



“DIE BY, DIE SEEKOEI EN DIE Vlieg”

“INYOSI, IMVUBU NEMPUKANE”

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Written by Ephenia Dikeledi Magongoa

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THE BEE, THE HIPPOPOTAMUS AND THE FLY

It is said that one day when Hippo was skinny and polite and was relaxing in the water, father Bee and his wife asked Hippo to look after their children while they were busy pollinating the flowers, spreading pollen and making honey.

Hippo agreed and started looking after Bee's children. Hippopotamus bathed them and dressed them every morning in clean clothes and also gave them breakfast to eat.

He asked them to wash their hands before they ate, but they refused. Hippo grabbed them and washed their hands and then gave them food. When they had finished eating, they again refused to wash their hands.

Hippo grabbed them once again and washed their hands. Bee's children were stubborn and they did not want to listen. In the evening when Bee and his wife returned from work, they found the children crying.

Bee and his spouse became very angry and they stung Hippo on the head. Hippopotamus cried out loud and ran into the water to relieve the pain.

Fly told Hippo that he would go with him to work the next day to explain the truth to Mr. Bee and his wife. Hippo asked him how he knew about the whole affair. Fly said that he saw everything as he was hiding on the wall, behind the curtain where nobody could see him. In the morning, Hippopotamus woke up with a swollen head yet he still went to work.

Fly accompanied Hippo to explain what he had seen. Bee's children said that Fly was lying because he was not there.

Bee and his wife went to work as usual to spread pollen and make honey.

Hippo politely asked Bee's children to wash their hands every time they returned from playing outside, from the bathroom, after blowing their noses, after scratching themselves and before they ate, so that they should not get sick.

Bee's children refused. Fly flew from the curtain and also asked the children to wash their hands. The children again refused because they had no respect for Fly or for Hippopotamus.

Mr. Bee and his wife came back and again found the children crying. Bee asked what was going on and of course, the baby bees said that Hippopotamus was not treating them well.

Fly was hiding on the curtain. He came down and told the parents that their children were lying since he had seen everything.

The baby bees cried even more. Bee tried to sting Fly but he flew away.

Bee and his wife then turned to Hippo and attacked his feet and his hands until he swelled up. Hippo ran back to the water.

The next day, Bee's stubborn children refused once more to wash their hands. When Bee and his wife found them crying, without even asking, they landed a series of spiky punches which left Hippo on the ground covered in needles. Hippo fled to the dam. He tried to pull out the needles but failed. Fly came and sat on Hippo's head and took out the needles even though Hippo's whole body was already swollen. His swollen body never went down and stayed swollen forever. Hippopotamus never went to Bee's house after this and stayed in the water. He only came out to graze on the grass.

Fly was annoyed by these hard-headed, and arrogant children who showed no respect and decided: *"I am going to teach them a lesson. I am going to get my insect friends and relatives to help me with my plan. We will get all the illnesses from other people and come and dump them in their food and on their hands".*

Bee and his wife started taking their children to work with them. One day, one of the children started getting sick from diarrhoea, another got tuberculosis, another had mumps with swellings under his ears as if stung by his dad, another had a bad case of flu, while the last child was covered in red spots and had red, watery eyes because of measles. .

Mr. Bee and his wife took the children to the hospital. The nurse asked the parents and the children lots of questions and found that the children caught the illnesses because of not washing their hands over and over again, even fifty times a day. They had to do this if they did not want to become ill.

The nurse sent them to the doctor. The doctor gave them painful injections each and every day according to the sicknesses they had caught. They screamed: "Ouch! ouch! This needle stings. Doctor! Please! We've had enough. We won't do it again." They slept on their tummies because their bottoms were so sore and felt like they would explode. When they were healed, they went back home and learned to wash their hands many times a day.

They regretted what they had done and told their parents the truth.

Bee took the children to Hippo to ask for forgiveness. But when Hippopotamus saw them, he refused to come out of the water thinking that they had come to sting him

again. Hippopotamus did what he did because he was protecting himself and knows that "it is better to be safe than sorry".

