Story Power: The good news

We all know that stories play an important role in our lives. And, if you read and tell stories with children regularly, you’ll also know how enjoyable and satisfying you all find this. But did you know that children get lots of other benefits from reading and listening to stories? Here are 10 important things about the power of stories that we’d like to share with you.

1. By the time children are two years old, they have learnt 75% of what they will learn in their lifetime. So, whether your baby is chewing on a board book or your toddler wants you to tell the same story over and over again, when you read and tell stories, your children are gaining essential knowledge about language and stories that will also benefit them later.

2. Ka nako eo bana b a qe tang dilemo tse pedi, ba se ba ihutle 75% ya se b a hlang ho ihutla sona baphethang ba bana bohle. Kaha, e bang kosa la hax le Ntlana buka ya khotsebota kapa ngwana e morenyane o bala hore o mo phietsi pale trangotangota, ba a bala le ho phetsa dipale, bana ba b a buma nama tebisa ya bohlokwa masi le p o le dipale tse tlang ha b a tsewela mosele ha m ora.

3. Ho phetsa dipale ho bala ho hlatoetsa bana molota e kightshang wa p uo e nenning le e raremaneng. Ho tebisa tebisa bana ya puo le kamo re e sebedisang ka teng, mme ha ba la mekgwe e meleha ya ho iikwirangtse ka bobona.

4. Research shows that children who are read to at home before they begin school, are more likely to be successful at school. Dipatsia le basitho hare ha bana ba b a laping p e le ba q a le seki, hangata ba ba le tsewela seki.

5. Children who read a lot instead of watching television, can concentrate for longer. Bana ba bakang haholo ha ana le ho shebela theweshane, ba k gana ho mamele nako e telela ba ba rutiwa.

6. Children who hear stories, whether the stories are told or read, are the first to form abstract concepts in different subjects at school. In other words, listening to stories makes you more brainy! Bana ba u luvang dipale, e bang dipale tseo ba di phetsela kapa ba di balikwe, le bana ba p a h a diipela qalala le sa tshwanele dithung tse lapaneng seki. Ka masele re mungi, ha mamele dipale ha eetsa hore o be bohlele hore fela!

7. Storytelling and reading expose children to a special form of language which is rich and complex. It deepens their knowledge of language and how we use it, and offers them new ways of expressing themselves. Ho phetsa dipale ho bala ho hlatoetsa bana molota e kightshang wa p uo e nenning le e raremaneng. Ho tebisa tebisa bana ya puo le kamo re e sebedisang ka teng, mme ha ba la mekgwe e meleha ya ho iikwirangtse ka bobona.

8. Children who read a lot feel good to children, they become readers. We all repeat things that are pleasurable. Ha dipale le ho bala e le nin e tse no feta e le bana ba b a le tsewela seki.

9. The children of parents and caregivers who believe that reading is something you do for pleasure, will have more positive views about reading than those whose parents only think of reading as a skill.

10. Children who read a lot continue to be readers in homes where books and reading are valued. Bana ba na le bokgoni ba ba na le bokgoni ba ba b a laping p e le ba q a le seki.

Inside Win a R100 gift card from Jet! KAHARE igapele karete ya mpho e ang R100 e tswang Jet!

Drive your imagination
4. Cut along the red dotted lines.
3. Fold it in half again.

cut-out-and-keep book
Create your own

Famous South African storyteller, Gcina Mhlophe, celebrates her birthday in October and we’d like to celebrate her amazing talent for sharing stories by telling you about three of her storybooks.

Our Story Magic and Stories of Africa (University of KwaZulu-Natal Press) are both collections of wonderfully told and beautifully illustrated traditional African folk tales. These stories are great for reading aloud to groups of children, but work just as well as stories for sharing at home with your own children. Both books are available in English, and Stories of Africa is also available as audio stories on CD in Xhosa, Zulu and English.

Let your children journey with young Zoleka in Hi, Zoleka! as they prepare to recite a verse from the Bible in front of the whole church on Palm Sunday! Will she remember all the words? This storybook is available in English, Afrikaans, Xhosa and Zulu.

