

# A COMPEDIUM OF TALES *by the* GRAND PARENTS

NAKIVALE REFUGEE SETTLEMENT

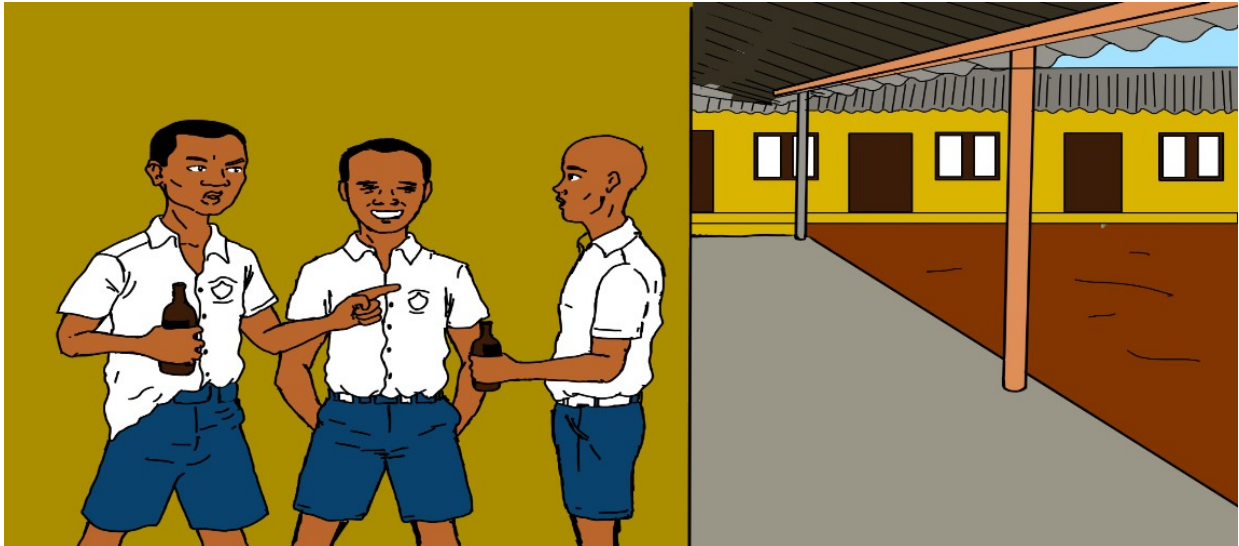
UGANDA



MARCH 2022

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## 1. EDUCATION IS WEALTH



Sometime ago, there was a man called Bitwayeko who had a wife and one son. The family lived in Nakivale. The son, known as Munyabibazo had dropped out of school due to joining bad company. One day, Bitwayeko told his son that, *"my son other children are about to complete their studies, but don't you want to go back and study?"* Munyabibazo replied to his father, *"but father, your age mates are all dead. Why are you still alive?"* Bitwayeko told him that *"son, you have replied to your father in a bad way"*. Later, Bitwayeko narrated to his wife what Munyabibazo had told him. The wife suggested to her husband that *"we have to take our son to school"*. Later, they told their son that they wanted him to join school. The son accepted and went back to school.

The English say that 'old habits die hard'. Given the fact that Munyabibazo used to take alcohol from home, when he reached school, he resumed taking alcohol and even joined bad groups. He then rejected school and used to escape from home to go and live with his peers within the bad group. He spent a lot of time with his bad friends. As time went by, he started feeling hungry and starving. He looked pale and had nowhere to sleep, but on the streets.

Munyabibazo started stealing so that he could get what to eat. Later, he realized that he had acted irresponsibly and disrespected his parents. Then he decided to go back home to his parents. When he reached home, he asked for forgiveness. He then went back to school since it is never too late

to go back to school. His parents forgave him. Back to school, this time he became very serious with books because he had experienced hard life on the streets and the beatings, he got for stealing from shops.

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Story shared by **KANYANGOGA CLAUDE**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Always listen to the advice of your parents or elders
- When you go to school you live a better life
- Avoid bad groups

## 2. THE LITTLE GIRL IN THE FOREST



In a certain village, there was a woman who had two children. The father of the children had died sometimes back. As a result of famine, their family lacked what to eat. So, they decided to move from one place to another in search for food. As they moved through the forest, going to the neighboring village, the young child who could walk by herself, saw fruits on the tree that was in the middle of the forest. She ran and climbed the tree, then she started eating the fruits. The mother asked for some mangoes from her, but the little girl refused. When the mother realized that the little girl was unwilling to share the mangoes with her, she got angry and left her on the tree. *"I'm going. You will find me ahead"* said the mother, and the little girl was left in the forest alone.

After the mother had gone, an animal was passing by and saw leaves from the mango tree falling. When the animal looked up, it saw a young girl sitting on the tree. The animal then asked the little girl what she was doing there. *"I have been with my mother, so when I started picking the fruits, I refused to give her, then she felt annoyed and then left,"* said the girl. *"Come down, and let's go together"*, invited the animal. She came down and then the animal put the young girl into a bag it had and continued moving searching for food.

Along the way the animal found some farmers who were in the garden, and it requested for some food to eat. The farmers asked the animal to first sing for them. *“Only that?”* inquired the animal, *“Yes”* agreed the farmers. The animal shook its bag and commanded the young girl who was inside sing. The young girl sung well, and farmers gave them food. The animal continued looking for food. It reached another group of farmers and asked them for food. They too asked the animal whether it could sing for them. *“Yes, I can,”* said the animal. It again shook the bag for the girl to sing and the girl started singing. But as the girl was sung, one of the farmers heard the voice and it seemed like her daughter and told the animal, *“You have sung well, can you repeat, and we add you more food?”*, the animal said, *“yes I can”*. The girl sung again, and the mother recognized her voice. She then told the animal that *“we are going to give you a lot of food if you can go bring water from the nearby dam”*, and the animal accepted. They gave it a leaking pot to fetch water. So, as it fetched, the pot couldn't get full because the pot leaked. The farmers did this so that the animal can delay at the dam and to rescue the girl from the bag. The animal got annoyed and went back to tell them that the pot leaked. The farmers replied that *“we can still give you food because it's our mistake”*. But they had already removed the girl and put a stone inside the bag. It was given food and it carried the bag thinking the girl was inside. When it reached the market, it opened the bag to realize that the girl had been removed. Seeing the stones, the animal wept because they were heavy and made it feel a lot of pain.

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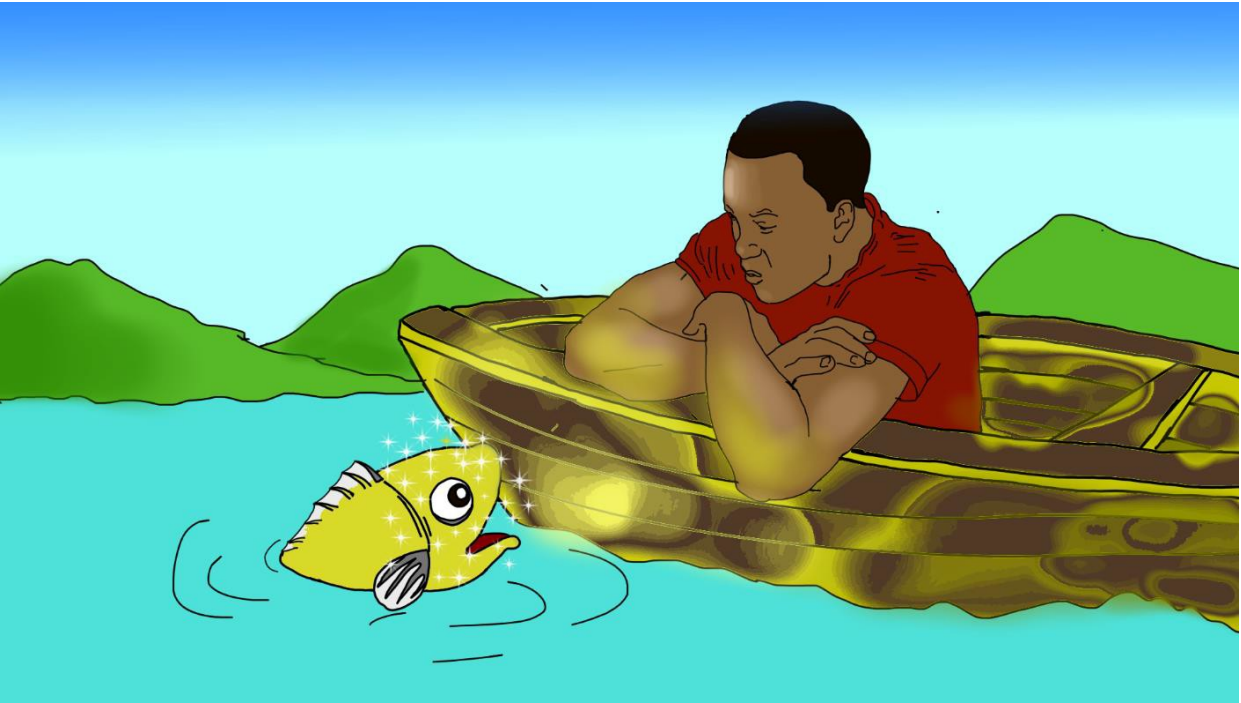
Story shared by **MUKAKABONA JACQUELINE**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Children should avoid being greedy
  - Children should respect parents' ad elders
  - Children should learn how to share with others
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### 3. THE GOLDEN FISH



Long ago, there was a great fisherman in the land. He lived with his wife. One day, he went for fishing and caught a golden fish. The golden fish begged him that *"please forgive me, don't kill me"*. Then the man let it go back to the water and the man went back home. When he reached home, he told his wife that *"today I didn't catch anything, I only caught a golden fish and I felt pity for it, and I let it go"*. The wife told him that he had done a bad thing; he would have caught the fish, demanded from it for anything he wanted, and would get it. Then, the woman told her husband that *"go back and tell the fish that I want a good house"*. The man went back to the fish and told it, *"Fish, Fish, my wife wants a good house"*. The golden fish replied that *"go back home you will find the house already there for your wife"*. When the man reached at home, he found a very beautiful house. He then asked his wife if she was happy, and the wife told him that she was happy. However, at night, the woman failed to sleep till morning. In the morning, she told her husband that she didn't get sleep.

The wife told her husband again to go back and tell the golden fish that she didn't sleep, so she wanted to sleep. And another request was that she wanted to be a queen. The man obeyed and went and told the golden fish that *"Fish, Fish"* and the fish replied that *"what can I do for you"*? Then the man told it that *"My wife said that she wants to sleep, and another thing is*

*that she wants to be a queen*". Then, the golden fish told him that *"go back home, you will find already your wife has become a queen in her kingdom"*. When the man reached at home, he found already the woman had become a queen.

But as if that was not enough, later, the wife again sent her husband that *"go back and tell that golden fish that I want to be God"*. Then the husband was so scared to hear his wife wants to be on the same level with God. And then the husband reluctantly went and told the golden fish that *"my wife told me to tell you that she wants to be god who cannot be seen or who is invisible"*. And the golden fish told him that, *"go back home and you will see it happening"*. When the husband reached at home, he never saw his wife anywhere and he was so scared and immediately he went back to the golden fish and told him that, *"Golden fish I can't see my wife. Please bring her back because am so scared"*. The golden fish told him that *"go back home you will find your wife home"*. And when the husband reached home, he saw his wife and he was very happy. But later the husband advised his wife to be contented with what she has got.

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Story shared by **PRINCE NTIHEMUKA**

#### **Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Value what you have because other people admire to be like you.
  - Don't be proud.
  - Don't put yourself on the same level with God.
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#### 4. STEALING IS BAD



One day, there was an old man and his wife. They had one son. The child grew up and reached to be a teenager. The child, realizing that his parents were too old, used to disrespect them because he knew that they could not beat him apart from talking, which to him did not matter. As a result, the boy did anything that he wanted, such as stealing people's properties. People would catch him and bring him to his parents. But there was nothing parents would do to him since they were all old. They could take him to the local leader to warn him not to steal again. Because he was a spoiled boy who never minded respecting his parents. He stole from the age of six until age of seventeen.

