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Hello again friends!
The holidays are here and we’ve got some special activities for you. But first, check out Pigcasso, South Africa’s painting pig. She’ll surprise you with her cleverness. Then, enter the competition on page 22. You could win! And don’t forget the different stories we’ve got for you. So much to read. Get someone to read to you – or try and read the stories yourself.

Happy Holidays. Stay safe.

Bye. See you soon!

Laura
Editor

Let’s play EYE SPY. Find these pictures hidden in the magazine.

Ready? I spy with my little eye something that looks like this ...

03 Ready? Let’s get reading! WIN books!
04 Do you have good manners?
06 Do you love your neighbourhood?
08 What kind of friend are you?
10 Crack the secret codes and words!
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A roll call of gratitude

A warm welcome to the 4th edition of the little issue 2020.

How the year has flown. Just the other day the little issue was a dream for our parent company and publication, The Big Issue and our publisher, Mikateko Media. Now, here we are, four editions later, planning to expand our rollout in 2021 to more provinces in South Africa.

2020 has been our pilot year and we have learnt so much about education for Young Minds and what works within a magazine format. During the year, we also produced an English/French version in partnership with Fondation Ipsen, our founding French funder. Next year, we hope to secure funding to publish, print and distribute 120 000 magazines in South Africa. Reality check - we are mindful that we have a long way to go since there are approximately six million Grade R–3 learners in South Africa. We can only get closer to our goal to support more learners if South African funders and philanthropists come on board to support the growth and scale of our project.

This has been an amazing journey of team collaboration, dedication, persistence, hard work and care for the development of Young Minds. I have to highlight the role players behind the scenes who collectively contribute to make little issue the success it has become.

Young Minds Matter!

Derek Carelse
MD: The Big Issue

Desireé Johnson
MD: Mikateko Media

Thanks go to:
Chai Patel – The Bright Future Trust (UK)
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On-street vendors around Cape Town – self-employed, The Big Issue vendors
Social impact advisor – Impact Amplifier
Stand a chance to win one of the New Africa Books that appear 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 28 February 2021. 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 or their family members.

**A FUN APP TO TRY!**

**Khan Academy Kids**
Everyone should have access to learning. That’s why Khan Academy Kids is FREE!

Fun, adorable little characters will guide you through hundreds of different activities.

Start the school year STRONG! Download the app on a smartphone. Then, you can read, play, learn and grow.

Available on the Apple App Store, Google Play and Amazon.

**Mpumi and Jabu’s Magical Day! by Lebohang Masango, Claudine Storbeck**
Mpumi makes friends with Jabu, a boy who can’t hear. She learns how to talk to Jabu with her hands.

**Armien’s Fishing Trip by Catherine Stock**
A tale about courage. Armien goes on an adventure with the Kalk Bay fishermen in stormy seas. He proves to them and his friends ashore that he’s not a little boy anymore.

**WIN a book!**
Do you have good manners?

- Take turns
- Share with others
- Help others
good manners?

Congratulate each other

Say, “I’m sorry” when you hurt someone

Throw your rubbish into a bin

Greet people you know

Illustrations: Cassidy Thwaites
Do you love your neighbourhood?

Tidy schools and libraries help us learn

Neat sports fields and parks provide areas to play

Clean hospitals help us to get well

Clean, neat facilities help keep us happy and healthy.

Broken, polluted facilities are unhealthy and unsafe.
CARING ABOUT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Look at what each picture shows. How would you want to change each one and why?
What kind of friend are you?

I’m a good friend

I behave nicely towards my classmates

My classmates behave nicely towards me

I am polite to other people

I care about other people

I listen to the rules

I like my school teacher

My school teacher likes me
What do good friends do?

Put a tick ✅ or a cross ✗ on the star on each picture. A tick means good friendship. A cross means bad friendship.

What about bullying?

What would you do if you were being bullied?

How would you correct your behaviour if you were the bully?

Write your answers here:
Here is a holiday message written in secret code.
Can you work out what it says?

In the message, each letter of the alphabet has been replaced by a number. Write the letter below each number to work out what the message says. Use the grey code-breaker table below to help you.

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codes and words!

Can you find these holiday words in the wordsearch block below?

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For more activities like these visit www.nalibali.org
What are poultry birds?

