Are you a read-aloud family?

Is your family a read-aloud family? In a read-aloud family, the adults make reading to their children for at least 15 minutes a day part of their daily routine. Why? Because reading aloud to children is the most important thing adults can do to develop children’s literacy!

When we start reading aloud to children every day from birth, we prepare them for lifelong learning success. And when we keep reading to them – even when they can read for themselves – we continue to build on the solid foundation we have laid. Every time we read to children, we improve their learning advantage.

3 WAYS TO READ ALOUD

- Read the pictures.
- Read the words.
- Retell the story.

MAKE READING PART OF YOUR DAY!

- Choose a time each day to read to your children.
  - Before or after nap time
  - After meals
  - At bedtime

MAKE READING ALOUD ENJOYABLE!

- Put lots of expression into your voice as you read.
- Use different voices for different characters.
- Make up sound effects.
- Ask what might happen next before turning the page.
- Once you have finished reading, ask questions about the story that will help your children express their feelings and opinions, and encourage them to problem solve.

August is Women’s Month in South Africa and we’re celebrating women in this edition of the Nal’ibali Supplement! Here’s what you’ll find inside:

- How our story star, Mpumy Ndlovu, is making a difference in children’s lives (page 2).
- Ideas on how to use reading, writing and drawing to celebrate Women’s Month (page 4).
- A story about a strong woman – Miss Helen’s magical world (starting on page 5).

A lo lelapa la puisetso-godimo?

A lelapa la gago ke la puisetso-godimo? Mo lelapeng la puisetso-godimo, bogolo ba beela kawa thoko metosota e le 15 letsatsi le letsatsi go buisetso bana ba bona go nna karolo ya bona ya letsatsi. Goereng? Ka gone go buisetso bana kwa godimo ke sengwe sa bothokwa tsha se bogolo ba ka se dirang go godisa kitso ya bona ya buisa le go kwalo!

Fa re simoditsa go buisetso bana kwa godimo ke sengwe le tengwe go lago bananyane ngawa bona, re ba baakanyenate kollega mo ditshwagana tsa bana go ya go ile. Ame la re ntle re tsekkeditsa go ba buisetso – le la re ntle ri tse buisa – re tsekkeditsa go go ma motseheng o a tloeng o a o a dii tloeng. Naka ringwe le tengwe la re re buisetso bana, re lokakatsa bakgojwa jwa bona jwa go buisa.

3 WAYS TO READ ALOUD

- Buisa ditshwantsha.
- Buisa matlako.
- Anela leinane gape.

MAKE READING PART OF YOUR DAY!

- Tiopho nako mo leatsatsi e o buisetso bana ba gago.
  - Pele kgoska morago go go robala motsehagane
  - Morago go dijo
  - Pele ba robala bosiga

MAKE READING ALOUD ENJOYABLE!

- Tsejwe boshelo mo ketsewa la gago la a buisa.
- Dirisa mantswe a a farologaneng go baanelwa ba ba farologaneng
- Tlilele modumo go nefelata ke kagane
- Botso bana gore ga fela digalele go morago e go lae e go lelatleng
- Fa o lela gore go buisa, botso diipato mabapi le leinane tse di ka thuaganye bana go ba mafoko mafoko a bana le megapolo, mme o bo salatlo gona ra bokgokgolo mabapi.

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Storyteller and TV actress, Mpumy Ndlovu, is a FUNda Leader. She is committed to changing children's lives through theatre and literacy. We spoke to her about how she is doing this.

Where did you grow up?
I was born and bred in the township of Umlazi in KwaZulu-Natal. It is the fourth largest township in South Africa, and the only township with its own car registration plate: NUZ!

Tell us about Umlazi.
Life in Umlazi is not easy. A high rate of AIDS-related deaths has led to many children being orphaned and having to be the head of their homes. These children often have to drop out of school and search for jobs to support themselves and their siblings. A shared love of the performing arts, reading and storytelling has helped keep the young people of Umlazi connected.

I believe in the power of these things to uplift children.

What should childhood be like?
A child's place is on the playground, where they can play, explore and enjoy their childhood.

