

Issue
#5

little issue

young minds matter

March 2021 - May 2021

ISIZULU, ISIXHOSA, SESOTHO,
ENGLISH & AFRIKAANS INSIDE.

GRADE R-3

FREE
to sponsored
schools

NORMAL
RETAIL PRICE

R25

(R12.50 to vendor
when sold on the
street. R6.25 to
Vendor Fund when
sold in-store)

Bukela inkwenkwe
ikhula ibe yintaka!
Watch a boy grow
into a bird!

PAGE 18

Why is everybody staring?

Find out on page 36



KIDS!

Bake with munching Mike
and bouncy Ben



WIN a book!

PAGE 3



Stories • Activities • Recipes • Jokes • Riddles • Competitions

inside

36



Hello, everyone!

Time for more fun! We've got so much for you in this issue. Turn to page 4 to bake delicious chocolate treats. When you've made your snack, try the Easter egg hunt on page 15. You can also get a bunch of free books with the Book Dash app, and you can win your very own copy of *Listen to Your Diddalum* – all on page 3.

These are just a few of the activities we have for you to enjoy. Happy reading, and remember, wherever you live and go to school, have fun and stay healthy!

See you soon.

Laura
Editor

P.S Visit www.littleissue.org.za to download older copies of the *little issue*.



What is it?

Can you find these pictures hidden in the magazine?



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

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ShineLiteracy, Help2Read and Wordworks

Images: Freepik.com. Cover illustration by Rico, courtesy Nalibali.

Answers
28, 12, 5.

COMPILED BY *LITTLE ISSUE* MD, DEREK CARELSE

A new animation studio

We have received funding from Bright Future Trust and Fondation Ipsen to set up a pilot studio for digital animation. We plan to start uploading content to our dedicated *little issue* YouTube channel halfway into the second quarter of 2021. We are really excited about this new platform which will enable us to reach a wider audience of young minds globally.

KwaZulu-Natal 2021

We are expanding distribution to 31 schools in KZN through the support of NGOs, schools and last mile distributor entrepreneurs.

Hola Mexico!

In partnership with Fondation Ipsen, our first Spanish language edition will be published this year for distribution to a city in Mexico.



GET *little issue* AT SPAR

The *little issue* is available at selected Spar supermarkets around the country to broaden the reach and generate sustainable income for our project. We are hoping other retailers will come on board as retail partners for the same reason.

little issue in Togo, Africa

In partnership with Fondation Ipsen, our French funding and publishing partner, the first edition of a French version of *little issue* was distributed late last year to Togo in Africa.

Print more, learn more

The more magazines we print, the more we can provide learners with a valuable copy of the magazine. We are super thrilled at being able to double our magazine print run to 120 000 magazines to the five biggest provinces in South Africa. All thanks to the generous funding of Bright Future Trust and Fondation Ipsen.

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DISCLAIMER
The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect those of the board and management of the *little issue* or Mikateko Media. All correspondence about the magazine should be directed to *The Big Issue* and Mikateko Media.



We've Got Talent by Hannah Witty, Simon & Schuster Children's UK

Sam and Olivia are super excited about their school play. But when the roles go to others, they know they have to hatch a plan.



SINDIWE MAGONA Books 'n Bricks at Manyano School



Books 'n Bricks at Manyano School, by Sindiwe Magona, New Africa Books

Manyano School is a scary place. The fence has holes big enough for a grown man to run through. The schoolyard is full of litter and kids are too scared to play there. A lot of unpleasant stuff has happened in the schoolyard. Until one day...

FREE books online

Everyone should own 100 books by the time they are 5-years old. But not everyone does because it can cost a lot.

Now, Book Dash provides free African stories for kids like you!

How to get your books

Ask a parent or caregiver to **download** the Book Dash app on their phone. You will find the books there and away you go.

Book Dash gives 600 million free books to South African children who could never afford to buy them.

The books are written in the 11 languages spoken in South Africa.

Visit www.bookdash.org

Listen to Your Diddalum, by Emily Child and Maria Lebedeva, Imaginary House

What is your Diddalum? You know that funny feeling in your stomach when you're excited? Like that. It might also feel like a slimy slug or a butterfly. This is a picture book that's perfect if you are in Grade R.



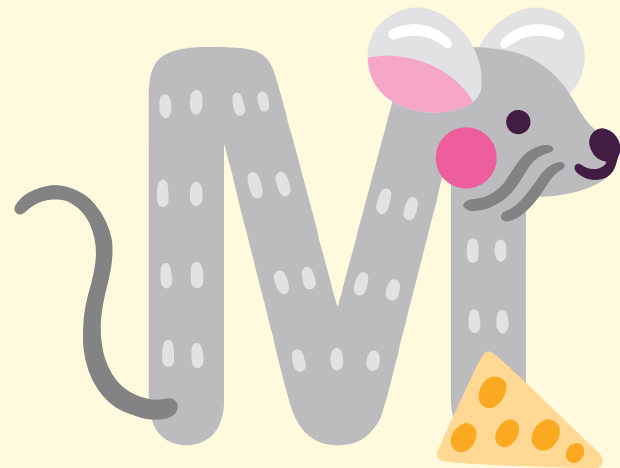
Email and WIN 1 of 3 books!

WIN a copy of *LISTEN TO YOUR DIDDALUM*. Email your name and a phone number to thelittleissue@mikatekomedia.co.za

Terms and conditions apply: competition closes on 31 May 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.

Source: images by Freepik

What's cooking **munching**



Munching **M**ike makes the sound at the beginning of his name.

Close your mouth and say 'mmmmmm'.



Bouncy **B**en makes the sound at the start of his name.

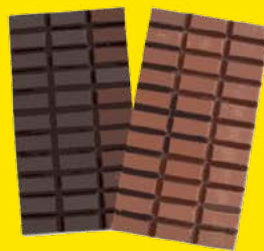
Say 'ba'.

BAKE WITH MUNCHING MIKE

Munching **M**ike is on his way home to **m**ake a **m**unchy **b**ird's nest. **M**unching **M**ike stops at the shops to **b**uy:



Margarine



Chocolate



Weet-Bix cereal



Speckled eggs or berries

Images: Freepik.com

Mike and **bouncy Ben**?



1. BREAK. Crumble the Weet-Bix into tiny pieces.



3. MIX. Add the Weet-Bix to the melted chocolate and mix.



2. MELT. Put the chocolate into a pot and add margarine or butter.



4. MOULD. When the mixture is cool, roll handfuls into balls. Press your thumb into the middle of each ball to make a dent. Add speckled eggs or berries.

Careful! Ask a grown up to help you melt the ingredients on the stove.

An easy way to write **b** and **d**



MUNCH!

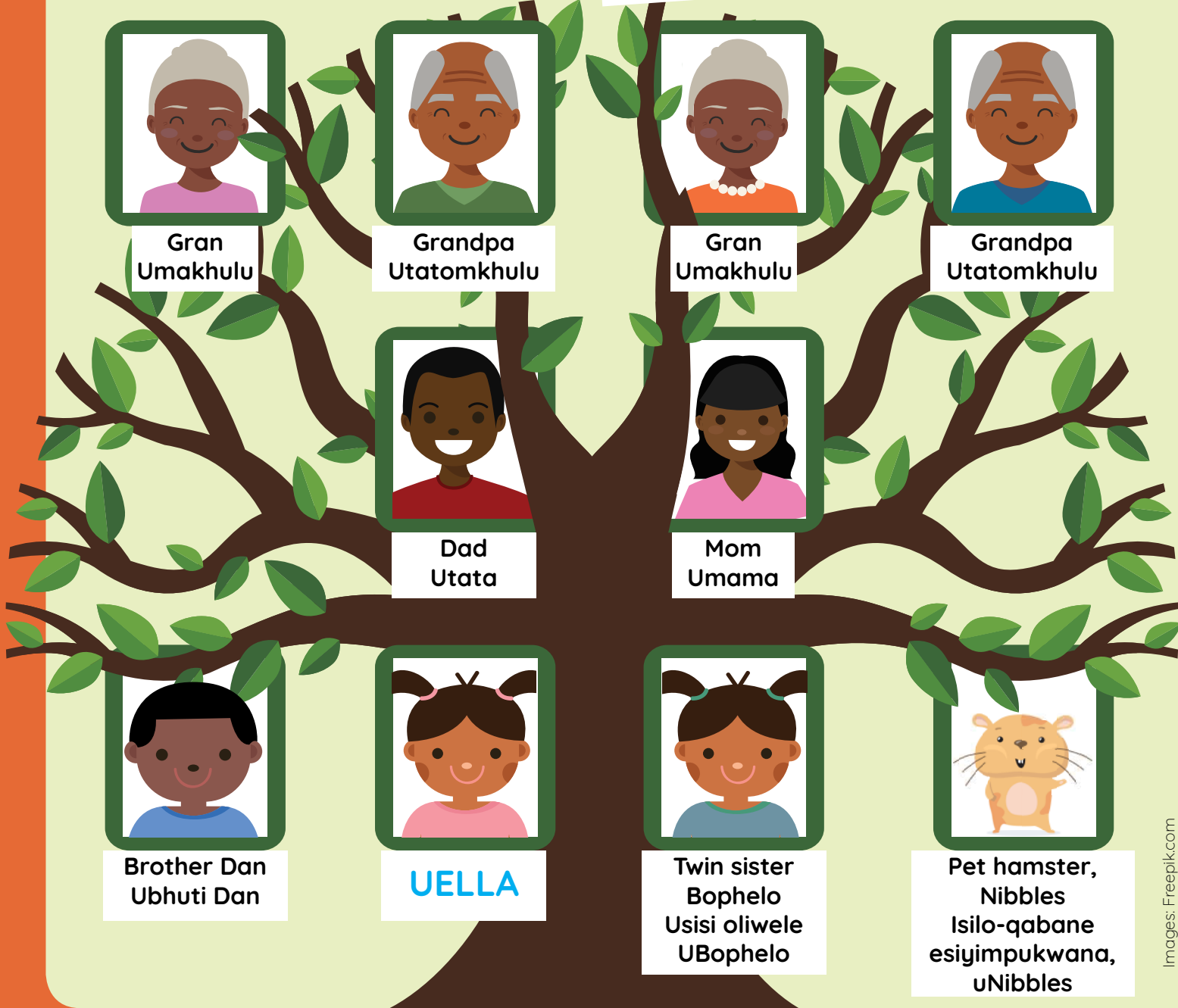
Who's in your family tree?

