Book talk

Reading stories to children is a wonderful way to relax and spend time with them, but reading aloud also gives us opportunities to talk to our children about books.

In fact, talking to children about books is just as important as reading the words to them! Through discussing the pictures, characters and what is happening in a story, children learn about how books work and how to explore them. Rather than trying to “teach” your children, just let the conversation flow naturally as you enjoy a book together.

Here are a few ideas for helping that conversation along. Select ones that fit best with the book you are reading. And remember that the idea is always to explore books together rather than to “test” your children’s understanding of what you have read.

- **Learning to predict.** Being able to guess what comes next as you read, is a skill that competent readers use all the time. As you read a story with your children, develop their prediction skills by asking, “What do you think will happen next?” at different points in the story.
- **Responding to questions.** Young children often ask, “Why?” You can either answer their questions by sharing your ideas (“I think it is because…”), or you can ask, “Why do you think…?”
- **Sharing opinions and ideas.** As you read together say what you think and ask your children what they think too. This helps them learn how to approach books.
- **Pay attention to detail.** Encourage children to look carefully and enjoy the illustrations in picture books. Draw their attention to parts of the illustration on the page, comment on it yourself and ask them too. Younger children will find particular people or objects in the pictures. Draw their attention to the size of a large or small word on the page, or the interesting sound a word makes as you say it. With older children, talk about why the author might have chosen a particular word.
- **Connecting with stories.** Many stories focus on how characters deal with challenges that life sends their way. It is powerful for children to relate these things to their own lives. Encourage them to make strong connections by saying something like, “This story reminds me of how important it is to treat people well. What does it remind you of?”

Puisano ka dibuka

Ho balla bana dipale ke tsela e ntle ye ho phomola le ho ba le nako e itseng le bana, empa ho bala hedimo hope ho re fe menyela ye ho bua le bana bane rona ka dibuka.

Hantlentle, ho bana le bana ka dibuka bana ho bokgakgo feela ya halako ho lo bana bana mantswe! Ka ho bana ka ditfelana, baphetwa le se etshahlali taleng, bana bana ibhuto kamoo dibuka di sekugeng le kamas bao ka di sibhuteng ka teng. Ho ena le ho “vuyo” bana bo ho bana ho bana le bana le bana le se tla sekiso. Ee lamantswe, bana bana le bana le bana le se tla ya bana le bana le bana le se tla sekiso.

**Sharing opinions and ideas.** As you read together say what you think and ask your children what they think too. This helps them learn how to approach books.

- **Ho orelela mehopolo le menahana.** Ha le ntle le bala mmeho bolehle bana se a se nahanang mme le bana o bana bote hore ba nahanang eng. Sena se a bana thuwa ho ithuto mogwana wa ho sekaseka dibuka ha ba di bala.
- **Ho shebisisa dintho ka botebo.** Kgotholetsa bana ho shebisisa ka hlokiso ho le natefelwa ke ditshwamisho ke ho hore dibuka. Bopo bana ho bana ho le bana le le bana le bana le le bana le se tla sekiso. Bana bana ho le bana le le bana le le bana le se tla sekiso. Bana bana ho le bana le bana le le bana le se tla sekiso. Bana bana ho le bana le le bana le le bana le se tla sekiso.

For more ideas about how to talk to children about books, visit “Tips and Topics” on www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi.

Inside this edition:

- A card for a grandparent to celebrate Older Persons’ Day on 1 October (page 7).

Kahara kgatiso ena:

- **Bukana e-sehwang-le-ho-la leqephe**
- **a la 21 Loetse (leqephe la 3 ho bana le bana le bana le se tla sekiso. Bana bana ho le bana le le bana le le bana le se tla sekiso.
- **a la 6).**
- **a la 7).**
- **a la 6).**
- **a la 7).**
- **a la 7).**

We will be taking a break until the week of 18 October. Join us for more Nal’ibali reading magic!

Re tla be re le phomoling ho filele ho bakeng ya 14 Mphalane. Ebe le rona hope nakong eo bakeng sa dimohelo te ding hope tsa ho bala tsa Nal’ibali!


Bakeng sa mehopolo ene mabapi le kamoo o ka bisansang le ngwana ka dibuka, etela Dikeletso le Dihlooho, “Tips and Topics”, ho www.nalibali.org kpa
The Reading Gogos are a group of volunteers who visit four schools in Daveyton to read to the children. We asked Kathy Cromer-Wilson, who helps to run the programme, about the Reading Gogos.

How did the Reading Gogos start?
The Ekufundzeni Trust launched a mobile library in 1992. One day, one of the library’s volunteers started reading to a Grade 1 class at Daveyton Intermediate School. She was a hit and now there are 48 Reading Gogos – although not all of them are elderly grannies!

What do the gogos do?
At first, the gogos just read to the children. Now, the sessions also include singing, dancing, playing games, and doing arts and crafts.