Tell us more about your passion for children.
I believe that "your child is my child". We are all responsible for the children around us. We need to become one big family working together to raise all our children. And all children deserve equal opportunities. No one’s future should be determined by their background or where they were born. Every child should be allowed to dream because there is always potential for those dreams to come true, especially with community support.

How are you making a difference in children's lives?
In 2009, the young people of Umlazi set up a non-profit organisation which focuses on the performing arts and is dedicated to the children of our community. We started a project – Dlala Mntwana (isiZulu for “Play, Dear Child”) – which is a FUNda Leader project.

Do you have a special message for children?
Four things are very important for children.

1. You are important.
2. You can change things.
3. You can make a difference.
4. You are loved.

I believe in the power of these things to uplift children.

What should all adults do for children?
We must help them to imagine better prospects for themselves and their siblings. A shared love of the performing arts, reading and storytelling has helped keep the young people of Umlazi connected.

I believe in the power of these things to uplift children.

Dinaledi tsaa mainane

Moenelamainane le modiragatsi wa TV, Mpumy Ndlovu, ree FUNda Leader. O inetzwe go fetola matshelo a bana ke ka dirisa bodiragatsi le khotso ya go buisa le go kwala. Re buisa le ene gore o dira jang se.

O galetso lwa ka e?

Go to www.nalibali.org to find out more about the FUNda Leader Programme. You’ll also find our special FUNda Leader Kick-off Kit on our website. It’s filled with ideas about how you can help to get South Africa reading. Download it today and get started!
Cut out and colour in the picture of Gogo. Write a title on the front cover of the book she is reading and then paste the picture on a large sheet of paper. Add other things to the picture to make it your own picture. Then write a caption for your picture.

Write a few paragraphs of the story that Gogo is reading next to the picture of her.

Keep the picture in a safe place and when you have collected all the Nal’ibali characters, use them to create your own Nal’ibali poster!

Have you heard about the FUNda Sonke Loyalty Programme?

FUNda Sonke is a loyalty programme for everyone in the Nal’ibali network. It’s Nal’ibali’s way of saying “thank you” to those who have joined us in bringing the power of stories and reading to children. FUNda Sonke acknowledges the everyday heroes who generously volunteer their time to encourage and support reading in their communities. It is also a place for everyone to share their literacy experiences, successes and challenges, and to support one another.

FUNda Sonke encourages you to:
✓ take part in regular literacy-based challenges that earn you points
✓ share your challenges and successes
✓ stay motivated to continue your literacy journey.

FUNda Sonke members can take part in our monthly literacy challenges, which will earn them points. These points can be used for rewards like books, airtime, subscriptions to the Nal’ibali Newspaper Supplement and special prizes. Join today and earn rewards while you are inspiring others!

How do I register?
1. To register, you need an email address and a password.
2. Go to www.nalibali.mobi and sign up by creating your profile.
3. You can start earning points as soon as you have joined the FUNda Sonke Loyalty Programme.

A o utwile ka ga FUNda Sonke Loyalty Programme?

FUNda Sonke le lenaneo ka boinelela la mongwe le mongwe mo nete weke le a Nal’ibali. Ke tsela ya Nal’ibali ya gore “re a leboga” go bothele ba ba ikwadiseditseng le rona ka ga fela maatlo o mainane le go buise tsa bana. FUNda Sonke a lebisa ditebogo ba go boga ba le dirisang nako ya bono le mitša le go rololela le go ema nokeng ba buisa mo dithobeng tsa bana. Gape ke lefele ka batho bothele la go arogena maitsemogelo, kaflego, le go emana nokeng.

FUNda Sonke e go rololela go:
✓ tsa ya karo mo dikgwetlo tsa tshwaa setlhogo sa ga Gogo ya go buisa le go kwala tse di nyang dithloko
✓ arogena dikgwetlo le tselela sa tsa karo
✓ ma le tshwaa setlhogo le ka tsa buise tsa tshwaa mo lekgodi ya go buisa le go kwala
✓ Makona a FUNda Sonke a lebo le tsa ya karo mo dikgwetlo tsa tshwaa le tselela sa tsa tshwaa ya go buisa le go kwala se ka Gogo ya go buisa le go kwala

Ke ikwadisa jang?
1. Go ikwadisa, a tshokoa kere ya eme le phasekete.
2. Tshoko lela www.nalibali.mobi o maina di dinafeletsa ya Gogo.
3. O ka simo le o go buisa le tsebana le a Nal’ibali Loyalty Programme.
Celebrate women!

