



Thusa bana ba hao hore ba tsebe ho ngola!

Re a ngola hore dintho di etsahale le hore re buisane le ba bang. Ke ntho e tshwanang le ho pheha – ha o pheha hangata, tsebo ya hao ya ho pheha e a ntlafala e bile e se e ba ntho e bonolo ho wena! Jwalo ka batswadi le bahlakomedi, re tlameha ho beha mohlala ho bontsha matla le morero wa ho ngola bophelong ba rona ba letsatsi le letsatsi le bana ba rona.



Get your children writing!

We write to get things done and to communicate with one another. It is like cooking – the more you do it, the better you become at it and the easier it becomes for you! As parents and caregivers, we need to lead by example to show the power and purpose of writing in our daily lives with our children.

Qalella ba sa le banyenyane

- ★ Hangata ho taka ke ona mohato wa pele oo ngwana a o nkang wa ho ngola. Bontsha thahasello ho seo a se takileng ka ho mo babatsa le ho mo botsa dipotso ka ditshwantsho tseo tsa hae. O ka mo botsa, "Ekare ho monate ho dula ntlong ena. Ke bomang ba dulang ho yona?"
- ★ Etsa hore lapeng ho be le dipampiri, dikerayone, dipene le dipentshele. Di behe sebakeng seo ho leng bonolo hore bana ba hao ba di fihlelle ba le bang, e le hore ba take neng kapa neng ha ba batla.

Get an early start

- ★ Drawing is often a child's first step towards writing. Show an interest in their drawings by making encouraging comments and asking them about their pictures. You could ask, "That looks like an interesting house to live in. Who lives there?"
- ★ Have paper, crayons, pens and pencils on hand at home. Keep them in a place that is easy for your children to reach on their own, so that they can draw whenever they want to.



Etsa hore bana ba ngole lapeng

- ★ Fa bana ba hao monyetla wa hore ba sebedise ho ngola ho hlophisa maphelo a bona. Ka mohlala, ba kope hore ba o ngole lethathamo la dintho tseo o tla di reka mabenkeleng kapa ba ngole lethathamo la dintho tseo ba tlamehang ho ya le tsona sekolong.
- ★ Fumana menyetla ya hore bana ba hao ba sebedise ho ngola hore ba buisane le ba bang. E re ba ngole mabitso a bona dikareteng tsa ditumediso kapa ba ngole melaetsa ya teboho le ho ngolla ba lelapa le metswalle melaetsa.
- ★ Bana ba rata ho ngola didayaring. Kgothaletsa bana ba hao hore ba ngole (le ho taka) ntho efe kapa efe didayaring tsa bona – ebang ke seo ba se nahanang, maikutlo a bona, mehopolo ya bona kapa seo ba thabetseng ho se etsa letsatsing le itseng. (Etsa bonnete ba hore ba a tseba hore seo ba se ngolang ke sephiri sa bona ntle le haeba ba batla ho se bolella ba bang). O ka sebedisa buka e tlwaelehileng ya ho ngola dintlha hore e be dayari ya bona, ha hao feela ke hore o ngole letsatsi hodimo leqepheng le leng le le leng.

Get writing at home

- ★ Give your children the opportunity to use writing to organise their lives. For example, ask them to write a shopping list for you or to write a list of things that they need to take to school.
- ★ Find opportunities for your children to use writing to communicate with others. Let them write their names on greeting cards or write thank-you notes and messages to family members and friends.
- ★ Children love writing in diaries. Encourage your children to write (and draw) in their diaries about absolutely anything – their thoughts, feelings, ideas or what they enjoyed doing. (Make sure that they know that what they write is private unless they choose to share it with others.) You can use a basic notebook as a diary, just add the date at the top of each page.

Ngolang kaofela jwalo ka lelapa

- ★ Ngola dipale le bana ba hao maqepheng a sa ngolang letho ebe le etsa dibuka ka ho kopanya maqephe ao hammoho.
- ★ Bana ba banyenyane ba ka taka ditshwantsho. Ithaopele ho ngola mantswa ao ba o bolellang ona, empa o boele o ba kgothaletse hore ba leke ho ngola ka bobona.
- ★ Tlohella bana ba baholwanyane hore ba take le ho ngola ka bobona.
- ★ Le ka mohlala o se ke wa ba tshwaya phoso ha ba sa ngola mantswa hantle. Ho e na le hoo, ithaopele ho lokisa phoso eo ya mopeleto!



Write together as a family

- ★ Write stories with your children on blank sheets of paper and make books by stapling the sheets of paper together.
- ★ Younger children can draw the pictures. Offer to write the words they tell you, but also encourage them to try to write themselves.
- ★ Allow older children to draw and write on their own.
- ★ Never criticise spelling errors. Rather, offer to correct the spelling instead!



Drive your
imagination



IT STARTS WITH
A STORY.
HO QALA
KA PALE.



Dipeo tsa Tsebo ya ho Bala le ho Ngola!

Ho qala ka **MONAHANO!**

Literacy Seeds!

It starts with IMAGINATION!



Batswadi le bahlokomedi ba ratehang ba bana ba banyenyane, ho bala ho hloka **mohanyano** e le hore mantswa a leqepheng a phele. Ka mohlala, ha re bala ka sehanyata se tsamayang seterateng, re lokela ho iketsetsa "video" ka dikelellong tsa rona tsa sehanyata seo se tsamayang: tsela eo se tsamaisang maoto, matsoho le hlooho ka yona, sebopeho sa sona ha se furaletse, morethetho wa mehato ya sona. Sena se etsa hore sehanyata seo se phele ka mehopolong ya rona. Ka hona, nako e telele pele bana ba rona ba ka bala, ba lokela ho hodisa monahano wa bona e le hore ba ka balla kufwisiso le ho natefelwa!

Dear parents and caregivers of young children, reading needs **imagination** to lift the words off the page and give them life. For example, when we read about a giant walking down the street, we should be able to create a "video" in our minds of that giant walking along: the way his legs, arms and head move, the shape of his back, the rhythm of his steps. This brings the giant to life in our imaginations. So, long before our children can read, they should be developing their imaginations so that they can read with understanding and enjoyment!

Ditsela tse 5 tsa ho thusa bana ba rona ba banyenyane hore ba hodise menahano ya bona

Bana ba rata ho itshisinyana mmele, ho tshwara dintho tse ba potolohileng, ho bina dipina, ho bapala dipapadi, ho pheta diraeme, ho mamela dipale le ho di pheta, ho taka le ho etsa eka ba ntse ba bala le ho ngola. Qeta nako e ngata ka moo o ka kgonang o ntse o bapala le bana ba hao, mme o ba fe nako le monyetla wa hore ba bapale ba le bang le/kapa bana ba bang. Sena se tla etsa hore ba ikutiwe ba nyakaletse le ho etsa hore ba be le boitshepo bo botle. O ka etsa dintho tse latelang ho thusa bana ba hao:



5 ways to help our little ones grow their imaginations

Children love to move their bodies, interact with the things around them, sing songs, play games, say rhymes, listen to and tell stories, draw and pretend to read and write. Spend as much time as you can playing with your children, and give them the time and space to play alone and/or with other children. This will make them feel happy and help them develop healthy self-esteem. Here are some things you can do to help your children:

- 1. Bala, pheta le ho bua ka dipale.** Bua le ngwana wa hao motshehare. Buang ka seo o se etsang, pheta kapa o bale pale ebe le yona le bua ka yona.
- 2. Etsang hore ho be le nako ya ho bapala.** O se ke wa rera dintho tsohle tseo bana ba tlo di etsa. Ba dumelle ho ikgethela hore na ba batla ho etsang ka nako ya bona ya ho bapala.
- 3. Boloka lebokose la dintho tse bonolo tseo ho ka bapalwang ka tsona.** Boloka lebokose kapa mokotla o tshetseng dintho tse ka thahasellisang bana mme e le tse bolokehileng hore ba ka bapala ka tsona. E ka ba diphahlo tsa kgale, hlama ya ho bapala, dikotwana tsa phasta e omeletseng, sekgetjhana sa pampiri, dikerayone, dikotwana tsa malapi le ulu ... ntho efe kapa efe e ka susumelletsa ngwana hore a nahane.
- 4. Tima disebediswa tsa elektronike nakong ya ho bapala.** Ho shebella mananeo a thelevishene, khomphiutha kapa founu ho ka kgina monahano wa bana. Ka mohlala, bana ba tla utlwa maikutlo a motho e mong a hore na daenaso e lla jwang ho e na le hore ba leke ho inahanela ka bobona hore na e lla jwang.
- 5. Ba fe nako ya hore ba leke dintho ka bobona.** Le hoja e ka nna yaba re tseba mekgwa e bonolo, e potlakang kapa e molemo haholwanyane ya ho etsa ntho e itseng, ho fa bana nako ya hore ba rarolle bothata ho etsa hore ba be le boqapi, ba behe mabaka le ho ba le boitshepo hammoho le monahano.

