What did the tree say to Spring?

Find hidden shapes!
Fumana iimilo ezifihliweyo!

Make your own pizza!

3 fun crafts

WIN
Books & Colour Me crayons

Issue #3
August - October 2020
GRADE R-3

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Thank you to our awesome sponsors for helping us have fun while we learn.

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Hi lovely readers!

What a bumpy ride this year has been with the Covid-19 virus. I hope you are taking good care of yourselves.

This issue is full of helpful information about staying safe. We’ve also got loads of activities for you to enjoy. Plus, there’s more from the Rangoon Primary School kids – take their special friendship quiz on page 23.

Storytime features Bear’s haircut, Thato the Dreamer and a Family Photo. Enjoy it!

See you soon. xxx

Laura
Editor

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Find the pictures hidden in the magazine.

Cover answer: What a re-leaf!
Thank you to our wonderful NGOs who collaborate with us on content and the distribution of the little issue in South Africa.

Wordworks develops literacy programmes for children up to age eight, helping them to read and write for better and more successful lives. When adults interact positively with young children and engage in stories and ideas, they move easily into literacy. The little issue is a great magazine to encourage and inspire parents and caregivers to support their children’s literacy development at home. Thanks to the little issue team for their wonderful initiative – may you grow from strength to strength! – Dr Shelley O’Carroll, Wordworks.

Shine Literacy has a vision for South Africa as a nation of readers and, over the past 20 years, volunteers have taught over 17 000 children how to read and write. A key aspect of our mission is to create reading opportunities for children. Children need to be stimulated and educated during lockdown with access to fun reading and writing resources. Even better is when they have ownership of storybooks and magazines. This month we’ve distributed 1 500 copies of the little issue to grade two and three learners. We believe ‘Words Can Change Worlds’ – Maurita Weissenberg, Shine Literacy.

Help2read teams of Literacy Tutors have been busy during the lock-down period, working on assignments to help your children grow and assist with reading. Did you know that you can become a reading helper by sharing your copy of the little issue with other children who are not going back to school? Remember to wear your mask and keep a safe distance from your friends as you read out loud together – Lyn Campbell, Help2read.
Ready? 1, 2, 3 Read!

**MATHS UP APP**
Get stories, rhymes, activities and more, for free. You’ll have lots of fun and your teacher will love it too. Ask your parents or a caregiver to download it on their phone or computer. Enjoy!

You’ll find rhymes and songs like these and more.

**SHAPE HUNT**
We’re going on a shape hunt
We’re going to look under things
We’re going to look on top of things
Are you ready?
What a beautiful day!

There are a bunch of green triangles hidden throughout the magazine. Can you find them? How many are there?

**WIN a book!**
Stand a chance to win one of the NEW AFRICA BOOKS that appears on this book page. Email your full name and a telephone number and the book you would like to read, to thelittleissue@mikatekomedia.co.za, T&Cs apply.

Terms and conditions: competitions close on 30 September 2020. The winners will be randomly selected from the correct email entries received before 11:59pm on the closing date. The judges’ decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. The prize/s cannot be transferred or sold. The competition is not open to Mikateko Media, The Big Issue employees, little issue content partners and NGOs, or their families.
What are these kids doing?
Ngowuphi loo msebenzi?
What job is that?

Qhwaba izandla kwisandi
Clap hands to the sound

- pheka/cook
- ugqirha/doctor
- usomashishini/businessman
- ipolisa/police officer
- injineli/engineer
- utitshala/teacher
Can you match it?

Match the picture to the sentence. Draw a line from one to the other.

Ungayifanisa?

Tshatisa umfanekiso kunye nesivakalisi uze uzobe umgca usuka kwelinye uye kwelinye

This is a teacher. / Lo ngutitshala.

This is a builder. / Lo ngumakhi.

This is a baker. / Lo ngumbhaki wezonka.

This is a policeman. / Lipolisa eli.

This is a doctor. / Lo ngugqirah.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Ufuna ukuba yintoni xa ukhula?
Match them up ...

**Which creature belongs where?**

Some creatures build their own homes. Others don’t. A shelter is a home an animal or insect builds for itself. Match the creatures to their correct homes.
Brilliant bug facts!