Chickens belong to a group of animals called poultry. Poultry birds include chickens, turkeys, pigeons, doves, pheasants, quail, ducks and geese.

Which of these birds give us eggs that we can eat?

Which animals give us these foods?
Dogs are our pets and our friends. They share our homes. But they do important work too.

Match each dog with its owner. Draw a line from one to the other.
15

**PLAYTIME**

**JUST KIDDING!**

What is fast, loud and crunchy?
A rocket chip!

What did one plate say to the other?
Dinner is on me!

What do you call a sleeping dinosaur?
A dino-snooze!

**ISELE**

Nalo isele!
Emva kwendlu kabawo,
Litya lichola chola,
Lithi ndakuligxotha,
Lithi tsi-gxada,
tsi-gxada, tsi.

**WHICH WAY?**

Kat en Muis
‘N kat sê eendag vir ‘n muis:
“Ek voel tog so alleen,
kom speel hier met my in die huis,
dan gee ek jou ‘n been!”

“Nee dankie,” sê die slimme muis,
“ek bly maar weg van jou –
by katte voel ek glad nie tuis,
hulle wil my beentjies kou!”

Images: freepik.com, Nalibali

Issue 4 2020/21
At the picnic

Count:
• How many birds do you see?
• How many birds are eating?
• What are the dogs doing?
• How many bicycle wheels are there?
• How many red ants are there?
• Are there enough doughnuts for everyone on the blanket?

Look for:
• 1 cup
• 2 wooden giraffes
• 2 Dandelion flowers
• 1 satellite dish
• 2 watermelons
Add:
• If 3 more joggers arrive, how many will there be?
• How many bags of naartjies and oranges are there all together?
WHAT'S IN THE BOX?

Mrs Apple’s classroom has the following toys ...

Count how many types of each toy

TRUCKS
TEDDY BEARS
TRAINS
BALLS
DOLLS
Ashley was excited. Mommy had baked 10 cupcakes for the family. She placed the cupcakes on a plate on the table.

Later that day, Ashley saw that there were fewer cupcakes on the plate. He counted. There were only 6 cupcakes!

The next time Ashley came into the kitchen he counted again. There were only 4 cupcakes!

Ashley ran off to tell Mommy.

When they came into the kitchen, the plate was empty. There were no cupcakes. NOTHING. ZERO.

They heard a noise under the table. There was Chase, their dog, with icing all over his face!

He’d eaten all the cakes until there were NONE left.

Email your name and number to thelittleissue@mikatekomedia.co.za. Paint and decorate your own delectable cupcake treasure box. Use it to store all your favourite treasures! Includes: a paper mâché cupcake, eight beautiful paints and a paint brush, ‘chocolate’ glue, four types of sprinkles, and a ‘cherry’ to pop on top.

www.LalaArtBar.co.za

Competition closes 28 February 2021. T&Cs apply, see page 3.
Are they

**YES OR NO?**
Symmetry is when two parts of a whole are exactly the same. Does the one side look the same as the other?

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[Drawn shapes with dotted lines through them]
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Draw a line across each shape so that the one side looks exactly the same as the other.
symmetrical?

Grab a crayon and complete the shape. Draw the other side.

Are our faces symmetrical?

Cut out each face. Place the left side of FACE 1 next to the right side of FACE 2.

Does the new face you created look symmetrical?

Cut along the dotted lines!
Rangoon Primary School is closed and Mrs Golweni’s class is on holiday.

Two lucky kids got to travel to a desert island. Zane Davids is loving his choices. But mean Maris Mackett is having a hard time.

Why?

Now, pretend that this holiday you are stranded on a desert island. You can only take three of each item.

Think carefully about what to pack. There is no food, drink, warmth or shelter on the island.
GETAWAY

Food
1. _____________________
2. _____________________
3. _____________________

Drink
1. _____________________
2. _____________________
3. _____________________

Shelter
1. _____________________
2. _____________________
3. _____________________

Entertainment
1. _____________________
2. _____________________
3. _____________________
Stay healthy

Follow these rules every day for good health

**DRINK WATER**

Circle everything that brings you only pure water.

Drink water often to stay healthy especially when the weather is hot.

**MOVE**

Draw a path through the maze and help Sarah and Diego score a goal!

