

Growing literacy

Each year on 8 September the world celebrates International Literacy Day. On this day, we recommit ourselves to working towards making illiteracy a thing of the past, in South Africa and across the world.

So, what progress have we made with literacy in South Africa? In 2017, the latest PIRLS results were released and it wasn't good news! This research showed that 78% of South African Grade 4 children cannot read for meaning in any language. That's 8 out of every 10 children! And the South African Book Development Council's reading survey didn't paint a bright picture either. It showed that only 6% of us read to our children and only 5% of us tell our children stories!

It is easy to feel hopeless in the face of this news, but we don't have to. There is one very simple but powerful thing we can do to help change the picture: read aloud to children!

If all adults read to the children in their lives for 15 minutes every day, children would grow up being surrounded by stories at home and at school. They would grow up seeing reading as a satisfying and enjoyable activity and be motivated to read for themselves.

Join us in growing a nation of readers by committing to reading to the children in your life for 15 minutes every day!

What we mean by reading aloud

What reading aloud is

- ✓ adults read while children listen for enjoyment
- ✓ adults read to children so that they can enjoy stories and books
- ✓ adults choose books that interest children
- ✓ children also have opportunities to choose the books
- ✓ children are encouraged to ask questions
- ✓ adults ask questions that help children connect to stories

... and isn't

- ✗ children read aloud so that adults can assess them
- ✗ children read aloud to practise their reading
- ✗ adults choose books that they think are "right" for children
- ✗ adults always decide which books children should read
- ✗ children only ever answer questions about stories
- ✗ adults ask questions that require children to remember "facts" from the story

Ukukhulisa ukufunda nokubhala

Njalo ngonyaka mhla ziyisi-8 kuMandulo umhlaba ugubha Usuku Lwezizwe Ngezizwe Lokufunda Nokubhala. Ngalolu suku, sizinikela thina uqobo ukusebenzela ukwenza ukungakwazi ukufunda nokubhala kube yinto eseyadlula, eNingizimu Afrika kanye nasemhlabeni wonkana.

Pho, iyiphi inqubekelaphambili esesiyenzile mayelana nokufunda nokubhala eNingizimu Afrika? Ngowezi-2017, imiphumela yakamuva ye-PIRLS ikhishiwe futhi bekungezona izindaba ezinhle! Loluhlelo lukhombise ukuthi ama-78% ezingane zaseNingizimu Afrika zeBanga lesi-4 azikwazi ukufunda ukuqondisa kunoma yiluphi ulimi. Lezi yizingane ziyisi-8 kweziyi-10! Futhi-ke nenhlobo yokufunda yabakwa-South African Book Development Council ayikhombisanga sithombe esikhangayo. Ikhombise ukuthi bayi-6% kuphela kithina abafundela izingane zabo kanti bayi-5% abaxoxela izingane zabo izindaba!

Kulula ukuzizwa singenathemba uma sithola lezi zindaba, kodwa-ke akufanele kube njalo. Kukhona into eyodwa nje elula kodwa enamandla esingayenza ukuguqula isimo: ukufundela izingane kuzwakale!

Uma ngabe bonke abadala befundela izingane empilweni yabo imizuzu eyi-15 nsuku zonke, izingane zingakhula zizungezwe yizindaba ekhaya kanye nasesikoleni. Zingakhula zibona ukufunda njengomsebenzi owanelisayo nothokozelekayo bese zikhuthazeka ukuthi zizifunde ngokwazo.

Hlanganyela nathi ekukhuliseni isizwe sabafundayo ngokuthi uzinikele ekufundeleni izingane ezisempilweni yakho imizuzu eyi-15 nsuku zonke!

Esikuqondile ngokufunda kuzwakale

Lokho ukufunda kuzwakale okuyikho

- ✓ abadala bayafunda ngenkathi izingane zilalela ngokuthokoza
- ✓ abadala bafundela izingane ukuze zithokozele izindaba kanye nezincwadi
- ✓ abadala bakhetha izincwadi ezithandwa yizingane
- ✓ izingane nazo zinamathuba okukhetha izincwadi
- ✓ izingane ziyakhuthazwa ukuthi zibuze imibuzo
- ✓ abadala babuza imibuzo esiza izingane ukuba zixhumane nezindaba

... nokungeyikho

- ✗ izingane zifunda kuzwakale yikhona abadala bezozihlola
- ✗ izingane zifunda kuzwakale ukuze zizejwayeze ukufunda
- ✗ abadala bakhetha izincwadi abacabanga ukuthi "zilungele" izingane
- ✗ abadala njalo nje banquma ukuthi ziyiphi izincwadi okufanele izingane zizifunde
- ✗ izingane ziphendula kuphela imibuzo emayelana nezindaba
- ✗ abadala babuza imibuzo edinga ukuthi izingane zikhumbule "amaqiniso" aphuma endabeni

INSIDE!

- ★ A bilingual poster on page 2 to help you create a print-rich environment for your children.
- ★ A special story to celebrate International Literacy Day (pages 14 and 15).

NGAPHAKATHI

- ★ Iphosta ebulimibili esekhasini lesi-2 izokusiza ukwakhela izingane zakho indawo ecebe ngokuphrintiwe.
- ★ Indaba ekhethekile yokugubha Usuku Lwezizwe Ngezizwe Lokufunda Nokubhala (amakhasi 14 nele-15).



Drive your imagination

Join us. Share stories in your language every day.
Hlanganyela nathi. Yabelana ngezindaba ngolimi lwakho nsuku zonke.



5 tips for growing readers

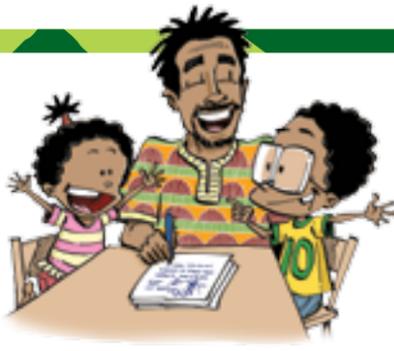
1. Read, read and read to children. It's the best way to help children become readers themselves.
2. Be a reader. Children need to see adults reading.
3. Fill your home or classroom with reading material.
4. Let children choose books they want to read.
5. Talk to children about the books they enjoy reading.

Amacebo ama-5 okukhulisa abafundayo

1. Funda, funda, uphinde ufundele izingane. Yindlela enhle kakhulu yokusiza izingane ukuba ziphenduke abafundi ngokwazo.
2. Yiba ngumfundi. Izingane zidinga ukubona abadala befunda.
3. Gwalisa ikhaya lakho noma igumbi lokufundela ngezinto ezifundwayo.
4. Izingane mazikhethe izincwadi ezifuna ukuzifunda.
5. Xoxa nezingane mayelana nezincwadi ezithokozela ukuzifunda.



Story ideas for different subjects



Imiqondo yezindaba kwezinye izifundo

Have you thought about how to use stories to strengthen children's learning in different subjects? Here are some ideas for doing this in subjects other than languages.

- Bring History to life by reading stories about events that happened in the past. Stories about great discoveries and the lives of scientists, doctors, leaders and inventors provide role models as well as information.
- Traditional stories are a wonderful way to get to know how people from different places and a different time understood the world around them.
- Read a story that is set in another country and then let the children use the Internet and information books to find out more about this country.
- Let the children use maps and/or atlases to find the places they read about in stories or to trace the journey of a story character.
- Many children face challenging situations, like being on the receiving end of prejudice, or the death of a loved one, or divorce. Stories give us a great starting point to discuss things that form part of Life Skills/ Life Orientation that are sometimes difficult to talk about. Asking open-ended questions about a story offers a safe way for children to think and talk about their personal concerns, emotions or ideas. Stories can help children to better understand a challenging situation, discover how to cope with it and explore what options are available to them.
- Stories offer lots of visual art opportunities. For example, children can draw and paint pictures inspired by the story to illustrate parts of the story, or make models of scenes from the story using clay or recycled waste materials.
- You can help develop children's number concept by writing a summary of the events in a story, using a separate strip of paper for each event. Stick these on the chalkboard in random order and then ask the children to sequence the events in the order that they occurred in the story. Then talk about the events asking which one happened first, next and last. Or which event came before or after another.
- Let children learn about measurement by asking them to use the information in a story to work out how tall a character or creature might have been.
- Stories can be linked to concepts in Technology. Ask the children to create recipes to suit a story's characters – a giant, a pirate or a king. Or ask them to build a model of a house made of straw or sticks, or a palace made of sweets!

Ngabe uke wacabanga ngendlela yokusebenzisa izindaba ukuqinisa ukufunda kwezinye ezifundweni ezahlukene? Nawa amanye amacebo okwenza lokhu ezifundweni ezingezona izilimi.

