A reading adventure

Every day, all across South Africa, reading activists like you and Nal'ibali help children to discover the joy of reading. Sometimes the children we share stories with are our own children, but often they are also the children in our classrooms, libraries and reading clubs. And we are part of a wider community of adults across the world who are committed to making sure that our children experience the power of reading!

It takes time and energy to help children establish the habit of reading for enjoyment – it happens as we share books and stories with children again and again. The beginning of a new year is always a good time to think about what reading experiences you want your children to have over the next twelve months.

Reading for enjoyment needs to be an adventure, not a chore! Adventures help us to explore new things and they often involve challenges. Giving children reading challenges encourages them to try out new things that they may not even have thought of. These challenges can help to motivate children, and motivation plays a big part in children’s reading lives. Motivation is the thing that makes children want to learn to read in the first place. Then it keeps them reading and turns reading for enjoyment into a healthy habit!

Reading challenges may take us out of our comfort zones for a while, but they also allow us to discover things about ourselves as readers – including what we enjoy reading and what we don’t enjoy reading! So, to help make 2018 a reading adventure for your children, we have created a reading passport (see pages 13 and 14) that encourages them to explore reading and stories! Follow the instructions on page 15 to make the passport and then let the fun begin! We wish you a happy, adventure-filled reading year!

It’s World Read Aloud Day on 1 February 2018! Look out for our special World Read Aloud Day edition of the Nal’ibali Supplement, which will be available in the week of 28 January. For information on how to get involved in Nal’ibali’s World Read Aloud Day activities, go to www.nalibali.org.

Join us in taking the power of stories to the next level. Let’s go! Eba le rona bakeng sa ho fetisetsa matla a dipole bamosong ka po lele. Ha re ye ri!
I want to be a chef!
By Kgosi Kgosi Illustrations by Jiggs Snaddon-Wood

In the town of Mahikeng, there lived a young boy named Kabelo. He loved nothing more than cooking. He cooked good food that everyone in his family enjoyed. Kabelo was also good at baking. He baked cakes and bread. He also made soup for homeless people in his community.

One morning at school, Mrs Ramaila, Kabelo’s teacher, asked everyone in the class to say what they would like to do after they finish school one day. A girl stood up. “I would like to be an astronaut and go to space,” she said.

“I would like to be a doctor,” said one of the boys.

Then Kabelo stood up. “I would like to earn a living by cooking,” he said. “I want to be a chef.” All the children were shocked. First they stared at Kabelo and then they all started laughing. “But cooking is for girls,” laughed one of the girls.

Mrs Ramaila told everyone to be quiet. “You can be anything you want to be, Kabelo,” she said kindly. “Don’t listen to them.” But Kabelo’s feelings were already hurt.

On the way home from school the other children kept on teasing him. When he got home, Kabelo found his father washing the dishes while his mother made lunch.

“How was school today?” asked his father.

“Everyone laughed at me when I told them I wanted to be a chef and cook for a living,” explained Kabelo. “They said that boys don’t cook and that cooking is for girls. They also said real boys play rugby and soccer. But I don’t like those things!”

His father hugged him. “Do you know that some of the best chefs in the world are men?”

Kabelo was surprised and said, “Really?”

“Yes!” said his father as he took his cellphone out of his pocket. “Look!” He showed Kabelo pictures of the many chefs around the world who were men. They looked at pictures of all the good food the chefs had cooked and Kabelo started to feel a little better.

“You should enter a cooking competition, Kabelo,” his mother said to him. “There is one called The Young Super Chef and it is on television.”

His father agreed. “Yes,” he said, “your cooking is very good. You could win that competition.”

And that was how it came about that Kabelo entered The Young Super Chef competition.

A few months later, as part of the competition, Kabelo was on television. He found himself amongst other young chefs just like him. Some of them were boys who loved cooking – just like him!

