Family stories

Every family has stories to tell! Some of these stories might be ones that were told to you as a child. These could include: stories about imaginary or mythical characters that are passed down from generation to generation, stories about trickery or bravery, or stories that teach about the values of perseverance or forgiveness.

But there are other family stories too. These are the stories of the everyday experiences of members of your family now and in the past. It’s the stories we tell when our children say to us, “Mom, tell me a story about when you were little.” Or it’s the stories we tell at supper time about what happened to us as we were trying to reach a cereal box on the top shelf of the supermarket this morning. As we share these stories about our everyday lives, we build connections with our children – we allow them to know more about us.

But in addition to this, listening to our stories helps children learn how stories work. For example, they learn that stories have a beginning, a middle and an end, and they learn that the events in a story help it build up to a climax, which is the most exciting part of the story. Knowing how stories work, helps children when they are reading stories in books and writing their own stories.

As we talk about what happened to us today or long ago, we often include how we felt at the time, for example, “It was really, really dark and we were so scared, but we kept walking towards the bathroom because we wanted to find out what the noise was.” When we talk about how we felt in a situation, we give our children the language to talk about their own feelings. Being able to express how you feel, is something that helps children to feel confident about themselves.

Stories about real or imaginary people outside of our families, help children to connect with the wider world. The stories of our families are as unique as the people in our family! They are part of each family’s history and they help children to know where they come from and who they are.

Family Stories competition

Etla www.nalibali.org le www.nalibali.mobi bakeng sa thahlelwe seding tse ding tsa ho pheta pale!

Visit www.nalibali.org and www.nalibali.mobi for more information and tips on storytelling!

read to me. In my language.

Drive your imagination.
During June, Nal'ibali ran an exciting campaign drive called #Just15Minutes. We asked parents and caregivers to show their commitment to developing their children’s literacy during this Youth Month by pledging to read and tell stories with them for 15 minutes every day.

We got hundreds of pledges from parents and caregivers all over the country and a number of celebrity parents made pledges of their own. They included jazz-singer Judith Sephuma, comedian Rob van Vuuren, 567 Cape Talk presenter Pippa Hudson, author Lauren Beukes, storyteller and writer Gcina Mhlophe, and Metro FM host and TV presenter Criselda Kananda.

Members of Nal’ibali’s on-the-ground team carried out surprise 15-minute storytellings in public spaces to make parents and families aware of the power of reading with their children every day. For example:

- In the Free State, Sihembiso Nhlapo and his team read aloud to parents and children at the MUOMP clinic at Phelindaba, saying, “This is the start of many things!”
- Rinoa Sithwari shared a surprise 15-minutes reading at the Polokwane City Library’s Father’s Day celebrations, where she encouraged parents to make their pledges. Rinoa said, “The parents felt really encouraged by the drive and said that they felt challenged by the whole campaign. They said it motivated them to make time to read and tell their children stories!”
- In Uitenhage, Malusi Puwe held a surprise 15-minutes reading for the children of Langa informal settlement. “We asked parents to pledge and to turn this month-long journey into a daily habit!” he said.
- In Johannesburg, Bongani Godide shared the importance of reading with their children every day. For example:

  • Forestimate mane, Sihembiso Nhlapo le sehlopha sa hae bo lle ba balli batswadi le bana felsonking ya MUOMP mane Phelindaba, mme ba re, “Tsa no ephedi ya dikho tsa ngato se lufhi!”
  • Rinno Sithwari o lle a bala o sa lebela lebala motseato a 15 mane Laeborarong ya Polokwane City ka mekete la Letsoho la Bontate, moo a lling o kgaotla ase batswadi ho otsa ditshhepsa tsa bana. Rinno a lle a re, “Batswadi bo lle ba ikutsha ba kgathoediwe ke lebela leka mme ba re ba ikutsha ba phepheditswe ke lebela leka likha. Bo le ba re bo ka kgatleleni le bothela thoko noke ya ho balli le ho phetela bana ba bana dipale!”
  • Mane Utshonhe, Makus Puwe o lle a bala o sa lebela lebala bangeng sa motseato e 15 bakeng sa bana ba mekie kung ya Langa. “Re lle a ra bana batswadi ho otsa ditshhepsa le ho fetsa lela ka Kgwedi ya ditlhatse la etsa leketsa le lelaetsa!” o lle a re.
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Ditha sa sehlopha sa Nal’ibali tse obotsang sehlopheng di lle ya pheta dipale sa metsatso e 15 dibakeng sa sethlopte sa lebela, leha hlakomedi ose batswadi le matlapa ka mma a ho bala mma no le bana ba bana kamehla. Ho atsa mahoko

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Nal’ibali news

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Theo and the cat burglar

Theo le leshozi la dikatse

Wendy Hartmann
Joan Rankin

...and to this very day,” said Theo in a deep voice at the end of the story, “the creature still walks the streets.” He closed the book. The cats were still shuddering. Theo was about to remind them that it was just a story, when, KERDOOF!

There was a noise outside.

