



Yenza abantwana bakho batlole!

Siyatlola bona senze izinto begodu sikhulumisane. Kufana nokupheka – nawukwenza kanengi uyathuthuka begodu kuthoma ukuba lula kuwe! Njengababelethi nabathogomeli babantwana, kufuze sibeke isibonelo sitjengise amandla nehloso yokutlola emaphilwenethu wangamalanga nabantwana bethu.



Get your children writing!

We write to get things done and to communicate with one another. It is like cooking – the more you do it, the better you become at it and the easier it becomes for you! As parents and caregivers, we need to lead by example to show the power and purpose of writing in our daily lives with our children.

Thoma ngokurhabako

- ★ Ukudweba kujayele ukuba ligadango lokuthoma lokutlola komntwana. Tjengisa ikareko ezintweni abazidwebako ngokukhuluma amezwi akhuthazako begodu ubabuze ngeentombi zabo. Ungabuza uthi, "Le kubonakala kuyindlu ehle ekungahlalwa kiyo. Ngubani ohlala khona?"
- ★ Yiba nephapha, amakhrayoni, amapeni namapensela ekhaya. Zibeke endaweni okuzokuba lula bona abantwana bakho bazifikelele ngokwabo, ukwenzela bona badwebe nanyana kunini nabafunako.

Get an early start

- ★ Drawing is often a child's first step towards writing. Show an interest in their drawings by making encouraging comments and asking them about their pictures. You could ask, "That looks like an interesting house to live in. Who lives there?"
- ★ Have paper, crayons, pens and pencils on hand at home. Keep them in a place that is easy for your children to reach on their own, so that they can draw whenever they want to.



Tlalani ekhaya

- ★ Nikela abantwana bakho ithuba lokuhlela amaphilwabo ngokutlola. Ngokwesibonelo, babawe bakutlolele izinto ekufuze zithengwe namkha batlole irhelo lezinto abathhoga ukukhamba nazo esikolweni.
- ★ Fumanela abantwana bakho amathuba wokukhulumisana nabanye ngokutlola. Benze batlole amagamabo emakaradeni wokulotjehisa namkha batlole iincwajana zokuthokoza nemilayezo etjingga emalungwini womndeni nebanganini.
- ★ Abantwana bayakuthanda ukutlola emadaryani. Khuthaza abantwana bakho batlole (bebadwebe) nanyana yini emadaryanabo – abakucabangako, indlela abazizwa ngayo, imibono namkha izinto abathabela ukuzenza ngelanga elithileko. (Yenza isiqiniseko sokobana bayazi ukuthi abakutlolako kuzokuba yifihlo ngaphandle nabafuna ukukwabelana nabanye.) Ungasebenzisa incwadi ejayekileko ukwenza idaryani, vele utlole ilanga phezulu, ekhasini elinye nelinye.

Get writing at home

- ★ Give your children the opportunity to use writing to organise their lives. For example, ask them to write a shopping list for you or to write a list of things that they need to take to school.
- ★ Find opportunities for your children to use writing to communicate with others. Let them write their names on greeting cards or write thank-you notes and messages to family members and friends.
- ★ Children love writing in diaries. Encourage your children to write (and draw) in their diaries about absolutely anything – their thoughts, feelings, ideas or what they enjoyed doing. (Make sure that they know that what they write is private unless they choose to share it with others.) You can use a basic notebook as a diary, just add the date at the top of each page.

Tlalani ndawonye njengomndeni

- ★ Tlala iindaba nabantwana bakho emaphepheni anganaliitho bese nenza iincwadi ngokuhlenganisa amaphepha lawo ndawonye.
- ★ Abantwana abancani bangadweba iinthombe. Bawa ukutlola amezwi abakutjela wona kodwana ubakhuthaze bona nabo balinge ukuzitlolela.
- ★ Vumela abantwana abakhudlwana badwebe bebazitlolele.
- ★ Ungathomi uphoqe imitjhapho yokupeleda. Kunalokho, bawa ukulungisa umtjhapho wokupeleda!



Write together as a family

- ★ Write stories with your children on blank sheets of paper and make books by stapling the sheets of paper together.
- ★ Younger children can draw the pictures. Offer to write the words they tell you, but also encourage them to try to write themselves.
- ★ Allow older children to draw and write on their own.
- ★ Never criticise spelling errors. Rather, offer to correct the spelling instead!

nalibali

IT STARTS WITH
A STORY.
ITHOMA
NGENDABA.



Imbewu Yokufunda Nokutlola!

Kuthoma NGOKWAKHA ISITHOMBE EMKHUMBULWENI!

Literacy Seeds! It starts with IMAGINATION!



Babelethi nabatlhagameli abathandekako babantwana abancani, ukufunda kuthoga **wakhe isithombe emkhumbulweni** bona wenze amagama asekhadini azwakale begodu aphile. Ngokwesibonelo, nasifunda ngekakaramba ekhamba endleleni, kufuze sikghone ukwakha 'ifilimu' emkhumbulwenethu, yekakaramba leyo, ukhamba nayo: indlela iinyawo zayo, iingalo nehloko kusikinyeka ngayo, indlela umgogodlhayo oqaleka ngayo nesigqi samagadangwayo. Lokhu kwenza ikakaramba ibe ngeyamambala emkhumbulwenethu. Yeke, kusasele isikhathi eside ngaphambi kobana abantwana bethu bakghone ukufunda, kufuze bathuthukise indlelabo yokwakha isithombe emkhumbulweni ukwenzela bona bazwize abakufundako bebakuthabele!

Dear parents and caregivers of young children, reading needs **imagination** to lift the words off the page and give them life. For example, when we read about a giant walking down the street, we should be able to create a "video" in our minds of that giant walking along: the way his legs, arms and head move, the shape of his back, the rhythm of his steps. This brings the giant to life in our imaginations. So, long before our children can read, they should be developing their imaginations so that they can read with understanding and enjoyment!

Iindlela ezi-5 zokusiza abantwabethu bakhulise indlelabo yokwakha isithombe emkhumbulweni

Abantwana bayakuthanda ukusikinya imizimbabo, bazivumelanise nezinto ezibabhodileko, bavume iingoma, badlale imidlalo, barayime, balalele bebacoce iindaba, badwebe begodu benze ngathi bayafunda namkha bayatlola. Yiba nesikhathi sokudlala nabantwana bakho ngendlela ongakghona ngayo, ubaphe nendawo abangadlalela kiyo babodwa namkha nabanye abantwana. Lokho kuzobathabisa kubasize bazithembe. Nakhu okhunye ongakwenza bona usize abantwana bakho:



5 ways to help our little ones grow their imaginations

Children love to move their bodies, interact with the things around them, sing songs, play games, say rhymes, listen to and tell stories, draw and pretend to read and write. Spend as much time as you can playing with your children, and give them the time and space to play alone and/or with other children. This will make them feel happy and help them develop healthy self-esteem. Here are some things you can do to help your children:

- 1. Funda, ucoce begodu ukhulume iindaba.** Khuluma nabantwana bakho hlangana nelanga. Khuluma ngokwenzako, coca namkha ufunde indaba begodu ukhulume nangalokho.
- 2. Yenza isikhathi sokudlala ngokutijhaphulukileko.** Ungahleli zoke izinto ezizokwenziwa bantwana bakho. Bavumele beze nemibono yabo yokuthi bafuna ukwenzani ngesikhathi sabo sokudlala.
- 3. Yiba nebhoksi lezinto ezilula zokudlala.** Yiba nebhoksi namkha ibhege yezinto ezingathabisa abantwana nezipephileko bona badlale ngazo. Kungaba zizambatho ezidala, ibumba lokudlala, iinqetjhana ezomileko zephasta, iphepha engekhe lisasetjenziswa, amakhrayoni, amatjhila engekhe asasetjenziswa newula ... nanyana yini engakhuthaza abantwana bona bakghone ukwakha isithombe emkhumbulweni.
- 4. Cimani insetjenziswa ze-elektroniki ngesikhathi sokudlala.** Ukubukela amahlelo kumabonakude, ekhomyutheni namkha efowunini kungalinganisela indlela yabantwana yokwakha isithombe emkhumbulweni. Ngokwesibonelo, abantwana bazokuzwa umbono womunye wokuthi linjani itjhada ledayinasosi esikhundleni sokulinga ukuzakhela isithombe setjhada layo emkhumbulwenabo.
- 5. Banikele isikhathi sokulinga izinto ngokwabo.** Nanyana singazi indlela elula, emsinyana namkha engcono yokwenza okuthileko, ukunikela abantwana isikhathi sokufumana iindlela zokusombulula umraro kuthuthukisa amakghonwabo, ikghono lokucabanga, ukuzithemba nokwakha isithombe emkhumbulweni.

