Nal'ibali
It starts with a story...
Edition 20
isiXhosa, English

Writing for real reasons

When adults write, they always do so for real reasons: to write a shopping list, to leave a note for someone, to fill in forms, to communicate with a friend in a letter or email, to create a story. Learning to write includes learning *why* we write and *how* to write so children learn to write most easily when they choose what and when they want to write! Here are some of the ways that children develop as writers and how you can help them.

Drawing and painting let young children express their ideas and feelings. Help them understand the connection between drawing and writing by asking them to talk about their pictures and what they would like you to write about their pictures. You can write about their picture under it. This helps them to understand that what we say can be written down.

When children realise that writing communicates meaning, they begin to experiment with it. For example, they:

- try to write their name or yours
- write to label things in their drawings
- write to organise different parts of their daily lives – for example, writing a list of birthday presents they want
- write to communicate messages to important people in their lives.

When children first start to write they usually scribble, just like babies babble before they talk! Then they go on to make up their own letter-like symbols. Eventually they start to use real letters more and more (even though they may be back to front sometimes!) and even punctuation. These things show that your children are starting to find writing useful and learning how to do it. Encourage them by asking them what their writing says.

Gradually children start writing in recognisable words, using only real letters. They usually choose letters that they think match the sounds in the words they are trying to write. Encourage your children's writing by reading it aloud or asking them to do so, displaying it around your home and by writing back to them! Over time, their spelling and handwriting will improve, and they will be people who write to communicate and express themselves.

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Ukubhalela izizathu zokwenyani

Xa abantu abadala bebhala, sukube kukho izizathu zokwenyani zokwenza oko: basenokubhala kuba besenza uludwe lwezinto abaza kuzithenga, ukushiyela umntu umyalezo, ukuzalisa iifomu, ukunxibelelana nomhlobo ngeleta okanye ngeimeyili, okanye xa bebhala ibali. Ukufunda ukubhala kubandakanya ukufunda ukuba, *kutheni* sibhala, sibhala *njani*, ngako oko abantwana bakufumana kulula ukubhala xa bekhetha ukuba babhale ntoni yaye babhala nini na! Nazi ezinye iindlela abantwana abaye babe ngababhali ngazo nendlela onokubanceda ngayo.

Ukuzoba nokupeyinta kunceda abantwana ukuba bavakalise iingcinga neemvakalelo zabo. Bancede ukuba baqonde unxibelelwano oluphakathi kokuzoba nokubhala ngokuthi uthi mabathethe ngemifanekiso yabo kunye nento abafuna ukuba wena uyibhale ngemifanekiso yabo. Ungabhala ngomfanekiso wabo apha ezantsi kwawo. Oku kubanceda ukuba baqonde into yokuba le nto siyithethayo isenokubhalwa.

Xa abantwana beqonda ukuba ukubhala oku kudlulisa umyalezo kwaye kunentsingiselo, baya kuqalisa ukulinga ukubhala. Umzekelo:

- basenokuzama ukubhala amagama abo okanye elakho
- basenokubhalela ukulebhelisha izinto ezikwimizobo yabo
- basenokubhala malunga nezinto ezenzeka ebomini babo imihla ngemihla – umzekelo, ukubhala uludwe lwezinto abazifunayo ngemini yabo yokuzalwa
- basenokubhalela ukudlulisa imiyalezo kubantu ababalulekileyo ebomini babo.

Xa abantwana beqala ukubhala badla ngokurhiphiza ngolu hlobo zenza ngalo iintsana xa ziteketa, zibhibhidle phambi kokuba zithethe! Emva koko, baye benze iimpawu ezingathi ngoonobumba. Bade ke ekugqibeleni babhale oonobumba bokwenyani (noxa ngelinye ixesha bebajongisa kwelinye icala!) bade bafake neziphumlisi. Ezi zinto zibonisa ukuba abantwana bakho baqalisa ukukufumanisa ukubhala kuluncedo yaye bafunda indlela yokubhala. Bakhuthaze ngokubabuza ukuba le nto bayibhalileyo ithetha ukuthini okanye yintoni na.

