In South Africa, August is Women’s Month! We pay tribute to the women in this country who have fought and continue to fight for freedom and equality for all. We also recommit ourselves to creating a society in which all girls and boys can reach their potential.

What we tell our children about girls and women is an important part of building a more equal society. And we tell them about girls and women in lots of different ways. One of these is through the stories we share with them.

Stories have the power to shape the way we see ourselves and the world. The stories children hear and read help them to work out who they are, what their place in the world is, and how they relate to others. If we want to build a more equal society, the stories that we share with children should not teach them to feel inferior nor superior because of their gender.

What is left out in the stories we read, is as important as what is in them! For example, if the only characters in the stories we read are boys, then our children learn that girls and women don’t matter. If boys are always the heroes in the stories, our children learn that only men can be leaders.

So, we need to think carefully about the books we choose to read to our children. Here are a few questions to help you:

- Are women (especially black women) always shown as needing help, while men are always in leadership and action roles?
- Are the achievements of girls and women based on their own initiative and intelligence? Or do they achieve because of the way they look or because a boy or man helps them?
- Do the girls or women in the story have to change to be accepted?
- Do the main female characters make decisions about how they live their lives? If they don’t, is this perhaps because the story is trying to show that treating women as inferior, is wrong?

It is good for girls and boys to read books about the real-life achievements of women, as well as stories that provide them with different kinds of female role models. The more children read stories with strong female role models in them, the more girls are encouraged to become strong women and boys learn not to be threatened by strong women.

Join us. Share stories in your language every day.

[Image]
Ku hlaya swi ku komba mavonavona.

Reading takes you on adventures.
In March this year, Jacana Media won the Best Children’s Publisher of the Year: Africa award at the 2018 Bologna Children’s Book Fair. Jacana is a South African publishing company that has a special focus on publishing children’s picture books in indigenous languages. Since they started publishing for South African children 13 years ago, Jacana has published close to 500 children’s books in different languages!

The Bologna Children’s Book Fair started in 1963 and every year children’s book publishers from all over the world gather in Bologna, Italy for four days to showcase their publications. The Best Children’s Publisher of the Year award recognises publishers who have “most distinguished themselves for their creative and publishing excellence over the last year”.

One of the factors that led to Jacana winning this award was that its children’s books are published in many South African languages. “We work hard to bring our books to a South African audience and it is heartening when the quality of our publications is recognised internationally. We are thrilled to be acknowledged for our creative and publishing excellence,” explained Carol Broomhall, children’s book publisher at Jacana.

Winning this award is important for Jacana, but it is also important for South African authors and illustrators. It showcases their talents on a world stage and helps them to reach a wider audience.

Jacana has been a Nal’ibali partner since 2012. During this time, it has supplied printed books for different promotions as well as allowed us to reproduce lots of its storybooks in the Nal’ibali Supplement. Jacana recognises the importance of publishing children’s books in as many languages as possible and is part of the drive to establish a reading culture in South Africa. Its commitment is rooted in a desire to spark and grow a love of reading in children.

Congratulations on winning the award, Jacana!

Bologna Children’s Book Fair vu sungurile hi 1963 naswona vhangalala va tibuku ta vana ku suka emisaveni hinkwaxo va hlangana eliBologna, elaly masiku ya mune ku komhisa vhangalala bya vana. Sagwadi ra Best Children’s Publisher of the Year: Africa ni leka enhlokweni vhangalala bya vana nga “Komhisa vutumbukulu bya vana na vusivhoki bya le henhla bya vhangalala eka lemba leka nga hundza”.


Ku huNlu eka sagwadi lexi i swa nikola eka Jacana, nkambe i swa nikola na te la vatsani na vakombisa va laha Afrika-Dzonga. Svi komhisa linyiko ta vana eka weyi ra misava naswona swi va phuma ku fikeleri varhuna vatsa.

