

NAL'IBALI

Lembe se ra hela!

Swikolo swi ta pfala ku nga ri khale swi tsema lembe, naswona wolowo wu ta va nkarhi wa leswaku vo tala va hina hi kota ku dzumba kahle na mindyangu ya hina na vanghana. I nkarhi lowu a hi wu rindze hi mahlongati wa ku humula loko lembe ri chaputa. Lowu i nkarhi wa lembe laha hi tshikaka vunhabyanhabya, hi nava milenge, hi hungasa hi ku endla swilo leswi swi hi tsakisaka.



The end of the year is near!

The school year is almost over and soon it will be that time of year when most of us are able to spend more time than usual with family and friends. It's time for that long-awaited end-of-year break. That time of year when we can all slow down a bit, relax and spend time doing more of the things we enjoy.

Khutaza vana va wena ku hlaya

Hi tshemba leswaku ku hlaya hi xin'wana xa swilo leswi u tsakelaka ku swi endla! Hambiloko u nga kumi nkarhi wo tala wa ku hlaya exikarhi ka lembe, holideyi ya December yi ku nyika nkarhi wo tala wo hlaya buku yin'we kumbe timbirhi. Tihandlakambirhi, loko u ri karhi u hlaya, u ta va u vekela vana va wena xikombiso lexinene!

Loko vana va wena va ku vona u hungasa hi ku hlaya buku, va dyondza leswaku ku hlaya i nchumu lowu swi tsakisaka ku wu endla. Va dyondza leswaku ku hlaya i nchumu lowu u nga hungasa ha wona. Kutani hi swiendlo ntsena u tikuma u ri xikombiso lexinene ngopfu eka vana va wena emhakeni ya ku hlaya, u va pfuna leswaku va rhandza ku hlaya vutomi hinkwabyo.



Motivate your children to read

Hopefully, one of things you enjoy doing is reading! Even if you don't get much time to read during the rest of the year, the December holiday offers a great opportunity to spend time with a good book or two. What's more, as you read, you'll be providing a positive example for your children!

When your children see you relaxing with a book, they learn that reading is something you do for pleasure. They learn that reading is something that can be done for leisure. And so, without even trying to, you are being a powerful reading role model for your children and helping them to become lifelong readers.

Hambi mi endla yini kwihi na kwihi laha mi nga ta va kona hi tiholideyi leti, navani milenge, mi tiphina hi nkarhi wo tsakisa lowu mi wu hetaka mi ri karhi mi hlamuselana ta khale!



Whatever you do and wherever you will be this holiday season, relax and have a fabulous, story-filled holiday!

Tsundzukani ta khale eswikhubyani swa n'wina!

Hanyingi ku va na swikhubyana swo tala hi nkarhi lowu wa lembe. Hina lava se hi nga ni malembe, ku na mikarhi leyi hi ehleketaka ndlela leyi hi swi tlangeleke hayona swikhubyana loko ha ha ri vatsongo. Sweswo swi vula leswaku ku ni timhaka leti hi nga ti hlamuselaka! Xana u tshama u ehleketa hi ku hlamusela vana va wena ta vuhlangi bya wena? Timhaka ta khale ti va pfuna ku lota vuswikoti byo vona swilo hi tihlo ra mianakanyo ni bya ku sweka mhaka. Ti va pfuna ku lota vutivi bya vona bya ririmi ni bya ku ehleketa. Naswona ku va hlamusela hi ta vuhlangi bya wena swi va pfuna ku twisisa matimu ya ndyangwa wa n'wina. Timhaka leti ti endla vana va twisisa leswaku i vamani naswona va huma kwihi.



Celebrate with stories!

Often there are also a lot of celebrations around this time of the year. There are times when we as adults think back to how we experienced these celebrations as children. That means that we have stories to tell! Have you ever thought about sharing these stories about your childhood with your children? Stories help them to develop their imagination and creativity. They help them to develop their language and thinking. And sharing the stories of your childhood helps to connect the generations of your family. These stories give children a sense of where they come from and who they are.

Hi ta va hi ri eku wiseni ku fikela hi February 2025. Endzhaku ka sweswo hi ta tlhela hi va swin'we etsimani ra Nal'ibali ra ku hlaya!

Loko swa ha ri tano, nghena eka www.nalibali.org u kuma mitsheketo ni rungula leri u nga tihungasaka hi ku ri hlaya.

We will be taking a break until February 2025. Join us then for more Nal'ibali reading magic!

In the meantime, visit www.nalibali.org to find stories and reading-for-enjoyment inspiration.



IT STARTS WITH
A STORY.
SWI SINGULA HI
NTSHEKETO.



Mbewu Ya Dyondzo!

Ku hlayela swihlangi na tincece (0-3 wa malembe)

Literacy Seeds!

Reading to babies and toddlers (aged 0-3 years)



Eka vatswari na vahlayisi va vana, xana mi ehleketa leswaku n'wana a nga dyondza ku vulavula loko ku nga ri na loyi a vulavulaka na yena? Vana va dyondza ku vulavula hileswi vanhu lavakulu va vulavulala na vona. Ku hlaya ni ku tsala swi dyondziwa hi ndlela goleyo, hikuva swi antswisa vutivi bya ririmi, ku fana na ku yingisela ni ku vulavula. Ku hlayela n'wana swi n'wi pfulela tindlela tin'wana ta ku dyondza ku vulavula, hi hala tlhelo u dyondza ku hlaya, a tiva leswaku tibuku i yini naswona hi nga endla yini ha tona.

Dear parents and caregivers of young children, do you think your baby would learn to speak if no one ever spoke to him or her? Babies learn to talk because older people talk to them. Learning to read and write are learnt in similar ways, because like listening and speaking, they are also part of language development. Reading to your baby offers her other opportunities to develop oral language, and she also starts her reading adventure, learning what books are about and what we can do with them.



Xana a ndzo tlanga hi nkarhi wa mina?

Ku hlayela xihlangi tibuku:

- * swi endla leswaku u tolovelana na xona.
- * xi kota ku dyondza ririmi.
- * swi lota vuswikoti bya xona byo anakanya.

Is it worth my time?

Sharing books with babies:

- * helps you bond with each other.
- * develops their language skills.
- * stimulates their cognitive development.

Tibuku leti tirhaka kahle hi ku ya hi malembe

Ku sukela kwalomu ka tin'hweti ta tsevu xihlangi xa wena xi nga tsakela tibuku leti nga na tinsimu ni swiphato.

Ku sukela kwalomu ka tin'hweti ta kaye swihlangi swo tala swi tsakela tibuku ta swifaniso leswi nga emakhadini, leswi pfukaka loko ku pfuriwa tluka, ni tibuku leti nga ni tikunupu leti humesaka mpfumawulo loko ti tshikeleriwa. Handle ko kanakana u ta xiya leswaku xihlangi xa wena xi sungula ku tolovelana ni leswi endlekaka ebukwini. Hi xikombiso, xi nga kombetela eka swilo leswi nga etlukeni kumbe xi ringeta ku ri phendla.

Exikarhi ka lembe rin'we na manharhu vuswikoti bya swihlangi na tincece byo twisisa ririmi na ku ri tirhisa byi kula hi xihatla. Swi tikomba va tsakela tibuku hinkwato, ku sukela eka tibuku ta vona to sungula ta swifaniso, ku katsa na leti nga ni mitsheketo.

U nga tshiki ku va ni nkarhi wo hlawuleka siku na siku wo hlaya ni n'wana wa wena, u hlawula tibuku to hambanahambana.



Best books at different ages

From about six months your baby may enjoy books that have songs and rhymes in them.

By about nine months many babies enjoy books with flaps, pop-ups and buttons that make sounds when you press them. You'll probably notice that your baby begins to engage more with what is going on in the book. For example, she might point to things on the page or try to turn a page.

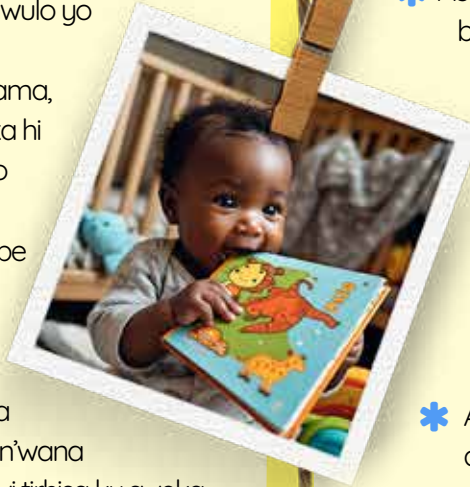


Between one and three years babies' and toddlers' ability to understand and use language increases dramatically. They seem to enjoy all the books from their first picture books as well as ones that have stories.

Continue to set aside a special time each day to read with your child, choosing a wider variety of books.