Abantwana baye baqale kancinci kancinci ukubhala amagama aqaphelekayo besebenzisa oonobumba bokwenyani. Badla ngokukhetha oonobumba abacinga ukuba bahambelana nezandi ezikumagama abazama ukuwabhala. Khuthaza ukubhala kwabantwana bakho ngokuthi loo nto umntwana ayibhalileyo uyifunde ngokuvakalayo okanye ubacele ukuba bayifunde ngokwabo, yixhome endlwini yakho okanye nawe babhalele uphendula oko bakubhalileyo! Ekuhambeni kwethuba, upelo lwabo nendlela yokubhala kwabo iza kuya iphucuka, yaye ekuhambeni kwexesha baya kuba ngabantu ababhalela ukunxibelelana kunye nokuvakalisa izimvo zabo.

Connect with your child. It starts with a story...

Qinisa ubudlelane phakathi kwakho nomntwana wakho. Konke kuqala ngebali...

Nal'ibali
It starts with a story...

This supplement is available in the following Avusa newspapers: *The Times* in the Western Cape, Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal; *The Daily Dispatch* and *The Herald* in the Eastern Cape during term times.

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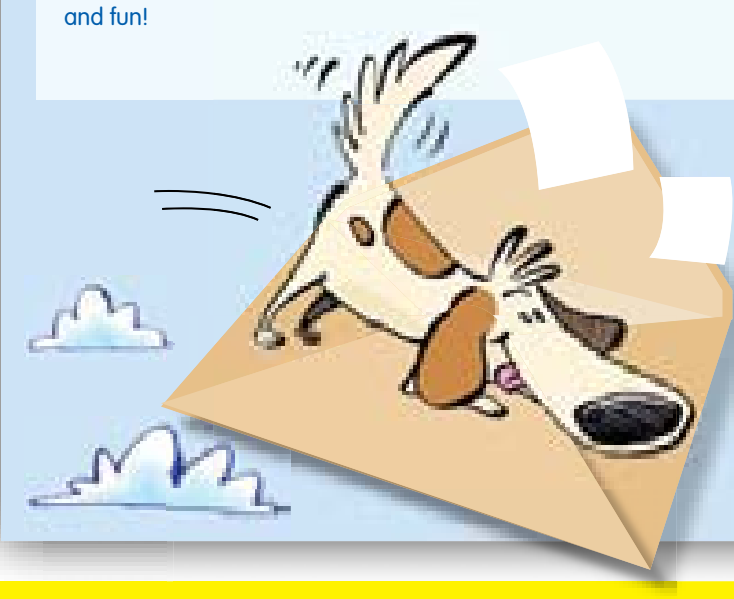
Q: I have been reading to my 5-year-old son since he was a baby and he loves books. My friends say that parents shouldn't try to teach their children how to read and also that children have to be in Grade 1 before they can learn to read. My problem is that when my son is looking at a book on his own he pretends to read most of the words and then often stops and asks me 'What does this word say, Mom?' I don't want to confuse him by teaching him things he will learn later at school but he is so interested in reading and I want to do everything that I can to encourage him. What should I do?

Fatima Adams, Johannesburg

A: Learning to read is a process that unfolds in its own time – it cannot be pinned down to a specific age or place. It is not at all unusual for five-year-olds who have been read to over many years to learn to read before they go to school. Some five-year-olds may be able to read on their own. Others (like your son) may already know that the words on the page tell the story, always stay the same and have meaning. Other five-year-olds might have just discovered books. Our job as parents and caregivers is to support our children's learning at whatever stage they are. Your son is asking you to help him decode the words on the page because he wants to unlock their meaning. This is another step in his development as a reader. Follow his lead, and read the words when he asks you to and, most importantly, keep reading to him regularly as you have done his whole life! Even five minutes a day is good, as long as it's positive and fun!



Q: Ndamfundela amabali umntwana wam oneminyaka emi-5 ukususela ngexesha eselusana yaye uyazithanda iincwadi. Izihlobo zam zithi abazali abafanelanga ukuba bafundise abantwana babo ukufunda yaye bathi abantwana kufuneka babe kwiBanga loku-1 phambi kokuba babe bayafunda. Ingxaki yam yeyokuba, xa unyana wam ejonge incwadi eyedwa, wenza ngathi amagama amaninzi uyawafunda, amane esima endibuza athi, 'Mama, eli gama lithetha ukuthini?'. Andifuni kumbhidisa ngokumfundisa izinto aza kuzifunda esikolweni kodwa uyakuthanda ukufunda yaye ndifuna ukwenza konke endinako ukumkhuthaza. Ndenze ntoni?

