

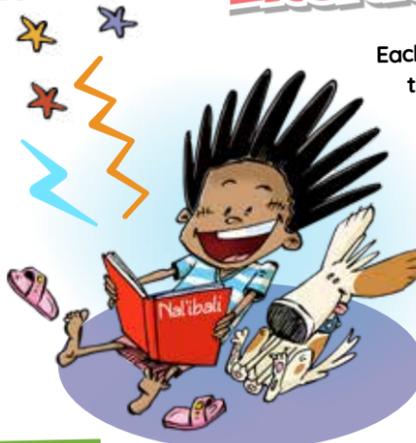
# NALIBALI

## Ku kota ku hlaya ni ku tsala i nchumu wa matimba!

Lembe na lembe hi Siku ra Misava ra Vuswikoti byo Hlaya ni ku Tsala, hi ti-8 ta September, misava yi tlangela xiave lexi ku hlaya ni ku tsala swi nga na xona evuton'wini bya hina. Nakambe hi tsundzuka leswaku ku ni vanhu vo tala emisaveni lava nga kotiki ku endla ni swilo swo olova swa nkoka, swo tanihi ku tata fomo kumbe ku hlaya swilelelo leswi nga ebodlheleni ra murhi wa vutshunguri, naswona va kayela ku tiphina hi ku hlaya novhele. Swi tele leswi endlaka leswaku va nga dyondzi ku hlaya ni ku tsala, kambe xivangelo lexikulu hileswi va pfumalaka leswi lavekaka leswaku va dyondza - tibuku letinene, mpfuno na xikhutazo lexi va xi lavaka!

## Literacy is powerful!

Each year on International Literacy Day, 8 September, the world celebrates the role that reading and writing play in our lives. We also remember that there are many people around the world who can't complete simple but important tasks, like filling in a form or reading the instructions on a medicine bottle, and who are never able to get lost in a novel. There are many reasons why people don't learn to read and write, but this happens mainly because they don't have what they need to learn - good resources and the right kind of help and inspiration!



Ku kota ku hlaya ni ku tsala a swi vuli ku tirhisa vuswikoti byebyo bya xisekelo ntsena. Swi vula ku va na matimba yo tirhisa ku hlaya na ku tsala hi xikongomelo xo dyondza; ku kumisisa ni ku hlamusela leswi hi swi ehleketaka, leswi hi titwisaka xiswona, ni leswi hi swi tivaka; ni ku tirhisa vuswikoti byebyo ku kumisisa tindlela to hambanahambana to twisisa timhaka ta misava.

Being literate is not only about being able to use basic reading and writing skills. It is about having the power to use reading and writing to learn; to explore and communicate what we think, feel and know; and to use it to discover different ways of seeing the world.

## Tindlela ta leti olovaka to pfuna vana ku dyondza

- ☉ **Vana xikombiso.** Vana va wena va dyondza eka xikombiso xa wena. Va fanele va ku vona u tirhisa vuswikoti byo hlaya ni ku tsala eka swilo swo hambanahambana evuton'wini bya wena bya siku na siku.
- ☉ **Va nyike swo swi tirhisa.** A wu nge swi koti ku dyondza ku hlaya loko u nga ri na xo xi hlaya, naswona a wu nge dyondzi ku tsala loko u nga ri na swo tsala ha swona! Vana swi fanele swi va olovela ku kuma tibuku leti va tsakisaka, ku katsa na phepha, tipensele na tikhrayoni to tsala ni ku dirowa ha tona.
- ☉ **U nga va honisi.** Nkarhi na nkarhi loko vana va hlaya ni ku tsala, va khutaze hi ku kombisa leswaku u tsakela leswi va swi endlaka.
- ☉ **Va hlayele.** Loko vana va khutaziwa ku hlaya na ku tsala, hakanyingi va ta rhandza ku hlaya na ku tsala vutomi hinkwabyo! Ku titoloveta ku va hlayela swi ta va dyondzisa ku vona matimba ya marito lama tsariweke ni ku va pfula mianakanyo va kota ku twisisa timhaka ta xiviri, swilo swo swi vona hi tihlo ra mianakanyo na swin'wana. U nga kuma mitsheketo hi tindzimi ta 11 eka [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org).



## 4 easy ways to support your children's literacy

- ☉ **Be a role model.** Your children learn from your example. They need to see you using reading and writing in different ways in your daily life.
- ☉ **Provide materials.** You can't learn to read if you don't have anything to read, and you can't learn to write if you don't have anything to write with or on! Children need to be able to easily find books that interest them, and also paper, pencils and crayons to write and draw with.
- ☉ **Take an interest.** Every time children read and write, encourage them by showing an interest in what they are doing.
- ☉ **Read aloud.** When children are motivated to read and write, they stand a greater chance of being lifelong readers and writers! Reading aloud to them as often as you can, teaches them the power of print and opens up their minds to facts, fantasy, and much more. You can find stories in 11 languages on [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org).

September yi ku pfula tindlela to tala to tlangela ku hlaya, ku tsala ni ku hlamusela mitsheketo. Hi leti tin'wana ta tona.

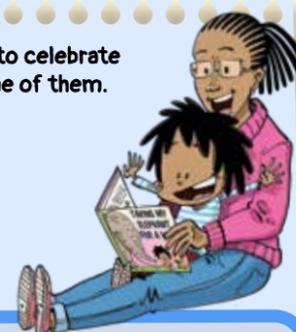
- 7-13 September Vhiki ra Tibuku eTikweni
- 8 September Siku ra Misava ra Vuswikoti byo Hlaya ni ku Tsala
- 21 September Siku ra Nhlengeleto wa Tibuku ta Mixakaxaka\*
- 24 September Siku ra Ndzhaka
- 30 September Siku ra Vuhundzuluxeri

September is filled with lots of opportunities to celebrate reading, writing and storytelling. Here are some of them.

- 7-13 September National Book Week
- 8 September International Literacy Day
- 21 September Bibliodiversity Day\*
- 24 September Heritage Day
- 30 September Translation Day

\*Nhlengeleto wa Tibuku ta Mixakaxaka i ku va na tibuku to hambanahambana leswaku ntokoto lowu munhu a nga na wona hi misava wu tsariwa ehansi ivi wu kumeka hi ririmi rakwe na tindzimi tin'wana. Leswaku u tlangela Siku ra Nhlengeleto wa Tibuku ta Mixakaxaka, swi nga va njhani u hlamusela munhu loyi a nga tiviki mhaka yokarhi ya vuhlangi bya wena, endzhaku u n'wi kombela ku ku hlamusela swokarhi leswi endlekeke evuhlangini bya yena.

\*Bibliodiversity means having a wide variety of books available so that everyone's experience of the world is written down and available in their own language and other languages. To celebrate Bibliodiversity Day, why don't you share a story from your childhood with someone who might not know it and ask them to share a story with you.



IT STARTS WITH  
A STORY.  
SWI SUNGULA HI  
NTSHEKETO.



# Mbewu Ya Dyondzo!

“N’wana la nga tlangiki u fela edzobyeni.”

~ JEAN PIAGET, XITIVI XA MIEHLEKETO YA VANA

## Literacy Seeds!

“Play is the work of childhood.”

~ JEAN PIAGET, CHILD PSYCHOLOGIST



Eka vatswari ni vahlayisi va vana lavatsongo, hambileswi hinkwerhu hi lavaka ku nyika vana va hina xivandla lexinene leswaku va kula kahle, swi nga endleka hi nga ri na ndhawu leyi eneleke na swilo swo swi tirhisa. Eka rungula leri, hi ta kambisisa tindlela tin’wana to endla xivandla lexi hlayisekeke ni xo tsakisa lexi vana va wena va nga tlangaka ni ku dyondzela eka xona. U ta kuma leswaku a wu boheki leswaku u ku kho, u lunghiselela vana swintirhwana leswi va nga hlanganyelaka eka swona. Va ta tirhisa mianakanyo ya vona va tiendlela swintirhwana leswi va tsakisaka.



Dear parents and caregivers of young children, while we would all like to give our children the best environment to stimulate their growth and development, we may only have limited space and resources to create this environment. In this article, we will look at some ways to create a safe, enjoyable space in which your children can play and learn. You will find that you do not always need to prepare activities for your children to participate in. They will use their imaginations to create enjoyable activities for themselves.

### Swilo swa nkoka leswi u faneleke u ehleketa haswona loko u endlela vana swivandla swo tlangela eka swona:

- ✓ Xivadla xa kona xi fanele xi hlayisekile xi tlhela xi basa.
- ✓ Xi fanele xi ri lexi ringaneleke malembe ya vana ni swilaveko swihi na swihi swo hlawuleka leswi va nga vaka va ri na swona.
- ✓ Ku fanele ku va na swivandla swa xintirhwana xa n’wana un’we ni swa ntlawa wa vana.
- ✓ Swi fanele swi olova ku cinca matshamelo ya swilo leswaku ku endliwa swintirhwana swo hambanahambana.
- ✓ Ku fanele ku va na ndhawu yo hlayisa switirhisiwa kahle leswaku swi kumeka hi ku olova.

### Important things to think about when creating your children’s spaces:

- ✓ It needs to be safe and clean.
- ✓ It must be suitable for their age and cater for any special needs they may have.
- ✓ There should be spaces for individual and group activities.
- ✓ It should be easy to rearrange for different activities.
- ✓ There should be space to keep resources in an organised way so that they are easily accessible.

### Swivandla swo tlanga ni ku dyondzela eka swona

Vana va dyondza swo tala hi ku hlalela swilo leswi nga endhawini ya ka vona ni ku tolovelana na swona. Loko va tirhisa swirho swa miri hi nkarhi lowu va dyondzaka nchumu lowuntshwa – swirho swo kota matihlo, mavoko, tindlele na swin’wana – swa va olovela ku twisisa ni ku tsundzuka leswi va swi dyondzeke. Naswona swi ta va olovela swinene ku tirhisa leswi va swi dyondzeke.

Swivandla swa vana va wena swo tlangela eka swona, hambi hi le ndzeni kumbe ehandle swi fanele swi khutaza vana va wena va tiva ndhawu ya ka vona ku antswa ni ku ringeta ku tirhisa switirhisiwa swin’wana leswi nga riki na khombo.

Leswi nakambe swi vula leswaku va nga tithyakisa va tlhela va thyakisa ndhawu yo tlangela eka yona. Tanihi mutswari na muhlayisi, tivani leswaku n’wana la tithyakiseke u tiphina hi vutomi naswona wa dyondza! Nakambe ku va dyondzisa ku basisa loko va heta ku tlanga i nchumu wa nkoka lowu nga va dyondzisaka ku xixima mbango, vanhu van’wana, na vona vini. Vana va rhandza ku tsakisa vanhu lavakulu hi ku endla mintirho ya “vanhu lavakulu” yo fana ni ku basisa.



