



## Sikhatsi sekufundza nekubhala nikanyekanye!

Nawukholelwa kutsi bantwana bakho batawuphumelela ekufundzeni nasekubhaleni, futsi ubatjela loko, nabo batawukholelwa kutsi batawuphumelela ekufundzeni nasekubhaleni. Kulesikhatsi semaholidi, tinike sikhatsi sekubacocela tindzaba futsi ufundze uphindze ubhale nabo, futsi batatibona tindlela kufundza nekubhala lokungenetisa ngato futsi kube lusito.



## Time to read and write together!

If you believe that your children will become successful readers and writers, and you let them know this, they will also believe that they can be successful readers and writers. This holiday season, take the time to tell them stories and to read and write with them, and they will experience the ways in which literacy can be satisfying and useful.

### Kwenta kufundza nekubhala kube yincenye yelikhaya lakho

- Yenta inchubomvama yendzaba. Onkhe malanga beka eceleni sikhatsi sekufundza kanye/nobe sekucoca tindzaba.
- Coca tindzaba. Cocela bantwana bakho tindzaba, hlabela tingoma uphindze uhaye netinkondlo lotatiko. Loku kuvusa kucabanga kwabo kuphindze futsi kutfutukise lulwimi lwabo. Tilalele netabo tindzaba, ubuye futsi ukhumbule kukhombisa kutifokotela kwakho.
- Sebentisa lulwimi lwakho lwasekhaya. Kwekucala nje, tindzaba tifanele kutsi tibe ngelulwimi lwebantwana lwasekhaya. Sisekelo lesicinile ngelulwimi lwabo lwasekhaya ngusona singumgogodla wako konkhe kufundza ngempumelelo – kufaka ekhatsi kufundza kubhala nekufundza – ngobe kute kutsi bafundze kahle, badzinga kutsi bavisise kahle.
- Bani sibonelo lesihle. Yenta kutsi bantwana bakho bakubone ufundzela kutijabulisa kanye nekutfola lwatiso.

### Making literacy part of your home

- Create a story routine. Set aside time every day to read and/or tell stories.
- Tell stories. Tell your children stories, sing songs and recite poems you know. This stimulates their imagination and develops their language. Listen to their stories too, and remember to show your appreciation.
- Use your home language. First stories should be in your children's home language. A strong foundation in their home language is the key to all successful learning – including learning to read and write – because to learn well, they need to understand well.
- Be a role model. Let your children see you reading for pleasure and to find information.

### Wonkhe umuntu unendzima layidlalako

- Yenta tikhatsi tekucoca tindzaba letitawutfofetelwa ngumndeni wonkhe undzawonye. Kanye ngeliviki, yenta kutsi kube nalelinye lilunga lemndeni lehlukile licoce indzaba ngesikhatsi sekudla kwantsambama.
- Vakashelani umtapo wetincwadzi nikanyekanye. Yenta kutsi kube nesikhatsi lesenele sekubukabuka ningajaki, bese sewukhuluma nebantwana bakho mayelana nekukhetha kwabo ngembi kwekutsi batsatse sincumo sekugcina sekutsi batawuboleka yiphi incwadzi.
- Yenta kutsi bantwana batetsembe. Yente ibe ligugu imitamo yebantwana bakho yekutifundzela bona ngekwabo, njengoba wenta kwaba ligugu kufundza emagama kwabo kwekucala. Lalela uphindze futsi uncome bantwana bakho labancane nangabe balingisela kufundza – bantwana badzinga kutsi batiphatse njengebafundzi kute kutsi babe bafundzi!



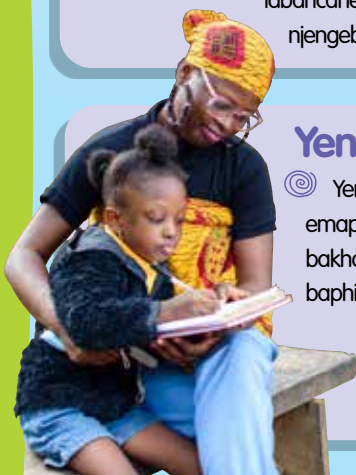
### Everyone has a role to play

- Create story times that the whole family can enjoy together. Once a week, let a different family member tell a story during supper time.
- Visit the library together. Allow plenty of time to browse, then chat to your children about their choices before they make their final decision about which books to borrow.

- Develop children's confidence. Value your children's attempts to read on their own, just like you valued their first words! Also listen to and praise your younger children when they pretend to read – children need to behave like readers to become readers!

### Yenta bantwana bakho kutsi babhale

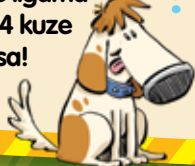
- Yenta siciniseko sekutsi ekhaya unemaphepha, emakhayoni, emapheni kanye nemapeniseli. Kugcine endzaweni lapho bantwana bakho batawufinyelela khona kalula babodwana kute kutsi badweba baphindze babhale nanobe ngunini nabakhetha kwenta njalo.
- Yakha emabhuku ngekutsi nifasele emaphepha ndzawonye ngesitephula bese ubhala tindzaba nebantwana bakho. Bantwana bakho labancane bona bangadweba tiffombe.



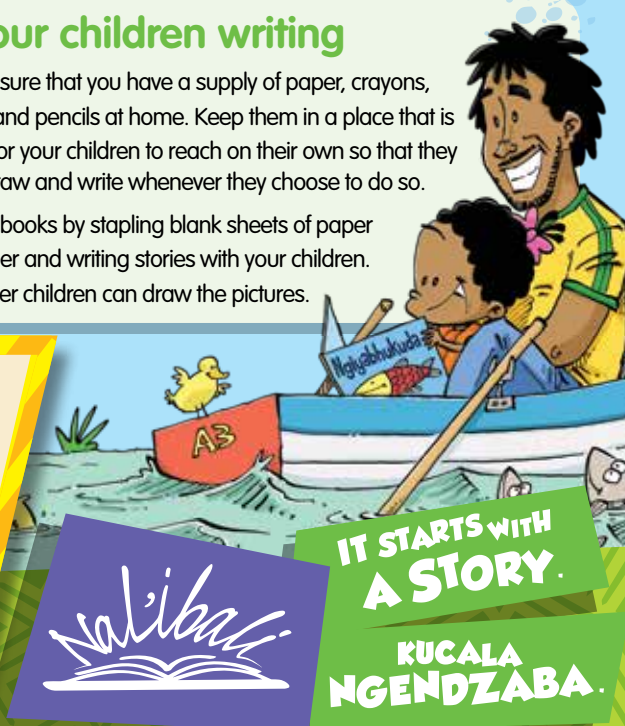
### Get your children writing

- Make sure that you have a supply of paper, crayons, pens and pencils at home. Keep them in a place that is easy for your children to reach on their own so that they can draw and write whenever they choose to do so.
- Make books by stapling blank sheets of paper together and writing stories with your children. Younger children can draw the pictures.

Ningakhohlwa kutsi sitawuhlaba likhefu kudzimate kube liviki lekucala ku-February 2024. Wajabuleleni emaholidi futsi nisijoyine emnyakeni lomusha kuze nitfole umlingo wekufundza lowengetiwe wakaNalibali! Kwanyalo, vakashelani ku-[www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) noma nitfumele ligama lelitsi "stories" nge-WhatsApp ku-0600 44 22 54 kuze nichubeke nifundza ngenjongo yekutijabulisa!



Don't forget that we will be taking a break until the first week of February 2024. Enjoy the holidays and join us in the new year for more Nalibali reading magic! In the meantime, visit [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) or WhatsApp "stories" to 0600 44 22 54 to keep reading for enjoyment!





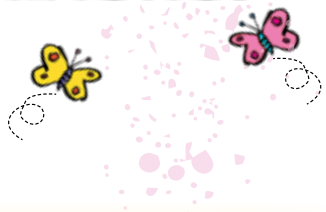


# Kuhlanyela Likhono Lekufundza Nekubhala!

Jabulela emaholidi nebantfwana bakho labancane

## Literacy Seeds!

Happy holidays with your young ones



Batali nebanakekeli bebantfwana labancane lesibatsandzako, imindeni leminyenti ikubuke ngalobovu kuhamba iye etindzaweni letehlukene talelive kuze iyovakashela imindeni nebangani ngesikhatsi semaholidi anga-December. Nangabe nihlele kahle, wena nebantfwana bakho labancane nitalijabulela kakhulu luhambo nesikhatsi ningekho ekhaya!

### Emacebiso kutekuhamba

- ☉ Hlela kutsi nime kanyenti futsi nidle kudla lokulula. Bantfwana labancane kuyabehlula kuhlala sikhatsi lesidze njengebantfu labadzala. Badzinga nekudla lokulula lokunemphilo njengetiselo kuze bundle imitimba yabo lesakhula.
- ☉ Nawuma kuze wetse gasolini noma niye emthoyi, tfola indzawo lephephile lapho bantfwana bangagijima khona futsi bakhiphe kudzinwa kwekuhlala sikhatsi lesidze.
- ☉ Pakisha sikhwama lesincane lesinetintfo tekudlala temntfwana ngamunye. Faka emaphepha ekudweba noma ekubhalela, ekufaka umbala, emapeniseli lanemibala nemapheni. Faka nencwadzi letsandwako lenetifombe yekufundza. Vakashela iwebhusayithi yetfu ku-[www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) kuze ufole emakhasi emsebenzi laphrintiwe nemakhadi endzaba.



Dear parents and caregivers of young children, many families look forward to travelling to different parts of the country to visit family and friends over the December holiday period. With a bit of planning, you and your young children will enjoy the trip and the time away from home even more!

### Travelling tips

- ☉ Plan for more stops and snacks. Young children cannot sit still for as long as adults. They also need healthy snacks like fruit to feed their growing bodies.
- ☉ When you stop for fuel and toilet breaks, find a safe place for the young ones to run around and get rid of pent-up energy.
- ☉ Pack a small activity bag for



each child. Include some paper for drawing or writing, colouring-in pages, coloured pencils and pens. Also include a favourite picture book to read. Visit our website at [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) for printable activity pages and story cards.

### Ciniseka kutsi indzawo lohlala kuyo iphephile kubantfwana

- ★ Ciniseka kutsi umntfwana wakho unendzawo lelungisiwe yekulala lethulile futsi lenemoya lohlantekile. Umbhedze noma ikhothi kufanele kube netinhlangothi letitawuvimba umntfwana wakho kutsi angagiciki aye embhedzeni.
- ★ Nangabe kunetitebhisi, tfola ligede noma letinye tintfo tekuvikela kuze ugcine luswane lwakho noma umntfwana wakho losacatfuta akhashane netitebhisi.
- ★ Hlola kutsi tindzawo tekudlala atinato yini tintfo leticijile noma letephukile letiphasi.
- ★ Umntfu lomdzala kudzingeka abuke bantfwana nabadlala eceleni kwemabhakede lanemanti noma emadamu. Umntfwana angamita ngisho nasemantini langashoni kakhulu.
- ★ Gcina bantfwana baphephile etindzaweni tekupheka netekubraya.
- ★ Yati kutsi ungalutfo kuphi futsi njani lusito lwekwelashwa ngekushesha.



### Make sure the place that you stay at is safe for children

- ★ Make sure your baby has a set place to sleep that is quiet and has fresh air. The bed or cot should have sides to stop your baby from rolling off the bed.
- ★ If there are stairs, find a gate or other barrier to keep your baby or toddler away from the steps.
- ★ Check that play areas do not have sharp or broken objects lying around.
- ★ An adult needs to watch children when they play near buckets of water or dams. A baby can drown in even a few centimetres of water.
- ★ Keep children at a safe distance from cooking and braai areas.
- ★ Know how and where to find medical help quickly.

