

1000 STORIES BEFORE SCHOOL

READING CAMPAIGN

Budding Bees

No 4

3 to 5 years

Library & Information Services, City of Cape Town



Dear Mom/Dad and all Caregivers who love this child

On behalf of the City of Cape Town Library Services and our partners, we would like congratulate you on reaching this important milestone. You have come a long way and have really bonded with your child through reading. You should be so proud of yourself for taking up the challenge to be part of this reading campaign and laying a firm foundation for providing your child with the important tools needed to succeed at school.

So how can this booklet help you?

Firstly, it contains a list of important milestones that your little one will reach. We have also included a reminder of how reading can benefit your child and we have created a list of exciting books to read together. Because your little one will soon be starting Grade 1, we have also provided you with a guide to applying for school. Do not forget that your friendly librarian is always on hand to assist you when you start applying. Finally, remember to complete the “bonding time” – daily reading log, whenever you read a story or sing a song. Log entries can also include activities taking place at the library or clinic. Lastly, we would like to encourage you to surround your child with books and stories as this will aid your child to develop good feelings about books and reading in general. So, parents and caregivers, are you ready for the final stretch? Please fill in the survey at the end of this booklet. We would love to hear from you about how we can make this programme even better.

Warm regards Your Librarian

How to participate:

- Sign up at your local library and get a library card
- Join the 1000 Stories before School Reading Campaign
- Find out if your local library has a parent support group.
- Spent at least 10 minutes a day reading, singing or just talking to your child
- Whenever you engage with your child, remember to fill in your “Bonding Time Reading log” in this booklet.
- This booklet can be done in your own time and leisure
- Hand in your completed survey to qualify for a FREE surprise at the library.

What is “Early Childhood Development” and why is it important?

Early Childhood Development services means services that are intended to promote early childhood development and are provided by a person, other than a child’s parents or caregiver, on a regular basis to children up to school-going age. These include in-centre services (Partial Care facilities) and out-of-centre programmes and services that include home visiting programmes, playgroups, toy libraries and space based ECD programmes.

ECD Partial Care is a service where a person takes temporary care of more than 6 children during specific hours of the day or night. Any person providing an ECD Partial Care service must register with the Department of Social Development.

They are called Childhood Development Centres (ECDS) - playgroups, Educare, crèches, kiddie campus and day mothers. The Early years of a child development are crucial for the future of any child. Therefore, it is important that parents use this parental checklist before enrolling your child in an early development centre.

Tips when choosing an ECD

Parental Checklist:

- Ask if that particular ECD is registered as ECD partial care facility with the Provincial Department of Social Development. (Western Cape)
- Ask if the centre can provide Registration certification.
- Ask to do a walkabout in the venue.
- Ask to see the daily programme at the centre (this will exactly tell you what the child will be doing during the day)
- You can ask to see the weekly menu (that will tell you what they are going to eat)
- Parents are encouraged to talk to other parents about the ECD and ask about the service.

What can you as parent do to strengthen what is taught at the ECD centre during the week?

- Encourage Active Play.
- Talk to your child and ask about his/her day and what was learnt at the centre.
- Read stories to your children at Bedtime.
- Join the local library for great children’s books

Contact the following numbers for more information:

Grassroots Educare Trust

Tel: 021 638 3111

Early Learning Resource Unit

Tel: 021 762 7500

Developmental Milestones at this stage



Emotional/Social Milestones

- Develops capacity to share and take turns
- Plays cooperatively with peers
- Is developing some independence and self-reliance?
- Is developing ethnic and gender identities
- Learning to distinguish between reality and fantasy
- Learning to make connections and distinctions between feelings, thoughts and actions.

Physical Milestones

- Is able to dress and undress self
- Has refined coordination and is learning many new skills
- Is very active

Positive Parenting Tips

Intellectual/Cognitive

- Pre-school-aged children's ability to understand language usually develops ahead of their speech.
- By age 6, their vocabulary will have increased to between 8,000 and 14,000 words (but it is important to remember that children in this age group often repeat words without fully understanding their meaning).
- They have learned the use of most prepositions (up/down/ahead/behind/beside) and some basic possessive pronouns (mine, his, ours), and have started to master adjectives.
- Pre-school children continue to be egocentric and concrete in their thinking. They are still unable to see things from another's perspective, and they reason based on specifics that they can visualize and that have importance to them.

