

# GROW

## SMART

Second Edition

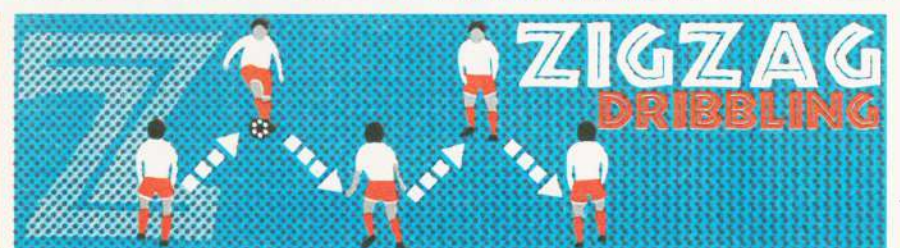
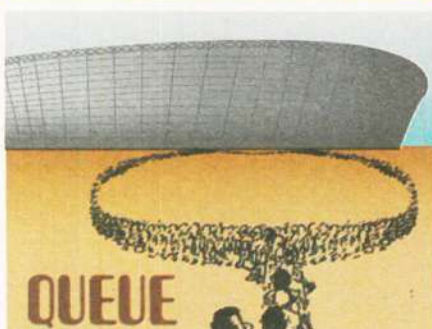
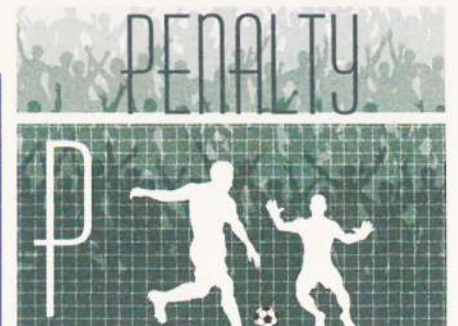
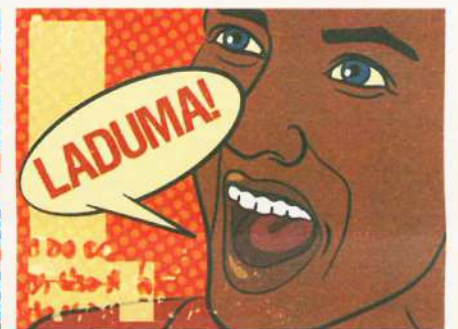
# GROW

## SMART

An initiative by GROWTH-POINT PROPERTIES



WESTERN CAPE  
Education Department  
Provincial Government of the Western Cape





# The continuing adventures of Vuyo and Gemma Mouse

## Aunt Ellie's Birthday Party

Gemma Mouse's sister, Ellie, is having her birthday party tomorrow. It's going to be quite a fancy affair, and Gemma decides that her family must look respectable. She makes an appointment for Vuyo, herself and the quadruplets at Rodent's Fair Hair, her favourite hair salon.

The next morning, at the crack of dawn, the taxi barks outside the front door. Vuyo and Gemma have made sure that the four kids are wearing their Sunday best and they all hop onto the back of the little Jack Russell taxi.

The taxi charges R0,50 for each mouse, plus R1,35 for each kilometre they travel. The hair salon is 5 kilometres away from their house. How much will Vuyo have to pay the driver in total? **Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

"Bonjour Mademouselle!" Gemma's hairdresser runs outside and gives her a kiss on each cheek. "What can I do for you today, my darling?"

Gemma replies that she wants her hair dyed and straightened. Each of the kids must have their hair braided and Vuyo needs to have his whiskers trimmed.

Four hours later the mouse family look like movie stars. "You are groomed to absolute perfection!" the hairdresser exclaims excitedly. "Here is the bill." Poor Vuyo almost faints when he sees what he owes the hairdresser. It is more than what he earns in a month at the cheese factory.

It costs R12,50 for each of the little mice to have their hair braided. It costs R13,00 to trim Vuyo's whiskers. It costs R24,00 for Gemma to have her hair dyed and R18,75 to have it straightened.

The hairdresser charged Vuyo R155,25. Is the total amount on the bill correct? **Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

If not, how much does Vuyo really owe the hairdresser?

**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

The mouse family gets onto the Jack Russell taxi and heads for Aunt Ellie's house. On the way, one of the little mice asks, "Mommy, where is Auntie Ellie's present?"