- 1. Read, tell and talk about stories.** Talk to your child during the day. Talk about what you're doing, tell or read a story and talk about that too.
- 2. Make time for free play.** Do not plan all your children's activities. Allow them to come up with their own ideas of how to spend their play time.
- 3. Keep a box of simple playthings.** Keep a box or bag of things that could interest children and are safe to play with. There could be old clothes, play dough, pieces of dried pasta, scrap paper, crayons, scraps of fabric and wool ... anything that could spark a child's imagination.
- 4. Turn off devices during playtime.** Watching programmes on television, a computer or phone can limit children's imagination. For example, children will hear someone else's idea of what a dinosaur sounds like instead of trying to imagine the sound themselves.
- 5. Give them time to try things on their own.** While we may know an easier, faster or better way to do something, giving children time to find ways to solve a problem develops their creativity, reasoning, confidence and imagination.

Khumbula: Lokha abantwana nabadzimelela ekudlaleni, bazokusilaphala nendawo abadlalela kiyo izokusilaphala, ihlangahlangane begodu ibe netjhada. Bukela ukudenyana bona wenze isiqiniseko sokuthi boke baphephile. Nasele bazokuqeda ukudlala, linga ukwenza undlalo wamaswaphela uhlanganise ukuhlwengisa indawo nokuzihlwengisa bona.

Remember: When children become focused in play, they and the space that they are in will get dirty, untidy and loud. Watch carefully from a distance to make sure that everyone is safe. And when the playing draws to a close, try to make the last game include cleaning up the space and themselves.





Yakha isithombe emkhumbulweni ngokudlala

Ukukhuthaza abantwana ukuthi badlale ngaphandle kokulandela imithetho kubavumela bona bathuthukise indlela yabo yokuthatha iinqunto namakghonwabo wokusebenzelana nabanye. Umhlobo lo womdlalo waziwa ngokuthi mdlalo wokwakha isithombe emkhumbulweni namkha mdlalo wokulingisa. Hlangana nomdlalo wokwakha isithombe emkhumbulweni abantwana:

- bangazenza omunye umuntu, isidalwa namkha into. Umuntu lo, isidalwa namkha into kungaba ngekwamambala namkha okucatjanywako, njengenja ekhulumako eku-Mars namkhainja ejayelekileko!
- bangacabanga kwangathi izinto ezisephasini lamambala ngezinye izinto. Ngokwesibonelo, ibhoksi elisekumbenabo yokulala lingaba mkhumbi wemmoyeni osenyangeni.
- bangenza kwangathi indawo abakiyo kukwenye indawo. Ngokwesibonelo, indawo yokudlala ingaba yiphiramidi yeGibhide.
- bangenza indaba abazoyidlala.



Build imagination through play

Encouraging children to play without having to follow rules allows them to practice their decision-making and social skills. This kind of play is known as imaginative play or pretend play. During imaginative play children might:

- pretend to be another person, creature or object. This person, creature or object could be real or fantasy, like a talking dog from Mars or just a regular dog!
- imagine that the things in the real world are something else. For example, a box in their bedroom might be a spaceship on the moon.
- pretend that the place that they are in is somewhere else. For example, the playground might be a pyramid in Egypt.
- make up a story that they act out.

Iinzuzo zomdlalo wokwakha isithombe emkhumbulweni:

- * Abantwana bathuthukisa amakghonwabo wokusebenzelana nabanye ngokufunda ukuba nesandla ekwakheni indaba ndawonye.
- * Bafunda ukulandela iinqophiso ezilula.
- * Bavuma ukuhlanganyela ekwakheni isithombe emkhumbulweni nabanye abanabo.
- * Bafunda ukulawula imizwa yabo ngokuvumelanisa indlela abaziphatha ngayo nobujamo obuhlukeneko.
- * Bathuthukisa ilwazi labo lokuthi indlela abaziphatha ngayo imuthinta njani omunye umuntu.
- * Bafunda ukuba nezwelo ngokuzenza omunye umuntu.
- * Bafunda indlela abangaveza ngayo abakucabangako namazizwabo – neenthombe abazakhe emkhumbulweni.

The benefits of imaginative play:

- * Children develop social skills by learning to share in building a story together.
- * They learn how to follow simple directions.
- * They agree to share in the imagination of others around them.
- * They learn to manage their emotions by adapting their behaviour to different situations.
- * They develop an understanding of how their own behaviour affects someone else.
- * They learn empathy by pretending to be someone else.
- * They learn how to express their thoughts and feelings – and imaginary ones.

Ukuqakatheka komdlalo wokwakha isithombe emkhumbulweni:

Umdlalo wokwakha isithombe emkhumbulweni usiza abantwana babe nemikghwa eqakathekileko abazoyisebenzisa ukuphila kwabo koke.

- ⚙️ **Ikghono:** Abantwana kufuze babekele imikhumbulwabo iselele begodu bakhulise nendlelabo yokwakha isithombe emkhumbulweni ngendlela abangakghona ngayo, lokho kuzobasiza babone indlela yokuphila nendima edlalwa mimizwa.
- ⚙️ **Ukuzijamela:** Abantwana bangazenzela imidlalo yabo nemithetho ngokudlala ngokubambisana. Lokhu kubasiza babe nekareko entweni eyenziwako nakwabanye abantwana ababandakanyekileko.
- ⚙️ **Ukusombulula imiraro:** Abantwana basebenzisa iindlela ezinengi zokusombulula imiraro ukwenza okuthileko ngezinto ezijayelekileko zangekhaya. Ngokwesibonelo, bangasebenzisa ikotikoti lekofi elingalitho njengesigubhu. Amakghono la ayathuthuka hlangana nepikiswano engaba khona nakudlalwako, lokha abadlali ababili babanemibono engafaniko yokuthi umdlalo kufuze udlalwe njani. Ukulungisa ukungaboni kwabo ngendlela efanako, ukufunda ukudlhegana nokwabelana imithwalo makghono aqakathekileko ekuphileni.

The importance of imaginative play:

Imaginative play helps children to develop important life skills that they will use forever.

- ⚙️ **Creativity:** Children need to challenge and stretch their imaginations as far as they can go, which allows them to experiment with life's social and emotional roles.
- ⚙️ **Independence:** Children can make up their own games and rules through cooperative play. This helps them develop an interest in the activity and in the other children involved.
- ⚙️ **Problem-solving:** Children use many forms of problem-solving to create something from regular household materials. For example, they could use an empty coffee tin as a drum. These skills also develop during arguments that can arise during playtime when two playmates have different ideas about how a game should be played. Working out their own differences, learning to take turns and sharing responsibility are valuable life skills.

Kibo boke abafazi abakhethekileko!

For all the special women!

**U-Arhostosi Yinyanga Yabafazi!
August is Women's Month!**

Abafazi bayatlhogomela, bayasekela begodu bakhulisa imindeni yabo. Cabanga ngabo boke abafazi abakhethekileko epilwenakho. Kungaba ngummakho, ugegwakho namkha nanyana ngimuphi umfazi okuthandileko bewakutlhogomela. Bona utjengise ukuthi uthokoza kangangani ngakho koke abakwenzele khona, kubayini ungenzeli umfazi ngamunye umjeka womusa ukugidinga Inyanga Yabafazi?



Women provide care, support and nurturing to their families. Think of all the special women in your life. It could be your mother or grandmother or any woman who has loved and cared for you. To show how much you appreciate all they have done for you, why not make a jar of favours for each woman to celebrate Women's Month?

Ozokutlhoga:

- ♥ Mjeka ohlwengileko onganaliitho onesivalo.
- ♥ Imitletana emincani namkha iinkwere zephepha elinemibala kunye nepeni.
- ♥ Isikero nesinamathelisi.
- ♥ Izinto zokukghabisa umjekakho: iphepha, ipende, isinamathelisi, iribhoni, amatjhila, iinkunupe, nokhunye.