Lesson

Respect your parents and elders and appreciate what they know. Lies will not help you.

New Words

- Pollen - A fine powder made by flowers
- Appreciate - To be thankful
- Spouse- The person you are married to
- Diarrhoea- A runny tummy
- Lungs - The parts of your body inside your chest that let you breathe
- Measles - A sickness where you get red spots on your body and a fever
- Mumps - A painful illness that makes the neck swell
- Fever - A sickness which gives you a very high temperature
- Regret - Feeling sorry for what you have done
- Coward - a person who is not brave and avoids trouble

Proverb:

"Better to be safe than sorry."

Explanation:

It is best to avoid trouble than be faced with it.

Synopsis

The bee, the hippo and the fly is the 2nd publication in a 10 part folklore series that tells stories from Africa similar to the ones that were narrated by our grandmothers in evenings around the fire. They are written in Setswana but have been translated into English and other languages to attract a diverse audience. Some parts of the story have been directly translated to retain the humour while making it fun and easy for the children to learn a new language.

This is an original story about the hard-headed and arrogant nature of the baby bees while under the care of Hippo. Their cheekiness landed them in hospital and destroyed their father's friendship with Hippo.

Project Goals

There are great untold stories from Africa which are highly educational and can benefit children all around the world. Every story has a lesson that is presented at the end of the story. Our main goal is to show the world that Africa does have some great edutainment stories of her own.

Biography/About the Writer

Mrs. Dikeledi Magongoa is a retired teacher with over 30 years primary and high school language teaching experience. She was also Head of Department of Setswana, Afrikaans and English Languages in her 13 years of high school teaching. She holds an Honours Degree in Setswana from the University of Pretoria. She works as a freelance translator and writer for various publishers, broadcasters and non-profit organisations.

SOUTH AFRICAN LANGUAGES

The languages of South Africa are English, Afrikaans, xiTsonga, isiZulu, isiXhosa, Tshivenda, siSwati, isiNdebele, Setswana, North and South Sotho.

The majority of the people in South Africa have a black skin colour. Almost one quarter of South Africans speak isiZulu as a home language. Less than one tenth of the South African population speak English as a mother tongue, but English is the lingua franca in South Africa.

Business people and politicians mainly speak English during their meetings. It is mandatory to study English at school.

GLOSSARY

- Population - All the people living in a specific area
- Lingua franca - A common language used by people who speak different languages
- Mandatory - Everybody must do it

DIE BY, DIE SEEKOEI EN DIE Vlieg

Daar word vertel dat eendag, toe Seekoei nog brandmaer en hoflik was en terwyl hy in die water lê en ontspan, het pa By en sy vrou vir Seekoei gevra om na hulle kinders te kyk terwyl hulle stuifmeel strooi, die blomme bestuif en heuning maak.

Seekoei het ingestem en na By se kinders begin omsien. Seekoei het hulle elke oggend gebad, skoon klere aangetrek en ontbyt gegee.

Hy het hulle gevra om eers hulle hande te was voordat hulle eet, maar hulle het geweier. Seekoei het hulle beetgekry en self hulle hande gewas en toe vir hulle kos gegee. Toe hulle klaar geëet het, wou hulle weer nie hande was nie.

Seekoei het hulle weer gegryp en hulle hande gewas. By se kinders was hardkoppig en hulle wou nie luister nie. Toe By en sy vrou die aand van die werk af kom, kry hulle die kinders aan die huil.

By en sy eggenoot het baie kwaad geword en Seekoei op sy kop gesteek. Seekoei het hard geskree en in die water ingehardloop vir pynverligting.

Vlieg sê toe vir Seekoei dat hy more saam met hom sal werk toe gaan en die waarheid vir mnr. By en sy vrou sal vertel. Seekoei wou weet hoe Vlieg dan van die hele gedoente weet. Vlieg sê vir Seekoei dat hy die hele ding gesien het omdat hy op die muur agter die gordyn weggekruip het waar niemand hom kon sien nie. Die volgende oggend het Seekoei met 'n geswelde kop wakker geword, maar tog werk toe gegaan.

