



Special
Days

LESSON PLANS

for

Internationally recognized

SPECIAL DAYS

[with an animal component]



The **United Nations** has designated certain days in the calendar as **International Days** in order to shine a spotlight on **important aspects of human life.**



8 MAY

The content of this Lesson Plan supports
World Donkey Day



DID YOU KNOW?

A secret tip-off recently led to the dramatic rescue of 101 donkeys.

Today, as we celebrate World Donkey Day, we pay our respects to the courageous people who took part in the rescue.

If they hadn't been rescued, the donkeys would have been killed for their skins, for export to China



donkey rescue

It started when an SPCA field officer **Mr Phumlani Majola** received a tip-off that a truck loaded with donkeys was on the N3 heading from the Tugela Ferry area towards Mooi River in the KZN Midlands.

Armed with a description of the truck, he kept watch on the freeway until finally, he spotted the truck approaching.



donkey rescue

He immediately alerted the Mooi-Mpofana Municipality traffic officials who sprang into action and ordered the truck to pull off the road.



donkey rescue

The traumatized donkeys were then taken to a place of safety where **veterinarian Dr Thashia Reddy** arrived to carry out health checks on the donkeys. Many were infested with ticks and had bleeding wounds.

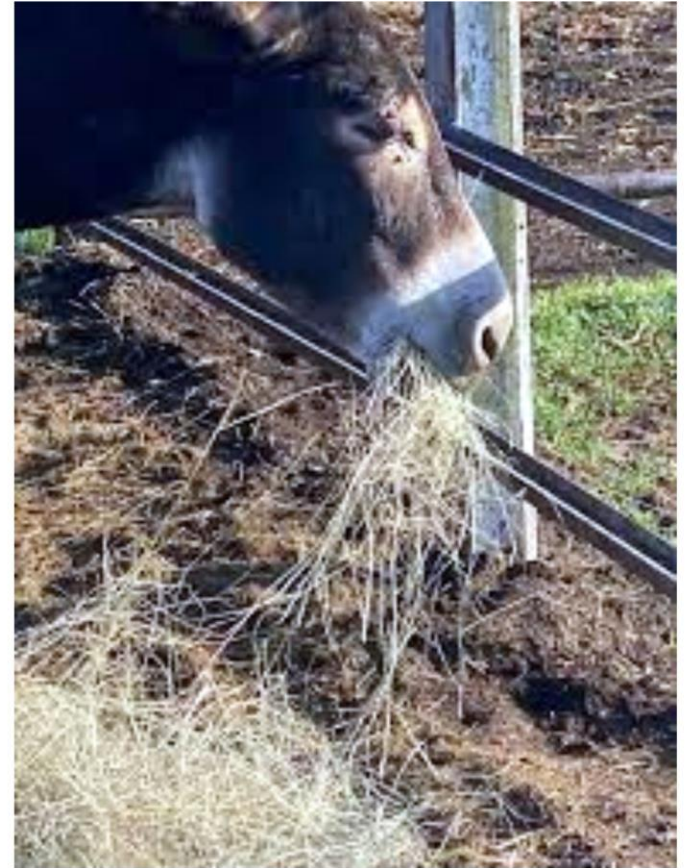


Picture: The Witness, 19 March 2021

donkey rescue

Local residents and the **Mooi-Mpofana Agricultural Association** played their part by bringing bales of hay and horse pellets to the hungry donkeys.

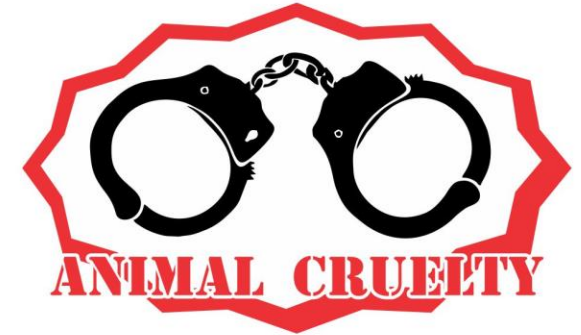
The donkeys would have been slaughtered for their skins to make gelatin for a product called ejiao, used in traditional Chinese medicine.



[However, scientists say donkey hide gelatin has no medicinal value at all.]

donkey rescue

The six men who abducted the donkeys received a fine or alternatively a **jail sentence** for cruelty to animals.



