

GRADE 3 HOME LANGUAGE

# Grumpy Kid's diary



ENGLISH

Level:

1

Book

4



# Group-guided reading

## Before reading

- Page through the story the learners will read. Talk about the illustrations.
- Ask them to predict what the story will be about; based on the title and the pictures.
- Introduce new or difficult words prior to the learners reading the story.
- Make word cards to introduce new vocabulary. (See the list of new vocabulary in the back inner cover.)

## First reading

- Learners should read the text individually.
- Learners should read silently or they can 'whisper-read' the text.
- Move from one learner to the next, requesting each learner to read a section of the text aloud.

## Discussion

- Ask comprehension questions based on the text.
- Focus on phonics, sight words and vocabulary.
- You will find the activities in the back of this book useful to guide the discussion. (Select appropriate activities for the level of the learners.)

## Second reading

- On later days, let learners reread the book, either in pairs or alone.
- Focus on fluency, grammar and vocabulary.
- Let learners complete the group-guided activities which are included in the back of this book. (Select appropriate activities for the level of the learners.)

*Let learners do a role play if the text lends itself to it.*



*Learners should do the group-reading activities after reading the story.*

*Let learners work in groups to complete the appropriate group-reading activities included in the back of the book. They should not write in this book. Written activities should be done in their exercise books.*

# Grumpy Kid's diary



Before I begin ...

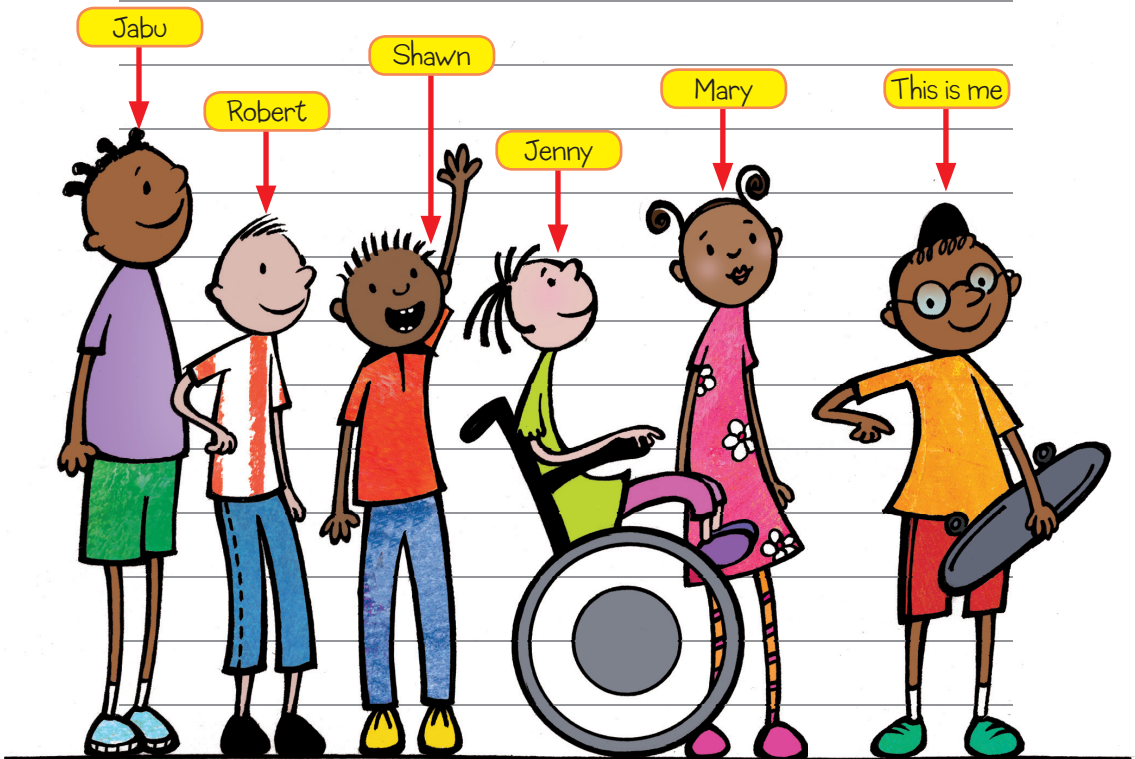
My name is John Twala, but my friends call me Grumpy Kid. Like the famous "Wimpy Kid", I also keep a diary. I really enjoy writing in my diary and try to write a short piece every day. It helps me to think about who I am, what I do each day and how I cope with some of the problems that I have.

Who am I? I am a friendly 9-year-old boy. I live in a township with my mother and father. I have an older sister, Pam, who is 12 and who is quite bossy, and a three-year-old brother who is quite mischievous.

What am I like? I am shorter than all of my friends and I wear glasses. Sometimes that is a problem because the kids think I am a nerd and tease me, but when they get to know me, they always like me. Sometimes they laugh at me and think I am funny. If you read my diary you will see what I mean.



