

NKANDZIYISO 200  
EDITION 200

Xitsonga  
English



**Tsaka  
na hina!**

**Celebrate  
with us!**



Lowu i nkandziyiso wo hlawuleka swinene wa Xiengetelo xa Nal'ibali – i nkandziyiso wa **VU-200**, kasi hi tlangela N'hwetlhi yo Dyondza ku Hlaya ni ku Tsala! N'hwetlhi yo Dyondza ku Hlaya ni ku Tsala yi tlangeriwa hi vanhu lava hisekelaka dyondzo ya ku hlaya ni ku tsala emisaveni hinkwayo. Lembe na lembe, hi n'hwetlhi leyi, Nal'ibali yi endla matshalatshala yo hlawuleka etikweni, yi lemukisa vanhu hi ndlela leyi ku hlayela vana ni ku tsala na vona swi va pfunaka hayona leswaku va antswisa vuswikoti bya ku hlaya ni ku tsala.

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.

### Nkoka wa ku dyondza ku hlaya ni ku tsala

Ku hlaya ni ku tsala i mhaka ya nkoka swinene evuton'wini bya hina. Swi hi pfuna ku endla swilo swo olova swa nkoka, swo tanihi ku tata fomo kumbe ku hlaya swiletelo ebodlheleni ra murhi wa vutshunguri. Kambe ku kota ku hlaya ni ku tsala swi katsa ni swin'wana. Swi katsa ku va ni matimba yo swi tirhisa ku dyondza; ku va ni mavonelo man'wana hi misava; ni ku kumisisa hi tlhela hi hlamusela leswi hi swi anakanyaka, leswi hi titwisaka swona ni leswi hi swi tivaka.



### 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.

Ku sukela eka Nkandziyiso 196, xiengetelo xa Nal'ibali xa tindzimi timbirhimbirhi xi sungule ku kumeka hi tindzimi ta 11 ta ximfumo ta laha Afrika Dzonga!

### Swihinga swa ku dyondza ku hlaya ni ku tsala

Ku ni swivangelo swo tala swa ku va vanhu va nga lavi ku dyondza ku hlaya ni ku tsala. Swivangelonkulu hileswi va nga riki na swona leswi va swi lavaka leswaku va dyondza vutshila lebyi. Leswaku va va ni torha ra ku dyondza ku hlaya ni ku tsala, vanhu va lava minkandziyiso leyinene, ya mahala ni leyi swi olavaka ku yi kuma hi tindzimi leti va ti lavaka.

### 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.

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

### Hi fikelele yini?

Ku sukela hi 2012, Nal'ibali yi endle leswaku tibuku na mintsheketo – na xiengetelo xa hina xa tindzimi timbirhimbirhi – swi kumeka mahala hi vunyingi bya tindzimi ta ximfumo ta Afrika Dzonga. Website ya hina, [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org), na yona yi na mintsheketo, swintirhwana na switsundzuxo swo hlayela vana, leswi kumekaka hi tindzimi to hambanahambana. Vatshila va hina eku Hlayeni ni le ku Tsaleni, va Funda Leaders na Story Sparkers va tirha emadorobeni ni le matikoxikaya va yisela vaakatiko tibuku ta mahala va tlhela va va letela, kun'we ni ku va pfuna leswaku va simeka swikimi swa ku hlaya kwalaho.

Hi kombela u hi endzela eka Facebook, Twitter kumbe Instagram u hi byela vonelo ra wena hi ntirho lowu wo dyondzisa ku hlaya ni ku tsala lowu Nal'ibali yi wu endleke ku fikela sweswi!



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.



**IT STARTS WITH  
A STORY.**  
**SWI SUNGULA HI  
NTSHEKETO**

# Mbewu Ya Dyondzo!

Mintlangu ya vana va le hansi ka lembe  
ku fikela eka 6 wa malembe

## Literacy Seeds!

Activities for children 0-6 years



Eka vatswari ni vahlayisi va vana lavatsongo, eka nkandziyiso lowu hi ta vulavula hi nkoka wa ku tlanga ni vana va n'wina ni ku va tshika va "kongomisa" ntlangu.

Loko mi tlanga na vana va n'wina, mi ta va mi endla kahle loko mi va tshika va rhangela entlangwini. Sweswo mi nga swi endla hi ku xiya leswi va swi vulaka kumbe ku swi endla, ivi mi landzelela nkongomiso wa vona hi ku endla swilo swa kona leswaku ntlangu wu ya emahlweni. Leswi swi ta endla vana va tsakela ntlangu wa kona; naswona loko vana va kota ku tsakela nchumu wokarhi, hakanyingi va ta kota ku dyondza marito lamantshwa ni vutshila byin'wana.

Ku rhangela entlangwini nakambe swi ta va pfuna ku va ni vuswikoti byo vulavurisana ni van'wana ni ku tiyiseka hi malawulelo ya swilo leswi nga ekusuhi na vona.

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.



### Ndlela yo landzelela vukongomisi bya n'wana entlangwini

- Xiya leswi n'wana a swi tsakelaka, leswi a tlangaka ha swona, kumbe leswi a rhandzaka ku swi endla.
- N'wi vutise loko a ku pfumelela ku tlanga na yena.
- Encenyeta leswi n'wana a swi endlaka. Loko a ku khunguluxela bolo, na wena yi khunguluxele eka yena.
- Vutisa swivutiso kumbe u vula swokarhi hi leswi mi swi endlaka mi ri vambirhi.
- Loko n'wana a sungula ku tlanga ntlangu wun'wana, cinca na wena u tlanga na yena ntlangu wa kona.



### 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.



### Hambi ku ri swihlangi swi nga rhangela hi nkarhi wo tlanga.

- ★ Xiya leswi n'wana a swi languteke ivi u swi tshineta eka yena. N'wi tshike a ringeta ku swi fumbarhela kumbe ku swi hlunguhla.
- ★ Vulavula na yena. Vulavula kahle hi ririmi ro olova. Vulavula hi ku nonoka, phindha marito, u cincacinca na nghohe.<sup>1</sup>



### 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>

### Ku tlanga mi ri ntlawa

Mintlangu ya mintlawa hakanyingi yi va kona kan'we hi vhiki laha vana lava nga si yaka exikolweni va tlangaka ni vatswari kumbe vahlayisi va vona. Vana va nga:

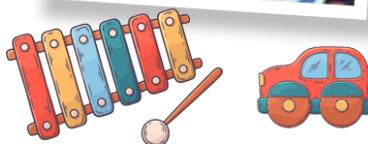
- tsakela ku pfulapfula tibuku ni ku yingisela vuyimbeleri.
- ringeta mintlangu yintshwa na tiithoyi.
- tlanga ni vana lava siyanaka hi malembe.
- dyondza ndlela yo hungasa ni vanhu lavakulu lava nga riki vatswari kumbe vahlayisi va vona.
- dyondza ku avelana swilo, ku siyerisana ni ku endla vanghana.



### 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.



## Mintlangu ya mintlawwa yi vuyerisa vatswari na vahlayisi va vana.

Mi nga:

- \* tivana ni van'wana ni ku endla vanghana vantshwa.
- \* nyikana switsundzuxo, maendlelo ya swilo ni mintokoto.
- \* dyondza eka vatswari van'wana ni vahlayisi va vana.
- \* dyondza hi tikhrexe, swikolo ni swin'wana leswi kumekaka emugangeni wa ka n'wina.



## 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.

## Mintlangu ya mahala ni leyi nga durhiki

Ntlangu a swi lavi wu va wo durha ngopfu. Swilo swo antswa leswi vana lavatsongo va nga tlangaka ha swona hi leswi nga tirhisiwaka hi tindlela to tala hi vana lava siyanaka hi malembe.

Swiluva, matluka na swimhandzana, sava na mati, swi kona kwihi na kwihi naswona a swi xaviwi! Kambe ximhandzana xi nga tirhisiwa ku fana na tlhari, xipedi kumbe nhonga ya masalamusi. Xi nga tirhisiwa ku aka, ku xi tlula hi le henhla kumbe ku pima hi xona.

Loko vana va vona swilo hi tihlo ra mianakanyo, va tlhantlha swiphiso, va tirhisa miri ni mianakanyo ya vona loko va ri eku tlangeni, va dyondza swilo swintshwa va tlhela va kula emianakanyweni ni le mirini.