Ngubani osemthini wosapho lwakho?

isiXHOSA

THIS IS ELLA'S FAMILY TREE

UMTHI WGSAPHG KAEULA

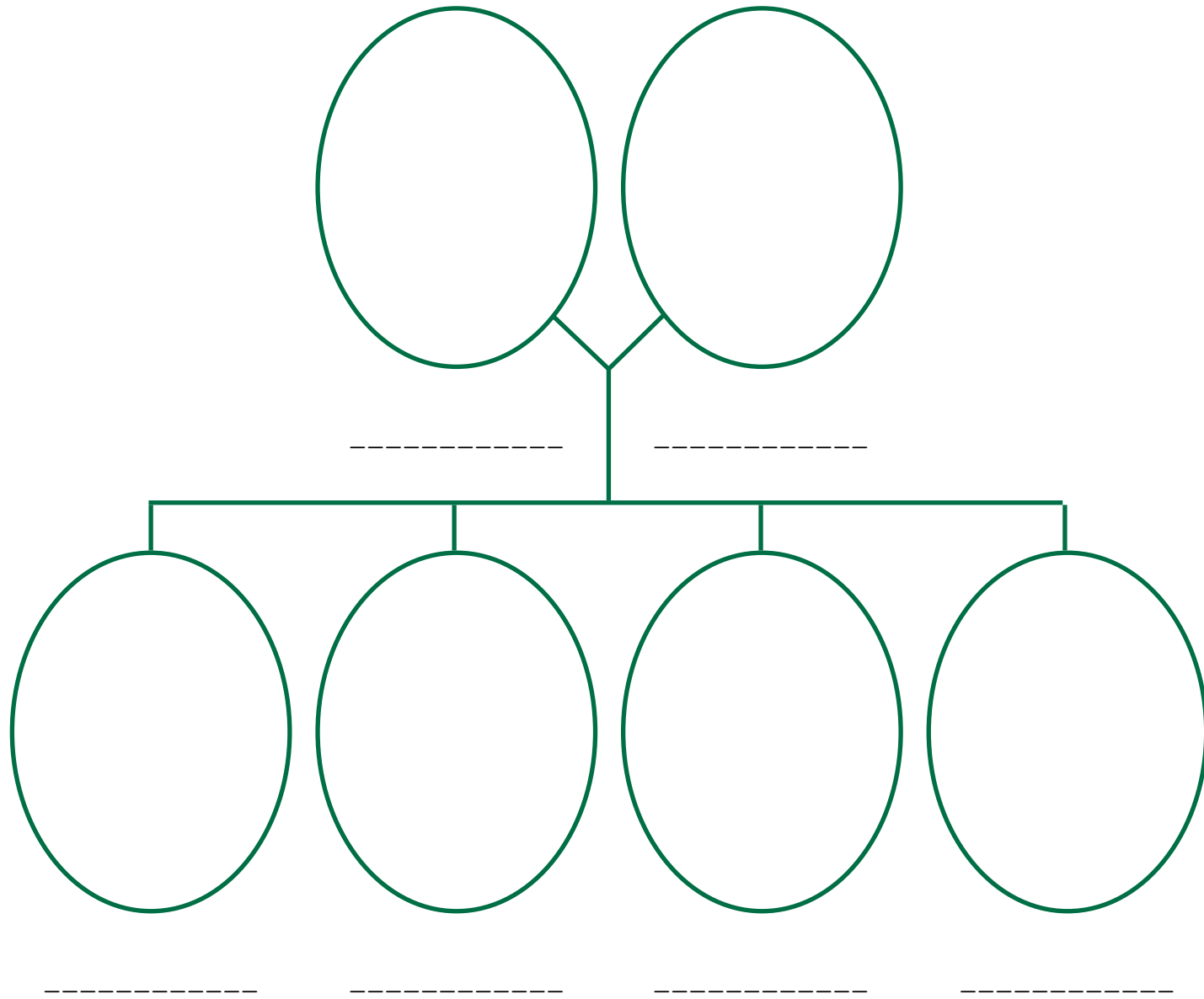


YOUR FAMILY TREE

UMTHI WAM WGSAPHG

Draw your own family tree

Zoba owakho umthi wosapho



Can you help?

All these children have a disability. Use the words in the blocks to complete the sentences.

crutches
izinduku

cane and
guide dog
i-cane
kanye nenja
yomkhondo

prosthesis
isitho
somzimba
sokufakelwa

hearing aid
Insiza-kuzwa

Thabo can't walk. He uses a _____ to move around.

UThabo akakwazi ukuhamba. Usebenzisa i _____ ukuze ahambe.

Bibi can't hear. She uses a _____ to help her.

UBibi akezwa. Usebenzisa _____ ukumsiza.

David can't speak. He uses _____ to communicate.

UDavid akakwazi ukukhuluma. Usebenzisa _____ ukuxhumana.



Source: www.guinnessworldrecords.com. Images: Freepik.com

Ngabe Ungasiza?

isiZULU

Lezi zingane zikhubazekile. Sebenzisa amagama akumabhlokhi ukuze uqedele imisho.

sign
language
Ulimi
Lwezandla

wheelchair
isihlalo
esinamasondo

Robert Campbell Aird's arm was amputated after he had cancer in his muscles. He is the first person in the world to wear a bionic arm!



Lerato has only one of her own legs. She uses a _____ to run.

ULerato unomlenze wakhe owodwa kuphela. Usebenzisa _____ kugijima.

Dalu uses _____ to walk.

UDalu usebenzisa _____ ukuhamba.

Nomsa is blind. She uses a _____ to help her.

UNomsa akaboni. Usebenzisa i _____ ukumsiza.



WORD FUN

KNOCK KNOCK
WHO'S THERE?
ELSIE
ELSIE WHO?
ELSIE YOU LATER

seSotho

TSHEPO

Tshepo wa Rakgomo,
O na hama kgomo.
A e hama e sa tlangwa.
Kgomo ya mo raha,
Fatshe a polana.
Lebese la qhalana
Hodima moraha,
Hodima moraha.

Afrikaans

DIE WIND WAAI

Die wind die waai,
die haan die kraai,
die dag breek aan –
dis tyd om op te staan!

DID YOU KNOW?

The tongue of
a blue whale
can weigh
as much as
a full-grown
elephant.

TLOU ELA

seSotho

Tlou ela, e na le nko
E telele hakaakang
Tlou ela, e na le nko
E telele hakaakang.
Ya nka tweba,
Ya nka mok-
godutswane,
Ya di tlamel-
la sefateng.

Images: Freepik.com

Na o ka fumana mantswe a mabapi le dikuba bolokong bo ka tlase ba patlo ya mantswe?

seSotho

MONGODI
LEKOKO
LESEDI
MAQEPHE

TSHOMO
BALA
PALE
SEHLOOHO

NGOLA
LENTSWE

T	B	A	A	F	L	E	K	O	K	O
S	A	S	S	S	E	L	A	S	G	M
H	L	E	N	T	S	W	E	E	O	A
O	A	S	N	O	E	A	L	P	K	Q
M	O	N	G	O	D	I	E	E	G	E
O	L	A	O	H	I	N	T	K	E	P
S	E	H	L	O	O	H	O	K	D	H
A	S	P	A	L	E	I	S	F	V	E



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

AUTHOR
COVER
INFORMATION
PAGES

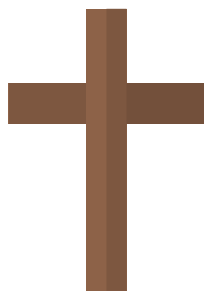
PICTURES
READ
STORY
TITLE

WRITE
WORDS

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

What do you believe?

Which religious symbols do you recognise?



CHRISTIAN CROSS
FOR CHRISTIANS



BUDDHIST OM SIGN
FOR BUDDHISTS AND
HINDUS



THE STAR OF DAVID -
JEWISH SYMBOL
FOR JUDAISM



ISLAMIC SYMBOL
FOR MUSLIMS

FUN FACT

The tallest temple in the world is?

The Buddhist temple, Borobudur
Where? Java, Indonesia
Built when? Between the year 750 and 842
Height? 34.5 metres. As tall as about thirty 5-year old's lined up head to toe



If you don't see your symbol, draw it HERE:



Can you match these?

Connect each religion with its place of worship.
Write the name of the building under each picture.



Islam

Hinduism/Buddhism

Judaism

Christianity

Everybody has different beliefs.
What's your religion? What are your friends' religions?



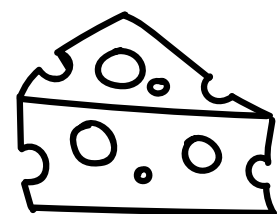
Source: Guinness World Records. Images: Freepik.com, Wikimedia commons

WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

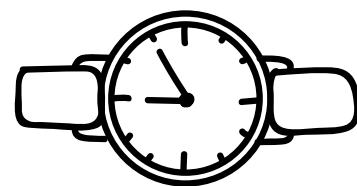
Can you say the CH sound out loud?
Can you say the SH sound out loud?

GOOD!

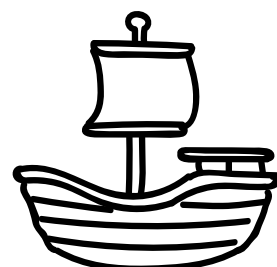
Now circle the correct sound that belongs to each object.