Ants - tiny but strong

- An ant can carry something 50 times heavier than itself
- Ants can build nests underground, inside trees, or in the walls and spaces of houses or buildings
- Ants warn each other about danger
- They tell each other where to find food
- Ants make other ants slaves! They often kidnap ants from other colonies and force them to do their work
- Ants existed during the time of the dinosaurs
- Ants in the Amazon rainforest link their legs together to create a raft to float down rivers and travel through the forest

Spiders - creepy, yucky or cool?

- Spiders’ webs are spun from silk
- Not all spiders spin webs. Some build nests under or on the ground
- They often replace their webs by rebuilding them every day
- Spiders are arachnids, not insects.

The Goliath birdeater spider is found in South America, and is the largest spider in the world. It belongs to the tarantula family of spiders. It grows to 30 centimetres long, the length of your school ruler!
Do you know the colours of the rainbow?

Ingaba uyayazi imibala yomnyama?

Lungisa amagama axutyiweyo angezantsi ukuze ufumanise ukuba athini na.

Unscramble the words below to find out what they are

umvbo __ __ __ __ __ __
dre __ __ __ __ __ __ __
njorei __ __ __ __ __ __
eaognr __ __ __ __ __ __
iltyeh __ __ __ __ __ __
lelywo __ __ __ __ __ __
zulahla __ __ __ __ __ __
nereg __ __ __ __ __ __
uzba __ __ __ __ __ __
leub __ __ __ __ __ __
iidogn __ __ __ __ __ __
iiidogn __ __ __ __ __ __
thileyova __ __ __ __ __ __
tloevi __ __ __ __ __ __

Impendulo: bomvu, oreyi, ilthyeli, luhloko, zuba, indigo, vyaphelile. Answers: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet.
### Kan jy die woorde vind?

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<th>WOORDE</th>
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<td>TITEL</td>
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C B L M B W O O R D E
T F E C L R D U R T P
I Y E O A M A T O S R
T R S V D J L H M T E
E K M E S Q S O S O N
L S K R Y W E R L R T
P D A Y K B E R A I E
I N L I G T I N G E S
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### Can you find the words?

