Celebrate picture books!

November is International Picture Book Month – a time to celebrate those special books that capture our imagination with their carefully chosen words and beautiful illustrations. Picture books introduce our children to the world of literature. They also play a critical part in their development.

Picture books are meant to be read aloud so this makes them the perfect reading resource for sharing stories with children. As we read aloud, we are also able to have conversations with our children about what we are reading, and we can invite them to comment on the story and ask questions about it. These conversations deepen children’s understanding of the story. They also help children to learn about the way in which stories and books work.

Picture books offer children a language feast! Through the rhythm and rhyme in many of these books, children experience the sounds of our languages. The repetition in them (for example, “I’ll huff and I’ll puff and I’ll blow your house down!”), allows children to join in by saying some of the words of the story, even before they are able to read. And, because picture books use fewer words than novels, the words that are chosen and how they are used, is very important. So, the rich use of language in these books develops and extends children’s own use of spoken and written language.

And then there are the illustrations! Through the partnership between the words on the page and the pictures, children make meaning from what is being read to them and learn to enjoy stories. But they also learn to “read” pictures. They develop the skill of interpreting visual images, and you only have to think about the number of advertisements you see every day to understand what an important life skill that is!

Picture books are the soul and foundation of who we become. Reading them with a child on our lap is one of the best ways to share our values. Every picture book is an opportunity. Marc Brown, children’s book author and illustrator

Join us in taking the power of stories to the next level. Let’s go!

Eba le rona bakeng sa ho fetische tsa matla dipale boemong ba ka pele. Ha re yeng!

Sesotho, English

Edition 132

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And finally there is that essential human quality of empathy. Picture books enable young children to join someone else’s world just for a moment. They help children to begin learning how to step into someone else’s shoes and to see life from a different perspective. Developing the ability to do this takes lots of practice, and picture books provide a safe place to start the process.

So, picture books may be entertaining and magical, but actually they’re essential!

Need help with choosing picture books for your children? Visit “Recommended reads” in our “Story supplies” section at www.nalibali.org.

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Need help with choosing picture books for your children? Visit “Recommended reads” in our “Story supplies” section at www.nalibali.org.
Nyambura waits for the bus
Author: Cath Alexander
Illustrator: Catherine Groenewald
Publisher: Jacana Media

Nyambura is going to visit her grandmother. She arrives at the bustling market place to find that she is last in the queue and that the bus has not yet arrived. While she waits for the bus, Nyambura remembers the fun things that she and her grandmother have done together. Meanwhile, the queue of people is getting shorter and shorter because of disaster that strikes each of the waiting passengers. Nyambura waits for the bus highlights the importance of doing good deeds for others and the special relationship that exists between a grandmother and her grandchild. It is also available in Afrikaans, isiXhosa and isiZulu.

The baby brother curse
Author: Michelle Sacks
Illustrator: Carla Kreuser
Publisher: Bumble Books

When a young girl hears that her mother is pregnant with a baby boy, she thinks this is the worst news in the world! She imagines her brother to be terrible and spend nine months dreading his arrival. But things change when he is born. This picture book is also available in Afrikaans.

Surprise! Surprise!
Author and illustrator: Niki Daly
Publisher: Tafelberg

One day Mr Tati brings home a surprise—a sweet little piglet with a rosy face and a curly tail! Mr and Mrs Tati love their pig baby, but what will happen when the piglet goes to school? Surprise! Surprise! is a humorous story that shows that families are what you make them, and love is what matters most. It is also available in Afrikaans.

Kwezi
Author and illustrator: Loyiso Mkize
Publisher: David Philip Publishers

Kwezi is the story of a teen hero from Gold City who has to face his own insecurities. This compilation of three comics focuses on the theme of the responsibilities of family, friends and civilization. Kwezi is also available in isiXhosa and isiZulu.

The elders at the door
Author: Maryanne Bester
Illustrator: Shayle Bester
Publisher: Jacana Media

Three elders come knocking at the door. They’re tired, dirty and in need of a meal. But the family may only invite one of the visitors into their home. Who will it be? All families face obstacles and must make choices! This fable is told from West Africa to South Africa and is a tale that belongs to all of Africa and its people. The elders at the door is also available in Afrikaans, isiXhosa and isiZulu.