Gemma nearly swallows her own tail when she realises that she had forgotten to buy her sister a birthday gift! The taxi makes an abrupt U-turn and they head back to town. At the shop, Gemma can't decide whether to buy her sister a silver bracelet or a gold tooth. "Maybe I should buy her both!" Gemma exclaims.

The silver bracelet costs R35,00 and the gold tooth costs R74,99. Gemma only has R50,00 in her purse.

Can Gemma buy both gifts with the money in her purse? **Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_ If she had enough money for both gifts, do you think it's a good idea for her to spend so much money at once? **Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

At last Gemma, Vuyo and the little mice arrive at the party. Aunt Ellie is delighted to see them and she loves their new hairstyles. The mice eat so much cake that their tummies want to burst. Everyone has a wonderful time at the party!



## CONFUSING WORDS



I will show you how to use them!



SIMON

## THEIR, THERE AND THEY'RE

**Belonging to them.**

Example: Eric and Mike took their dog to the park.

**Indicates a place.**

Example: They like to go there on Friday afternoons.

**Short for "they are".**

Example: They're probably going back next Friday.

## TEACH AND LEARN

**To give information or to show or explain something.**

Example: Fred will teach me how to play the drums.

**To gain information or knowledge.**

Example: I will learn a new song every week.

## LIE AND LAY

**Generally means to be in a horizontal position to rest.**

Example: Why don't you lie down?

**Generally means to put something down.**

Example: They are going to lay the carpet.

## ACCEPT AND EXCEPT

**To agree to receive or do something.**

Example: I will accept the job.

**Means "not including".**

Example: I like all dogs, except poodles.



Now you try! Complete each sentence with the correct word.

Q 1: \_\_\_\_\_ is a fly in my soup. (Their / They're / There)

Q 2: Meet Themba and Lilly, \_\_\_\_\_ my best friends. (their / they're / there)

Q 3: Spot isn't my dog, he is \_\_\_\_\_ dog. (their / they're / there)

Q 4: My brother is going to \_\_\_\_\_ me how to play the guitar. (learn / teach)

Q 5: I like to \_\_\_\_\_ new things from my teacher. (learn / teach)

Q 6: \_\_\_\_\_ the pencil on the table. (Lay / Lie)

Q 7: After school I will \_\_\_\_\_ on my bed and read for a while. (lay / lie)

Q 8: I like to go jogging, \_\_\_\_\_ when it's raining. (except / accept)

Q 9: Do you \_\_\_\_\_ credit cards? (except / accept)







# AYANDA AND THE MAGIC LOLLIPOP

One day after school, Ayanda decided to go and help her uncle in his spaza shop. She loves her uncle's shop. She gets to meet friendly people and count out change like a real grownup businesswoman. But, most of all, she loves looking at all the new sweets that arrived during the week and tries to guess which one her uncle will give her as a reward for helping him in the shop.

On this particular day, Ayanda worked very hard. She packed bags for customers, calculated the profit earned and helped her uncle to sweep the floors and wipe down all the counters afterwards.

"Don't leave just yet, Ayanda," her uncle said, "I have something for you."

Ayanda's uncle handed her the most beautiful lollipop she had ever seen. It had all the colours of the rainbow and it sparkled like a jewel.

"Thank you, Uncle!"

As soon as Ayanda's tongue touched the sugary sweet lollipop, a magical thing happened.

Her whole world turned into bright rainbow colours and she could hear loud voices singing, "Sweetie sweet, sugary sweets, welcome to our world of treats".

Ayanda couldn't believe it. She was standing on a cobbled stone street made entirely of Jelly Tots. All the tree trunks were coated in dark chocolate and the clouds looked exactly like pink and blue candyfloss.

"Where am I?" she asked.

"Hi, Ayanda! You are on Bubblegoo," a tiny voice replied from below.

Ayanda looked down and saw a little strawberry cupcake blinking at her.

"My name is Merry Berry. Would you like me to show you around?"

"What is Bubblegoo?" Ayanda asked.

"It's a magical planet made out of bubblegum."

"I'm on another planet!" Ayanda's lip started to tremble and her eyes got teary. "Will I ever see my mom and dad again?"

"Please don't cry, Ayanda. I'll help you get home, but first we need your help."

"Yes?" Ayanda asked, instantly forgetting about her worries. She loves helping others.

"You need to go home and tell all the people that they should stop doing all those terrible things that they do."