Why have they decided to become Reading Gogos?
The main reason is because they want to improve the lives of children and increase their opportunities as adults. Some are responding to Nelson Mandela’s suggestion that we give back to our communities.

What difference has the programme made?
We have seen how reading to children breaks down barriers. The feedback from the schools has also been remarkable. They say that the number of children loving the story sessions! Some parents want to move their children into these schools so that they can be part of the programme.

What are your plans for the future?
Our main aim is to get more Reading Gogos so that we can go to all the schools that began to become part of the programme.

What would you say to someone wanting to start a reading club or programme?
Do not be afraid to make a start. All you need is the passion to pass on your knowledge to children, and the children will reward you with their love, hugs and lots of laughter!
Nal’ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark children’s potential through storytelling and reading. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi

Let there be peace is from the SONGOLOLO list – a range of books celebrating both the common and diverse interests and experiences in childhood, featuring stories from Africa and beyond. Shuter & Shooter Publishers acquired the award-winning children’s picture book imprint, SONGOLOLO in 2008. SONGOLOLO is a quality list, featuring books by some of South Africa’s foremost authors and illustrators, including Niki Daly, Gcina Mhlophe, Joan Rankin and Jude Daly. The list features several bestsellers, including Niki Daly’s Mama, Papa and Baby Joe, and Joan Rankin’s Wow! It’s Great Being a Duck and other numerous award-winning titles. For further information, visit www.shuters.com

Let there be peace
A ho be le kgotso


Jeremy Brooks
Jude Daly


An important step to peace is forgiveness. Without we were going to be fight. And when they come to all of this, bear which has known one of forgiveness. The absence of forgiveness, the conscience, the one accomplishment, our policy’s short sighted approach brings to this situation we can’t understand the truths we suffering other’s hurtful words that do not consider his life. We can’t understand the things on our way. Our hearts never forgive, even when people have done terrible things to us. This original first reason to forgive, even when people have wronged us or other’s, we no longer have a reason to fight. forgiveness each other, we no longer have a reason to fight.
If there is to be peace in the world,
There must be peace in the nations.
If there is to be peace in the nations,
There must be peace in the cities.
If there is to be peace in the cities,
There must be peace between neighbours.
If there is to be peace between neighbours,
There must be peace in the home.
If there is to be peace in the home,
There must be peace in the heart.
Written over 2 500 years ago by Lao-Tzu,
founder of Taoism, China.

Hore kgotso e tle e be teng lefatsheng,
Kgotso e lokela ho ba teng ditjhabeng.
Hore kgotso e tle e be teng ditjhabeng,
Kgotso e lokela ho ba teng ditjhabeng.
Hore kgotso e tle e be teng ditjhabeng,
Kgotso e lokela ho ba teng ditjhabeng.
Hore kgotso e tle e be teng ditjhabeng,
Kgotso e lokela ho ba teng ditjhabeng.
Hore kgotso e tle e be teng ka hara lelapa,
Kgotso e lokela ho ba teng ka pelong.

A ho be le kgotso Lefatsheng mme ha e qale ka mna.
A ho be le kgotso Lefatsheng, kgotso e neng e tshehafeta ha ba teng! Ka Modimo Mmopil wa rona, re le lelapa re le lelela le mme ho.
Ha re tsamaeng mme ho ka kutlwano ya mme.

Kgotso a e qale ka mna. Eka be e yona nako le motsotso.
Mohato o mong le o mong oo ke o nkang, eka be ho ho ikana ka ha;
Ho nka motsotso ka mong le ho ho phela ka kgotso ka ho sa fetleng!
A ho be le kgotso Lefatsheng mme a e qale ka mna!

E ngotswe ke Sy Miller le Jill Jackson, Amerika Leboya.
Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love. Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is discord, vision. Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, hope. Where there is darkness, light. Where there is sadness, joy.

Part of a prayer written by Saint Frances of Assisi, who tried to live at peace with the whole of creation, including birds and animals.

Written by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson, North America.

Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be! With God our creator, family all are we; Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me. Let this be the moment now. With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow; To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally! Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with me!

Written by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson, North America.
Living in peace does not just mean that we do not fight against other people. We also need to live in peace with our world and look after it properly. The following prayers remind us to do this.

Ho phela ka kgotso ha ho bolele feele hore re se lwane le batho ba bang. Re hloka hape hore re phele ka kgotso le lefatshe la rona le ho le lefatshe la rona le ho le lefatshe la tshwanelo. Dithapelo tse latelang di re hopotsa ho etsa sena.

The world was not left to us by our parents. It was lent to us by our children.

Efatshe lena ha re a le siekwa ke batswadi ba rona. Re le admilwe ke bana ba rona.

Living in peace does not just mean that we do not fight against other people. We also need to live in peace with our world and look after it properly. The following prayers remind us to do this.