- 1. Read, tell and talk about stories.** Talk to your child during the day. Talk about what you're doing, tell or read a story and talk about that too.
- 2. Make time for free play.** Do not plan all your children's activities. Allow them to come up with their own ideas of how to spend their play time.
- 3. Keep a box of simple playthings.** Keep a box or bag of things that could interest children and are safe to play with. There could be old clothes, play dough, pieces of dried pasta, scrap paper, crayons, scraps of fabric and wool ... anything that could spark a child's imagination.
- 4. Turn off devices during playtime.** Watching programmes on television, a computer or phone can limit children's imagination. For example, children will hear someone else's idea of what a dinosaur sounds like instead of trying to imagine the sound themselves.
- 5. Give them time to try things on their own.** While we may know an easier, faster or better way to do something, giving children time to find ways to solve a problem develops their creativity, reasoning, confidence and imagination.

Hopola: Ha bana ba tsepamisitse mohopolo papading, ba tla ba diitshila mme le sebaka seo ba bapallang ho sona se tla ba diitshila, mahleke mme ho be lerata. Shebella ka hloko o le thokwana mme o etse bonnete ba hore bohle ba sireletsehile. Mme ha papadi e se e le haufi le ho fela, leka ho etsa hore papadi ya ho qetela e akareletse hore ba ithwekise le ho hlwekisa sebaka seo ba leng ho sona.

Remember: When children become focused in play, they and the space that they are in will get dirty, untidy and loud. Watch carefully from a distance to make sure that everyone is safe. And when the playing draws to a close, try to make the last game include cleaning up the space and themselves.



Drive your
imagination

Haha monahano ka papadi

Ho kgothaletsa bana hore ba bapale ntle le ho latela melao ho etsa hore ba tlwaele ho iketsetsa diqeto le ho ba le tsebo ya ho sebedisana le ba bang. Mofuta ona wa papadi o bitswa papadi e inahanelwang kapa ya nketsisane. Nakong ya papadi e inahanelwang, bana ba ka nna ba:

- iketsa eka ke motho e mong, phoofolo kapa ntho e itseng. Motho enwa, phoofolo kapa ntho e ka nna yaba ya sebele kapa e iqapelwang, jwalo ka ntja e buang e tswang Mars, kapa ntja feela e tlwaelehileng!
- nahana hore dintho tse teng lefatsheng la sebele ke dintho tse itseng tse fapaneng. Ka mohlala, lebokose le ka kamoreng ya bona e ka nna ya ba tswibila e yang kgwedding.
- etsa eka sebaka seo ba leng ho sona ke kaekae. Ka mohlala, sebaka seo ba bapallang ho sona e ka nna ya ba phiramiiti ya Egepeta.
- qapa pale eo ba e tshwantshisang.

Melemo ya papadi e inahanelwang:

- * Bana ba ba le tsebo ya ho sebedisana le ba bang ka ho ithuta ho qapa pale hammoho le ba bang.
- * Ba ithuta ho latela ditaelo tse bonolo.
- * Ba dumellana le mehopolo ya bao ba nang le bona.
- * Ba ithuta ho laola maikutlo a bona ka ho etsa hore boitshwaro ba bona bo tenyetsehe le maemo a sa tshwaneng.
- * Ba ithuta ho utlwisisa hore na boitshwaro ba bona bo ama ba bang jwang.
- * Ba ithuta ho ba le kutlwelobohloko ka ho ikenya dieteng tsa ba bang.
- * Ba ithuta ho ntsha mehopolo le maikutlo a bona – le ao ba inahanelang ona.

Bohlokwa ba papadi e inahanelwang:

Papadi e inahanelwang e thusa bana hore ba be le ditsebo tsa bohlokwa bophelong tseo ba tla di sebedisa bophelo bohle.

- ⚙️ **Boiqapelo:** Bana ba lokela ho sebedisa mehopolo ya bona ka hohle ho bona hore na e ka sebetsa ho fihlela hokae, e leng se tla ba dumella hore ba be le boiphihlelo ka karolo e phethwang ke ho sebedisana le ba bang le ho laola maikutlo bophelong.
- ⚙️ **Boikemelo:** Bana ba ka iketsetsa dipapadi tsa bona le melao ya bona ka ho bapala le ba bang. Sena se ba thusa hore ba be le thahasello papading eo le ho bana ba bang ba papading.
- ⚙️ **Ho rarolla mathata:** Bana ba sebedisa mekgwa e mengata ya ho rarolla mathata ho etsa ntho e itseng ka se tlwaelehileng seo ba se fumanang ka tlung. Ka mohlala, ba ka sebedisa lekotikoti la kofi le sa tshelang hore e be moropa. Ditsebo tsena di boetse di a hola haeba bana ba babedi ba ntseng ba bapala hammoho ba phehisana ka lebaka la ho ba le mehopolo e sa tshwaneng ya hore na papadi e lokela ho bapalwa jwang. Ho rarolla diphapang tsa bona, ho ithuta ho tihentjhana le ho arolelana boikarabelo ke ditsebo tsa bohlokwa bophelong.

Build imagination through play

Encouraging children to play without having to follow rules allows them to practice their decision-making and social skills. This kind of play is known as imaginative play or pretend play. During imaginative play children might:

- pretend to be another person, creature or object. This person, creature or object could be real or fantasy, like a talking dog from Mars or just a regular dog!
- imagine that the things in the real world are something else. For example, a box in their bedroom might be a spaceship on the moon.
- pretend that the place that they are in is somewhere else. For example, the playground might be a pyramid in Egypt.
- make up a story that they act out.

The benefits of imaginative play:

- * Children develop social skills by learning to share in building a story together.
- * They learn how to follow simple directions.
- * They agree to share in the imagination of others around them.
- * They learn to manage their emotions by adapting their behaviour to different situations.
- * They develop an understanding of how their own behaviour affects someone else.
- * They learn empathy by pretending to be someone else.
- * They learn how to express their thoughts and feelings – and imaginary ones.

The importance of imaginative play:

Imaginative play helps children to develop important life skills that they will use forever.

- ⚙️ **Creativity:** Children need to challenge and stretch their imaginations as far as they can go, which allows them to experiment with life's social and emotional roles.
- ⚙️ **Independence:** Children can make up their own games and rules through cooperative play. This helps them develop an interest in the activity and in the other children involved.
- ⚙️ **Problem-solving:** Children use many forms of problem-solving to create something from regular household materials. For example, they could use an empty coffee tin as a drum. These skills also develop during arguments that can arise during playtime when two playmates have different ideas about how a game should be played. Working out their own differences, learning to take turns and sharing responsibility are valuable life skills.

Bakeng sa basadi bohle ba ikgethang!

For all the special women!

Phato ke Kgwedi ya Basadi!
August is Women's Month!

Bomme ba hlokomela malapa a bona, ba a tshehetsa le ho a hodisa. Nahana ka bomme bohle bao e leng ba bohlokwa bophelong ba hao. E ka ba mme wa hao kapa nkgono wa hao kapa motho ofe kapa ofe wa mme ya nnileng a o bontsha lerato le ho o hlokomela. Ho bontsha hore na o ananela hakaakang sohle seo ba o etseditseng sona, ke hobaneng ha o sa etse setshelo sa dintho tseo o batlang ho ba etsetsa tsona bakeng sa mme ka mong ho keteka Kgwedi ya Basadi?



Women provide care, support and nurturing to their families. Think of all the special women in your life. It could be your mother or grandmother or any woman who has loved and cared for you. To show how much you appreciate all they have done for you, why not make a jar of favours for each woman to celebrate Women's Month?

Seo o tla se hloka:

- Setshelo se hlwekileng se se nang letho se nang le sekwahelo.
- Dikgetjhana tsa dipampiri tse mebala tse sehilweng ka bosesane kapa tse dikgutlo di nne tse mahlakore a lekanang hammoho le pene.
- Sekere le sekgomaretsi.
- Dintho tseo o tla kgabisa setshelo sa hao ka tsona: pampiri, pente, sekgomaretsi, lelente, lesela, dikonopo, j.j.



What you'll need:

- A clean empty jar with a lid.
- Small strips or squares of coloured paper and a pen.
- A pair of scissors and glue.
- Things to decorate your jar: paper, paint, glue, ribbon, material, buttons, etc.

- Etsa bonnete ba hore setshelo le sekwahelo sa sona di hlwekile.
- Kgabisa sekwahelo sa setshelo ka pente, dikonopo, lelente kapa ntho efe kapa efe eo o ka ratang ho e sebedisa.
- Etsa leibole ya setshelo e boelang hore na ka hare ho na le eng, ka mohlala, *Setshelo sa Dintho tseo ke Batlang ho o Etsetsa Tsona kapa Ke a Leboha ka Lerato leo o Mphang Lona.*
- Ngola dintho tseo o batlang ho di etsetsa motho wa mme bophelong ba hao ya o susumetsang kapa eo o mo ananelang haholo.
- Seha pampiri e nang le mmala ho etsa dikarete tse 10 tse sa ngolang letho tse ka bang boholo ba disenthimithara tse 10 ka lehlakoreng le leng, ebe ka ho le leng e ba disenthimithara tse 4. Ngola thuso ka nngwe karete ka nngwe. (Thuso e ka ba ntho e kang: **Ke tla o etsetsa kopi ya tee hoseng ho hong le ho hong beke kaofela**, kapa **ke tla o sidila maoto**, kapa ntho efe kapa efe eo a ka e thabelang! Eketsa ka karete e le nngwe kapa tse pedi tse reng **Ikgethele hore na o batla ke o etsetseng.**)
- Mena dikarete ebe o di tshela ka setshelong.
- Kgetha motho wa mme e be o mo fa setshelo seo sa dintho tseo o batlang ho mo etsetsa tsona e le hore a tle a thabele dintho tsena Kgweding ya Basadi.



