

NALIBALI

Nceda abantwana bakho babhale!

Sibhalela ukwenza izinto zenziwe nokuze sinxibelelane. Kufana nokupheka – okukhona upheka, kokukhona usiba bhetele ekuphekeni ibe kuba lula ukupheka kuwe! Njengabazali nabagcini babantwana, kufuneka sibe ngumzekelo ukuze sibonise amandla nenjongo yokubhala kubomi bemihla ngemihla kunye nabantwana bethu.



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.

Qala kwangethuba

- ★ Ukuzoba kudla ngokuba linyathelo lomntwana lokuqala lokubhala. Bonisa ukuba unomdla kwimizobo yabo ngokuthetha amazwi akhuthazayo nangokubabuza ngemifanekiso yabo. Mhlawumbi ungabuza uthi, "Le ndlu ingathi kungamnandi ukuhlala kuyo. Kuhlala bani kuyo?"
- ★ Yiba namaphepha, iikhrayoni, iipeni kunye neepensile ekhaya. Zigcine kwindawo ekuza kuba lula ukuba abantwana bakho bazifikelele ngokwabo, ukuze bazobe nanini na xa befuna.

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.



Mababhale ekhaya

- ★ Nika abantwana bakho ithuba lokusebenzisa ukubhala ukuze balungelelanise ubomi babo. Ngokomzekelo, bacele bakubhalele uludwe lwezinto eziza kuthengwa okanye babhale uludwe lwezinto ekufuneka baye nazo esikolweni.
- ★ Fumana amathuba okuba abantwana bakho basebenzise ukubhala ukuze banxibelelane nabanye abantu. Mababhale amagama abo kumakhadi emibuliso okanye babhale izibhiltwana zokubulela nemiyalezo eya kumalungu entsapho nakubahlolo.
- ★ Abantwana bayakuthanda ukubhala iidayari. Khuthaza abantwana bakho ukuba babhale (kwaye bazobe) kwiidayari zabo ngayo nantoni na – izinto abazicingayo, iimvakalelo, amacebo abanawo okanye into abaye bathande ukuyenza ngosuku oluthile. (Qiniseka ukuba bayazi ukuba into abayibhalayo yimifihlo yabo ngaphandle kokuba bakhetha ukuyifundisa abanye abantu.) Ungasebenzisa incwadi yeenowutsi eqhelekileyo njengedayari, ufakele nje umhla phezulu ephepheni.

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.

Bhalani kunye njengentsapho

- ★ Bhala amabali kunye nabantwana bakho kumaphepha angabhalwanga nto nize nenze iincwadi ngokuwadibanisa ngesteyipla loo maphepha.
- ★ Abantwana abasebancinci bona bangazoba imifanekiso. Baxelele ukuba ungababhalela amagama abakuxelela ukuba uwabhale, kodwa ubakhuthaze ukuba bazame ukuzibhalela.
- ★ Vumela abantwana abadadlana bazizobe kwaye bazibhalele ngokwabo.
- ★ Ungaze uzigxeke iimpazamo zokupela. Kunoko, cela ukulungisa igama abalipele kakubi!



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.
KONKE KUQALA
NGBALI.



Imbewu yokuFunda nokuBhala!



Le nto iqala NGOTHELEKELELO!

Literacy Seeds!

It starts with **IMAGINATION!**



Bazali nani bagcini babantwana abathandekayo, ukufunda kufuna umntu abe **nothelekelelo** ukuze athathe amagama ephepheni aze awenze aphile. Ngokomzekelo, xa sifunda ngesigebenga esihamba esitalatweni, sifanele sikwazi ukuzakhela 'ividiyo' ezingqondweni zethu ngeso sigebenga sizidlulekayo: iintshukumo ezenziwa yimilenze, iingalo nentloko yaso, indlela omile ngayo umqolo, izingqi zokuhamba kwaso. Le nto yenza isigebenga siphile. Ngoko, kwanangaphambi kokuba abantwana bakwazi ukufunda, bafanele bawaphuhlise amandla abo okuthelekelela ukuze bakwazi ukuyiqonda nokuyithanda into abayifundayo!

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!

Iindlela ezi-5 zokunceda abantwana bethu bakhulise amandla okuthelekelela

Abantwana bayakuthanda ukushukumisa imizimba yabo, ukuzibandakanya nezinto ezibangqongileyo, ukucula iingoma, ukudlala imidlalo, ukwenza izicengcelezo, ukumamela nokubalisa amabali, ukuzoba nokuzenza ngathi bayafunda kwaye bayabhala. Chitha ixesha elininzi kangangoko unako udlala nabantwana bakho, uze ubanike ixesha nesithuba sokudlala bodwa okanye nabanye abantwana. Loo nto iza kubenza bazive bonwabile ize ibancede bazixabise ngendlela efanelekileyo. Nazi ezinye izinto ongazenza ukuze uncede abantwana bakho:



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. Funda, ubalise uze uncokole ngamabali.** Thetha nabantwana bakho ebudeni bemini. Thetha ngento oyenzayo, babalisele okanye ubafundele ibali uze uthethe nangaloo nto.
- 2. Yenza ixesha lokuba badlale ngokukhululekileyo.** Musa ukuyiceba yonke into eyenziwa ngabantwana bakho. Bavumele beze nawabo amacebo endlela yokuchitha ixesha lokudlala.
- 3. Gcina ibhokisi enezinto zokudlala.** Gcina ibhokisi okanye ibhegi yezinto ezingabangela umdla ebantwaneni nekukhuselekileyo ukuba badlale ngazo. Kuyo ungafaka iimpahla zokunxiba ezindala, intlama yokudlala, amasuntswana epasta eyomileyo, amaphepha angazusetyenziswa, iikhrayoni, iziqwenga zamalaphu newulu ... nantoni na engavuselela uthelekelelo lomntwana.
- 4. Cima iidivayisi ebudeni bexesha lokudlala.** Ukubukela iinkqubo kumabonwakude, ikhompyutha okanye ifowuni zingalusikela umda uthelekelelo lwabantwana. Ngokomzekelo, abantwana baya kuva iingcamango zomnye umntu zendlela igongqongqo elikhala ngayo kunokuzama ukuthelekelela ngokwabo ukuba likhala njani.
- 5. Banike ixesha lokuzizamela ngokwabo ukwenza izinto.** Ngoxa sisenokwazi indlela elula, ekhawulezayo okanye ebhetele yokwenza into ethile, ukunika abantwanaithuba lokufumana iindlela zokusombulula ingxaki kuphuhlisa amandla abo okwakha amacebo, okucinga, ukuzithemba kunye nothelekelelo.

- 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.

Khumbula: Xa abantwana bejolise iingqondo zabo ekudlaleni, bona kunye nendawo abakuyo iza kungcola, ibe xazalala kwaye bangxole. Bukela ngononophelo umgama ukuze uqiniseke ukuba wonke umntu ukhuselekile. Ibe xa ukudlala kusiya ngasekupheleni, zama ukwenza umdlalo wokugqibela ukuze ukuqoqosha loo ndawo nokuba bazicoce.