Creator, open our hearts to peace and healing between all people.
Creator, open our hearts to provide and protect for all children of the earth.
Creator, open our hearts to respect for the earth, and all the gifts of the earth.
Creator, open our hearts to end division, violence, and fear among all.
Creator, open our hearts to respect for the earth, and all the gifts of the earth.

All religions have differences, but there are also things they have in common. The following prayers emphasise the things we share, rather than the ways we differ.

Recognise all people as one.

Recognise all nations as one.

Recognise all peoples as one.

Recognise all things as one.

Recognise all life as one.

Recognise all purposes as one.

Recognise all hearts as one.

Recognise all minds as one.

Recognise all spirits as one.

Recognise all creations as one.

Recognise all offerings as one.

Recognise all gifts as one.

Recognise all miracles as one.

Recognise all prayers as one.

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Get story active!
Some of the words in this week's cut-out-and-keep book, Let there be peace, may be difficult for younger children to understand. As you read the book together, explain the meaning of the words they don’t understand. Use the pictures to help you.

After you and your children have read Let there be peace, get story active!

- Draw your children's attention to the details in the illustrations. Let them talk about what they notice. Encourage them to link what’s in the pictures to the meaning of the prayers.
- Let your children write their own peace poems or prayers and then illustrate them. If they write poems, they may wish to use the letters of the word, “peace” as the first letter of each line of their poem. Here is an example:

  Put love for others first
  Even if you are cross with them
  Always be kind and
  Care about others because we are all
  Equal.

  Alyssa Harlin, 9 years old

Eba mahlahahlaha bakeng sa pale!
A mang a mantswae a bukeng ya beke ena e sehswang-le-ho-ipolokela, A ho be le kgota, a ka nna a thatafala bana ba sa laeng banyenyane horo ba a utlwisis. Ha le ntsi le bala bula mma ho, ba holoshetse meelelo ya mantswae ao ba so a utlwisis. Sebedisa dithwantsho hore di o thuse.

Ha wena le bana ba hao le se le badile, A ho be le kgotsa, leka e meng ya mepolopa ena.

- Etsa hore bana ba hao ba eilelwe dithlha tse dithwantsho. E re ba bue ka se ho se eilelwang. Ba kgathalletse ho nyalanya tse dithwantsho le meelelo wa dithapelo.

- E re bana ba hao ba ngole dithokoko tsa bonsa tsa kgotsa kapa dithapelo mme ba di tshwantshe. Haebe ba ngola dithokoko, ba ka mma ba lakatsa ha sebedisa dithoku tsa lentswe lema "kgotsa" xidlakwa tshaku ya pele ya mola ka mong wa tholikosa ya bona. Mohlala ke ona.

Ke rata batho ba bang pele ho tsolhe
Kgulelo ha ima ha eyo
O tla fumana mosa wa ka
Thabo le nyakallo ya bao ke ba kgathallang,
Setsheho sa bona se mpha thabo, hubane Modimo
O re rata bohle ka ho lekana
Lehakwe Moekeitsi, ya alele di 9

Celebrating our grandparents!
Each year on 1 October, we celebrate Older Persons’ Day.
You can recognise the important role that older people play in your life by following the instructions below to make a card for your grandparents.

Make a card
1. Cut out the card by cutting along the red line.
2. Fold the card along the dotted black line.
3. Glue the two parts together.
4. On the side with the picture, write a message to the grandparent/s you will give the card to. Colour in the picture.
5. On the other side, draw a picture of you and this person together, or write a poem or longer message.

Re keteka bonkgono le bontatemoholo!
Selema se se ng se sang ka la 1 Mphalane, re keteka Letsatsi la Batho ba Hodiling. O ka ananela seabo sa bahlokwabo se batho ba hodiling ba ngol le sana baphelang ba hao ka ho lotela ditlako tse ka tlae mana ho eetsa karete bakeng sa nigona le ntatemoholo wa hao.

Etsa karete
1. Seha o ntshe karete ka ho seha hodima mola o mofubedu.
2. Mena karete hodima mola o matsha wa matheba.
4. Lehalakoeroeng le rong le setshwantshe, ngola molaetsa o yang ho nigona/ntatemoholo eo o tlang ho mma ka karete. Keke setshwantshe mebala.
5. Lehalakoeroeng le leng, rala setshwantshe sa hao le motho eo le le mmoho, kapa o ngole dithokoko kapa molaetsa o mofetetsana.
In your next Nal'ibali supplement:

- The importance of sharing books with children
- Story Stars: Sparking an interest in reading in the Eastern Cape
- A cut-out-and-keep book, How zebras got their stripes
- The first part of the story, Thembela in the wind

We will be taking a break until the week of 14 October. Can’t wait until then for more reading and story tips, setshwantsho ka Magriet Brink

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