One day, as he was used to stealing people, he jumped into a rich man's wall and broke into his house and tried to steal. Then, the dog saw him and bit his leg. He started shouting and the houseboy came and threw him outside the gate. The boy ran while bleeding and asking for help until he reached home. His mother asked him why he was hurt, and the boy replied that "*nothing that much serious. It's just an injury*". Then the pain got worse due to the dog bite, which forced his parents to take him to the hospital. At the hospital, his parents were told that their child had been infected by a rabies and it couldn't be treated because it was too late. Later the child died. And he became a reference point in the village for undisciplined children.



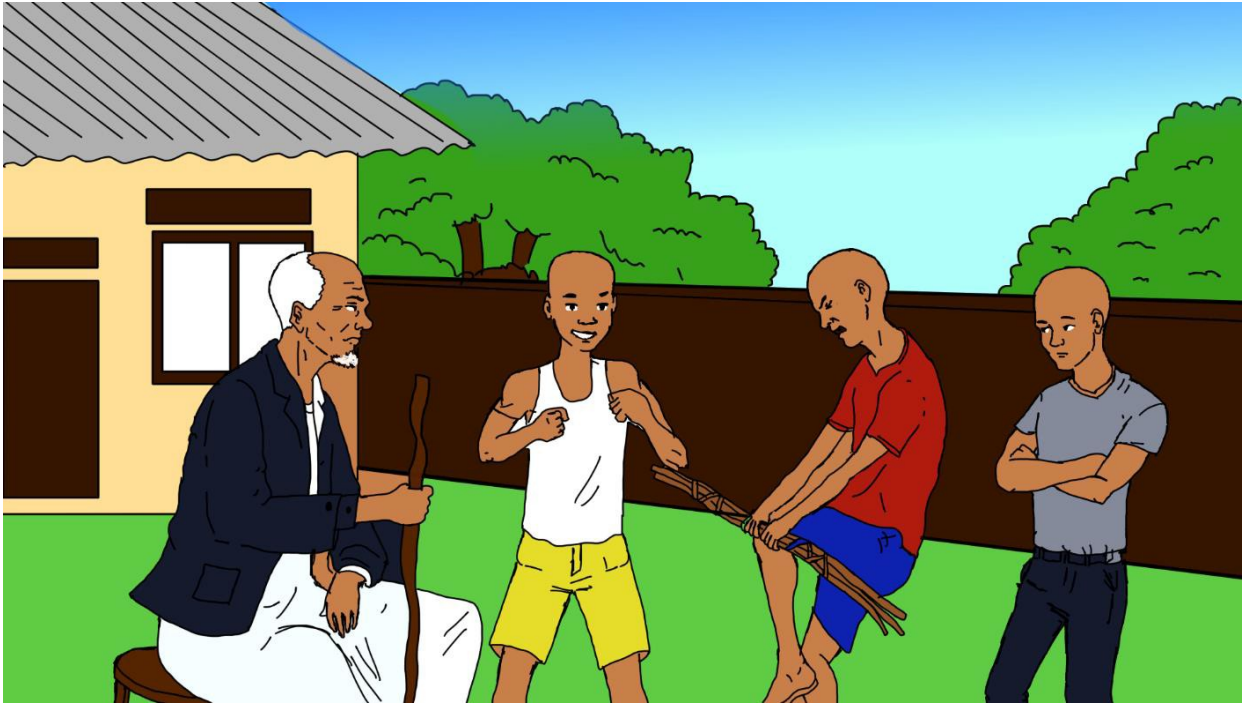
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*Story shared by* **NYIRAMINANI PERAJI**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Do not steal
- Listen and obey
- Respect your parent

## 5. UNITY IS STRENGTH



Long ago, in a certain village, there was an old man who had three sons. One day, he called them to have a word with them. Their father took three long sticks, and then tied them together with a rope. He gave them to his first son to break them, but he failed. He again gave them to the second son, he also failed to break them. The third son, likewise failed. Then their father untied the sticks and gave each stick to each child and told them to break. The three sons immediately broke the sticks. Their father told them that, *"that's how you will be broken if you don't unite and work together for your future. Because am getting old, I might not be with you for the rest of your life. Always unite like those sticks that were tied together and no one can break them because they are united"*.

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Story shared by **NSHUNGU SEBAGABO**

### **Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Have a team spirit
  - Help each other
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## 6. MONEY DOESN'T BUY HAPPINESS



Once upon a time in a certain village, there was a man with his family. This man was very rich. There was another family in the same village but was poor. The rich man had one child and the poor one had also one child, but the poor family was happier.

The rich man's child had all the basic needs and all the resources to be taken to school. But the poor family's child had almost nothing to take him to school since the parents had to sell food from the garden to pay for his school fees. The poor family's child barely managed to attend school. Nevertheless, he was happy to go to school and determined to work hard and get out of poverty. His dream was to study, then get a job, earn enough money, and construct a better house for the parents.

One day, the son of the rich man started misbehaving at school. The school authorities expelled him out of their school. The rich father went to school to pay since he was rich and could afford. But the poor child knew his condition and hence the reason why he was at school. So, he studied very well, then later when school closed, the poor family's child asked the rich man's child that "*how were your studies at school!*" and the rich man's child told him that

it was fine *“but, I didn't complete the whole of this term because I misbehaved and was chased from school”*.

Then, the poor family's child told him that *“but why do you misbehave yet you know that you went to study”*. Then the poor family's child advised the rich family's child that *“please when you go to school always concentrate because that is your future. Don't think that the money that your father has is yours”*. Then the rich child replied to him that *“I know my father will give me my share that is why I'm not bothered about studies because if my father gives me my share, I will be already rich”*. As time went by, the rich child started destroying people's properties. His father could come and pay since they had money, but the poor child was so humble and happy with his family.

The village called for a meeting to see what they could do for this child that was stealing and disorganizing the village, but his parents didn't come. They instead sent money to the chairman to silence the community. Meanwhile the boy was not going to school, but the poor child was improving on his grades at school. One day, as the rich man was going to work, he got an accident and was taken to the hospital. No one from the village came to visit him. He thought that since he was rich, people would come but they didn't. This annoyed him and made him think a lot about his behavior in the community, and how he needed to make changes. Though he was able to pay the hospital bill, he still needed family and friends around, which money cannot buy him. The lesson he learnt from the accident forced him to change his ways. He started greeting people and attending village meetings when invited. He apologized for his previous behavior. Everyone was surprised.

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Story shared by **NSHUNGU SEBAGABO**

### **Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Associate with others
- Avoid pride
- Be kind to everyone weather they are poor or rich
- Money cannot buy you friends
- Concentrate and focus on your studies

## 7. THE CARROT FARMER



Long ago, in a certain village, there was a man who was a farmer, and used to cultivate carrots. From the carrot he farmed, he could get money to take care of the family and pay school fees for his children.

As usual, he went to visit his garden but found his carrots uprooted by an unknown person. He felt a lot of pain and got angry. He started thinking and wondering on how his family would survive, since carrots were the only means he could earn money. Then, he went back and told his wife everything that happened to the carrots in the garden. *"I'm very sure that when you start sleeping in the garden, you will be able to catch that person who uprooted our carrots,"* said the wife.

The next day, the man started sleeping in the garden. That first night, he slept too much, and, in the morning, he found carrots uprooted. He then said to himself *"how can I have too much sleep like this until they come and steal carrots in my presence? "*

The following day, he again prepared himself to spend the night sleeping in the garden. This time, he came determined to find the thief. As the man was still sleeping, he heard a sound of someone digging. He decided to wake up, only to see a rabbit with a fork uprooting the carrots. *"What are you doing in*



*my garden?" asked the man. The rabbit replied, "no, I thought that this is my garden but I'm very sorry, I will not repeat this". The man responded that, "I'm forgiving you for today and next time, I will not forgive you, go and never come back again".*

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Story shared by **MUJAWAMARIA ELIZABETH**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Avoid stealing people's things
- Learn how to request
- Forgive others

## 8. LEARN HOW TO LISTEN



In a certain village, there was a man and two dogs. The two dogs were very good friends of the man. One day, they as they moved, they reached a certain place and found a hyena on the way. The man started beating it and then it told them that *“you don't like me, but I will change into a good stick, and you will buy me. I will change into a beautiful girl, and you will marry me”*.

As time went by, the man and his two dogs went to the market. When they reached there, they saw a very beautiful stick and he said that *“this stick is beautiful. I must buy it for my old mother”*. Then, the two dogs reminded him that *“don't buy it, don't you remember what the other hyena told us that he is going to change into a stick, and we will buy it”*. Then, the man replied that, *“it is true let me leave it”*. Then later, as they were returning home, they saw a very beautiful woman and the man admired her and said that *“this woman is very beautiful, I must make her my wife”* and when they reached near her, the man said that *“I like you, I want to marry you, please be my wife”*. But the dogs tried to warn him fearing that this could be the hyena which had changed into the beautiful woman.

The man never wanted to listen to his friends, and he told off his friends, to keep quiet. Then, the man took the woman home. After one year, the man asked his wife that *“but why is it that you don't want to give birth”*. The woman

replied that *"my mother told me that I will not get pregnant until I go to that mountain to pick a medicine, she told me to drink"*. Then the man told her that *"it is okay we can go there and pick that medicine, but we are going with the dogs so that we should not get any problem"*. Since the woman knew that those dogs knew that she is a hyena, she refused to go with the dogs and told the husband that *"Now, if we go with the dogs, my medicine will not work out"* then the man accepted and left the dogs behind.

When they reached the mountain, the woman told her husband to go in front because for him he is a man, and nothing can happen to him. Then, when they were about to reach at the top of the mountain, the woman started changing into a hyena slowly, but the man didn't recognize it. Later, when they reached up on top of the mountain, the woman had changed totally into a hyena and wanted to eat the man because he had beaten the hyena last time in the bush. So, the hyena wanted to revenge. The man started shouting and asking for help and people came and rescued him and the hyena ran away.

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Story shared by **MUGISHA JEANMARIE**

#### **Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Always take good advice from your friends
  - Don't walk alone
  - Revenging is not good
  - Be suspicious
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## 9. THE POWER OF FORGIVENESS



There was a man and a woman and their daughter. The daughter was called Mami. They lived in a village called Gotrtone and they were happy with their simple life. One day, the mother sent her daughter to go and fetch water so that they could cook. Then, the daughter told her that *"I don't have anything to use to fetch water"*. Then her mother told her that *"go and use your father's pot, but don't break it, because if you break it, your father will beat you"*.

Mami went to fetch water using her father's pot. After fetching the water, she carried it on her head. As she was returning, she accidentally stepped on a stone, fell and her father's pot got broken. Mami feared going back home because she knew that if her father got to know that she had broken his pot, he would kill her. Later in the evening, Mami came back at home and told her mother that *"mother, the father's pot is broken. That is why I delayed. I thought that he would kill me"*. Then her mother told her that *"when your father gets to know that you broke his pot, he will kill you, let me hide you in the jungle"*. Later in the evening, Mami's father came and sat in the house and called his wife to give him water from the pot, but the pot was nowhere to be seen. Then the man started asking where the pot was, and the wife kept quiet. Again, the man asked his wife where they had put the pot. When the wife refused to answer, the man knew that it's his daughter. Then, he

started looking for his daughter calling her in a very loud voice "*MAMI, MAMI where did you put my pot? Bring it, I want to drink water from my beautiful pot*". His daughter never replied because she was kept in the jungle far from home.

The next morning, the Mami's mother went to see her daughter in the jungle in a small house where she had hidden her. When she reached there, she started singing that "*Mami, Mami you broke your father's pot, he is going to kill you*". Mami replied "*mother I didn't break it intently, it happened accidentally*". Then, Mami opened for her mother, because she recognized her voice, and her mother gave her food and after eating, her mother returned home. When she reached at home, her husband still asked where Mami was, and the mother told him that she didn't know where Mami was.

The following day, Mami's mother went back to the bush to give her food. It happened like that for the third time and fourth time. Mami's mother was always going back to the bush to take food for her. Her husband started asking himself the reason why his wife always takes food to the jungle, out of the house after cooking, and then he followed her to the forest, unknowing to the wife that her husband was following her. When Mami's mother reached in the jungle in front of a small house, she started singing *that "Mami, Mami you broke your father's pot, he is going to kill you"*. Mami heard that it was her mother's voice and she replied that "*mother I didn't break it intentionally, it happened accidentally*". Then Mami opened for her mother and gave her food.