In South Africa during August, we honour the role that women have played and still play in building democracy in our country. Here are some reading, writing and drawing activity ideas that you can use to create opportunities for children to think about the influence women have on their lives. Choose the ones that are best suited to your children’s ages and interests.

★ Read the story, Miss Helen’s magical world in this edition of the Nal’ibali Supplement and then find other stories about strong women to read during the month. (We have featured cut-out-and-keep books about women in past editions of the supplement. You can download them for free from the Nal’ibali website – www.nalibali.org. Look for these editions: 72, 113, 126, 128 and 142.)

★ Write a letter to a woman that you admire. (It can be someone you know or someone you have just read or heard about.) Tell her about the difference she has made in your life.

★ Write down all the words that come to mind when you think of strong women. Use these words, together with pictures from newspapers and magazines, and your own drawings to create a poster that shows your understanding of what it means to be a strong woman.

★ Write down favours for a woman in your life who inspires you and/or who you really appreciate. Cut up some paper or thin cardboard to make 10 blank cards that are about 10 cm x 4 cm big. Write a different favour on each card. (A favour can be something small, like: Make a cup of tea every morning for a week, or anything else you know she will enjoy! Add one or two open favours, like: Give a foot massage, or Make a cup of tea every.) Give the pack of favours to the woman you chose so that she can enjoy these favours during Women’s Month.

Keteka basadi!

Mo Aforika Barwa mo kgwedeng ya Phathwe, re flatlomatsha sebabé sa basadi ka ditlo tse ba di dlintel e tse ba tswelaolang go di di go a ga temokera sa nangeng ya rona. Tse di letšetšeng ke megopelo ka dingwe tsa ditlwana tsa go buisa, go kwala le go thloa ditlwatsho tse o ka a di dlisang go dira ditlhono tse di ka tshoang bana go akanya ka thotšelešo le seabe se basadi ba nang le sona mo matsheleng o bona. Ihlophela dikao tse di tshwanelang dingwaga tsa bona ba go gake le dlisangho tse bona.

Busa kinane, Lefatshe la baselamose la go Mohumagatsana Helen mo kgatisoeng e ya Tleletšoetsa ya Nal’ibali mme o spenele maneane a mongwe a basadi ba diratla a o ka a buseng mo kgwedeng e. (Re tlhagisitse dibuka tsa sego-o-baloke mabaphi le basadi mo dikatsogong tse di felieng tsa tleletšoetsa. O ka a tlhagisitše le motho ba tša 126, 128 le 142.)

Kwala mosadi ya o a fokolang kwalako. Ke ka a mongwe ya o a miise kgotsha ya o fetsang go buisa ka ene kgotsha go uñtše ka ene e. Ihlophelo le ka o a fokolang diphetogo mo botsheleng jwa gago ka teng.

Kwala malofhi a ditšhono mo helangatsong ya a akanya ka mosadi ya o matsetseleko. Dirisa malofhi a gamagago le dlisangho tse di tswang mo dikuranteng le dimaikenqe, gamagago le dlisangho tsa gago, go ihlophelo phaelebe o e supang tse o tholongany ka gore mosadi wa matsetseleko ke eng.

Kwala tse dirile ka mosadi ya o a botsheleng jwa gago ya o go nkhetseang le/kgotsa ya o itumeleeng se o a ditšhono. Segomo kgotsha khaleboko e e thshane go dia itumelela tse 10 tse di ka kwalakeng sepe mo go tonna tsa bogale ka 10 cm x 4 cm. Kwala se o ka ratang go se ma diho ka moranteng negwe le negwe. Se o a se ratang e ka ma sengwe se sennye, jaaka: Dira kopi ka reye mose mangwe le mangwe bebe yotha, kgotsha Go sidla maoto, kgotsha sengwe le sengwe se o itseeng gore se ka ma ka itumelela. O ka dia dingle go se pedi kgotsha se le sengwe gafo sa ditlo tse di o ra ratang, ihlophelo se o ratang go se dira sa lebedi ka kedisa ka ma mosadi ya o a ma ra ratang poket e o e ihlophelo gore a le-a itumelela dilo tse mo Kgwedeng ya Basadi.