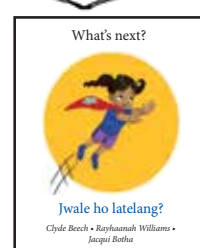
- Make sure that the jar and its lid are clean.
- Decorate the lid of the jar with paint, buttons, a ribbon or anything that you like.
- Make a label for the jar that says what's inside, for example, *Favour jar* or *Thank you for your love.*
- Write down favours to do for a woman in your life who inspires you or who you really appreciate.
- Cut up the coloured paper to make 10 blank cards that are about 10 cm x 4 cm big. Write a different favour on each card. (A favour can be something like: **Make a cup of tea every morning for a week**, or **Give a foot massage**, or anything she will enjoy! Add one or two that say **Choose your own favour.**)
- Fold the cards and put them in the jar.
- Give the jar of favours to the woman you chose so that she can enjoy these favours during Women's Month.



Haha laeaborari ya hao.

Iketsetse dibuka tse sehwanng-le-ho-opolokelwa tse **PEDI**

- Ntsha leqephe la 5 ho isa ho la 12 tlatsetsong ena.
- Leqephehadi le nang le maqephe ana, 5, 6, 11 le 12 ho lona le etsa buka e le nngwe. Leqephehadi le nang le maqephe ana, 7, 8, 9 le 10 ho lona le etsa buka e nngwe.
- Sebedisa leqephehadi ka leng ho etsa buka. Latela ditaelo tse ka tlase ho etsa buka ka nngwe.
 - Mena leqephehadi ka halofo hodima mola wa matheba a matsho.
 - Le mene ka halofo hape hodima mola wa matheba a matala.
 - Seha hodima mela ya matheba a mafubedu.



Grow your own library.

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

- Take out pages 5 to 12 of this supplement.
- 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.
- Use each of the sheets to make a book. Follow the instructions below to make each book.
 - Fold the sheet in half along the black dotted line.
 - Fold it in half again along the green dotted line.
 - Cut along the red dotted lines.



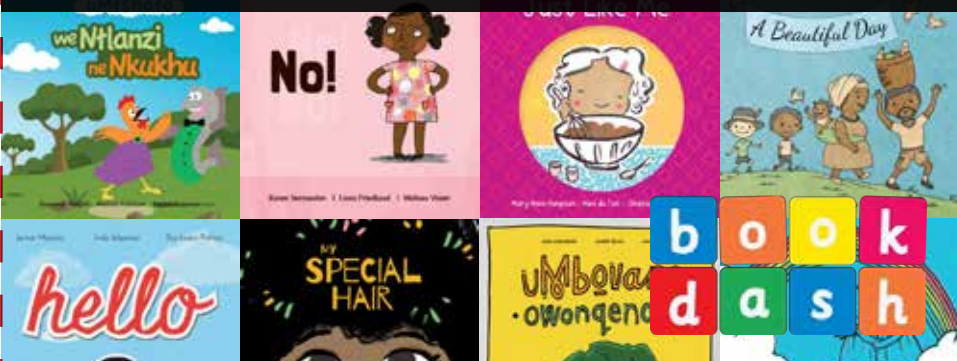
Drive your
imagination

“Lehlanganyana la ka!” ho rialo
Ntatemoholo. “Jwale ho latelang?”



“What a crazy, cool kid you are!” says
Grandpa. “What’s next?”

Lots more free books at bookdash.org



Get story active!

- ★ Draw a picture of you and your best friend doing your favourite fun activity together. Underneath your picture or on a separate page, write what you and your friend are doing. Also write why it is your favourite activity. If you cannot write all the words you want to, ask someone to help you write down what you want to say on the page.
- ★ Read the story again. Make a list of all the things that Fatima and her grandpa did together.

Eba mahlahlaha ka pale!

- ★ Taka setshwantsho sa hao le motswalle wa hao wa hlooho ya kgomo le etsa ntho e thabisang eo le e ratang ka ho fetisisa le le hammoho. Ka tlasa setshwantsho seo o se takileng kapa leqepheng le leng, ngola hore na wena le motswalle wa hao le etsang. Hape, ngola hore na ke hobaneng ha e le ntho eo o ratang ho e etsa ka ho fetisisa. Haeba o sa kgone ho ngola mantswe kaofela ao o batlang ho a ngola, kopa motho e mong hore a ngole seo o batlang ho se bua leqepheng leo.
- ★ Bala pale eo hape. Etsa lethathamo la dintho kaofela tseo Fatima le ntatemoholo wa hae ba di entseng hammoho.

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 ke letsholo la naha la ho-balla-boithabiso bakeng sa ho tsosetsa le ho jala tlwaelo ya ho bala Afrika Borwa ka bophara. Bakeng sa tlhahisoleseding e nngwe, etela www.nalibali.org



Drive your
imagination

“Great stuff! Now you can
see all the flowers. What’s
next?” asks Grandpa.
“Ha se moo hei O se o kgona
ho bona dipalesa kaofela.
Jwale ho latelang?” ho botsa
Ntatemoholo.



What’s next?



Jwale ho latelang?

Clyde Beech • Rayhaanah Williams •
Jacqui Botha

Ideas to talk about: When you look at the picture and read the story’s title, what do you think this story is about? Is there someone that you like to do fun things with? What are your favourite things to do with your best friend?

Mehopolo eo le ka buang ka yona: Ha o sheba setshwantsho mme o bala sehlooho sa pale, o nahana hore pale ee e bua ka eng? Na ho na le motho eo o ratang ho etsa dintho tse thabisang le yena? Ke dintho dife tseo o ratang ho di etsa ka ho fetisisa le motswalle wa hao wa hlooho ya kgomo?



“I have an idea! Let's play
superheroes and pick up
the litter,” says Fatima.
“Ho na le seo ke
se nahanang!
Ha re bapale
papadi ya ho iketša
bahale mme re thonake
ditshila,” ho rialo
Fatima.

Fatima is always busy!
She loves to run and play.



Fatima o dula a phathahane!
O rata ho matha le ho bapala.

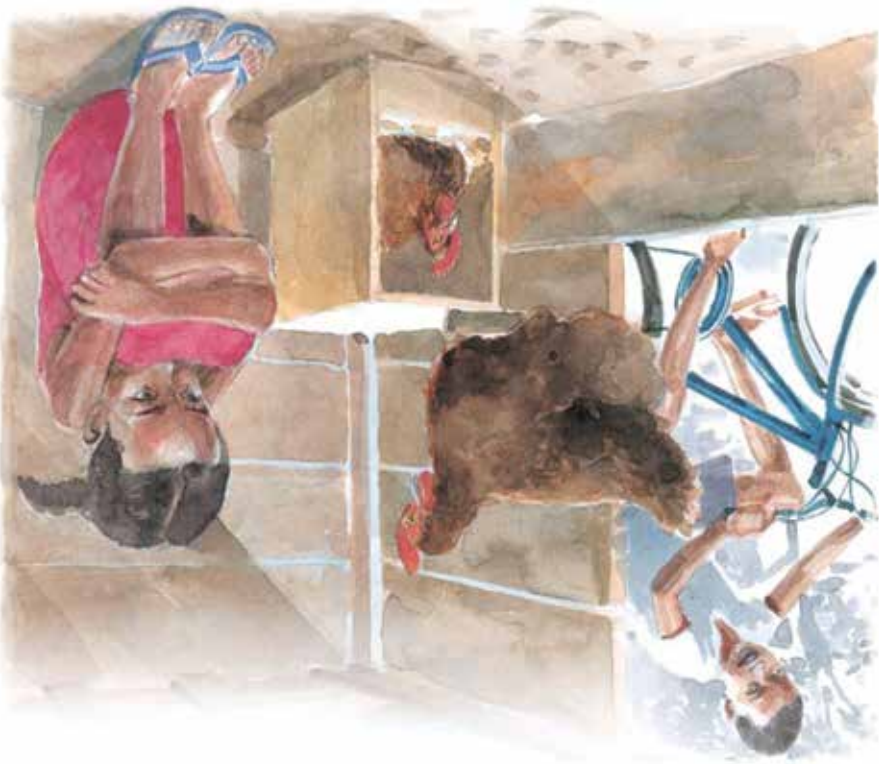


“How about something cold
and delicious?” says Fatima.
“Ho ka jwang ha re ka
fumana ntho e phodileng le e
monate?” ho rialo Fatima.

