NAL’BALI

Ka moo o ka kgothatsang bana ba tswafang ho bala

How to encourage reluctant readers

Some children are able to sit still for a long bedtime story, while others get restless. Some children take to books immediately, and others need more encouragement. This is entirely normal. Each child is different, and what they enjoy changes vastly as they grow older.

Why don’t they want to read?

People sometimes think that a “reluctant reader” is always a “less able reader” – which can’t be further from the truth.

Reluctant readers are often bright children who have never connected with books.

Maybe they haven’t grown up in a reading culture.

Perhaps they never had reading materials that were meaningful to them.

Or there were no stories available in their mother tongue.

Seo o ka se etseg hore ba thabele ho bala

1. Tsopamisa mogopho ho seo sa se kgosang, eseng ho seo ba sa se kgosang

Bana ba bang ba kgona ho dula ba tsitstsise bakeng sa ho boilwa pale e telele pale ba robala, athe ba bang bana ha bongone ho dula ba tsitstsise. Bana ba bang ba rata dibuka hang feela ba ha di bana, athe ba bang ba hloko ho kgotlaetswa bore ba di rate. Maemo ana ka bobedi ha a phosa. Bana ba fapan, mmme dintha tseo ba di thabelang di fetoka haholho ba ha hola.

2. Bula menyetla e eketsehileng

Goba bana ba hao. Ba ngolle melaetsa e mekgutshwane, dithothokiso kapa dipale 3. Etsa dintho tse tla ba kgothaletsa ho bala

3. Etsa dintho tse fla ba tla kgotlaetsa ho bala

Ngoba bana ba hao.  Ba ngolle melaetsa e mekgutshwane, dithothokiso tseo dipole ba amang e lenga difofhiwa ebe o dikeba ka moo ba tsitstsise dipole ka kgofholo wa. Bana ba tla fla tseo e be ntho e thahesang, e kgathollang le e monate ho bana!

Qola ba sa le banyenyane

Le pele bana ba ka tsebha ho bala, ho na le ditsela tseo o ka di sebedisang ho qaqa ho hesiisa lestse le se lese ho ya ho tsie hlano. Ba bale pale, mmme o se le le wa e bala feta, empo a balse e e teloahlehela, a be o qaqa le bana ka baphetha ba poleng! Ka bale pale, ngwana ho haa o ka baphetha ho bala ho etsekheghe kia dipole, mmme se le hesiisa lehlopo ho haa ha mmosha le bokgoni ba ha hesiisa.

Mabaka a etsang bore sa ke ba rata ho bala

Ka dinako tse ding batho ba nahana hore “ngwana ya tsafang ho bala” ke habane e le “ya sa kgoseng ho bala hamile!” mmme sa ha se miteho. Bana ba tsafang ho bala hanga ate bana ba bolele, bo tsing bo sa ka ba tshwane moneletla wa ho liwaedana le dibuka.

Mohlomong ba holetse sebekang seo ha ngoko ho flaedwa ho bala.

Ho ka esholoh ile ho ha motho ba kileng ba tshwana dintha tse bulawayo tseo ba riang e le tsie badlaka.

Kapa ho ne ho sa dipole ka phyu ya bana ya le swelele.

1. Focus on their strengths, not their weakness

Some children find reading challenging, so it’s less likely that they will choose to read for pleasure. The best thing is to try to bring back the enjoyment of reading. Find a story or comic that they like or make up a story for them! Do not force your children to read books that they don’t want to read. Reading should be an interesting, relaxing and fun activity for children!

2. Bigger exposure

Visit the library or bookshops and let your children choose books that they want to read. Reading something is better than not reading at all, so don’t worry if the books your children choose seem to be too easy for them, or deal with subjects that you think are not important.

3. Make it personal

Write to your children. Leave them little notes, poems or short stories in their lunch box or schoolbag. Once you start making reading and stories a personal activity at home, children will start developing a positive relationship with reading.

See page 4 for some ideas to get your family reading regularly!

Bona loqephe la 4 bakeng sa ditshahlo “tse ding tsa ho etse hore lelapa la hao le bale ka mehlia!”