What you'll need:

- ♥ A clean empty jar with a lid.
- ♥ Small strips or squares of coloured paper and a pen.
- ♥ A pair of scissors and glue.
- ♥ Things to decorate your jar: paper, paint, glue, ribbon, material, buttons, etc.

1. Yenza isiqiniseko sokuthi umjekakho nesivalo kuhlwendile.
2. Kghabisa isivalo somjeka ngepende, iinkunupe, iribhoni namkha ngananyana yini oyithandako.
3. Yenza isiqetjhana somtlo womjeka esitjho ukuthi kunani ngaphakathi, ngokwesibonelo, *Umjeka womusa namkha Ngiyathokoza ngethando lakho.*
4. Tlola phasi ongakwenza bona utjengise umfazi okukhuthazileko epilweni namkha okuthandako umusa.
5. Sika iphepha elinemibala wenze amakarada ali-10 anganaliitho angaba yi-10 cm x 4 cm ubukhulu. Tlola khunye ongakwenza ekaradeni ngalinye. (Ongakwenza kungaba: **Kukwenza ikomiti yetiye qobe ekuseni iveke yoke**, namkha **Ukumasaja iinyawo**, namkha nanyana yini azoyithabela! Ngezelela linye namkha amabili athi, **Khetha ofuna ukwenzelwa khona.**)
6. Bhinca amakarada bese uwafaka ngemjekeneni.
7. Nikela umfazi omkhethileko umjeka womusa loyo bonyana athabele izintwezi hlangana neNyanga yaBafazi.



1. Make sure that the jar and its lid are clean.
2. Decorate the lid of the jar with paint, buttons, a ribbon or anything that you like.
3. Make a label for the jar that says what's inside, for example, *Favour jar* or *Thank you for your love.*
4. Write down favours to do for a woman in your life who inspires you or who you really appreciate.
5. Cut up the coloured paper to make 10 blank cards that are about 10 cm x 4 cm big. Write a different favour on each card. (A favour can be something like: **Make a cup of tea every morning for a week**, or **Give a foot massage**, or anything she will enjoy! Add one or two that say **Choose your own favour.**)
6. Fold the cards and put them in the jar.
7. Give the jar of favours to the woman you chose so that she can enjoy these favours during Women's Month.

Khulisa ibulungelo lakho leencwadi. Sika iingcenywe **EZIMBILI** wenze iincwadi

1. Sika amakhasi 5 kuya ku-12 wesengezelelo.
2. Iphepha elinamakhasi 5, 6, 11 no-12 enza incwadi yinye. Iphepha elinamakhasi 7, 8, 9 no-10 enza enye incwadi.
3. Sebenzisa amaphepha la ukwenza incwadi. Landela iinqophiso ezingenzasi ukwenza incwadi ngayinye.
 - a) Bhinca iphepha libe siquntu emudeni wamaqatjhaza anzima.
 - b) Libhince libe siquntu godu emudeni wamaqatjhaza ahlaza satjani.
 - c) Sika emudeni yamaqatjhaza abomvu.



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

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

“Umntwana ozithuleleko kodwana otshwenyako?”
kutho uBamkhulu. “Khuyini okulandelako?”



“What a crazy, cool kid you are!” says
Grandpa. “What’s next?”

“Whooooo!”
“Yooooooooo!”



“Great stuff! Now you can
see all the flowers. What’s
next?” asks Grandpa.
“Kuhle lokho! Nje sele
ungabona woke amahlomu.
Khuyini okulandelako?”
kubuzo uBamkhulu.

Lots more free books at bookdash.org



Get story active!

- ★ Draw a picture of you and your best friend doing your favourite fun activity together. Underneath your picture or on a separate page, write what you and your friend are doing. Also write why it is your favourite activity. If you cannot write all the words you want to, ask someone to help you write down what you want to say on the page.
- ★ Read the story again. Make a list of all the things that Fatima and her grandpa did together.

Yenza indaba le ibemnandi!

- ★ Dweba isithombe sakho unomnganakho nenza into eniyithandako ndawonye. Ngaphasi kwesithombe sakho namkha kwelinye ikhasi, tlola ukuthi ninomnganakho nenzani. Begodu tlola ukuthi kubayini leyo kuyinto eniyithandako. Nange ungakghoni ukutlola woke amagama ofuna ukuwatlola, bawa omunye akusize ngokutlola phasi lokho ofuna ukukufjho ekhasini.
- ★ Funda indaba godu. Yenza irhelo lazo zoke izinto uFatima nobamkhulwakhe abazenze ndawonye.

Nal’ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark and embed a culture of reading across South Africa. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi



INal’ibali lijima lephasi mazombe lokuzithabisa ngokufunda elenzelwe bona livuselele belidzimelelise isiko lokufunda kiyoyoke iSewula Afrika. Bona ufumane imininingwana eyengeziweko, vakatjhela ku-www.nalibali.org namkha ku-www.nalibali.mobi

What’s next?



Khuyini okulandelako?

*Clyde Beech • Rayhaanah Williams •
Jacqui Botha*

Ideas to talk about: When you look at the picture and read the story’s title, what do you think this story is about? Is there someone that you like to do fun things with? What are your favourite things to do with your best friend?

Eningacoca ngakho: Nawuqala isithombe bese ufunda isihloko sendaba, ucabanga bona indaba le ikhuluma ngani? Kghani ukhona umuntu ofuna ukwenza izinto ezithabisako naye? Ngiziphi izinto ozithandako nezithabisako ongazenza nomnganakho omkhulu?



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

“Ngingqinqi! Asizenze inkutana sidobhe izinto ezisilaphazako,” kutjho uFatima.



UFatima uhlala amajadu! Uthanda ukugijima nokudlala.



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

“Uhini ngento emakhaza nemandi?” kutjho uFatima.



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

UFatima ulala msinya. Uthabile ngekhambo labo elilandelako nomnganakhe omkhulu, uBamkhulu.



UThobeka akhange aphenule. UBen wakhwela wakhamba, ahleka. UThobeka uJayele ukumeqisela mehlo uBen nakahlekisa ngaye. Namhlanjisi, waila. Ngobusukobo, njengombana uPhumeza azilungiselela ukuyokulala, wathinta ihloko kaBhere engananhluthu. Wathi, “Bhere wabantu, inhluthu zakho angekhe zisamila godu.”

UThobeka wazizwa kabuhlungu khulu. Wabuyisela isikero sakaGogo erageni yangekhwijhini. Ngenwa kwalokho wagijimela ekuthomeni kwesivande wangena endlini encani yeenkukhu. Wabhaca khona ilanga loke, asilingeke khulu bona angaphuma. Umfowabo kaPhumeza wadula lapho akhwele ibhayisigini. “Yeyi, Thobekal Ukuphi?” kurasa uBen. “Ngizwa bathi uguda inhluthu namhlanjisi. Nezami ungaziguda?”

Thobeka felt horrible. She put Gogo’s scissors back in the kitchen cupboard. Then she ran to the bottom of the garden and crept into the little henhouse. There she hid for the rest of the day, too upset to come out. Phumeza’s brother rode past on his bicycle. “Hey, Thobekal! Where are you?” Ben yelled. “I hear you’re cutting hair today. Will you cut my hair too?” Thobeka didn’t answer. Ben rode away, laughing. Usually Thobeka ignored Ben when he teased her. Today, she cried. That night, as Phumeza got ready for bed, she patted Bear’s bald head. “Poor Bear, your hair will never grow again,” she said.

HEARTLINES
The Centre for Values Promotion



For more information, please email info@heartlines.org.za or phone (011) 771 2540.

Bona ufumane imininingwana eyengeziweko, sibawa usithinte ku-info@heartlines.org.za namkha dosela ku-(011) 771 2540

Get story active!

- ★ Why do you think Phumeza was so cross when she saw how Thobeka had cut Bear’s hair?
- ★ What do you think it means to forgive someone? Can you think of a time you’ve forgiven someone?
- ★ Do you think Phumeza was right to forgive Thobeka? Why or why not?
- ★ Do you think we should always forgive people who do things that make us angry or hurt us? Why or why not?

Yenza indaba le ibemnandi!