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C B L M P W O A W S T
T O A C A R D U R T F
I N F O R M A T I O N
t W G V H J L H T R P
L O M E N Q S O E Y A
E R U R E A D R X T G
P D A Y K B E R V Z E
W S C P I C T U R E S
```
Shelter
which pet lives where?

Match the dog to its kennel. Write his or her name on the signboard above the door. Which dog can fit into all the kennels?

Who lives here?
Write down the animal that lives here and the material its shelter is made of.
What’s it made from?

A good, strong house is safe. It isn’t too hot or too cold.
We use different materials to build houses.
Which materials come from a factory?
Where do other materials come from?

A: B: C: D:

Steel Wood
Corrugated iron Bricks
Glass Straw
Sticks Plastic
Stones Mud

Live Like a King

300 years ago  200 years ago  100 years ago  today

What materials were used to build each house?

A: ___________________ B: ___________________ C: ___________________ D: ___________________
Make an Ndebele house!

**YOU NEED**
- An old tin can.
- White paper
- Scissors
- Sellotape
- Pencils and kokis

**YOU MAKE**
1. Cut and wrap a piece of white around your tin. Sellotape it into place.
2. Cut out a circle of white paper. To give it shape cut halfway into the centre of the circle. Now you can pull shape the circle into a roof and Sellotape or glue it in place.
3. Sellotape it onto the tin.
4. You’re ready to decorate!
After losing a war to Dutch settlers, the Ndebele people started using symbols to secretly communicate with each other. Each symbol had a meaning. Use the meanings below to decorate your own house.

Ndebele symbols and meanings

- **White** – purity
- **Red** – love or anger, heartache
- **Pink** – promise or poor, lazy
- **Green** – satisfied or illness
- **Yellow** – wealthy, garden or badness
- **Blue** – faithful or dislike
- **Black** – marriage, rebirth or death, sadness

Let’s see if you know why people visit a clinic ...

- Why do people visit the clinic?
- Do you think these people need face masks? Why?
- What time of day do you think it is and why?
- What types of shapes are on the brown door?
- What do the nurses use to measure someone’s height?
- How many pencils can you see?
- How many children are there? How many adults can you see?

Answers:

1. To get medical help.
2. Yes, to protect them from the Covid-19 virus.
3. The clock says it is half past two. People are awake, so it is afternoon.
4. Squares. A square has four equal sides.
5. A stadiometer is a ruler at a clinic that measures height.
6. Five.
7. Four children, four adults.

Little issue
Can you see double?

2 doubled is __

3 doubled is __

5 doubled is __

6 + 6 =
or
double 6 =

4 + 4 =
or
double 4 =

2 + 2 =
or
double 2 =
How much is half?

Colour half of the fruit in each block

DID YOU KNOW?
Identical twins have different fingerprints and they also have different bellybuttons!

Colour half of each shape
MAGIC CABBAGE TRICK

You need

- 2 large cabbage leaves
- Scissors
- 4 glasses of water
- Purple food colouring
- Yellow food colouring

You do

1. Cut 2 cabbage leaves.
2. Fill the glasses with water until they are half full.
3. Add 2 capfuls of yellow food colouring to the first glass of water.
4. Add 2 capfuls of purple food colouring to the second glasses of water.
5. Stand a cabbage leaf in each glass.
6. Leave for 24 hours (a day and a night).

One leaf will turn **yellow** and the other **purple**.
How to make it

1. Mix the flour and buttermilk into a dough then leave it to rest for 15 minutes.
2. Mix the pizza sauce ingredients into a saucepan and boil until it is thick. Ask a grown-up for help with this step.
3. Break the lump of dough in half.
4. Roll each half into a circle on a floured surface.
5. Put each circle onto a baking sheet.
6. Spread some pizza sauce on each.
7. Sprinkle the cheese onto each circle.
8. Bake them for 12-15 minutes at 200° C.

Wanna share easy peasy pizza?

Pizza dough

- 3 cups self-raising flour
- 1 and a half cups of buttermilk

Pizza sauce

- 1 can of onion and tomato mix
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- Salt to taste
- 2 cups of cheese for the top
- A sprinkle of mixed herbs. Add olives if you like.

Cut each pizza in half and share between 4 people.
Rangoon Primary School Quiz

Are you and your friend a good match? Take this friendship test.

Go through each pair of items in the boxes on the right and circle the ones you prefer.

Draw yourself

THANDI
Cover your answers and ask a friend to circle the items they prefer above. See how your answers match!

WIN your own box of Colour Me crayons!