Fatima hurries to bed. She is excited for
her next adventure with her best friend,
Grandpa.



Fatima o mathela betheng. O thabetse se
latelang seo yena le motswalle wa hae wa
hlooho ya kgomo, e leng Ntatemoholo, ba tlo
se etsa.



Thobeka ha a ka a araba. Ben a tsamaya, a nse a tsheha. Hangata Thobeka o ne a hlokomoloha Ben ha a mo gala. Empa kajeno o ile a lla. Bosung boo, ha Phumeza a itokisetisa ho ya robala, o ile a phaphatha hlooho ya Bere. “Ao Bere wa batho, moriri wa hao o ke ke wa hlola o hlomela hape,” a rialo.

Thobeka o ne a swabile e le ka mnete. A kgutlisetsa sekere sa Nkgono ka khabateng ya kitlhene. Yaba o mathela tlase jareng mme a ipata ka hara serobe. O ile a ipata moo letsatsi lohle, a utlwile bohloko haholo ho ka tswela ka ntle. Kgaitseti ya Phumeza a feta a palame baesekela. “Hela, Thobeka! O hokae?” Ben a hoeletsa. “Ke utlwa ho thwe o kuta moriri kajeno. Na o ka nkuta le nma?”

Thobeka felt horrible. She put Gogo’s scissors back in the kitchen cupboard. Then she ran to the bottom of the garden and crept into the little henhouse. There she hid for the rest of the day, too upset to come out. Phumeza’s brother rode past on his bicycle. “Hey, Thobeka! Where are you?” Ben yelled. “I hear you’re cutting hair today. Will you cut my hair too?” Thobeka didn’t answer. Ben rode away, laughing. Usually Thobeka ignored Ben when he teased her. That night, as Phumeza got ready for bed, she patted Bear’s bald head. “Poor Bear, your hair will never grow again,” she said.

HEARTLINES
The Centre for Values Promotion



Bakeng sa tlhahisoleseding e nngwe ka kopo imeilela info@heartlines.org.za kapa o letsetse (011) 771 2540. For more information please email info@heartlines.org.za or phone (011) 771 2540.

Get story active!

- ★ Why do you think Phumeza was so cross when she saw how Thobeka had cut Bear’s hair?
- ★ What do you think it means to forgive someone? Can you think of a time you’ve forgiven someone?
- ★ Do you think Phumeza was right to forgive Thobeka? Why or why not?
- ★ Do you think we should always forgive people who do things that make us angry or hurt us? Why or why not?

Eba mahlahlaha ka pale!

- ★ Hobaneng o nahana hore Phumeza o ne a kgenne ha a bona kamoo Thobeka a kutleng moriri wa Bere ka teng?
- ★ O nahana hore ho bolelang ho tshwarela motho e mong? Na o ka hopola nako eo o ileng wa tshwarela motho e mong?
- ★ Na o nahana hore Phumeza o ne a nepile ka ho tshwarela Thobeka? Hobaneng o re ‘e’ kapa hobaneng o re ‘tjhe’?
- ★ Na o nahana hore re lokela ho tshwarela batho ba etsang dintho tse re kwatisang kapa ba re utlwisang bohloko? Hobaneng o re ‘e’ kapa hobaneng o re ‘tjhe’?

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



Drive your
imagination

Nal’ibali ke letsholo la naha la ho-balla-boithabiso bakeng sa ho tsosetsa le ho jala tlwaelo ya ho bala Afrika Borwa ka bophara. Bakeng sa tlhahisoleseding e nngwe, etela www.nalibali.org

Bear’s Haircut:

A story about forgiveness



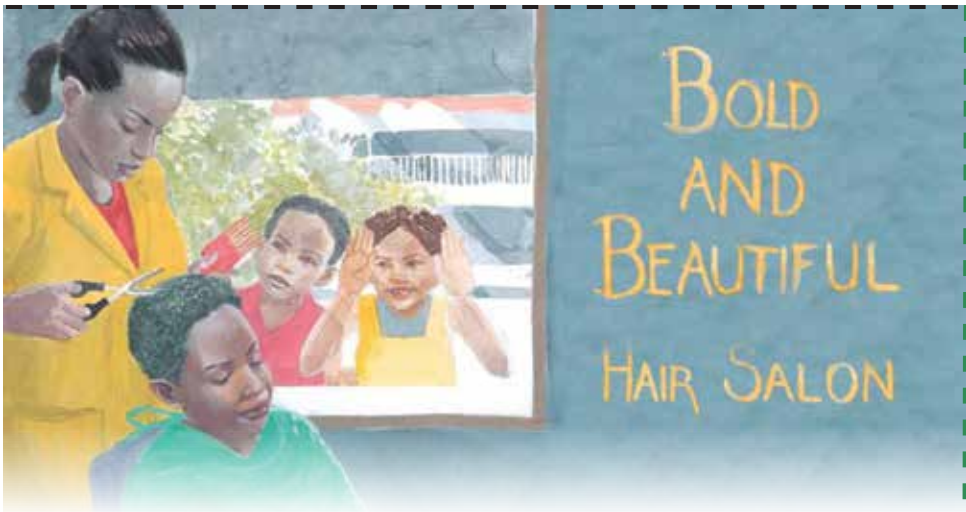
Mokuto wa Moriri wa Bere:

Pale e mabapi le tshwarelo

Nola Turkington • Joseph Mugisha

Ideas to talk about: Have you ever done something that made someone else cross, even though you didn’t mean to? Share the story of what happened.

Mehopolo eo le ka buang ka yona: Na o kile wa etsa ho hong ho ileng ha kwatisa motho e mong, le hoja seo e ne e se maikemisetso a hao? Re phetele hore na ho ile ha etsahalang.



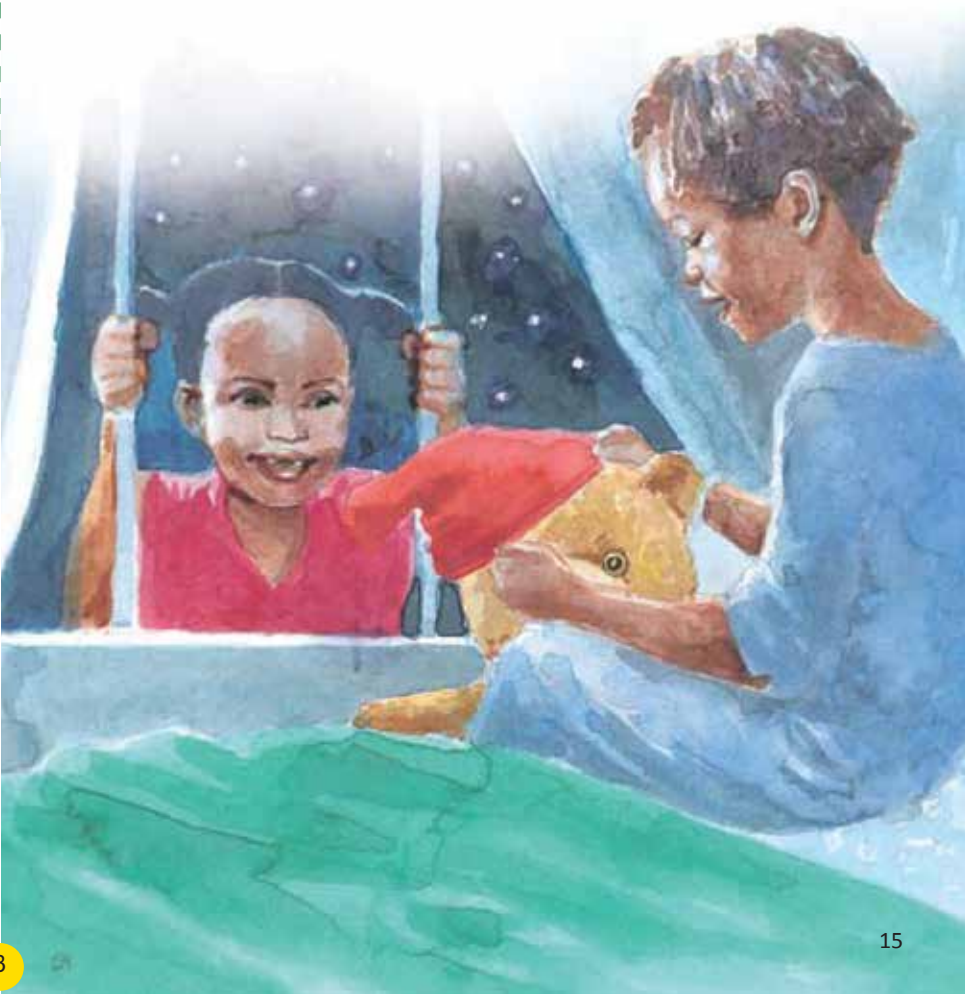
On Phumeza’s sixth birthday, Mama gave her a toy bear. Bear had bright eyes, golden brown hair, a small black nose and a smiley mouth. On the front of his red vest in big letters was written: I LOVE YOU. PLEASE LOVE ME.