### Spaces to play and learn

Children learn a lot through observing and interacting with things in their environment. The more senses that they use when learning something new – like the sense of sight, touch, hearing, and so on – the easier it is for them to understand and remember what they have learnt. They will also be able to apply what they have learnt to new experiences more easily.

Your children’s play areas, whether inside or outside, should encourage children to explore their environment and experiment with different resources safely.

This also means that they may make the playing space and themselves untidy and dirty. As a parent and caregiver, be comfortable with the idea that a dirty child is enjoying life and learning! And teaching them to clean up afterwards is a valuable lesson in respecting the environment, others and themselves. Children love pleasing adults by doing “grown-up” tasks like cleaning up.



## Endzeni

- \* Tirhisa mimete na fanichara u fungha swivandla swo hambanahambana swo tanihi swo tlangela eka swona ni ku endla swilo swa vutshila.
- \* U nga tirhisi tiphaseji to leha leti nga khutazaka vana ku tsutsumatsutsuma.
- \* U nga tirhisi tindhawu leti u nga ta ka "u nga swi koti" ku vona vana hi ku hehela.
- \* Hlawula ndhawu yo rhula laha vana va nga hlawulaka ku va voxo loko va swi lava.
- \* Hlayisa tibuku, switirhisiwa na switlangisi laha swi nga ta tirhisiwa kona.
- \* Vana na bokisi ra swiambalo swa khale, swichayachayana na swipopana swo olova, switlangisi, tikhonthena ta khale na swilo swin'wana swo tsakisa leswi nga riki na tinhla to tontswa ni leswi nga fayekiki hi ku olova. Khutaza vana wa wena va tirhisa miehleketo ya vona va tisungulela mitlangu na swintirhwana swa vona.



## Inside

- \* Use mats and furniture to outline different play areas, like spaces for reading, art and games.
- \* Avoid long, straight passages that will encourage children to run.
- \* Avoid having any "blind spots" or areas where children cannot be seen at all times.
- \* Have a quiet area where a child can choose to be alone.
- \* Store books, materials and toys in the area where they will be used.
- \* Have a box of old clothes, simple musical instruments, simple puppets, toys, old containers and any interesting objects that do not have sharp edges and will not break easily. Allow your children to use their imaginations to make up games and activities.

## Ehandle

- \* Tirhisa swilo leswi lahliweke u endla ndhawu yo tlangela eka yona yi tsakisa. Mathayere ya khale ma nga tirhisiwa ku endla mijombe kumbe swo tshama kumbe ma chovhiwa.
- \* Mabakete ya khale, malepula, swikotela na mabokisi swi nga tirhisiwa ku tlanga ha swona. Vana va nga swi tirhisa ku endla swimovhana, swiyindlwana na swigodlho!
- \* Endlani xirhpanyana mi byala swimilana leswi olovaka ku swi byala, swo kota xipinichi, matamatasi na tiphepha. Komba vana leswaku swimilana sweswo swi lava ku khaleriwa njhani, mi va pfuna ku cheleta xirhapa nkarhi na nkarhi. Loko se swi kurile u nga swi kha u endla sangweji yo nandziha kumbe saladi hi swona, leswaku vana va dya nyuku wa vona.
- \* Teka matafula ya plastiki na switulu leswi olovaka ku swi basisa u swi veka laha ku nga andlaleka. Vana va wena va nga endla swifaniso swa vumba, va pendela ehandle loko ri xe kahle. Nakambe va nga khavisa swilo swa vona swa vutshila hi swin'wetsin'wetsi na swilo swin'wana leswi nga sukiki hi ku olova.
- \* Vanani na ndhawu yo hlambela eka yona. Ku fanele ku va na sambelo, xisibi, mathawula na swilapana leswaku vana va kota ku basisa matafula, switulu na ku tibasisa vona vini loko va heta ku tlanga ehandle.



## Outside

- \* Use recycled items to make an interesting play space. For example, used tyres can be used to make swings or seats and can be rolled around.
- \* Old buckets, spoons, cans and boxes are great for creative play. Children can use them to make pretend cars, houses and castles!
- \* Have a small garden with a few plants that are easy to grow, such as spinach, tomatoes and peppers. Show the children how to take care of the plants and help them to water the garden regularly. Once you can harvest from the garden, make a tasty sandwich or salad so that the children can eat what they have helped to grow.
- \* Place plastic tables and chairs that are easy to clean on a flat area. Your children can make clay models and paint outside on sunny days. They can also decorate their artworks with glitter and other materials that are difficult to clean up.
- \* Have a wash area. A basin of water, some soap and towels and pieces of fabric should be available so that the children can clean the tables, chairs and themselves after playing outside.



# Swiringanyeto swa 5 swo tlangela Siku ra Misava ra Vuswikoti byo Hlaya ni ku Tsala



## 5 ideas for celebrating International Literacy Day

Hi leti tindlela ta ntlhanu leti wena na vana va wena mi nga ri tlangelaka hatona Siku ra Misava ra Vuswikoti byo Hlaya ni ku Tsala hi ti-8 ta September ni le ndzhaku!



Here are five ways for you and your children to celebrate International Literacy Day on 8 September and afterwards!

1. Hlayela vana va wena buku yo tiendlela yona u yi hlayisa leji nge *Leswi nga endla N'wambila a nga vi na ncila*. Tekani nkarhi mi khalara swifaniso swin'we. Va vutise leswaku va anakanya leswaku ha yini swiharhi swo tala swi ri na dzovo kumbe voya bya buraweni kumbe bya ntima. Va kombele va dirowa swifaniso swa xiharhi xin'we kumbe ku tlula leswi va swi rhandzaka ngopfu eka ntsheketo.
2. Sungula ntlawa wo endla tibuku. Kuma xivandla lexi ntlawa wa wena wu nga ta hlangana eka xona nkarhi na nkarhi wu endla tibuku. Ku ni swo tala leswi vana ni vanhu lavakulu va nga swi endlaka - ku tsemelela, ku khomisa hi xitepulara, ku dirowa ni ku tsala.
3. Hlelani xivandla xa ntsheketo elayiburari ya ka n'wina kumbe tliniki, ekamareni harin'we ra xikolo xa n'wina, hambi ku ri ekaya! Tirhisani xivandla lexi xo hlawuleka mi hlayela eka xona ni ku hlamuselana mitsheketo n'hwetini hinkwayo ya September.
4. Hi September, vekani nkarhi wo hlawuleka siku na siku laha un'wana ni un'wana a tshikaka leswi a swi endlaka a tiphina hi ku hlaya ku ringana timinete ta 15. Namarhelani nkarhi wa kona siku na siku mi khutaza hinkwavo leswaku va ya emahlweni va endla tano niloko mi nga ri swin'we tanihi ntlawa, ku fana na hi mahelovhiki.
5. Hlelani siku ro titsakisa hi ku hlaya ni ku tsala tanihi ndyangu ivi mi rhamba muganga hinkwavo. Hlelani swivandla swo hambanahambana laha vanhu lavakulu na vana va nga tlangaka mitlangu ya ku phokotela kumbe ku tlulatluka, murhavarhava, va endla makhadi na/kumbe tiphositara, va dirowa ni ku penda, va tsala mitsheketo, va endla swipopana, va ambala swiambalo swa ntlangu ivi va tlanga swin'we, va hlamuselana ni ku hlayelana mitsheketo.



1. Read the cut-out-and-keep book *How Dassie missed getting a tail* to your children. Spend some time colouring in the illustrations together. Ask them why they think many animals have brown or black skins

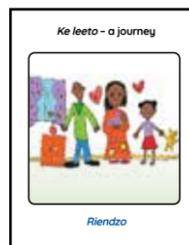
or fur. Encourage them to draw pictures of one or more of their favourite animal characters.



2. Start a bookmaking group. Find a space for your group to meet and then get together regularly to make books. There are plenty of jobs for children and adults - cutting, stapling, drawing and writing.
3. Set up a story corner at your library or clinic, in each classroom at your school and even in your home! Use this special place to read and tell stories throughout September.
4. During September, set aside a special time each day in which everyone stops doing whatever they are busy with and reads for enjoyment for 15 minutes. Stick to the same time each day and encourage everyone to continue doing this even when you are not together as a group, like over weekends.
5. Organise a family fun day that has a literacy focus and invite the whole community. Plan a variety of stations or activity centres where adults and children can play clapping or skipping games, play board games, make cards and/or posters, draw and paint, write stories, make puppets, dress up and use props to play together, tell stories and read stories.

### Tiendlele layiburari ya wena. Endla tibuku **TIMBIRHI** hi ku tsema u ti hlayisa

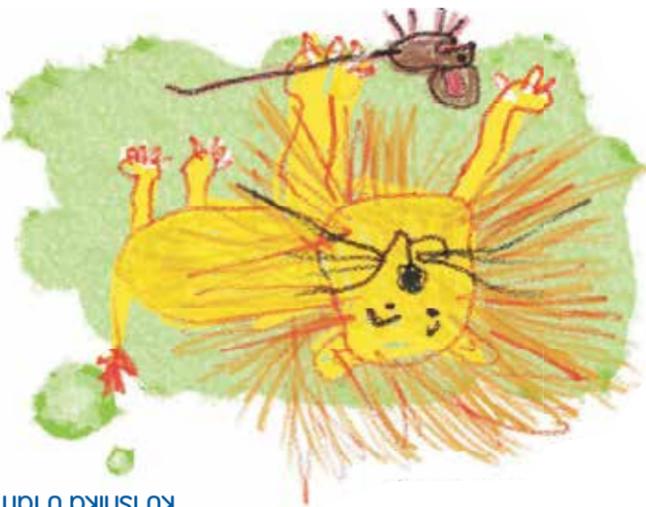
1. Susa pheji **5** ku fika eka pheji **12** eka xitatisi.
2. Maphepha ya mapheji ya **5**, **6**, **11** na **12** ma endla buku yin'we. Maphepha ya pheji **7**, **8**, **9** na **10** ma endla buku yin'wana.
3. Tirhisa rin'wana na rin'wana ra maphepha lawa ku endla buku. Landzelela swileriso leswi nga laha hansi ku endla buku yin'wana na yin'wana.
  - a) Petsa phepha hi le xikarhi eka nkhwanti wa ntima lowu nga tsemekatsemeka.
  - b) Petsa nakambe hi le xikarhi eka nkhwanti wa rihladza.
  - c) Tsema hi le ka nkhwanti wo tshwuka.



### Grow your own library. Create **TWO** cut-out-and-keep books

1. Take out pages **5** to **12** of this supplement.
2. The sheet with pages **5**, **6**, **11** and **12** on it makes up one book. The sheet with pages **7**, **8**, **9** and **10** on it makes up the other book.
3. Use each of the sheets to make a book. Follow the instructions below to make each book.
  - a) Fold the sheet in half along the black dotted line.
  - b) Fold it in half again along the green dotted line.
  - c) Cut along the red dotted lines.