Drive your imagination

This supplement is available in the following newspapers: Eyethu Umlazi and Polokwane Observer.
Dear parents and caregivers of young children, recent studies have shown that drawing, painting, making models and other creative activities can help children develop problem-solving skills. When doing art and crafts, children need to think creatively, think about different ways of solving problems, and make decisions based on what they see and understand in their environment.

Children need to develop critical thinking skills to work through and understand all the information that they come across every day. They have to use their different senses to understand and interpret all this information.

Drawing, painting, and clay modelling helps children develop these skills:

1. **Fine motor skills.** Using crayons, paint brushes and moulding clay helps children develop their fine motor muscles. This will help them with writing, using tools correctly and other tasks where they need to use small, controlled movements.

2. **Cognitive development.** Art can help children see and copy shapes and patterns. They also learn that a particular action has a particular outcome each time, for example, mixing red and yellow paint makes orange paint. They learn to plan how they will use their resources (paint, clay, paper, crayons) to make their artwork, and to interpret what they see in their environment when they draw people, animals and other objects.

3. **Math skills.** Children can learn, create and begin to understand concepts like size and shape. They learn about counting, about comparing different things, and that things appear bigger or smaller depending on how near or far they are.

4. **Language skills.** As children listen to your comments and questions and talk about their artwork and how they made it, they develop language skills and increase their vocabulary.

We can encourage children in our care to continue drawing, painting and doing crafts.

- Ask specific questions about their artwork like, “What did you draw (or paint or make)?” or “Why did you choose to make that?”
- Listen carefully as they talk about what they have created. This will help you to understand what is important and meaningful to your children. It is also a lovely opportunity to connect with them.
- Display their work where it can easily be seen and won’t get dirty or broken easily.

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**Ho torya, ho taka le ho bopa dintho ka letsopa ho thusa bana hore ba be le bokgoni bo latelang:**

1. **Bokgoni ba ho sebedisa mesifa hantle.** Ho sebedisa dikerayone, maborase le ho taka le letsopa la ho bopa dintho ho thusa bana hore mesi la le kgone ho sebetsa hantle. Sena se tla ba thusa hore ba kgone ho ngola, ho sebedisa disebediswa hantle le ho etsa mesebetsi e meng e ba hlokang hore ho tamatse ditlo tsa bona tsa mmele hamanganyane, ka tsele e lekohlhekgeng.

2. **Mala a ho utlwisisa dintho.** Bonono bo ka thuto ba bana hore ba bone dikho le dipotso tsa dintho le ho di kipitsa. Hape ba phiula hore ba etse niho e iseng ho na le phedlo ka dinako tsa hloko, ka mohloa, ho kapanany pente e kgbuedu le e tshela ho tsa hloheis pente e mmola wa lamunu. Ba phiula ho nahanana esele pele hore na ba phiula sebedisa disebediswa tsa bona jwang (pente, letsopa, ppmotlana, dikerayone) ho etsa mesebetsi e yona e bonono, le ho lelo mokoletse va seo ba se bonang tikolohong ha ba tohgotla ba thuthu, diphoofolo le dintho tse ding.

3. **Bokgoni ba thuto ya mmele.** Bokgoni ba ka phiula, ba eta le ho opho ho utlwisisa dintho tse ka ho bonang dikho le dipotso tse ding. Ba phiula ho bonang dikho le dipotso, le ho ciupa dintho tse sa tshweneng, le ho phiula hore dintho di bonahola di le kgolo kopa di le nnyane ho kholo le matla o hatlu kopa le hole hakae le tsa.

4. **Bokgoni ba ho sebedisa puo.** Ho bana ba mametsi ho a otsa o metsa maikutlo le ho bokgoni dipotso, le ho o bua ka dintho tse bana le bokgoni boqapi e etsa hore ba di entse jwang, bokgoni ba bana ba ho sebedisa puo bo a hola mme pokello ya bana ya mantwe e a eketseha.
Mesebetsi e bonolo ya botaki bakeng sa bana ba banyenyane

1. Ho taka ka lehlakana Sebedisa lehlakana ka ho nwa ho hula pente ebe o e butswela leqephepho kapa o rothetse pente leqephepho ebe o e butswela ka lehlakana hore e qalakane.

