Goals for a new year

The beginning of a new year is always a good time to think about what you want to experience and achieve over the next twelve months. Have you thought about helping your children set reading goals for themselves for 2017?

Motivation plays a big part in children’s reading lives. It is the thing that makes them want to learn to read in the first place and then keeps them reading, thereby making reading for enjoyment a habit! So, when you think about helping your children to decide on their reading goals, they have to be their goals. They have to be things they want to experience and achieve for themselves – not things they think will please you.

Here are some suggestions of some of things your children may want to try in 2017 – but they may have plenty of their own ideas too.

- Reading more regularly or at a regular time each day.
- Reading for a certain length of time every day.
- Reading books by an author that is new to them.
- Reading as many of the books by their favourite author as they can.
- Reading information on topics that are new to them.
- Reading the biography of a person who interests them.
- Visiting the library regularly – or joining one!
- Starting a reading club with some friends, where they swap books and get together at each other’s homes to chat about books they’ve enjoyed reading.
- Writing a story of their own. If they need help getting going, you can find the opening lines to stories in the “Story seeds” section of the “Story and rhyme library” on the Nal’ibali website – www.nalibali.org. Your children can use these as the start to their stories and complete the stories any way they choose!
- Reading the books on which movies they have enjoyed watching, were based. Or deciding that they will always read the book first before watching the movie!

The trick with setting goals is to make sure that they are not completely unachievable. This means not setting too many goals and making sure that they are within your reach. About four or five reading goals for the year is enough!

Please write your goals for the year in “Story supplies” on the Nal’ibali website. You can also download additional copies of the poster from “Story supplies” on www.nalibali.org. Whichever they choose, make sure they have fun doing it – and of course, that they enjoy reading in 2017!

Dipheo tsa selema se setjha

Ho qalo ha selema se setjha kamelela ke nako e ntle ya ho nahana ka tseo re batlang ho kopana le tsana bophelong le ho di thilela dikgwedwing tse leshome le metsi e mmele tse latleng. Na o kile wa nahana ka ho thusa bana ba hao ho ipehela dipheo tsa ho bala bakeng sa 2017?


Tsemo ke ditlhahiso tsa tse ding tsho tseo bana ho hao ba ka batlang ho di leka ka 2017 – empa ba ka kha ba abaa le dikgopelo tse ngalo tseo e leng tsa bana.
1. Write down one goal in each box.
2. If you want to, decorate or draw pictures in each box, but do not colour in the goal number yet.
3. Once you have reached a goal, then colour in the goal number.
4. Keep your 2017 reading goals in a safe place or display them!

Instructions Ditaelo
1. Ngola sepheo se le seng lebokosong ka leng.
2. Haeba o batla, kgalasa kapa o tse ditshwantsho lebokosong ka leng, empa o se ke wa kenyana mmala nomorong ya sepheo ha jwale.
3. Hang ha o se o fihletse sepheo, jwale o ka kenyana mmala nomorong ya sepheo seo.
4. Boloka dipheo tsa hao hao hao hala hala hala 2017 sebakeng se bolokeleng kapa o di behe moo di ka bonwang ke batho!
There are lots of special days in February. Here are some of them, as well as some ideas of how you can celebrate them at your reading club on or near the actual dates.

**7 February** Send-a-Card-to-a-Friend Day
Invite the children to make and exchange greeting cards that tell someone why they are special to them.

**13 February** World Radio Day
Remember to tune in to hear Nal’ibali’s radio show this week. For information about which radio stations the show is on and at what times, see the schedule at the bottom of this page!

**14 February** Valentine’s Day and International Book Giving Day
Encourage the children to bring their favourite storybook to the reading club so that they can share it with other members. You can also suggest that they draw large hearts and write “Dear Stories, I love you!” in them.

**16 February** World Read Aloud Day
Join us for another World Read Aloud Day celebration. Look out for our special World Read Aloud Day edition of the Nal’ibali Supplement, which will be available in the week of 12 February. It will have a special World Read Aloud Day cut-out-and-keep book featuring the Nal’ibali characters, Bella and Gogo! For information on how to get involved in Nal’ibali’s World Read Aloud Day activities, go to www.nalibali.org.