"What terrible things?" Ayanda asked.

"Well," Merry Berry replied, "people are throwing their rubbish everywhere. The rivers and oceans are dirty and the air is polluted."

"I know it's terrible," Ayanda said, "but I don't understand, how is that bad for **your** planet?"

"The Earth is getting hotter and hotter and the heat is making our planet expand. Bubblegoo's bubble is getting bigger and bigger every day and soon it is going to get so big that it will pop."

Merry Berry wiped a sugary tear from her beady little eye.

"Of course I will help you, Merry Berry, of course I will."

## How well did you read?

See if you can answer the following questions in your workbook.

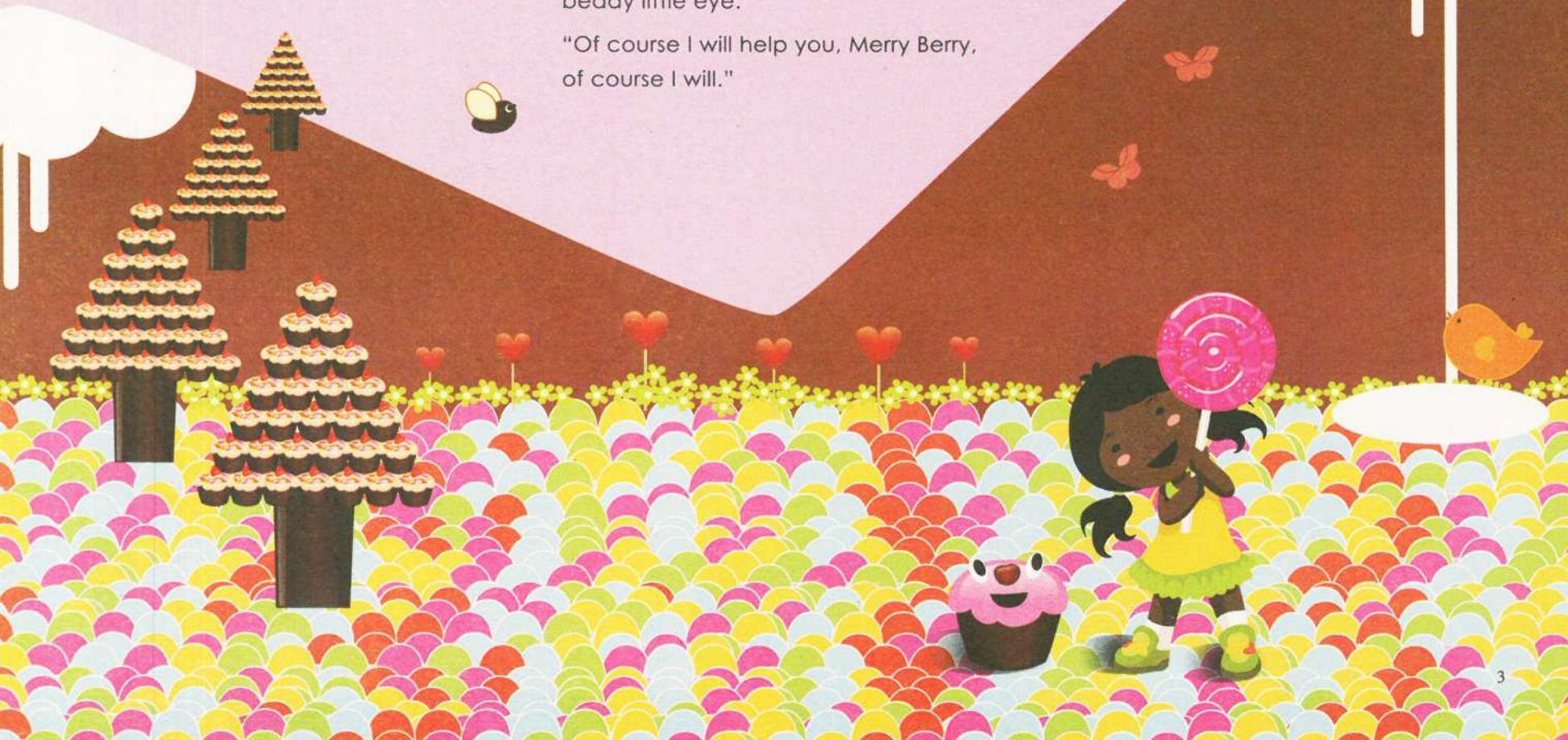
1. Why does Ayanda love helping her uncle in his shop?
2. How did she get to Bubblegoo?
3. What is Bubblegoo?
4. What makes Bubblegoo different from other planets? What is it made of?
5. Why did Ayanda cry?
6. Why is Merry Berry so worried?
7. If you were Ayanda, what would you do to help Merry Berry?
8. Some words in the story are spelt incorrectly. Can you find them?

