



Schools lockdown

African Storybook

Busisiwe Ndlovu





Busisiwe and Bandile are very happy because schools are closed for lockdown!

They are looking forward to time at home.



After five weeks of lockdown, the sisters are not so happy any more.

“I’m doing my best with online learning. It’s a challenge!” sighs Bandi.



Busi agrees, "I miss going to school."

"Now, school is WhatsApp group chats, education apps, and education TV!" says Bandi.



She continues, "Now, school requires more discipline and more dedication."

Busi says, "And we always need data and network for school."



"Many families can't afford data," says Bandi.

Busi thinks of her friends, Buhle and Luka. Their family can't afford data for school.



Busi says, "Some kids need the school feeding scheme."

She is worried, "Will all parents be able to buy enough food for their children?"



Bandi says, "We are fortunate. We still have enough to eat at home."

"But I really miss my friends," sighs Busi.

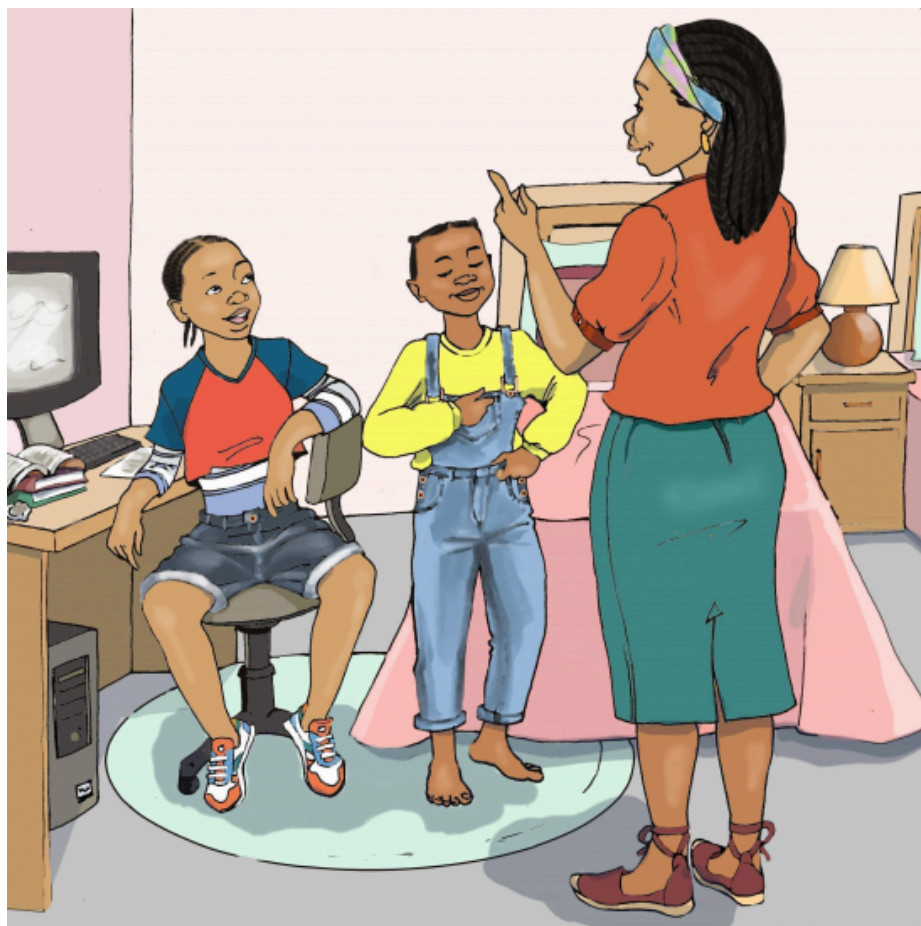


She adds, "I can talk to them over the phone, but it's not the same. I like playing with them."



Bandi sighs, "I miss the atmosphere of school and the teachers. I miss learning new things, and being around my friends."

Mom comes into their room.



"Girls, I've just heard on the radio that schools are re-opening next week," smiles Mom.

Busisiwe and Bandile are very happy!

—Questions

1. Explain the meaning of: 'financial strain', 'online learning', 'feeding scheme'.
2. Did the sisters enjoy lockdown? Explain your answer.
3. Compare learning in school and online learning. Which of these is cheaper?
4. If another lockdown happens, what things would you do differently?
5. What rules does your school expect you to follow? Were there things that you learned about life during school lockdown? Explain.
6. Why do you think school required more discipline and dedication during lockdown?

This storybook is based on reports for RX Radio. RX Radio is a children's internet radio station, by and for children.

RX Radio operates from the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital in Cape Town.

RX Radio helps children to tell stories about issues important to them.

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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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