The competition was really tough! The young chefs were asked to cook meals they had never cooked before. They also had to use ingredients they had never heard of before. One by one, they were voted out by the judges. Kabelo saw them cry as they left. He did not want the same thing to happen to him. He concentrated extra hard to make sure that he didn’t make any mistakes.

When Kabelo ended up in the final round of the competition, his mother and father were so proud of him! The whole school was watching on television – even the boys and girls who had made fun of him. Kabelo was making his school proud.

Kabelo felt nervous. The competition was nearly over, but there was one person left he had to beat in order to win. The problem was, that young chef was as good as Kabelo was!

The final round started. The two young chefs each had an hour to cook their meal. Fifteen minutes into the round, Kabelo dropped a bowl filled with the mixture for a chicken pie onto the floor. He wasn’t allowed to pick the mixture up – that would mean that he would lose the competition. So he had to start all over again. Now it would be a struggle for him to finish in time. Everyone watching was worried, but Kabelo managed to finish his dish just in time.

Then the judges had to taste the food. This would decide who the winner would be! They tasted Kabelo’s food and said that they thought it was very good. Then they tasted the food of the other young chef. They thought that was very good too! They left to make a final decision. The audience knew that choosing a winner was going to be difficult.

It was a whole hour before the judges came back with a final decision. The winner was … Kabelo! His parents were so happy and proud! Their son was The Young Super Chef of the year. Kabelo won a trophy and prize money.

The next day Kabelo took his trophy to school and everyone there celebrated with him. Kabelo had shown everyone that boys could be chefs too!

“I’m glad you didn’t listen to some of the children when they teased you,” said Mrs Ramaila. “You see, I told you, you could be anything you want to be!”
Toropong ya Mahikeng, ho kile ka dula mosherane ya neng a bitswa Kabelo. O ne a rata ho pheha ho feta dintho tsotlhe. O ne a pheha di se monate tseo bolele hophe la rapa tabo ba neng a dikalwa. Kabelo hape o ne a tseba le ho baka. O ne a baka dikuku le bohohoe. Hape o ne a eka sopho bakeng sa batho ba se nang mahae motseeng wabo.

Hoseng ho hong sekolong, Mof Ramaila, e leng tlhitihe ya Kabelo, a re bohole ka tlelaeng se bohole se ba batlang ho se e tsa mohla ba getang sekoloe.

Ngwananyane e mong a ema. “Ke lakatsa ho ba asteronate mme ke ye sepakapaleng,” a rialo.


Ha a fihla hae, Kabelo a fumana ntatae a ntse a hlatswa dijana mme mme wa hae a eka di se tsotlhe. “Ho ne ho le jaeng kaqeno sekolong?” ha botsa ntatae.

“Bana kaofela ba le ba ntshelha ka he ka bolele hore ke batla ho ba seapehi le ho pheha bakeng se ho ihedisa,” ha hloalo Kabelo. “Ba ile ba re bashenane ba ha phehe le hore ho pheha ke mosebetsi wa banana. Hape ba ile ba re bashenane ba nnete ba bapala rakebi le bolo ya maoto. Empa nna ha ke di rate dintho tseoi!”

Ntatae a me haka. “Na o a tseba hore baapehi ba bangata ba maemong a hodimo lefatsheng moo ke bana?”

Kabelo a makata mme mohlo a re a eka ntse. “Kha mnete?”

“Ehilile!” ha rialo ntatae mme a ntse a xtshela se lela ka pokotheng. “Shebi!” Bontsha Kabelo ditshwantsho tsa baapehi ba bangata ba lefatsheng lohel bao e leng bana. Ba sheba ditshwantsho tsa di se kaofela tseo baapehi bana ba di phehlele mme Kabelo a qala ho ikutlwa a kgutla a kgotlhu a kgotsofetse.

“O lokela ho kena ka thodiqiso ya ho pheha, Kabelo,” mmae a rialo. “Ho ta le e bitshwago Saapehi se Senyenyane se Hlwahlwa mme e thelevi Sheneng.”