Although I live in a township, I go to a school in the suburbs. I have many friends and they are all shapes, sizes and colours. We have great fun together. My best friends are Jabu, Robert, Jenny and Shawn and, when no one is looking, I like Mary very much.



Month: October

Monday

Today was back to school after my action-packed holidays. (I went on holiday, I rode a horse, I fell off the horse, I did not think about school.)

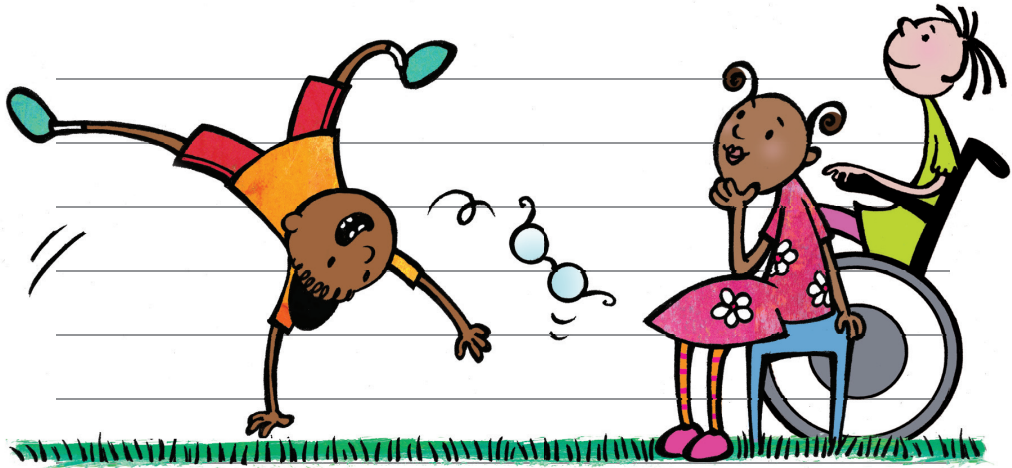
At school it was good to be back with Jabu, Robert and Shawn.

My problems started after school.

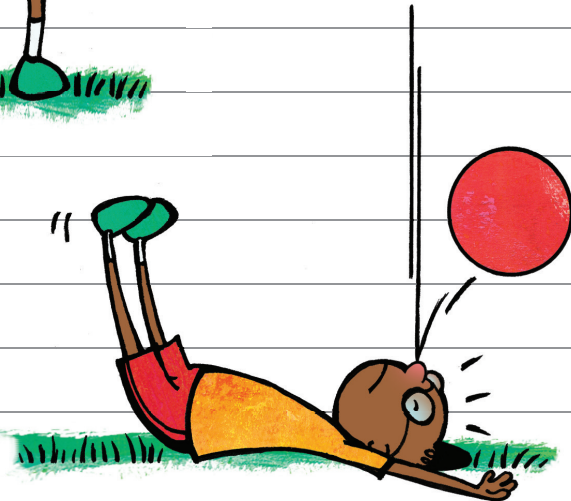
We had soccer practice. Mr Jones the coach told me to look at the goal post and to kick the ball.



I saw Mary watching me from the side-line. I don't know what came over me. I did a cartwheel, and then tried to impress her by walking on my hands. Then I kicked very hard. The ball went like a thunderbolt and I fell flat on my back. The ball flew straight up and then came down and landed on my face



leaving me with a bloody  
nose! I felt like a real idiot.  
I was feeling quite  
grumpy.