Moving your body is important! Running, scoring goals, jumping, swimming or riding a bike will help you feel great and make new friends. Which sport do you like?
**EAT FRESH**

Nature offers amazing treasures: fruit and vegetables. They have different tastes, and are important because they give us vitamins and energy.

- Colour-in the fruits and vegetables with their true colours.
- Apples are red or yellow or green and the leaves are green.
- Oranges are orange and the leaves are green.
- Grapes are purple or green and the leaves are green.
- Tomatoes are red and the leaves are green.
- Mealies are yellow and the leaves are green.
- Carrots are orange and the leaves are green.

**SLEEP WELL**

Draw your favourite dream

The more you sleep the less tired you will be. You’ll have more energy to play with your friends.

Visit www.fondation-ipsen.org
Make easy Christmas trifle cups

You need

- Sponge cake, 2 slices (enough for 2 cups)
- A box of red jelly powder (an 80g box)
- Ready-made custard
- A measuring jug with millilitre measurements on the side

You make

1. Measure out 200ml of boiled water. (Ask a grown up for help with this).
2. Pour the jelly powder into the water and stir. Make sure the jelly is dissolved.
3. Measure out 200ml of cold water.
4. Pour the water into the jelly mixture and stir.
5. Press the cake slice into the bottom of glasses so they’re nice and flat.
6. Pour the jelly over the top and leave in the fridge to set.
7. Top with custard and decorate.

HOW MUCH JELLY?

Colour the measurement to show the amount of liquid in each.
Act out the activities in the picture below.

Clap your hands to the sounds of the words. Qhwaba izandla kwisandi samagama.

- Piano (Ipiyano)
- Drum (Igubu)
- Dance (Danisa)
- Concert (Ikonsathi)
- Gumboot (Igambhutsi)
Meet the Painting Pig!

Pigcasso almost became a bacon sandwich until Jo Lefson saved him. She tells us all about it.

Where was Pigcasso found?
I rescued Pigcasso from a terrible building on a pig farm. She was a tiny one-month-old piglet who fit into a shoebox. At six months old the farmers were going to turn her into a bacon sandwich.

How big is Pigcasso now?
About half a ton. A very small car weighs about 1 ton.

Where does she live?
In a beautiful, comfy barn at Farm Sanctuary SA. It is hog heaven! Although people say that they love animals, almost all the world’s animals are captured. They live in terrible conditions in industrialised factory farms which most people don’t know about.

How did Pigcasso start painting?
Pigs are very smart. I have to keep her entertained. I put things in her stall like soccer and tennis balls. I had paint brushes out and using positive encouragement it wasn’t long before she was brushing paint across the canvases.

How does she paint?
I select colours, then she takes the brush in her mouth and paints on the canvas. She’ll press her nostril on the canvas to signal that she’s done.

Is painting her own choice?
She is the boss. Painting was her own choice right from the start. ‘Farm animals need to be treated with kindness and compassion.

VISIT PIGCASSO AT FARM SANCTUARY SA.
Travel to Franschhoek village near Cape Town. Pigcasso and other animals live in a lovely, humane environment. It’s a playground for kids, farm animals and pigs! Entrance is free but donations are welcome. www.pigcasso.org
Ngexesha leeholide khumbula...

Imihombiso yeKrismesi, imithi yeKrismesi kunye namaphepha okusongela izipho zingaba yingozi kwimfuyo - waqaphele!
little issue
“Khawulezisa, Neo, asinaxesha lininzi!” watsho uHope ebeka phantsi ingxowa yakhe enzima. UHope noJosh babelinde uNeo. Bonke babesiya epakini njengenxenye yesicwangciso sikaHope! UHope wayeqale ukucinga isicwangciso emva kokufunda incwadi entsha umama wakhe wayemthengele yona. Yayingentombazana eyayisindise ngobukroti ilali yayo kwisidalwa esasisojikeka. UHope wayonwabela incwadi kangangokuba wagqiba ukuyifunda ngosuku wada waphupha ngesidalwa esoyikekayo ngobo busuku!