- Yenza isifundo Sezomlando siphile ngokufunda izindaba ngezinto ezazenzeka esikhathini esedlule. Izindaba ngokuvunjululwa kwezinto ezithile nempilo yososayensi, odokotela, abaholi nabasunguli bezinto ezithile, zinikeza abantu abayizibonelo ezinhle nolwazi ezinganeni.
- Izindaba zesintu ziyindlela enhle yokwazi ukuthi abantu abaphuma ezindaweni ezahlukene nababephila ngezikhathi ezahlukene babewuqonda kanjani umhlaba abaphila kuwo.
- Funda indaba eyenzeka kwelinye izwe bese ucela izingane zisebenzise ubuchwepheshe be-Inthanethi nezincwadi zolwazi ukuthola kabanzi ngalelo lizwe.
- Izingane mazisebenzise amabalazwe kanye/noma ama-atlasi ukuthola izindawo ezifunda ngazo ezindabeni noma zikwazi ukulandela indlela ende yomlingiswa wendaba.
- Izingane eziningi zihlangabezana nezinsalelo eziningi, njengokucwaswa, ukushona kwabathandiweyo, noma izehlukaniso. Izindaba zingaba yindlela enhle yokuqala ingxoxo ngezihloko eziyingxenywe yesifundo saMakhono Empilo okuba nzima ngezinye izikhathi ukukhuluma ngazo. Ukubuza imibuzo evulekile ngendaba kunikeza izingane indlela ephaphile yokucabanga nokuxoxa ngezinto ezizikhathazayo, ezithinta imizwa noma imibono yazo. Izindaba zingasiza izingane ukuqonda kangcono izinsalelo, ukuthola indlela yokumelana nezimo kanye nokubona ukuthi yini enye ezingayenza.
- Izindaba ziveza amathuba amahle obuciko obubonwayo njengokudweba nokufaka imibala ezithombeni okukhuthazwa yizingxenywe zendaba ezinemifanekiso, noma ukwenza izibonelo zezigcawu zendaba kusetshenziswa ubumba noma izinto esezilahliwe.
- Ungasiza izingane ukuthi zithuthukise ulwazi lwamagama ezinombolo ngokubhala iqoqa lezehlakalo endabeni, ngokusebenzisa iziqephu ezahlukene zephepha ngaleso naleso sigameko. Namathisela lezi ziqephu ebhodini ngokuzixuba bese ucela izingane ukuthi zizilandelane lezi zehlakalo ngendlela ezehlakale ngayo endabeni. Emva kwalokho khuluma ngezehlakalo ubuze ukuthi yisiphi esehle kuqala, esilandelile kanye nesigcinile. Noma yisiphi esandulele noma esilandele esinye.
- Izingane mazifunde ngokukala ngokuthi uzicele zisebenzise ulwazi olusendabeni ukukala ukuthi umlingiswa noma isilwane sasiside kangakanani.
- Izindaba zingaxhunyaniswa namagama eZobuchwepheshe. Cela izingane zenze amasu okwenza ukudla ahambisana nabalingiswa bendaba – izimuzimu, isigebengu noma inkosi. Noma uzicele ukuthi zenze isibonelo sendlu eyakhiwe ngotshani noma izindukwana, noma isigodlo esenziwe ngamaswidi!

Make reading for enjoyment part of your school! For more information and guidance on how to do this, go to www.storypoweredschools.org.



Yenza ukufundela ukuzithokozisa ingxenywe yesikole sakho! Ukuthola ulwazi olwengeziwe nokucathuliswa ukuthi ukwenza kanjani lokhu, vakashela ku-www.storypoweredschools.org.

Putting stories at the heart of your school ★ Izindaba mazibe yiziko lesikole sakho

Will you be South Africa's next Story Bosso?

Story Bosso is Na'libali's annual multilingual storytelling talent search. It takes place across the nation this September! To celebrate South Africa's rich heritage of storytelling, Na'libali invites all South Africans - young and old - to have fun telling and sharing stories in any of the country's 11 official languages.

Enter this exciting talent search and stand a chance of winning fantastic prizes as well as being crowned the Story Bosso of 2018! To find out more, visit: www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi.

STORY BOSSO



Ngabe uzoba yi-Story Bosso yaseNingizimu Afrika elandelayo?

I-Story Bosso wumkhankaso kaNa'libali wonyaka obuliminingi wokuhlwaya isiphiwo sokuxoxa indaba. Lokhu kwenzeka esizweni sonke kulo Mandulo! Ukubungaza ifa elicebileyo lokuxoxa izindaba laseNingizimu Afrika, uNa'libali umema bonke abaseNingizimu Afrika - abancane nabadala - ukuthi babe nentokozo ngokuxoxa nokwabelana ngezindaba nganoma yiluphi ulimi kweziyi-11 ezisemthethweni.

Ngenela lokhu kuhlwaywa kwamakhono okuthokozisayo bese uzibeka emathubeni okuthola imiklomelo ethokozisayo nokuthi uqheliswe njenge-Story Bosso yangonyaka wezi-2018! Ukuthola olunye ulwazi, vakashela ku-www.nalibali.org noma www.nalibali.mobi.



Get story active!

Here are some ideas for using the two cut-out-and-keep picture books, *The missing ball* (pages 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 and 12) and *When it rains* (pages 9 and 10), as well as the Story Corner story, *Message in a bottle* (page 14). Choose the ideas that best suit your children's ages and interests.



The missing ball

Gaps and his cousin, Sugarbean, want to play a game of soccer before sundown, but they can't find their soccer ball!



- ✿ As you read the story to your children, stop and ask questions or make comments that encourage them to look closely at the details in the story. Here are some examples for the first part of the story.
 - ☉ **Page 4:** Can you see the ball? What do you think Gogo is doing?
 - ☉ **Page 5:** What is Gogo doing now?
 - ☉ **Page 7:** Look, I can see a bit of the ball there.
 - ☉ **Pages 8 and 9:** Look at Sugarbean sitting on the bench. How do you think she feels? Why?
- ✿ Discuss with your children what ball games they enjoy playing. Play some of them together. Then suggest that they draw a picture of themselves playing their favourite ball game in the moonlight – just like the calves in the story did.

When it rains

This book describes the joy of people and nature at the return of rain. It is written and illustrated by one of Africa's well-known writers, Véronique Tadjo from Côte d'Ivoire.



- ✿ Before you read the story, ask your children if they enjoy the rain and why they think rain is important.
- ✿ After you have read the story, read page 3 again and invite your children to use their hands and/or feet to make the sound of a dark cloud bursting open and the rain beginning to fall. Can they make the sound of the rain getting heavier and heavier, and then gradually getting lighter until it stops?
- ✿ Ask your children to think about what they would say to the rain if it were a person. Suggest that they use their ideas to write a poem about rain or a letter to the rain!
- ✿ Give your children large sheets of paper. Let them paint the paper with water before painting a picture about the story.

Message in a bottle

International Literacy Day story

Chiku and her brother, Jabali, put a message in a glass bottle and then toss it into the ocean at Mombasa in Kenya. The bottle and its message travel all the way down to Umgababa off the coast of KwaZulu-Natal where Sandile finds it. And that is how a friendship begins!



- ✿ After you have read the story, show your children a map of Africa and let them trace the bottle's journey from Mombasa to Umgababa. Then encourage them to draw their own maps that show the journey and all or some of the animals that came across the bottle on its way to Umgababa. (You may want to show them pictures of the animals in the story before they begin drawing.)
- ✿ Ask your children to imagine that they are going to put a message in a bottle. What would their message say? Suggest that your children write their messages – and don't forget to write one too!

Yenza indaba ihlabe umxhwele!

Nanka amanye amacebo okusebenzisa izincwadi ezimbili zemifanekiso ozisika uzikhiphe bese uzigcina, *Ibhola Elihlehlekile* (amakhasi 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 nele-12) nethi, *Uma lina* (amakhasi 9 nele-10), kanye nendaba yeKhona Lezindaba ethi, *Umyalezo osebhodleleni* (ikhasi le-15). Khetha imiqondo ehambisana kangcono neminyaka kanye nalokho okuthandwa yizingane zakho.

Ibhola Elihlehlekile

UZikhala kanye nomzala wakhe uBhontshisi bafuna ukudlala umdlalo webhola lezinyawo ngaphambi kokushona kwelanga, kodwa abakwazi ukuthola ibhola labo!

- ✿ Ngenkathi ufundela izingane zakho indaba, yima bese ubuza imibuzo noma uphawule ngokukhuthaza izingane zibhekisise imininigwane esendabeni. Nazi ezinye zezibonelo engxenyeni yokuqala yendaba.
 - ☉ **Ikhasi lesi-4:** Uyalibona ibhola na? Ucabanga ukuthi uGogo wenzani?
 - ☉ **Ikhasi lesi-5:** Wenzani uGogo manje?
 - ☉ **Ikhasi lesi-7:** Bheka, ngiyakwazi ukubona ingxenya yebhola laphaya.
 - ☉ **Amakhasi 8 nelesi-9:** Bheka uBhontshisi ehlezi ebhentshini. Ucabanga ukuthi uzizwa kanjani? Usho ngani?
- ✿ Xoxa nezingane zakho ukuthi yimiphi imidlalo yebhola ezithokozela ukuyidlala. Dlalani eminye yayo ndawonye. Emva kwalokho phakamisa ukuthi zidwebe izithombe zazo zidlala umdlalo ezivuthandayo webhola kusebusuku obunonyezi – njengalokho amankonyane enzile endabeni.