The baby brother curse
Author: Michelle Sacks
Illustrator: Carla Kreuser
Publisher: Bumble Books

Ha ngawananyana e monanye a ufhela hore mme wa hae o ithwete kga ngwana wa mohashane, a nahana hore tsa dikwa ke ditla ke tseke ke hae o fetiso lefetiso? O nahana hore kgatlaedwa hae o a fan ka bofela ke yona ena e sefahleho se edileng le mohatla o kgotseho? Nkgwana o bofela ke kago a lehleka ke bofela ke yona ena e sefahleho se edileng le mohatla o kgotseho lefetiso? O nahana hore kgatlaedwa hae o a fan ka bofela ka lebona ka bofela ka Bobhokwa ka le a nkgwana e sefahleho sa hae. E fumaneha ke ka English, ke Afrikaans, ka isiXhosa le ka isiZulu.

Kwezi
Author: Loyiso Mkize
Publisher: David Philip Publishers

Kwezi ke pale ya motlha ao e le mogale ya tseng erfho lefetiso ke ho fetiso ke yona ena e sefahleho se edileng le mohatla o kgotseho? Kwezi ke pale ya motlha ao e le mogale ya tseng erfho lefetiso ke ho fetiso ke yona ena e sefahleho se edileng le mohatla o kgotseho lefetiso ke ho fetiso? Kwezi ke pale ya motlha ao e le mogale ya tseng erfho lefetiso ke ho fetiso ke yona ena e sefahleho se edileng le mohatla o kgotseho lefetiso ke ho fetiso ke yona ena e sefahleho se edileng le mohatla o kgotseho?
It’s Buy-Nothing Day!

Do your children have a special place to keep the books they enjoy reading? This year on Buy-Nothing Day (25 November), let them use and reuse materials around them to make their own Story Power book boxes. They can keep their boxes next to their beds so that reading and books become a part of their everyday life – something they think of as they shut their eyes at night and again when they wake up.

Let’s get started:

**What to do**

1. **How do your children picture their lives as adults?** For example, what kind of work do they want to do and where would they like to live? Let their imaginations soar as you talk about these things with them.

2. **Give your children some old magazines and newspapers.** Let them cut out pictures and words that represent their dreams and goals, as well as who they are now, for example, things they enjoy doing now, their favourite colours or their favourite Nal’ibali characters. (Visit the “Story supplies” section of www.nalibali.org to download pictures of the Nal’ibali characters.) You can also suggest that they draw their own pictures if they want to.

3. **Let them turn a shoebox into a personal Story Power book box by pasting their cut out words and pictures on the outside and inside of the box.**

4. **Next, give them a reading log sheet to paste onto the inside of the lid so that they can record the books they read.** You can download a “Books I’ve read” log sheet from the “Story supplies” section of our website (www.nalibali.org) or, you can make your own, by dividing a blank sheet of paper into three columns and labelling the columns like this: Name of book, When I read it, What I liked about it. The log will show them how many books they have read and this is a great way to motivate them to keep on reading!

5. **Ask your children to finish off their boxes by creating a name plate.** Let them write their names in a decorative way on small pieces of paper, or cut out pictures and words that represent their dreams and goals, as well as who they are now, for example, things they enjoy doing now, their favourite colours or their favourite Nal’ibali characters. (Visit the “Story supplies” section at www.nalibali.org.)

**Nal’ibali on Radio!**

Tune into the following radio stations to enjoy listening to stories on Nal’ibali’s radio show!

**SABC:**

- **Diepweezi FM**: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.45 a.m.
- **Lesedi FM**: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 9.45 a.m.
- **Ligawagwala FM**: Monday to Wednesday at 9.10 a.m.
- **Mulongana Lonene FM**: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.35 a.m.
- **Onwepala Lothane FM**: Monday to Wednesday at 11.15 a.m.
- **SAfm**: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1.50 p.m.
- **Thabela FM**: Tuesday and Thursday at 2.50 p.m., on Saturday at 9.20 a.m. and on Sunday at 7.50 a.m.
- **Ukhazi FM**: Wednesday at 9.20 a.m. and on Saturday at 8.50 a.m.
- **Umlhlobo Weniwe FM**: Monday to Wednesday and Friday at 9:00 a.m.
- **X-K FM**: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:30 a.m.

