Get your children writing

As parents we know that literacy is important. And so, a growing number of us read regularly to our children. But there is another part to developing their literacy, namely writing.

We don’t only use writing to pass exams and get a job. It is something that we use every day in different ways to get things done and to communicate with others. Writing is like many crafts – the more you do it, the better you become at it and so the easier you find it! As parents and caregivers we have a special role to play in developing our children’s writing. It is not our job to teach our children to write. Our job is to encourage them to use writing in their daily lives as much as possible. Here are some of the different ways that you can do this.

• Make sure that you have a supply of paper, crayons, pens and pencils at home. Keep them in a place that is easy for your children to reach on their own so that they can draw and write whenever they choose to do so.

• Drawing is often children’s first step towards writing. Show an interest in their drawings by making encouraging comments and asking them about their pictures, for example: “That looks like an interesting house to live in. Who lives there?”

• Give your children opportunities to use writing to organise their lives. For example, let them write lists – a shopping list, a list of things that need to be taken to school tomorrow, a guest list for a birthday party. Don’t worry about spelling. Learning to spell correctly comes with lots of writing.

• Find opportunities for your children to use writing to communicate with others. Let them: write their names on greeting cards, write thank-you notes, write messages to family members at home and write emails or letters to friends and family who live further away.

• Encourage your children to keep journals in which they can write about anything they like: their feelings, things that happened at home and school and/or things they want to remember. Respect your children’s privacy and only read their journals with their permission.

For more tips and ideas on encouraging children to write, go to www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi

Etsa hore bana ba hao ba ngole

Jwolaka batswadi re a tseba hore tsebo ya ho bala le ho ngola e bohlakwa. Mme kahoo, bohoo ba rona re dula re balila bana ba rona. Empa ho na le karolo e ngweo bakeng sa ho aha tsebo ya bana ya ho bala le ho ngola, e leng mongolo.

Ha re sebedisa mongolo feela bakeng sa ho tswela dihloboi dlshepelo kapa ha fumana mosebetsi. Ke ntsa re e re sebedisa tseho le hlela le heng le le ka mkgwa e fapaneng ho phetho dintho le ho hokoana ho le bale.

Ho ngola ho thwana ho mafuta e mengata ya bohoo – ha a dula o a hsebo, o a mafuta ho ngoleng mme ha o a mafuta. Jwolaka batswadi le bohlakomedi re na le sebo se xiphetshang bakeng sa ho mafutang mgaodlo wa bana ba rona. Ha se mosebetsi wa rona ho rula bana ba rona ho ngola. Mosebetsi wa rona ke ho ka kgothaletsa ho sebedisa mongolo hangata mapheleng a bana le tseta ti le tsetatsi kamos ba ka kgongang. Ena ke e mgen ya mkgwa e fapaneng eo o ka e sebedisang ho etsa sama.

• Etsa bonnete ba hare o na le pampini e lekaneng, dikerayone, dipane le dipenishele tse lekaneng lapeng. Di bolole moo ho leng bohoo ho bana ba hao ho di fihlela ka bobona hore ba tse ba kqene ho taka le ho ngola neng neng neng neng neng ho ba balila ho etso ywalo.

• Hangatha ho taka ke mohato wa pele wa bana a lebisaeng ho ngoleng. Bontho Prahasello metakong ya bana ka ho etso ditshwaelo tse ba kgothaletsang le ho bana bota ka ditshwaelo tse bana, ho etso mafuta.

• “Ee o shebokahle le a le nifo e kqeng o molitha ho di fulang ya ho yona. Ke mgen ya fulang moo?”

• Nea bana ba hao menyetla ya ho sebedisa mongolo ho hilipasa maphelo a bana. Ho etso mafuta, e re bana mafuti lekela ka leka ho ya bo, lenana le dintho tse lokengang ho twe na seka leka leka leka leka leka.