For more stories like these and more, visit www.nalibali.org
“Oh no! The park is too full for my plan to work,” said Hope, disappointed. “What plan?” asked Neo and Josh at the same time, looking at each other. “Do you remember the story I read about the brave girl who saved her village?” asked Hope. “Well, I was hoping we could make a scary creature, tie it to Josh’s kite and then fly it over the park. But now look!” said Hope pointing to the happy people standing around the mayor. Neo saw how sad Hope was. “Nice plan, Hope!” he said. “Let’s go over there behind that big bush. No one will see us there.” Josh and Hope nodded in agreement and off they went. “Josh, you go and find some sticks. Neo, take off your pirate wonke.” “Yho hayi! Ipaka izele kakhulu ukuba isicwangciso sam singasebenza,” watsho uHope, edanile. “Esiphi isicwangciso?” wabuza uNeo noJosh ngaxeshanye, bejongana. “Nisakhumbula ngebali lentombazana elikroti eyasindisa ilali yayo?” wabuza uHope. “Kaloku, bendinethemba lokuba siza kwenza isidalwa esoyikekayo, sisibophelele kwikayiti kaJosh size sisibhabhise phezu kwepaka. Kodwa jonga ngoku!” watsho uHope ekhomba abantu abonwabileyo berhanqe usodolophu. UNeo wabona indlela uHope awayelusizi ngayo. “Sisicwangciso esihle eso, Hope!” watsho. “Masiye phaya emva kwelaa tyholo likhulu. Akukho mntu uza kusibona phaya.” UJosh noHope banqwala bevumelana baza bahamba.

“Josh, hamba uye kufuna izinti. Neo, khulula umnqwazi wakho wabaphangi baselwandle nesiciko sokukhusela iliso,” wayalela uHope njengoko wayekhupha iimpahla zakhe zekarati nebhlanolike kwingxowa yakhe. UJosh wazifumana izinti ezhibhityileyo ngaseemgqomeni wenkunkuma baza abahlobo abathathu bahlala emva kwetyholo besebenzisa umtya osuka kwingxowa kaHope ukuzoluka ziphambane ukwenza umzimba wesidalwa. Waza uHope wavuthela ibhaloni wayibophelela yenza intox kusive. Basinxibisa isidalwa iimpahla zikaHope zekarati, nomnqwazi kaNeo wabaphangi baselwandle nesiciko esikhusela iliso. UJosh wasibophelela isidalwa kwikayiti yakhe. Baza balunga!

hat and eye patch,” instructed Hope as she took her karate clothes and a balloon out of her bag. Josh found some thin sticks next to a dustbin and the three friends sat behind the bush using string from Hope’s bag to tie them together in a cross-shape for the creature’s body. Then Hope blew up the balloon and tied that on for the creature’s head. They dressed the creature in Hope’s karate clothes and Neo’s pirate hat and eye patch. Josh tied the creature onto his kite. And then they were ready!

The children hid behind the bush and loosened the kite’s string. A strong gust of wind took the creature off into the sky. Up, up, up it went, racing across the sky away from them. In the
meantime, Bella and her mom had arrived at the park to walk Noodle. When Noodle saw the creature dangling in the sky, he started barking and pulling on his leash. Bella tried to hold onto Noodle’s leash, but he pulled so hard that she had to let go. Off went Noodle across the park. Bella and her mom chased after him.

Then the creature started to float down towards the mayor’s head as he was making his speech! Noodle was running towards him still barking at the creature – and Bella and her mom were not far behind. Josh pulled on the kite’s string, trying to get the creature up higher into the sky, but it was too late. Noodle leapt up at the creature, knocking over the mayor. Bits of paper with the mayor’s speech on it flew all over the park, and people started running in all directions.

Neo, Josh, Hope, Bella and her mom raced over to help. They found the mayor on the ground next to the creature with Noodle still barking at it. The children helped to calm Noodle down while Bella’s mom helped the mayor up.

Then Hope explained her plan and how it had gone wrong. The mayor listened, and when Hope had finished, he just looked at her … and then he started laughing. “Well, now you can write your own scary creature story,” the mayor suggested. Even though Hope’s plan did not quite work out, it was a day they would all remember!
little issue
Layla loved jigsaw puzzles. She loved everything about them – from the picture on the box to the moment when she fitted the last piece in its place. She even liked the sound and the feeling of the pieces as she shifted them around on the table. So every Saturday morning, when Layla’s mother took her to the library to change her library books, Layla also took out a puzzle.