Mami's father said to himself that "*Ah, this is where you come to hide Mami after she broke my pot*". Later, Mami's mother went back home and then the next day, Mami's father went to see Mami in the jungle and started singing, "*Mami, Mami you broke your father's pot, he will kill you*" and Mami heard that it's her father's voice. Later her father started singing again and again and again and Mami refused to open for her father. Later, her father went back home.

The following day, Mami's mother came back to give her food and she started sing that "*Mami, Mami you broke your father's pot, he is going to kill you*" and when Mami hard that it's her mother's voice, she replied that "*mother I didn't break father's pot intently, it happened accidentally*". Then, Mami



opened for her mother. Mami started telling her that *“yesterday, father came here singing the way you sing. When you came here, maybe he hid himself somewhere in the jungle and heard you singing for me, but I recognized his voice. I didn't open for him”*. Her mother told her that *“never open for anyone except me because you know my voice”*.

As time went on, Mami's father started practicing his wife's voice. The following day he went in the jungle and started singing that *“Mami, Mami you broke your father's pot, he will kill you”* and when Mami heard that it is her 'mother's voice', she replied that *“mother, I didn't break it intently, it happened accidentally”*. Then Mami opened and when she opened, she saw her father and not her mother. She was so scared and started crying because she thought that her father was going to kill her. Then her father asked her that *“why did you break my pot and hide?”* Then Mami said that *“I thought you would kill me that's why I hid”*. Her father asked her that *“why didn't you tell me what you did instead of hiding?”* Mami told her father to forgive her, and she promised to be more care full next time.

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Story shared by **FISTON NSHIMIYIMANA**

#### **Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Always accept your mistakes and ask for forgiveness
  - Don't fear your parents
  - Tell your parents the mistakes you did
  - Tell your parents the truth and don't lie
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## 10. DISHONESTY IS BAD



Bihehe and Ngugye were good friends who stayed in the same village. One day, they planned to go and help cut trees for the old man who had a big forest. After planning, the following day they got pangas and an axe and went to help the old man to cut trees in the forest. After doing the work, they decided to go home together but on their way home, Bihehe asked his friend, *“Ngugye, can you assist me with your axe?”* Ngugye replied *“Bihehe why not, I can assist you, aren’t you, my friend?”*

Bihehe went home with the axe, and when he reached, he said to his wife *“my wife, Ngugye is a fool; how can he assist me with his sharp axe like this one? I won’t take it back to him. I will be using it”* then the wife said to him *“we shouldn’t give it back to him”*.

As time passed, Ngugye waited for Bihehe to bring back his axe, but he didn’t return it. Then he told his wife *“I assisted Bihehe with my axe, but he refused to bring it back. Now what shall we do to ensure he comes near home?”*. His wife responded, *“Cook nice food that has good aroma. And we put the saucepan near the road as he will be passing by. I’m very sure he will smell it as usual and come since he loves good food and loves eating too much”*. The husband said that *“that’s a good trick, let’s do that”*.

They cooked nice food, with a good aroma and carried it near the road where Bihehe used to pass. They then hid themselves in the nearby bush to see whether he will eat it. At that time, Bihehe came and as he was passing, smelled nice aroma, and started checking around where the food could be. But as he was still searching around, he saw a saucepan nearby and went and opened it. Immediately, he started eating the food. When Ngugye and wife saw that he had eaten all the food, they went back home.

When Bihehe reached home, he started feeling stomachache and his wife wondered what was happening to the husband. But as they were still asking themselves what's could have happened to him, a bird stated saying that" *Bihehe you took my axe, and you didn't bring it back so keep suffering until you bring it".*

The next day Bihehe woke early to take back the axe. He found Ngugye still sleeping. Then he knocked, only for Ngugye to open the door. Outside the door, it was Bihehe holding the axe he had borrowed and refused to return.

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Story shared by **MUKAKABONA JACQUELINE**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Never overstay with someone's property once your assisted
  - Love sharing with our friends
  - Let's always help our friends.
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## 11. DON'T INHERIT BAD HABBITS FROM YOUR PARENTS.



Once upon a time, there was a man and a woman, who gave birth to two children: a boy and a girl. The boy was loved and closer to the mother and his mother loved him too; while the girl loved her father and her father loved her.

One day, the girl told her father; *“father I want you to buy me a good dress like for my friend at school”*. The father bought her the dress. When the boy saw how his father had bought a good dress for his sister, he also told his mother that, *“you always talk to my father well; can you request him to buy for me a bicycle?”* Then the mother told him, she was going to try and talk to him.

After some years, the boy noticed that his father was growing older and weaker. He wanted his share of wealth, but he didn't know how to request for it since he was not in good terms with his father. Later, the boy told his mother that *“I see my father is getting too old, I want him to give me my share of wealth before he dies, but I don't know how to request him”*.

The mother instructed the boy to humble himself before the father and use a small voice like for the little sister since the father had gone blind. He would think it's the sister so the boy waited when the sister had gone to collect fire

wood and went to the father and humbled himself with a low voice and said *“daddy I have noticed that you are growing weaker and older, please give me my share of wealth before you die”*. When the father heard this, he said, *“oh my daughter call our good friends and neighbors to witness as I bless you”*. The family friend came and the father said, *“this child of mine, I bequeath all my properties, cows, goats, my land, matoke plantation (plantain) and my house”*.

And when the girl came and asked her father why he gave all the shares to her brother and he didn't leave any share for her, the father was surprised and he told his daughter that *“your brother lied to me, he pretended to be you and used your voice, so I thought it was you. But since I have already given him my properties, I will not take them back from him, but you as my daughter I will give all the blessing and favor. Everyone will love you and I have blessed you in life. You will have a good life ahead of you and favor will follow you”*. The father died immediately after blessing the girl. The boy misused the properties which were left by his father but the girl got blessings and lived a happy life.



Story shared by **KANYANGOGA CLAUDE**

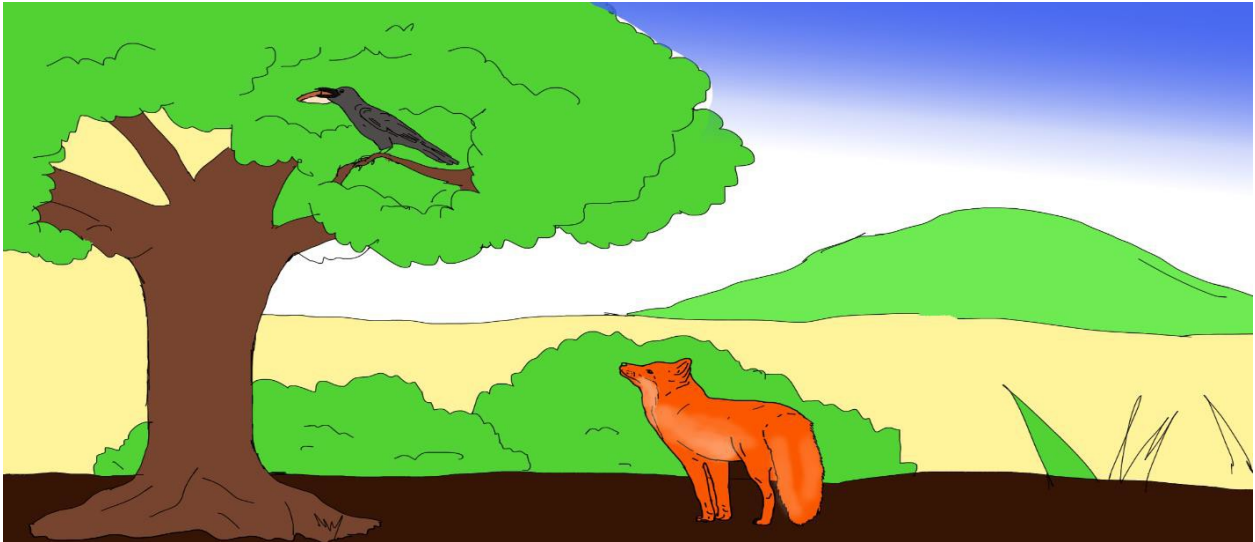
**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Don't listen to bad advises from your parents
- Don't lie to your parents.





## 12. THE FOX AND THE CROW



One day a fox and a crow stayed together in one village and they were good neighbors. Since a crow can fly, one day it snatched bread from a child. Then it sat down on a tall tree to eat the bread. When the fox was passing by looking for what to eat, he saw the crow with the bread. He went and sat under the tree and looked up at the crow and said sweet words to the crow. *"Good morning madam, how are you"*? greeted the fox.

The crow did not answer. Then again the fox told the crow that *" You look so beautiful let me hope that even your voice is also sweet. You will be a queen among birds. Please can I hear your voice my queen"*? Then, the silly crow thought, *" indeed am beautiful and a queen among birds I must prove it"*. The crow opened her mouth to sing for the fox, and then the bread fell down from her beak. The Fox picked it up and ran away with it.

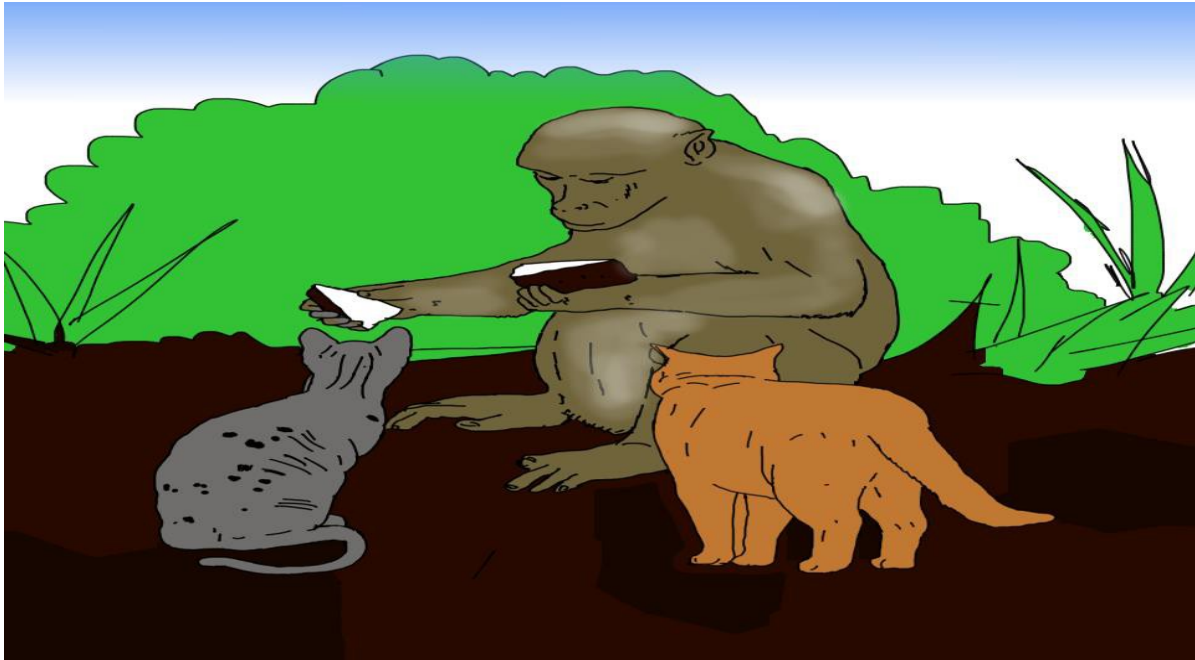
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Story shared by **RUZAGIRIZA EMMANUEL**.

### **Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Don't listen to the sweet words from selfish people
- Don't trust people so easily
- Avoid pride
- Kill your ego

### 13. JUSTICES FROM THE MONKEY



One day, two cats found a piece of cake. One of them jumped at it and picked it up. The other tried to snatch it from him. The first cat said, *“Keep away from me. It is my cake. I was the first to pick it up”*. The other cat said. *“But I saw it first and so it is mine.”*

Just then, a monkey was passing by. The cats requested him to mediate and help them settle their quarrel. The monkey agreed and said, *“I will cut this cake into two equal parts and give a part to each one of you.”*

The monkey took the cake and cut it into two parts. Immediately, he shook his head and displayed the two pieces of the cake and said, *“These two parts are not equal. This one is bigger than the other”*. So, to get them to the same size, he ate off a bit on the bigger part. But again, the parts were not equal as he had eaten too much into the bigger part. In his clever attempt to get the two pieces into equal size, he systematically ate into the two pieces of cake until only two tiny bits of the cake were left.