• Bolela bana ba hao menyetla ya ho sebedisa mongolo ho hokoana le ho bale. E re bana mafuti a bana dikoretso tse dikateleba, ho mafuti leka ho ya bo, ho mafuti tseka leka ho ya bo, ho mafuti leka ho ya bo, ho mafuti tseka leka ho ya bo.


Read to me. In my language. Mpalle. Ka puo ya ka.
3. Fold it in half again.
2. Fold it in half along the black cut-out-and-keep book
Create your own without even knowing it.
though she is a witch and how she always gets into trouble
... Liewe Heksie. I love how she can't really do magic even
If I was a storybook character, I would be …
... stimulates your imagination and broadens your vocabulary.
Reading for enjoyment …
Finish these sentences:
how you can find stories in places other than a library – Nal'ibali
different languages so children can read the story in their own language. It's also great
I was doing research on the Internet and I came across the Nal'ibali website. I fell in love
What made you decide to do illustrations for Nal'ibali?
What children's books do you still enjoy?
escaped from his cot to explore the big world!
My dad really spoiled me! He read to me before I went to bed every night until I was
Who read to you when you were a child?
What was the first story you ever illustrated?
My dad really spoiled me! He read to me before I went to bed every night until I was about 12 years old. He also used to take me and my brother to the library every week to pick out books.

Drive your imagination

Send us your reading moments and WIN!
Whether it's a photo of your child enjoying a bedtime story or a picture of them reading their first book, send us your children's reading moments to inspire others to create reading moments with their children too. You could win our #ReadingMoments crankie prize pack worth R1000! Email your reading moment picture to info@nalibali.org, or share it on Twitter using the hashtag #ReadingMoments. If selected, your photo will appear on the Nal’ibali Facebook page, and you will receive a book to enjoy with your children, as well as a Nal’ibali T-shirt!

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.

It wasn't me
Ha se nna

Mieke van der Merwe is an art student at the University of Stellenbosch who illustrated some of the Nal’ibali stories on our website! We spoke to her to find out what she thinks about books and illustrating.

Who read to you when you were a child?
I love Roald Dahl's books, but my favourite is The BFG. As a child, it fascinated me how giants caught children's dreams in jars and I often imagined that they might come into my room while I was asleep!

What made you decide to do illustrations for Nal’ibali?
I was doing research on the Internet and I came across the Nal’ibali website. I fell in love with Nal’ibali and knew that I wanted to become involved. I love that there are stories in different languages so children can read the story in their own language. It's also great how you can find stories in places other than a library – Nal’ibali brings them to you in the newspaper and on the radio, internet and your cellphone!

Finish these sentences:
Reading for enjoyment …
... stimulates your imagination and broadens your vocabulary.
If I was a storybook character, I would be …
... Le Mene ka halofo hodima mola wa matsho.

Send us your reading moments and WIN!
Whether it's a photo of your child enjoying a bedtime story or a picture of them reading their first book, send us your children's reading moments to inspire others to create reading moments with their children too. You could win our #ReadingMoments crankie prize pack worth R1000! Email your reading moment picture to info@nalibali.org, or share it on Twitter using the hashtag #ReadingMoments. If selected, your photo will appear on the Nal’ibali Facebook page, and you will receive a book to enjoy with your children, as well as a Nal’ibali T-shirt!

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It wasn't me
Ha se nna
“It wasn’t me.”

“Ha se nna.”

“Tsohlo, Charlene… ho eetsahetseng moo?”

“Dipodi! Di jele dihwete tsa ka tsohle le khabetjhe, kholifolawa ya ka le dinawa, bete hammoho le spinetjhi. Ho na le motho ya siileng heke e butswe!”

“Ha se nna.”

“The goats! They ate up all my carrots and cabbages, my cauliflower and beans, beetroot and spinach too. The gate! They ate up all my carrots and cabbages.”

“Oh my goodness, Charlene … what happened here?”