Now, the librarian kept all the puzzles on a shelf behind her desk and each Saturday when Layla asked if she could look for a puzzle to borrow, the librarian would say, “Wow, Layla, but you are puzzle mad!” And Layla didn’t mind at all because she WAS puzzle mad!

Most Saturdays after the library, Shireen, Layla’s best friend, came over to play. Well, she was almost Layla’s best friend, except for one thing – Shireen had to be the best at everything.

One Saturday morning, Layla borrowed a puzzle of an African fish eagle from the library. The picture showed the bird high up in the sky with its wings spread wide and a fish in its claws. The puzzle had more pieces than any puzzle Layla had ever done. And not only that, the pieces were also smaller than any puzzle Layla had done. Layla could not have been happier! But Shireen was not at all happy because all Layla wanted to do was to be the best at everything.

Layla o ne a rata diphazele tsa jigsaw. O ne a rata tsohle mabapi le tsona – ho tloha ka setshwantsho se lebokosong ho isa ho motsotsotso oo a kenyang karolwana ya ho qetela moo e lokelang. Hape o ne a rata le modumo le kamoo dikarolwana tseo di utlwahalang ka teng ha di ntse di eya kwana le kwana tafoleng. Kahoo ka Moqebelo o mong le o mong hoseng, ha mme wa Layla a mo isa laeboraring ho ya nka dibuka tse ntjha a siya tsa kgale, Layla o ne a nka le phazele.

Jwale, mosebetsi wa laeboraring o ne a boloka diphazele tsohle shelofong e kamora deske ya hae, mme ka Moqebelo o mong le o mong ha Layla a botsa hore na a ka batla phazele eo a ka e adimang, mosebetsi wa laeborari o ne a re, “Helang, Layla, o fela o hlanjetsa diphazele!” Mme Layla o ne a se na taba hobane o ne a HLILE a hlanjetsa diphazele!

Ka Meqebelo e mengata kamora ho kgutla laeboraring, Shireen, motswalle wa Layla wa hlooho ya kgomo, o ne a tla ho tla bapala. Tfhe, kwana e ne e batla e le motswalle wa hlooho ya kgomo wa Layla, ntle feela le nthwana e le nngwe – Shireen o ne a rata ho hlahella ka pele dinthong tsohle.

Hoseng ha Moqebelo o mong, Layla a adima phazele ya ntso ya tlahi ya Afrika laeboraring. Setshwantsho se ne se bontsha nonyana e hodimo marung ka mapheo a yona a phatlalelets mme e tshwere tlahi ka dinala tsa yona. Phazele eo e ne ena le dikotwana tse ngata ho feta phazele efe kapa efe eo Layla a kileng a e etsa. Mme ha se seo feela, dikotwana di ne di le nyane.
do was start the puzzle.

“I don’t want to do a boring puzzle,” said Shireen. “Let’s rather play shop-shop.”

“Okay,” said Layla, “and then we’ll do my puzzle.”

“I’ll be the shopkeeper,” said Shireen, “because I’m best at being the shopkeeper, and you can be my customer.”

Soon Layla had spent all her money. Then Shireen said, “Let’s play hospitals.”


But for some reason, Shireen still did not want to do the puzzle, so she said, “Let’s play hospitals now and then we can do the puzzle after lunch.”

And so that’s what they did.

“I’ll be the doctor,” said Shireen.

“No, you were the shopkeeper,” said Layla. “I’ll be the doctor.”

“But you can’t be,” said Shireen, “because I’m best at being the doctor.”

haholo ho feta tsaphazele efe kapa efe eo Layla a kileng a e etsa. Layla o ne a thabile haholo! Empa Shireen o ne a sa thaba hohang hobane seo Layla a neng a se batla feela e ne e le ho qalella ka phazele.

“Ha ke batle ho etsa phazele e tenang,” ha rialo Shireen. “Ha re bapale mabenkele.”

“Ho lokile,” ha rialo Layla, “mme kamora moo re tla etsa phazele ya ka.”

“Ke tla ba monga lebenkele,” ha rialo Shireen, “hobane ke tswa pele ha ke le monga lebenkele, mme wena o ka ba moreki wa ka.”

E se kgale Layla o ne a rekile ka tjhelete ya hae kaofela. Yaba Shireen o re, “Ha re bapale sepethle.”