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



Yakha uthelekelelo ngokudlala

Ukukhuthaza abantwana ukuba badlale kungekho mfuneko yakulandela imithetho kubavumela ukuba baqhelisele ubuchule babo bokwenza izigqibo nobokuqhubana nabanye abantu. Le ndlela yokudlala yaziwa ngokuba ngumdlalo wothelekelelo okanye ukuzenza ngathi uyadlala. Ebudeni bomdlalo wothelekelelo abantwana:

- bangazenza omnye umntu, isidalwa okanye into. Lo mntu, isidalwa okanye into ingayinto ekhoyo okanye eyasentsomini, njengenja ethethayo evela kuMars, okanyeinja eqhelekileyo!
- bangathelekelela ukuba izinto zokwenyani abazibona ngamehlo ziyenye into. Ngokomzekelo, ibhokisi ekwigumbi labo yinqwelo yasemajukujukwini esenyangeni.
- bangenza ngathi indawo abakuyo yenye indawo. Ngokomzekelo, indawo abadlala kuyo yiphiramidi yaseYiputa.
- bangaqamba ibali abaza kulilinganisa.



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.

Iinzuzo zemidlalo yothelekelelo:

- * Abantwana baba nobuchule bokuqhubana nabanye abantu ngokufunda ukwabelana ekwakheni ibali kunye.
- * Bafunda indlela yokulandela imiyalelo elula.
- * Bayavuma ukuthatha inxaxheba kuthelekelelo lwabanye abantu ababangqongileyo.
- * Bafunda ukulawula iimvakalelo zabo ngokutshintsha indlela abaziphatha ngayo ifanelane neemeko ezahlukeneyo.
- * Bayiqonda bhetele indlela izenzo zabo ezimchaphazela ngayo omnye umntu.
- * Bafunda ukuba novelwano ngokuzenza omnye umntu.
- * Bafunda indlela yokuchaza izinto abazicingayo nendlela abaziva ngayo – ngothelekelelo.

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.

Ukubaluleka kwemidlalo yothelekelelo:

Imidlalo yothelekelelo inceda abantwana baphuhlise ubuchule obubalulekileyo ebomini abaza kubusebenzisa ubomi babo bonke.

- ⚙️ **Ukuba namacebo:** Abantwana kufuneka balucele umngeni kwaye balunwebe kangangoko banako uthelekelelo lwabo, olubenza bakwazi ukulinga iindima zobomi kwezentlalo nezeemvakalelo.
- ⚙️ **Ukuzimela geqe:** Abantwana bayakwazi ukuziqambela imidlalo nemiithetho yabo ngokusebenzisana xa bedlala. Le nto ibanceda babe nomdla kulo nto bayenzayo nakwabanye abantwana ababandakanyekileyo.
- ⚙️ **Ukusombulula iingxaki:** Abantwana basebenzisa iintlobo ngeentlobo zokusombulula iingxaki ukuze bayile into besebenzisa iimathiriyeli eziqhelekileyo zasekhaya. Ngokomzekelo, bangasebenzisa itoti yekofu engenanto njengegubu. Obu buchule buyaphuhla naxa kukho impikiswano ebudeni bexesha lokudlala xa ababini bephikisana ngendlela ofanele udlalwe ngayo umdlalo. Ukusombulula ukungaboni ngasonye kwabo, ukufunda ukutshintshisana nokwabelana ngeembopheleleko bubuchule obubaluleke kakhulu ebomini.

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.



Kuwo onke amabhinqa akhethekileyo!

For all the special women!

**UAgasti Yinyanga Yamabhinqa!
August is Women's Month!**

Amabhinqa anyamekela, axhase aze akhulise iintsapho zawo. Khawucinge ngawo onke amabhinqa akhethekileyo ebomini bakho. Ingangumama okanye umakhulu wakho okanye naliphi na ibhinqa eliyelakuthanda laza lakunyamekela. Ukuze ubonise indlela okuxabisa ngayo konke oko likwenzele kona, kutheni ungenzeli ibhinqa ngalinye iglasi yezenzo zokunceda ukuze ubhiyozele iNyanga Yamabhinqa?



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?

Izinto oza kuzidinga:

- ♥ Iglasi ecocekileyo engenanto ibe nesiciko.
- ♥ Imicu emincinane okanye iziqwenga eziskweri zamaphepha amibalabala kunye nosiba lokubhala.
- ♥ Iskere neglu.
- ♥ Izinto zokuhombisa ingqayi yakho: iphepha, ipeyinti, iglu, iribhoni, imathiriyali, amaqhoshha, njl.



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.

1. Qiniseka ukuba le iglasi kunye nesiciko sayo zicocekile.
2. Hombisa isiciko sale glasi ngepeyinti, amaqhoshha, iribhoni okanye nantoni na oyithandayo.
3. Yenza ileyibhuli yeglasi echaza okungaphakathi kuyo, ngokomzekelo, *iglasi yezenzo zokunceda okanye Enkosi ngothando lwakho*.
4. Bhala izenzo zokunceda oza kuzenzela ibhinqa elisebomini bakho elinefute kuwe okanye olixabisa kakhulu.
5. Sika amaphepha amibalabala ukuze wenze amakhadi ali-10 angabhalwanga nto amalunga neesentimitha ezili-10 eziphindwe ngeesentimitha ezi-4. Bhala isenzo sokunceda esahlukileyo kwikhadi ngalinye. (Isenzo sokunceda singaba yinto efana nezi: **Yenza iti qho kusasa kangangeveki**, okanye **Mphulule iinyawo**, okanye nantoni na aza kuyithanda! Yongeza elinye okanye amabini athi **Khetha into ofuna ndikwenzele yona**.)
6. Wasonge loo makhadi uze uwafake kwiglasi.
7. Nika elo bhinqa olikhethileyo iglasi yezenzo zokunceda ukuze lonwabele ezo zenzo zokunceda ebudeni beNyanga Yamabhinqa.



1. Make sure that the jar and its lid are clean.
2. Decorate the lid of the jar with paint, buttons, a ribbon or anything that you like.
3. Make a label for the jar that says what's inside, for example, *Favour jar* or *Thank you for your love*.
4. Write down favours to do for a woman in your life who inspires you or who you really appreciate.
5. 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**.)
6. Fold the cards and put them in the jar.
7. Give the jar of favours to the woman you chose so that she can enjoy these favours during Women's Month.



Yandisa ithala lakho leencwadi.