**Ke Letsatsi la Se-Reke-Letho!**

Na bana ba hao ba no le sebako sa ilethathe hao mo ba bolokang dibuka tseo ba natefelewa ke ho di bala? Sekomo sena ka Letsatsi la Se-Reke-Letho (25 Pudungwana), e re ba sebedise bana ba belebele se natefelewa hango isho. Ke ka lebokoso a dibuka a Story Power. Ba ka nna ba bea bolokaso a bona pela a diphethe tsa bona e le hore ho bala le dibuka e ke carolo ya mapheho a bona a kamelela – ntho eo ba ting ho nahana ka yona pele a bwa kwala mahlho a bona baso le hore ho ba tsoha heseng! Ba kgathothele tse bolokoso dibuka tsa bona tse sehwang-ke-jo-polokelwa tsa Tlatsetse tsa Nal’ibali esitana le dibuka tse ding tse ba natefeliang ka hao mara mabokoso a bana a ilethathe.

**What you will need:**

- a shoebox
- old magazines and newspapers
- glue
- scissors
- paper and crayons (optional)
- a reading log sheet

**O tla hloka:**

- lebokoso la dietla
- dimakasine le dikoranta tsa kgale
- sekgamaresetse
- sekere
- pompere le dikorantse (ha o rata)
- leqephe la ho rekeka ho bala

**Seo o lokelang ho se etsa**

1. **Bona ba hao ba ipona e fia ba balho ba wanga ha se e le batho ba baholo? Ho etsa mahlho, ba bolokiso o lehetsa mahlho a mme e le be ka nata e sa hela ho dula hokae? Ba fanele hore dikelwa tsa bola a solle ho otse a bua ka ntho tsana le bana.**

2. **Ela bana ba hao dimakasine le dikoranta tsa kgale.** E re ba be se lehetsa dikhwanang ho mantse le diphetse tsa bona, se le hore ba leng sona hona jwale, ho etsa mahlho, dintho tsa bana natefelewa hona jwale, melafo eo ba e ratang kapsa bophetha ho Nal’ibali bala ba ba ratang ka ho faletse. (Ke carolo ya “Story supplies” ho www.nalibali.org lebakeng sa ho pirola dikhwanang ho bophetha ho Nal’ibali.) Hape o ka mma wa Maphela hore ba takle dikhwanang ho tsa bana baso habag ba ba bala ho etsa jwale.

3. **Ela bana ba balele lebokoso la dietla hore e be lebokoso ka lebokoso a dibuka tsa Story Power kga ho manamisa mantse le dikhwanang hango ba di sehleng ho bokhole bana le bokhole le bokhole le bokhole.


5. **Kapa bana ba hao ho qetqela lebokoso a bana ka ho etsa potelis ye leboko. E re ba ngole mabokiso a bana ka tlela e nelo le melakagasa dikgetahexang tsa nyane tsa pompere, kapa ba be se lehetsa lase lela lebokiso a bana tse di manamisa ho bokholele le bokhole le bokhole.
Swimmy
In this story, a little black fish who is alone and frightened, meets new friends in the ocean, and finds a new school of red fish to swim with. Swimmy helps in this story, a little black fish who is alone and frightened, meets new friends in the ocean, and finds a new school of red fish to swim with. Swimmy helps

After you have read the story together, discuss it with your children. For example, you could ask:

1. How else could Swimmy have solved the problem of small fish being eaten by bigger fish?
2. Why do you think Swimmy offered to be the eye of the fish?
3. Could one of the big fish at the end of the story be the tuna fish?
4. Can you remember a time when you worked together with others to solve a problem together? What did that feel like?

Many of the pictures in the book have been created by using stamps. Encourage your children to do this too. Let them create their own pictures by dipping different things into paint and then pressing them down on a sheet of paper. Here are some things you can use as stamps: fingers and thumbs, the cut-off tops of vegetables, like onions and carrots, small cardboard boxes, milk bottle tops or jar lids.

Let your children use playdough, clay and/or Plastikine to make the characters from the story and an underwater scene. Encourage them to use these to retell the story in their own way.

Listen!
This little book explores different sounds that people and animals make. Younger children will enjoy this book, but you can use it with older children as well. Suggest that they read it in their mother tongue first and then in the other language of the supplement.