- Play Physical games with your child. At this age children love to throw balls, jump rope and climb over obstacles. All these activities help them to sharpen their coordination skills.
- Always show affection to your little one. Hugs, kisses, snuggles as well as positive affirmations are always encouraged
- As children learn to become more independent, it is very important to teach and encourage responsibility. Give your child small household chores like picking up their toys or taking their lunch boxes out of their school bag
- Routine is important. Make sure that you have a predictable routine for eating time, bath time, reading time and bedtime. This helps to establish a sense of security
- Reading and bonding through books is encouraged. Let this become part of the bedtime routine. After a bath, why not snuggle down and read bedtime stories together
- Remember listening to you read a story expands your little one's vocabulary

Now that your baby is between the ages of 3 and 5 years, and they can speak, you can have more interactive and challenging book-sharing discussions with them.

Create a book-sharing routine:
Have a regular time set aside (at least 10 minutes). Your child will always be able to look forward to time you spend together. This will be a special time for your child when they feel close to you. Routine helps your child feel secure.

Skill 1: Comparing Numbers

Book-sharing can help your baby understand how numbers and comparisons work. This will help prepare them for school, help them be more organised, plan ahead and solve problems.

Differences in numbers

It is helpful for children's thinking if they point out differences in numbers. For example looking at the children that are sitting compared with the children that are standing.

Putting numbers into different groups in this way is a more sophisticated skill than just counting, and will help children understand that groups can be separated in different ways. This also helps with general problem solving skills as it is about attention and discrimination as well as counting.

Helping children to notice these differences will help their thinking skills and will help them to understand that things can be grouped in different ways. In this picture, help your child to look at differences in what the children are doing, as well as looking at the colour of the bowls. This will help their child to see that numbers can be grouped or sorted in different ways.

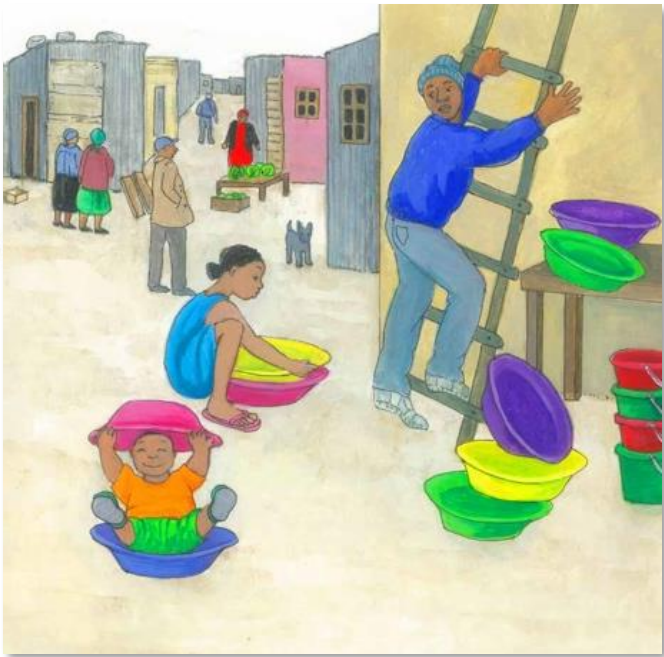
How many children are sitting?



How many children are standing?

How many chickens are NOT in the cage?

How many chickens are in the cage?



How many bowls are purple?

How many bowls are yellow?

How many bowls are green?