Friday

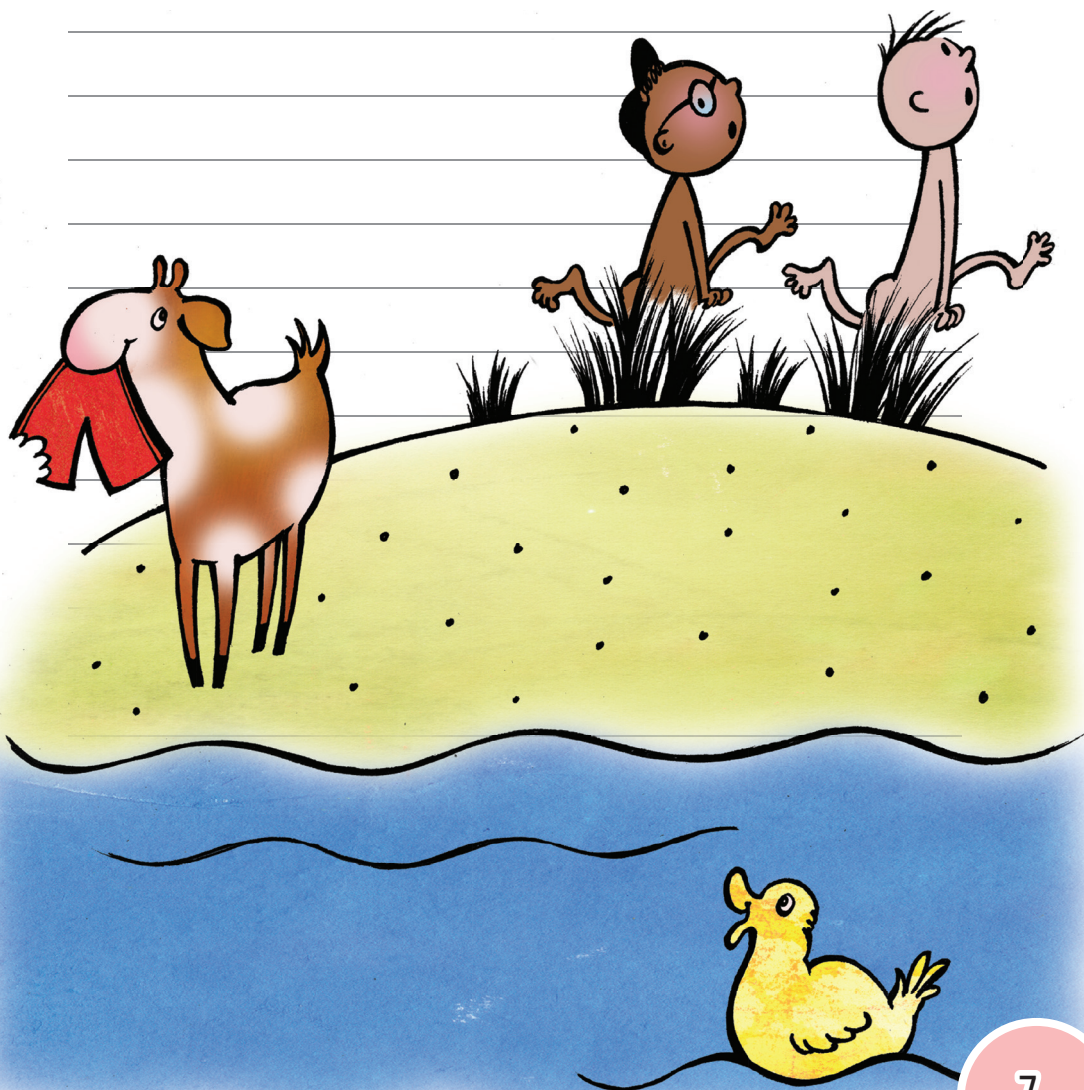
Today was another disastrous day. My mother always told us never to swim in the river.

But today it was very hot, and so Robert and I decided to swim in the river. We undressed and left our clothes on the rocks. We splashed and swam in the river. Time passed quickly while we were playing and we had great fun.

Much later, as the sun was setting, we got out of the water and looked for our clothes.

We could not find them. We looked all over and then we saw the goats eating our clothes. I saw a goat run off with my shorts.

We covered ourselves as best we could and we ran home. Mother was furious! I am not allowed to go out and play for a week. I am feeling quite grumpy because the goats ate our clothes.