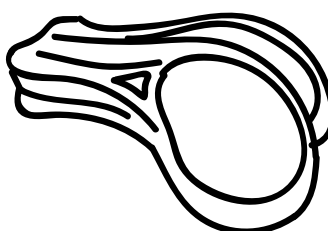
ch
sh



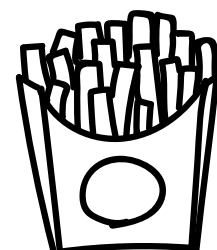
ch
sh



ch
sh



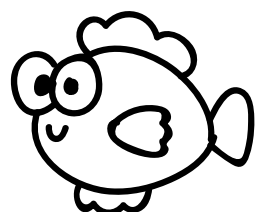
ch
sh



ch
sh



ch
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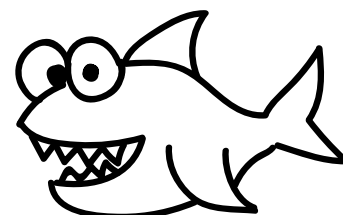
ch
sh



ch
sh

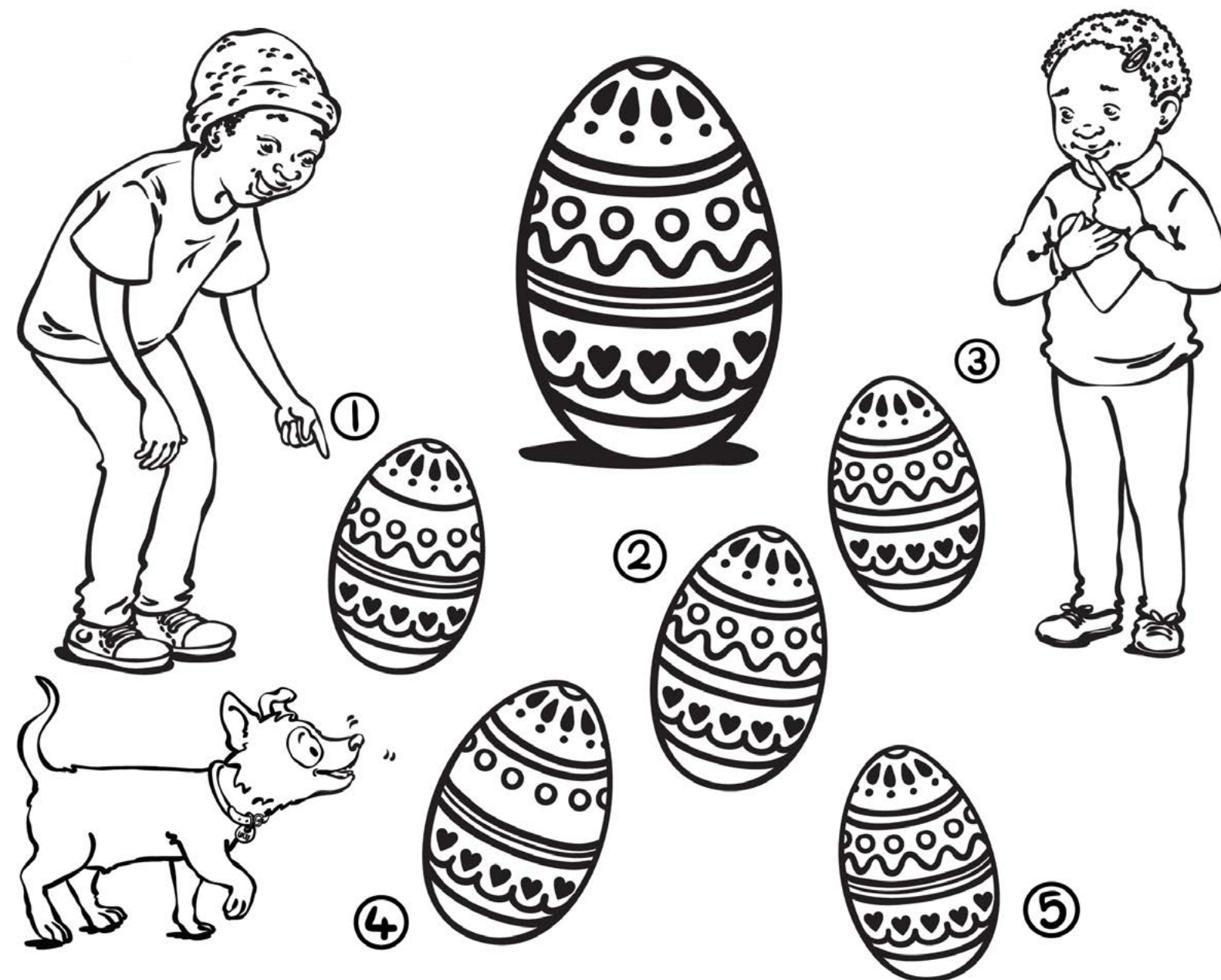


ch
sh



ch
sh

EASTER PUZZLE



only **one** of the small easter eggs is the same as the **big one**, can you find it?

ANSWER: Egg 5

Hello, hello!

Are you ready to count and search?

- Help find the crayon box. Find the missing crayons.
- How many stars are on the boy's pyjama top?
- What shapes are on the bedroom curtains?
- Count the puzzle pieces on the floor.
- How many building blocks can you see?
- Can you find then count 10 planets?
- How many pictures are on the wall?
- How many pairs of shoes are there?

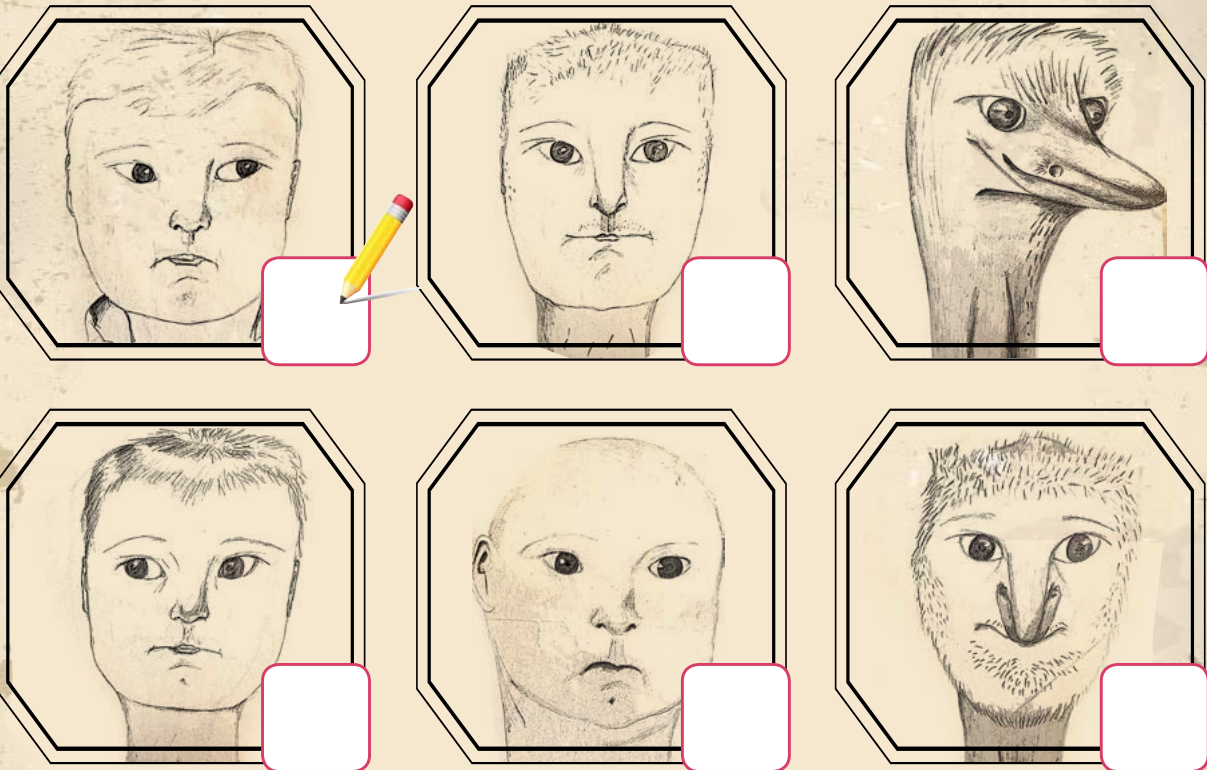
ALL ABOUT GROWING

The story of Oscar Malone

Oscar was born in July 1985 in Johannesburg. On his 18th birthday he was sent to Four Feathers Ostrich Farm in Oudtshoorn in the Karoo in South Africa.

Look at the pictures of Oscar below. They were sent to us by the ostrich farm.

Now, write the numbers 1 to 6 in the blocks to show the order in which Oscar grew.



1 2 3 4 5 6

Which activity would you do fastest?



DRAW YOUR OWN

Draw a picture of what you did yesterday

Draw what you did today

Draw what you'll do tomorrow

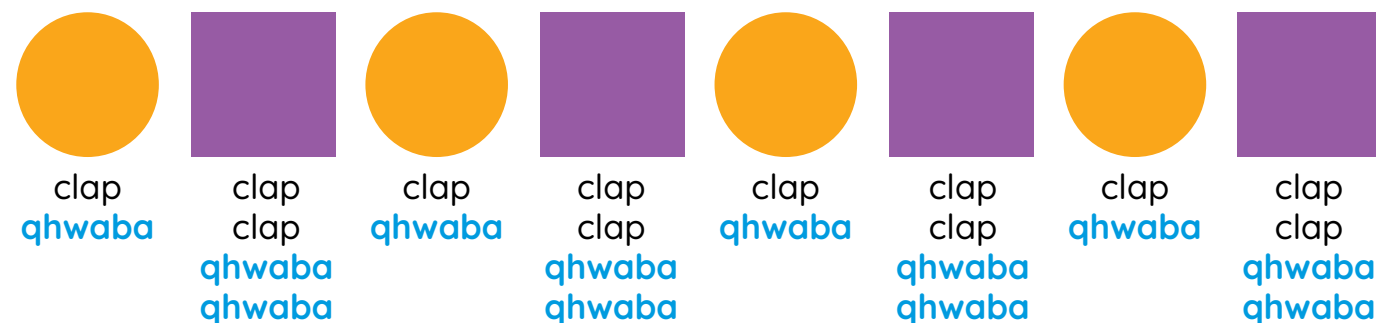
Images: Freepik.com

Can you see the patterns?

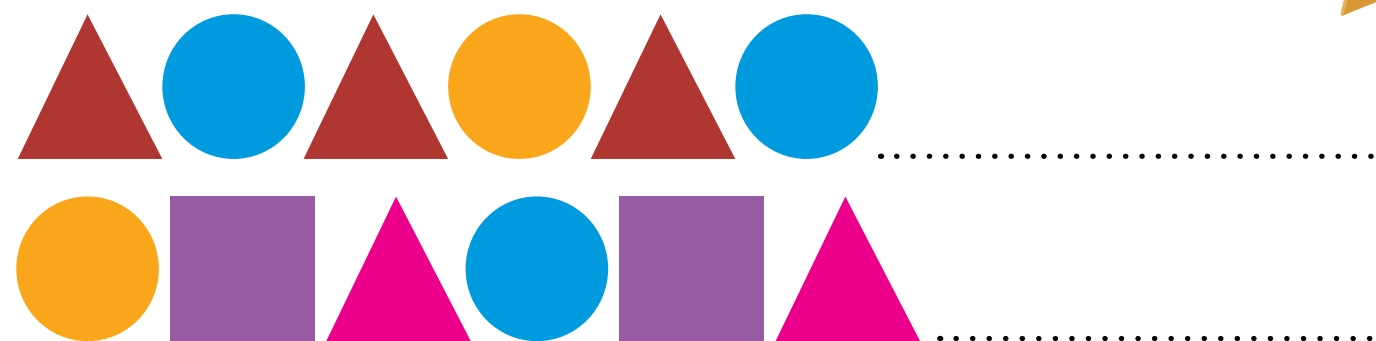
Ngaba uyazibona le iipateni?