**21 February** International Mother Language Day
Sing songs, say rhymes and tell and read stories using only the children’s home languages! Make this day a celebration of the richness of our language heritage.

**26 February** Tell-a-Fairy-Tale Day
Ask the children to work in groups to act out their favourite fairy tale, without telling anyone what the name of it is. Afterwards invite the other groups to guess the name of the fairy tale!

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Ho na le motsetse o mangata a kgotrethileng kgwedating ya Hlakola. A mang a ona ke ona, esitana le dikgopolo tse iseng lasa kamo o a ka ketelela ka tshwaletse ya ho bala. Nal’ibali a ke a ketelela ka tshwaletse ya ho bala ya bala ya Ho Bala Hodimo, e naga le baphetwa ba Nal’ibali, Bella le hikgoro! Bavela sa tshwaletse lesa kamo a ka bong le sebako bo diketsalohla ba Nal’ibali basa Letsetse o lefatshe la Ho Bala Hodimo, eya o ho www.nalibali.org.

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Get story active!

Here are some ideas for using the two cut-out-and-keep books, Mu’s wolf problem, (pages 5, 6, 11 and 12) and There must be a rainbow (pages 7, 8, 9 and 10) as well as the Story Corner story, Everyone’s special (page 14). Choose the ideas that best suit your children’s ages and interests.

Mu’s wolf problem

A young girl called Mu is at home by herself and feels afraid when she hears noises. There’s a wolf in her house! But, unexpectedly they become friends and enjoy the afternoon together.

This story offers you the opportunity to talk to your children about the things that make them feel afraid and how they can deal with feeling scared. Before you have this discussion, enjoy exploring the words and the illustrations in the storybook. Here are some examples of how to do this as you read together.

After you have read pages 2 and 3, ask:

• “I wonder where Mu’s mum works and what kind of work she does?”
• “I wonder why it says that Mu is not alone?”
• “Look at Mu’s face. How do you think she feels?”

On page 4, ask:

• “What do you think Mu is doing? Why?”
• “Point to the wolf’s legs. What are these? Who do you think they belong to?”

On page 5, ask:

• “Why do you think Mu is closing her eyes?”
• “What do you do when you feel scared?”

There must be a rainbow

In this story of hope, Jabulile’s dream of helping people comes true after a terrible storm hits the village in which she lives.

Suggest that your children write the weather forecast that may have been on the radio the evening before the storm came to the area where Jabulile lived. Record your children’s reading these weather reports on your cellphone and then listen to them just like you would listen to the weather report on the radio!

• Have fun making the sounds of a storm using your bodies as well as things around you. For example, beat your hands on the floor or bottom of a table to make the sound of thunder, and tap your finger tips on a table to make the sound of rain.

• Let your children use different coloured paint or paper to create their own rainbows.

Everyone’s special

One day when Mandla is out walking he comes across an elephant, a giraffe and a waterbuck, and he discovers that they can all do special things that he can’t. This makes him feel sad … until his mother explains that we are all special in different ways.

• Spend some time discussing with your children what makes them special. (Don’t forget to ask them why they think they’re special?) Then suggest that they draw pictures of themselves and complete the sentence, “I am special because …” under their picture.

• Suggest that your children write the weather forecast that may have been on the radio the evening before the storm came to the area where Jabulile lived. Record your children’s reading these weather reports on your cellphone and then listen to them just like you would listen to the weather report on the radio!

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• Let your children use different coloured paint or paper to create their own rainbows.

Eba mahlahlahlah ka pale!

Mehopolo e teng ke ena bakeng sa ho sebedisa dibuka tse sehwang-le-ho-ipolokweka, Bothata ba Mu ba phi, (maqeph 5, 6, 11 le 12) le Ho flamihile ho be le mooekdi (maqeph 7, 8, 9 le 10) esitla le pale ya Hukung ya Dipole, Bohle ba kgethehele (leqephe 15). Kgetha mehopolo e tswnelang hantle dileko le ditlhahasello tsa bana le ba hao.