Numbers and thinking games

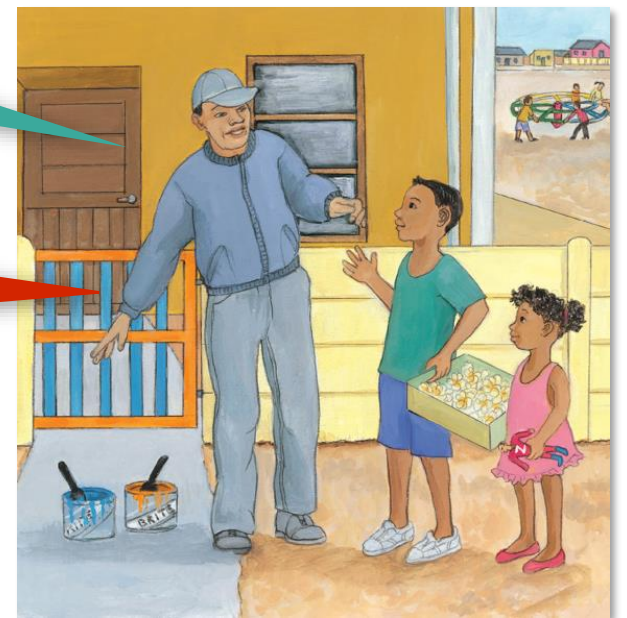
Develop your child's thinking about number of things that are there and that are not there.

Skill 2: Comparisons

Help your child make comparisons about size.

Which child is smaller?

Which child is bigger?



Help your child make comparisons about quantity.



Are there more
girls or boys?

Help your child make comparisons about order.

Who is first in the
band?



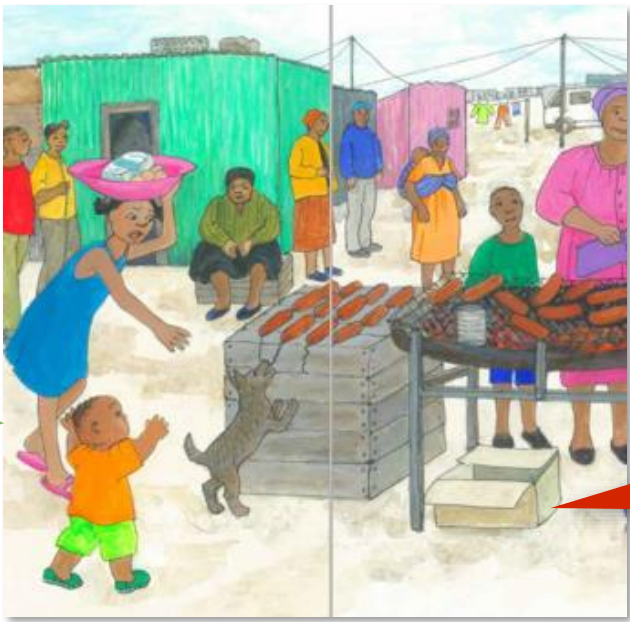
Skill 3: Understanding intentions

Understanding intentions helps us make sense of other people's actions. It also helps us respond to them (such as whether they acted accidentally or on purpose). For example, imagine that someone has bumped into you by accident. How would you feel? Now imagine that someone bumped into you on purpose. How would you feel? Would you react differently in these two situations?

A person's feelings and reactions to a situation can be dramatically different depending upon their understanding of another's intentions. As adults, we can sometimes assume that we know another person's intention, and can get into difficult situations (e.g. assuming someone is trying to steal your coat, when really they have confused it for their own). So, understanding intentions is particularly important as it affects how we respond to situations in our everyday lives. This skill will help your child understand other children's intentions. You can help your child understand others' intentions, by asking questions about the intentions of the characters in the book. Ask "WHY" questions.

BUDDING BEES

Booklet 4



Why does
the dog steal
the sausage?

Why does the girl put
a bucket on her
head?

If your child struggles, you
can offer them two
alternatives of what the
intentions could be.