Then the monkey said to the cats, *“How can I give you such tiny bits? I will now eat them myself.”* So, he put the two remaining small pieces of cake in the mouth and went away and the two cats remained with nothing to eat. This annoyed the hungry cats!

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Story shared by **NYIRAMINANI PERAJJI**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Just share what you have
- Avoid conflicts with your fellow children
- Learn how to be contented
- Learn how to leave with yourself and others {life skills}
- To survive you need skills
- If ever you are unfortunate to develop a disagreement with anyone, try to sort it out between the two of you. Otherwise it becomes too expensive involving a third party.
- Not all who appear honorable are honest enough to be trusted.

## 14. THE FARMER AND HIS FAMILY



There was a farmer who had three boys with his wife. His first son was called Sitaweza, the second son was called Ntapima then the last son was called Ntagikaza. As a farmer, he was hard working and very committed to his work in the farm. When the crops were ready, he could harvest them and sell them. After selling the crops, he could come back with money and he could divide it into three equal shares for; food, school fees and savings. He used to do that every season. The children grew and later started attending school. The parents grew older and weaker with time. He continued growing crops and harvesting them, as well as keeping money respectively.

One day, the last child told his father that, *“you always keep money for the future, fees and food; why don’t we at least buy some livestock like cows, and chicken and keep them?”* Then, his father replied him that, *“that’s a good idea, so let’s get some little money and we buy livestock”*. On one fine market day, he gave him money out of the savings to buy cows, goats and hens.

After completing school, their father called them and he told them that, *“since you’ve now completed your studies, and you are of age, please come and join me at the farm, because I am growing weaker each day that goes by and I can’t manage it alone any more”*. The eldest son (Sitaweza) told his father that farming was not one of the dreams in his life and that he won’t join the family. The second one (Ntapima) told his father that he was going

to try and work at the farm and the youngest son (Ntagikaza) disclosed to his father that he was going to do whatever it takes to ensure continuity of the farm. The first and the second did not actively participate but the youngest was very active.

One day, their father called them for a meeting and he told them that he was too old to continue with farm work and that they should support their mother because she needed support from all of them as a family. The old man grew weaker. He again called his family to have a last word with them. He told them that he had grown too weak and that he might die any time, *“please always support your mother she is getting, older and weak”*. The elder brother asked for his share of the family cash. *“But father where are our shares”*? The father told his sons and his wife to follow him to the farm. When they reached there, he told his two old boys to get a hoe and dig the hole.

They dug but without knowing what was under the ground not until they saw a big case. Then their father told them to open it. When they opened it, they found a lot of money in that case. Then their father told them to share that money equally among them.

The elder boys misused their shares and they were left without anything. They went parting and enjoying themselves without investing it. But the youngest boy, since he respected and listened to his parents, used his money wisely. He made a lot of profit out of the money he shared. When life became hard for the two elder brothers, they started regretting.

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Story shared by **CHINAMA GEORGETTE**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Regrets are thoughts of a weak mind
- Always take advises from elder people.
- Obey you're your parents
- Try everything in life you don't know what the future hold
- Learnt how to manage things at home
- Create a relationship between children and parents

## 15. EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO LIFE



Some time ago, there was a man and a woman living in Nakivale settlement. They gave birth to one child. This child grew up under good living conditions with all the basic needs that life had to offer, like a good car, a big house, all types of food and comfort. The parents had a lot of wealth, although they had not gone to school. The boy grew up and made 12 years of age. His mother died and he remained with his father. His father never married another woman, because he wanted to raise his son. He told his son that *“I have remained with you now. All the properties that I have are all yours but all I want you to do is go to school and study English because in Uganda where we are living, I know, English is the most important language. So please do not be like me who never went to school”*. \

The boy went to school but refused to study English. Each time the English teacher entered in class, the boy moved out. He put more effort in French and Kinyarwanda. As time went by, the child was so happy with his father. But he only wanted to study Kinyarwanda and French. When he got home, his father could always ask how school was, *“did you study English?”* The boy would lie to his illiterate father because he never knew to read books in order to confirm what his son had told him. *“Please, you have to learn English, because you never know, it might help you in future”*.



One day, his father went ahead and brought an English teacher to his son, but the child insisted that he didn't want to study English. Then his father, with tears in his eyes, told him that *"It is okey. You can do whatever you want. You're old enough"*. After some time, his father also died and the child was left alone with all the property. Little did he know that the property that his father left was on loan. So the bank came and took all property that his father left. Then the child started suffering.

Later, he applied for a job and he got it. He worked for his survival and his boss loved him. The boss paid him a good salary. But one day, his boss told him that, *"you are such a good man, I would wish to elevate your position and salary but I need your English papers"*. The boy told his boss that he doesn't know English. The boss told him that he couldn't give the boy that position. The boy started regretting and said, *"I wish I can get someone to teach me English"*; and that's how he lost out on a better position.

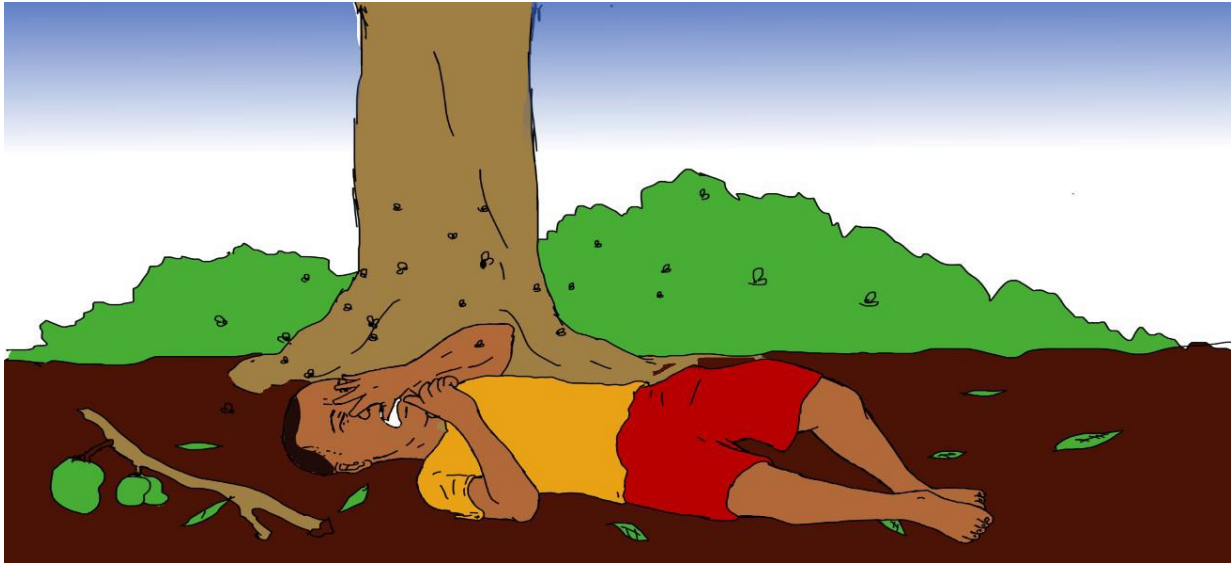
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Story share **BY NYIRAMINANI PERAJI**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Do what you're supposed to do when it is still early.
- Avoid pride
- Always listen to your parents' advice

## 16. STEALING IS DEADLY



In a certain village called Kisumu, there were two children who were neighbors and good friends in a very good relationship. Some people thought that they were twins. They shared a lot at school, were together at home and cared for each other. The relationship between the two was pretty good and this went on to an extent that even their parents asked themselves a lot of questions.

One day as they were walking, they bypassed a garden which was alongside the road and then saw a child who was trying to climb the mango tree. Then, one of them tried to stop the child from stealing the mangoes because he knew the owner of that garden and that boy was not his child. Then, Dusabe said “why can't we stop him”? So they stopped him and he was forced to climb down.

The boy who was found trying to steal mangoes went home annoyed because he was stopped from getting what he wanted “I will still come back and pick some mangoes” he said within himself.

The following day the owner of the garden came to visit his garden and found that some branches had been broken from the mango tree. Some mangoes were missing. He became very annoyed because he wanted the mangoes to be sold. Then he said “I'm going to use plan B”. He went home and picked a beehive, then hanged it on the mango tree and said “I want to see the one who will steal again”.

In the morning, the boy went back to steal more mangoes. As he was approaching the garden, he saw the beehive and he said “I have been eating only mangoes, now today, it's time to test honey”. He then, climbed the mango tree and started opening the bee hive. As he opened it, the bees came out and started stinging him. As he tried to remove the bees from his body, he lost control and fell down and his leg got broken. The bees ferociously bit him to almost killing him as he screamed. Since he was near the roadside, people who were coming from church heard the sound of someone crying. Then they ran to see only to find bees almost killing the boy.

They picked grass and started burning in order to scare the bees. By the time the smoke scared the bees, the boy was very weak. So they rushed him to the hospital where he was treated. Later he promised never to steal again or disobey older people.

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Story Shared by **KATABAZI MAURCI**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- We should avoid stealing
  - We should listen to the advice of elders
  - Let us help each other
  - Choose good friends
-

## 17. MUSEGE THE BAD BOY



Long ago, there lived a giant and his wife called Dingi Dingi in a thick forest. All parents in the area feared this giant and told their children never to go to that forest. Musege was a bad boy and never listened to his parents at all.

One day, Musege woke up early, put on his uniform and picked his bag. He started on his journey to school. When he reached the junction, he changed his mind. Instead of going to school, he went into the forest to look for wild fruits. Deep in the forest, he heard a loud voice saying, "*stop! What are you doing in my forest?*" The giant roared with anger. Musege was very scared. He tried to run away but the giant got him by the hand. There and then, he lifted him up, and took him to his home.

When the giant reached home, he tied Musege on a pole. He then told his wife to boil water and cook him for super. Dingi Dingi was a kind woman. She did not want to kill Musege. She came up with a plan. She prepared tea with some sleeping herbs in it. When the giant drank it, he fell into a deep sleep. Dingi Dingi went and untied Musege. She led him up to the main road and told him to run away as fast as he could. She also told him never to go back in that forest.

Musege thanked Dingi Dingi and ran all the way back to their home. It was at midnight when he reached home. He was shocked to find the whole house full of neighbors and relatives mourning. They thought he had been kidnapped and sacrificed by witch doctors. After cooling down, Musege told his relatives the whole story about the giant. It was a scaring story. They warned him never to do such a thing again.

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Story Shared by **KATABAZI MAURICE**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Respect your parents
  - Be a good listener
  - Have good manners
-

## 18. BWENGE AND FAMILY



There was once a farmer called Bwenge, a father of two children. One was called Dusabe and another Mbabazi. Bwenge, their father was known as a very wise man in the whole village because he was one of the best teachers.

Bwenge was a good technical teacher but his children didn't want to study. Their work was to move up and down. In the village, those children were known as thieves and were used as reference to any bad child or anything bad that was done. If Bwenge would mobilize children in the village to go to school and study, people could throw bad words at him that *“you should first take your children to school”*. Those words would inflict the sadness and pain in him. His children spent the whole days in the bush and slept on the streets.

One day, those children got surprised upon hearing noise of people singing and playing musical instruments near the bush. These were white evangelists looking for a place to hold a church conference. The children got out of their hiding place to see who was singing and preaching. The preacher said that *“children, repent of your sins; the Lord loves you. Find knowledge and wisdom, because it is the best thing. Obey your parents in order to live longer”*. The preacher went on *“repent, repent, repent, for the kingdom of God is near”*. The children kept on dancing while thinking about what was being preached. When the second service begun at night, the second preacher said *“children, never ignore what your father commands you to do or what your mother teaches you (proverbs 4.5)”*. So, those children started



thinking of the pain their parents were going through because they had refused to go to school and they had been stealing people's property.

The following day in the morning, the preacher stood on the pulpit and started preaching. He read the verse from the bible (proverbs 28:28), reading that respecting God is the source of knowledge and coming out of sin is wisdom. The children fell down on their knees after hearing the preaching and started praying and asking forgiveness to whoever they would come cross because they had annoyed many people in the community. Then they went home and asked their father and mother to forgive them. The parents were happy to see and hear the children repenting of their sins and they hugged each other with tears of joy and they forgave them. The children requested to be taken back to school and the community was surprised to see a great change in their lives, including the children supporting their parents with garden work. People went and thanked the preachers for creating an impact in the community and many people gave their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ.