(Itsatselwe ku-*Planning holidays with children*; <https://raisingchildren.net.au>)

(Adapted from *Planning holidays with children*; <https://raisingchildren.net.au>)





## Imidlalo lejabulisako nebantwana labancane

Emaholidi angemafuba lamahle kakhulu ekucitsa sikhatsi lesinyenti nebantwana befu. Khumbula kutsi noma yini leniyentako kuvuleka litfuba lekutsi ucoce indzaba noma uyakhe! Kudlala kuphindze kwakhe imicabango yebantwana labancane.

- 1. Intfo lesitsiyo.** Sebentisa emakhushini, imicamelu, tingubo letilula kanye nemamethi kuze wakhe intfo lesitsiyo yeluswane lwakho noma umntwana losacatfuta lokutawudzingeka endlule kuyo. Batawutsandza "kungeni" emabhokisini lavulekile ekungeneni nasekuphumeni noma emathonela lakhiwe ngetingubo letigacwe etitulweni. Khansa wendlule letitsiyo kuze ukhombise umntwana wakho lomncane loko lokufanele akwente.
- 2. Yentani kudla kanyekanye.** Tinswane nebantwana labasacatfuta basemafubeni lamakhulu ekwetama kudla lokusha nangabe basitile ekukuphekeni. Nabakusita kutsi ukuhlanganise, utsele futsi uphatse tiisako, emakhono abo lamahle atawuciniswa kufaka ekhatsi kusebentisana kwemehlo netandla tabo nako kutawuciniswa. Yakha umlolo, ingoma noma indzaba mayelana nekudla ngesikhatsi nikupheka. Ngekwesibonelo, yenta shengatsi uyimvubu nawuvula umlomo wakho udla kudla lokulula.
- 3. Yakha akho emathoyisi.** Sebentisa tintfo letisebenta onkhe malanga letingafolakala ekhaya, njengetincetu tetintfo, ihhuli nemakinobho, kuze wakhe emathoyisi akho nemidlalo. Sebentisa lamathoyisi lowentile kuze ucoce indzaba.
- 4. Yenta umbukiso.** Bantwana bayakutsandza kutsi labakudlalako kukholelwe! Kwenta umbukiso kumalunga emndeni nakubangani kuniketa bantwana labancane sizatfu lesihle sekugcoka, basho noma bahlabele imilolotelo yabo labayitsandzako netingoma, futsi bajayive. Futsi bantwana babo bonkhe budzala bakutsandza kakhulu kwendlula noma yini kubona nekuva bantfu lababatsandzako babagcugcutela futsi babashayela tandla.

## Fun activities with young children

Holidays are wonderful opportunities to spend more time with our children. Remember that almost every activity is an opportunity to tell or make up a story! Play also builds the imaginations of young children.

- 1. An obstacle course.** Use cushions, pillows, soft blankets and mats to make an exciting obstacle course for your baby or toddler to move through. They will love going "through" boxes that open at each end or tunnels that are made with blankets draped over chairs. Crawl through the obstacle course to show your little one what to do.



- 2. Make a meal together.** Toddlers are more likely to try new foods if they have helped to prepare them. When they help you to mix, pour and handle ingredients, their fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination will also be strengthened. Make up a rhyme, song or story about food while you make the meal. For example, pretend to be a hippopotamus when you open your mouth wide to eat a snack.

- 3. Make your own toys.** Use everyday items that can be found at home, like pieces of material, wool and buttons, to make your own toys and games. Use the toys that you make to tell a story.

- 4. Put on a show.** Children love playing make believe! Putting on a show for their family members and friends gives young children the perfect reason to dress up, say or sing their favourite rhymes and songs, and dance. And children of all ages love nothing more than to see and hear their loved ones cheering and clapping for them.

## Letinye tintfo leningatenta tekutijabulisa!

- ★ Hambani niye ku-picnic. Pakisha kudla kwasemini esikhwameni futsi nikujabulele nasenisepaki noma engadzeni yakho. Phatsa emathoyisi bantwana bakho labawatsandzako kule-picnic.
- ★ Hambani niyokhempa. Yakhani lithende ngetingubo nemashidi. Lithende liyindzawo lekahle yekufundza nekucoca tindzaba!
- ★ Yakha siceshana sengadze. Maka siceshana lesincane kulengadze lapho bantwana bakho bangakha ingadze yekudlalela yangephandle. Hlanyela timbali, emakhambi, sipinashi nanoma ngusiphi lesinye sitjalo lesikhula masinyane. Beka tipuno letindzala tekumba, tikotela tekuhlanyela nemathoyisi latilwane elipulasitiki kulengadze.

(Itsatselwe ku-ideas on keeping your kids stimulated & entertained this holiday!; Things to do in Cape Town With Kids Magazine; <https://thingstodowithkids.co.za>)



## More fun things to do!

- ★ Go on a picnic. Pack your lunch and enjoy it at the park or in your garden. Bring your children's favourite toys to the picnic.
- ★ Go camping. Build a tent with blankets and sheets. A tent is a great place to read and tell stories!
- ★ Make a garden patch. Mark out a small patch in the garden where your children can create an outdoor play garden. Plant flowers, herbs, spinach, or any other plant that grows quickly. Place old spoons for digging, containers for planting and plastic animal toys in the garden.

(Adapted from Ideas on keeping your kids stimulated & entertained this holiday!; Things to do in Cape Town With Kids Magazine; <https://thingstodowithkids.co.za>)



# Sebentisa buciko bakho!

Yakha imidoli yetilokatana ngeroli yekufaka ithishu

**Get creative!**

Make toilet roll bug puppets



**Utawudzinga:** emaroli lalishubhu ekufaka ithishu, tikelo, emaphepha langakabhalwa lufu noma lanemibala, ema-kokies, i-glue, ema-glitter, ihhuli, emakinobho noma buhlalu

**You will need:** toilet roll tubes, scissors, plain or coloured paper, kokis, glue, glitter, wool, buttons or beads

1.



Sinyatselo seku-1. Khetisa kutsi ngusiphi silokatana semdoli lofuna kusakha.

Step 1. Choose which bug puppet you want to make.

2.



Sinyatselo sesi-2. Penda leroli yethishu ngembala lowufunako noma uyigoce ngeliphepha lelinembala.

Step 2. Paint the toilet roll tube in the colour you want or wrap it with coloured paper.

5.



Sinyatselo sesi-5. Juba, ufake umbala futsi unamatsisele timphiko kumdoli wakho losilokatana.

- ★ Kwenta emabhungane labovu lanemacashata lamnyama, juba indingilizi lenkhulu emkhatsini.
- ★ Kwenta inyosi, juba indingilizi leyihhafu.
- ★ Kwenta emavivane, juba ema-triangle lanetinhlangotsi letigobile.

Hlobisa tilokatana takho ngema-glitter, emakinobho, buhlalu kanye nehuli.

Step 5. Cut, colour and paste wings on your bug puppets.

- ★ For ladybirds, cut a big circle in half.
- ★ For bees, cut medium-sized circles.
- ★ For butterflies, cut triangles with curvy sides.

Decorate your bugs with glitter, buttons, beads and wool.

3.



Sinyatselo sesi-3. Juba tindingilizi letimbili letincane teliphepha lelimhlophe futsi udwebe emacashata lamakhulu emehlo, noma usebentise kwekuhlobisa lokunamatsiselwako lokungemehlo. Namatsisela lamehlo etulu eceleni kwalomdoli.

Step 3. Cut two small circles of white paper and draw big dots for eyes, or use googly eye stickers. Paste the eyes near the top of your puppet.

4.



Sinyatselo sesi-4. Juba timphondvo letimbili ephepheni lelimnyama futsi ulinamatsisele etulu ekhatsi kuleroli yeliphepha.

Step 4. Cut two antennae from black paper and paste them inside the top of the paper roll.



Yakha wakho umtapo wetincwadzi.

Yakha tincwadzi **LETIMBILI** letigcinwako letisiwe takhishwa

1. Khipha emakhasi le-5 kuya kule-12 alesengeto.
2. Liphepha lelinemakhasi le-5, 6, 11 kanye nele-12 kulo lenta yinye incwadzi. Liphepha lelinemakhasi le-7, 8, 9 kanye nele-10 lenta lenye incwadzi.
3. Sebentisa liphepha ngalinye kwakha incwadzi. Landzela leticondziso letingentasi kwakha incwadzi ngayinye.
  - a) Goba liphepha libe yihhafu ulandzele umugca wemacashati lamnyama.
  - b) Ligobe futsi libe yihhafu ulandzele umugca wemacashati laluhlata.
  - c) Sika ulandzele imigca yemacashati labovu.



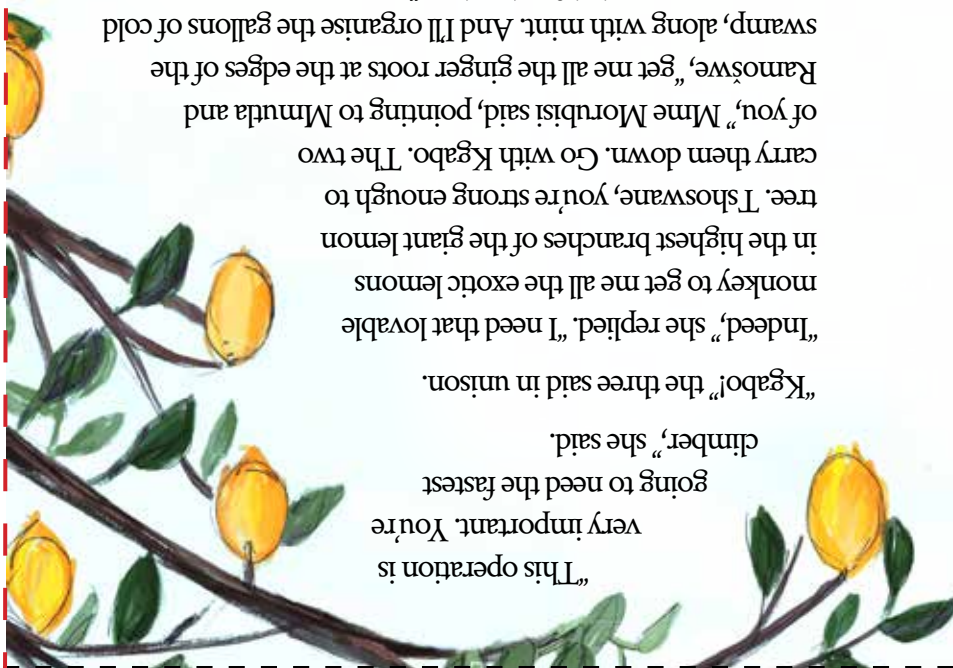
Grow your own library.

Create **TWO** cut-out-and-keep books

1. Take out pages 5 to 12 of this supplement.
2. The sheet with pages 5, 6, 11 and 12 on it makes up one book. The sheet with pages 7, 8, 9 and 10 on it makes up the other book.
3. Use each of the sheets to make a book. Follow the instructions below to make each book.
  - a) Fold the sheet in half along the black dotted line.
  - b) Fold it in half again along the green dotted line.
  - c) Cut along the red dotted lines.



