



Stories are not only for bedtime!

Do you read to your children regularly? Many parents who read to their children do this as part of their children's bedtime routine. They cuddle up to their children and read a story or two before its time for their children to drift off to dreamland. Bedtime stories are an easy way of helping your children to relax at the end of a busy day. The bonus is that while you are reading to your children, you are also developing their understanding of how books and stories work, and so you're making it easier for them to learn to read.

But bedtime is not the only story time available to us! There are plenty of other opportunities for us to weave stories into our children's daily lives. Arabella Koopman, from Nal'ibali, shares two examples from her own life.

“As a young child, I was an extremely slow eater. At supper time, everyone else would have finished their meal, but I would only be about half-way through mine! My parents used to nag me to eat, but it didn't really make any difference.

Then one day, my father invented a character called Timothy Topkin and made up stories about him as a way of getting me to eat quicker! This is how it worked: while I kept eating, the latest adventure featuring Timothy and his friends continued. As soon as I stopped eating, the story would stop too. I loved Timothy Topkin and so I kept eating steadily. Problem solved!

Then later in life when I was a parent, I had a toddler who refused to get out of the bath – she always wanted to play in the water some more! Bath time would always end in tears, so I was looking for a way to change this. Stories came to my rescue! Every bath time, after my daughter had played in the water for a while, I would tell her it was story time. I would start reading her a storybook until I got about halfway through and then she would have to get out of the bath for the story to continue. She always did this happily and every evening we completed the story with her sitting on my lap wrapped in a towel.”

Whether you use stories as a way of relaxing your children, or to get them to do something they don't really want to do, or to pass the time while you wait for an appointment, your children are learning that reading and listening to stories feels good. And it is this that helps to make them lifelong readers. So, go on, share stories anywhere and any time!

Stories is nie net vir slaaptyd nie!

Lees jy gereeld vir jou kinders? Baie ouers wat vir hulle kinders lees, doen dit as deel van hulle kinders se slaaptidroetine. Hulle nestel teen hul kinders aan en lees 'n storie of twee voor dit tyd is vir die kinders om weg te dryf droomland toe. Slaaptystories is 'n maklike manier om kinders te help om ná 'n besige dag te ontspan. Die bonus is dat terwyl jy vir jou kinders lees, jy ook hul begrip van hoe boeke en stories werk ontwikkel, en daarom maak jy dit vir hulle makliker om te leer lees.

Maar slaaptyd is nie die enigste tyd vir stories nie! Daar is talle ander geleenthede vir ons om stories in ons kinders se daaglikse lewens in te weef. Arabella Koopman van Nal'ibali deel twee voorbeelde uit haar eie lewe.

“As jong kind het ek baie stadig geëet. Met aandete sou almal al klaar geëet wees, en ek sou maar nog net halfpad wees! My ouers het my aangepor om te eet, maar dit het nie regtig enige verskil gemaak nie.

Op 'n dag het my pa toe 'n karakter met die naam Timothy Topkin geskep, en stories oor hom opgemaak as 'n manier om my vinniger te laat eet! Dis hoe dit gewerk het: terwyl ek geëet het, het die jongste avontuur van Timothy en sy vriende afgespeel. Maar sodra ek ophou eet het, sou die storie ook ophou. Ek was dol oor Timothy Topkin en het dus bly eet. Probleem opgelos!

Later in my lewe, toe ek self 'n ouer was, het ek 'n kleuter gehad wat geweier het om uit die bad te klim – sy wou altyd nog 'n rukkie langer in die water speel! Badtyd het altyd in tranes geëindig, en ek het na 'n manier gesoek om dit te verander. Stories het tot my redding gekom! Elke aand met badtyd, nadat my dogter 'n ruk lank in die water gespeel het, het ek vir haar gesê dit is storietyd. Ek sou vir haar 'n storie begin lees totdat ek omtrent halfpad met die storie was, en dan moes sy uit die bad klim voordat ek verder sou lees. Sy was maar te gretig om dit te doen en ons het elke aand die storie klaar gelees terwyl sy toegedraai in 'n handdoek op my skoot sit.”

Of jy nou stories as 'n manier gebruik om jou kinders te laat ontspan, of om hulle iets te laat doen wat hulle regtig nie wil doen nie, of om die tyd om te kry terwyl jy vir 'n afspraak wag, jou kinders leer dat lees en luister na stories goed voel. En dit maak van hulle lewenslange lesers. So hou aan om stories enige tyd en enige plek te deel!



Drive your imagination

Story Power.
Bring it home.
Bring dit huis toe.

Nal'ibali
It starts with a story...

Story stars

The pavement bookworm

Philani Dladla grew up with big dreams in a small town in KwaZulu-Natal. Today he is known all over the world. Philani spoke to Nal'ibali about his passion for sharing the power of reading and told us how books have shaped his life.

What was the first book you owned?

It was a book about politics. It was written in English and meant for adults, so it was difficult for me to read because I spoke Zulu as my home language, and I was only 12 years old! But I loved it. It was given to me by the old man my mother worked for.

How did reading save your life?

Later on, I moved to Johannesburg to work. Things were going well for me, but then everything changed. I took drugs to fit in with my new friends and became addicted. In a short time, I lost everything I had worked for and was living on the streets. There I saw horrible things happen to the people around me, and it made me realise that my addiction would kill me. I decided I needed to save myself. I chose not to keep any money I got so that I couldn't buy drugs. Anything I got, I immediately spent on food ... and books. I read self-help books to deal with my addiction, but I also read novels and biographies.

How did you use books to earn money?

I started reviewing the books I read. Then I would stand along a busy road in Johannesburg and give my reviews to the motorists who passed by. If they liked the review, then they would buy the book from me. That is how I became known as "the pavement bookworm".

What happened next?

One day, a filmmaker interviewed me. He posted the video on the Internet and it went viral. It changed my life. Now people ask me to give talks about reading and books. I have become friends with authors, journalists and professors around the world.

Tell us about your reading club.

I run a reading club close to where I live. It is called Book Readers' Club. Children from the area come here to get together and enjoy sharing books and stories.

Why is reading important?

Reading is a weapon to fight social challenges. If you read, you think.



Philani Dladla

You can find out more about Philani on his website www.pavementbookworm.co.za.

Jy kan meer oor Philani uitvind op sy webwerf www.pavementbookworm.co.za.

Storiesterre

Die sypaadjie-boekwurm

Philani Dladla het met groot drome in 'n klein dorpie in KwaZulu-Natal grootgeword. Vandag is hy oor die hele wêreld bekend. Philani het met Nal'ibali gesels oor sy passie om die bemagtigende uitwerking van lees met ander te deel en het vir ons vertel hoe boeke sy lewe gevorm het.

Wat is die eerste boek wat jy besit het?

Dit was 'n boek oor politiek. Dit is in Engels geskryf en vir volwassenes bedoel, en daarom was dit moeilik vir my om te lees, want ek het Zulu gepraat en ek was net 12 jaar oud! Maar ek was dol daaroor. Die ou man vir wie my ma gewerk het, het dit vir my gegee.

Hoe het lees jou lewe gered?

Ek het later Johannesburg toe getrek om te gaan werk. Dinge het goed gegaan, maar toe het alles verander. Ek het begin dwelms gebruik om in te pas by my nuwe vriende, en ek het verslaaf geraak. In 'n baie kort tyd het ek alles verloor waarvoor ek gewerk het, en ek het op die strate geleef. Daar het ek gesien hoe verskriklike goed met die mense om my gebeur, en dit het my laat besef dat my verslawing my sou doodmaak. Ek het besluit ek moet myself red. Ek het gekies om nie enige geld wat ek gekry het te hou nie, sodat ek nie dwelms kon koop nie. Enigiets wat ek gekry het, het ek onmiddellik op kos ... en boeke uitgegee. Ek het selfhelpboeke gelees om my met my verslawing te help, maar ek het ook romans en biografieë gelees.

Hoe het jy boeke gebruik om geld te verdien?

Ek het begin om die boeke wat ek gelees het te resenseer. Dan sou ek langs 'n besige straat in Johannesburg staan en my resensies vir die motoriste gee wat verby ry. As hulle van die resensie gehou het, sou hulle die boek by my koop. Dit is hoe ek bekend geword het as die "sypaadjie-boekwurm".

Wat het volgende gebeur?

Op 'n dag het 'n filmmaker 'n onderhoud met my gevoer. Hy het die video op die internet geplaas en dit het soos 'n veldbrand versprei. Dit het my lewe verander. Nou vra mense my om praatjies oor lees en boeke te kom gee. Ek het vriende gemaak met skrywers, joernaliste en professors oor die hele wêreld.