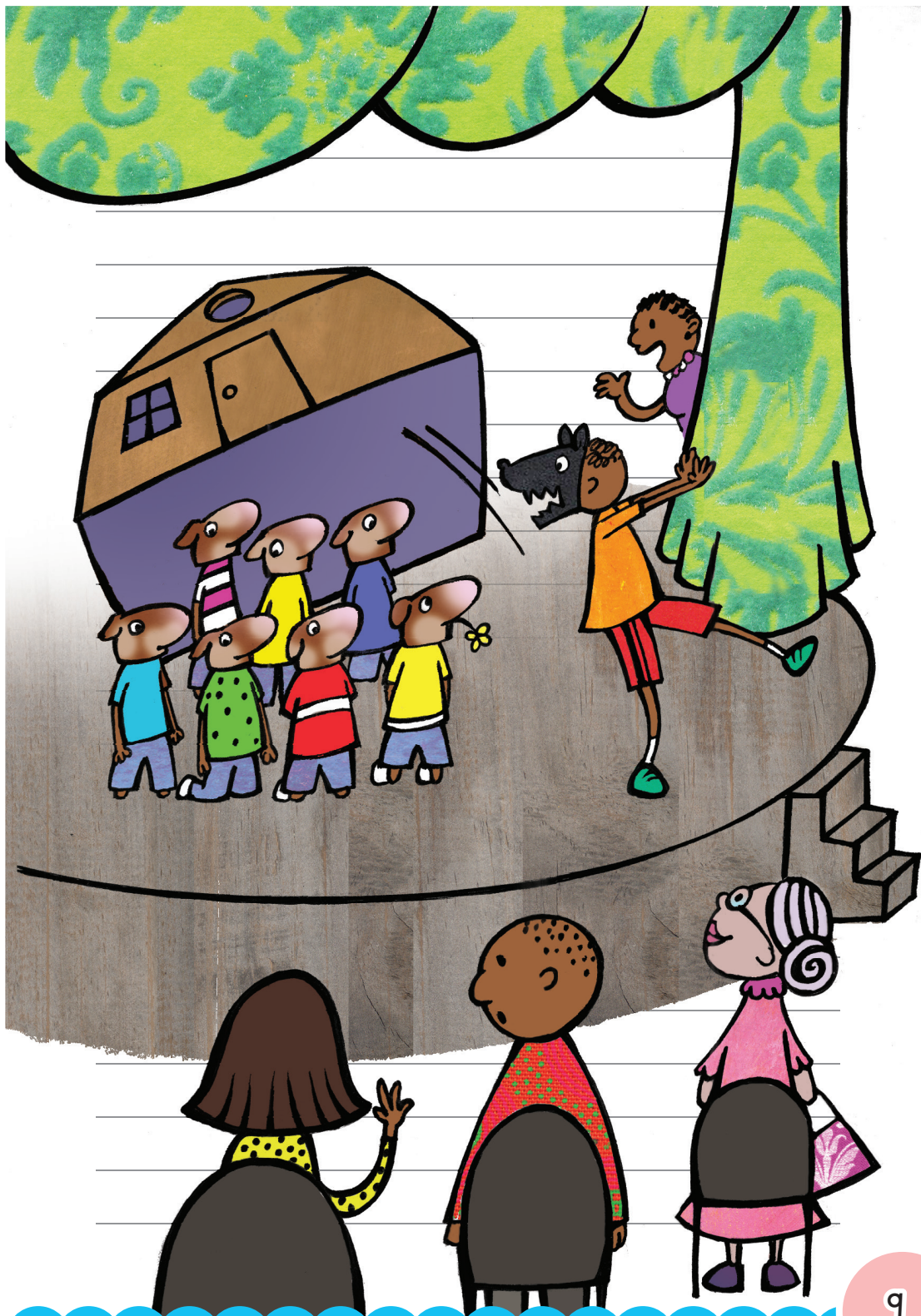




Monday

Tonight I am feeling grumpy again. It was our school concert. I had to play the role of the wolf in the story of the "Seven kid goats". As I came onto the stage I suddenly went blank. Although I had been practising my lines for the past three weeks, I could not remember a single word. I got stage-fright and my legs were paralysed.

I tried to say, "Children let me in, I am your mother. I have something for you to eat." But my voice disappeared. I stammered, "ch- ch- children ... I ... for you ... eat!" My teacher kept prompting me but the words just wouldn't come out of my mouth. I could see my family in the audience. I was so nervous. Then, as I was leaving the stage, I suddenly knocked the goat-house over. Oh dear! What a nightmare!