Jacana yi na xinakulobye na Nal’ibali ku suka hi 2012. Hi nikhi loyu, yi nyikile tibuku lexi nga kandiyaFwisa ekho minsekete yo hambana ku katsa na ku hi plumeleku ku kulela hi silo ka vumshwla huNlu ta vana totala ta milakeletso eka Mxaka xo Nal’ibali. Jacana yi leka enhlokweni nikola we hangalala tibuku ta vana hi tinkimi to hlaya hlaho avhlokaleza naswona i xipehenu xo tumbukulu mikolovelo yo hlaya ta laha Afrika-Dzonga. Ku linyiko eka ku vana ku simelwe ekho timsu lo hlevha ku ku hlaya ri hlaho avhlokaleza to hlaya eka vana.

Hi ku bala mandla eka ku hluwa ka wena ka sagwadi, Jacana!
Get creative!

Here are some ideas for using the two cut-out-and-keep picture books as well as the Story Corner story in this supplement, as well as some fun Women's Month activities to grow your children's creativity and encourage them to have fun with reading and writing. Remember to choose the activities that are best suited to your children's ages and interests.

Endla vutumbuluxi!

Hi leswi swin'wana switsunduxo swo tirhisa tibuku timbhirha ti swifaniso leti u nga ti tsema u ti hlayisa yu katsa na ntsheketo wa Nthawu ya Mitsheketo eka xitatisi ledi, kutsa na mgingirikiso yo tasaka ya N'hweti ya Vamanana kutsa na kula ntondlamuxu vutumbuluxi bya vana ya wena ku kula vho hlohotla ku fhipha hi kula hlaya na ku tsala. Tsundzuka ku hiwulula mgingirikiso leyi nga kahi ekela malemba yo yena ya wena na ku tsakela ku yena.

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.

After you have read Her Story. Daughters of Modjadji (pages 5, 6, 11 and 12), discuss with your children some of the things that they find most inspiring about the women in these stories. You could also talk about the similarities and differences you can see between the women's stories.

After you have read My dream in the drawer (pages 7 to 10), encourage your children to:
1. Write a review of this story and stand a chance of winning some books! See page 13 for details.
2. Throughout August, read and tell stories that show women in different roles, for example, women as mothers, sisters, leaders, artists, writers and sports women.
3. Suggest that your children write a song, poem or rap about women. If they need help getting started with a poem, let them write the letters of the word "women" one underneath the other and use these letters to start each line of their poem about women.
4. Ask your children to write a letter of appreciation to a woman who has made a difference in their lives. This woman does not have to be famous – she could be a mother, grandmother, aunt, teacher, local church leader and/or storyteller. Many people have had the course of their lives changed by the generosity, courage and/or sacrifice of an ordinary woman.
5. Invite very young children to think about all the women that they know and then to draw pictures of the ones that are important to them. If they need help getting started, suggest that they try writing a few words or a sentence about each woman on their own. If they prefer, they could also tell you the words that they want you to write for them.
6. After you have read The giraffe and the fox (page 14), talk to your children about how they like to be treated by their friends.
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Endla tibuku TIMBIRHI hi ku tsema u thlouisya

1. Susa pheji 5 ku lika eka pheji 8 eka xitatisi.
2. Mapehepa ya mapehe ya 5, 6, 11 na 12 ma endla buku yin'wene.
3. Tirhisa rin'wana na rin'wana na mapehepa lawa ku endla buku. Landzelela swiiseriso leswi nga toha hansi ku endla buku yin'wene na rin'wana.
4. Rhambo vana bavatsango ku anakanyana hi vamanana hinkevwe lawa na ku tseka ku baya lawa na ku tseka ku baya.
5. Sizitha rin'wana na rin'wana wa mapehepa lawa sithiyo ku mapehepa swiiseriso. Loko vana khosela ku bateka hi ku baya.
6. Ask your children to write a letter of appreciation to a woman who has made a difference in their lives. This woman does not have to be famous – she could be a mother, grandmother, aunt, teacher, local church leader and/or storyteller. Many people have had the course of their lives changed by the generosity, courage and/or sacrifice of an ordinary woman.
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Most of history excludes or underplays the role that women play in society. The Her Story/Umlando Wakhe series tells the stories of women from across the continent. Her Story: Daughters of Modjadji/Umlando Wakhe features 30 South African women and women’s groups, across generations and from different sectors and spheres of life. The stories are accompanied by vivid illustrations and comic strips. The book is bilingual – published in English and isiZulu – and is aimed at promoting Pan-Africanism and diversity.