## Show your writing skills

How do you think the story will end? How will Ayanda help the sweets from Bubblegoo? How will she get back home again?

Write the end of the story and ask your Growsmart Mentor to fax it to 021 880 2086 or email it to [carla@mseed.co.za](mailto:carla@mseed.co.za). Please send stories by 1 July.

The best stories will be placed in the next edition of the Growsmart newspaper.





# A JOURNEY THROUGH OUR SOLAR SYSTEM

The Earth is one of eight planets that orbit the Sun. An orbit is the path that each planet follows as it circles the Sun. Not only do the planets circle the Sun, they also spin – just like a basketball spinning on the tip of a player's finger, or like a spinning top. Another word for spin is rotate. The Solar System is made up of the Sun and all its planets.

Let's start our journey right in the centre of the Solar System, where we find the Sun. The Sun is a star – one of millions and millions of stars in our universe. The Sun is huge. The planet nearest the Sun is called Mercury. The distance from Mercury to the Sun is about the same as if you walked around the Earth 4 500 times. Mercury circles the Sun in about 88 days, while Earth takes 365 days (or one year) to circle the Sun.

Continuing our journey away from the Sun, we come to the planet Venus. Except for the Moon,

Venus is the brightest object in the night sky. It is about the same size as Earth. Venus rotates (or spins) very slowly. In fact, Venus takes

about 225 of our days to rotate, while Earth rotates once every 24 hours.

The third planet from the Sun is our home, Earth. Our planet is exactly the right distance from the Sun for life to flourish, because the temperature is not too hot or too cold. Earth has one moon, which happens to be called the Moon. Mercury and Venus have no moons. The Moon orbits the Earth. It also rotates – but very slowly. In fact, it rotates at just the right speed so that when you look up at the Moon, you will always see the same face!

Moving on, we reach Mars. This reddish planet rotates at about the same speed as Earth, which means that a Mars day is about as long as an Earth day (24 hours). Mars has two moons called Deimos and Phobos.

The next planet is the largest in our solar system. It's called Jupiter and it has sixteen moons. The amazing thing about this huge planet is that it takes only about 10 hours to rotate – which means it has

a very short day. In our Solar System, Jupiter is the largest planet and it spins the fastest.

The coolest thing about Saturn, the sixth planet from the Sun, is that it

has rings. The rings are not solid, but are actually made up of millions and millions of pieces of rock and ice that encircle the planet. Saturn is not the only planet with rings, but its rings can be seen much more easily than the rings of Jupiter, Uranus and Neptune.

Uranus is the second last planet in the Solar System and it takes about 84 Earth years to go around the Sun. It has 15 moons. Finally, at the end of our journey is planet Neptune – about 4 504 000 000 kilometres from the Sun. There used to be nine planets in our Solar System, but in 2006 it was decided that the ninth planet, Pluto, wasn't really a planet after all, but rather a "dwarf planet".

## STAY SAFE IN THE WATER

On hot summer days, there's nothing better than cooling off at the beach or splashing around in a swimming pool, a stream or a lake. Playing in water can be a lot of fun, but it can also be dangerous if you're not careful; you could drown if too much water gets into your lungs.

Accidents can happen very quickly. At the beach, a wave could knock you down and push you to the ocean floor. In a lake, you can't always see the bottom and you could hit your head when diving if you don't know the depth of the water. In a swimming pool, you could hurt others by pushing them or jumping on them.

### Here are some tips to stay safe in the water:

- ❖ Learn to swim.
- ❖ Swim with a buddy and never swim in the dark.
- ❖ Obey swimming pool rules.
- ❖ Don't run around the sides of the pool and don't "play rough" by pushing others or jumping on them.
- ❖ If you're not a strong swimmer, then stay in the shallow end of the swimming pool.
- ❖ Make sure you know how deep the water is before you jump or dive in.
- ❖ Always wear a life jacket if you're going out on a boat.
- ❖ Never swim alone in the ocean and don't swim out too far.
- ❖ Never swim in areas where there are strong ocean currents.
- ❖ If you get a cramp (a muscle tenses up and causes pain) or you start feeling tired, then get out of the water for a while.





# MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Tessa knows what she wants to be when she grows up. She wants to be an entrepreneur and start her own business. Tessa hopes that her future business will one day be very successful and make lots of money, so she has already started practising.

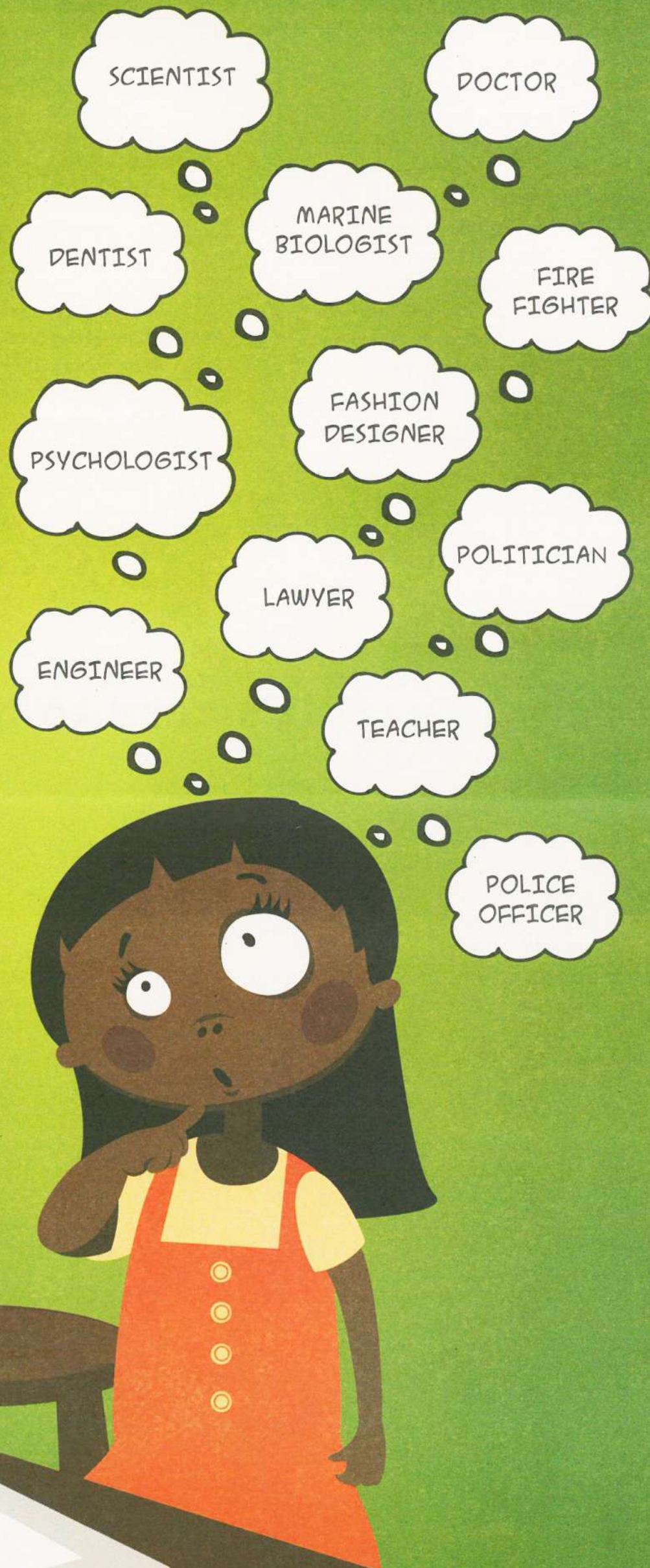
First she tried pet-sitting, which is like baby-sitting for pets. The idea was that, when a family went on holiday, Tessa would look after their pets while they were away. She decided to charge R10,00 a day for this service. However, not many families needed a pet-sitter and Tessa was making very little money, so she decided to try something else.