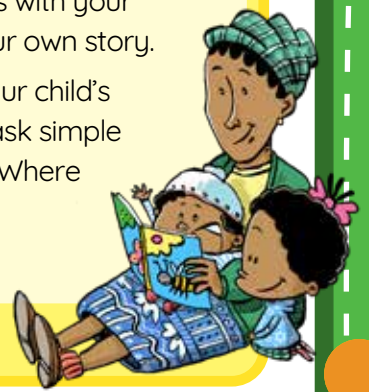
Swiringanyeto swa 10 swa ku hlaya ni xihlangi xa wena

- * Swi kahle ku hlawulela xihlangi haxin'we tibuku leti nga ni swifaniso swo twisiseka leswi nga ni mivala leji nga yelaniki (tanihi ya ntima ni yo basa) kumbe ta swinepe swa swikandza swa swihlangi.
- * Hlaya buku yin'we hi ku phindhaphindha. Ku phindhaphindha ni ku namahela mukhuva wun'we swi endla leswaku swihlangi swi titwa swi nga lahlelanga!
- * Nakambe u nga vula na swin'wana leswi nga tsariwangiki laha u hlayaka kona, ntsena loko wena na xihlangi mi tiphina hi buku ya kona.
- * Swa antswa ku xinga n'wana a ku fularhela ivi u khoma buku emahlweni ka yena.
- * U nga rivali ku komba n'wana wa wena leswaku wa n'wi vona loko u ri karhi u n'wi hlayela. Ku n'wi tswontswa ni ku n'wi vukarha loko u ri karhi u n'wi hlayela buku swi endla leswaku a languta ku hlaya na tibuku hi ndlela ya kahle.
- * N'wi hlayele marito u tlhela u vulavula hi leswi nga eswifanisweni. Vula mavito ya swilo swin'wana ni ya mivala.
- * Nakambe endla mipfumawulo yo tsakisa – hi xikombiso, 'mhoo' loko mi languta xifaniso xa homu. Swihlangi swi rhandza ku twa mipfumawulo yo hambanahambana!
- * Loko xihlangi xa wena se xi kota ku tshama, u nga xi nyika tibuku leti xi nga ti tirhisaka hi xoxe. Tibuku leti endlilweke hi khadibodo na lapi ti nga lumiwa, ti vambiwa, ti khomakhomiwa ni ku himeteriwa kambe ti nga onhaki!
- * Hlawula mintsheketo leji vulavulaka hi vana, mindyangu ni ya swilo leswi endlekaka siku na siku. Nakambe tirhisa tibuku ta swifaniso ntsena. Vulavula na n'wana wa wena hi swifaniso swa kona ivi mi swi tirhisa ku sweka ntsheketo wa n'wina.
- * Loko u ri karhi u hlaya buku, kombetela eka swin'wana ivi u vutisa n'wana swivutiso swo olova swo tanihi 'I mani loyi?', 'U le kwihi?' na 'I yini lexi?'



10 tips for reading with your baby

- * It's good to choose books for very young babies that have simple pictures with strong contrasts (like black and white) or photographs of babies' faces.
- * Read the same book over and over again. Repetition and routine make young babies feel secure!
- * You can also say different things than what is written on the page as long as you and your baby are enjoying yourselves with the book.
- * It's easiest to put your baby on your lap with her back against you and to hold the book in front of her.
- * Don't forget to give your baby some attention while you read. A kiss and a cuddle during book-sharing time helps to build a positive association with reading and books.
- * Read the words to her but also talk about what is in the pictures. Name some of the objects and colours.
- * Make lots of interesting sounds too – for example, 'moo' when you look at a picture of a cow. Babies love to hear different sounds!
- * As soon as your baby can sit, you may introduce books that can be used by your baby on her own. Board and fabric books can be chewed, pulled, patted and bashed without breaking!
- * Choose some stories that have other children in them as well as ones that are about family and everyday experiences. Use wordless books too. Talk about the pictures with your child and make up your own story.
- * As you read a book, draw your child's attention to something and ask simple questions like 'Who is that?', 'Where is he?' and 'What is that?'



Ku tirhisa mintsheketo ya hina hi tindlela to hambanahambana

1. **Hlamusela n'wana wa wena ntsheketo.** Hlaya ntsheketo kutani u praktisa ku wu hlamusela. Tirhisa rito, xikandza ni miri, u endla leswaku ntsheketo wu hanya.
2. **Hlayela n'wana wa wena ntsheketo.** Vulavulani hi swifaniso. Vutisa, "U ehleketa leswaku ku ta landzela yini sweswi?" kumbe "U vona onge hikwalahokayini mutlangi a vule leswi a swi vuleke kumbe ku endla leswi a swi endleke?"
3. **Hlaya ntsheketo ni n'wana wa wena.** Hlayani ntsheketo hi ku siyerisana. U nga n'wi lulamisilulamisi loko a nga hlayanga kahle, naswona n'wi pfune loko a kombela mpfuno ntsena.
4. **Yingisela n'wana wa wena a hlaya.** N'wi yingisele handle ko n'wi kavanyeta. N'wi byele leswaku swa ku tsakisa ku n'wi twa a ri eku hlayeni.
5. **Endlani leswi lavekaka eka Endla ntsheketo wu nyanyula.** Leswi swi ta mi tsakisa hinkwenu.

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.



Ku Sungula ka Tsimma ro Dyondzisa Vaakatiko ra Siyafunda

ehansi ka Masipala wa Msunduzi



The Siyafunda Community Learning Hub Programme

kicks off in Msunduzi Local Municipality

Ku sukela hi January 2024, Nal'ibali yi sungule ku kongomisa projeke ya malembe mambirhi yo hlukukisa tikhrexe leyi vuriwaka Tsimma ro Dyondzisa Vaakatiko ra Siyafunda, leri nga ta hela hi January 2026. Hi ku khomisana na MacMillan Education, Mikhulu Trust, Sunshine Association, Library Services na vurhangeri bya Masipala wa Msunduzi, tsimma leri ri simekiwe etindhawini ta ntlhanu ta Masipala wa Msunduzi. Tindhawu ta kona i:

1. Edendale
2. Miganga ya le N'walungwini ni le Nkaveni
3. Imbali
4. Vulindlela Dzonga
5. Vulindlela N'walungu



Vapfuniwa ni vapfuni va yingisele kahle eka Xiendlakalo xo Katsa Vapfuni eVulindlela N'walungu.

Beneficiaries and stakeholders listen attentively at the Vulindlela North Stakeholder Engagement Event.

Since January 2024, Nal'ibali has been leading a two-year ECD development programme called the Siyafunda Community Learning Hub Programme, ending in January 2026. Together with MacMillan Education, Mikhulu Trust, the Sunshine Association, the Library Services and management of the Msunduzi Local Municipality, this programme has been delivered within five areas of the Msunduzi Local Municipality. These areas are:

These areas are:

1. Edendale
2. Northern & Central Areas
3. Imbali
4. Vulindlela South
5. Vulindlela North



Vatirhi va Nal'ibali va kongomisa vana loko ku yimbeleriwa risimu ro tlhavula exinkhubyanini xo ava tibuku hi Siku ra Mandela eKhrere ya Nyakazani ekwaDeda, ni le Bantu Day Care le kwaMagwenyane, eVulindlela N'walungu.

Nal'ibali staff lead the children in a spirited song at the book distribution event on Mandela Day at Nyakazani Creche kwaDeda and Bantu Day Care kwaMagwenyane in Vulindlela North.

Matsima yo Dyondzisa Vaakatiko ya Siyafunda ma kuma nseketelo wa swa timali eka USAID



The Siyafunda Community Learning Hub Programme is funded by USAID

Eka tsimma leri hi tirha na vini va tikhrexe va 350, na vatswari na vahlayisi va vana va 800. Xikongomelo xa tsimma leri i ku:

- ☉ seketela ni ku tijisa matshalatshala yo dyondzisa vana va malembe ya 0-6 lava swi va tikelaka ku nghena tikhrexe ta ximfumo ni ku kuma vukorhokeri lebyi lavekaka.
- ☉ pfuna ku antswisa ku dyondzisa vana ku hlaya ni ku tsala va ha ri vatsongo ni ku tiva ririmi, hi ku endla swintirhwana swa ku tlanga.
- ☉ pfuna vana va tirhisa swirho swa miri leswaku va lunghekela ku sungula ku nghena xikolo.
- ☉ tijisekisa leswaku tsimma leri ri fambisiwa hi mihlangano ya vaakatiko va ndhawu hayin'we.
- ☉ nyika lava katsekaka tibuku, swiengetelo swa Nal'ibali swa tindzimi timbirhimbirhi, ni switlangisi swo pfuna vana ku dyondza.

Ku leteriwa ka vatswari na vini va tikhrexe se swi sungurile emitsindza ya kona naswona a va tikoti hi ku tsaka loko va vona tsimma leri ri va pfuna ku kuma vutshila byo antswisa madyondzisele ya vona ya vana lava ha riki vatsongo.

Ku tsundzukiwa ka Siku ra Mandela

Va ka Nal'ibali nakambe va hoxe xandla eku tlangeleni ka Siku ra Mandela hi ku nyikela hi tibuku ta 67 eka tikhrexe timbirhi ta le Vulindlela N'walungu.

Through the programme, we are working with 350 ECD practitioners and 800 parents and caregivers. The programme aims to:

- ☉ support and strengthen early childhood literacy for children between 0-6 years who have limited access to formal ECD facilities and services.
- ☉ help to increase and improve early literacy and language learning through play-based activities.
- ☉ help to develop children's gross motor skills to prepare them for school.
- ☉ to ensure that the programme is owned by the community structures within each area.
- ☉ supply participants with books, Nal'ibali bilingual supplements and play kit resources to support children's learning.

The training of parents and ECD practitioners has started in the hubs, and there is a lot of excitement as they see the programme benefitting them with skills to improve their children's early learning.

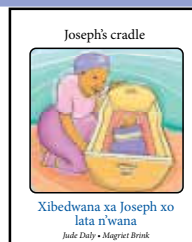
Mandela Day celebrations

Nal'ibali also contributed to Mandela Day celebrations by donating 67 books to two local ECD Centres in Vulindlela North.

Tiendlele layiburari ya wena.