Bohle ba kgethehele

KA Tsetsa le teng ke Ha Mandla a nitsa a itsemaela ka nitse a kopa le ifane, thulile le tsefune, mme o sibola hore boke la bana ho etsefune tse ke tshego le hlaho a le fihlela mmae a mo bana ka sebedisa dibuka. (O se ke wa lebala le bo bana hore le hlaho a le fihlela mmae a mo bana ka sebedisa dibuka.)

Bohle ba kgethehele

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.

Iketsetsa dibuka tse sehwang-le-ho-ipolokweka tse PED1

1. Ntshe leqephe la 5 ho sa la 12 tlatsetseng ena.
2. Leqephedi le nang le maqeph le ona, 5, 6, 11 le 12 ho lona le etsa bula le lingwe. Leqephedi le nang le maqeph le ona, 7, 8, 9 le 10 ho lona le etsa bula le lingwe.
   a) Mena leqephedi ka neng ho etsa bula.
   b) Le mene ka halolo hope bula mola wa mathaba a matlala
   c) Seha hodimo mola ya mathaba a mathabed.
Trembling with fear, they peered at each other. Then, very shyly, they introduced themselves.

“I’m not scared!!!” screamed Mu, giving the wolf quite a fright.
Once there was a girl called Mu. One day Mu’s mom went to work and left her at home all alone.

But, truth be told, Mu was not alone.

But Mu knew the wolf would come back if she felt lonely and scared tomorrow.

Emily Mu o ne a tseba hohe phiri o tla kgutla ha a ka ikutlwa a tdwerwe ke bodutu mme a tshaba hosane.
Great gusts of wind blew the roofs off the huts. All the animals lost their homes. It was a very sad day.

The village folk cried, “What shall we do now?”

“All the crops are ruined!” cried the farmers.

“Our homes are gone!” said the elders.

All hope seemed lost. But Jabulile remembered something her wise father had once told her:

“Don’t lose faith even if once lost hope.”

She called the village elders and asked them:

“The village folk cried, ‘What shall we do now?’

The wind and rain are the worst enemies. It was a very sad day.”

Great gusts of wind blew the roofs off the huts.

There must be a rainbow

Ho tlamehile ho be le mookodi

Get involved at bookdash.org

We believe every child should own a hundred books by the age of five.

Become a book-sponsor and help change the world.

Nal’ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark children’s potential through storytelling and reading. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi


Sinomonde Ngwane
Nerissa Govender
Thulisizwe Mamba
Nestled in the Kingdom of the Zulu is a magnificent place called The Valley.

The villagers rebuilt their homes. Farmers planted new crops. The grass grew greener than ever before.

Once again there was hope and happiness in The Valley.

Basha ba aha maha e bona hape. Balemi ba jala dijal tse nthia. Jwang ba hola bo le botala ho feta pele.

Mme hape ha boela ho eba le tshepo le thabo motseng wa The Valley.
A little girl called Jabulile lives here. Jabulile was always a happy child. She was also curious, and full of questions about life. Everything fascinated her.
The villagers saw the rainbow and they began to smile. It stood as a promise that the storm was over.

Jabulile’s father was a mielie farmer. Her mother was a teacher. They taught her to dream big dreams. Jabulile’s biggest dream was to help people.

Everyone in the village was Jabulile’s friend, especially the elders. They taught her about the wise men and women who once lived in The Valley. Jabulile also wanted to be wise.
...it was time for Mu's mom to come home. Then the wolf had to say goodbye.

...e eba nako ya hore mme wa Mu a tle lapeng. Mme phiri e ile ya tlameha ho tsumaya.

Kgalekgale ho ne ho ena le ngwananyana ya bitswang Mu. Ka tsatsi le leng mme wa Mu o ile a ya mosebetsing mme a mo siya lapeng a le mong to!