## 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.



## Swilo swo tlanga ha swona

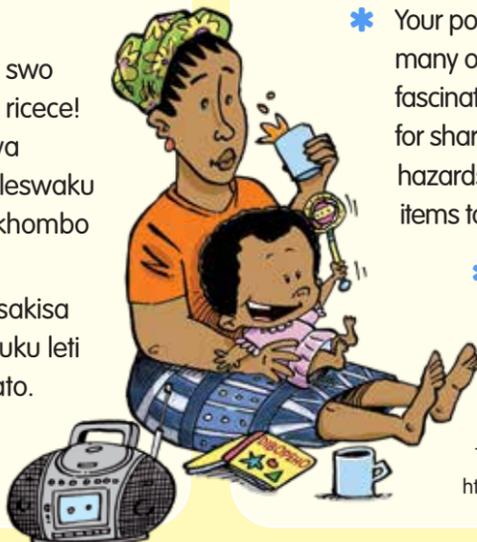
- \* Vana lavatsongo va rhandza ku hungasa na n'wina ku tlula ku tirhisa tiithoyi. Va rhandza ku mi nyanga exikandzeni, va yingisela rito ra n'wina, ni ku dzumba na n'wina.
- \* Tincece ti rhandza tiithoyi ta mihlovo yo koka mahlo ni leti endlaka mimpfumawulo ya ku banana ka swilo. Nakambe ti rhandza tiithoyi leti nga na swikandza kumbe leti khavisiweke, leti nga ni voya, silika, kumbe to rhetela, ku fana na tibere kumbe tibuku ta malapi.
- \* Tincece ti rhandza ku yingisela vuyimbeleri byo chayela ehansi kumbe mimpfumawulo ya swiharhi leyi tirhisiwaka eka swiphato swa tindzumulo.
- \* Mapoto, tipani, tikhonthena ta plastiki ni swilo swo tala leswi tolovelekeke ekaya swa tsakisa eka ricece! Loko u nga si nyika n'wana nchumu wa le kaya leswaku a tlanga ha wona, rhang a u tiyiseka leswaku a nge tivavisi, a vindziwa kumbe a weriwa hi khombo rin'wana.
- \* Ku hlaya ni tincece hi xin'wana xa swilo swo tsakisa swinene leswi u nga swi endlaka. Hlawula tibuku leti nga ni swifaniso swo koka mahlo ni ta swiphato.

## 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.

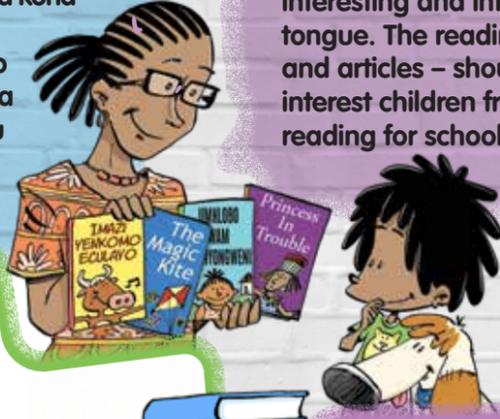
Leswi swi sekeriwe eka rungula leri kumekaka eka <https://raisingchildren.net.au>.

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



# Ku dyondza ku hlaya ni ku tsala hi ririmi ra manana

Ku dyondza hi ririmi ra manana swa laveka leswaku vana va kota ku twisisa leswi va swi dyondzaka va tlhela va tirha kahle exikolweni. Leswi swi vula leswaku vana va hina va fanele va kuma minkandziyiso yo hambanahambana ni leyi tsakisaka hi ririmi leri va ri mameke. Minkandziyiso ya kona – tibuku, tinyusiphepha, mintsheketo na marungula yokarhi – swi fanele swi vulavula hi timhaka to tala to hambanahambana leti nga ta tsakisa vana ku sukela loko va ha ri tincece, ivi va ya emahlweni va hlaya ku fikela va sungula xikolo, leswaku va kuma vutivi va tlhela va tihungasa hi ku hlaya!



# Literacy in my language

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!

Eka vatswari lava nga ni vana lavatsongo lava kotaka ku hlaya ni ku tsala ririmi ra Xintu, ni lava hlayaka ni vana va vona:

- ♥ 74% sweswi va hlaya ni vana va vona lavatsongo hi ririmi ra Xintu
- ♥ 72% va navela ku hlaya ni vana va vona hi ririmi ra Xintu
- ♥ 73% va ni minkandziyiso ya tindzimi to hambanahambana

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

Hi ku ya hi Ndzavisiso wa ku Hlaya eTikweni Hinkwaro lowu endliweke hi Nal'ibali Trust na National Library of South Africa, vaakatiko va Afrika Dzonga va kwalomu ka 8 eka 10 a va ta heta nkarhi wo tala va hlaya na vana va vona ekaya loko a ku ri na tibuku ta ku hlaya:

- ♥ ta mahala
- ♥ leti vulavulaka hi timhaka to tsakisa, mintsheketo kumbe rungula leri vulaka swokarhi evuton'wini bya vona
- ♥ ta ririmi leri va ri tsakelaka



According to the National Reading Survey conducted by Nal'ibali 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

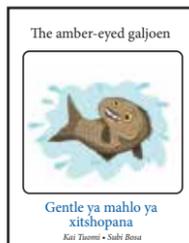
Nal'ibali yi seketela ku tirhisiwa ka ririmi ra manana tanihi xiphemu xa nkoka eku tihungaseni hi ku hlaya. Se ku hundze malembe yo tlula khume Nal'ibali yi ri karhi yi phakela swiengetelo swa tindzimi timbirhimbirhi mahala swa ku tihungasa hi ku hlaya eka swikimi swa ku hlaya, minhlango ya vaakatiko, tilayiburari, swikolo ni minhlango yin'wana leyi hi tirhisanaka na yona eAfrika Dzonga hinkwaro. Nakambe swiengetelo leswi swa koteka ku swi dawuniloda mahala eka website ya hina ya [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org).

Nal'ibali promotes the use of the mother tongue as an essential part of reading for enjoyment. For more than ten years, Nal'ibali 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).



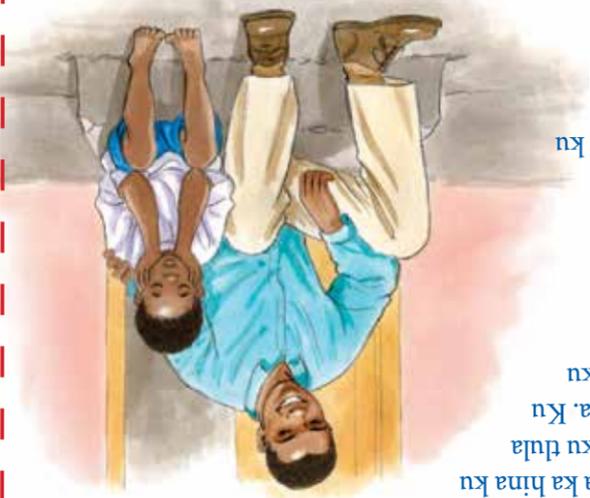
Tiendlele layiburari ya wena.  
Endla tibuku **TIMBIRHI** hi ku tsema u ti hlayisa

1. Susa pheji 5 ku fika eka pheji 12 eka xitatisi.
2. Maphepha ya mapheji ya 5, 6, 11 na 12 ma endla buku yin'we. Maphepha ya pheji 7, 8, 9 na 10 ma endla buku yin'wana.
3. Tirhisa rin'wana na rin'wana ra maphepha lawa ku endla buku. Landzelela swileriso leswi nga laha hansi ku endla buku yin'wana na yin'wana.
  - a) Petsa phepha hi le xikarhi eka nkhwanti wa ntima lowu nga tsemekatsemeka.
  - b) Petsa nakambe hi le xikarhi eka nkhwanti wa rihladza.
  - c) Tsema hi le ka nkhwanti wo tshwuka.



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.



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.

Topo u tshame a ku ntsee, exitupini xa le ndzhaku ka yindlu. Tata wakwe u te a ta tshama na yena. Tata wakwe a ti tiva ta xisaka na matandza, naswona a swi tikomba a swi vona leswaku Topo u hlundzukele a tlhela a va na gome. "Minkarhi yin'wana, Topo," ku vula tata wakwe, "hi fanele hi tisona swilo leswaku swi tirhisiwa hi van'wana lava nga tiyangiki ku fana na hina. Minkarhi yin'wana ku khathala ka hina ku fanele ku va kukulu ku tula ku hlundzuka ka hina. Ku fanele ku va kukulu ku tula ku hlundzuka ka hina ku tula ku tshandza."

Tatana u angarhe Topo ivi va nghena endlwini. Topo u tshame a ku ntsee, a ehleketa hileswi a ha ku byeriwaka swona.

Topo u ve na gome. Swi landzeriwa hi ku hlundzuka. U titwe a ri na vutianakanyi. Yindlu ya le nsinyeni a yi ri ndhawu ya yena, kutani a nga lavi ku rhurha.



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

**HEARTLINES**  
The Centre for Values Promotion



Leswaku u kuma leswi engeteleke, rhumela email eka [info@heartlines.org.za](mailto:info@heartlines.org.za) kumbe u fonela eka (011) 771 2540. For more information please email [info@heartlines.org.za](mailto:info@heartlines.org.za) or phone (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.