Create TWO cut-out-and-keep books

Little and big

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.

Miss Helen’s magical world

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.

Itirele dibuka tsa sego-o-baloke Pedi

Nnye le kgotsa
1. Ntshe tse le kgotsa le tse 9 la tleletšoetsa e.
2. Mena lefellhe ka bogare go lekgotla le molo wa dikhufo tse ditsho.
3. Le mene ka bogare go lekgotla le molo wa dikhufo tse di tala go dira buka.
4. Sego go lekgotla le melo ya dikhufo tse dikhubudu go lekgotla ya ditlwana.

Lefatshe la baselamose la go Mohumagatsana Helen
1. Go diho buisa e dirisa ditlwana 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 le 12.
2. Llogela ditlwana 7 le 8 le ma gore ga ditlwana e. Mena lefellhe ka bogare go lekgotla le molo wa dikhufo tse ditsho.
3. Mena lefellhe ka bogare go lekgotla le molo wa dikhufo tse di tala go dira buka.
4. Sego go lekgotla le melo ya dikhufo tse dikhubudu go lekgotla ya ditlwana.
Helen was not happy. Her mother was so ill, and her father was so grumpy. She kept to herself. People thought she was strange.

The night her mother died, Helen kept a candle burning beside her bed all night. With the help of that little light, Helen didn't feel so afraid of the dark.
Meet my friend, Helen. She was born in a little Karoo town called Nieu Bethesda. There was not much going on in this town. But she made a whole world here. She even made me. And she named her house after me. It is called “The Owl House”.

Helen and Johannes got married. They travelled to many different towns, teaching and performing plays. Helen thought she might start a family, like her sisters had done. But it was not to be. She and her husband were always fighting.

When Helen’s mother became very ill, she decided it was time to go back home. Helen decided she wanted brightness in her life. She began by changing the space around her. But she needed helpers. Three men from the village, Jonas Adams, Piet van der Merwe, and Koos Malgas, made the things she imagined out of wire and cement.

Helen’s real name was Helen Martins. She was an artist who made her imaginary world real. A lonely woman living in a small town, she travelled to faraway places in her mind. She turned her home and garden into a magical creative space.

Now, Helen’s “Owl House” in Nieu Bethesda in the Eastern Cape, is a National Monument. Many people travel to her home every year to sit in her camel yard among the statues of pilgrims, mermaids, owls and other animals, and to walk through the glittering glass walls inside the house.

About Miss Helen

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Ka ga Mohumagatsana Helen

Leina ka ga Mohumagatsana Helen, ka ka ga Helen Martins. E ne e le motoki ya o ditileng lefatshe le dagwe di dithoko. Mosadi ya o jwana ke bodutu mo toropong e ranye, o etsetse mafatshe a o kaqala ke qalaqala ya dagwe. O fetotsa tsho ya dagwe le tshangwana lefatshe le bithamadi le le kgatlhingath.

Joaang, “Owl House” (Ntlo ya Morubisi) ya ga Mohumagatsana Helen. Leina ka wa Nieu Bethesda di Kapa Botshaba, le Sefikantswe sa Basetshaba. Botša bo le bantu ba etlo tsho ya dagwe le nepega ya rina mo jwana, mo ga jwana ko ga dififatswe tsa dipholoqo, dimemotso, merubisi le dipholoqo tse dingwa, le ga tsaqala mo mabotong a gaqale a a phatsimang mo ntimong ya dagwe.
But when she closed her eyes for the last time, Miss Helen didn’t see darkness. She saw the sun and the moon and the stars. She saw wise men and mermaids, camels and cats, acrobats and owls with big brown glittering glass eyes.

And we still stand here today, just the way she left us, in the garden she made, looking east.

Fela fa a ne a tswala matlho a gagwe bwa bofelo, Mohumagatsana Helen ga a ka a bona lefifi. O ne a bona letsata le ngwedi le dinaledi. O ne a bona banna ba ba bothiale le dimemele, dikamela, dikate, diakerobate, merubisi ka matlho a a thokwa magolo a a phatsimang jaaka galase.