Everywhere Phumeza went, Bear went with her. She loved Bear almost as much as she loved Thobeka. Thobeka was her five-year-old next-door neighbour and her best friend.

One afternoon, Mama had an appointment at the salon. Phumeza and Thobeka watched through the salon window as the hairdresser cut Mama’s hair. Thobeka was especially interested. She watched carefully how the hairdresser snipped off the hair with razor-sharp scissors. It looked so easy and so much fun.

Later, Phumeza, Thobeka and Bear played in the yard. After a while, Thobeka ran inside. She came back carefully carrying her grandmother’s scissors. “Can I cut your hair?” she asked Phumeza.

“Not today,” replied Phumeza. “I want to go home now.”



“Katiba e kgubedu ya ulu, eo Nkgono a ntohetseng yona bakeng sa mariha. Ke tla e rwesa Bere, mme e tla tshwanela vesete ya hae.”

Mme ka nnete ya e tshwanela.



Phumeza couldn’t sleep. She was sad about Bear’s hair, but even more, her heart felt heavy and sore when she remembered Thobeka’s face. She tossed and turned and buried her face in her pillow. “I shouldn’t have shouted at Thobeka. I could see she was upset already. I said such nasty things.”

Phumeza thought about the day

Mama gave her two pieces of

cake, one for her and one for

Thobeka. In front of her best

friend, she ate both pieces.

Thobeka forgave her and

didn’t tell Mama how

greedy Phumeza had

been.

Phumeza thought

about the prayer her

family often said,

asking God to

forgive them.

She felt ashamed. It

wasn’t a good feeling.



Le pele Thobeka a ka bua lentsewe le le leng feela, Phumeza a phamola Bere ka leotwana mme a omanana, “Nke ke ka o tshwarela le kgale. HA O SA le motswalle wa ka hohang!”

Yaba o tsamaya jwalo a halefife.

“O etsang? TJHE BO! O kutile moriri wa Bere! Ako shebe hore o entseng! O sentse!”

Ka yona nako eo Phumeza a tla a matha ho tla lata Bere. Yaba o kgina ka potlako.

And off she went in a terrible temper.

Before Thobeka could say a word, Phumeza grabbed Bear by one leg and shouted, “I’ll never forgive you. You’re NOT my best friend anymore!”

“What are you doing? OH NO! You’ve cut Bear’s hair! Look what you’ve done! What a mess!”

skidded to a stop.

Just then Phumeza came running back to fetch Bear. She

Phumeza o ne a sa kgone ho robala. O ne a utlwile bohloko ka moriri wa Bere, empa ho feta moo, pelo ya hae e ne e imelwa e le bohloko ha a hopola sefahleho sa Thobeka. O ile a phehoha a phehoha mme a pata sefahleho sa hae mosamong wa hae. “Ke ne ke sa tshwanela hore e be ke omanitse Thobeka jwalo. Ke ne ke mmona hore o se a ntse a utlwile bohloko. Ke buile mantswa a seng matle.”

Phumeza a hopola letsatsi leo Mme a neng a mo fe dikuku tse kgaotsweng tse pedi, e nngwe e le ya hae mme e nngwe e le ya Thobeka. Ka pela motswalle wa hae wa sebele, o ile a ja dikuku tseo di le pedi. Thobeka o ile a mo tshwarela mme a se ke a bolella Mme hore o ile a ba meharo hakae.

Phumeza a nahana ka thapelo eo ba lelapa labo ba atisang ho e rapela ha ba kopa hore Modimo a ba tshwarele.

O ile a swaba. Hohang o ne a sa ikutlwe ha monate.

Phumeza hugged her best friend through the burglar bars.

“I’ve forgiven you already, and I’m very sorry I shouted at you and said mean things.”

The girls talked until Thobeka couldn’t hold onto the bars any longer.

“Before I go,” said Thobeka, “I’ve brought Bear a present.”

“What is it?”

“A red woollen cap, the one Gogo knitted me for winter. It’ll cover Bear’s head and match his red vest.”

And it did.

Phumeza a haka motswalle wa hae wa hlooho ya kgomo pakeng tsa ditshepe.

“Ke se ntse ke o tshwaretse, mme ke mohau haholo ha ke ile ka o omanya mme ka o buela mantswa a bohloko.”

Bananyana bao ba qoqa ho fihlela Thobeka a se a sa kgone ho itshwareletsa ka ditshepe jwale.

“Pele ke tsamaya,” ho rialo Thobeka, “ke tliseditse Bere mpho.”

“Ke eng?”

Thobeka a bea Bere hodima hae. *Shwaga, shwaga, shwaga*, ka sekere. Sehlethelahladi sa moriri o bosootho ba kgauta wa nna wa wela fatshe.

A inamela morao ho sheba. Jowe! Ho ne ho na le lefatlahadi hodima hlooho ya Bere. Jwale Thobeka o ne a kgathatsehlile. “E shebeha hampe,” a nahana jwalo. “Hampe haholo. Ebe Phumeza o tla nahana eng?”



Thobeka put Bear on her lap. Snip, snip, snip, went the scissors. A large clump of golden brown hair floated to the ground.

She leant back to look. Oh, oh! There was a big bald patch on the top of Bear’s head. Now Thobeka was worried. “That looks bad,” she thought. “Very bad. What will Phumeza think?”

Ka letsatsi la tswalo la selemo sa botshelela sa Phumeza, Mme a mo fa thoye ya bere. Bere e ne e ena le mahlo a kganyang, moriri o bosootho ba kgauta, nko e nyane e ntsho le molomo o bososelang. Ka pele ho vesete ya yona e kgubedu ho ne ho ngotswe ka ditlhaku tse kgolo mantswa ana: KE A O RATA. KE KOPA O NTHATE.

Hohle moo Phumeza a yang, Bere o ne a eya le yena. O ne a batlile a rata Bere feela jwalo ka ha a rata Thobeka. Thobeka e ne e le moahisane wa hae ya dilemo di hlano, mme e le motswalle wa hae wa hlooho ya kgomo.

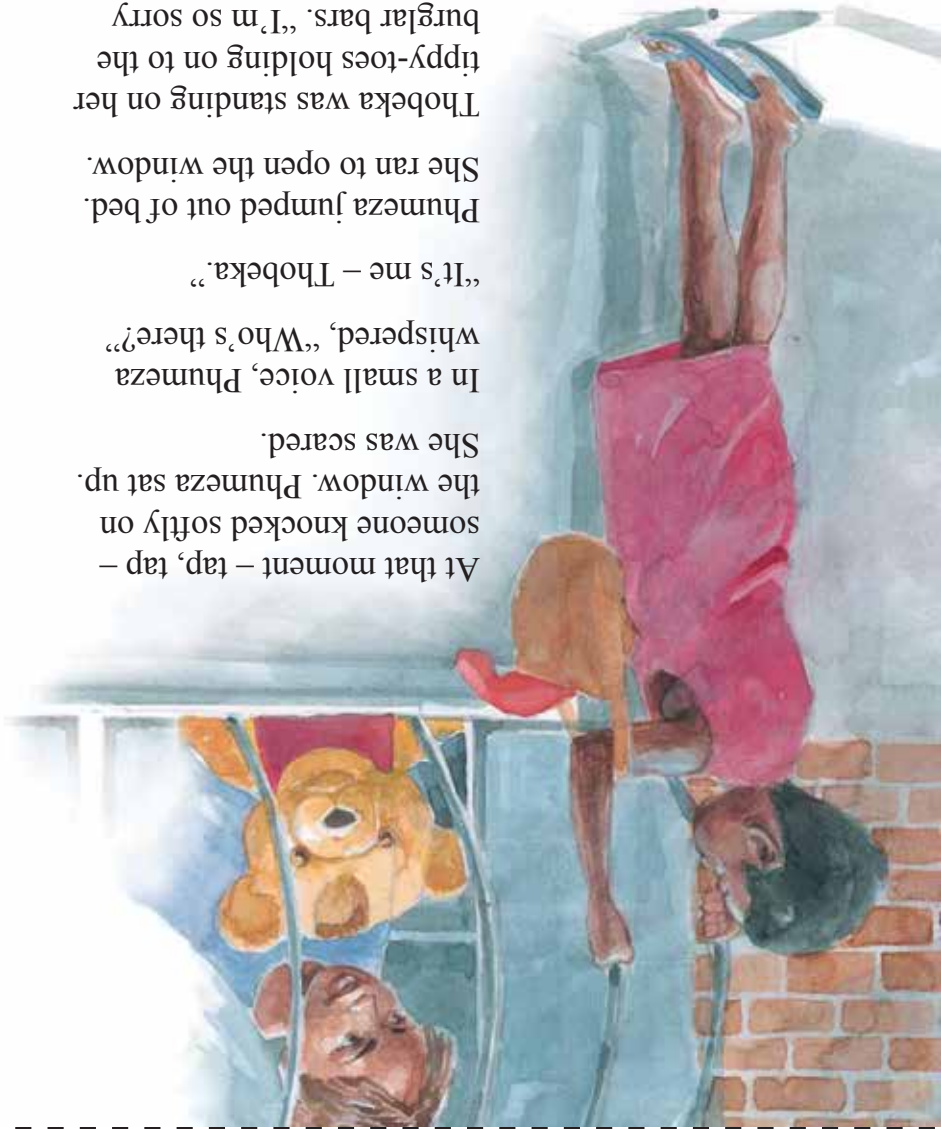
Motsheare o mong, Mme o ne a ile saluneng. Phumeza le Thobeka ba shebelletse ka fenstere ha molokisi wa meriri a ntse a kuta moriri wa Mme. Thobeka o ne a hlile a kgahlehile. O ile a shebella ka hloko kamoo molokisi wa meriri a kgaolang moriri ka sekere se bohale jwaloka lehare ka teng. Ho ne ho shebahala ho le bonolo, ho bile ho natefela.