NguFatima Adams, eJohannesburg

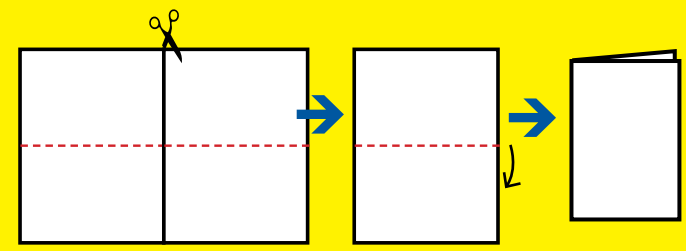
A: Ukufunda yinto ethatha ixesha layo ukwenzeka – awunakuze uthi yenzeka xa umntu eneminyaka ethile okanye uthi yenzeka endaweni ethile. Asiyonto engaqhelekanga into yokuba umntwana oneminyaka emihlanu ekudala efundelwa akwazi ukufunda phambi kokuba aqale isikolo. Abanye abantwana abaneminyaka emihlanu basenokukwazi ukuzifundela ngokwabo. Abanye (abafana nonyana wakho) basenokwazi ukuba amagama asephepheni abalisa ibali, ahlala enjalo yaye anentsingiselo. Abanye abantwana abaneminyaka emihlanu basenokuba basandula ukuzazi iincwadi. Umsebenzi wethu njengabazali nabantu abangabagcini-bantwana kukuxhasa ukufunda kwabantwana bethu nokuba bakweliphi na inqanaba. Unyana wakho ukucela ukuba umchazele ngamagama asephepheni kuba ufuna ukufumanisa intsingiselo yawo. Lelinye inqanaba eli ekuphuhliseni ukufunda kwakhe. Landela isikhokelo sakhe, ufunde amagama athi mfundele wona, yaye okubalulekileyo, hlala umfundela rhoqo ngolu hlobo uqhuba ngalo ubomi bakhe bonke!

Get the story ready to read!

1. Take out pages 3 to 6 of this supplement.
2. To separate the pages, cut down the middle of pages 4 and 5.
3. Fold along the red dotted line.
4. If possible, keep the story in a plastic pocket to protect it.

Yenza ibali lilungele ukufundwa!

1. Khupha iphepha lesi-3 ukuya kwelesi-6 kweli hlelo.
2. Ukohlula amaphepha, sika phakathi iphepha lesi-4 nelesi-5.
3. Lisonge kumgca onamachaphaza abomvu.
4. Ukuba unakho, gcina eli bali kwisingxobo esiyiplastiki ukulikhusela.



In your next Nal'ibali supplement:

- **How to read aloud**
- **Meet the winners of our mini-library competition**
- **Mini-book, *Crocodile's sore tooth***
- **A read-aloud story, *Running for life***

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- **Indlela yokufunda ngokuvakalayo**
- **Hlangana nabantu abaphumelele ukhuphiswano lwethu lwethala leencwadi elincinci**
- **Incwadana encinane, *Izinyo elibuhlungu leNgwenya***
- **Ibali elifundwa ngokuvakalayo, *Nyawo zam ndithwale!***