Endzhaku ka masikunyana nghala  
yi suke yi tifaambafambela enhoveni.  
Khombo ra kona, yi phasawe hi nete ley!  
muhloti a nga yi rhiyela timhuti.  
“Pfunani, ndzi kombela mpfuno haleno!  
A ndzi kotti ku huma,” ku huwela  
nghala ley! a yi chuhile.



Siku rin'wana enhoveni, nghala leyikulu a yi etiele endzuti ni wa  
murhi. Xikondlwana xin'wana xi philekile emarhavi ni xi wela  
ehenhla ka nghala ley! a yi tiwiserile. Nghala yi bulumukile ivi yi  
sungula ku holovela xikondlwana lexi.  
“Xikondlwana ndzawena, u xi kuma kwihl xivindzi xa ku ndzi  
pfuxa evurhonyweni? Ndzi ta fanela ku ku dya,” ku vula nghala  
yi ri karhi yi khoma xikondlwana hi rhuva.  
“Ndzi rivalele, ndzi kombela leswaku u nga ndzi dlayi. Phela  
siku rin'wana ndzi nga ku pfuna hi swin'wana,” ku xavelela  
xikondlwana xi chuhile.  
“Wa lotha, xikondlwana xo fana na wena xi nga pfuna hosi ya  
nhova loko swi te yini?” ku vula nghala yi ri karhi yi  
hleka xikondlwana.  
Nghala yi tshike xikondlwana lexiya ivi yi ku: “Namunihla ndzi ta  
ku tshika u famba, kambela loko wo tlhela u phindha, u ta  
byela maxaka.”

## Nghala na kondlo hi Lerato Shai

One day in the jungle, a big lion was sleeping in the shade  
of a tree. A tiny mouse tripped on the branches and fell  
on top of the resting lion. The lion woke up and shouted  
angrily at the mouse.  
“Such a tiny thing, disturbing my good sleep? I will have  
you for my snack,” said the lion, trapping the mouse in  
his claws.  
“I am so sorry, don't kill me, please. Who knows, one day I  
might be useful to you,” pleaded the terrified mouse.  
“You must be joking! How can a tiny thing like you help the  
king of the jungle?” said the lion, laughing at the  
tiny mouse.  
The lion released the mouse and said: “Today I will let  
you go, but should this happen again, you will swim in  
my stomach.”  
After a few days the lion decided  
to take a walk in the jungle.  
Unfortunately, he got trapped in a  
deer hunter's net.  
“Help, please help! I can't get out  
of here,” shouted the fearful lion.  
“Is it the lion?” thought the  
tiny mouse.

## The lion and the mouse by Lerato Shai

*Ke leeto* means “It's a journey”. This extract from *Ke leeto* is a selection of stories, poems and illustrations that were created by the children of the Ga Phala, Modubeng, Malokela, Motloulala, Sehunyane, Shakung and Ga Masete communities of the Sekhukhune East District, Limpopo.



*Ke leeto* swi vula leswaku “I riendzo”. Rungula leri ri tekiwe eka *Ke leeto*, ku nga nhlengeleto wa mitsheketo, swiphato na swifaniso leswi endlweke hi vana va le matikweni ya Ga Phala, Modubeng, Malokela, Motloulala, Sehunyane, Shakung na Ga Masete, eMugangeni wa Sekhukhune Vuxa, eLimpopo.

### Get story active!

- ★ Write a short story or poem about something that happened to you or that you are interested in. Keep it somewhere safe.
- ★ After a day or two, read your story or poem. Make any changes that you think could make your story or poem more enjoyable to read. Correct any mistakes.
- ★ Draw a picture to show what your story or poem is about. Store your writing and drawing in a plastic packet or container. Add new stories, poems and drawings to your collection as often as you can.

### Endla ntsheketo wu nyanyula!

- ★ Tsala ntsheketo wo koma kumbe xiphato mayelana ni nchumu lowu nga tshama wu endleka eka wena kumbe lowu u wu tsakelaka. Loko u hetile swi veke laha swi nga ta hlayiseka kahle.
- ★ Loko ku hundze siku rin'we kumbe mambirhi, hlaya ntsheketo kumbe xiphato xa wena. Endla mindzulamiso ley! u ehleketaka leswaku yi ta endla ku hlaya ntsheketo kumbe xiphato xa wena swi tsakisa. Lulamisa swihoxo hinkwaswo.
- ★ Dirowa xifaniso u kombisa leswi ntsheketo kumbe xiphato xa wena xi vulavulaka ha swona. Hlayisa leswi u swi tsaleke ni ku swi dirowa eplastikini kumbe khonthena. Hamba u engetela mitsheketo, swiphato na swifaniso swintshwa eka nhlengeletano wa wena hi nkarhi lowu u wu kotaka.

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](http://www.nalibali.org).



Nal'ibali i pfhumba ra rixaka ro hlayela ku tiphina ku tlhonthla ni ku simeka ntlovelo wo hlaya eAfrika-Dzonga hinkwaro. Ku kuma vuxokoxoko hi xitalo, endzela [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org).

## Ke leeto – a journey



## Riendzo

**Ideas to talk about:** Do you enjoy drawing and writing for fun? Why do you think it is important to be able to write well? What would you enjoy writing about?

**Mianakanyo yo bula hayona:** Xana wa swi tsakela ku hungasa hi ku dirowa na ku tsala? U vona onge ha yini ku kota ku tsala kahle swi ri swa nkoka? U nga tsakela ku tsala hi timhaka tihl?

Look at the picture above. Now write your own poem about birds in any language that you like.  
 Languta xifaniso lexi nga laha henhla. Loko u hetile, tsala xiphato xa wena xo vulavula hi swinyanya hi ritimi leri u ri lavaka.

We love birds.  
 Birds have two wings.  
 Their wings are colourful.  
 The beautiful wings help them to fly.  
 Birds are beautiful.  
 They fly high in the sky.  
 They can fly higher and higher.



**The beautiful birds**  
 by Lesuti Bakgethile



Kondlo ri tshike ku hlongorisana na vusokoti ri yingisela kahle.  
 Ri vone nghala leyi nga phaswa ivi ri tsutsumela eka yona. "Nakulorhi n'wanghala, u nga chavi, ndzi ta ku pfuna," ku vula xikondlwana.  
 "Wena u ntsongo ngoptu, a wu nge swi koti ku tlakusa nete leyi," ku vula nghala yi chuhile.  
 "Inge ndzi ku pfuna, u ta swi vona," ku vula kondlo.  
 Kondlo ri sungule ku lumetela nete hi meno ivi ri pfula vangwa rikulu lerova nghala yi kota ku huma.  
 "A wu nge ndzi hanyeli, n'waxikondlwana. U xumile. Se mungwana wa mina lonkulu hi wena," ku vula nghala yi tsakile va ri karhi va famba swin'we va ya endlwini ya yona.

The mouse stopped chasing ants and listened carefully. He saw the trapped lion and rushed to it. "Lion, my friend, relax, I will help you," said the tiny mouse.  
 "You are too tiny, you can't lift this net," said the terrified lion. "Allow me to help you, please," pleaded the mouse. The mouse started to bite the net with his teeth and soon opened a gap big enough for the body of the lion to crawl through.  
 "You saved me, tiny mouse. You are useful. You are now my best friend," said the happy lion as they walked together to his house.

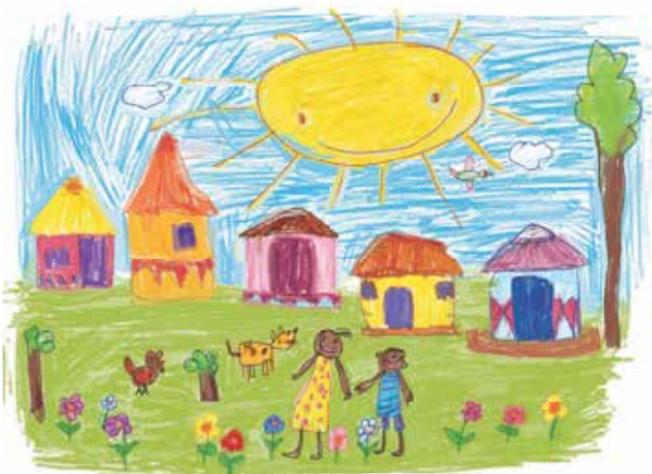
**The bright yellow sun**

by Phala Pabalelo

Welcome spring and summer!  
 The sun shines brightly,  
 Bringing out a yellow light.  
 The sun shines brighter.

The bright light gives us energy.  
 The sun supplies trees with energy.  
 The light brings us joy and peace.  
 Oh, Shiny light!

Look at the brightness in the sky!  
 It gives us glowing skin.  
 It brings a smile to our faces.



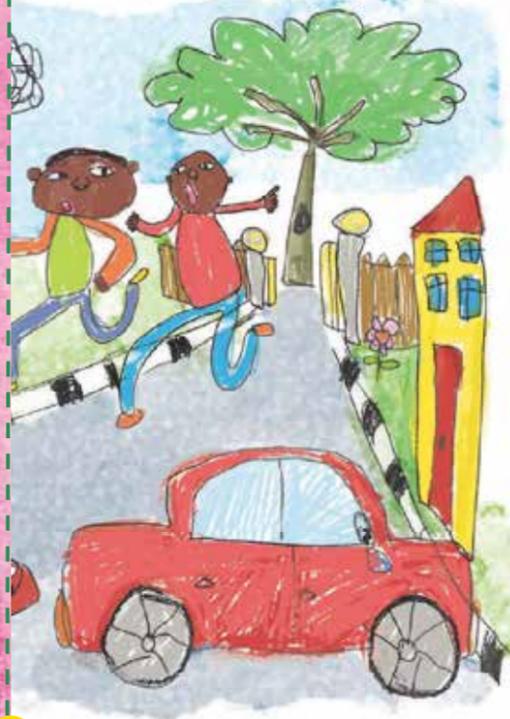
"Ku na murhi lowu vulavulaka ephakeni, u nga tshineli ni ku tshinela," ku hlamula jaha rin'wana.

"Murhi lowu vulavulaka?" Mary a tivutisa hi mbilu. A a nga ri kholwi jaha leri.

"Ndzi lava ku ya tivonela. A ndzi ri kholwi jaha leri," ku vula Mary a ri karhi a ya ephakeni.

U kongome murhi wa kona ivi a kuma vafana vanharhu va ri kari va wu hoxetela hi maribye, kambe murhi a wu nga vuli nchumu. Na yena u sungule ku wu hoxetela hi maribye, kambe wu nga vuli nchumu.

Hiloko Mary a vona xiyanimoya lexi nga rivariwa hi un'wana etlhelo ka murhi. U tlhelele endzhaku a ya byela hinkwavo leswaku leswi a va swi twa a ku ri xiyanimoya, hayi murhi, hikuva murhi a wu vulavuli.





