**Read every day!**

For the past two years Nal’ibali has been encouraging you to read to your children regularly – just 15 minutes a day, every day! But why is this very small action so very important? Here are some of the reasons.

- Things that are part of the rhythm of the everyday life of a child, soon become a habit. The easiest way to instil the reading habit in children is to use their love of stories. When you read with them every day, they come to see reading as natural and something that people do every day – just like eating, sleeping and brushing your teeth!
- When children are read to every day, they learn that their lives include the pleasure and satisfaction of a good story. Looking forward to story time is an important step in becoming a lover of books and a life-long reader.
- Reading to children every day no matter how busy you are, means you are making time for them. This shows them that you are important to you. “Come! Sit here with me and let’s read this together,” sends them a loving message. The memory of spending relaxed and satisfying story times with you, will stay with your children throughout their lives.
- Children learn to read by first being read to and then learning how to do it for themselves. When you read to young children, you show them how books work – how the pictures and words work together to tell the story, how the words in a book stay the same every time you read them, and how the words we read have meaning. Knowing these things helps children learn how to read for themselves later on.
- Reading to your children every day – no matter what their ages – is also a good way to get to know what interests them and to let them know what interests you. It’s not only reading together that makes a difference, but also the discussions you have about the characters and things that happen in the story. Talking about these things develops their thinking, imagination, language and their understanding of people. It helps them to develop into thoughtful and compassionate human beings.

**Bala letsatsi le leng le le leng!**

Ditho tseo e leng karolo ya monyaka wa mabaka ke ana.

- Dintho tseo e leng karolo ya monyaka wa bophelo bohle ba lele lele letsatsi, ba a mabaka ke ana.
- Bana ho sa haktwela e ne yangalele e monate, ho sa bala ke ho sebedisa lerato la bona la dipale. Ha o bala le bana letsatsi le leng le le leng, ba a le bana bophelo bohle ba bona.
- Bana ba ithuta ho bala ka ho bala bophelo bohle ba bona, le bana bophelo bohle ba bona ka batho. Ho ba thusa hore e be batho ba mona ho bala bophelo bohle ba bona ka batho.

*For more information on reading with your children, visit “Tips and Topics” on www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi.*

**Read to me. Every day. Drive your imagination.**

This supplement is available during term times in the following Times Media newspapers: The Times in the Western Cape, The Sowetan in the Free State, Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal; The Daily Dispatch and The Herald in the Eastern Cape.
What motivates you to volunteer?
The idea of giving back to our community and the joy we see in the children’s eyes every time we go for the reading sessions, motivates us. We also know that the children get a lot from the sessions.

What are your top three tips for encouraging a love of reading in children?
1. Make reading fun and not something that children have to do, but rather something that they want to do because it is fun and feels worthwhile.
2. Involve them in all the reading activities, from choosing a book or story to allowing them to read or tell the story.
3. Encourage children to be creative and to use their imaginations.

What is your favourite book to read to children? 
[Please provide your response]

Life without books would be …
… miserable, boring and uninteresting.

What is the value of stories?
They educate us, encourage our curiosity and make us use our imaginations!

What is the greatest lesson you have ever learnt from a book or story?
[Please provide your response]

Ke eng se la kgothaletsang ho itshoapu?
Mphato wa ho kgothlaletsang bole ka bole setjhabeng sa rona le ha bana nyakalo e mahleng a bana nako e ngwele e ngwele ho re li kopana bakenge sa ho bala, ke bana se re kgothaletsang. Ha re re a tsebo hore bana ba lemano tse ngapitso tsa bana se ho bala.

Ke dikalela diffe tse tsa se khelo/chong bakenge sa ho kgothaletsang le tsho bo bala banang?
1. Etsa hore ho bala ho ntefelela bana mme e se be nito e sa tshimangile hlo ha e tsa, e ka be nito hlo ha Botleng hlo ha e tsa habane e be ntefelela a bana e be lehloka.

Ke baka efe o a e ratang haholo bakenge sa ho e bala bana?
Phetelo ya bana ya long walk to freedomka Chris van Wyk. Ke pale ya bana ne sa ho bana ya long walk to freedomka Chris van Wyk.

Boahlako ba dipale ka bole?
Di a re rula, di re kgothaletsang hlo ha bana ho tsebo haholwanyane le ho hore re sebedise monahano wa bana.

Ke thuto e falo/holi ho o e kileng waha rulaza ya bana le sa sebelo ho bana le mme le ho ho be le setjhabeng ho bana.

Bophelo nila le dibula ba ka …
… re sulafalla, tse la ho se kgakhise.

**Story stars**
Giving back

Nal’ibali’s partner, the South African Education and Environment Project (SAEP), is a Cape Town-based non-profit organisation that aims to empower people through education. One of the ways in which they support young people, is through a programme that offers training and support in the year after they finish school. We spoke to MaNtswenhok iNdlyaliane, Nande Yola, Shihle Jacob and Yamkela Mlimo who are part of the programme, and the programme co-ordinator ZimkhiTha Ndinga, to find out more about their time volunteering at Siyazakha Primary School in Phillipi.