Vertel ons van jou leesklub.

Ek bestuur 'n leesklub naby my woonplek. Dit staan bekend as die Book Readers' Club. Kinders uit die area kom hierheen om boeke en stories te geniet en te deel.

Waarom is lees belangrik?

Lees is 'n wapen waarmee sosiale uitdagings beveg kan word. As jy lees, dink jy.

NAL'IBALI ON RADIO!

Enjoy listening to stories in Afrikaans and in English on Nal'ibali's radio show: RSG on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7.10 p.m. to 7.20 p.m. SAfm on Monday to Wednesday from 1.50 p.m. to 2.00 p.m.



NAL'IBALI OP DIE RADIO!

Geniet dit om in Afrikaans en Engels op Nal'ibali se radioprogram na stories te luister: RSG op Maandag, Woensdag en Vrydag vanaf 7.10 nm. tot 7.20 nm. SAfm op Maandag tot Woensdag vanaf 1.50 nm. tot 2.00 nm.



Drive your imagination



Get story active!

Here are some ideas for using the stories in this supplement. Choose the ones that best suit your children's ages and interests.

Nina and the funky experiment

This story is an extract from a South African children's novel. It is about something unexpected that happens one morning in Nina's home! Children from about 8 years old are most likely to enjoy the story, but younger children will enjoy doing the experiments below with them!

- ✿ Encourage your children to experiment with turning this story extract into a comic. Try to find examples of comic books and/or cartoons in newspapers and look at them together. Let your children draw their own pictures, use speech bubbles and a few introductory sentences to create their own comic!
- ✿ Suggest that your children continue the story after Tiaan has eaten baking soda instead of sugar on his cereal. What happens to him? What happens with Nina's experiment?
- ✿ Let your children try using baking soda (just like Nina planned to) in these simple experiments. They can be a bit messy so you might want to do them outside!
 - ★ Bubble over: Put some baking soda in the bottom of a tall container, like a plastic cup or glass. Slowly pour in some vinegar and watch how the mixture bubbles over the top!
 - ★ Fizzy ice: Fill an ice cube tray with vinegar and food colouring and put this in the freezer. When they are frozen, pop the ice cubes out onto a plate. Use a teaspoon to put some baking soda on top of each cube and then put a teaspoon of vinegar on top of that. Watch how the cubes fizz!



Dancing star

Dancing star is a story about a young boy who discovers his talent for dancing. It is best suited to children aged 3 to 8.

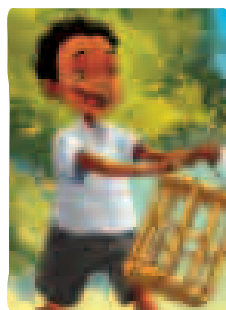
- ✿ As you read the story together, talk about some of these things.
 - ★ **Pages 2 and 3:** What do you think of the way the other children behaved towards Thando? What would you have done if you had been there?
 - ★ **Page 6:** How do you think the children at the dance class feel? How can you tell?
 - ★ **Pages 14 and 15:** How do you think Thando feels now? How can you tell? Do you think he enjoys dancing?
- ✿ After you have finished the story, ask your children: Which do you like best: running races or dancing? What other things do you enjoy doing? What are you good at?
- ✿ If you have access to the Internet, you and your children can watch videos of people doing the salsa, rumba and jive dances. Then, why not put on some music and try out some of the dance moves you saw?
- ✿ Encourage your children to draw a pictures of themselves doing something that they are good at. Suggest that they write something to go with their pictures.
- ✿ If you are using this story at a reading club, invite the children to act out the story.



Sunshine

This story is about Melisizwe, the canary he loved so much and the lesson she teaches him. Enjoy reading it aloud or retelling it, then discuss some of these questions with your children.

- ✿ What do you think Melisizwe learnt in the story?
- ✿ Why do you think he took the bird back to the forest? Would you have done that? Why or why not?
- ✿ Why do you think Melisizwe's mother did not tell him to set the bird free? What do you think of what she did instead?
- ✿ Do you think the canary loved Melisizwe? How do you know this?
- ✿ Do you think it is fair to keep birds in cages? Why or why not?



Raak doenig met stories!

Hier volg 'n paar idees om die stories in hierdie bylae te gebruik. Kies dié wat die beste by jou kinders se ouderdomme en belangstellings pas.



Nina en die funky eksperiment

Hierdie storie is 'n uittreksel uit 'n Suid-Afrikaanse storie vir kinders. Dit gaan oor iets onverwags wat een oggend in Nina se huis gebeur! Kinders van sowat 8 jaar en ouer sal waarskynlik die storie geniet, maar jonger kinders sal dit geniet om die eksperimente hieronder saam met hulle te doen!

- ✿ Moedig jou kinders aan om te eksperimenteer om hierdie storie in 'n strokiesprent te omskep. Probeer voorbeelde vind van strokiesprentboeke en/of spotprente in koerante en kyk saam daarna. Laat jou kinders hulle eie prente, praatborrels en 'n paar inleidende sinne skryf om hul eie strokiesprent te skep!
- ✿ Stel voor dat jou kinders die storie verder vertel nadat Tiaan die koeksoda in plaas van suiker oor sy pap gestrooi het. Wat gebeur met hom? Wat gebeur met Nina se eksperiment?
- ✿ Laat jou kinders probeer om koeksoda in hierdie eenvoudige eksperimente te gebruik (net soos wat Nina beplan het om te doen). Dit kan effens morsig raak, so dis beter as hulle dit buite doen!
 - ★ Borrel en bruis: Plaas 'n bietjie koeksoda onder in 'n diep houer, soos 'n plastiekbeker of glas. Giet stadig 'n bietjie asyn oor en kyk hoe die mengsel oor die rand borrel!
 - ★ Bruis-ys: Maak 'n ysblokkiehouer vol asyn wat met voedselkleursel gekleur is en sit dit in die vrieskas. Wanneer dit gevries het, keer die ysblokkies op 'n bord uit. Skep 'n bietjie koeksoda met 'n teelepel bo-op elke ysblokkie en skep dan 'n teelepel asyn bo-oor. Kyk hoe die ysblokkies bruis!

Dansster

Dansster is 'n storie oor 'n jong seun wat sy talent vir dans ontdek. Dit is die geskikste vir kinders van 3 tot 8 jaar.

- ✿ Terwyl julle die storie saam lees, praat oor van die volgende dinge.
 - ★ **Bladsye 2 en 3:** Wat dink julle van die manier waarop die ander kinders teenoor Thando opgetree het? Wat sou julle gedoen het as julle daar was?
 - ★ **Bladsy 6:** Hoe dink julle het die kinders by die dansklas gevoel? Hoe weet julle dit?
 - ★ **Bladsye 14 en 15:** Hoe dink julle voel Thando nou? Hoe weet julle dit? Dink julle hy geniet dit om te dans?
- ✿ Nadat julle die storie klaar gelees het, vra vir jou kinders: Waarvan hou julle die meeste: om resies te hardloop of te dans? Watter ander dinge geniet julle om te doen? Wat doen julle die beste?
- ✿ Indien jy toegang tot die internet het, kan jy en jou kinders na video's van mense kyk wat die salsa, rumba en jive-danse doen. Speel dan vrolike musiek en doen van die danspassies wat julle gesien het!
- ✿ Moedig jou kinders aan om prente van hulself te teken waar hulle besig is om iets te doen waarmee hulle goed is. Stel voor dat hulle iets skryf om by hulle prente te pas.
- ✿ Indien jy hierdie storie by jou leesklub gebruik, nooi die kinders uit om die storie op te voer.

Sonskyn

Hierdie storie gaan oor Melisizwe, die kanarie waarvoor hy so lief is en die les wat sy hom leer. Geniet dit om dit hardop te lees of oor te vertel en bespreek dan van hierdie vrae met jou kinders.

- ✿ Wat dink jy het Melisizwe in die storie geleer?
- ✿ Waarom dink jy het hy die voëltjie teruggeneem na die bos? Sou jy dit gedoen het? Hoekom of hoekom nie?
- ✿ Waarom dink jy het Melisizwe se ma nie vir hom gesê om die voëltjie vry te laat nie? Wat dink jy van wat sy eerder gedoen het?
- ✿ Dink jy die kanarie was lief vir Melisizwe? Hoe weet jy dit?
- ✿ Dink jy dit is regverdig om voëls in hokkies aan te hou? Waarom of waarom nie?



Did you know that there is a Nal'ibali app on Mxit?
You can find stories on the app to read to your children, as well as ask us questions about reading, writing and storytelling. Below are some of the questions that people have already sent us through this app – as well as our advice to them.