Endla tibuku **TIMBIRHI** hi ku tsema u ti hlayisa

1. Susa pheji **5** ku fika eka pheji **12** eka xitatisi.
2. Maphepha ya mapheji ya **5**, **6**, **11** na **12** ma endla buku yin'we. Maphepha ya pheji **7**, **8**, **9** na **10** ma endla buku yin'wana.
3. Tirhisa rin'wana na rin'wana ra maphepha lawa ku endla buku. Landzelela swileriso leswi nga laha hansi ku endla buku yin'wana na yin'wana.
 - a) Petsa phepha hi le xikarhi eka nkhwanti wa ntima lowu nga tsemekatsemeka.
 - b) Petsa nakambe hi le xikarhi eka nkhwanti wa rihladza.
 - c) Tsema hi le ka nkhwanti wo tshwuka.



Xibedwana xa Joseph xo lata n'wana
Jude Daly • Magriet Brook



Xinkhubyanana xa tiya xa N'wathuku
Lethagomole I Bibe • Mame Kengelo

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.



Then Donkey walked in. Sheep walked in too. Pig followed Sheep. Hen felt very worried when she saw all the animals. Kutani N'wambhongolo a nghena. N'wanyi mpfu na gena a nghena. N'wangu live a landzela N'wanyi mpfu. N'wahuku a a karhatekile swinene loko a vona swiharhi leswi hinkwaswo.

Cow knocked on Hen's front door. "Hello, Hen," said Cow. "Come in, Cow," said Hen. "Here's your cup of tea." Cow walked into the house. N'wahomu u gongondzile engangweni wa le machweni wa N'wahuku. "Xewani, N'wahuku," ku vula N'wahomu. "Nghena, N'wahomu," ku vula N'wahuku. "Hi leji tiya ya wena." N'wahomu u ve a nghena endlwini.

Hen makes the best tea on the farm. When Hen invites Cow over for a cup of tea, she ends up with many more guests than expected!

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

★ ★ ★

N'wahuku a a endla tiya yo nandzihla epurasini. Loko N'wahuku a rhamba N'wahomu ku ta nwa tiya, u hetelele a ri na vaendzi vo tala kutlula lava a nga va langutela!

Ntsheketo lowu wu endlerive Nal'ibali hi ku kongoma hi xikongomelo xo pfuna vana va humesa vuswikoti bya vona hi ku hlamusela mitsheketo ni ku hungasa hi ku hlaya.

Get story active!

- ★ Draw a picture of a tea party with your friends. Look at old magazines or newspapers and cut out pictures of the food and drinks at your party. Paste the pictures on your drawing.
- ★ Play a memory game. Find pictures of all the animals in the story. Read the story again. Then, without looking at the story, arrange the animals in the order that they appear in the story.
- ★ Use clay or play dough to make models of the animals in the story. Retell the story using the models to act out their parts.

Endla ntsheketo wu nyanyula!

- ★ Dirowa xifaniso xa wena na vanghana va wena mi ri exinkhubyanini xa tiya. Languta timagazini ta khale kumbe maphephahungu ivi u tsemelela swifaniso swa swakudya ni swakunwa swa xinkhubyana xa n'wina. Namarheta swifaniso swa kona exifanisweni lexi u xi diroweke.
- ★ Tlangani ntlangu wa ku krema. Kuma swifaniso swa swiharhi hinkwaswo leswi nga entshekeweni. Tlhela u hlaya ntsheketo. Kutani xaxameta swiharhi hi ndlela leyi swi hlamuseriweke hayona entshekeweni, u nga langutanga ntsheketo.
- ★ Tirhisa vumba byinene kumbe bya vana u endla swifaniso swa swiharhi leswi nga entshekeweni. Tlhela u hlamusela ntsheketo hi ku firhisa swifaniso leswi swa vumba.

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



Nal'ibali i pfhumba ra rixaka ro hlayela ku tiphina ku tlhonthla ni ku simeka ntolovelo wo hlaya eAfrika-Dzonga hinkwaro. Ku kuma vuxokoxoko hi xitalo, endzela www.nalibali.org

Hen's tea party



Xinkhubyana xa tiya xa N'wahuku

Letlhogonolo I Riba • Manu Kongolo

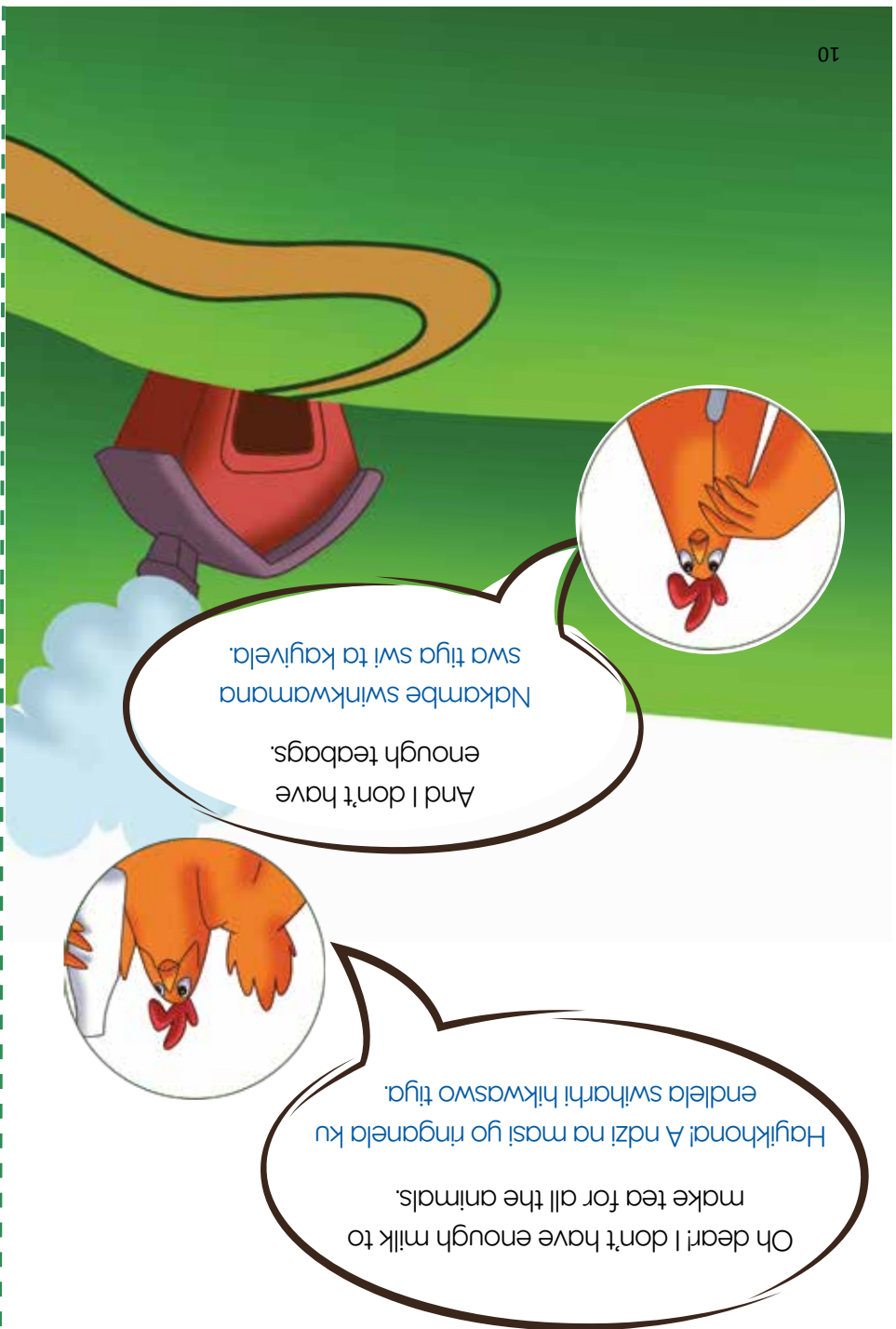
Ideas to talk about: Have you ever been to a tea party? Who hosted the party? What do you think should be eaten at a tea party?

Mianakanyo yo bula hayona: Xana u tshama u ya exinkhubyanini xa tiya? A wu rhambiwe hi mani? U anakanya leswaku ku fanele ku dyiwa yini exinkhubyanini xa tiya?