Theo went out the front door and looked up and down the street. There was nothing there. “It must have been the wind,” he said and went back inside. There was nothing there either. Not a single cat, not even a sign of a whisker or tail. "Where is everyone?" asked Theo. There was no answer. Theo started to search the rooms. In the kitchen, crouching in the corner, he found a very scared kitten.

"A big man took all the cats," she said. "He tied them in sacks and went out the back door. He put them in his van. He said he could sell cats for lots of money."


Ho ne ho se na karabo. Theo a qala ho batla ka diphaposing. Ka kitjhineng, e kotlobane mane hukung, a fumana katsenyana e tshohileng haholo.


"What was noise outside?" asked Theo. No one answered. The cats dived for cover. "Don’t worry," he said, "I’ll go and see."
Stay here,” said Theo and ran outside. He saw the van already driving out through the gate. Theo ran as fast as he could. He took a flying leap and landed on the van’s roof. Suddenly, in the middle of the road he saw the most frightening thing he had ever seen in his life. It was big and black with tattered clothes and long arms. The van swerved, but it still bumped the monster. Then it crashed into the fence. The back doors flew open and out fell lots of sacks.

But not Theo. He stayed at the library. “Now, I wonder which story the burglar landed in,” he said looking at a pile of books. And he sat down and started to read.

Theo lived with his mother and his brother and sister right next to the library. He loved to read, and where he lived there were hundreds of books.
“Food!” screamed the monster.

“Sheila?” shouted Theo when he realised that the monster was, in fact, Mr Khumalo’s pig who lived in the field near Cat Cottage.

“Let us out!” shrieked the cats in the sacks.

The burglar was terrified. He turned and ran down the road as fast as he could. Theo let the cats out of the sacks and Sheila tried to get out of the scarecrow clothes.

“Dijo!” ha hoeletsa setshosa.

“Sheila?” ha hoeletsa Theo ha a elellwa hore setshosa seo, hantlentle, ke kolobe ya Mong Khumalo e neng e dula thoteng e haufi le Koteisi ya Dikatse.

“Re ntshe ka mona!” ha hoeletsa dikatse ka mokotleng.

Leshodu le ne le tshohile. La thinya mme la matha ho theosa mmila ka potlako ka moo le ka kgonang. Theo a ntsha dikatse ka mokotleng mme Sheila a leka ho tswa ka hara diaparo tsa setshosa sa dinonyana.

Fold 3

Back at Cat Cottage, the cats closed the curtains, lit candles and toasted sardines as Theo started to read. It was an awful story called “The Mad Monster.” Some of the cats grabbed their blankets, others grabbed each other. They shivered and shook as Theo read.

“Well, he’s gone,” said Sheila. “I’m going home.”

“Jwale, o tsamaile,” Sheila a rialo. “Nna ke ya hae.”

“Our sardines!” said the cats. “We’re going home too. We’re starving.” One by one the cats turned, tails straight, noses in the air and went back to Cat Cottage to toast the rest of their sardines.


and shook as Theo read. They shivered. “The Mad Monster.” Some of the cats grabbed their blankets, others grabbed each other. They shivered and shook as Theo read. It was an awful story called “The Mad Monster.” Some of the cats grabbed their blankets, others grabbed each other. They shivered and shook as Theo read.
One day Theo’s mother asked him a question, “Theo, what do you want to be when you grow up?”

Theo was surprised. “I don’t know,” he said. “I will have to look in some books.”

Ka tsatsi le leng mme wa Theo a mmotsa potso, “Theo, o batlha ho ba eng mohla o hodileng?”

Theo o ne a makete, “Ha ke tsebe,” a araba jwalo. “Ke tla tlameha ho ya sheba dibukeng.”

“AAAAHHH!” screamed the burglar. (So many books landed on him that he was squashed right into someone else’s story!)
Have you ever read any books by Roald Dahl? He is a world-famous author of children’s books. He was born in Wales on 13 September 1916 and died on 23 November 1990. Although he wrote in English, his books have been translated into 34 languages and are read by children all over the world.

7 interesting facts about Roald Dahl
1. He kept a secret diary from when he was eight years old.
2. He wrote short stories for adults first before writing for children. He did not start writing for children until he had children of his own.
3. His first children’s book, James and the Giant Peach, was only published when he was 45 years old.
4. His favourite colour was yellow and he loved the smell of bacon frying.
5. His favourite sweet treat was chocolate, but he didn’t like chocolate cake or chocolate ice cream!
6. He wrote every story in pencil because he couldn’t type – and he wrote on yellow paper!
7. He always kept an ideas book close by. In this he wrote down all his best ideas when he thought of them because he said that good ideas were like dreams – soon forgotten!

Some books by Roald Dahl
The Big End of the World
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator
Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator
George’s Marvellous Medicine
The Enormous Crocodile
The BFG
Some books by Roald Dahl

Your family’s story could win you a book hamper worth R1 000 AND could appear in the Nal’ibali supplement for all our readers to enjoy.

WIN!
This Heritage Month, Nal’ibali is calling on South Africans to revive and celebrate our rich culture of storytelling. Stories help nurture a sense of self-worth, connection and belonging among children and their parents or caregivers. And the best thing is, sharing stories is as natural to human beings as eating and sleeping! Some of the stories we tell today have been passed down from generation to generation, while others are new ones that we create ourselves.

