Motivated to read

We know that reading lots of books helps to make children better readers. We also know that to spend a lot of time reading and to keep reading throughout your life, you’ve got to want to read!

If we want to get our children reading and then keep them reading, it’s really helpful to understand what motivates them to read. To find this out, researchers most often observe children’s reading behaviour and/or talk to their teachers. Surprisingly, very few researchers actually speak to children themselves, but here is what the children aged 9 and 10 in one study conducted by Kathryn Edmunds and Kathryn Bauserman said about books and reading. The children said that:

• they were more likely to read a book that they had chosen, than a book chosen for them by a teacher or parent.
• they liked books that matched their personal interests.
• they were more likely to choose books that have exciting covers and action-packed plots, as well as books that are funny or scary, and have great illustrations.
• their interest in reading was sparked and encouraged by their family members (especially their mothers), teachers and friends.
• most of the books they read came from a library.
• libraries gave them the opportunity to look at lots of different books before choosing the ones they wanted to read.
• they often found out about books they might want to read by talking to their friends.
• they motivated themselves to read – once they’d caught the reading bug, they just wanted to keep reading.
• they enjoyed being read to by family members and teachers, even though they could already read!

So, what does this mean we need to do?
• Make sure that our children have access to lots of different books. Children who can get books more easily, read more. Take your children to the library and, when you can, buy books for them.

Looking for stories to share anywhere, anytime? Visit www.nalibali.mobi for stories in six South African languages to enjoy with the children in your life.

Ukukhuthalela ukufundwa

Siyazi ukuba ukufundwa incwadi ezinini izacendo abantu abandla bangefungu abangcane. Kananjalo siyazi ukuba ukuze ube nexesha oliphetha ekufundeni kweyane uzucine ngokufundwa ubomi bakho bonke, kufunikela ukufuneka ukufundwa!

Ukuba situla abantu abandla bethu bafundo kweyane sibagcine befundo, kungudi nceda kakhulu ukuphila ukuba sintshino ebalokhambela ukuba bafunde. Ukulza kubekho into eyaziwayo ngoku, kumaxhosa amanizithi abaphanci bojanga indlela abantu abandla abaphathula ngayo ngokunxumo neskubani kwangezikade ngokuthi ophumela babo ngoku. Okuthiwayo kukuba baphambela kakhulu abaphanci abanye balithetha nabantu abandla ngcisilile, kodwa ke naku okukholi kwezakhe nabo ngakhebeka (ababaloyiwayo akh-9 njo-10 kunchane) umfonjane ophumela ngokuthi ukuthi abantu abandla nokuthi asebenzile angokubaluleka ngokubaluleka ngokuphila nesizathile ngakhebeka ngakhebeka.

UkUBEKELE: Kuthandayo

• unxiwa kwemcendo abandla bafundo kwemncendo kweyane kubelela kungcine kungenza ngokuthi abantu abandla ngakhebeka ngakhebeka.
• ukuthi yethu šutshando y作文w ikekhelela iwo izikhatho yizikhathayo.
• ukuthi yethu šutshando y作文w ikekhelela iwo izikhatho ukuba iyaliyabo izikhatho yekhaya yeholwa ngokunxumo.
• ukuthi yethu šutshando y作文w ikekhelela iwo izikhatho ukuba iyaliyabo izikhatho yekhaya yeholwa ngokunxumo.

Read to me. Never too early. Never too late.

Nalibali

It starts with a story.
Story stars
A passion for books

Righardt le Roux is the Programme Librarian at Westonaria Library Information Services. He is passionate about the important role literacy can play in people’s lives. Nt’bali spoke to him about his enthusiasm for reading and books.

Where did your passion for books start?
When I was little, my mom made a scrap book with the most interesting and beautiful pictures she could find. This book went along on long road trips. During the trip my mom would use the pictures to make up the most amazing stories. This is where I fell in love with stories and books.

Why are libraries important?
Libraries provide books and information to the community, but they also play an important role in developing communities. That’s why I started the Simunye reading club at the Simunye library three months ago. At first there were only 14 children, but now we have 82 members!