2. Ho taka ka manwana Eta pente e theko e tlase, e ka jezwang habane bana ba banyenyane ba rata ho keny ka dintho ka hanong! Tswakwa phooro ya bohobe le metsi ebe o di pheha mfolong o tsakanetseng. Fuduwa motswakwa ona nako le nako ho fihlo a fetho liama e metsi. E behele ka thoko hore e folle ebe o lga liama ena ho e tshela ka mabekereng o manguita ka mo o ratang. Tshela ntho e fanang ka mmala diphang ka mabekereng ano ho etsa dipente tsa mebala e sa tshwaneng.

3. Pekella ya mmala Etsa pekella ya mmala e ta sa tshwaneng e mmala o le mong. Ngwana wa hao a ka fumana mmala oo a o ratang dikoranteng le dimakasoneng. Ka mora moo, a ka seha dintho tsa mmala oo ebe o di lgomaretseng lehola.


5. Setshwantsho se entsweng ka dibopeho tsa tshwaneng Seha dintho tse nang le dibopeho tse sa tshwaneng pampiring ya mmala ebe o sebedisa dibopeho tseo ho etsa setshwantsho. Tshela bana ba hao horo ba leketsile setshwantsho sa bana. Ba fe dikerayone le hore e be le kgabi leketsile kapa o malana lelela.

Mokgwa wa ho sebedisa dipale tsa rona ka ditsela tse sa tshwaneng

1. Phetela ngwana wa hao pale. Bala pale le ho ikwitlitsa ho filo e phetela. Jwale sebedisa lenwale, setshwantsho le mmale wa hao ho phedisa pale.


3. Bala pale le ngwana wa hao. Fapanetsanang ka ho bala pale. O se ke mo loka ho a etla dipitho, mo thuto fetha ho a leketsile hore a mo thuto.


5. Etsang mesebetsi ya Eba melahlahla ka pale! Sena se lekela ho metsete wena le ngwana wa hao.

Easy art activities for young children

1. Straw painting: Use a drinking straw to pick up some paint, and splash it onto a page or put a drop of paint onto the page and blow through the straw to make the paint spread out.

2. Finger painting: Make cheap, edible paint because young children love putting things in their mouths! Cook some flour and water over medium heat. Stir the mixture constantly until it turns into a paste. Let it cool, and scoop the paste into as many cups as you need. Mix food colouring into each cup to make paints of different colours.

3. Colour collage: Make a colour collage using only one colour. Your children can find their colour in old newspapers and magazines. They can then cut or tear out the colour pieces and paste the bits of paper on a sheet of paper.

4. Potato or sponge printing: Cut potatoes in half and cut some simple patterns into them or cut shapes from old sponges. Your children can then dip the potatoes or sponges into a tray of paint and print them onto paper. They can also make leaf prints. Collect leaves of different shapes. The children paint the leaves on one side then turn them over and print them onto paper.

5. Shape picture: Cut different shapes out of coloured paper and then use the shapes to create a picture. Allow your children to create a picture on their own. Give them crayons so that they can add details to their shape pictures.

How to use our stories in different ways

1. Tell the story to your child. Read and practise telling the story. Then use your voice, face and body to bring the story to life.

2. Read the story to your child. Talk about the pictures. Ask, “What do you think happens next?” or “Why do you think the character said or did that?”

3. Read the story with your child. Take turns to read the story together. Don’t correct their mistakes, and only help if they ask for it.

4. Listen to your child read. Listen without interrupting. Say that you enjoy hearing them read aloud to you.

5. Do the Get story active! activities. This should be fun for you and your child.
Motsheanong ke Kgwedi ya Iphumane o Thabela ho Bala!

May is Get-Caught-Reading Month!

In May, we have 31 days to remind people of all ages just how much fun it is to read! Here are some ideas on how you can get into the spirit of Get-Caught-Reading Month and start spreading the joy of reading at home.

1. Read comic books together
   Comic books are a great way to persuade even the most reluctant of readers to read. Comic books and graphic novels are fun to read aloud together, especially when you take turns and use different voices for different characters.