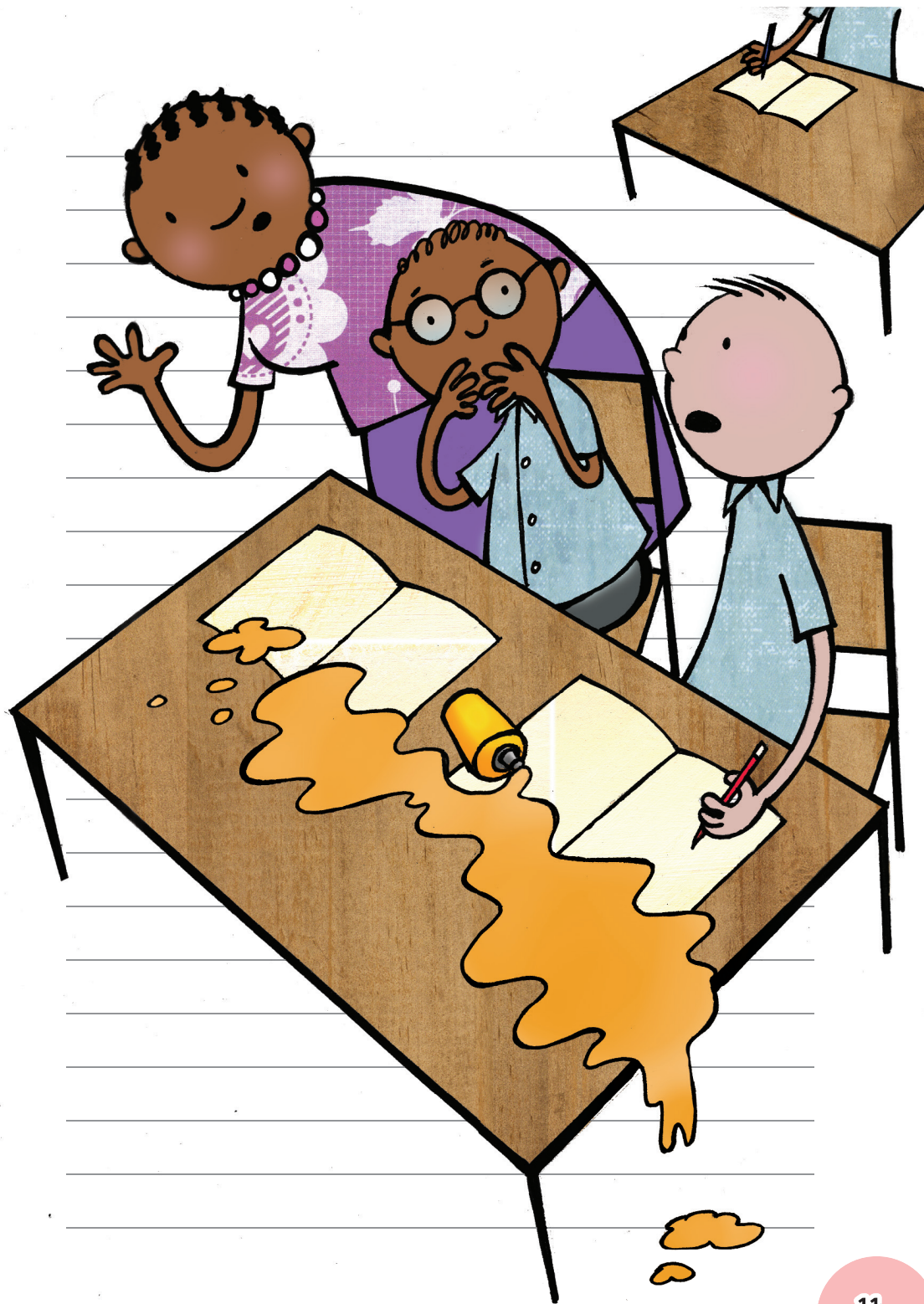
Wednesday

Today we had an English exam. It was an ANA exam that children all over South Africa write. While I was working my mouth felt dry.

I was nervous. I carefully took out my juice bottle hoping that my teacher would not see me. But she did! As she looked at me, I knocked the bottle over and the juice spilled all over my exam book and across to Robert's book.

I was sent to the principal's office and he phoned my mother. I am going to be in trouble again! Of course I don't feel happy. Actually I am feeling grumpy again.