Uma lina

Le ncwadi ichaza intokozo yabantu nemvelo ngokubuya kwemvula. Ibhale futhi yadwetselwa imifanekiso ngomunye wababhali abadumile e-Afrika, uVéronique Tadjo ophuma eCôte d'Ivoire.

- ✿ Ngaphambi kokuthi ufunde indaba, buza izingane zakho ukuthi ziyayithokozela yini imvula nokuthi kungani zicabanga ukuthi imvula ibalulekile.
- ✿ Ngemva kokuthi usuyifundile indaba, phinda ufunde ikhasi lesi-3 bese umema izingane zakho ukuthi zisebenzise izandla zazo kanye/noma izinyawo ukwenza umsindo wefu elimnyama lapho livuleka ngokushesha bese iqala ukuna imvula. Ngabe bayakwazi ukwenza umsindo wemvula eya ngokuqinisa, bese kancane kancane iye ngokwehla kuze kube iyanqamuka?
- ✿ Cela izingane zakho ukuthi zicabange ngokuthi zazingathini emvuleni ukuba yayiwumuntu. Phakamisa ukuthi zisebenzise amacebo azo ukubhala inkondlo ngemvula noma ukubhala incwadi eya emvuleni!
- ✿ Nikeza izingane zakho iziqephu ezinkulu zephepha. Zidedele zipende iphepha ngamanzi ngaphambi kokupenda isithombe mayelana nendaba.

Umyalezo osebhodleleni

UChiku nomfowabo, uJabali, bafaka umyalezo ebhodleleni eliyingilazi base beliphonsa olwandle eMombasa kwelaseKenya. Ibhodlela nomyalezo walo lehla njalo lize lifike eMgababa ogwini lwaKwaZulu-Natali lapho uSandile elithola khona. Kanti-ke lokhu kwaba wukuqala kobungani njalo!

- ✿ Ngemva kokuthi usuyifundile indaba, khombisa izingane zakho ibalazwe lase-Afrika bese uzidedela zilandelele uhambo lwebhodlela lisuka eMombasa lize lifike eMgababa. Emva kwalokho zikhuthaze ukuthi zidwebe awazo amabalazwe akhombisa uhambo kanye nezilwane zonke noma ezinye zazo ezihlangane nebhodlela endleleni yalo eqonde eMgababa. (Ungase ufune ukuzikhombisa izithombe zezilwane ezisendabeni ngaphambi kokuthi ziqale ukudweba.)
- ✿ Cela izingane zakho ukuthi zicabange ngeso lengqondo ukuthi zizofaka umyalezo ebhodleleni. Umyalezo wazo ungathini? Phakamisa ukuthi izingane zakho zibhale imiyalezo yazo – ungakhohlwa-ke ukubhala owodwa nawe!

Indaba YoSuku Lwezizwe Ngezizwe Lokufunda Nokubhala

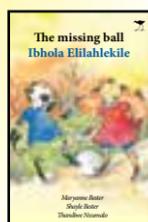
Create two cut-out-and-keep books

When it rains

1. Tear off page 9 of this supplement.
2. Fold the sheet in half along the black dotted line.
3. Fold it in half again along the green dotted line to make the book.
4. Cut along the red dotted lines to separate the pages.

The missing ball

1. To make this book use pages 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 and 12.
2. Keep pages 7 and 8 inside the other pages.
3. Fold the sheets in half along the black dotted line.
4. Fold them in half again along the green dotted line to make the book.
5. Cut along the red dotted lines to separate the pages.



Zenzele ezakho izincwadi EZIMBILI ozosisika uzikhiphe bese uzigcina

Uma lina

1. Dabula ikhasi lesi-9 lalesi sithasiselo.
2. Songa iphepha libe nguhhafu ngokulandela umugqa wamachashazi amnyama.
3. Lisonge libe nguhhafu futhi ulandele umugqa wamachashazi aluhlaza okotshani ukuze wenze incwadi.
4. Sika ulandele imigqa yamachashazi abomvu ukwehlukana amakhasi.

Ibhola Elihlehlekile

1. Ukuze wenze le ncwadi sebenzisa amakhasi 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 nele-12.
2. Gcina ikhasi lesi-7 kanye nelesi-8 ngaphakathi kwamanye amakhasi.
3. Songa amaphepha abe nguhhafu ngokulandela umugqa wamachashazi amnyama.
4. Asonge abe nguhhafu futhi ulandele umugqa wamachashazi aluhlaza okotshani ukuze wenze incwadi.
5. Sika ulandele imigqa yamachashazi abomvu ukwehlukana amakhasi.



“Don't worry. I'll help you find your ball,” he said. So the two calves went off together, to find the ball.

“Ungakhathezeki. Ngizokusiza ngikufunise ibhola lakho,” kusho uZikhala. Asuka-ke amanikonoyane amabili ayofuna ibhola.

Then she saw Gaps, still waiting under the tree. phansi kwesihlahla. Kusenjalo wabona uZikhala, esalindle



We publish what we like

This is an adapted version of *The missing ball* published by Jacana Media and available in bookstores and online from www.jacana.co.za. This story is available in English, Afrikaans, isiXhosa and isiZulu. Jacana publishes books for young readers in all eleven official South African languages. To find out more about Jacana titles go to www.jacana.co.za.

Lapha ibhalwe kabusha indaba ethi, *Ibhola Elilahlekile*, eyashicilelwa ngabakwa-Jacana Media kanti itholakala ezitolo zamabhuku kanye naku-inthanethi ekhelini elithi: www.jacana.co.za. Le ndaba iyatholakala ngesiNgisi, ngesiBhunu, ngesiXhosa nangesiZulu. Abakwa-Jacana bashicilela amabhuku abafundi abasha ngazo zonke izilimi ezisemthethweni zaseNingizimu Afrika. Ukuthola ulwazi ngezihloko zakwa-Jacana ngena ku-www.jacana.co.za.

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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 or www.nalibali.mobi



UNal'ibali umkhankaso kazwelonke wokufundela ukuzithokozisa wokokhela inhlansi nokuzinzisa isiko lokufunda eNingizimu Afrika yonkana. Ukuze uthole eminye imininingwane, vakashela ku-www.nalibali.org noma ku-www.nalibali.mobi



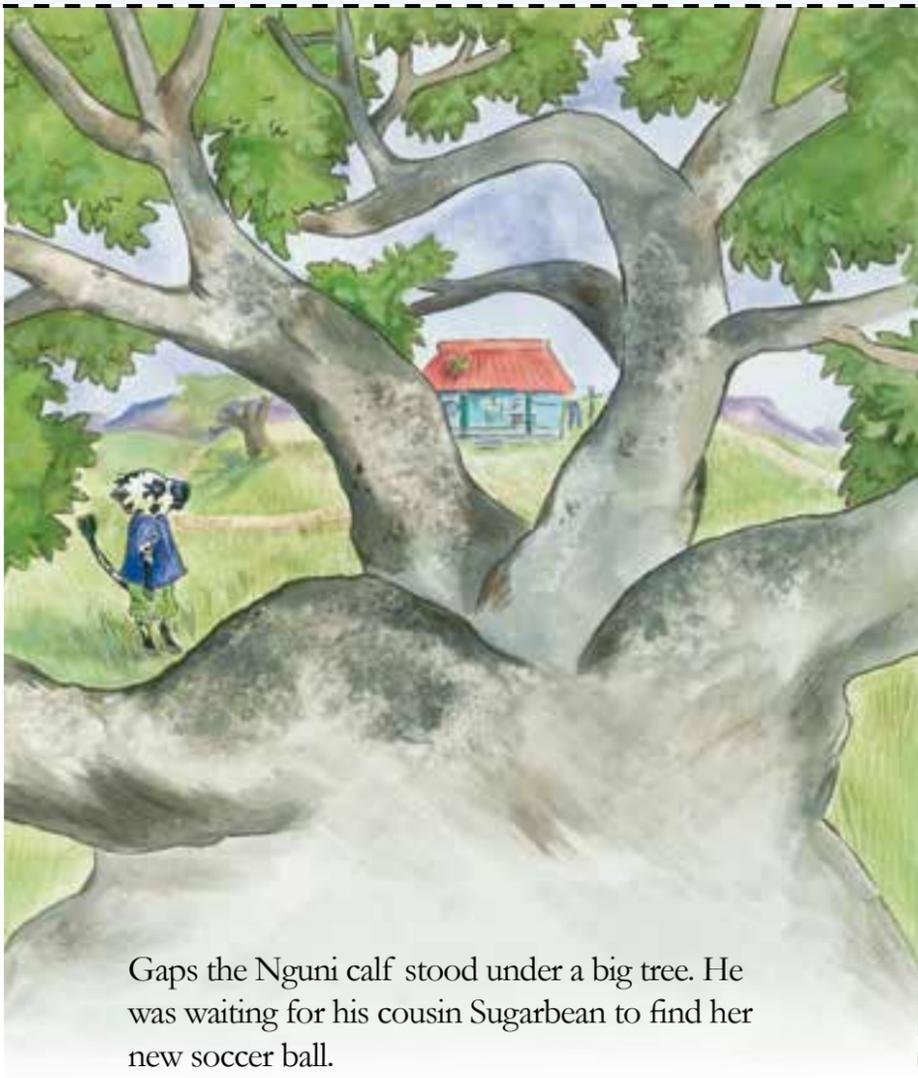
The missing ball Ibhola Elilahlekile



Maryanne Bester
Shayle Bester
Thandiwe Nxumalo



But ... it wasn't her missing ball! It was a baobab fruit! Close up to it, she could see that it looked very different.
 Kodwa ... kwakungelona ibhola lakhe elilahlekele! Kwakuyisithelo sesihlahla soMkhomo! Uma esibhekisisa, wabona ukuthi sasungatani nakancane nebhola lakhe.