Mme le gompieno re ntsa re e me fa, jaaka a re tlogetse, moshingwaneng e a e dirileng, re lebile botlhaha.
Most of Helen’s nine brothers and sisters were grown up and gone by the time she arrived. But she still had her sisters, Annie and Alida. Helen didn’t have many friends in the village, but she didn’t mind. From the start, Helen did things differently from most people.

After her sisters left home, Helen lived alone with her parents. She loved her mother, but she hated her father. Everyone agreed he was a very strange man.

Her big sister Alida travelled all over the world. One day she sent Helen a postcard from Egypt. In her mind Helen saw princes and pyramids and camels in the sand.

The garden grew and grew, until there was hardly space left for any more creatures.

Miss Helen was tired now. Her hands were stiff and sore. Her eyes were going blind from working with tiny bits of glass.

She wasn’t afraid of being alone, but she was still afraid of the dark. And her world was getting darker and darker. She knew that soon she wouldn’t be able to see anything at all.

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Growing biliteracy and multilingualism

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

Carole Bloch
Vian Oelofsen
Little hat, big hat.

Hutshe e nnye, hutshe e kgolo.

Little smile, big smile.

Diatla tse dinnye, diatla tse dikgolo.

The end

Bofelo
Helen loved books and stories so much that she decided to become a teacher. She was very good at it too. But then she met Johannes Pienaar. He was also a teacher, and a writer and actor. He convinced her to run away with him.

During the day Helen made sculptures. She also collected glasses and mirrors, candles and lamps. Anything that would shine. She put lanterns in every room. Mirrors caught and reflected the light. She covered the walls in tiny pieces of glittering glass so that the walls could shine too.

After Helen's father died, she had the house to herself. Each night she slept in a different room. She would choose the one with the best view of the moon and the stars. Every day her dreams were made of stars and the moon.

And that the world could shine too.
As she grew older, Helen read more stories of faraway places. She especially liked poems from Persia in the Middle East. She dreamed of visiting the ocean one day. She kept a seashell on her bedside table, and imagined she could hear the sound of waves inside it. But of course, owls were always her favourite things of all!

"Ah moon of my delight who knows't no wane...

The people of Nieu Bethesda would walk past Helen's garden and marvel at the creatures in it. Some of the village children brought her glass bottles for her sculptures and called her "Miss Helen". She always thanked them with sweets. Others were not so friendly. They called her names and threw stones on her roof.

Miss Helen spent all her money on glass and cement. She lived on bread and black tea. In her diary she wrote: "In my loneliness I am happy."

Fa a nse a gola, Helen o ne a buisa mainane a le mantsi a dinaga tse d̲î̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲â̲ k̲a
Get story active!

Miss Helen’s magical world

Helen Martins loved different coloured glass. She cut the glass into thousands of tiny pieces and then glued these to the walls inside her home to decorate them. Each room had walls of a different colour and when the sunlight shone on them, they glittered! Here’s an easy way to use colour and light to decorate a window.

You will need:
- wax paper (that we use to wrap sandwiches)
- old crayons
- a grater
- an iron
- some newspaper
- scissors
- Prestik

1. Stack about 10 sheets of wax paper on top of the other. Place the stack on a table to protect the surface of the table.
2. On another sheet of newspaper, grate a few crayons. Keep the colours separate so that you have small piles of different colours.
3. Cut two sheets of wax paper to the same size — about the size of an A4 sheet of paper.
4. Lay one sheet of wax paper on top of the stack of newspaper with the waxy side facing upwards.
5. Sprinkle the grated crayons onto the sheet of wax paper. Make sure that you keep the colours separate.
6. Put the other sheet of wax paper on top, with the waxy side facing down.
7. Fold a few sheets of newspaper on top of the wax paper. Now iron it lightly until the crayon melts.
8. When the wax paper has cooled, draw a shape on one side and cut it out.
9. Use Prestik to stick the shape onto a window and watch how the light shines through it!