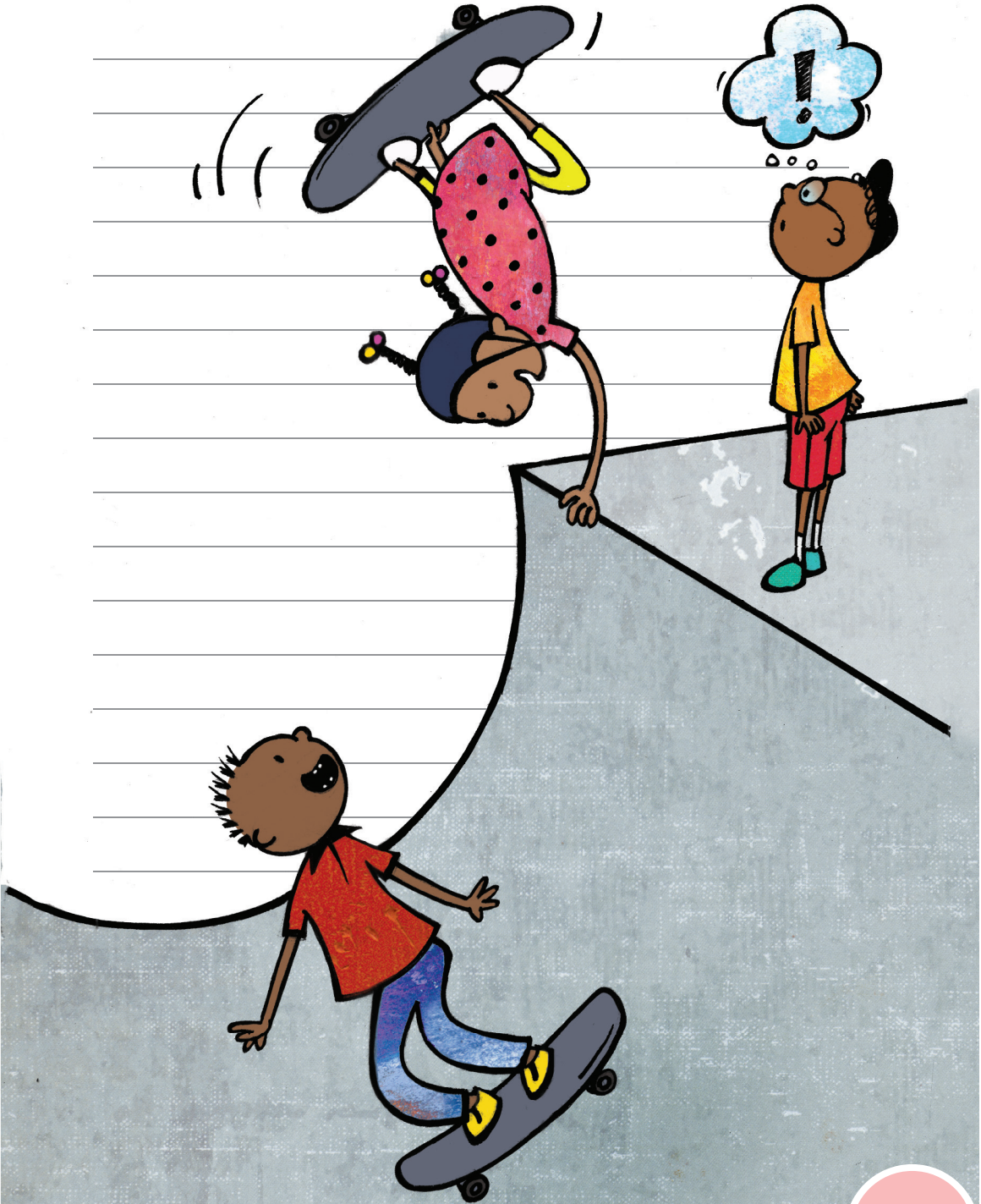
Month: November

Wednesday

Today I went skateboarding with Shawn and Robert. We went to the skateboard park.

Shawn and Robert flew over the humps and off the ramps. I tried, but landed flat on my face. While I was wiping the dust off I saw Pam, my 12-year-old sister. She said mother was looking for me.

Pam took my helmet and within a few seconds, she was skateboarding up the side of a half-tube and doing a 360 degree flip! How come girls are always good at everything! Then she skated home on my board and I ran behind trying to keep up with her. Mom yelled at me because I was not wearing my helmet. I just couldn't get her to understand that Pam was wearing my helmet. Sometimes adults just don't get it!





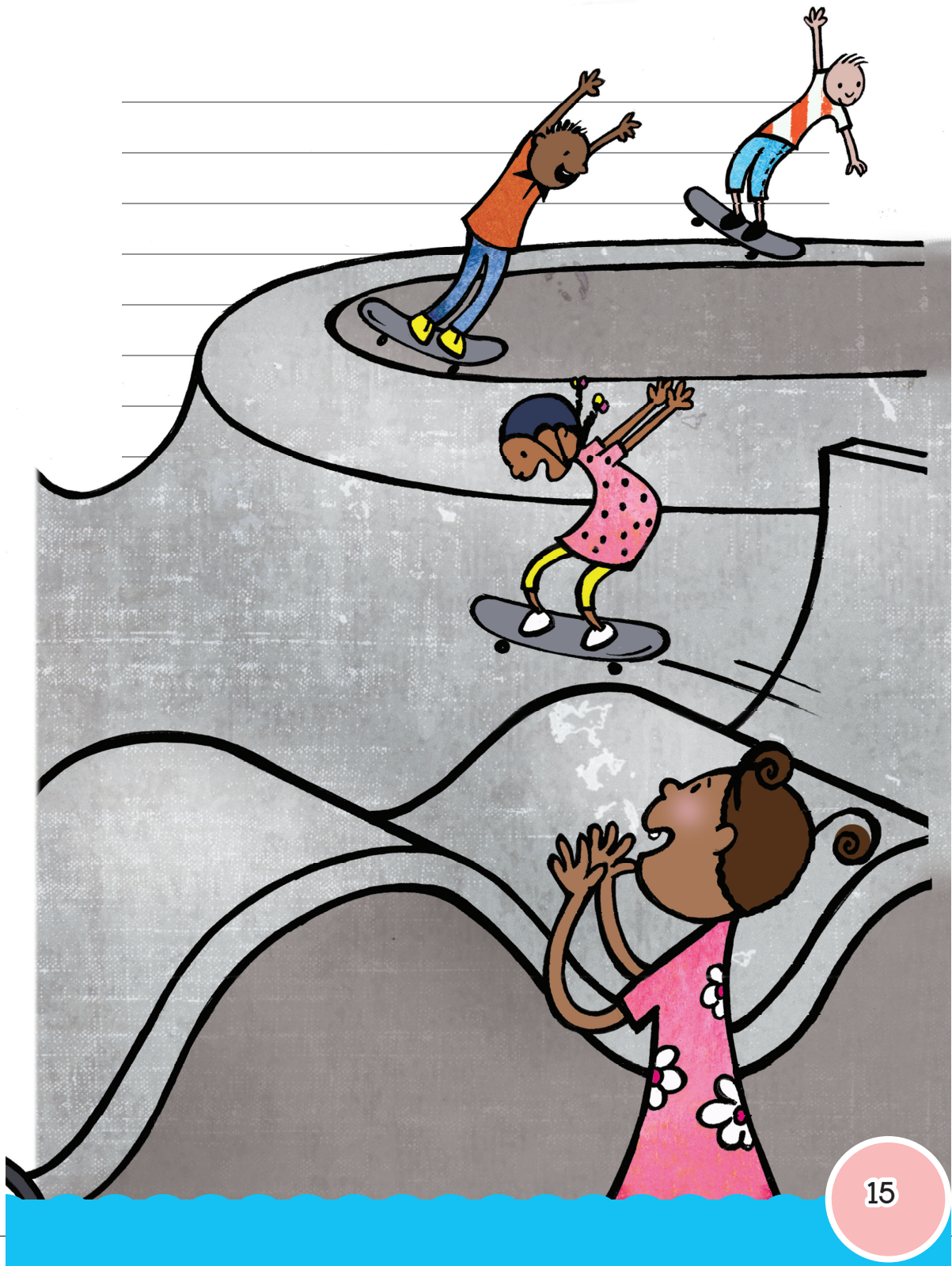
Friday

Today we wanted to go skateboarding again. I went to fetch my skateboard and it was gone. My helmet was gone as well. So, Robert and Jabu went alone to the skateboard park. Later I followed on my bike. As I arrived at the park, I saw my board and my helmet.