Her Story: Daughters of Modjadji/Umlando Wakhe, is available for sale online (www.khalozabooks.com), or at the following South African book sellers: African Flavour Books, Bridge Books, Xarra Books and Protea Bookshop. Buy it today and inspire your daughter or son to be anything they want to be in this world!

Her story.
Daughters of Modjadji
Ntsheketo Wa Kwe.
Vanhwana Va Ka Modjadji

Natasha Allie
Baba-Tamana Gqubule
Thandiwe Matthews


There is Chinese writing.
Nonhlanhla Khumalo

The hair doctor: Nonhlanhla Khumalo
Dokeda wa misisi: Nonhlanhla Khumalo
I took it to the playground,
And watched it bounce about.

Norho wa mina eka dirowara

Megan Lötter
Fred Strydom
Marteli Kleyn

Lots more free books at bookdash.org

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 or www.nalibali.mobi

Nal’ibali i pfhumba ra rixaka ro hlayela ku tiphina ku thonitha ni ku simeka ntlolwele wo hlaya eAfrika-Dzonga hinkwaro. Ku kuma xusenkoxoko hi xitlo, endzela www.nalibali.org kumbe www.nalibali.mobi
I once had a dream, so small and light, I kept it in a box. I kept it hidden, safe and sound, in my drawer of socks. This tiny dream, I had, you see, was mostly about me …

Ndzi tshama ndzi va na xinorhwana, xitsongo no vevuka, ndzi xi veka ebokisini. Ndzi xi tumberile, xi hlayiseka swinene, eka dirowara ya mina ya masokisi. Xinorhwana lexi, lexi ndzi nga va na xona, wa xi vona, A xi ri ngopfu hi mina …

Then all the kids, they saw my dream, and said, “We want one too!” I said to them, “Ok, no problem” and told them what to do.

And then my dream, it got so big, I had to let it out …

Ndzi xi ri ngopfu hi mina … wu haha …

What??

Swa hlamarisa??
I once had a dream, so small and light,
I kept it in a box.
and soared …

and soared …

and soared.

At first, it was a little dream, until one day it grew,
And so I took it out for air, to show my dream to you.

Emasunguleni, a ku ri xinorhwana, ku kondza siku rin’wana xi kula,
Kutani ndzi xi humesela ehandle xi bela hi moya, ku mi komba norho wa mina.
And at that point, my big old dream,
Which once was in a drawer,
Shook and climbed,
Took to the sky …

Hi nkarhi walowo, norho wa mina wa khale lowakulu
Lowu wu nga shama wu va eka dirowara,
Wu ningniku wu khandziya,
Wu ya emapapeni …
I am inspired by Natalie’s story because sometimes it’s so easy to feel like life is treating you unfairly, but life is all about getting up when you get knocked down. Allow yourself to feel hurt and sad when you are, but when you’re ready, try again.

Natalie du Toit began her international competitive career at age 14, swimming at the 1998 Commonwealth Games. Three years later, she was hit by a car while riding home from swimming practice on her scooter. She was so badly injured, doctors had to amputate her left leg at the knee. It was so badly injured, doctors had to amputate her left leg at the knee. It

To me, Natalie is the definition of tenacity. Just one year after her accident, she became the first differently-abled athlete to qualify for the 800 m Freestyle Final at the 2002 Commonwealth Games – an event for able-bodied athletes. At the 2003 All Africa Games, she won the gold medal in the 800 m Freestyle, again competing against able-bodied athletes. Competing against the world’s best able-bodied athletes is an achievement most of us cannot understand, but to do so when you are differently-abled is brilliant!