As you read the book with younger children, make the animal sounds together and find the yellow birds on each page. Talk about what the birds are doing.

With older children, read the animal sounds in both languages. Encourage them to compare the similarities and differences between the sounds.

Suggest that your children make their own “sound” books. They could focus on animal sounds or other sounds they enjoy.

Granny's roast chicken
Granny arrives at Zahara's house with a roast chicken for Sunday lunch. Granny's roast chicken

Has anything similar to this ever happened in your home?

At the beginning of the story, Zahara was drawing a picture. What do you think she was drawing a picture of? Draw her picture!

Create TWO cut-out-and-keep books

Listen!
1. Tear off page 9 of this supplement.
2. Fold the sheet in half along the black dotted line.
3. Fold it in half again along the green dotted line to make the book.
4. Cut along the red dotted lines to separate the pages.

Swimmy
1. To make this book use pages 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 and 12.
2. Keep pages 5 and 7 inside the other pages.
3. Fold the sheets in half along the black dotted line.
4. Fold them in half again along the green dotted line to make the book.
5. Cut along the red dotted lines to separate the pages.

Get story active!
Here are some ideas for using the two cut-out-and-keep picture books, Swimmy (pages 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 and 12) and Listen! (pages 9 and 10), as well as the Story Corner story, Granny's roast chicken (pages 13 and 15). Choose the ideas that best suit your children's ages and interests.

Younger children will enjoy this book, but you can use it with older children as well. This little book explores different sounds that people and animals make.

Talk about the story with your children. Together discuss questions like these.

1. What made Mama think that it wasn't Granny who had eaten the roast chicken?
2. What did that feel like?

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1. What made Mama think that it wasn't Granny who had eaten the roast chicken?
2. What did that feel like?

Kgoho e rousitleng wa Nkgono
Nkgono: o Ilbha lebopo o hahang o Ntate a sa ka, sa lohale, o rousitleng, o bafela ka le bana sebedisa sa lolo tsa bana. Bana banya ne banyenyane, banyenyane, banyenyane, banyenyane, bana banya bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonyana bonyana, bonya
Swimmy

Mosesi

Leo Lionni
Hilda Mohale

This is an adapted version of Swimmy published by Jacana Media and available in bookstores and online from www.jacana.co.za. This story is available in isiXhosa, isiZulu, Sesotho, English and Afrikaans. Jacana publishes books for young readers in all eleven official South African languages. To find out more about Jacana titles go to www.jacana.co.za.

© Jacana Media (South African rights only) Tel: 011 628 3200
A happy school of little fish lived in a corner of the sea somewhere. They were all red. Only one of them was as black as a mussel shell. He swam faster than his brothers and sisters. His name was Swimmy.

Schlopha se thabileng sa dithatswana se ne se dula hukung ya lewatle kaeka. Kaofela ha tsona di ne di le kgubedu. Ke e le ngwe feela e neng e le nisbo jwaloka kgaketla ya masele. E ne e sesa ka lebelo ho feta bana babo yona. Lefitso la yona e ne e le Mosesi.
And so they swam in the cool morning water and in the midday sun and chased the big fish away.
Strange fish, pulled by an invisible thread …

One bad day a tuna fish, swift, fierce and very hungry, came darting through the waves. In one gulp he swallowed all the little red fish. Only Swimmy escaped.
and smalls make no sound at all...

... and lions roar.

Listen!

Mamela!

Carole Bloch
Jean Fullalove
Molefinyane Motsoetsoana

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

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Babies babble …
Masea a bera bera …
Goo-goo!
Goo-goo!

… and children talk.
… mme bana ba a bua.
and when they had learned to swim like one giant fish, he said, “I’ll be the eye.”
Swimmy thought and thought and thought.

Then suddenly he said, “I have it! We are going to swim all together like the biggest fish in the sea!”

He taught them to swim close together, each in his own place.

Mosesi a nahana, a nahana, a ba a nahanisisa.

Mme hanghang a re, “Ke e fumane! Re tla sesa bohle mmoho jwaloka haeka re tlhapi e kgolohadi ka hara lewatle!”

A di ruta ho sesa mmoho di atamelane, e nngwe le e nngwe e le sebakeng sa yona.

But the sea was full of wonderful creatures, and as he swam from marvel to marvel, Swimmy was happy again.