Hamorao Phumeza, Thobeka le Bere ba bapalla ka jareteng. Kamora nakwana Thobeka a mathela ka tlung. O ile a kgutla a tshwere sekere sa nkgono wa hae ka hloko. “Na nka kuta moriri wa hao?” a botsa Phumeza.

“E seng kajeno,” ha araba Phumeza. “Ke se ke batla ho ya hae jwale.”



Outside, Lotto the dog started barking.
Waving Gogo's scissors, Thobeka walked down the back steps towards him. Lotto took one look at the scissors and ran down the road with his tail between his legs.
Only Bear was left, propped against the garden fence..
Kantle, Lotto, e leng ntya, e ne e gala ho bohola.
A ntse a tsoka sekere sa Nkgono, Thobeka a theoha ka ditepisi ho ya ho yena. Lotto ya sheba sekere ha nngwe mme ya baleha ya theosa ka tsela mohatla o le pakeng tsa dirope.
Ho ne ho setse Bere feela, a sohlomane terateng mane jareteng.



At that moment – tap, tap – someone knocked softly on the window. Phumeza sat up. She was scared.
In a small voice, Phumeza whispered, “Who’s there?”
“It’s me – Thobeka.”
Phumeza jumped out of bed. She ran to open the window. Thobeka was standing on her tippy-toes holding on to the burglar bars. “I’m so sorry I cut Bear’s hair. I wasn’t thinking properly. Please, please forgive me.”

“Then I’ll cut my granny’s,” said Thobeka, and she ran off to find Gogo.

So, Phumeza climbed over the fence and went home ... without noticing that she had left Bear sitting by the fence.

When Thobeka went into the house, Gogo was on her cell phone, so Thobeka left her alone.

Thobeka’s brother was asleep and she was frightened to wake him.

“Whose hair CAN I cut?” Thobeka wondered.

“Ho lokile, ke tla kuta nkgono wa ka,” ha rialo Thobeka, mme a matha ho ya batla Nkgono.

Yaba Phumeza o tlola terata mme a ikela hae ... a sa elellwe hore o siile Bere pela terata.

Ha Thobeka a kena ka tlung, Nkgono o ne a bua ka selefouno, kahoo Thobeka a mo tlohela. Kgaitsemi ya Thobeka e ne e robetse mme o ne a tshaba ho mo tsosa.

“Ebe NKA kuta moriri wa mang?” Thobeka a ipotsa.

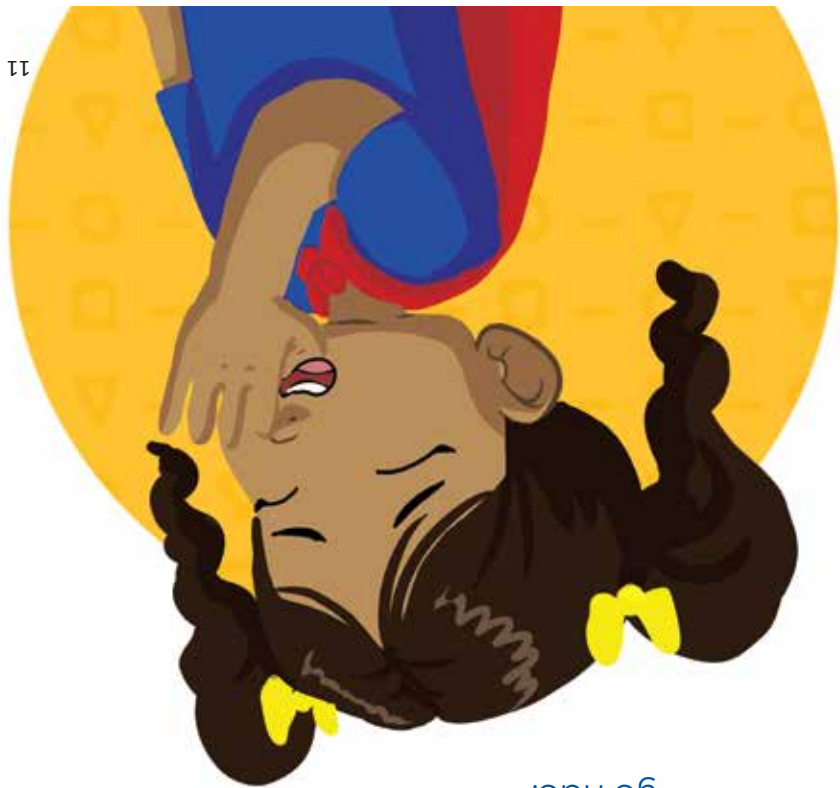
Ka yona nako eo – *koko, koko* – ho na le motho ya kokotang fensetereng. Phumeza a tsoha a dula. O ne a tshohile.

Ka lentswe le lenyane Phumeza a hwesetsa, “Ke mang?”

“Ke nna – Thobeka.”

Phumeza a tlolela fatshe. A matha ho ya bula fensetere.

Thobeka o ne a eme ka ditsetsekwane a itshwareletse ka ditshepe tsa fensetere. “Ke maswabi haholo ka ho kuta Bere moriri. Ha nka ka nahanisisa hantle. Ke a o kopa hle, ntshwarele.”



“What’s next, kiddo?” asks Grandpa.
Fatima yawns. “Let’s go home.”
“Jwale ho latelang moreetsana?” ho botsa Ntatemoholo.
Fatima o a idimola. “Ha re ye hae.”



“What should we do tomorrow?” asks Fatima.
“Hosasa re tlo etsang?” ho botsa Fatima.



Her favourite part of the day is when Grandpa arrives.
“How should we spend our day, Fatima?” asks Grandpa.



Nako eo a e ratang ka ho fetisisa ya letsatsi ke ya ha Ntatemoholo a fihla.
“O batla re etseng tsatsing lee Fatima?” ho botsa Ntatemoholo.



"I can see the whole world
from up here," Fatima shouts.

"Ke kgona ho bona lefatsh
kaofela ha ke le hodimo mona,"
ho hweletsa Fatima.



"I know!" says Fatima.
"Let's go to the park."

"Ke a tseba na ke
batla re etseng!" ho
rialo Fatima. "Ha re ye
phakeng."



"Hello, Fatima," says Mum. "What
did you and Grandpa do today?"
"Dumela hle Fatima," ho rialo Mme.
"Wena le Ntatemoholo le entseng
kajeno?"



"Not much!" they
both say.

"Ha re a etsa ho
hongata!" ba tjho
jwalo hong.

Dinoha le dileri!

Snakes and ladders!

Papadi ena e loketse ho bapalwa ke batho ba bane kapa ba bahlano. E hantle bakeng sa bana ba dilemo di 7 ho ya ho tse 12.

Seha mme o ntshe boto ya papadi le lebidi la dinomoro tse leng ka tlase mona. E kgomaretse khatebotong mme o e kwahele ka polasetiki hore e dule e hlwekile.

Mokgwa wa ho bapala:

1. Sebakadi ka seng se lokela ho bidikisa tjelele ya tshepe kapa lejwe le lenyane nomorong ya 6 ya lebidi hore se qale.
2. Ka mora moo, tshenjhanang ka ho bidikisa tjelele ya tshepe kapa lejwe lebiding. Tsamaisa konopo makgetlo a lekanang le palo ya diboloko.
3. Latela ditaello tse fanweng bolokong boo o fellang hodima bona.
4. Haeba konopo ya hao e fella tlase lering, o ka nyoloha ho ya fihla hodimodimo lering eo.
5. Haeba konopo ya hao e fella hodima hlooho ya noha, o lokela ho theosa ho ya fihla mohatleng wa noha.
6. Sebakadi sa pele se tla fihla ho: **O qetile!** ke mohlodi.

