

Share a story today!



# World Read Aloud Day

## with Nalibali

Stories are powerful! *Fly, everyone, fly!*, is written by author, Sihle Nontshokweni, and illustrated by Magriet Brink and Leo Daly. Read it to the children in your life this World Read Aloud Day, 3 February 2021.



## 5 World Read Aloud Day activities

1. Read the story, *Fly, everyone, fly!*, on pages 2 and 3 to your children and others. Practise reading it aloud a few times before you read it to the children and remember to put lots of expression into your voice as you read.
2. Before you read the story, ask the children if they have ever flown in an aeroplane or seen an aeroplane on TV or in a book. Encourage them to share their thoughts with you.
3. After you have read the story, encourage your children to interpret it by asking them to draw or paint a picture of their favourite part.
4. Arrange a Meet-a-Story-Morning on World Read Aloud Day or over a weekend. Invite the children to attend with their parents. Introduce them all to books that you know make good read-aloud stories by reading to them from these books.
5. Make your own World Read Aloud Day 2021 posters to create awareness about the importance of this day. With the children, cut out letters and pictures from magazines and newspapers, draw pictures, write your own words and sentences, and use pictures from the Nalibali website (go to "Story resources" at [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org)). Make up your own slogans, or use ours – Share a story today!

Spread a love of stories! Pass on this story resource or share it with someone you know.

## 8 benefits of reading aloud

Reading aloud to your children:

- ✓ shows them that you value books and reading.
- ✓ gives you things to talk about together.
- ✓ builds a bond between you.
- ✓ allows them to experience reading as a satisfying activity.
- ✓ motivates them to learn to read for themselves and then to keep reading.
- ✓ shows them how we read and how books work.
- ✓ lets them enjoy stories that are beyond their current reading ability.
- ✓ develops their vocabulary and language abilities.

## How to get involved

Go to [www.nalibali.org](http://www.nalibali.org) or [www.nalibali.mobi](http://www.nalibali.mobi) to sign up your family, reading club or school, or WhatsApp the word "WRAD" to **060 044 2254** and help make this the biggest World Read Aloud Day event in South Africa!



# Fly, everyone, fly!

Story by Sihle Nontshokweni ■ Illustrations by Magriet Brink and Leo Daly

Afrika, Dintle and Mme wa Afrika were on a bus on their way to visit Gogo. "Yay! Holidays at last!" said Afrika as he bounced up and down in his seat.

"Sshhh! You'll wake your sister," whispered Mme wa Afrika.

"Sorry, Mama," whispered Afrika.

Afrika tried to sit still, but he couldn't. "I wish this old bus was an aeroplane," he said as he put his arms out and pretended they were aeroplane wings. "If we were flying, we would have been at Gogo's house long ago."

"I know," said Mama, "but please put your arms down before you poke your fingers in someone's eye."

"Eish, this bus is so slow," sighed Afrika. "We'll never get there."

It took hours, but at last the bus stopped and they could see Gogo waving to them. "I was so excited that I got here early," said Gogo as she hugged and kissed them all.

"We were on this bumpy, noisy, old bus for so long, Gogo," said Afrika.

"I know," smiled Gogo. "Now, let's get you all home. I have tea and cake waiting and Neo and Mbali will be home soon." That made Afrika smile all the way to Gogo's house.



As Gogo cut the cake she said, "When I was young we didn't have buses. Now there are cars, taxis, buses, trains ..."

"... and aeroplanes," said Neo as he walked into the room with Mbali. Afrika jumped up to greet his friends. He was so happy to see them again.

Mbali looked around. "Yum, yum," she said pointing at the cake.

Gogo laughed and gave them each a slice. "Josh, Hope and Bella will visit tomorrow," she said.

"And Noodle," said Mbali.

"And Noodle," agreed Gogo.



The next day everyone was up early. "If I know your friends," said Mme wa Afrika, "they will be here before you've finished your breakfast." Just then everyone heard barking.

"Noodle, slow down!" Bella shouted, as she followed Noodle into the room. Noodle was very happy to see everyone.

Soon Josh and Hope arrived and everyone started talking at once. Gogo covered her ears. "Finish eating, then off you go!" Gogo said and sent the older children and Noodle outside to play.

"Josh," said Afrika, as he pushed the wheelchair to the field, "remember the last time I was here and you won the kite competition?"

"Yes," laughed Josh. "I'll never forget that."





"Well, let's have a paper aeroplane competition," said Afrika and took out a drawing of his paper aeroplane.

"Wow, that's so cool," Josh said. "One day I want to be a pilot. But wait! I will show you how to fly. Do what I do," he shouted.

Josh lifted his arms and then he sang:

*"Sway left, sway right. Sway right, sway left.*

*Lift your arms and close your eyes.*

*Left, right, up, down. We will fly all around."*

Afrika, Neo, Bella and Hope soon joined in. As Josh turned around and around in his wheelchair, the others ran around with their arms stretched out singing and laughing. And of course, Noodle joined in! They only stopped once they were all out of breath.



"Now let's make some paper planes," said Afrika. He opened his backpack and pulled out a few sheets of paper. "I'll show you what to do."

"I wish they taught us this in school," said Hope as she followed Afrika's instructions.

Once everyone was done, Afrika said, "Before you let your plane fly, you must decide where you want to go. As you throw your plane into the air shout out the name of the country you are sending your plane to. One, two, three – FLY!" They all threw their paper planes up into the air.

"I'm sending mine to Zimbabwe!" said Neo.

"Mine's going to England!" Bella and Hope shouted at the same time.

"Brazil!" said Afrika.

"Japan!" said Josh.

The children laughed as they watched their planes fly across the sky. Noodle ran around barking and tried to catch the paper planes!



"Now you know that you don't have to be in a real aeroplane to be able to fly," said Josh.

"Wait! Neo, stop! Where are you going?" asked Afrika.

"Home," laughed Neo, "I'm hungry!"

"Me too," said Bella.

"Woof!" said Noodle.

Hope looked at her watch. "We're late for lunch," she said. "We'd better run."

"No," said Josh. "Let's fly!" They all laughed, put their arms out ... and flew home.





## Make a badge!



1. Cut along the red dotted line to cut out the badge.
2. Colour in the picture.
3. Cut a circle the same size as the badge from some thin cardboard, for example, a cereal box.
4. Use glue to paste the badge onto the cardboard.
5. Use sticky tape or masking tape to attach a safety pin to the back of the badge. Or make a hole at the top and thread some wool or string through it so that you can hang it around your neck.
6. Enjoy wearing your badge as you read and listen to stories on World Read Aloud Day.



Send us pictures of your children with their World Read Aloud Day badges. Email them to [info@nalibali.org](mailto:info@nalibali.org) or share them on our Facebook page!



Have you joined Nal'ibali's FUNda Sonke Loyalty Programme? Go to [www.nalibali.mobi](http://www.nalibali.mobi) to become a member today and earn rewards while you inspire others to read. Complete our World Read Aloud Day literacy challenge and earn points!



## About Nal'ibali

Nal'ibali (isiXhosa for "here's the story") is a national reading-for-enjoyment campaign. It seeks to spark and embed a culture of reading across South Africa, so that reading, writing and sharing stories – in all South African languages – is part of everyday life.

Since 2012, Nal'ibali has worked with various state, civil society and business partners to make sure every South African child has opportunities to fall in love with books and stories. Through advocacy, training and high-quality reading materials, Nal'ibali is helping to nurture a nation of readers.

Nal'ibali is here to motivate and support you. Contact us in any of these ways:

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*Nalibali*  
IT STARTS WITH  
A STORY.

English