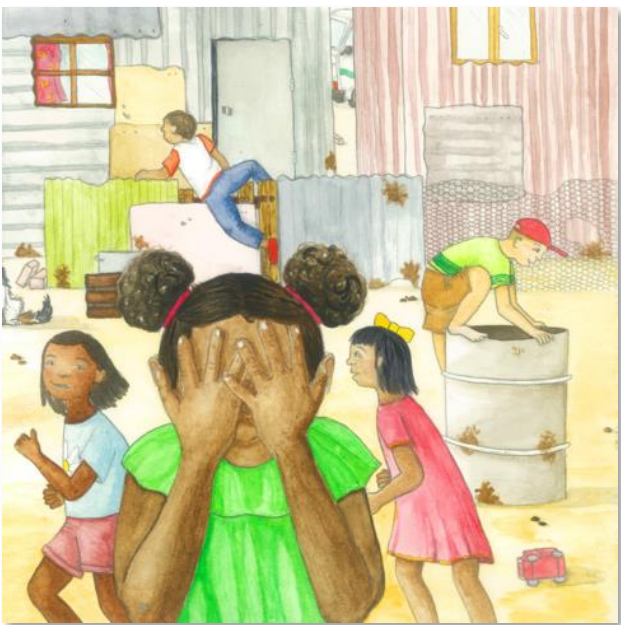
Do you think the sausages
are for a big party??

Or do you think the
sausages are for sale?

Skill 4: Understanding characters' perspectives

It is important for children to understand that different people can have different points of view, different beliefs and different feelings. Simply understanding that someone can actually have different experiences to their own can be very difficult for children. However, we know that children who start understanding this are more able to understand others, avoid, and sort out problems. Book sharing can be a particularly good way to help children better understand different perspectives.

You can help your child understand different people's perspectives by talking about different people can SEE, can HEAR or can FEEL.



We saw that a boy
hid behind the fence
but the girl in the
green shirt couldn't
see that because she
had her eyes closed.

Do you think the girl
can see her friend
hiding over the fence?

You can help your child by asking, for example, "Who CAN see?" and "Who CANNOT see?" .

You can also ask them what different people are feeling – “what are the adults feeling?”, “what are the children feeling?”



How do you think the adults feel?

Do you think the girl from under the sheet feels?

How do you think the other children feel now?

SUMMARY OF SKILLS

Ask how many things are there versus those that are not there

Talk about the differences between characters:
Seeing | Knowing | Feelings.

Explain why the characters in the book are doing what they are doing

Help your child think about differences by offering them options.

Make comparisons about size, quantity and order.

Make links between the intentions in the book and your child's own intentions



info@mikhulutrust.org.za | www.mikhulutrust.org.za | www.facebook.com/MikhuluTrust

Public libraries are there to support new families. Collect your new library membership card at your nearest library. Membership is FREE. With your new **LiBee Club Card** a child may take out 7 books at a time. An Adult can also take out 3 CDs and 2 DVDs and magazines, access Pressreader and make use of the SmartCape facilities. It is recommended that you visit the library on a regular basis to teach your child where to find his/her favourite books and how to make a choice. These visits to the library will teach the child important skills to prepare the child to learn to read on his/her own. Skills include, for example, making your own choices, where to find information and books, and taking responsibility to look after books and your library card. It is also important that the child starts developing a relationship with the children's librarian and gains confidence by asking for information and directions.

Visit your library for age appropriate books and material that prepare your child for school and also develop his/her love for reading.

To find out more about your library and book titles, access the Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) https://opac.capetown.gov.za/client/en_US/k/



BONDING TIME READING LOG

Bonding time is so important and we encourage you to fill in a block every time you read a story, sing a song or attend an activity at the clinic or library. More pages can be collected at the library when needed.

Key:

S

= Reading
a story

M

= Sing a song or
play music

A

= Attend activities
e.g. library or clinic

1000 STORIES BEFORE SCHOOL

Booklet 4

BUDDING BEES

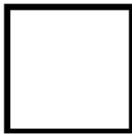
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Play based learning

Play is the earliest form of storytelling and it is how children learn basic skills. Children learn through play. Using play, they start making sense of the world around them and their place in the world. They also learn to explore, ask questions, share with others and make decisions. Parents and caregivers can introduce important learning skills as part of a game to prepare children for school. We recommend to use the library for ideas, games, songs and books to stimulate the child with fun activities. Recommended skills that are needed for a child before going to school:



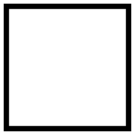
Know ABC's, Letter Recognition



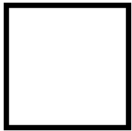
Say Numbers, Recognize 1-10,
Count Objects



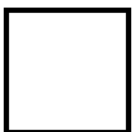
Know & Identify Colors



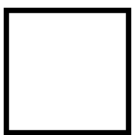
Patterns



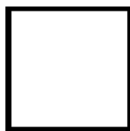
Identify Big, Bigger, Biggest



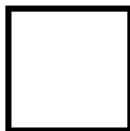
Know/Identify Body Parts



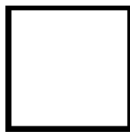
Use Pencils, Crayons, Markers,
glue, Paint Brushes, and Scissors



Listen to Story, Recognize
Site Words



Sing Songs, Dance



Socialize with Children, Play Nice,
Share

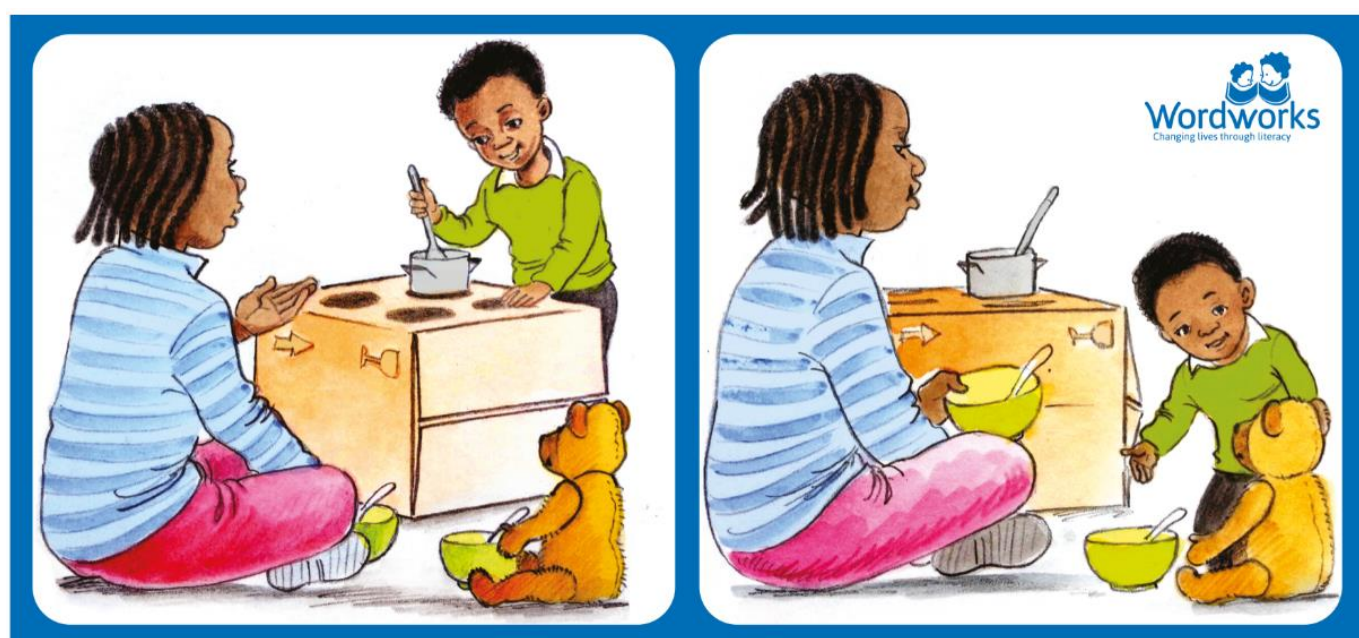
Courtesy of <https://meandmymomfriends.com>

Encourage pretend reading

Every time someone reads to a child, the child learns a little more about what it means to be a reader. Pretend reading is a very important step towards learning to read properly. Your child does not have to wait until he goes to school before he can start being a reader. Talk to family and friends about investing in books for your child. If they want to give presents on special occasions, encourage them to choose a book. Look out for second hand or bargain bookshops. Buying a book for your child is a great investment in their future!