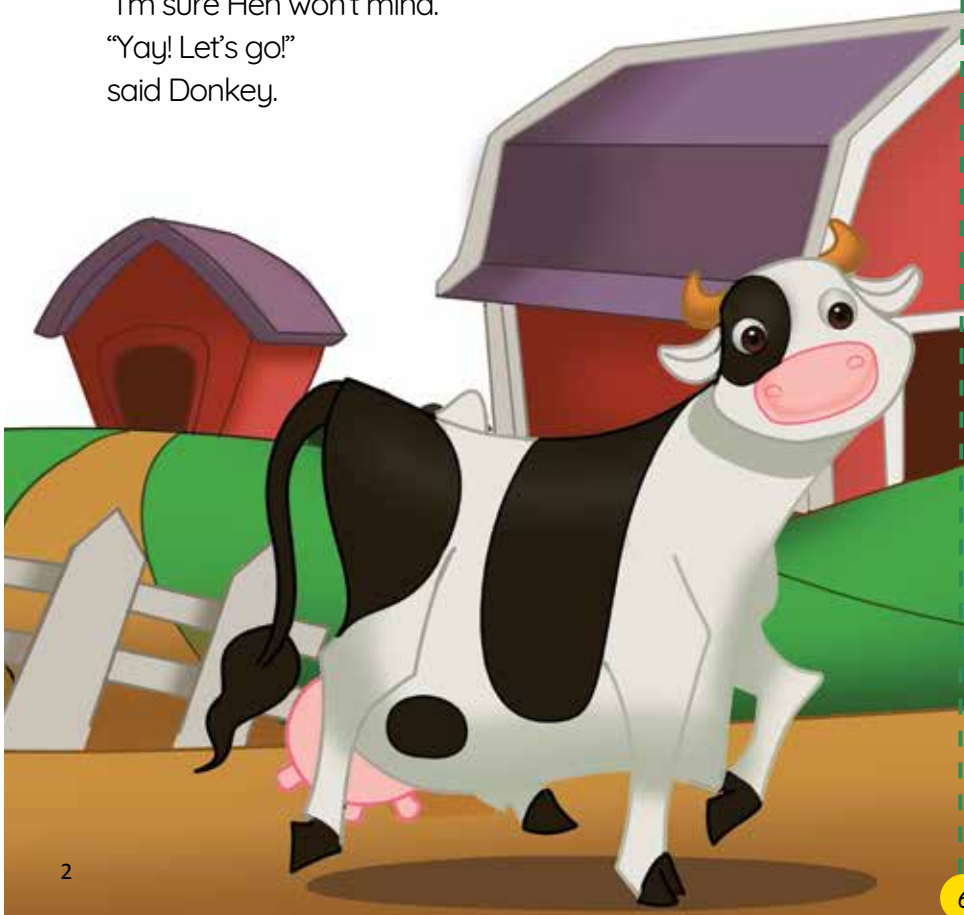
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On the way to Hen's house, they met Fig.
 "Hello, Cow. Hello, Donkey. Hello, Sheep. Where
 are you going?" asked Fig.
 "We are going to Hen for a cup of tea,"
 said Cow.
 "May I come too? Hen makes the best tea on
 this farm," said Fig.
 "Yes, you may come," said Cow. "I'm sure Hen
 won't mind."
 "Yay! Let's go!" said Donkey, Sheep and Fig.
 Endleeni go ya endlwini ya N'wahuku, va
 hlangua na N'wanguve.
 Xewani, N'wahomu. Xewani, N'wambhongolo.
 Xewani, N'wanguve. Xana mi ya kwihiti?" ku
 vitisa N'wanguve.
 "Hi ya nwa tija eka N'wahuku," ku vula
 N'wahomu.
 "Xana na mina ndzi nga ta? N'wahuku u endlo
 tija yo nandzha swihene epurasini ler!" ku vula
 N'wanguve.
 "Ina, u nga ta," ku vula N'wahomu. "Ndzza tshemba
 N'wahuku a nge vile!"
 "Huree! A hi fambeni!" ku vula N'wambhongolo.
 N'wanguve.



Hen lived on a big farm where all the animals
 were friends.
 She made the best tea on the farm.
 One day, Hen invited Cow to her house for a cup of tea.
 On the way to Hen's house, Cow met Donkey.
 "Hello, Cow. Where are you going?" asked Donkey.
 "I am going to Hen for a cup of tea," said Cow.
 "May I come too? Hen makes the best tea on this
 farm," said Donkey.
 "Yes, you may come," said Cow.
 "I'm sure Hen won't mind."
 "Yay! Let's go!"
 said Donkey.



Loko xibedwana xi ri na mavito ga dzana naswona Joseph a khaidibjile, ku fike ritshwa emugangeni ler! a ri hungiwa hi mheho ga matimba. Vavannuna va ringete ku ri timela ivi vavasati va yisa vana hinkwavo ni vaduhari endhawini leji hlayisekeke. Kambe loko va fika eka Joseph, humba a yi olele nkuma. Rifu rakwe ri khumbe hinkwavo emugangeni!



When the cradle had a hundred names on it and Joseph was an old man, a veld fire that was driven by terrific winds threatened the village. The men battled the flames while the women got all the children and the elderly to safety. All but Joseph. It was too late by the time they reached him. His death touched everyone.

When the old yellowwood tree is blown down, Joseph carves a beautiful cradle from it for his new baby daughter, Sisi. The cradle passes from baby to baby in their village, and each baby's name is carved on its sides. Then a fire sweeps through the village and kills Joseph. Years later, when Sisi is expecting her first grandchild, she looks for the cradle, but can't find it. She fears that it has also been destroyed ... but she's in for a wonderful surprise.



Loko murhi wa khale wa nxanatsi wu wa, Joseph u vafle xibedwana xo saseka hi wona a xi endlela n'wana wakwe la ha ku velekiwaka wa nhwanyana, Sisi. Xibedwana xi hundziseriwe eka vana van'wana emugangeni, naswona vito ra n'wana hawun'we ri tsariwe hi ku kovotliwa emathelo ya xona. Kutani ku fike ritshwa emugangeni, ri dlaya Joseph. Endzhaku ka malembe loko Sisi a langutele ku tswariwa ka ntukulu wakwe wo sungula, u lavana na xibedwana, kambe ko fana ni kwala. U anakanya leswaku na xona xi fanele hi dyiwe hi ndzilo ... kambe ku ve ni xihlamariso xo tsakisa.

Get story active!

- ★ Look at the illustrations more closely:
 - ☆ Pages 6 and 7: Can you see Sisi? What is she doing? Can you see where her mother and father are? What are they doing?
 - ☆ Pages 8 and 9: What can you see in this picture?
 - ☆ Pages 12 and 13: Do you think the people in the village are happy to have the cradle back? How can you tell? Can you see all the names on the cradle?
- ★ Use paper and sticky tape to make a cradle and a baby to put inside it. Use the cradle and baby to tell your own story.

Endla ntsheketo wu nyanyula!

- ★ Nyangisisa swifaniso kahle:
 - ☆ Matluka 6 na 7: Xana u kota ku n'wi vona Sisi? U endla yini? Xana u kota ku vona laha mana wakwe va tata wakwe va nga kona? Va endla yini?
 - ☆ Matluka 8 na 9: U vona yini exifanisweni lexi?
 - ☆ Matluka 12 na 13: Xana u ehleketa leswaku vanhu va le mugangeni va tsaka hi ku vuyisiwa ka xibedwana? Swi tikomba njhani? Xana u kota ku vona mavito hinkwawo exibedwanini?
- ★ Tirhisa phepha na selothepi u endla xibedwana na n'wana ivi u n'wi lata eka xona. Tirhisa xibedwana na n'wana ku hlamusela ntsheketo lowu u tiswekeleke wona.

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



Nal'ibali i pfhumba ra rixaka ro hlayela ku tiphina ku tlhontlha ni ku simeka ntlovelo wo hlava eAfrika-Dzonga hinkwaro. Ku kuma vuxokoxoko hi xitalo, endzela www.nalibali.org

Joseph's cradle



Xibedwana xa Joseph xo lata n'wana

Jude Daly • Magriet Brink

Ideas to talk about: What do you think happens in this story? Do the people you know who have babies use a cradle for the baby to sleep in? Where else do people place their babies when the babies sleep?

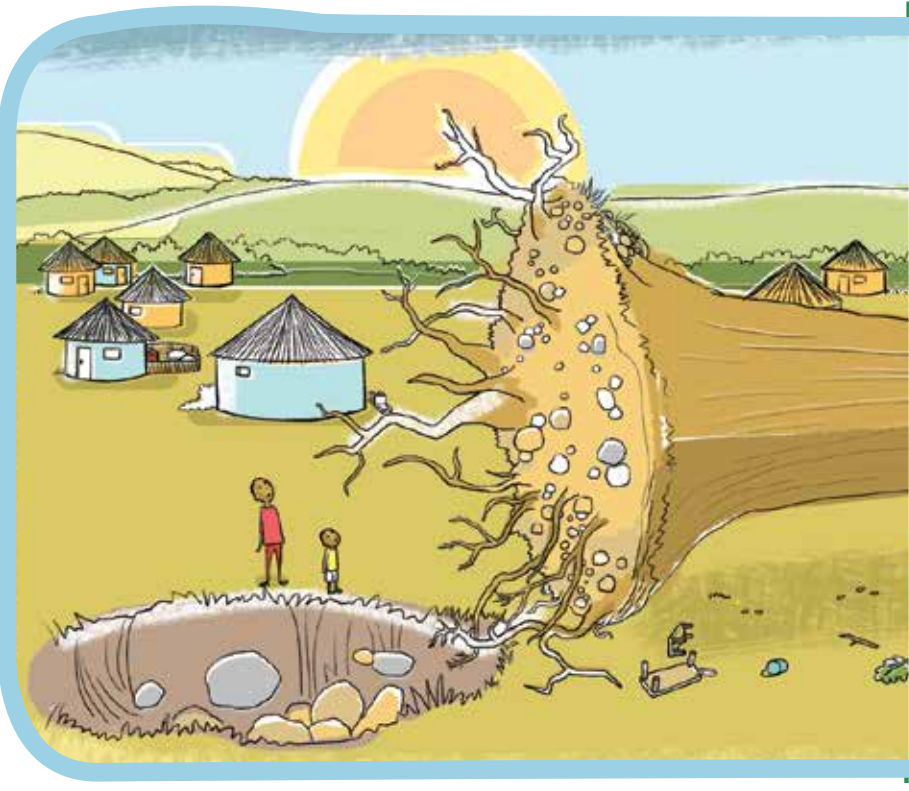
Mianakanyo yo bula hayona: U ehleketa leswaku ku endleka yini eka ntsheketo lowu? Xana vanhu lava u va tivaka lava nga ni swihlangi va swi lata eswibedwanini? Hi kwihi kun'wana laha vanhu va lataka kona swihlangi leswaku swi etlela?

N'wana un'wana na un'wana la ha ku velekiwaka emugangeni a latlwa exibedwanini xa Joseph. Kutani a tsala mavito ya vona hi vukheta hi ku ma kovotla kunene eka nxxaxamelo lowu a wu ya wu kula emathelo ka xona.



