Inspire your children to read every day!

Is your home a reading home? Are stories part of your family’s daily life? Reading to your children helps them to discover the magic of books. When you read to your children, you teach them that books allow us to explore other people’s lives and to go on adventures to different places without ever leaving our homes!

If your children only read at school and when they do homework, then they will learn to link reading with work and not with pleasure. We need to read to our children if we want them to learn that reading can be an enjoyable and entertaining activity. Knowing this is what inspires them to want to read – and then to read more and more. This is how they establish a satisfying lifelong relationship with books and reading.

And, in addition to this benefit, there are lots of research studies to show that the more children read at home, the better they do at school.

But reading to your children can’t just happen once or twice. It needs to be one of the regular activities in your home. Here are three tips to help you make reading a part of your family’s daily life:

1. **Be a role model.** When your children see you reading on a regular basis, they learn that reading is important, without you ever having to actually tell them this! Talk to your children about what you are reading and encourage them to ask questions about it.
2. **If you want them to read, read to them.** Decide on a time of day that you will sit with your children and enjoy a book together – and then, do this every day! Spending quiet, relaxing times reading together, helps you connect with your children.
3. **Develop children’s confidence.** Value your children’s attempts to read, just like you valued their first words! Give them lots of support to develop their confidence – that’s half the battle with learning. Encourage them to read to you. Listen to their pretend reading. Let them try to read something that they choose – even if it is a little difficult for them. Unless they ask you for help, just enjoy listening to them read, without correcting them. Children need to behave like readers to become readers.

**Kgothaletsa bana ba hao ho bala kamehla!**

Na lehao la hao ke lehao la ha balo? Na dipale ke karolo ya baphelo ba kamehla lapeng la hao? Ho balla bana ba hao ho ba thuza ho sibolla dimaka tsa dibuka. Ha o balla bana ba hao, o ba rata hore dibuka di re dumella ho sibolla maphelo a batho ba bang le le hoka maeto a lebang dibakeng tse fapaneng ntle le ho tswa ka makung a rona!

Haebó bana ba Hao ba bala feela ha be le sekolong le ha ba eletsa mosebetisi wa sekololo wa lapeng, ba tla ihuta ho nayitla ha bala le mosebetisi eseng le boikotha. Ke lokela ha balla bana ba rona haebó re balla hore ba ihuta hore ho bala ea ka rona ya eba keetsa o manale le ya boitshhaba. Ke kamoso ba sipeleng kamano e kgotsofatsang ya nako e telete le dibuka le ho bala. Mme he, hodimo ileme ona, ha no le dipatsa yae na ngatla yse bontshbang hore ha bana ba duka ba bala lapeng, eba ba sebetsa hantle ho feta sekoleng. Empo ho balla bana ba Hao se ho ntho e ka eetsa hahloko ho ngwwe kapa habedisi feela. E lokela hore e be e mngwe ya diketsi tse etswang kgotsofatsang lapeng. Tsena ke diketsi tse tharo bakeng sa ho o ihuta hore o etse ho bala e be karolo ya baphelo ya kamehla ba lelapa la Hao.

Eba mahlalo baneng ba Hao. Ha bana ba Hao ba duka ba o bona o bala, ba ihuta hore ho bala ho bohloko, ntle le hore wena o ba bothile avo! Busana le bana ba Hao ba Hao ka tseo o di balang mme a ba kgotaletse ho ara ba dipatsa tse mbapelo le tona.

Haebó o baffe hore ba bale, ba balle. Kegetla nako e o tlhag hore le bala le bana ba Hao ka yona mme le natefela ke buka mmoho – mme o etse sena lebatso le teng le te teng! Ha getla nako e tlhag hore le bala le bala mmoho ke kgutso, ha tla ihuta hore ho be le kuthwele le makoeng a Hao le bana ba Hao.


Sesotho, English

Edition 65

It’s International Day of Families on 15 May! Enjoy our family story on pages 3 to 6 of this supplement.

It starts with a story...
Story stars
Singing the praises of reading!

Nal’ibali caught up with award-winning jazz singer, and mother, Judith Sephuma. She told us about the stories she likes to share with her own children and explained why we all need to read aloud to our children every day to help develop their literacy.

My favourite thing about being a parent is ...
... watching them grow and become responsible beings. From crawling, sitting and teething, to being able to utter their first words!

Watching my children learn to read and write is ...
... a relief that brings on a certain kind of excitement. It makes me proud when I see them actually read and write.

The stories/books I like to tell my own children are ...
... about growth and anything fun that has to do with animals, something that will make them creative and help them imagine what I am talking about.

We need to share stories with our children because ...
... they love listening to stories! It helps them with their focus at school, it teaches them concentration and it creates an interest in reading.

