



Naka and Nala talk about air

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Naka and Nala are in the dry veld,
sitting under a tree.

Nala hears leaves softly rustling in the
gentle breeze.



"Listen Naka. Can you hear the leaves?" asks Nala.

"Yes, I can hear the leaves and also see them moving," Naka replies.



“Do you remember what makes leaves move?” asks Naka

“It’s when the wind blows things,” replies Nala.

“It’s the air,” says Naka.



“Air is all around us, but we can’t see it,”
Nala begins.

Naka interrupts, “But we can see and
hear the leaves moving!”



Nala continues, "We can't see air, but we can see and hear the effects of air moving. That's called wind."

"Wind is air?!" Naka asks.



“Yes,” smiles Nala.

She adds, “Air also holds tiny water drops in clouds. When the water in clouds gets too heavy, water drops fall as rain.”



“Imagine us rising into the sky in a hot air balloon. The balloon is like a water drop, the air holds it up,” says Nala.



“We also breathe air,” remembers Naka.

“Yes, all animals and plants need air,” says Nala.

“We need clean air,” agrees Naka.



"We can't see air, but what is it made of?" asks Naka.

"Air is a mix of gases and tiny bits of dust," replies Nala.



"The earth is wrapped in air," says Nala.

"Air is all around us. The earth's air stretches from here into space," she adds.

—Questions

1. Who is this story about?
2. Where are they?
3. Who needs air to live?
4. What is the air made of?
5. Where is air?
6. Why do raindrops fall?
7. List five uses of wind
8. Discuss any five causes of air pollution.



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).



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

*The Ulwazi Lwethu readers and storybooks have
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Title: Naka and Nala talk about air

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Assurer/s: African Storybook

Language: English



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