Vlieg het saam met Seekoei gegaan om te verduidelik wat hy gesien het. By se kinders sê toe dat Vlieg jok, hy was nie daar nie.

By en sy vrou gaan soos gewoonlik weer werk toe om stuifmeel te strooi en heuning te maak.

Seekoei vra toe hoflik vir By se kinders om hulle hande te was elke keer as hulle buite gespeel het, die toilet gebruik het, hulle neuse geblaas het of aan hulleself gekrap het, en voordat hulle eet, sodat hulle nie siek word nie.

By se kinders het geweier. Vlieg vlieg toe van die gordyn af en vra ook die kinders om hulle hande te was, maar die kinders het steeds geweier want hulle het geen respek vir Vlieg of vir Seekoei gehad nie.

Mnr. By en sy vrou kom tuis en kry die kinders weer aan die huil. By vra wat aan die gang is, en natuurlik sê die bababye dat Seekoei hulle nie goed behandel het nie.

Vlieg, wat agter die gordyn weggekruip het, kom uit en sê vir die ouers dat die kinders jok, want hy het alles gesien.

Die bababye begin net harder huil. By probeer vir Vlieg steek, maar hy vlieg weg.

By en sy vrou draai toe na Seekoei toe en val hom aan. Hulle steek sy voete en hande tot hy opswel. Seekoei hardloop weer in die water in.

Die volgende dag het By se hardkoppige kinders weer geweier om hulle hande te was. Toe By en sy vrou terugkeer en die kinders weer aan die huil kry, het hulle sonder om te vra 'n klomp stekerige houe op Seekoei uitgevoer totdat Seekoei vol angels op die grond lê. Seekoei het dam toe gevlug. Hy het probeer om die angels uit te trek, maar hy kon nie. Vlieg kom toe en sit op Seekoei se kop en trek vir hom die angels uit al was Seekoei se hele lyf opgeswel. Sy lyf het ook net so gebly, die swelsel het nooit weer gesak nie. Seekoei het hierna nooit weer na By se huis toe gegaan nie, maar in die water gebly. Hy het net uitgekrom om gras te vreet.

Vlieg was so omgekrap oor By se hardkoppige, aanmatigende kinders wat geen respek gehad het nie, dat hy besluit het: "Ek gaan hulle 'n les leer. Ek gaan my insekvriende en my familie vra om my te help met my plan. Ons gaan al die siektes by ander mense haal en dit op die kinders se kos en hande kom aflaai."

By en sy vrou het hulle kinders saam met hulle begin werk toe neem. Een dag word een van die kinders siek met spoelmaag, 'n ander een kry tuberkulose van die longe, nog een kry pampoentjies en swel op onder sy ore asof sy pa hom gestee het. 'n Ander een kry slegte griep, en die laaste kind is vol rooi kolletjies en het waterige oë as gevolg van masels.

Mnr. By en sy vrou neem die kinders hospitaal toe. Die verpleegster vra die ouers en die kinders 'n klomp vrae en bevind dat die kinders siek geword het omdat hulle nie hulle hande oor en oor gewas het nie, al is dit vyftig keer 'n dag, want dit is nodig as hulle nie wil siek word nie.

Die verpleegster het hulle na die dokter toe gestuur. Die dokter het elke liewe dag vir elkeen van hulle volgens hulle siekte 'n seer inspuiting gegee. Hulle het geskree: "Eina! Eina! Hierdie naalde steek seer, Dokter! Asseblief! Ons het genoeg gehad. Ons sal dit nie weer doen nie." Hulle het op hulle magies geslaap, want dit het gevoel of hulle boude gaan ontplof, so seer was dit. Toe hulle gesond was, het hulle terug gegaan huis toe en geleer om hulle hande baie keer op 'n dag te was.

Hulle was spyt oor wat hulle gedoen het en het hulle ouers die waarheid vertel.