Empa ha ho se ho buuwa nute, Mu o ne a se mong.
She could hear tapping and scratching, and a _loooong_ heavy sigh. She could hear patting footsteps and rustling fur and the clanging of very large TEETH.

O ne a ntse a u tla ho kokota le ho ngwapa, le ho fehelwa maikutlo _hoholeecele_. O ne a utla ho phathatsa ha maotwana fatshe le ho phuthahana ha boya le ho otlana ha MENO a maholo haholo.
Dear Nal'ibali

Please help. I have a 9-year-old girl who is doing Grade R. She doesn't like writing and I don't know what to do.

Theresa Solomon, Centurion

Dear Theresa

When children experience the power of stories in books, and they have something that they want to communicate, they develop an interest in writing. Encourage your daughter by reading to her regularly for at least 15 minutes a day. Leave writing materials within her reach at home so that she can write down a list of things she may want you to buy for her, or so that she can write a note to you when she wants to tell you something. Remember to also be a writing role model for her – she needs to see you writing to realise that it is valuable!

Remember that we’re here to help!
The Nal’ibali Team

Nal’ibali ya ratehang

Ke kopa thuso. Ke na le ngwananyana ya dilemo di 9 ya balang Kereiti ya R. Ha o rate ho ngola mme ha ke tsie se o lekelela ho se etsa.

Theresa Solomon, Centurion

Theresa ya ratehang

Ha bana bo ikutlwela matla a dipate dibukeng, mme ho eba le_rngae eo ba baatleng ho bao ka yona, ba le ihlahlaleho ya ho ngola. Kgophalela ho o holo le le baka ho le lohole lele ka ba bong 15 ka letswa: Bea dinitho tsa ho ngola moo a ka di ihlallang leleng e ho e le a ngale lehane la dinitho tse a ka baatleng hore e mo rekele tsona, kopa e le e le o a ngale leloatala ho a baatlho ho bokela ho hang. Hopola hope ho ba mahlola ho yana ka ha ngola – o lokela ho o bana a ngola hore a le a etlelele hore ke ngiho ya boholwana!

Hopola hore re mana ho o Thuso!
Sefopho sa Nal’ibali

Dear Nal’ibali

I am fourteen. I love the Nal’ibali Supplement and I read the stories to my two younger brothers everynight.

Thetha Xamhlashie, Khayelitsha

Dear Thetha

We are so glad that you like the supplement. You are giving your brothers a wonderful gift and it will help them learn to love reading. Well done and keep reading!
The Nal’ibali Team

Nal’ibali ya ratehang

Ke dilemo di le shona le metsa e meme. Ke rata letsetso ya Nal’ibali mme ke bafila baena ho ka ka ba babedi dipate basu ho bong le ha bong.

Thetha Xamhlashie, Khayelitsha

Thetha ya ratehang

Re fihlele halohlo ha e le mana e rata letsetso: O fa baena ba hoo mpho e makatsang mme e fia ba thuasa ho ihuta le ho rata ho bala
O etsa hanile mme o tswele pele ho bala!
Sefopho sa Nal’ibali

Dear Nal’ibali

My daughter is 3 years old, and ever since I started reading your supplement, I’ve been reading to her at bedtime every day. She also has story time in the morning and afternoon at the educare centre she goes to. But I find that when we share books together at bedtime, we’re both a bit irritable because we’re tired after our busy days! I know that reading to children at bedtime is what most people suggest. What can I do to make this time more relaxed for both of us?

Zinhle Mbuli, Benoni

Dear Zinhle

You’re absolutely right that whenever you read together the most important thing is that these times are relaxing and enjoyable for you both! It’s a few different times in your day to see what suits you best. Remember that you can share stories whenever it feels right for you, no matter what time it is. Sometimes playing a little game, or singing a song your daughter loves will also help to get her in the right mood. A good selection of books is useful too, so she can choose what you should read. Be guided by the way you both feel. Even five minutes a day is good, as long as it’s positive and fun!