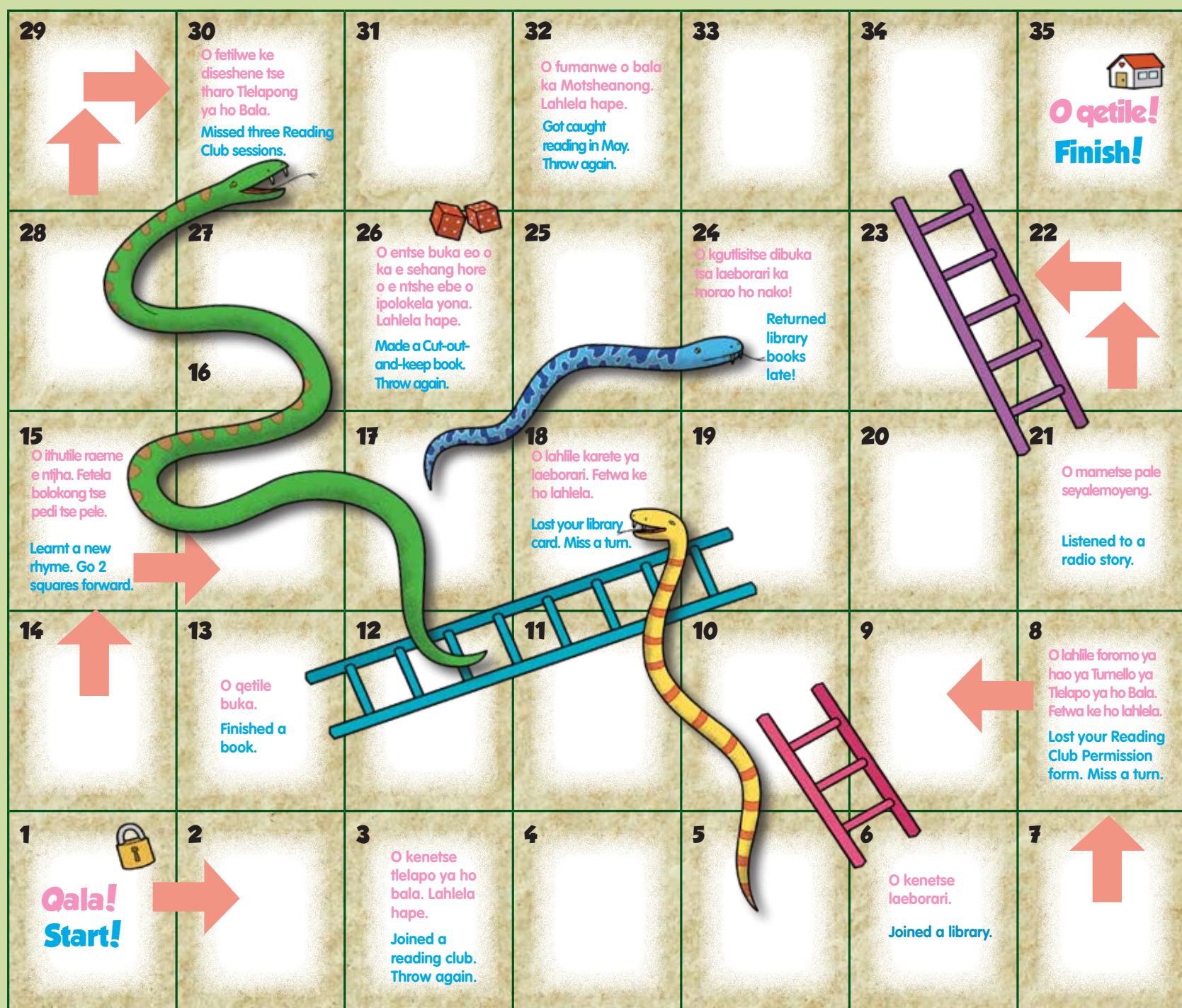


This game is ideal for four or five to play together. It is best for children aged 7 to 12 years old.

Cut out the game board and number wheel below. Paste it on some cardboard and cover it with plastic to keep it clean.

How to play:

1. Each player must toss a coin or small stone onto number 6 of the wheel to start.
2. Then take turns to toss the coin or stone onto the wheel. Move your button that number of squares.
3. Follow the instructions in the square you land on.
4. If your button lands at the bottom of a ladder, you can move up to the top of the ladder.
5. If your button lands on the head of a snake, you must slide down to the bottom of the snake.
6. The first player to reach: **Finish!** is the winner.



Ditshwantsho / Illustrations: Magriet Brink and/le Leo Daly

Ikopanye le rona ka e nngwe ya ditsela tse latelang: • Contact us in any of these ways:

www.nalibali.org

www.nalibali.mobi

[f nalibaliSA](https://www.facebook.com/nalibaliSA)

[@nalibaliSA](https://www.instagram.com/nalibaliSA)

[@nalibaliSA](https://www.twitter.com/nalibaliSA)

info@nalibali.org





Letsatsi la dipapadi Sekolong sa Mathomo sa Dikokwanyana

Ka Karen Louise Olivier ■ Ditshwantsho ka Vian Oelofsen



Letsatsi la hoseng le ne le kganya hamonate ha Lulu a tsorame lekgasing la mohlwa lebaleng la dipapadi la sekolong sa habo. Lena e ne e le letsatsi la dipapadi Sekolong sa Mathomo sa Dikokwanyana. Lulu o ne a thabile haholo. O ne a tlo nka karolo ho ba tloang palo e hodimo. "Matsetse a kgona ho tlolela hodimo!" a rialo ka lentse le phahameng a bile a qothomela lejweng, a ntano ya lekalaneng, yaba o ya lekaleng la sefate se haufi.

Lulu a sheba fatshe a le sefateng mme a bona dikokwanyana tse ding di se di le malala a laotswe bakeng sa diketsahalo tsa letsatsi leo. Dikokwanyana kaofela di ne di ikutlwa di na le boitshepo hobane di ne di ikwetlisitse ka thata hore di lokele letsatsi la kajeno.



Lerutle a otlolla maoto a hae a ka morao. "Maoto a ka a tiile hampe. Ke nahana hore ke tlo etsa hantle haholo ho qothomeleng pele kajeno," a rialo.

"Ke nahana hore ke tla ba mohlodi lebelong," ha rialo lephele ha a ntse a ja lekumane la ho qetela la panekuku mme a iphumula maphemphe ka lepheo la hae.

Lefehlo, Monwang, Notshi le Ntsintsi ba otlanya mapheo a bona ha ba ntse ba phehisana ka hore na ke mang ya tla kgona ho fofela hodimo ka ho fetisisa. "Ho fofela hodimo ke ketsahalo e kgethehileng haholo," ha rialo Lefehlo. "Ha se dikokwanyana tsohle tse nang le mapheo, empa rona ba nang le ona re ka fofela hodimodimo. Tsatsing lena ke bona e ka mohope ke wa ka."

Kgolabolokwe o ne a tseba hore o kgona ho sutuletsa bolo hojana ka maoto a hae a ka morao a matla. Mantswaitswai o ne a tseba hore sehlopha sa habo se tla hlola lebelong la lesokwana hobane ba ntile ba ikwetlisa ho fetisetsana mahlakwa ka dikgwedi tse ngata. Mme serurubele o ne a tseba hore o tla kgona ho fofela ka hodima ditshitiso tsohle tse behilweng lebelong le nang le mekwallo e lokelang ho tlolela.

Lulu le yena o ne a itshepile. "Ke tlo tlolela hodimodimodimo kajeno," a rialo. "Zara o nahana hore a ka ntlhola, feela ke nna ya tlo hapa mohope!" Ha a rialo, Lulu a tlolela hodimo ho tloha lekaleng la sefate mme a wela ... nthong e nang le boya. "A e bo! ke wetse kae?" Lulu a lla a ferekane.

Lulu o ne a ntse a inahanetse tsa hae mme ha a ka a hlokomela ha Tshwene e hlwella kutung ya sefate. Jwale o ne a tshwasehile boyeng ba yona!

Jwale Lulu a utlwa Mofumahatsana Maleshwane a etsa tsebiso, "Dumelang, re a le dumedisana. Re amohela dibapadi tsohle, malapa a bo bona le bashebelli ba rona! Itokiseng hobane re se re tla qala. Re kopa hore dibapadi kaofela di kgobokane bohareng ba lebaka."

Lulu o ne a utlwa bashebelli ba entseng lerata ba ntse ba tsheha, ba opa diatla le ho uputsa mapheo. Lulu hammoho le letshwele ba ne ba sa tsebe hore ho na le dinqanqane tse ipatileng ka tlasa makgasi a difate a wetseng fatshe. Di ne di emetse nako e nepahetseng ya hore di qothomele ka ntle mme di qale ho itshella ka dikokwanyana tse hlabosang!

Ka nako yona eo, Lulu a leka ho itshwasolla boyeng ba Tshwene, empa ha bonahala eka o itshwaseletsa le ho feta. Yaba o ikeka ka lentse la hae kaofela mme wa hweletsa, "Thusang! Thusang hle! Ke kopa thuso!" Empa ho ne ho se ya utlwanng lentse leo le lenyenyane ka hara lerata la dikokwanyana.

Yaba Lulu o utlwa Mofumahatsana Maleshwane a re, "E se kgale banana ba tla qala ho tlola palo e hodimo. Re kopa hore e mong le e mong ya batlang ho nka karolo a ye moo ho lo tlolelwa palo e hodimo hona teng."