Colour Me crayons represent all the different skin colours. No more peach or brown. Choose from a whole range! Email your name and contact details to thelittleissue@mikatekomedia.co.za to enter.

Why is your blood red?

If your skin is cut, a drop of blood appears. But why is this drop red and where does the blood come from? Let’s find out.

Did you know...
Blood is made up of millions of little red circles which travel through our bodies very quickly. We call these little red circles red blood cells.

WHAT IS INSIDE RED BLOOD CELLS?
If you were smaller than an ant’s toe, you might be able to climb into a red blood cell. And what would you see? Millions of tiny circles. Each red blood cell carries four little red bags inside it.

What are the four red bags called?
The little red bags are called haemoglobin.

COOL FACT
Your body has nearly six litres of blood in it. That’s about the same amount as three 2 litre bottles of fizzy cooldrink.
Haemoglobin allows you to be healthy and to walk and run.

Red blood cells have an important job. They carry oxygen around our bodies.

Oxygen is the air we breathe.

Each red bag, or haemoglobin, contains something called iron and oxygen – the air we breathe – inside it. Together, the iron and oxygen reflect red light. So, that’s why the colour of blood looks red.

Colour the drops of blood in red

Colour the white circles in red

Draw 4 little red bags on each haemoglobin (grey circles)
Can you help?

There are many ways to solve a problem. Which is your favourite way of working it out and why?

Help these kids with their sums

Sesi enjoys subtraction
Sesi's mother lives 460 kilometres away. She stops for lunch after driving 262 kilometres. How much further has she got to go?

Alice prefers division
442 children each get a hot dog. Half get hot dogs with mustard. How many get hot dogs without mustard?

Help Benji with division
Benji's mother bought packets of fruit worth R80. She paid R5 per packet. How many packets of fruit did she buy?

Stevie likes multiplication and addition
Stevie buys 14 sweets for R3 each. You buy 12 sweets for R5 each. How much did the sweets cost altogether?

Answers: Sesi: 198, Alice: 221, Benji: 16, Stevie: 102

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A MATCHING PAIR

Can you find two that are the same?

PROTEA FACT

King Proteas are pollinated by both birds and beetles that come to eat the delicious nectar.

Answer: A and F
Beaks that speak to us. REALLY?

Actually, the shape and size of a bird’s beak is a huge clue to what it feeds on.

Spot birds and their beaks at home – find out how and what they eat.

**African spoonbill**
Its spoon-shaped beak has sensors that snap shut when food is detected. Feeds on fish and other water creatures.

**MASKED WEAVER** – Short, pointy little beak crushes grain and seeds.

**CAPE SUNBIRD** – A long, curved beak dips into flowers to collect nectar.

**HERON** – The spear-shaped bill stabs and grabs at insects, reptiles, birds and mammals.
Let’s go shopping!

Tumi went shopping with her big sister. Look at the picture and make a list of the things they bought.

- Mealie meal
- Biscuits
- Cream
- Eggs
- Tomatoes
- Oranges
- Grapes
- Meat
- Spinach
- Dog food
- Cooking oil
- Shampoo
In Disteneng, just five kilometres from Polokwane, lived a girl named Thato. Thato lived with her mother, Mokgadi, in a house made of poles and iron sheets – a mokhukhu. Early in the morning, Thato’s mother would walk with her all the way to her primary school in Ladanna.

One morning as they passed the green shack on the corner, people were sitting outside drinking beer.

"Tlou stays here," said Thato. "He doesn’t come to school anymore."

"Are you sure?" asked Mokgadi.

"Yes. He said school is for rich people, not poor people," Thato answered sadly. "I miss him so much. He was the only other child from Disteneng at school."

Then Thato ran ahead of her mother. Further down the road, as they got closer to Ladanna, she heard the sound of birds. In Disteneng, she only heard loud music.

Thato worked hard at school. During break time, she always did her homework because it was difficult to do it at home. But it was Grace’s birthday today and she had brought cupcakes for everyone in class.

Mrs Sephuma handed out the pretty little cakes to the children. Slowly Thato ate a small piece of her cake.

It had chocolate icing on top and tasted sweet. It made Thato think about her last birthday. She had not brought cakes, but had sung a song for the class. The teacher had loved it, but not the children. Some of them had sulked, while others said, "Mokhukhu girl! Hey, mokhukhu girl – the one who sees electricity across the river – where’s our cake?"