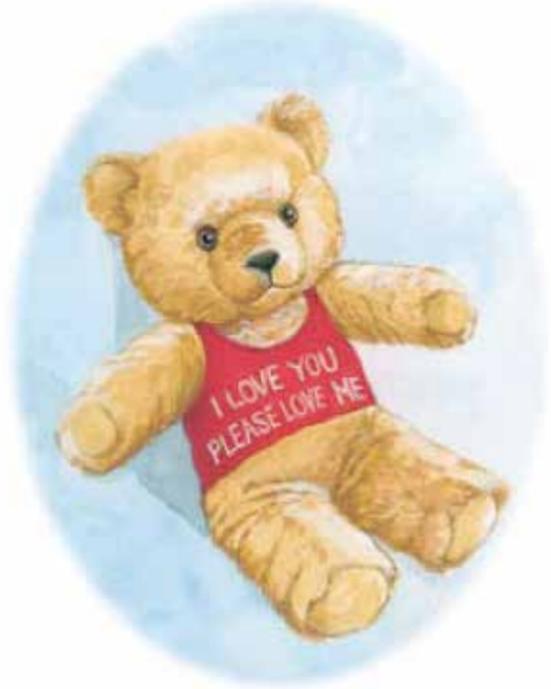
- ★ Kubayini ucabanga ukuthi uPhumeza bekasilingeke kangaka nakabona indlela uThobeka agude ngayo inhluthu zakaBhere?
- ★ Ucabanga ukuthi kutjho ukuthini ukulibalela omunye? Kghani sikhona isikhathi osikhumbulako lapho walibalela khona omunye?
- ★ Ucabanga bona uPhumeza wenza kuhle ngokulibalela uThobeka? Kubayini ucabanga njalo namkha ungacabangi njalo?
- ★ Ucabanga bona kufuze sihlale sibalibalela abantu abenza izinto ezisisilingako namkha ezisizwisa ubuhlungu? Kubayini ucabanga njalo namkha ungacabangi njalo?

Nal’ibali is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign to spark and embed a culture of reading across South Africa. For more information, visit www.nalibali.org or www.nalibali.mobi



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Bear’s Haircut: A story about forgiveness



Ukugudwa kweenhluthu zakaBhere:

Indaba emalungana nokulibalela

Nola Turkington • Joseph Mugisha

Ideas to talk about: Have you ever done something that made someone else cross, even though you didn’t mean to? Share the story of what happened.

Eningacoca ngakho: Kghani khewenza into eyasilinga omunye umuntu, ngitjho nanyana bewungakahlosi? Yabelana ngendaba leyo utjho ukuthi kwenzekani.



Ngaphambi kobana uThobeka akhulume, uPhumeza wadosa uBhere ngenyawo linye warhuwela, “Angekhe ngawuka ngikubalele. AWUSESE mngamani omkhulu?”

“Wenzani? YOOOO! Ugcide imhuthu zakabhere! Qala wenzeni! Mhlolo bani lo!”

Wajama rve.

Kuse njalo uPhumeza weza agijima azokuthatha uBhere.

UPhumeza uzokucabangani?”

ukutshwenyeka. “Akusikuhle lokhu,” uyacabanga. “Kumbi khulu.

ekulu enganamhuthu ehloko kaBhere. UThobeka wathoma

Wabuyela emuva nyana waqala. Yoo, yoo! Bekunendawo

isikero. Iqubi elikhulu leenhuthu ezinzotho sagolide lawela phasi.

UThobeka wabeka uBhere ethangeni lakhe. Klip, klip, kulila

And off she went in a terrible temper.

You’re NOT my best friend anymore!”

Bear by one leg and shouted, “I’ll never forgive you.

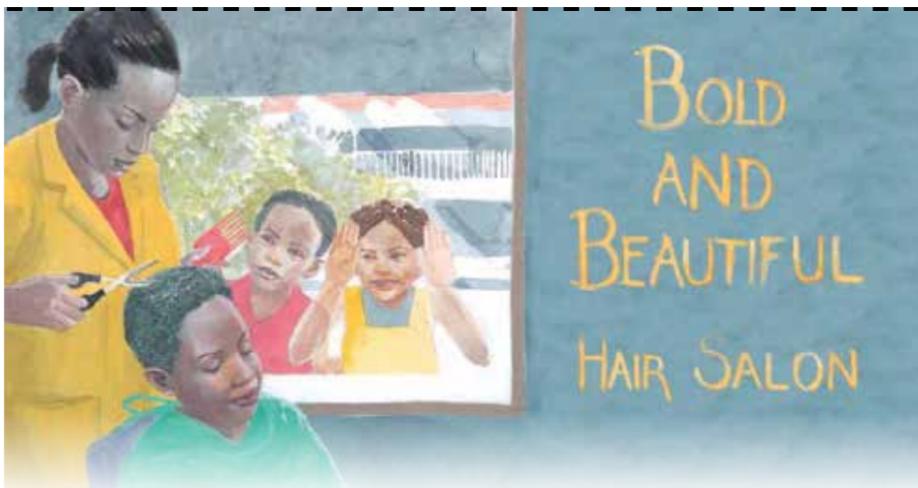
Before Thobeka could say a word, Phumeza grabbed

Look what you’ve done! What a mess!”

“What are you doing? OH NO! You’ve cut Bear’s hair!

skidded to a stop.

Just then Phumeza came running back to fetch Bear. She



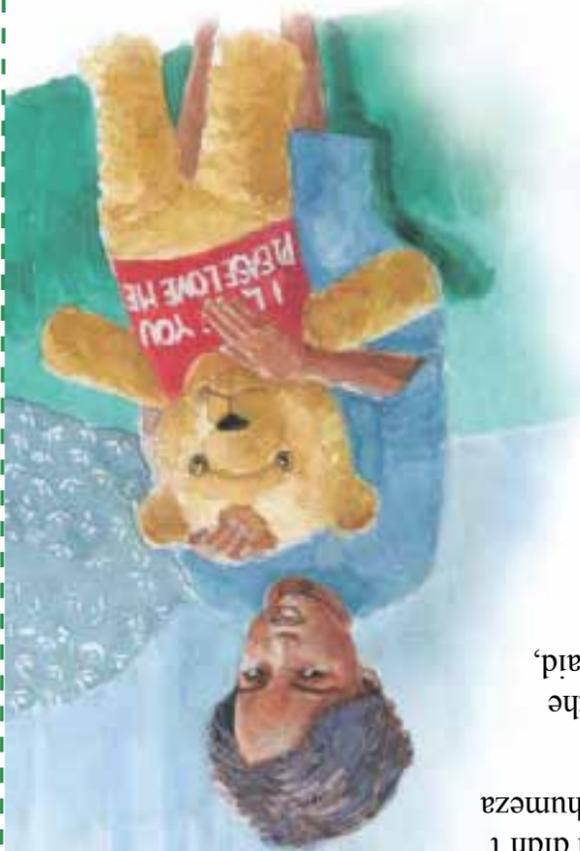
On Phumeza’s sixth birthday, Mama gave her a toy bear. Bear had bright eyes, golden brown hair, a small black nose and a smiley mouth. On the front of his red vest in big letters was written: I LOVE YOU. PLEASE LOVE ME.

Everywhere Phumeza went, Bear went with her. She loved Bear almost as much as she loved Thobeka. Thobeka was her five-year-old next-door neighbour and her best friend.

One afternoon, Mama had an appointment at the salon. Phumeza and Thobeka watched through the salon window as the hairdresser cut Mama’s hair. Thobeka was especially interested. She watched carefully how the hairdresser snipped off the hair with razor-sharp scissors. It looked so easy and so much fun.

Later, Phumeza, Thobeka and Bear played in the yard. After a while, Thobeka ran inside. She came back carefully carrying her grandmother’s scissors. “Can I cut your hair?” she asked Phumeza.

“Not today,” replied Phumeza. “I want to go home now.”



wasn’t a good feeling.