Clap your hands to this pattern

Qhwaba izandla kule pateni

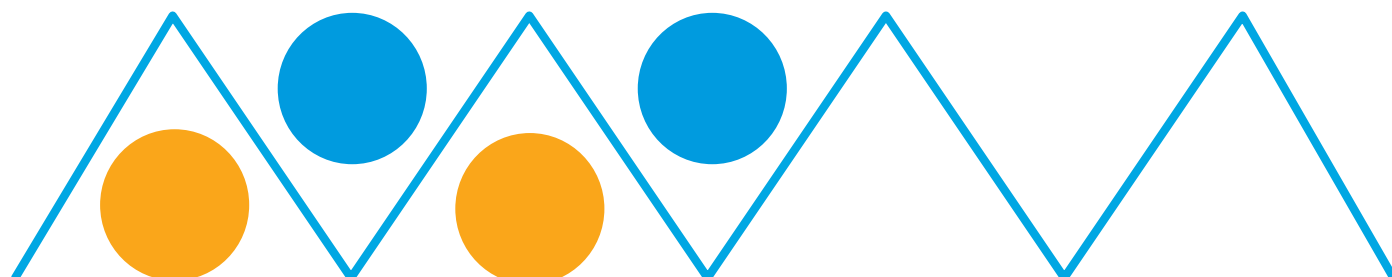


Draw the next shapes in the pattern Zoba iimilo ezilandelayo kwipateni



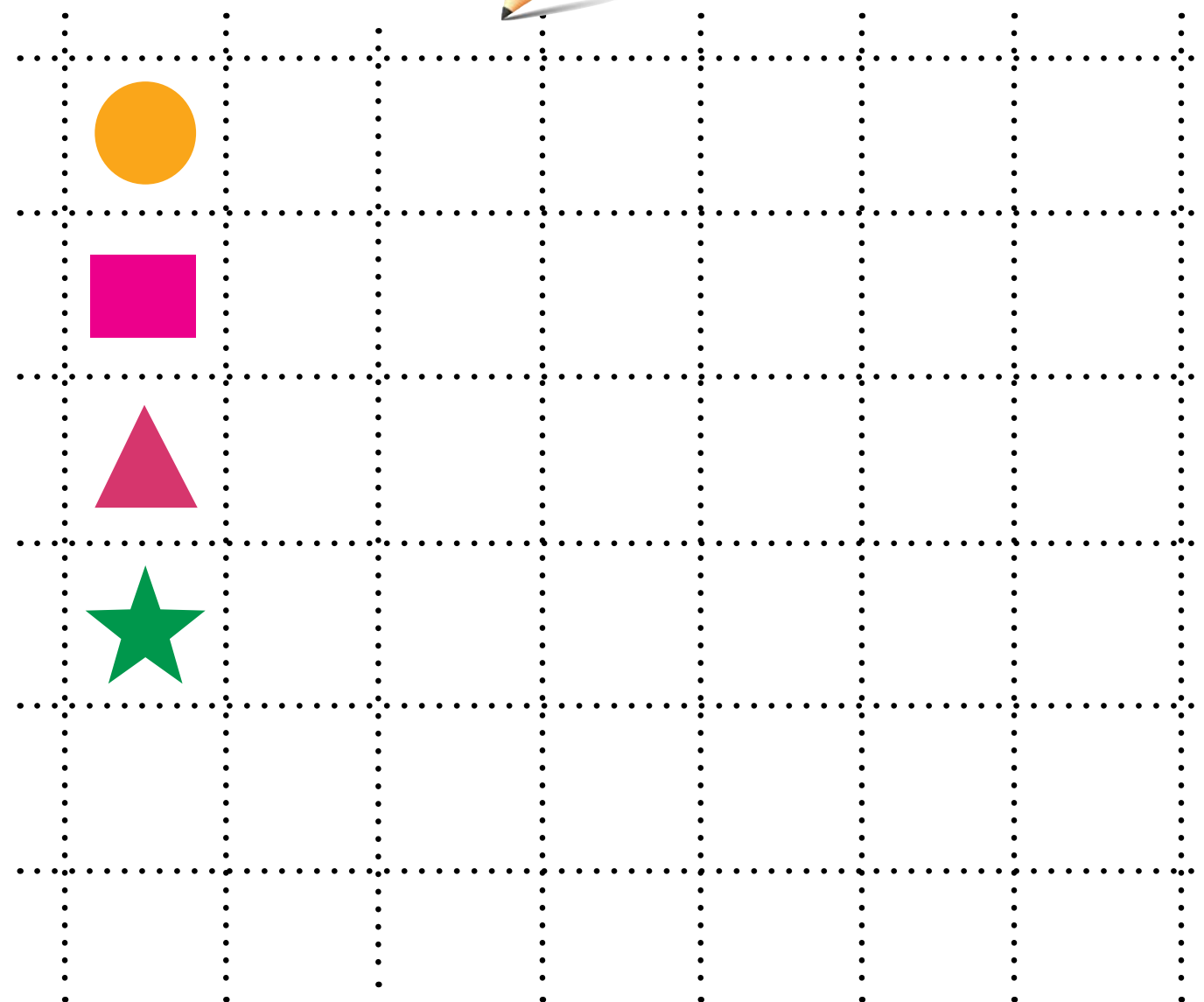
Continue the pattern

Qhubeka nepateni



Draw your own patterns using these shapes: circle, rectangle, triangle and a star

Zoba iipateni zakho usebenzisa ezi zimilo: isangqa, uxande, unxantathu kunye nenkwenkwezi



Wanna play the

Play the game with Rangoon Primary School kids.

WOULD YOU RATHER...

Eat something without using your hands?

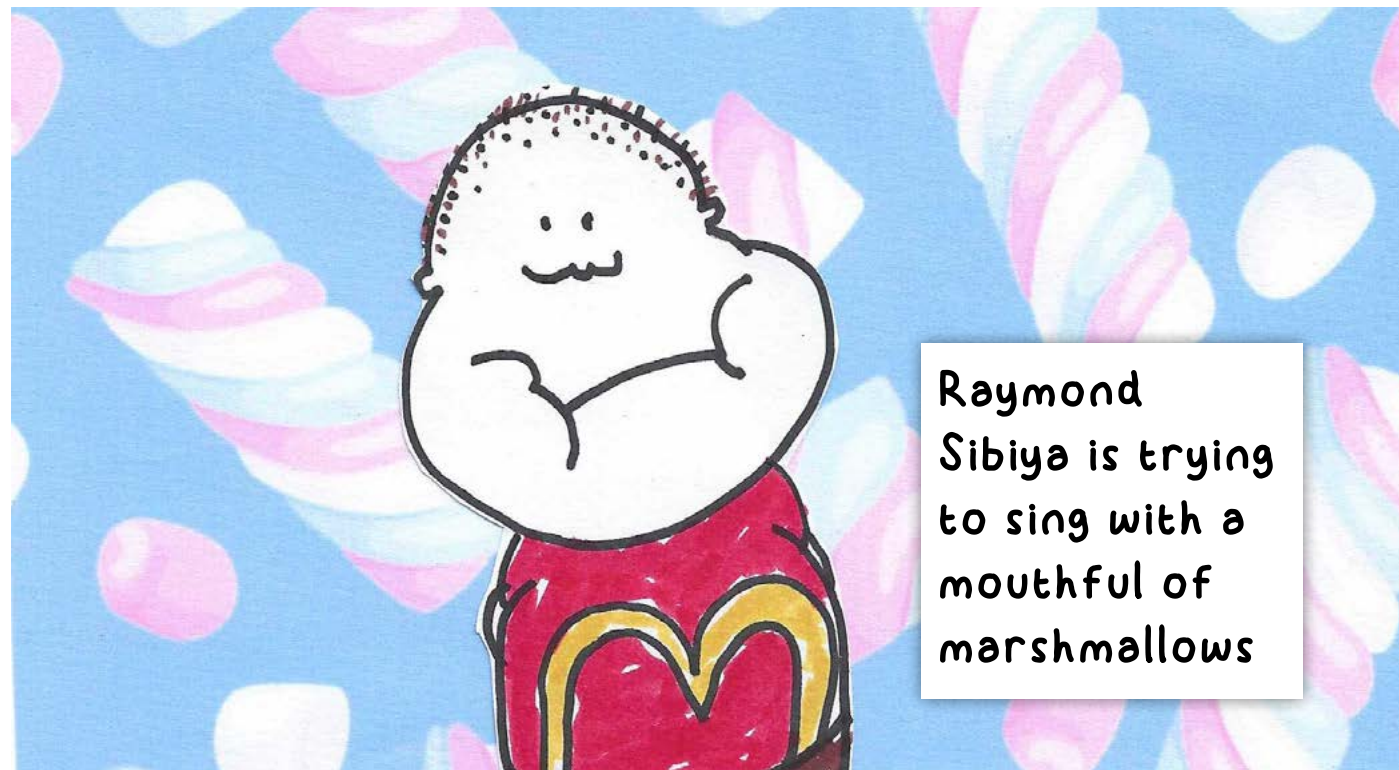
OR

Sing a song with your mouth full of marshmallows?

Walk around the shops in your pyjamas?

OR

Go outside and pour a jug of ice water over your head?



Rangoon game?



Illustrations by Laura Jones.

Bite into a lemon slice?

OR

Sniff a dirty sock for ten seconds?

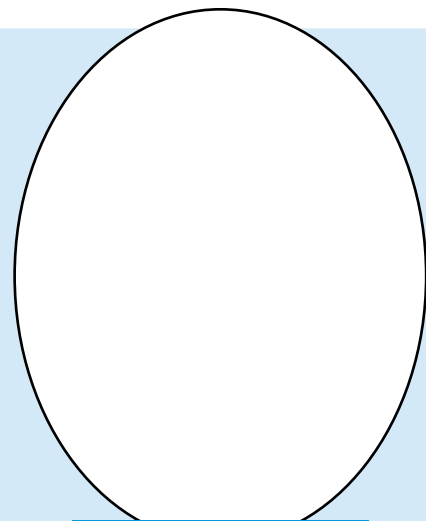
Peel a banana using your feet?