Zenzele iincwadana **EZIMBINI** onokuzisika-ze-uzigcine

1. Khupha iphepha lesi-5 ukuya kwele-12 kolu hlelo.
2. Uxwebhu olunamaphepha aqala kwelesi-5, elesi-6, ele-11 nele-12 lwenza incwadi yokugqala. Uxwebhu olunamaphepha aqala kwelesi-7, elesi-8, ele-9 nele-10 lwenza eyesibini incwadi.
3. Sebenzisa uxwebhu ngalunye kula mabini ukwenza incwadana. Landela imiyalelo engezantsi ukwenza incwadi nganye.
 - a) Songa uxwebhu phakathi kumgca wamachaphaza amnyama.
 - b) Phinda ulusonge phakathi kwakhona ulandela umgca wamachaphaza aluhlaza.
 - c) Sika ke ngoku ulandela imigca yamachaphaza abomvu.



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.



Drive your
imagination

“Ungumntwana oqavileyo, nothandeka nyhani!” utsho uTamkhulu. “Yintoni enye?”



“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. Undemeath 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.

Yenza ibali linike umdla!

- ★ Zoba umfanekiso wakho nomhlobo wakho nisenza eyona nto nithanda ukuzonwabisa ngayo kunye. Ngaphantsi komfanekiso wakho okanye kwelinye ikhasi, bhala into eniyenzayo wena nomhlobo wakho. Bhala nokuba kutheni loo nto iyeyona nto uthanda ukuyenza. Ukuba awukwazi kubhala onke amagama ofuna ukuwabhala, cela umntu akuncede ubhale loo nto ufuna ukuyitsho kwelo khasi.
- ★ Funda eli bali kwakhona. Yenza uludwe lwezinto uFatima azenza kunye notamkhulu wakhe.

Nalibali 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 or www.nalibali.mobi



UNalibali liphulo likazwelonke lokufundela ukuzonwabisa elinjongo yalo ikukuvuselela nokwendiselisa inkcubeko nesithethe sokufunda kuMzantsi Afrika uphela. Ukuze ufumane iinkcukacha ezithe vetshe, ndwendwela ku-www.nalibali.org okanye ku-www.nalibali.mobi



Drive your
imagination



“Intle loo nto! Kwatsho kwabonakala neentyatyambo. Yintoni enye?”

“Great stuff! Now you can see all the flowers. What’s next?” asks Grandpa.

What’s next?



Yintoni enye?

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?

Izinto eninokuthetha ngazo: Xa ujonga kulo mfanekiso kwaye ufunda umxholo weli bali, ucinga ukuba lingantoni eli bali? Ngaba ukho umntu othanda ukonwaba naye? Zeziphi izinto othanda ukuzenza xa ukunye nomhlobo wakho osenyongweni?



“I have an idea! Let's play superheroes and pick up the litter,” says Fatima.

“Nding' icebo! Masizenze amqhawe ngokuthi sichole inkunkuma,” utsho uFatima.

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



UFatima usoloko exakekile!
Uyakuthanda ukubaleka nokudlala.



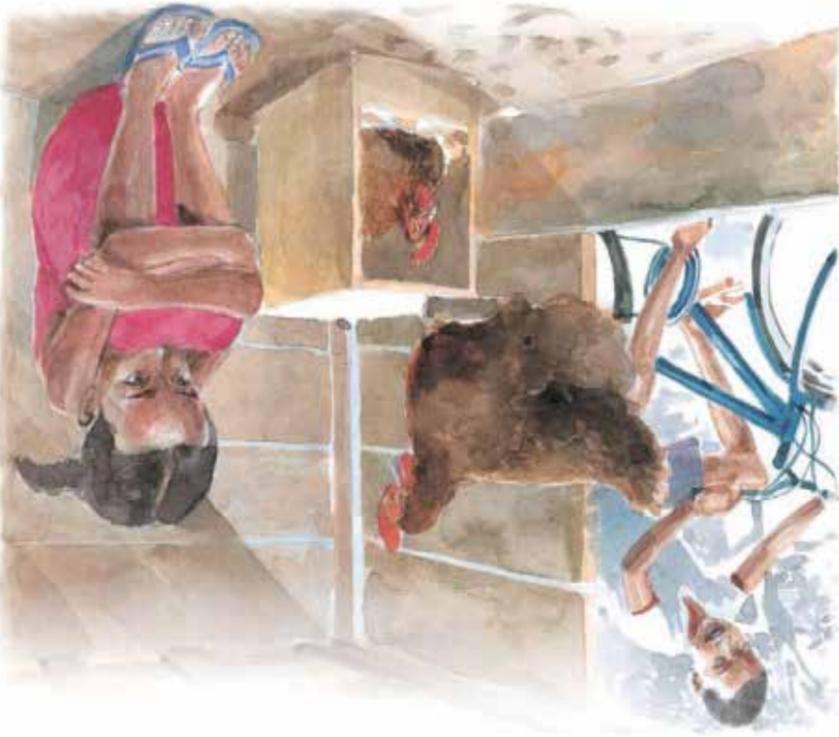
“How about something cold and delicious?” says Fatima.

“Uhini ngento ebandayo nemandi?” kutsho uFatima.

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



UFatima uyangxama aye kulala. Unemincili xa ecinga ngento elandelayo aza kuyenza nomhlobo wakhe osenyongweni, uTamkhulu.



UThobeka akazange amphendule. UBen wedlula ngebhayisekile yakhe, ehleka. Ngokwesiqhelo uThobeka ebedla ngokungamhoyi uBen xa emqhula. Kodwa ngale mini walla. Ngobo busuku, wathi uPhumeza xa alungiselela ukulala, waphulula inkqayi kaBhere. "Usizana olunguBhere, iinwele zakho azisayi kuze ziphinde zikhule kwakhona," utshilo.

UThobeka waziva ekhathazake kakhulu. Wasiphindisela isikere sikaMakhulu kwikhathabathi yasekhitshini. Waze wabaleka waya ezantsi kwegadi, wafika waziqhusheka kwindlwana encinane yeenkukhu. Wazimela apho yonke loo mini, ekhathazake kakhulu kangangokuba wayengenamdla wakuphuma apho.

That night, as Phumeza got ready for bed, she patted Bear's bald head. "Poor Bear, your hair will never grow again," she said.

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. Today, she cried.

HEARTLINES
The Centre for Values Promotion



Xa ufuna inkcazelo engakumbi nceda uthumele i-imeyili kwidilesi ethi info@heartlines.org.za okanye ufowunele kule nombolo (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?

Yenza ibali linike umdla!

- ★ Ucinga ukuba kutheni uPhumeza wayecaphuka xa uwabona indlela uThobeka awayemchebe ngayo uBhere?
- ★ Ucinga ukuba kuthetha ntoni ukuxolela umntu? Ngaba uyazikhumbula uxolela umntu wena?
- ★ Ucinga ukuba uPhumeza wenza kakuhle ngokuxolela uThobeka? Kutheni usitsho?
- ★ Ucinga ukuba sifanele sihlale sibaxolela abantu abenza izinto ezisicaphukisayo okanye ezisivisa kabuhlungu? Kutheni usitsho?