2. Make a list of books, magazines, stories and articles to read
   As a family, make a list of what each one would like to read during May. Then gather all the reading material into one place in your home. That way, each family member can find something that they want to read quickly and easily.

3. Drop everything and read
   Set aside a time every day when all family members will stop what they are doing, grab a book or story, and read! Include family members will stop what they are doing, grab a book or story, and read! Include

4. Create two cut-out-and-keep books
   As a family, make a list of what each one would like to read during May. Then gather all the reading material into one place in your home. That way, each family member can find something that they want to read quickly and easily.

Hodisa laeborari ya hao.

liletsetse dibuka tse sehwing-le-lo-ipolokelwa tse PED!

1. Ntshe leqepele la 1. ho isa ho la 12. Freetsong anoa
2. Leqepehadi le nang le mapepe anoa 5. 6. 11 le 12. ho lona le e tsu buka e le ngwe. Leqepehadi le nang le mapepe anoa 7. 8. 9. 10. ho lona le e tsu buka e ngwe.
   a) Mena leqepehadi ka halofo hadima mola wa matheba a matlala.
   b) Le mene ka halofo bo lehoma mola wa matheba o mafuelo.
   c) Seha hadima mola ya matheba o matshedu.

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 along the green dotted line.
   c) Cut along the red dotted lines.
Ideas to talk about:

- What is your “best thing ever”? Is it something that you will share with others?
- Look at the cover of this booklet. What do you think the story is about?

Muzi loves to build with his toys. But when he leaves them behind to travel to uGogo’s house, he discovers something very special about the world. And he learns something new about himself.

Ntho e kgahlisang ka ho fetisisa

Melissa Fagan • Lauren Nel

Stefania Origgi

Get story active!

- Draw a picture of something that you would like to build out of throwaway things. Under your drawing, write one or two sentences about what you have made and who you would give it to.
- What are some of the things that Muzi used to build a toy house for uGogo?
- Gather old buttons, beads, recyclable materials, clay or play dough and build your own little house.

Eba mahlahahlaha ka pale!

- Toroya sethwa bokile sa ntho eo o ka ratang ho e hahla o sebedisa dintho tse khalwane. Ka tasa ntho eo o e tsebaleng, ngola palela e le ngwane kapa tse pedi mabapi le le a o se o se Xa se lo man.
- Tse ding tsa dintho tsebo Muzi o di sebedisaلسح sa hahla Nkgono ntho yho hapa batho ke de? Tse ding tsa dintho tsebo Muzi o di sebedisaلسح sa hahla Nkgono ntho yho hapa batho ke de?
- Bokela dikonopo tsa kgape, afloha, dintho tse ka sebedisaلسح sa hahla Nkgono ntho yho hapa batho ke de? Bokela dikonopo tsa kgape, afloha, dintho tse ka sebedisaلسح sa hahla Nkgono ntho yho hapa batho ke de?

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.

Lots more free books at bookdash.org

Hello!
On the road to uGogo's, Muzi finds many things. Long things and short things. Round things and square things.

Muzi o fumana dintho tse ngata ha a le tseleng e lebang ha Nkgono. Dintho tse telele le dintho tse kgutshwanyane. Dintho tse rono le dintho tse sekwere.

He is sad. Without his toys, how can he build the best thing ever?

O hloname. O ipotsa hore na o tla kgona ho haha ntho e kgahlisang ka ho fetisisa jwang a se na dithoye tsa hae.

Muzi o rata ho haha dintho.

Muzi loves to build things. He dreams of building the best thing ever.

Muzi o fumana dintho tse ngata ha a le tseleng e lebang ha Nkgono.
Stories that Talk Money is HEARTLINES' third collection of stories about values. In this collection, the nine stories for children aged 6–12, focus on three money-related values: honesty, diligence, and the careful use of money and resources, or thrift.

Delightfully told and beautifully illustrated, from read-aloud stories for younger children, to the more edgy stories for older children, they are sure to be popular in homes and schools. In addition, the stories can be used, with the lightest of touches, to start conversations that will help children understand the worth of living out these values, both now and in the future.

Get story active!