It wasn’t me
“Don’t open the gate to my garden, Lily!” Ouma always said. “The goats will get in and eat up all my carrots and cabbages and cauliflower and beans; all my beetroot, tomatoes and spinach too. Don’t open the gate to my garden whatever you do.”
“Oh Lily bird! Lies are wrong. They make everyone sad. But in the end you told the truth. I’m glad you did. You will have to help me plant some new carrots and cabbages and some cauliflower, beans and beetroot, and tomatoes and spinach too.”

And that’s what Lily and Ouma did ... the very next day!


Mme yaba ke seo Lily le Ouma ba se etsang ... letsatsing le hlahiamang leo!
“No veggies, Ouma?” asked Dad.

“No veggies tonight! Someone left the gate open!”

“IT WAS ME! I’m sorry, Ouma.”

Ouma looked sad, Mum looked sad, Dad looked sad and Quinton looked sad, Jerome looked sad and Lily ... Lily was sad too!

“Ha ho meroho, Ouma?” ha botsa Ntate.

“Ha ho meroho bosiu ng bona! Ho na le ya siileng heke e butswe!”

“KE NNA! Ke maswabi, Ouma.”

Ouma a shebahala a hloname, Mme a shebahala a hloname, Ntate a shebahala a hloname le Quinton a shebahala a hloname, Jerome a shebahala a hloname le Lily ... Lily le yena o ne a hloname!
Get story active!

Here are some ideas for sharing It wasn’t me with your children.

Before

Talk to your children about making mistakes. Ask them to think of a time when they made a mistake that affected someone else.

• What was the mistake they made?
• How did they feel when they realised that they had made a mistake?
• What did they do next?
• What else could they have done?

During

• Use expression in your voice as you read the different characters’ words. For example, on page 13 shout out Lily’s, “It was me!” in a loud voice and then use a very soft, slightly sad voice when she says, “I’m sorry, Ouma.”
• In the beginning, Lily doesn’t take responsibility for leaving the gate open and letting the goats into her Ouma’s garden. Each time she says, “It wasn’t me”, the cloud above her head grows bigger. Draw your children’s attention to this as you read the story together.

After

Answer the questions below with your children.

• What mistake did Lily make?
• Why do you think Lily didn’t say she was the one who had left the gate open when Ouma first asked?
• Why do you think the picture of the cloud above Lily’s head gets bigger during the story and then “rains” on page 12?
• What do you think Lily learnt?
• Is it sometimes scary to own up if you’ve done something wrong?
• Why or why not?
• Is owning up the right thing to do? Why or why not?

Eba mahlahahlaha ka pale!

Mehopolo e meng ke ena bakeng sa ho ballana Ha se nna mmo ho le bana ba hao.

Pele ho ho bala pale

Busana le bana ba hao mabapi le ho e tshepho. Ba kope ho nakhane ka nako ea ba kileng ba e tshepho e ikganyu ya ama molhlo e mone.

• Ke phoso efe ea ba lêng ba e e tshepho?
• Ba le ba kufutwa ang ba ba e lekalwe bale ba e tshepho?
• Ba le e tshepho ka nako mma mung?
• Ke eng e ngwwe ea ba ka beng ba le e e tshepho?

Nakong ya ho bala pale

Fetakosentse le hao ho ya ka dîtho ba o nitsî o bala mantswe a baphetsho ba fapanang. Ha e tshepho mabatho, le e tshepho la 13 ho e tlhethietsa mantswe a Lily a reng. “Ha se nna!” ka fentse le kgoharâng mme o sebedise le bongole, le banga le fona le ho a re, “Ke maswabi, Ouma.”

Qalong, Lily ha a nke bokarabelo ka ho siya heke e bala pale ba ho gatho dipodi di kene thamang ya Ouma. Nako le nako ha a nitsî a re, “Ha se nna”, leru le ka hodima hlooho ya hae le ntse le hola. Etsa hore bana ba hao ba e lekalwe sena ha le ntse le bala pale mmo ho.

Kamora ho bala pale

Araba dipotsa tse ka fise mona mmo ho le bana ba hao.