Let's play together

When you make time to watch your child play, you can observe what they do, what they already know and what they are interested in. You get to see how they expand their ideas and listen to how they solve problems during their play. Watch your child playing a pretend game. Do they try to sound like or behave like someone you recognise? Wait to see what happens next and how they come up with solutions. After a while, ask if you can join the game. Follow their lead. They may give you a role to play. They may say "You be me and I will be the mommy." Or you can tell them what you have noticed. For example, you may say 'I see you have put the baby on the chair just like I do and you are feeding him something. What is it?' Children learn best when they are interested in something, so let them take the lead during play. Show interest in what interests them!



Changing lives through literacy

www.homeliteracy.org.za • www.wordworks.org.za



@wordworks.za



@wordworksSA



info@wordworks.org.za



Playdough



Playdough can keep young children occupied for a long time. It is easy to make and if kept in a plastic bag it can be used again and again. Playing with playdough is not only a fun, creative activity, it also helps children strengthen their small muscles to be able to draw and write later. It also helps children notice how things look and to make something that ‘stands for’ the real thing.

ACTIVITY: LET’S MAKE PLAYDOUGH

You will need:

Equipment:



sieve
wooden spoon

Ingredients:
2 cups flour (you can replace 1 of the cups of flour with a cup of maizena)



2 cups boiling water
2 tbsp cream of tartar
2 tbsp oil
food colouring is optional
1 cup salt