★ What do you think of the way that the pawpaw seller behaved towards Pasi and Piwai? What else could she have said and/or done when she found that the boys had accidentally squashed the pawpaws?
★ Draw a picture of what you think the market looks like.
★ Act out what you think might have happened after the story ended. When Pasi and Piwai got home, what do you think their mother said and did?

Eba mahlahlahlaha ka pale!

★ O ka reng ka tselo eo morelosa wa diphopho o lêng o tšwana Pasi le Piwai ka yona? A ka be a tseng kopa o entšeng ha a lumana hore bashanyana baa ba pheneša tše diphopho tše hae ka phosa?
★ Tšoana setšwantha sa ka moo o naharanang hore mmaraka o shebala ka yona.
★ Tšwana tsha se o naharanang hore se le le sa esalha ka mma hore pale ena e fele. Ha Pasi le Piwai ba Nhla hae, o nahana hore mme wa bona o le a reng, a la o ešeng?

Superman wa Mmarakeng

Ignatius Mabasa • Joseph Mugisha

Ideas to talk about: If you could have superpowers, what would you like them to be? Would you use it to benefit people in need or yourself only? What would you do with your superpowers?

The market Superman

Ignatius Mabasa • Joseph Mugisha

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The market Superman

Ignatius Mabasa • Joseph Mugisha
Ke sa nahane le ho nahane, ka potlako ka hlobola hemplo le borukgwana mme mma rola dieta, yaba ke mo fa fosa. A di hlobola mme a tsamaya a ntse a halefile. Ka leha hae ke ntse ke tshwere Piwai ka letsoho. Ke se ke setse ke afelefele borukgwana ba ka hare ba Superman bo mmala o moputswa le o mofubedu.

Bana ba bang ba ha re feta ba tsheba borukgwana ba ka ka Superman, empa ha ke na taba le bona. Ntho eo ke e tsebang ke hore ke thabile. Ke a tseba hore mme wa ka o tla kgutlala le nna mmarakeng. Ha re le manoho, re tla lokisela bohlolela bona ba morekisi ya halefileng wa diphoopho. Empa ntho ya bohlokwa ka ho fetisisa ke hore ke pholositse ngwaneso e monyenyene.

Ke nna Superman wa mmarakeng!

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Ke nna Superman wa mmarakeng!

My name is Pasi. I am ten years old and live in Mhare in Zimbabwe. Our house is near the famous big vegetable market. Today we are having visitors and Mother is busy in the kitchen. I can smell the food from where I am playing with Piwai.

“Pasi, my boy, come here,” Mother’s voice calls from the kitchen. I go to her and she says, “I want you to go to the market and buy me a pumpkin. I want you back in five minutes.”

I nod as Mother hands me a bag and some money. I go to fetch my shoes. Piwai follows me and also starts putting on his shoes. Piwai is my brother. He is three years old. Piwai is deaf.
We walk past many stalls and heaps of smelly, overripe guavas. We see butternuts, peanuts and round-nuts. We see oranges. Another stall has a mountain of cabbages. Some people are selling green beans and green peas. There is broccoli and dirty cauliflower. Mother only likes cauliflower if it is snow-white.

There are also vendors selling red hot chilli. Piwai knows hot chilli because Father once gave him a little to taste and he coughed and cried until mother gave him some milk.

We can’t walk fast in the market. We keep bumping into people. Some people push us and some are rude. Piwai is small and some people don’t even see him, so I must act as his shield. I wish Mother had come to buy the pumpkin herself.

We are almost at the pumpkin stall. I can already see the huge mound of pumpkins.

Without thinking, I quickly remove my shirt, shoes and trousers and hand them to her. She grabs them and stomps off. I walk home still holding Piwai’s hand. All I have on are my blue and red Superman underpants.

Some children walk by and laugh at my Superman underpants, but I don’t even care. All I know is that I am happy. I know my mother will go back to the market with me. Together we will sort out the mess with the angry pawpaw seller. But the most important thing is that I have saved my little brother.

I am the market Superman!
“Pasi, Pasi,” Mother calls again. I turn around and see her standing at the door with Piwai. His cheeks are wet with tears. “You had better take Piwai. Please hurry.”