Donkeys have laboured on behalf of humans ever since they were first domesticated about 5000 years ago.

Over the centuries they have...

- helped us *plough the land* in preparation for planting

- helped us *thresh wheat* for bread

- helped us *carry heavy loads*

- from place to place, even across great distances

- been *essential* to our

- transport* right up to this very day *in rural areas*



Donkeys are STOIC

They are also known for their stamina, strength, intelligence, patience and affectionate natures.

They can become stubborn and uncooperative if bullied.



Look up

NEW WORDS

you may not be sure of...



STOIC

What are the
characteristics
of a stoic?

People around the world have erected statues of donkeys in honour of them



Photo: AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL



John Simpson Kirkpatrick, a soldier in the Australian Imperial Force during World War I, befriended a donkey. They worked day and night amid fierce shrapnel and rifle-fire, carrying the wounded... **Simpson and his donkey became a legend** — the symbol of all that was pure, selfless and heroic.

READ THE STORY <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/kirkpatrick-john-simpson-6975>

The South African town of Upington in the Northern Cape is home to a life-sized monument of a donkey ***to symbolise the contribution made by donkeys*** in helping early farmers to pump water from the Orange River.





Donkey nannies are donkeys that help look after newborn lambs



They're mostly found in Italy where they help shepherds to **transport new-born lambs from high pastures down to the plains**, when the lambs are too young to make the journey on their own.

The donkeys have to wear special coats with cosy pockets into which the lambs can fit.

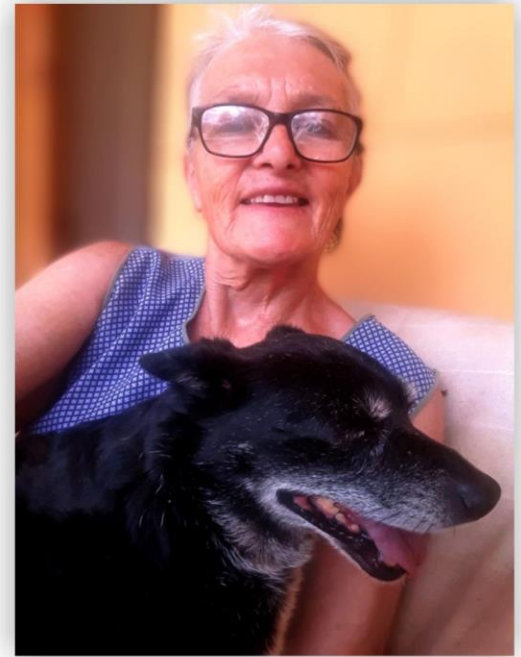


During rest stops, the lambs are taken out of the pockets so that they can suckle from their moms before being returned to the pockets to continue the journey down the mountain.

*Teacher's
Note*



***Invite the learners
to read this story
written by
Dr Peta Jones,
a world expert
on donkeys and
their welfare.***



Illustrations by
Pandora Alberts



Afrikaans

VERSION

Also available in English, isiXhosa, isiZulu, SeSotho and SeTswana.



Die Kosbare Geskenk

deur Peta Jones



Die Klein Donkie

Thabo was drie jaar oud toe sy pa se donkie 'n vulletjie gekry het. Thabo se pa het gesê hy kan die vulletjie 'n naam gee en hom self versorg. Hy het vir Thabo vertel dat konings en edel-manne baie jare gelede op donkies gery het. Mense is baie gelukkig dat donkies vir hulle kan werk. Maar hulle moet goed versorg word in ruil vir al hul harde werk.