He saw a medusa made of rainbow jelly…

Empa lewatle le ne le tletse dibopuwa tse makatsang, mme yare ba a mose a sesa ho tloha sebaleng se seng ho ya se seng.

Mosei a likaibata a tlhapi. Ho a tsho, ho a le mong mme a hloname haholo.

Swimmy swam away in the deep wet world. He was scared, lonely and very sad.

Mosesi a sesa a baleha ka hara lefatshe le metsi le tebileng. O ne a tsho, ho a le mong mme a hloname haholo.

But the sea was full of wonderful creatures, and as he swam from marvel to marvel, Swimmy was happy again.

He saw a medusa made of rainbow jelly…

O di bona medusa a entsweng ka jeli e mookodi…

Mosei a naha, a naha, a ba a nahana.

Mosei a sesa a baleha ka hara lefatshe le metsi le tebileng. O ne a tsho, ho a le mong mme a hloname haholo.

More bananas, and more fish, and more creatures, and more wonders.

A di ruta ho sesa ho tloha sebakeng se seng ho ya ho se Mosesi a ikutlwa a thabile hape.

More bananas, and more fish, and more creatures, and more wonders.

A di ruta ho sesa ho tloha sebakeng se seng ho ya ho se Mosesi a ikutlwa a thabile hape.

A di ruta ho sesa ho tloha sebakeng se seng ho ya ho se Mosesi a ikutlwa a thabile hape.

A di ruta ho sesa ho tloha sebakeng se seng ho ya ho se Mosesi a ikutlwa a thabile hape.
It was Sunday morning and Zahara was drawing a picture in her bedroom. Ding dong, the front doorbell rang. Zahara ran to open the door. It was her granny.

"Hello, Granny," she said, giving her grandmother a hug.

"I bought a roast chicken from the supermarket," said Granny. The chicken was packed in a big white packet and it felt warm when Zahara touched it. It smelled wonderful!

"Oh good," said Zahara's mother coming towards the door. "Put it on the kitchen counter, and we'll eat it for lunch."

"I can't wait to eat it," said Zahara. "It smells so yummy."

"I'll make some tea," said Daddy from the kitchen. "You three can sit on the couch and relax. Why don't you watch TV?"

Just then Zahara heard her father's cellphone ring and then she heard him talking on the phone.

"I have to go to work," said Daddy walking to the front door. "I'll be back later."

Granny and Mama were busy watching their favourite TV program.

"Bye," said Mama.

"Bye," said Granny.

"Bye, Daddy," she said.

Soon Granny and Mama's TV program was over and it was lunchtime. Mama went to the kitchen to fetch some bread, salad and the roast chicken. She opened the packet, took out the chicken and put it on a plate. Oh! Mama's eyes went wide with shock. Something was missing! One of the drumsticks was gone.

"Zahara," she called. "Come here, right now."

Zahara knew that when Mama called her in that cross voice, she had to run. Quickly, she put down her crayon and hurried to the kitchen. "What's wrong, Mama?" she asked.

"Did you eat a drumstick? Someone has pulled off a whole drumstick and eaten it," said Mama pointing to the chicken.

"No, Mama," said Zahara. "I promise, it wasn't me."

"Are you sure?" asked Mama.

"I'm VERY sure, Mama," said Zahara looking worried.

Mama didn't say anything else. Instead, she went outside to where Uncle Joe was mending his car.

"Joe, did you eat the drumstick from the chicken?" she asked.

Uncle Joe had the radio turned up loud. "What did you say?" he shouted.

"DO YOU EAT THE DRUMSTICK FROM THE CHICKEN?" shouted Mama above the music.

"Yes, please, I'd like some chicken, and a glass of cooldrink too," he yelled.

Mama sighed. She went to the big mango tree in the corner of the garden. Zahara's younger brother, David, and his best friend, Lebo, were playing in the branches.

"David," said Mama, "did you eat the drumstick from the chicken?"

"Oh good, is it lunchtime?" said David. "We're so hungry."

"Did you eat the drumstick?" asked Mama again.

"No, Mama," said David.

"He didn't," said Lebo. "We've been playing in the tree all the time."

Mama went back into the house. She was very upset. "So, nobody ate the drumstick," she said. "Then where can it be?"