It is busy at the market. There are many people shouting and talking, buying and selling, lifting, carrying and pushing. Piwai laughs at the man selling oranges. He is juggling three oranges in the air. He shouts that anybody who can do the same can get a discount. I hold Piwai’s hand firmly as we weave through the forest of people.

I nod. The other people in the market seem not to notice this woman and what she is doing to us. I feel so small against this big, angry woman.

The woman snatches my bag and money. She counts the money and says it can only pay for one pawpaw. Then she says, “I will take this money and your brother until you bring money for the other pawpaw.”

I panic. I can’t leave Piwai behind. This woman is mean and Piwai is so small. I have to protect him. I won’t leave him behind. I feel hot and my heart pounds.

Madam, can I give you my shirt and shoes instead?” I manage to ask.

“Your shirt, shoes and trousers will do. That way I know you will bring my money.”

“Mofumahadi, ke ne ke kopa ho o fa hempe ya ka le dieta ho e na le ho siya ngwaneso,” ka kgona ho rialo.

“Siya hempe, dieta le borakgwe ba hao. Jwale ke tla tseba hore o da disa tšheletse ya ka.”

"Pasi, Pasi," Mme a boela a nkgwelehetsa. Ha ke hetla, ke mmona a eme monyako le Piwai. Marama a Piwai a tletse dikeledi. "Mpo tsamaye le Piwai. Potlakang." Ho a phethesela ka mmarakeng. Ho na le batho ba bangata ba hweleheditseng le ba buang, ba rekang le ba rekisang, ba phahamisang dintho, ba jereng dintho le ba sututsang dintho. Piwai o ipolaya ka ditsheho ha a bona monna ya rekisang dilamunu. O ntse a akgela dilamunu tse tharo moyeng a di fapantsha. O ntse a hweleditse a re mang kapa mang ya ka kgonang ho etsa sena, o tla rekisetswa ka theko e tlase. Ke tiisa letsoho la Piwai ha re ntse re tswedipana dipakeng tsa bongata bona ba batho.
Today Muzi is going to visit uGogo.

Kajeno Muzi o etela Nkgono.

By the riverside, Muzi finds more things. Soft things and pointy things. Green things and brown things.

Muzi o fumana dintho tse ding tse eketsehileng lebopong la noka.

Dintho tse bonolo le dintho tse motsu. Dintho tse tala le dintho tse sootho.

Once he built a shelter for his toys.

“Oh, Muzi,” laughs Gogo. “A new house for me. This is the best thing ever!”

“Helang Muzi,” ha rialo Nkgano a tsheha. “Ha e ka a nkahetse ntlo e ntjha tje. Ena ke ntho e kgahlisang ka ho fetisisa!”

But it wasn’t the best thing ever.

Empa eo e ne e se ntho e kgahlisang ka ho fetisisa.
It was a good thing.
But not the best.

Look, Muzi! We are here.

While UGogo bakes for
the hungry travellers... 

Muzi builds.

"Gogo, Gogo" says
Muzi. The world is full
can build.

"Nkgono, Nkgono," ke
Muzi eo.
"Lefatshe le tšo ke
Bona na ke
Bona na ke
Nkgono no ha lhoeng."
Use some thin wool and pins to match each flag to its country.
Hukung a phaphatha Kgolabolokwe ka mahetleng mme a keketeha. “Ehlile ke ho bala. Re ke ke ra ba matla kaofela jwalo ka wena.”

“Ah-e hle Mantswaitswai, o se ke wa hloka mosa tjena!” ha rialo Kgolabolokwe. “Sekgo o rata iketsa betere! Na o a itseba tjee hore ke kgokgo?”

kganyeng ya letsatsi. “Ha o a lokela ho bua le sekebekwa seno.”

“Madume Kgolabolokwe,” ha rialo Serurubele se ntse se isa mapheo a sona hodimo le tlase bososela. “Oho, Mmabotle ke eo a e tla … e re ke ikele. Re tla bonana ha morao.” Yaba o ile.