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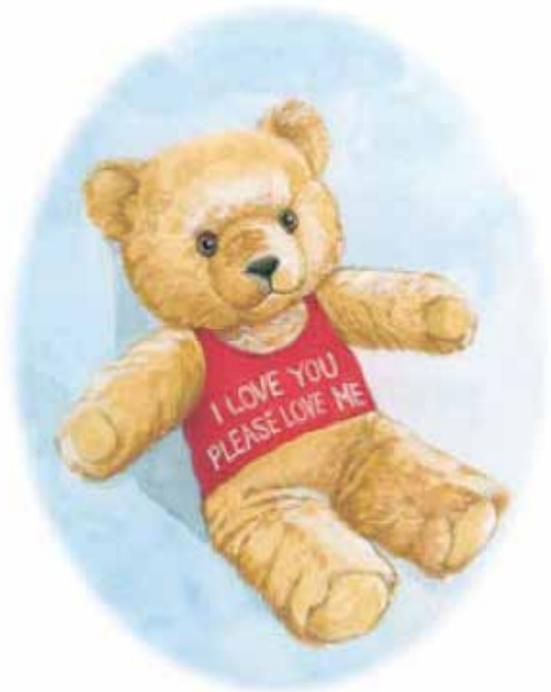
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Drive your
imagination

Bear's Haircut:

A story about forgiveness



Ukuchetywa kukaBhere:

Ibali elimalunga nokuxolelana

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.

Izinto eninokuthetha ngazo: Ngaba wakha wenza into eyacaphukisa omnye umntu, kwanokuba wawungazimisela kumcaphukisa? Khawubalise ukuba kwakwenzeke ntoni.



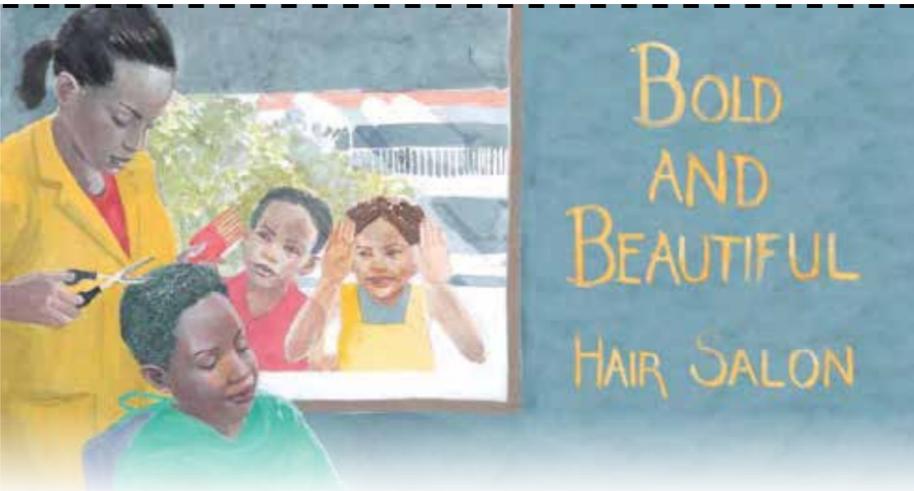
Wemka wahamba enomsindo ngokoyikekayo.
wam wenene kwaphela!
“Andisayi kuze ndikuxolele, omnye wakhwaza esithi, uPhumeza wamxhila uBhere wambamba ngomlenze Phambi kokuba abe angathetha nelizwi elinye eli uThobeka, kangaka!”

“Wenza ntoni? OWU HAYINI BO! Uchebe imwele zikaBhere! Klawujongge nje le nto uyenzileyo! Yhini le imbi imbono.
Kanye ngele thuba, wathi gqi uPhumeza ebaleka eze kulananda uBhere. Wanga uza kumelwa yintliziyo akuthi nla ngalo

And off she went in a terrible temper.

You're NOT my best friend anymore!
Bear by one leg and shouted, “I'll never forgive you.
Before Thobeka could say a word, Phumeza grabbed Look what you've done! What a mess!”
“What are you doing? OH NO! You've cut Bear's hair!

skidded to a stop.
Just then Phumeza came running back to fetch Bear. She



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.”

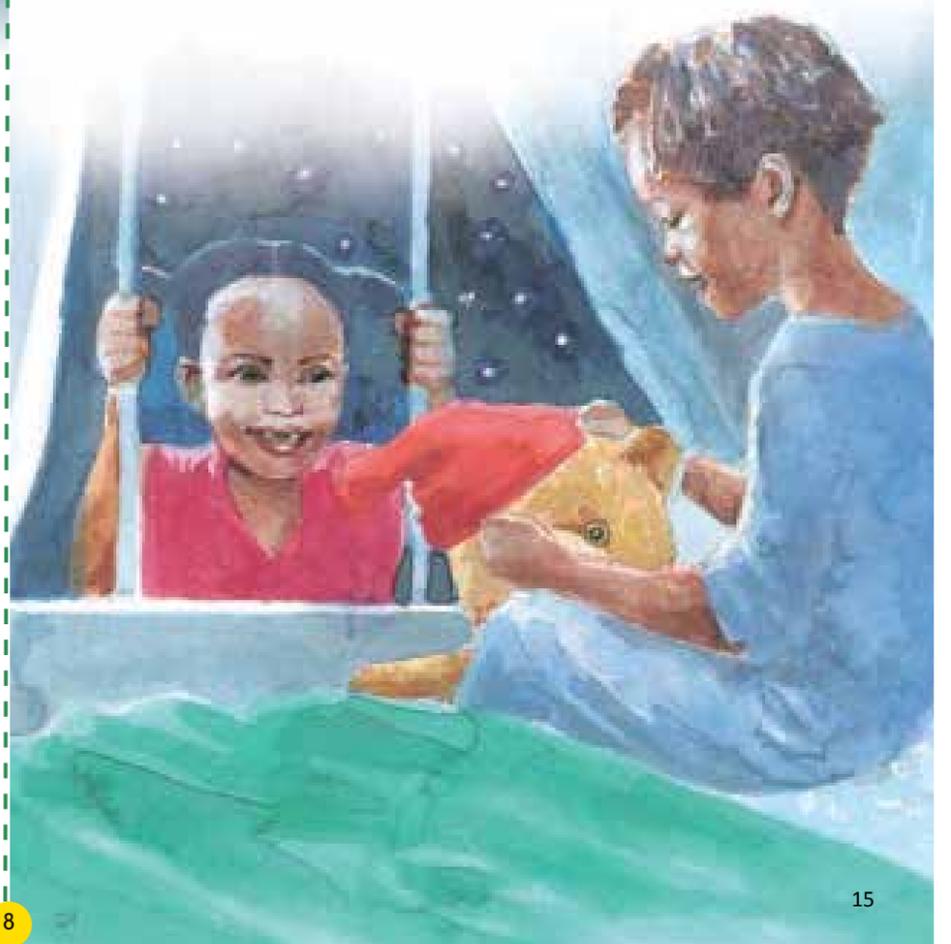


Phumeza thought about the day Mama gave her two pieces of cake, one for her and one for Thobeka. In front of her best friend, she ate both pieces. Thobeka forgave her and didn't tell Mama how greedy Phumeza had been.
Phumeza thought about the prayer her family often said, asking God to forgive them.
She felt ashamed. It wasn't a good feeling.