I sing in a voice that is crisp and cool like clean water.  
 Ndzi yimbelela hi rito leri tengeke ri tlhela ri hola ku fana na mati lama baseke.

What does it sound like when you sing? Let's find out.

This story was specially created for Nal'ibali to spark children's potential through storytelling and reading for enjoyment.



Xana loko u yimbelela swi twala ku fana na yini? A hi tweni.

Ntshaketo lowu wu endleriwe Nal'ibali hi ku kongoma hi xikongomelo xo pfuna vana va humesa vuswikoti bya vona hi ku hlamusela mitsheketo ni ku hungasa hi ku hlaya.

### Get story active!

- ★ Play some music that has different voices, for example, a song sung by a choir. Can you hear a deep voice? Can you hear a high voice?
- ★ Do you have a favourite singer? Draw your favourite singer and write the person's name under your drawing.
- ★ Have a singing concert with your family and friends. Each one should sing their favourite song. Or you can sing together as a group.
- ★ Practice singing our national anthem for Heritage Day on 24 September.

### Endla ntsheketo wu nyanyula!

- ★ Tlanga vuyimbeleri lebyi nga na marito ya vanhu vo hambanahambana, hi xikombiso, risimu ra khwayere. Xana u kota ku twa rito ro bongana? Xana u kota ku twa rito ro nkelela?
- ★ Xana ku na xiyimbeleri lexi u xi rhandzaka ngopfu? Dirowa xiyimbeleri lexi u xi rhandzaka ngopfu ivi u tsala vito ra xona ehansi ka xifaniso xa wena.
- ★ Endla khonsati yo yimbelela na ndyangu wa ka n'wina ni vanghana. Un'wana ni un'wana u fanele a yimbelela risimu leri a ri rhandzaka ngopfu. Kumbe mi nga yimbelela swin'we tanihi ntlawa.
- ★ Dyondzani ku yimbelela risimu ra rixaka ra ka hina ku nga si fika Siku ra Ndzhaka ra ti-24 ta September.

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](http://www.nalibali.org).



Nal'ibali i pfhumba ra rixaka ro hlalaya ku tiphina ku tlhontlha ni ku simeka ntolovelo wo hlalaya eAfrika-Dzonga hinkwaro. Ku kuma vuxokoxoko hi xitalo, endzela [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org).

## Let's sing!

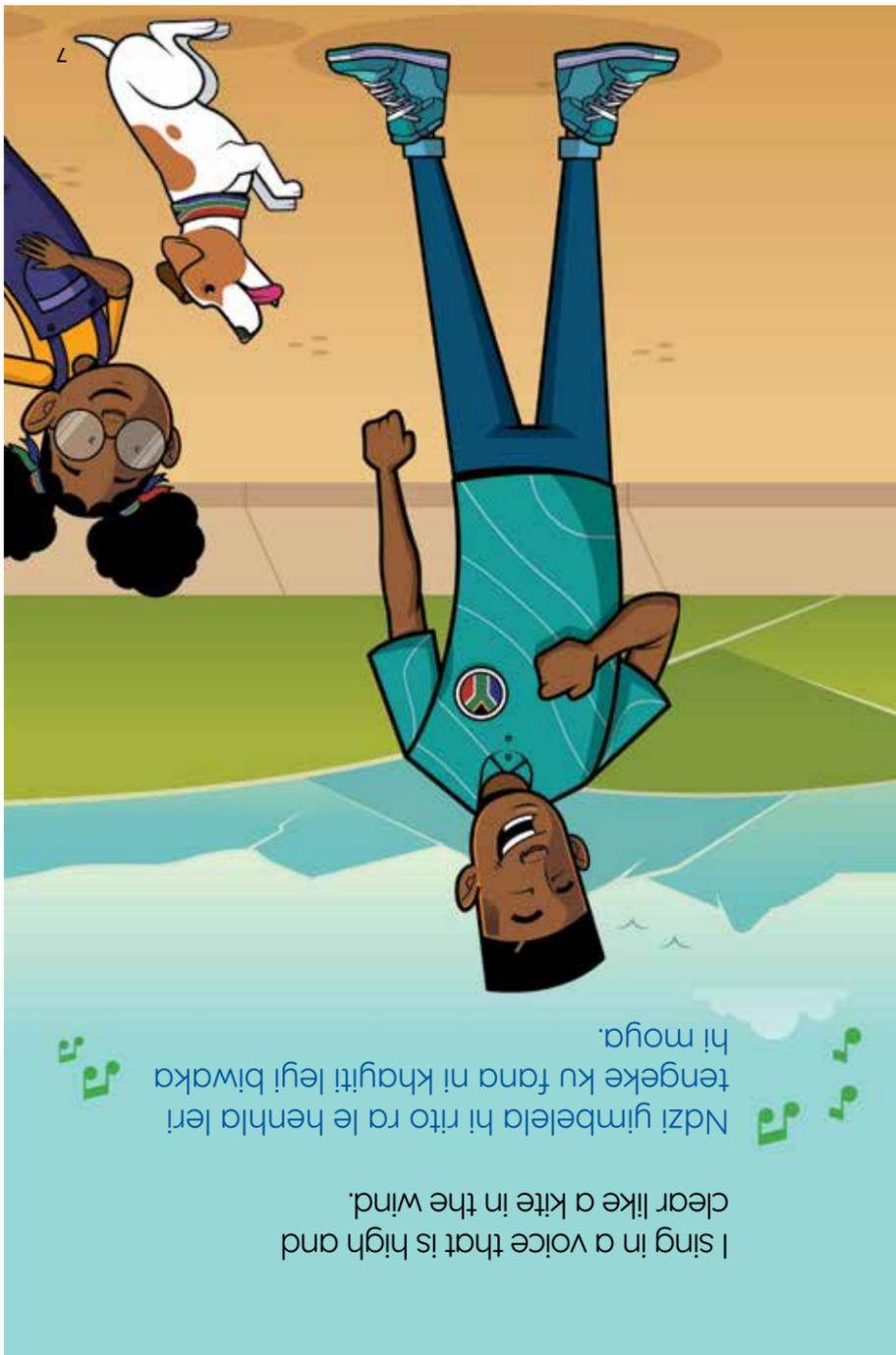


## A hi yimbeleleni!

Brigotte Naicker • Ndumiso Nyoni

**Ideas to talk about:** Have you heard a choir or a big group of people sing? What have you noticed about the different voices that people use when they sing? What does your voice sound like when you sing?

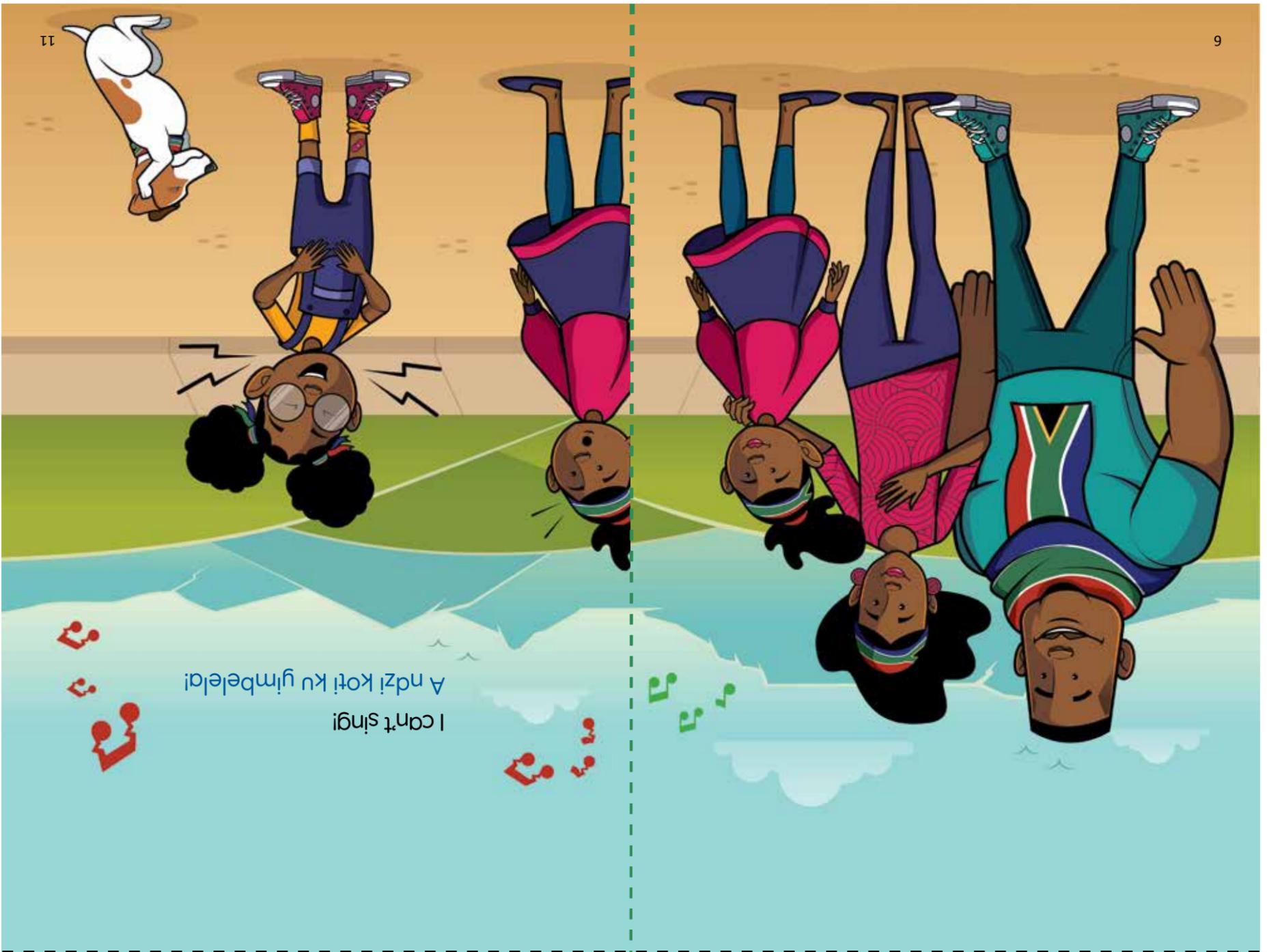
**Mianakanyo yo bula hayona:** Xana u tshame u twa khwayere kumbe ntlawa lowukulu wa vanhu wu yimbelela? U xiye yini hi marito yo hambanahambana lawa vanhu va ma tirhisaka loko va yimbelela? Rito ra wena ri twala njhani loko u yimbelela?



I sing in a voice that is high and  
clear like a kite in the wind.

Ndzi gimbelela hi rito ra le henhla ler!  
tengeke ku fana ni khayiti leji biwaka  
hi moya.





I can't sing!  
A ndzi kotl ku yimbelela!

