



Tshifhinga tsha u vhala na u nwala nothe!

Arali ni tshi tenda uri vhana vhanu vha nga kona u vhala na u nwala zwavhuḽi, nahone na vha vhudza zwenezwi, zwi ḽo ita uri na vhone vha tende uri vha nga kona u vhala na u nwala zwavhuḽi. Kha tshino tshifhinga tsha holodei, ḽiḽeeni tshifhinga tsha u vha anetshela zwiṽori, u vhala na u nwala navho nahone vha ḽo vhona ṽḽila ine u vhala na u nwala zwa fusha na u vhuỵedza ngayo.



Time to read and write together!

If you believe that your children will become successful readers and writers, and you let them know this, they will also believe that they can be successful readers and writers. This holiday season, take the time to tell them stories and to read and write with them, and they will experience the ways in which literacy can be satisfying and useful.

U ita uri vhukoni ha u vhala na u nwala zwi vhe ṽḽowelo hayani hanu

- ☉ **Kha vha sike ndovhololo ya tshiṽori.** Kha vha vhetshela thungo tshifhinga tsha u vhala na/anetshela zwiṽori ḽuvha ḽiṽwe na ḽiṽwe.
- ☉ **Kha vha anetshela zwiṽori.** Kha vha anetshela vhana zwiṽori, kha vha imbe nyimbo na u renda zwirendo zwine vha zwi ḽivha. Hezwi zwi ṽuṽula mihumbulo yavho na u bveledza luambo lwavho. Kha vha thetshesele zwiṽori zwavho hafu, na hone vha elelwe u sumbedza u zwi takalela.
- ☉ **Kha vha shumise luambo lwavho lwa ḽamuni.** Tsha u thoma, zwiṽori zwi fanela u vha nga luambo lwa vhana vhavho lwa ḽamuni. Mutheo wo khwaṽhaho nga luambo lwa ḽamuni ndi khoḽo ya u bvelela huṽwe na huṽwe ha u guda – hu tshi katelwa na u guda u vhala na u nwala – ngauri u guda zwavhuḽi, vha ṽoḽa u pfesesa zwavhuḽi.
- ☉ **Kha vha vhe tsumbo yavhuḽi.** Kha vha ite uri vhana vhavho vha vha vhone musi vha tshi vhalela u ḽiphina na u ṽoḽa vhuṽanzi.



Making literacy part of your home

- ☉ **Create a story routine.** Set aside time every day to read and/or tell stories.
- ☉ **Tell stories.** Tell your children stories, sing songs and recite poems you know. This stimulates their imagination and develops their language. Listen to their stories too, and remember to show your appreciation.
- ☉ **Use your home language.** First stories should be in your children's home language. A strong foundation in their home language is the key to all successful learning – including learning to read and write – because to learn well, they need to understand well.
- ☉ **Be a role model.** Let your children see you reading for pleasure and to find information.

Muṽwe na muṽwe u na mushumo une a fanela u u ita

- ☉ **Kha vha sike zwifhinga zwa zwiṽori hune muṽa woṽhe wa ḽo ḽiphina.** Luthihi nga vhege, kha vha ite uri miraḽo ya muṽa, nga u fhambana havho vha anetshela tshiṽori nga tshifhinga tsha tshilalelo.
- ☉ **Iyani laiburari noṽhe.** Kha vha vhe na tshifhinga tshinzi tsha u sedza, nga murahu vha ambe na vhana vhavho nga ha bugu dzine vha dzi ṽoḽa vha sa athu dzhia tshao ya u fhedzisela nga ha bugu dzine vha tea u hadzima.
- ☉ **Kha vha bveledze vhuḽifhulufheli ha vhana.** Kha vha ḽee ndeme kha ndingo dza vhana vhavho dza u vhala nga vhone vhaṽe, u fana na musi vha tshi ḽee ndeme kha maipfi avho a u thoma! Kha vha dovhe hafu vha thetshesele na u khoḽa vhana vhavho vhaṽuku musi vha tshi edzisa u vhala – vhana vha tea u ḽifara sa vhavhali uri vha vhe vha vhavhali!



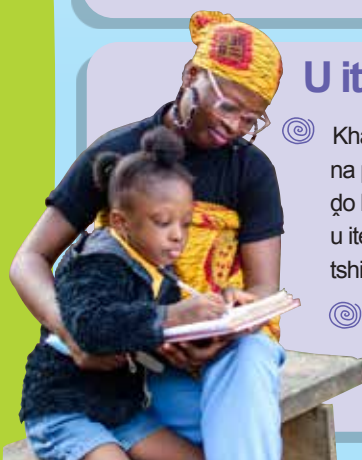
Everyone has a role to play

- ☉ **Create story times that the whole family can enjoy together.** Once a week, let a different family member tell a story during supper time.
- ☉ **Visit the library together.** Allow plenty of time to browse, then chat to your children about their choices before they make their final decision about which books to borrow.

- ☉ **Develop children's confidence.** Value your children's attempts to read on their own, just like you valued their first words! Also listen to and praise your younger children when they pretend to read – children need to behave like readers to become readers!

U ita uri vhana vhavho vha ṽwale

- ☉ Kha vha vhone uri vha na mabambiri, khirayoni, buḽupheni na penisela hayani. Kha vha zwi vhee fhethu hune zwa ḽo lelutshela vhana vhavho u zwi wana nga vhone vhaṽe u itela uri vha kone u ola na u ṽwala tshifhinga tshirwe na tshirwe tshine vha funa.
- ☉ Kha vha ite bugu nga u gunubedza mabambiri a songo ṽwalelaho tshithu na u ṽwala zwiṽori na vhana vhavho. Vhana vhaṽuku vha nga kona u ola zwifanyiso.

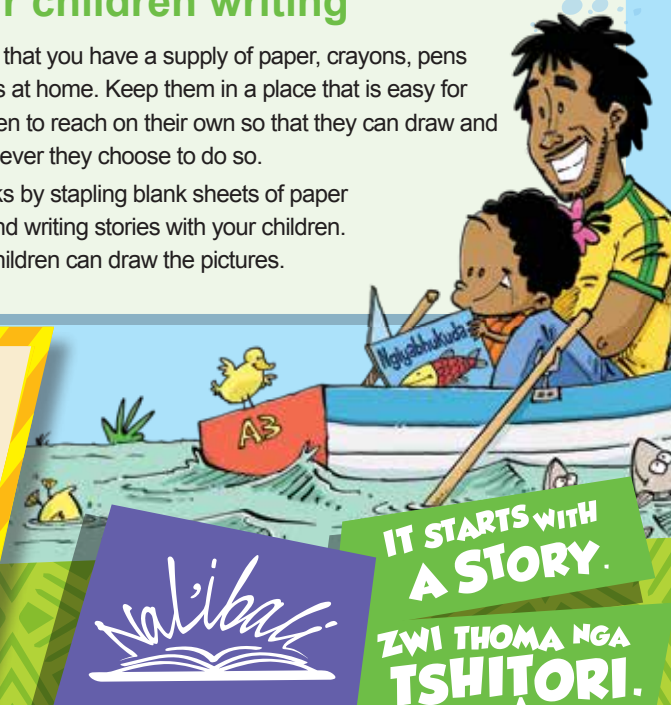


Get your children writing

- ☉ 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.
- ☉ Make books by stapling blank sheets of paper together and writing stories with your children. Younger children can draw the pictures.

Ni songo hangwa uri ri ḽo vala u swika nga vhege ya u thoma ya **Luhuhi 2024**. ḽiphineni nga dziholodei ni vhe na riṽe ṽwahani muswa uri ni wane zwithu zwinzhi zwi mangadzaho zwa u vhala zwa Nal'ibali! Zwa zwino, dalelani www.nalibali.org kana rumelani WhatsApp yo ṽwalwa u pfi "stories" kha 0600 44 22 54 uri ni dzule ni tshi vhalela u ḽiphina!

Don't forget that we will be taking a break until the **first week of February 2024**. Enjoy the holidays and join us in the new year for more Nal'ibali reading magic! In the meantime, visit www.nalibali.org or WhatsApp "stories" to 0600 44 22 54 to keep reading for enjoyment!





Mbeu dza Vhukoni ha u Vhala na u Nwala!

Diphineni nga dziholodei na vhana vhanu

Literacy Seeds!

Happy holidays with your young ones



Kha vhabebe na vhaṭhogomeli vha vhana vhaṭuku, miṭa minzhi i lavhelela u fara lwendo ya ya kha zwipiḁa zwo fhamba-fhambanaho zwa shango uri i dalele miṁwe miṭa na dzikhonani nga tshifhinga tsha holodei dza Nyendavhusiku. Arali na dzudzanya zwithu zwavhuḁi, inwi na vhana vhanu vhaṭuku ni ḁo ḁiphina vhukuma nga lwendo na tshifhinga tshine na ḁo tshi fhedza ni siho hayani!



Dear parents and caregivers of young children, many families look forward to travelling to different parts of the country to visit family and friends over the December holiday period. With a bit of planning, you and your young children will enjoy the trip and the time away from home even more!

Tsivhudzo musi ni tshi fara lwendo

- ⦿ Dzudzanyani u ima lunzhi-lunzhi na u renga zwidyangudyangu. Vhana vhaṭuku a vha koni u dzula vha tokomelwa tshifhinga tshilapfu u fana na vathu vhahulwane. Zwiṁwe hafu, vha tea u ḁa zwidyangudyangu zwi ngaho mutshelo uri vha kanzwe mivhili yavho ine ya khou aluwa.
- ⦿ Musi ni tshi ima u itela u shela mapfura na u ya ṁduni ṭhukhu, ṭoḁani fhethu ho tsireledzeaho hune vhana vha nga gidima-gidima u itela u bvisa nungo dzine vha vha nadzo.
- ⦿ Itani uri ṁwana muṁwe na muṁwe a vhe na bege ṭhukhu i re na zwithu zwine a nga zwi ita. Ni longele mabambiri a u ola kana a u ṁwalela, masiatari a u khaḁara, penisela dza mivhala na buḁupheni. Ni songo hangwa u longela na bugu ya u vhala ya zwifanyiso ine ṁwana a i funesa. Dalelani webusaithi yashu kha www.nalibali.org uri ni wane mabambiri a mishumo na garaṭa dza zwiṭori zwine na nga zwi gandisa.



Travelling tips

- ⦿ Plan for more stops and snacks. Young children cannot sit still for as long as adults. They also need healthy snacks like fruit to feed their growing bodies.
- ⦿ When you stop for fuel and toilet breaks, find a safe place for the young ones to run around and get rid of pent-up energy.
- ⦿ Pack a small activity bag for each child. Include some paper for drawing or writing, colouring-in pages, coloured pencils and pens. Also include a favourite picture book to read. Visit our website at www.nalibali.org for printable activity pages and story cards.

Itani vhungoho ha uri fhethu hune na ḁo dzula hone na vhana vhanu ho tsireledzea

- ★ Itani vhungoho ha uri fhethu hune ṁwana waṁu a ḁo eḁela hone a hu na phosho nahone hu dzhena lumuya. Mmbete kana vhulalo ha ṁwana vhu tea u vha na zwithu zwine zwa thivha nga matungo uri ṁwana a sa vhumbuluwe a wela fhasi.
- ★ Arali hu na zwiṭepisi, thivhelani ṁwana waṁu kana lutshetshe lwaṁu nga gethe kana tshiṁwe tshiithivheli uri a si kone u ya zwiṭepisini.
- ★ Sedzani uri fhethu hune ha tambelwa hone a hu na zwithu zwi ṭhavhaho kana zwo pwasheaho.
- ★ Vhana vha tea u vhewa iṭo nga muthu muhulwane musu vha tshi khou tamba tsini na mabakete a maḁi kana madamuni. ṁwana a nga nwela khothe na fhethu hu re na maḁi a songo tsaho.
- ★ Itani uri vhana vha vhe kulenyana na fhethu hune ha khou bikelwa hone na hune ha khou gotshiwa hone ṁama.
- ★ Ni tea u ḁivha ṁḁila na fhethu hune na nga wana hone thuso ya zwa ngalaḁho nga u ṭavhanya.

(Mafhungo o shandulwa u bva kha Planning holidays with children; <https://raisingchildren.net.au>)



Make sure the place that you stay at is safe for children

- ★ Make sure your baby has a set place to sleep that is quiet and has fresh air. The bed or cot should have sides to stop your baby from rolling off the bed.
- ★ If there are stairs, find a gate or other barrier to keep your baby or toddler away from the steps.
- ★ Check that play areas do not have sharp or broken objects lying around.
- ★ An adult needs to watch children when they play near buckets of water or dams. A baby can drown in even a few centimetres of water.
- ★ Keep children at a safe distance from cooking and braai areas.
- ★ Know how and where to find medical help quickly.