Natalie has gone on to win many medals at various international swimming events, but perhaps her biggest achievement is her attitude. Her disability has not held her back in any way. In fact, she’s been breaking down barriers for differently-abled and able-bodied athletes.

According to an interview with the Daily Sun Newspaper, Natalie said, “I think it’s important to keep up with your schooling and not to give up on your education because it’s really important.”

Natalie’s story is truly inspiring and a testament to the power of determination and hard work. It’s a reminder that anything is possible with the right mindset and attitude. Natalie’s story teaches us that no matter what obstacles we may face, we should never give up on our dreams and always strive to be our best selves.
Just keep swimming: Natalie du Toit

Yana emahlweni u hlambela: Natalie du Toit

Manitu lwa ku va misi nyi mina yi buzhribile kambwe ku kaimina, i
nihala yo yava swinene. Tshemi n’wana, a nudi ishamba na chava sila ra
Sonto nimadzambe laha a nudi ta tsahama ela sithu kvestrogo xo nhwaka
emahhweni kana manana, loji a ta buhesa muthi wo misi, sikama ra hlungula.
A ka ni hava xo xitsana hi ku kaimina misi keyo songana, naswona a nudi
nga kali nudi tinga ku bunduzula nhloko yo mina nga languta TV!

Dok Nonhlanhla Khumalo na yena a chava sikama sa mana wa love kesa
forsoko xo kama misi nyi Vantima, kambwe kesi svi n’tsiliniki tshokwene ku
va doksela. Hi lembe ra yena na ka metithi, a yile elaborethari hi kikwehi
lova u endzeni Yuruvhese bya Natal, kuta ya xona mukhwanisa kwa
gezi mosungula kutani a telka xiboho xo va multivi va sayene nyi misi. U
yile a ya endla ndzavisiso hi misi nyi Xixokha, likhwe avu ku ri ni vuvelokusvo
byinbyin byona. Yena na Phanofeswa David Ferguson va endile
mukhwanisa yona mosungula xo detsinwini “ku sakala emininiwo ku fika
chinhwalo!” ku xaleke sa misi nyi Vantima wu Afrika. Nonhlanhla a lwa ku
swina kwasiku hwiloko ho ngena vanhu vanhu vona wu Afrika – UCT Hair and
Skin Research Laboratory – hi laha kwezwi wa mukhwanisa ku umthoko –
dyondzo byona nyi misi ni nhlonge.

U nthama u xityisa misi nyi wena? Xana yi mungqaka njikho loko u yo koka
naswona iyie likhuza xa njikho endevhoko loko u yo nhilake? Vanhu
hinkhawo emisaveni a va byela vanhwa wu Vantima kwasiku misi keyo
lulama hi yona keyo laseke swinene, naswona hi rihanyu eli kesi, nkubhi
wo leha. Misi ya Vantima ya hlimana, naswona nhloko wo Nonhlanhla wu
vula kwasiku vanhu vona va mwa kesi hi maniku hinkhawo.
Story stars
Books for all our children

Carol Broomhall, a publisher at Jacana Media, is passionate about publishing children’s picture books in as many South African languages as possible. We spoke to her about her love of reading and publishing stories.

Why is it important to publish books in all South African languages?
We have a reading crisis in South Africa because our literacy rates are so low. To encourage children to read more, they have to enjoy reading. To enjoy reading, there must be interesting books in children’s home languages.

Are stories important?
Stories help us understand the world around us. They can be inspirational and empowering. They can make us laugh and make us cry. Stories can travel between continents, across languages, cultures and time, encouraging imagination and curiosity.

For how long have you been publishing children’s books?
Thirteen years!

What is your favourite part of producing children’s books?
It's hard to say! Every book is unique and I love the challenge of making each book the best it can be. I also love getting involved in children’s literacy projects so that we can reach more children and know that in some way we are helping to grow a love of reading. It is incredibly rewarding to watch children interact with and read the books we make!