Story Shared by **KATABAZI MAURCI**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Never disobey our parents
- To avoid bad characters like stealing, fighting
- Asking forgiveness
- To respect God
- To be God fearing



## 19. JESUS HEALING THE BLIND



Long ago in a certain village, there was a man who was born blind. As Jesus was moving along the village, he saw the blind man. And the blind man started shouting, *“Jesus, Son of the Most High”*. His disciples asked him, *“Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”*

Jesus responded to His disciples, *“Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in Him. As long as it is day, we must do the works of Him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world”*.

After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes. *“Go,”* he told him, *“wash in the Pool of Siloam”*. So the blind man went and washed, and came home seeing. Then the man started shouting *“I can see, I can see”*.

His neighbors and those who had seen him begging asked, *“Isn’t this the same man who used to sit and beg?”* Some claimed that he was, others said, *“No, he only looks like him”*. But he himself insisted, *“I am the man.”* But others did not believe him. *“Oh, then, if you are the one, how then were your eyes opened?”*, they asked. He replied, *“the man called Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went*

*and washed, and then I could see*". Then they asked him to take them to Jesus but he said, *"I don't know where to find him"*.

The Pharisees who were religious leaders at that time asked the man, *"who healed you on the Sabbath"*. Now, the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath, therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight, *"he put mud on my eyes"*, the man replied, *"and I washed, and now I see"*. Some of the Pharisees said, *"This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath"*, but others asked, *"how can a sinner perform such signs?"* So they were divided, then they turned again to the blind man, *"what have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened"*. The man replied, *"he is a prophet"*. They still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man's parents. *"Is this your son? Is this the one you say was born blind? How it is that now he can see?"*, they asked

The parents answered, *"We know he is our son, and we know he was born blind, but how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don't know; ask him, he is of age; he will speak for himself"*. His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders because they were very strict religious people who already had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. A second time the pharisees summoned the man who had been blind, they said, *"give glory to God by telling the truth, we know the man who healed you must be a sinner"*. The man responded, *"Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know, one thing I do know, I was blind but now I see"*. Then, they asked him, *"what did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"* He answered, *"I have told you already and you did not listen, why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?"* Then they hurled insults at him and said, *"you are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses!"*

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Story Shared by **KATABAZI MAURCI**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- To stand for the truth.
- To believe in God and His Son.

- To speak of God's wonders before people.



## 20. EDUCATION IS THE KEY OF LIFE



One day, there was a man called Matoya and he had a son called Eric. Eric did not like to go to school but lived an idle life wandering around the streets. Matoya always advised his son that education is always the key to life. He often told him that, *"The one who does not study is more likely to live a miserable life"* but Eric did not listen to his father's advice.

Eric started stealing, insulting people and beating other innocent children. One day his father was called at the police station to bail his son. Matoya paid to rescue his son from jail. Then he went with his son at home. When they reached home, Eric asked for forgiveness from his father and promised to go back to school. Eric went back to school and resumed to learn in primary. He proceeded to secondary school level and there after finished university. Years later, when Eric finished his studies, he got a nice job and lived a luxurious life. He then recognized that the advice which his father gave him was very important in life.

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Story share by **RUZAGIRIZA EMMANUEL**

### **Lessons Learnt by Children**

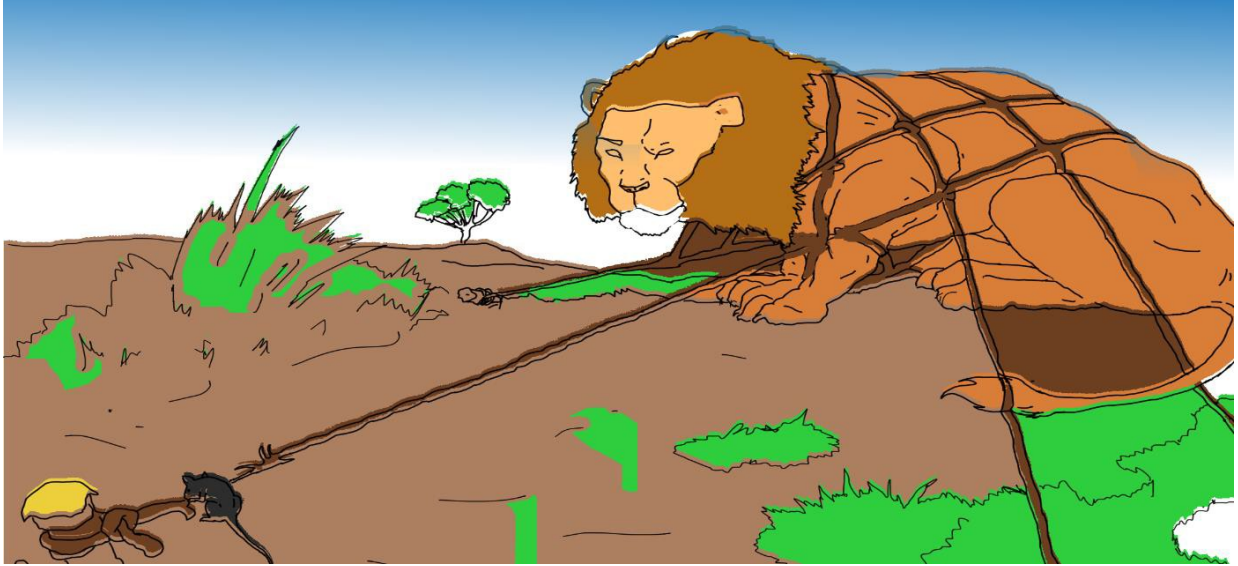
- Children have to love school because education is the key to life

- Stealing is a Crime and can lead to arrest
- Obedience pays
- Education lead to good future





## 21. THE LION AND THE MOUSE



One day, a lion was resting in a forest. Suddenly, a mouse ran over his nose. The lion caught the mouse in his big paw. The little mouse begged for mercy; *"please do not kill me"*, she squeaked. The lion took pity on her. He opened his paw and let her go free. *"Thank you! Someday, I will pay back for your kindness"*, said the mouse.

Then after sometime, the mouse heard a great roar. She knew that the lion was in trouble. She set off at once to find out what was wrong with him. The mouse saw that her friend was caught in a hunter's trap. She nibbled at the net and quickly cut the rope. In a short time, the king of the jungle was free again. The lion thanked the mouse, *"you have saved my life!"* he said. The lion then ran a way to a safe part of the forest.

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Story Shared by **MUJAWAMARIA ELIZABETH**

### **Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Love one another
- Learn how to appreciate
- Have mercy to others.

## 22. HARD WORK PAYS



Once upon a time, there were two siblings who were very poor. They lived in an old house which their parents had left for them many years ago and it was almost falling. One of them wanted to repair the house, but he could not do it alone without the support of the other one.

The elder one didn't like to work. He believed that things would come freely his way. He liked eating a lot, so he could move from house to house begging for food. However, the young one would dig for people and get money to buy clothes and other things. The young one bought iron sheets so that he could construct the house and he requested the older brother to help him to which he refused. Because he believed God is in control of everything, the young one would dig and slash at school to pay school fees for himself. The young brother was determined to make a difference in life. People in the community liked him because he was hard working and they came together as a community to see how to help the young one who was struggling to make ends meet. So, they agreed to collect money to support

the young one with his education to avoid him reaching school late due to early morning digging for school fees.

The young brother was very bright, fast and good at what he does. When the news about the young brother who was poor but very bright reached the king of the village, he accepted to support him by paying school fees for the young boy so that he could use more time on reading. The king paid for him until he graduated as a doctor and he came back and thanked the king and he started working in the village hospital. The whole village was proud of him and all of them wanted their children to be like him. Many schools called him to come and give carrier guidance to the young ones in schools. The older one remained poor in the old house, and the young one grew richer. With time, he was able to put a big hospital in the village to support the community.

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Story Share by **MUJAWAMARIA ELIZABETH**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Be focused in life
- Let us engage ourselves in all activities in order to have better life
- Life is for fighters
- A poor background does not have to determine your future

## 23. MY FRIEND



I'm called Byiringiro, aged 9 years old and I like making friends. Friends are very important in life because unity in life brings success. I'm always happy on my birthday, since my friends are ever there for me. I got a new friend and his name is Niyoshuti. I met Niyoshuti during the evening lessons where we go for extra classes at the teacher's home called Nsengiyumva.

I and Niyoshuti study from different schools but they are close to each other. We usually meet during sports hours at school, during reading competitions, and mathematics competitions. I and Niyoshuti are in the same class although we study in the different schools. Niyoshuti passed Kinyarwanda language subject more than any other and I am good at Maths.

When we are given homework, my friend helps me and I also help her but Niyoshuti assists me in Kinyarwanda lesson and I also assist him with mathematics subject and both of us do help each other in sharing knowledge. This has enabled us to obtain good results despite that we study from different schools. Our parents are very proud of us.

When we are together, we play many games like football, seek and hide among others. He invites me to their events whenever they have them and I also do the same. This has enabled our friendship to keep growing to the extent that our parents are now friends. Niyoshuti has a desire that after his

education he wants to be a self-employed technician while I want to be a doctor. We are sure to make it since we are working hard and praying to God to open doors of favor.



Story Shared by **MUJAWAMARIA ELIZABETH**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- To have positive friends
- To keep supporting each other



## 24. LISTEN TO THE ELDERS



Once upon a time, there was a man and a woman who had two girls. One was of the girls was called Suzan and the other Sarah. Their parents loved them very much. The children started growing up and soon they reached age 12 and 14. Suzan used to help her parents with some activities at home but Sarah never wanted to do anything to help her parents. And at school, Suzan was more knowledgeable than Sarah who never wanted anyone to advise her.

One day, when Sudan and Sarah were at home, their father told them to go with him and help him with garden work before they return to school. Suzan accepted but Sarah said that, *"I know all of you here don't love me, that is why you want me to go to the farm instead of going to school"*. Then, her father told her that *"my daughters I love you equally. I don't love one daughter more than the other"*. Sarah never wanted to listen to her father.

On another day, their mother called them to come and have a girl talk with them. Then she told them that *"my daughters, you see you are getting older, please take care of yourselves. Don't join bad groups, don't associate with boys and avoid gifts from men"*. For Suzan, she listened to the advice of her mother but Sarah didn't listen since she thought that her mother and father didn't love her. The next day, they went back to school and Sarah started associating with bad groups who took alcohol and escaped from school to go and meet men. Her sister Suzan told her not to join those bad groups



because they had been warned that it was bad. Sarah didn't listen to her little sister, since she was older than her. So she continued with that bad group, and started taking alcohol and escaping from school.

One day, their mother came at school to see her two daughters. When she reached, Suzan told her that Sarah was not around. She had escaped from school the past night. Later that evening, when other children had gone home, she also went home. She reached home very drunk and she never wanted to talk to anyone. Her mother was really disappointed in her and she told her that *“Sarah my daughter why have you started escaping from school and taking alcohol?”* But Sarah didn't answer anything. As time went on, Sarah continued to associate with that bad group, escaping from school to go and take alcohol and she started meeting men. Then, men started buying her alcohol gifts. Sarah started having affairs with men not knowing that those men are infected. As time went on, Sarah started getting sick until her parents and sister took her to the hospital for checkup. At the hospital, they checked her and they found out that she had contracted HIV/AIDS and was pregnant as well. Sarah started crying and regretting why she didn't listen to her mother and her sister. Sarah started taking medicine for HIV/AIDS and regretted all her life but for Suzan, she completed her studies and got a nice job and lived a happy life.

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Story shared by **FAVOUR MASARA**

#### **Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Always listen to the advice of your parents
  - Avoid escaping from school
  - Avoid gifts from men
-

## 25. LIFE LESSONS



There was a family that lived far away in the woods. It was a three member family with a husband, wife and their girl child. The girl grew up and when she made 14 years of age, she decided to go and look for a job in the city without consent from her parents. Consequently, one day she woke up early in the morning and packed her things and left for the city to find a job. Her parents kept on looking for her but failed to find her. When she reached in town, she did a door to door job search.

Finally, she got a job in a house that belonged to a soldier who lived alone without a family. So the two started living in the same house. As time went on, that soldier started admiring her and buying her gifts to seduce her. With time, the soldier had an affair with the little girl. After some months, the girl realized that she was pregnant and when she tried to tell the soldier about it, he denied being responsible.