### Endla ntsheketo wu nyanyula!

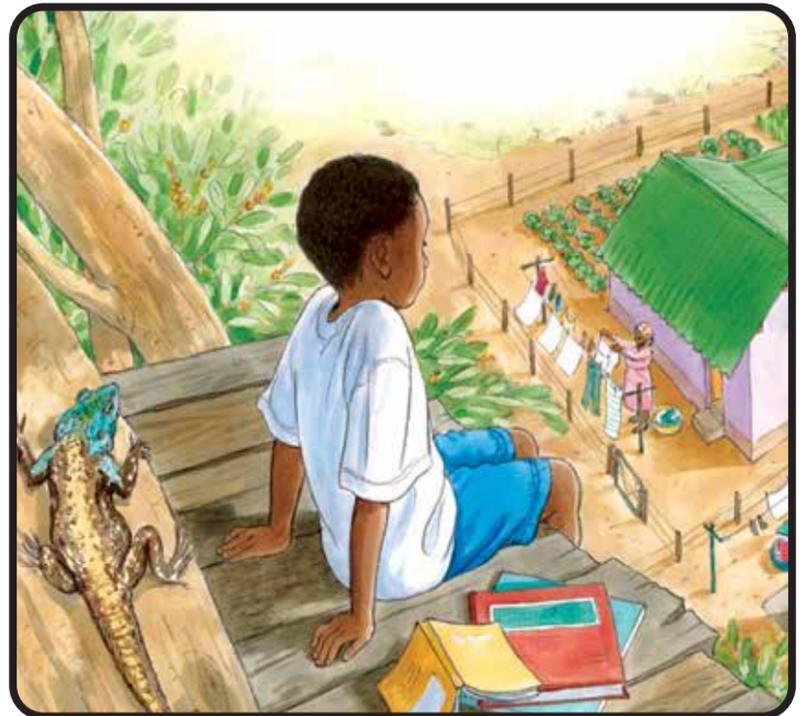
- ★ Topo u hlawule ku siya yindlu yakwe ya le nsinyeni swa xinkarhana leswaku tuva ri ta kota ku tshama exisakeni. Xana u ehleketa leswaku u endle xiboho xa kahle? Wena a wu ta va u endle yini?
- ★ Tlhela u hlaya ntsheketo. U swi vonisa ku yini leswaku tata wa Topo wa n'wi rhandza naswona wa khathala hi mintilhaveko yakwe?
- ★ Dirowa xifaniso xa xiphemu xa ntsheketo lexi nga riki na xifaniso. Tsala marito ya ntsheketo ehansi ka xifaniso xa wena.

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)



Nal'ibali i pphumba ra rixaka ro hlayela ku tiphina ku tlhontha ni ku simeka ntlovelo wo hlaya eAfrika-Dzonga hinkwaro. Ku kuma vuxokoxoko hi xitalo, endzela [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org)

## Topo's treehouse



## Yindlu ya Topo leyi nga ensinyeni

Kopano Sechele • Sally MacLarty

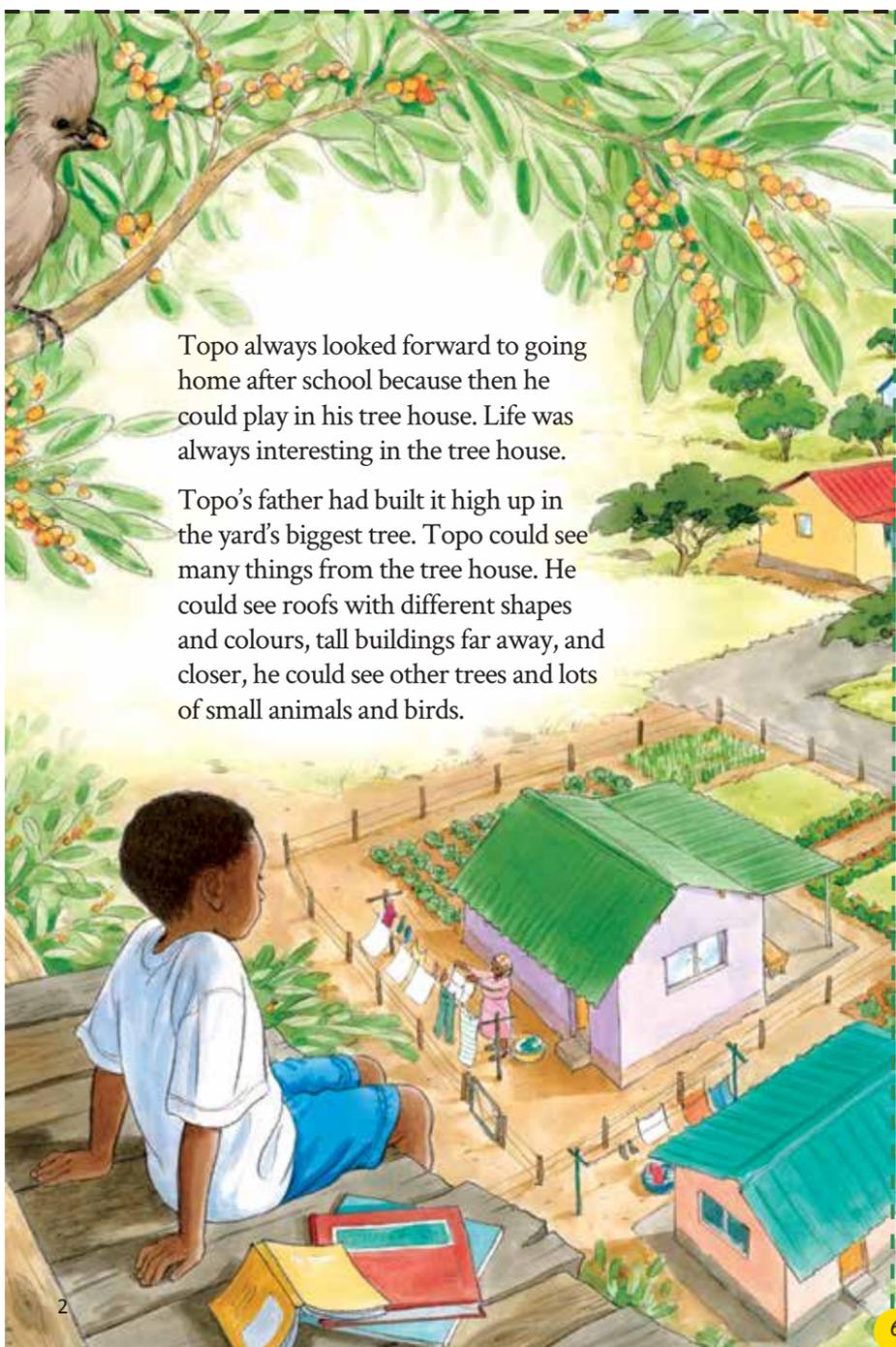
**Ideas to talk about:** Have you ever seen a bird's nest? Nesting birds do not like to be disturbed. If they are disturbed, they may leave the nest, and the eggs will not hatch. What do you think will happen if we disturb many nesting birds?

**Mianakanyo yo bula hayona:** Xana u tshame u xi vona xisaka xa xinyenyana? Swinyenyana a swi rhandzi ku kavanyetiwa loko swi ri exisakeni. Loko swi kavanyetiwa swi nga siya xisaka, kutani matandza a ma nge tlhohlhorhi. U ehleketa leswaku ku ta endleka yini loko hi kavanyeta swinyenyana swo tala leswi nga eswisakeni?

Kwala a nge wa tshimela a kota ku vona kahle, tuva ro ta ri vuyile ensinyeni. A wu ta ku ri ri, "Suka la," "Suka la." "Leyi i yindlu ya mina," ku vula Topo hi mbilu. "A ndzi yi helo!" Kambe Topo a swi tiva leswaku a nga ta tshama na tuva endlwini yakwe ya le nsinyeni. "Ku ta sala matandza kumbe mina," a vula hi mbilu.



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.



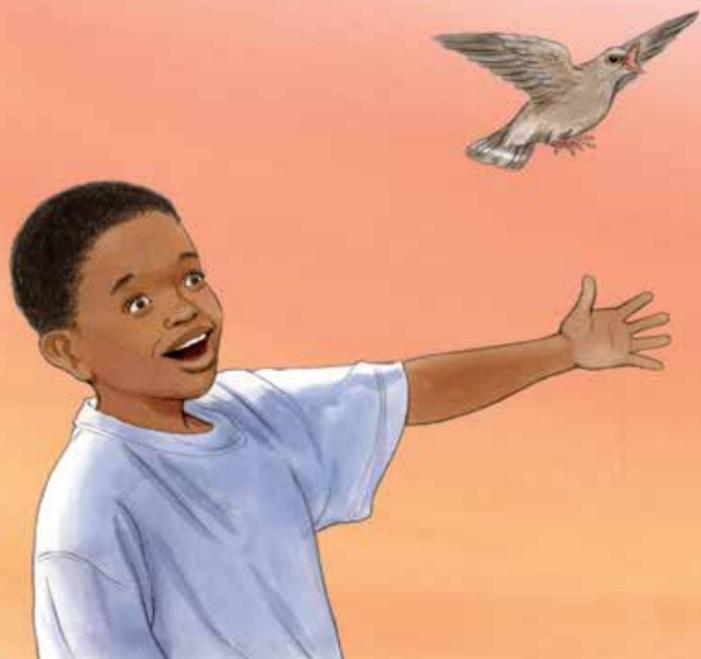
Topo always looked forward to going home after school because then he could play in his tree house. Life was always interesting in the tree house. Topo's father had built it high up in the yard's biggest tree. Topo could see many things from the tree house. He could see roofs with different shapes and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

Topo a a rhandza matandza lawa yo saseka. Kambe a swi tiva leswaku loko a tshame endlwini ya le nsinyeni, matandza a ma nge tlhothlorhi. Kutani u endle xiboho: tuva ri nga tshama endlwini yakwe ya le nsinyeni ku fikele loko ri lava ku suka, kutani yena a a ta tshama erhavini ethelo ka yona a ri languta. Kutani Topo u kume rhavi ethelo lerin'wana ra yindlu ya le nsinyeni ivi a tshama a hlalela. U xiyile leswaku tuva a ri nga sukasuki. A ri heta nkarhi wo leha ri tshame ehenhla ka matandza leswaku ri ma sirhelela.