Mme kaemoo Kabelo a lieng a kena ka thodiqiso ya Saapehi se Senyenyane se Hlwahlwa.
Get story active!

Here are some ideas for using the Story Corner story, I want to be a chef (page 2), as well as the two cut-out-and-keep picture books, Six blind mice and an elephant (pages 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 and 12) and Fruit salad (pages 9 and 10). Choose the ideas that best suit your children’s ages and interests.

I want to be a chef!

When Kabelo tells the other children in his class that he wants to be a chef when he grows up, they laugh at him and tease him saying that he will never be a chef because he doesn’t know how to do anything.

Discuss the following question with your children: Do you think there are children who they know.

Ask your children to suggest why the mice thought that the different parts of the elephant’s body were like a wall, a spear, a fan, a snake, a tree and a rope.

After you have read the story, encourage your children to draw their own pictures of the six blind mice exploring the elephant’s body while he sleeps.

Play a game with your children in which they use only their sense of touch to describe and name objects. Without letting your children see what you’re holding, put some objects into a pillbox or shopping bag. Now let the children take turns to close their eyes and take an object out. Let them keep their eyes closed as they feel the object, describe it and then try to guess what it is.

Six blind mice and an elephant

An elephant wanders into a barn and falls asleep. Six blind mice come out of their mouse-hole to investigate this most unusual creature. They come up with six very different ideas as they explore what an elephant’s body is like.

As you read the story:

- talk about the details in the pictures together
- ask your children to suggest why the mice thought that the different parts of the elephant’s body were like a wall, a spear, a fan, a snake, a tree and a rope.

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Fruit salad

This little book names some of the fruits that are enjoyed by children from different parts of Africa – from Egypt to South Africa. Younger children will enjoy this book, but you can use it with older children too. Suggest that they look at the mother-tongue fridge and then the other language of the supplement. They can also read it to each other and to younger children who they know.

After you have read the book together, discuss which of the fruits your children have tasted before, and also which ones they liked.

Find some fruit and make a fruit salad together – then enjoy eating it!

Encourage your children to write a recipe for your fruit salad.

Suggest that your children make their own books about fruit by drawing pictures of their favourite types of fruit and then writing a description of the fruit next to each picture. Encourage them to think of words to describe the colour and shape of each fruit, as well as what it is like on the outside and inside.

Create TWO cut-out-and-keep books

Fruit salad

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

Six blind mice and an elephant

1. To make this book use pages 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 and 12
2. Keep pages 7 and 8 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.
I was lucky enough to have my imagination enlivened and enriched by stories as a child. Stories that flew out of books and into my play helping me to make some sense of my world. This simple story encourages us to step back and draw on all our senses to piece together the big picture. So let’s play, I’ll be the oldest blind mouse. Who would you like to be?

-Jude Daly

Courtesy of Otter-Barry Books (UK) and Tafelberg (an imprint of NB Publishers)
One hot, hot day, a sleepy elephant wandered out of the forest and into a farmer’s barn. He sniffed around, made himself a cosy bed, sighed contentedly and fell asleep.

The farmer had always wanted to see a real elephant. He beckoned excitedly to his wife and children and they all ran out to look.

So the six blind mice tiptoed out of the barn. Then they scampere back to their nest, squeaking and squealing with satisfaction at having seen for themselves the wonder of an elephant.
Yaba ditweba tse tsele tse foufetseng di nanyo ho tswa ka hara lesaka. Mme tsa kgukguna ho ya mokoting wa tsona, di ntse di tsetsela di tlatlarietsa ke ho kgotsofalla ho iponela ka botsona mehlolo ya tlou.