Next she decided to make and sell greeting cards. She used the little money she had made as a pet-sitter to buy blank cards and coloured pens. Then she carefully made some "Get Well Soon" cards, "Happy Birthday" cards and "Congratulations" cards. She worked out that the cards had cost her R4,00 each to make, so she decided to sell them for R10,00 each – that way, she would make R6,00 profit on every card she sold. The trouble was that people thought her cards were too expensive – they would not buy the cards for more than R4,00 each. So Tessa ended up making no money at all from her greeting card business.

Tessa refused to give up. She thought hard about new business ideas. What did people need that she could provide? She was sitting in the front garden watching the cars go by when suddenly she had a brilliant idea – she would start a car wash! She was not afraid of hard work and all she had to pay for was the car shampoo, polish, sponges, drying cloths and the water she used.

She discussed it with her dad and he suggested that she use the driveway in front of their garage to wash the cars. Then Tessa made a sign that said TESSA'S CAR WASH – R30,00 ONLY and placed it near the front of the driveway where passing cars could see it. Her first customer pulled up exactly ten minutes later.

That was one year ago and Tessa is still washing cars. She is making money and saving it for the future. She wants to be an entrepreneur when she grows up and, if her car wash business is anything to go by, I'd say she's definitely going to make her dream come true.





## WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Learning new words can be fun! All you need is a dictionary to unlock the meaning of a previously unknown word. The more words you know, the easier it will be to express yourself clearly, to write creatively and to understand what you hear and read. On the right are some rather big words and their possible meanings (also called definitions). First, **without using a dictionary**, tick the definitions that you think are correct. Then look for the correct definitions in the dictionary and see how many you got right.

### FLUGELHORN

- \* A brass musical instrument.
- \* An animal like a unicorn, but it has two horns instead of one.
- \* The name of a very high mountain in Austria.

### FALSETTO

- \* A high-pitched voice.
- \* Something fake or artificial.
- \* A shoe with a very high heel.

### CADDIE

- \* A taxi driver.
- \* A person who carries a golfer's clubs.
- \* The part of a dress above the waist.

### RAGAMUFFIN

- \* A small mouse with a bushy tail.
- \* A special cloth used to cover muffins when they come out of the oven.
- \* A person in ragged, dirty clothes.

### INTERJECT

- \* To eject from an aeroplane while it's still on the ground.
- \* To give an injection inside the mouth.
- \* To interrupt by saying something suddenly.

### IMPROBABLE

- \* Something that cannot be probed with a sharp tool.
- \* Not likely to be true.
- \* Hard as rock.

### MACKEREL

- \* A metal band or chain fastened around a person's wrists or ankles, like handcuffs.
- \* A musical instrument made in Scotland.
- \* A sea fish.

## It's easy to be a fit kid

Why is it important to eat healthy foods? Here's why: eating a variety of healthy foods gives you the energy to do stuff, it helps your body grow the way it should and it can help prevent sickness.

Why is it important to do physical exercise? Here's why: regular exercise will help keep your body strong and in good shape, so that you can do all the things you want to do, like running around with your friends.

### Eating healthy food

Your body needs fuel or it will run out of energy. Food is your body's source of fuel. But can you eat just anything? Can a petrol-driven car run on orange juice or water? No, it can't. You should try to

eat a variety of healthy foods like brown bread, cereals, vegetables, fruit, dairy products, chicken, fish, beans and nuts. These foods contain all the stuff your body needs to work properly, such as vitamins, minerals, fibre and nutrients.

Be careful not to eat too much junk food. Some foods contain too much sugar, fat or oil. Cookies, sweets, cake, chips, anything fried in oil, ice cream, chocolates and soda fall into this category.

### Getting some exercise

Some exercises build strength by making your muscles work harder. These exercises include push-ups, pull-ups, running, cycling and many others. There are also exercises that strengthen your

heart (which is also a muscle) and help it to transport oxygen to the rest of your body. These exercises quicken your breathing and cause your heart to beat faster. Some examples include running or brisk walking, tennis, swimming, skipping, soccer and netball.

Other exercises help with flexibility, so that you can touch your toes and bend or stretch freely without too much discomfort. Any sports that require regular stretching will contribute to good flexibility. These include gymnastics, ballet, karate and others.

By the way, just in case you're wondering – watching TV and playing computer games is definitely NOT physical exercise!







# Mzansi AFRICA

The word "Mzansi" is a popular local expression meaning "south" or "people of the south". It is also commonly used to refer to the country of South Africa.