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.

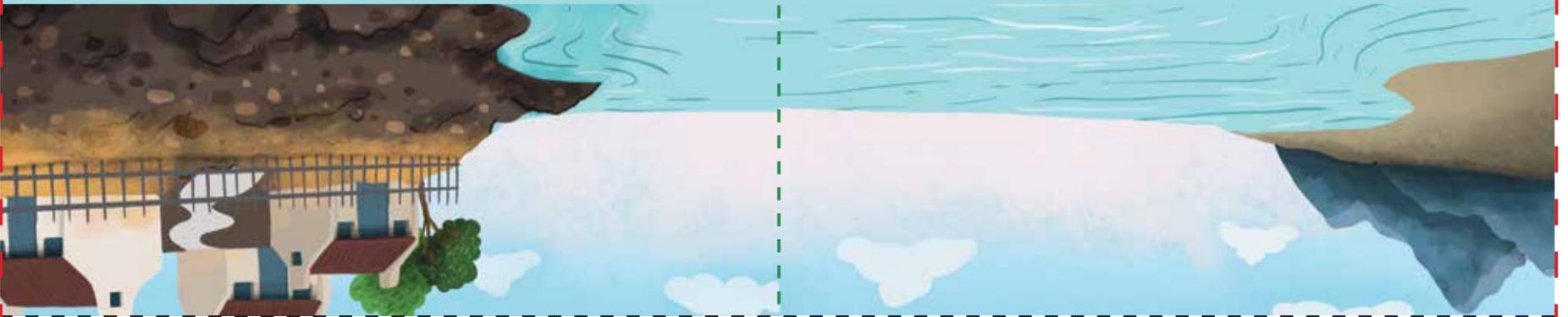
Just as Topo was getting tired, the little dove flapped its wings harder than ever and flew up higher and higher. This time, it did not come down. Topo stopped running, and watched. He watched as the little bird flew further and further and higher and higher. He was so happy he shouted out loud. It felt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

Loko Topo a sungula ku karhala, xituvana xi pfulapfule timpapa hi matimba ku tlula eku sunguleni ivi xi hahela ehenhla swinene. A xa ha vuyanga. Topo u tshike ku tsutsuma a hlalela ntsena. U langutile loko xituvana xi hahela ehenhlahenhla. A a tsake ngopfu lerova a sungula na ku huwelela hi rito lerikulu. A wu ta ku na yena wa ha ku dyondza ku haha!



Malume Dawid a n'wayitela. "Swi kahle, ndzi lava ku hanya emisaveni leyi vanhu hinkwavo va nga ni musa eka van'wana. Kutani, hambiloko wo tshamela ro ndzi xisa nkarhi na nkarhi, ndzi ta ku tshamba mikarhi hikwayo naswona ndzi ta va munghana wa wena." "Byebye i vuphukuphuku lebyikulu ku tula hikwabyo lebyi ndzi nga tshama ndzi byi twa," ku vula gentle ya mahlo ya xitshopana, yi ri karhi yi hlambela yi nyamalala ehansi ka magandlati.

Ku hundzile tin'hweti. Sweswi Malume Dawid a khomiwile hi ndlala swinene naswona a ondzile lero loko a hundzuluka a wu nga ta n'wi tiva. Nasweswi, a hamba a ya rhiya tinhlampfi naswona a ri ni ntshembo wa leswaku u ta phasa swokarhi swo dya.



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!



Malume Dawid a a phasa tinhlampfi eWest Coast ku sukela loko a ha ri xijahetana. Hi ku famba ka nkarhi, tinhlampfi ti sungule ku kala kutani Malume Dawid a dlawa hi ndlala a sala marhambu ntsena. A a nga ha koti ku phasa tinhlampfi leti eneleke leswaku a ti xavisa emakete ni ku tiwundla. Hiloko siku rin'wana a phasa gentle ra mahlo ya xitshopani!

### 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!

### Endla ntsheketo wu nyanyula!

- ★ Xintirhwana lexi swi nga tsakisa ku xi endla tanihi ndyangu kumbe ni vanghana.
  - Kumani kumbe mi dirowa swifaniso swa mixaka ya swivumbiwa swa le lwandle.
  - Boxa vito ra xivumbiwa xin'wana ni xin'wana xa le lwandle kutani u tsema swifaniso sweswo.
  - Veka swifaniso ehansi kumbe etafuleni swi pfanganisiwile.
  - Kutani vula vito ra xin'wana xa swivumbiwa ivi mi siyerisana "ku ya etinhlampfini" leswaku mi xi kuma!

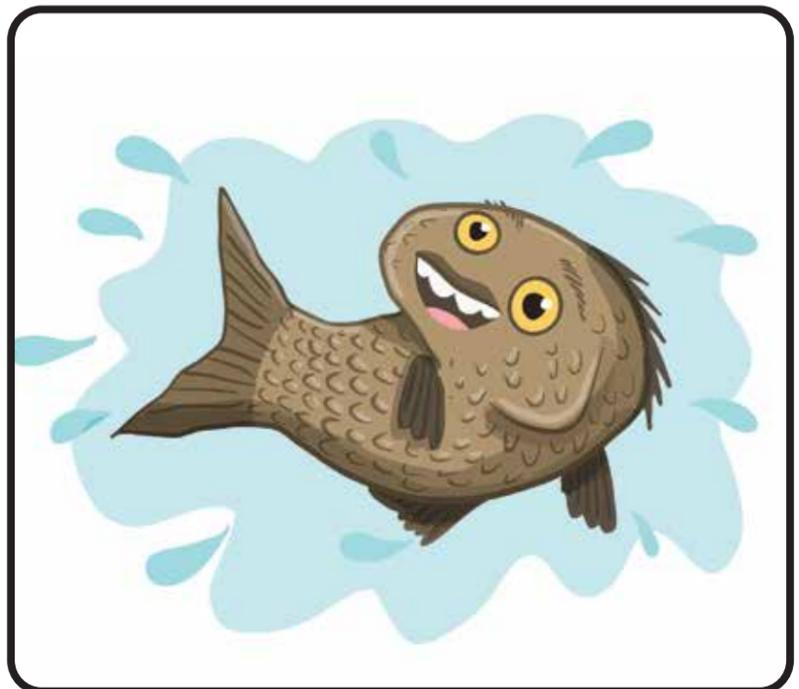
Nal'ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark and embed a culture of reading across South Africa. For more information, visit [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org)



Nal'ibali i pphumba ra rixaka ro hlayela ku tiphina ku tlhontlha ni ku simeka ntlovelo wo hlava eAfrika-Dzonga hinkwaro. Ku kuma vuxokoxoko hi xitalo, endzela [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org)

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.

## The amber-eyed galjoen



## Gentle ya mahlo ya xitshopana

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?

**Mianakanyo yo bula hayona:** Xana a wu swi tiva leswaku gentle i nhlampfi leyi fundzhiwaka etikweni ra Afrika Dzonga? Hi yihi mimfungho yin'wana ya tiko leyi u yi tivaka? Xana i swa nkoka ku endla leswi hi swi tshembiseke? Ku vuriwa yini loko ku endla leswi hi swi tshembiseke swi ta hi tikela kumbe swi hi koxa swo tala, xana hi ta ya emahlweni hi swi endla?



Loko yi tlhelele ematini,  
nhlompfi yi hlekile kutani  
yi ku, "Xana ha yini u  
fanele u tlhela u ndzi  
tshemba nakambe?"

Malume Dawid a anakanya swa xinkadanya, naswona  
hambileswi khwiri rakwe a ri n'unun'uta, u lahlele nhlompfi

byela xihundla xo phasa tnhlompfi to tala."