Ku fana na vadaki hinkwavo va munganga, Sisi u tinkyike nkarhi a puxa yindlu, a lunghisa na ku basisa ndhawu endzhaku ka ritshwa. Kutani a ku hundze nkarhi loko a ta tsundzuka xibedwana xa tata wakwe. Xana a xi ri kwihl? Xana a xi tirhisa hi un'wana? Kambe a xi nga ri kona emugangeni! Lexi vavisa, swi nga endleka na xona xi djiwe hi ndzilo. Kutani ntukulu wa Sisi, loyi a ta velekiwa loko n'weti wu thwasa, a nga ta etlela eka xona.

Like the rest of the village, Sisi spent her time rebuilding, fixing and cleaning up after the fire. So it was a while before she thought of her father's cradle. Where was it? Was it being used? But no one in the village had it. Sadly, it too must have been lost to the fire. Now Sisi's grandchild, due by the next full moon, would never sleep in it.



Shortly before Sisi was born, a terrific wind brought down the old yellowwood tree that had, it seemed, stood in the village forever. The loss was felt by everyone. Never again would children swing from its branches and never again would people find shelter from the hot sun in its dappled shade.



Kambe emgungeni lowu va akelaneke na wona, n'wana wa jaha wa Themba a a kula hi ku hatlisa. Ana se xibedwana lexi yena Themba a nga tshama a etlela eka xona a nga ha ringani eka xona. Kutani u mbuwetele n'wana wakwe ro hetela eka xona a n'wi etlisa. Joseph u n'wi kombise musa hi ku n'wi pfumelela a teka xibedwana emgungeni wa ka vona a ya na xona eka vona. Kutani sweswi a fanele a xi tlherisa.

But, in a neighbouring village, Themba's baby son was growing fast. Already he had outgrown the very cradle that Themba had once slept in. So, for the last time, he rocked his son to sleep in it. It had been kind of Joseph to let him take the cradle out of the village. Now it was time to take it back.



That night Sisi stood and watched as an almost full moon rose high in the sky. Soon a newborn baby, Joseph's first great-grandchild, would be rocked to an African lullaby in a beautiful yellowwood cradle. "Thula thula, Thula baba, Thula sana."

Hi vusiku byebyo Sisi u yime a hlalela loko n'weti lowu se a wu lava ku thwasa wu tlakuka wu ya ehenhla exibakabakeni. Ku nga ri khale a ku ta tswariwa ntukuluxinguwe wo sungula wa Joseph, loyi a a ta latiwa exibedwanini xa nxanatsi wo saseka, a mbuweteriwa hi risimu ra le Afrika. "Thula thula, Thula baba, Thula sana."

All too soon, Sisi outgrew the cradle, and it was passed to a neighbour for his newborn baby. A tradition had begun. Each newborn baby in the village slept in Joseph's cradle. Then, with great care, he would add their name to the growing list carved on its sides.



Loko Sisi a ri kusuhi ni ku velekiwa, mheho ya matimba yi wise nxanatsi wa khale lowu a wu vonaka ku ri wona murhi wo sungula emugangeni. Muganga hinkwawo a wu titwa wu lahlekeriwe ngopfu. Vana a va nga ha ta kota ku ncikinyancikinya emarhavini ya wona naswona vanhu a va nga ha ta kuma ndzhuti wa wona loko dyambu ri vavula ni vusokoti.

Loko Sisi a velekiwa, a latlwa xibedwanini lexi, a mbuweteriwa hi risimu ra le Afrika ro khomisa vuhongo leri nge, "Thula thula, Thula baba, Thula sana."



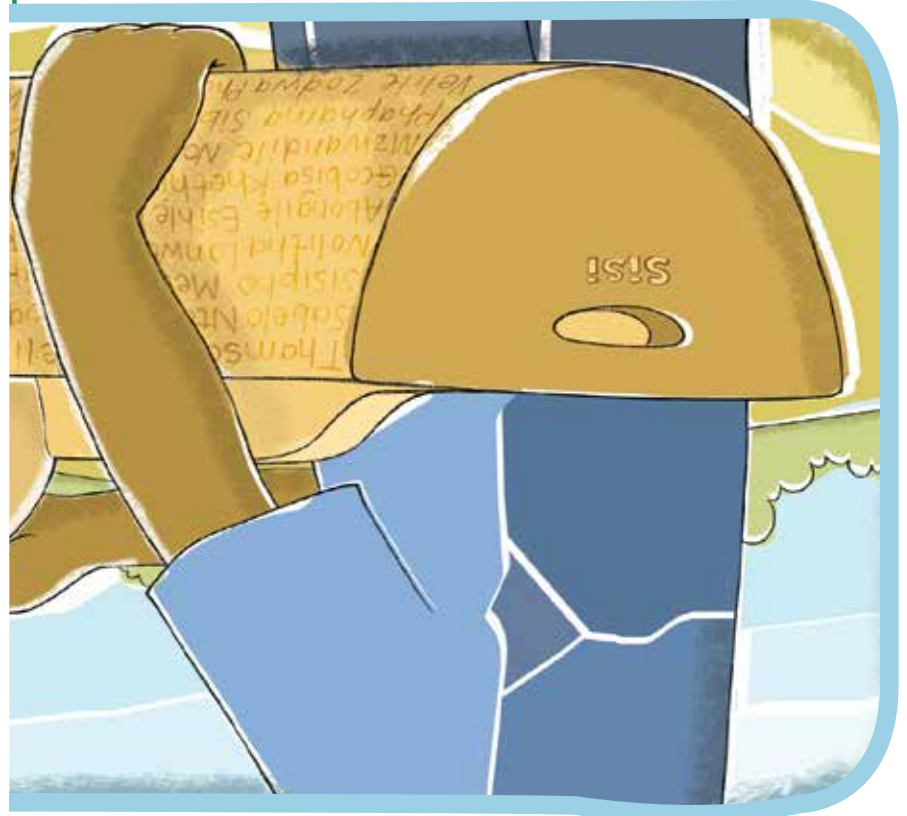
And when Sisi was born, it was in this cradle that she was rocked to an African lullaby, "Thula thula, Thula baba, Thula sana."



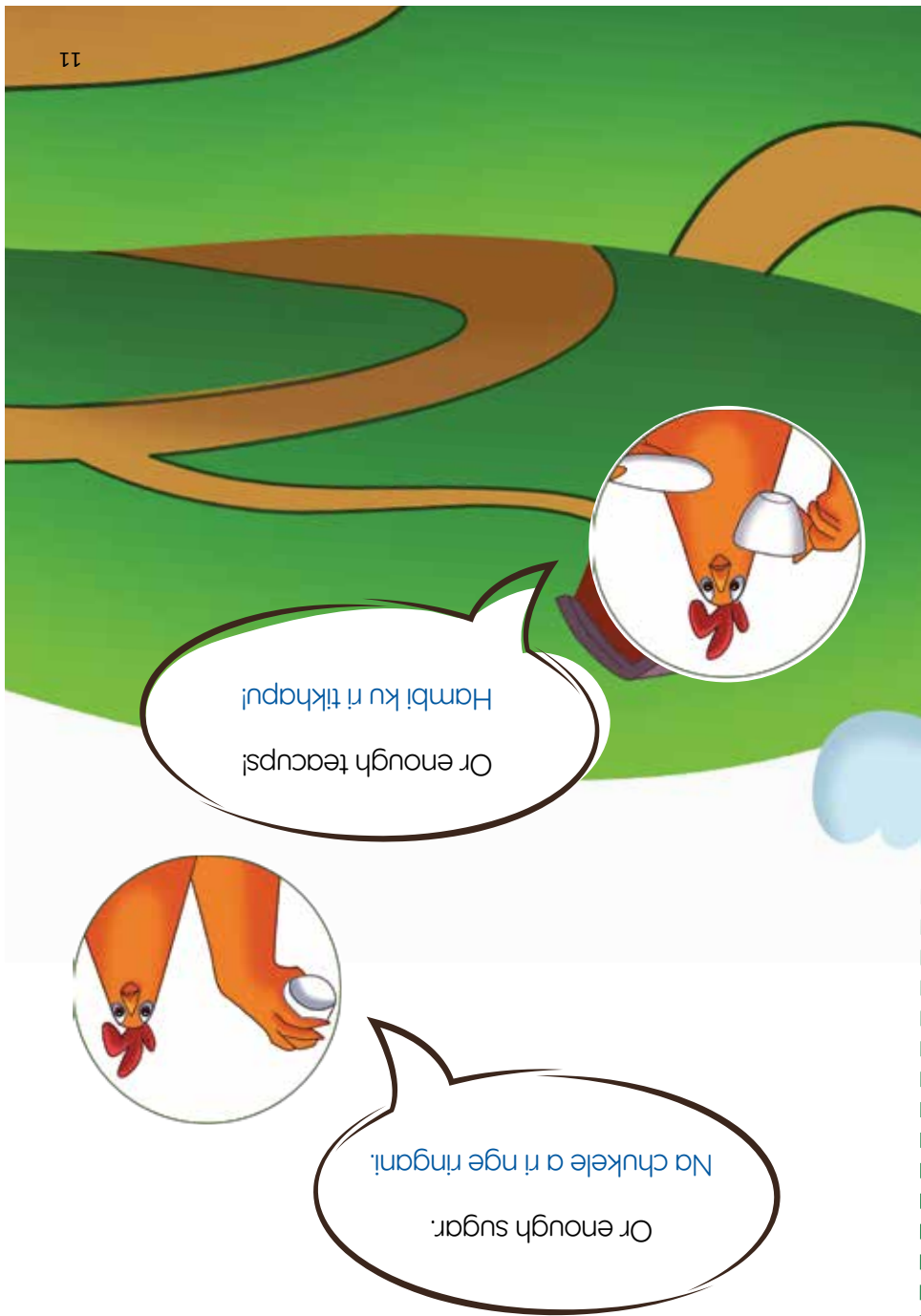
But Sisi's father, Joseph, was determined that the old tree should not be forgotten and so he set about carving a cradle from its beautiful wood.