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.”

“Umnqwazi wewulu obomvu, endandiwolukelwe nguMakhulu kubusika obudlulileyo. Uza kuyigquma intloko kaBhere, futhi uza kuhambelana nevesti yakhe ebomvu.”

Kwaba njalo ke ngokwenene, yogqumeka intloko kaBhere.



UPhumeza akazange akwazi ukulala. Wayenentliziyo ebuhlungu ngenxa yeenwele zikaBhere, kwaye ngaphhezulu, intliziyo yakhe yayisuka ibe lihliwili ngakumbi xa ekhumbula inkangeleko yobuso bukaThobeka. Wayemana ukugququka ejonga ngapha nangapha kumandlalo wakhe, de ekugqibeleni wabugquma ubuso bakhe ngomqamelo. “Bendingafanelanga ukuba ndimngxolise ngoluya hlobo uThobeka. Bendibona ukuba naye sele ekhathazekile kakhulu ngokuya. Ndithethe izinto ezimbi kakhulu kuye.”

UPhumeza wacinga mhla uMama wamnika amaqhekeza amabini ekeyiki, elinye ilelakhe elinye ilelikaThobeka. Phambi komhlobo wakhe lowo, wasuka wawaty yedwa omabini loo maqhekeza ekeyiki. UThobeka wamxolela yena, waza wagqiba ekubeni angamxeleli uMama ngomona kaPhumeza.

UPhumeza wacinga ngomthandazo osoloko usenziwa rhoqo ekhayeni lakhe omalunga nokucela uxolelo kuThixo.

UPhumeza waziva enentloni. Wayengaziva mmandi konke ngenito eyenzekileyo.

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.

UPhumeza wamanga umhlobo wakhe wenene, ethubelezisa iingalo zakhe kwiimbobo zeentsimbi zokhuseleko.

“Ndikuxolele kudala, kwaye ndiyaxolisa kakhulu ngokukungxolisa, nokukuthetha izinto ezimbi kuwe.”

Ancokola ke apho amantombazana, wade uThobeka wadinwa akabisakwazi ukubambelela kwiintsimbi zokhuseleko ezikwifestile.

“Phambi kokuba ndihambe,” watsho uThobeka, “ndimphathele isipho uBhere.”

“Sisipho sini?”

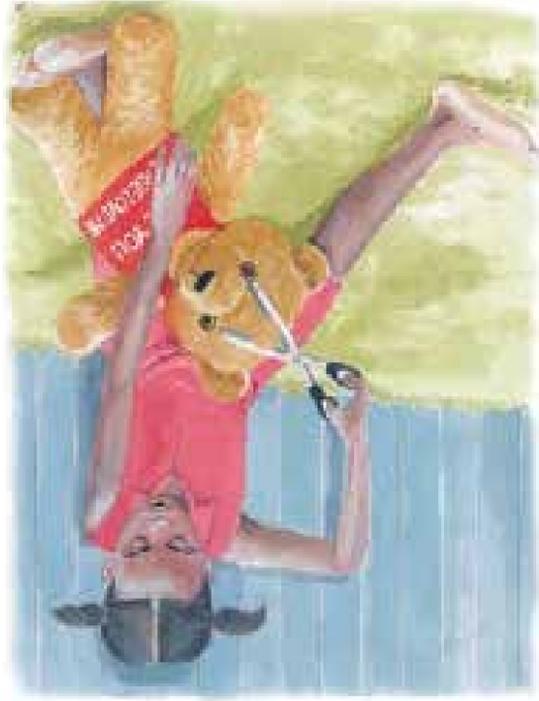
Wabuya umva ngeIfuna ukubuka le nto. Owu, owu! Nalo itstanda elikhulu kumphhezulu wentloko kaBhere. Kwangoko uThobeka waziva ekhathazekile. “Yambi ke le nto,” uvakele ecinga njalo. “Imbi kakhulu. Ingaba beThu uPhumeza uza kucinga ntoni?”

emgangathweni.

seenwele ezibala limdaka bugolide sathi sa-

centu, centu, sadla isikere. Isihlwathi esikhulu

UThobeka wamthatha uBhere wamsingatha. Centu,



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?”

Ngomhla wokuzalwa kukaPhumeza xa wayegqiba iminyaka emithandathu, uMama wampha unopopi webhere. UBhere wayenamehlo akhazimlayo, iinwele ezibala limdaka bugolide, impumlo encinci emnyama nomlomo ononcumo. Ngaphambili kwivesti yakhe ebomvu kwakubhalwe ngamagama amakhulu abomvu oku: NDIYAKUTHANDA. NCEDA UNDITHANDE.

Naphi na apho aya khona uPhumeza, wayehamba naye uBhere. UPhumeza wayemthanda uBhere phantse ngokufanayo nendlela awayethanda ngayo uThobeka. UThobeka wayengummelwane wakhe oneminyaka emihlanu, kwaye wayengoyena mhlobo wakhe usenyongweni.

Ngenye imvakwemini, uMama wayenze idinga nendawo awayeza kuya kulungisa kuyo iinwele. UPhumeza noThobeka bakroba ngefestile ngethuba umlungisi-zinwele echeba iinwele zikaMama. UThobeka wayengoyena unomdla kakhulu yile nto bayibukeleyo. Wayebukele ngobunono ngethubab umlungisi-zinwele echeba iinwele ngesikere esibukhali okwencakuba ephephece. Yonke le nto yayibonakala ilula kakhulu, kwaye inomdla.

Emva koko, uPhumeza noThobeka noBhere badlala eyadini. Kuthe emva kwethuba uThobeka wabaleka wangena endlwini. Wabe wabuya, ephethe ngobunono isikere sikamakhulu wakhe. “Ndingazicheba iinwele zakho?” wabuza kuPhumeza.

“Hayi namhlanje,” waphendula watsho uPhumeza. “Ndifuna ukugoduka ngoku.”



Ngubhere kuphela owayeshiyeke apho, ebambeke elucingweni lwegadi.

Ngaphandle, kwagalisa ukukhonkotha kwenja enguLotto. Ehamba ejiwuzisa isikere sikaMakhulu njalo, uThobeka wehla ngamangwanqwa angasemva esiya kuye. U-Lotto wathi ukuba athi nla-a kanye nje ngeso sikere, wathi ngqe-ukubaleka esihla ngendlela, umсила wakhe ewutake phakathi kwemilenze Juloyiko.

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.

“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.

“Hayi ke ndiza kuya kucheba ezikamakhulu wam,” watsho uThobeka, sele ebaleka ukuya kukhangela uMakhulu wakhe.