Gaps the Nguni calf stood under a big tree. He was waiting for his cousin Sugarbean to find her new soccer ball.

UZikhala inkonyane leNguni wayelinde ngaphansi kwesihlahla esikhulu. Weyelinde umzala wakhe uBhontshisi ukuba athole ibhola lakhe lezinyawo elisha.

A little way off, they saw Mkhulu Nguni Bull playing marabara with his friends. What was he sitting on? He was sitting on Sugarbean's missing ball!
 Maduzane, abona uMkhulu uNguni iNkuzi edlala umlabalaba nabangane bakhe. Wayehleli phezu kwabhola likaBhontshisi elilahlekele!



At last the calves could play their soccer game! They kicked the ball all the way home in the moonlight, happy now their search was over!

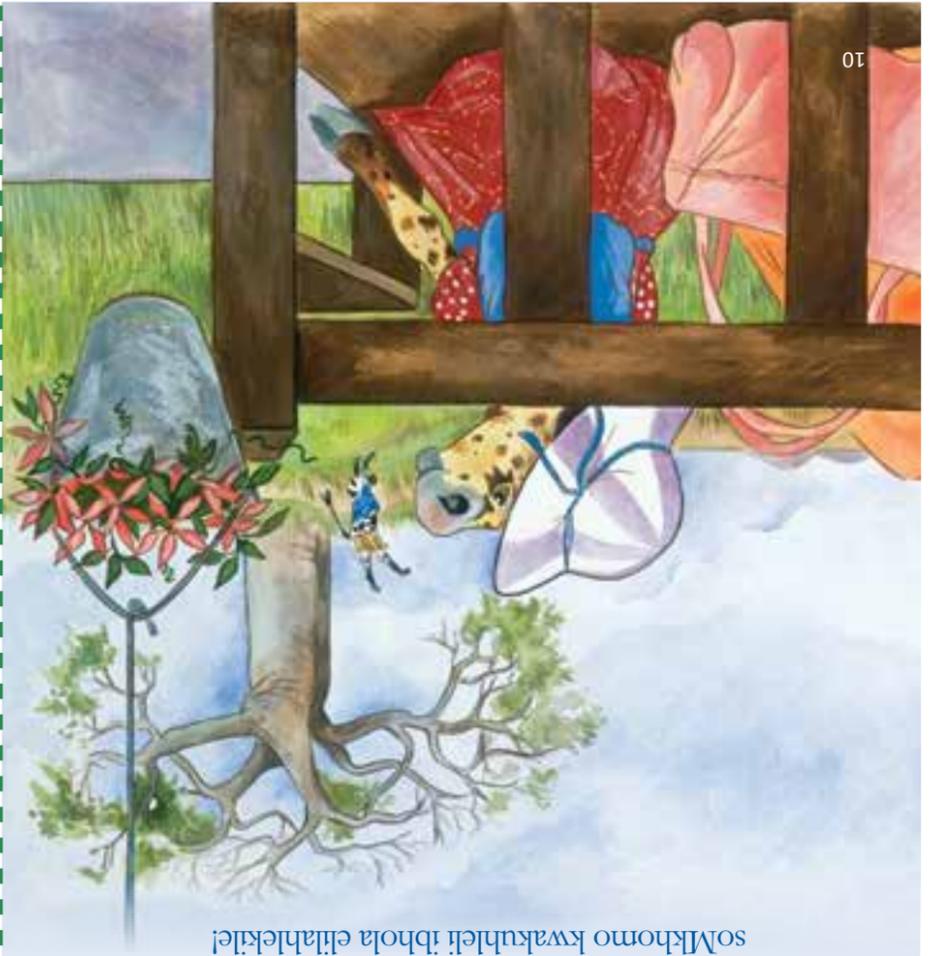
Ekugcineni amankonyane ayezokwazi ukudlala ibhola lezinyawo! Avehamba elikhahlela yonke indlela ibhola elibhekise ekhaya, ngaphansi konyezi. Ayejabule ngoba ayeselitholile ibhola!



Kodwa ... kwakungelona ibhola likaBhontshisi elilahlekile! UMkhulu wayehleli phezu kwesaka lommbila elikhulukazi elimhlophe!



But ... it wasn't Sugarbean's missing ball! UMkhulu was sitting on a fat, white sack of mealie meal!



"Look. There's your ball," said Auntie, pointing up into a tree. Sugarbean looked high in the branches of a baobab tree was the missing ball!



And then they saw it. You guessed it! The missing ball was in Sugarbean's backpack! It had been in there all along! This time there was no mistake.

Balibona nangempela ibhola. Ushaye khona! Ibhola elilahlekile lalisesikhwameni esisemhlane kaBhontshisi! Kwakukudala lihleli lapho! Manje kwakungaselona iphutha.



But Sugarbean couldn't find her ball anywhere inside the house. She really wanted to play at least one game of soccer before sunset! But where was that ball?

Kodwa uBhontshisi akalitholanga ibhola lakhe endlini. Wayefisa ukuthi adlale okungenani umdlalo webhola lezinyawo owodwa nje lingakashoni ilanga. Kanti lalukuphi ngempela ibhola?

Kodwa ... kwakungelona ibhola lakhe elilahlekele!
Kwakuyichopho lesigqoko esikhulu esimhlophe
sika-Anti uNguni iNkomo!

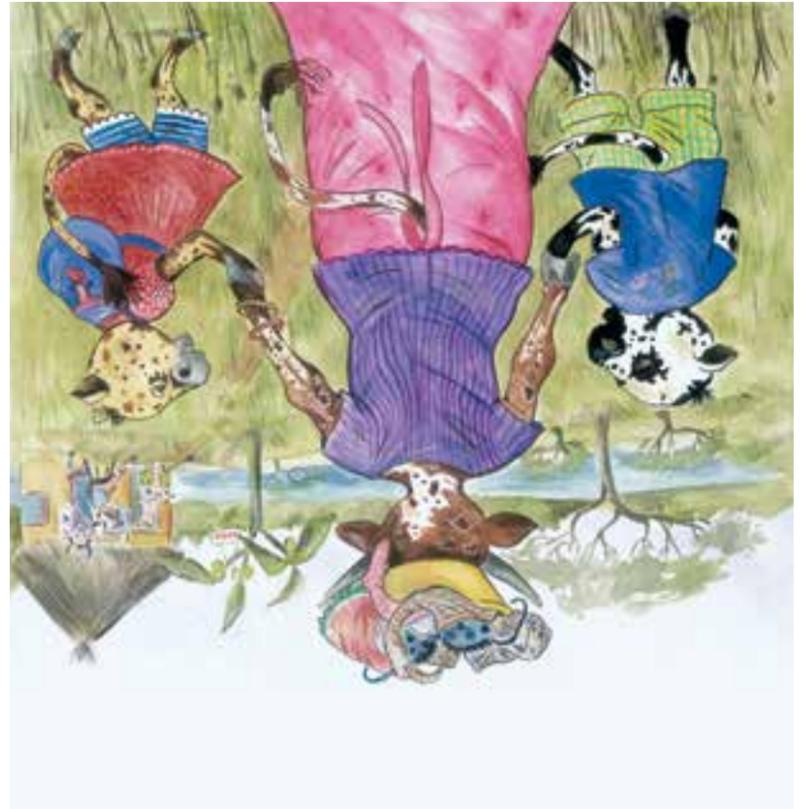


Perhaps someone had left it outside. She went to look. Ah, there it was – in the melon patch! The top of it was peeping out of Gogo’s tin bath.

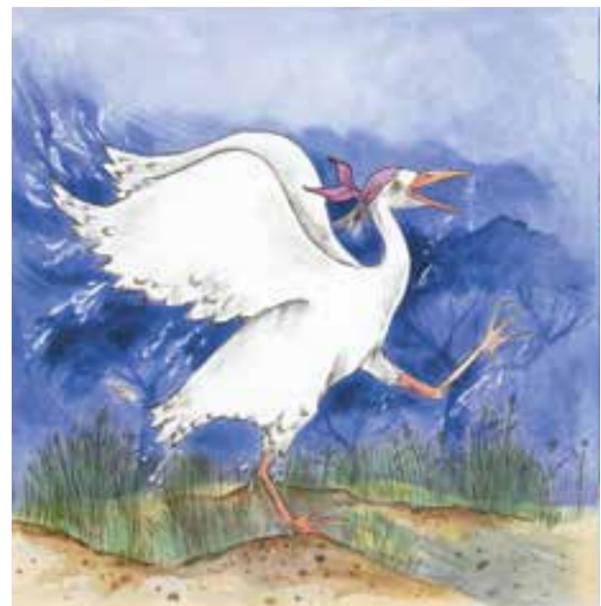
Mhlawumbe kukhona owayelishiye ngaphandle.
Waphumela phandle wayolifuna. Habe! Naliya –
engadini yamakhabe. Lalivele kancane ngechopho
ethinini lokugeza likaGogo.