Empa ka lebaka le itseng, Shireen o ne a ntse a sa batle ho etsa phazele, kahoo a re, “Ha re bapale sepethle hona jwale mme re ka bapala phazele kamora dijo tsa motsheare.”
So, Shireen was the doctor and Layla was the sick person!

When Doctor Shireen started to examine the sick person, she tickled the sick person and the sick person got the giggles and wouldn’t lie still. So Doctor Shireen shouted, “Keep still or I won’t play with you anymore.”

But before Doctor Shireen could get any more cross, Layla’s mother called them for lunch.

“I hope you girls are having a good time,” said Layla’s mother.

“Yes,” said Layla who was about to bite into her yummy roti filled with peanut butter, grated carrots and sultanas. “After lunch we are going to do my puzzle.”

“I don’t want to do your puzzle,” said Shireen.

“But you promised,” said Layla.

“Well, now I don’t want to. I want to do some colouring in,” said Shireen.

By now, Layla was tired of Shireen’s “I-am-the-best-at-everything” talk and cross with her for breaking her promises. Nothing was going to stop her from doing the puzzle. So after lunch, Layla gave Shireen a colouring-in book and some crayons so that Shireen could colour in while she did the puzzle. But there was only one picture left to be coloured in in the colouring-in book and Shireen soon finished it. Then she held it up to show Layla and said, “You’re so slow!”

“That’s because this puzzle is hard,” said Layla.

“I bet I could do it faster than you,” said Shireen.

“Okay,” said Layla, “when I have finished it, you can try doing it and then let’s see!”

“Okay,” said Shireen, “but only if I want to.”

Once Layla had finished the puzzle, she broke it up. She put all the pieces back into the box except for the piece with the eagle’s eye on it. And then she gave the box to Shireen.

“Here you go,” she said, “your turn now.”

“I don’t feel like it,” said Shireen.

“But you promised!” said Layla.

“No, I didn’t!” Shireen shouted. “I said only if I wanted to and I don’t want to.”

Yaba ba etsa jwalo.

“Ke tla ba ngaka” ha rialo Shireen.

“Tjhe, o ne o le monga lebenkele,” ha rialo Layla.

“Ke tla ba ngaka.”

“Empa o keke wa kgona,” ha rialo Shireen,

“hobane ke tswa pele ka ho ba ngaka.”

Kahoo he, Shireen ya eba ngaka mme Layla ya eba motho ya kulong!

Ha Ngaka Shireen a qala ho hlhloba motho ya kulong, a tsikinyetsa mokudi mme makudi a kekete ha mme a sa kgone ho se sisinyehe. Yaba Ngaka Shireen o a omano, “Tlohela ho sisinyehe hoseng jwalo ha ke sa tla bapala le wena.”

Empa pele Ngaka Shireen a ka omano hape, mme wa Layla a ba bitsa ba tlo ja.

“Ke tshepa hore le bapala le monate,” ha rialo mme wa Layla.

“Ee,” ha rialo Layla pele a loma roti ya hae e kentsweng pinabatha, dihwete tse kereitilwen le disultana. “Kamora dijo mona re ile etsa phazele ya ka.”

“Ha ke batle ho etsa phazele ya hao,” ha rialo Shireen.

“Empa o ntshepisitse,” ha araba Layla.

“Ha ke sa batla he. Ke batla ho kenya mebala ditshwantshong.” Ha rialo Shireen.

Jwale Layla o ne a se a kgathetse ke ho utlwa Shireen a bolela kamoo a tsang pele ka teng nthong tsobole, mme a kgenne hobane Shireen a sa phetise ditshepiso tsa hae. Ho ne ho se letho le ka mo thibolang ho etsa phazele. Kahoo kamora dijo tsa motsheare, Layla a fa Shireen buka ya ditshwantsho le dikerayone hore Shireen a tle a kenyhe mebala ha yena a ntsa a etsa phazele ya hae. Empa ho ne ho ena le setshwantsho se le seng feela se setseg se sa kengwang mebala bukeng mme Shireen a qeta ka pele. Yabo o phahamisa buka ho bontsha Layla mme a re, “O lenama haholo!”

“Ke hobane phazele ena e thats,” ha rialo Layla.

“Ke nahana hore nka e etsa kapele ho feta wena,” ha rialo Shireen.