I sing in a deep and low voice  
that rumbles like thunder.

Ndzi yimbelela hi rito leri dzikeke ni  
ku twalela ehansi leri rhurhumelaka  
ku fana ni ku dzindza ka tilo.

Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika  
Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika  
Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo,  
Yizwa imithandazo yethu,  
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.

Morena boloka setjhaba sa heso,  
O fedise dintwa le matshwenyeho,  
O se boloke, O se boloke setjhaba sa heso,  
Setjhaba sa South Afrika – South Afrika.

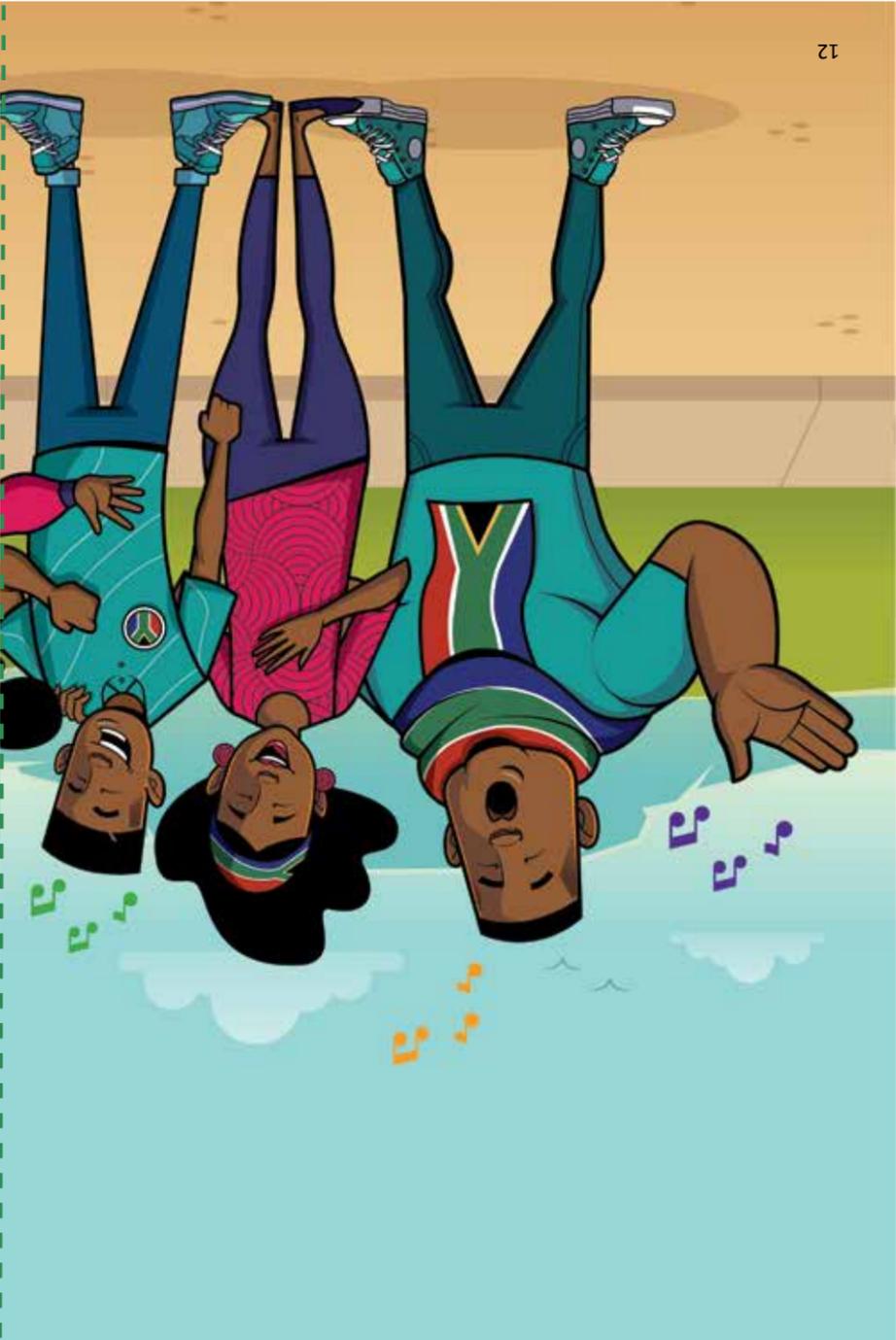
Uit die blou van onse hemel,  
Uit die diepte van ons see,  
Oor ons ewige gebergtes,  
Waar die kranse antwoord gee.

Sounds the call to come together,  
And united we shall stand,  
Let us live and strive for freedom,  
In South Africa our land.

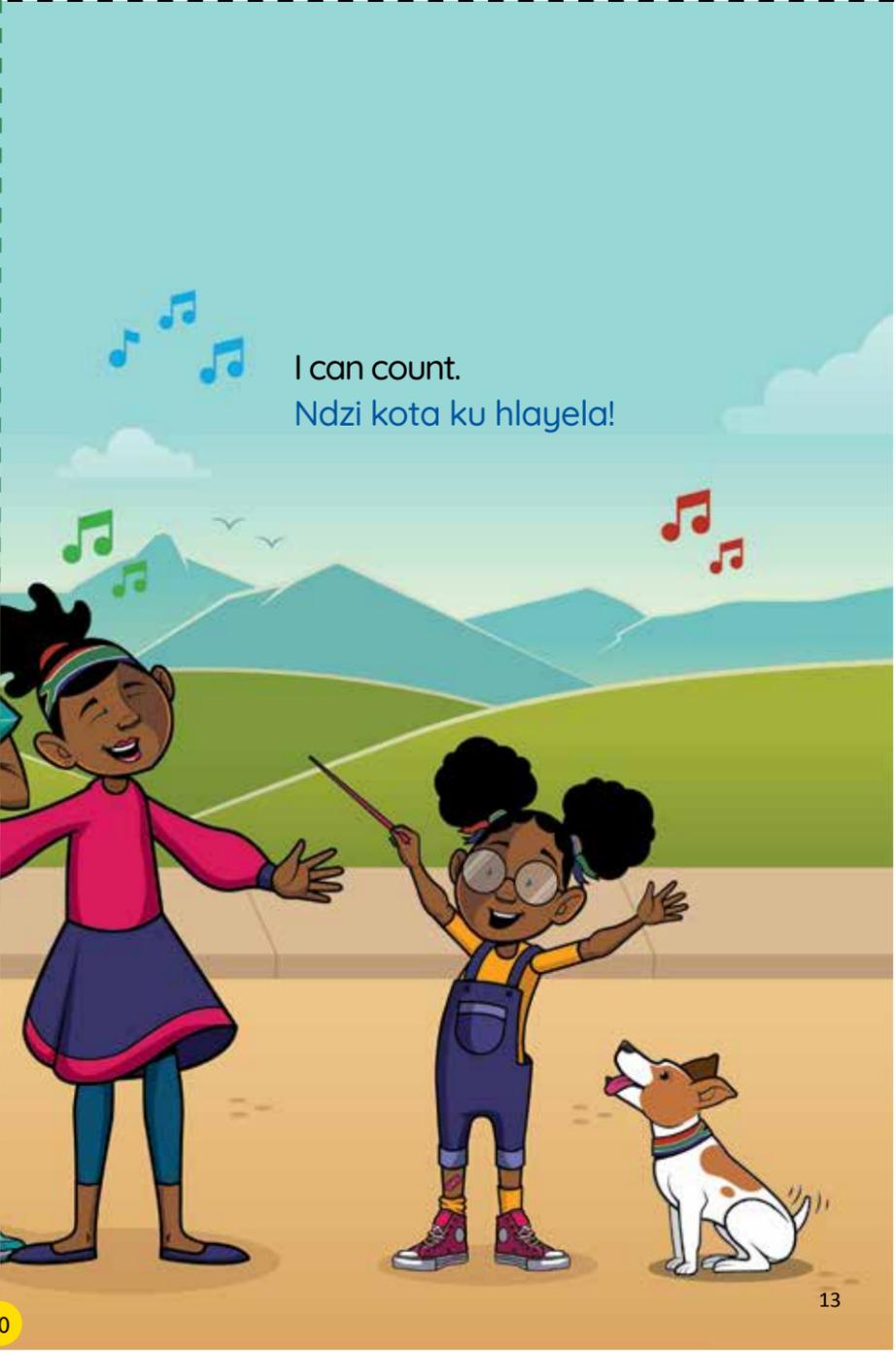


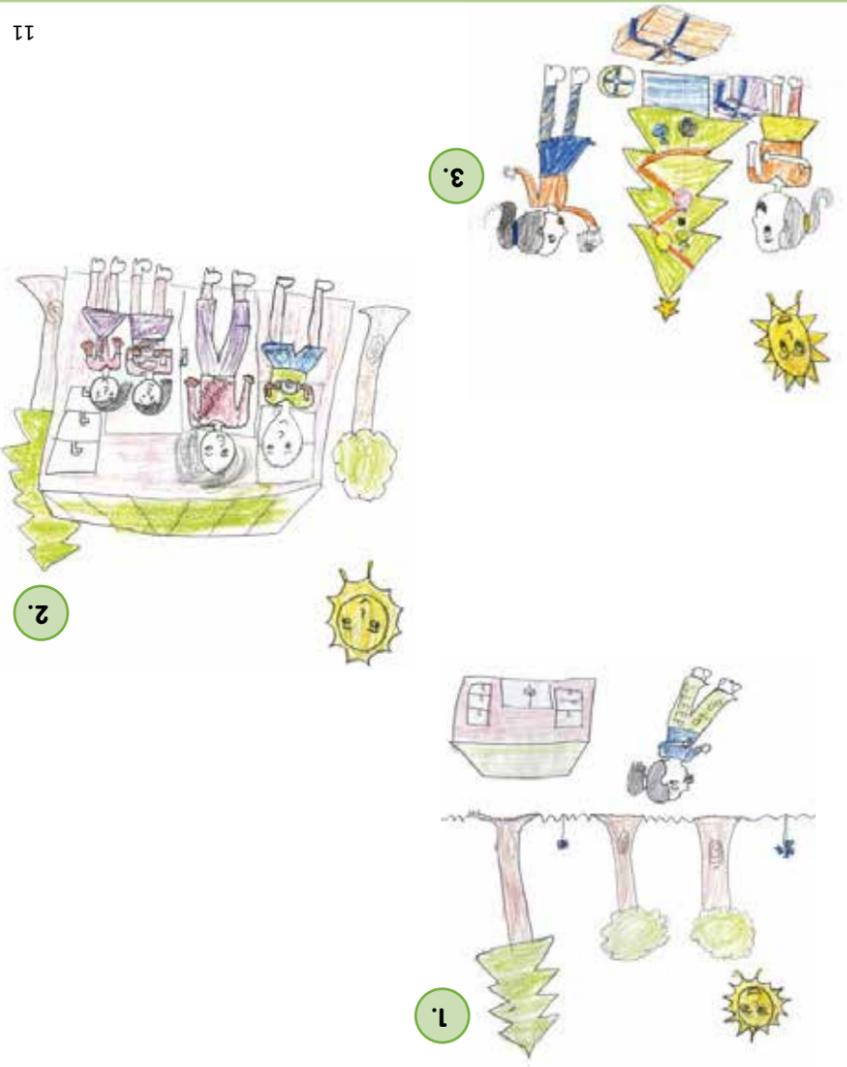


I sing in a rich and strong voice  
that is warm like a blanket.  
Ndzi gimbelela hi rito lero fuwa na  
ku tsindzigele leri kufumelaka bya  
nkumba.