"Swi lulamile", ku vula nhlompfi, "u tlhele u ndzi phasa  
nakambe. Loko wo ndzi lahlela ematini, hi nt'iso ndzi ta ku

ambala baji rakwe lerikulu leswaku moya wu nga n'wi habisi.  
khomivile hi ndala swinene naswona a ondzile, a a bohaka ku  
ni ro tshwuka eka rikoka rakwe. Sweswi Malume Dawid a  
a phasa tnhlompfi u tlhele nakambe a vona rihati ra nsuku  
Endzhaku ka mavhiki layotala, loko Malume Dawid a ri karhi  
ku hembel! A wu nga fanelanga u ndzi tshembile."

Nhlompfi yi hleka loko yi ri karhi yi hlambela yi famba. "A ndzi



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.



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.

Malume Dawid u phasile tnhlompfi ku sukela loko a ha ri xifanyetana.

U phasile mixaka hinkwayo ya swilo – nhlompfi ya ncila wa xitshopana, xinuku, tilosita leto luma, naswona mikarhi yin'wana a a phasa ti-seabream yin'we kumbe timbirhi. Kambe hi xitshuketa, hinkwaswo swi nyamalala. Siku rin'wana ni rin'wana Malume Dawid a a nga ha phasi nchumu, naswona u sungula ku khoma hi ndlala swinene.

Siku rin'wana, Malume Dawid a tlutela elwandle. Kwalaho u andlarile rikoka rakwe a rindza. Endzhaku ka tiawara tingaritingani, u tlherisele rikoka endzeni, a ha ri ni ntshembo naswona a khomiwe hi ndlala. U vonile rihati ra nsuku ni ro tshwuka. Endzeni ka rikoka a ku ri ni nhlompfi yo saseka swinene ku tlula hikwato leti a nga tshama a ti vona. A ku ri gentle ya mahlo ya xitshopana.



Nakambe Malume Dawid u tlhele a phasa gentle ya mahlo ya xitshopana kutani a yi hoxela ematini loko yi kombela ku nga dyiwi. Kambe enkarhini lowu gentle ya mahlo ya xitshopana a yi hlekanga. Ematshan weni, yi langutle Malume Dawid nkarhi wo leha, ivi yi hlambela hi ku nonoka yi famba.

Malume Dawid u ve a khomiwa hi ndlala swinene lero a tsandzeka na ku huma endlwini yakwe leyitsongo. Siku rin'wana, loko a tshamile exitupini xa yena, u vonile rihati ra nsuku ni ro ya xitshopana. "A ndzi ri karhi anakanyisise hi leswi a wu swi vula, Malume Dawid. A ndzi tvi swihundla swo phasa tinhlampfi to tala, kambe kumbexana leswi swi ta ku pfuna," ku vula nhlampfi yi ri karhi yi hoxela Malume Dawid nchumu wun'wana hi ncla wa yona.



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.

Hi siku leri thandlamaka, Malume Dawid u xavisile tiperela teto hi mali yo tala. U tixavele kofi ni swakudya, na lofo ra xinkwa xo nandziha leswaku a nkhensa gentle leya mahlo ya xitshopana hi leswi yi nga n'wi nyika tiperela.

Hi ndzhenga wolowo, Malume Dawid u tekile byatso a ya elwandle. U tekile xinkwa a xi phemelela kutani a hoxa swiphemu swa xona ematini. A hlalerile loko tinhlampfi tin'wana letitsongo ti ri karhi ti dya, kambe a nga ha tlhelanga a vona gentle ya mahlo ya xitshopana.



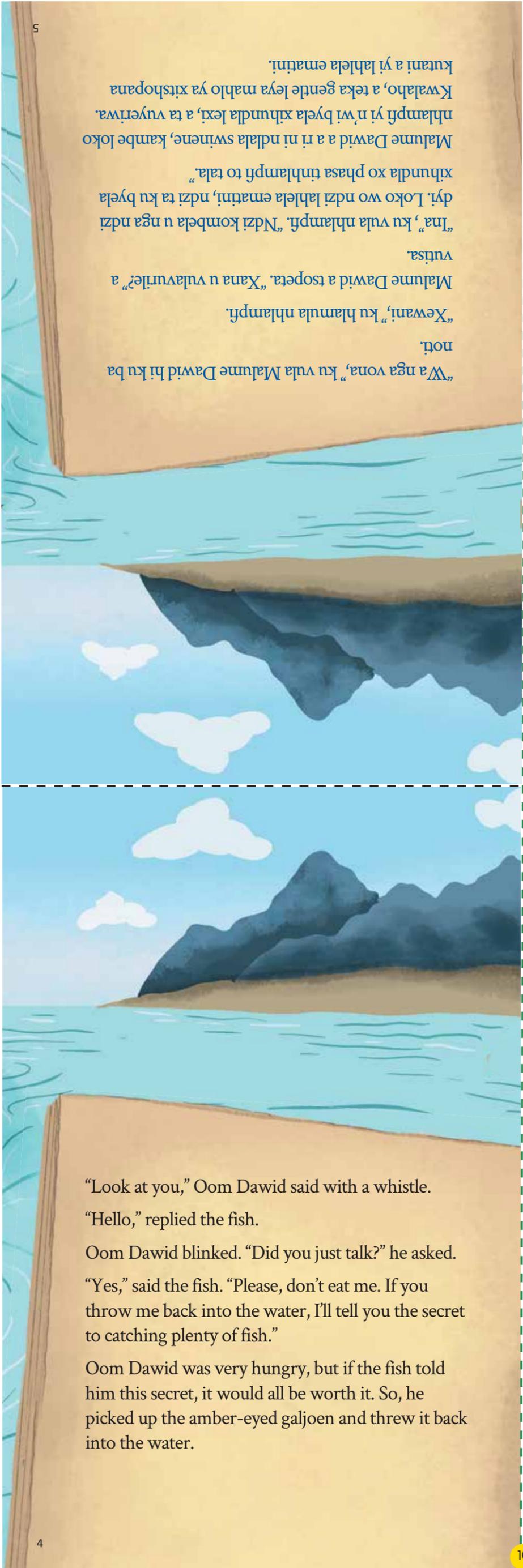
The fish laughed as it swam off. "I lied to you! You really shouldn't have trusted me."

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?"





“Look at you,” Oom Dawid said with a whistle.  
 “Hello,” replied the fish.  
 Oom Dawid blinked. “Did you just talk?” he asked.  
 “Yes,” said the fish. “Please, don’t eat me. If you throw me back into the water, I’ll tell you the secret to catching plenty of fish.”  
 Oom Dawid was very hungry, but if the fish told him this secret, it would all be worth it. So, he picked up the amber-eyed galjoen and threw it back into the water.

“Wa nga vona,” ku vula Malume Dawid hi ku ba  
 noti.  
 “Xewani,” ku hlamula nhlampfi.  
 Malume Dawid a tsopeta. “Xana u vulavurile?” a  
 vutisa.  
 “Ina,” ku vula nhlampfi. “Ndzi kombela u nga ndzi  
 dyi. Loko wo ndzi lahlela ematini, ndzi ta ku byela  
 xihundla xo phasa tihlompfi to tala.”  
 Malume Dawid a ri ni ndlala swinene, kambe loko  
 nhlampfi yi n’wi byela xihundla lexi, a ta vuyeriwa.  
 Kwalaho, a teka gentle leya mahlo ya xitshopana  
 kutani a yi lahlela ematini.

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.

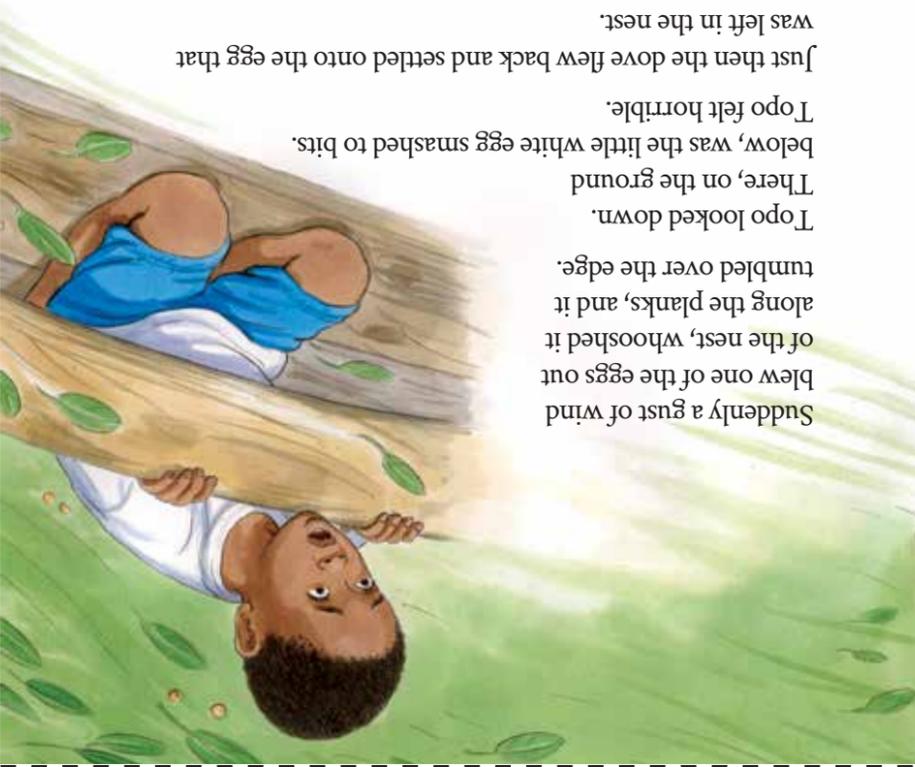
Malume Dawid a korhama a teka xiputsa  
 lexitsongo xa byanyi bya le lwandle lebyi  
 bohiweke hi korala ya xitshopana. Endzeni  
 a ku ri ni tiperela tinharhu, to basa na ku  
 vangama, ta nxavo wa le henhla.  
 “Ndza khensa, munghana wa mina,” ku  
 vula Malume Dawid, kambe nhlampfi yi  
 nyamalarile.