“Lomsebeni lona ubaluleke kakhulu. Utawuzingisa umcanci losheshisako,” kwasho yena. “Kgabo!” laba labatsatu basho kanyekanye. “Nemba,” waphendvula. “Ngidzinga lengobiyane letsandzekako ingitfolele emalamula ladzakisanako emagaleni esilahlala semalamula lesikhulu kakhulu lasetulu kakhulu. Tshoswane, unemandla ngalokwenenele kutsi wehle nawo. Hamba naKgabo. Nine nobabili,” kwasho Make Morubisi, akhomba Mmuda naKamošwe, “ngitfoleleni tonkhe timphandze tejinja elusentseni lwesihlambo, kanye neminti. Ngita wulungisa emagaleni emanti emfombo labandzako ladzingeka kwenta lesinatfo lesidzakisanako.”



“This operation is very important. You're going to need the fastest climber,” she said. “Kgabo!” the three said in unison. “Indeed,” she replied. “I need that lovable monkey to get me all the exotic lemons in the highest branches of the giant lemon tree. Tshoswane, you're strong enough to carry them down. Go with Kgabo. The two of you,” Mme Morubisi said, pointing to Mmuda and Ramošwe, “get me all the ginger roots at the edges of the swamp, along with mint. And I'll organise the gallons of cold spring water needed for the elixir.”

This story is an adapted version of *Christmas elixir* published by Cadbury in partnership with Nal'ibali as part of the Cadbury Dairy Milk #InOurOwnWords initiative. Each story is available in the eleven official South African languages. To find out more about the Cadbury Dairy Milk #InOurOwnWords initiative titles, go to <https://cadbury.one/library.html>.

Lenzaba ingumbhalo loguculiwe lotsi *Sinatfo lesidzakisanako sangaKhisimusi* lowashicilelwa yiCadbury ibambisene neNal'ibali njengencenye yemtamo weCadbury Dairy Milk #InOurOwnWords. Indzaba ngayinye iyatfolakala ngetilwimi letilishumi nakunye letisemselfweni taseNingizimu Afrika. Kuffola kabanti ngetihloko talomtamo weCadbury Dairy Milk #InOurOwnWords hamba ku: <https://cadbury.one/library.html>.

### Get story active!

- ★ What special drink would you make on a hot day? Write your list of ingredients and your method. Give your special drink a name.
- ★ If you could make a magical potion, what would happen to someone who drank it? What would you use to make the potion?
- ★ Make toilet roll puppets of Ntate Pidipidi, Ntate Segwagwa and Ntate Hlogo (see page 4). With your friends and family, take turns to use the puppets to role play each character as you sing your favourite songs!

### Yenta indzaba ibe nemdlandla!

- ★ Ngusiphi sinatfo lesikhetsekile longasenta ngelilanga lelshisako? Bhala luhla letinfo longatisebentisa kuze usakhe nendlela longayisebentisa. Niketa sinatfo sakho lesikhetsekile ligama.
- ★ Nangabe ungenta incenye yemlingo, yini lengenteka kulotsite losinatsako? Yini longayisebentisa nawenta lencenye?
- ★ Yakha imidoli ngeroli yethishu yaBabe Pidipidi, Babe Segwagwa kanye naBabe Hlogo (buka likhasi 4). Unebangani bakho nemndeni, shintjanani kuze nisebentise lemidoli nidlale umlingiswa ngamunye njengoba nihlabele tingoma tenu lenitiisandzako!

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](http://www.nalibali.org)



INal'ibali ngumkhankhaso wavelonkhe wekufundzela kutijabulisa kuvusa nekucinisa lisiko lekufundza eNingizimu Afrika yonkhana. Kuffola lolunye lwati, vakashela [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org)

“Oh,” said Mme Morubisi. “Performing to a packed crowd in this heat is going to be a disaster indeed! I'm making a powerful elixir that will quench the thirst ...” But before she could finish, Mmuda interrupted: “Yes, a magic potion that will numb the audience's senses to the terrible singing! Genius.” That's not at all what Mme Morubisi intended. However, the heat ensured that the three weren't in any mood to listen. Still, she was determined to help. “Hho,” kwasho Make Morubisi. “Kuhlabelela sicuku lesisiminyaminyama kulokushisa lokungaka kutawuba yinfo lembi mbambal! Ngenta sinatfo lesinemandla lesitawucedza koma ...” Kepha ngembi kwekutsi acedze, Mmuda waphatamisa: “Yebo, umtsi wemlingo lotawudzambisa imiva yebalaleli bangeva lokuhlabelela lokubi kangaka! Ngcwele.” Loko akusiko nani lebekuhloswe nguMake Morubisi. Nanoma kunjalo, lilanga lentu siciniseko sekutsi laba labatsatu bangabi sesimeni sekulabelela. Kepha, bekasolo atimisele kusita.

## Christmas elixir



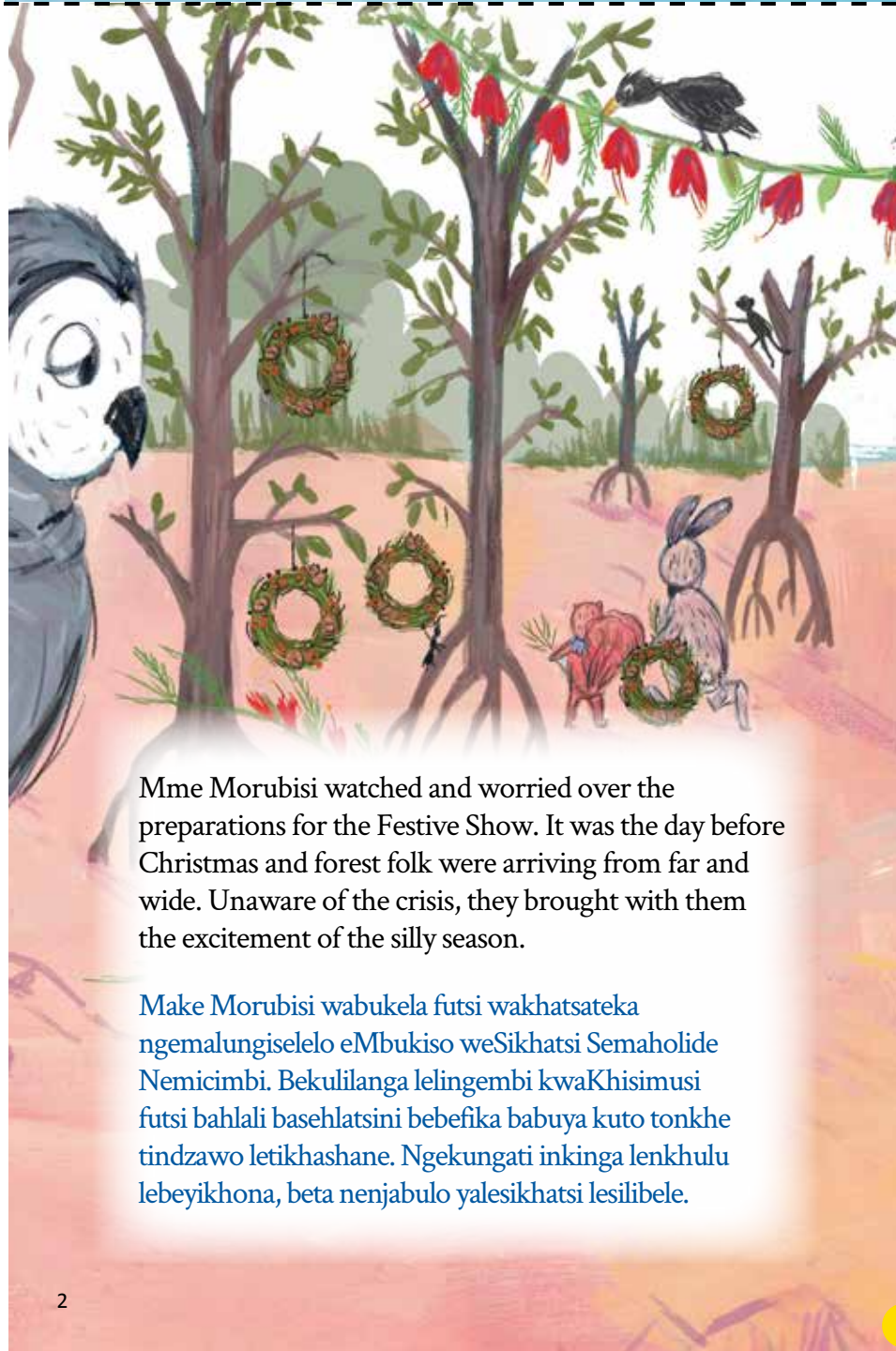
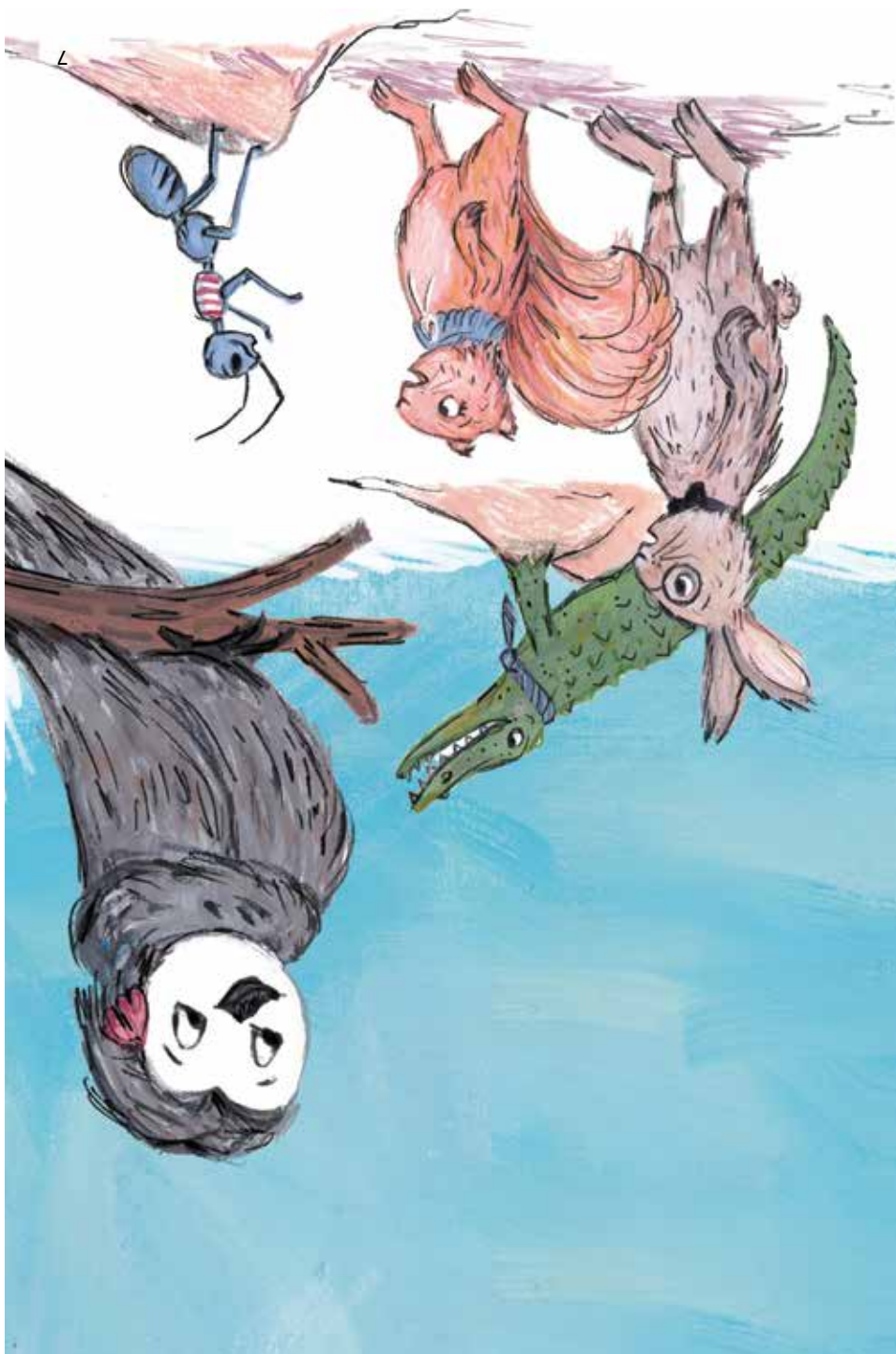
## Sinatfo lesidzakisanako sangaKhisimusi

Bandile Sikwane • Elizabeth Sparg

**Ideas to talk about:** A special drink can make people feel better. In this story the special drink is supposed to be magical. Do you think that a drink can be magical? If you could make a magical drink, what would it do?