First to reach the barn was the older blind mouse.
Thusang!" ha tsetsela ditweba, mme tsa itshunya mokoting wa ho ipata. Ha di ntse di ipatile, ditweba tse tsheletseng tse foufetseng tsa utlwa batho ba bua ka sebopuwa se makatsang se bitswang tlou, se neng se robetse lesakeng la rapolasi. Mme yare ha ditweba tseo di ntse di utlwa, tsa tseba hantle hore sena ke sebopuwa seo di neng di ntse di batlana le sona.

Kahoo, yare hang ha batho bohle le diphoofolo tsohle – haholoholo katse – ba tsamaya, ditweba tsa tswa ka mokoting oo di ipatileng ho ona tsa tsamaya hape.

Help!" squealed the mice, and scurried into a hidey-hole. While they were hiding, the six blind mice overheard people talking about a remarkable creature called an elephant, that was sleeping in the farmer's barn. And the more the mice heard, the more they knew this must be the creature they were looking for.

So, as soon as all the people and all the animals – especially the cat – went away, the mice crept out of their hole and set off again.

Then they called the neighbours. Soon the barn was surrounded by men, women and children, all whispering to each other about the wonder of an elephant.
Drive your imagination

Salate ya Ditholwana

Fruit salad


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Suzana Mukobwajana
Fortunée Kubwimana
Félix Seminega
Molefinyane Motsoetoana

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

Aïsha o rata monokotshwai.
Aïsha likes dates.

Phakamani o rata phoopho.
Phakamani likes paw paw.

Muvara o rata dilamunu.
Muvara likes oranges.

Juma o rata di-mangoe.
Juma likes mangoes.

Mariama o rata lehapu.
Mariama likes watermelon.

And me? I love fruit salad! Lovely, lovely fruit salad.
“Hey, everyone!” called the sixth and youngest blind mouse, hanging from the elephant’s tail. “You are all wrong! I’ll tell you exactly what an elephant is like.”

The other mice crept closer. Why, even the elephant himself seemed to be listening!

“An elephant is exactly like a – rope!”

There was a moment’s silence. Then the sleepy elephant flapped his ears and trumpeted so loudly that all six mice scurried for cover.

“An elephant is exactly like a – rope!”

Then the elephant yawned. “A very beautiful elephant,” the oldest blind mouse squeaked quietly. “A very tired elephant!” the youngest mouse chipped in.

And the elephant rumbled with laughter until he fell fast asleep.

Then the elephant yawned. “A very beautiful elephant,” the oldest blind mouse squeaked quietly. “A very tired elephant!” the youngest mouse chipped in.

And the elephant rumbled with laughter until he fell fast asleep.
Six blind mice, dozing in their nest, were woken by a most unusual smell, a scent they had never smelled before. What could it be? They just had to find out.

As they crept along, following their noses, they smelled lots of things they knew about: chickens, cows, pigs, people, dogs and …

"I am large and solid with sharp tusks and big fan-like ears. And I have to agree that my legs are like tree-trunks, my nose is long and bendy and my tail could be mistaken for a rope. But, when all is said and done, my friends, I am exactly like an elephant!"
**Challenge 1**

Hope likes stories about everyday life – especially stories about groups of friends and stories that take place at school. Can you find stories that have friends in them and/or have something to do with school? Enjoy reading them!

**Challenge 2**

Neo loves playing soccer, so he enjoys soccer stories. Read stories about children or adults who have the same hobby as you, or who enjoy playing the same sport as you.

**Challenge 5**

Afrika likes reading traditional stories. His favourite is “Tselane and the giant”. Take the time to read some traditional stories. Re-read ones that are your favourites and also find ones that you have not read before.

**Challenge 6**

Bella likes stories about animals. Do you have a favourite story about animals? Read it again, and then find new stories about animals to read.

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**My 10 favourite stories of 2018**

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**Dipale tse leshome tseo ke di ratang ka ho felisisa tsa 2018**

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Challenge 3
Priya loves it when her granny reads adventure stories to her – they are her favourite! She loves finding adventure stories by authors that she has not read before. Try reading some stories by authors that are new to you. One of them may become one of your favourites!