Kambe Joseph tata wa Sisi a a nga swi lavi leswaku murhi wolowo wa khale wu rivariwa kutani u sungule ku vatla xibedwana xo lata n'wana hi nsinya wa wona xo saseka.

The next day, to the sounds of ululating and the stamping of feet, Themba returned the cradle to the village, and to Sisi. On its sides, there were now a hundred and one babies' names, and on the headboard, carved with great care, just one name ... Joseph.



Hi siku leri landzelaka, Themba u ttherisele xibedwana eka va Sisi, ku ri karhi ku biwa mikulungwana, ku giyiwa. Ematlhelo ka xona se a ku ri na mavito ya swihlangi swa 101, kasi enhlokweni a ku vatliwe vito rin'we ntsena hi vukheta lebyikulu ... Joseph.



Then they also brought teaspoons and plates ... and biscuits and cake to put on the plates.

“Oh dear! Now there’s too much of everything!” said Hen.

“Let’s have a tea party!” said Cow.

So Hen made tea for all the animals and they had the best tea party!

Hiloko swi tisa na swilepulana na tipuleti ... na mabisikitsi na khekhe leswaku ku dekiwa tafula.

“Hayikhona! Sweswi ku na swilo swo tala laha!”

Ku vula N’wahuku.

“A hi endleni nkhuvo wa tiya!” ku vula N’wahomu.

Kwalaho hiloko N’wahuku a endlela swiharhi hikwaswo tiya kutani swi va na nkhuvo wa tiya lowo saseka swinene!



N’wahuku a a tshama epurasini lerikulu laha swiharhi hikwaswo a swi ri vanghana. A a endla tiya yo nandziha ngopfu epurasini. Siku rin’wana, N’wahuku u rhambe N’wahomu leswaku a ta nwa tiya. Endleleni yo ya endlwini ya N’wahuku, N’wahomu a hlangana na N’wambhongolo.

“Xewani, N’wahomu. Xana u ya kwihl?” ku vutisa N’wambhongolo.

“Ndzi ya nwa tiya eka N’wahuku,” ku vula N’wahomu.

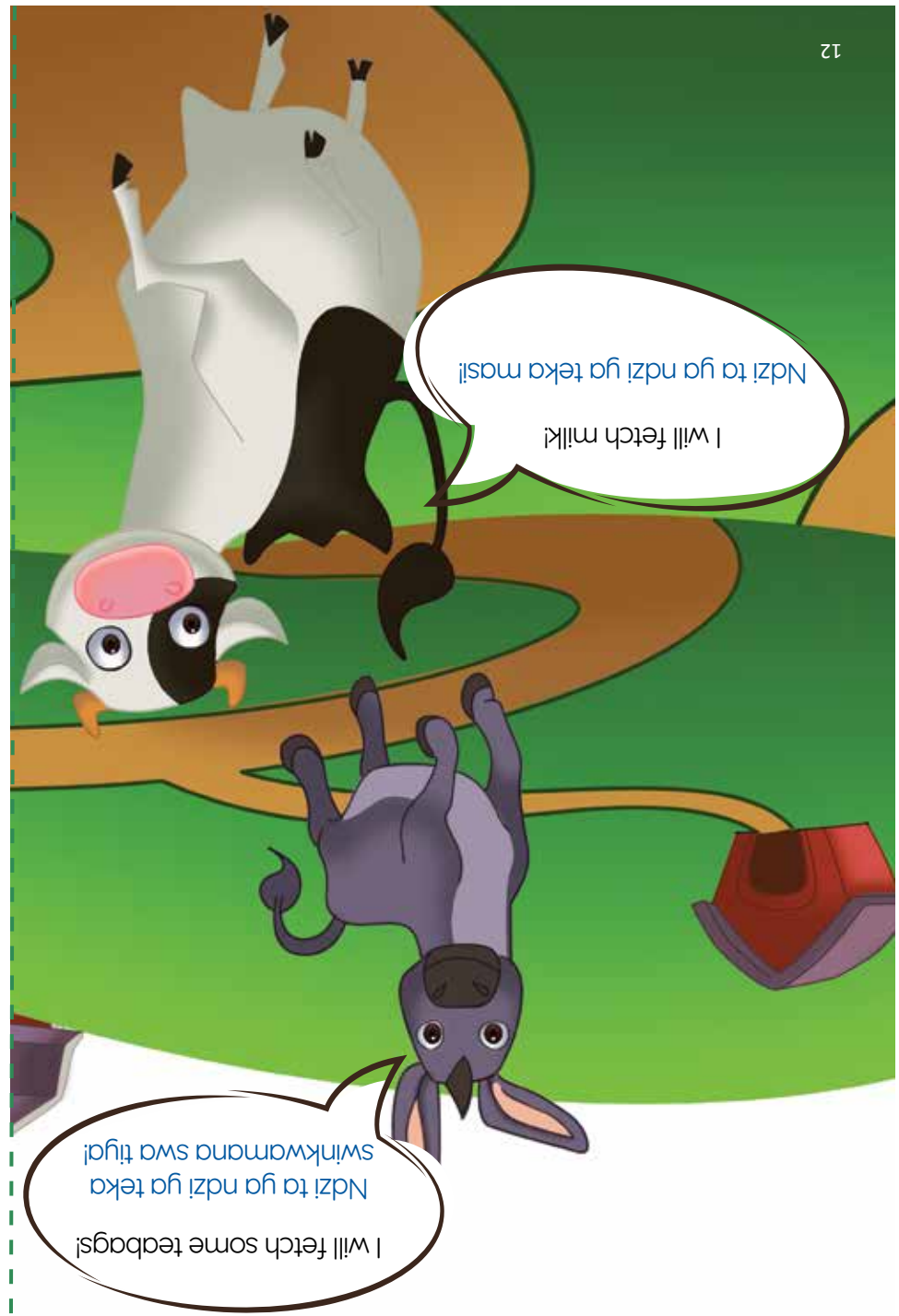
“Xana na mina ndzi nga ta? N’wahuku u endla tiya yo nandziha swinene epurasini leri,” ku vula N’wambhongolo.

“Ina, u nga ta,” ku vula N’wahomu. “Ndza tshemba N’wahuku a nge vileli.”

“Hurre! A hi fambi!” ku vula N’wambhongolo.



On the way to Hen's house, they met Sheep.
 "Hello, Cow. Hello, Donkey. Where are you going?" asked Sheep.
 "We are going to Hen for a cup of tea," said Cow.
 "May I come too? Hen makes the best tea on this farm," said Sheep.
 "Yes, you may come," said Cow. "I'm sure Hen won't mind."
 "Yaji! Let's go!" said Donkey and Sheep.
 Endleleni go ya endlwini ya N'wahuku, va hlangane na N'wanyimphu.
 "Xewani, N'wahomu. Xewani, N'wambhongolo. Xana mi ya kwihit?" ku vutisa N'wanyimphu.
 "Hi! ya nwa tiya eka N'wahuku," ku vula N'wahomu.
 "Xana na mina ndzi nga ta? N'wahuku u endla tiya go nandzha swinene epurasini lerit," ku vula N'wanyimphu.
 "Ina, u nga ta," ku vula N'wahomu. "Ndza tshemba N'wahuku a nge villet."
 "Hurre! A hi fambeni!" ku vula N'wambhongolo na N'wanyimphu.



Timfanelo ta 12 ta n'wana

12 rights of the child



Afrika Dzonga ri tlangela Siku ra Vana eTikweni hi Muggivela wo sungula wa November.

South Africa celebrates National Children's Day on the first Saturday in November.

Vana hinkwavo va ni timfanelo leti, swi nga yi hileswaku i vamani, vatswari kumbe mindyangu ya vona i vamani, va pfumela eka yini kumbe va endla yini. N'wana a nga fanelanga a khomiwa hi ndlela yo pfumala vululami hi xivangelo hambu ku nga va xih.

All children have these rights, no matter who they are, who their parents or families are and what they believe or do. No child should be treated unfairly for any reason.

- 1.** N'wana i munhu wihhi na wihhi wa malembe ya le hansi ka 18.
A child is any person under the age of 18.


- 2.** Loko vanhu lavakulu va endla swiboho, va fanele va ehleketa hi ndlela leyi swiboho swa vona swi nga ta khumba vana hayona, kutani va endla leswi nga swinene eka vana.
When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children and do what is best for children.


- 3.** Loko vana va tswariwa, va fanele va tsarisiwa va tlhela va nyikiwa vito leri nga ta amukeriwa ximfumo hi hulumenthe.
When children are born, they must be registered and given a name that is officially recognised by the government.


- 4.** Loko swi koteka, vana a va fanelanga va hambanisiwa na vatswari va vona, handle ka loko va nga khathaleriwa kahle. Va fanele va tiva vatswari va vona, va tlhela va khathaleriwa hi vona.
Whenever possible, children should not be separated from their parents unless they are not looked after properly. They should know their parents and be looked after by them.


- 5.** Tihulumendhe ti fanele ti tiyisekisa leswaku n'wana hawun'we u sirheleriwa a tlhela a khathaleriwa hi vatswari vakwe kumbe vanhu lava nga ni vutihlamuleri.
Governments must make sure that every child is protected and looked after by their parents or responsible people.