“Ho lokile,” ha araba Layla, “ha ke e qeta o ka nna
“Maybe you don’t want to because you can’t do puzzles,” said Layla.

“I can!” Shireen shouted back. “I’m the best at puzzles!”

“So do it then,” said Layla.

Shireen grabbed the box from Layla. “I will,” said Shireen, “but only if you go and play outside. I’ll call you once I’ve finished it.”

Layla went outside and drew some pictures in the sand with a stick while, inside, Shireen opened the puzzle box and started turning the puzzle pieces picture-side up.

Outside, Layla found a piece of old rope and tied it around the loquat tree so that when Shireen was finished with the puzzle they could play skipping. But inside, Shireen was struggling to fit the pieces of the puzzle together. She wished that wa iteka mme re tla bona!”

“Ho lokile,” ha rialo Shireen, “feela haeba ke a batla.”

Eitse ha Layla a qeta phazele, a e heletsa hate. A kenja dikotwana tsohle ka hara lebokoso ntle le seketwana se le seng se nang le leihlo la ntsu. Mme yaba o fa Shireen lebokoso.

“Ke ea,” a rialo, “sebaka sa hao ke seo.”

“Ha ke batle ho e etsa,” ha rialo Shireen.

“Empa o ntshepisitse!” ha rialo Layla.

“Tjhe, ha ke a o tshepisa!” Shireen a omana. “Ke itse feela haeba ke a batla, mme jwale he ha ke batle.”

“Mohlomong ha o batle hobane ha o kgone ho etsa diphazele,” ha rialo Layla.

“Ke a tseba!” Shireen a omana le yena. “Ke tswa pele diphazeleng!”

“E etse he,” Layla a mo qala.


Layla a ya ka ntle mme a taka ditshwantsho santeng ka thupa ha ka tlung, Shireen a bula lebokoso la phazele mme a qala ho phethola dikotwana tsa phazele a di shebisa hodimo.

Ka ntle, Layla a fumana sekotwana sa thapo ya kgale mme a e fasella sefateng sa loquat hore e tle e re ha Shireen a qetile ka phazele ba kgone ho bapala kgati ka yona. Empa ka tlung, Shireen o ne a thatafallwa ke ho aha dikotwana mmo ho bopa setshwantsho sa phazele. O ne a lakatsa eka a ka be a sa ka a re o tswa pele diphazeleng. Ka potlako, a heletsa bonyane ba phazele eo a neng a se a e entse mme a kgutlisetsa dikotwana tsohle ka lebokosong. Yaba o mathela ka ntle mme a hoeletsa Layla eo nakong ya jwale a neng a palame hodimo sefateng sa loquat, “Ke qetile!”

“Kaofela ha yona?” ha botsa Layla.
she had not said that she was the best at puzzles. Quickly, she broke up the bit of the puzzle she had managed to do and put all the pieces back into the box. Then she ran outside and called to Layla who by now had climbed high up in the loquat tree, “I’ve finished!”

“All of it?” asked Layla.

“Yip,” said Shireen and she began climbing up into the tree.

“Stop!” Layla shouted back. “I’m coming down to see.”

“But I have packed the puzzle away already,” said Shireen.

“Why?” asked Layla.

“So that you don’t have to pack it away later,” replied Shireen.

“Oh,” said Layla, “but what about this piece?” She held up the piece with the eagle’s eye on it that she had kept.

Shireen went very quiet. She sat in the tree feeling foolish.

After a little while, Layla shouted, “Hey, guess what, I found some ripe loquats. Do you want some?”

“Yes, please,” said Shireen in a teeny little voice.

Layla climbed down to the lower branch where Shireen was sitting and handed her some. And there they sat, eating loquats and seeing how far they could spit the pips.

Shireen spat the furthest.

“You’re the best,” said Layla.

“And you,” said Shireen, “are the best, best friend.”

“Ehlile,” ha rialo Shireen, mme a qala ho palama sefateng.

“Butle!” Layla a araba a hoeletsa. “Ke a theoha ke tlo e bona.”

“Empa ke se ke pakile diphazele ka lebokosong hape,” ha rialo Shireen.

“Hobaneng?” ha botsa Layla.

“Hore o tle o se ke wa di paka ka bowena ha morao,” ha araba Shireen.