I can count.  
Ndzi kota ku hlayela!





Look at the pictures below. What do you think is happening here? Write your own story based on the pictures on page 12. Give your story a title.

Languta swifaniso leswi nga laha hans! U ehleketa leswaku ku endleka yini? Tsala nshkeeto wa wena hi ku kongomiswa hi swifaniso sweswo swinhathu. Nyika nshkeeto wa wena nhlokomhaka.

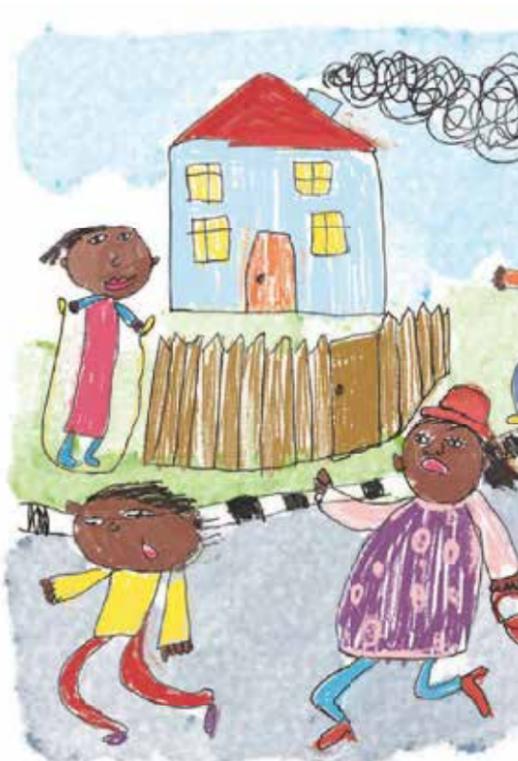
“There is a talking tree in the park. Don’t go there, please,” replied the young man.

“A talking tree?” wondered Mary. She couldn’t believe the young man.

“I want to see that myself. I don’t believe him,” said Mary as she walked to the park.

She went straight to the tree and found three boys throwing stones at the tree, but the tree was not responding. She started throwing stones at the tree, but it didn’t respond.

Then Mary saw a radio that had been left by someone next to the tree. She went back and told everyone that they had heard a radio but not a tree because a tree cannot talk.



Siku rin’wana yi lave ku ya enambyeni, kambe yi tsandzeke ku yima. “Ndzi pfune, ndzi lava mpfuno haleno!” yi huwela yi kombela mutsundzuxi wa yona. Nkulukumba N’wampfundia, leswaku a ta yi pfuna. Mpfundia wu ringetile ku n’wi pfuna, kambe heyi, miri wa yena a wu kule ngopfu. N’wampfundia a nga ta swi kota ku n’wi yimisa. Ndllopfu yi sungule ku tisoia hi makwanga ya yona loko yona hosi ya nhova. Nghala a xi ri xona ntsena xihathi lexi nga ni matimba yo lava ku ringana ni ya ndlopfu.

One day he decided to go to the river, but he couldn’t stand up. “Help, help!” he shouted, asking for help from his advisor, Mr Rabbit. The rabbit tried to help him, but he was too big. The rabbit couldn’t lift him up. Elephant started to regret his greediness when the other animals voted for Lion to be the king of the jungle. Lion was the only animal with the strength almost equal to that of the elephant.

How many languages do you speak? In the space below, write your own poem about the sun in a language other than English. You can say your poem to someone who can help you to write it down. Then draw or cut out and paste a picture of the sun to go with your poem.

U kota ku vulavula tindzimi tingani? Exivandleni lexi pfulekeke laha hans, tsala xiphato xa wena hi ririmi rin’wana, handle ka Xinghezi. U nga hlamusela un’wana xiphato xa wena ivi a ku pfuna ku xi tsala. Kutani dirowa xifaniso xa dyambu ivi u xi tsema u xi namaketa eka xiphato xa wena.



Khale ka khaleni a ku ri na ndloptu leyi a yi ri hosi ya nhova. Swiharhi hinkwaswo a swi chava ndloptu leyi hikuva a yi tiyisa voko, ku nga ri na xiharhi leyi yi hlekaka na xona. Leswi yi swi vuleke a ku ri rona rito ra xiheri.

Ndloptu leyi a yi loloha ku ya tilavela swakudya hi xixika. Yi lerise swiharhikulobye ku yi tisele swakudya hileswi a yi vabya naswona a yi nga koti ni ku yima kahle. Swiharhi a swi yingisa swi yi tisele swakudya, ni ku vilela swi nga vileli.

Hosi N'wandloptu a mukisana na swakudya hinkwaswo leswi a tiseriwa swona, naswona swiharhi a swi nga tshiki ku yi tisele swona siku na siku. Ndloptu yi dye swakudya leswiya hinkwaswo kutani yi sungula ku nona nakatsongotsongo siku na siku, ni ku swi lemuka yi nga swi lemuki, hikuva loko yi heta ku dya a yi khudzehele.

## Miri lowukulu wa ndloptu hi Keentse Malepe

### The elephant's big body

by Keentse Malepe

Once upon a time, there was an elephant that ruled as a king in the jungle. All the animals feared the elephant because he was strict, and he never smiled at anyone.

His words were always final.

Elephant was lazy to go fend for himself during winter. He ordered other animals to bring him food, as he was sick and couldn't stand up properly. The animals would comply and bring him food without complaining.

King Elephant ate all the food brought to him and the animals kept on bringing him food every day. The elephant ate all the food and got fatter and fatter each day without noticing because he dozed off after finishing each meal.



## My story / Ntshkeeto wa mina



### The talking tree Murhi lowu vulavulaka

Makofane Marvell

A long time ago there was a girl named Mary Anne. She lived in the city, and she liked to play outside her house. There was a park with many big trees near her home.

One day, while playing outside her house, she saw two people running towards the park. She stopped playing and stared at them.

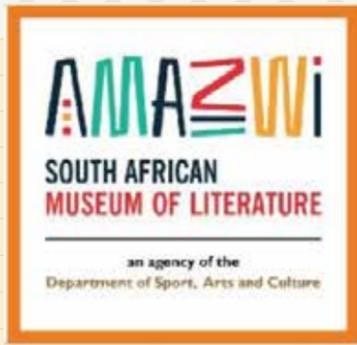
Then another pair of people came running away from the park. "This is strange," Mary Anne mumbled. She ran to the fence next to the road. "Hey, why are you running away?" she shouted at the people who were running by.

Khale ka khaleni a ku ri na xinhwanyetana lexi vuriwaka Mary Anne. A xi tshama edorobeni naswona a xi rhandza ku tlangela ehandle. Ekusuhi ni le ka vona a ku ri na phaka leyi nga ni mirhi yo tala leyikulu.

Siku rin'wana loko a ri karhi a tlanga ehandle, u vone vanhu vambirhi va tsutsuma va kongome ephakeni. U tshike ku tlanga a va languta. Hiloko ku humelela vanhu van'wana vambirhi va ri karhi va tsutsuma va huma ephakeni.

"Ku na mhaka la," Mary Anne a tivulavulela a ri yexe. U tsutsumeledarateni eithelo ka pato. "N'wino, mi tsutsumisiwa hi yini kasi?" a huwelela vanhu lava a va tsutsuma va hundza kwalaho.

## Khonferense ya Amazwi ya Vutsari bya Vana



## Amazwi Children's Literature Conference

Khonferense ya Amazwi ya Vutsari bya Vana yi ve kona hi ti-5 na ti-6 ta June 2024 eMakhanda, eKapa Vuxa. Hina hi rhumele xiringanyeto xa leswi hi nga swi endlaka leswaku vanhu vo tala va kuma tibuku na mitsheketo ya tindzimi to hambanahambana eAfrika Dzonga, ni xivangelo xa kona. Hi dzike ngopfu eka nkoka wa ku va vana va hlamuselana ni ku tsala mitsheketo leswaku ku endliwa tibuku hi tindzimi ta Afrika Dzonga, leti hlamuselaka mitokoto ya vatsari lava ha riki vana. Lava hlamuseleke xiringanyeto xa hina ekhonferenseni i Dok. Nompucuko Zakaza na Madoda Ndlakuse.

The Amazwi Children's Literature Conference was held on 5 and 6 June 2024 in Makhanda, Eastern Cape. We decided to submit a presentation on how we could and why we should increase access to multilingual books and stories in South Africa. We focused specifically on the value of storytelling and story writing by children to create books in indigenous South African languages that reflect the experiences of child writers. Our presenters at the conference were Dr Nompucuko Zakaza and Madoda Ndlakuse.

### Ku suka eximatsini:

Nadeema Musthan, Dok. Nompucuko Zakaza, Madoda Ndlakuse na Cathy Gush. Nadeema na Cathy i swirho swa huvo ya Nal'ibali Trust.



From left: Nadeema Musthan, Dr Nompucuko Zakaza, Madoda Ndlakuse and Cathy Gush. Nadeema and Cathy are Nal'ibali Trust board members.

Xiringanyeto xa hina xi nyike swikombiso swa tiprojeke ta vana ta vutsari ta Nal'ibali, ni ndlela leyi ku tsala swi pfuneke vana ni mindyangu ya ka vona ku twisisa nkoka wa ku hlanya ni ku tsala ni ku tamela swiphiko leswi ndyangu wu languteneke na swona. Hi nkarhi wa khonferense, Nal'ibali a yi kandziyise tibuku tinharhu leti tsariweke hi vana: *Nganeno komlambo iQhagqiwa* (leswi vulaka ku *U nga si fika eNambyeni wa Qhagqiwa*) hi 2022 na *lingqondi zeQhagqiwa* (leswi vulaka ku *Vaxopaxopi va le Qhagqiwa*) hi 2023 hi Xixhosa, na *Ke leeto* (leswi vulaka ku *Riendzo*) hi Xipedi na hi Xinghezi.

Hina va ka Nal'ibali hi pfumela leswaku ku seketela vana leswaku va tsala hi tindzimi leti va ti mameke swi nga pfuna leswaku hi va na tibuku leti engetelekeke hi tindzimi ta ka hina, tibuku leti nga ni mitokoto yo tsakisa ni leyi khutazaka ya ndhavuko wa vana, ti tlhela ti va ni swifaniso swa vana va vantima va laha Afrika Dzonga.

