

GRADE 3 HOME LANGUAGE

A weekend to remember



ENGLISH

Level:

2

Book

3



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.

A weekend to remember



It was my weekend to visit my Granny and Grandpa on their farm. My best friend Daza and I had been talking about our weekend at every possible moment.

Our teacher, Ms Stewl had caught us passing notes to each other about the weekend, but we were so excited we really didn't care.



We loved the farm. There were ducks, geese, chickens, donkeys, dogs, monkeys and, of course the three little goats.

The goats were kept in a pen near the donkeys. They had coarse coats, big ears and eyes, and knobbly horns in the middle of their foreheads.

Every Saturday, Granny and Grandpa would put on their rubber boots and overalls to clean out the goats' pen.

The goats' pen got very messy and muddy.



As we drove up to the farmhouse, I felt there was something wrong. Granny and Grandpa hadn't been at the gate to meet us.

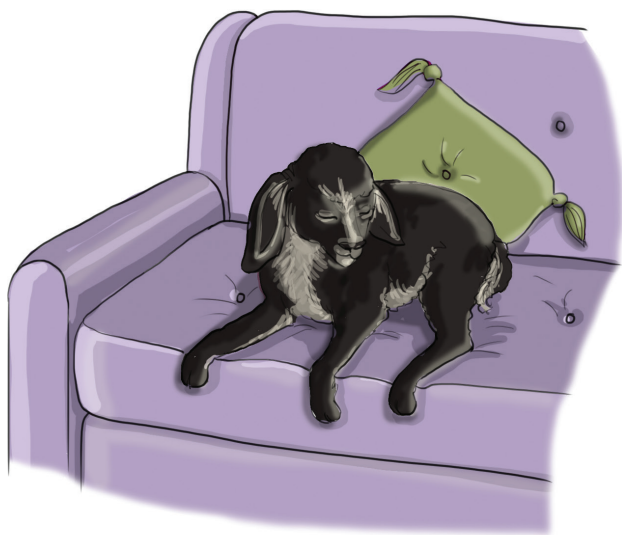
"Look mom, something's happened. Granny and Grandpa are lying in the middle of the dirty pen!"

"Goodness gracious!" exclaimed Mom, "I hope they haven't broken any bones! And where are the three goats, Ngwenia, Layla and Billy? They must have escaped again! Benjamin, you and Daza see where the goats have gone while I help Grandad and Gran."



Ngwenia, the very tame goat that had been brought up with the dogs, was a very odd creature. He didn't know whether he was a dog, a goat, or a human. Gran had bottle-fed him. When he was little he used to steal scraps and sleep on the couches! Ngwenia was clever and often lifted the latch and escaped from the pen. The other two always followed him.

Layla, the youngest goat had also been rescued, and Billy, the oldest, was grumpy and often butted people. I knew this was what had happened to Granny and Grandad!