“Oo,” Layla a araba, “empa o reng ka sekotwana see?” A phahamisa sekotwana se nang le leihlo la ntsu ho sona seo a neng a se bolokile.

Shireen a thola. A dula sefateng a ipona e le sephoqo.

Kamora nakwana, Layla a hoeletsa, “Hela, o a tseba keng, ke fumane diloquat tse butswitseng. Na o a di batla?”

“Ee, ke a di kopa,” ha rialo Shireen ka lentswe le lesesane.

Layla a theohela lekaleng le tlase moo Shireen a neng a dutse teng mme a mo fa tse ding. Mme ba dula moo, ba eja diloquat mme ba sheba hore ba ka tshawella dithotse tsa tsona bohole bo bokae.

Shireen a tshawella hole ho feta.

“Ke wena ya tswang pele ka ho fetisisa,” ha rialo Layla.

“Mme wena,” ha rialo Shireen, “o motswalle wa nnete, wa hlooho ya kgomo.”

Iksetsetse phazele ya hao!

Seha o ntshe ditshwantsho dimakasineg kapa dikoranteng - kapa o take ditshwantsho tsa hoo. Kgomaretsa setshwantsho sekgetjhaneng sa khateboto mme o thale mela ho sona ho se arola ka lenane la dikotwana tseo o batlang hore phazele ya hoo e be le tsona. Jwale seha hodima mela. Tswakanya dikotwana tseo mme ebe o aha phazele ya hoo kapa o e fe motswalle hore a e ahe.
The three goats

Once upon a time there were three goats. There was a big goat, a middle-sized goat and a small goat. The three goats liked to eat grass, but on the hill where they lived, the grass was short and brown.

One day, the smallest goat looked at the hill covered in long, green grass on the other side of the river. He said, “Look, the grass on the other side is long and green. If we go there we won’t be hungry anymore.”

To get to the hill on the other side, they had to go over a bridge to cross the river. But here was a skelm – a baddie – living under the hill covered in long green grass on the other side of the river.

Hulle moet nou oor ‘n rivier loop om by die ander heuwel te kom. Maar
bridge, called a troll. This big, bad troll wanted to eat the goats.

The little goat went off first – trip-trap, trip-trap – over the bridge. The troll said in his gruff voice, “Who's that trip-trapping over my bridge?” The little goat said, “It’s me, the little goat.” The troll said, “I’m coming to eat you.” The little goat said, “Don’t eat me, I’m too small. Wait for the next goat – she’s bigger.” So, the troll said, “Go, I will wait for the next one.”

Along came the middle-sized goat, trip-trap, trip-trap, over the bridge. The troll said in his gruff voice, “Who’s that trip-trapping over my bridge?” The middle-sized goat said, “It’s me, the middle-sized goat.” The troll said, “I’m coming to eat you.” The middle-sized goat said, “Don’t eat me, I’m too small. Wait for the next goat – she’s bigger.” So, the troll said, “Go, I will wait for the next one.”


“wait for the next one.”

Along came the big goat, TRIP-TRAP, TRIP-TRAP, over the bridge. The troll said in his gruff voice, “Who’s that trip-trapping over my bridge?” The big goat said in his big voice, “It’s me, the BIG GOAT”. “I’m coming to eat you!” said the big bad troll.

Then the big goat said, “You can’t eat me, it’s no use trying. My big horns will send you flying!” The big goat threw the troll up into the air and into the water – SPLASH! And that was the end of the big bad troll.

The three goats ate the long green grass and got very fat. They lived happily together.

And that is the end of the story.
Can you help the three goats?

Stamp and clap and say the rhyme
Isitampu uze uqhwa izandla utsho isingqisho
Stempel en klap en sê die rympie

Grootste bok sien 'n trol en sê:
“Jy kan my nie eet nie!”
Groot bok gooi Trol af!
Trol val kaplaks!
In die water lê Trol
Dis die einde van hom!

Trip-trap trip-trap
stamp stamp stamp stamp
You can’t eat me
It’s no use trying
My two big horns
Will send you flying!

Imagine your own troll and draw it.

COMPARE SIZES

Match the words to the correct goat.
Draw a line to connect them

big
middle-sized
small

Awunakho ukunditya;
Akuncedi ukuba uzame –
limondo zam ezinkulu
Ziza kulahlela kude!
Today a reader.
Tomorrow, a leader.