**Imibono lokungakhulunywa ngayo:** Sinatfo lesikhetsekile singenta bantfu bative kahle. Kulenzaba lesinatfo lesikhetsekile kufanele sibe ngumlingo. Ucabanga kutsi sinatfo singaba ngumlingo? Nawungakha sinatfo lesingumlingo, kungaba ngusiphi?





Mme Morubisi watched and worried over the preparations for the Festive Show. It was the day before Christmas and forest folk were arriving from far and wide. Unaware of the crisis, they brought with them the excitement of the silly season.

Make Morubisi wabukela futsi wakhatsateka ngemalungiselelo eMbukiso weSikhatsi Semaholide Nemicimbi. Bekulilanga lelingembi kwaKhisimusi futsi bahlali basehlatsini bebefika babuya kuto tonkhe tindzawo letikhashane. Ngekungati inkinga lenkhulu lebeyikhona, beta nenjabulo yalesikhatsi lesilibele.



Seeing Kgabo glide up the enormous lemon tree was a sight to behold. He moved with such speed that even the heat stopped as if to marvel. His hands, feet and tail were perfectly choreographed. Tshoswane was equally impressive with his climb. His six legs and strong body kept pace with the monkey. He was even more impressive descending effortlessly, carrying what appeared to be tonnes of tasty lemons. The ginger and mint collection went well too. Ramošwe and Mmutla high-fived each other. Everyone waited eagerly for Mme Morubisi to mix all the ingredients together and say the incantation that – they hoped – would make everyone not notice the terrible singing. “Love and light quench our thirst and make this Christmas Day one of light and love,” she chanted.

“This is the best Festive Show, and the best Christmas Day, ever. Season’s greetings and congratulations to you,” Kwena told Mme Morubisi.

Ramošwe, Mmutla, Tshoswane and Kgabo turned and stared at Mme Morubisi. “You planned the show?”

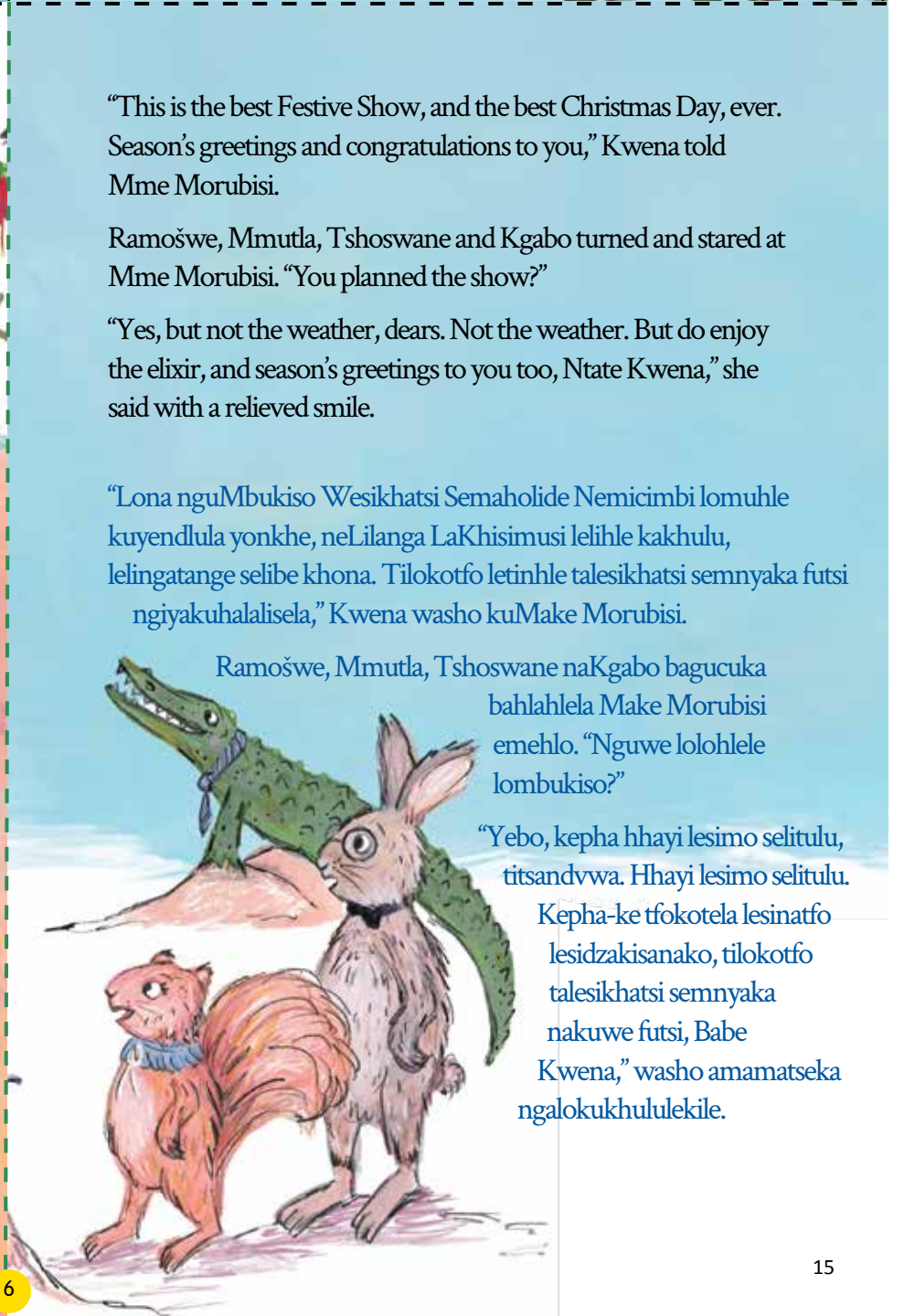
“Yes, but not the weather, dears. Not the weather. But do enjoy the elixir, and season’s greetings to you too, Ntate Kwena,” she said with a relieved smile.

“Lona nguMbukiso Wesikhatsi Semaholide Nemicimbi lomuhle kuyendlula yonkhe, neLilanga LaKhisimusi lelihle kakhulu, lelingatange selibe khona. Tilokotfo letinhle talesikhatsi semnyaka futsi ngiyakuhhalisela,” Kwena washo kuMake Morubisi.

Ramošwe, Mmutla, Tshoswane naKgabo bagucuka bahlahlela Make Morubisi emehlo. “Nguwe lolohlele lombukiso?”

“Yebo, kepha hhayi lesimo selitulu, titsandvwa. Hhayi lesimo selitulu.

Kepha-ke tfokotela lesinatfo lesidzakanako, tilokotfo talesikhatsi semnyaka nakuwe futsi, Babe Kwena,” washo amamatseka ngalokukhululekile.





Mama Smuts wabeka lamasoseji lapinki epuledeni lelile wawafaka ekhabetheni. Bekati kahle kutsi utawentani ngawo. Bekutawuba yi-Chakalaka lemmandzi lake wayenta, ngako ngemzuzu wekugcina, bekatawucoba lamasoseji awafake kuyo. Ngaleyondlela, beyitawuba yinenti.



Mama Smuts laid out the plump, pink sausages on her prettiest plate and put them in the cupboard. She knew exactly what she would make with them. It was to be her best-ever chakalaka and then, at the last minute, she would cut up the sausages and stir them in. That way, they would seem to go further.

Papa Smuts catches a big juicy fish for supper, but then swaps it for some plump sausages. The whole family can't wait to eat the delicious sausages for supper! But what has Mama Smuts done with them?

This story was specially created for Nal'ibali – a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark children's potential through storytelling and reading.



Papa Smuts ubamba inhlanti lenkhulu labatayidla esidlweni sasebusuku, kodwa washintjiselana ngayo kuze affole emasoseji. Wonkhe umndeni wawukubuke ngalabovu kudla emasoseji lammandzi ebusuku! Kodwa yini Mama Smuts layenta ngawo?

Lenzaba yakhelwa ngalokukhetsekile iNal'ibali – umkhankaso waseveni lonkhe wekufundzela kutijabulisa kuze uvuse likhono lebanifwana ngekucoca tindzaba nekufundza.

### Get story active!

- ★ What would you prefer eating, fish or sausages? Why?
- ★ Imagine that you are going to prepare a feast for your family. Make a list of the food you would make.
- ★ Now draw a picture of a festive table.

### Yenta indzaba ibe nemdlandla!

- ★ Yini longatsandza kuyidla, inhlanti noma emasoseji? Kungani?
- ★ Ticabange utawuphekela umndeni wakho kudla lokunyenti. Yenta luhla lwekudla lotakupheka.
- ★ Nyalo dweba sitfombe selitafula lelinalokudla lokunyenti.

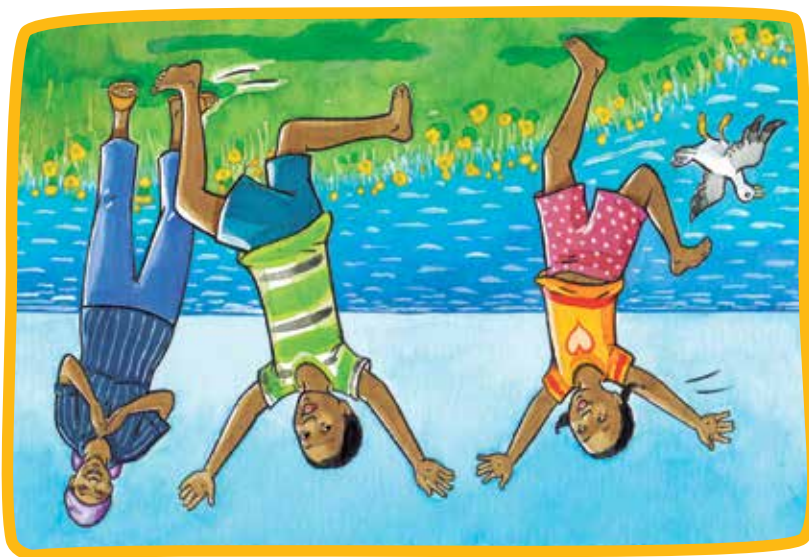
Nal'ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark and embed a culture of reading across South Africa. For more information, visit [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org)



INal'ibali ngumkhankhaso wavelonkhe wekufundzela kutijabulisa kuvusa nekucinisa lisiko lekufundza eNingizimu Afrika yonkhana. Kuffola lolunye lwati, vakashela [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org)

Kwakujayuliwe ngesikhatsi Papa Smuts atjela Mama Smuts, Sannie kanye na-Frikkie mayelana nelianga lakhe lenhlamba. Kwaba shengatsi uletse umcebo ekhaya, futsi ngandlela tsite, bekwuletsele.