She felt ashamed. It

forgive them.

asking God to

prayer her family often said,

Phumeza thought about the

had been.

tell Mama how greedy Phumeza

Thobeka forgave her and didn’t

best friend, she ate both pieces.

and one for Thobeka. In front of her

gave her two pieces of cake, one for her

Phumeza thought about the day Mama

nasty things.”

at Thobeka. I could see she was upset already. I said such

buried her face in her pillow. “I shouldn’t have shouted

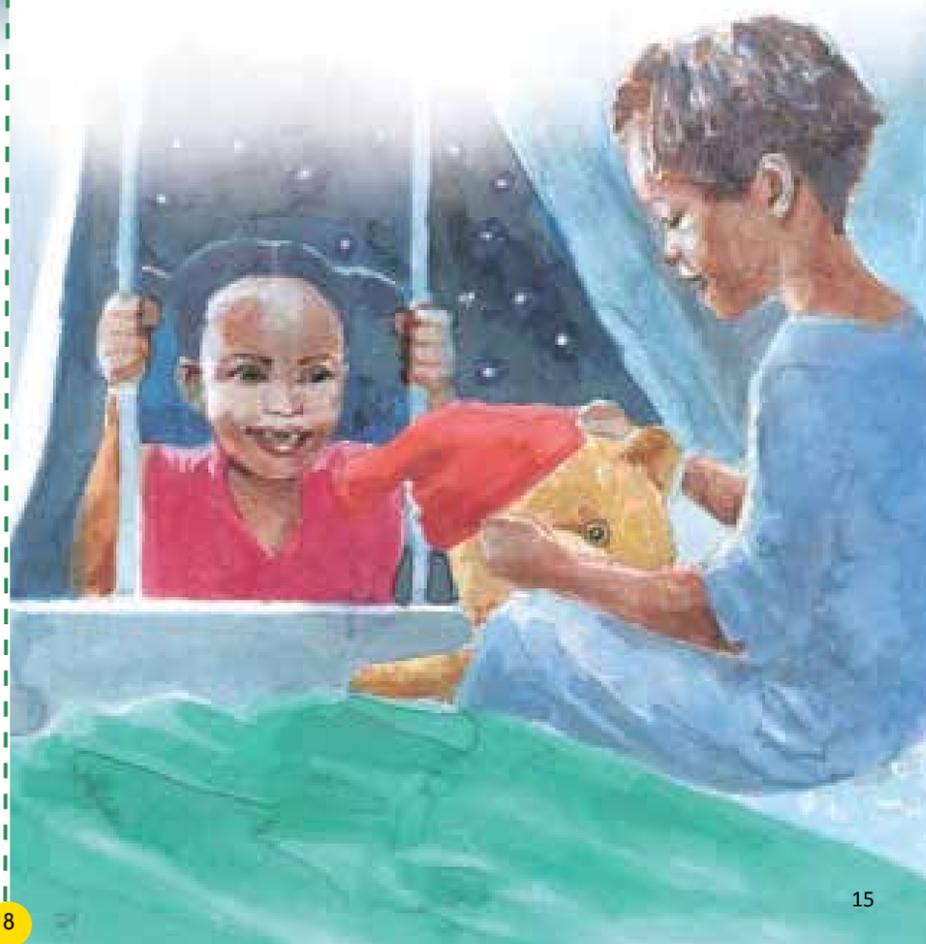
remembered Thobeka’s face. She tossed and turned and

but even more, her heart felt heavy and sore when she

Phumeza couldn’t sleep. She was sad about Bear’s hair,

“Yikepisi ebomvu yewula, leya uGogo angilukela yona bona ngiyimbathe ebusika. Izokuvala ihloko kaBhere begodu izokumetjha neveste yakhe ebomvu.”

Begodu yametjha.



UPhumeza wabhalelwa kulala. Bekezwa ubuhlungu ngeenhluthu zakabhere, kodwana ngaphuzu kwalokho ihliziyo yakhe beyibuhlungu nakakhumbula ubuso bakaThobeka. Bekaphenduka phenduka bekavale nobuso bakhe ngomsamekwakhe. “Bekungakafuzi ngikgharameje uThobeka. Bengibona ukuthi sele adanile. Ngikhulume izinto ezizwisa ubuhlungu.”

UPhumeza wacabanga ngeelanga ummakhe amikela ngalo iinquntu ezimbili zekhekhe, elinye bekungelakhe elinye kungelakaThobeka. Wazidla zombili iinqutwezo phambi komganakhe. UThobeka wamlibalela begodu akhange atjele umma ukuthi uPhumeza unomrthobholo kangangani.

UPhumeza wacabanga ngomthandazo umndenakhe ohlala uwufho, babawa uZimu bona abalibalele.

Wazizwa anamahloni. Bekangazizwa kamandi.

Phumeza hugged her best friend through the burglar bars. “I’ve forgiven you already, and I’m very sorry I shouted at you and said mean things.”

The girls talked until Thobeka couldn’t hold onto the bars any longer.

“Before I go,” said Thobeka, “I’ve brought Bear a present.”

“What is it?”

“A red woollen cap, the one Gogo knitted me for winter. It’ll cover Bear’s head and match his red vest.”

And it did.

UPhumeza wasingatha umnganakhe omkhulu eensimbini zebhatla.

“Kade ngikulibalele, begodu ungilibalele khulu ngokukukgharameja nokukhuluma izinto ezizwisa ubuhlungu.”

Abantazana bakhuluma bekwaba kulapho uThobeka angasakghoni ukubambelela emabhatleni.

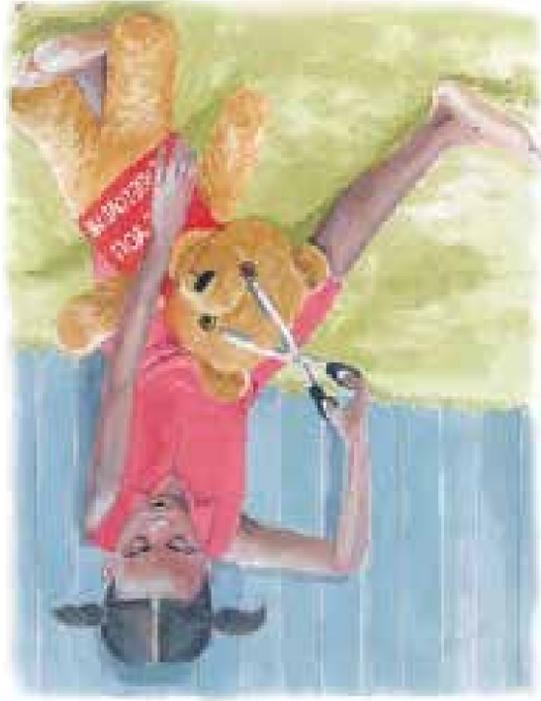
“Ngaphambi kobana ngikhambe,” kutjho uThobeka, “Ngiphathele uBhere isipho.”

“Kazi khuyini?”

UThobeka wabeka uBhere ethangeni lakhe. Klip, klip, klip, kulila isikero. Iqubi elikhulu leenhluthu ezigolide sabunzotho lawela phasi.

Wabuyela emuva nyana wagala. Yoo, yoo!

Bekwendawo ekulu enganahluthu ehloko kabhere. UThobeka wathoma ukutshwenyeka. “Akusikuhle lokhu,” nyacabanga. “Kumbi khulu. UPhumeza uzokucabangani?”



Thobeka put Bear on her lap. Snip, snip, snip, went the scissors. A large clump of golden brown hair floated to the ground.

She leant back to look. Oh, oh! There was a big bald patch on the top of Bear’s head. Now Thobeka was worried. “That looks bad,” she thought. “Very bad. What will Phumeza think?”

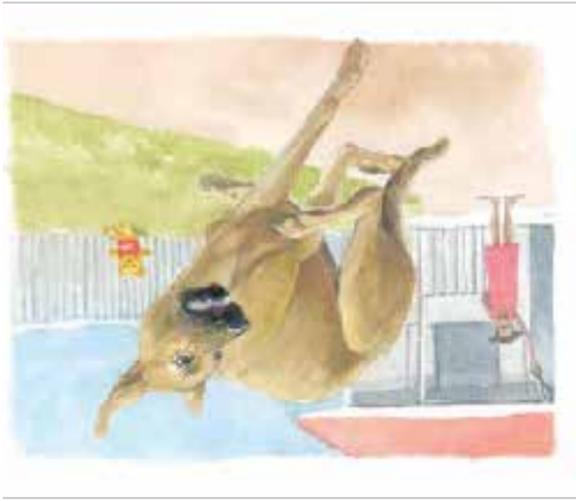
Ngelanga lamabeletho kaPhumeza lesithandathu, UMma wamnikela ithoyi lebhere. Ibhere belinamehlo akhanyako, iinhluthu ezinzotho sagolide, ipumulo encani enzima nomlomo omomothekako. Ngaphambili evesteni yakhe ebomvu becutlolwe amagama amakhulu: **NGIYAKUTHANDA. NGIBAWA UNGITHANDE.**

Nanyana kukuphi lapha uPhumeza aya khona, uBhere bekakhamba naye. Bekathanda uBhere pheze ngendlela athanda ngayo uThobeka. UThobeka bekangumakhelwanakhe oneminyaka emihlanu ubudala begodu amnganakhe omkhulu.