The presentation showcased examples of Nal'ibali's writing projects by and for children and how writing helped these children and their families to appreciate the value of literacy activities and to deal with trauma that the family had experienced. At the time of the conference, Nal'ibali had published three books written by children: *Nganeno komlambo iQhagqiwa* (which means *Before you reach the Qhagqiwa River*) in 2022 and *lingqondi zeQhagqiwa* (which means *Critical thinkers of Qhagqiwa*) in 2023 in IsiXhosa, and *Ke leeto* (which means *The journey*) in Sepedi and English.

We at Nal'ibali believe that, by supporting children to write in their home languages, we can create more books in our indigenous languages that reflect positive and uplifting socio-cultural experiences and imagery of black South African children.



### Mhaka leyi hayona swi nga swa nkoka ku khutaza vana va tsala hi ririmi ra manana:

- ☉ Vana va phofula miehleketo na mitlhavoko ya vona hi ku dirowa na ku tsala.
- ☉ Leswi vana va swi tsalaka ni ku swi dirowa swi fambisana na ndhavuko wa vona.
- ☉ Tibuku leti ta mitsheketo a ti durhi, ti fambisana na malembe ya vana naswona ti kumeka hi tindzimi leti vana va ti mameke.
- ☉ Swi kombisa ku hlanya ku ri mhaka leyi tsakisaka ni leyi vuyerisaka.
- ☉ Swi kandziyisa nkoka wa ririmi ra manana, ku faneleka ka rona ni vuxongi bya rona eku hlamuseleni mitokoto, matimu ni ndhavuko wa loyi a ri vulavulaka.

### Why it's important to encourage children to write in their mother tongues:

- ☉ Children explore their thoughts and feelings through drawing and writing.
- ☉ The writings and drawings that the children produce are culturally relevant and relatable.
- ☉ These stories are low-cost, age-appropriate reading materials in children's home languages.
- ☉ It promotes reading as enjoyable and rewarding.
- ☉ It affirms the importance, relevance and beauty of the mother tongue in capturing the experiences, history and culture of the native speaker.





## Vutshila lebyikulu bya ku baleka

Hi Jenny Robson ■ Swifaniso hi Karen Ahlschläger

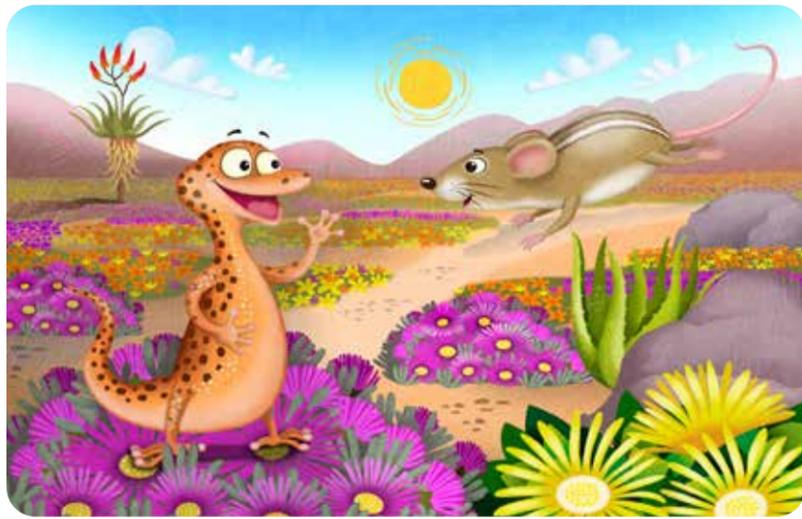


Khale ka khaleni a ku ri na kondlo ra mikhwalalati leri vuriwaka Mogie. A ri tshama endlwini ehansi ka maribye ekwandzasini ro tala maribye. Hi ximun'wana, a ku baleka swiluva hinkwaswo swo xonga. A wu vona onge kwandzasi ri funengetiwe hi tikhapete ta mivalavala.

Siku rin'wana nimixo hi ximun'wana, Mogie u twe rito ri n'wi vitana. "Mogie! Tana hi ta tlanga. Dyambu ri xe kahle! Ku baleke swiluva swo saseka!"

A ku ri munghana wakwe Gideon. Mogie a a rhandza ku tlanga na Gideon. Yena a a ri xipululu xa mavalavala naswona a a ri na misawu. A a ri na swikunwana swo hlamarisa leswi a swi fana na swimbyarumbyaru emikondzweni.

Mogie u humese nhloko a nunh'wetela emoyeni a kamba loko ku nga ri na khombo. Hiloko a tsemekanya ndlela a ya eka Gideon loyi a ri exikarhi ka swiluva. Dyambu a ri humile, kutani swiluva a swi balekile. A ku ri na swiluva swo xonga swa pinki, xitshopani, phephulu na xilamula.



Loko Mogie a fika eka Gideon, u huwelerile, "A hi phikizane hi ya ba ntambhu eka mhangani liya yo tshwuka, Mogie! N'we, mbirhi, A HI YE!" Hiloko Gideon a tsutsuma hi swikunwana swa swimbyarumbyaru. Mogie u n'wi sale endzhaku, a tiphina hi masana evoyeni byakwe.

Loko va fika eka mhangani yo tshwuka, va hundzulukile va languta mpfuka lowu va nga wu tsutsuma. Exikarhi ka swiluva, va vona xiharhi lexi nga ni voya bya mikhwalalati yo kwalala xi bvutamile. A ku ri Claw, ximanga xa nhova lexi nga ni nsele. Claw a a va tumbelerile!

"Tsutsuma, Gideon, tsutsuma!" ku vula Mogie. U tlhelele endlwini yakwe hi rivilo lerikulu. Loko se a hlayisekile endlwini, u hlometerile a lava ku vona loko Gideon na yena a balekile. Ina, hi luya, u khandziya maribye lamakulu, a ya emaningingini. U swi endlise ku yini sweswo? Swi tise ku yini leswaku a nga wi?

Kambe Claw yena a a ri kwihl? Mogie u vona Claw a tshame etshakwini ra maribye, a langute Gideon. Ncila wa Claw a wu puluta swi nga heli: wu ya eximatsini, exineneni, eximatsini, exineneni.

Hi xamundzuku wa kona, Mogie na Gideon a va tshame exikarhi ka swiluva. Gideon a a tiphina hi masana lawa a ma twala enhlongeni. "U pone ri ahlamile, Gideon!" ku vula Mogie. "Mara u swi endlisa ku yini sweswo? U swi kotisa ku yini ku gonya ribye ro ka ri nga khandziyeki hi rivilo ronghasi, u ya fika emaningingini kambe u nga wi?"

Gideon u lo n'wayitela ivi a cinanyana bya xipululu. "Xihundla xi le swikunwanini swa mina leswi nga ni swimbyarumbyaru," ku vula yena.

"I xihundla xo hlamarisa ngopfu," ku vula Mogie. "Claw a hlundzuke ngopfu loko u n'wi siya. Xana u wu vonile ncila wakwe wu puluta hi ku hlundzuka: wu ya eximatsini, exineneni, eximatsini, exineneni?"

Xikan'wekan'we ku ve na ndzhuti lowu nga pfala dyambu wu funengeta swiluva swa phephulu. Mogie na Gideon va tlakuse mahlo ivi va vona Claw a va langutile.

"Tsutsuma!" ku vula Mogie a ri karhi a tsutsumela ekaya. Mbilu yakwe a yi ba hi mahika, a a twa onge yi to tlula yi huma exifuvuni.

Xana na Gideon u hlayisekile? Xana u ponile? Mogie u hlometerile. Kambe a nga vonanga Gideon a khandziya ribye hi ku tsutsuma. U langute tlhelo lerin'wana ivi a huwelela, "Manano!" Mogie u vona nchumu wo vavisa – Claw u khome Gideon hi ncila! Mogie a a hlundzuke ngopfu lerova a nga ha languti leswi endlekaka. U tlhelele endlwini yakwe a fika a rila a kala a khomiwa hi vurhongo.



Hi xamundzuku wa kona namixo, dyambu a ri hume kahle. Ku baleke swiluva swa ximun'wana – swa xitshopani, swa xilamula, pinki na phephulu. Kambe Mogie u lo titshamela endlwini. A a ri na gome naswona a a chava ku huma fambafamba. Hiloko a twa rito ri huwelela.

"Mogie! Tana hi ta tlanga. Dyambu ri xe kahle! Swiluva swi baleke hinkwaswo!"

Mogie a nga swi kholwanga. Xana a ku ri Gideon? U hlometerile ivi a kuma leswaku i Gideon hakunene. A a n'wayitela bya xipululu a ri karhi a cinacina hi swikunwana swa swimbyarumbyaru!

Mogie u tsutsumele eka yena. "Ndzi vona Claw a ku khoma hi ncila. U chupuke njhani?" ku vutisa yena.

"Claw u ndzi khome hi ncila," ku vula Gideon. "Kambe a nga kotanga ku ndzi khoma hi le mirini!"

"U vula njhani?" ku vutisa Mogie. "A ndzi ku twisisi."

Gideon u hlamuserile, "Ncila wa mina wu tsemekile. Wu suke hinkwawo! Wu tshukatshukile wu tlulatlula wu tlhela wu tshombonyoka. Sweswo wu swi endle hi woxe! Micila ya swipululu yi tano. Claw a a pfilunganyekile na yena. U ringeta ku khoma ncila wa mina," ku vula Gideon a ri karhi a hleka. "Kasi mina a ndzi hlayisekile, ndzi tumbete endzhaku ka mhangani yo tshwuka. Xana lawa a hi mano yo hlamarisa ya xipululu?"

"Ishh! Xana a wu nga twi ku vava?" ku vutisa Mogie.

"Nikatsongo," ku vula Gideon. "Lexi tsakisaka hileswaku ncila wa mina wu ta tlhela wu kula. Micila ya swipululu yi tano. Xana sweswo a ku nga ri vutshila lebyikulu bya ku baleka?" Gideon u vona leswaku mhaka leyi yi n'wi tsakise swinene Mogie.

Hiloko Gideon a ku, "Ndzi ehleketa leswaku ndzi nga ku siya hambiloko ndzi nga ri na ncila! A hi ye hi ya ba ntambhu lahaya ka mhangani yo tshwuka!"

Kambe sweswi Mogie na Gideon va rhangwe va tiyiseka leswaku Claw a a nga ri kona ekusuhi. Hiloko Gideon ku, "N'we, mbirhi, A HI YE!" Hiloko va tsutsuma.