Het jy geweet daar is 'n Nal'ibali-toep op Mxit?
Jy kan stories op die toep kry om vir jou kinders te lees, en jy kan ook vir ons vrae vra oor lees, skryf en die vertel van stories. Het jy al op die Nal'ibali-toep op Mxit ingeteken? Hieronder is van die vrae wat mense vir ons deur hierdie toep gestuur het – en ons advies aan hulle.

Here's how to sign up for the Nal'ibali reading-for-enjoyment app:

- Download Mxit on your cellphone by going to m.mxit.com.
- Go to **Apps**, then **Search** and then **Nalibali**.

So teken jy in vir die Nal'ibali-lees-vir-genot toep:

- Laai Mxit op jou selfoon af deur te gaan na m.mxit.com.
- Gaan na **Apps**, dan **Search** en dan **Nalibali**.

**Dear Nal'ibali...
Beste Nal'ibali...**

**Write to Nal'ibali at
PRAESA, Suite 17-201, Building 17,
Waverley Business Park, Wyecroft
Road, Mowbray, 7700, or at
letters@nalibali.org.**

**Skryf aan Nal'ibali by
PRAESA, Suite 17-201, Gebou 17,
Waverley-besigheidspark, Wyecroft-weg,
Mowbray, 7700, of stuur 'n e-pos
aan letters@nalibali.org.**

I have a 9-year-old girl who is in Grade R. She doesn't like writing and I don't know what to do.

When children experience the power of stories in books, and they have something that they want to communicate, they develop an interest in writing. Encourage your child by reading to her regularly for at least 15 minutes a day. Leave writing materials within reach at home so that she can write down a list of things she may want you to buy for her, or so that she can write a note to you when she wants to tell you something. Remember to also be a writing role model for her – she needs to see you writing to realise that it is valuable!

What words should a Grade 6 child be able to read?

Children's reading abilities differ quite a lot, so it's not really possible to say what words all Grade 6 children should be able to read. As long as your child understands what he/she is reading, enjoys reading and reads regularly, his/her reading will improve over time. Encourage your child by reading to him/her every day.

What can I do to help my son memorise the letters of the alphabet?

The main way that children learn to memorise letters is by using them. Try writing out the alphabet with him. Then point to each letter, and say its name and the sound it makes. Help your son to understand that letters make up words by drawing his attention to different letters in signs and other words in your environment. Also, when you read stories to him, point out letters that might have special importance for him. For example, the letter that his name starts with – you could say, "Oh look, **fox** has got the letter **x** in it, just like the **x** in your name, **Xola**."

Ek het 'n 9-jarige dogter wat in Graad R is. Sy hou nie daarvan om te skryf nie en ek weet nie wat om te doen nie.

Wanneer kinders die krag van stories in boeke ervaar, en hulle het iets wat hulle wil kommunikeer, ontwikkel hulle 'n belangstelling in skryf. Moedig jou kind aan deur elke dag vir minstens 15 minute vir haar te lees. Laat skryfmateriaal binne bereik by die huis sodat sy 'n lys dinge kan neerskryf wat sy dalk wil hê jy vir haar moet koop, of sodat sy vir jou 'n nota kan skryf wanneer sy vir jou iets wil vertel. Onthou ook om 'n skryfrolmodel vir haar te wees – sy moet jou sien skryf om te besef dat dit waarde het!

Watter woorde behoort 'n Graad 6-kind te kan lees?

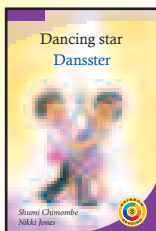
Kinders se leesvermoëns verskil baie van kind tot kind, en dit is dus nie regtig moontlik om te sê watter woorde alle Graad 6-kinders behoort te kan lees nie. Solank jou kind verstaan wat hy/sy lees, dit geniet om te lees en gereeld lees, sal hy/sy mettertyd beter lees. Moedig jou kind aan deur elke dag vir hom/haar te lees.

Wat kan ek doen om my seun te help om die letters van die alfabet te memoriseer?

Die beste manier waarop kinders leer om letters te memoriseer, is om hulle te gebruik. Probeer die alfabet saam met hom uitskryf. Wys dan na elke letter, en sê die naam en die klank wat dit maak. Help jou seun om te verstaan dat letters woorde vorm deur sy aandag op verskillende letters op tekens en ander woorde in jou omgewing te vestig. Wanneer jy vir hom stories lees, kan jy ook letters uitwys wat spesiale betekenis vir hom mag hê. Byvoorbeeld, die letter waarmee sy naam begin – jy kan sê: "O, kyk, **tand** begin met die letter **t**, net soos die **t** in jou naam, **Thando**."

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

1. Take out pages 5 to 12 of this supplement.
2. Keep the sheet with pages 5, 6, 11 and 12 separate from the sheet with pages 7, 8, 9 and 10.
3. Use each of the sheets to make a book. Follow the instructions below to make each book.
 - a) Fold each 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.

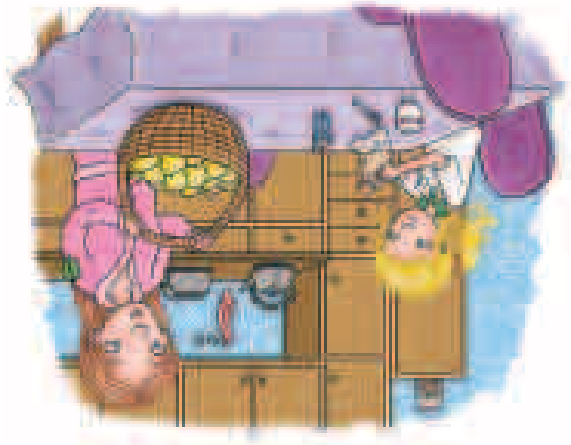


Maak **TWEE** knip-uit-en-bêreboekies!

1. Haal bladsye 5 tot 12 van hierdie bylae uit.
2. Hou die vel papier met bladsye 5, 6, 11 en 12 apart van die vel met bladsye 7, 8, 9 en 10.
3. Gebruik elk van die velle om 'n boek te maak. Volg die instruksies hieronder om elke boek te maak.
 - a) Vou elke vel in die helfte op die swart stippellyn.
 - b) Vou dit weer in die helfte op die groen stippellyn.
 - c) Knip uit op die rooi stippellyne.

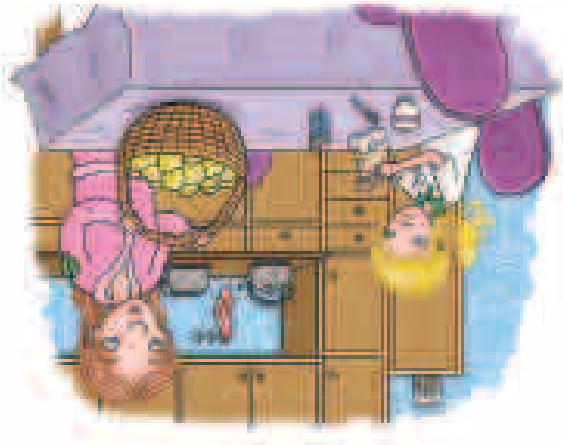


Drive your
imagination



Haar ma kom by die agterdeur ingestap met 'n mandjie in haar hand. Daar sit 'n blaar aan haar kamerjas vas. "Die suurlemoenboom dra laat vanjaar. Kyk net die hoop wat ek nou net gepluk het, en dis al lente." Sy sit die mandjie op die tafel neer. "Later kan ons weer suurlemoenstroop hiervan maak, julle het al weer alles opgedrink wat ek nou die dag gemaak het. Tiaan!" roep sy. "Toe nou, jy moet klaarmaak!"

Haar moegheid heeltemal vergeet, trek sy haar skoolklere aan en draf kombuis toe. Eers neem sy die wit suikerbakkie wat op die tafel staan en gooi die inhoud in 'n sakkie. Daarna krap sy in die kombuiskas en haal 'n blou boksie uit. Natriumbikarbonaat, staan in dik swart letters op die voorkant. En onderaan, in fyn skrif: Koeksoda.



Her mother came in the back door carrying a basket. There was a leaf stuck to her nightgown. "The lemon tree is bearing fruit late this year. Look at how many lemons I've just picked, and it is already spring." She put the basket on the table. "Later we can make some more lemon syrup, seeing as you finished all the syrup I made the other day. Tiaan!" she called. "Hurry up and get ready!"

Now wide awake, she put on her school uniform and made her way to the kitchen. First she took the white sugar bowl from the table and tipped the sugar into a little bag. Then she rummaged through the kitchen cupboard and took out a blue box. Sodium Bicarbonate, it said in big black letters on the front of the box. And at the bottom, in smaller print: Baking Soda.