(Adapted from Planning holidays with children; <https://raisingchildren.net.au>)



Mitambo i takadzaho na vhana vhaṭuku

Dziholodei ndi zwibuli zwavhuḏi zwa u ṭwa na vhana vhaṇu lwa tshifhinga tshilapfu. Ni songo hangwa uri mutambo muṛwe na muṛwe ndi tshibuli tsha u anetshela kana u sika tshiṭori! U tamba hu dovha ha ita uri vhana vhaṭuku vha humbule.

1. U vhea zwithivheli ndilani. Shumisani dzikhushini, misiamelo, nguvho na mimethe ni zwi vhee ndilani uri zwi vhe mutambo u takadzaho uri ṛwana waṇu kana lutshetshe lwaṇu a zwi gonye a kone u pfukela phanda. Vha ḑo takalela u “sera” ngomu ha mabogisi o vuleaho phanda na murahu kana u dzhena kha thanele dzo itwaho nga nguvho dzo fukedzaho zwidulo. Swendani ni pfuke kha ndila i re na zwithivheli uri ṛwana waṇu a kone u vhona ndila ine zwa itwa ngayo.

2. Bikani zwiliwa noṭhe. Vhana na dzitshetshe vha nga kha ḑi thetshela zwiliwa vha sa athu u zwi ḑa arali vho thusa u zwi lugiselela. Arali vho thusa u vanganya, u shela na u dzhia zwiḑavhangelo, vhutsila havho ha u shumisa zwanda na maṭo avho vhu ḑo khwaṭhiswa. Musi ni tshi khou lugiselela zwiliwa, sikani tshirendo, luimbo kana ni anetshela tshiṭori nga ha tshiliwa. Sa tsumbo, ḑiiteni mvuvhu musi ni tshi aṭama u itela u ḑa tshirṛwe tshithu.

3. Itani zwitambiswa zwaṇu. Shumisani zwithu zwo ḑowealeho zwine zwa wanala hayani, zwithu zwi ngaho zwipiḑa zwa malambi, ulu na gunubu, ni ite zwitambiswa nahone ni tambe ngazwo. Anetshelani tshiṭori nga zwitambiswa zwine na zwi ita.

4. Itani ṭano. Vhana vha funa u tamba mitambo ine vha ḑiita zwine vha si vhe zwone! U itela ṭano miraḑo ya muṭa na dzikhonani zwi ṇea vhana tshiitisi tshi pfalaho tsha u ambara zwavhuḏi vha tou pfundulula, u amba kana u imba tshirendo na nyimbo dzine vha dzi funesa na u tshina. Vhana vha mirole yoṭhe vha a zwi funa vhukuma u vhona vhaṭhu vhaṇe vha vha funa vha tshi vha fhululedza na u vha vhandela zwanda.

Fun activities with young children

Holidays are wonderful opportunities to spend more time with our children. Remember that almost every activity is an opportunity to tell or make up a story! Play also builds the imaginations of young children.

1. An obstacle course. Use cushions, pillows, soft blankets and mats to make an exciting obstacle course for your baby or toddler to move through. They will love going “through” boxes that open at each end or tunnels that are made with blankets draped over chairs. Crawl through the obstacle course to show your little one what to do.

2. Make a meal together. Toddlers are more likely to try new foods if they have helped to prepare them.

When they help you to mix, pour and handle ingredients, their fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination will also be strengthened. Make up a rhyme, song or story about food while you make the meal. For example, pretend to be a hippopotamus when you open your mouth wide to eat a snack.

3. Make your own toys.

Use everyday items that can be found at home, like pieces of material, wool and buttons, to make your own toys and games. Use the toys that you make to tell a story.

4. Put on a show. Children love playing make believe! Putting on a show for their family members and friends gives young children the perfect reason to dress up, say or sing their favourite rhymes and songs, and dance. And children of all ages love nothing more than to see and hear their loved ones cheering and clapping for them.



Zwinwe zwithu zwi takadzaho zwine na nga zwi ita!

More fun things to do!

★ Itani pikiniki. Dziani zwiliwa zwaṇu zwa nga masiari ni zwi dzhenise kha phakhethe ni ḑiphine ngazwo phakhani kana ngadeni yaṇu. Musi ni tshi ita pikiniki ni ṭuwe na zwitambiswa zwine vhana vhaṇu vha zwi funesa.

★ Gammbani. Itani dennde nga nguvho na malagane. Ni nga kona u vhaḑa zwavhuḏi na u anetshela zwiṭori musi ni dennden!

★ Itani tshiraba. Ivhani na tshipiḑa tshithuku ngadeni hune vhana vhaṇu vha nga ḑiitela ngade ya u tambela. ṭavhani maluvha, zwidyohwana, tshipinitshi kana tshirṛwe tshimela tshine tsha hula nga u ṭavhanya. Vheani malebula a kale ane ha ḑo bwiwa ngao, zwikhafuthini zwine ha ḑo ṭavhelwa khazwo na zwifuwo zwa u tambisa zwa pulasiṭiki ngadeni.



★ Go on a picnic. Pack your lunch and enjoy it at the park or in your garden. Bring your children's favourite toys to the picnic.

★ Go camping. Build a tent with blankets and sheets. A tent is a great place to read and tell stories!

★ Make a garden patch. Mark out a small patch in the garden where your children can create an outdoor play garden. Plant flowers, herbs, spinach, or any other plant that grows quickly. Place old spoons for digging, containers for planting and plastic animal toys in the garden.

(Mafhungo o shandulwa u bva kha Ideas on keeping your kids stimulated & entertained this holiday!; Things to do in Cape Town With Kids Magazine; <https://thingstodowithkids.co.za>)

(Adapted from Ideas on keeping your kids stimulated & entertained this holiday!; Things to do in Cape Town With Kids Magazine; <https://thingstodowithkids.co.za>)

Ivhani na vhusiki!

Itani zwikhokhonono zwa mupopi nga thishu

Get creative!

Make toilet roll bug puppets



Zwine na tea u vha nazwo: zwikope zwa thishu, tshigero, bammbiri litshena kana la mivhala, dzikoki, guлуу, zwiñedzi-ñedzi, ulu, gunubu kana malungu

You will need: toilet roll tubes, scissors, plain or coloured paper, kokis, glue, glitter, wool, buttons or beads

1.



Liga 1. Khethani tshikhokhonono tsha mupopi tshine na tođa u tshi ita.

Step 1. Choose which bug puppet you want to make.

2.



Liga 2. Penndani tshikope tsha thishu nga muvhala une na u takalela kana ni tshi pombe nga bammbiri la mivhala.

Step 2. Paint the toilet roll tube in the colour you want or wrap it with coloured paper.

5.



Liga 5. Gerani, khalarani ni nambatedze phapha kha zwikhokhonono zwanu zwa mupopi.

- ★ Arali ni tshi khou ita tshikhokhonono tshine tsha pfi *ladybird*, gerani mutengelele muhulwane nga vhukati.
- ★ Arali ni tshi khou ita potshi, gerani mitengelele yo linganelaho.
- ★ Arali ni tshi khou ita zwisusu, gerani khuga tharu dzo khotheaho nga matungo. Khavhisani zwikhokhonono zwanu nga zwiñedzi-ñedzi, gunubu, malungu na ulu.

Step 5. Cut, colour and paste wings on your bug puppets.

- ★ For ladybirds, cut a big circle in half.
- ★ For bees, cut medium-sized circles.
- ★ For butterflies, cut triangles with curvy sides.

Decorate your bugs with glitter, buttons, beads and wool.

3.



Liga 3. Gerani mitengelele mituku mivhili ya bammbiri litshena ni ole madondo mahulwane a vhe mafo kana ni shumise mabammbiri a nambatelaho a re na mafo. Nambatedzani eneo mafo u yela ntha ha tshikhokhonono tshanu.

Step 3. Cut two small circles of white paper and draw big dots for eyes, or use googly eye stickers. Paste the eyes near the top of your puppet.

4.



Liga 4. Gerani mananga mavhili kha bammbiri litswu ni a nambatedze ngomu ntha ha bammbiri jo songwaho.

Step 4. Cut two antennae from black paper and paste them inside the top of the paper roll.



Tandavhudzani laiburari yanu.

Itani bugu **MBILI** dza tumula u vhulunge

1. Bvisani masiatari 5 u ya kha 12 a yeneyi thumetshedzo.
2. Bammbiri li re na masiatari 5, 6, 11 na 12 li ita bugu nthi. Bammbiri li re na masiatari 7, 8, 9 na 10 li ita inwe bugu.
3. Shumisani bammbiri linwe na linwe u ita bugu. Tevhelani nyeletshedzo dzi re afho fhasi u ita bugu inwe na inwe.
 - a) Petani bammbiri nga vhukati kha mutalo mutswu u re na zwithoma.
 - b) Dovhani ni li pete nga vhukati kha mutalo mudala u re na zwithoma.
 - c) Gerani kha mitalo mitswuku i re na zwithoma.



Grow your own library.

Create **TWO** cut-out-and-keep books

1. Take out pages 5 to 12 of this supplement.
2. The sheet with pages 5, 6, 11 and 12 on it makes up one book. The sheet with pages 7, 8, 9 and 10 on it makes up the other book.
3. Use each of the sheets to make a book. Follow the instructions below to make each book.
 - a) Fold the sheet in half along the black dotted line.
 - b) Fold it in half again along the green dotted line.
 - c) Cut along the red dotted lines.



“Maitele aya ndi a ndeme. Ni do fanela u wana mugonyi wa u tavananya,” vha ralo.

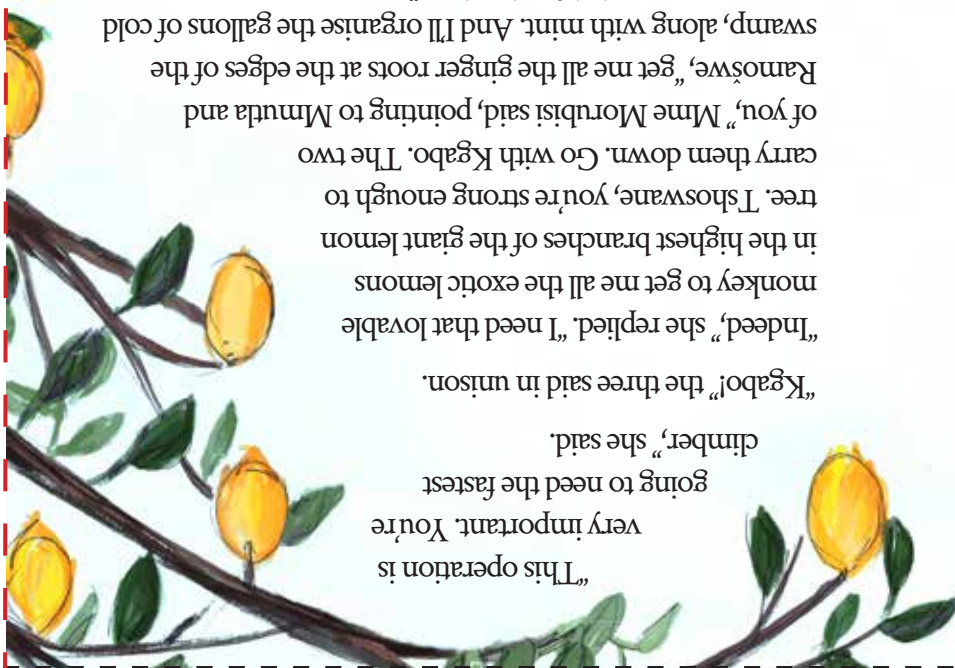
“Kgabo!” vhararu vha amba mazha.

“Ndi zwone,” vha a hinda. “Ndi khou toda thoho i funeaho uri i mngwanele zwikavhahve madadhini a nthesa a muri muhulu wa mukavhahve. Tshoswane, ni na maanḁa mahulu lune ni nga zwi hwalla. Tuvani na Kgabo. Vhuvhili hanu,” Mima Vho-Morubisi ralo, vha tshi sumba kha Mmuda na Kamošwe, “mngwaneleni midzi ya dzhinzha khunzikhunzini dza maroroma, khathili na minthi. Ndi do dzudzanya galoni dza maḁi a tshisima a rotholaho ane a toḁa kha mushonga.”

“This operation is very important. You’re going to need the fastest climber,” she said.

“Kgabo!” the three said in unison.

“Indeed,” she replied. “I need that lovable monkey to get me all the exotic lemons in the highest branches of the giant lemon tree. Tshoswane, you’re strong enough to carry them down. Go with Kgabo. The two of you,” Mme Morubisi said, pointing to Mmuda and Ramošwe, “get me all the ginger roots at the edges of the swamp, along with mint. And I’ll organise the gallons of cold spring water needed for the elixir.”