How do you make story time at your club fun?
Once I have chosen a story to share with the children, I first research and rehearse the story. Then I make the story interactive and draw the children in. We create lots of noise and laughter. The children have so much fun that they really want to take part in creating the story.

Why are stories important?
We need to tell our stories because stories are such an important part of our cultures. Through stories we can help children make sense of their world and their life experiences.

What stories do you like?
Even now, I enjoy stories from my childhood. I love fairytales and I still read those old Grimm stories — although I could tell them all by heart!

What tips do you have for parents?
If you want your children to become readers, read to them for at least 15 minutes a day. Once a child has entered through the magic door of reading, they will become lifelong readers!

Across the country, individuals and organisations are finding ways to make reading and writing part of children’s daily lives. To say thank you, our featured Story Stars will receive meal vouchers* courtesy of Wimpy to enjoy with the children in whose lives they are making a difference.


* For terms and conditions that apply, go to www.nt`bali.org/story-stars.


* For terms and conditions that apply, go to www.nt`bali.org/story-stars.
The witch who lives on the hill
Igqquirrelazi elihlala egedukeni

This is a story about facing your fears, accepting differences and having compassion.

HEARTLINES

For copies of Heartlines' Stories that Talk (in all 11 languages), and Stories that Talk 2 (English only) please email orders@heartlines.org.za or phone (011) 771 2540.
We hid behind the hedge, Peloyame, Kitso and me, all breathing hard. "Did you see her?" Peloyame asked breathless.

"Yeah, she’s scary," I said, though I hadn’t really seen her. But I didn’t need to. Everyone knew what Mma Raphane looked like. She had wild grey hair and was tall and bony-thin, with elbows that could cut straight through a person. If you looked into her eyes, you would be turned into a zombie. Many children had. We all knew that.

"She poked her head out of the door when I threw the stone, did you see?" Kitso said excitedly. "My cousin said she ate his cat."

"Yeah, she does that sometimes," Peloyame said nodding her head. Peloyame knew everything there was to know about Mma Raphane, the witch.


We thanked her and sat down to drink. The other children watched us for some time, and then they came into the yard, one by one. They picked up our tools and got to work where we had left off.

Peloyame stood at the fence alone. "Hey? What are you guys doing? She’s a witch! Have you forgotten?" Everyone ignored Peloyame. So she kicked the ground and walked away angrily.

Mma Raphane looked at the children who had run from her for so long. She turned to Gabriel and me. There were tears in her eyes. "Thank you," she said in a scratchy whisper. She smiled down at us as we sat drinking water on her stoop.
We collected spades and rakes and headed back up the hill. Gabriel and I knocked quietly on the door. We had a short talk with Mma Raphane. Then we started clearing the long, dried grass in the yard. As we worked, other children came to stand along the fence. They stared at us, but kept silent.

Peloyame came too. She saw me and shouted, “Tebogo, are you crazy? Aren’t you afraid of the witch?”

“She’s not a witch!” Gabriel shouted back angrily.

Just then Mma Raphane came out with two glasses of cool water.


UPeloyame naye weza kubukela. Wandibona waze wandikhwaza, “Tebogo, uphambene? Akuloyi kikophakazi?”

“Akalqophakazi!” uGabriel wakhwaza ephendula ngomsindo.

Kanye ngaloo mizu uMma Raphane wavela ephetho firlasi ezimbini zamanzi abandayo.
Get story active!

After you and your children have read The witch who lives on the hill, try out some of these:

• As a way of starting a conversation with your children about how labelling people is harmful, ask them, ‘Do you think Mma Raphane is a witch?’ Do any of you know what it feels like to be labelled unfairly?

• Discuss the ways that lebogo and Peloymae behaved towards Mma Raphane. What are the places in the story that are acceptable to behave like that? Why do you think the children behaved in those ways? How did their behaviour make Mma Raphane feel?

• At your children’s choice, a part of the story to illustrate.

• Encourage them to think about things they might do to try to change Peloymae’s opinion of Mma Raphane. They could draw a picture of themselves talking to Peloymae and then write what they would like to say to her in a speech bubble, or act out the scene.

Yerza ibali linke umdla!