Create your own cut-out-and-keep book
1. Take out pages 3 to 6 of this supplement.
2. Fold it in half along the black dotted line.
3. Fold it in half again.
4. Cut along the red dotted lines.

ikeletshe bukana e-sewang-le-ho-ipolokelwa
1. Nhlo lobopho la 3 ha sa ho la 6 bukane ngena ya fakalwe.
2. La mele ka halo Ho hahola mola wa matheba a maso.
3. Mele na leho halo ha.
4. Seha hohola mola ya matheba a matheba.
This is an excerpt from the book Zanzibar Road by Niki Daly, published by Giraffe Books, which is an imprint of Pan Macmillan South Africa. The delightful follow-up, Next Stop – Zanzibar Road, is also available in bookstores and from online retailers.

With a heart as big as Africa, Mama Jumbo arrives on Zanzibar Road ready to build a house, make new friends and settle down.

In five hilarious chapters, Niki Daly introduces a colourful and entertaining cast of characters who will delight children of all ages.

Welcome to Zanzibar Road!

Niki Daly’s high regard for children is always beautifully expressed through the books he creates for them. He has won numerous awards at home and abroad for his lyrical writing and gently humorous illustrations.

This story is also available in the following languages: isiZulu, isiXhosa, siSwati, isiNdebele, Sesotho, Sesotho sa Leboa, Setswana, tshivenda, isiTsonga and Portuguese. To find out more about Pan Macmillan and its imprints and titles, go to www.panmacmillan.co.za.

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She could not see Little Chico.

Quickly she set off down the road to look for him. She popped into Louie-Louie’s Spaza. But she could not see Little Chico.

“I’m glad you’re happy,” said Mama Jumbo. “But no more sitting on heads!”

“Ke itumela ha o thabile,” ha rialo Mama Jumbo. “Empa ho se hlole ho eba le maqiti a ho dula hodima diholo ho!”
Mama Jumbo woke up feeling very excited.

“What a lovely day for spoiling my Little Chico,” she thought.

But when she looked for Little Chico, she could not find him.

Mama Jumbo a tsoha a ikutlwa a thabile haholo.

“Kajeno ke letsatsi le lethe lele ka lona nka thabisang Little Chico wa ka,” a nahana jwalo.

Empa ha a batla Little Chico a se ke a mo fumana.
Juju laughed. "Oh, Mama Jumbo. Little Chico is sitting on your head!"

"Little Chico, are you sitting on my head?" scolded Mama Jumbo.

"Yes, I am," said Little Chico.

"Well, jump down at once!" said Mama Jumbo.

"Little Chico, are you sitting on my head?"

"Your Head!" Mama Jumbo said. "Oh, Mama Jumbo. Little Chico is sitting on your head."

Mama Jumbo was so pleased to see her darling that she did not pull his tail. Instead, she hugged him.

She looked outside.

"A sheba le ka ntle."

She looked inside.

"Mama Jumbo o ne a thabile haholo ho fumana moratuwa wa hae hoo a sa kang a mo hula ka mohatla. Empa o ile a mo haka ka thabo."
Get story active!

Here are some activities based on the story, "Where's Little Chico?" from Zanzibar Road for you and your children to try:

- As you read the story together, make comments that help your children to explore the story. For example, after reading page 8, you could say, “I wonder why Mama Jumbo looks for Little Chico in the mobile library. Can you think why?”
- Draw your children’s attention to the details in the illustrations. For example, spend time looking at and talking together about:
  - Mama Jumbo’s unusual bed (page 2)
  - what Louie-Louie sets at his spaza (page 7)
  - what the people in Baba Jive’s club are doing (page 9)
  - how Mama Jumbo feels about Little Chico (page 13)
- Ask your children if they can think of reasons why Mama Jumbo doesn’t know that Little Chico is on her head the whole time.
- At the end of the story, Little Chico tells Mama Jumbo that he has enjoyed his day even though they haven’t really done anything special. What do you and your children enjoy doing together? Talk together about the ordinary, everyday things that you all enjoy doing.
- Encourage your children to write a letter or short message from Little Chico. Or, let them write letters or messages to people they love – to Mama Jumbo. Or, let them write letters or messages to people they love – things that you all enjoy doing together? Talk together about the ordinary, everyday things that you all enjoy doing.
- Suggest that your children draw their own pictures of Mama Jumbo and Chico. Or, they could draw a picture of themselves and someone who loves them very much. Encourage them to write something to go with their pictures.

Who am I?

Can you match the names of the Nal’ibali characters to the pictures?

Nna ke mang?

Na o ka nyalanya mabitso a baphetwa ba Nal’ibali le ditshwantsho?

Can you match the names of the Nal’ibali characters to the pictures?

Bella

Hope

Neo

Afrika

Noodle

Eba mahlahahlaha bakeng sa pale!