As a child growing up in Polokwane, the story I remember ...
... is one my grandma used to tell us about Tselane. A giant had to swallow a very hot rod to have a thin voice to trick Tselane into coming to him. It’s a really good story!

As a role model, my message is ...
... children enjoy reading as it increases their interest and helps to relax them as they get to use their imaginations! Read regularly to them - even 20 minutes a day can make a huge difference to their future success!

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Perfectly me is one of 36 stories available in the Little Library Kits for Numeracy, Literacy and Life Skills. Each kit contains 60 readers (5 copies of 12 stories), 12 big books, 12 posters and a comprehensive teacher’s guide. The readers and the big books are available in all 11 official languages. For more information please visit our website www.cup.co.za.

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Martie Preller
Ian Lusted

Perfectly me
Nna ka Sebele

One day I went into our room and ...
This is my sister, Aisha, and this is me!

Enwa ke kgaitsedi ya ka, Aisha, mme enwa ke nna!

But I am also perfectly me!

Empa le nna ke phethahetse ke le tjena!
My sister, Aisha, is perfect. Don't you agree?

Kgaitsedi ya ka, Aisha, o phethathete. Na o dumela?

So I had a bath.

Jwale ka kena bateng.

My sister, Aisha, always combs her hair, but I can't find my comb.

Kgaitsedi ya ka, Aisha, o kama moriri wa hae kamehla, empa ma ka kgone le ho fumana kama ya ka.
My sister, Aisha, always washes her face, but I can’t get out of bed.

Kgaitsedi ya ka, Aisha, o hlapa sefahleho sa hae kamehla, empa nna ha ke kgone le ho tsoha.

I combed my hair and brushed my teeth.

Ka ikama moriri. Ka hlatswa meno a ka.
3. What to do:

You will need:

Words make us think! Here are some quick, fun word games to play with your family and at your reading club.

- Prepare for the activity by cutting up paper into small pieces that are about 4 cm × 5 cm. It doesn’t matter if the measurements are not exact. If you can use sheets of different coloured paper, that is even better!
- Give each person between 8 and 10 pieces of paper and a pencil or pen.
- Write one word on each piece of paper. As you do this:
  - don’t think too much about what words to write, rather write down the words that pop into your head!
  - don’t worry about spelling the words correctly – that can always be corrected later, as long as the person writing the word knows what it says.
  - help younger children by writing the words they tell you.

Collect the Nal’ibali characters

Cut out and keep all your favourite Nal’ibali characters and then use them to create your own pictures, posters, stories or anything else you can think of!

About Gogo

Grandchildren: Neo, Mbal

Languages she speaks: isiZulu, isiXhosa, Sepedi, English and a little bit of French

Favourite hobby: running a reading club on Saturday afternoon

Favourite colour: yellow

Favourite drink: tea

Stories she likes: romance novels and stories on the radio

4. Put all the words in an open area (like on a wall or on the floor) where everyone can see them. Then try out one or more of these ideas:

- Choose words to combine into unusual pairs. For example: monster stars, fly flowers.
- Choose one word, then see how many of the other words you can use with it. For example: lost flowers, lost monster, lost stars, lost window, lost fly etc.
- Choose 10 words and see how many different sentence combinations you can make with them. (You may need to use other words, like the, and, a, to, but, to link the words you chose.)
- Choose words and build poems with them. You’ll need to add linking words here too.

Bokella baphetsho ba Nal’ibali

Seho le ho boloka baphetsho boho bao a ba ratang ba Nal’ibali mme a ba sebedise ho ipopela ditshwamatho, diph USER, dipole kapa ntho efe feela eo o ka e nahanang!

Mabapi le Nkgono

Ditlholo: Neo, Mbal

Dipuo tseo a di buang: isiZulu, isiXhosa, Sepedi, English le Seforentjhe hanyane feela

Seo a se ratang hoholo: ho tsamaisa flelapa ya ho bala ka Mqebelo mantsiboya

Mmala ao a o ratang: tsele tsele

Sena seo a se ratang: tsele tsele

Dipole tseo a di ratang: diphuse tsa mabo le dipole tsa radyang

Here’s an idea...

- Cut out and colour in the picture of Gogo and then paste it on a large sheet of paper. Add other things to the picture to make it your own picture. Then write a caption for your picture.
- Write a few paragraphs of the story that Gogo is reading next to the picture of her.
- Keep the picture in a safe place and when you have collected all the Nal’ibali characters, use them to create your own Nal’ibali poster!

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Eba le boiqapelo!

Mantswe o etsa hore re nahanang! Tsho ka dipodipodipoleloka, tse montse tsa mantswe tsa e ka di bobo man le tsa lelapa la hao le flelapo ya hao ya bala.