Nyla le kgolo

Nnye le kgolo

Mmogo le bana ba boga, lebang gomo le gomo a ba farologaneng. A ba kgama, la bana ba boga le bana ba dira le dira le dira. Lebela, bana ba boga, lebela lebela.

Lebang gomo le bana ba boga, lebela lebela. Bana ba boga, lebela lebela.

Talk about the story. Ask your children, “What do you think might have happened? If Mandisa had been on her own when she lost the key? How could she have worked out what she had to buy? Encourage your children to share as many different ideas as they can — there are no right or wrong answers!

Together with your children, write down the shopping list items from the story. Then write a list of all the different things you could make using these ingredients. Suggest that your children write down the recipe for the item they would most like to eat, and/or to draw a picture of it!
Nomsa’s shopping list

By Cicely van Straten Illustrations by Vian Oelofsen

Nomsa was watching her big sister, Mandisa, make a necklace.

Their mother called from the kitchen, “Mandisa, please go to the shop for me. Here is the shopping list.”

Mandisa read the shopping list, “Bread, margarine, peanut butter, apricot jam, flour, eggs, sugar, milk, tea and salt. I’ll need two bags for all this.”

Nomsa hopped up and down. “Can I come too? Please can I come?” She had some money saved. She loved the big round orange sweets at the shop.

“Do you have to?” Mandisa sighed. She was twelve and Nomsa was six and sometimes she got tired of her little sister tagging along behind her. “You’ll have to help me carry the shopping then.”

“I will, I will!” promised Nomsa. “Read the list again, I want to hear what we have to get.”

“Bread, margarine, peanut butter, apricot jam, flour, eggs, sugar, milk, tea and salt,” read Mandisa as Nomsa counted the items on her fingers. Ten items, one for each finger. Nomsa could not read yet, but she was good at remembering things.

The sisters went out into the street.

The wind was blowing! It flapped their clothes and it sent the litter in the street racing and tumbling around their feet. As they passed the hair salon in Mrs Ngubane’s garage they saw Fezeka and Phumla having their hair braided. Mrs Ngubane was very clever at braiding. Fezeka and Phumla were Mandisa’s best friends.

“Yoh, you look good!” Mandisa said when she went into the hair salon to look at the new style in braiding. It was very smart.

“You’re wearing a new shirt,” Mandisa said to Fezeka. She bent over and felt the material between her fingers. “Where did you find this?”

Nomsa sighed. She wanted to get to the shop quickly. But all Mandisa thought about these days was clothes and hair and shoes.

“I love your new necklace, Phumla!” said Mandisa bending over to touch her friend’s new necklace. Then, oh-oh! The wind snatched the shopping list out of Mandisa’s hand! It flew away over the wall, then over the roof next door. It was gone, gone, gone! Absolutely and completely gone!

“Now I’m in trouble,” said Mandisa as she put her hand over her mouth. “I’ll have to go home and ask Mama for a new list and she’ll be cross!”

“You don’t have to! I can remember the shopping list,” said Nomsa hopping up and down. “I can remember everything.” She held up her hands and counted the items on her ten fingers. Each finger was something from the shopping list. “Bread, margarine, peanut butter, apricot jam, flour, eggs, sugar, milk, tea and salt!” she said.

Mandisa looked surprised. “Well done, Sisi! I’m glad you came with me. Let’s get to the shop quickly and buy those things. Otherwise Mama is going to be cross.”

When they got to Mambhele Cash Store, Mandisa asked for all the things that Nomsa had remembered on her ten fingers and she put the things in the shopping bags. Nomsa stared at the big bottle of orange sweets and the bottle of jelly babies near the till. She took her money out and gave it to Mandisa. She pointed at the sweets she wanted and Mandisa bought them. Mandisa added a red lollipop as well.

“That’s for saving me from getting into trouble,” said Mandisa. “I know you like red lollipops.”

They each carried a shopping bag home and Nomsa sucked her red lollipop.

At home, they unpacked the shopping bags on the kitchen table and Mandisa asked, “Mama, can I make pancakes for supper tonight?” She knew Nomsa loved pancakes.

“Yes,” said their mother. “I have a lot of school work to mark this afternoon. It would really help me if you made supper.”