Kusenjalo amankonyane abona uMama uNguni
iNkomo eya ngasemfuleni. Ahamba naye.
Mhlawumbe ibhola lalingalapho.



Then the calves saw Mama Nguni Cow walking
towards the river. They went with her. Perhaps the
ball was there.



Suddenly they saw the cattle egret. He was
flapping his wings and running towards
them. “Sugarbean! I’ve been trying to tell you
that your ball is right behind you!”

Ngokuphazima kweso babona ilanda.
Lalibhakuphazisa amaphiko ligijima liza ngakubona.
“Bhontshisi! Kunini ngizama ukukutshela ukuthi
ibhola lakho lisemuva kwakho!”

Trees are heavy
with fruit.
Imithi isindwa
yizithelo.



The fields
look beautiful.
Amasimu
abukeka emahle.

Cows give plenty
of rich and creamy
milk. Hens lay big
yellow eggs.
Izinkomo zehlisa ubisi
oluningi olunothile
Izikhukhukazi
zibekela amaganda
amakhulu ayiphuzi.



A group of children
jump, swim and play
in the stream. On the
big river, the fishermen
catch many silvery fish.
Iqembu labantwana
liyagxuma, liyabhukuda
futhi lidlala emfulaneni.
Emfuleni omkhulu,
abadobi bezinhlanzi
badoba izinhlanzi
eziningi ezisasiliva.



When it rains Uma lina



Véronique Tadjo
Danisile Ntuli



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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 or www.nalibali.mobi



UNal'ibali umkhankaso kazwelonke wokufundela ukuzithokozisa wokokhela inhlanganisela nokuzinzisa isiko lokufunda eNingizimu Afrika yonkana. Ukuze uthole eminye imininingwane, vakashela ku-www.nalibali.org noma ku-www.nalibali.mobi



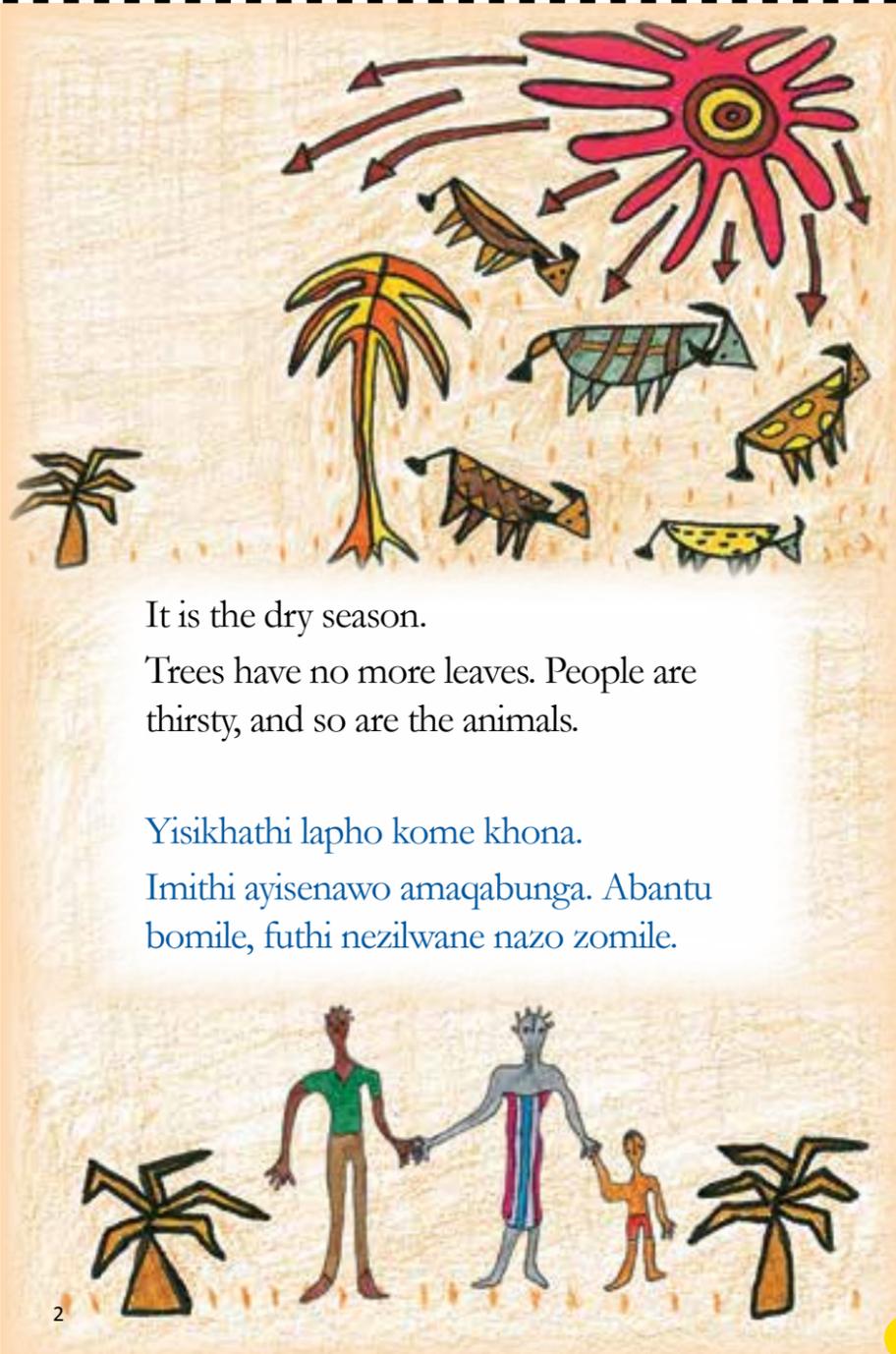
Dukuduku, kwaghuma umbani
esibhakabhakeni. Ifu elikhulu elimnyama
lavuleka magede amaconsi emvula agala ukuma.

Lightning explodes in the sky. A huge dark
cloud bursts open and drops of rain start
to fall.



Abantu balala bezizwa benlisekile.

People fall asleep feeling satisfied.

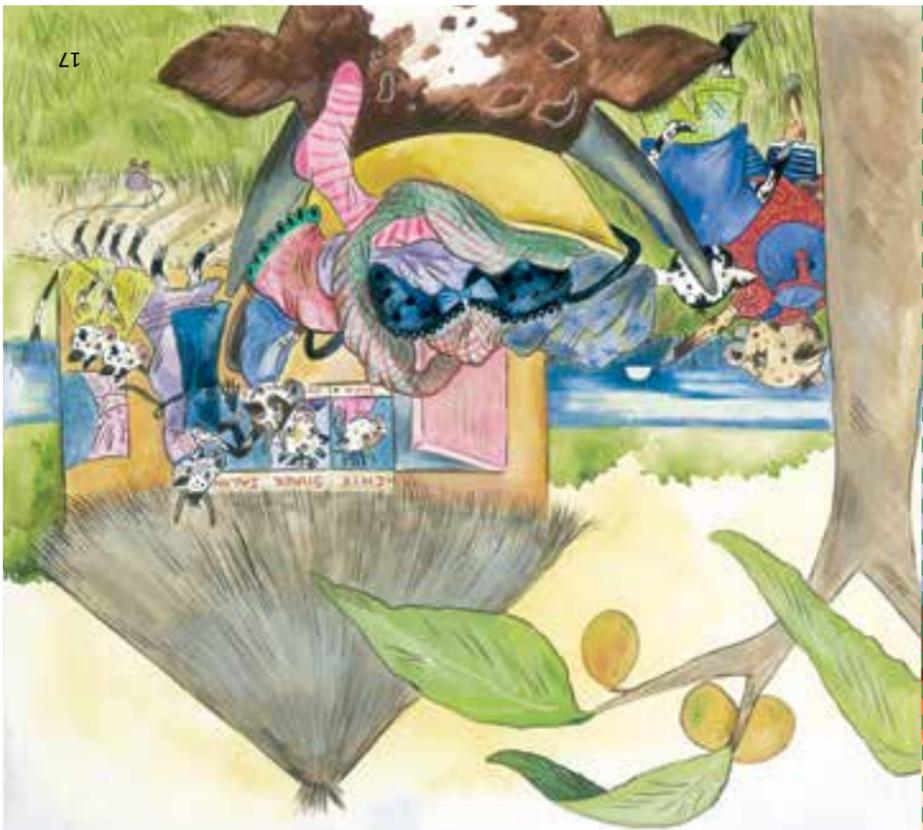


It is the dry season.
Trees have no more leaves. People are
thirsty, and so are the animals.

Yisikhathi lapho kome khona.
Imithi ayisenawo amaqabunga. Abantu
bomile, futhi nezilwane nazo zomile.