• Ke phoso efe ea Lily a lêng ba e e tshepho?
• O nakhane hore ka habanang ka ta a sa a dîtho hore ka a re ea naka ikhaleeyo ya Lily a sa. Nako le nako ha a nitsî a re, “Ha se nna”, leru le ka hodima hlooho ya Lily le dzera le ntse le hola le hala pale le e lekalwe le naka e lêng le e tshepho a na leqephong la 12?
• O nakhane hore ka naka lehohelo Lily a o futho leka?
• Na ho a tshoesa ka nako tse ding ho duma le ntse e lekalwe e tshepho? Habanang o re Ee kopa Tjhe?
• Na ho duma le ntse e lekalwe le mma e lekalwe?

Kamora ho bala pale

Araba dipotsa tse ka fise mona mmo ho le bana ba hao.

• Ke phoso efe ea Lily a lêng ba e e tshepho?
• O nakhane hore ka habanang ka ta a sa a dîtho hore ka a re ea naka ikhaleeyo ya Lily a sa. Nako le nako ha a nitsî a re, “Ha se nna”, leru le ka hodima hlooho ya Lily le dzera le ntse le hola le hala pale le e lekalwe le naka e lêng le e tshepho a na leqephong la 12?
• O nakhane hore ka naka lehohelo Lily a o futho leka?
• Na ho a tshoesa ka nako tse ding ho duma le ntse e lekalwe e tshepho? Habanang o re Ee kopa Tjhe?
• Na ho duma le ntse e lekalwe le mma e lekalwe?

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 Josh

Age: 12
Lives with: his father and his aunt
Speaks: English, Afrikaans and a little Sesotho
Enjoys: anything to do with computers and cellphones, building and flying kites
Enjoys reading: teen stories on his cellphone, books about aeroplanes
Likes to read aloud to: Bella, Neo and Afrika
When he grows up, he wants to be: a pilot

Bokella baphetshwa ba Nal’ibali

Seha le ho bokella baphetshwa kaofela ba Nal’ibali bao o ba ratang mme o ba sebedise ho ipopela ditshwantho, dipholetse, dipole kapa ntha efe kopa efe ea a ka e nahanang!

Mabapi le Josh

Dilemo: 12
O dula le: nake tse la le phakagade
O bua: English, Afrikaans le Sesotho hanyane feela
O natefelwa ke: keng kopa eng e keneletse nga dithwana ka isanelo, ho e tshepho le a fofisa dikhoate
O natefelwa ka ho bala: dipole tsa batlhato seletsofane ya ha, dibuka tse buang ka ditofane
O rato ho bala hadimo ha a bala: Bella, Neo le Afrika Ha a hola, o bata ba: malofisi wa sefolane
The guinea fowl that laid golden eggs

Part 1

Retold by Helen Brain

Once upon a time there was a very poor man called Mzi. The children were hungry, and we have no money to buy food,” cried his wife, Pumla. “What are we going to do?”

“I will go hunting,” said Mzi. “If I can catch some guinea fowl, then we will have a tasty meal.” Off he set into the veld with his catapult and some small stones. Soon he came across a fat guinea fowl in a clearing in the long grass. Mzi took care to aim and was about to fire the catapult when …

“He should believe what you say, how can you be so selfish, my dear?” Mzi carefully picked it up. “It’s very definitely golden!”

So Mzi put down the catapult. “What do you mean?” he asked. “Can you really make me rich?”

“I lay golden eggs,” said the guinea fowl. “If you promise not to kill me, I will lay an egg for you.”

Mzi scooped up the bird and hurried home.

“Oh no,” exclaimed Pumla when he got home. “Kill the bird so I can put it in the pot.”

“Ah, dinner,” laughed his wife. “Pass me the golden eggs.”

“Oh no,” said Mzi. “This isn’t just any bird. This is a magic guinea fowl that lays golden eggs.”

Mzi put down the bird and hurried home. “Ah, dinner,” exclaimed Pumla when he got home. “Kill the bird so I can put it in the pot.”

“Oh no,” said Mzi. “This isn’t just any bird. This is a magic guinea fowl that lays golden eggs.”