WINNERS of ATKV Children's Book Awards in 2013 and 2015

The resourceful BFFs Nina and Jessie are back.

In *Nina en die wacky hare* they exposed the horrible teacher Miss Morkel as the mastermind behind the lice infestation at Tierkop Primary.

In *Nina en die funky eksperiment* there is another mystery that needs solving. What's wrong with the so-called "energy drink" of which a TV ad is being filmed at their athletics competition?

Buy these books
to find out why Grade 4-5 learners chose them
as their favourite books in the
ATKV Awards!



Tafelberg

Nal'ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark children's potential through storytelling and reading. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi

Nalibali
It starts with a story...

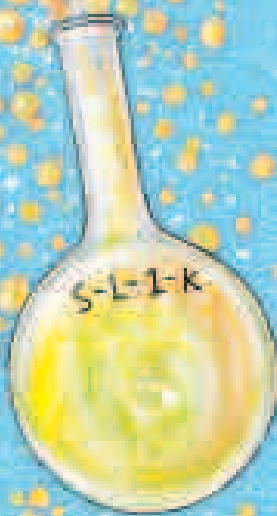
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Nina and the funky experiment

Nina en die funky eksperiment

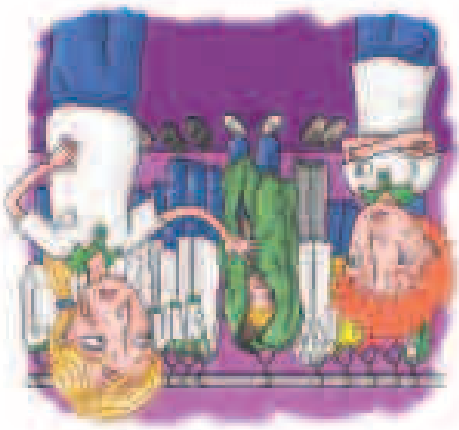


Elizbè van der Colff
Chris Venter

Skielik tref dit haar: die eksperimente-uitsaaiing!
Dis vandag! Dis hoekom sy haar alarm 'n bietjie
vroëter gestel het, sodat sy genoeg tyd kan hê om
alles bymekaar te sit wat sy gaan nodig hê vir
hul eksperiment.

Vaak-vaak gryp sy haar selfoon en druk die alarm dood.

Nina was dankbaar dat haar wegkruipplek nie ontdek
is nie, maar net voor Mirkia en Danie die stookkamer
in die stookkamer. Sy het geweet sy gaan nie. Gelukkig
het Mirkia die stoordeur toegesluit die oomblik
toe Nina genies het. Anders was hierdie nie net 'n
nagmerrie nie ...



“Mincemeat, that’s what I’m going to make of you! Mincemeat!” shouted Mirkia. Her eyes flashed. She towered over Nina like a giant. Where Mirkia’s nose should have been, there was now only a huge, yellow pimple! Nina tried to run away, but tripped over her own feet. Mirkia and her brother came closer. With their long arms, they tried to grab hold of Nina.

“Mincemeat, mincemeat!” Nina heard them say as she stumbled away. All around her were children holding yellow cooldrink bottles. They pointed and laughed at her as they drank their cooldrink. Nina wanted to stop them, but she couldn’t get a word out.

“Smile, Nina! I want to take a photo of you!” It was Jessie. Jessie jumped in front of Nina pointing her cellphone at Nina. *Click-click!* Jessie took a photo just before she too drank a huge gulp of her cooldrink.

“Out of my way, Jessie! They are trying to catch me!” Nina tried to shout, but not a word came out of her mouth.

“Yes, Mom!” Nina heard her brother, Tiaan, shouting from his room. Moments later he shuffled into the kitchen, still in his pyjamas. His eyes were only half open and he still looked half asleep. Nina started to potter again, but the next moment someone bumped into her back. The box of baking soda fell on the floor and a fine layer of white powder spread across the tiles.

“Tiaan, look at what you’ve done!” she said angrily. “Duh! When you wake up, you are supposed to *open* your eyes!” Nina used her hands to try to clean up the mess.

“Sorry,” mumbled Tiaan as he sat down at the table. “Come on, Tiaan, go and fetch the dustpan and broom and help your sister clean up,” said their mom. She picked up the box and looked inside. “Don’t worry, Nina, it looks like there is still enough left for your experiment.”

“Thank goodness!”

Nina swept up the baking soda and took the dustpan to the bin.

Nina gaan vanaand bietjie later terugkom ná ons oefening, ek moet nog ’n draai gaan maak by W & Z Beperk. Julle moet maar solank eet ...”

Nina doop haar beskuit in haar tee. Sy byt ’n stuk af terwyl sy Tiaan ingedagte dophou. Sy wonder wat haar pa by W & Z Beperk moet gaan maak. Tiaan gooi melk oor sy pap. Oudergewoonte skep hy drie groot lepels uit die wit suikerbakkie en strooi dit bo-oor. Hy neem ’n groot hap.

“Ugh!” proes hy. Spatsels nat pap beland oral op die tafel. Hy spoeg die res van die pap uit.

Nina bars uit van die lag. “Jy’t koeksoda in plaas van suiker oor jou pap gegooi. Lyk my jy slaap nog steeds, want ek het dit netnou voor jou oë in die suikerpot gegooi!”

Tiaan antwoord nie en vryf net sy tong met sy vingers. “*Gross!*”

Elke week daarna gaan Thando na die dansklas toe. Hy maak nuwe mads wat ook van dans hou.



Every week after that, Thando went to dance class. He made new friends who also liked dancing.

Thando luister na die musiek. Hy volg die passies: stadig, stadig, winnig, winnig.



Thando listened to the music. He followed the steps: slow, slow, quick, quick.

Dancing star is from the Rainbow Reading series by Cambridge University Press. Rainbow Reading is a graded series for primary schools. It provides a wealth of original stories and factual texts, which will help learners to develop the reading skills and vocabulary they need to meet the requirements of the curriculum – in all learning areas. Rainbow Reading consists of 350 titles which are grouped by level and theme. For further information, visit www.cup.co.za

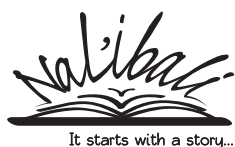


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Drive your
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CAMBRIDGE

Dancing star Dansster



Shumi Chimombe
Nikki Jones



Hulle leer om verskillende danse te doen.
Hulle leer die salsa, die rumba en die jive.



They learnt to do different dances. They
learnt the salsa, the rumba and the jive.



Thando doesn't like sports. He can't run fast.
Every sports day he comes last and the other
children laugh at him.
"Slow coach! Your legs are too short!" they shout.

Op 'n dag sê juffrou Dana vir Thando: "Jy
is 'n baie goeie danser. Ek wil hê jy moet
in die skoolkonsert dans."



One day Miss Dana said to Thando, "You are
a very good dancer. I want you to dance at
the school concert."



Toe hoor hy die musiek. Hy begin beweeg: stadig, stadig,
vinnig, vinnig. Hy draai al in die rondte saam met sy maat.
Die gehoor klap hande.
Thando mag miskien nie vinnig kan hardloop nie, maar
hy dans soos 'n ster!

Thando moet elke dag oefen om selfs nog beter te dans: stadig, stadig, vinnig, vinnig.



Thando had to practise every day to dance even better: slow, slow, quick, quick.