This story is an adapted version of *Christmas elixir* published by Cadbury in partnership with Nal’ibali as part of the Cadbury Dairy Milk #InOurOwnWords initiative. Each story is available in the eleven official South African languages. To find out more about the Cadbury Dairy Milk #InOurOwnWords initiative titles, go to <https://cadbury.one/library.html>.

Hetshi tshiṭori tsho shandulwa u bva kha *Mushonga wa Khrisimusi* tsho gandiswaho nga Cadbury i tshi shumisana na Nal’ibali sa tshipiḁa tsha Cadbury Dairy Milk #InOurOwnWords initiative. Tshiṭori tshinwe na tshinwe tshi wanala nga nyambo dza fuminthi dza tshiofisi dza Afurika Tshipembe. Uri ni wane zwo engedzeaho nga ha Cadbury Dairy Milk #InOurOwnWords initiative titles iyani kha <https://cadbury.one/library.html>.

Get story active!

- ★ What special drink would you make on a hot day? Write your list of ingredients and your method. Give your special drink a name.
- ★ If you could make a magical potion, what would happen to someone who drank it? What would you use to make the potion?
- ★ Make toilet roll puppets of Ntate Pidipidi, Ntate Segwagwa and Ntate Hlogo (see page 4). With your friends and family, take turns to use the puppets to role play each character as you sing your favourite songs!

Itani uri tshiṭori tshi nyanyule!

- ★ Ndi tshinwiwa tshifhio tsho khetheaho tshine na nga tshi ita uri ni tshi nwe musi guvha ji tshi fhisa? Nwalani mutevhe wa zwiḁavhangelo na nḁila ine na ḁo ita ngayo tshenetsho tshinwiwa. Irani dzina tshinwiwa tshanu tsho khetheaho.
- ★ Arali na nga ita tshinwiwa tsha manditi, hu nga itea mini nga ane a nga tshi nwa? Ni nga shumisa mini u ita tshenetsho tshinwiwa?
- ★ Shumisani thishu yo pombiwaho u ita mipopi ya Vho-Pidipidi, Vho-Segwagwa na Vho-Hlogo (sedzani siaṭari 4). Ni na khonani dzanu na vha muṭani, shumisani yeneyo mipopi nga u tou sielisana u tamba mubvumbedzwa muḁwe na muḁwe ni tshi khou imba nyimbo dzine na dzi funesa!

Nal’ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark and embed a culture of reading across South Africa. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org



Nal’ibali ndi fulo la lushaka la u vholela u ḁiphina u itela u karusa na u ṭahulela nḁowelo ya u vhalala kha lothe la Afurika Tshipembe. U wana mafhungo nga vhuḁalo, dalelani www.nalibali.org

“Ndi a ni pḁa,” hu amba Mima Vho-Morubisi. “U imbela gogo ḁihulu muḁhisoni uyu zwi do vha tshivo zwavhukuma! Ndi khou ita manditi a maanḁa mahulu ane a do dzimula ḁora ...”

Fhedzi a sa athu na u fhedza, Mmuda wa dzhenela: “Ee, mushonga wa manditi une wa do imisa zwiphi zwa vhaṭaleli kha u imba uhu ho vhiḁhaho! No ṭalifhesa.”

Na luthihi a si zwe Mima Vho-Morubisi vha vha vho khou humbula zwone. Fhedzihla, muḁhiso wa bvela phanḁa lwe avha vhararu vha sa tsha vha na dzangalelo la u thetshelasa. Naho zwo ralo, Mima Vho-Morubisi vha ḁi vha vho ḁimiselela u thusa.

“Oh,” said Mme Morubisi. “Performing to a packed crowd in this heat is going to be a disaster indeed! I’m making a powerful elixir that will quench the thirst ...”

But before she could finish, Mmuda interrupted: “Yes, a magic potion that will numb the audience’s senses to the terrible singing! Genius.”

That’s not at all what Mme Morubisi intended. However, the heat ensured that the three weren’t in any mood to listen. Still, she was determined to help.

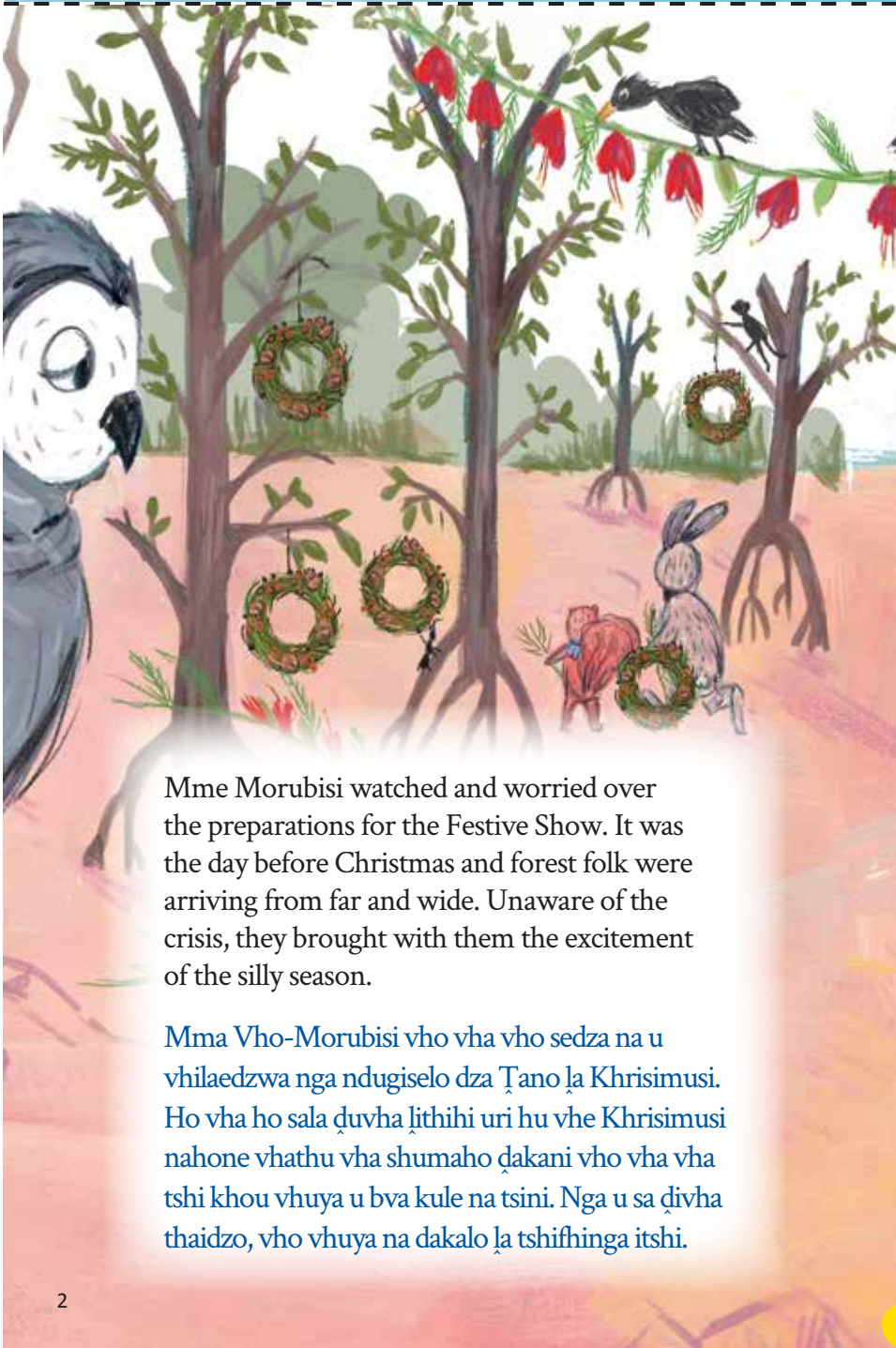
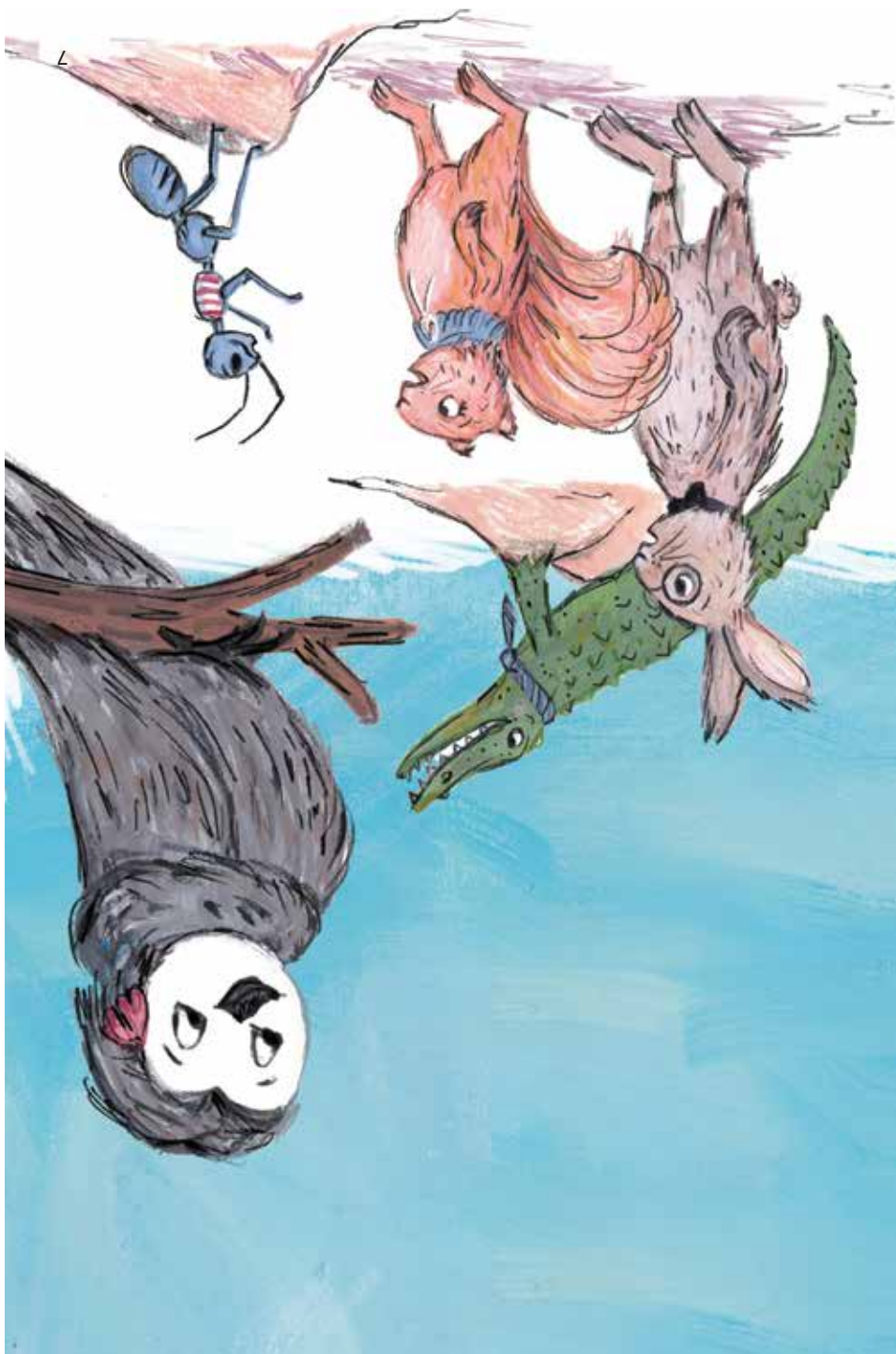