"Eba mahlahahlaha ka pale! Ka Vianne Venter ṁ Ditshwantso ka Heidel Dedekind

Talenta ya kgolabolokwe

Ka Vianne Venter ṁ Ditshwantso ka Heidel Dedekind

Geteleng ya magatletla letseto la dikolonyana la ho fumana dikgau le ne le fihloetse! Dikolonyana kaadleta di ne ya tshithile hlohlo. Ebe ke mang ya ho fapela kagau ya ho ba malo kagau ya ho ba lebelo ke ho fetisisa? Ke mang ya ho fapela kagau ya ho ba malo ke ho fetisisa kopa ha ba ya bohle la ka fetisisa? Haile moa ya shebele, dikolonyana di ne di ya homa le fise, di nite di kama manakana a tsana le ho ‘fihloetse bafution bafutse ka tsana, ha etha monerong le ho tsebenetse.

“Ho jwalo ya Kgolabolokwe, a re tseketo? Ha o a tsho? Ha o a tsho.” Ha boso Lephlele le tlhe le tlhokwe.

"O llo mma? Ha arabela Kgolabolokwe. “Ha ke na lebaloga ka le tsho ya mma? Ha ke lebelo jwalo ka wena Lephlele. Ha ho ya lebelo jwalo ka wena."\n
"O llo mma? Ha arabela Kgolabolokwe. “Ha ke na lebaloga ka le tsho ya mma? Ha ke lebelo jwalo ka wena Lephlele. Ha ho ya lebelo jwalo ka wena."\n
"O llo mma? Ha arabela Kgolabolokwe. “Ha ke na lebaloga ka le tsho ya mma? Ha ke lebelo jwalo ka wena Lephlele. Ha ho ya lebelo jwalo ka wena."\n
"O llo mma? Ha arabela Kgolabolokwe. “Ha ke na lebaloga ka le tsho ya mma? Ha ke lebelo jwalo ka wena Lephlele. Ha ho ya lebelo jwalo ka wena."\n
"O llo mma? Ha arabela Kgolabolokwe. “Ha ke na lebaloga ka le tsho ya mma? Ha ke lebelo jwalo ka wena Lephlele. Ha ho ya lebelo jwalo ka wena."\n
It was finally the day of the bugs' awards ceremony! All the bugs were feeling very nervous. Who would win the medal for strength or for being the best runner? Who would be named the prettiest or the cleverest? Everywhere you looked, little bugs were hanging up and down, combing their feelers and practicing their skills, showing off and getting grumpy with each other. That is, except Beetle.

"How? how? Aren't you nervous, Beetle?" Cockroach asked as he rushed up.

"Who, me?" replied Beetle. "There's nothing for me to be nervous about. I'm not fast, like you, Cockroach. No one's as fast as you."

"Really? That's very nice of you, Beetle," Cockroach smiled. "Uh oh, here comes Miss Beauty Pageant ... I'm off. See you later." And off he ran.

"You're not ordinary at all," said Butterfly, smiling.

"You're the best!" shouted Cockroach.

"You're not even an insect, you know." Then she added in a whisper, "She's not even an insect, you know." And with that, Butterfly fluttered off to check her make-up.

"I won't be winning anything, that's for sure," Beetle laughed. "I'm no beauty, like you, Butterfly. No one's as beautiful as you."

"Eh, Beetle, you are too sweet," said Butterfly flashing her prettiest smile. "Uh-oh, here comes Smart Pants!" Then she added in a whisper, "She's not even an insect, you know." And with that, Butterfly fluttered off to check her make-up.

Spider scuttled up to Beetle, muttering to herself, "... two plus two is four, four plus four is eight, eight plus eight is sixteen, sixteen ... Hela, Beetle! Say, but that butterfly has got an attitude! Doesn't she know she's just a gogga?"

"Oh, Spider," laughed Beetle. "She just likes to look good."

"It's not about looks, you know! It's about what you have up here!" said Spider, tapping her head. "I've been studying and studying. I really want to win the medal for being the cleverest bug. And you?"

"Oh, I won't be taking home any medals today. I'm not as clever as you, Spider. You're the cleverest bug of all!"

"Wow! Thanks for saying so! You're very kind ... Uh oh! Here comes Ant. I haven't got time for his muscle manoeuvres now. I'm off to study some more," said Spider, scuttling off.