Leswi Mogie na Gideon a va nga swi tivi hileswaku siku rero a ku nga ri na khombo hikwa Claw a nga humanga a ya hlota. A a ha pfilunganyekile a ringeta ku twisisa leswaku xipululu xi chupukise ku yini. Loko Claw a te ntsee, a ri eku ehleketeni, ncila wakwe a wu puluta swi nga heli: wu ya eximatsini, exineneni, eximatsini, exineneni.

### Endla ntsheketo wu nyanyula!

- ★ Dirowa xifaniso xa xiphemu xa ntsheketo lexi ku tsakisaka ngopfu.
- ★ Xana u nga swi kota ku vula mivala ya ntlhanu ya swiluva leswi nga entsheketsweni? Sweswi hlamusela mimfungo yo hambana leyi swiharhi leswi tlangaka ntsheketo swi nga na yona enhlongeni ni le voyeni.

- ★ Tirhisa swilo swa khale, wayere, vuhlalu na tikunupu u endla swipopana swo fanekisela Mogie, Gideon na Claw. Tlangani ntsheketo hi ku tirhisa swipopana swa n'wina.



## The great escape

By Jenny Robson ■ Illustrations by Karen Ahlschläger



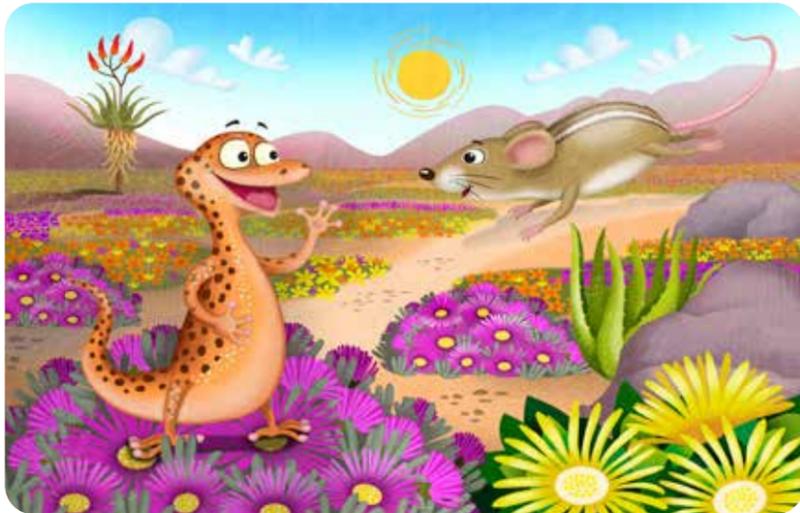
Story  
corner

There was once a striped mouse named Mogie. She lived in a house under some rocks in a stony desert. In the springtime, all the beautiful flowers bloomed. They made the desert look like it was covered in colourful carpets.

One spring morning, Mogie heard someone calling her. "Mogie! Come and play. The sun is shining! The vygie flowers are all open!"

It was her friend Gideon. Mogie loved playing with Gideon. He was a spotted gecko and he was so funny. He had the funniest toes that looked like little bubbles on his feet.

Mogie put her head out and sniffed the air to check if it was safe. Then she scurried across the path to Gideon in the vygie bed. The sun was out, so the flowers were open. There was a wonderful mixture of pink, yellow, purple and orange flowers.



As soon as Mogie got to Gideon, he shouted, "Race you to the red aloe, Mogie! On your marks, get set, GO!" And off Gideon ran on his bubble toes. Mogie ran behind him, enjoying the warm sunshine on her fur.

When they reached the red aloe, they looked back to see how far they had run. In the field of flowers, they saw an animal with striped fur crouching down. It was Claw, the mean wild cat. Claw was stalking them!

"Run, Gideon, run!" squeaked Mogie. She scurried back to her house as fast as she could. When she was safely inside, she peeped out to check that Gideon had escaped too. Yes, there he was, scampering up the big rocks, right to the very top. How did he do that? How did he not fall off?

But where was Claw? Mogie saw Claw sitting at the bottom of the rocks, looking up at Gideon. Claw's tail flicked crossly: left, right, left, right.

The next day, Mogie and Gideon were sitting in the flowers. Gideon was enjoying the warm sunshine on his skin. "That was a great escape, Gideon!" said Mogie. "How do you do that? How do you run up a flat rock, all the way to the top, without falling?"

Gideon smiled and did a little gecko dance. "It's a gecko trick with my bubble toes," he said.

"It's a very clever trick," said Mogie. "Claw was so cross that you got away. Did you see his tail flicking angrily: left, right, left, right?"

Suddenly, a dark shadow fell across the purple flowers, blocking out the sun. Mogie and Gideon looked up and saw Claw watching them.

"Run!" squeaked Mogie and ran to her house. Her heart was beating so fast, it felt as if it would jump out of her chest.

Was Gideon safe too? Had he escaped? Mogie peeped out to check. But she didn't see Gideon scampering up the rock. She turned the other way and shouted, "Oh no!" Mogie saw a terrible thing – Claw had caught Gideon by the tail! Mogie was so upset that she couldn't watch. She went into her room and cried herself to sleep.



The next morning, the sun was shining. The spring flowers opened their petals – yellow, orange, pink and purple. But Mogie stayed in her house. She was too sad and scared to go anywhere.

Then she heard someone calling her.

"Mogie! Come and play. The sun is shining! The flowers are all open!"

Mogie couldn't believe her ears. Was that Gideon? She peeped out, and there he was. Gideon was smiling his gecko smile and dancing on his bubble toes!

Mogie scampered to him. "I saw Claw catch you by the tail. How did you escape?" she asked.

"Claw caught my tail," said Gideon. "But he didn't catch the rest of me!"

"What do you mean?" asked Mogie. "I'm confused."

Gideon explained, "My tail came off. Right off! It moved and bounced and twisted. All by itself! Gecko tails can do that. Claw was confused too. He kept trying to catch my tail," laughed Gideon. "Meanwhile, I was safe, hiding behind the red aloe. Now isn't that a clever gecko trick?"

"Ouch! Didn't it hurt?" asked Mogie.

"Not even a little bit," said Gideon. "The best thing of all is that my tail will grow back again. Gecko tails can do that. Now wasn't that the greatest escape ever?" Gideon could see that Mogie was very impressed.

Then Gideon said, "I bet I can beat you in a race even without my tail! Race you to the red aloe!"

But this time, before they started the race, Mogie and Gideon made sure that there was no sign of Claw. Then Gideon shouted, "On your marks, get set, GO!" And off they ran.

What Mogie and Gideon didn't know was that they were safe that day because Claw wasn't out hunting. He was still confused and trying to understand how the gecko had escaped. And as he sat thinking, Claw's tail flicked crossly: left, right, left, right.

### Get story active!

- ★ Draw a picture of your favourite part of the story.
- ★ Can you name the five colours of the flowers in the story? Now describe the different patterns that the animal characters have on their skin and fur.
- ★ Use old material, wire, beads and buttons to make puppets of Mogie, Gideon and Claw. Use your puppets to act out the story.

# Swo tsakisa hi Na'ibali

## Na'ibali fun



1.

September i N'hweti ya ku Hlaya ni ku Tsala! U titwa njhani hi ku hlaya ni ku tsala mitsheketo? Ringeta ku endla xiga lexi kokaka rinoko u khutaza van'wana leswaku va ringeta ku hlaya ni ku tsala mitsheketo siku na siku.

September is Literacy Month! How do you feel about reading and writing stories? Try to create a catchy slogan to inspire others to try reading and writing stories every day.

Ku hlaya / Reading .....

Ku tsala / Writing .....

Mitsheketo / Stories .....

2.

Tsala tindlela leti u tirhisaka ku hlaya ni ku tsala hatona evuton'wini bya wena - ekaya ni le xikolweni. Engetela tinhla tintshwa eka nxaxamelo wa wena eN'hwetini hinkwayo ya ku Hlaya ni ku Tsala.

Write down the ways in which you use reading and writing in your life - at home and at school. Add new points to your list throughout Literacy Month.

Tindlela leti ndzi tirhisaka ku hlaya ni ku tsala evuton'wini bya mina.

The ways I use reading and writing in my life.

Blank lined area for writing.

3.

Vana mulavisisi wa marito u ma kuma eka ntsheketo lowu nge *Vutshila lebyikulu bya ku baleka*.

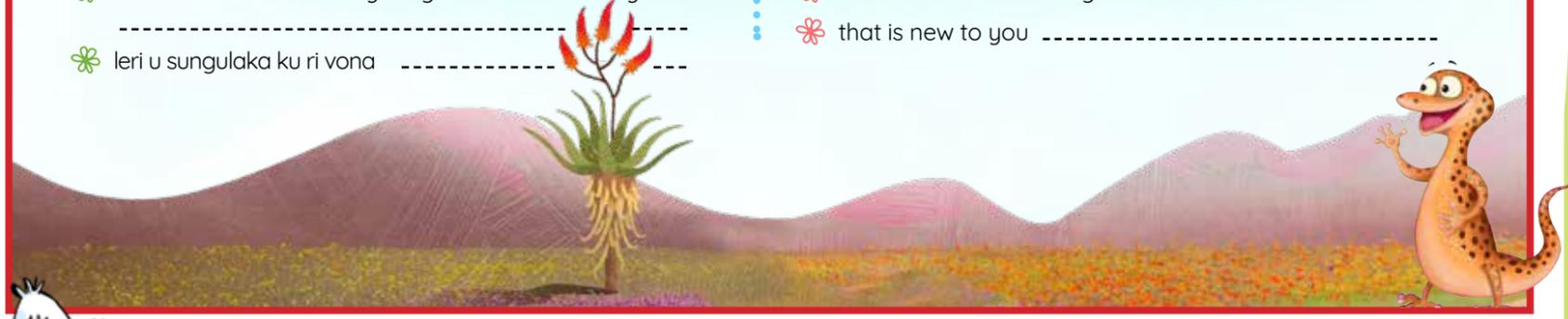
Be a word detective and find these words in the story *The great escape*.

Hlawula rito rin'wana ni rin'wana:

Choose any word:

- ✿ leri hlamuselaka Mogie .....
- ✿ leri hlamuselaka Gideon .....
- ✿ leri hlamuselaka Claw .....
- ✿ leri hlamuselaka ntlhaveko .....
- ✿ leri nga vito ra nguva .....
- ✿ leri nga vito ra xiluva .....
- ✿ leri hlamuselaka ndlela leyi Mogie a tsutsumaka hayona .....
- ✿ leri u sungulaka ku ri vona .....

- ✿ that describes Mogie .....
- ✿ that describes Gideon .....
- ✿ that describes Claw .....
- ✿ that describes a feeling .....
- ✿ that is the name of a season .....
- ✿ that is the name of a flower .....
- ✿ that describes how Mogie ran .....
- ✿ that is new to you .....



Na'ibali yi kona ku ku hlohotela na ku ku seketela. Tihlanganisi na hina hi yin'wani ya tindlela leti: Na'ibali is here to motivate and support you. Contact us in any of these ways:

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