By het sy kinders na Seekoei toe geneem om vergiffenis te vra. Maar toe Seekoei hulle sien, het hy geweier om uit die water te kom, want hy het gedink hulle het gekom om hom weer te steek. Seekoei het gedoen wat hy gedoen het om homself te beskerm, nie omdat hy 'n lafaard was nie. Hy het geweet: "Eerder bang Jan as dooie Jan."

LES

Respekteer jou ouers en almal wat ouer as jy is en waardeer dit wat hulle weet. Leuens sal jou nie help nie.

NUWE WOORDE

- Stuifmeel - 'n fyn geel poeier in die middel van blomme
- Waardeer - om dankbaar te wees
- Eggenoot - die persoon met wie jy getroud is
- Spoelmaag - wanneer jou maag aanhou werk
- Longe - organe in jou borskas waarmee jy asemhaal
- Masels - 'n siekte waarvan jy koors kry en in rooi kolletjies uitslaan
- Pampoentjies - 'n pynlike siekte wat jou keel laat opswel
- Koors - 'n siekte waarvan jy 'n baie hoë liggaamstemperatuur kry
- Spyt - om jammer te voel oor wat jy gedoen het
- Lafaard - 'n persoon wat nie braaf is nie en moeilikheid vermy

SPREEKWOORD

"Liewer bang Jan as dooie Jan."

VERDUIDELIKING

As jy wegbly van moeilikheid, sal jy jouself baie hartseer spaar.

OORSIG

Die By, die Seekoei en die Vlieg is die 2de publikasie uit 'n reeks van 10 volksverhale uit Afrika, soortgelyk aan dié wat ons oumas saans om die vuur vertel het. Hulle is in Setswana geskryf, maar na Engels en ander tale vertaal vir internasionale aanklank. Dele van die storie is direk vertaal om die humor te behou en dit terselfdertyd vir die kinders lekker en maklik te maak om 'n nuwe taal aan te leer.

Dit is 'n oorspronklike storie oor die hardkoppige en aanmatigende geaardheid van die bababye terwyl hulle in Seekoei se sorg was. Hulle parmantigheid het hulle in die hospitaal laat beland en hulle pa se vriendskap met Seekoei bederf.

DOEL VAN DIE PROJEK

Daar is 'n menigte onvertelde stories uit Afrika wat baie leersaam is en waarby kinders wêreldwyd kan baat. Elke storie het 'n les wat aan die einde van die verhaal ingevoeg word. Ons hoofdoel is om die wêreld te wys dat Afrika leersame vermaaklikheidsstories het wat eg ons eie is.

BIOGRAFIE / AANGAANDE DIE OUTEUR

Mev. Dikeledi Magongoa is 'n afgetrede onderwyseres met meer as 30 jaar ervaring van taalonderrig by laer- en hoërskole. Sy was ook Departmentshoof vir Setswana, Afrikaans en Engels in die 13 jaar van haar hoërskool-onderwysloopbaan. Sy het 'n Honneursgraad in Setswana aan die Universiteit van Pretoria verwerf. Sy werk as vryskutvertaler en skrywer vir verskeie uitgewers, uitsaaiers en nie-winsgewende organisasies.

SUID-AFRIKAANSE TALE

Suid-Afrika se tale omvat Engels, Afrikaans, xiTsonga, isiZulu, isiXhosa, Tshivenda, siSwati, isiNdebele, Setswana en Noord- en Suid-Sotho.

Die meeste mense in Suid-Afrika is swart. Byna 'n kwart van alle Suid-Afrikaners se huistaal is isiZulu. Minder as 'n tiende van die Suid-Afrikaanse bevolking se moedertaal is Engels, maar Engels is die lingua franca in Suid-Afrika.

Sakelui en politici praat hoofsaaklik Engels in hulle onderhandelings. Dit is verpligtend om Engels op skool te leer.

WOORDELYS

- Bevolking - al die mense wat in 'n sekere gebied bly
- Lingua franca - 'n gemeenskaplike taal wat deur mense uit verskillende taalgroepe gebruik word
- Verpligtend - almal moet dit doen