There was such excitement when Papa Smuts told Mama Smuts, Sannie and Frikkie about his lucky day. It was as if he had brought home treasure and, in a way, he had.



## The feast



## Lidzili lelikhulu

Jude Daly • Jiggs Snaddon-Wood

**Ideas to talk about:** Have you ever had a feast at home or at someone else's house? What did you eat? Does there have to be lots of expensive food for a meal to be a feast? What do you think?

**Imibono lokungakhulunywa ngayo:** Kuke kwenteka yini waba nelidzili lelikhulu ekhaya noma ekhaya lalotsite? Wadlani? Kufanele kube nekudla lokunyenti lokudlile yini kuze sidlo sibe lidzili lelikhulu? Ucabangani?



Maria wabuta watsi: “Kungaba njani nawungatsatsa lokwehlukile uhambe nako uye ekhaya, njengana nawa emasoseji? Loko bekungeke yini kube bummandzi mbamba?” Papa Smuts wacabanga, kodwa kwaba sikhashana ngoba lamasoseji bekabukeka amahle! Ngako Maria kanye naPapa Smuts bashintjiselana futsi Papa Smuts waphutuma ekhaya.

good! So Maria and Papa Smuts did a swap and for a moment because the sausages did look

moment, but only thought for a Papa Smuts be a real treat?” Now wouldn’t that these sausages? something like different home, took something Maria, “you



Papa Smuts was a fisherman. But, fish were not as plentiful as they used to be and some days he came home empty-handed. Then poor Papa Smuts would feel really downhearted.

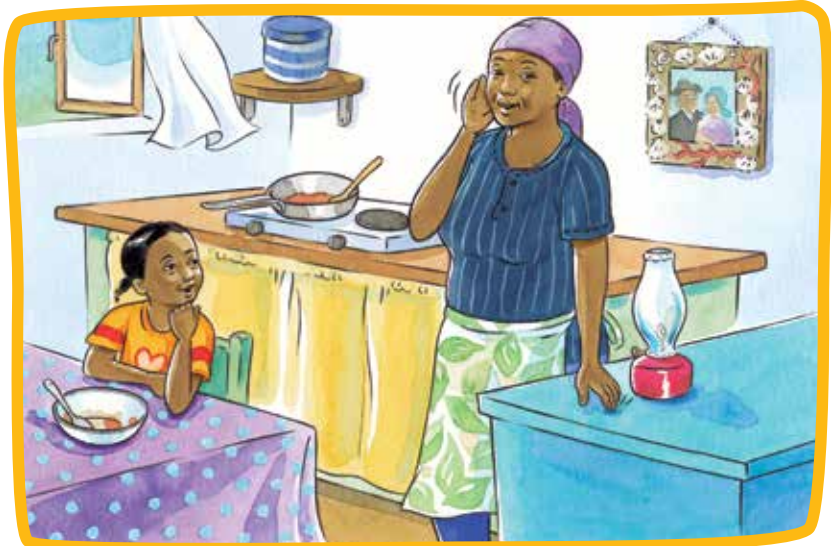
Papa Smuts bekangumdvwebi wetinhlanti. Kodvwa, tinhlanti betingabi tinyenti ngendlela letake taba tinyenti ngayo futsi ngalamanye emalanga bekabuya ekhaya alengisa tandla. Ngako Papa Smuts bekativa umoya wakhe ushone phansi kakhulu.

Mama Smuts wacoba futsi wasika, wafaka netinongo, asitwa ngu-Sannie kanye na-Frikkie.



Mama Smuts chopped and sliced, diced and spiced, with the help of Sannie and Frikkie.

But then she thought, “Sausages for breakfast. What a treat!”



Kodvwa wacabanga watsi, “Emasoseji esidlweni sasekuseni. Kutawuba mnandzi kakhulu!”



Ngemuva kwaloko, ngesikhatsi Make Smuts afaka lokuncane kwaloku nalokunyenti kwaloko, Sannie naFrikkie bebasita Papa Smuts alungise litafula futsi akhe timbali tesiganga tekuhlobisa.



Then, while Mama Smuts added a little bit of this and quite a lot of that, Sannie and Frikkie helped Papa Smuts set the table and pick a bunch of wild flowers to go on it.



Mama Smuts went quietly over to the kitchen cupboard. She covered up the plump, pink sausages and wondered how she could possibly have forgotten them.

Mama Smuts wahamba wangabangi umsindvo waya ekhabetheeni lasekhishini. Wambonya emasoseji lapinki futsi watibuta kutsi kungenteka kanjani kutsi uwakhohlwe.

Njengoba Papa Smuts endlula sitolo selipulazi la-Maria, wamemeta watsi, “Inguninalini inhlanzi?” “Ncesi, Maria,” kusho Papa Smuts, “kodwa lena ngulesitayidla ngesidlo sasebusuku.”



As Papa Smuts passed Maria’s farm stall, she called out, “How much for the fish?” “Sorry, Maria,” said Papa Smuts, “but this one is for our dinner.”



One lucky day, Papa Smuts caught five fish. He sold four and kept one to take home for dinner. Ngalelinye lilanga, Papa Smuts wabamba tihlanzi letisihlanu. Watsengisa letine wagcina leyodwa kuze aye nayo ekhaya iyodliwa esidlweni sasebusuku.



That’s when Mama Smuts would give him a big hug and say, “We’ll make ends meet.” And Sannie and Frikkie would add, “We always do, Papa.” And somehow they always did because ...

Kungaleso sikhatsi lapho Make Smuts abemhaga khona atsi, “Tintfo titawuhlangana.” Futsi Sannie kanye na-Frikkie bebengeta batsi, “Ngaso sonkhe sikhatsi kuyenteka loko, Papa.” Futsi ngandlela tsite bebakwenta loko ngoba ...



Futsi kute, kute namunye, lobekangenta  
lamatamatisi labovu, pelepele loluhlata, ticadze  
letihlamutelako kanye nemakhabishi lacinile kube  
kudla lokumnandzi ngaphandle kwaMama Smuts,  
asitwa ngu-Sannie kanye na-Frikkie!



And no one, absolutely no one, could turn the  
reddest tomatoes, the greenest peppers, the  
crunchiest carrots and the crispiest cabbage into  
a more scrumptious meal than Mama Smuts,  
with the help of Sannie and Frikkie!



... no one could grow redder tomatoes,  
greener peppers, crunchier carrots and  
crispier cabbage than Papa Smuts, with the  
help of Sannie and Frikkie.

... akekho lobekangahlanyela ematamatisi  
labovu, pelepele loluhlata, ticadze  
letihlamutelako kanye nemakhabishi  
lacinile njenga-Papa Smuts, asitwa ngu-  
Sannie kanye na-Frikkie.

Futsi, "Hawu... hawu!"  
kusho Papa Smuts.  
"Bengingacabangi kutsi  
kungenteka, kodvwa  
le-Chakalaka imnandi  
kuneyakho lemandzi.  
Lamasosaji ente wonkhe  
lomchluke!"



And, "My, oh my... oh my!" said Papa Smuts.  
"I did not think it was possible, but this  
chakalaka is better than your best. Those  
sausages made all the difference!"

"Mmm, mmm!" kusho Frikkie.  
"Mmm!" kusho Sannie.  
kwasebusuku. Futsi kwakusidlo lesimnandzil



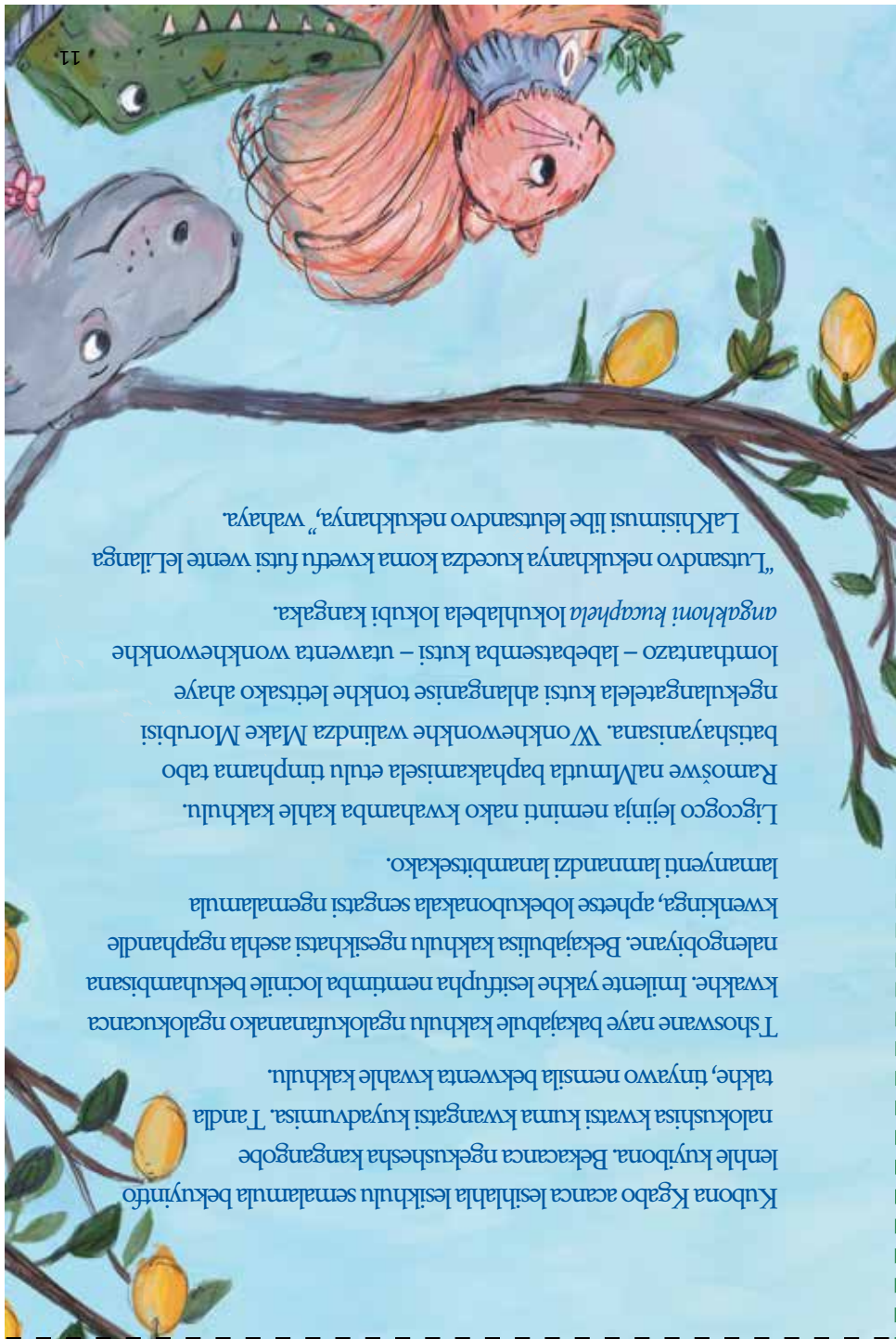
Futsi lokungenani  
said Frikkie.  
"Mmm, mmm!"  
"Mmm!" said Sannie.  
a dinner!  
dinnerime. And what  
And then, at last, it was



Mama Smuts said nothing. But, if Papa  
Smuts, Sannie and Frikkie had not been so  
busy tucking into seconds, they might have  
heard her let out a little gasp.

Mama Smuts akashongo lutfo. Kodvwa,  
nangabe Papa Smuts, Sannie na-Frikkie  
bebangakake sebabe matasa badla kangaka  
futsi bapheka kangaka, kungenteka  
bebatabeva bahemfutela kancane.