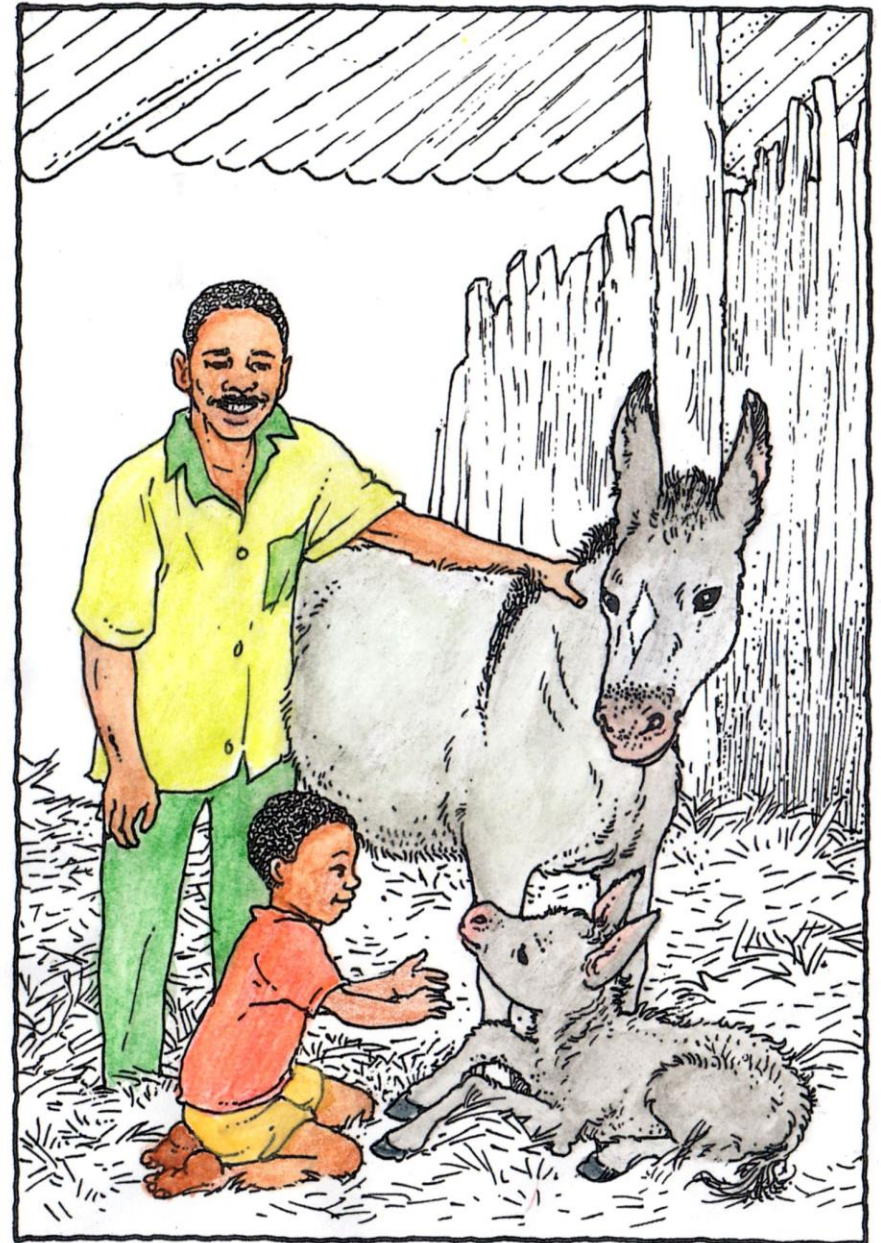
Thabo het die klein donkie Chipso genoem, wat 'geskenk' beteken.