Keep reading together!
The Nal’ibali Team

Nal’ibali ya ratehang

Moradi wa ka o dilemo di 3, mme haesale ke qala ho bala letsetso ya lona, ke rtse ke mmao lelesetso lelesetso pele a robala. Hape o na le nako ya pale ho ngola a le mohale le metsheone setse sa Thuto ya ba banyane mae o kenaang teng. Emo ke fumane horo ha re ba bala dibukho mmeo ho nako ya ha robala, bobedi ba rona re tenenho le feela babane re kgathetse kamora maitsatsa a mphahlehleho! Ke o tsie hore ho bala bana pele ho robala ke seo batho ba bangala ke se kgophalelaeng. Nka etsha eng ho etsha hore nako ena e be ya boketla ho rona re le babedi?

Zinhle Mbuli, Benoni

Zinhle ya ratehang

O nepile e le ka mete horo nako efe efe ke la bala mmeho nako ya boholwana ka ho letseba ke horo dinako tsena e be tsa ho qhalana le tse le nakelela ka babedi ba lona! Loka dinako tse mmao tse laceraleng letsetsona la lona ho bana hore ke efe e le le tlhwanelelheng hantle. Hopola hore le ka bala dipate mmao nako efe efe ke le le tlhwanelelheng, ha se kgathelale hore ke nako efe. Ka nako e megwe ho babedi papadi e nanye, kopa ho bina pina eo moradi wa hoo a e e rata ho tla ha thuasa ho etsa hore ho phutholeho. Kgeto e rifetse re bokela le yona e a thuasa, kahao a ka nna a kgatha se o lekelela ho se bala. Tlataswang ke kamore lona ka babedi le kifutswang ka teng. Estsa le metsoho e mehiho ka lelatsa e lokile, ha quesha e na tswele molemo mme o nakelela!”

Dulong le bala mmao!
Sefopho sa Nal’ibali
Mandla was out walking one day when he saw Elephant splashing himself in the river. Elephant looked very happy. His big ears flapped and he sprayed water high into the air using his long trunk.


“That trunk of yours is amazing,” said Mandla.

“Oh, this?” Elephant looked at his trunk. “I suppose it is, isn’t it?”

“It must be nice to spray yourself on a hot day,” said Mandla.

“Oh, that’s not all I can do,” said Elephant. “I can also use my trunk to pick fruit from the trees and pull down branches. I can even use it to make a big noise if I want to. We call that trumpeting! Here let me show you.”

Elephant stretched out his trunk. Brrrrrpumph! The most marvellous, loud noise came out. It thundered through the forest and some birds flew away from a nearby tree. Mandla danced on the spot and laughed.

“That’s amazing,” he said. “I wish I had a trunk like you.”

Mandla left Elephant playing in the river and went on through the forest. He held his arm up in front of his nose, bent his arm and curled his hand so that it looked as if he had an elephant’s trunk. Then he tried to pick a bunch of berries from a bush. But he was not looking where he was going and …

THUMP!

He bumped into something.

“Oh,” he said, falling over.

The thing he had bumped into was brown and orange. It seemed to reach from the sandy ground all the way up through the trees.

“What’s happening down there?” said a voice from high above.

“Giraffe!” said Mandla looking up.

“What?” asked Giraffe.

“It’s me. Mandla!”

“Who?” asked Giraffe.

Mandla left Elephant playing in the river and went on through the forest. He held his arm up in front of his nose, bent his arm and curled his hand so that it looked as if he had an elephant’s trunk. Then he tried to pick a bunch of berries from a bush. But he was not looking where he was going and … THUMP! He bumped into something.

“Ow,” he said, falling over.

The thing he had bumped into was brown and orange. It seemed to reach from the sandy ground all the way up through the trees.

“What’s happening down there?” said a voice from high above.

“Giraffe!” said Mandla looking up.

“What?” asked Giraffe.

“It’s me. Mandla!”

“Who?” asked Giraffe.

A great big head on the end of the long neck came down through the trees.

“Oh, hello, Mandla,” said Giraffe.

“Hello, Giraffe, I am sorry I bumped into you. I was pretending to have a trunk like Elephant and I wasn’t looking where I was going.”