Challenge 4
Afrika loves anything to do with inventions and he enjoys making things! Find books that tell you how to make things – food or objects. Choose some of the things from these books to make. Follow the instructions to make them.

Challenge 11
Ngola phephetso ya hao ka tlase mona. Write your own challenge below.

Phoelo ya 8
Josh o batla ho ba mofofisi wa difofane kapa phaeloto mohlang a holang mme la nako e ngata a bala ka difofane – le eng kapa eng e fofang! Batla dibuka tsa tlhahisoleseding ka dihlooho tse o kgahlang mme o natefelwe ke ho ithuta haholwanyane ka dihlooho tseo ha o ntse o bala! Challenge 8
Josh wants to be a pilot when he grows up and so he spends a lot of time reading about aeroplanes – and anything else in the sky! Find information books on topics that interest you and enjoy learning more about these topics as you read.

Challenge 7
Bella and Neo like fantasy stories. Bella likes stories about queens and Neo likes stories about pirates. Do you enjoy these kinds of stories? What fantasy characters do you enjoy reading about? Try reading some stories that take you on a trip to a fantasy world.

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A reading passport

Children learn to read by reading – and they get better at it the more they do it! Your children can use the reading passport on pages 13 and 14 to help them explore the world of reading.

- Encourage them to try all the challenges in the passport, but do not force them to do this.
- They do not have to complete the challenges in order. They may feel more comfortable starting with something they have tried before.
- It doesn’t matter if they don’t complete all the challenges, but encourage them to try at least one a month.
- Whatever your children read, make sure they enjoy doing it. If they do not like a book or story, they do not have to finish it! The important thing is to explore different types of books and stories.

Get going

Follow these steps to help your child create their own reading passport:

2. Fold three times. Make sure the dotted line is inside the fold each time.
   a. Fold along the purple line. (Fold 1)
   b. Fold along the green line. (Fold 2)
   c. Fold along the blue line. (Fold 3)
3. Cut along the red lines.
4. Let your children add their own reading challenges on pages 12 and 13. Now the passport is ready to use!
5. Let your child try the twelve reading challenges on pages 2 to 13 of the passport. There is a stamp next to each one which they can colour in once they have completed the challenge.
6. Let your child write down the names of ten stories that they read during 2018 and enjoyed the most. These could be new stories that they read, or old favourites. They could be stories that they read as part of the passport challenges or other books they enjoyed.

Where to find free stories

Nal’ibali has free stories for your children to read throughout the year. Find these stories:

- in the 2018 Nal’ibali Supplements
- in copies of the Nal’ibali Supplement from previous years. (You can download these from the “Multilingual supplement archive” in the “Story supplies” section on the Nal’ibali website – www.nalibali.org)
- in “Multilingual stories” and “Story cards” in the “Story & rhyme library” section on the Nal’ibali website www.nalibali.org and on the mobbsite www.nalibali.mobi. You can download the stories and print them out, or read them on a cellphone.

Pasepoto ya ho bala

Bana ba ithuho ha bala ka ho bala – mme ba nitafa ka boleng ha ba ntse ba dinaka ka ho bala ka ho bala le twela pele! Bana ba hao ba ka sebiseda pasepoto ya ho bala e leqepheng la 13 le 14 ho ithuho ha utula lefetshie la ho bala.

- Ba kgoholethse ho leka diphephetso tshihle tse ka hara pasepoto, empa a se ke wa ba qoqela ho e tsela.
- Ha ba a faneleho ho phetha diphephetso ka ratelano. Ba ka nna ba itlhetha ba bala ho a le opto ka elo ho e tsela ho hao moo.
- Ha ho tlakelo le lehalo ba sa phethlele diphephetso tshihle, empa ba kgoholethse ho leka bonnyane e le mngwe ka kgwedi.
- Eng kapa eng ea bana ba hao ba hao e balang, bana bonnete ba hore ba natelofela ke ho e bala. Haebba ba sa rate buka kapo pale e itseng, ha bafanele ka letho ho e qeta! Ntho ya bohlako ke leka ke hore ba sibolle meturua e fapanang ya dibuka le dipole.