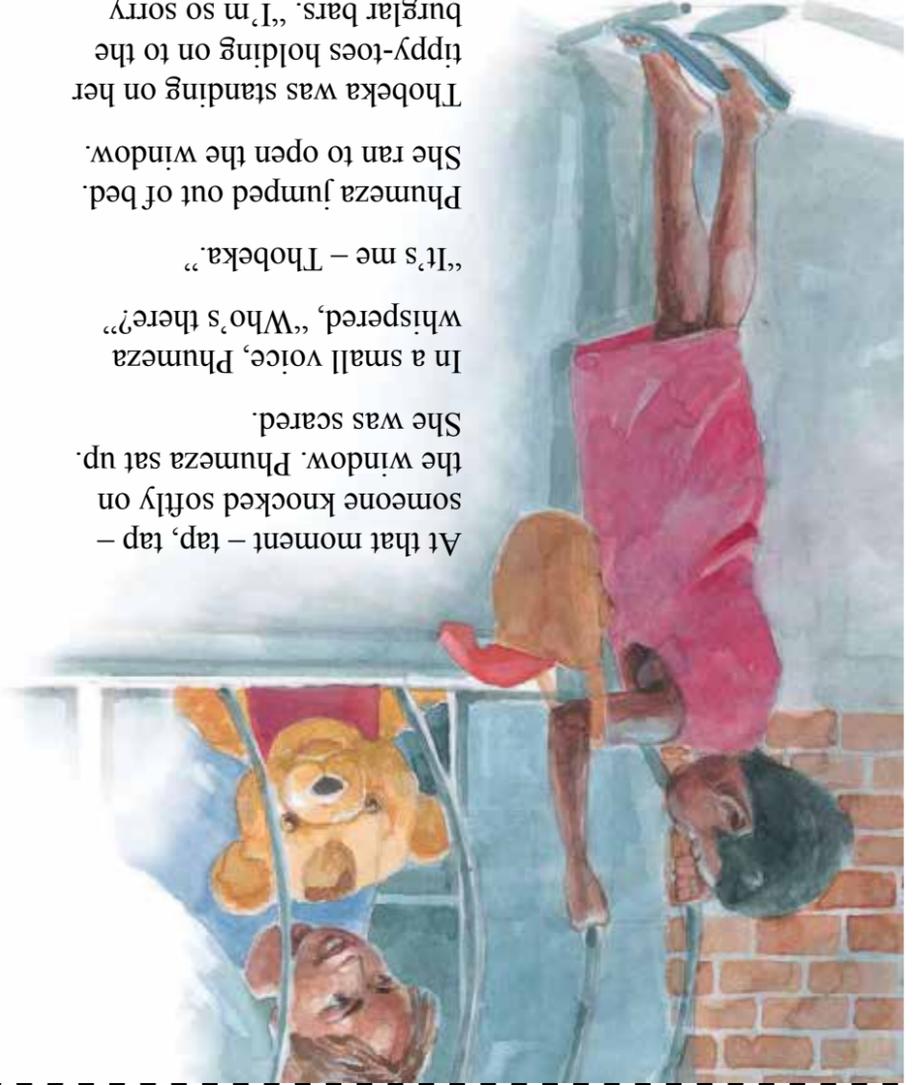
Wabe ke noPhumeza sele etsiba ucingo egoduka . . . engakhange aqaphele ukuba uBhere umshiye ngasemva echophe elucingweni.

Wathi akufika endlwini uThobeka, wabe uMakhulu exakekile, ethetha kwiselifowuni yakhe, waza uThobeka akafuna ukumphazamisa uMakhulu. Ubhuti kaThobeka yena wayelele, waza ke woyika ukumvusa.

“Ingaba NDINGACHEBA iinwele zikabani bethu?” ibhadule yenza njalo ingqondo kaThobeka.



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.”



Kanye ngelo thuba – *nkqo, nkqo* – mntu uthile wayenkqonkqoza kancinane efestileni. UPhumeza wavuka wee qwa. Wayesoyika kakhulu.

Ngelizwana elincinci waphendula esebeza esithi, “Ngubani lowo?”

“Ndim – uThobeka.”

UPhumeza watsiba ukuphuma oku ebhedini. Wabaleka waya kuvula ifestile.

UThobeka wayengcotshile ekrobe efestileni, ebambelele kwiintsimbi zokhuseleko ezakhelwe kwifestile leyo. “Ndicela uxolo ngokucheba iinwele zikaBhere. Andikhange ndicinge kakuhle ngeziphumo zezenzo zam. Nceda, nceda wethu undixolele.”



“Yinton’ enye, mntwanam?”
kubuza uTamkhulu.
uFatima uyazamla.
“Masigoduke.”

“What’s next, kiddo?”
asks Grandpa.
Fatima yawns. “Let’s
go home.”

“What should we do tomorrow?” asks Fatima.

“Senze ntoni ngomso?” kubuza uFatima.



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



Elona xesha alithandayo ebudeni
bemini kuxa kufika uTamkhulu wakhe.
“Ufuna siluchithe njani usuku lwethu,
Fatima?” kubuza uTamkhulu.

“Ndikwazi ukubona yonke into xa ndilapha,” ukhwaza atsho uFatima.



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

“I know!” says Fatima. “Let’s go to the park.”