Ant marched over, carrying a stone four times his size. Beetle got a fright as Ant dropped it on the ground with a loud thunk! "So, what did you think? I think I'm so clever, they can't say anything else!"

"Oh, Ant, don't be unkind!" said Beetle. "Spider just loves her books. We can't all be superstrong like you."

Ant dropped Beetle on the back, laughing. "I am really strong, aren't I? So, what special prize are you going to win today?"

"There's nothing really special about me, Ant," said Beetle sadly. "I'm not fast, or pretty, or clever, or strong. I'm just an ordinary bug."

"Well, I think you are a good ordinary bug," said Ant. "Maybe even the best ... Hey, it's almost time for the awards ceremony. Are you coming?" Ant marched off towards the rock where all the bugs had gathered for the awards ceremony, and Beetle scurried along beside him.

Everyone was quiet. Mantis held up the first medal. "This year's medal for the fastest runner, goes to ..." she announced. All the bugs gasped. Beetle dropped the loudest.

"The medal for the prettiest bug, ..." continued Mantis. "... goes to ... Butterfly! Everyone cheered. Beetle cheered the loudest.

"The medal for the cleverest bug goes to ... Spider!" announced Mantis. The crowd whooped. Beetle whooped even louder.

There was only one medal left. "The medal for the strongest bug goes to ... Ant!" Mantis smiled. All the bugs yelled and whistled and drummed their feet on the ground. Beetle grinned from ear to ear. She was so happy for her friends!

When everyone had quietened down, Mantis said, "Finally, this year we have a special medal ... the top prize, as voted for by all of you. This is the highest honour, the best award ... She looked around. Then her large eyes settled on one particular bug. One completely ordinary, unremarkable, nothing-special-about-her bug. "The highest honour, the best award and the biggest medal goes to ... Beetle."

Beetle almost fell over in surprise. "M-m-me?" she stammered. "But ... but I'm not the best at anything. I'm not special in any way." Beetle didn't understand. It must be a mistake, she thought. But all her friends were smiling at her, as if they knew something that she didn't.

"Dear Beetle," Mantis smiled. "The other bugs and I would like to award you this gold medal ... for being the kindest bug amongst us."

"You're the best!" shouted Cockroach.

"You're not ordinary at all," said Butterfly, smiling.

"You are special!" said Spider.

"You are one of a kind, Beetle! The only one like you! Your talent is kindness," explained Ant.

"But ... but anyone can be kind," said Beetle, confused.

"Exactly, Beetle," said Mantis. "Anyone can be kind, but only you choose to be kind all the time."

Then Beetle's friends picked her up, cheering as they carried her over their heads, all the way up to the top of the rock.

Beetle had never felt so special, or so happy, in all her life. And all she could whisper was, "How kind all my friends are!"

Get story active!

- Sometimes our gift is not about what we can do, but how we make others feel. What is your special talent?

- Can you remember what each insect was good at? Make a list of each insect in the story. Next to each insect's name, write down what they were good at.

- Now make a list of all the people in your home, and write down what each one is good at, including you!
1. Na o ka rarolla ditlhako tsee ho ngola mabitsa o meroha le ditholwana tseo Pasi le Piwai ba di boneng ka mmarakeng paleng ya Superman wa mmarakeng?

   a) O nahana hore batho baa ba fumanwe ba bala hokae?
   b) Jwale toroya sebaka seo o nahanang hore Nkgono le Josh ba bala ho sona!

2. a) Where do you think these people were caught reading?
   b) Now draw the place where you think Gogo and Josh are reading!

   Can you unscramble the letters to make the names of the vegetables and fruit Pasi and Piwai saw at the market in the story The market Superman?

   iwdavka ................................................................. saausgv
   olalfokwahi ............................................................ fauleliocrw
   kehbejhta ............................................................... acebabg
   vanmillu ................................................................. ragosen
   ohoibrko ................................................................. cliorocb
   mokpuo ................................................................. mkinupp

   saausgv
   fauleliocrw
   acebabg
   ragosen
   cliorocb
   mkinupp

   (b)