O tla hloka:

- pampiri, dikere, dipene le dipentshele, Prestik ha e flame

Seo o lokelang ho se etsa:

1. Iloksetse ketsahalo ena ka ho seha pampiri o etsa dikgetjhana tse nyane tse ka bang 4 cm × 5 cm. Ha ho lokgathhele la hao sa metsa hathie. Haeba o ka sebeisa mazephe o dipamotse tsa mebala e flelapo, hoo ho ka mamele ho ketsa!

2. Neo mma ka mong dikgetjhana tse pakseng tsa 8 le 10 tsa dipamotse la dipentshele ka metsa pene.

3. Ngola lentswe le le leng seglekgetjane sa keng sa pampiri. Ha o ntse o etsa sena:
   - a seke wa nahana hathie la mantswe ao o ka a ngaleng, o ka mpa wa ngaleng feela mantswe a fang pele ka ketsa kgatlheng la hao!
   - o a ke wa tshehleka ka mapele lo o pephesheng wa mantswe – se o ka lokowa ha marao, ha feela mma la mahleng la mantswe le a lesa se o ka be leholo
   - tseebo bana ba banyane la nga ho ngola mantswe ao ba a be leholo tse ka e ka


- Kgetha mantswe ao o ka a kopanyang empa a sa tsamae tseebo. Ha etsa mmbala lela la ka eekaleng, le eekaleng a eekaleng.

- Kgetha lele la leng ebe e sebetla hore ka mantswe a maseka ha o sa mangle ao o ka a sebedisa kgatlheng la ketsa. Ha eke mmbala la eekaleng, le eekaleng a eekaleng, le eekaleng a eekaleng, le eekaleng a eekaleng.

- Kgetha mantswe ao o ka mosi la tseebo tseebo ao o ka mantswe ao o ka kopanyang empa a o ka a kopanyang empa a o ka a kopanyang empa a o ka a kopanyang.

Ngola leboqapelo! Leboqapelo a setshwantsho seho o le lehalo. Ha o ntse o etsa sena:

- e la leholo. Ha o ntse o etsa sena:

- e la leholo. Ha o ntse o etsa sena:

- e la leholo. Ha o ntse o etsa sena:

- e la leholo. Ha o ntse o etsa.
Whatzit (Part 2)
by Jude Daly

Amina went to find her middle sister, Fozia.

“What’s that?” asked Fozia.

“Whatzit?” asked Amina. “Whatzit needs a nose.”

“Oh okay,” said Fozia, “but we must be quick, I’m really busy and still have so much to do.” Fozia helped Amina sew a nose for Whatzit, a little turned up nose.

“And eyes,” said Amina. But, already Fozia was not listening. So, Amina went to find her oldest sister, Shreen.

“What’s that?” asked her Dad.


“I’ve got some,” said her Dad, “but we must be quick, I still have so much to do.”

Amina and her Dad sewed on Whatzit’s eyes – two sparkly button eyes.

“And a tail,” said Amina.

“Well, I can’t help you with that,” said her Dad. So, Amina went on to find her oldest sister, Shreen.

“Oh, my gosh,” said Shireen, “I was making it to give to you when you were born.”

“Wow!” said Shireen. “I was making it to give to you when you were born, but I lost it somewhere before it was finished.”

“Amina handed Whatzit to Shireen. “Oh, my gosh,” said Shireen, “it’s so cute. Has it got a name?”

“Whatzit,” said Amina, “and Whatzit needs a tail.”

So Amina and Shreen made a tail for Whatzit – a wiggly-waggly tail! Then Amina and Shreen looked at Whatzit and Whatzit smiled back at them!

“How about curly-wurly hair?” asked Shireen.


“Aunga maqwase ts’ile? Empa jwale o se tsele!” asked Shireen, “Le dipale tse lotho!”

“Amina took Whatzit back to her room and propped him up between Eli and Dassie and opposite Rabbit and Mouse. Then she made a fresh pot of tea.

“Amina drank one cup and so did Eli, Dassie, Rabbit and Mouse, but Whatzit was very thirsty and drank three cups. After all, he had waited for his own things to do.”


Tell us if you liked the story Whatzit – SMS “Bookmark” with your name and your comments to 32545. R1,00 per SMS.

In your next Nal’ibali supplement:
• Encouraging children to play with books
• Nal’ibali puzzle fun
• A special 24-page cut-out-and-keep book containing a story from Africa in celebration of Africa Day on 25 May: The singing chameleon
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Tlatsetsong ya ho bako ano le latelang ya Nal’ibali:
• Ho kgothaletsana bana ho bapala ka dibuka
• Phazele e monate ya Nal’ibali
• Buka e sehlang na le ho ipolokengwa la macuphe a 24 e ilekeng h e rang le pole e tswe ng Afrika bakeng sa ho katleka Letsatsi la Afrika ka la 25 Motsehang: Lenwabo le Binang


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