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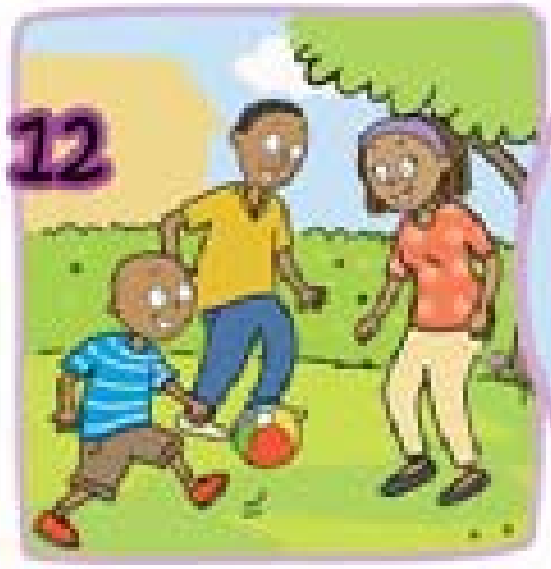
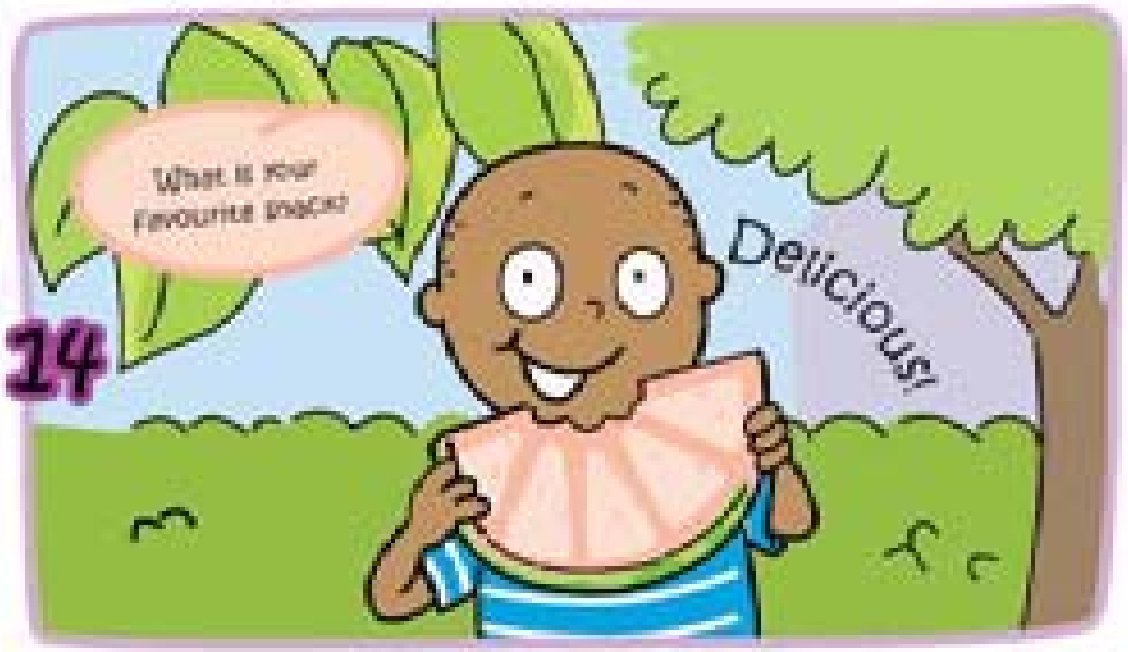
Daily Dispatch The Herald The Times



Then Dad and Ben played soccer together. Mom played too.

After that they were hungry, so Dad fetched Ben's favourite snack ... watermelon!



Story time

Just now, Ben

Ben's mom was in the bathroom brushing her teeth. "Mom, please will you read to me?" asked Ben, handing his mum his favourite book.

"Just now, Ben, when I've finished getting ready," replied Mom. "I know," thought Ben. "I'll ask Dad to play with me."

"Dad, Mom is busy. Please will you play with me?" asked Ben, holding his favourite ball.

But Dad was busy too. "Just now, Ben, when I've read the paper," replied Dad while looking at his newspaper.

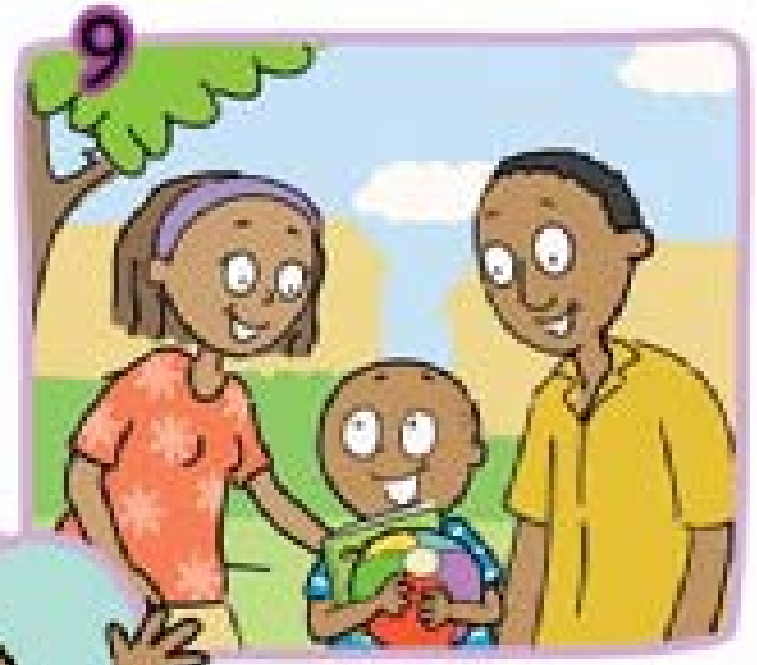
Ben went back to Mom. He sat and waited for Mom to finish getting ready ... but he had to wait for a very, very long time.