Mushonga wa Khrisimusi

Bandile Sikwane • Elizabeth Sparg

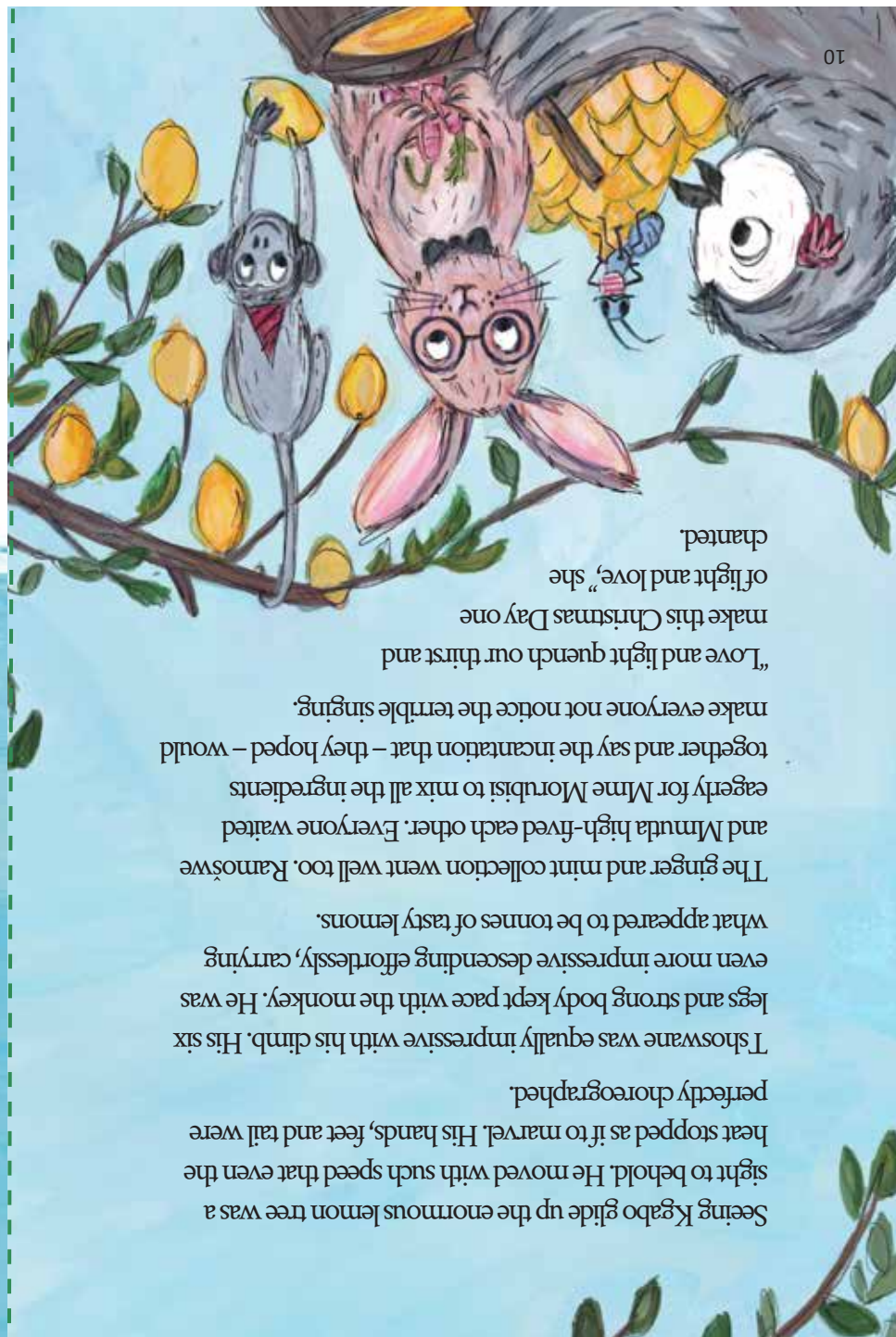
Ideas to talk about: A special drink can make people feel better. In this story the special drink is supposed to be magical. Do you think that a drink can be magical? If you could make a magical drink, what would it do?

Zwine ha nga ambiwa nga hazwo: Tshinwiwa tsho khetheaho tshi nga rudza mbilu dza vathu. Kha hetshi tshiṭori, tshinwiwa tsho khetheaho tshi tea u vha na manditi. Ni vhona u nga tshinwiwa tshi nga vha na manditi? Arali na nga ita tshinwiwa tsha manditi, tsho vha tshi tshi do ita mini?



Mme Morubisi watched and worried over the preparations for the Festive Show. It was the day before Christmas and forest folk were arriving from far and wide. Unaware of the crisis, they brought with them the excitement of the silly season.

Mma Vho-Morubisi vho vha vho sedza na u vhilaedzwa nga ndugiselo dza Tano la Khrisimusi. Ho vha ho sala duvha lithihi uri hu vhe Khrisimusi nahone vathu vha shumaho dakani vho vha vha tshi khou vhuya u bva kule na tsini. Nga u sa divha thaidzo, vho vhuya na dakalo la tshifhinga itshi.



Seeing Kgabo glide up the enormous lemon tree was a sight to behold. He moved with such speed that even the heat stopped as if to marvel. His hands, feet and tail were perfectly choreographed. Tshoswane was equally impressive with his climb. His six legs and strong body kept pace with the monkey. He was even more impressive descending effortlessly, carrying what appeared to be tonnes of tasty lemons. The ginger and mint collection went well too. Ramošwe and Mmutla high-fived each other. Everyone waited eagerly for Mme Morubisi to mix all the ingredients together and say the incantation that – they hoped – would make everyone not notice the terrible singing. “Love and light quench our thirst and make this Christmas Day one of light and love,” she chanted.

“This is the best Festive Show, and the best Christmas Day, ever. Season’s greetings and congratulations to you,” Kwena told Mme Morubisi.

Ramošwe, Mmutla, Tshoswane and Kgabo turned and stared at Mme Morubisi. “You planned the show?”

“Yes, but not the weather, dears. Not the weather. But do enjoy the elixir, and season’s greetings to you too, Ntate Kwena,” she said with a relieved smile.

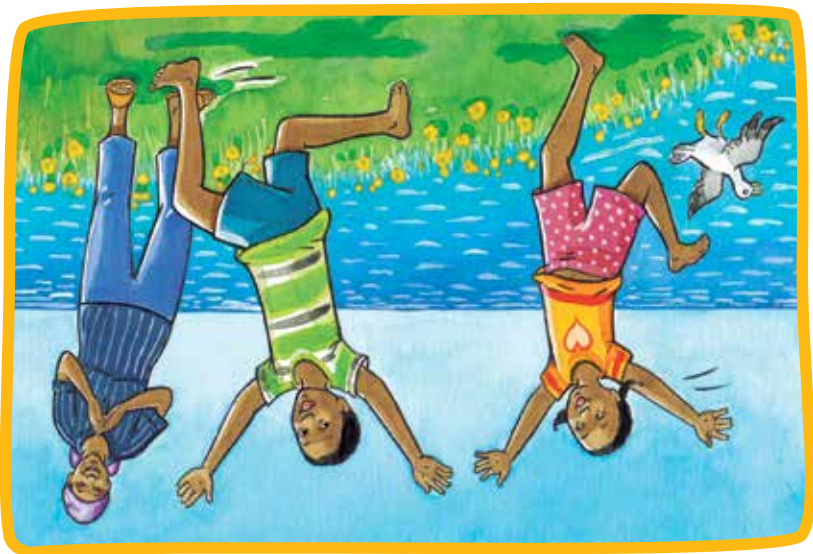
“Ili ndi Tano la Khrisimusi la khwinesa, nahone ndi Duvha la Khrisimusi la khwinesa li sa athu vhone. Ndumeliso dza khalañwaha na u vha fhululedza,” ndi Kwena i tshi vhudza Mma Vho-Morubisi.

Ramošwe, Mmutla, Tshoswane na Kgabo vha rembuluwa vha lavhelesa kha Mma Vho-Morubisi. “Ndi vhone vho pulanaho tano?”

“Ee, fhedzi hu si mutsho, vhananga. Hu si mutsho. Fhedzi diphineni nga mushonga, nahone ndumeliso dza khalañwaha na kha inwi hafhu, Vho-Kwena,” vha ralo vha tshi mwemwela lwa u vhofoholowa.

Ho vha na dakalo jhulu musi Baba Vho-Smuts vha tshi vhudza Mama Vho-Smuts, Sannie na Frikkie nga ha mashudu e vha vha nao jenejo d'vha. Zwo vha zwi tshi tou nga vho vhuva hayani na dzanga nahone ri nga amba uri vho vha vho vhuva nafo.

There was such excitement when Papa Smuts told Mama Smuts, Sannie and Frikkie about his lucky day. It was as if he had brought home treasure and, in a way, he had.



The feast



Tshimima

Jude Daly • Jiggs Snaddon-Wood

Ideas to talk about: Have you ever had a feast at home or at someone else's house? What did you eat? Does there have to be lots of expensive food for a meal to be a feast? What do you think?

Zwine ha nga ambiwa nga hazwo: Naa no no vhuva na ita tshimima hayani ha hanu kana ha muhwe muthu? No ja mini henehfo? Naa tshimima ndi tshimima nge ha vha na zwiliwa zwinzhi zwi duraho? Ni nga ri mini?

Mma Vho-Smuts vha vhea dzenedzo sosedzhi ndenya, dza pinki kha phulethi yavho yo nakesaho, vha dzi dzhenisa kha khabodo. Vho vha vha tshi divha zwavhudi zwine vha do zwi ita ngadzo. Vho vha vha tshi do ita Chakalaka yavho i dithesaho, musi i tsini na u vhibva, vho vha tshi do tumukanya dzenedzo sosedzhi nahone vha dzi hadzingela henehfo nga ngomu. Zwenezwo zwo vha zwi tshi do engedza tshisevho.



Mama Smuts laid out the plump, pink sausages on her prettiest plate and put them in the cupboard. She knew exactly what she would make with them. It was to be her best-ever chakalaka and then, at the last minute, she would cut up the sausages and stir them in. That way, they would seem to go further.

Papa Smuts catches a big juicy fish for supper, but then swaps it for some plump sausages. The whole family can't wait to eat the delicious sausages for supper! But what has Mama Smuts done with them?

This story was specially created for Nal'ibali – a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark children's potential through storytelling and reading.

Baba Vho-Smuts vho fasha khovhe yavhudi vhukuma uri i vhe tshisevho tsha nga madekwana, fhedzi vha tshintshana na muhwe we a vha nea sosedzhi ndenya. Muṭa wothe wo vha u tshi tou ri tshilalelo tshi swika lini! Fhedzi Mma Vho-Smuts vho ita mini ngadzo?

Hetshi tshiṭori tsho itelwa Nal'ibali – fulo ja lushaka ja u vhalela u diphina u itela u karusa vhukoni ha vhana nga u anetshela zwiṭori na u vhala.

Get story active!

- ★ What would you prefer eating, fish or sausages? Why?
- ★ Imagine that you are going to prepare a feast for your family. Make a list of the food you would make.
- ★ Now draw a picture of a festive table.

Itani uri tshiṭori tshi nyanyule!

- ★ Ni nga takalela u ja mini, khovhe kana sosedzhi? Ndi ngani?
- ★ Kha ri ri ni khou toḡa u lugiselela muṭa wa hanu tshimima. Nwalani zwiliwa zwine na ḡo zwi bika.
- ★ Zwino olani tshifanyiso tsha ṭafula ja tshimima.

Nal'ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark and embed a culture of reading across South Africa. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org



Nal'ibali ndi fulo ja lushaka ja u vhalela u diphina u itela u karusa na u ṭahulela ndowelo ya u vhala kha lothe ja Afurika Tshipembe. U wana mafhungo nga vhuḡalo, dalelani www.nalibali.org

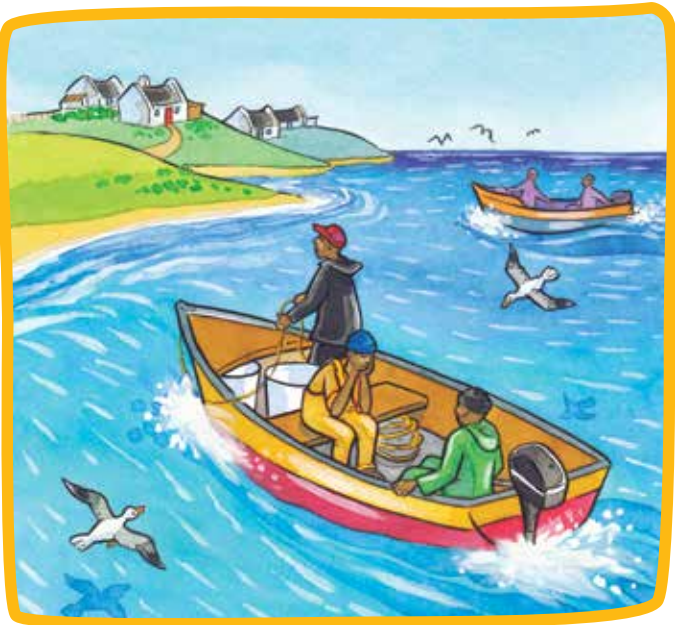
Maria a vhudzisa a ri: “Vha nga ri mini arali nda vha űea tshiniwe tshisevho, khamusi hedzi sosedzhi? Naa vha nga si ġiphine ngadzo, vha ġinanzwa na miniwe?”

Baba Vho-Smuts vha thoma vha humbulanyana, fhedzi lwa tshifhinyanyana ngauri dzenedzo Maria na Baba Vho-Smits vha tshi tshintshana nahone Baba Vho-Smuts vha ġidimela hayani.

for a moment because the sausages did look good! So Maria and Papa Smuts did a swap and Papa Smuts hurried on home.

“What if,” asked Maria, “you took something different home, something like these sausages? Now wouldn’t that be a real treat?”