OR

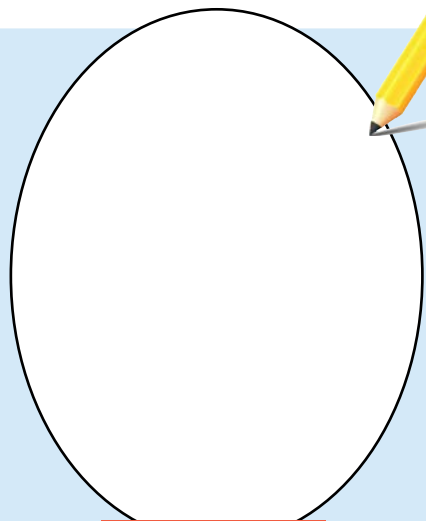
Eat a spoonful of mustard?



WHAT MAKES YOU DIFFERENT?



Draw yourself.



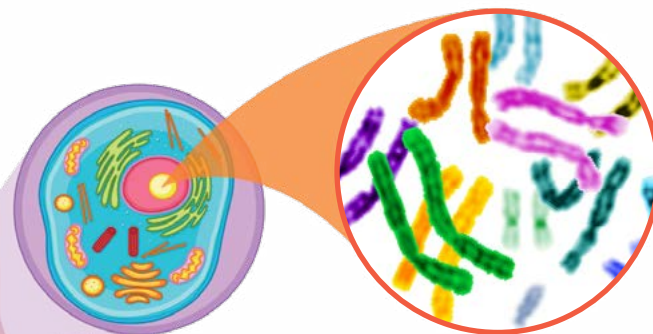
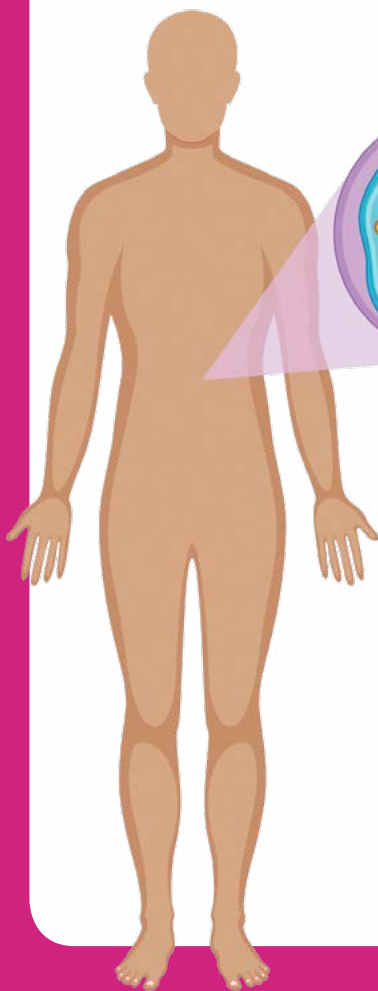
Draw your friend.

Different faces

Everyone has a nose, a mouth, lips, cheeks and hair. But nobody has exactly the same face.

What is the same about your face and your friend's face?

What is different about your face and your friend's face?



What is in your cells?

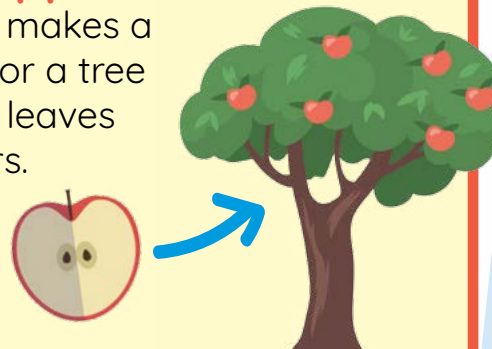
Cells look like tiny round fruits with a pip inside. You can only see them when you look through a magnifying glass or a microscope.

What are our bodies made of?

Thousands of tiny bricks that we call cells.

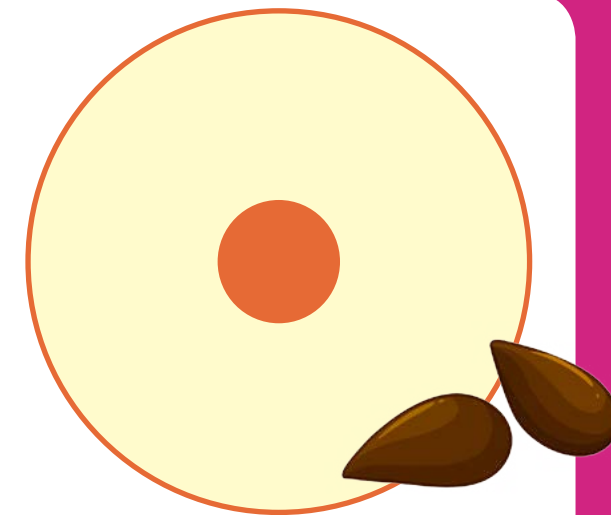
What happens to seeds?

Each seed makes a new plant or a tree with roots, leaves and flowers.



Why are your cells like seeds?

- The pip, in each cell, is called a nucleus.
- The nucleus is super smart because it holds information.
- Chromosomes inside the nucleus store all the information. This information tells your body how to work and grow properly.



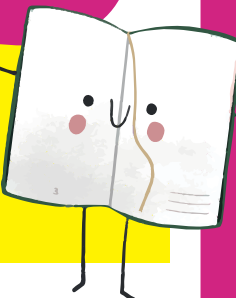
Images: Freepik.com

What's a chromosome?

Chromosomes have a weird shape. Like this!



- Each nucleus or pip, in our cells is filled with chromosomes.
- Just like a library, chromosomes hold information.
- They are like the books of our lives.



What happens when there is an error in your chromosomes?

- This can affect a part of your body and make it difficult to walk, learn or see.
- We call this a rare disease. People living with a rare disease are different from you, just as you are different from others.



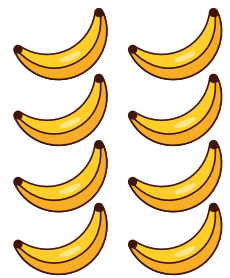
What makes chromosomes fantastic?

- Your chromosomes make you look the way you do.
- They have information that allows you to live, run, breathe, learn and to have a heart, a nose and feet.

Thanks to our chromosomes, we all have our own strengths and weaknesses!

Want to share?

Divide the snacks between the kids and write the sum for each one.



$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} \div \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

How many bananas does each kid get?



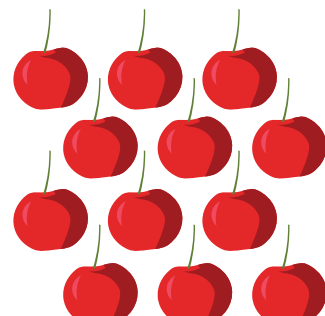
$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} \div \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

How many muffins does each kid get?



$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} \div \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

How many pretzels does each kid get?

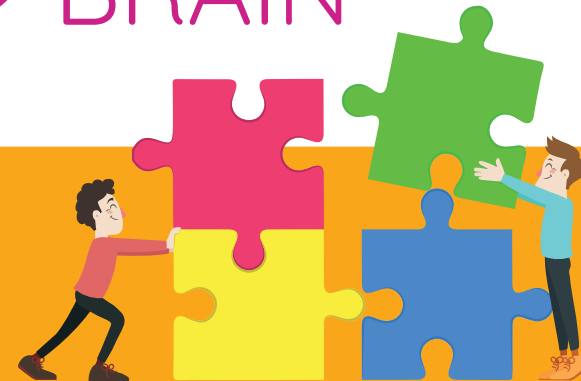


$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} \div \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

How many cherries does each kid get?

Images: Freepik.com

6 WAYS TO POWER YOUR BRAIN



MAKE MISTAKES

Brain scans actually show that your brain grows more when you make mistakes. So don't be afraid of getting it wrong. That's how we learn!

LEARN NEW SKILLS

Scientists have proved that your brain gets stronger and bigger when you learn. So use it or lose it.

MOVE YOUR BODY

Exercise increases blood flow in your body. Blood carries more oxygen to your brain. Moving your body can make you feel happier and more relaxed.



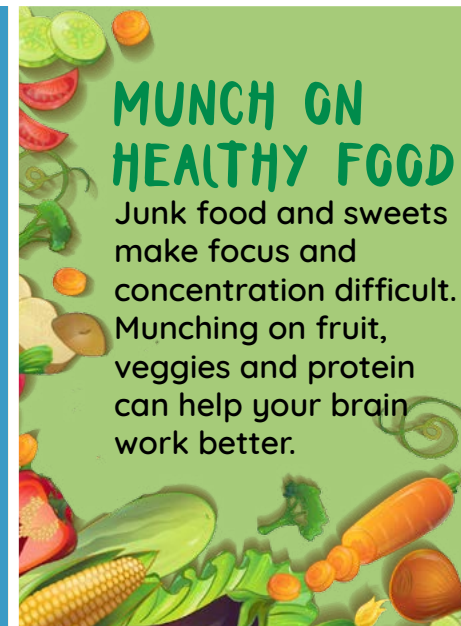
WEAR A HELMET

Wearing a helmet won't supercharge your brain. But it will protect you from getting seriously hurt. Brain injuries can affect everything, especially learning. Wear a helmet.



MUNCH ON HEALTHY FOOD

Junk food and sweets make focus and concentration difficult. Munching on fruit, veggies and protein can help your brain work better.



SLEEP MORE

When we sleep we give our brains a chance to recharge and organise the things that we have learned in the day.



The Table Mountain Ghost Frog

A very rare frog that is almost extinct!

What makes it so special?

It is found only in a few of the quickest flowing streams on Table Mountain, and nowhere else in the world.

Why is it called a 'Ghost' frog?

It is very secretive and hard to find. You have a better chance of finding a real ghost on the mountain!

What's cool about it?

It is got a see-through belly so you can see its insides.

What's its habitat?

Lives mostly underwater and in rock crevices.

Favourite food?