Pam was on my board, my helmet was on Pam's head. Pam was flying and ramping like a pro! Mary was watching. She was cheering and shouting, "Well done Pam!" Later Pam gave me the board but I was not prepared to make a fool of myself in front of the girls.

So, feeling quite grumpy, I decided to leave the park.





Sunday

Today we had to go to my grandmother for lunch. It was good to see my cousins again but I also had to encounter a whole "bunch" of aunts!

"Look how cute Johnny is!"

"My how you've grown, you are now a big boy!"

"Are you in grade 3 already! What a big little boy you are!"

And then Aunt Jane gave me a jersey she knitted for me. I know that she put love into every stitch but she thought I was still five years old.

"Oh thank you aunty. I have always wanted a yellow jersey," I said politely. Sometimes adults just don't get it.





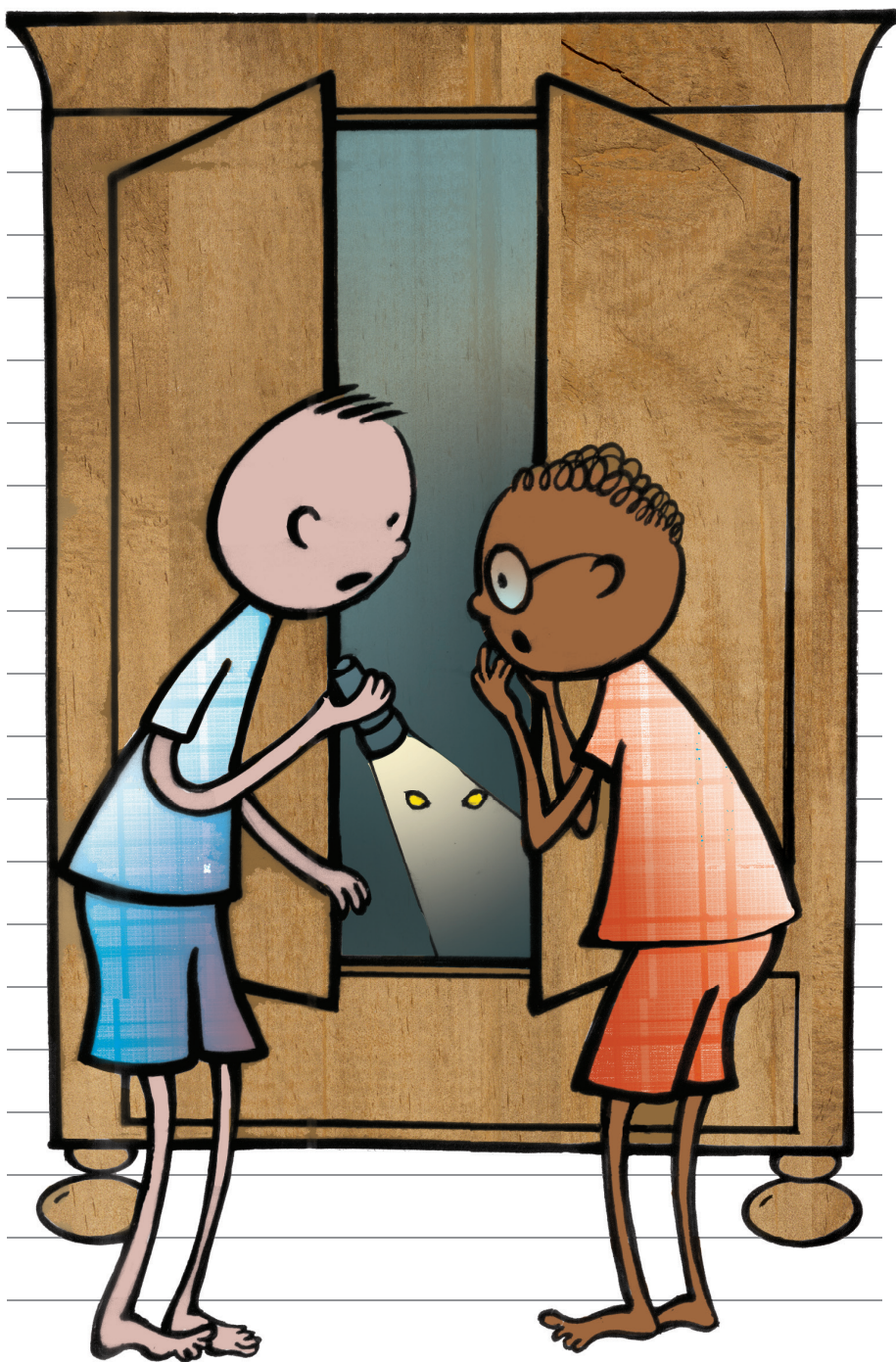
Month: November

Friday

Last night I went to sleep at Robert's house. While I was fast asleep Robert woke me because he heard a noise in his cupboard. He thought it was a monster. We were terrified and eventually we shone a torch into the cupboard and saw two bright yellow eyes. Suddenly something jumped from the cupboard. We screamed thinking it was a monster. What was it? It was only Robert's cat but I could not sleep afterwards.

Today I fell asleep in class. My teacher said she was going to phone my mom in case I was sick. I told teacher that I had not slept last night. But she phoned my mom. Sometimes adults just don't understand.





Tuesday

Today was my teacher's birthday. Mother gave me a bunch of red roses for my teacher.

"I can't carry flowers on the bus," I thought.

"What will the other guys think of me?"

They already think I am a nerd. But mom forced me to carry the red roses to school.

Then, as I walked towards the bus stop, I had an idea! I put the flowers into my bag so that no one would see them. I was the first one in class and I went in before the bell rang, so that no one would see me carrying the red roses.

"Good morning and happy birthday, Ms Smith." (I was hoping that no one would see me.) I took out the flowers from my bag but they were flat and bent in half. "Oh thank you, Johnny," she said. These are just what I wanted. They are um ... ah ... beautiful." I thought about my yellow jersey. Sometimes even adults have to pretend.



# Group reading activities



1

Talk to your friend about the book.

- a. How does a diary differ from a storybook?
- b. Do you keep a diary? Why?
- c. Tell your friend whether you liked the book.  
Give a reason for your answer.
- d. Have you ever had an experience like any of those that John describes in his diary?
- e. If so, tell your friend about it and how it made you feel.
- f. How could John have avoided some of the difficulties he writes about?
- g. Why do you think the book is called "Grumpy Kid's diary"?
- h. Why did John think that "adults don't understand"?



2

Grumpy Kid uses words that we don't usually use in English writing. What do these words mean?

nerd

guys

pro

kids



3