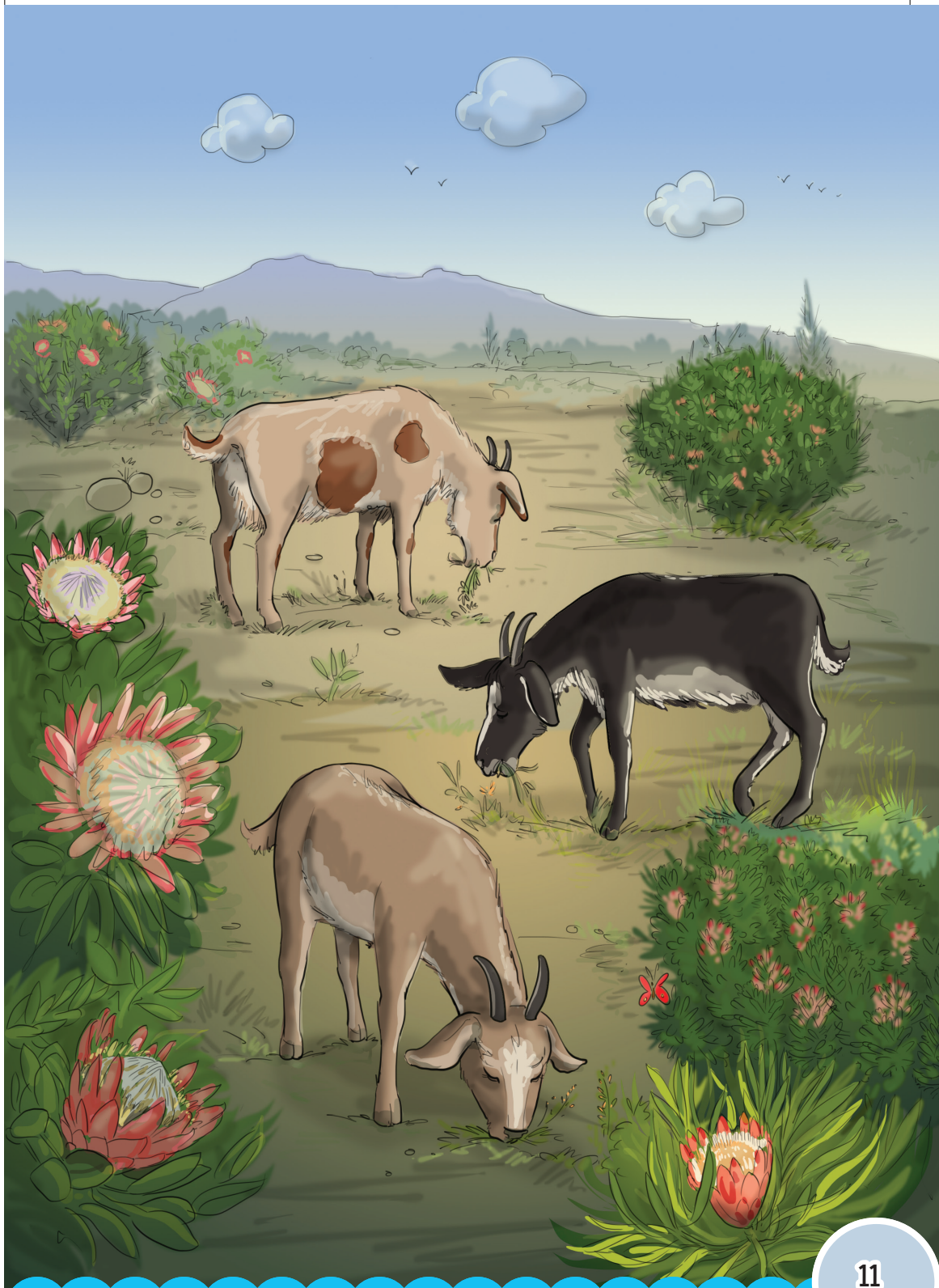


We ran quickly down to the fields.

All the goats were romping in the newly mowed fields, eating the cut grass and minced thorns.

I wished I could leave them there but there were no fences and the goats loved Mr and Mrs Nathe's prize proteas.

We called them softly. "Ngwenia, Billy, Layla, come here." Billy pricked up his ears and started pawing at the ground.



First I walked up to Ngwenia. I whispered in his ear and he walked next to me quietly. Layla followed Daza, and we led them back to their pen.

Granny and Grandpa were no longer there. My mom had made sure that they weren't hurt and they were sitting on their chairs on the back stoep.

We locked the pen securely and went to fetch Billy. We put a dog collar with a long rope round his neck and led the protesting Billy back into the pen.



There were home-made biscuits and Milo waiting for us.

"Thank you, Gran!" we both shouted. Her biscuits were our favourites.

Gran and Grandad had five dogs: Jasmine, Joya, Carlo, Big Dog and Ditto. All of them had been homeless strays that had been adopted by my grandparents.

Jasmine was a long-legged, aristocratic looking girl with a shiny coat and large, soulful eyes.



The dogs played an important role on the farm. Big Dog was a gentle giant that had befriended Goosey the goose. When we called Big Dog to fetch his treat, Goosey complained about not being given a tidbit too. I hurried back to the kitchen to get her some bread.

Joya was Gran's special dog. She had been with Gran ever since I could remember. She loved Gran and would snuggle up against her whenever she could.

Ditto and Carlo were small dogs who loved being together. They would make sure that the chickens were safe whenever foxes came into the farmyard.



