabona ukuba makazimele kwisebe lomthi elikwelinye icala athi cwaka. Laphinda labuya ihobe, labona ukuba akukho ngozi ngoku kuthe cwaka, laphinda lapakisha ezinye iintsasana kwakula nqumba.

Yathi yakuba nkulu inqumba, lahlala zole phezu kwayo ihobe. Lalikhangeleleka lihleli kamnandi kakhulu ngalo mzuzu.

Sometimes, Topo would take his books into the tree house and read. It was good to read there because it was quiet, with just the birds singing. Other times, he just sat and watched. He wondered how far the birds flew and what stories they were telling other birds about the distant places they had been to.

One day, Topo noticed a small pile of twigs on one of the branches that grew very near to his tree house. A dove flew into the tree and fluttered about. But it had seen Topo and was afraid. It flew away again. So Topo crept to a branch on the other side of the tree house and sat very still. The dove came back, saw that it was safe, and piled on more twigs.

When the pile was big enough, the dove settled on it. She looked very comfortable.

Maxa wambi ebeye athathe iincwadi zakhe akhwele nazo kule ndlwana yasemthini afundele apho. Kwakumnandi kakhulu ukufundela phaya kuba kwakuzolile kuvakala intsholo yeentaka kuphela. Maxa wambi ebeye ahlale nje abukele. Ebeye amane ecinga imimangaliso yokuba ingaba iintaka ezi zibhabha ziye kuma phi, kwaye mabali mani eziye ziwabalisele ezinye iintaka xa zibalisa ngeendawo ezikude ezikhe zaya kuzo.



Each day when Topo came back from school he checked the nest to make sure that the egg was there.

One day, as he peeked into the nest, he saw an ugly creature with a big mouth. It was very small and had no feathers. Topo slid down the tree and ran to tell his father.

Mini nganye ukubuya kwakhe esikolweni, uTopo wayekroba endlwaneni eqinisekisa ukuba iqanda lisekho kusini na.

Ngenye imini wathi xa ekroba endlwaneni, wabona into embi enomlomo omkhulu. Yayincinci kakhulu ingenazo neentsiba. UTopo waqengqeleka ukwehla oku emthini, wabaleka ukuya kuxelela utata wakhe.

# Ukufunda nokubhala kwam, ukwimi lwam, ilifa lam!



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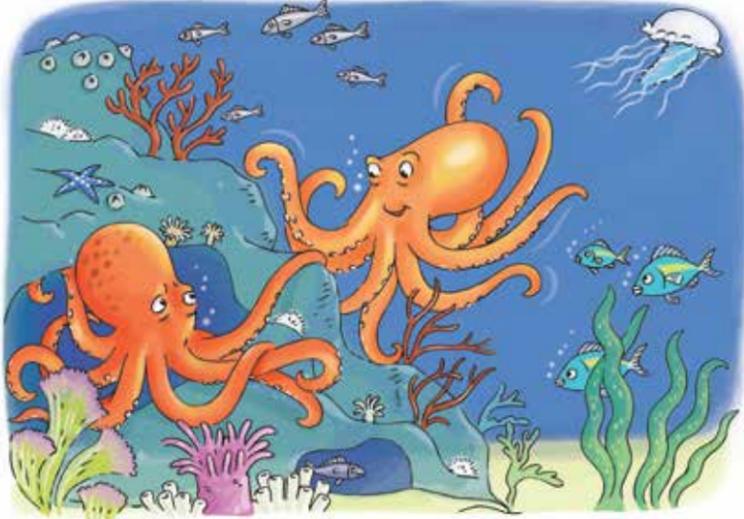
## Ukusinda cebetshu



Libhalwe nguLesley Foster Imizobo izotywe nguJiggs Snaddon-Wood

UOlwethu, ingwane, wayephumle kudini lvelitye elikwidama elikhulu elikufutshane nolwandle. Wayesoyika. Wayeqala ukuba kude kangaka nedama lakowabo elikuqaqa lolwandle. Wayesoloko eziva ekhuselekile kuqaqa lolwandle, ekude lee nonxweme kunye nabantu. Kodwa kwiintsuku ezimbalwa ezidluleyo, umza wakhe, uOscar, wayeye wamcela umngeni ukuba ahambe naye baye kubuka amadama akufutshane nonxweme abaqubha kulo abantu.