Africa is the second largest continent in the world (Asia is the largest). The African continent is home to the world's largest desert, the Sahara, and the longest river, the Nile. Our home, the Republic of South Africa, can be found at the southern tip of Africa.

We share our northern borders with Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Swaziland. Lesotho is a small country that is completely surrounded by South Africa. Our territory includes Marion and Prince Edward Islands in the Atlantic Ocean, almost 2 000 kilometres from Cape Town.

Our coastline is 2 798 kilometres long. It stretches from the desert border with Namibia, southwards around the tip of Africa and then north to the border of Mozambique. The Atlantic Ocean lies to the west of our country and the Indian Ocean

to the east. These two oceans meet at the most southern tip of Africa, Cape Agulhas. Many people think that Cape Point is the most southern tip, but it's not.

We live in one of the most ethnically diverse countries in Africa – our population is a remarkable mixture of races, cultures and religions, descended from many countries in the world, including Africa itself. We have eleven official languages: Afrikaans, English, Tshivenda, Xitsonga, the Nguni languages (isiNdebele, isiXhosa, isiZulu and siSwati) and the Sotho languages (Sepedi, Sesotho and Setswana). Other languages used in South Africa include Fanagalo, Khoi, Nama, San, Phuti, sign language, Arabic, German, Portuguese, Sanskrit, Tamil, Hebrew, Hindi, Greek and many more.

Our nine provinces include Gauteng (the smallest), Western Cape (where we live), Eastern Cape, Free State, North West, Limpopo, Mpumalanga,

KwaZulu-Natal and Northern Cape (the largest).

Four years ago we proudly won the right to host the 2010 Soccer World Cup – the first time that an African country will host this amazing sports event. Football fans will travel from all over the world to watch soccer and experience South Africa and its people. This is a time of great excitement and a rare opportunity to show the world how unique and special we are.

There is so much more to say about our wonderful country, especially our rich history, but we'll have to leave that for the next edition of this newspaper.





# THE BULLY

## meets his match

Christopher was the smallest boy in his fifth-grade class and he was very shy. Every morning his mother would pack him a healthy lunch and send him off to school. But one day, soon after he arrived at school, a much bigger boy, Malcolm, cornered Christopher and threatened to beat him up if he didn't hand over his lunch. He warned Christopher not to tell anyone about it. The small boy was afraid and did what he was told. So each day Christopher went home hungry.

Bongi was Christopher's best friend. He noticed that Christopher never had any lunch and always offered to share his sandwiches with him, but Christopher would politely decline and say he was not hungry. Bongi knew something was wrong. He questioned his best friend about it, but Christopher simply changed the subject. Bongi tried again and again, but Christopher always avoided telling him the truth about Malcolm and his lunch.

One day Bongi was at school earlier than usual. He was on the other side of the playground when he saw Christopher arrive and decided to go over and say hello. As he started walking he saw Malcolm, who was leaning against the school gate, step in front of Christopher and say something to him. Christopher looked scared and immediately reached into his bag and handed over to Malcolm what looked like a lunch pack. Suddenly Bongi realised what was going on – his friend was being secretly bullied by Malcolm!

Bongi sprinted across the playground and when he reached the two boys he said to Malcolm, "Why are you taking my friend's lunch?"

Malcolm almost jumped with surprise, but quickly said, "What's it got to do with you? He offered to give me his lunch."

Bongi turned to Christopher and asked, "Is that true, Chris? Please tell me the truth. I'm your best friend – don't let him get away with it."

Christopher looked at Bongi and realised that his friend was standing up for him. It became clear to Christopher that what Malcolm was doing was totally wrong and that by saying nothing, he was helping Malcolm to get away with it. The bullying had gone on long enough. Christopher was tired of being a helpless victim. Although he was still afraid, the small boy looked up at Malcolm, eye to eye. He reached out his hand and took back his lunch. Then he said, "You're not taking my lunch, Malcolm. I don't mind sharing with you if you're hungry, but I will not be bullied any more. If you do it again I will tell the principal."

Malcolm opened his mouth to say something, but only managed a little squeak. He looked from Christopher to Bongi and back to Christopher. Then he shut his mouth and walked away in embarrassment. The two friends smiled at each other. There was nothing more that needed to be said. They learned that morning that true friendship can be a great help in difficult times.