Dintle is the baby of the Nal’ibali family! Although she is only 9 months old, she already loves books and gets very excited every day after breakfast when her mother reads to her.

Dintle is the baby of the Nal’ibali family! Although she is only 9 months old, she already loves books and gets very excited every day after breakfast when her mother reads to her.

Win! Igapele!

To stand a chance of winning one of four Jet Gift Cards worth R100 each, send us the word “Dintle” and tell us how old children should be when you start reading to them. Email your answer to letters@nalibali.org, or SMS it to 32545 (standard data rates apply). Competition closes on 13 November 2014.

Ho ba le monyetla wa ho igapele a ngwe ya Dikarete tse nne tsa Mpho tsa Jet tsoleng ba R100 karete ka ngwe, re rammle leswelo lema “Dintle” mme o re bolele hore bana ba lekela ho ba ditlheno se a ke a qalo ho ba baqo ba fema karabo ya hao ho lettersNalibali.org, kopa ramela ka SMS no 32545 fumeneha ka tsa data tse tsebokuto o tse swelshing ho a seboketo. Thobodisa e tswa a ka 13 Pudungwana 2014.

Club: vgi! the “Reading & storytelling tips” section on the Nal’ibali website to find the answer.
Go to: http://nalibali.org/reading_story_topics/when-you-should-start-reading/

Terms and conditions: To enter, you must be 16 years or older. Employees of PRAESA are not eligible to enter.

Shelo ya dibuka ya Nal’ibali
Mopheli wa dipale ya tsabahalan Afrika Borwa, Gcina Mhlophe, o keteke letsatsi la hae la tswana kgweyi ya Mphalane mme re lokatsa ho keteke talente ya hae e makatsang ya ho pheta dipale ka ho le phetela ka tse tharo tsa dibuka tsa hae tsa dipale.


E re bana ba hao ba nka lelo mmo ho Zoleka o mpanye ho hae ka Hi, Zoleka! Ha a tseboketo ho extsa temana e tseng Bibeleng ka pele ho phetlhweng yoha ka Sontsa sa Dipalema! O o tla hopola mantswe kae? Buka ena ya dipale e fumaneho ka English, Afrikaans, tsiXhosa le tsiZulu.
Come back, Cat! That's not yours.
Kgutla, Katse! Ha se ya hao.

Come back, Cat! What have you got?
Kgutla, Katse! O na le eng?

We believe every child should own a hundred books by the age of five.
Became a book-sponsor and help change the world.

Karen Lilje    Nicola Rijsdijk
Sam Scarborough


Get involved at bookdash.org
Come back, Cat! Play with me.

Kgutla, Katse! Tlo bapale le mma.
Sit in your basket. Stay right here!
Dula ka serotong sa hao. Dula hona mona!

Cat?
Katse?

Eo ha se motswalle wa hael
That’s not your friend!
Dula ka serotong sa hao. Dula hona mona!
Come back, Cat! That’s way too high.
Kgutla, Karse! Ho phahame haholo.

Stay in your basket. It’s nap time now.
Dula ka hara seroto sa hao. Ke nako ya ho robala jwale.
Get story active!

You can share *Come back, Cat!* with your children in different ways. As you read the story, draw their attention to the details in the illustrations by commenting on them or asking questions such as the following.

- **pages 4 and 5:** What are the children doing?
- **pages 6 and 7:** What are the children doing? Do you think he is enjoying himself?
- **pages 8:** Oh dear! What a naughty cat! What is he doing now?
- **pages 9:** Point to the cat's tail! Look! He's still got the wool from the sock around his tail.
- **pages 12:** Look at all those feathers! Who do you think they belong to?
- **pages 15:** What is the cat doing now? Why do you think he is so bored?

Here are some ideas for after you have read the story.