Later, the soldier told her that *"what can I give you so that you get out of my house because I cannot stay with you with this pregnancy. If the police get to know that, they will imprison me"*. The next day, the girl was chased away, but the soldier gave her transport to take her back home. When she reached

home, everyone was surprised to see her pregnant. Her parents were very annoyed to see their only daughter pregnant.

Everyone was surprised to see a girl of 14 years pregnant. When other girls from the village saw that, they feared going anywhere without asking for permission from their parents. She became a reference point for disobedient children in the village. Later, the girl gave birth to a baby boy and life became so hard for her because she was still young and she never knew how to take care of a child because she was also still a child.

When the boy grew up, he kept on asking his mother where his dad was and the girl could tell her son that "*your father is here*". She was showing the boy his grandfather not his father. The boy kept demanding for his father, but the girl didn't show him. The girl started regretting why she gave birth at a young age, why she didn't listen to her parents and why she didn't continue with her studies. This made her cry day and night.

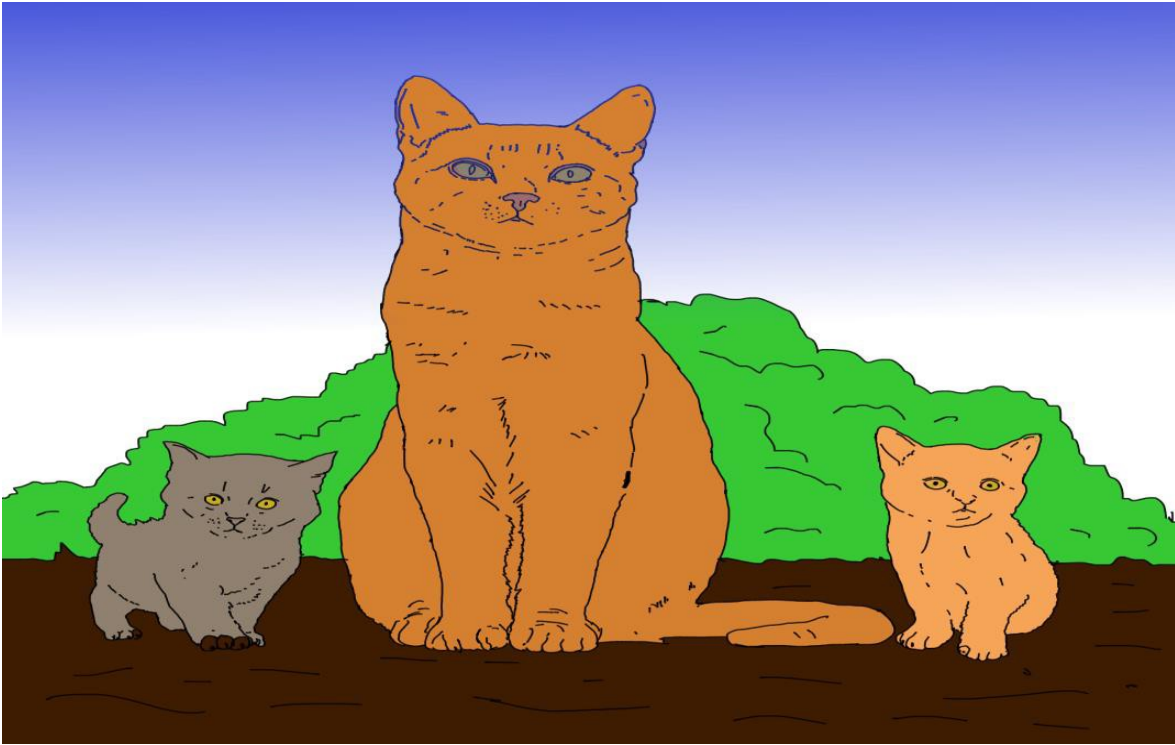
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Story shared by **NYIRAMINANI PERAJI**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Always listen to your parents
- Don't drop out of school
- Avoid early pregnancy
- seek for a permission

## 26. THE WISE CAT



In a certain village, there was an outbreak of famine. All people migrated to another country to go and look for food because hunger was too much. No one was left in the village apart from the cat and its kittens. The cat remained with its kittens, but with no food to eat. So, the cat set off to go to another nearby village to look for food having spent some good days on an empty stomach and its kittens were crying a lot.

The cat went to the family of the Golira because he was the king in that village and she was sure the king must be having food. When the cat reached the gate of the Golira, she knocked. The Golira asked the guards to open the gate. To their surprise, it was the Cat standing out and she requested to meet the king in person and share some information with him.

The cat was allowed in; as she entered, the Golira asked her, *“what do you want me to help you with?”*. The cat replied to the Golira that *“in our village all people have left because of hunger and my children are dying of hunger so I have come to you. Please give me some food to take home to my children”*. After the Gollira heard of the kittens, he felt sorry for the cat and called the guards to bring food and give the cat. The cat appreciated and carried the food to the children.

When the cat arrived at home, kittens started jumping while crying, the cat started breast feeding them since it had eaten some food and they slept off. On seeing that the children were sleeping, she went behind the house and got all the food she had brought home and covered it with soil in the nearby garden. The cat told its kittens that, *“from today we shall be digging to find sweet potatoes, cassava and others foods”*.

After a few days, all the food the cat had brought got finished. They started going hungry again. Then the cat started planning how to deceive the golira again to get more food. So she went back to the golira which got surprised to see the cat again. Then the golira asked the cat, *“what brings you once again?”* The cat answered saying *“I’m very sorry to have come back, it’s because the food you gave me has made my children fall sick so I have come for medicine to treat them”*. The golira asked the kind of medicine that the cat wanted and in response the cat said *“sour and sweet medicine”*. Then they decided to go to the forest to search for medication. They started testing every tree while biting it to ensure it is sour or sweet. Having collected enough, the cat left and went home with fruits collected from the forest and the children were happy to eat sweet fruits like mangoes, pineapple and others.

The following day the cat told the kittens, that, *“I want you to follow me to the forest. I need to show you how to look for sweat fruits by yourself”*. She showed kittens all types of trees, how to cut and test and identify the sweat ones. Ever since then, the cut and its kittens never went hungry.

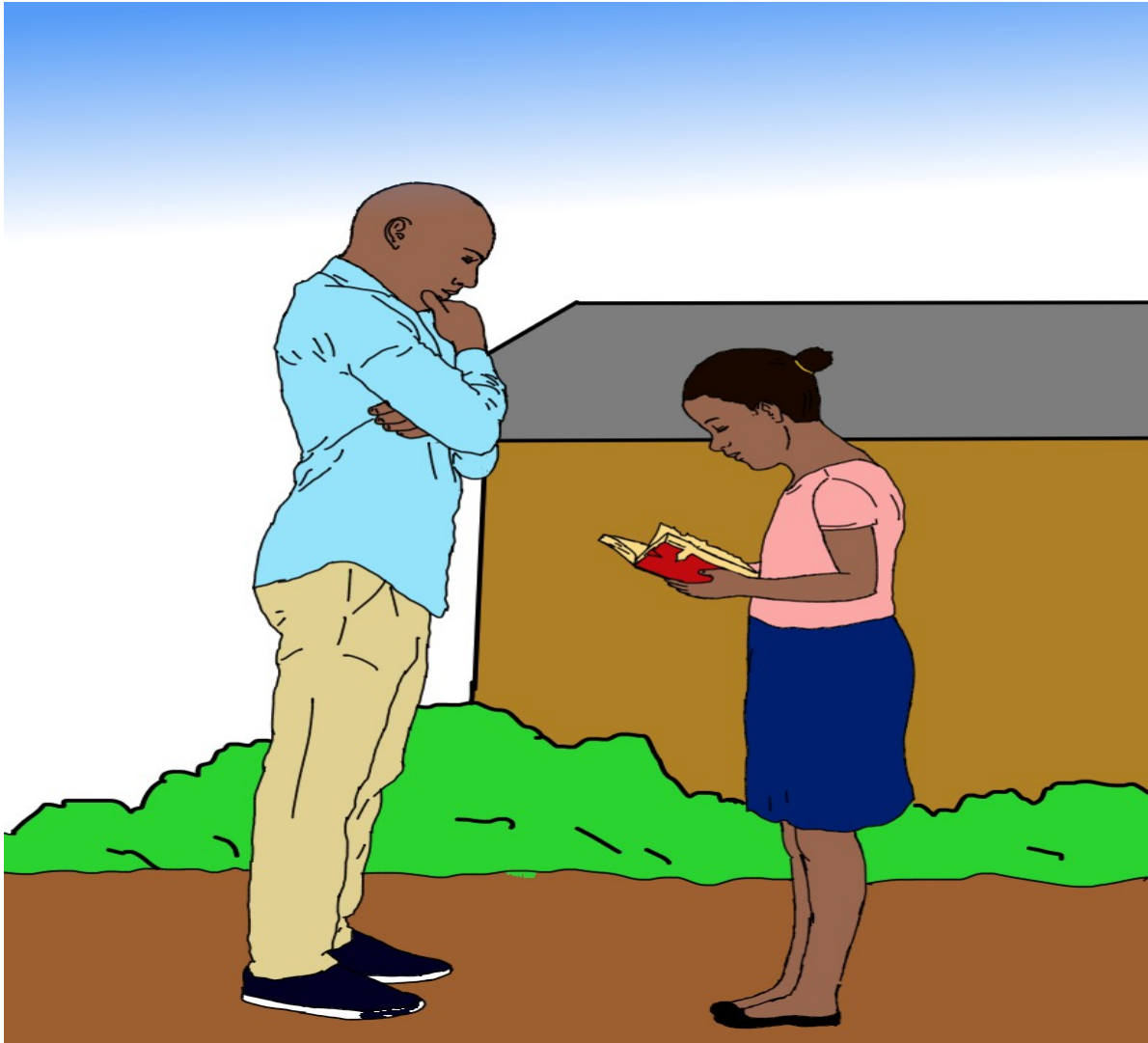
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Story Shared by **RUZAGIRIZA EMMANUEL**

#### **Lessons Learnt by Children**

- To learn how humble ourselves
- To communicate.
- To learn how be wise.

## 27. PRAYERS ANSWERED



Long ago, there was a family head called Mbuga. Mbuga and family were very poor that even the poor referred to them as poor people. Children around the village laughed at them because their children were always sent away from school because they could not afford school fees and wore tattered clothes. One time, Mbuga's children were abused by other children and they went back home crying. This annoyed and saddened Mbuga because of the stigma his young ones were being subjected to. Mbuga always taught his children how to pray and trust in God for better things in life. They prayed as a family every morning and evening. His children were well behaved and everybody in the community knew that. Some few people loved the family for being disciplined and respectful.

One day, Aisha, one of the children, was sent to the market to buy food stuffs. Then she passed by the dustbin and saw old torn books. She decided to pick them and then proceeded to buy foodstuff in the market. Aisha saw an old man who dropped money from his pocket but he didn't realize it. So she walked up to him and said "excuse me sir, you dropped your money". The old man was surprised to see a young and honest little girl. He asked about her parents, where she lived and if she was attending school. The man was surprised to see her with an old book torn in pieces. She said I dropped out of school because my parents could not afford to pay school fees. The man requested to see her parents. When they reached their home, he was surprised to see where she stayed and the living conditions were very bad.

The man promised to pay her school fees and also build a better house for the family. The man kept his promise by coming back the following day and paid school fees for the children in a better school. Later, he built a nice house for them that became the envy of the whole village. People kept wondering where Mbuga got a lot of money to start building a nice house and taking his children to good schools. Mbuga said "*God opened a door of favor for me and my family*". Aisha studied and became an engineer and her brother Tom became a doctor and everyone got surprised to see them graduate and they still remained humble and were able to support other poor families in the community.