As she thought about that, Thato did not feel like eating her cupcake anymore. She wrapped what was left of it in some paper and put it in her schoolbag. Then she took out her writing book and started doing her homework.

Thato, the dreamer

Story by Pirai Mazungunye
Illustrations by Yvonne Robinson

Mane Disteneng, dikolomitara tse hlano feela ho tloha Polokwane, ho kile ha eba le ngwananyana ya neng a bitswa Thato. Thato o ne a dula le mme wa hae, Mokgadi, ntlong e neng e ahilwe ka dipalo le masenke – mokhukhu. Ka meso hoseng, mme wa Thato o ne a tlwaetse ho tsamaya le yena ho mo isa sekolong sa poraemari mane Ladanna.

Ka tsatsi le leng hoseng ha ba feta mokhukhu o motala o hukung, batho ba ne ba dutse ka ntse ba enwa biri.

"Tlou o dula mona," ha rialo Thato. "Ha a sa tla sekolong."

"Na o na le bonnette ba seo?" ha botsa Mokgadi.

"Ee. O itse sekolo ke sa barui, eseng bafutsana," ha araba Thato ka maswabi. "Ke a mo hopola. E ne e le yena feela ya tswang Disteneng sekolong mane."

Yaba Thato o mathela pejana ka pela mmae. Ba theosa mmila, ha ba ntse ba atamelà Ladanna, a utlwa modumo wa dinonyana. Kwana Disteneng o ne a utlwa feela modumo wa mmino o llelang hodimo.

Thato o ne a sebetsa ka thata sekolong. Ka nako ya kgefutso, o ne a dula a etsa mosebetsi wa
In Disteneng, just five kilometres from Polokwane, lived a girl named Thato. Thato lived with her mother, Mokgadi, in a house made of poles and iron sheets – a mokhukhu. Early in the morning, Thato’s mother would walk with her all the way to her primary school in Ladanna.

One morning as they passed the green shack on the corner, people were sitting outside drinking beer. “Tlou stays here,” said Thato. “He doesn’t come to school anymore.”

“Yes. He said school is for rich people, not poor people,” Thato answered sadly. “I miss him so much. He was the only other child from Disteneng at school.”

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After school, Thato walked back home behind her mother. As she got closer to the corner where the green shack was, she saw some children white with dust from head to foot. They were playing games – kgati, tshere tshere and diketo – in the road.

“Here comes the schoolgirl,” said one of them pointing at Thato. The children stopped playing. The girls playing diketo stopped singing. They looked at Thato in her school uniform that was too big for her. Thato did not mind being called motlakase ka nqane ho noka – kuku ya rona e kae?”

Ha a ntse a nahanne ka seo, Thato a ikutlwa a sa batle le ho ja cupcake ya hae. A phuthela e setseng ka pampiri mme a e kenyqa ka hara mokotlana wa hae wa sekolo. Yaba o ntsha buka ya hae ya ho ngolla mme a qala ho ngola mosebetsi wa lapeng.

Ha sekolo se etswa, Thato a ya hae a tsamanya ka mora mme wa hae. Ha a ntse a atamela hukung moo mokhukhu o motala o neng o le teng, a bona bana ba bang ba le basweu ke lerole ho tloha hloohong ho isa ka tlasa maoto. Ba ne ba bapala dipapadi – kgati, tshere tshere le diketo – ka tseleng.

“Ngwanana wa sekolo ke eo o a tla,” ha rialo e mong wa bona a supile Thato. Bana ba emisa ho bapala. Banana ba neng ba bapala diketo ba emisa ho bina. Ba sheba Thato ka yunifomo ya hae ya sekolo e neng e le kgolo ho yena. Thato o ne a sa kgathalle leha ba mmitsa ngwanana wa sekolo. Lebitso leo le ne le le betere ho feta mabitso ao a neng a bitswa ka ona sekolong.

“O kgutlile,” bohle ba rialo ka nako e le mgwe.

“Le tshwanetse le kgutlele sekolong,” ha rialo Thato. “Re ka nna ra tsamaya mmoho ho ya sekolong.”

“Re ye sekolong?” ba tsheha. “Le kgale! Ha ho letho le o tla le fumana moo!”

At school it was the same. Sometimes Thato would be upset and cry. Sometimes she would get angry and shout back, “My name is not mokhukhu girl! It’s Thato! Lucky you, who chose your parents! If I was asked to choose, I would choose to live in a big house!”

“You must practise every day after school, Thato,” Mrs Sephuma said.

Every day, Mrs Sephuma would give Thato a sandwich and some fruit when the other children were not around. Every day, Thato practised.

When it was the school sports day, Thato came first in all her races. “Now you must run for the school! You must help us win the sports competition this year,” said the principal as she gave Thato a big packet.
the schoolgirl. It was better than the names she was called at school.

“She is back,” they all said together.

“You should come back to school,” said Thato. “We can all go to school together.”

“Go to school?” they laughed. “Never! You will find nothing there!”