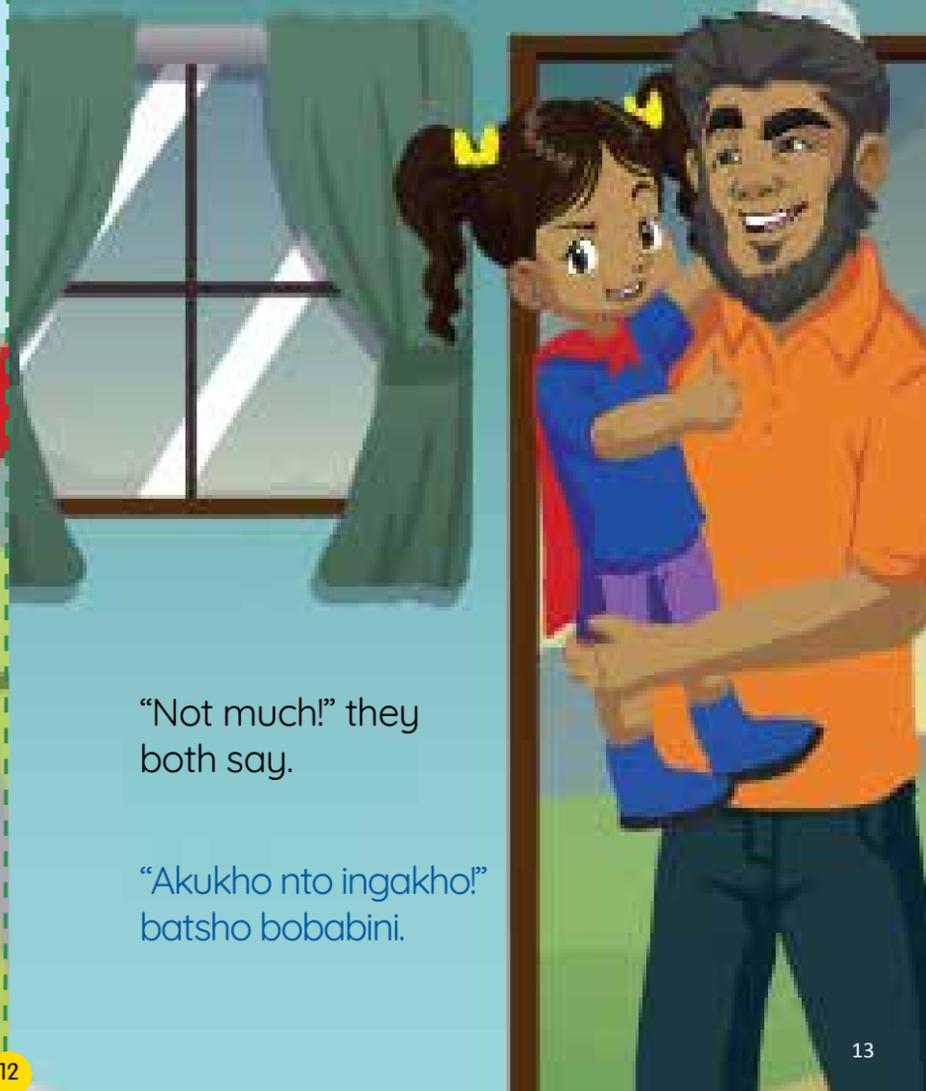


“Ndiyazi!” kutsho uFatima. “Masiye epakini.”



“Molo, Fatima,” kutsho uMama. “Nenze ntoni namhlanje noTamkhulu?”

“Hello, Fatima,” says Mum. “What did you and Grandpa do today?”



“Not much!” they both say.

“Akukho nto ingakho!” batsho bobabini.

Iinyoka neelele!

Snakes and ladders!

Lo mdlalo uba mnandi xa udlalwa ngabantu abane okanye abahlanu kunye. Abona bantwana ubafaneleyo ngabaneminyaka esi-7 ukuya kweli-12 ubudala.

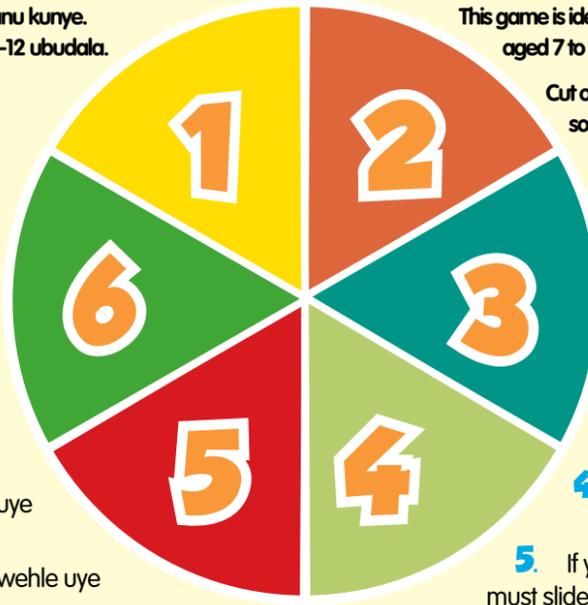
Wusike uze uwukhuphe lo mdlalo ungezantsi kunye nedayisi. Wuncamathelise kwikhadibhodi uze uwugqume ngeplastiki ukuze uwugcine ucocekile.

Indlela yokuwudlala:

1. Umdlali ngamnye umele aphose ingqekembe yemali okanye ilitye elincinane kwinani isi-6 edayisini ukuze aqalise.
2. Emva koko tshintshisanani ngokuphosa ingqekembe yemali okanye ilitye edayisini. Hambisa iqhosha lakho izithuba ezilingana nelo nani.
3. Landela imiyalelo ekwisithuba ofike wema kuso.
4. Ukuba iqhosha lakho lima ezantsi elelini, unganyuka uye kutsho phezulu elelini.
5. Ukuba iqhosha lakho lima kwintloko yenyoka, umele wehle uye kutsho encamini yomsila wenyoka.
6. Umdlali wokuqala ukufika kwindawo ethi: **Ugqibile!** nguye ophumeleleyo.

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.

29 ↑ ↑	30 Uphoswe ziiseshini ezintathu zeKlabhu Yokufunda. Missed three Reading Club sessions.	31	32 Ubhaqwe ufunda ngoMeyi. Phinda uphose. Got caught reading in May. Throw again.	33	34	35 Ugqibile! Finish!
28	27 16	26 Wenze incwadi onokuyisika-ze-uyigcine. Phinda uphose. Made a Cut-out-and-keep book. Throw again.	25	24 Ubuyise incwadi yethala leencwadi emva kwexesha! Returned library books late!	23	22 ← ↑
15 Ufunde isicengelezo esitsha. Yiya phambili iibloko ezi-2. Learnt a new rhyme. Go 2 squares forward.	17	18 Ulahlekelwe likhadi lakho lethala leencwadi. Kufuneka utsitywe. Lost your library card. Miss a turn.	19	20	21	21 Uramele ibali likanomathotholo. Listened to a radio story.
14 ↑	13 Ugqibe incwadi. Finished a book.	12	11	10	9	8 Ulahlekelwe yifomu yeMvume Yeklabhu Yokufunda. Kufuneka utsitywe. Lost your Reading Club Permission form. Miss a turn.
1 Qala! Start!	2	3 Ujoyine iklabhu yokufunda. Phinda uphose. Joined a reading club. Throw again.	4	5	6	7 ↑ Ujoyine ithala leencwadi. Joined a library.

Imizobo / Illustrations: nguMagriet Brink and/noLeo Daly

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Usuku lwemidlalo yeembaleki kwiSikolo Samabanga Aphantsi Sezinambuzane



Libhalwe nguKaren Louise Olivier ■ Imizobo izotywe nguVian Oelofsen

Ilanga lalithe qhakra kwakusasa njengoko uLulu wayehleli kwigqabi lengca kwibala lemidlalo lesikolo sakhe. Namhlanje yayilusuku lweembaleki kwiSikolo Samabanga Aphantsi Sezinambuzane. ULulu wayenemincali nyhani. Wayeza kuthatha inxaxheba kwi-high jump. "Intakumba zikwazi ukutsibela phezulu!" wakhwaza esitsho njengoko wayetsibela elityeni, emva koko waya kutsho kwisetyana waza waya kutsho kwisebe lomthi okufutshane.

ULulu wajonga phantsi esemthini waza wabona ezinye izinambuzane zilungiselela iziganeko zolo suku. Zonke izinambuzane zazizithembile kuba zaziye zazilolonga kakhulu zilungiselela olu suku.



Intethe yayisolula imilenze yayo engasemva. "Imilenze yam yomelele kakhulu. Ndinga ukuba ndiza kuqhuba kakuhle kumdlalo wemitsi namhlanje," watsho.