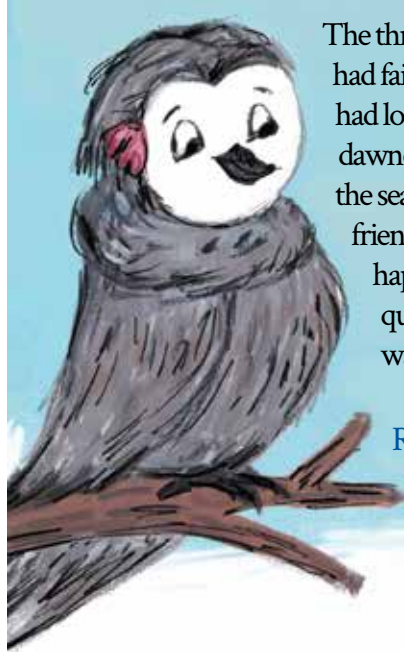


Ramošwe, Mmutla and Tshoswane were very confused.

The three were convinced the elixir had failed and that Mme Morubisi had lost her touch. But it soon dawned on them that sometimes 'tis the season to be jolly and be silly with friends and family. And when that happens, you don't care about the quality of the singing. The owl was quite wise, after all.

Ramošwe, Mmutla  
naTshoswane bebadideke kakhulu.

Laba labatsatfu bebakholwa kutsi lesinatfo lesidzakisanako sehlulekile nekutsi futsi Make Morubisi ulahlekelwe likhono lakhe. Kepha masinyane-nje kwabakhanyela kutsi ngalesinye sikhatsi kuba nesikhatsi sekujabula nesekwenta intfo letilibele kanye nebangani nemndeni. Futsi uma kwenteka loko, awubi nendzaba ngelizinga lelihle lekuhlabela. Lesahhukulu besihlakaniphe kakhulu, emuvakwako konkhe.



“Hello, you three, what’s the hurry?” Mme Morubisi asked in her cheeky but gentle way.

“Christmas will be completely ruined!” blurted out Tshoswane, hunched over and panting from his run.

“Oh dear,” said the seemingly all-knowing Mme Morubisi, not concerned at all.


“Nate Pidipidi, Segwagwa and Hlogo have formed a trio called Killing Them Softly and they’re going to perform at tomorrow’s Festive Show,” explained Ramošwe. “We don’t know who organised this thing, what they were thinking, or if they were thinking at all, when they booked these three. Think of the audience’s ears! It must be stopped.”

“Sanibonani, nine nobatsatfu, njakele kuphi?” Make Morubisi wabuta ngenlela lenelulaka kepha letfobile.

“Khisimusi utawonakala mbamba!” kwaphahluka Tshoswane, agobondzele futsi ahfutela ngesizatfu sekutsi bekagijima.

“Hhayi bo,” kwasho Make Morubisi akhombisa kutsi wati konkhe, anganandzaba mbamba.

“Babe Pidipidi, Segwagwa naHlogo bete licembu lalabatsatfu lelbitwa ngekutsi yi-Killing Them Softly futsi batawuhlabela kusasa Embukisweni Wesikhatsi Semicimbi,” kwachaza Ramošwe. “Asati kutsi ngubani lona lohlele lentfo, kutsi debacabanga ini, noma uma ngabe vele debacabanga ngesikhatsi babhuka laba labatsatfu. Ake ucabangele tindlebe tebalaleli! Kufanele kutsi kuvinjwe.”



The scorching sun had been relentless. It beat down hard on the enchanted swamp. It had been a while since the waters came down from the clouds up above. Everything in Kgakala-Kgakala, the magical land far-far away, yearned for a sip of rain.

The owl knew if it didn't rain by nightfall, it would be a disaster for the Christmas festivities.

Guests chattered among themselves about this year's entertainment. "I heard they've secured a trio whose sweet serenade is going to blow us all away!" said Kwena the gruff and giddy crocodile.

"I heard it's going to be epic, out of this world," Kubu the hippo replied with a knowing chuckle.

Lilanga lalinguloku lichubeka nekushisa kakhulu lingapheli emandla. Lasishisa kakhulu lesihlambo lesomile lebesisenkingeni. Besekusikhatsi lesidze litulu lagcina kuna. Yonkhe intfo lebeyilapha eKgakala-Kgakala, indzawo yemlingo lebeyikhashane kakhulu, beyifuna litulu noma lingaba lincane-nje.

Sahhukulu besati kutsi uma ngabe litulu lingeke line ebusuku, kutawuba kubi kakhulu ngemcimbi waKhisimusi.

Tivakashi takhulumisana ngekwetijabulisa kwalomnyaka. "Ngive batsi batfole labatsatfu labatawusihlabelela kamnandzi simangale sonkhe!" kwasho Kwena ingwenya lenelivi lelindondako naledzayitelako.

"Ngive batsi kutawuba mnandzi ngalokwecile, lokungatange sekube khona kulomhlaba," kwaphendvula Kubu imvubu ahleka kancane, akhombisa kutsi kukhona lokutsite lakwatiko.





“Don’t you think the name is trying to tell us something?” Mmunda, a clever rabbit, asked with a wry smile.

“I really think they intend on killing people softly with their so-called singing,” retorted Ramošwe, a pretty squirrel with an enormous bushy tail.

“We need to put an end to this. Immediately!” declared T shoswane, the immensely strong ant.

“Agreed,” said Ramošwe. “Look at all of them. They are so excited. They have no idea what a terrible thing they are about to hear.”

“I say we run to Mme Morubisi. She’ll know what to do,” suggested T shoswane.

“A wucabangi-nje kutsi leligama licondze kusiyela lokutsisite?” Mmunda, logwaja lohlaakanipihile, wabuta amamatseka.

“Ngcabanga kutsi ngenpela debacondze kubulala banftu ngekungasheshisi ngalokukuhlabela kwabo,” kwaphendvula Ramošwe, bushingwane lobuhle lobunemisila loneboya lobukhulu sibhukungfa.

“Sifanele kutsi sikucedze loku. Masinyane!” kwamemetela T shoswane, inftufwane lenemandla kakhulu. “Khisisimusi utawukonakala!”

“Ngiyavuma,” kwasho Ramošwe. “Babuke bonkhe. Bajabule kakhulu. Abati ngalentfo lembi kangaka labatayiva masinyane.”

“Ngitsi asigjime siye ku! Make Morubisi. Utawukwati kutsi ufanele ente ini,” wabeka umbono T shoswane.



Last year, Mme Thaha had sung so beautifully, everyone decided the Festive Show should be held every year. But this year the heatwave gave her heatstroke, and she had to pull out at the last minute.

Ntate Pidipidi and Ntate Segwagwa pounced at the opportunity to fill in as replacements.

It’s just that Ntate Pidipidi’s singing was truly terribly atrocious in every way. It was matched only by that of Ntate Segwagwa. Together they were the worst singing duo in the entire universe. However, for this year’s soiree, they had outdone themselves. They found an *even worse* singer, Ntate Hlogo – a gigantic shoebill. Together they formed a trio aptly called Killing Them Softly.

Kulomnyaka lophelile Make Thaha wacula kahle kakhulu, wonkhewonkhe wancuma kutsi loMbukiso Wesikhatsi Semaholide Nemicimbi ufanele kutsi ubekhona njalo ngemnyaka. Kodvwa kulomnyaka ligagasi lekushisa limbulele luhlangotsi, kwabe kudzingeka kutsi ayekele ngemzuzu wekugcina.

Babe Pidipidi naBabe Segwagwa bavele balitsatsa lelitfuba kute kutsi babe ngibo labangena esikhundleni sakhe.

Sekutsi-nje kuhlabela kwaBabe Pidipidi bekukubi ngendlela lemangalisako futsi ngato tonkhe tindlela. Kwahambisana ne kwaBabe Segwagwa kuphela. Sebandzawonye bebangulababili labacula kabi kakhulu emhlabeni wonkhe. Nanoma kunjalo, mayelana nelidzili lalomnyaka, bebente kahle *kakhulu* ngendlela lemangalisako. Batfola lomunye umculi locula kabi kakhulu, Babe Hlogo – lidadankovi lelikhulu. Bandzawonye benta labatsatfu labaculako lababitwa ngekutsi yi- Killing Them Softly.



When Christmas Day arrived, it brought with it unbearable heat. The parched crowds drank Mme Morubisi’s refreshing elixir.

But by the start of the show, the clouds suddenly started rolling in. They gently let go of their water, cooling the crowds below, who were busy marvelling at the most horrible singing they’d ever heard.

They stayed enthralled by the monstrosity they were hearing. They even laughed and cheered.

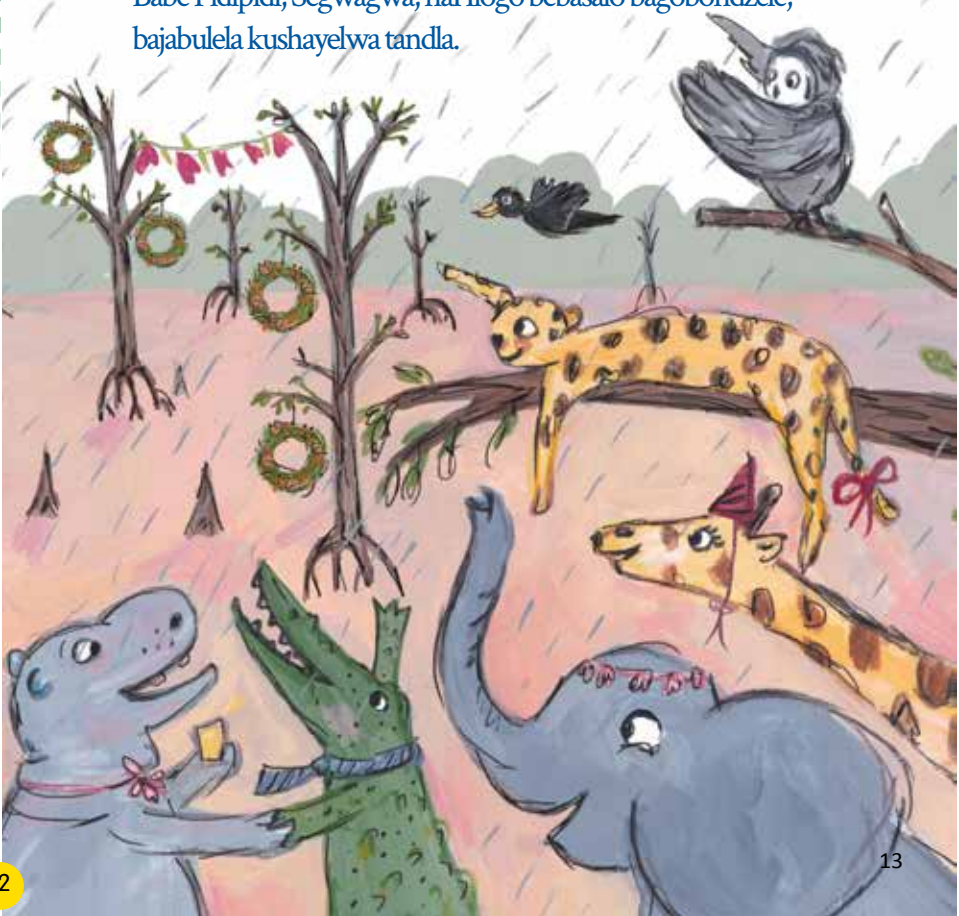
Ntate Pidipidi, Segwagwa and Hlogo were still bowing, enjoying the applause.