- **Let older children read the book in their mother-tongue first and then in the other language of the supplement.**
- **Suggest that your children create their own stories based on this story, but using another animal as the main character, for example, *Come back, Frog!* Let them draw the pictures and write the words for their “new” stories.
- **Suggest that your children make their own storybooks that they can read to others.**
- **Let your club.**
- **Get story active!**

- **Suggest that your children write a story or poem (or draw a picture) about something sad that has happened in their lives.** Visit the Nal’ibali “Recommended reads” section for our list of recommended reads to help children dealing with grief, loss and illness.
- **Encourage children who can already read to a novel length story to read the book aloud to younger children.**
- **Let them enjoy themselves? Do you think he is enjoying himself?**

**Hanging ya Tlelapo ya ho Bala**

Na o batlana le se le ka tsepamisang makutlelo ho sona baka ba ka ngwe ya tlelapo ya ho bala ka kgwedi ya Pudwungana? Kgetha matsatseta ana o a ka efika mono mme o rere diketsahalo o ipapisitse ka ona kopa o leke oe ting tseng ya sebaka sa lona sa tlelapo ya ho bala ka diphousetara tsa “Dumela”.

Pudwungana Kgwedi ya Matjhaba ya Buka ya Ditshwenti. E bana ba thwatshwale pale ya buka ya ditshwenti eo bana eo bana ba kgothaditse. 16 November International Day of Tolerance Share a story you know that demonstrates how important it is for all of us to be understanding and tolerant of others, especially those we do not necessarily agree with.

13 November World Kindness Day Encourage children to help each other in their day to day activities around it or try some of the ones suggested below.

15 November Children’s Grief Awareness Day Suggest that the children write a story or poem (or draw a picture) about something sad that has happened in their lives. 16 November International Day of Tolerance Share a story you know that demonstrates how important it is for all of us to be understanding and tolerant of others, especially those we do not necessarily agree with.

21 November World Hello Day Let the children make and decorate your reading club space with “hello” posters. Encourage them to write and decorate this greeting in all of South Africa’s official languages as well as other languages spoken by the children at your club.

28 November Buy Nothing Day Suggest that the children read their own storybooks that they can read to others.

**Hukung ya Tlelapo ya ho Bala**

O ka orolela ya pale ya Kgutla, Katse! Mmoho le bana ba hao ka mekgwena tsa tshiphang. Ha o ntsa o bala pale, e bana hore balele ditshweng tse tshawela ka tsong kopa ho botsa dipotso le kag tse letlane. 18 November World Children’s Day Let older children create their own stories based on this story, but using another animal as the main character, for example, *Come back, Frog!* Let them draw the pictures and write the words for their “new” stories.

**Reading club corner**

Are you looking for a focus for each of your reading club sessions in November? Choose from the dates below and then plan activities around it or try some of the ones suggested below.

**November International Picture Book Month** Let the children act out the story of their favourite picture book.

13 November World Kindness Day Encourage children who can already read to a story to a child not yet able to read for themselves.

15 November Children’s Grief Awareness Day Suggest that the children write a story or poem (or draw a picture) about something sad that has happened in their lives. Visit the Nal’ibali “Recommended reads” section at www.nalibali.org for our list of recommended reads to help children dealing with grief, loss and illness.

16 November International Day of Tolerance Share a story you know that demonstrates how important it is for all of us to be understanding and tolerant of others, especially those we do not necessarily agree with.

21 November World Hello Day Let the children make and decorate your reading club space with “hello” posters. Encourage them to write and decorate this greeting in all of South Africa’s official languages as well as other languages spoken by the children at your club.

28 November Buy Nothing Day Suggest that the children read their own storybooks that they can read to others.

**November International Picture Book Month** Let the children act out the story of their favourite picture book.

13 November World Kindness Day Encourage children who can already read to a story to a child not yet able to read for themselves.

15 November Children’s Grief Awareness Day Suggest that the children write a story or poem (or draw a picture) about something sad that has happened in their lives. Visit the Nal’ibali “Recommended reads” section at www.nalibali.org for our list of recommended reads to help children dealing with grief, loss and illness.

16 November International Day of Tolerance Share a story you know that demonstrates how important it is for all of us to be understanding and tolerant of others, especially those we do not necessarily agree with.

21 November World Hello Day Let the children make and decorate your reading club space with “hello” posters. Encourage them to write and decorate this greeting in all of South Africa’s official languages as well as other languages spoken by the children at your club.