Xikan'wekan'we moya wa matimba wu de ri'n'wana ra matandza ri huma exisakeni, ri hundza hi le xikarhi ka mapulanga ri ya wela ehansi. Topo u langute ehansi. U vone tandzanyana ro basa ri fayekile. Topo u twe ku vava ngopfu. Hi nkarhi wolowo tuva ri vuyile ivi ri tshama ehenhla ka tandza leri a ra ha ri kona exisakeni.



Suddenly a gust of wind 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. Topo felt horrible. Just then the dove flew back and settled onto the egg that was left in the nest.



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.

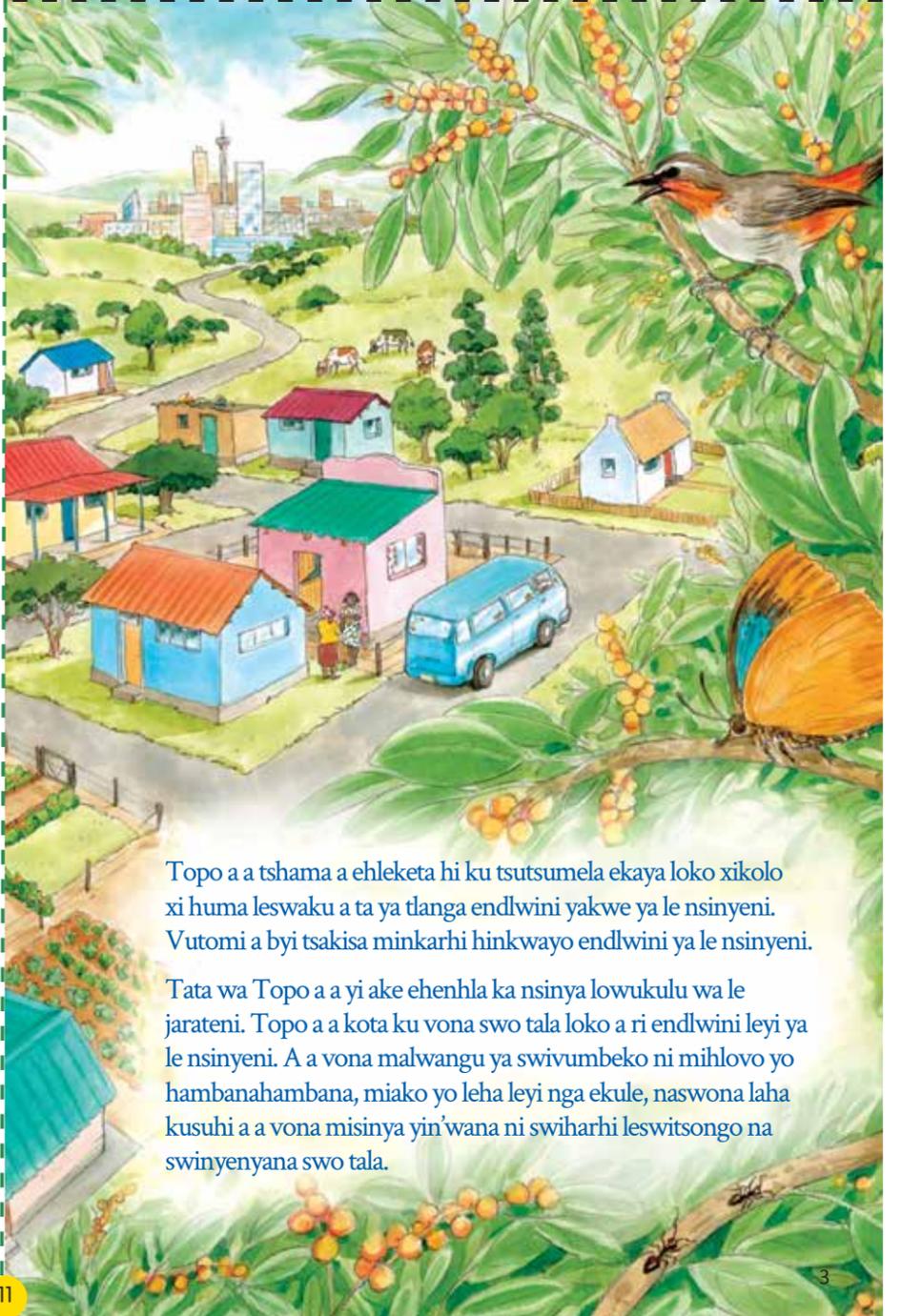
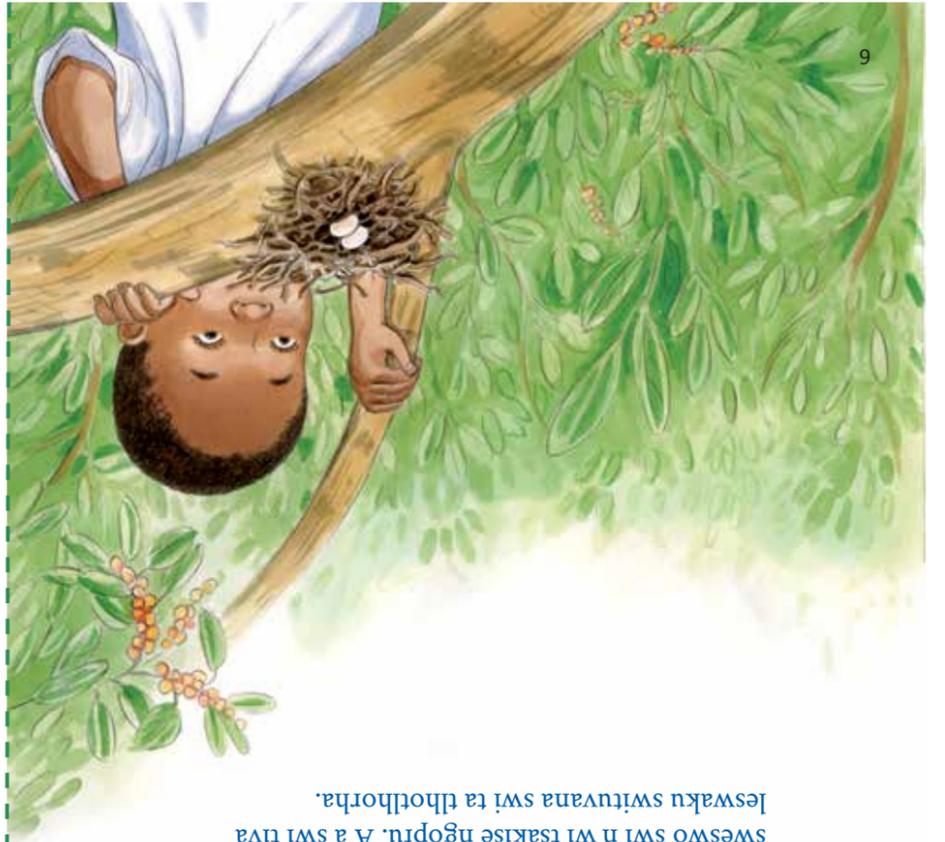
Siku na siku loko xikolo xi huma, Topo a a tshama a languta xisaka. Tuva a ri heta nkarhi wo tala ri ri na xivondlwana. Xi ye emahlweni xi kula. A xi heta nkarhi wo tala xi pfulapfula timpapa.

Siku rin'wana nimixo, loko Topo a huma ekhixini, u yime hi xitshuketa. A ku ri na xituvana emahlweni ka yena ehenhla ka byanyi xi ringetaringeta ku haha. Topo a a tsake na swikunwana, kambe u yime a xi hlalela a nga bi huwa.

Xituvana xi pfulapfule timpapa hi matimba ivi xi haha ximpfhukana, kutani xi tlhela xi vuya. Topo u landzele xituvana ejaratini ni le ndzhaku ka darata. Xituvana xi ye emahlweni xi ringeta ku haha.

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.