Kwatsi uma kufika Lilanga laKhisimusi, lefika nekushisa lokukhulu lokungabeketeleki. Lesticuku lesomile lanatsa sinatfo lesidzakisanako saMake Morubisi.

Kepha kwatsi ekucaleni kwembukiso, masinyane-nje emafu acala kugicika. Akhulula litulu, lapholisa lesicuku besingaphasi, lebesiloku sijabulela kuhlabelela lokubi sibili lesingazange sesikuve.

Bachubeka bahlala bahehwa ngulomculo lomubi kangaka lebebawulalele. Bebahleka nekuhleka badzimate babongelela bakhombisa kuwujabulela.

Babe Pidipidi, Segwagwa, naHlogo bebasalo bagobondzele, bajabulela kushayelwa tandla.





**Gala  
start**



The Martial Arts  
love your smile  
and move forward  
to new places.

Takhamuti tase  
Mars nyakutsana  
kumamatseka  
kwakho! Hamba  
uye phambili tikwele  
letimbili.

space spider  
to write a  
liders fore

A friendly space spider needs help to write a poem about spiders. Write a four-line poem before your next turn.

ni sosesimkhidisi  
nywe! Shano emave  
lunwe lakungenwa ku  
bese uphinde udlale.

The space station is locked! Name five countries to unlock the portal and African the portal turn. take your next turn.

**15.** You've lost your space passport. Miss a turn.

There's a dangerous black hole ahead. Get a 4 or higher to jump three places through a wormhole. If you get a 3 or lower, move back two places.

lelakhi  
khathini  
Tfola  
heille.  
bobo  
lengu-6  
utake  
umillo  
se  
uhamba  
wele  
leisiphai

An alien civilisation  
will not let you pass.  
Sing a song or say  
a rhyme to skip  
forward four places.  
Or miss a turn.

Umuntu longumkhoseli  
angeke akuvumele kutsi  
wendlule. Hlabela ingoma  
noma usho umloloelo kuze  
uye phambili wece tikwele  
letine. Noma ungadlali.

Ummidekeli lunguMisa! uning'ri. Dwibwa umikibwase-Nepure ngerizizibwobwa kuze ubarokoke lemisatu.

**24** A Galaxy guardian needs a friend. Draw an alien from Neptune in a minute to move three places.

Likambu leling  
teyonyo ikom-  
nizimo yekwezi  
ndakombola ngu-  
dikwe gossini e-  
yidho yosimbi  
weca ikwezi la-

**26.** A group of moon hikers have hijacked the ship on. Get a 6 to see your ship on the planet.

Ujahlekile! Thola inombolo lengerulu kwi-3 kuze unambe lelimbholi ngelikhaw sakho sekunsi udicile.

Shano iplanethi  
yesitsathu nawusu  
elangeneni ngapham  
kwekutsi uchubeke

Name the third plane from the sun before you make the next move.

**Sotawufika ekhayi!**  
Hlabela ingoma  
ngelulwini lwakho ku  
ukhrambise kusi awus  
umkholoseli. Ngemuva  
kwakalo uhambe tikw  
letinibili uye phambili

Almost home! Sing a song in your language to prove you're not an alien. Then move forward two places.

31.

**Ekycineni  
Finish**

1. Umdayi ngamunye kudanele ophonse luhlaw lwemali noma ilife lelincane kunombolo 6 waleisondvo kuze ocde.
2. Ngemuva kwadko nishintane ekuphonseni loluhlaw lwemali noma lelife kulaisondvo. Hambisa ikhinobho lchro lelo nani lelikwele.
3. Landzela iticomdziso tialesikwele lawele kuso.
4. Umdali wokuqala lofinyela: **Ekugcineni!** nguye loophumelelako.

**This game is ideal for four or five to play together. It is best for children aged 7 to 12 years old.**

Cut out the game board and number wheel above.  
Paste it on some cardboard and cover it with  
plastic to keep it clean.

## How to play

1. Each player must toss a coin or small stone onto number 6 of the wheel to start.
2. Then take turns to toss the coin or stone onto the wheel. Move your button that number of squares.
3. Follow the instructions in the square you land on.
4. The first player to reach **Finish** is the winner.







# Nobukhwebezane, inkhosatana yemanti



Ibhalwe nguLuyanda Sikhakhane ■ Imidwebo yentiwe ngu-Natalie na-Tamsin Hinrichsen

Minyaka yonkhe nga-December, bekuba sikhatsi semkhosi weKwanzaa – kwakusikhatsi lapho imindeni yayihlangana yabelane kudla netipho. Futsi minyaka yonkhe, ngaphambi kvekutsi kuse, Khwezi, Lubo kanye naMalaika bebavuka behle baye emfuleni. Nabasendleleni leya khona, bebahlabela tingoma letimnadzi futsi badobhe emagungumence.

Lamatfombatane lamatsafu ngaso sonkhe sikhatsi bekahlale ajabulile, ngoba ngalelilanga leli, bekattola inkhosatana yemanti, Nobukhwebezane, iwamele emfuleni. Nawasondzela, bekeva livi lakhe lelihle ahlabela:

*"Vukani ma-Afrika ... seyifikile iKwanzaa!"*

*Siphana tipho letinhle ... sibonisana lutsandvo!"*

*Letsani titseto, inyama kanye nemahewu.*

*Asidleni, sibungatani ndzawonye ... sikhombisane lutsandvo!"*



Lamatfombatane bekahlale elusetsentse lwemfula dalele lengoma. Belitsi naliphuma lilanga, Nobukhwebezane, awanike emabhasikidi lagavele tibhidvo netitselo kutsi ahambe nawo abuyele emmangweni wawo.

"Usale kahle, Nkhosatana Yemanti!" bekasho njalo lamatfombatane njengoba

agijima abuyela ekhaya kuze bantfu basemangweni wawo bakhone kulungiselela sidlo sekubungata umkhosi weKwanzaa.

Kodwa kukhona lobekuhlale kumkhatsata Nobukhwebezane. "Ngiyatibuta kutsi lamatfombatane kungani angangibongi nakatsata lamabhasikidi lanetitselo netibhidvo?" atibuta njengoba ahleti yedwana.

Emuva kulommango, bonkhe bantfu bebabutsana ekhaya lashifu, bagcoke timphahla letinemibala legcamile. Ngaphandle nje kwetitselo netibhidvo letibuya kulenkhosatana yemanti, bantfu bakulommango bebata nalokusanhluva nenyama, futsi bebapheka ndzawonye njengoba bantfwana badlala.

Nasebadle besutsa bantfu bakulommango, bebabese baphana tipho, futsi bahlabele bajayive. Bantfu labadzala bebashintjane bacoca tinganekwane tabo labatitsandzako.

Ngalomunye umnyaka, nakufika sikhatsi seKwanzaa, Khwezi, Lubo kanye naMalaika bavuka bagijima baya emfuleni njengalokwetayelekile, bahlabela futsi badobha emagungumence endleleni. Nabasondzela emfuleni, bacaphela kutsi kukhona lokungahambi kahle. Abamvanga ahlabela Nobukhwebezane.

"Solo uselele yini Nobukhwebezane?" Malaika atibuta.

"Mhlawumbe uyagula," kusikisela Khwezi.

"Encenye ukhohliwe kutsi lamuhla kucala iKwanzaa," kusho Lubo.

Nabefika emfuleni, Nobukhwebezane abengekho.

Ngekushesha, kwaba nekukhanya lokwaphandla emehlo abo. Ngemuva kwaloko, livi lelikhulu lelesabekako latsi, "Noma ngubani loniketwe lokutsi kufanele atsi ngiyabonga! Loko kukutiphatsa lokuhle!" Ngemuva kwaloko lokukhanya kwanyamalala, futsi kwasala kuphela lilanga lebelisaphuma khashane etintsabeni. Lamatfombatane ativa kabi nakacaphela lakhohlwe kukwenta.

"Asikake sambonga Nobukhwebezane ngetipho lasipha tona teKwanzaa! Sihlale sihamba sesijakile," kusho Lubo eva buhlungu.

Ngetinhliyo letibuhlungu, acala ahamba kancane abuyela ekhaya.

"Sitawutsini nasifika emmangweni silengisa tandla?" kubuta Malaika.

Khwezi wagucuka futsi watsi kubangani bakhe, "Bangani, ... kufanele sibuyele emuva siyocolisa kulenkhosatana yemanti."

"Kodwa Nobukhwebezane akasifuni nalasihambe khona. Akafuni nekusibona!" kusho Lubo aphelelwa ngemandla.

"Ngivumelana nawe Khwezi," kusho Malaika. "Kufanele sibuyele emuva siyocolisa. Ngisho noma singamkhandzi Nobukhwebezane lapha, singashiya umlayeto wakhe kuletinhlanti."

"Ngumbono lomuhle loyo," kusho Lubo, sekacala ativa ancono. "Ngiyati kutsi endleleni lebuyela emuva emfuleni, singadobha emagungumence kuze siphe Nobukhwebezane."

Lamatfombatane lamatsafu abutsa emagungumence awagwalisa sikhwama. Abemamatseka njengoba agijima abuyela emuva emfuleni. Nakasondzela, eva lengoma lemnandzi labekayati kahle:

*"Vukani ma-Afrika ... seyifikile iKwanzaa!"*

*Siphana tipho letinhle ... sibonisana lutsandvo!"*

*Letsani titseto, inyama kanye nemahewu.*

*Asidleni, sibungatani ndzawonye ... sikhombisane lutsandvo!"*

"Nobukhwebezane ubuyile! Inkhosatana yemanti ibuyile!" bamemeta, bagijima baya elusetseni lwemfula.

Nobukhwebezane abehleli edwaleni lelisondzele elusetseni, amamatseka.

"Nkhosatana, sicolisa kakhulu ngekungabongi ngetipho losipha tona tetitselo netibhidvo!" kusho Malaika.

"Siyacalisa impela, Nobukhwebezane. Sicela usicolele," kuncenga Khwezi.

"Sikhatsi seKwanzaa sikhatsi sekuphona tipho. Lamuhla sikuphatsele siph!" kusho Lubo, aniketa Nobukhwebezane sikhwama lesigcwele emagungumence.

Nobukhwebezane wabuka ekhatsi kulesikhwama wamamatseka. "Lamagungumence abukeka amnandzi. Ngiyabonga bangani!"

"Siyabonga nakuwe, Nkhosatana, ngetipho losiphe tona yonkhe leminyaka nasineKwanzaa. Siyabonga," kusho Malaika ngemahloni.

"Bangani bami, ... Kwanzaa sikhatsi sekwephana, sekujabula, sekuthula nelutsandvo! Sondzelani, ngifuna kunifundisa ingoma lensha!" Ngemuva kwaloko Nobukhwebezane wahlabela:

*"Ngaso sonkhe sikhatsi bonga, ngaso sonkhe sikhatsi tsandza futsi utawutfolo umvuzo!"*

*Ngaso sonkhe sikhatsi bonga, ngaso sonkhe sikhatsi tsandza futsi utawutfolo umvuzo!"*

*Ngaso sonkhe sikhatsi bonga, ngaso sonkhe sikhatsi tsandza! Loku kuhle ngaso sonkhe sikhatsi!"*

Watsi, "Nyalo, sheshani nibuyele ekhaya. Sekuyahwalala! Nawa emabhasikidi lanetitselo netibhidvo. Banimele."

"Siyabonga, Nkhosatana Yemanti. Siyabonga, Nobukhwebezane!" kusho lamatfombatane.

"Hambani kahle! Niyjabulele iKwanzaa!" kumemeta Nobukhwebezane.