"Indikruqule le ndawo. Ndifuna ukukhe ndibone ezinye iindawo. Masiqubhe kunye, Olwethu," watsho.



UOlwethu wayemcengile ukuba bangahambi, kodwa uOscar wayengammameli ibe wayesoloko esenza into ayifunayo. Ngoku, wayesele eneentsuku emkile. Yiloo nto uOlwethu wayegqibe kwelokuba aye kumkhangela. Wamkhangela wada waya kufika kweli dama likufutshane nonxweme abaqubha kulo abantu apho, ekugqibeleni, wafumana izilo zaselwandle ezazingamxelela ukuba kwenzeka ntoni kuOscar.

"Ebethanda ukwazi kakhulu kodwa naye," yatsho istarfish ilusizi.

Ii-sea anemone zawangazelisa iingalo zazo zivumelana nayo, "Simlumkisile ukuba alumkele izinto ezimibalabala ezidangazela emanzini," zatsho.

Unonkala wohlobo lwehermit wakhupha intloko yakhe eqokobheni wathi, "Umlobi uvuye gqitha akubambisa ingwane."

UOlwethu waba buhlungu kakhulu. Kwakuza kufuneka abuyele kwidama lakowabo eyedwa. Kuthe, esaqubha njalo phantsi kodini, ecinga ngendlela amkhumbula ngayo uOscar, ngesiquphe weva amazwi abantu. Uthe uOlwethu xa ekroba, wabona intombazanana, umama wayo nomakhulu wayo eludinini lwedama. Babejonge phantsi emanzini.

Njengoko uOlwethu wayentywila etshona phantsi kodini, weva umakhulu ekhwaza, "Viwe, jonga, nantsiya ingwane! Uyayibona phantsi kodini?"

UOlwethu wakhawuleza watshintsha umbala ukuze afane namatye nokhula lwaselwandle olumngqongileyo.

Kodwa uViwe wayembhaqile. "Ewe! Jonga, ndicinga ukuba izama ukuzifihla," watsho, esalatha kwindawo awayekuyo uOlwethu.

Uthe akukhumbula into eyayenzeke kuOscar, uOlwethu wagqiba kwelokuba abalekele kwindawo ekhuselekileyo. Wathi tshe, waphuma phantsi kodini waya kuzifihla kwikhusi lelitye elikhudlwana. Kodwa into eyamothusa wabanda kukuba, le ntombazanana yaqubha emanzini yaza yahlala phezu kwelo litye likhulu kanye phezu kwendawo uOlwethu awayezifihle kuyo. Le ntombazana yayiphethe into enemibala eqaqambileyo esandleni, kodwa uOlwethu wayengayazi ukuba yintoni.

UOlwethu kwakukudala wayithanda imibala eqaqambileyo. Idama lakhe kuqaqa lwaselwandle lwalubhanyabhanya yimibala. Lwalunee-anemone ezibomvu, ii-chitin ezimenyezelayo, ukhula lwaselwandle oluluhlaza nee-starfish ezininzi ezintle. UOlwethu wayeyiqonda indlela uOscar atsalwe ngayo yiflowuti emibalabala eyayisetyenziswe ngabalobi ukuze bambame.

Ekulo ndawo azifihle kuyo uOlwethu wabona le nto ipinki iqaqambileyo ingena emanzini ize idlule kuye. Engacinganga, ngobunono wayibhijela ngenye yeengalo zakhe waza, xa kungenzeki nto, waqalisa ukuyibhijela nangenye ingalo.

Emva koko weva intombazanana ikhwaza, "Jonga, Mama, ingwane ibambe isnorkel sam."

UOlwethu wothuka kangokuba wayiqinisa le nto. Intombazanana yolula ingalo yasibamba isnorkel sayo. Ithe yakuva ukuba kukho into esitsalayo, le ntombazanana nayo yasitsala.

"Mama, ingwane ayifuni kusiyeka isnorkel sam!" watsho uViwe, eqalisa ukuphakuzela.



"Yhoo," ngesiquphe wacinga watsho uOlwethu, "Nam ndenza ubudenge obenziwe nguOscar! Ukuba andilumkanga, nam ndiza kubanjiswa!"