Hi siku leri landzelaka loko xikolo xi huma, Topo u ye endlwini ya le nsinyeni hi ku nyandlamela kunene ivi a languta endzeni ka xisaka. U vone matandza mambirhi. A ma sasekile swinene; sweswo swi n'wi tsakise ngopfu. A a swi tiva leswaku swituvana swi ta tlhothorha.



Topo a a tshama a ehleketa hi ku tsutsumela ekaya loko xikolo xi huma leswaku a ta ya tanga endlwini yakwe ya le nsinyeni. Vutomi a byi tsakisa minkarhi hinkwayo endlwini ya le nsinyeni.

Tata wa Topo a a yi ake ehenhla ka nsinya lowukulu wa le jarateni. Topo a a kota ku vona swo tala loko a ri endlwini leyi ya le nsinyeni. A a vona malwangu ya swivumbeko ni mihlovo yo hambanahambana, miako yo leha leyi nga ekule, naswona laha kusuhi a a vona misinya yin'wana ni swiharhi leswitsongo na swinyenyana swo tala.



Siku rin'wana, Topo u vone xinhulwana xa swithabiyana eka rin'wana ra marhavi lawa a ma ri ekusubi swinene na yindlu yakwe ya le nsinyeni. Ku fike tuva ensinyeni ri hahahaha ri nga tshamiseki. A ri vone Topo kutani a ri chava. Ri sukile ri haha. Hiloko Topo a tumbela hi rhavi leri nga ethhelo lerin'wana ra yindlu ya le nsinyeni ivi a tshama a ku whii. Kutani tuva ri ta ri vuyile, ri vona leswaku a ka ha ri na khombo, ivi ri veketela swithabiyana swin'wana.

Loko nhulu yi enele, tuva ri tshame ehenhla ka yona. A ri vonaka ri tshamiseke kahle.

Topo u hete nkarhi wo leha a tshame exitupini xa le ndzhaku ka yindlu ndzhenge wolowo. Tara wakwe u tlhele a ta tshama na yena. "Oh, Topo," ku vula yena, "minkarhi yin'wana vutomi bya hlamarisa. A hi swi twisisi minkarhi hinkwayo leswaku ha yini swilo swi endleka hi ndlela leyi swi endlekaka ha yona. Kambe swi kahle loko u khathala hi mhaka leyi. Nda swi vona leswaku siku rin'wana u ta kula u va tatana lonene loyi a nga ta rhandza vana vakwe a tlhela a va sirhela."

Va tshame swin'we va ehleketa hi tandza leri nga fayeka, kun'we na tuva leri nga va vurhena ri tshama ri sirhela tandza leri a ra ha ri exisakeni.

Topo 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.

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.

Minkarhi yin'wana Topo a teka tibuku a ya na tona endlwini ya le nsinyeni a ya hlaya. A swi tsakisa ku hlaya kwalaho hikuva a ku rhulile, ku twala swinyenyana ntsena swi yimbelela. Minkarhi yin'wana a a titshamela a hlalela swilo. A a tivutisa leswaku swinyenyana swi haha swi ya kwihi naswona a swi swi byela yini swinyenyana swin'wana hi tindhawu ta le kule laha swi humaka kona.



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.

Siku na siku loko Topo a vuya exikolweni, a a kambela xisaka a vona loko tandza ra ha ri kona.

Siku rin'wana loko a hlometela exisakeni, u vone xivumbiwa xo biha xa nomu lowukulu. A xi ri xitsongo swinene naswona a xi nga ri na tinsiva. Topo u xikile ensinyeni a tsutsuma a ya byela tata wakwe.

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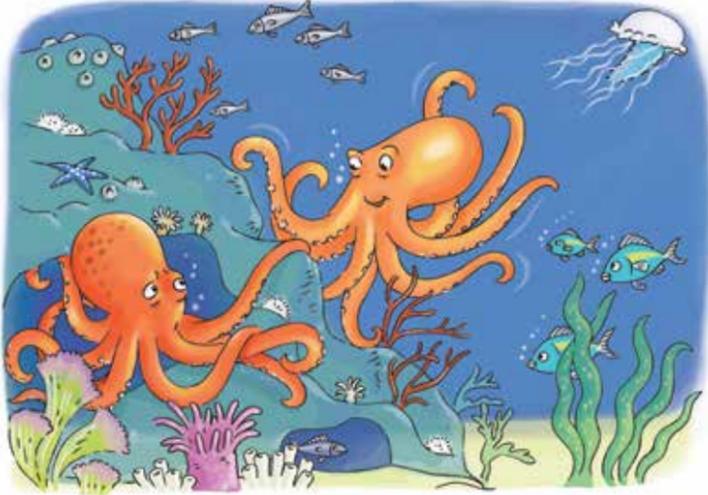
## Ku pona ri ahlamile



Hi Lesley Foster ■ Swifaniso hi Jiggs Snaddon-Wood

Olwethu, lowa okthopasi, a a tiwiserile ekorhweni ra ribye eqhivini lerikulu ekusuhi na bichi. A a chuhile. A ku ri ro sungula a va ekule hi ndlela leyi ni qhivi rakwe emakorhweni ya lwandle. Minkarhi hinkwayo a a tiitwa a hlayisekile emakorhweni wolawo, a ri ekule ni bichi ni vanhu. Kambe emasikwininyana lama hundzeke, mzala wakwe, Oscar, u ringete ku n'wi yenga va ya vona leswaku maqhivi lama nga ekusuhi na tibichi ma njhani.

"La ku borha ngopfu. Ndzi lava ku vona misava. Tana na mina hi hlambela hi ya kun'wana, Olwethu," ku vula yena.



Olwethu u n'wi xavelerile leswaku va nga yi, kambe Oscar a ala no twa, hikuva a a tshamela ku endla leswi a swi rhandzaka. Kambe se a ku ri masiku a fambile. Hi swona swi nga endla leswaku Olwethu a famba a n'wi lava. U kale a fika eqhivini leri ra le kusuhi na bichi, laha a heteleleke a kume swivumbiwa swa le lwandle leswi a swi ta n'wi byela leswaku ku endleke yini hi Oscar.

"A a rhandza swilo," ku vula starfish hi mbilu leyi tshovekeke.

Tinhlampfi ta anemone ti yimayimise voya ti pfumelelana na yena, "Hi n'wi byerile leswaku a tivonela eka swilo swa mivala leswi ncikinyaka ematini," ku vula tona.

Ganji ri humese nhloko exikhumbeni xa rona ri ku, "Muphasi a a tsake ngopfu loko a phase okthopasi."

Olwethu u tshoveke mbilu swinene. A a ta boheka ku tlhela a ri yexe emakorhweni ya qhivi rakwe. Kutani, loko a tumbele ekorhweni, a kumbuke Oscar, u twe marito ya vanhu. Loko Olwethu a hlometela, u vone xinhwanyetana, mana wa xona, na kokwa wa xona wa xisati eribuweni ra qhivi. A va langute endzeni ka mati.

Kwala Olwethu a nge u tlulela ekorhweni rakwe, a twa kokwana wa kona a ku, "Viwe, vona, hi liya okthopasi! Xana wa yi vona ekorhweni?"

Olwethu u hatlise a ticina muhlovo a fana ni maribye ni majekejeke lama n'wi rhendzeleke.

Kambe Viwe a a n'wi vone khale. "Ina! Ndza yi vona, swi tikomba yi ringeta ku tumbela," ku vula yena, a kombetele laha Olwethu a a ri kona.

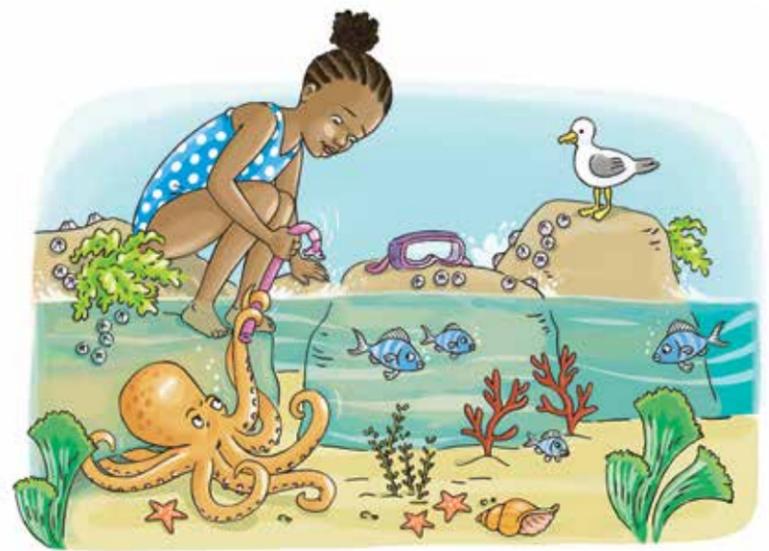
Hi ku tsundzuka leswi humeleleke eka Oscar, Olwethu u vone swi antswa ku tsema a ri vona a ya laha ku hlayisekeke. Xikan'wekan'we u baleke ekorhweni a ya tumbela ehansi ka ribye lerikulu. Kambe lexi n'wi chaviseke, xinhwanyetana lexiya xi nghene ematini xi ya tshama eribyeni lerikulu leri Olwethu a a tumbele ehansi ka rona. Xinhwanyetana lexi a xi khome nchumu wun'wana wa mivala yo koka mahlo, kambe Olwethu a a nga swi tivi leswaku i yini.