"Nawe ngalokufanako, Nkhosatana! Siyabonga!" kumemeta lamatfombatane.

Nawefika ekhaya lamatfombatane, bantfu bakulommango bebawamele. "Siyabonga, mantfombatane. Kubonakala shengatsi nite netitselo netibhidvo letinyenti kunalenake neta nato. Siyabonga" kusho shifu walommango.

Naweve loko lamatfombatane, abukana ... futsi amamatseka. Bekati kutsi Nobukhwebezane uwacolele. "Siyabonga, Nkhosatana," asho ahleba.



## Yenta indzaba ibe nemdlandla!

- ★ Umndeni wakho noma ummango uyahlanganyela yini embutsanweni ngalokucondzile wema-Afrika noma bantfu baseNingizimu Afrika? Ubitwa ngekutsi yini futsi kusuke kungumbutsano wani?

- ★ Ngutiphi tihlobo tetitselo netibhidvo lenivame kuba nato embutsanweni yenu? Dwweba letinye taletitselo netibhidvo.
- ★ Yakha yakho ingoma lapho ubonga khona ngetintfo letinhle lotitfolako lilanga ngalinye.





# Nobukhwebezane, the water princess

By Luyanda Sikhakhane ■ Illustrations by Natalie and Tamsin Hinrichsen



Every year, in December, it was time for the Kwanzaa festival – a time when families met and shared food and gifts. And every year, before dawn, Khwezi, Lubo and Malaika would get up and go down to the river. On their way, they would sing beautiful songs and pick blackberries.

The three girls were always very excited, because on this day, they would find the water princess, Nobukhwebezane, waiting for them at the river. As they got closer, they could hear her beautiful voice singing:

*"Africans arise ... Kwanzaa has come!*

*We give each other beautiful gifts ... we show each other love!*

*Bring fruit, meat and amahewu.*

*Let's eat, celebrate together ... show each other love!"*



The girls would sit on the riverbank and listen to the song. Then, at sunrise, Nobukhwebezane would give them baskets full of vegetables and fruits to take home to their village.

"Stay well, Water Princess!" they would

call as they ran home so that the villagers could prepare a feast for the Kwanzaa celebrations.

But something always troubled Nobukhwebezane. "I wonder why those girls don't thank me when they take the baskets of fruits and vegetables?" she asked herself as she sat alone.

Back at the village, everyone would gather at the chief's home, wearing bright, colourful clothes. Besides the fruits and vegetables from the water princess, the villagers would bring grain and meat, and they would cook together while the children played.

After the villagers had feasted, they exchanged gifts, and sang and danced. The older people took turns telling their favourite folktales.

One year, when Kwanzaa arrived, Khwezi, Lubo and Malaika woke up and rushed to the river as usual, singing and picking blackberries along the way. As they neared the river, they realised that something was wrong. They couldn't hear Nobukhwebezane singing.

"Could Nobukhwebezane still be asleep?" wondered Malaika.

"Maybe she's not well," suggested Khwezi.

"Perhaps she forgot that today is the start of Kwanzaa," said Lubo.

When they reached the river, Nobukhwebezane was nowhere to be seen.

Suddenly, a bright light blinded their eyes. Then, a loud and frightening voice said, "Whoever is given something must say thank you! That is good manners!" Then the light disappeared, and only the rising sun behind the hills in the distance remained. The girls felt terrible when they realised what they had forgotten to do.

"We never thank Nobukhwebezane for the Kwanzaa gifts! We always leave in a hurry," said Lubo sadly.

With heavy hearts, they slowly started walking back home.

"What are we going to say when we arrive back at the village empty-handed?" asked Malaika.

Khwezi turned to her friends and said, "Friends, ... we must go back and apologise to the water princess."

"But Nobukhwebezane doesn't want anything to do with us. She doesn't want to see us!" said Lubo, feeling hopeless.

"I agree with Khwezi," said Malaika. "We have to go back and apologise. Even if we don't find Nobukhwebezane there, we can leave a message for her with the fish."

"Good idea," said Lubo, starting to feel better. "I know, on our way back to the river, we can pick blackberries as a gift for Nobukhwebezane."

The three girls picked a bag full of blackberries. Their faces were smiling again as they ran back down to the river. As they got closer, they heard the sweet song they knew so well:

*"Africans arise ... Kwanzaa has come!*

*We give each other beautiful gifts ... we show each other love!*

*Bring fruit, meat and amahewu.*

*Let's eat, celebrate together ... show each other love!"*

"Nobukhwebezane is back! The water princess is back!" they shouted, running to the edge of the river.

Nobukhwebezane was sitting on a rock close to the riverbank, smiling.

"Princess, we are really sorry for never saying thank you for your gifts of fruits and vegetables!" said Malaika.

"Yes, Nobukhwebezane, we apologise. Please forgive us," begged Khwezi.

"Kwanzaa is a time for giving gifts. Today we have a gift for you!" said Lubo, reaching out to give Nobukhwebezane the bag full of blackberries.

Nobukhwebezane looked inside the bag and smiled. "These blackberries look delicious. Thank you, friends!"

"We are also thankful to you, Princess, for the gifts that you have given us year after year at Kwanzaa. Thank you," Malaika said shyly.

"My friends, ... Kwanzaa is a time of giving, joy, peace and love! Come close, I want to teach you a new song!" Then Nobukhwebezane sang:

*"Always be thankful, always love and you will receive in return!*

*Always be thankful, always love and you will receive in return!*

*Always be thankful, always love! These are always good!"*

"Now, hurry home," she said. "It's getting late! Here are the baskets of fruits and vegetables. They are waiting for you."

"Thank you, Water Princess. Thank you, Nobukhwebezane!" said the girls.

"Go well! Happy Kwanzaa!" shouted Nobukhwebezane.

"To you too, Princess! Thank you!" shouted the girls.

When the girls arrived home, the villagers were already waiting for them. "Thank you, girls. It looks like you brought more fruit and vegetables than ever before. Thank you!" said the chief of the village.

When the girls heard this, they looked at each other ... and smiled. They knew that Nobukhwebezane had forgiven them. "Thank you, Princess," they whispered.



## Get story active!

- ★ Does your family or community take part in a celebration that is specifically African or South African? What is it called and what is celebrated?
- ★ What kinds of fruits and vegetables do you often have at your celebrations? Draw some of these fruits and vegetables.

- ★ Make up your own song in which you say thank you for the good things that you receive each day.



# Kwekutijabulisa kwakaNal'ibali

## Nal'ibali fun

1.

### ☞ Catulula ikhodi!

Yini Neo nebangani bakhe labatayenta kuze bacitse sikhatsi ngesikhatsi semaholidi? Sebentisa litafula lekucatulula ikhodi leliluhlata kwesibhakabhaka kukusita kuffola timphendvulo.

1. Neo utawuba yincenye yeluhambo lekuyodlala (9, 2, 8, 15, 12, 1) \_\_\_\_\_ ngeliviki lekucala lemaholidi.
2. Mbali utatikhipha aye (5, 16, 21, 12, 1, 26, 9, 14, 9) \_\_\_\_\_ nalabanye bantfwana esikhungweni sagogo semfundvo lesinakekelako.
3. Bella yena (21, 20, 1, 23, 21, 6, 21, 14, 4, 26, 5, 12, 1) \_\_\_\_\_ Noodle bese uyamtsatsa kuze ayodlala nalefinye tinja (5, 16, 1, 11, 9) \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Hope utawuba yincenye yemcudzelwano (23, 5, 11, 1, 18, 1, 20, 9) \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Afrika kanye na-Dintle batawusita make wabo (1, 2, 8, 1, 11, 5) \_\_\_\_\_ emakhekhe imicatsane latawatsengisa embukisweni wasebusika.
6. Priya utawuhamba nasisi wakhe baye emhlanganweni wekufundzisa ngencwadzi (5, 13, 20, 1, 20, 10, 5, 14, 9) \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Josh usita ekuchubeni (12, 21, 8, 12, 5, 12, 15) (12, 23, 5, 12, 9, 8, 15, 12, 9, 4, 9) \_\_\_\_\_ lebantfwana labancane esikolweni.

### ☞ Crack the code!

What are Neo and his friends going to spend time doing during the holidays? Use the blue code-breaker table to help you find out.

1. Neo is going on a (19, 15, 3, 3, 5, 18) \_\_\_\_\_ tour for the first week of the holidays.
2. Mbali is going on an outing to a (6, 1, 18, 13) \_\_\_\_\_ with the other children at Gogo's educare centre.
3. Bella is going to (18, 5, 1, 4) \_\_\_\_\_ to Noodle and take him to play with the other dogs at the (16, 1, 18, 11) \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Hope is taking part in a (11, 1, 18, 1, 20, 5) \_\_\_\_\_ competition.
5. Afrika and Dintle are going to help their mother to (2, 1, 11, 5) \_\_\_\_\_ cakes and biscuits for her stall at the winter fair.
6. Priya is going with her sister to a story workshop at the (12, 9, 2, 18, 1, 18, 25) \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Josh is helping to run a (8, 15, 12, 9, 4, 1, 25) (16, 18, 15, 7, 18, 1, 13, 13, 5) \_\_\_\_\_ for the younger children at his school.



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Y	Z						
25	26						



2.

### Sebentisa umcabango wakho kuze ucedzelele lendzaba. Tjela umgani noma umtali wakho indzaba yakho.

Bonkhe bantfu bebababanga kutsi Mama Esther ngumtsakatsi. Bekahlala yedwana endlini lencane futsi bekaya kuphela edolobheni nakayotsenga kudla labekangakhoni kukulima engadzeni yakhe. Kute lobekamkhulumisa, futsi bekangakhulumi namuntfu. Ngako ngesikhatsi luphahla lwaMama Esther kufika siphepho siluphephula, kute loweta kutomsita. Bantfu bakulelidolobha bakhuphula tiphika temajazi abo taya etulu netigcoko tabo taya phansi kuze bangayibuki indlu yakhe lencane leyonakele nabendlula eceleni kwayo. Kodwa bekunelija leliselisha ligama lalo lobekungu-George lelacabanga kutsi bekusikhatsi lesifanele sekutsi kwentiwe lokutsite mayelana naMama Esther ...

### Use your imagination to complete the story. Tell a friend or parent your story.

Everyone thought Mama Esther was a witch. She lived alone in a small house and only went to town to buy food she could not grow in her garden. No one spoke to her, and she spoke to no one. So when Mama Esther's roof blew off during a storm, no one came to help her. The townspeople pulled their coat collars up high and their hats down low so they would not have to look at her broken little house when they walked by. But there was one young man named George who thought it was time to do something about Mama Esther ...



Answers: 1. soccer 2. farm 3. read 4. park 5. bake 6. library 7. holiday programme  
Timphevdulo: 1. ibhola 2. epulazini 3. utawfundzela, epaki 4. wekara 5. abhake 6. emtateni 7. luhlalo lweholidi

Ningakhohlwa kutsi sitawuhlaba likhefu kudzimate kube liviki lekucala ku-February 2024. Wajabuleleni emaholidi futsi nisijoyine emnyakeni lomusha kuze nitfole umlingo wekufundza lowengetiwe wakaNal'ibali! Kwanyalo, vakashelani ku-[www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) noma nitfumele ligama lelitsi "stories" nge-WhatsApp ku-0600 44 22 54 kuze nichubeke nifundza ngenjongo yekutijabulisa!

Don't forget that we will be taking a break until the first week of February 2024. Enjoy the holidays and join us in the new year for more Nal'ibali reading magic! In the meantime, visit [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) or WhatsApp "stories" to 0600 44 22 54 to keep reading for enjoyment!

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