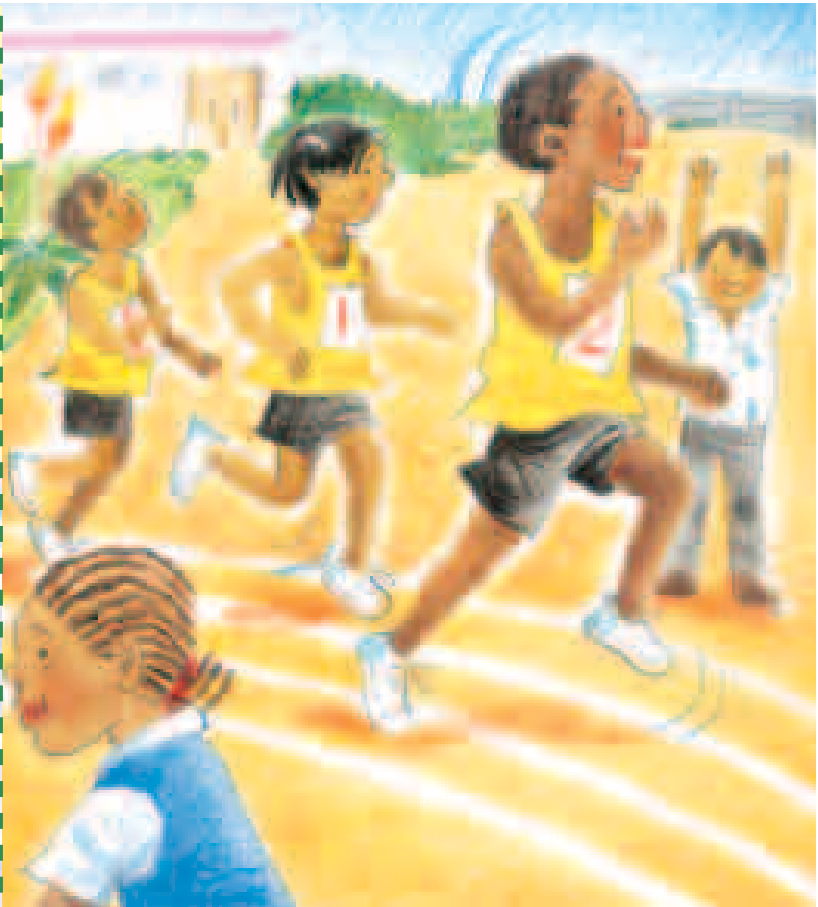
Then he heard the music. He began to move: slow, slow, quick, quick. Round and round he spun with his partner. The audience cheered.

Thando might not be able to run fast, but he dances like a star!

Die volgende dag na skool gaan Thando na die dansklas toe. Daar is baie kinders. Seuns en meisies. Groot en klein. Lank en kort.



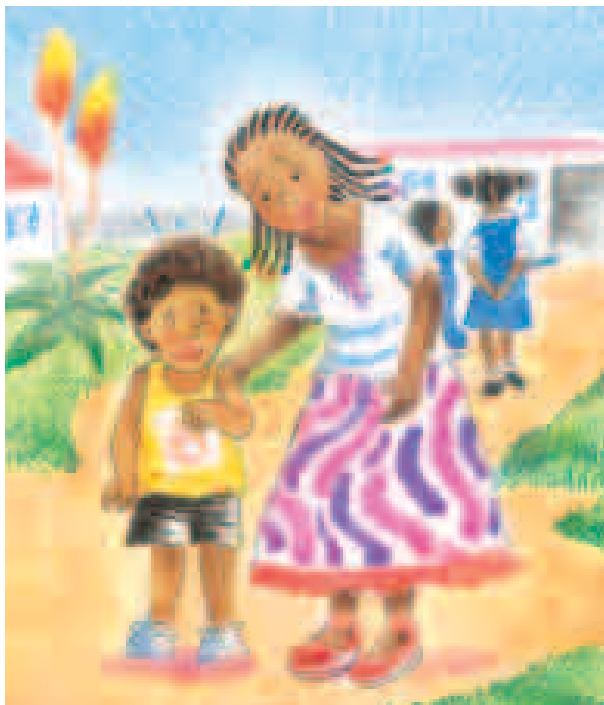
The next day after school, Thando went to dance class. There were lots of children there. Boys and girls. Big and small. Tall and short.



Thando hou nie van sport nie. Hy kan nie vinnig hardloop nie. Hy kom elke sportdag laaste en dan lag die ander kinders vir hom.

“Skilpad! Jou bene is te kort!” skree hulle.

“Because I always come last. I am not good at anything,” he said.
“Don’t cry,” said Miss Dana. “Come to my dance class tomorrow. Maybe you can dance!”
“Omdat ek altyd laaste kom. Ek is nie goed met enigiets nie,” sê hy.
“Moenie huil nie,” sê juffrou Dana. “Kom môre na my dansklas toe. Dalk kan jy dans!”



One day after a race, Thando began to cry.
Miss Dana, the dance teacher, saw him.
“Thando, why are you crying?” she asked.

Eendag na ‘n wedloop, begin Thando huil.
Juffrou Dana, die dansonderwyser, sien hom.
“Hoekom huil jy, Thando?” vra sy.

He danced at home. He danced in the street. He danced everywhere!
Hy dans by die huis. Hy dans in die straat. Hy dans orais!



Soon it was time for the school concert. First the dancers lined up at the front of the stage. Thando felt VERY nervous!

Gou is dit tyd vir die skoolkonsert. Eers staan die dansers in ‘n ry voor op die verhoog. Thando voel BAIE senuweeagtig!

“Ja, Ma!” hoor sy haar broer, Tiaan, uit sy kamer roep. Oomblikke later kom hy by die kombuis ingeslof, steeds in sy pajamas. Sy oë is net halfmas oop en hy lyk nog baie deur die slaap. Nina begin weer weskaf, maar die volgende oomblik kry sy ’n stamp teen haar rug. Die boksie koeksoda beland op die vloer en die wit poeier lê in ’n fyn laag oor die teëls gestrooi.

“Tiaan, kyk wat het jy nou gedoen!” gil sy vies. “Duh! As jy opstaan, is jy veronderstel om jou oë oop te maak!” Vervard begin sy die poeier met haar hande bymekaarvee.

“Skuus, man,” mompel hy en gaan sit by die tafel. “Toe-toe, Tiaan, gaan haal die skoppie en handbessens en help jou suster,” raas hul ma. Sy tel die boksie van die vloer af op en loer daarin. “Toemaar, Nina, dit lyk asof hier darem nog genoeg oor is vir julle eksperiment.”

“Gelukkig tog!”

Nina vee die poeier op en stap met die skoppie na die vuilgoedddrom.

her mom out of the room. Nina heard him say to her mom, “Nina and I will be home a bit late after practice tonight, I have to stop at W & Z Limited. You had better eat in the meantime ...”

Nina dipped her rusk in her tea. She took a bite while staring absently at Tiaan. She wondered what her dad needed to do at W & Z Limited. Tiaan poured milk over his cereal. As always he scooped three heaped spoons of sugar from the white sugar bowl and poured it over his cereal. He took a big bite.

“Ugh!” he gagged. Bits of wet cereal landed all over the table. He spat out the rest of the mouthful.

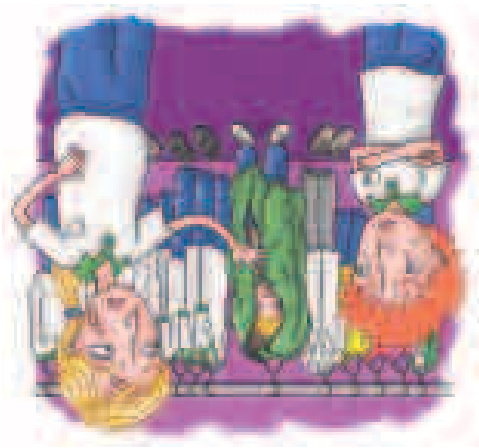
Nina burst out laughing. “You put baking soda instead of sugar over your cereal. Looks like you ARE still half asleep because I poured the baking soda into the sugar bowl right in front of you only moments ago!”

Tiaan didn’t answer, but rubbed his fingers over his tongue. “Gross!”

Thankfully Nina’s hiding place had not been discovered, but just before Mirkia and Dannie could leave, Nina’s nose began to tickle from all the dust in the storage room. She knew she was going to sneeze. Luckily Mirkia had slammed the door to the storage room shut just as Nina sneezed. Or else this would not be only a nightmare ...

Still very sleepy, Nina reached for her cellphone and switched off the alarm.

Suddenly she remembered: the experiment display! It’s today! That’s why she had set her alarm to go off a bit earlier, so that she’d have enough time to put together all the things they needed for their experiment.



“Maalvleis, dis wat ek van jou gaan maak! Maalvleis!” gil Mirkia. Haar oë blits. Sy troon reusagtig bo Nina uit. Waar Mirkia se neus moet wees, is daar nou net een groot, geel puisie! Nina probeer weghardloop, maar val lomp oor haar eie voete. Mirkia en haar broer kom nader. Met hulle lang arms gryp-gryp hulle na Nina.

“Maalvleis, maalvleis!” Nina strompel weg. Oral rondom haar staan kinders met geel koeldrankbottels in hulle hande. Hulle beduie na haar en lag haar uit terwyl hulle van die koeldrank drink. Nina wil hulle keer, maar sy kry nie ’n woord uit nie.