Emva kokubala weno nabamvane nilu packaged elaka, lembakhazisa elaka evideteke, zamani esizali zase ngabele zikondela.

• Ngendelwe yokuphila inokanyi nabamvane nakho malungu mbungazi bhekweniyelisa abantu, bobuso ukuba. Ingabo nicanga ukuba ulima Raphane igqinwakazi? Ingabo apho kuri ukhonwokonye inokanyi isilibatho ngayo xo esanawinyiso.

• Xosani ngendlela ulubogo noPolokanye abapagasho ngayo ngokuba esikshisele kwiMma Raphane kwintsho esizikhathiyo apho abakhathi. Ingabo kwemvelisele ukuhlopho ngelo Hobo. Uungcima ukuhlopho obo abakhathiyo ukusho ngelo Hobo? Yafutha esiphiwe inukho ulima Raphane indlela abaphila abaphila nesibatho.

• Buvumele abaphila ukuba bakhele indawo abaphinjileyo apho abakhele zali bavumzakhe imineke.

• Bakuthathwa abaphila ukuba bainging malungu ngazintu abanokwazi ukuthi ukugqini ukuba kulapolokanye ngokuphathelwe kuMma Raphane. Bangezabo umuntu yokhulukile nabo abakhathiyo, kubaluleka ukuhlali kuhlali ngekuhlopho isikhathi yesi ngumathini, ekuhlopho esinga Neyile abaphila welodweni leboho.
**Story corner**

Here is a story for you to read aloud or tell. It is about a clever, young boy who always tried to help others.

**The magic paintbrush**

(Part 1) retold by Wendy Hartmann

There is a land, far away called Chine. Once upon a time, in this far-away land lived a young boy named Ho. Ho was poor, but very kind. He worked hard to earn enough money to buy food. Even though Ho was poor, he helped other people whenever he could. He also loved to paint and he painted whenever he had time.

One night, he dreamed that an old man gave him a magic paintbrush. "You have a kind heart," said the old man in his dream. "I see that you love pain. Here is a magic paintbrush. I want you to promise to use it to help people."

When Ho woke up, he found the magic paintbrush next to him.

"Oh," he said. "I thought it was only a dream." From that day on, he used the paintbrush whenever people needed help.

"Ho," called the people in the fields. "There is no more water in our well. We need to water our plants." So Ho painted a river for them. As he painted, the river magically appeared and the people could water their plants.

Then Ho saw that the people were struggling to till the land, so he painted a cow and a plough to help them. Every time he saw that someone needed help, he used his paintbrush. Soon many people knew about Ho and his magic paintbrush.

Some time later, a rich man heard about the paintbrush. "That paintbrush will be mine," he said and planned how he was going to steal it. "I will make so much money that I will be the richest man in the whole land." The next day he sent for Ho.

"I want you to look after my cows today," he said boldly. "This evening I will pay you well." Ho was happy and looked after the rich man’s cows. But in the evening, instead of being paid, he was thrown into prison and his magic paintbrush was taken away.

"Ho, I stole one of my cows," lied the rich man. "This brush will pay for what he has done." All that Ho had thought, the magic paintbrush is mine.

Find out next week whether Ho will ever get his paintbrush back again.

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**Ikona yamabali**

Nali ibali onokufundwa ngokukalayo okanye ulubale. Ebi bali limulungo nenkwenkwe enccane, ekilekrele nehayifunda ukusolokolo izindawo abanye abantu.

**Ibrashi yokuphentsha yomlingo**

(Imveline 1) ibaliswa kwakwena ngiywendlela Wendy Hartmann


In your next Nalibali supplement:

- Creating writing opportunities for children
- Story Stars: A teacher leading the way with literacy
- Reading club corner: Days and dates to remember
- A mini-book, A long way to Baba
- The final part of the story, The magic paintbrush

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- Ukudakala abantu amatsho abukholo
- Limbalosane zomabili: Uthando oyinokconde esibonisa ephetheni
- Ikona yekhumbuka yokufunda: Lintsho kanye nemi khubeka kusilwane
- Imdwala ezikumelweni, indlela endle eku kufika
- Isiculeni yokugqibela yebele ekuthaka sihlali, ithala yokuphentsha yomlingo

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