cookie cutters



bottle tops for eyes

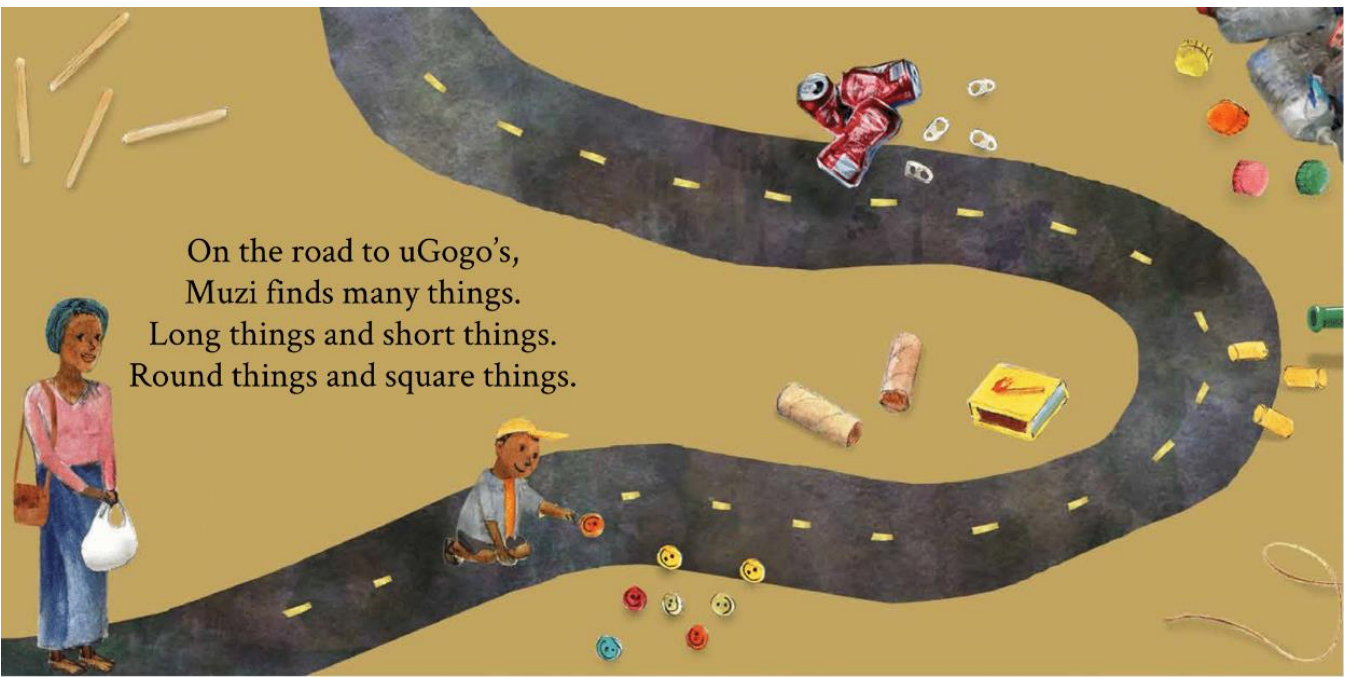


board or tray to work on

How to make playdough:

- 1 Boil the water.
- 2 Sieve all the dry ingredients into a big pot and add the boiling water and oil.
- 3 Mix it well with a wooden spoon to form the dough.
- 4 When the dough has cooled knead it with your hands.
- 5 When smooth, divide it into equal parts.
- 6 Add food colouring and knead well.
- 7 Store in a sealed plastic bag.

TITLE: Die Beste Ding ooit / The Best thing ever / Nchumu wo saseka kutlurisa –
AUTHOR: Melissa Fagan ; Lauren Nel ; Stefania Origgi



For more online stories for children (and to finish the rest of this story), visit [Bookdash](https://bookdash.org)



[Bookdash.org](https://bookdash.org)

Packing a healthy Lunchbox

A healthy lunch keeps active kids alert and focused, and gives them the nutrition they need every day. Include a variety of foods in the lunch boxes to ensure that your kid’s diets are balanced

HYGIENE

- Any clean container can be used as a lunchbox.
- Wash the lunchbox thoroughly before putting food in it.
- Wash your hands before pre-paring a lunchbox.
- Only use clean fresh food.
- Wash all fruit and vegetables thoroughly before eating.
- Wash your hands before eating!



IMPORTANT

Eating healthy and practicing good hygiene is best for your body.

It will help you to grow big and strong.

Eat healthy and stay healthy



BE COOL!
BRING A LUNCHBOX
TO SCHOOL!

IS IT IMPORTANT TO
TAKE A LUNCHBOX TO
SCHOOL?

YES it is. At school learners work and play hard.

Our bodies and brains need energy regularly.

We need an extra meal at school so that we can concentrate and learn in class.



WHAT IS A HEALTHY
LUNCHBOX?

The following are good examples:

- Brown bread with peanut butter, and an apple
- Whole-wheat bread, egg and tomato
- Cheese and tomato sandwich, and a carrot
- Samp, beans, and an orange
- Mealie meal, milk, and a banana
- Left-over food from the previous night.



IF I BRING MONEY TO
SCHOOL

Spend it wisely. Buy healthy snacks, for example:

- fruit
- fruit juices
- peanuts
- raisins
- yoghurt
- milk
- maas
- healthy sandwiches.

Application to Grade 1

You can register your child for grade 1 when your child is 5 years old and turning 6 or older by 30 June of the next year. Apply at a school near you or a school of your choice. Don't forget that your local library has SmartCape Computers and your friendly librarian can assist you with the application process. The SmartCape Computers are FREE to use if you have a library card.

Registration can be done at the school or online and more information on the process is available on <https://wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za/admissions>. Most schools have online registration pages and will assist parents with the process. Ensure that you have all the relevant certified documentation ready for the application.

