



# Khathaza runs away

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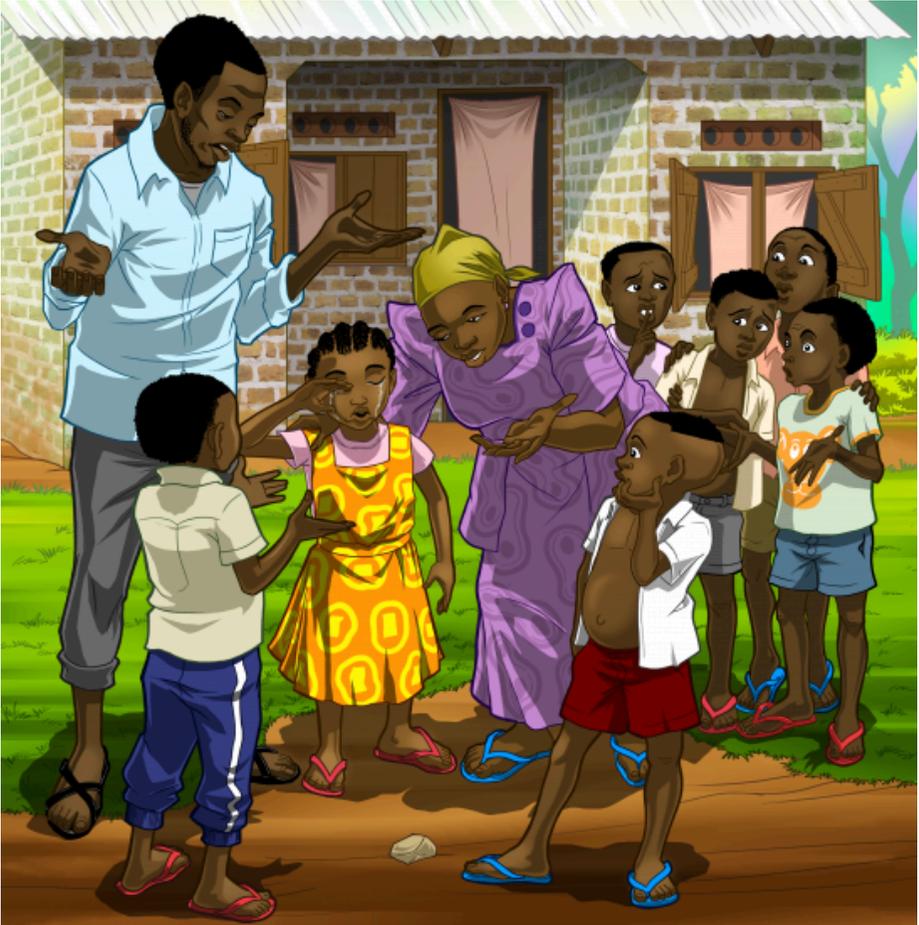


Khathaza got everything she wanted from her parents. They loved her very much.

Khathaza was their only daughter.

She had six brothers.

Khathaza's parents spoiled her.



One day, Khathaza wanted to play soccer with the boys.

“You might get hurt,” pleaded her mother.

Her brothers refused to play soccer with her. Khathaza started crying.



Later, Khathaza slipped away from home and ran into the forest.