"Mna ndicinga ukuba ndiza kuluphumelela ugqatso lwam," latsho iphela njengoko lalisitya ithamo lokugqibela leqebengwana laza losula umlomo walo ngephiko lalo.

UHlabamanzi, uNgcongconi, uNyosi noMpukane babephaphazelisa amaphiko njengoko babephikisana ngokuba ngubani oza kubhabhela phezulu abogqithe bonke. "Ukubhabhela phezulu sisiganeko esikhetheke kakhulu," watsho uHlabamanzi. "Asizizo zonke izinambuzane ezinamaphiko, kodwa thina abanawo, siyakwazi ukubhabhela phezulu kakhulu. Ndinga ukuba ndim oza kubuya nendebe namhlanje."

UNkubabulongo yena wayesazi ukuba wayeza kukwazi ukubogqitha bonke ngokutyhala ibhola iye kude ngalo milenze yakhe yomeleleyo. UMBovane wayesazi ukuba iqela lakhe laliza kuphumelela ugqatso lwe-relay kuba babezilolongele ukudlulisa uluthi kangangeenyanga. Ibe uBhabhathane wayesazi ukuba uza kukwazi ukubhabha agqithe yonke imiqobo kwi-steeplechase.

NoLulu wayezithembile oku kwakhe. "Ndiza kutsiba ndibogqithe bonke namhlanje," watsho. "UZara ucinga ukuba angandogqitha, kodwa ndim oza kubuya nendebe!" Uthe akutsho uLulu watsho ngomkhulu wona umtsi esuka kwisebe lomthi waye kuthi gxidi ... kwinto enoboya. "Ndiphi ngoku?" wakhala uLulu edidekile.

ULulu wayephupha ibe wayengambonanga uNkawu enyuka kwisiqu somthi. Ngoku wayebambeke kuboya bakhe!

Emva koko uLulu weva uNkszn Gongqothwane esenza isaziso esithi, "Molweni, molweni. Ndamkela zonke iimbaleki, iintsapho zazo kunye nababukeli! Zilungiseni ke kuba sesiza kuqalisa. Ndicela zonke iimbaleki zidibane embindini webala, torho."

ULulu wayeyiva intswahla yababukeli behleka, beqhwaba kwaye bephaphazelisa amaphiko. Lonke elo xesha uLulu nezihlewe babengazi ukuba kwakukho amasele awayezifihle phantsi kwamagqabi awe emithini. Ayelinde nje ixesha elifanelekileyo ukuze atsibe aze azibethe zibe bomvu izisu ngokutya ezo zinambuzane zimnandi!

Ngelo xesha, uLulu wayezama ukuphuma kuboya bukaNkawu, kodwa kwakubonakala ngathi izinto ziya zisiba mbi. Emva koko wakhwaza kakhulu kangangoko anako, "Ncedani! Ncedani! Khanindceda torho!" Kodwa akukho nomnye owalivayo elo lizwi lakhe lincinane kulo ntswahla yezinambuzane.

Emva koko uLulu weva uNkszn Gongqothwane esithi, "I-high jump yamantombazana iza kuqala kungekudala. Ndicela wonke umntu ofuna ukuthatha inxaxheba, aye kwindawo ekuza kwenziwa kuyo i-high jump."

"Owu yini," wakhwaza uLulu. "Ndiza kuphoswa lukhuphiswano lwam!" Wazama ukuzikhupha kuboya bukaNkawu, kodwa babushinyene kakhulu. ULulu waqalisa ukufika. Wayezilolonga kakhulu elungiselela le mini ngoku akazukulifumana ithuba lokukhuphisana nabanye.

Emva kwethuba, uLulu weva uNkszn Gongqothwane esithi, "I-high jump yamantombazana ihamba kakuhle. Ngoku uZara uza kutsiba okokugqibela. Intonga iphezulu kakhulu. Masibone ukuba uza kuyitsiba na."

Kulelo xesha kanye apho uLulu wakhumbula amazwi kanina, "Kwanaxa kubonakala ngathi akukho themba, ungakwazi ukuzama icebo, Lulu."

Ngoku uLulu weza necebo elihle kakhulu. "Ndiyintakumba," wazixela loo nto. "Ndiyakwazi ukuluma. Xa ndiluma, kuye kurhawuzele kakhulu."

Yiloo nto kanye ke awayenzayo uLulu – waluma uNkawu kaninzi kangangoko kunokwenzeka.

"Iiiiiuu!" wakhwaza watsho uNkawu. "Kukho into endilumileyo! Kuyarhawuzeka." Wazonwaya kakhulu kule ndawo ithawuzelayo kangangokuba wamkhupha uLulu kuboya bakhe, waza wabhabha emoyeni.

"Wuuuuu!" wakhwaza uLulu njengoko wayebhabha etsiba ngaphaya kwentonga ye-high jump!

UZara wayengayikholelwa into ayibona ngamehlo akhe. "Uvela phi, Lulu?" wabuza othukile.

Ngaphambi kokuba uLulu aphendule, uNkawu watyibilika waza wawa emthini. Wawela phezulu kwamasele aza othuka kangangokuba atsiba aza athi saa ebaleka. Izibawu zathi bhoo zangqonga ezinye izinambuzane ukuze zizikhusele zingatywa. Emva koko zawaleqa lo masele emka.



Ngenxa yeso siphithiphithi, wonke umntu wacinga ukuba ngululu owayephumelele i-high jump, kodwa uLulu wachaza, "Hayi, anditsibanga. UNkawu undenze ndabhabha ndatsiba intonga. NguZara ophumelele i-high jump."

UNkszn Gongqothwane wanika uZara indebe. "Ndivuyisana nawe, Zara, siyazidla ngawe," watsho. Emva koko wajonga kuLulu. "Nawe siyazidla ngawe, Lulu. Uye wanenyani waza waqiniseka ukuba nguZara ofumana indebe. Usihlangule nakumasele akhohlakeleyo! Ndinga ukuba nawe ufanelwe yindebe." Emva koko wanika uLulu indebe ngenxa yokuba nenyani nokuba nesibindi. Wonke umntu waqhwaba, ibe uZara wamanga uLulu.

Ekupheleni kosuku, zonke izinambuzane zavumelana ukuba olo suku lwemidlalo yeembaleki lwalulolona luneziganeko ezininzi kwezakhe zaya kuzo izinambuzane!

Yenza ibali linike umdla!

- ★ Yenza uludwe lwazo zonke izinambuzane ezikweli bali. (INTLUVA: Zili-12 izinambuzane.)
- ★ Zoba isinambuzane osithandayo uze ubhale NDIYASITHANDA ngezantsi komzobo.

- ★ Ngoku zoba isinambuzane ongasithandiyo uze ubhale ANDISITHANDI ngezantsi komzobo.
- ★ Khetha nasiphi isinambuzane. Sebenzisa udongwe, iPrestik okanye intlama yokudlala ukuze wenze imodeli yeso sinambuzane.



Drive your
inagination



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.

"Wheeeee!" 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.