"Maybe the lady at the supermarket took it," Zahara suggested. Mama clapped her hands. "Of course! That's what happened! The lady at the supermarket who sold the chicken to Granny must have pulled it off and given it to someone else."

"Oh no," cried Granny. "I asked her for a whole roast chicken. I paid for a whole roast chicken, and now she has taken some of it. And we haven't got enough for lunch." Granny began to cry.

Zahara was so sad to see Granny crying that she began to cry too. That set Mama off. All three of them sat and cried and cried.

Then Mama blew her nose and dried her eyes. "This won't do!" she said. "Supermarkets are not allowed to do that. We will go back to the supermarket and tell them that they must give us another roast chicken."

So, Mama, Granny and Zahara set off for the supermarket, while Uncle Joe kept an eye on David and Lebo.

"I'd like to speak to the manager," said Mama when they got there. She used her cross voice, and the manager came running.

"How can I help you, Madam?" he asked.

"Somebody took the drumstick from our chicken!" cried Mama, Granny and Zahara together.

"That is very serious," said the manager. "I'll call the woman from the roast chicken counter."

"No, I didn't," said the woman. "I put the whole roast chicken in the packet and gave it to Granny."

"Oh no, no, no!" said Mama. "When I opened the bag with the chicken in it at home the drumstick was gone!"

The woman quivered and quaked in her shoes. "I didn't take it, I promise. I didn't," she said.

The manager was very angry. "Fetch these people another roast chicken right away," he bellowed. "Granny, I will give you a whole new roast chicken for free, and a chocolate cake, to say sorry."

Mama tapped her foot and waited. Soon the woman from the roast chicken counter came running in. "Can I help you?" she asked.

"This customer says you took the drumstick from her roast chicken," said the manager.

"No, I didn't," said the woman. "I put the whole roast chicken in the packet and gave it to Granny."

"Oh no, no, no!" said Mama. "When I opened the bag with the chicken in it at home the drumstick was gone!"

The woman quivered and quaked in her shoes. "I didn't take it, I promise. I didn't," she said.

Continued on page 15.

“Dumela, Nkgono,” a rialo, a haka nkgono wa hae. Ke reke kgoho e roustilweng mane suphamaketeng, ha rialo Nkgono. Kgoho eo e ne e lentswse ka hara pakete e kgoho e e tsheuwe mme e ne e futhumetse ha monate ha Zahara a e e tswa. E ne e nkga ha monate haholo! “O, ke hantle,” ha rialo mme wa Zahara a letla se haholo. “E behe hodima tafole ka kithjhineng, mme re tlà e ja bakeng sa ditso tsa motsheare.”

“Ke se ke tatetse ho e ja,” ha rialo Zahara. “E nkga masutsa ha monate.”

“Ke tlà e tla tsa e tshe,” ha rialo Ntate a le ka kithjhineng. “Lona ba bararo le ka nna la dula souteng la phomola. Hisaaneng le sa shebelle TV?”

Ka yona nako eo Zahara a utla selefouno ya ntatae e lla mme a mo utla a bua founong. “Ke lokela ho ya mosebetsing,” ha rialo Ntate a towa ka lemati la ka pele. “Ke tlà kightla ha moro.”


Kapele lenareo la Nkgono le Mme la TV la ne le fedile mme jwale e se e le nako ya diis tsa motsheare. Mme a ya ka kPihtjhineng ho ya lata bokhobe, salate le kgoho e roustilweng. A bua pakete, a ntsha kgoho mme a e bea hodina sekotlolo. Jo! Mme a tona mahlo ho ke ho makala. Ho no ho ena le karolo e siyo! Se seng sa dirope se ne se le siyo.


“Na o jele serope sa kgoho? Ho na le motho ya kgaotseng serope kaofela mme a se sa ja,” ha rialo Mme a supile kgoho.

“Tjhe, Mme,” ha rialo Zahara. “Ke a o tshepisa, ha se nna.”

“O bua mnete?” ha botsa Mme.

“Ke TlísíTSE, Mme,” ha rialo Zahara a shebala a kgathatshehile. Mme se a ke a re letho. Bóbo a ya ka rtle mno Malome Joe a neng a ntse a lexo ka loka koli teng.

“Joe, na o jele serope sa kgoho ee?” a mmotsa.

Malome Joe a ne a bulelele radio hodi mena. “O reng?” a hoeletsa.