Together Nomsa and Mandisa mixed flour, eggs, milk, sugar and a little salt for pancakes. They let the mixture stand for an hour. Then they made pancakes and more pancakes. The kitchen smelt so good!

When Papa came home, he went straight to the kitchen. “My nose is telling me that we are having pancakes for supper! And I see that my two daughters are the cooks. What are you going to put inside them?” he asked.

“There’s some mince left over from yesterday. We can use that,” said Mandisa.

“And there’s also apricot jam. Apricot jam is my favourite in the whole world!” said Nomsa hopping up and down.

“Mine too,” said Papa and he laughed.

When Mama came into the kitchen, she clapped her hands. “Well done, my daughters!” she said.

The pancakes were delicious. “I can remember the ingredients for the recipe,” Nomsa said. “She held up her hand and counted them on her five fingers, “Flour, eggs, milk, sugar and a little salt!”

Her father laughed and patted her shoulder. “My clever little girl!” he said. “Maybe I should use my fingers to remember things too!”
"Ke ka gonne o nkitshitse mo kating," go bua Mandisa. "Ke a tse gore o rata dilopopo tse di khibidu."

Ba thusana go tshwana dilofo go baele gae Nomsa o ntse a mokana laphapo.

Kwa gae, ba simaloka go ntho dilofa mo dikgetsaneng ba di baya mo lolipopo ya khibidu mme Mandisa o baele. "Mama, a rata dina dipanekuku tse re tla lolipopo ka boma mabatlo!" O ne a tse gore Nomsa o rata dipanekuku.

"Ee," go bua mambabona. "Ka no le tiro e ntsi ya sekelo e ka tshwaneletso go e tshwane. O ila ba o nhutsho ba o ka dia dino ka boso."

Mmogoa Nomsa le Mandisa ba thakhanya folouro, mae, mašwi, sukiri le tetswa le tsholetsa ke go leka lekgetho ka leka. "Ke ka gonne o nkitshitse mo kating," go bua Mandisa. "Ke a tse gore o rata dilopopo tse di khibidu."
1. Spot the difference!
Can you find 6 differences between these two pictures?

A

B

2. Be a word detective!
Use these clues to find the words in the cut-out-and-keep book, Miss Helen’s magical world.

a. A South African province ____________________________

b. A South African town _______________________________

c. A country _________________________________________

d. A bird _____________________________________________

e. Two more animals ___________________________________

f. Two girls’ names ____________________________________

g. Something made from wax that you light _________________

h. Something you eat ____________________________________

i. These are found in the sea _____________________________

j. Two feelings _________________________________________

k. Something you use to build with _________________________

l. Something you can see yourself in _______________________

m. Two things that are human-made that give light _____________

n. Three things you find in the sky _________________________

Itire selaledi sa mafoko!
Dirisa methlha e go bona mafoko mo bokang ya sega-o-bolela, Lefatshe la baselame la go Motumagatsana Helen.

a. Parolense ya Alonka Bonwa ____________________________

b. Toropoa ya Alonka Bonwa ______________________________

c. Naga ______________________________________________

d. Nonyane ____________________________________________

e. Diphologolo tse dingwe tse pedi _________________________

f. Maina a mabedi a basetsana _____________________________

g. Sengwe se se dirilwe ka bonota se o ka se tshubang ______

h. Sengwe se o se jang __________________________________

i. Tse di fithelwana kwa lewa tshang ______________________

j. Makanetla a mabedi _____________________________

k. Sengwe se o se dirisang go aga ka sona __________________

l. Sengwe se o iponang mo go sona ________________________

m. Dilo di le pedi tse di dirlwe ke motho tse di dirang lesedi ______

n. Dilo di le tharo tse di fithelwana mo loaping _____________

Answers: 2.a. Eastern Cape, b. Nieu Bethesda, c. Egypt/Persia, d. owl, e. camel, cat, f. any two: Helen, Annie, Alida, g. candle, h. bread/sweets, i. waves/shells, j. any two: happy, grumpy, afraid, k. cement, l. mirror, m. any two: candle, lamp, lantern, n. sun, moon, stars

Nal’ibali is here to motivate and support you. Contact us by calling our call centre on 02 11 80 40 80, or in any of these ways:

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