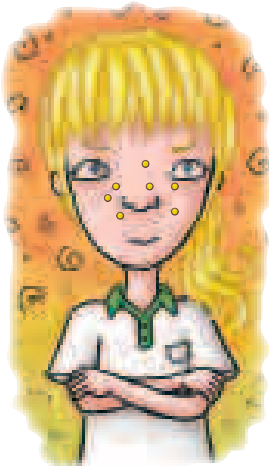
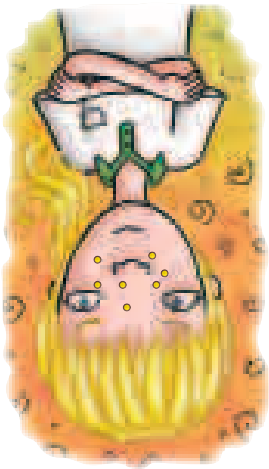
“Glimlag, Nina! Ek wil jou afneem!” Dis Jessie. Jessie spring met haar selfoon voor Nina in. *Biep-biep!* neem sy ’n foto, net voordat sy ook ’n sluk van haar koeldrank neem.

“Gee pad, Jessie! Hulle wil my vang!” probeer Nina sê, maar daar kom geen geluid uit haar mond nie.

Die donker, stowertige stoorkamer is ook die skool se tweedehandse-kleedbank. Nina het 'n nuwe paar tekkies daar gaan soek. Net toe sy weer wou loop, het sy Mirkia en 'n seun met die naam Danie buite die deur hoor praat. Nina het gou agter die klerre weggegruip om 'n konfrontasie met Mirkia te vermy.

Nina skrik natgesweet wakker. 'n Nagmerrie, dis al wat dit was, dink sy verlig. Dis natuurlik as gevolg van haar ervaring gister in die stoorkamer. Nina til toe sy onthou wat die vorige dag gebeur het ...

Jessie gryp Nina aan die arm en wys die foto vir haar. O nee! Haar hele gesig is oortrek met puisties! *Biop-biop!* neem nog kinders foto's. Almal lag haar uit. "Nee, moenie, los my uit!" roep Nina uit. Niemand hoor haar nie. *Biop-biop! Biop-biop!*



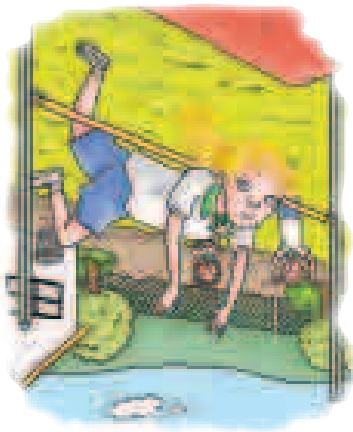
Jessie grabbed Nina by the arm and showed her the photo. Oh no! Her whole face was covered in pimples! *Click-click!* More children took photos. They were all laughing at her.

"No, don't do that, leave me alone!" cried Nina. Nobody heard her.

Click-click! Click-click!

Nina woke up drenched in sweat. A nightmare, that's all it was, she thought relieved. It's because of what happened in the storage room yesterday. Nina got a chill as she remembered what had happened the day before ...

The dark, dusty storage room is also the school's second-hand clothing bank. Nina had gone there to find a new pair of takkies. As she was about to leave, she heard Mirkia and a boy named Danie outside the door. Nina quickly hid behind the rail of clothes because she did not feel up to a confrontation with Mirkia.



Her dad joined them in the kitchen. "Remember, my girl, tonight we are practising high-jump again. Eat well today because you are going to need the energy!" he said. He took a sip of his coffee and playfully pulled her ponytail.

"H'm, the exercise is good for you too, Dirk. Come on, you must all hurry up or else you'll be late," her mom said over her shoulder as she walked out of the room. Her dad grabbed another rusk and followed

"No, wait," said her mom. "Don't throw it away. I want to pour it down the blocked drain along with some vinegar to clean the pipes." Nina picked up the nearest container – the empty sugar bowl on the table. Carefully she poured the baking soda from the dustpan into the sugar bowl. Then she put the sugar bowl back on the table and wiped her hands on a cloth.

"See, nothing was wasted," said Tiaan, sticking his tongue out at Nina while their mom's back was turned. Nina pulled a face at him.

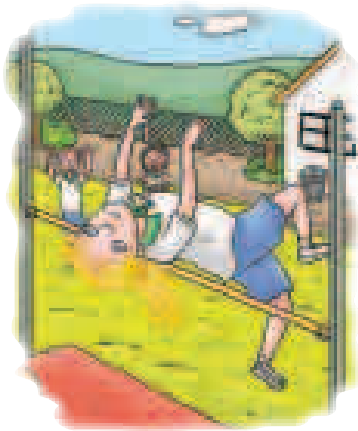
"Nee, wag," keer haar ma. "Moenie dit weggooi nie, ek wil dit sommer later saam met asyn in die verstopte drein afgooi." Nina neem die naaste leë houer – die suikerpot wat nog op die tafel staan. Versigtig gooi sy die koeksoda uit die skoppie in die suikerpot. Die suikerpot sit sy weer op die tafel neer en dan vee sy haar hande aan 'n lappie af.

"Sien, nou's dit darem nie gemors nie," sê Tiaan en steek vir Nina tong uit toe sy ma nie kyk nie. Nina trek skeweбек vir hom.

Haar pa kom nou ook by die vertrek in.

"Onthou, Ounooi, vanaand oefen ons weer hoogspring. Eet maar goed vandag, jy gaan die energie nodig hê!" sê hy. Hy neem 'n slukkie van sy koffie en trek speels aan haar bokstert.

"H'm, die oefening doen jou natuurlik ook goed, Dirk. Toe-toe, julle moet opskud, anders is julle laat," sê haar ma oor haar skouer terwyl sy by die deur uitstap. Haar pa gryp nog 'n stuk beskuit en volg haar. Nina hoor hoe hy in die gang vir haar ma sê: "Ek en



10 tips for sharing books with children aged 9 and older

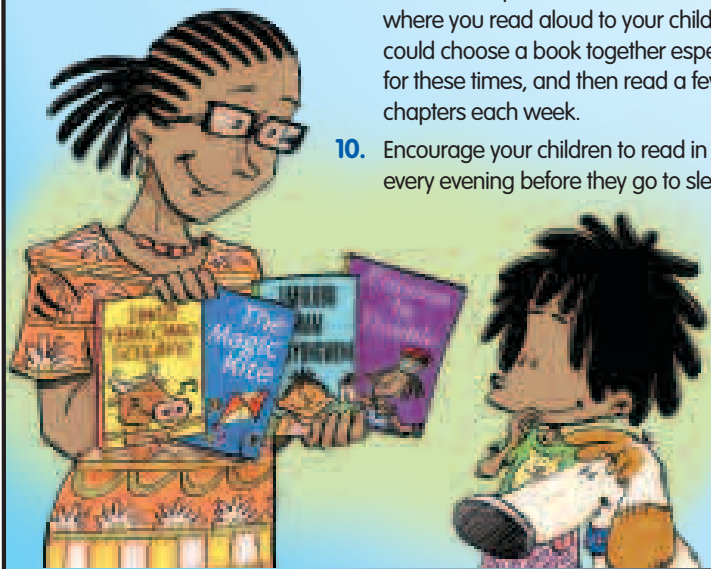
Getting very young children into the habit of reading regularly is sometimes easier than helping them to keep doing this as they get older! As they grow up, it is important to keep encouraging and supporting our children as readers.

Here are some ways in which you can help make reading something your children *choose* to do – rather than something they *have* to do.

1. Let them see that you value reading. So, make time to read yourself, go to the library together and have books in the home.
2. Share reading material that you come across that you think might interest your children, for example, magazine and newspaper articles, poems and websites on the Internet.
3. Make time to discuss what your children are reading. For example, ask them to tell you what happened in the book they have just finished, or ask them what happened in a previous chapter as they settle down to continue reading a book.
4. Let them choose what they want to read, and then encourage and support their choices of books. Deciding what types of books you like to read is part of developing as a reader.
5. Sometimes children enjoyed being introduced to different types of books (like stories about real-life situations, fantasy or biographies) that they haven't tried before. Libraries and book shops are good places to find a variety of books. Visit them together as often as you can.
6. Encourage less-regular readers by buying magazines for them, leaving a newspaper lying around and suggesting they visit websites with interesting content.
7. Ask your friends what their children enjoy reading and suggest these books to your child.
8. Keep reading to your children – even when they are competent independent readers. Choose books that are slightly more advanced than the level at which they are currently reading on their own.

9. Set aside a special time each week where you read aloud to your child. You could choose a book together especially for these times, and then read a few chapters each week.

10. Encourage your children to read in bed every evening before they go to sleep.



10 wenke om boeke met kinders van 9 jaar en ouer te deel

Dit is soms makliker om vir baie jong kinders die gewoonte aan te leer om gereeld te lees, eerder as om hulle te help om dit vol te hou namate hulle ouer word! Namate hulle ouer word, is dit dus belangrik om ons kinders steeds aan te moedig en te ondersteun om lesers te bly.