“KE RE NA O JELE SEROPE SA KGGOHO ENA NAI?” ha hoeletsa Mme ka hodima mmin. “Ee, hle, nkha thabola kgoho, le galase ya senomaphodi,” a hoeletsa.

Mme a fehalo. Bóbo a ya sefatseng se sehola se maango se hukung ya jarete. Kgaitseedi ya Zahara, David, le motswalle wa hae wa hloko ya kgomo, Lebo, ba ne ba ntse ba bapalla makaleng. “David,” ha rialo Mme, “na o jele serope sa kgoho?”

“O, ho lokile, na e se e le nako ya diis tsotshoare?” ha rialo David. “Re lepatle haholo.”

“Na ke we na ya jengel serope sa kgoho?” ha botsa Mme hape.

“Tjhe, Mme,” ha araba David.

“Ha sa yena,” ha rialo Lebo. “Haealse re ntse re bapala difateng mona.”

Mme a lgitluta ka tlung. O ne e kgenna haholo. “Kahoo, ha ho motho ya jengel serope sa kgoho,” a rialo. “Iwale se le ke ka he?”

“Mohlomong mme yane wa suphamaketeng o se nkile,” Zahara a etsa tshihiso. Mme a opa matsoho. “Ebihile! Ke yona ntho e e tsa hesentse es! Mosadi yane wa suphamaketeng ya rekoleditseng Nkgono kgoho mohlomong o se kgapote mme a se fa motho e mieng.”


Zahara o ne e utlwe bhotlako ha a bona Nkgono a lla hoo le yena a ileng a lla. Seo sa kgopisa Mme. Ba dula moo ba lebaro ba lla, ba lla.

Yaba Mme a o a mina mme a hloka mahlo a hae. “Sena se ke sa thsa!” a rialo.

“Disuphamakete ha dì a dumellwa ho e hloka. Re tla kgutlela suphamaketeng re ba bokôle hore ba lokela ho fa e ngwe e høre hape.”

Kahoo, Mme, Nkgono le Zahara ba ya suphamaketeng, mme Malome Joe a sala a shebile David le Lebo.

“Ke kopa ho bua le motsamaisi,” ha rialo Mme ba ha fiila moo. O ne a bua ka lentswse la hae la kgalefo, mme motsamaisi a tìla a mahlile.

“Noka o thu sa eng, Mofumahadi?” a botsa.

“Ho na le motho ya nkileg serope kgoho ya rona!” Mme, Nkgono le Zahara ba lla kaofela.


Mme a emo moo a ntse a tìla ka leoto fatshe. Yaba mosadi wa khainterang ya dikoho tse roustilweng o lemosa e se lemosa. “Ho no re ka thu sa?” a botsa.

“Moreke emo a re le wena o niki serope sa kgoho oo a re ekirong,” ha rialo motsamaisi.

“Tjhe, ha ke a etsa jwale,” ha rialo mosadi eoo. “Ke kente kgoho e felletsetse e roustilweng ha ho mokotlana mme e e fa Nkgono.”

“Tjhe, tjhe, bobo!” ha rialo Mme. “Ha ke bua mokotlana o kente kgoho lapeng serope se ne se le siyo!”

Mosadi eoo a thothomela a bile a tìla ka maato fatshe. “Ha ke a se nka, ka nnete. Ha ke a se nka, a rialo.”

Motsamaisi o ne e shearilele ho hale. “Lelata ba hetho bana kgoho e ngwe e roustilweng hona jwale,” a omana. “Nkgono, ke tìla a fa kgoho e ngwe e felletsetse e roustilweng mahala, le kuku ya tjhokolete, bakeng sa ho kopa tshweelo.”

E tswela pele leqepheng la 15.
So, Daddy, Mama, Granny and Zahara packed the second roast chicken and the chocolate cake into a packet, and they went all the way back to the supermarket. When they got there, they went straight to the manager’s office.

The manager was so worried when he saw them — AGAIN! “Oh no, what is wrong now?” he said to himself. “That woman is going to shout at me again.”

But Mama didn’t shout.

“We’re very, very sorry,” said Mama, Granny, Daddy and Zahara.

“It’s all my fault,” said Daddy. “I was hungry. I took the drumstick. Please call the woman from the roast chicken counter.”