Ngelinye ilanga ngemva kamadina, uMma bekane aphoyintimende esaluni. UPhumeza noThobeka bebabukele ngefasisidera lesaluni njengombana umgudi weenhluthu aguda iinhluthu zakaMma. UThobeka bekanekareko ekhethekileko. Waqalisesa kuhle ukuthi umgudi weenhluthu uziguda njani iinhluthu ngesikero esibukhali. Bekubonakala kulula begodu kuthabisa.

Kamva, uPhumeza, uThobeka noBhere badlala ejaradini. Ngemva kwesikhatjhana, uThobeka wagijimela ngaphakathi. Wabuya apethe isikero sakagogwakhe ngokutjhejisisa. “Ngingaziguda iinhluthu zakho?” ubuza uPhumeza.

“Ingasi namhlanjesi,” kuphendula uPhumeza. “Sele ngifuna ukuya ekhaya nje.”



Outside, Lotto the dog started barking.
Waving Gogo's scissors, Thobeka walked down the
back steps towards him. Lotto took one look at the
scissors and ran down the road with his tail between his
legs.
Only Bear was left, propped against the garden fence.
Ngaphandle,inja uLotto wathoma ukukhonkoha.
Ajunguja isikero sakaGogo, uThobeka wehla ngeentepisi
ezingenuva watjingga kuye. ULotto warhedlula isikero
kanye, wabalekela endleleni afake umsila khe hlangana
nemilenze.
Bekusele uBhere, alenge efensini yesivande.

“Then I’ll cut my granny’s,” said
Thobeka, and she ran off to
find Gogo.

So, Phumeza climbed over the fence
and went home . . . without noticing
that she had left Bear sitting by
the fence.

When Thobeka went into the house,
Gogo was on her cell phone, so
Thobeka left her alone.



Thobeka’s brother was asleep and she was frightened to wake him.

“Whose hair CAN I cut?” Thobeka wondered.

“Ngizakuguda zakagogo,” kutjho uThobeka, wagijima
wayokufuna uGogo.

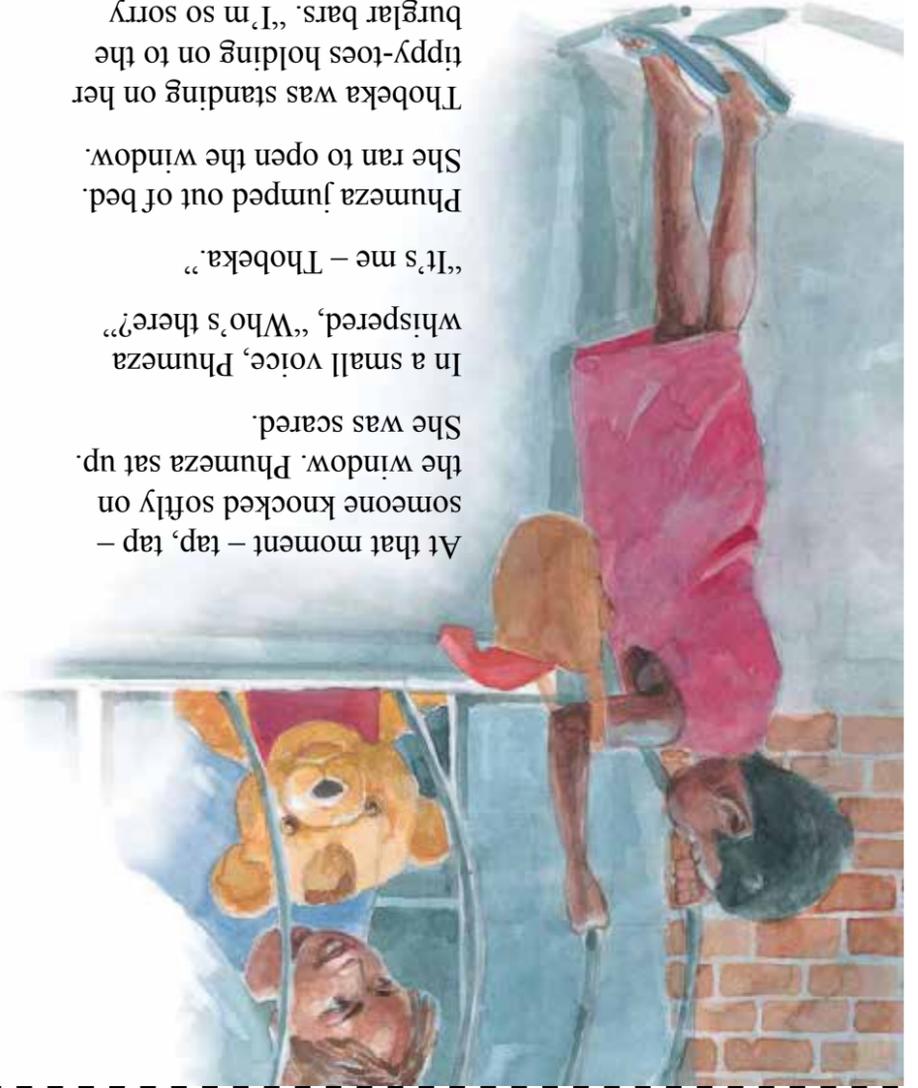
Yeke, uPhumeza weqa ifensi watjingga ekhaya . . .
bekangakatjheji bona utjhiye uBhere ahlezi efensini.

UThobeka nakangena ngendlini, uGogo bekasematweni,
yeke uThobeka wamlisa.

Umfowabo kaThobeka bekalele begodu bekasaba ukumvusa.

“NGINGAGUDA iinhluthu zakabani?” uThobeka uyazibuza.

At that moment – tap, tap –
someone knocked softly on
the window. Phumeza sat up.
She was scared.
In a small voice, Phumeza
whispered, “Who’s there?”
“It’s me – Thobeka.”
Phumeza jumped out of bed.
She ran to open the window.
Thobeka was standing on her
tippy-toes holding on to the
burglar bars. “I’m so sorry
I cut Bear’s hair. I wasn’t
thinking properly. Please,
please forgive me.”



Ngesikhatheso – gu, gu – kunomuntu
okokoda kancazana efasidereni. UPhumeza
wavuka wahlala. Bekathukiwe.

UPhumeza wakhulumela phasi ngelizwi
elipholileko, “Ungubani?”

“Ngimi – uThobeka.”

UPhumeza weqa waphuma embhedeni.
Wagijima wayokuvula ifasidere.

UThobeka bakajame ngamazwani abambelele
eensimbini zamabhatla. “Ungilibalele
ngokuguda iinhluthu zakaBhere.
Bengingacabangi kuhle. Ngiyakubawa,
ngibawa ungilibalele.”



“Khuyini okulandela ko, ntazi? kubuza uBamkhulu. uFatima uyazamula. “Asiye ekhaya.”

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

“What should we do tomorrow?” asks Fatima.

“Sizokwenzani kusasa?” kubuza uFatima.



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



Isikhathi asithandako elangeni kulokha nakufika uBamkhulwakhe. “Singenzani hlangana nelanga, Fatima? kubuza uBamkhulu.

“Nangiphezulwa ngibona iphasi loke;”
kurhwelela uFatima



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

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



“Ngiyazi!” kutjho uFatima.
“Asikhambe siye ephageni.”

“Hello, Fatima,” says Mum. “What
did you and Grandpa do today?”
“Lotjha Fatima,” kutjho uMma. “Nenzeni
ninoBamkhulu namhlanjesi?”



“Not much!” they
both say.

“Asikenzi okunengi
kangako!”
baphendula bobabili.

Iinyoka neentepisi!