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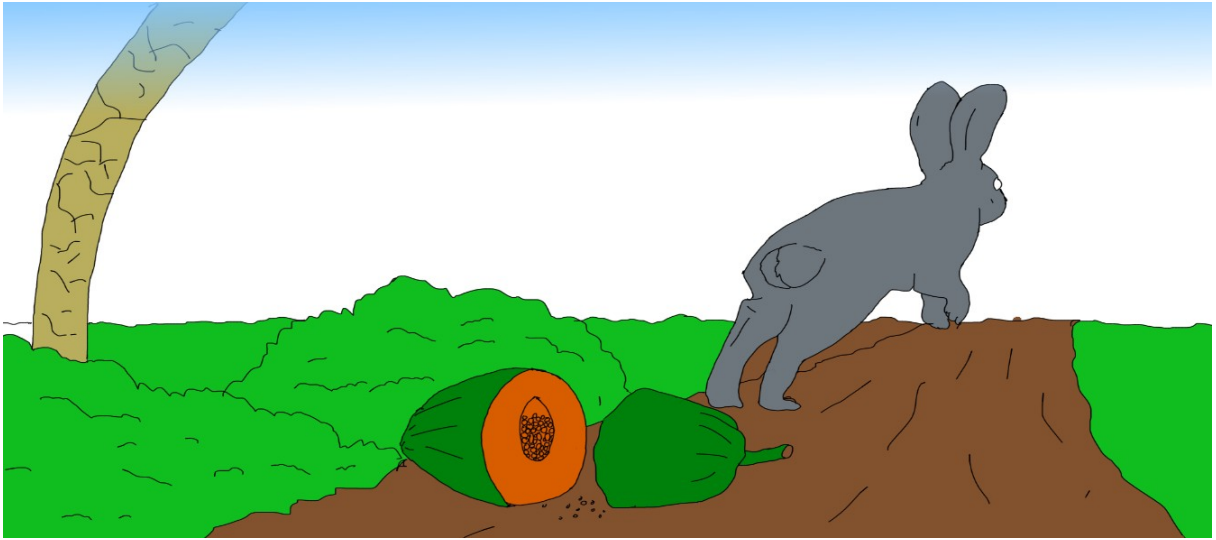
Story Shared by **RUZAGIRIZA EMMANUEL**

#### **Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Avoid stealing
- Trusting God
- Have good behaviors and respect everyone
- Support whoever need a support



## 28. THE GREAT FEAR



One day, Mr. Rabbit was feeling sleepy and went to rest under a pawpaw tree. As soon as he started dozing, a pawpaw from the tree fell down on him. He woke up scared and started running very fast in fear. He ran past other animals, who also got scared and started running with him without asking why he was running so fast. They bypassed the Goat ( called Isirabo), and the Tiger, who also got scared and ran very fast, without asking why. A long the way as they were running, they found the Pig and the Camel, who also started running without finding out why they were running.

The Lion then asked the Tiger, *“why are you running?”* Tiger said, *“I saw the rabbit running so I decided also to run”*. When Isirabo was asked why she was running, she said, *“I saw Tiger and Rabbit running and I started also to run.”* They asked again in general, why everybody was running, they answered that they saw other animals running, so they joined the race for life. Mr. Rabbit came before the other animals and said, *“I was sleeping then something from the sky fell down. I got scared and worried and I started running for my life. Every animal I by-passed quickly followed me and in no time were all running scared”*. Then, the Lion stepped forward and said, *“stay calm. We must first investigate until we find the cause of this running.”*

In the meantime, all the animals gathered together in fear, and stayed together for so many days, yet failed to find the reason for the great fear. Eventually the lion took courage and went to the paw -paw tree to find out what was creating fear in people in the village. He spent days under the same

tree until a paw-paw fell down then he realized it must have been the paw paw fruit falling on dry leaves that created fear. He went back the same day and shared his experience and no one would believe him.



Story Shared by **KAKUZA TEREZA**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Avoid too much fear and acquire boldness
- Avoid doing things because the others are doing
- Always think before we react in all situations



## 29. THE WRECKLESS SON



In one of the villages in a certain country, there was a family which was very rich with a lot of wealth. It was well known as the richest family in the whole country. People from the village used to praise that family. The family consisted of a husband, wife and two children. The two children lived happily. Every morning they used to play games since they had servants at home who could do all kinds of work needed for them to enjoy life.

One day, the father got surprised and shocked on hearing the younger child informing him that, *“Daddy I no long want to stay with you and I don’t want to be called a child again. I need to have my own money and properties because I have grown mature and I want to be on my own”*. Then the father said to him, *“my son I’m going to give you what you want”*, then he gave him a lot of cows and goats plus cars and money with servants to support him, and said to him with tears *“you will still be my son, the doors to this home are still open to you any time you want to come back”*.

After, the child went with a lot of money and other things to another country and started having fun with friends he found in that country. Then, after some time, he had nothing left. He started going through difficult conditions like having nothing to eat, and no clothes to wear. When life became hard, he started putting on torn clothes.

He decided to go around to look for work to do. Then, he went to a certain family and requested for work. When he asked for work, the boss replied him saying that, *“you can’t have the maid work for you, rather go and take care of my pigs”*. The boy started taking care of the pigs as well as eating the same food with pigs because he was not given food. With time, his boss came to know that the boy eats food meant for the pigs and he scolded at him. This made him think about his life especially what he was going through and life back home with so many servants, food, clothes and parties. He decided to go back home and request for forgiveness from the father.

When he was still at a distance, the father was standing in the compound, then saw him and the father went and welcomed him with a big hug and tears rolling because he had missed him. They called the servants to bring nice clothes and nice shoes for the son to put on and ordered them to slaughter the biggest bull as a way of welcoming him.



Story Shared by **KATABAZI MAURCE**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Know how to request for forgiveness once we do something wrong.
- Respect our parents
- Forgive our friends



## 30. THE GOOD CHILD



In a certain village, there was a family of Mr. John and his wife who produced twin boys called Kato and Kakuru. Although these children were twins, they exhibited different characters. Every time Kakuru kept on asking Kato why the parents loved him more. *"It is because you have bad character"* Kato said, *"you don't listen to them, you are greedy and you don't like to share with others"*.

One day, they were sent by their parents to go and fetch water. But as they were going passing a neighboring village, Kakuru saw a mango tree at the roadside with very ripe mangoes. So he proceeded straight to the mango tree. Kato tried to stop him, but he didn't listen. When they reached home, his brother reported him to the parents. Their father threatened to stop paying school fees and buying clothes for Kakuru if he didn't change his behaviour. Kakuru somehow liked to be at school so much so this forced him to apologize to the parents and he promised to change his character. Kakuru pretended to love school and to have changed his behavior until one day when his father was walking to work, when he heard children making noise in the bush along the roadside. He was forced to move near, only to hear his son's voice. He called his son who came out of the bush with stolen bananas.

In the following morning both parents took Kakuru to school to confirm whether he attended school. While at the school, the parents asked the

teachers, whether Kakuru always came to school regularly. “No! Kakuru attends once in a week,”the teachers responsded. His parents and teachers decided to beat him. Both parents and teachers agreed to monitor him closely.

With close monitoring and supervision, Kakuru started changing his behavior by attending all classes, and he stopped stealing. He apologized to the parents and teachers again after sitting for final papers and he was the best in the class. He promised his parents that one day he would be a pilot.

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Story Shared by **KANYAGONGA CLAUD**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Avoid stealing
- Avoid bad peer groups
- Have positive Friends
- Love studying
- Respect our parents and teachers

## 31. THE BEAUTIFUL BLACK QUEEN



Last year in April, twenty girls took part in a beauty contest. The beauty contest took place at Mark learning Center. Regina, my elder sister was one of the twenty girls in the contest. She was asked to join this contest by her friends. They always called her the "Black Beauty Queen" because of her beautiful, black skin color. Regina was also clever and smart. On the day of the contest, Regina wore a red and white pattern dress. She looked very beautiful in it.

At exactly 2:00pm, the contest began. The hall was full of friends, relatives and well-wishers of the girls. During the contest, the judges looked at the beauty, size, age and nationality of the girls. All the twenty girls were very beautiful. It was therefore very difficult for the judges to choose the winner. At 6:00PM, the judges started reading out the results. All the people in the audience were eager to know the winner. The winner was to take the best prize which was a car.

The announcer began with the contestants in the last position. He said, "*The contestant in the 20th position is Regggggg....Regggggg .....*" On hearing this, Regina closed her eyes and covered the faced in shock! After a minute



of silence, the announcer said the full name as "*Regious*". This girl had a name almost similar to that of Regina but it wasn't Regina's.

The announcer of the results went on for almost an hour. Finally they announced Regina as the winner. All of us jumped off our seats shouting with joy. Regina was then crowned "Miss Kyobe" and was handed over the new car. She was very happy.

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Story Shared by **KANYAGONGA CLAUD**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Be confident
  - Be humble and honest.
  - Work hard for success
-

## 32. HUMILITY TAKES IT ALL



In one village, there was a family that had twin boys and one was Kato another one Waswa. These boys resembled one another. They grew up in a very poor family and everyone was wondering how the family would develop. The two children kept on asking their mother about how they would manage to enroll into school. *"God is always there for everyone, don't mind my children"* said the mother. The twins kept on praying to God to at least change their lives.

One day, their uncle came to visit them at their home and the children started explaining to him everything about how they were not attending school. Their uncle felt bad about that and promised that, *"I'm going to pay for you school fees"*. The twins became very excited.

After a few weeks, the two children were taken to school for studies. As they started studying, the twins were not liked equally because of different conduct. Kato was liked more at the school because of the good conduct while Waswa wasn't liked much due to misbehaving towards fellow students. As they could be studying, Waswa wasn't following what the teacher was teaching in class but Kato was a good listener and followed what was taught.

One day the teacher wrote a question on the chalk board and asked every pupil to give his/ her answer. All class raised up their hands apart from Waswa, who didn't because he had no answer to give. When the teacher asked why he was not raising his hand, the class laughed at him. Waswa felt discriminated from others and from then, he developed bad behavior like using drugs and his twin brother wasn't happy at all.

Kato was known to be a well-behaved child and was chosen as a school leader. This annoyed Waswa and he started consuming more drugs. Kato called Waswa and started counseling him *"Waswa you know we'll that I'm always the first in the class. Now, I want you be giving time to your books. Remember uncle is paying our school fees. Do you want to go back to those days when we wished to go to school? Think about the pain you bring to mother"*. Kato started teaching Waswa although Waswa was not showing much interest. As days went by, Waswa started changing his grades and behavior. Pupils started seeing Waswa making changes in class and developed good behavior and everyone was wondering how Waswa had changed. His performance improved well and both teachers and his parents became surprised and happy.

In the final year, Waswa and Kato were the first students with good results and were given scholarships to go to the next class. They became the talk of the community and the uncle was the happiest. They studied and completed their education now they are employed. They built for their mother the best house in the village.

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Story Shared by **KANYAGONGA CLAUD**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Be well behaved children
- Avoid taking drugs
- Cooperate with your brothers and sisters and other students
- Listen to teachers when they are teaching.

### 33. STEALING IS BAD



In a certain village, there was a man called Phillip. He was a farmer and had goats, cows, hens and many other animals on his farm. In his garden, he planted plantain and green vegetables. There, however, were children in the village who would steal fruits, greens, chicken and other things and eat and also take home to their parents to cook.

The farmer talked to the parents of these children about their conduct to no avail, as they continued stealing his produce. The children not only stole from the farmer, but also stole other people's foods in the village including goats. Although the people in the village were tired of their behavior, they could do nothing.

One day, one of the five children in the group decided to steal from yet another neighbor of Phillip. He stole matoke from the plantation and chicken from the compound. He was caught and taken to the police. The following day, the remaining four children didn't take any lesson from that, but instead went ahead to steal more matoke and greens as a way of revenge for their friend who was in police custody.

However, they didn't know Phillip and the police were near the garden. The police arrested them and the parents were summoned to witness and

answer for the bad actions of their children. The police also called for a village meeting for the community to decide what should be done to both the parents and their children.

The community decided that the children and the parents be banished out of the village because they were a security threat to the whole community (both to persons and to food). Their parents tried to plead for their stay but it fell on deaf ears as the community had had enough.