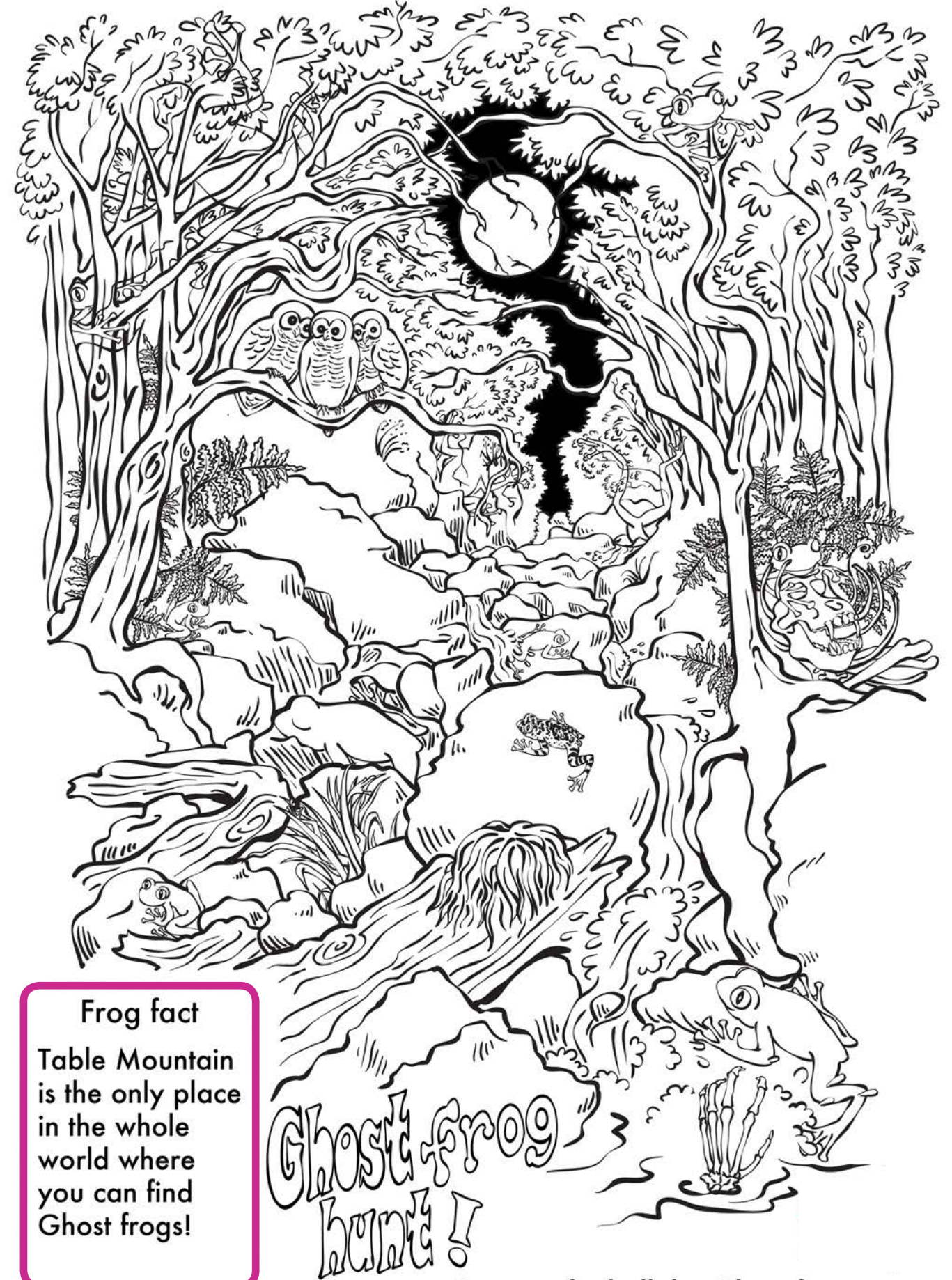
Small insects that it finds at night when it hops out of the water onto dry land.

How would you recognise one?

Look for pale green skin with purple spots. It's about 6cm long.

Yikes! I'm about to get zapped!

Source: www.hiketablemountain.co.za



Frog fact

Table Mountain is the only place in the whole world where you can find Ghost frogs!

Ghost frog hunt!

Can you find all the Ghost frogs hiding in Skeleton Gorge?

ANSWER: 9 frogs



My name is Duma and I am ten years old. I live with my sister Zinhle who is thirteen years old, my brother Wandile who is six years old, Mama, Baba and our dog Bhubesi.

1



Since the corona virus came, our lives have changed. It is such a small virus but it can make us very sick if we are not careful.

2



I have been sad because I cannot play with my friends. Wandile is sad that he cannot hug his friends. Zinhle is also sad that she can't share her lip gloss with her friends.

3



After work, Mama goes to check on Gogo and brings her fresh fruits. Mama leaves the fruits at the door because she can't go into the house.

6



Every morning, Zinhle goes to collect water from the nearby taps. Some people are wearing masks, some are not. Zinhle made herself a mask using her doek.

7



Mama is a cleaner at the hospital in town. Baba sells fruits and vegetables in town. Every morning they leave for work and Zinhle looks after us.

4



Our neighbour, Gogo, is very old and has a heart problem. No one is allowed near her these days because the corona virus is dangerous for older people. We don't want to make her sick.

5



Every night, when we have supper, Mama reminds us what she heard at the hospital. "Wash your hands with soap for 20 seconds and cover your mouth when you cough." Mama also sprays sanitiser she got from work on our hands after we wash them.

8



One day, while we were in the house, Zinhle had an idea. "I am going to make masks for the community who don't have masks!" she said. "That's a good idea! Let's tell Mama and Baba when they get home!" I said.

9

Soucre: Courtesy Nail'ball



Later, when Mama and Baba came home, we told them about Zinhle’s idea. “That’s a good idea my child!” Baba said. Mama agreed, “I will ask our church members to give us cloth to help you make the masks and we can ask Gogo to help too.”

10



The next day, the church ladies dropped off colourful cloth and elastic bands at our house. Zinhle left some cloth in a bag outside Gogo’s door with a note asking Gogo to help.

11



Zinhle started stitching masks and Wandile and I watched her. Zinhle is very good at stitching. She stitched many masks. Wandile and I counted the masks. “1 ...2 ...3... 4...”, but there were too many to count!

12



Zinhle and Gogo made many masks for the community! Mama and Baba were so proud.

13



The next day, Baba and Mama were not working. They decided to give out Zinhle and Gogo’s beautiful masks to those that did not have a mask. Zinhle carried Mama’s hand sanitiser and sprayed the community members.

14



Later that night, Mama reminded us: “Children, what do we do after we have touched everything and before we eat?” “Wash your hands for 20 seconds with soap and use hand sanitiser after!” Wandile shouted. “Yes my babies. Keep clean and keep healthy. And always wash your hands,” Mama said.

16



Now when Zinhle goes to get water, everyone is wearing masks. Everyone looks and feels safer now.

15



17

A Salad with Eight Colours

Author: Helen Brain

Illustrations: Rico

Translation: Nobuntu Stengile

ENGLISH

It was Mom's birthday. Neo had saved up his pocket money and bought her a box of chocolates. Dad had bought her a pair of beautiful pink earrings and Mbali had drawn a beautiful picture on a card.

"Thank you, my darlings," Mom said, putting the earrings away safely in the jewellery box on her dressing table. "I have to hurry now or I'll be late at the hairdresser. I'm having my hair done so I can look extra special for my party tonight."

A little while later Gogo called Neo. "I'm busy making food for Mom's birthday party," she said. "Please watch Mbali for me."

"Okay, Gogo," said Neo. But he wasn't really listening. He had a new book from the library all about two boys who sail the seas on a pirate ship.

"Neo," called Gogo after a while, "what is Mbali doing?"

Neo jumped up. He had forgotten all about his little sister. Where was she? He could hear her singing to herself. She had Mom's jewellery box open and she was wearing all Mom's necklaces and rings and bracelets.

"No, Mbali!" Neo said. "You're not allowed to touch those."

Mbali started crying, so Neo quickly packed away all the necklaces, rings and bracelets. Then he picked up his little sister and carried her to the kitchen.

isiXHOSA

Isaladi enemibala esibhozo

Yayilusuku lwesikhumbuzo sokuzalwa kukaMama. UNeo wayeyongile imalana yakhe ayiphiwayo waze wamthengela ibhokisi yeetshokoletshi uMama. UTata yena wamthengela amacici amahle apinki waze uMbali yena wamzobela umfanekiso omhle ekhadini.

"Ndiyabulela kakhulu, zithandwa zam," watsho uMama lo gama afaka amacici akhe ebhokisini yobucwebecwebe ephezu kwetafile ukuze akhuseleke, angalahleki. "Kufuneka ndikhawuleze ndihambe ngoku okanye ndiza kufika emva kwexesha kwindawo yokwenza iinwele. Ndiza kwenza iinwele zam ukuze ndikhangeleke ndimhle ngokwenene nangokugqibeleleyo kwitheko lam ngokuhlwa nje."

Emzuzwini emva koko, uGogo wabiza uNeo. "Ndixakekile ndenza ukutya kwethoko lesikhumbuzo sokuzalwa kukaMama," watsho. "Nceda undijongele uMbali."

"Kulungile Gogo," kwatsho uNeo. Kodwa wayevuma nje, kungekho nto ayivileyo. Wayenencwadi entsha ayiboleke kwithala leencwadi eyayibalisa ngamakhwenkwe amabini awayehamba ngenqanawe yabaphangi elwandle.

"Neo," wakhwaza uGogo emva kwethutyana, "wenzani uMbali?"

UNeo waxhuma. Wayelibele shici ngodadewabo omncinane. Ingaba wayephi? Wayemva eziculela. Wayevule ibhokisi yobucwebecwebe kaMama kwaye wayenxibe onke loo maso nezo ntsimbi zomqala kunye nemisesane kwanezacholo zikamama.

"Hayi, Mbali!" watsho uNeo. "Awuvumelekanga ukuba uphathe ezo zinto."

Gogo was very busy. She was watching a pretty lady called Siba on the TV. Siba was making something called a seven colour salad.

"Why is it called a seven colour salad?" Neo asked.

"Look," said Gogo, pointing to the ingredients on the table. "It's got white rice, green peppers, red peppers, orange peppers, brown bacon and black pepper."

"Red's my favourite colour," said Neo, nibbling on a piece of bacon.

"Yellow's mine," said Gogo.

"And Bella loves green," said Neo.

"Pink, pink," said Mbali.

"But Gogo, that's only six colours," said Neo.

"Well, I'm going to add some curry powder," said Gogo. "Mbali, what colour is curry powder?"

"Pink," said Mbali.

Gogo and Neo laughed.