Hier volg 'n paar maniere waarop jy kan help om lees iets te maak wat jou kinders *kies* om te doen – eerder as iets wat hulle *moet* doen.

1. Laat hulle sien dat jy waarde heg aan lees. Maak dus tyd om self te lees, gaan saam biblioteek toe en sorg dat daar altyd boeke in die huis is.
2. Deel leesmateriaal wat jy teëkom en wat jy dink dalk vir jou kinders interessant sal wees, byvoorbeeld, tydskrif- en koerantartikels, gedigte en webwerwe op die internet.
3. Maak tyd om dit wat jou kinders lees, te bespreek. Vra hulle byvoorbeeld om vir jou te vertel wat in die boek gebeur het wat hulle so pas klaar gelees het, of vra hulle wat in 'n vorige hoofstuk gebeur het wanneer hulle gaan sit om verder in 'n boek te lees.
4. Laat hulle kies wat hulle wil lees, en moedig dan hulle keuse van boeke aan en ondersteun dit. Om te besluit watter soort boeke jy graag lees, is deel van jou ontwikkeling as leser.
5. Soms hou kinders daarvan om bekendgestel te word aan verskillende soorte boeke (soos stories oor ware gebeure, fantasie of biografieë) wat hulle nog nie voorheen probeer het nie. Biblioteke en boekwinkels is goeie plekke waar 'n mens 'n verskeidenheid boeke kan vind. Gaan so dikwels moontlik saam soontoe.
6. Moedig lesers wat nie so gereeld lees nie aan deur vir hulle tydskrifte te koop, 'n koerant te laat rondlê of voor te stel dat hulle webwerwe met interessante inhoud besoek.
7. Vra jou vriende wat hulle kinders graag lees en stel voor dat jou kind ook hierdie boeke lees.
8. Hou aan om vir jou kinders te lees – selfs wanneer hulle goeie, onafhanklike lesers is. Kies boeke wat effens meer gevorderd is as die vlak waarop hulle tans op hul eie lees.
9. Sit elke week 'n spesiale tyd opsy wanneer jy hardop vir jou kind lees. Julle kan saam 'n boek kies spesifiek vir hierdie tye, en dan elke week 'n paar hoofstukke lees.
10. Moedig jou kinders aan om elke aand in die bed te lees voor hulle aan die slaap raak.

DID YOU KNOW?

Does your young child like to:

- ★ dress up in hats, shoes, scarves and belts?
- ★ hide under blankets?
- ★ play under the table?
- ★ hide in different places?
- ★ fill bags with things?
- ★ wrap things in paper and put sticky tape on them?

Did you know that when children do these things, they are exploring the idea of completely covering objects, spaces and themselves? This helps them with Maths later on.



HET JY GEWEET?

Geniet jou kind dit om:

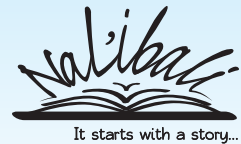
- ★ hoede, skoene, serpe en gordels aan te trek?
- ★ onder komberse weg te kruip?
- ★ onder die tafel te speel?
- ★ op verskillende plekke weg te kruip?
- ★ voorwerpe in sakke te sit?
- ★ goed in papier toe te draai en dan met kleeflint vas te plak?

Het jy geweet wanneer kinders hierdie dinge doen, verken hulle die idee om voorwerpe, ruimtes en hulself heeltemal te bedek? Dit help hulle later met Wiskunde.



Sunshine

By Ann Walton ✨ Illustrations by Johann Strauss



Melisizwe lived in a village on the edge of the Tsitsikama forest. One day, as he was walking home from school, he found a little canary lying on the forest floor. It was flapping its wings, but it could not fly.

"Ah, I think your wing is broken!" said Melisizwe. He picked the canary up very carefully, and carried it home to his mother.

"Look, Mama, I found a bird with a broken wing in the forest," he said.

"No, this bird's wing is not broken," said Mama. "This baby canary has fallen out of her nest. She is too young to fly, and she would have died if you had not found her, Melisizwe."

So Melisizwe and his mother made a bamboo cage, and put the little bird in it on a thick bed of leaves. "When you grow up, your breast will be the warm colour of the sun little bird, so I will call you Sunshine!" said Melisizwe.

Melisizwe fed Sunshine every morning and every evening. He gave her a dish of water, a dish of millet seeds and some sweet, new spinach leaves. The little bird soon grew old enough and strong enough to fly around the cage.

When Melisizwe went to school in the mornings, Sunshine stayed alone in her cage in the hut. When Melisizwe played outside with his friend, Mibono, making clay oxen, Sunshine stayed alone in her cage in the hut. And when Melisizwe practised stick fighting with Vuyo, Sunshine stayed alone in her cage in the hut.

One morning, while Melisizwe was giving the canary fresh water and millet seed, he spoke to the little bird. "Why are you so quiet, Sunshine? I have heard all the canaries singing in the forest. Why don't you sing too?" he asked.

"I cannot sing. My heart is sad," said Sunshine.

Melisizwe was shocked. "Why is your heart sad?" he asked.

"My name is Sunshine, but I never see the sun because I am alone in this cage inside the hut."

"Then I will put your cage outside in the sun!" said Melisizwe. "You are safe in your cage from the snakes and the hawks, and the wild cats. You are safe with me!"

"I am safe here Melisizwe, but my home is in the forest where I can build a warm nest in a tree. My home is with all the other canaries where we can welcome each day with a song. I am alone here in this cage in the hut," said Sunshine. "And I cannot sing."



"You need not be alone! I will find another canary to keep you company, Sunshine," said Melisizwe, and he ran out of the door, so that he would be in time to walk to school with Mibono and Vuyo.

What Melisizwe did not know, is that Mama had heard every word of his conversation with Sunshine.

That afternoon Melisizwe asked, "Mama, may I go out and play with Mibono? We want to make a kraal out of sticks for our clay oxen."

"No," said Mama. "Today you must stay alone in the hut where you will be safe. I am going next door for a while." So Melisizwe had to stay inside alone.

The next day he asked, "Mama, may I go out and play with Vuyo? We want to practise stick fighting."

"No," said Mama. "Today you must stay alone in the hut where you will be safe. I am going to borrow a book from Gogo." So Melisizwe had to stay inside alone.

The next day he begged, "Please, Mama, let me go out and play with Mibono and Vuyo this afternoon."

"No," said Mama. "Today you must stay alone in the hut where you will be safe. I am going to sit outside in the sun with my book now."

"But why can't I go out and play with my friends, Mama? I don't want to be alone in the hut!" cried Melisizwe.

"I know you don't, my son. It is not good to be alone in the hut," said Mama, who was reading her book outside on a chair in the sun. "But I can't talk to you, Melisizwe. I am busy reading now."

Melisizwe sat down quietly on the floor with tears in his eyes. He looked across the room at Sunshine. The little bird looked back at him. Suddenly Melisizwe felt his heart get heavy and sad.

"I am so sorry, Sunshine," he said softly.

The next morning, when he left for school, Melisizwe picked up the cage. His mother smiled and kissed him. "You have a good heart," she said.

When he reached the forest, Melisizwe stopped under a big tree and set the cage down on the ground. Then he opened the cage door.

"You can fly away now, Sunshine. You are free, little bird," he smiled.

Sunshine hopped to the cage door, then spread her wings and flew out of the cage. She flew up onto a branch above Melisizwe and looked down at him. All at once she sang the sweetest song that he had ever heard. Then she flew far up into the tree to all the other canaries.

Melisizwe picked up the empty cage. Suddenly the air was filled with bird song. All the canaries started to sing. Melisizwe looked up, smiled and walked to school with a happy heart.



Melisizwe woon in 'n dorpie aan die rand van die Tsitsikamma-bos. Op 'n dag, terwyl hy nā skool huis toe stap, vind hy 'n klein kanarie wat op die bosvloer lê. Die voëltjie klap haar vlerke, maar kan nie vlieg nie.

"Ai, ek dink jou vlerk is gebreek!" sê Melisizwe. Hy tel die kanarie baie versigtig op en dra dit huis toe na sy mamma toe.

"Kyk, Mamma, ek het 'n voëltjie met 'n gebreekte vlerk in die bos gevind," sê hy.

"Nee, hierdie voëltjie se vlerk is nie gebreek nie," sê Mamma. "Hierdie babavoëltjie het uit haar nes geval. Sy is nog te jonk om te vlieg, en sy sou doodgegaan het as jy haar nie gevind het nie, Melisizwe."