The rains have come back!

Izimvula sezibuyile!



Ah yes! They could see a wet ball floating in the river!
 Nangempela! Albona ibhola elimanzi linta phezulu
 kwamanzi emfuleni!

But ... it wasn't her missing ball! It was the top of
 Auntie Nguni Cow's big, white hat!



It was just the moon, rising in the sky.
 Sugarbean was sad. Where was that ball?

Kwakuyinyanga, yenyukela phezulu
 esibhakabhakeni. UBhontshisi wayesedumele
 kabi. Kanti liphi leli bhola?



But ... it wasn't her missing ball! It was a
 big, white melon! "Don't worry. Your ball is
 somewhere," said Gogo.

Kodwa ... kwakungelona ibhola lakhe
 elilahlekile! Kwakuyikhabe elikhulukazi
 elimhlophe! "Ungakhathazeki. Ibhola lakho
 likhona," kusho uGogo.



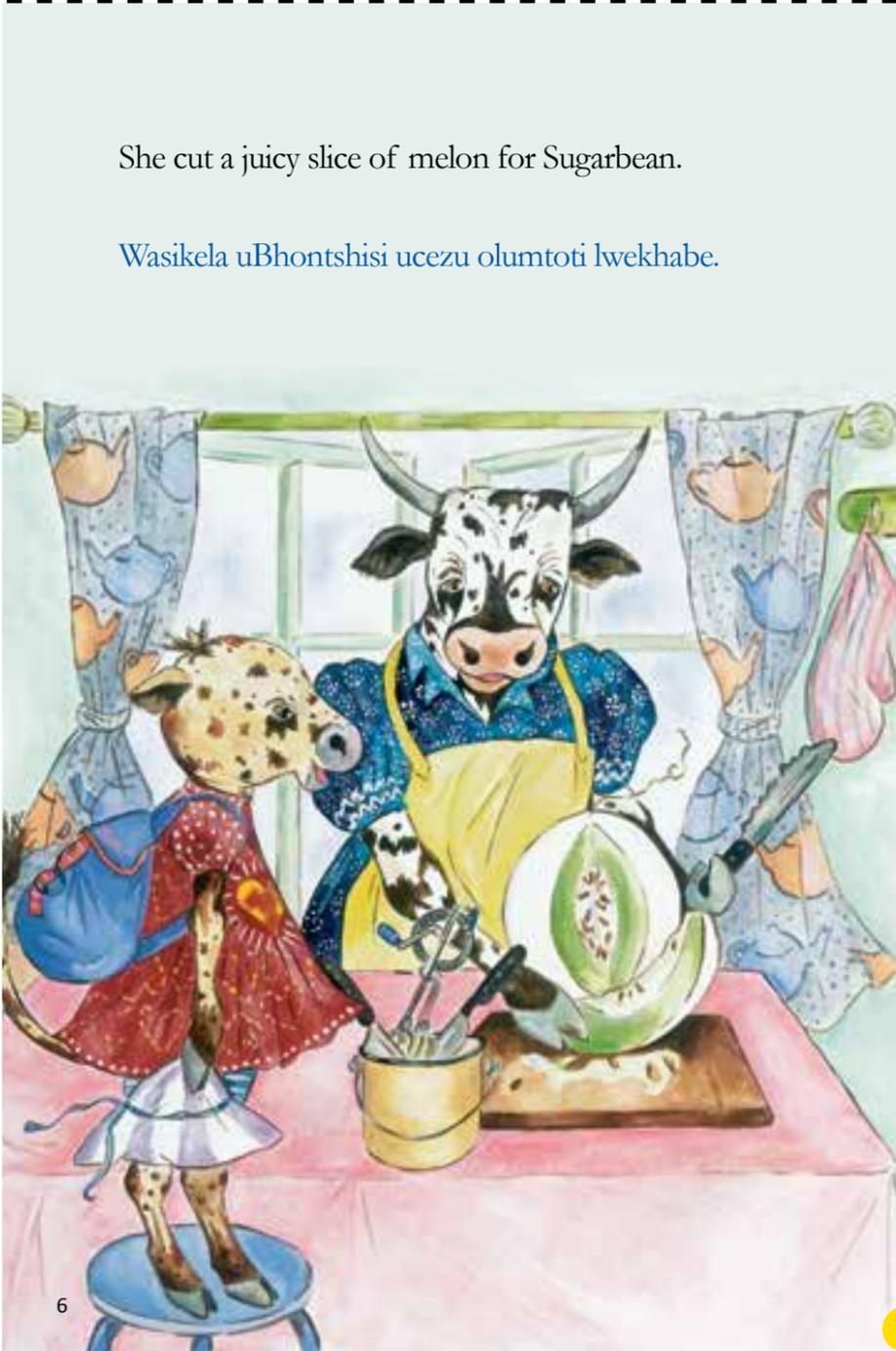
Sugarbean stood at the window and took a big bite. Just then, she saw her ball lying on the stoep bench.

UBhontshisi wama ngasafasitele ni waluma ikhabe lakhe. Esabhakile, walibona ibhola lakhe phezu kwebhentshi esitubhini.



But ... it wasn't Sugarbean's missing ball! It was a smooth, white river stone. Mama placed her washing on the stone and began to scrub. The calves were beginning to lose heart.

Kodwa ... kwakungelona ibhola ikabhontshisi elilahlekile! Kwakuyitshhe elimhlophe elibushhelezi lomfula. UMama wabeka izingubo zokuwashwa phezu kwetshe wagala wawasha.



She cut a juicy slice of melon for Sugarbean.

Wasikela uBhontshisi ucezu olumtoti lwekhabe.



"There it is," said Gaps looking up. But again ... it wasn't the missing ball at all!

"Naliya," kusho uZikhala ebheka phezulu. Kodwa ... kwakungelona neze ibhola elilahlekile!



Nal'ibali news

Over the past six years, the annual Puku Story Festival held in Grahamstown has been an exciting event intended to spark children's interest in storytelling and reading in isiXhosa. The festival has also provided an opportunity to showcase and celebrate the work of storytellers, writers and artists, especially in African languages.

This year the Puku Story Festival celebrated South African children's author and storyteller, Gcina Mhlophe. Gcina's play, "Have you seen Zandile?" was translated into isiXhosa by Dr Hleze Kunju and performed twice a day by local actors in a packed auditorium.

A highlight of the festival was an exhibition of children's literature curated by the National English Literary Museum (NELM). There were 566 children from ten surrounding schools who visited the museum to view the exhibition, where they were also entertained by storytellers such as Basil Mills, Cebo Solombela, Mbulelo Bokwe, Madoda Ndlakuse and Babalwa Kona. Other attractions included book launches and readings, as well as open mic sessions where learners and other local artists performed praise poetry and songs.

At the nearby Fingo Library, children and parents enjoyed a comedy show, poetry, storytelling and readings, and face painting!

Nal'ibali was represented by Abongile Davani and Madoda Ndlakuse, our Literacy Mentors in the Eastern Cape. They gave a fun-filled presentation on reading clubs which highlighted the important role that storytelling and reading for enjoyment play in education and children's development.

At the end of the three days, Puku announced that its new mission did not include another festival. But as Gcina Mhlophe tweeted: "Puku Story Festival 2018 may be over, but the stories never are."

Izindaba zikaNal'ibali

Eminyakeni eyisithupha eyedlule, umcimbi waminyaka yonke, i-Puku Story Festival obanjelwa eGrahamstown uba yisehlo esithokozisayo okuhloswe ngaso ukuvuthela ezinganeni inhlasi yokuxoxa izindaba kanye nokuzifunda ngesiXhosa. Lo mcimbi uphinde wanikezela ngethuba lokubonisa kanye nokubungaza imisebenzi yabaxoxi bezindaba, ababhali nabadwebi, ikakhulukazi ezilimini zase-Afrika.

Nonyaka umcimbi we-Puku Story Festival ubungaze umbhali nomxoxi wezindaba zezingane, uGcina Mhlophe. Umdlalo kaGcina othi, "Have you seen Zandile?" uye wahunyushelwa esiXhoseni nguDkt Hleze Kunju kanti udlalwe kabili ngosuku ngabalingisi bendawo ehholo ebeligcwele mfi.

Okugqamile emcimbini wukuboniswa kwemibhalo yezingane eqoqwe yahlalwa ngabe-National English Literary Museum (NELM). Bekukhona izingane ezingama-566 eziphuma ezikoleni eziyishumi eziseduze ezivakashele imnyuziyemu ukuzobona umbukiso, lapho ezithokoziswe khona ngabaxoxi bezindaba abafana noBasil Mills, uCebo Solombela, uMbulelo Bokwe, uMadoda Ndlakuse kanye noBabalwa Kona. Okunye okukhangayo bekubandakanya ukwethulwa kwezincwadi nokufundwa kwazo, kanjalo nezikhathi zemibhobho evulelekile (*open mic*) lapho abafundi namaciko endawo esine ededelana khona ehaya izibongo amanye ecula izingoma.