Olwethu a a rhandza mivala yo koka mahlo. Qhivi rakwe ra le makorhweni a ri tale swilo swa mivala. A ri ri na ti-anemone to tshwuka, swin'wetsin'wetsi, majekejeke ya rhlaza na ti-starfish to tala to saseka. Olwethu a a swi twisisa leswaku ha yini Oscar a yengekile a ya eqhivini leri nga ni swilo swa mivala yo koka mahlo leswi muphasi a n'wi phaseke ha swona.

Loko a ri ekorhweni rakwe, Olwethu u vone nchumu wa pinki wo hatima wu hundza etlhelo ka yena ematini. Ni ku ehleketa a nga ehleketanga, u khumbe nchumu wa kona hi nenge, naswona loko ku nga endleki nchumu, u sungule ku tirhisa nenge wa vumbirhi.

Hiloko a twa xinhwanyetana xi ku, "Vona, Mama, okthopasi yi khome chupu ra mina ro hefemula ematini."

Olwethu u chuhe ngopfu lerova a khoma nchumu wa kona swi tiya. Xinhwanyetana xi nghene ematini xi koka chupu ra xona. Hi ku twa leswaku ri ala ku huma, xinhwanyetana xi ri koke hi matimba.



"Mama, okthopasi leyi a yi lavi ku tshika chupu ra mina!" ku vula Viwe, loyi se a a sungula ku chuha.

"E-e," ku vula Olwethu hi mbilu, "Phela se ndzi tiendla xiphukuphuku ku fana na Oscar! Loko ndzi nga tlharihi, na mina ndzi ta phasiwa!" Hiloko a hatlisa a tshika nchumu wa kona. Chupu ri hume ematini hi xihatla, naswona a ku sale katsongo Viwe a wela ematini hi xikosi a suka eribyeni.

Gogo u n'wi hleke ku vava, "U na nkateko, Viwe. U vone okthopasi naswona a ku sale katsongo u yi phasa!"

"Ina," ku vula Viwe a nyanyukile, "naswona a ku sale katsongo okthopasi yi teke chupu ra mina!"

Ndzi pone ri ahlamile hakunene, ku vula Olwethu hi mbilu loko a ri karhi a hlambela a tlhela eqhivini rakwe ekorhweni. U koke mati a tlhela a ma kampfunya, a tiitwa a hlayisekile a ri ekule na khombo.

U twele kokwa wa Viwe ekule a ku, "Wow! Vona ndlela leyi okthopasi liya yi fambaka ha yona, Viwe! Yi tsutsuma endzeni ka mati ku fana na xihahampfhuka lexi hahaka esibakabakeni."

Kambe Olwethu a nga yimanga a twa leswaku Viwe u ta ku yini. Kahlekahle, a nga tshikanga ku hlambela a kala a ya fika ekorhweni leri hlayisekeke.

### Endla ntsheketo wu nyanyula!

- ★ Xana u tshame u va erindzweni ro dyondza swokarhi? A wu tiitwa njhani? Ha yini?
- ★ Dirowa xifaniso xa okthopasi. Okthopasi yi kota ku tihundzula mivala! Kutani u nga yi khalara hi muvala wo tsakisa.

- ★ Endla phostara ya munhu la lahlekeke. Dirowa xifaniso xa munhu la lahlekeke, ivi ehansi ka xona u tsala vito ra yena, malembe, ni ndlela leyi a langutekaka ha yona.



# Lucky escape

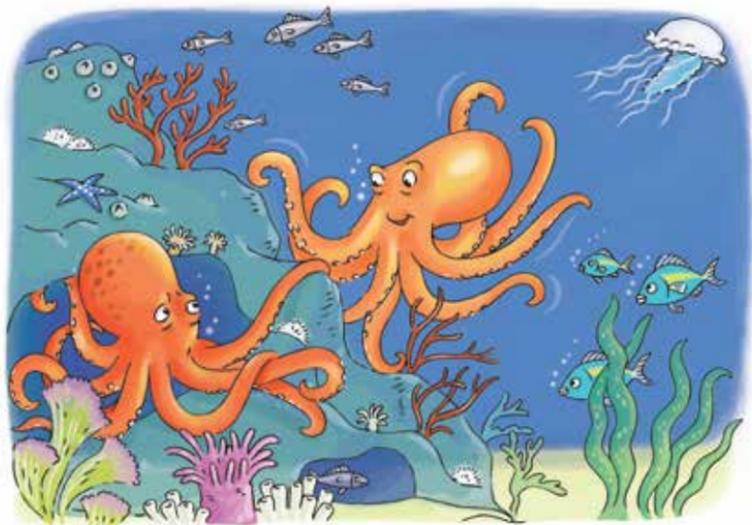
By Lesley Foster ■ Illustrations by Jiggs Snaddon-Wood

Story corner



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.

# Swo tsakisa hi Nal'ibali

## Nal'ibali fun



- 1.**
- Xana u nga kota ku pananisa xiphemu xa kusuka ehenhla kufika ehansi xa swimunhuhatwa leswi swa Nal'ibali?
  - Tsala vito ra mutlangi haun'we ehansi ka xifaniso xa yena.

- Can you match the top and bottom part of these Nal'ibali characters?
- Write each character's name under their picture.

<b>A</b> 	<b>B</b> 	<b>C</b> 	<b>D</b> 	<b>E</b> 	<b>F</b> 	<b>G</b> 	<b>H</b> 
<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b> 	<b>3</b> 	<b>4</b> 	<b>5</b> 	<b>6</b> 	<b>7</b> 	<b>8</b> 

**2.** Xana u nga tsala marito lamantshwa ya 12 hi maletere ya xiga lexi nge **KU HLAYA NI KU TSALA?**  
Tsala marito ya wena ivi u tlanga hi ku ngenisa yo tala hilaha u nga swi kotaka hakona eka xiga xin'we.

**Can you make twelve new words from the letters in the word LITERACY?**  
Write down your words and then have fun writing a sentence that uses as many of them as possible!

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**3.** **Hi lowu tlhontlho wa rito!**

- Landzelela milawu leyi nga eka bokisi kutani u tirhisa marito lawa ya nga eka vhlwla ra marito ku hetisa rito leri (Marito mambirhi ya tirhisiwile.)  
**m \_ g \_ \_ \_ \_**
- Xana i marito mangani man'wana lawa u nga ma endlaka u ri karhi u landzelela milawu leyi? (Tsundzuka: letere leri nga exikarhi ka vhlwla ri FANELE ku tirhisiwa eka rito rin'wana na rin'wana!)

**Here's a word challenge!**

- Follow the rules in the box and use the letters in the word wheel to complete this word. (Two of the letters have already been used.)  
**m \_ a \_ \_ \_ \_**
- How many other words can you make following the same rules? (Remember: The letter in the middle of the wheel **MUST** be in each word!)

- Milawu**
- Endla marito lama nga na maletere mambirhi kumbe ku tlula eka wona.
  - Tirhisa rin'wana na rin'wana ra maletere lama nga eka vhlwla kan'we eka rito rin'wana na rin'wana.
  - Nkarhi hinkwawo tirhisa letere leri nga exikarhi ka vhlwla eka marito ya wena.
  - Mavita vito a ya pfumelerivi.



- Rules**
- Make words with two or more letters in them.
  - Use each of the letters in the wheel only once in each word.
  - Always include the letter in the middle of the wheel in your words.
  - No proper nouns allowed.



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Tihlanganiso:** 2. Hi xikombiso: sala, tala, oia, hiala, kala, laya, 2. kulia, nyala, sulia, lahla, lata, kasa, hula, lakana, hula, kutsa, hiala, lasa, nusa, kaya, lula, hula. 3. magazini: Xikombiso: mazingi, zinga, gima, gama, gaza, gaa.  
**Answers:** 2. For example: let, it, at, rat, cat, race, 2. trace, lace, lace, rice, car, tar, ate, rate, late, real, year, teal, tier, tear, teal, year, real, ate, rate, late, real, year, teal, tier, tear, tile, care. 3. magazine.  
Examples: man, mane, name, game, gaze, amen, age, amaze.

**Nal'ibali** yi kona ku ku hlohotela na ku ku seketela. **Tihlanganisi na hina** hi yin'wani ya tindlela leti:  
**Nal'ibali** is here to motivate and support you. **Contact us** in any of these ways:

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Produced by The Nal'ibali Trust. Translation by Mosekola Solutions. Nal'ibali character illustrations by Rico.