"Owe," ha hweletsa Lulu. "Ke tlo hlolela ke ketsahalo ya ka!" A leka ho itshwasolla boyeng ba Tshwene, empa bo ne bo teteane haholo. Lulu a qala ho lla. O ne a ikwetlisitse ka thata bakeng sa letsatsi lena mme ke mona jwale ha a tlo fumana monyetla wa ho hlodisana le ba bang.

Ka mora nako Lulu a utlwa Mofumahatsana Maleshwane a re, "Banana ba ntse ba tlola palo e hodimo hantle haholo. Lena ke lekgetlo la ho qetela la hore Zara a tlole. Palo e hodimo haholo. Ha re boneng hore na o tla kgona ho e tlole."

Ke yona nakong eo moo Lulu a ileng a hopola mantswe a mme wa hae, "Esita le nakong eo dintho di sa tshepiseng, o ntse o ka ba le leqeka, Lulu."

Yaba Lulu o nahana ka leqeka le letle. "Ke letsetse," a ipolella. "Ke kgona ho loma. Ha ke loma, ho tla hlohlona."

Yaba ke sona hantle seo Lulu a se etsang – a loma Tshwene ka makgetlo a mangata ka moo a ka kgonang.

"Itjhuuu!" ha hweletsa Tshwene. "Ho na le ntho e ntommeng! Ha tla ha hlohlona." A ikgwabilla moo ho hlohlonang haholo hoo a ileng a kgwephetsa Lulu boyeng ba hae, yaba o betsehela moyeng.

"Wheeeee!" ha hweletsa Lulu ha a fofela ka nqane ho palo e hodimo e tlolewang!

Zara a se ke a dumela mahlo a hae. "O tswa kae Lulu?" a botsa ka ho makala hohle.

Le pele Lulu a ka araba, Tshwene a lahlehelwa ke botsiso mme ya wela fatshe ho tswa sefateng. A wela moo dinqanqane di leng hona teng mme tsa tshoha hoo di ileng tsa qothoma ho tlatlala hohle hore di balehe. Bobi ba potapota dikokwanyana tse ding ho di sireletsa hore di se ke tsa jewa. Yaba bo leleka dinqanqane.

Ka lebaka la mofereferere oo, e mong le e mong a nahana hore Lulu ke yena ya hlotseng ho tloleleng palo e hodimo, Lulu a re, "Tjhe, ha ke a tlole. Tshwene o entse hore ke fofele ka nqane ho palo. Zara ke yena ya hlotseng ho tloleleng palo e hodimo."



Mofumahatsana Maleshwane a fa Zara kgau. "Re a o lebohela Zara, re ikotla sefuba ka wena," a rialo. Yaba o sheba Lulu. "Le wena re motlotlo ka wena Lulu. O bontshitse hore o a tshepahala mme wa etsa bonnete ba hore Zara o fumana kgau. Hape o re pholositse dinqanqaneng tsane tse kgopo. Ke nahana hore le wena o tshwanelwa ke kgau." Yaba o fa Lulu kgau ya ho ba ya tshepahalang le ho ba sebetse. Bohle ba opa diatla, mme Zara a haka Lulu haholo.

Qetellong ya letsatsi, dikokwanyana kaofela tsa dumellana hore lena e bile letsatsi le monate ka ho fetisisa la dipapadi ho feta ohle ao di kileng tsa ya ho ona!

Eba mahlahlaha ka pale!

- ★ Etsa lethathamo la dikokwanyana tsohle tse teng paleng. (LESEDI: Ho na le dikokwanyana tse 12.)
- ★ Taka kokwanyana eo o e ratang ebe o ngola KE A E RATA ka tlasa seo o se takileng.

- ★ Jwale taka kokwanyana eo o sa e ratang ebe o ngola HA KE E RATE ka tlasa seo o se takileng.
- ★ Kgetha kokwanyana le ha e le efe. Sebedisa letsopa, Prestik kapa hlama ya ho bapala ho bopa kokwanyana eo.



Drive your
imagination



Athletics day at Insect Primary

By Karen Louise Olivier ■ Illustrations by Vian Oelofsen



The morning sun shone brightly as Lulu sat on a blade of grass on her school's sports field. Today was athletics day at Insect Primary. Lulu felt very excited. She was taking part in the high jump. "Fleas can jump very high!" she shouted as she jumped onto a stone, then a twig and then onto the branch of a nearby tree.

Lulu looked down from the tree and saw the other insects getting ready for the day's events. The insects all felt confident because they had been practising hard to get ready for today.



Grasshopper stretched his back legs. "My legs are very strong. I think I'll do well in the long jump today," he said.

"I think I'll win my race," said Cockroach as she ate a last bit of pancake and wiped her mouth on her wing.

Dragonfly, Mosquito, Bee and Fly flapped their wings as they argued about who would be able to fly the highest. "The high fly is a very special event," said Dragonfly. "Not all insects have wings, but those of us who do, can fly very high. I think I'll win the trophy today."

Dung Beetle knew he would be able to push the ball the furthest with his strong back legs. Ant knew her team would win the relay race because they had been practising to pass the stick for months. And Butterfly knew she would be able to fly over all the obstacles in the steeplechase.

Lulu felt confident too. "I will jump the highest today," she said. "Zara thinks she can beat me, but I'm going to win the trophy!" And with that Lulu gave an enormous jump from the tree branch and landed ... on something furry. "Where am I?" Lulu cried in confusion.

Lulu had been daydreaming and had not seen Monkey climbing up the tree trunk. Now she was stuck in his fur!

Then Lulu heard Miss Ladybird announce, "Good morning, good morning. Welcome to all the athletes, their families and our spectators! Get ready because we are about to start. Could all the athletes gather in the middle of the field, please."

Lulu could hear the noisy spectators laughing, clapping and flapping. Little did Lulu and the crowd know that there were frogs hiding under the tree's leaves that had fallen to the ground. They were just waiting for the right time to jump out and start feasting on all the delicious insects!

In the meantime, Lulu tried to wiggle her way out of Monkey's fur, but that seemed to make things worse. Then she shouted as loudly as she could, "Help! Help! Someone please help me!" But no one could hear her tiny voice over the noisy insects.

Then Lulu heard Miss Ladybird say, "The girls' high jump will start soon. Can everybody who wants to take part, please go to the high jump point."

"Oh no," shouted Lulu. "I'm going to miss my event!" She tried to push her way through Monkey's fur, but it was too thick. Lulu started crying. She had practised so hard for this day and now she wouldn't have a chance to compete.

After a while, Lulu heard Miss Ladybird say, "The girls' high jump is going well. This is Zara's last jump. The bar is very high. Let's see if she makes it."

That's when Lulu remembered her mom's words, "Even when things seem hopeless, you can always make a plan, Lulu."

So Lulu came up with a very good plan. "I'm a flea," she told herself. "I can bite. When I bite, it will itch and itch."

And so that's exactly what Lulu did – she bit Monkey as many times as she could.

"Whaaaaa!" shouted Monkey. "Something bit me! It is so itchy." He scratched the itch so hard that he scratched Lulu right out of his fur, and she went flying through the air.

"Wheweeeee!" shouted Lulu as she flew right over the high jump bar!

Zara could not believe her eyes. "Where did you come from, Lulu?" she asked surprised.

Before Lulu could answer, Monkey lost his balance and fell out of the tree. He landed on the frogs who got such a fright that they hopped left and right to get away. The wasps swarmed around the other insects to protect them from being eaten. Then they chased all the frogs away.

Because of the chaos, everyone thought that Lulu had won the high jump, but Lulu spoke up, "No, I didn't jump. Monkey made me fly over the bar. Zara won the high jump."



Miss Ladybird handed the trophy to Zara. "Congratulations, Zara, we are proud of you," she said. Then she turned to Lulu. "We are also proud of you, Lulu. You were honest and made sure that Zara got the trophy. You also saved us from those awful frogs! I think you deserve a trophy too." Then she handed Lulu a trophy for being honest and brave. Everyone clapped, and Zara gave Lulu a big hug.

At the end of the day, all the insects agreed that this was definitely the most eventful athletics day they had ever attended!

Get story active!

- ★ Make a list of all the insects in the story. (HINT: There are 12 insects.)
- ★ Draw an insect that you like and write LIKE underneath the drawing.

- ★ Now draw an insect that you don't like and write DISLIKE underneath the drawing.
- ★ Choose any insect. Use clay, Prestik or playdough to make a model of that insect.



How do you think the women in these pictures are making a difference in the lives of those around them? Write your own sentence about each picture.







2.

Write your own short story about a woman or girl who helped you with a problem you had. You can start your story like this: **"How could I solve my problem? Luckily, I could always ask ..."**

[illegible]

Nal'ibali is here to motivate and support you. **Contact us** in any of these ways:



@nalibaliSA

**UMLAZI
EYETHU**

POLOKWANE
OBSERVER
Vibrant city brought to life



16