Emtatsheni wezincwadi oseduze, i-Fingo Library, izingane kanye nabazali bathokozele umbukiso wamahlaya, izinkondlo, nokuxoxwa kanye nokufundwa kwezindaba, nokucaka ubuso!

AbakwaNal'ibali bebemelwe ngu-Abongile Davani noMadoda Ndlakuse, Abeluleki bethu Bokufunda Nokubhala eMpumalanga Koloni. Bethule inkulumbo egcwele uteku mayelana namathimba okufunda negcizelele iqhaza elibalulekile elibanjwa ukuxoxa indaba kanye nokufundela ukuzithokozisa kwezemfundo nasekukhuleni kwezingane.

Ekupheleni kwezinsuku ezintathu, iPuku imemezele ukuthi inhloso yayo entsha kukhona omunye umcimbi engawubandakanyi. Kodwa njengoba uGcina Mhlophe ethumele umyalezo wethwitha: "Kungenzeka ukuthi i-Puku Story Festival yangowezi-2018 isiyedlule, kodwa izindaba azisoze."



Puku

There were plenty of books for children to enjoy!

Bekunezindathane zezincwadi izingane ebezizithokozela!



Puku

Nal'ibali's Madoda Ndlakuse with some of the children at the festival.

UMadoda Ndlakuse wakwaNal'ibali nezinye zezingane kufestiveli.



Puku

Storytelling was enjoyed by children and adults.

Ukuxoxa izindaba bekuthokozelwa yizingane kanye nabadala.



Message in a bottle

By Joanne Bloch ✨ Illustrations by Jiggs Snaddon-Wood

It was late afternoon. Chiku and her brother, Jabali, stood on the beach near their home in Mombasa. Big green waves crashed in front of them.

"Are you ready?" asked Jabali.

"Yes!" said Chiku.

Jabali took a deep breath, lifted his arm and flung the glass bottle far out into the sea. It flew across the foamy waves, glinting in the sunlight. Chiku and Jabali grinned at each other as they turned and walked home.

"How long do you think it will take?" asked Chiku.

"I don't know!" answered her brother. "You may have to wait a long, long time, but somebody will find it! Just wait and see."

The bottle bobbed on the water for many weeks. Once a big fish swam right up to it. "Hmmm," she said. "There's something inside this hard bubble ... it's white with black squiggles on it. I wonder what it is?"

WOOSH! Suddenly a school of tiny silver fish swam past right under her. The big fish forgot all about the bottle. "How lucky," she chuckled as she swam after the silver fish, "my lunch has arrived!"

On went the bottle, floating through calm water and stormy seas. One evening, a baby shark lifted it up to see what was inside. "Human things," warned his father. "Don't eat it; it will make you sick!"

The little shark dropped the bottle, and raced off to find his friend instead.

Still the bottle drifted, carried along by the ocean tides. One afternoon, a wise old dolphin saw it in the water nearby. "Look!" she said. "I see human writing!"

Dolphins are very clever. She knew she could read the words she saw through the glass. But before she could try, her grandchild pushed his nose under the bottle. "Catch!" he shouted. A whole pod of dolphins laughed and squeaked as they passed the bottle to each other.



One stormy evening many months later, the waves carried the bottle all the way to the beach at Umgababa on the KwaZulu-Natal coast. A little later, a boy named Sandile and his family arrived there for a holiday with their cousins.

The next morning, Sandile woke up early. Usually, he hated getting out of bed. "School is so boring!" he always grumbled. "Why do we have to learn to read and write? Playing games is much more fun!" But today was different because Sandile was on holiday and he loved the beach.

Soon he was running about on the wet sand with his younger sister and cousin.

Suddenly, he noticed something floating in the shallow water near some big rocks.

"Look!" he shouted, pointing to the bottle. It had turned a little green, but Sandile could still see that there was a piece of paper inside it. "What is it?" he asked excitedly.

"Maybe it's money!" suggested his sister, Sindi.

"No," said their older cousin, Mpumi, peering at the bottle. "It looks like a letter!"

Sandile pulled a face. "BORING!" he said.

"Think about it," said Mpumi. "This letter may have travelled a very long way, and it could have been in the water for years! Let's take it home and open the seal with a knife!"

At last the bottle was open. Mpumi pulled out the letter.

"Hello," read Mpumi. "My name is Chiku. I am nine years old."

"Just like me!" said Sandile.

"Shhh!" said the others.

"I live in Mombasa in Kenya," read Mpumi.

"Where's Kenya?" asked Sindi.

"I know!" shouted Sandile. "It's far away, up the east coast of Africa! I read about it at school just last week!"

"You said that was a boring book!" teased Sindi, but Sandile didn't hear her. He was too busy reading the letter over Mpumi's shoulder.

"If you find this letter, please write back to me," read Mpumi. "Then there's an email address here," she told Sandile. "Ask your mom if you can write to Chiku tonight."

And that was how Sandile started writing to Chiku. After a few emails, reading and writing didn't seem boring anymore.

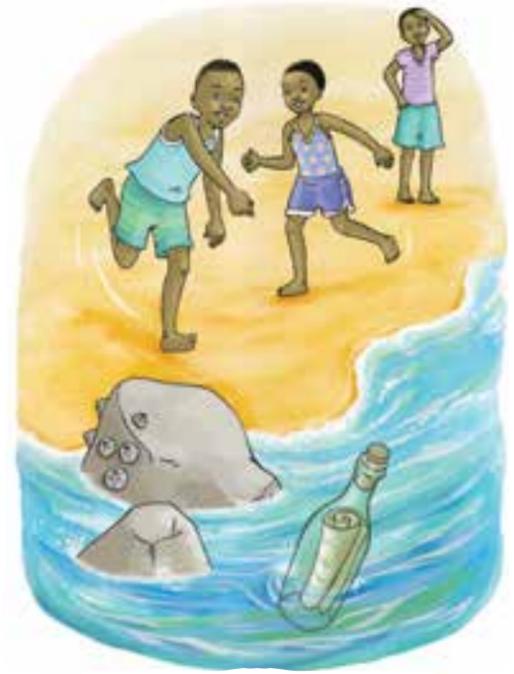
"One day, I'm going to meet Chiku," he told Sindi. "Until then, we can send emails to each other!"

And when Sandile's family went to visit their cousins in KwaZulu-Natal again, he also wrote his own letter on a piece of paper, sealed it in a bottle and threw it into the sea. He never got an answer, but he would have been very surprised to learn who found the bottle.

The dolphins had swum all the way down the coast, and were living near a tiny island. When the oldest dolphin saw Sandile's bottle floating by, she was very excited.

"Another one!" she said. "This time, I'm going to read it!" She dragged the bottle onto the beach, and stored it under a big rock.

Every day, she stares at the words she sees through the glass. She can't read them yet, but I'm sure she'll work it out soon!



Kwase kuntambama impela. UChiku nomfowabo uJabali babemile ngasolwandle oluseduze kwakubo eMombasa. Amagagasi amakhulu aluhlaza ayegubha phambi kwabo.

“Ngabe usume ngobumo?” kubuza uJabali.

“Yebo!” kusho uChiku.

UJabali wayesephefumula kakhulu, waphakamisa ingalo yakhe maqede waphonsa ibhodlela lengilazi kude phakathi olwandle. Ibhodlela landiza leqa amagagasi anamagwebu, licwebezela elangeni. UChiku noJabali bamoyizelelana ngenkathi bephenduka behamba bebheke ekhaya.

“Ucabanga ukuthi lizothatha isikhathi esingakanani?” kubuza uChiku.

“Angazi!” kuphendula umfowabo. “Ungase ulinde isikhathi eside, impela, kodwa ukhona ozolithola! Linda nje, uzobona.”

Ibhodlela lalishona livumbuka amasonto amaningi. Makhathaleni inhlanzi enkulu yabhukuda yaqonda ngqo kulo. “Hmmm,” kusho yona. “Kukhona okuthile okuphakathi kuleli gwebu eliqinile ... kumhlophe kanti kunemibalana emnyama kukho. Ingabe yini yona le?”

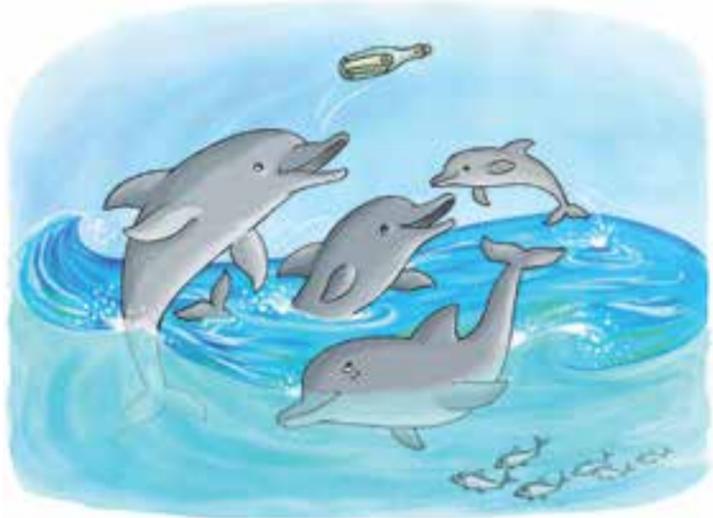
WOOSHI! Ngokuphazima kweso kwaqhamuka iqoqo lezinhlazi ezincane zedlula zitshuza ngaphansi kwayo. Inhlanzi enkulu yakhohlwa konke ngebhodlela. “Inhlanhla engaka,” yansinsitheka ngenkathi ibhukuda ilandela izinhlanzi eziyisilivana, “isidlo sami sasemini sesifikile!”