The following documents are compulsory:

- WCED Application form (available online or at schools)
- Identification document of both parents or guardians
- Certified copy of official birth certificate (unabridged)
- Immunisation card (Road to health Clinic chart)
- Proof of home address (rates account or lease agreement)
- Certified copy of study permit issued by Dept. of Home affairs (for foreign learners)

*** Certified copies of documents must be submitted to the school where the learner will be attending within seven days of the parent confirming the place at the school

Tips for school admissions

- Apply to at least 3 schools (including the ones closest to your home)
- Indicate your order of preference on the system.
- If the child already has siblings in the school, provide the siblings details
- A parent/guardian must accept the choice of school (on system/email or hand in letter to school)
- Apply early. Don't wait until the last day
- If you need assistance you can Contact your nearest WCED district office



LIST OF CONTACTS

Organisation	Contact Details	Website
Local Clinic		
Local Hospital		
Local Doctor		
Local Library Library Online catalogue		https://www.capetown.gov.za/libraries http://Opac.capetown.gov.za
EMERGENCY	107 (from landline) 021 480 7700 (from any phone)	
Ambulance Service	10177 (from landline) 112 (from cell phone)	
In case of emergency (ICE)		
Lifeline	0861 322 0322	http://lifelinesa.co.za
Childline	0800 055 555 021 762 8198 (Western Cape)	https://www.childlinesa.org.za
Mental Health Helpline	0800 12 13 14 SMS 31393	
Alcohol and drug helpline	0800 435 748	
City of Cape Town	https://www.capetown.gov.za	
- City Health department	https://www.capetown.gov.za/Family%20and%20home/See-all-City-facilities/Our-service-facilities/Clinics%20and%20healthcare%20facilities	
- Social Development & Early Childhood Development	https://www.capetown.gov.za/Departments/Social%20Development%20and%20Early%20Childhood%20Development%20Department	
Electricity Faults	0860 103 089 (sms 31220)	
Water and Sanitation	0860 103 089 (option 2) or (sms 31373)	
SASSA (Child Grants)	0800 601 011 0800 600 160	https://www.sassa.gov.za/
Bookdash	021 206 7868 team@bookdash.org	https://bookdash.org
Early Learning Resource Unit (ELRU)	021 762 7500 info@elru.co.za	Elru.co.za
First 1000 Days	0860 142 142 service@westerncape.gov.za	www.westerncape.gov.za/first-1000-days/
Mikhulu Trust	072 295 5959 info@mikhulutrust.org	www.mikhulutrust.org
Nal'ibali	021 448 6000	Nalibali.org
Shine Literacy	021 762 4320 info@shineliteracy.org.za	Shineliteracy.org.za
Wordworks	021 788 9233 info@wordworks.org.za	Wordworks.org.za
WC Education department	021 467 2000 Media1.Media1@westerncape.gov.za	wcedonline.westerncape.gov.za/western-cape-education-department
WC Health department	021 483 4470	Westerncape.gov.za/Dept./Health

Parent Survey

Please take a few minutes to complete the following survey. Your feedback is very important for us to measure the impact of the 1000 Stories Before School Reading programme

1. How long have you participated in the 1000 Stories Before school programme?

2. How long have you been a member of a public library?

3. At what age did your child get his/her library card?

4. How frequently do you visit the library?

5. As a result of the 1000 Stories Before School programme, I.....	Yes	No	Already did this before participating in programme
See the value reading aloud to my child?			
Spend more time talking with my child about books I read to him/her>			
Understand how the library works and find the services valuable and user friendly			
Am more likely to use the library to check out books, use SmartCape and Pressreader			
Am more likely to make time to read and share stories with my child			
Found the information in this booklet valuable.			

6. As a result of the 1000 Stories Before School programme, my child.....	Yes	No	Already did this before participating in programme
Loves reading and can't wait for reading time?			
Chooses his/her own stories and "read" his/her own books			
Knows how to behave during storytime?			
Participates in programmes offered by the local library			

7. Comments



Date handed in:

Membership no:

Librarian signature:

Library:

Congratulations on taking the first steps to your little one's future success! In total you have read more than **1000 stories** as part of this campaign.

You have played an important role in ensuring the brightest future for your child. This is the first step to instill a love for books and reading. We encourage you to continue this journey with your dedicated partner, the public library. We wish your little one every success as they embark on becoming independent readers.

Don't forget to hand in your survey to your librarian and collect your child's FREE surprise and Certificate of Participation in the **1000 Stories Before School** Reading Campaign. Share your child's success with their teachers.

Thank you to all our partners for collaborating with us on this project.