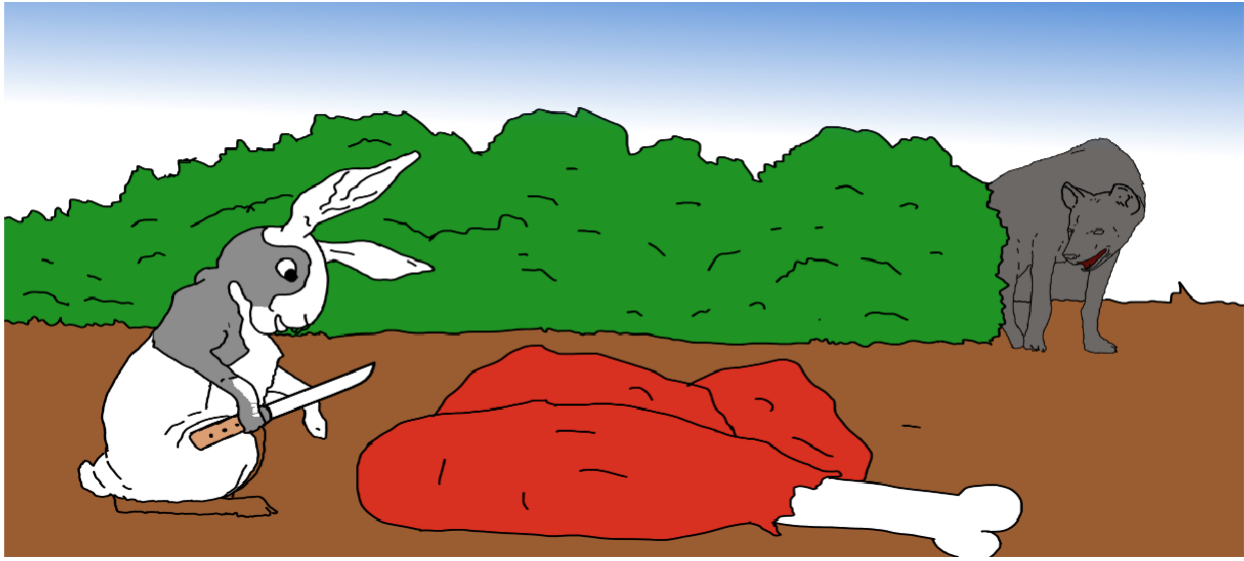
Story shared by **NSHUNGU SEBAGABO**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Stealing is not good, but you have to work hard
- Don't destroy other people's properties
- Avoid wrong peer behavior
- Learn to work hard for your living
- Learn how to request for anything
- Parents should learn how to discipline their children and not condone their wrong actions.
- Two wrongs do not make right.
- Do not do to others what you would not want them to do to you.



### 34. THE RABBIT AND THE HYENA



Long time ago, there lived a rabbit and a hyena who lived together as good friends. The hyena used to steal cows and bring home and the two would share. The two friends lived alone in a beautiful house and they never brought any friends home. They ate a lot of meat and fruits. One day, the hyena brought an idea of buying a cow that can produce milk for home consumption, because that was what was missing in their home daily and yet the hyena loved it a lot.

Eventually, they bought one cow and started grazing it. Then, they agreed that one would graze it in the morning and another in the evening, while one prepared food or went hunting.

One day, as the rabbit was grazing the cow, he got an idea to slaughter the cow because he had missed eating meat for some time. But little did he know that hyena was in the bush watching his movements. The rabbit picked his sharp knife and started cutting the cow. The hyena watched from a distance as the rabbit cut the cow and hid the meat in the bush. He put the bones together on the road next to a hole. After keeping the meat, the rabbit started screaming "*help, help, help, someone has cut my cow into pieces*". So other animals came running and found the rabbit crying. The hyena did not come out of his hiding. The other animals felt sorry for the little rabbit and they carried the bones for him back home.

When the other animals had left, the hyena came out of his hiding corner and carried the meat home. The rabbit was surprised to see hyena coming home with a lot of meat. So rabbit not knowing that hyena was in the bush, he started crying to hyena how someone cut the cow when he had moved a distance from the cow. The hyena told the rabbit that he was in the bush watching and he had seen little rabbit cutting the cow into pieces, and he saw him keep the meat in the bush and put the bones aside then he started screaming for help from other animals. The hyena told the rabbit to pick all his property and leave because he was not a good friend. The rabbit tried to plead for forgiveness but the hyena was very angry and bitter with the little rabbit. The rabbit was forced to leave the beautiful house and start a new home alone without any friend who could hunt for meat.

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Story shared by **MUHOZA KAZZA**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Never lie to your friend.
  - Bad to be greedy
  - Be faithful to your friend.
-



## 35. BAD FRIENDS



Long ago, there lived a man called Joseph. He was married to Mary and they both had two children, Esau and Sarah. The family lived at Kitoko village. Esau and Sarah's parents loved them a lot and gave them everything that they wanted. One day, Esau left home to go and play with other children who were strangers in the neighborhood. His parents stopped him and told him not to play with children who are strangers. But Esau did not listen to his parents.

The children who were playing with Esau had bad manners like stealing, insulting one another and insulting people who could be passing by including elders. With time, Esau also started copying his friends' manners and started smoking weed and sleeping out of home. As time went by, Esau decided to leave his home to go and stay with his friends and started stealing from the market. There was no one to advise him and he started sleeping on the street.

Esau fell sick and lost a lot of weight because he was not eating and he was not able to get medication in time. He needed food and medicine because he was weak and sick. When his friends noticed that he was very weak, they all left him alone.

Someone told Esau's parents that they had seen him on the streets and he was very weak. They looked for him until they found him when he was very sick and was taken to the hospital. When he got better, they took him home and gave him nice food and clothing.

He was given a chance to go back to school and he apologized for not obeying his parents. He promised to change and follow the parent's advice. He changed the type of friends he had before and got serious ones. This time around, he graduated, got a good job and he lived a happy life.

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Story shared by **MUHOOZA KAZZA**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Avoid bad friends
  - complete your studies and have good future
  - Have big dreams for your future
  - Listen to your parents advises
-

## 36. HARE AND THE TORTOISE



One day, there was a Tortoise and the Hare. They loved each other very much. Hare told Tortoise that there was no animal that could defeat him in a race. Tortoise told Hare that there were many animals who could run faster than him. Hare felt so bad to hear that. Tortoise told the Hare that he could call all the other animals who could run faster than him. Hare told the Tortoise to call them. Tortoise then stood on the platform and told the other animals about what he was told by the Hare. Tortoise told them that Hare said that no animal could defeat him in a race. Many animals said that they could run faster than Hare. Tortoise got off the platform and Hare climbed up. Hare said that for sure no animal could defeat him in any race. Other animals were angry with Hare because of having claimed that. They told Hare that they would punish him if they defeated him.

All the other animals prepared to participate in the race. They all lined up and waited for Tortoise to blow the whistle. Without wasting time, Tortoise blew the whistle and the animals started racing including; Elephant, Leopard, Cheetah, Zebra, Antelope, Buffalo and Hare.

The animals run as fast as they could, but Hare was clever enough. When all animals were a head, hare stopped along the road and waited as they were coming back he joined along the finishing line and he won the race as

much as the other animals tried and failed. Hare started exulting himself above others as the king of the race, which did not go well with other animals.

Tortoise stood up and said that he could defeat Hare in the second running competition. When Hare heard what Tortoise said to all the animals, he laughed at him because Tortoise was always known to walk slowly. The other animals also laughed. Elephant stood on the platform without wasting time to flag the next race and blew a whistle. Tortoise reached a certain point and started coming back. All the other animals were all surprise to see Tortoise coming back as number one. All the animals could not believe it and they started crying because they were defeated by the Tortoise. Then, all the animals started complaining about Tortoise and the Hare because they had realized same 'monkey game'. Hare started complaining that Tortoise didn't reach where he was supposed to reach and that he did not see Tortoise ahead of him. Elephant made things worse by laughing at all the animals because Tortoise defeated them. Hare told the other animals that Tortoise had used a short-cut.

All the animals decided to compete for a third time. Hare and Tortoise were not happy since they knew that their trick would not work out. This time, all animals ran watching closely each other. They reached at the point of return in order to win the race. Hare and Tortoise became the last. All animals knew that Tortoise and Hare had played games. Buffalo decided that Tortoise and Hare should be given a punishment for lying and cheating other animals. All the animals decided to tie Hare's and Tortoise's hands and legs using one rope. They did this so that Hare and Tortoise learn their mistake. All animals started beating Tortoise and Hare. Then, when they realized that they had beaten them so badly, all animals left Hare and Tortoise crying painfully.

Out of anger, Hare told his friend Tortoise that they should go home and revenge by beating their wives. Tortoise went home and started beating his wife and the wife was wondering why her husband was beating her. When tortoise was about to kill his wife the neighbors rescued her, but Hare did not beat his wife. When Hare realized that Tortoise had beaten his wife, he laughed at him. Tortoise beat Hare and wounded him badly because of lying to him. Hare ran away after seeing that he could be killed by the angry Tortoise and went back home with wounds on his face. His wife was shocked and asked him what had happened. Hare told her all what had happened.

Hare decided not to lie again in his life and Tortoise asked forgiveness from his wife.

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Story was shared by **MUHOZA KAZZA**.

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- Never lie to your friends
  - Don't take revenge by yourself
  - Never beat others
  - Have team work
  - Cheating is bad
-

### 37. KAWERA MEETS FIRST FRIEND



There was a girl called Kawera and she lived with her parents. They were poor and the little girl did not have friends because the family did not associate with the community members but lived in isolation. This was made worse because families lived far apart. As she grew up as the only child at home, she didn't know how to make friends because she never played with any kids around.

One day, Kawera moved from home to the nearby village without letting her parents know. On her way, she saw some beautiful flowers which attracted her to move near and she picked some. She got excited after picking the flowers and she started moving back home. She moved but reached cross roads and failed to trace her way back home. She started crying for help because it was the first time she had left home alone. Back at home, her parents were already looking for her. One of village girls, Wimana, saw her on her way from the forest after collecting firewood and asked Kawera why she was crying? She said with rolling tears from her eyes *"I have lost my way to home"*.

Wimamna led her to her home but as they were approaching, they found her parents were also searching for her. Her parents thanked Wimamna for bringing her back safely. The following day, Wimana came to

visit Kawera at home. Kawera became happy to have a friend and she served her food. So, when the mother asked her why she had served food to Wimana, she answered that *“mother I have to share food with my friend because she helped me when I got lost on my way home”*. From then, they become very good friends.

Kawera’s father told her, *“My girl you should keep on appreciating people who do good things to you”*. Wimana kept coming to check on her and they continued to be good friends. They started doing homework together in different subjects and became a good example to others in the village.

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Story Shared by **MUKAKABONA JACQUELINE**

**Lessons Learnt by Children**

- To be kind to others
  - To have good friends
  - A void isolation, make friends
  - Learn how to appreciate
-



## 38. THE LITTLE HARD-WORKING GIRL



Long time ago, far away from the village, there was a couple that had one child called Ndabaga. Ndabaga, as much as she was a young girl, could engage herself in all kinds of work without discriminating that it was for a girl or a boy. Ndabaga grew and learnt how to milk and graze cattle plus other domestic duties at an early age. She grew up under very hard conditions because her family was very poor compared to others in the whole village. Often, she could not find enough to eat as a family for days. This forced them to work extra hours around neighboring areas doing all kinds of odd jobs in order to get what to feed on and clothe.

One day, Ndabaga decided to leave home and went to look for a job, since she was grown up. Her search for work took her to the King's palace gates, where she requested to see the king himself. When the King heard that there was a young girl seeking to see him, he laughed and granted her request.

When she reached the king's presence, he asked her the reason for wanting to see him. Ndanaga answered, "*King, can I work in your palace as a servant?*" The King laughed and asked, "*what kind of work can you be in position to do young lady?*" Ndabaga said, "*O King, I can do any kind of work that you can offer me.*" The King was surprised at her courage and decided to give her a chance to work as he observed.

She was very happy about the job offer. She soon set to do all kinds of tasks including milking, grazing cattle, collecting firewood and fetching water for palace use and for the cattle. The King was very surprised, happy and loved her because of the way she was performing her duties without being forced or supervised was exceptional. The King openly appreciated her for the tasks well done, considering that she could do all kinds of work at a young age.

One day, the King called her and said, *“ I have given half of my land and my nice house to you, please go and bring your parents and come and stay in the house and cultivate the land.”* She was happy after hearing this good news from the King. The following day, she was able to go and call her parents to the King’s palace. When they reached the palace, she presented her parents before the King and the King was pleased to see them. He said, *“you must be proud of your daughter, and thank you for teaching her a lot of different activities. Go and enjoy everything I have given you.”*

They bowed before the King and appreciated the gift with a lot of pleasure. The parents could not believe what their eyes were seeing and they thanked God and also blessed the King.

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#### **Lessons Learnt by Children**

- To be hard working children that support the family.
  - To always behave well
  - To learn how to perform any kind of task
  - Be determined to create a change in your life
  - You can overcome poverty through hard work
-