Laqhubeka ibhodlela, lintanta emanzini athule nasezilwandle ezithukuthele. Ngokunye ukuhlwa, umntwana kashaka waliphakamisa ukuze abone ukuthi yini eyabe iphakathi. “Izinto zabantu,” kuxwayise uyise. “Ungalidli; lizokugulisa!”

Ushaka omncane waliyekela ibhodlela, kunalokho wagijima ukuze ayothola umngani wakhe.

Ibhodlela laqhubeka nokuntanta, lithwalwa amagagasi olwandle. Ngenye intambama ihlengethwa elidala elihlakaniphileyo lalibona emanzini ayeseduzane. “Bheka!” kusho lona. “Ngibona umbhalo wabantu!”

Amahlengethwa ahlakaniphe kakhulu. Lalazi ukuthi lingakwazi ukuwafunda amagama eliwabona ngaphakathi kwengilazi. Nokho ngaphambi kokuthi lizame, umzukulu walo wafaka ikhala ngaphansi kwebhodlela. “Libambe!” ememeza. Lonke iqulo lamahlengethwa lahleka lase linswininiza ngenkathi liphonselana ngebhodlela.



Ngokunye ukuhlwa kunesivunguvungu ngemuva kwezinyaka eziningi, amagagasi athatha ibhodlela ahamba nalo aqonda ebhishi laseMgababa ogwini lwaKwaZulu-Natali. Ngemva kwesikhashana, umfana ogama lakhe nguSandile nomndeni wakhe bafika lapho bezochitha amaholide nabazala babo.

Ekuseni ngakusasa, uSandile wavuka ekuseni kakhulu. Ngokujwayelekile, wayekuzonda ukuphuma embhedeni. “Isikole siyadinana!” wayejwayele ukukhononda kanjalo. “Kungani kufanele sifunde ukufunda nokubhala? Ukudlala imidlalo kuyintokozo enkulu kunalokhu!” Kodwa namuhla kwakwehlukile ngoba uSandile wayesemaholideni, kanti ulwandle wayeluthanda.

Masinyane nje wayesegijigijima esihlabathini esimanzi nodadewabo omncanyana kanye nomzala wabo.

Khona manjalo, wabona okuthile okuntantayo emanzini amancane eduze kwamadwala amakhulu.

“Buka!” ememeza, ekhomba ibhodlela. Lase liphenduke laba luhlazana okotshani, kodwa uSandile wayesakwazi ukubona ukuthi kunesiqeshana sephepha ngaphakathi kwalo. “Kuyini lokhu?” ebuza ngokuthatheka.

“Mhlawumbe yimali!” kuphawula udadewabo, uSindi.

“Cha,” kusho umzala wabo owayemdadlana, uMpumi, ebhekisisa ebhodleleni.

“Kubonakala sengathi yincwajana!”

USandile wabipha. “YISICEFE!” kusho yena.

“Ake ucabange nje,” kusho uMpumi. “Le ncwadi kungase kube ihambe ibanga elide kabi, futhi kungenzeka ukuthi sekuyiminyaka nje isemanzini! Masiyithatheni siye nayo ekhaya sifike sivule isivalo sayo ngommese!”

Ekugcineni ibhodlela lavuleka. UMpumi wayikhipha incwadi.

“Sawubona,” kufunda uMpumi. “Igama lami nginguChiku. Ngineminyaka eyisishiyagalolunye yobudala.”

“Njengami!” kusho uSandile.

“Shhh!” kusho abanye.

“Ngihlala eMombasa eKenya,” kufunda uMpumi.

“Ikuphi iKenya?” kubuza uSindi.

“Ngiyayazi!” kumemza uSandile. “Ikude kabi, le phezu ogwini olusempumalanga ne-Afrika! Bengifunda ngayo esikoleni ngesonto eledlule nje!”

“Uthe bekuyincwadi enesicefe!” kugcona uSindi, kodwa uSandile akazange amuzwe. Wayematasa efunda incwajana ngaphezu kwehlobo likaMpumi.

“Uma ngabe uthola le ncwadi, ngicela ubhale ungiphendule,” kufunda uMpumi. “Manje lapha kunekheli le-imeyili,” etshela uSandile. “Buza umama wakho ukuthi ungambhalela yini uChiku namuhla ebusuku.”

Kwaqala kanjalo-ke ukuthi uSandile abhalele uChiku. Ngemuva kwama-imeyili ambalwa, ukufunda nokubhala kwakungasabonakali neze kuseyisicefe.

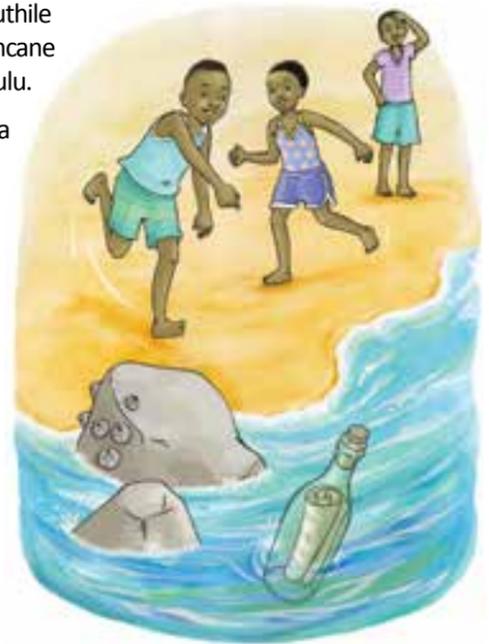
“Ngolunye usuku, ngiyohlangana noChiku,” etshela uSindi. “Kuze kufike leso sikhathi, singalokhu sithumelelana ama-imeyili nje!”

Ngenkathi umndeni kaSandile uphinda uvakashela abazala bawo KwaZulu-Natali futhi, waphinda wabhala eyakhe incwadi esiqeshini sephepha, wayivalela ebhodleleni wabe eseyiphonsa olwandle. Akazange ayithole impendulo, kodwa kwakuzomangalisa kakhulu ukuthola ukuthi ngubani owayethole ibhodlela lelo.

Amahlengethwa ayekade ebhukude ehla njalo nogu, futhi ayehlala eduze kwesiqhingi esincane. Kwathi lapho ihlengethwa elidala kakhulu libona ibhodlela likaSandile lintanta, lajabula kakhulu.

“Elinye futhi!” kusho lona. “Kulokhu-ke, ngizoyifunda!” Ladonsa ibhodlela lalisondeza ebhishi, lase liligcina ngaphansi kwedwala elikhulu.

Nsuku zonke, ligqolozela emagameni eliwabona ngaphakathi kwengilazi. Alikakwazi ukuwafunda, kodwa ngethemba ukuthi ngokushesha nje lizokwazi!



Nal'ibali fun

Okokuzithokozisa kwakwaNal'ibali



1.

What's in the picture?

- How many things are there to read in the picture? _____
- Which of these things have you read before? _____

Kuyini okusesithombeni?

- Zingaki izinto ezingafundwa ezisesithombeni? _____
- Yiziphi kulezi zinto ozifundile phambilini? _____

Write your own International Literacy Day message in the banner.



Bhala owakho omyalezo woSuku Lwezizwe Ngezizwe Lokufunda Nokubhala endwangwini.

2.

Here's a word challenge!

- Follow the rules in the box and use the letters in the word wheel to complete this word. (Two of the letters have already been used.)
m _ a _ _ _
- How many other words can you make following the same rules? (Remember: The letter in the middle of the wheel MUST be in each word!)

Nayi inselelo yamagama!

- Landela imithetho esebhokisini bese usebenzisa izinhlamvu ezisesondweni lamagama ukuqedela leli gama. (Ezimbili izinhlamvu sezivele zisetshenzisiwe.)
i _ _ _ b _ _ _
- Mangaki amanye amagama ongawenza ulandela imithetho efanayo? (Khumbula: Uhlamvu oluphakathi nesondo KUMELE lube segameni ngalinye!)

Rules

1. Make words with two or more letters in them.
2. Use each of the letters in the wheel only once in each word.
3. Always include the letter in the middle of the wheel in your words.
4. No proper nouns allowed.



Imithetho

1. Yenza amagama anezinhlamvu ezimbili noma ngaphezulu.
2. Sebenzisa uhlamvu ngalunye kwezisesondweni kube kanye kuphela egameni.
3. Njalo nje faka uhlamvu oluphakathi nesondo emagameni akho.
4. Amabizoqho awavumelekile.



Answers: 1. 12 2. magazine; Examples: man, mane, name, game, gaze, amen, age, amaze
izimpendulo: 1. 12 2. iphephabhuku; izibonelo: iphepha, uphepha, iphaphu, phuka, ukupha, ukuphepha

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