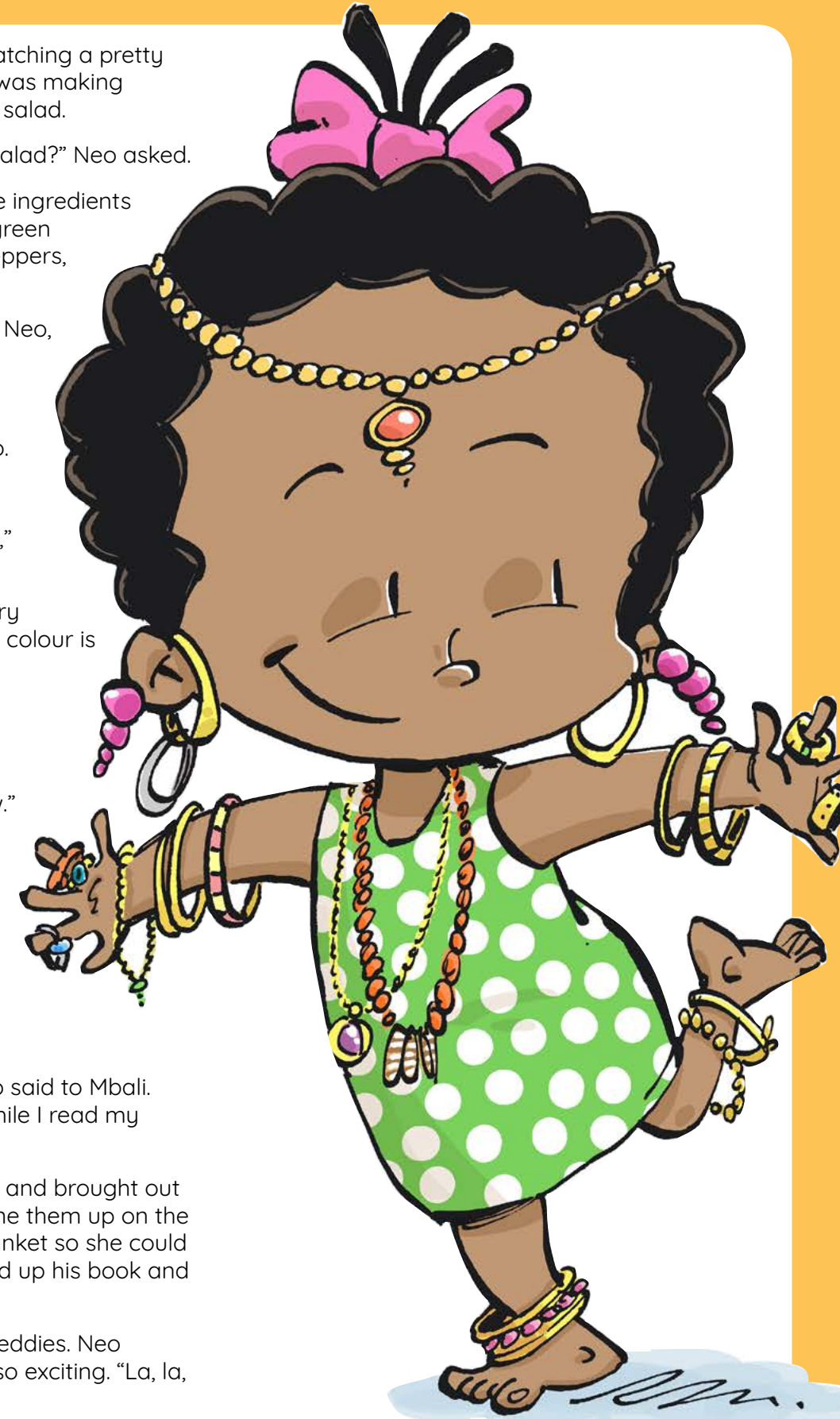
"Noooo," Neo giggled, "it's yellow."

Soon the salad was finished. Gogo put it on the table and covered it with a cloth. "I'm quickly going next door to ask Mrs Mthembu if she can lend me a cup of sugar. Neo, you watch your sister. Make sure she doesn't touch anything."

"Bring all your teddies here," Neo said to Mbali. "Then you can play with them while I read my book."

Mbali trotted off to her bedroom and brought out all her teddies. Neo helped her line them up on the couch and cover them with a blanket so she could put them to sleep. Then he picked up his book and started to read again.

"La, la, la, la," sang Mbali to her teddies. Neo turned the page. This book was so exciting. "La, la, la, la," sang Mbali.





Suddenly Neo looked up. Mbali wasn't singing anymore. Where was she? He checked all the rooms. There she was, in the kitchen, standing on one of the chairs. She was eating Gogo's seven colour salad.

"NO!" shouted Neo. "That's for Mom's party."

Quickly he took a spoon and smoothed over the top of the salad and put the cloth back neatly. It looked as good as new. Eish! That was close.

By five o'clock everything was ready. Mom had got back from the salon and her hair looked beautiful. Neo had helped Dad light the fire for the braai and Gogo had bathed Mbali and dressed her in her prettiest party dress.

Suddenly there was a loud shriek from Neo's parents' bedroom, "My new earrings are gone!"

Neo hurried to the bedroom. Mom was nearly in tears. "I put them here," she wailed. "I put them in my jewellery box just this morning, and now they're gone! We must have had a burglary!"

"Oh dear," said Neo. "Mbali was playing with your rings and necklaces this morning, but I put everything away neatly, I promise."

"Mbali," called Mom. "Come here."

Mbali's bottom lip began to tremble and she

UMbali waqalisa ukulila, ngoko ke uNeo wasebenza ngokukhawuleza, enqabisa zonke iintsimbi zomqala, imisesane kunye nezacholo zikaMama. Waza ke emva koko wafunqula udadewabo omncinane wamsa ekhitshini.

UGogo wayexakeke kakhulu. Wayebukele inenekazi elihle eligama linguSiba kumabonakude. USiba lo wayesenza ukutya ekuthiwa yisaladi enemibala esixhenxe.

"Kutheni le nto kusithiwa yisaladi enemibala esixhenxe?" wabuza uNeo.

"Jonga," watsho uGogo, esolatha izithako ezisetafileni. "Inerayisi emhlophe, ipepa eluhlaza, ipepa ebomvu, ipepa e-orenji kunye nebheyikhoni ebrawuni kunye nepepile emnyama."

"Umbala obomvu ngowona mbala ndiwuthandayo," watsho uNeo, ekrekretha isiqwengana sebheyikhoni.

"Owam ngotyheli," watsho ke yena uGogo.

"UBella ke yena uthanda oluhlaza," watsho uNeo.

"Opinki, opinki," watsho uMbali.

"Kodwa Gogo, yimibala emithandathu kuphela nje leyo," watsho uNeo.

"Kaloku ndiza kugalela umgubo wekhari," watsho uGogo. "Mbali, unjani umbala womgubo wekhari?"

"Upinki," watsho uMbali.

UGogo noNeo bahleka.

"Hayiiii," wagigitheka uNeo, "utyheli."

Kungekudala, yagqitywa ukwenziwa isaladi. UGogo wayibeka etafileni waze wayigquma ngelaphu. "Ndisaya kucela ummelwane uNkosikazi Mthembu ukuba andiboleke ikomityi yeswekile. Neo, uze uncede ujonge udadewenu. Uze uqinisekise ukuba akaphathi nanye into apha."

"Yiza nabo bonke oonodoli bakho apha," watsho uNeo kuMbali. "Uza kudlala ngabo lo gama mna ndisafunda incwadi yam."

UMbali wankcunkca ukuya kwigumbi lakhe

looked down at the ground.

"Where are my earrings?" asked Mom. Mbali started to cry.

"I told you to watch your sister, Neo," said Gogo. "You know she's not allowed to play with your Mom's things."

Neo felt terrible. He hung his head. "I'm really sorry, Mom," he murmured. Now Mom's birthday was spoilt and it was all his fault.

Wait! What was that he saw? There was something sparkly under the dressing table. Quickly Neo crawled under the dressing table and picked it up. "Here's one of your earrings, Mom!" he called.

He looked everywhere for the other pink earring – under the dressing table, under the bed, in Mom's drawer. He even checked Mbali's bed and her doll's pram, but he couldn't find it anywhere. Mom was very sad – she couldn't wear only one earring.

Just then the doorbell rang. Their friends had arrived for the party. Mom put on her old blue earrings and she put a smile on her face and went to say hello to everyone who had come to wish her a happy birthday. Dad put the sausages on the braai and soon everyone was laughing and talking.

Neo could see that Mom was still sad. "I wish I'd watched Mbali better," he thought as he helped



lokulala waza nabo bonke oonodoli bakhe. UNeo wamncedisa uMbali ukuba abakrozise esofeni aze abombathise ukuze abalalise. Emva koko uye wathatha incwadi yakhe waqalisa nokufunda.

"La-la, la-la," wabaculela njalo uMbali oonodoli bakhe. UNeo watyhila iphepha. Incwadi le yayimnandi kakhulu. "La-la, la-la," uqhubeke nokucula njalo uMbali.

Ngephanyazo uNeo waphakamisa amehlo. UMbali wayengasaculi. Ingaba uyephi? Wamkhangela kuwo onke amagumbi. Nankuya, ekhitshini, ekhwele kwesinye sezitulo. Wayesitya isaladi enemibala esixhenxe kaGogo.

"HAYII!" wamngxolisa uNeo. "Loo salad yeyetheko likaMama."

Wakhawuleza wathatha icephe walungelelanisa umphezulu wesaladi waza waphinda wagquma kakuhle. Yakhangeleka kakuhle kwakhona ke ngoku. Thiza! Kuphantse konakala.

Ngentsimbi yesihlanu konke kwakusele kume ngendlela, konke kulungele ukuqalisa kwetheko. UMama wayesele ebuyile kwindawo yokwenza iinwele kwaye neenwele zakhe zazintle kakhulu. UNeo wancedisa uTata ekubaseni umlilo wokosa inyama waze noGogo wahlamba uMbali, wamnxibisa eyona lokhwe yakhe intle yetheko.

Ngephanyazo kwavakala isikhalo esibukhali esivela kwigumbi lokulala labazali bakaNeo, "Amacici am amatsha alahlekile!"

UNeo wakhawuleza waya kwigumbi lokulala labazali bakhe. UMama wayentywizisa iinyembezi. "Bendiwafake apha," walila. "Bendiwafake kule bhokisi yam yobucwebecwebekusasanje, ngoku awekho! Inokuba kuqhekeziwe!"

"Owu nkosi yam," watsho uNeo. "UMbali ebedlala ngemisesane neentsimbi zomqala zakho kusasa nje, kodwa ndiye ndazibuyisela zonke kakuhle kwakhona, ndiyakuthembisa."