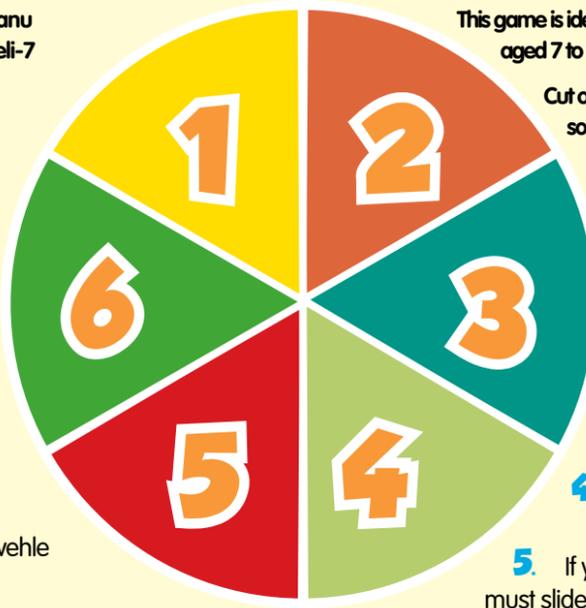
Snakes and ladders!

Umdlalo lo ulungele ukudlalwa babantu abane namkha abahlanu ngokubambisana. Ulungele khulu abantwana abaneminyaka eli-7 kuya kweli-12 ubudala.

Sika ibhodi yomdlalo neveli elineenomboro. Kunamathisele ekhadibhodini uzikhavara ngeplastiki bona zihlale zihlwengile.

Indlela yokudlala:

1. Umdlali ngamunye kufuze aphose ikhoyini namkha ilitje kunomboro 6 evilini bona athome ukudlala.
2. Bese niyadlhegana ngokuphosa ikhoyini namkha ilitje evilini. Khambisa ikunupe yakho uyibeke enomborweni yesikwereso.
3. Landela iinqophiso ezisesikwereni owele kiso.
4. Nange ikunupe yakho iwela ekuthomeni kwesitepisi, ungakhwela uye phezulu esitepisini.
5. Nange ikunupe yakho iwela ehloko yenyoka, kufuze wehle ubuyele ekuthomeni kwenyoka.
6. Umdlali wokuthoma ozokufika ku: **Qeda!** uthumbile.



This game is ideal for four or five to play together. It is best for children aged 7 to 12 years old.

Cut out the game board and number wheel below. Paste it on some cardboard and cover it with plastic to keep it clean.

How to play:

1. Each player must toss a coin or small stone onto number 6 of the wheel to start.
2. Then take turns to toss the coin or stone onto the wheel. Move your button that number of squares.
3. Follow the instructions in the square you land on.
4. If your button lands at the bottom of a ladder, you can move up to the top of the ladder.
5. If your button lands on the head of a snake, you must slide down to the bottom of the snake.
6. The first player to reach: **Finish!** is the winner.

29 ↑↑ ↑	30 Udlulwe zinkhathi ezintathu zokuhlangana esiQhemeni sokuFunda. Missed three Reading Club sessions.	31	32 Ubanjwe ufunda ngoMeyi. Phosa godu. Got caught reading in May. Throw again.	33	34	35 🏠 Qeda! Finish!
28	27 ↓	26 🎲 Usike wenza incwadi. Phosa godu. Made a Cut-out-and-keep book. Throw again.	25	24 Ubuyise iincwadi zebulungelo ngokukhamba kwesikhathi! Returned library books late!	23 ↙ ↗	22 ↙ ↗
15 Ukande ukurayima okujha. Tjinga phambili ngamabhlogo ama-2. Learnt a new rhyme. Go 2 squares forward.	16	17	18 Ulahlekelwe likarada lakho lebulungelo. Dluwa lithuba. Lost your library card. Miss a turn.	19	20	21 Ulaale indaba emrhathjweni. Listened to a radio story.
14 ↑	13 Uqede incwadi. Finished a book.	12	11	10	9	8 Ulahlekelwe liforomo lakho lamaLungelo wesiQhema esiFundako. Dluwa lithuba. Lost your Reading Club Permission form. Miss a turn.
1 🔒 Thoma! Start!	2	3 Ujoyine isiqhema esifundako. Phosa godu. Joined a reading club. Throw again.	4	5	6 Ujoyine ibulungelo. Joined a library.	7 ↑

Imidwebho / Illustrations: NguMagriet Brink no/and Leo Daly

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Ilanga lezemidlalo eSikolweni Seenunwana Samabanga Aphasi

NgoKaren Louise Olivier ■ Imidwebo nguVian Oelofsen



Ilanga lekuseni belikhanya limanyazela njengombana uLulu ahlezi phezu kwelithi lotjani ekundleni yezemidlalo yesikolweni sakhe. Namhlanjisi bekuilanga lezemidlalo esikolweni Seenunwana samaBanga aPhasi. ULulu bekhathabe khulu. Bekazokudlala umdlalo wokweqela phezulu.

"Amatsetse akghona ukweqela phezulu khulu!" warhuwelela njengombana eqela phezu kwelithi, bese wadlulela egatjeni lomuthi oseduze.

ULulu waqala phasi emuthini wabona ezinye iinunwana zizilungiselela okuzokwenzeka ngelangelo. Zoke iinunwana bezizithemba ngombana bezizibandule budisi bona zilungele ilanga lanamhlanjisi.



UNtethe waluka iinyawo zakhe zangemuva. Wathi, "Iinyawo zami ziqine khulu. Ngicabanga bona ngizokwenza kuhle emdlalweni wokweqa ibanga elide namhlanjisi."

"Ngicabanga ukuthi ngizowuthumba umjarho wami," kutjho uPhela njengombana adla isiquntwana sokugcina sesiphaphathu bese wasula umlomo ngephiko lakhe.

USipelede, uNompopolozu, uNyosi noPukani babetha amaphiko wabo njengombana baphikisana ngokuthi ngubani uzokuphaphela phezulu ukubadlula boke. "Ukuphaphela phezulu sisenzakalo esiqakathekileko," kutjho uSipelede. "Akusi ngizo zoke iinunwana ezinamaphiko kodwana thina esinawo, singaphaphela phezulu. Ngicabanga bona ngizoyithumba ithrofi namhlanjisi."

UKuba Bulongo bekazi ukuthi uzokugkhona ukujhovele ibholo kude ngeenyawo zakhe zangemuva ezinamandla. UTjhontjhwani bekazi ukuthi isiqhema sakhe sizowuthumba umjarho wokunikelana isigijwana ngombana sele kuzinyanga ezinengi bazibandulela ukunikelana isigijwana. Begodu uVyaviyani bekazi ukuthi uzokugkhona ukuphaphela ngehla kweenqabo zoke emdlalweni wokugijima weqa inqabo.

ULulu naye bekazithemba. Wathi, "Ngizokweqa ukubadlula boke namhlanjisi. UZara ucabanga bona angangihlula, kodwana ngizoyithumba ithrofi!" Begodu ngebangelo uLulu weqa ngendlela erarako asuka egatjeni lomuthi wawela ... phezu kwento enoboya. "Ngikuphi la?" ULulu walila ararekile.

ULulu bekabudanga emini begodu akhange ambone uFene nakakhwela esiqwini somuthi. Nje besele abhajwe eboyeni bakhe!

Kusese njalo uLulu wezwa uKosazana Ntombinyoni amemezela, "Lotjhani, lotjhani. Samukela boke abadlali bama- atlhethiki, imindeneni yabo nababukeli bethu! Lungani ngombana sele sizokuthoma. Sibawa boke abadlali bama-atlhethiki bahlangane phakathi kwekundla yezemidlalo."

ULulu bekezwa itjhada lababukeli bahleka, bawahlala begodu babetha amaphiko. ULulu nabanye bebanganawazi nelincani lokuthi kuneenrthwartha ezibhaqe ngaphasi kwamakari wemithi awele phasi. Bezilindele isikhathi esifaneleko bona zeqe ziphume zidle zoke iinunwana ezimnandi!

Okwanje, uLulu ulinga ukuphuma eboyeni bakaFene kodwana lokho bekubonakala kwenza izinto zirhagale ukuya phambili. Yeke, warhuwelela ngendlela angakghona gayo, "Sizani! Sizani! Ngibawa ningisize!" Kodwana akekho namunye obekezwa ilizwi lakhe elincani etjhadeni elingaka leenunwana.

Kusese njalo uLulu wezwa uKosazana Ntombinyoni athi, "Umdlalo wokweqela phezulu wabantazana uzokuthoma kungasikade. Boke abafuna ukungenela umdlalo lo, sibawa baye endaweni yomdlalo wokweqela phezulu."