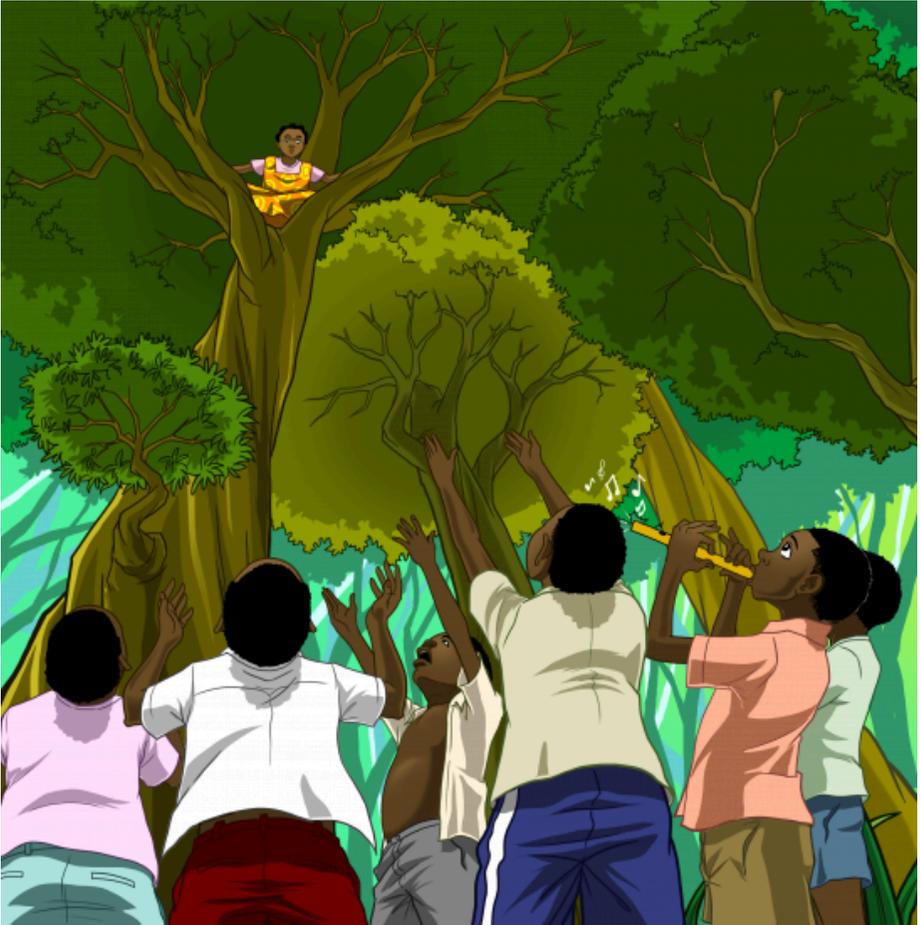
“I will show everyone that I am not a baby,” she said to herself.

She climbed a tall tree.



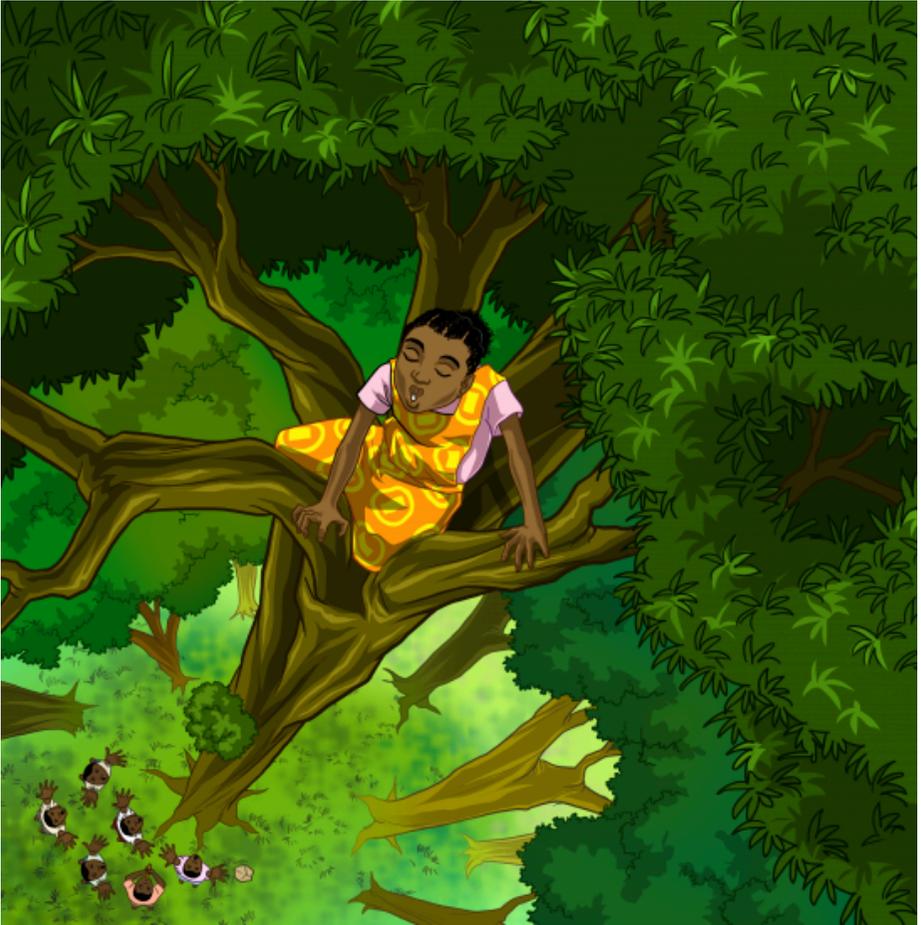
Her parents searched the forest until they found Khataza.