Does your family have a funny story about relatives that everyone likes to hear at the dinner table? Does your family have a funny story about relatives that everyone likes to hear at the dinner table? Whatever your family story is, write it down or use your cellphone to record it for our Heritage Day Family Stories competition. Submit your written or recorded story to info@nalibali.org, or PRAESA, Suite 17−201, Building 17, Waverley Business Park, Waverley Road, Mowbray, 7700, Cape Town.

Have your family’s story could win you a book hamper worth R1 000 AND could appear in the Nal’ibali supplement for all our readers to enjoy. Closing date: 24 October 2014.

We regret we cannot return your written stories or recordings, so please keep a copy!

HLOLA!
Kwegading ena ya Bofihaba, Nal’ibali e mema Mafrika Borwa ho itsoseletsa le ho keteka bojhibe ba rona ba rona le runeng ba ho pheta dipale. Dipale di tshoana ha fepela maikutla a boitshepo, kgokahano le ho ha leloko baneng le ho batalwadi le bahlomokedi ba bana. Mme ntho e meloemo ka ho fetisita ke here, ho fetelana dipale ke ntho ya tshabo tshwotse jwale, dipale di tshwana le boitshepo – mme e lebaleha ha tlobo! Ha tse ning tsa dipale tse re di phetang koqo! Ha tse fetisitsweng melokang le melokang, ha tse ding e le tse ntho tse re qapeleng tsona.

Pale ya lelapa la hao e kwa o hapela hempara ya dibuka tse jang R1 000 MMÉ e ka hlahella flatsetsong ya Nal’ibali ho natefelwa babadi bobaha ba rona.

Dibuka tse ding tse ngotsweng ke Roald Dahl
Ha wole, dipuo tsa Afrika Borwa tse dibuka tse R1 000 MMÉ e ka lelapa ya hae ya Senyesemane, dipuo tse jang Roald Dahl di tsebahalang lefatsheng lohlo ya bibuka tse bana. O ne a hlahella tlatsetsong ya Nal’ibali ho natefelwa babadi bobaha ba rona. Letsefaito la ho kwatwa. 24 Mphalanise 2014. Re mohau ne re ka la gosiemina ho kgutlisa dipale tse lona tse ngotsweng kopa tse rekolotlweng, kahoo ka kopa tsetsetse le kha!}

Dinitha tse 7 tse kgohlisang mabapo le Roald Dahl
1. O ne a ena le dayari ya sephiri ho tloha a sa le dilemo tse robedi.
2. O ile a ngola dipakelegutshwe tsa batho ba bohlole pele a ngola tsa bana. Ha a a qala ha ngola bana dipale ha tshhla e eho e le bana bao e le tseg ba ha e le tseg ba ha.
3. Buka ya hae ya pale ya bana, James and the Giant Peach, e le y a qala ha phatlalatsa ha le le dilemo tse 45!
4. Mmala oo a neng a o a rata ke tshwana, empa a ne a sa rate kuku ya tshhle tse tseleli e le petse ya tshhle.
5. Kaofela dipale tse hae a ne a ngola ka lehlashe dibuka tse hae e le hlahella ka lehlashe e le sa ka la gosiemina – mme a ne a ngola kephela ke lelakhi a ka la gosiemina.
6. Kaofela dipale tse hae a ne a ngola ka lehlashe dibuka tse hae e le hlahella ka lehlashe e le e lehlashe e le sa ka la gosiemina.
One day Lwazi found an old push chair in the empty field near his home. It was broken, but it had four good wheels. He took them off and looked at them. “I wonder what I should make,” he thought. “I know, I’ll make a go-kart.”

So off he went to the carpenter. “Please, Sir, do you have some old wood for me?”

The carpenter went to his wood pile and found Lwazi three old planks. “Here you are,” he said. “Be careful now. Don’t get a splinter.”

Now Lwazi had four wheels and three planks, but he needed some bolts.

So off he went to the harbour. There was Mr Smit, the fisherman, offloading snoek from his boat. “Mr Smit, do you have some old rope for me, please?”

“Here you are,” said the fisherman. “Two metres. Be careful now. Don’t hurt yourself when you cut it. Don’t cut your finger by mistake.”

Now Lwazi had four wheels, three planks of wood, two metres of rope, but he needed some bolts. So off he went to the mechanic at Granville’s Garage. “Please, Sir, may I have some bolts?”

“Here you are,” he said. “Be careful now. Don’t hurt yourself when you drill the holes.”

Now Lwazi had four wheels, three planks of wood, two metres of rope, and a handful of nuts and bolts. Off he went to his uncle’s house. Uncle Rodney had a nice big yard, and Lwazi set to work.

All morning Lwazi sawed and hammered, and hammered and drilled, and drilled and sawed. When afternoon came he was very tired, but his go-kart wasn’t finished. He still needed to sand it smooth so he didn’t get a splinter.

Get your supplement next week and find out what Lwazi and his friends learn when they have their first ride in the go-kart!