Ben went back to Dad. He sat and waited for Dad to finish reading the newspaper ... but he had to wait for a very, very long time.

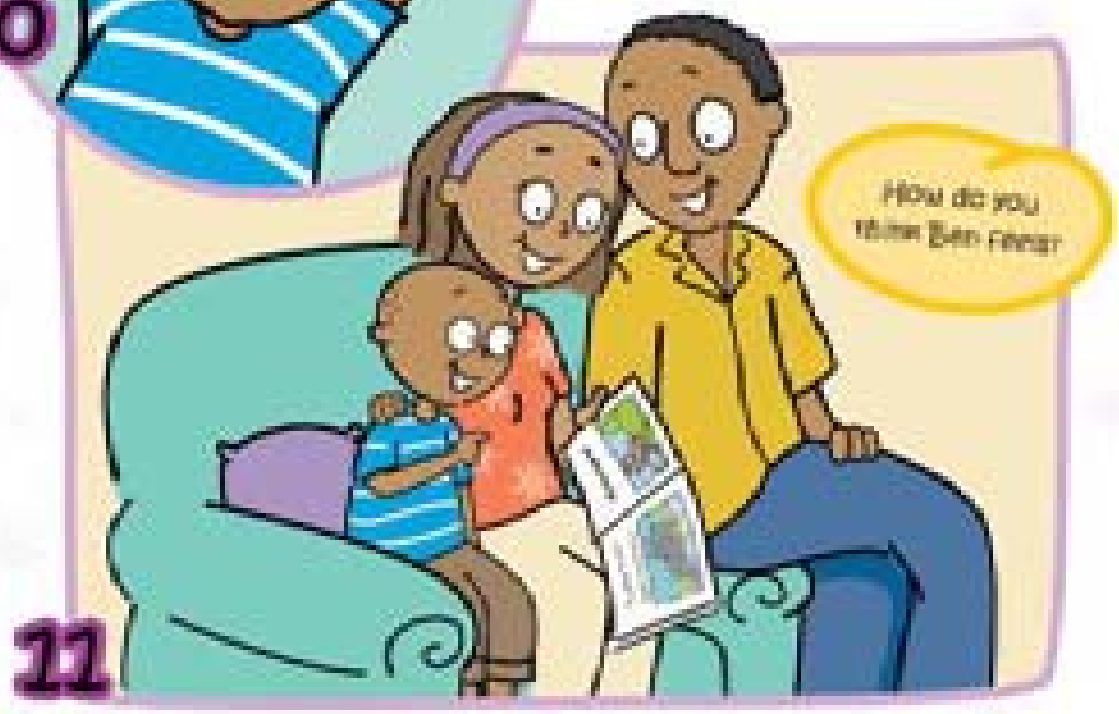
"I'm tired of waiting," thought Ben. So he looked at his book by himself. It was good, but he liked the way Mom read to him better.

Then he kicked his ball against the wall. It was fun, but he liked kicking the ball with Dad better.

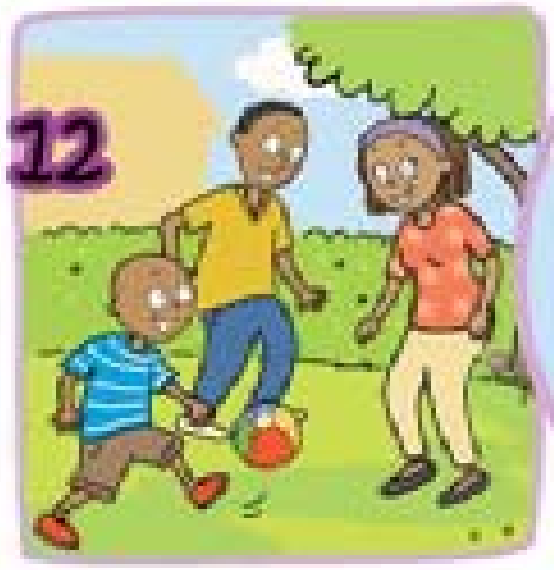
Suddenly Ben's mom and dad appeared.
"Hello, Ben, I'm ready to read to you now," said Mom.
"I'm ready to play with you now," said Dad.