28 November Buy Nothing Day Suggest that the children read their own storybooks that they can read to others.

**November International Picture Book Month** Let the children act out the story of their favourite picture book.

13 November World Kindness Day Encourage children who can already read to a story to a child not yet able to read for themselves.

15 November Children’s Grief Awareness Day Suggest that the children write a story or poem (or draw a picture) about something sad that has happened in their lives. Visit the Nal’ibali “Recommended reads” section at www.nalibali.org for our list of recommended reads to help children dealing with grief, loss and illness.

16 November International Day of Tolerance Share a story you know that demonstrates how important it is for all of us to be understanding and tolerant of others, especially those we do not necessarily agree with.

21 November World Hello Day Let the children make and decorate your reading club space with “hello” posters. Encourage them to write and decorate this greeting in all of South Africa’s official languages as well as other languages spoken by the children at your club.

28 November Buy Nothing Day Suggest that the children read their own storybooks that they can read to others.

**November International Picture Book Month** Let the children act out the story of their favourite picture book.

13 November World Kindness Day Encourage children who can already read to a story to a child not yet able to read for themselves.

15 November Children’s Grief Awareness Day Suggest that the children write a story or poem (or draw a picture) about something sad that has happened in their lives. Visit the Nal’ibali “Recommended reads” section at www.nalibali.org for our list of recommended reads to help children dealing with grief, loss and illness.

16 November International Day of Tolerance Share a story you know that demonstrates how important it is for all of us to be understanding and tolerant of others, especially those we do not necessarily agree with.

21 November World Hello Day Let the children make and decorate your reading club space with “hello” posters. Encourage them to write and decorate this greeting in all of South Africa’s official languages as well as other languages spoken by the children at your club.

28 November Buy Nothing Day Suggest that the children read their own storybooks that they can read to others.

**November International Picture Book Month** Let the children act out the story of their favourite picture book.

13 November World Kindness Day Encourage children who can already read to a story to a child not yet able to read for themselves.

15 November Children’s Grief Awareness Day Suggest that the children write a story or poem (or draw a picture) about something sad that has happened in their lives. Visit the Nal’ibali “Recommended reads” section at www.nalibali.org for our list of recommended reads to help children dealing with grief, loss and illness.

16 November International Day of Tolerance Share a story you know that demonstrates how important it is for all of us to be understanding and tolerant of others, especially those we do not necessarily agree with.

21 November World Hello Day Let the children make and decorate your reading club space with “hello” posters. Encourage them to write and decorate this greeting in all of South Africa’s official languages as well as other languages spoken by the children at your club.

28 November Buy Nothing Day Suggest that the children read their own storybooks that they can read to others.
By now the old woman was getting angry — no one would help her! So she took a rope out of her pocket and said, “Rope, Rope, please tie up the butcher. The butcher won’t take the ox away. The ox won’t drink the water. The water won’t splash the dog. The dog won’t chase the pig. The pig won’t get over the fence, and I see the moonlight. The pig and I should have been home hours ago!”

But the rope would not tie up the butcher.

Just then a mouse ran across the field, and the old woman called, “Mouse, Mouse, please chew the rope. The rope won’t tie up the butcher. The butcher won’t take the ox. The ox won’t drink the water. The water won’t splash the dog. The dog won’t chase the pig. The pig won’t get over the fence and the moon is already high in the sky. The pig and I should be getting ready for bed by now.”

The mouse stopped. He looked at the old woman.

“Yes,” said the mouse, “I will chew the rope, if you will give me some cheese.”

So the old woman put her hand deep into her pocket, felt around a bit and then pulled out a tiny piece of cheese which she gave to the mouse. And when the mouse had eaten the cheese, it began to nibble at the rope; the rope began to tie up the butcher; the butcher began to lead the ox; the ox began to drink the water; the water began to splash the dog; the dog began to chase the pig and … the pig jumped over the fence.

The old woman gave a big sigh and walked home. “At last,” she said.

What time did she and her pig get home? Nobody knows. But if this old woman lives near you and you do know, please tell us.

Tell us if you liked the story, The old woman and her pig — SMS “Bookmark” with your name and your comments to 32545. R1,00 per SMS.