Gran and Grandpa had a big dam on their farm. Daza and I loved swimming there.

The following morning, the five dogs, Daza and I raced to the dam for our morning swim.

Jasmine, in particular, loved swimming. Once, when I got a very bad cramp in my leg, she gently grabbed hold of my arm and pulled me to the side. Daza and I felt very safe with Jasmine.



After spending lazy hours at the dam, it was time for lunch. On our way back, we heard a desperate "baaa". A new-born lamb had got stuck in a thorny bush.

"Daza, help me free the little lamb from these thorns," I asked.

After some effort, we managed to free the lamb. It trotted to its mother, who had anxiously been looking on.

Back home, we told everyone what we had done.

"Well done," said Grandad. "And you will certainly have a lot to tell your friends at school tomorrow!"

What a weekend! We love the farm.

Good memories remain with us forever.



Nanny Bell

My brother got this nanny goat
which he brought home one day.
He took this goat for work he'd done
instead of taking pay.

Not knowing our Mom hated goats
he couldn't wait to tell,
how he acquired this little goat
which he named Nanny Bell.

He'd play with Nanny Bell
each day out there in the sticks
and just like people teach a dog,
he taught that goat some tricks.

Nanny Bell would follow him
and even when we went to school
that goat would not give up.
just like a little pup

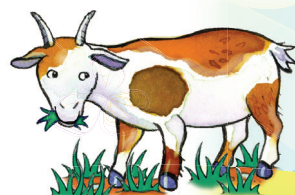
But since he always left her loose
and let her freely roam,
each morning you could hear him yell,
"Go home goat, go home."

by Patricia Capansky



Did you know?

- ✓ Mother and kid goats recognise each other's calls soon after the mothers give birth.
- ✓ Goats have excellent coordination. They have superb balance and can therefore survive on steep mountains.
- ✓ Goats can climb trees, and some goats can jump over objects as high as one and a half metres.
- ✓ The chicken is the closest living relative of Tyrannosaurus Rex (a dinosaur).
- ✓ Chickens are able to recognise and remember different people.
- ✓ A group of geese is called a gaggle.
- ✓ A group of geese flying in a V-shape is called a skein.
- ✓ A baby goose is called a gosling.
- ✓ Dogs are known as "Man's best friend".
- ✓ Dogs have extremely good hearing and are able to hear sounds much further away than we can.
- ✓ We use dogs as guide dogs, police dogs and pets. They are extremely intelligent.



Group reading activities



1

Read the following questions and write down the answers.

- a. Daza and Benjamin were passing each other notes in class. What do you think happened to the boys?
- b. What were the names of the goats? Which one did you like best? Say why.
- c. Describe what happened to Granny and Grandpa. Write about five sentences.
- d. How did Benjamin and Daza manage to get Billy back into the pen?
- e. What did Benjamin and Daza do to save the little lamb?
- f. Do you think Benjamin and Daza live in a city or on a farm? Say why you think so.
- g. Would you like to live on a farm? Say why.



2

Imagine you are Daza. Write a letter to Benjamin's grandparents thanking them for the wonderful weekend on the farm.

GRADE 3 HOME LANGUAGE



Book 3

<i>Title:</i>	Weekend to remember
<i>Language:</i>	English
<i>Level:</i>	Grade 3 Home Language Reader Level 2 Book 3
<i>Text type:</i>	Narrative
<i>Sight words:</i>	about, something, weren't, where, whether, often, behind, inside, together, whenever
<i>Vocabulary:</i>	coarse, gracious, leaping, abandoned, protesting, securely, aristocratic, titbit, particular, desperate
<i>Phonics:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Different spelling for the same sound: eg. leaping/sleeping, down/round, caught/pawing, high/my/cried, goat/mowed, could/stoep• Same spelling but different sound: eg. owners/how, friend/fields/cried• Silent letters: eg. wrong, know
<i>Content, concepts and skills:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Answer comprehension questions.▪ Write a thank you letter.

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.

ISBN 978-1-4315-2349-8



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BE SOLD.**



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Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Published by the Department of Basic Education
222 Struben Street, Pretoria
South Africa

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First edition 2016

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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