Papa Smuts thought for a moment, but only



Papa Smuts was a fisherman. But, fish were not as plentiful as they used to be and some days he came home empty-handed. Then poor Papa Smuts would feel really downhearted.

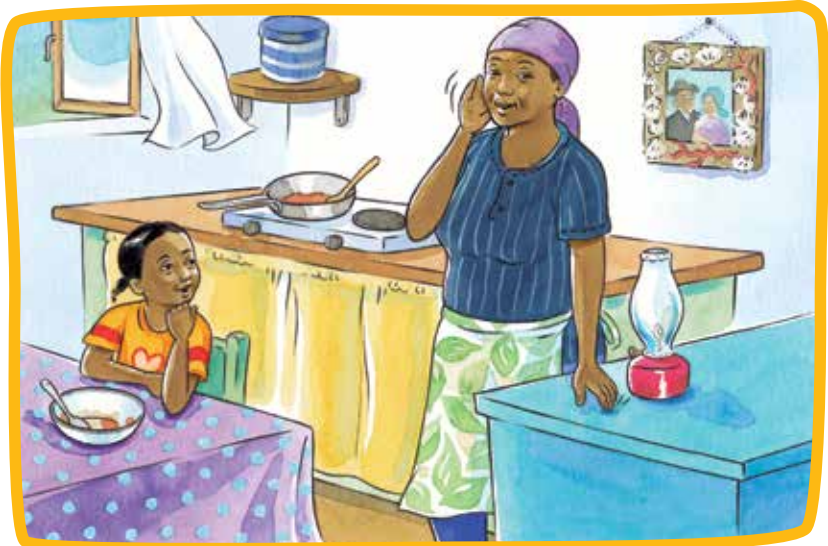
Baba Vho-Smuts vho vha vhe murei wa khovhe. Fhedzi khovhe dzo vha dzi si tsha vha nnzhi u fana na u thomani nahone nga maűwe maġuvha vho vha vha tshi vhuya hayani vho űembeledza zwanda. Baba Vho-Smuts vha khuvhe, vho vha vha tshi ġipfa vho tsikeledzea vhukuma.

Mma Vho-Smuts vha dzi tumula na u dzi tshetshela, vha dzi khavhela na u shela zwiġavhangelo, vha tshi thuswa nga Sannie na Frikkie.



Mama Smuts chopped and sliced, diced and spiced, with the help of Sannie and Frikkie.

But then she thought, “Sausages for breakfast. What a treat!”



Fhedzi vha ġelwa nga miniwe muhumbulo, “Sosedzhi dzi nga vha zwiġiwa zwavhuġi zwa nga matsheloni. Ri ġo ġiphina vhukuma ngadzo!”

Nga zwenenezwo, musi Mma Vho-Smuts vha tshi khoushela izwi na zwiḽa, Sannie na Frikkie vha thusa Baba Vho-Smuts u lugisa ṽafula na u khavhisa ṽafulani nga tshidzhumba tsha maluvha.



Then, while Mama Smuts added a little bit of this and quite a lot of that, Sannie and Frikkie helped Papa Smuts set the table and pick a bunch of wild flowers to go on it.



Mama Smuts went quietly over to the kitchen cupboard. She covered up the plump, pink sausages and wondered how she could possibly have forgotten them.

Mma Vho-Smuts vha takuwa vho ḽifhumutshela vha ya vho livha khabodoni i re khishini. Vha tibula sosedzhi ndenya, dza pincki nahone vha ḽivhudzisa uri zwo ḽa hani uri vha dzi hangwe.

Musi Baba Vho-Smuts vha tshi khoushela a huwelela a ri, “Khovhe ndi vhuḽai?” “Ni mṽfarele, Maria,” vha ralo Baba Vho-Smuts, “ḽhedzi heyi ndi ine ra ḽo sevha ngayo madekwana.”



As Papa Smuts passed Maria’s farm stall, she called out, “How much for the fish?” “Sorry, Maria,” said Papa Smuts, “but this one is for our dinner.”

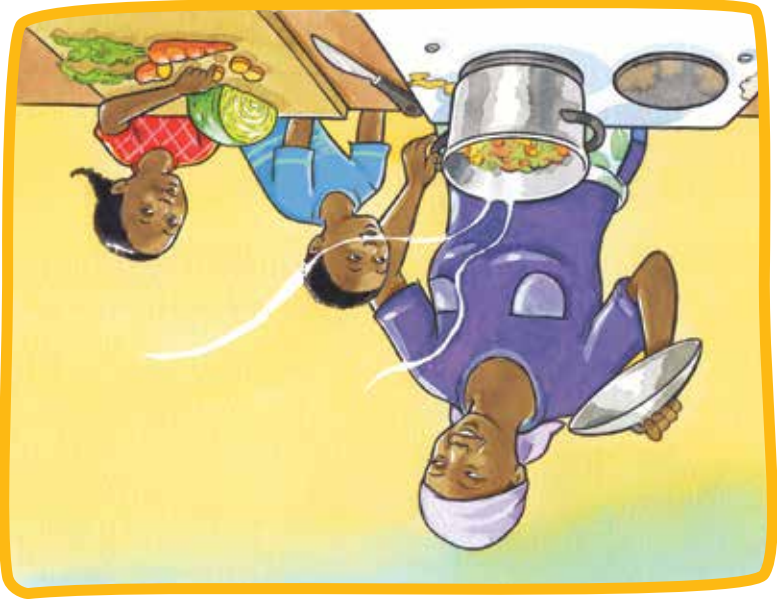
One lucky day, Papa Smuts caught five fish. He sold four and kept one to take home for dinner. ḽivwe ḽvha Baba Vho-Smuts vho vha na mashudu, vha fasha khovhe ḽhanu. Vha rengisa nḽa nahone vha vhuva na nthihi uri i vhe tshisevho tsha nga madekwana.



That’s when Mama Smuts would give him a big hug and say, “We’ll make ends meet.” And Sannie and Frikkie would add, “We always do, Papa.” And somehow they always did because ...

Nga tshenetsho tshifhinga Mma Vho-Smuts vho vha vha tshi vha kuvhatedza nahone vha ri, “Ri ḽo khwekhwerudzha, zwi ḽo vhuva zwa luga.” Nahone Sannie na Frikkie vho vha vha tshi ri, “Tshifhinga tshoṽthe zwi a luga, Baba.” Tshifhinga tshoṽthe zwo vha tshi luga nga nḽwambo wa uri ...

Ho vha hu si na muthu na muthihi, na muthihi zwawe, we a tshi nga ita uri maṭamaṭisi matswuku, phepha dala, kherotsi dzavhuḽi vhukuma na khavhisi dzi ḽifhaho u fhira Mama Vho-dzi vhe zwilwiwa zwi ḽifhaho u fhira Mama Vho-Smuts, vha tshi thuswa nga Sannie na Frikkie!

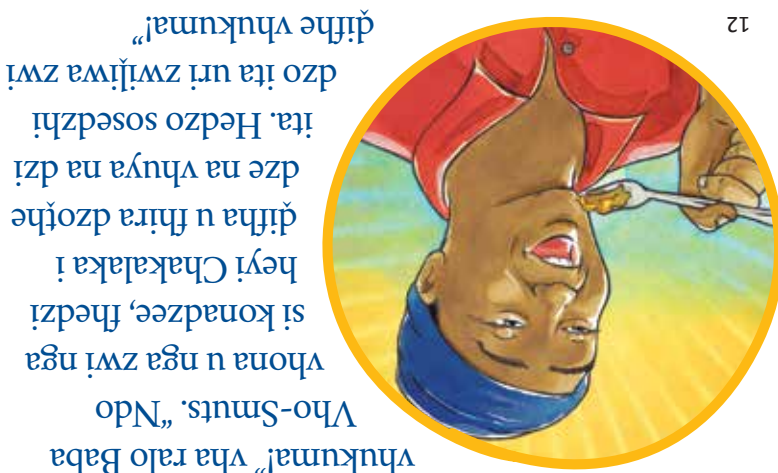


And no one, absolutely no one, could turn the reddest tomatoes, the greenest peppers, the crunchiest carrots and the crispiest cabbage into a more scrumptious meal than Mama Smuts, with the help of Sannie and Frikkie!



... no one could grow redder tomatoes, greener peppers, crunchier carrots and crispier cabbage than Papa Smuts, with the help of Sannie and Frikkie.

... ho vha hu si na ane a ṭavha maṭamaṭisi matswuku, phepha dala, kherotsi dzavhuḽi vhukuma na khavhisi dzi ḽifhaho u fhira Baba Vho-Smuts, vha tshi thuswa nga Sannie na Frikkie.



Nahone, “Muḽifho nandi . . . zwi khou ḽifha vhukuma!” vha ralo Baba Vho-Smuts. “Ndo vhona u nga zwi nga si konadzee, fhedzi heyi Chakalaka i ḽifha u fhira dzoṭhe dze na vhuya na dzi ita. Hedzo sosezdhi dzo ita uri zwilwiwa zwi ḽifhe vhukuma!”

“Mmm, mmm!” a ralo Frikkie. And, “My, oh my . . . oh my!” said Papa Smuts. “I did not think it was possible, but this chakalaka is better than your best. Those sausages made all the difference!”

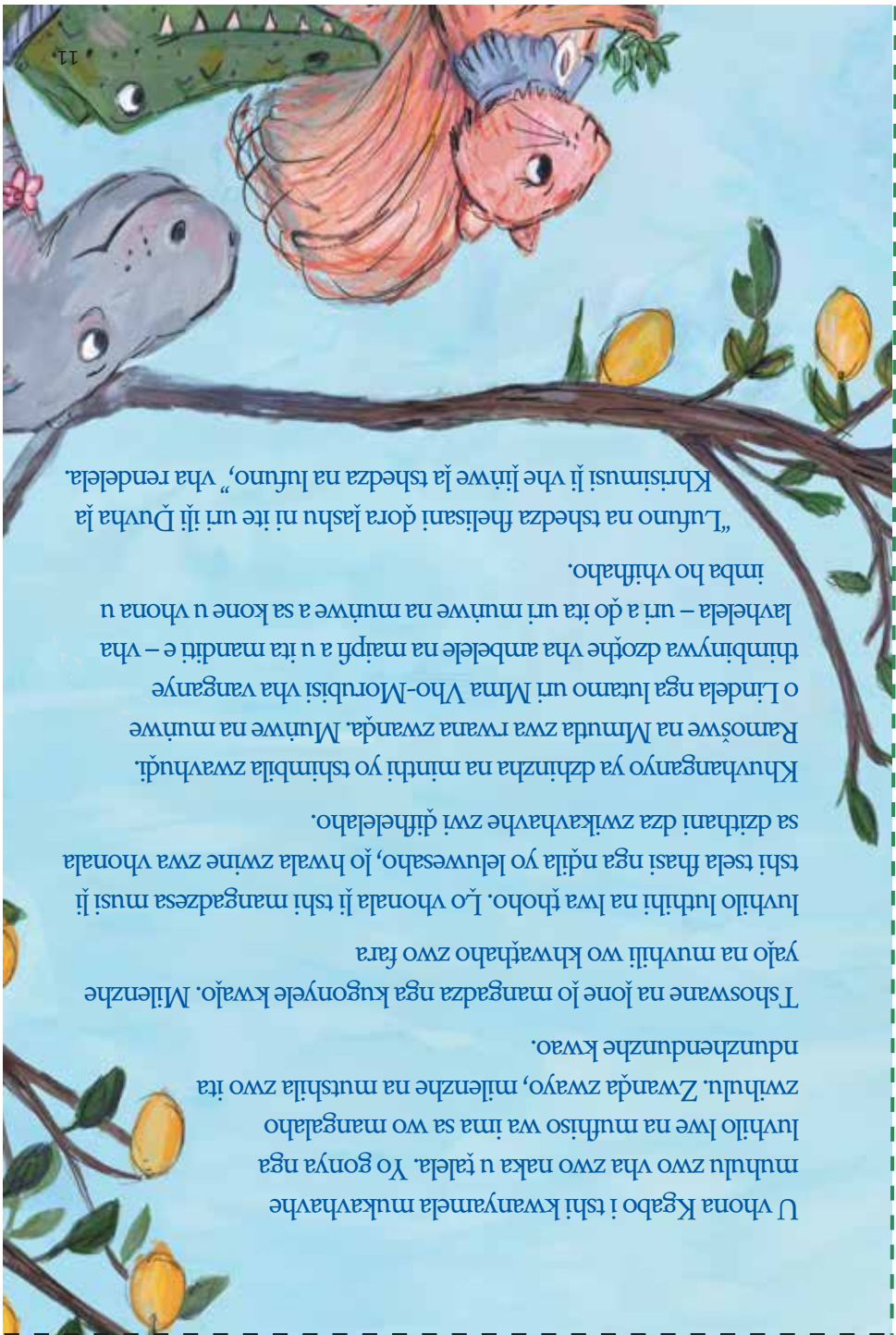


And then, at last, it was dinnertime. And what a dinner! “Mmm!” said Sannie. “Mmm, mmm!” said Frikkie. Tsha vha tsho swika tshifhinga tsha tshilalelo. Tshilalelo tshi rothisaho na nthel “Mmm!” a ralo Sannie.