- 6.** N'wana un'wana ni un'wana u ni mfanelo yo nyikiwa xindzhuti.
Every child has the right to privacy.


- 7.** N'wana un'wana na un'wana loyi a nga ni vulema u fanele a tsakela vutomi hilaha swi nga kotekaka hakona ku fana ni van'wana vanhu.
Every child with a disability should be able to enjoy the best possible life in society.


- 8.** N'wana un'wana ni un'wana u na mfanelo yo kuma dyondzo.
Every child has the right to an education.


- 9.** Vana va ni mfanelo yo tirhisa ririmi ra vona, ndhavuko na vukhonger. Children have the right to use their own language, culture and religion.


- 10.** N'wana un'wana na un'wana u na mfanelo yo humula ni ku tlanga.
Every child has the right to rest, relax and play.


- 11.** Vana va ni mfanelo yo kuma vutshunguri, swakudya leswi nga ni rihanyo, swiambalo, ndhawu yo tshama eka yona leyi baseke yi tlhela yi hlayiseka.
Children have the right to health care, healthy food, clothing and a clean, safe place to live.


- 12.** Vana va ni mfanelo yo sirheleriwa eka mixaka leyin'wana hinkwayo ya ku khomiwa hi ndlela yo biha.
Children have the right to be protected from all kinds of exploitation.





Ku yiviwa ka tinyiko ta Khisimusi

Hi Bradley Paulse ■ Swifaniso hi Clyde Beech



Khale ka khaleni, exidorobanini xo rhula xa Sutherland, vafana vambirhi, ku nga Kurt na Sandiso, va te na rhengu ra vutlhari ra Khisimusi.

Eka lembe ra le mahlweni ka rero, a va tikhome kahle ngopfu, kambe lexi va hlamariseke xi tlhela xi va nyangatsa, hileswi Bava Khisimusi a a nga va siyelanga nyjiko ehansi ka murhi wa Khisimusi. A va lava leswaku swi nga tlheli swi endleka lembe leri.

"Kurt," ku vula Sandiso a khwanyanise na mombo, "leswi nga endleka n'wexemu a swi na nhloko na ncila! A hi tikhome kahle, kambe hi kume yini? Doo, lutho, niks!"

Kurt u pfumele hi nhloko, mahlo yakwe ma ri karhi ma hatimela, ma komba leswaku u na miehleketo ya ku phungela. "Sandiso, ndzi ehleketa leswaku hi endla swin'wana hi lwa ni vukanganyisi lebyi!"

Hiloko vafana lava vambirhi va sungula mano ya vona. A va ri ni vutshila byo endla swilo naswona va endle swilo swo hlamarisa swinene laha tata wa Kurt a tirhelaka kona. Nchumu wo hlamarisa eka hinkwaswo leswi va swi endleke a ku ri maginete leyikulu ya matimba!

"Aha, Sandiso, lexi xi ta tirha! Hi ta tirhisa maginete ya hina ku khoma Bava Khisimusi, kutani u ta hlala hi xin'wexin'we leswaku ha yini hi nga kumanga tinyiko lembe leri nga hundza!" ku vula Kurt, mahlo yakwe ma pfuleke ma hehela hi ku nyanyuka.

Hi vusiku bya le mahlweni ka Khisimusi, vafana lava vambirhi va veke maginete ya vona ya matimba ejarateni ra yindlu ya ka va Sandiso. Hiloko va khandziya elwangwini va rindza Bava Khisimusi. Havambirhi a va ri na swibalesa swa glu, leswi a va ta swi tirhisa loko swi lava leswaku va namarheta Bava Khisimusi eka nchumu wokarhi hi glu. Vafana a va tijimisele ku n'wi tengisa mayelana na nsele wakwe.



Exibakabakeni xa munyama ni vusiku, va vone nchumu lowu tsayitelaka. Wu sungule ku ya wu kula, wu tshinela hakatsongotsongo. "Hi loyi a taka!" ku hlevetela Sandiso a pfule mahlo hi ku hlalala.

Maginete ya vafana yi kombeteriwe eka nchumu lowu tshinelaka. Kambe nchumu wa kona a wu nga yelani helo na swifaniso leswi va tshameke va swi vona swa xigolongana xa Bava Khisimusi. Kahlekahele, a wu vonaka wu ri dyilori ledjikulu dyo tshwuka ledji nga ni sosara leyikulu elwangwini.

Kurt u swinye matihlo a languta kahle, a ri karhi a titshuva nhloko. "Xana i xigolongana xa Bava Khisimusi lexi? Kasi ku endleka yini?"

Maginete yi koke nchumu lowu wo tshwuka wu tshinela wu fika wu yima ejarateni ehansinyana ka lwangu ra vhurandi ya yindlu laha vafana a va ri kona. Va xikile elwangwini matsolo ma ri karhi ma gudlagudla, ivi va nyandlamela kunene va tshinela edyilorini. Sosara lexi nga elwangwini ra lori a yi languteka ku fana na xibamubamu. Loko vafana va hlometela endzeni ka nhloko ya lori, va vone mihlolo. Bava Khisimusi na swidajana swakwe a va phasiwe hi tinete. A va tshombonyoka va tikama swi vava leswaku va tintshunxa, loko switaswifamba swimbirhi swo koma swi yime eka bonete ya lori swi va langute hi fasitere ra le mahlweni.

"Kasi ku endleka yini la?" ku vutisa Sandiso hi ku hlevetela.

Loko switaswifamba swi hundzuluka swi va languta, Kurt na Sandiso va swi kombetele hi swibalesa swa glu. "Vhuma ndzi ku teka!" ku huwelela Kurt a ri karhi a tshikelela xibalesa xakwe xa glu, ivi ku huma glu yo tala yi rhwala switaswifamba leswiya yi swi namarheta eka sosara leyikulu ehenhla ka lori.

Hiloko Kurt na Sandiso va ntshunxa Bava Khisimusi na swidajana swakwe eka tinete. Sandiso u vutisile, "Kasi ku endleka yini la, Bava Khisimusi?"

Bava Khisimusi a a tsake na swikunwana loko a ntshunxiwe etineteri. U tikhome dyikhwiri dyakwe ivi a sungula ku hleka a tiphina. "Kahlekahele swigevenga leswi swi ta hi le Mars. Lembe rin'we eMars ri ringana ni malembe mambirhi ya laha Misaveni. Kutani swigevenga leswi swi vone leswaku a swi nge swi koti ku rindza Khisimusi ra swona, kutani swi tshamela ku yiva tinyiko ta laha Misaveni hi nkarhi wa Khisimusi!"

Kurt na Sandiso va langutanile. "Bava Khisimusi, na hina a hi ehleketa ku yiva tinyiko hinkwato, hikuva a hi kumanga nchumu n'wexemu," Kurt a tiphofula.

Bava Khisimusi u lo n'wayitela. "Ma swi tiva leswaku a swi koteki ku lunghisa swo biha hi swo biha, a swi tano ke?" ku vutisa yena.

"Ha swi tiva," ku hlalula Kurt na Sandiso, va khomiwe hi tingana.

Hiloko Bava Khisimusi na swidajana swi bohelela swigevenga leswiya swo huma Mars eka xibamubamu xa swona. "Hatlisani mi famba, makhamba lawa! Enkarhini lowu taka, mi rindza Khisimusi ra n'wina!" ku huwelela Bava Khisimusi loko xibamubamu xi nyamalala exibakabakeni nivusiku.

Bava Khisimusi u hundzuluke a languta Kurt na Sandiso hi ku n'wayitela lokukulu. "Majaha ya mina, namuntlha mi kombise moya wa ntijiso wa Khisimusi. Mi yi lwile mi ponisa Khisimusi leswaku ri tlangeriwa hi vanhu hinkwavo eMisaveni."



Kurt na Sandiso va pfumele hi tinhloko swi nyawula. "Kambe Bava Khisimusi, hi nga endla yini leswaku u hi rivalela? A hi lavi u hi tsala ebukwini ya ntimba ya lavo phungela."

Bava Khisimusi u n'wayiterile ivi a va bambatela enhlaneni. "Swi nga va njhani mi va masocha ya nkarhinyana ya Bava Khisimusi? I vaaki va le Mars ntsena lava ringetaka ku yiva tinyiko. Mi nga va mpfuno lowukulu hi swilo swa n'wina swa vutshila ni hi vurhena lebyi mi nga na byona!"

Mahlo ya Kurt na Sandiso a ma hatima kunene. "Sweswo swi ta va kahle ngopfu! Hi nga swi tsakela ku ku pfuna ku sirhelela Khisimusi!"

Kutani ku sukela siku rero, Kurt na Sandiso va ve masocha lama tshembekaka ya Bava Khisimusi.

Endla ntsheketo wu nyanyula!

- ★ Xana yi kona mitsheketo lexi u tshameke u yi twa mayelana na Bava Khisimusi? U ehleketa yini hi mhaka ya ku va munhu a tisela vanhu tinyiko hi vusiku bya le mahlweni ka Khisimusi?
- ★ Eswifanisweni, Bava Khisimusi u ambale swiambalo swa xixika na

mabutsu. Dirowa Bava Khisimusi a ambale swiambalo swa ximumu leswi tolovelekeke etikweni ra hina.

- ★ U ehleketa leswaku switaswifamba swi langutekisa ku yini? Tirhisa vumba byinene kumbe bya vana, swilapana, wulu na nchumu wihi na wihi wun'wana lowu fanelekaka, u endla swifaniso swa leswi u anakanyaka leswaku switaswifamba swi langutekisa xiswona.



The Christmas heist

By Bradley Paulse ■ Illustrations by Clyde Beech

Story
corner



Once upon a time, in the quiet little town of Sutherland, two young boys named Kurt and Sandiso came up with a mischievous plan for Christmas.