Qallella

Latela mehato ena ho thusa ngwana wa hao ho iketsetsa pasepoto ya hae ya ho bala.

   a. Mena moleng o perese. (Momono wa 1)
   b. Mena moleng o motala. (Momono wa 2)
   c. ‘Jwale mensa moleng o bolota ba lehlelimo. (Momono wa 3)
3. Seha moleng e melebeleu.
4. E re bana ba hao ba keny ka diphephetso tsa bona tsa hao leqepheng la 12 le la 13. ‘Jwale pasepoto e se e lokhtse ho sebisedevo!
5. E re ngwana wa hao ho leka diphephetso tse trashome le metso e mmede tse leqepheng la 2 ho isla ho la isla la pasepoto. Ha no le setempe pela pasepoto ka ringwe seo ba ka se kenyang melo ba ho e pasepoto ka selechelo.
6. E re ngwana wa hao ho a leke diphephetso tse leqepheng le metso e mmede tse leqepheng ka 2 ho isla ho la isla la pasepoto. Ha no le setempe pela pasepoto ka ringwe seo ba ka se kenyang melo ba ho e pasepoto ka selechelo.

Moo re ka fumangang dipale tsa mahala teng

Nal’ibali e na le dipale tsa mahala bakeng sa bana ba hao tseo ba ka di balang selema ho pota. Fumanga dipale tsaena:

- Dilatsetsegwa tsa Nal’ibali tsa 2018
- Ka hana dikhopi tsa Tlatsetso ya Nal’ibali tsa dilemo tse folefela. (O ka di tšisiditswe karolo ya pasepoto kapa dibuka tse leqepheng la 2018 tsa leqepheng la 2018)
- Tšisiditswe le letša!
- ‘Jwale pasepoto a le ka leka bonnyane e leqepheng ka 2018.
- E re ngwana wa hao ho a leke diphephetso tse leqepheng le metso e mmede tse leqepheng le metso e mmede tse leqepheng ka 2018.
- E re ngwana wa hao ho a leke diphephetso tse leqepheng le metso e mmede tse leqepheng le metso e mmede tse leqepheng ka 2018.
1. Be a chef that cooks words instead of food! Look in the story, I want to be a chef, and find as many words as you can that have something to do with cooking and baking. Write them on and around the pot below. Then add ten words of your own.

2. Use your imagination to complete the story.

Long ago, there was a land filled with every kind of fruit tree. The only fruit that nobody had ever seen or tasted, was the lemon.

One day, the king's favourite daughter, Bokang, fell ill. Many doctors and sangomas tried to help her, but Bokang didn't get better. At last, a very old sangoma was called.

"Somewhere in this country there is a lemon tree," she told the king. "If you give Bokang the juice of one of its lemons, she will get better …"

Mehleng ya kgalekgale, ha ne ho ena le naha e neng e letse melula yohile ya difate tsa ditholwana. Tholwana e le ngwe feela eo ho neng ho se motho ya kileng a e boma kapa hona ho e latsa, e ne e le sirilamunu.

"Ka tsatsi le leng, moradi wa Morena eo e neng e le tšatša, Bokang, o kula. Dingaka tse ngata le baramekhoqo ba leka ho ma thusa, empa Bokang a nna a kula ho ya pele. Qetellong, ho le e hithwa ngaka e ngwe e tsotetseng ya ditoa.

"Kaekae naheng ena ho na le sefate sa sirilamunu," a bolela Morena. "Ha o ka la Bokang lero la tholwana e ngwe ya sirilamunu, a ka fola …"