Read these sentences to a friend and then place them in the correct order.

- John made a fool of himself during soccer practice when he was trying to impress Mary.
- John spilled juice over his exam book.
- Mary watched John's sister "ramping" like a pro.
- While John and his friends swam in the river, the goats ate their clothes.



4

Write a diary entry about a funny experience you had. Write it in your exercise book.

Remember to write the date.

Day: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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5

Find the silent letters in these words.  
Use 5 of the words to write sentences of your own.

write	thumb	know
knot	knee	climb
dumb	sign	often

# GRADE 3 HOME LANGUAGE



## Book 4

<i>Title:</i>	Grumpy Kid's diary
<i>Language:</i>	English
<i>Level:</i>	Grade 3 Home Language Reader Level 1 Book 4
<i>Text type:</i>	Diary
<i>Sight words:</i>	after, although, always, another, because, before, ourselves, quite, sometimes, would
<i>Vocabulary:</i>	mischievous, thunderbolt, stage-fright, paralysed, audience, nervous, disastrous, encounter, terrified
<i>Phonics:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Digraphs that form an <b>f</b> sound, e.g. laugh, phoned.</li><li>• Silent letters, e.g. write, know, half</li><li>• Words that are pronounced and spelt the same but have different meanings, e.g. well (satisfactory/water hole), can (able to/metal container)</li><li>• Words that sound the same but are spelt differently and have different meanings, e.g. know/no</li></ul>
<i>Content, concepts and skills:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss the difference between a diary and a storybook.</li><li>• Say whether he or she liked the story and can justify the answer.</li><li>• Read and answer comprehension questions.</li><li>• Explain the meaning of words.</li><li>• Place events in chronological order.</li><li>• Write a diary entry.</li><li>• Identify silent letters in words.</li></ul>



The CAPS requires teachers to allocate some time each day for focused group-guided reading.

In group-guided reading, teachers guide learners of a similar reading level, to read the same book, in a group.

The reading session should include a range of word attack skills and comprehension strategies that children require when reading.

Reading effectively also requires "text talk" between the teacher and learners, and amongst the children in the group. These books include a number of "text talk", comprehension and other related activities to help teachers direct group reading in their classes.

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BE SOLD.**



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Author: V McKay

## Other books in the Grade 3 Home Language Bookshelf:

Level:

**1**

*Robby Rabbit  
tricks Freddie Fox*

*A sea adventure*

*Fun in the kitchen*

*Grumpy Kid's diary*

Level:

**2**

*The great escape*

*Thandi has a bad day*

*A weekend to remember*

Level:

**3**

*There's a monster  
in my cupboard*

*The case of the missing  
cup-cakes*

*Strange but true*