You see, the previous year, they had been very good, but to their shock and dismay, Father Christmas had not left a single present for them under the Christmas tree. They were determined that this year would be different.

"Kurt," Sandiso exclaimed with a furrowed brow, "what happened last year, just isn't right! We were good, and what did we get? Nothing, *lutho, niks!*"

Kurt nodded, his eyes gleaming with mischief. "Sandiso, I reckon we ought to do something about this injustice!"

And so, the two young boys set out on a mission. They were very good at building things and had built the most extraordinary gadgets in Kurt's dad's workshop. The most peculiar contraption of all was a huge, powerful magnet!

"Ah, Sandiso, this will do the trick! We'll use our magnet to catch Father Christmas, and he will have to explain why we didn't receive any presents last year!" Kurt said, his eyes wide with excitement.

On Christmas Eve, the two boys placed their powerful magnet in Sandiso's front yard. Then they climbed onto the roof to keep an eye out for Father Christmas. They each held a glue gun, in case they needed to glue Father Christmas to the spot. The boys were determined to question him about his unfair ways.



In the inky night sky, a twinkling dot caught their attention. It grew bigger and bigger and came closer and closer. "There he is!" Sandiso whispered with wide-eyed wonder.

The boys' magnet was aimed at the approaching object. But the object did not look like the pictures they'd seen of Father Christmas's sleigh. In fact, it looked more like a massive red truck with a huge saucer attached to the roof.

Kurt squinted and scratched his head. "Is that Father Christmas's sleigh? What's going on?"

The magnet drew the red object closer until it came to rest in the yard just below the boys' rooftop perch. With trembling legs, they climbed down from the roof and tiptoed closer to the truck. The saucer on the roof looked like a spaceship. And as the boys peered inside the front of the truck, their eyes widened in disbelief. Father Christmas and his elves were trapped in nets. They were struggling and squirming to get free while two little aliens stood on the truck's bonnet and glared at them through the windscreen.

"What in the world is going on?" Sandiso muttered.

As the aliens turned to look at them, Kurt and Sandiso aimed their glue guns. "Take that!" Kurt shouted as he squeezed his glue gun, unleashing a flood of sticky glue that sent the aliens flying and glued them to the big saucer on top of the truck.

Then Kurt and Sandiso freed Father Christmas and his elves from the nets. Sandiso asked, "What's going on here, Father Christmas?"

Father Christmas was very grateful to be free from the nets. He patted his big round belly and let out a hearty chuckle. "Well, these hijackers are from Mars. A year on Mars is almost twice as long as a year on Earth. These fellows decided that they could not wait for *their* Christmas to come around and have therefore been stealing the presents from Earth at Christmas time!"

Kurt and Sandiso exchanged glances. "Father Christmas, we were thinking of stealing all the presents too, but only because we received nothing last year," Kurt confessed.

Father Christmas smiled. "You know that you can't fix what's wrong, by doing something wrong, don't you?" he asked.

"We know," replied Kurt and Sandiso, looking a bit sheepish.

Then Father Christmas and the elves bundled the troublemakers from Mars into their spaceship. "Off you go, fellas! And next time, wait for your own Christmas!" Father Christmas shouted as the spaceship zoomed away into the night sky.

Father Christmas turned to Kurt and Sandiso with a warm smile. "You know, boys, you've shown true Christmas spirit today. You stood up for what's right and saved Christmas for everyone on Earth."



Kurt and Sandiso nodded vigorously. "But Father Christmas, what can we do to make things right with you? We don't want to be on the naughty list."

Father Christmas grinned and patted them both on the back. "How would you like to be part-time security for Father Christmas? It's not only the Martians who try to steal the presents, you know. With your gadgets and bravery, you'd be a big help!"

Kurt and Sandiso's eyes lit up. "That would be amazing! We'd love to help you keep Christmas safe!"

And so, from that day forward, Kurt and Sandiso became Father Christmas's trusted security team.

Get story active!

- ★ Have you heard stories about Father Christmas? What do you think about the idea of someone bringing gifts to people on Christmas Eve?
- ★ In the illustrations, Father Christmas is wearing winter clothes and boots. Draw Father Christmas wearing clothes to suit our hot summer weather.
- ★ What do you think aliens look like? Use clay, play dough, bits of material, wool and any suitable material to make models of what you think aliens look like.

Swo tsakisa hi Nal'ibali

Nal'ibali fun



1.

© Siku ra Vana eTikweni ri va hi Muggqivela wo sungula wa November lembe na lembe. Hlaya leswi vana van'wana va Nal'ibali va vulaka leswaku eka vona i mfanelo ya nkoka ya vana. Kutani eswiphephanini leswi tsemeleriweke bya tinjhovo, tsala timfanelo ta vana leti nga ta nkoka eka wena. Tsala mfanelo yin'we eka xiphephana xin'wana ni xin'wana.

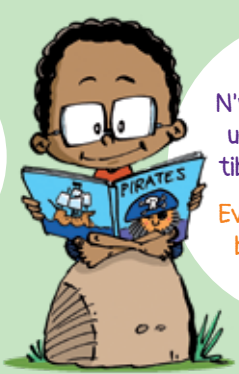
© National Children's Day is on the first Saturday of November each year. Read what some of the Nal'ibali children say is an important children's right for them. Then write down which rights of children are important to you on strips of paper. Write one thing on each strip.

N'wana hawun'we u fanele ...

Every child needs ...



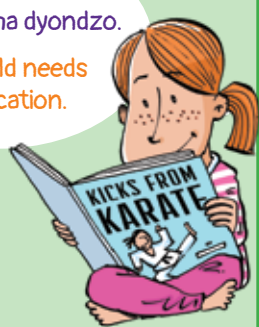
N'wana hawun'we u fanele a dya swakudya leswi nga ni rihanyo.
Every child needs healthy food.



N'wana hawun'we u fanele a va na tibuku to ti hlaya.
Every child needs books to read.



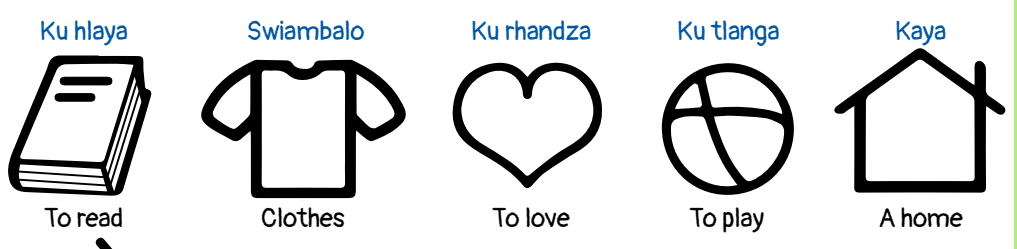
N'wana hawun'we u fanele a va na ndhawu leyi hlaysikeke yo tlangela eka yona.
Every child needs a safe place to play.



N'wana hawun'we u fanele a kuma dyondzo.
Every child needs an education.

2.

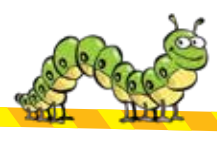
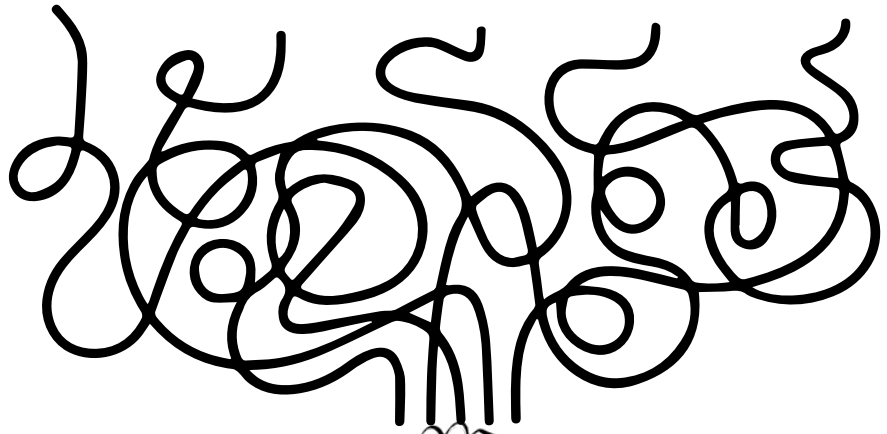
a) Vana hinkwavo va lava swilo leswi nga exifanisweni. Xaxameta swifaniso u swi tsala 1 ku ya ka 5, laha 1 yi kombisaka leswi u swi rhandzaka ngopfu, kasi 5 yi komba leswaku a hi swa nkoka ngopfu eka wena.



b) Khalara xifaniso.

a) All children need the things in the picture. Number the pictures from 1 to 5 where 1 is what you love the most and 5 is less important to you.

b) Colour in the picture.



Hi ta va hi ri eku wiseni ku fikela hi February 2025. Endzhaku ka sweswo hi ta tlhela hi va swin'we etsimani ra Nal'ibali ra ku hlaya!

We will be taking a break until February 2025. Join us then for more Nal'ibali reading magic!

In the meantime, visit www.nalibali.org to find stories and reading-for-enjoyment inspiration.

Loko swa ha ri tano, nghena eka www.nalibali.org u kuma mitsheketo ni rungula leri u nga tihungasaka hi ku ri hlaya.



Nal'ibali yi kona ku ku hlohotela na ku ku seketela. Tihlanganisi na hina hi yin'wani ya tindlela leti: Nal'ibali is here to motivate and support you. Contact us in any of these ways:

- TheNalibaliChannel
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