Mesebetsi o mng ke ena e isithethileng hodimo pale, “Little Chico o ka?” ho le hau ho Tsele ya Zanzibar bakeng sa hore wena le bana ba hau le le le hau. 

- Ho le nte le bala mimo, etsa dikgadietse tsa tla thuza bana ba hau ho sibolla pale. Ho etsa mohla, kamora ho bala leqephe la 8, o ka re, “Ke a potsha hore na habengang ha Mama Jumbo a bafa Little Chico ka lebogoring. O ka nahana hore na habangang?”
- E re bana ba hau ho shebe ditlhha tsa tikgilhethi setshwantsho. Ho etsa mohla, qetang nako le shibile mme le bussana ka – behe e sa tswelaekheng ya Mama Jumbo (leqephe la 2) – see Louie-Louie se a le falafela pozane sa hae (leqephe la 7) – see batho ba se etsanang fapelang ya Baba Jive (leqephe la 9) – kamoro Mama Jumbo a ilikwango kaleng ka Little Chico (leqephe ka 13).
- Kopa bana ba hau ho nahana ka mabako habangang ha Mama Jumbo a sa tebe hore Little Chico a hodimo Nlocho ya ha hau nako ena yohile.
- Qetellong ya pale, Little Chico a bolela Mama Jumbo hore o netlelesetse ke letsetse la hae leha ha hlaletlile ba sa etsa lelo le tikgilhethi. O nahana hore ke sete se setshentleng bana ba hau ho sa etsa mimo? Bussana ho dmle hue le tsa tikgilhethi, osetse ke ka leng tso boho le netlelesetse ke ha hlobo.
- Kgqotheletsa bana ba hau ho ngola langola kopana maloetsa o mogakuthwanele ho tsewa ho Little Chico ho ya ha Mama Jumbo. Kopa, ba kope ho ngola bahlo bao ba ba ratang mangolo kopana melotse – ebe ba o remole kopana ba ikisetsa ona!

Reading club corner

Here are some days to celebrate at your club in February! Choose one or two of these special days to enjoy together this month. For example, celebrate Valentine’s Day by reading or telling stories about love.

This edition’s cut-out-and-keep story from Zanzibar Road is a good example of this kind of story. Celebrate one of the authors’ birthdays by borrowing a book by them from the library and reading aloud from it.

1 February
Meg Cabot’s birthday (author of novels for children and teenagers)

14 February
Valentine’s Day

21 February
International Mother Tongue Day

26 February
Tell-a-Fairy-Tale Day

28 February
Megan McDonald’s birthday (author of the popular Judy Moody series of novels aimed at children aged 6–10 years)

Hukung ya Tlelapo ya ho bala

Mana ka metsatsi o mang a kete kwang letlaptopang ya hau ho Nkhalo! Kgathhang le le tla lelakho a mmla di matsatsi anaa a ikgethileng bakeng sa ho a keteka mnomo kgweding ena, o etsa mohla, ketekeng letsetse la Valentine ka ho bala baka ho phetho dipale tsa bungo ka lerato. Phetolelo ena ya pale e sehwang-le-ho-ipolokelwa ho tsewa ho hlaletla ya Zanzibar ke mohla a mmla wo mmla ona wa pale. Ketekang letsatsi la tshwaloa la e mng wa bongódi ka ho adima buka e ngotsweng ka yena lebogoring mme le le bale hahono.

1 Hlakola
Ketsatsi la tshwaloa la Meg Cabot (mongodi wa dinaolele tsa bana le tsa balo ba bali)

14 Hlakola
Ketsatsi la Valentine

21 Hlakola
Ketsatsi la Matjhaba la Puso ya Lapeng

26 Hlakola
Ketsatsi la Phetho-Tshomo

28 Hlakola
Ketsatsi la tshwaloa la Megan McDonald (mongodi wa leteto la dinaolele tse tshwantsho tsa Judy Moody tse rereetsweng bana le lelo tse 6–10)


O ka fumana dikgoa tsakemsem tsatse mama le tswa dabuekeng tse ngata tsakemsem (mongodi wa dinaolele le hlaletla ya) ho www.megcabot.com.
Hans was on his way home with a large bag of money, which he had earned after many years of hard work. He had not walked far when he saw a man riding on a horse.

“Oh, what a clever way to travel!” cried Hans. “He must be a very wise man to have spent his money on a horse!”

The horseman said, “If that’s how you feel, why don’t we make an exchange? You can take my horse and I will take your gold.”

So, the horseman gave Hans the horse and in return, Hans gave him the gold. Hans felt proud as he guided his horse down the road. He kicked his heels into the horse’s side. Before he knew what was happening, he was lying in the ditch!

Perhaps he bumped his head because he soon exchanged the horse for a cow, hoping for a drink of milk. Then he exchanged the cow for a pig, because he enjoyed eating pork more than beef. After that, he exchanged the pig for a white goose, thinking he could roast the goose and fill a pillow with the feathers afterwards.

What do think Hans is going to do next? Find out next week whether his choices were wise ones in the end!

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