Mama Smuts said nothing. But, if Papa Smuts, Sannie and Frikkie had not been so busy tucking into seconds, they might have heard her let out a little gasp.

Mma Vho-Smuts vha sokou tshete. Fhedzi, arali Baba Vho-Smuts, Sannie na Frikkie vha vhe vha songo farakanea nga u ḽiavhela zwilwiwa lwa vhuvhili, vho vha vha tshi ḽo vha vho vha pfa musi Mma Vho-Smuts vha tshi femeleka.



“Lufuno na tshedza fhelelani dora jashu ni ite uri i! Duvha la Khrisimusi li vhe li nwe la tshedza na lufuno,” vha rendelela.

imba ho vhihahlo.

lavhelela – uri a do ita uri muhwe na muhwe a sa kone u vha u thimbinwa dzothe vha ambela na mapfi a u ita manditi e – vha o Lindela nga lutamo uri Mma Vho-Morubisi vha vanganye Ramošwe na Mmutla zwa rwana zwanā. Muihwe na muhwe Khuvhanganyo ya dzinza na muthi yo tshimbila zwanā. sa dzihani dza zwikavhahve zwi dithelaho.

lvhilo lvhili na lwa thohlo. Lo vha la li tshi mangadza musi li ya jo na muvhi wo khawahlo zwo fara.

Tshoswane na lone jo mangadza nga kugonyele kwa jo. Milenzhe ndunzhenzhe kwao.

lvhilo lwe na muhiso wa ima sa wo mangalahlo muhilo zwo vha zwo naka u talela. Vo gonya nga zwiulu. Zwanā zwayo, milenzhe na mutshila zwo ita

Ramošwe, Mmutla and Tshoswane were very confused.

The three were convinced the elixir had failed and that Mme Morubisi had lost her touch. But it soon dawned on them that sometimes 'tis the season to be jolly and be silly with friends and family. And when that happens, you don't care about the quality of the singing. The owl was quite wise, after all.

Ramošwe, Mmutla na Tshoswane zwo vha zwo kanganyisea.

Izwi zwiraru zwo vha zwi na fulufhelo la uri mushonga wo kundelwa na uri Mma Vho-Morubisi a vha tshe na manditi. Zwa konaha u swika khazwo uri tshinwe tshifhinga ndi khalaŋwaha ine ya ita uri vathu vha takale vha ita zwothe na khonani na miṭa. Musi izwo zwi tshi itea, vathu a vha na ndavha na u vhihha ha u imba. Gwitha lone lo vha lo talifha.



“Hurini, iwe vhararu, ndi ngani ni tshi khou tou tshanyedza?” Mma Vho-Morubisi vho vhuza vha sa sumbedzi u thoniha fhezi nga nḽa ya vhuenda.

“Khrisimusi i do tshinyadza tshothe!” Tshoswane la sokou amba zwi songo lavhelela, jo kama la phanda jo isa na mahaḽa phanda li tshi feneleka nga murahu ha u gidima.

“Nandi naa,” hu amba Mma Vho-Morubisi vha ne vha nga divha zwothe, vha sa khou vha la zwi tshi khou vha dina na lvhili.

“Vho-Pidipidi, Vho-Segagwa na Vho-Hlogo zwo vhuenda tshigwada tshi vhidzawho Killing Them Softly nahone zwi khou ya u imba matshelo Tanoni la Khrisimusi,” hu talutsheda Ramošwe.

“A ri divhi uri ndi nnyo o dzudzanyaho izwi zwiu, zwi ne a khou humbula, kana arali o vha a tshi khou humbula musi a tshi buka avha vhararu. Humbulani nga ndevhe dza vhaṽaleli! Zwi fanela u imiswa.”

“Hello, you three, what's the hurry?” Mme Morubisi asked in her cheeky but gentle way.

“Christmas will be completely ruined!” blurted out Tshoswane, hunched over and panting from his run.

“Oh dear,” said the seemingly all-knowing Mme Morubisi, not concerned at all.

“Nate Pidipidi, Segagwa and Hlogo have formed a trio called Killing Them Softly and they're going to perform at tomorrow's Festive Show,” explained Ramošwe. “We don't know who organised this thing, what they were thinking, or if they were thinking at all, when they booked these three. Think of the audience's ears! It must be stopped.”

The scorching sun had been relentless. It beat down hard on the enchanted swamp. It had been a while since the waters came down from the clouds up above. Everything in Kgakala-Kgakala, the magical land far-far away, yearned for a sip of rain.

The owl knew if it didn't rain by nightfall, it would be a disaster for the Christmas festivities.

Guests chattered among themselves about this year's entertainment. “I heard they've secured a trio whose sweet serenade is going to blow us all away!” said Kwena the gruff and giddy crocodile.

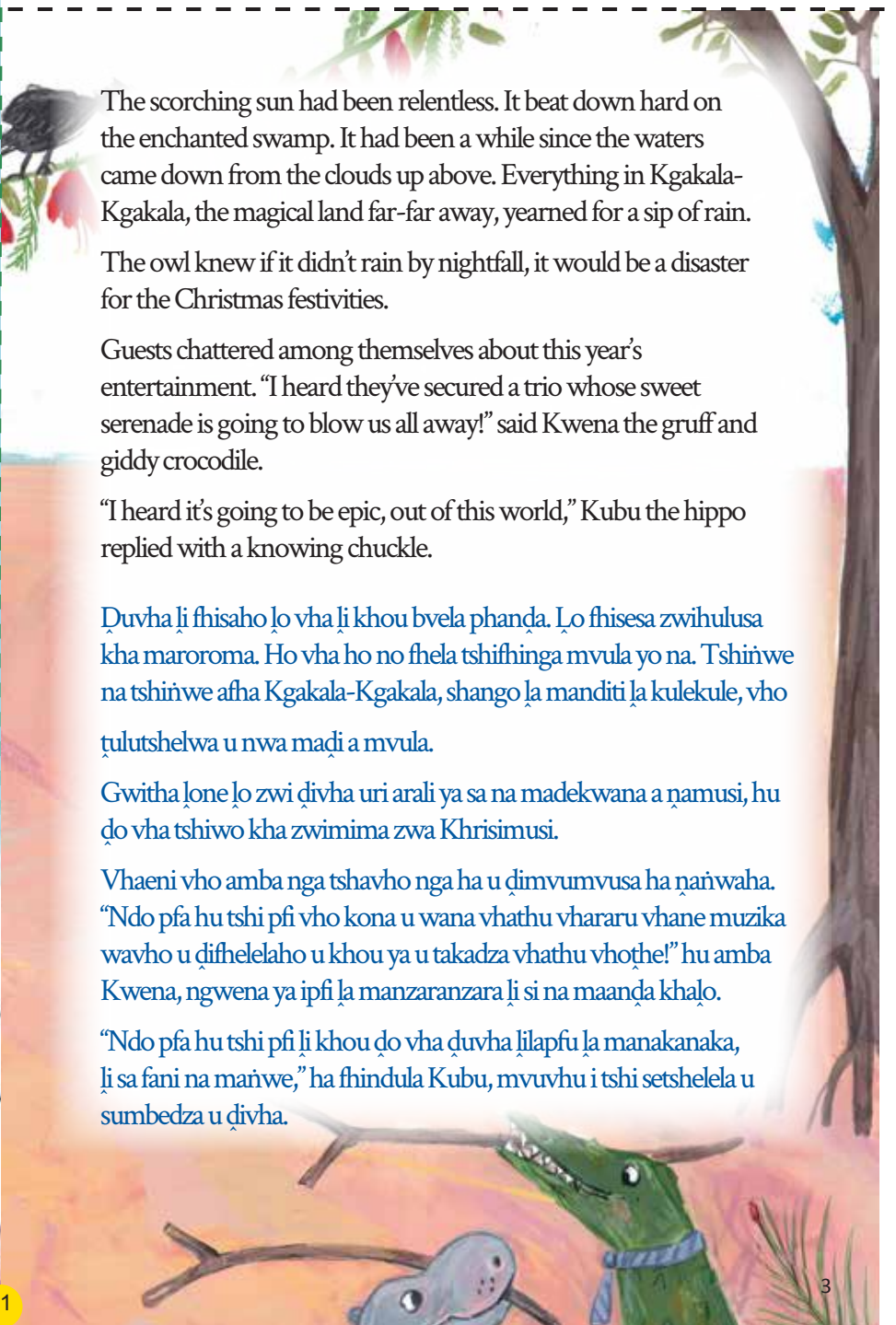
“I heard it's going to be epic, out of this world,” Kubu the hippo replied with a knowing chuckle.

Duvha li fhisaho lo vha li khou bvela phanda. Lo fhisesa zwihulusa kha maroroma. Ho vha ho no fhela tshifhinga mvula yo na. Tshinwe na tshinwe afha Kgakala-Kgakala, shango la manditi la kulekule, vho tulutshelwa u nwa maḽi a mvula.

Gwitha lone lo zwi divha uri arali ya sa na madekwana a namusi, hu do vha tshiwo kha zwimima zwa Khrisimusi.

Vhaeni vho amba nga tshavho nga ha u dimvumvusa ha nanwaha. “Ndo pfa hu tshi pfi vho kona u wana vathu vhararu vha ne muzika wavho u difhelelaho u khou ya u takadza vathu vhothe!” hu amba Kwena, ngwena ya ipfi la manzanzara li si na maḽa khalo.

“Ndo pfa hu tshi pfi li khou do vha divha lilapfu la manakanaka, li sa fani na manwe,” ha findula Kubu, mvuvhu i tshi setshelela u sumbedza u divha.





“Don’t you think the name is trying to tell us something?” Mmudla, a clever rabbit, asked with a wry smile.

“I really think they intend on killing people softly with their so-called singing,” retorted Ramošwe, a pretty squirrel with an enormous bushy tail.

“We need to put an end to this. Immediately!” declared Tšhoswane, the immensely strong ant.

“Christmas will be ruined!”

“Agreed,” said Ramošwe. “Look at all of them. They are so excited. They have no idea what a terrible thing they are about to hear.”

“I say we run to Mme Morubisi. She’ll know what to do,” suggested Tšhoswane.

“A ni humbuli uri dzina ili i khou lingedza u ri tswela zwiñwe?” Mmudla, muvhuḽa wo ṽaliffhaho u a vhuudzisa nga u mwemwela hu sumbedzaho miswaswo.

“Ndi humbula uri tshipikwa tshavho ndi u tou vhubaha vhatu nga zvine vha zwi vhidza uri ndi u imba havho,” hu ḽadzisa Ramošwe, luṽurwa lwo nakaho lu re na mutshila muhulu wa vukuse vhuunzhi.

“Ri fanela u zwi fhelisa hezwi zwithu. Nga u ṽavhanya!”

hu khwatšisedza Tšhoswane, sunzi la maanḽa

mahulu. “Khrisimusi i nga tshinyiwa!”

“Ndi khou tenda,” hu amba Ramošwe. “Vha lavheleseni vhoṽhe. Vho takala nga maanḽa. A vha ḽvhi maṽlungo mavhi ane vha ḽo a pfa.”

“Ndi ri kha ri gidimele ha Mma Vho-Morubisi. Vha ḽo ḽvha zvine vha ḽo ita,” hu dzingingya Tšhoswane.



Last year, Mme Thaha had sung so beautifully, everyone decided the Festive Show should be held every year. But this year the heatwave gave her heatstroke, and she had to pull out at the last minute.

Ntate Pidipidi and Ntate Segwagwa pounced at the opportunity to fill in as replacements.

It’s just that Ntate Pidipidi’s singing was truly terribly atrocious in every way. It was matched only by that of Ntate Segwagwa. Together they were the worst singing duo in the entire universe. However, for this year’s soiree, they had outdone themselves. They found an *even worse* singer, Ntate Hlogo – a gigantic shoebill. Together they formed a trio aptly called Killing Them Softly.

Mahoḽa Mma Vho-Thaha vho imba zwavhuḽi, muñwe na muñwe a dzhia tsheo ya uri Tano la Khrisimusi li fanela u itwa riwaha muñwe na muñwe. Fhedzi nañwaha muñhiso wo vha nea gonobva, vho mbo ḽi ḽibvisa musi vhuṽambo vhu tsinisa na u thoma.

Vho-Pidipidi, Vho-Segwagwa na Vho-Hlogo zwa wana tshikhala tsha u dzhena ho bvaho vhañwe.