Did someone read to you or tell you stories when you were a child?
Yes, for so many reasons! I love books and stories, so I enjoyed spending time with my children sharing, connecting and talking about books.

Did you read to your children when they were young? Why?
Yes, for so many reasons! I love books and stories, so I enjoyed spending time with my children sharing, connecting and talking about books.

The book I most enjoy reading to children is …
The long trousers by Maryanne and Shayle Bester.

Do you ever re-read books?
Yes, some books have changed the way I see and understand things and they inspire me.

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The giraffe and the fox
Retold by Nicky Webb       Illustrations by Simphiwe Mangole

Once upon a time there was a giraffe and a bat-eared fox who were very good friends. They were both very good at stealing and spent a lot of time together getting up to no good.

One day Fox was feeling hungry. “Come, my friend,” he said to Giraffe. “Let’s cross the river and steal some food from the farm over there.”

“Great idea!” said the giraffe, licking his lips. “I feel like a tasty watermelon.”

The giraffe and the fox crossed the river. The fox held tightly to the giraffe’s long neck because he could not swim.

On the other side of the river, the clever fox made a hole in the farmer’s fence with his sharp teeth. Then the fox and the giraffe squeezed quietly through the fence to steal food on the other side. The fox stole five eggs from the hen coop and the giraffe chewed through a patch of lettuce.

The giraffe was just starting on a juicy watermelon when the fox lifted his nose to the sky and gave a howl.

“Shhhhh,” hissed the giraffe spitting bits of watermelon all over the fox.

“What do you mean, ‘shhhhh’?” asked the fox wiping his whiskers.

“I always sing when I have finished my food. It’s my custom.”

“Well, wait for me to finish my watermelon,” crunched the giraffe.

“Otherwise the farmer is going to hear you and come and chase us away.”

The fox was tired of waiting. He lifted his nose to the sky again and started to sing, “Owoooooo!”

The farmer was having his lunch when he heard the fox howling. He ran outside with his big stick. The fox saw him coming and, being very quick, he dashed through the hole in the fence and was gone before the farmer even saw him.

The poor giraffe, on the other hand, was standing with his front legs wide apart trying to enjoy the last of his watermelon. When he saw the farmer coming, he tried to stand up and run away, but his legs became tangled and he fell over.

“Never, never steal from me again!” shouted the farmer, beating the giraffe with his stick.

The giraffe was cross about his beating, but he felt terrible watching the fox splash around in the water. The fox was his friend after all. The giraffe put his head under the water and used it to lift the fox back onto his neck. The fox coughed and choked and held on to the giraffe for dear life.

When they reached the other side of the river, the fox thought about what he had done to his friend. “Giraffe?” he said quietly.

“Yes, Fox,” answered the giraffe.

“I’m sorry for treating you badly. I see that what you did to me was because of the bad way that I treated you earlier,” said Fox.

Giraffe nodded. “It was,” he said. “I was paying you back for what you did to me.”

“Sorry,” said the fox.

So, the fox and the giraffe had learnt that it is important to treat others the way we want to be treated, and from that day on, they always did so. And, to this day, they are still the best of friends.
Xì hlamuseriwa nakambe hi Nicky Webb ♡ Mikombiso hi Simphiwe Mangole

Khale ka khaleni a ku ri na N’wanhutlwa na N’wamhungubye wa tindleve ta ximangadyani lava a va ri vanghana vo twanana swinene. Ha vumbirhi a va swi kota swinene kú yiva naswona a va tshama ngopfu swin’we va ri karhi va endla leswo biha.


“Ya leyo i mianakanyo ya kahle!” ku vula N’wanhutlwa, a ri karhi tinatswela milomo. “Ndzi twa ndzi navele khalavatla ro tsokombela.”

N’wanhutlwa na N’wamhungubye va perile nambu. N’wamhungubye a khomelele swinene eka nhamu ya N’wanhutlwa leyo leha hilikusa yena a nga kotti ku hlambela.