Pumla. “What are we going to do?”

“The children are hungry, and we have no money to buy food,” cried his wife, Pumla. “What do you think will happen next? Will the guinea fowl lay more golden eggs? Find out next week!”

The poor man got a terrible fright. It clucked so hard that it laid an egg, right in his face. “It must be pure gold.”

Carefully Mzi picked it up. “It’s very heavy,” he said. “It must be pure gold.”

“I’m going to sell it,” said Mzi. “I’m going to make a fortune!”

“Can I go now?” asked the guinea fowl.

“If course not,” snapped Pumla, snatching the bird up and putting it in a cage. “You must stay here and lay more eggs.”

Then Pumla and Mzi went off to the gold merchant. They sold the egg for lots of money – enough to buy food for a year and a new dress for Pumla. Mzi was very happy. His children had food, his wife had a new dress and he had a magic guinea fowl that laid golden eggs.

What do you think will happen next? Will the guinea fowl lay more golden eggs? Find out next week!

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In your next Nal’ibali supplement:

- Making up stories with your children
- Reading Club corner: Days to celebrate in September
- The final part of the Story Corner story, The guinea fowl that laid golden eggs

Retold by Helen Brain

Kgalagakeho ne no ena le mona ya futsahieng haholo ya neng a latlato Mzi.

“Bara ba tsabale, mme e ka no tsholetse ya no reka dija,” ha o manasa mabapi wa haholo, Pumla. “Ke tlo ego etsha?”

“Ke tla ya tsama,” ha ralo Mzi. “Ha nka lumana kagaka e nngwe fethi, re tla le dijo tse monate.”

Bara a o tšama ya o na phakwe a riwe seka sa hae le möre a mona wa. Hang a kagaka la kagaka o renne e sebako se bokhaleho ka hae lehlo kgwelo bo bo lela bo. Ke o supa ka seka ka fihako lela mme o ne a le hau le ho thunya ka seka ho …

“Ke a o kopa Ne, a se ke we thunya,” ha ila kagaka. “Ke nnyana yena a kgwelo.”

Mzi a bea seها fethi. “O boelelo!” a botsa. “O a ha la nka la wina nketse la?”

“Ke bebelele a kagaka,” ha araba kagaka. “Ha o o mpepo ho ha e nna nqholo, ke ila a boelelo ka bellaha lela.”

Mzi o phamola nnyana e o mme a potlokete lelo. “Na, dijo tsa mantshibaya,” ha haba Pumla ha mona a fihelo ho. “Habhi kagaka eke o tsebe ho e kema ka pitsing.”


“O se ka tšama ya kgalagakeho ke kagaka ya nngwe la e nngwe la e nngwe e o e ufihang,” mabapi wa haholo a tsholetse ho. “Nnilelela lekane se gape lo leka.”

“Ke a o kopa lelo, o se ke wa thunya,” ha ila kagaka. “Ke nnyana yena a kgwelo.”


“Ke a o nka photho ho da kagaka lelo.”

“Na o se o kile wa leka melodi ya rona ya Nal’ibali ya founo le Ne fumane ho Facebook: www.facebook.com/nalibaliSA

Tlatsetsong ya hao e latelang ya Nal’ibali:

- Ho igapela dipale mmoho le bana ba hao
- Buka e-seheng-le-ho-ipolokwela, Tuft and Patch ba bapala dipadidi
- Huku ya Telape ya ho Bala: Matsotsi a keletswang ka kgwedi ya Loete
- Karolo ya ha qetela ya pale ya Hukung ya Dipale, Kgaka e neng e bebelele mahe a kagata

Na a se a kile wa leka melodi ya rona ya Nal’ibali ya founo le mafela a sefihelo sa founo? Nea founo ya hao fohelo ya tsebo ya hao le ho ngola mme a bontšhe tshetho ya hao bakeng sa ho bala monate ka ho etela ho www.nalibali.mobi bakeng sa leiotla la ditjarolo bakeng sa founo ya hao.