Hu tou vha uri u imba ha Vho-Pidipidi ho vha ho vhiḽha tshoṽhe nga ndila inwe na inwe. Ho fana fhedzi na ha Vho-Segwagwa. Vhuvhili havho vho vha vha tshi imba lwo vhiḽhaho kha liḽhasi loṽhe. Fhedziba, kha vhuṽambo ha nañwaha, vho konesa. Vho wana Vho-Hlogo, liñoni liḽulu la ṽohoho ya khovhe ya vhimbi, line li imba zwo vhiḽhesaho. Vhuraru havho vha vhumba tshigwada tshi vhidzwaho Killing Them Softly.



When Christmas Day arrived, it brought with it unbearable heat. The parched crowds drank Mme Morubisi’s refreshing elixir.

But by the start of the show, the clouds suddenly started rolling in. They gently let go of their water, cooling the crowds below, who were busy marvelling at the most horrible singing they’d ever heard.

They stayed enthralled by the monstrosity they were hearing. They even laughed and cheered.

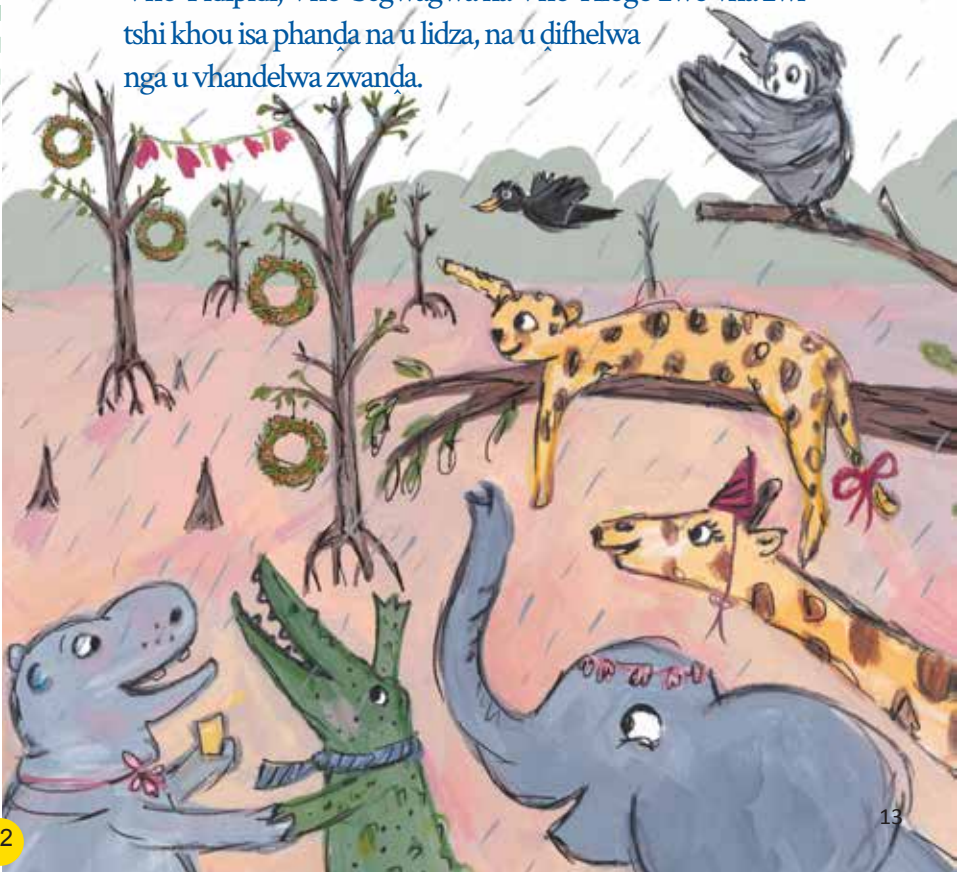
Ntate Pidipidi, Segwagwa and Hlogo were still bowing, enjoying the applause.

Musi ḽuvha la Khrisimusi li tshi swika, la ḽa na muñhiso u sa konḽelelei. Gogo lo swaho nga ḽuvha la nwa mushonga mudzivhulusi wa Mma Vho-Morubisi.

Fhedzi mathomoni a tano, makole a mbo thoma u tanga. Maṽḽulu a mbo thoma u tevhuwa, a tshi rothodza gogo fhasi, le la vha li tshi khou ṽalela lo mangala u imba ho vhiḽhaho hune li a thoma u hu pfa.

Vha dzula vho kungiwa nga u imba huvhi tshoṽhe he vha vha vha tshi khou hu pfa. Vha ita na u sea vha tshi ṽavha na mikosi ya ṽuṽuwedzo.

Vho-Pidipidi, Vho-Segwagwa na Vho-Hlogo zwo vha zwi tshi khou isa phanda na u lidza, na u ḽifhelwa nga u vhandelwa zwanda.





Nobukhwebezane, mukololo wa maḡi



Nga Luyanda Sikhakhane ■ Zwifanyiso nga Natalie na Tamsin Hinrichsen

Nwaha muḡwe na muḡwe, nga Nyendavhusiku, ho vha hu tshi farwa vhuṭambo ha Kwanzaa –miṭa yo vha i tshi ṭangana ya kovhelana zwifiwa na zwifiwa. Nwaha muḡwe na muḡwe, Khwezi, Lubo na Malaika vho vha vha tshi vuwa nga maḡautsha vha tsela mulamboni. Musi vhe ṅḡilani, vho vha vha tshi imba nyimbo dzi takadzaho nahone vha fula thebeila.

Vhenevha vhasidzana vhararu vho vha vha tshi dzula vho takala vhukuma nga ṅwambo wa uri nga ḡeneli ḡuvha, vho vha vha tshi ḡo wana mukololo wa maḡi, Nobukhwebezane, o vha lindela mulamboni. Musi vha tshi khou sendela tsini, vha pfa a tshi khou imba nga ipfi ḡawe ḡavhuḡi:

“Kha ri takutshedze vhatu vha Afurika ... Kwanzaa yo swika!

Ri ṅeana zwifiwa zwo nakaho ... ri sumbedzana lufuno!

Ḋisani mitshelo, ṅama na mabundu.

Kha ri ḡe, ri pembele roṭhe ... sumbedzanani lufuno!”



Vhenevho vhasidzana vho vha vha tshi dzula philiphilini ya mulambo, vha thetshesela lwonolwo luimbo. Nga murahu ha zwenezwo, musi ḡuvha ḡi tshi ṭavha, Nobukhwebezane o vha a tshi vha ṅea mimanngi yo ḡalaho miroho na mitshelo uri vha ṭuwe nayo muḡanani une vha dzula khawo.

“Ni sale zwavhuḡi, Mukololo wa Maḡi!” vho vha vha tshi

ralo musi vha tshi khou gidimela hayani uri vhatu vha muḡanani vha kone u lugiselela zwifiwa zwa vhuṭambo ha Kwanzaa.

Fhedzi ho vha hu na tshithu tshe tshifhinga tshoṭhe tsha vha tshi tshi vhilaedzisa Nobukhwebezane. Musi o dzula e eṭhe o vha a tshi ḡivhudzisa uri: “Ndi ngani vhenevho vhasidzana vha sa nndivhuhi musi vha tshi dzhia mimanngi ya mitshelo na miroho?”

Ngei muḡanani, vhatu vhoṭhe vho vha vha tshi kuvhangana musanda, vho ambara zwiambaro zwi penyaho, zwa mivhala. Nga ṅḡa ha mitshelo na miroho zwi bvaho kha mukololo wa maḡi, vhatu vha muḡanani vho vha vha tshi ḡisa mavhele na ṅama nahone vha bika vhoṭhe musi vhana vha tshi khou tamba.

Musi vhatu vha muḡanani vho no ḡa, vho vha vha tshi ṅeana zwifiwa, vha imba na u tshina. Vhatu vhahulwane vho vha vha tshi tou sielisana u anetshela zwitori zwine vha zwi funesa.

Nga muḡwe ṅwaha musi vhuṭambo ha Kwanzaa vhu tshi swika, Khwezi, Lubo na Malaika vha vuwa nahone vha gidimela mulamboni sa ṅḡowelo, vha tshi khou imba na u fula thebeila ṅḡilani. Musi vhe tsini na u swika mulamboni, vha ṭhogomela uri hu na zwiḡwe zwi sa khou tshimbilaho zwavhuḡi. A vho ngo pfa Nobukhwebezane a tshi khou imba.

“Kani-ha Nobukhwebezane u tshee o eḡela?” Malaika a ḡivhudzisa.

“Khamusi ho ngo vuwa zwavhuḡi,” ndi Khwezi a no ralo.

“Khamusi o hangwa uri ṅamusi ndi vhuṭambo ha Kwanzaa,” a ralo Lubo.

Musi vha tshi swika mulamboni, Nobukhwebezane e ndi bva vhubvo.

Nga khathihi fhedzi, ha penya tshedza tshihulu tshe tsha vha swingisa maṭo. Nga murahu ha zwenezwo, ha pfala ipfi ḡihulu, ḡi tshuwisaho ḡe ḡa ri: “Muḡwe na muḡwe ane a ṅewa tshithu u tea u livhuwa! Yeneyo ndi mikhwa yavhuḡi!” Nga murahu ha zwenezwo tshedza tsha ngalangala, ha sala masana a ḡuvha e a vha a tshi khou vhoneṭshela zwiḡwarani zwi re hangei kule. Vhenevho vhasidzana vha ḡisola musi vha tshi ṭhogomela zwe vha hangwa u zwi ita.

“A ro ngo vhuya ra livhuwa Nobukhwebezane nge a ri ṅea zwifiwa zwa vhuṭambo ha Kwanzaa! Tshifhinga tshoṭhe ri ṭuwa nga u ṭavhanya,” ndi Lubo a tshi khou amba o ṭungufhala.

Vha nanaila vho ṭungufhala zwiḡulu, vha livha hayani.

“Ri ḡo ri mini musi ri tshi swika muḡanani ro ṅembeledza zwanda, ri songo fara tshithu?” ha vhudzisa Malaika.

Khwezi a rembuluwa a sedza khonani dzawe a ri, “Khonani dzanga, ... ri tea u humela murahu ri yo humbela pfarelo kha mukololo wa maḡi.”

“Fhedzi Nobukhwebezane ha tsha ṭḡa u pfa tshithu nga riṅe. Ha ṭḡi na u ri vhona!” a ralo Lubo o fulufhuwa tshoṭhe.

“Ndi tendelana na Khwezi,” a ralo Malaika. “Ri tea u huma ri yo humbela pfarelo. Naho arali ra sa wana Nobukhwebezane musi ri tshi swika, ri nga sia mulaedza wawe na khovhe.”

“Ndi muhumbulo wavhuḡi hoyo,” ndi Lubo, a tshi vho thoma u ḡipfa e khwine. “Ri nga ita hezwi, musi ro livha mulamboni, ri nga fula thebeila ra dzi ṅea Nobukhwebezane sa tshifhiwa.”

Vhenevho vhasidzana vhararu vha fula thebeila vha ḡadza pulasitiki. Zwifhatuwo zwavho zwa ṅwethuwa musi vha tshi tsela mulamboni nga u gidima. Musi vhe tsini na u swika, vha pfa luimbo lwavhuḡi lune vha lu ḡivha vhukuma:

“Kha ri takutshedze vhatu vha Afurika ... Kwanzaa yo swika!

Ri ṅeana zwifiwa zwo nakaho ... ri sumbedzana lufuno!

Ḋisani mitshelo, ṅama na mabundu.

Kha ri ḡe, ri pembele roṭhe ... sumbedzanani lufuno!”

“Nobukhwebezane o vhuya! Mukololo wa maḡi o vhuya!” vha huwelela, vha tshi khou gidima lumemeni lwa mulambo.

Nobukhwebezane o vha o dzula kha tombo tsini na philiphili, a tshi khou ṅwethuwa.

“Mukololo, ni ri farele nge ra si vhuye ra ni livhuwa musi ni tshi ri ṅea zwifiwa zwa mitshelo na miroho!” a ralo Malaika.

“Ee, Nobukhwebezane, ri khou humbela pfarelo. Ri humbela uri ni ri farele wee,” hu luvheledza Khwezi.

“Kwanzaa ndi tshifhinga tsha u ṅea zwifiwa. Namusi ro ni farela tshifhiwa!” a ralo Lubo, a tshi khou ṭharamudza tshanda uri a ṅee Nobukhwebezane pulasitiki ḡo ḡalaho thebeila.

Nobukhwebezane a ṭolela pulasitiki nahone a ṅwethuwa. “Hedzi thebeila dzi vhoneṭha dzi dzavhuḡi, dzi tshi rothisa nthe. Ndo livhuwa khonani dzanga!”