“A trunk like Elephant?” asked Giraffe.

“Elephant’s trunk is marvellous,” said Mandla. “He can spray himself with water and pick fruit from the trees and make a great big noise.”

“Well,” said Giraffe, “that’s quite clever I suppose, but I can do much more with this long neck of mine.”

“What?” asked Mandla.

“I can reach the very tops of the trees, where the leaves are the juiciest. I can also see all around and look out for danger. My tongue is very special too,” said Giraffe. “It is very long.” Giraffe stuck out his long purple tongue. “And it’s very thick too, which means I can eat from trees even if they have thorns. Trees with thorns have the best leaves, you know!” said Giraffe.

“That’s great,” said Mandla. “I wish I was tall like you, Giraffe, then I could see over the trees and eat those leaves you keep talking about.”

“Don’t be silly,” said Giraffe. “Boys don’t eat leaves. Which reminds me, it’s time for my second lunch. See you later, Mandla.”

So Mandla went on through the forest, holding both arms above his head like a long giraffe neck and picking at the leaves on the trees.

“What are you doing?” asked a very quiet voice.

Mandla jumped back in fright.

“I didn’t mean to scare you,” said the quiet voice. A small, grey buck with a white ring on her bottom, crept from the forest.

“Waterbuck!” said Mandla. “You must be the quietest of all the animals.”

Waterbuck blushed. “You are kind, Mandla. Being quiet helps keep me safe. I don’t like all those noisy animals.”

“It’s a very good trick, being so quiet,” said Mandla. “I wish I could creep around like you do, Waterbuck.”

“You should try it sometime! It takes lots of practice to get as good as me though. See you around, Mandla,” said Waterbuck, slipping back into the forest.

So Mandla went slowly through the forest, walking on his tiptoes like Waterbuck. It wasn’t long before he tripped over a small branch and fell into a pile of leaves. There was a quiet laugh from the forest and Mandla saw a flash of grey as Waterbuck moved away into the bushes. Mandla picked himself up and ran through the forest back to his house in the clearing. His mother was outside hanging up the washing.

“Mama?” he said quietly.

“Why do you look so unhappy?”

“Mama, how come I don’t have a trunk like Elephant? Why don’t I have a long neck like Giraffe? And why can’t I creep around like Waterbuck? They are so special and I don’t feel very special at all.”

His mother bent down and kissed him on the forehead. “Mandla, if you had a trunk like Elephant, I would not be able to kiss you goodnight. And if you had Giraffe’s long neck, I could not pick you up in my arms and swing you about. And just think, if you were as quiet as Waterbuck, I could not find you to give you a hug.”

Mandla’s mother pulled him close. “Everyone has something special. I love you just the way you are. And to me, you are more special than all the animals in the forest,” she said.
Mandla o nte a maso nka tlo kgona ho o fumana hore ke o hake.

"Ke Kgama ya matsha," a rialo Mandla, a nanya eka nka nanya ho tshwana le wena, Kgama ya matsha.


1. **In the story,** Mu’s wolf problem, Mu and the wolf become friends and spend the afternoon together. What do you think they are doing in this picture? Add other things to the picture to show what you think they are doing. Also add some speech bubbles. Then write a few sentences about your picture.

![Image of a boy and a wolf]

**Paleng ya,** Bothata ba Mu ba phiri, Mu le phiri e eba metswalle mmere ba qeta motsheare ohle ba le mmoho. O nahana hore ba etsa eng setshwantshong see? Keny a dintho tse ding setshwantshong ho bontsha seo o nahanang hore ba a se etsa. Hape o keny le dipudulana tsa puo. Ebe o ngola dipolelo tse mmalwa ka setshwantsha sa hao.

2. **Do you know the colours of the rainbow?** Unscramble the words below to find out what they are.

**Sesotho**
- dukgebu
- manulu
- tlašhe
- ala
- loubo
- iindog
- taeleve

**English**
- dre
- eaognr
- lelywo
- nereg
- leub
- iidoogn
- tloevi

**Answers:**
(2) red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet

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