



Naka and Nala talk about water

Eric Khorombi

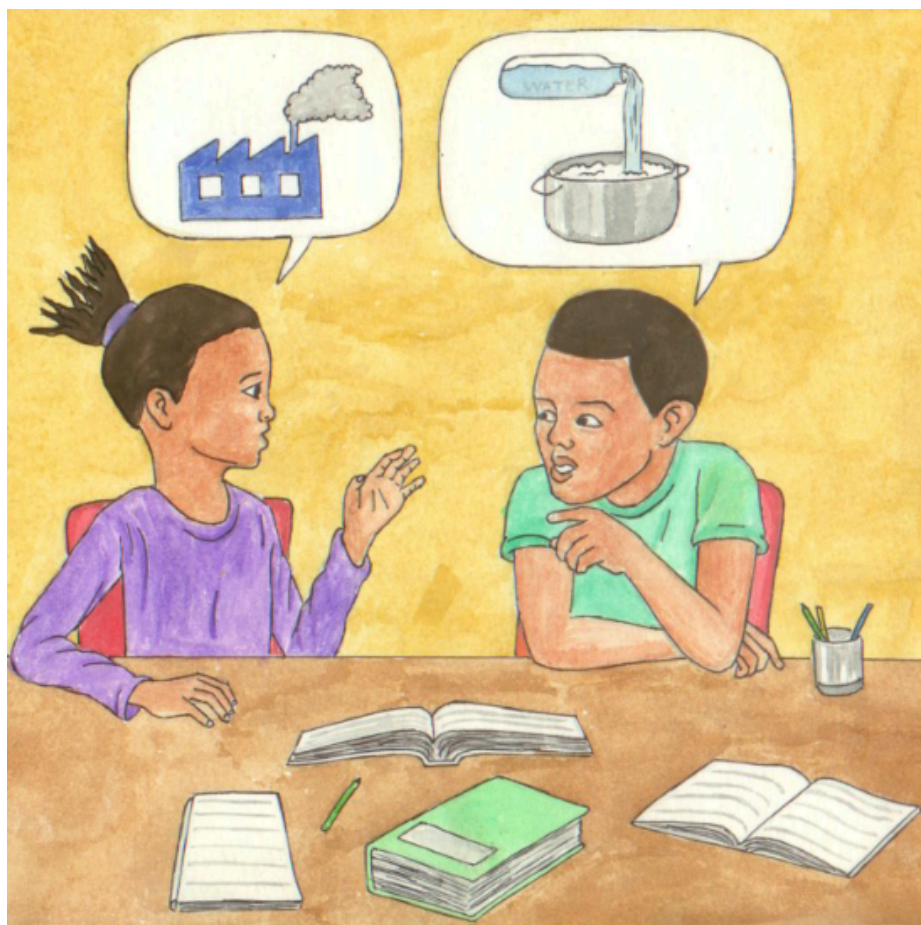
Simon Mokoena





Naka and Nala are learning about water.

“Water has no colour and no taste, yet it’s a precious resource!” exclaims Nala.



Naka agrees, "People use water for drinking, cooking, cleaning, and farming."

"And for making things in factories," adds Nala.



“Over half of the human body is made up of water!

“Our bodies need water to work. All living things need water,” says Naka.



“Most of the earth is covered with water, in rivers, lakes, and seas,” says Nala.

Naka nods, “Over two thirds of our planet is water.”



“But most of the water on the earth is salt water.

Only a tiny amount is fresh water, which is what humans need,” says Naka.



“Salt water contains salt, and it’s difficult and expensive to remove salt from water.

But, humans can’t drink salt water!”
exclaims Naka.



“Yes, that’s why we must look after earth's fresh water sources.

We must not pollute rivers and lakes with waste or rubbish,” says Nala.



"Let's study the water cycle.

It's a process where water moves up from the earth into the air and collects in clouds," says Naka.



Nala adds, "Water in the clouds falls to earth as rain, hail, or snow."



Naka exclaims, "I'm thirsty, I need some water!"

Nala responds, "Yes, your brain needs water to think and learn! Water is life, treat it right."

—Questions

1. Who needs fresh water? Why?
2. List 5 uses of fresh water.
3. Is the earth's water mostly fresh or mostly salty? Explain.
4. Draw the water cycle. Use words from the story to explain what happens.
5. What is climate change?
6. Explain three ways climate change is affecting water on earth.



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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*The Ulwazi Lwethu readers and storybooks have
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