The manager picked up the intercom. “Roast Chicken Counter Woman, Roast Chicken Counter Woman, please come to the manager’s office urgently.”

The woman from the roast chicken counter looked very scared when she saw Mama, Daddy, Granny and Zahara. “Please, don’t fire me,” she said to the manager.

But Daddy took out his wallet and gave the manager the money for the roast chicken and the chocolate cake. Then he gave the woman the packet. “Here you are,” he said. “I’m sorry we got you into trouble. Please enjoy these.”

The woman was very pleased to have a chicken and a cake for her lunch. But Zahara was disappointed. “You gave away the chocolate cake,” she said.

So Daddy took out his wallet again and bought another roast chicken and another chocolate cake.

After lunch everyone had a slice of cake — Mama, Daddy, Granny, Uncle Joe, Zahara, David and Lebo. But the biggest slice of all went to Zahara, because she was Daddy’s special girl.

“Yaba Mme, Nkongo le Zahara ba kenya kgoho ya bobedi e roustilweng le kuku ya tjhokolete ka mokotleng, mme bohle ba kgutlile hape suphamakheteng. Ha ba fihla moo, ba leba ofising ya motsamaisi ka ho otloleho.

Motsamaisi o ne a kgathatsehile haholo ha a bona bana hape — HAPE! “Tjhe bo, e se e leng jawle?” a bua a le mong. “Mosadi yane o tilo nkomanya hape.”

Empa Mme ha a ka a omega.

“Re maswabi haholo e le ka nnete,” ha rialo Mme, Nkongo, Ntate le Zahara.


Motsamaisi a phahamisa sebelahole. “Mosadi wa Khaontareng ya Dikgoho tse Roustilweng, Mosadi wa Khaontareng ya Dikgoho tse Roustilweng, ka kopo tloog ofising ya motsamaisi ka potlako.”

Mosadi wa khaontareng ya dikgoho tse roustilweng o ne a tshihile haholo ha a bona Mme, Ntate, Nkongo le Zahara. “Ke a kopa He, o se ke wa nteleka,” a rialo ho motsamaisi.


Mosadi eo o ne a thabile haholo ho fumana kgoho le kuku bakeng sa dio tsu motsheare. Empa Zahara o ne a swabile. “O fane ka kuku ya tjhokolete,” a rialo.

Yaba Ntate o ntsha sepatjhe sa hae hape mme a rea kgoho e ngwe e roustilweng le kuku e ngwe ya tjhokolete.

Kamora dio tsu motsheare bohle ba fumana selae sa kuku — Mme, Ntate, Nkongo, Malome Joe, Zahara, David le Lebo. Empa sele se sehelo ka ho fetisha sa fuwa Zahara, hohane e ne e le moradinyana wo nteate ya ratweng ho feta.
Find the following things from the story, Swimmy, in the wordsearch block.

**ANEMONES**
- T
- R
- E
- T
- S
- B
- O
- L
- L

**EEL**
- U
- M
- E
- D
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- A
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- H

**FISH**
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**LOBSTER**
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**MEDUSA**
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- C

**ROCKS**
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- K
- X
- S

**SEAWEEDS**
- I
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- T

**TUNA**
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Batla dintho tse latelang tse tswang paleng ya Mosesi, bolokong bona ba patlamantswe.

**DIANEMONE**
- M
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- H
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- T
- S
- R

**EEL**
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- L
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- K
- S

**TLHAPI**
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- N
- E

**LOBSTER**
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- B
- T
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**MEDUSA**
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- F
- S
- S
- L

**MAFIKA**
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- A
- L
- A
- I
- T
- E
- L

**LEHLAKA**
- R
- L
- E
- C
- K
- E
- W
- P
- M

**TJHUNA**
- T
- Y
- P
- A
- A
- R
- Q
- W

In Granny’s roast chicken, Zahara gets a large slice of chocolate cake. What is your favourite cake? Draw a slice of it on the plate. Include a few words or sentences around your slice of cake to describe it.

Ho Kgoho e roustilweng ya Nkgono, Zahara o fuwa selae se seholo sa kuku ya tjhokolete. Wena o rata kuku efe haholo? Taka selae sa yona hodima poleiti. Ngola mantswe a mmalwa kapa dipolelo ho potoloha selae sa kuku ho e hlatosa.