"Yay!" shouted Ben.



First, Mom and Ben read his favourite book. Dad listened.



Emva koko utata nodlam bakhuba ibhola bobabini. Uxosma nayo madlala.

Emva koko bazive belambile, ngoku ke utata wayo kulanda ukuciyana okutha ndwa ngulien ... lozala!

Ixesha lebali
Umzuzwana nje, Ben

Umama uben wayekwigumbi lokulala, efikamba emazinyo akhe. "Mama ungandifundria incwadi?" wabuza uBen emnika incwadi yakhe ayithandayo.

"Ndiza kukufundela emva kombuzwana nje Ben ke ndiz ndiggqibile apha," waphendula watsho umama.
"Ndiyavi," wasinga watsho uBen. "Ndiza kuzola utata adlale nam."

"Ewa, umama unesakekile. Ungadlala nam?" wabuza uBen ebambe ibhola yakhe ayithandayo.

Kodwa nayo utata wayesasekekile. "Umzuzwana nje Ben, ndigqiba kwam ukufunda iphepha," waphendula watsho utata ejonge kwiphephandaba lakhe.

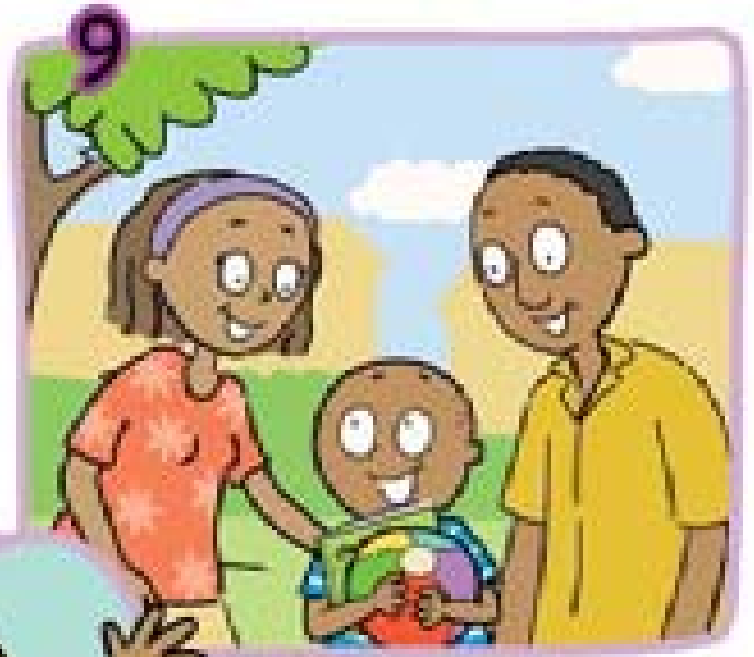
Ulben wabuyela kumama wakhe.
Wafika wahlala walinda umama wakhe owayesazilungiselela ... lechwa walinda lencha elide.

Ulben waphindela kutata wakhe. Wafika wahlala walinda utata wakhe owayesafunda iphepandaba ... lodwa walinda lencha elide.