Hi tihelo lerin’wana ra nambu, N’wamhungubye lowo tlanàha u cerile mbobo ehanhi ka darata ya nsimu ya murimi hi meno ya yena lamo tontswa. Kutani N’wanhutlwa na N’wamhungubye va manyukuta edarateni va miyerele leswako ya ya yiva swakudya eka tihelo lerin’wana. N’wamhungubye u yivile manda ja ntharu e xa mbhaha loeu a wu fukameriile naswona N’wanhutlwa yena a ncinunye matluka ya lethasi, naswona a ha ku sugulu khala latso khi murhupfu lo ku yena a N’wamhungubye a tlakusela nhompfu ya yena ehenhla a sungula ku vukula.

“Xiiiiiiii,” ku miyeta N’wanhutlwa loko a ri karhi tshitela swiphemu swa swikampfu swa khala latso ehenhla ka N’wamhungubye.

“Nakan’we, nakan’we u nge he pfuki u ndzi yiverile nakambe!” ku vula N’wanhutlwa, a ri na swi endlela munghana wa yena. N’wamhungubye u kukutlerile mati na ku ringeta ku hlambela hi mikondzo yakwe.

“Pfunani! Pfunani! Ndza nwela!” ku kalakala N’wamhungubye.

“Ndzi khomeli,” ku vula N’wanhutlwa. “I ntolovelo wa mina.” Loko a heta ku vula tano, N’wanhutlwa o yena leswako yena. N’wamhungubye u kukutlerile mati a yi tirhisa ku tlakula N’wanhutlwa u nge he pfuki u ndzi yiverile nakambe.


“Ndzi khomelela ya N’wanhutlwa ku ri yena. N’wanhutlwa u yivile mandza ya ntlhanu exilawini xa mbhaha lowu a wu fukameriile naswona N’wanhutlwa yena a heta ku vukula. N’wanhutlwa u yivile yena a yena leswako leswi u lokanana ngamambathini.”

“Ndzi khomeli,” ku vula N’wanhutlwa. “Ndzi twa ndzi yiverile nakambe!” ku vula N’wanhutlwa. “Ndzi twa ndzi yiverile nakambe!” ku vula N’wanhutlwa. U tshutela eka tshakala eka tihanyi, a yena leswako leswi u lokanana ngamambathini.”
Tell a story.

Mrs Dube is writing down the words of the story that Thembi is telling.

- Can you tell who some of the characters in Thembi’s story are?
- Do you know any stories that have a mouse and/or a lion in them?
- Tell a friend or family member one of these stories or make up your own story about a lion and a mouse.

Write a list.

What do you think Josh is reading about?

Look at the words to the left of the picture. Which of these words have something to do with space? Write them as a list and then add four more words about space that you know. (Your four words could also describe what you think it would be like to travel in space.)

planet
moon
star
sun
train
astronaut
rocket
soil
mountain
Earth
comet

My list of space words
Marito ya mina ya xibakabaka

Tsheketa ntsheketo.

Manana Dube u le ku tsaleni ka marito ya ntsheketo lowu tshakatoka hi Thembi.

- Xana u nga ndzi byela simuhumula leswi nga eka mitsheketo wa Thembi?
- Xana u nga mitsheketo leyi yi nga ni kondlo ni kumbo nghala eka yona?
- Byela munghana kumbo serho xa ndyangu yiwhite ka mitsheketo leyi kumbo u Nkela mitsheketo wa wena wa nghala na kondlo.

Tsala nongoloko.

- Xana u ehetekela lesiwo Josh u hlaya hi yini?
- Longuta marito lama nga eka thleho na xinene na xifaniso. Hi wahi marito lama ya tshimakana na xibakabako? Ma tsali u ma longoloka naswona engetela mune wa wena hi xibakabako lexi u xi lwaka. (Marito ya wena ya mune ya nga ha hlamsela leswi u ehetekaka swona ku ni swi nga vu njhani ku teta rendzo u xa xibakabakene.)

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