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After school, Thato walked back home behind her mother. As she got closer to the corner where the green shack was, she saw some children white with dust from head to foot. They were playing games – kgati, tshere, diketo – in the road.

Some children laughed, but others said, “She is right. We did not choose where we were born. Thato is right.” And after that they only called her Thato.

“So what?” a few unkind children said. “She sang for us on her birthday. Now we will sing a song too: Thato, the mokhukhu girl, the dreamer.” Then they followed her around the schoolyard singing their unkind song. “Thato, the mokhukhu girl, the dreamer.” Over and over again.

But, things don’t stay the same forever. When Thato turned nine, she could take part in school sports. The first time her teachers saw her run, they knew that she would be a champion!

“Here comes the schoolgirl,” said one of them pointing at Thato. The children stopped playing. The girls playing diketo stopped singing. They looked at Thato in her school uniform that was too big for her. Thato did not mind being called the schoolgirl. It was better than the names she was called at school.

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Empa dintho ha di dule di sa fetohelo. Ha Thato a qeta dilemo tse robong, o ne a kgona ho nka karolo dipapading tsa sekolo. Kgetlo la pele ha bottitjhere ba hae ba mmona a matha, ba ile ba tseba hore e tla ba mmampodi!

“O lokela ho iketlisela kamehla kamora sekolo, Thato,” ha rialo Mof Sephuma.

Ka tsatsi le leng le leng, Mof Sephuma o ne a fa Thato samentjhise le ditholwana tse itseng ha bana ba bang ba sa bone. Kamehla, Thato a iketlisela.

Ka letsatsi la dipapadi tsa sekolo, Thato a hlola a tswa pele mabelong ohle. “Jwale o lokela ho ya emela sekolo! O lokela ho re thusa ho hlola ditlhodisanong tsa dipapadi selemong sena,” ha rialo mosuwehlooho a efa Thato pakana e kgolo.

Thato ha a ka a bula pakana eo ho fihlela a fihla lapeng, empa eitse feela ha mmae a kwala lemati. Thato a e bula. Ka hare e ne e le para ya dieta tsa ho matha, borikgwe bo bokgutshwanyane le thishete. Thato o ne a matha lebelo le leholo ka dieta tsa hae tsa ho matha.

E se kgale bana bane ba neng ba mmitsa ngwanana wa mekhukhung ba qala ho mmitsa kulo ya ngwanana.

“Kulo ya ngwanana ke yane!” ba ne ba rialo ba hoeleditse ha a ba feta ka lebelohadi mabaling a dipapadi. Mme mabelong ohle ba ne ba mo opela ditlase, ba bina, “Matha, Thato, wa dito, matha. Matha kulo ya ngwanana!”
Some children laughed, but others said, “She is right. We did not choose where we were born. Thato is right.” And after that they only called her Thato.

“So what?” a few unkind children said. “She sang for us on her birthday. Now we will sing a song too: Thato, the mokhukhu girl, the dreamer.” Then they followed her around the schoolyard singing their unkind song. “Thato, the mokhukhu girl, the dreamer.” Over and over again.

But, things don’t stay the same forever. When Thato turned nine, she could take part in school sports. The first time her teachers saw her run, they knew that she would be a champion!

“You must practise every day after school, Thato,” Mrs Sephuma said.

Every day, Mrs Sephuma would give Thato a sandwich and some fruit when the other children were not around. Every day, Thato practised.

When it was the school sports day, Thato came first in all her races. “Now you must run for the school! You must help us win the sports competition this year,” said the principal as she gave Thato a big packet.

Thato didn’t open the packet until she got home, but as soon as her mother had closed the door, Thato opened it. Inside was a pair of running shoes, running shorts and a T-shirt. Thato ran even faster in her running shoes.

It wasn’t long before the same children who had called her mokhukhu girl started calling her the bullet girl.

“There goes the bullet girl!” they would shout as she sped past them on the sports field. And

Kamora dilemo tse pedi tsa boikwetliso ba lesatsi le lesatsi le ho ja dijo tseo Mof Sephuma a neng a mo tla tsona sekolong, Thato a ba e mong wa dimathi tse hlwahlwa ka ho fetisisa Limpopo.

Ka tsatsi le leng Thato a mathela ho mmae ha a ntse a mo emetse hekeng ya sekolo. “Mme, mme!” a hoeletsa. “Ke sehlopheng sa Limpopo! Ke ya Cape Town mmoho le sehlopha!”

Mosuwehlooho a fa Thato dipakana tse ding hape. E nngwe e ne e ena le dieta tsa ho matha le diaparo tsa ho matha. Thishete tsohle di ne di ena le letshwao la Limpopo ho tsona. Hape ho ne ho ena le pakana e nang le kepisi, dijini le baki. Hape ho ena le pakana e nyane e nang le karete ya banka ya polasetiki e neng e ena le tjhelete eo a tla e sebedisa leetong la hae la Cape Town.