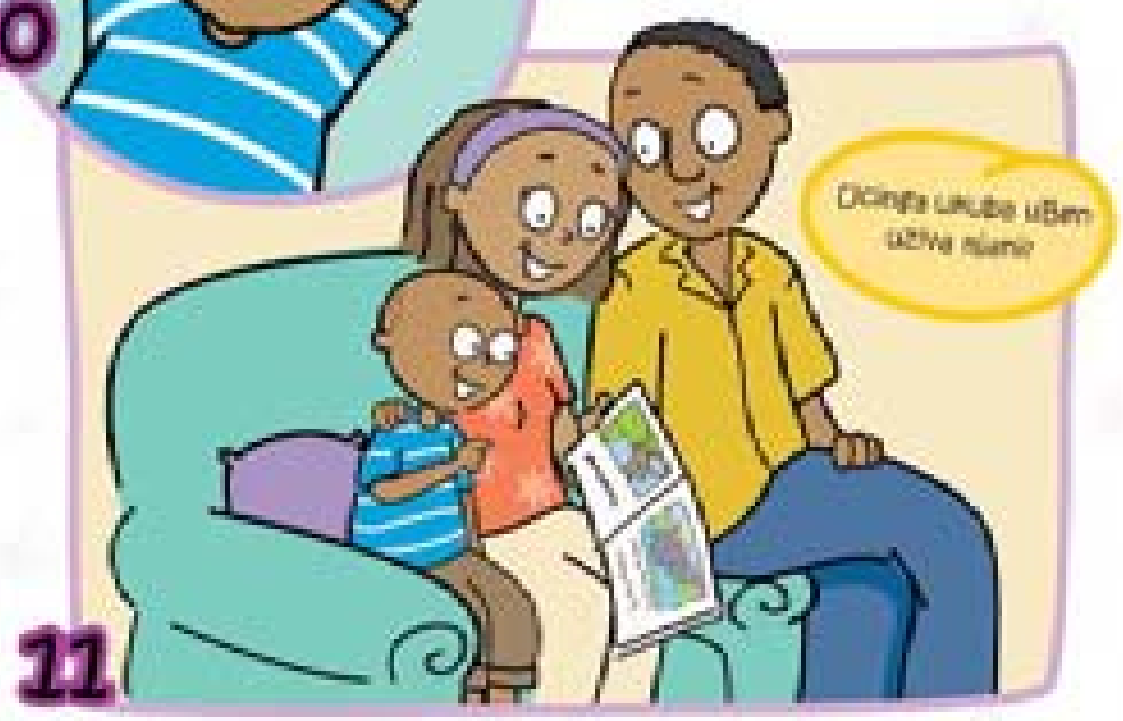
"Ndidlenwe liukulinda," wacinga njalo ulben. Ngoko ke wazifundela incwadi yakhe. Kwakumnandi kodwa wayeyomwabela ngakumbi xa eyifundelwa ngumama wakhe.

Emva koko wakhatsela ibhola yakhe ndongeni. Kwakumnandi kodwa wayeyomwabela ngoxolo xa eyikhaba nobaba wakhe.

Ngoxolo, kwavela umama notata kulben. "Molo ben, ndikulungele ke ngoku ukukufundela," watsho umama. "Ndikulungele ukudlala nawe ngoku," watsho utata.



"Yhe-e-e!" wakhwaca watsho ulben.



Kuqala umama afundele ulben incwadi yakhe eyithandayo. Utata yena wamamela.

Play a game! Dlala umdlalo!

Have fun playing this game together!
Yonwabelani ukudlala lo mdlalo kunye!

How to play

You will need a dice, one counter for each player to stone, button or bottle-tops and one or two people to play with.

Take it in turns to roll the dice and move the counter the number of spaces it shows. Only use numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4 on the dice. Roll it again if you get a 5 or 6.

Use your face and whole body to act out the feeling on each square your counter lands on.

Indlela yokudlala

Uza kufunga idayisi nento yokubala enye yomdlali ngamnye iliye, ixhosha, isiko sebhotile) kunye nomntu omnye okanye ababini ezo kudlala nabo.

Bokelisanani ngokuqengqa idayisi ze uhambise ndadi sakho kangangenani elibonisiwe idayisi. Sebenzisa kuphela amanani 1, 2, 3, no-4 kwidayisi. Ukuba ufumane u-5 okanye u-6, phinda uqengqa kwakhona.

Sebenzisa ubuso bakho nomzimba wakho wonke ukubonisa indlela ozive ngayo ngo sidadi sakho silika kwelakwenu ngoninye.

Fold this page in half and then fold it again on the dotted lines to create a zig-zag book. Songa eli phepha esiphakathini, uze uphinde ulisonge kwimigca engamachaphaza ukuze wenze incwadi enamajiko-jiko.

1

Listen

Masimamele!

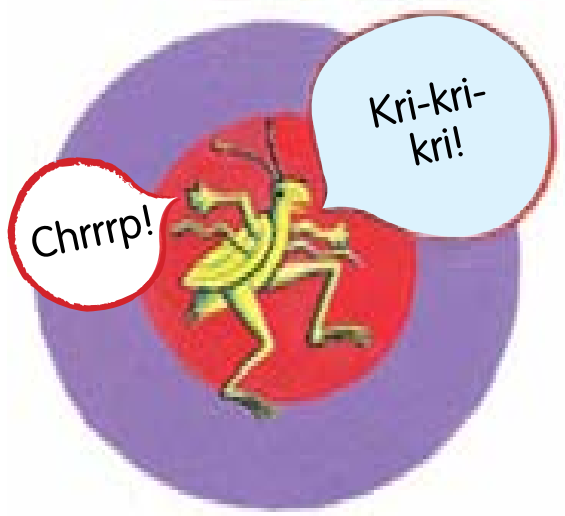
Carole Bloch
Xolisa Guzula
Jean Fullalove

Lalibali
It starts with a story...
PRAESA

2

FOLD

Crickets chirp.



linyenzane ziyakrikriza.