“Na riṅe ro livhuwa, Mukololo, nga zwifiwa zwe na ri ṅea zwone ṅwaha muḡwe na muḡwe nga vhuṭambo ha Kwanzaa. Ro livhuwa,” Malaika a amba a tshi khou shonelela.

“Khonani dzanga, ... Kwanzaa ndi tshifhinga tsha u ṅea, dakalo, mulalo na lufuno! Sendelani tsini, ndi khou ṭḡa u ni ḡudisa luimbo luswa!” Ndi izwi-ha Nobukhwebezane a tshi imba:

“Dzulani ni tshi livhuwa, dzulani ni tshi funa na inwi ni ḡo ṅewa-vho!

Dzulani ni tshi livhuwa, dzulani ni tshi funa na inwi ni ḡo ṅewa-vho!

Dzulani ni tshi livhuwa, dzulani ni tshi funa! Hezwi ndi zwavhuḡi tshifhinga tshoṭhe!”

“Vhoiwe, gidimelani hayani,” a ralo. “Tshifhinga tsho no ṭuwa! Dziani mimanngi ya mitshelo na miroho. Vho ni lindela.”

“Ro livhuwa, Mukololo wa Maḡi. Ro livhuwa zwone, Nobukhwebezane!” vha ralo vhasidzana.

“Ni tshimbile zwavhuḡi! Ni ḡiphine nga Kwanzaa!” ha huwelela Nobukhwebezane.

“Na inwi Mukololo! Ro livhuwa!” ha huwelela vhasidzana.

Musi vhasidzana vha tshi swika hayani, vhatu vha muḡanani vho vha vho no ḡi vha lindela. “Ro livhuwa vhasidzana. Zwi tou nga no ḡa na mitshelo na miroho minzhi u fhira nga misi. Ro livhuwa!” ya ralo khosi ya muḡanani.

Musi vhasidzana vha tshi pfa zwenezwi, vha sedzana ... nahone vha ṅwethuwa. Vho zwi ḡivha uri Nobukhwebezane o vha o vha hangwela. “Ro livhuwa, Mukololo,” vha hevhedza.



Itani uri tshitori tshi nyanyule!

★ Naa muṭa waṅu kana tshitshavha tsha hune na dzula hone tshi ita vhuṭambo ha Tshiafurika kana vhune ha itwa Afurika Tshipembe nga ho livhaho? Vhu vhidzwa mini nahone hu pembelelwa mini?

★ Kanzhi hu vha na mitshelo na miroho ya mufuda-ḡe kha vhuṭambo ha vhoiwe? Olani miḡwe ya yeneyi mitshelo na miroho.

★ Sikani luimbo lune na livhuwa zwithu zwavhuḡi zwine na ṅewa zwone ḡuvha ḡiḡwe na ḡiḡwe.



Nobukhwebezane, the water princess



Story
corner

By Luyanda Sikhakhane ■ Illustrations by Natalie and Tamsin Hinrichsen

Every year, in December, it was time for the Kwanzaa festival – a time when families met and shared food and gifts. And every year, before dawn, Khwezi, Lubo and Malaika would get up and go down to the river. On their way, they would sing beautiful songs and pick blackberries.

The three girls were always very excited, because on this day, they would find the water princess, Nobukhwebezane, waiting for them at the river. As they got closer, they could hear her beautiful voice singing:

*"Africans arise ... Kwanzaa has come!
We give each other beautiful gifts ... we show each other love!
Bring fruit, meat and amahewu.
Let's eat, celebrate together ... show each other love!"*



The girls would sit on the riverbank and listen to the song. Then, at sunrise, Nobukhwebezane would give them baskets full of vegetables and fruits to take home to their village.

"Stay well, Water Princess!" they would

call as they ran home so that the villagers could prepare a feast for the Kwanzaa celebrations.

But something always troubled Nobukhwebezane. "I wonder why those girls don't thank me when they take the baskets of fruits and vegetables?" she asked herself as she sat alone.

Back at the village, everyone would gather at the chief's home, wearing bright, colourful clothes. Besides the fruits and vegetables from the water princess, the villagers would bring grain and meat, and they would cook together while the children played.

After the villagers had feasted, they exchanged gifts, and sang and danced. The older people took turns telling their favourite folktales.

One year, when Kwanzaa arrived, Khwezi, Lubo and Malaika woke up and rushed to the river as usual, singing and picking blackberries along the way. As they neared the river, they realised that something was wrong. They couldn't hear Nobukhwebezane singing.

"Could Nobukhwebezane still be asleep?" wondered Malaika.

"Maybe she's not well," suggested Khwezi.

"Perhaps she forgot that today is the start of Kwanzaa," said Lubo.

When they reached the river, Nobukhwebezane was nowhere to be seen.

Suddenly, a bright light blinded their eyes. Then, a loud and frightening voice said, "Whoever is given something must say thank you! That is good manners!" Then the light disappeared, and only the rising sun behind the hills in the distance remained. The girls felt terrible when they realised what they had forgotten to do.

"We never thank Nobukhwebezane for the Kwanzaa gifts! We always leave in a hurry," said Lubo sadly.

With heavy hearts, they slowly started walking back home.

"What are we going to say when we arrive back at the village empty-handed?" asked Malaika.

Khwezi turned to her friends and said, "Friends, ... we must go back and apologise to the water princess."

"But Nobukhwebezane doesn't want anything to do with us. She doesn't want to see us!" said Lubo, feeling hopeless.

"I agree with Khwezi," said Malaika. "We have to go back and apologise. Even if we don't find Nobukhwebezane there, we can leave a message for her with the fish."

"Good idea," said Lubo, starting to feel better. "I know, on our way back to the river, we can pick blackberries as a gift for Nobukhwebezane."

The three girls picked a bag full of blackberries. Their faces were smiling again as they ran back down to the river. As they got closer, they heard the sweet song they knew so well:

*"Africans arise ... Kwanzaa has come!
We give each other beautiful gifts ... we show each other love!
Bring fruit, meat and amahewu.
Let's eat, celebrate together ... show each other love!"*

"Nobukhwebezane is back! The water princess is back!" they shouted, running to the edge of the river.

Nobukhwebezane was sitting on a rock close to the riverbank, smiling.

"Princess, we are really sorry for never saying thank you for your gifts of fruits and vegetables!" said Malaika.

"Yes, Nobukhwebezane, we apologise. Please forgive us," begged Khwezi.

"Kwanzaa is a time for giving gifts. Today we have a gift for you!" said Lubo, reaching out to give Nobukhwebezane the bag full of blackberries.

Nobukhwebezane looked inside the bag and smiled. "These blackberries look delicious. Thank you, friends!"

"We are also thankful to you, Princess, for the gifts that you have given us year after year at Kwanzaa. Thank you," Malaika said shyly.

"My friends, ... Kwanzaa is a time of giving, joy, peace and love! Come close, I want to teach you a new song!" Then Nobukhwebezane sang:

*"Always be thankful, always love and you will receive in return!
Always be thankful, always love and you will receive in return!
Always be thankful, always love! These are always good!"*

"Now, hurry home," she said. "It's getting late! Here are the baskets of fruits and vegetables. They are waiting for you."

"Thank you, Water Princess. Thank you, Nobukhwebezane!" said the girls.

"Go well! Happy Kwanzaa!" shouted Nobukhwebezane.

"To you too, Princess! Thank you!" shouted the girls.

When the girls arrived home, the villagers were already waiting for them. "Thank you, girls. It looks like you brought more fruit and vegetables than ever before. Thank you!" said the chief of the village.

When the girls heard this, they looked at each other ... and smiled. They knew that Nobukhwebezane had forgiven them. "Thank you, Princess," they whispered.



Get story active!

- ★ Does your family or community take part in a celebration that is specifically African or South African? What is it called and what is celebrated?
- ★ What kinds of fruits and vegetables do you often have at your celebrations? Draw some of these fruits and vegetables.

- ★ Make up your own song in which you say thank you for the good things that you receive each day.

Zwi takadzaho nga ha Nal'ibali

Nal'ibali fun



1.

U wana khoudu!

Neo na khonani dzawe vha do ita mini nga dziholodei? Shumisani bogisi la muvhala wa lutombo uri li ni thuse u wana khoudu.

- Neo u do fara lwendo lwa (2, 15, 12, 1) _____ nga vhege ya u thoma ya dziholodei.
- Mbali u do tuwa a ya (2, 21, 12, 1, 19, 9, 14, 9) _____ na vha hwe vhana vha sentharani ya pfunzo ya Gugu.
- Bella u do (22, 8, 1, 12, 5, 12, 1) _____ Noodle nahone a ya u tamba na dzi hwe mmbwa (16, 8, 1, 11, 8, 1, 14, 9) _____.
- Hope u do shela mulenzhe kha mutatisano wa (11, 1, 18, 1, 20, 9) _____.
- Afrika na Dintle vha do thusa mme avho u (2, 1, 11, 1) _____ makhekhe na mabisikitsi u itela makete wavho kha jano la vhuriha.
- Priya u khou tuwa na mukomana wawe kha mutangano wa zwi tiori ngei (12, 1, 9, 2, 21, 18, 1, 18, 9, 14, 9) _____.
- Josh u khou thusa u ita (13, 2, 5, 11, 1, 14, 25, 1, 13, 21, 19, 8, 21, 13, 15) (25, 1) (8, 15, 12, 15, 4, 5, 9) _____ u itela vhana vha tuku tshikoloni tshawe.



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Y	Z						
25	26						

Crack the code!

What are Neo and his friends going to spend time doing during the holidays? Use the blue code-breaker table to help you find out.

- Neo is going on a (19, 15, 3, 3, 5, 18) _____ tour for the first week of the holidays.
- Mbali is going on an outing to a (6, 1, 18, 13) _____ with the other children at Gogo's educare centre.
- Bella is going to (18, 5, 1, 4) _____ to Noodle and take him to play with the other dogs at the (16, 1, 18, 11) _____.
- Hope is taking part in a (11, 1, 18, 1, 20, 5) _____ competition.
- Afrika and Dintle are going to help their mother to (2, 1, 11, 5) _____ cakes and biscuits for her stall at the winter fair.
- Priya is going with her sister to a story workshop at the (12, 9, 2, 18, 1, 18, 25) _____.
- Josh is helping to run a (8, 15, 12, 9, 4, 1, 25) (16, 18, 15, 7, 18, 1, 13, 13, 5) _____ for the younger children at his school.



2.

Shumisani muhumbulo wanu u thaphudza hetshi tshitori. Anetshelani khonani kana mubebi tshitori tshanu.

Muriwe na muriwe o vha a tshi humbula uri Mma Vho-Esther vho vha vhe muloi. Vho vha vha tshi dzula vhe vhothe nduni thukhu nahone vho vha vha tshi ya doroboni u renga zwi liwa zwine vha si kone u zwi tava ngadeni yavho. A hu na muthu we a vha a tshi amba navho, na vhone vho vha vha sa ambi na muthu.

Nga zwenezwo musi thanga ya Mma Vho-Esther i tshi vhudzulwa nga dumu, a hu na we a ya a vha thusa. Vhathu vha doroboni vho imisela ntha kholara dza madzhasi avho, vha tsitsela fhasi miniwadzi yavho uri vha si kone u vhona nndu thukhu yo pwashaho musi vha tshi pfuka nga henefho.

Fhedzi ho vha hu na muriwe muthannga ane a pfi George we a humbula uri ndi khwine u itela Mma Vho-Esther tshinwe tshithu...



Use your imagination to complete the story. Tell a friend or parent your story.

Everyone thought Mama Esther was a witch. She lived alone in a small house and only went to town to buy food she could not grow in her garden. No one spoke to her, and she spoke to no one.

So when Mama Esther's roof blew off during a storm, no one came to help her. The townspeople pulled their coat collars up high and their hats down low so they would not have to look at her broken little house when they walked by.

But there was one young man named George who thought it was time to do something about Mama Esther...



Answers: 1. bola 2. bulasini 3. vha lela, phakani 4. karati 5. baka 6. laiburani 7. holiday programme

Ni songo hangwa uri ri do vala u swika nga vhege ya u thoma ya Luhui 2024. Diphineni nga dziholodei ni vhe na ri ne nwanani muswa uri ni wane zwithu zwizhi zwi mangadzaho zwa u vha zwa Nal'ibali! Zwa zwino, dalelani www.nalibali.org kana rumelani WhatsApp yo nwalwa u pfi "stories" kha 0600 44 22 54 uri ni dzule ni tshi vha lela u diphina!

Don't forget that we will be taking a break until the first week of February 2024. Enjoy the holidays and join us in the new year for more Nal'ibali reading magic! In the meantime, visit www.nalibali.org or WhatsApp "stories" to 0600 44 22 54 to keep reading for enjoyment!

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UMLAZI
EYETHU

POLOKWANE
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