at all the races they cheered her on, chanting, “Run, Thato, the dreamer, run. Run, bullet girl!”

After two years of training every day and eating the extra food that Mrs Sephuma brought to school for her, Thato became one of the fastest runners in Limpopo.

One day Thato ran up to her mother as she waited at the school gate. “Mom, mom!” she shouted. “I’m on the Limpopo team! I’m going to Cape Town with the team!”

The principal gave Thato more packets. There was one with running shoes and running clothes. The T-shirts all had Limpopo’s emblem on them. There was also a packet with a cap, jeans and a jacket. And there was a small packet with a plastic bank card that had spending money for the trip to Cape Town.

When the time came for the Limpopo team to go to Cape Town, a big bus with soft seats and dark windows came to fetch Thato at her school. She hugged Mokgadi goodbye and climbed up the steps of the bus. As she turned to wave goodbye, she saw Tlou standing next to her mother. Behind him, stood her dusty friends from Disteneng.

She remembered how they used to call her the schoolgirl. She smiled. “You should come back to school,” she said.

Thato was the fastest one-hundred-metre runner in her age group. They wrote about her in the local newspaper and talked about her on the radio. They called her a golden girl in waiting. At school Thato was given a medal at assembly. All the children and teachers clapped for her. And they sang a song over and over again, “Thato, the golden girl, the dreamer.”
Bear’s haircut

Ukuchetywa kukaBhere

Story by: Nola Turkington
Illustrations by: Joseph Mugisha
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.

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.”

“Then I’ll cut my granny’s,” said Thobeka, and she ran outside. It looked so easy, and so much fun.

Outside, Lotto the dog started barking. “Whose hair CAN I cut?” Thobeka wondered. Thobeka was asleep and she was frightened to wake him. Thobeka’s brother was on his cell phone, so Thobeka left her alone. Thobeka’s brother was on his cell phone, so Thobeka left her alone.

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


Emva koko, uPhumeza noThobeka noBhere badlala eyadini. Kuthe emva kwethubha uThobeka wabaleka wengena endlwini.

Source: Courtesy Nal’ibali

Illustrator: Joseph Mugisha

Author: Nola Turkington


Emva koko, uPhumeza noThobeka noBhere badlala eyadini. Kuthe emva kwethubha uThobeka wabaleka wengena endlwini.
Phumeza. “I want to go home now.” “Then I’ll cut my granny’s,” said Thobeka, and she ran off to find her 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 cellphone, so Thobeka left her alone. Thobeka’s brother was asleep and she was frightened to wake him.
“Whose hair CAN I cut?” Thobeka wondered. 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 off down the road with his tail between his legs.

Only Bear was left, propped against the garden fence. Thobeka sat 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
Phumeza’s brother rode past on his bicycle. “Hey, Thobeka! 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


Wazimela apho yonke loo mini, ekhathazekile kakhulu. Wasiphindisela isikere sikaMakhulu kwikhabhathi yasekhithini. Waze wabaleka waya ezantsi kwegadi, wafika waziqhusheka kwindlwana encinane yeenkuku.

Wazimela apho yonke loo mini, ekhathazekile kakhulu. Wasiphindisela isikere sikaMakhulu kwikhabhathi yasekhithini. Waze wabaleka waya ezantsi kwegadi, wafika waziqhusheka kwindlwana encinane yeenkuku.
Andikhange ndicinge kakuhle ngeziphumo zezenzo zam.


UPhumeza watsiba ukuphuma oku ebhedini. Wabaleka waya kuvula ifestile. UThobeka wayengcetshile ekrobe efestileni, ebambelele kwintsimbi zokhuseleko ezakhelwe kwifestile

never grow again,” she said. Phumeza couldn’t sleep. She was sad about Bear’s hair, but even more, her heart felt heavy and sore when she remembered Thobeka’s face. She tossed and turned and buried her face in her pillow. “I shouldn’t have shouted at Thobeka. I could see she was upset already. I said such nasty things.” Phumeza thought about the day Mama gave her two pieces of cake, one for herself and one for Thobeka. In front of her best friend, she’d eaten both pieces. Thobeka forgave her and didn’t tell Mama how greedy she’d been.

Phumeza thought about the prayer her family often said about asking God to forgive them. She felt ashamed. It wasn’t a good feeling.

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.”
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.

**QUESTIONS**

Why do you think Phumeza was so cross when she saw how Thobeka had cut Bear’s hair?