They pleaded with her to come down, but with no luck.



Her brothers tried to comfort her. They called, “Khathaza, come down, you are going to hurt yourself”.

One of them played her favourite song, and the others sang.

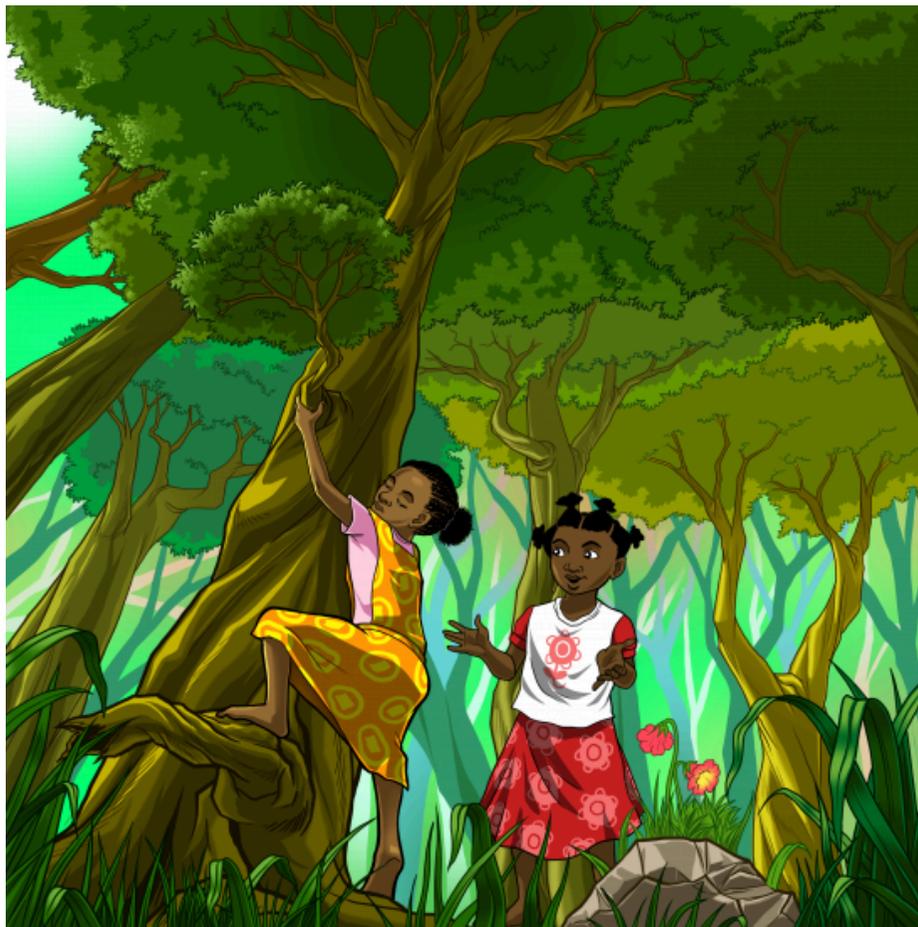


Khathaza's anger got better and better.  
Listening to the song made her feel calmer.  
She started singing too.  
But she still was not ready to come down.



Sihle, her best friend, came to convince her to come down.

“Khathaza, come down, come down. I do not want to lose you,” called Sihle.



Sihle waited patiently. Khathaza finally climbed down from the tree. She hugged Sihle.

“My friend, why did you run away and climb the tree?” asked Sihle.



“I felt bad because everyone treats me like a baby,” explained Khataza.

“I wanted to show them I could do anything that my brothers can do,” she added.



Khathaza's family threw a party to celebrate her safe return.

From that day onward, the boys allowed Khathaza to play soccer with them.



Ulwazi Lwethu is a Zenex Foundation funded and initiated project to develop a series of graded and leisure African language readers and teacher support materials. This project is targeted at teaching and supporting learners in the Foundation Phase to improve their home language reading and understanding. The readers have been originated in nine African languages in collaboration with Molteno Institute for Language and Literacies, Nelson Mandela Institute for Education and Rural Development, Room to Read South Africa, and Saide. All resources are developed as Open Education Resources (OER).



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