"Mbali," wakhwaza uMama. "Yiza apha."

UMbali wabebezelisa umlebe wakhe ongezantsi waze wathokombisa intloko yakhe.

"Aphi amacici am?" wabuza uMama. UMbali waqalisa ukulila.

Gogo carry the salads outside to the big table.

“Let’s eat,” said Dad. “It all looks delicious. Thank you, Gogo for making such wonderful food.”

“She learnt how to make the seven colour salad from a lady on TV,” said Neo. “There’s white rice, and green and red and orange peppers, and brown bacon, and yellow curry powder, and black pepper in it.”

“Pink, pink,” called Mbali, banging the table with her spoon. “Pink, pink.”

“Mmmm,” said Mom. “I can’t wait to try it.”

She scooped a big serving onto her plate and took a mouthful. Suddenly she stopped chewing. Her eyes grew big and round. Something was wrong!

“What’s the matter?” asked Dad.

“Don’t you like it?” Gogo asked. “Did I put too much curry powder in it?”

Mom put her hand into her mouth and pulled something out. “My earring!” she cried. “Here’s my lost earring.”

“Pink,” said Mbali with a big smile. “Pink.”

“Mbali put your earring in the salad,” giggled Neo. “She was sad because the salad didn’t have her favourite colour in it.”

“I think tonight we will have to call it an eight colour salad,” smiled Gogo.

Everybody laughed, even Mbali who was holding Mom’s pink earring.

Play Mbali’s colour game

What is your favourite colour? Tell your friends the names of objects you can think of that have your favourite colour in or on them. See how quickly everyone can guess the name of the colour!

Let everyone have a turn to describe their favourite colour.

“Bendikuxelele ukuba uze umjonge udadewenu, Neo,” watsho uGogo. “Uyazi ukuba akavumelekanga ukuba adlale ngezinto zikamama wakho.”

UNeo wayesiva kakubi kakhulu. Wayithokombisa intloko yakhe. “Ndicela uxolo olungazenziyo, Mama,” wangqumshela. Ngoku usuku lwakhe lwesikhumbuzo sokuzalwa lwalonakele kwaye yayilityala lakhe.

Yima! Yintoni leya ivele phaya? Kwakukho into emenyazelayo ekhaphethini, ngaphantsi kwetafile yokubeka izinto zokuthambisa. Ngokukhawuleza wakhasa wangena phantsi kwetafile wayichola. “Nali elinye lamacici akho, Mama!” wakhwaza.

Wakhangela kuyo yonke indawo ekhangela elinye icici elipinki – phantsi kwetafile yokubeka izinto zokuthambisa, phantsi kwebhedi, kwidrowa kaMama. Wade wayakukhangela nditsho nasebhedini kaMbali kunye nakwinqwelwana yoonodoli bakhe, kodwa zange alifumane

naphi na elo cici. UMama wayelusizi kakhulu – wayengakwazi ukunxiba icici elinye kuphela.

Kanye ngelo xesha, kwavakala ukunkqonkqoza emnyango. Abahlobo babo babefika beze ethekweni. Kwanyanzeleka ukuba uMama anxibe amacici akhe amadala azuba wazama nokuncuma waza waya kubulisa wonke umntu owayeze kumnqwenelela iMini eMnandi. UTata wabeka isoseji emlilweni kwaze kwakamsinyane kwahlekwa kwancokolwa ngumntu wonke.

UNeo wayembona ukuba uMama uselusizi. “Akwaba bendimjonge ngcono ngokwenene uMbali,” wacinga njengokuba wayenceda uGogo emphathisa isaladi ukuya kuzibeka etafileni enkulu phandle.

“Masityeni,” watsho uTata. “Konke kukhangeleka kumnandi. Enkosi Gogo ngokwenza ukutya okumnandi kangaka.”

“Ufunde ukwenza isaladi enemibala esixhenxe kwinenekazi ebelikumabonakude,” watsho uNeo.



“Kukho irayisi emhlophe, ipepa eluhlaza, ipepa ebomvu, ipepa e-orenji kunye nebheyikhoni ebrawuni nomgubo wekhari otyheli kunye nepepile emnyama.

“Nopinki, nopinki,” kwakhwaza uMbali, ebetha itafile ngecephe lakhe. “Nopinki, nopinki.”

“MHMHMH,” watsho uMama. “Andisakwazi kulinda ukuba ndide ndiyingcamle.”

Waziphakela kakhulu egalela epleyitini yakhe waze wakha icephe. Ngephanyazo wayeka ukuhlafuna. Wathi gqa amehlo amakhulu nangqukuva. Kwakukho okungalunganga!

“Yintoni?” wabuza uTata.

“Akuyithandi?” wabuza uGogo. “Ingaba ndigalele umgubo wekhari omninzi?”

UMama wafaka isandla emlonyeni wakhe waze watsala into ethile. “Icici lam!” wakhwaza. “Nali icici lam ebelilahlekile.”

“Upinki,” watsho uMbali ngolubanzi uncumo. “Upinki.”

“UMbali ufake icici lakho esaladini,” wagigitheka uNeo. “Ebelusizi kuba isaladi ibingenawo owona mbala awuthandayo.”

“Ndicinga ukuba ngokuhlwa nje kufuneka siyibize ngokuthi yisaladi enemibala esibhozo,” wancuma esitsho uGogo.

Wonke umntu wahleka, nditsho noMbali owayebambe icici elipinki likaMama.

Dlala umdlalo wombala kaMbali

Ngowuphi owona mbala uwuthandayo? Dlalani uqashi-qashi nonke, apho uxelela wonke umntu amagama ezinto onokucinga ngazo nezinowona mbala uwuthandayo. Khangela ukuba bangawuqashela kamsinyane kangakanani na loo mbala! Wonke umntu makafumane ithuba lokuchaza owona mbala awuthandayo.

Eddy Elephant is exploring the exotic jungle.
Lead him through the maze to the exit.

How many elephants can
you count altogether?

Write the number in the box.



Can you find the way?

ONLY JOKING

WISE WORDS



"Colin is late for school. He is still in a deep slumber!"

SLUMBER

Slumber means sleep.

IS THAT A FACT?

Insects have yellow, green or clear blood.

SAY THESE FAST, 3 TIMES

Good blood, bad blood

She sees cheese

Rolling red wagons

What do dogs and trees have in common?

They both have bark.



THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Did you know an owl can't move its eyeballs?

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

A butterfly's tastebuds are in its feet.



Can you sign hello?

Ngabe ungakwazi ukusayina u sawubona?

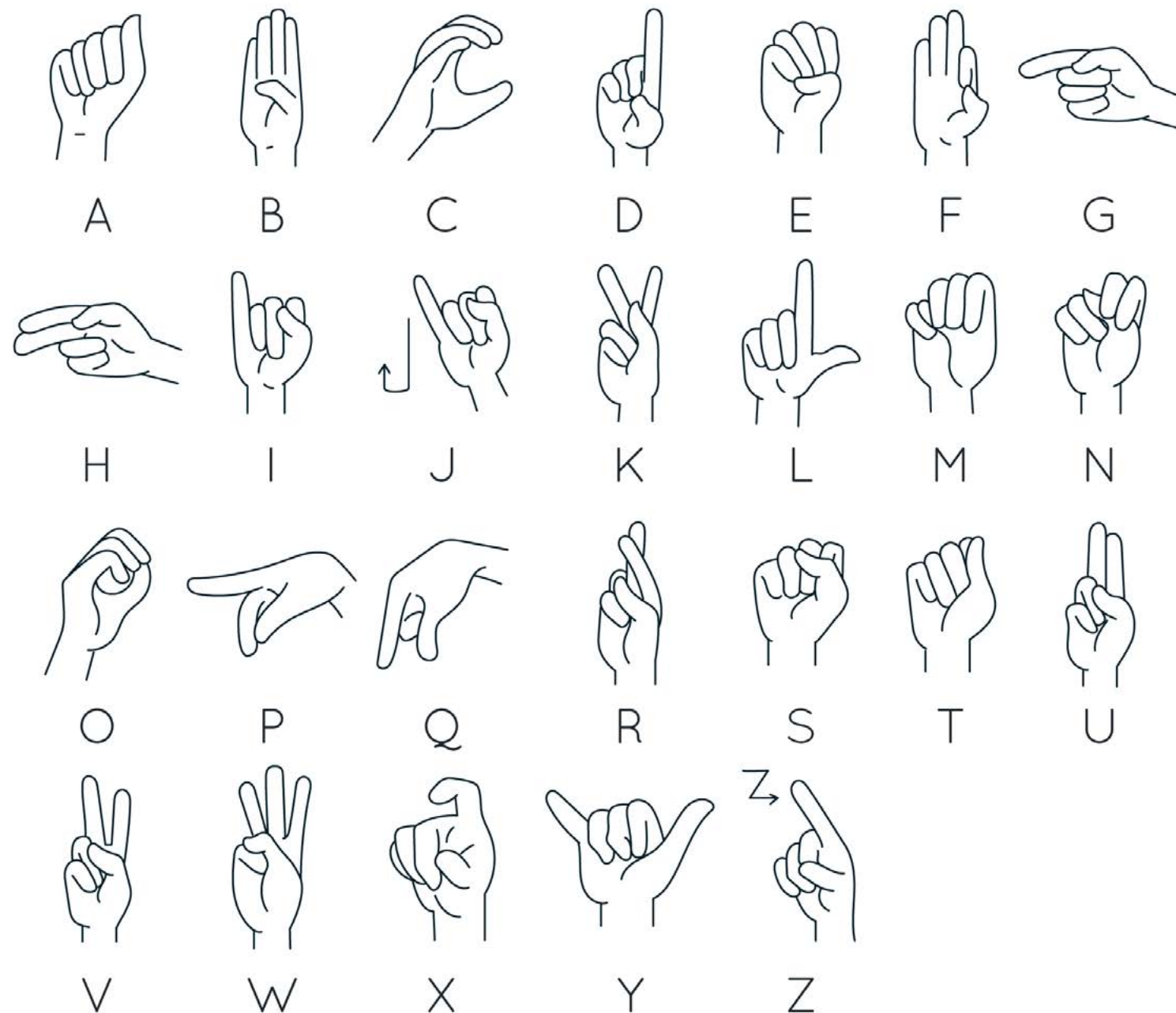
isiZULU

Deaf people use sign language to communicate.

Abantu abayizithulu basebenzisa ulimi lwezandla ukuze baxhumane nabanye.

Learn sign language!

Funda ulimi lwezandla!



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