Melisizwe en sy ma maak toe 'n bamboeshokkie, en sit die klein kanarie op 'n dik blarebed daarin neer. "Wanneer jy groot is, sal jou borsie die warm kleur van die son wees, klein voëltjie, en daarom gaan ek jou Sonskyn noem!" sê Melisizwe.

Elke oggend en elke aand voer Melisizwe vir Sonskyn. Hy gee vir haar 'n bakkie water, 'n bakkie mannsaad, en soet, jong spinasieblare. Die klein voëltjie word gou groot en sterk genoeg om in die hokkie rond te vlieg.

Wanneer Melisizwe soggens skool toe gaan, bly Sonskyn alleen in haar hokkie in die hut. Wanneer Melisizwe buite saam met sy maat, Mibono, speel en klei-osse maak, bly Sonskyn alleen in haar hokkie in die hut. En wanneer Melisizwe stokgevegte met Vuyo oefen, bly Sonskyn alleen in haar hokkie in die hut.

Een oggend terwyl Melisizwe vir die kanarie vars water en mannsaad gee, praat hy met die klein voëltjie. "Waarom is jy so stil, Sonskyn? Ek hoor hoe al die kanaries in die bos sing. Waarom sing jy nie ook nie?" vra hy.

"Ek kan nie sing nie. My hart is seer," sê Sonskyn.

Melisizwe is geskok. "Waarom is jou hart seer?" vra hy.

"My naam is Sonskyn, maar ek sien nooit die son nie, want ek is alleen in hierdie hokkie in die hut."

"Dan sal ek jou hokkie buite in die son sit!" sê Melisizwe. "In jou hokkie is jy veilig teen die slange en die valke en die wildekatte. Jy is veilig by my!"

"Ek is veilig hier, Melisizwe, maar my huis is in die bos waar ek 'n warm nes in 'n boom kan bou. My huis is by al die ander kanaries waar ons elke nuwe dag met 'n lied verwelkom. Ek is alleen hier in hierdie hokkie in die hut," sê Sonskyn. "En ek kan nie sing nie."

"Jy hoef nie alleen te wees nie! Ek sal nog 'n kanarie vind om jou geselskap te hou, Sonskyn," sê Melisizwe, en hy hardloop buitentoe sodat hy betyds kan wees om saam met Mibono en Vuyo skool toe te stap.



Wat Melisizwe nie weet nie, is dat Mamma elke woord van sy gesprek met Sonskyn gehoor het.

Daardie middag vra Melisizwe: "Mamma, kan ek buite met Mibono gaan speel? Ons wil 'n kraal uit stokke maak vir ons klei-osse."

"Nee," sê Mamma. "Vandag moet jy alleen in die hut bly waar jy veilig sal wees. Ek gaan vir 'n rukkie na die bure toe." Melisizwe moet toe maar alleen binne bly.

Die volgende dag vra hy: "Mamma, kan ek uitgaan om met Vuyo te gaan speel? Ons wil ons stokgevegte oefen."

"Nee," sê Mamma. "Vandag moet jy alleen in die hut bly waar jy veilig sal wees. Ek gaan na Gogo toe om 'n boek by haar te leen." Melisizwe moet toe maar alleen binne bly.

Die volgende dag smee hy: "Asseblief, Mamma, kan ek vanmiddag uitgaan om met Mibono en Vuyo te speel?"

"Nee," sê Mamma. "Vandag moet jy alleen in die hut bly waar jy veilig sal wees. Ek gaan nou buite in die son sit en lees."

"Maar waarom mag ek nie uitgaan om met my maats te speel nie, Mamma? Ek wil nie alleen in die hut bly nie!" huil Melisizwe.

"Ek weet jy wil nie, my seun. Dit is nie goed om alleen in die hut te wees nie," sê Mamma, wat buite in die son op 'n stoel sit en haar boek lees. "Maar ek kan nie nou met jou praat nie, Melisizwe. Ek lees nou."

Melisizwe gaan sit stil op die vloer met trane in sy oë. Hy kyk oor die vertrek na Sonskyn. Die klein voëltjie kyk vir hom. Skielik voel Melisizwe hoe sy hart swaar en seer raak.

"Ek is so jammer, Sonskyn," sê hy sag.

Die volgende oggend, toe hy op pad skool toe is, tel Melisizwe die hokkie op. Sy ma glimlag en soen hom. "Jy het 'n goeie hart," sê sy.

Toe hy in die bos kom, gaan staan Melisizwe onder 'n groot boom en sit die hokkie op die grond neer. Toe maak hy die hokkie se deur oop.

"Jy kan nou wegvlieg, Sonskyn. Jy is vry, klein voëltjie," glimlag hy.

Sonskyn hop na die hokkie se deurtjie toe. Toe sprei sy haar vlerke en vlieg by die hokkie uit. Sy vlieg tot op 'n tak bo Melisizwe en kyk af na hom. Skielik sing sy die mooiste lied wat hy nog ooit gehoor het. Toe vlieg sy hoog in die boom op tot by al die ander kanaries.

Melisizwe tel die leë hokkie op. Die lug is skielik gevul met voëlgesang. Al die kanaries sing. Melisizwe kyk op, glimlag en stap skool toe met 'n gelukkig hart.



Nal'ibali fun



When people travel to interesting places they often send postcards to friends and family back home. Postcards usually have a photograph of a place you have visited on one side. A message and the address of the person you are sending the postcard to, are on the other side. Now follow the steps below to make your own postcard!

1. Cut out the front and back sides of the postcard below.
2. Glue the two sides together.
3. On the front of your postcard, draw a picture of a place you would like to visit or a place you enjoyed visiting – or create a magical place all of your own!
4. On the back of your postcard:
 - on the left, write a message to someone you know telling them about how you are enjoying visiting the place in the picture and what you've done while you are there.
 - start your message like this: Dear...
 - don't forget to say who the message is from – you!
 - on the lines on the right, write the name, surname and address of the person you are sending the postcard to.
 - in the empty block above the address, draw a postage stamp.

Front/Voorkant

Back/Agterkant

Nal'ibali-pret



Wanneer mense na interessante plekke reis, stuur hulle dikwels poskaarte vir hulle vriende en familie by die huis. Poskaarte het gewoonlik 'n foto van 'n plek wat jy besoek het aan die een kant. Aan die ander kant is plek vir 'n boodskap en die adres van die persoon vir wie jy die poskaart stuur. Volg nou die stappe hieronder om jou eie poskaart te maak!

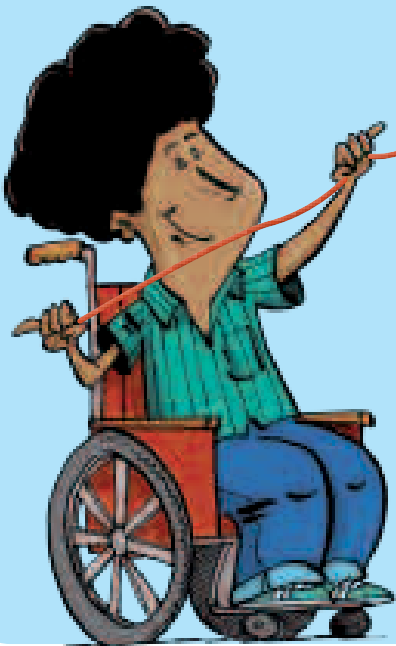
1. Knip die voorkant en agterkant van die poskaart hieronder uit.
2. Plak die twee kante met gom aan mekaar vas.
3. Teken op die voorkant van jou poskaart 'n prent van 'n plek wat jy graag wil besoek of 'n plek wat jy besoek het – of skep jou eie fantasieplek!
4. Op die agterkant van jou poskaart doen jy die volgende:
 - skryf aan die linkerkant 'n boodskap aan iemand wat jy ken waarin jy vir hulle vertel hoe jy dit geniet het om die plek in die prent te besoek en wat jy alles daar gedoen het.
 - begin jou boodskap as volg: Beste ...
 - moenie vergeet om te sê van wie die boodskap kom nie – van jou af!
 - skryf die naam, van en adres van die persoon aan wie jy die poskaart gaan stuur op die reëls aan die regterkant.
 - teken 'n posseël in die leë blokkie bo die adres.



Can you think of six words that start with each of the letters that Josh is holding? Write them here.



Kan jy aan ses woorde dink wat begin met elkeen van die letters wat Josh vashou? Skryf hulle hier neer.



Get your copy of the 100th edition of the Nal'ibali reading-for-enjoyment supplement in the week of 27 September 2015!



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Kry jou eksemplaar van die 100ste uitgawe van die Nal'ibali-lees-vir-genot bylae in die week van 27 September 2015!

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