Ngokukhawuleza, wayiyeka le nto. Isnorkel sapoqa emanzini, noViwe waphantsa wawa elityeni aye kutshona ngomva emanzini.

UMakhulu wahleka, "Unethamsanqa nyhani, Viwe. Ubone ingwane waza waphantsa wayibambisa!"

"Ewe," watsho uViwe enemincili, "nengwane iphantse yasithatha isnorkel sam!"

Ndisinde cebetshu apha, wacinga uOlwethu njengoko wayeqalisa ukuqubha abuyele kwidama lakowabo kuqaqa lwaselwandle. Njengoko wayefunxa amanzi aze awatshice, kungekudala wayesenza amatshane emanzini esiya kude nengozi.

Xa emgama, weva ilizwi likamakhulu kaViwe lisithi, "Yho! Khawujonge la ngwane indlela ehamba ngayo, Viwe! Ibaleka emanzini ngathi yinqwelomoya ibhabha esibhakabhakeni."

Kodwa uOlwethu akazange eme ukuze eve into eyathethwa nguViwe. Phofu, akazange ayeke ukuqubha de wafika kwindawo ekhuselekileyo kuqaqa lwaselwandle.

### Yenza ibali linike umdla!

- ★ Wakha waluthatha uhambo lokuya kubuka indawo? Waziva njani? Ngoba?
- ★ Zoba umfanekiso wengwane. Ingwane iyakwazi ukutshintsha imibala! Ngoko ungayifaka umbala okanye iphatheni ebangela umdla.

- ★ Yenza ipowusta yoMntu Olahlekileyo. Zoba umfanekiso walo mntu ulahlekileyo uze ubhale igama, ubudala nengcaciso yokuba unjani ngezantsi komfanekiso.



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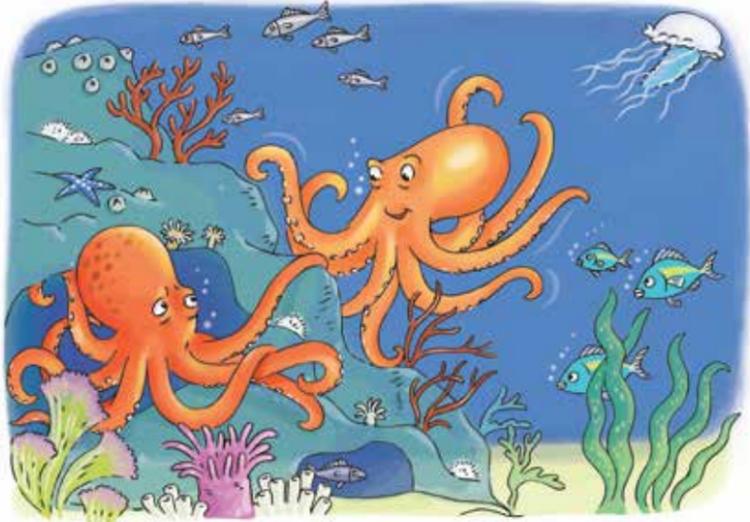
## Lucky escape

By Lesley Foster ■ Illustrations by Jiggs Snaddon-Wood



Olwethu, the octopus, rested under the ledge of rock in a large pool near the beach. She was afraid. She had never been this far from her own pool out on the reef. She always felt safe on the reef, tucked away far from the shore and humans. But a few days ago, her cousin, Oscar, had dared her to go on an adventure with him to explore the pools near the beach.

"It's so boring here. I want to see the world. Swim away with me, Olwethu," he had said.



Olwethu had begged him not to go, but Oscar never listened to her and always did just what he wanted. Now, he had been gone for some days. That's why Olwethu had decided to look for him. Her search had brought her to this pool near the beach where, at last, she had found sea creatures who could tell her what had happened to Oscar.

"He was far too curious for his own good," said the starfish sadly.

The sea anemones waved their tentacles in agreement, "We warned him to be careful of colourful things dangling in the water," they said.

The hermit crab stuck his head out of his shell and said, "The fisherman was so happy to have caught an octopus."