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

What does it mean to forgive someone?

Do you think Phumeza was right to forgive Thobeka? Why or why not?

Should we always forgive people who do things that make us angry or hurt us? Why or why not?

**IMIBUZO**

Ucinga ukuba kutheni uPhumeza equmbe kangaka akubona indlela uThobeka azichebe ngayo iinwele zikaBhere?

Ingaba wakhe wayenza into eyenza omnye umntu waqumba, nangona ubungazimiselandela kumqumbisa?

Kuthetha ukuthini ukuxolela omnye umntu?

Ucinga ukuba uPhumeza wenza into elungileyo ngokuxolela uThobeka? Kutheni uvuma okanye usala?

Ingaba kulungile ukusoloko sibaxolela abantu abasenza izinto ezisicaphukisayo okanye ezibuhlungu? Kutheni uvuma okanye usala?
Story: Family Photo

There are many different kinds of families. All are beautiful and perfect in their own way.

Little Sister is very excited today! Everyone in her family is very excited too. Can you guess why they are all excited? It is Gogo’s birthday and they are going to have a party!

Mama calls to everyone, “I have a big surprise. I went to the shops and bought new clothes for everyone for the party.”

Whose yellow head wrap is this? It is Gogo’s. “I love my yellow head wrap,” says Gogo as she jiggles.

Whose bright orange wrapper is this? It is Mama’s. “I love my orange wrapper,” says Mama as she twirls.

Whose blue shirt is this? It is Papa’s. “I love my blue shirt,” says Papa as he bows.

Whose pretty red dress is this? It is Big Sister’s. “I love my pretty red dress,” says Big Sister as she jumps up and down.

Whose green and yellow flowery dress is this? It is Little Sister’s. “I love my green and yellow flowery dress,” says Little Sister as she claps her hands.
Now they are all dressed in their fine, new party clothes. Gogo says, “Before we cut the cake and sing Happy Birthday, let’s take a photo of the whole family in our special clothes”.

It is difficult to stand still for the picture.

Gogo stop jiggling, Mama don’t twirl, Papa don’t bow, Big Sister stand still, Little Sister no clapping!

Now we are ready for the photo...

SNAP!

Want to win?

A BIG GAME BOX is up for grabs! It’s packed with fun, colourful board games from Wordworks.

How to enter

1. Draw a picture of your family, then draw a beautiful photo frame around them.
2. Talk about the people in your picture. Who are they? What are their names? Ask someone to help you write their names on your picture. It is fine to ask someone to help you.
3. Send a photograph of your drawing by email to thelittleissue@mikatekomedia.co.za.

TIPPY TAP
Hlamba izandla uze ubulale intsholongwane

Sukuphatha ubuso bakho!

Ungasebenzisa neepali ezibophelele icingo ukuxhoma

Yenza umngxunyana esepheni uyixhome kwintonqa ecaleni kwebhotile

Gcina ibhotile igcwele

Intonga yokuxhona ibhotile

Xhoma ibhotile kwintonqa engamlezayo usebenzisa ihandle yebebhotile

Yenza umngxunya apha

Faka umsonto phakathi emngxunyeni wesiciko uwubophe

Isikhonkwane sokumisa i-pedal

I- pedal yintonqa ebotshelwe kwisiciko sebhotile

Igrabile ukuze amanzi angachithakali
Hlala ukhuseleleki
Hlamba izandla zakho ngesiPHA naMANZI.
Zihlambe imizuzwana eyi-20 – ngakumbi xa ungena endlwini, phambi kokuba uye naxa uvela ethoyilethi.
(nangaphambi nasemvakokuba uqgqose impumlo yakho)

Isepha itshabalalisa ivayirasi phambi kokuba zingene emzimbeni wakho.


2. Hlikhla izandla zakho uzidibanisile.

3. Hlikhla phakathl kweminwe yakho.

4. Hlikhla umva kweminwe yakho uyidibanisile.

5. Hlikhla umva kwestanda sakho.

6. Hlikhla umva.


8. Khuhla izandla zakho ngeenzipho zakho.


10. Vuthulula izandla zakho zome.

Ngokuhlamba nje izandla zakho unakho ukuba liQhawe ze uyithintele le vayirasi ingasasazeki ze igulise abantu!
**WANT SOME SILLY FUN?**

**Find your way!**

Which letter of the alphabet leads to the end?

A B C D E F G

---

**Riddles**

- What has a face and two arms but no legs?
  - A clock

- Which letter of the alphabet has the most water?
  - C

- What type of tree can you carry in your hand?
  - A palm

---

**Names**

Everybody has a name. Some are different, some the same. Some are short, others long. All are right, none are wrong.

My name is...

It’s special to me. It’s exactly who I want to be!

---

**Lengana**

Ke eng hona hoo?
Ho ho putswanyana?
Be, ke lengana,
Le babetsa lehano.
Thiya! Thiya! O tshwerwe ke sefuba
Harola o phehe.
Subela ka nkong,
O tla hlaphohelwa.

---

**Alla wiep, alla wap**

Alla wiep, alla wap, hoe kook jy die pap?
Sonder suiker, sonder melk, ‘n groot bord vir elk.

---

**Translation**

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