"Maye mina," kurhuwelela uLulu. "Ngizokuphunda lithuba lokuphalisana!" Walinga ukuzijhova bona aphume eboyeni bakaFene, kodwana bebudege khulu. ULulu wathoma ukulila. Bekazibandule khulu azibandulela ilangeli kodwana nje uzokuphunda lithuba lokungenela iphaliswano.

Ngemuva kwesikhathjha, uLulu wezwa uKosazana Ntombinyoni athi, "Umdlalo wabantazana wokweqela phezulu ukhamba kuhle. UZara sele azokweqa kwamawaphela. Izinga liphezulu khulu. Akhe sibone ukuthi uzokuphumelela na."

Kungesikhatheso uLulu akhumbula ngaso amagama kanina, "Nanyana kubonakala kunganathemba unghalala ulenza iqhinga, Lulu."

Yeke, uLulu weza neqhinga elihle khulu. Wazijela wathi, "Ngilitsitse. Ngijaluma. Nangilumako, kuzokuhlolonyela kuhlohlonye."

Begodu ngilokho uLulu akwenzako – waluma uFene kanengi ngendlela angakghona gayo.

"Yooooo!" kurhuwelela uFene. "Kunento engilumileko! Kuyahlolonyela." Wangwaya endaweni ehlohlonyako ngamandla kangangobana wakhupha uLulu eboyeni bakhe begodu waphapha emoyeni.

"Yooooo!" kurhuwelela uLulu njengombana aphaphela ngehla kwesigodo somdlalo wokweqela phezulu!

UZara khange akholwe amehlwakhe. "Uvela kuphi, Lulu?" ubuza amangele.

Ngaphambi kobona uLulu aphendule, uFene walahlekelwa ilawulo wawa emithini. Wawela phezu kweenrthwartha ezathukwa zeqela ngakwesokudla nangakwesobuncele bona zibaleke. Yeke, ama-wasps aphapha hlanguzane nezinye iinunwana bona azivikele zingadliwa. Bese aqoqha zoke iinrthwartha.



Ngebanga letjharagano, boke bebacabanga bona uLulu uthumbile emdlalweni wokweqela phezulu kodwana uLulu wakhuluma, "Awa, akhange ngeqe. NguFene owenze bona ngeqe ngehla kwesigodo. NguZara othumbe umdlalo wokweqela phezulu."

UKosazana Ntombinyoni wanikela uZara ithrofi. Wathi, "Siyakuthokozisa, Zara, siyazikhakhazisa ngawe." Wajika waqala ngakuLulu. "Nawe siyazikhakhazisa ngawe, Lulu. Uthembekile begodu wenze isiqiniseko sokobona uZara ufumane ithrofi. Begodu usisindisile eengrthwartheni ezinelunyeza! Ngicabanga bona nawe kufuze ufumane ithrofi." Yeke, wanikela uLulu ithrofi yokuthembeka nokuba nesibindi. Boke bawahlala begodu uZara wasingatha uLulu ngendlela efuthumeleko.

Ekupheleni kwelanga, zoke iinunwana zavuma ngalizwi linye bona leli bekuilanga lezemidlalo ebelinemidlalo emnandi ukudlula yoke iminyanya yezemidlalo ekhe baya kiyi!

Yenza indaba le ibemnandi!

- ★ Yenza irhelo lazo zoke iinunwana ezisendabeni. (ISELULEKWANA: Kuneenunwana ezili-12.)
- ★ Dweba iinunwana oyithandako bese utlola, THANDA ngaphasi komdwebo.

- ★ Njenga nje dweba iinunwana oyihloyileko bese utlola HLOYA ngaphasi komdwebo.
- ★ Khetha nanyana ngiyiphi iinunwana. Sebenzisa ibumba, iPhrestigi namkha umdaka wokudlala bona ubumbe umfanekiso wenunwana leyo.



Athletics day at Insect Primary

By Karen Louise Olivier ■ Illustrations by Vian Oelofsen

Story corner



The morning sun shone brightly as Lulu sat on a blade of grass on her school's sports field. Today was athletics day at Insect Primary. Lulu felt very excited. She was taking part in the high jump. "Fleas can jump very high!" she shouted as she jumped onto a stone, then a twig and then onto the branch of a nearby tree.

Lulu looked down from the tree and saw the other insects getting ready for the day's events. The insects all felt confident because they had been practising hard to get ready for today.



Grasshopper stretched his back legs. "My legs are very strong. I think I'll do well in the long jump today," he said.

"I think I'll win my race," said Cockroach as she ate a last bit of pancake and wiped her mouth on her wing.

Dragonfly, Mosquito, Bee and Fly flapped their wings as they argued about who would be able to fly the highest. "The high fly is a very special event," said Dragonfly. "Not all insects have wings, but those of us who do, can fly very high. I think I'll win the trophy today."

Dung Beetle knew he would be able to push the ball the furthest with his strong back legs. Ant knew her team would win the relay race because they had been practising to pass the stick for months. And Butterfly knew she would be able to fly over all the obstacles in the steeplechase.

Lulu felt confident too. "I will jump the highest today," she said. "Zara thinks she can beat me, but I'm going to win the trophy!" And with that Lulu gave an enormous jump from the tree branch and landed ... on something furry. "Where am I?" Lulu cried in confusion.

Lulu had been daydreaming and had not seen Monkey climbing up the tree trunk. Now she was stuck in his fur!

Then Lulu heard Miss Ladybird announce, "Good morning, good morning. Welcome to all the athletes, their families and our spectators! Get ready because we are about to start. Could all the athletes gather in the middle of the field, please."

Lulu could hear the noisy spectators laughing, clapping and flapping. Little did Lulu and the crowd know that there were frogs hiding under the tree's leaves that had fallen to the ground. They were just waiting for the right time to jump out and start feasting on all the delicious insects!

In the meantime, Lulu tried to wiggle her way out of Monkey's fur, but that seemed to make things worse. Then she shouted as loudly as she could, "Help! Help! Someone please help me!" But no one could hear her tiny voice over the noisy insects.

Then Lulu heard Miss Ladybird say, "The girls' high jump will start soon. Can everybody who wants to take part, please go to the high jump point."

"Oh no," shouted Lulu. "I'm going to miss my event!" She tried to push her way through Monkey's fur, but it was too thick. Lulu started crying. She had practised so hard for this day and now she wouldn't have a chance to compete.

After a while, Lulu heard Miss Ladybird say, "The girls' high jump is going well. This is Zara's last jump. The bar is very high. Let's see if she makes it."

That's when Lulu remembered her mom's words, "Even when things seem hopeless, you can always make a plan, Lulu."

So Lulu came up with a very good plan. "I'm a flea," she told herself. "I can bite. When I bite, it will itch and itch."

And so that's exactly what Lulu did – she bit Monkey as many times as she could.

"Whaaaaa!" shouted Monkey. "Something bit me! It is so itchy." He scratched the itch so hard that he scratched Lulu right out of his fur, and she went flying through the air.

"Wheweee!" shouted Lulu as she flew right over the high jump bar!

Zara could not believe her eyes. "Where did you come from, Lulu?" she asked surprised.

Before Lulu could answer, Monkey lost his balance and fell out of the tree. He landed on the frogs who got such a fright that they hopped left and right to get away. The wasps swarmed around the other insects to protect them from being eaten. Then they chased all the frogs away.

Because of the chaos, everyone thought that Lulu had won the high jump, but Lulu spoke up, "No, I didn't jump. Monkey made me fly over the bar. Zara won the high jump."



Miss Ladybird handed the trophy to Zara. "Congratulations, Zara, we are proud of you," she said. Then she turned to Lulu. "We are also proud of you, Lulu. You were honest and made sure that Zara got the trophy. You also saved us from those awful frogs! I think you deserve a trophy too." Then she handed Lulu a trophy for being honest and brave. Everyone clapped, and Zara gave Lulu a big hug.

At the end of the day, all the insects agreed that this was definitely the most eventful athletics day they had ever attended!

Get story active!

- ★ Make a list of all the insects in the story. (HINT: There are 12 insects.)
- ★ Draw an insect that you like and write LIKE underneath the drawing.

- ★ Now draw an insect that you don't like and write DISLIKE underneath the drawing.
- ★ Choose any insect. Use clay, Prestik or playdough to make a model of that insect.