Olwethu was very sad. She would have to return to her pool on the reef alone. Then, as she floated under the ledge, thinking about how much she missed Oscar, she suddenly heard human voices. When Olwethu peeped out, she saw a little girl, her mother and her granny at the edge of the pool. They were staring down into the water.

As Olwethu ducked back under the ledge, she heard the granny call out, "Viwe, look, there is an octopus! Can you see it under the ledge?"

Olwethu quickly changed colour so that she would blend in with the rocks and sea weeds around her.

But Viwe had seen her. "Yes! Look, I think it's trying to hide," she said, pointing to where Olwethu was.

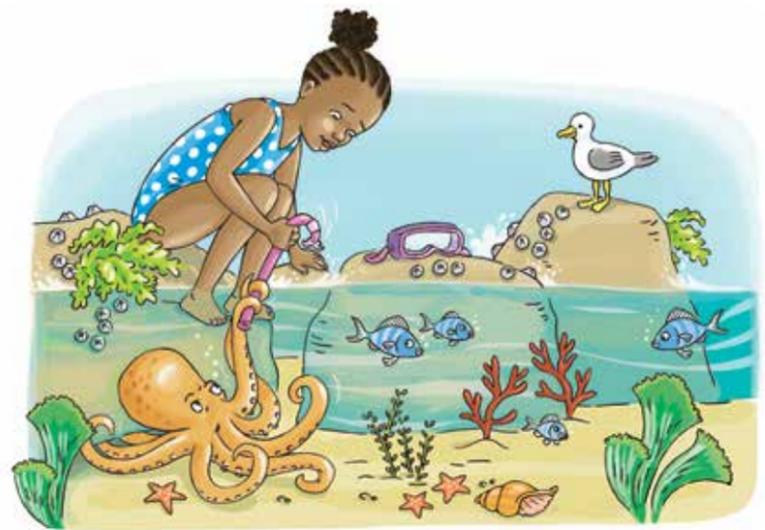
Remembering what had happened to Oscar, Olwethu decided to make a dash for safety. Quick as a flash, she slipped out from under the ledge to hide in the shelter of a bigger rock. But to her horror, the little girl waded through the water and sat on the big rock right above where Olwethu was hiding. The girl was holding something brightly coloured in her hand, but Olwethu didn't know what it was.

Olwethu had always loved bright colours. Her own pool back on the reef was so colourful. It was filled with red anemones, shiny chitins, green seaweeds and many beautiful starfish. Olwethu could understand how Oscar had been drawn to the brightly coloured float that the fisherman had used to catch him.

From her hiding place Olwethu saw the bright pink object slipping down into the water and past her. Without thinking, she gently slid one of her tentacles around the object and, when nothing happened, she began to wind a second tentacle around it.

Then she heard the little girl call out, "Look, Mama, the octopus has got my snorkel."

Olwethu got such a fright that she tightened her grip on the object. The little girl reached down and grabbed her snorkel. Feeling the tug on it, the little girl gave it a tug too.



"Mama, the octopus won't let my snorkel go!" said Viwe, starting to panic.

"Oh no," thought Olwethu suddenly, "I am being just as silly as Oscar was! If I'm not more careful, I am going to get caught too!" Quickly, she let go of the object. The snorkel popped out of the water with a splash, and Viwe nearly fell off the rock backwards into the water.

Gogo laughed, "What a lucky girl you are, Viwe. You saw an octopus and nearly caught one too!"

"Yes," said Viwe excitedly, "and the octopus nearly caught my snorkel!"

What a lucky escape I had, thought Olwethu as she started to swim back towards her pool on the reef. Sucking in water and squirting it out, she was soon shooting through the water and away from danger.

In the distance, she heard Viwe's granny say, "Wow! Look at that octopus move, Viwe! It's speeding through the water like an aeroplane flies through the sky."

But Olwethu didn't stop to hear what Viwe said. In fact, she didn't stop swimming until she got back to the safety of the reef.

### Get story active!

- ★ Have you ever been on an adventure? How did you feel? Why?
- ★ Draw a picture of an octopus. An octopus can change colour! So you can colour it in an interesting colour or pattern.

- ★ Make a poster for a missing person. Draw a picture of the missing person and write their name, age and a description of their appearance below the picture.