3

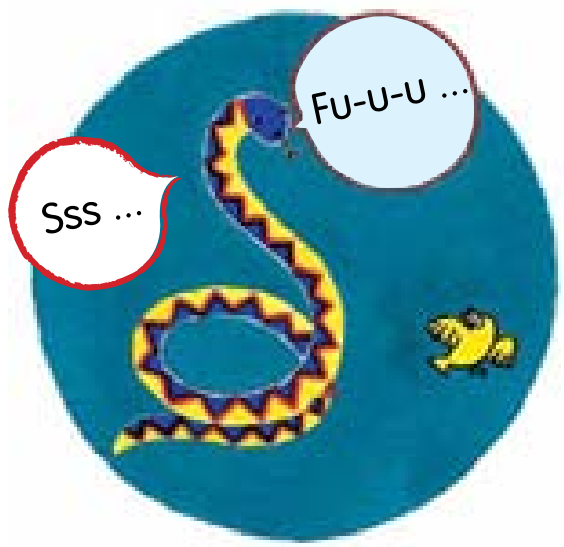
FOLD

Mice squeak.

limpuku ziyatswitswiza.

4

Snakes hiss.



linyoka ziyafutha.

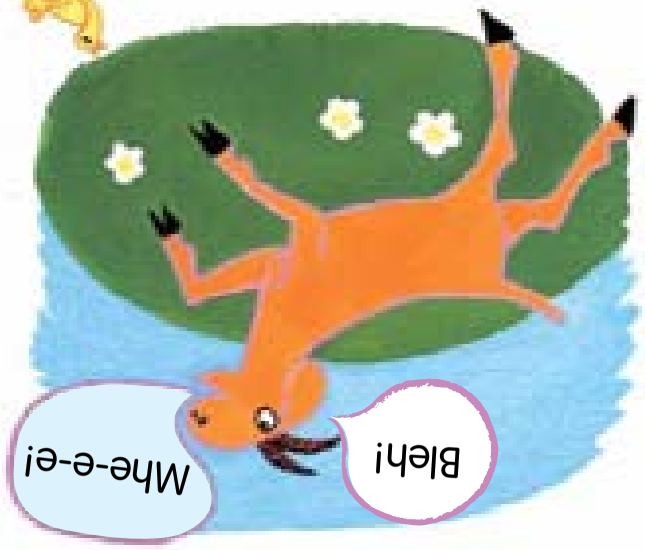
5

Dogs bark.

lizinja ziyakhonkotha.

6

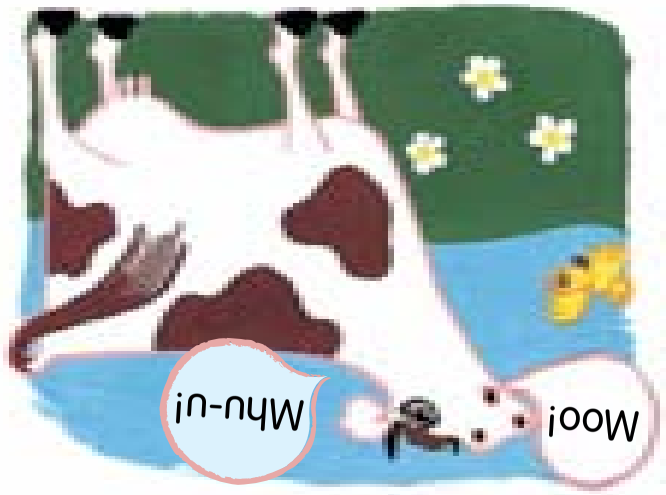
Goats bleat.



ilibokhwe ziyakhala.

7

Cows moo ...



linkomo ziyanxakama ...

8

... and snails make no sound at all.

... iinyekevu azenzi zandi kwaphela.

Drive your imagination