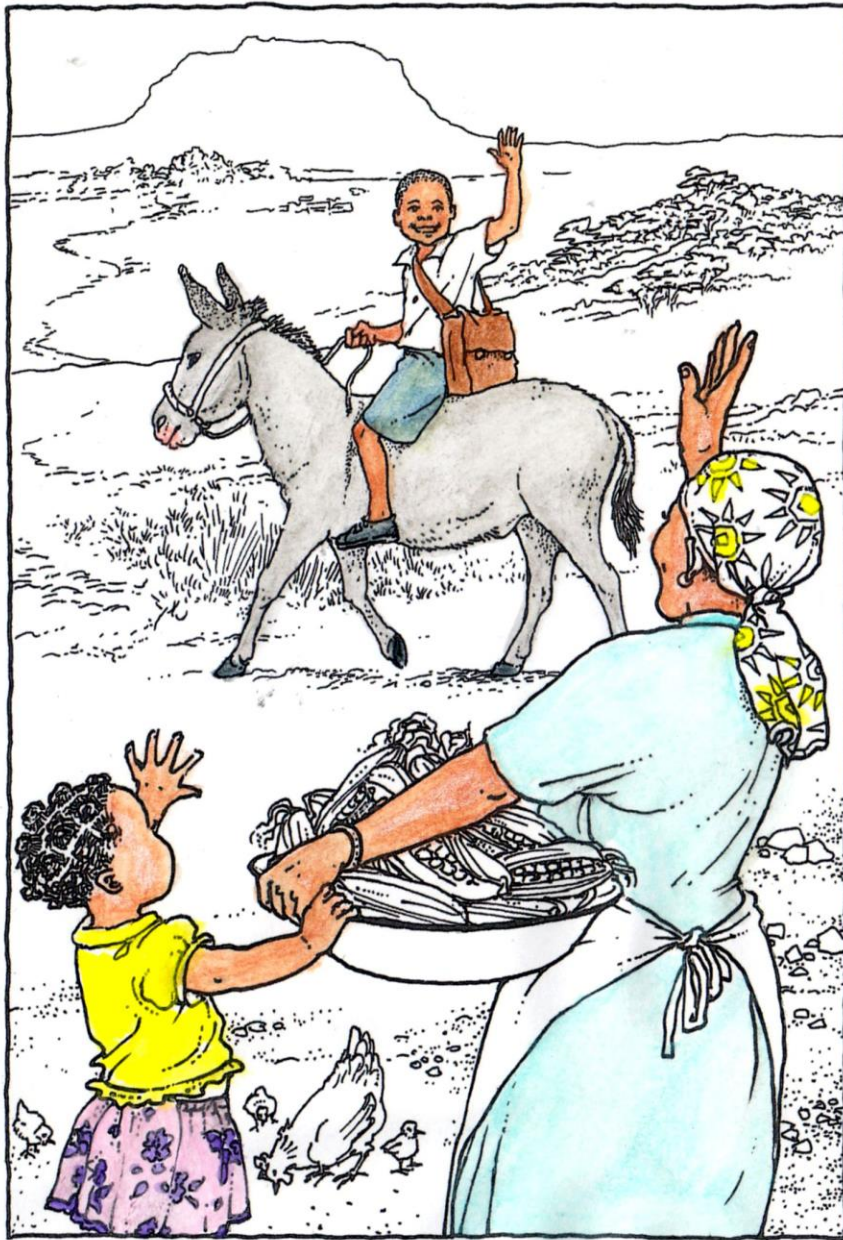
Thabo se pa het hom gewys hoe om die donkie gewoond te maak dat daar aan sy voete en oë gevat word, want somtyds moet donkies se hoewe skoongemaak word as hulle vol modder of dorings raak. Hulle oë moet gewas word as daar te veel stof en vlieë is wat die donkies pla.

Thabo het van Chipo se sagte pels gehou toe hy nog klein was, en die fluweel-agtige vel rondom sy bek. Thabo het stukkies kos in sy hand gehou en Chipo gevoer. Hy het dit uit Thabo se hand gevat met sy sagte lippe. Gou-gou het Chipo hard gebalk om Thabo te groet as hy hom sien aankom.

Chipo het vinniger groot geword as Thabo. Maar Thabo se pa het hom gewaarsku dat Chipo se bene nog nie sterk genoeg was nie. As hy hard sou moes werk of swaar goed op hom gelaai sou word, sou sy bene knak en dan sou hy pyn gehad het vir die res van sy lewe. As hy goed versorg word, kon hy amper so lank soos Thabo lewe, want donkies kan baie lank lewe.

Toe Chipo vier jaar oud en volwasse was, het hy sy ma gehelp om Thabo se pa se karretjie te trek. Chipo het ook gehelp om Thabo se ma se lande om te ploeg.





Maar nou was Thabo sewe jaar oud en hy het Chipo nodig gehad om hom skool toe te vat. Thabo het swaar boeke gehad om te dra, maar Chipo kon die boeke en vir Thabo gelyk dra.

Skooldae

Terwyl Thabo by die skool geleer het, het Chipo geleer om goeie kos in die heuwels te kry. Droë gras en bossies is goeie kos vir 'n donkie. Thabo het Chipo geleer om elke dag op die selfde tyd terug te gaan as die skool gesluit het, om vir hom en al sy boeke huis toe te dra. Party kinders by die skool het vir hom gelag.

Sally het gesê: “Dis snaaks om so 'n ou stadige dier te gebruik. My pa bring my met 'n mooi, vinnige motorkar. En ek kan na die radio luister in die kar!”

Ander kinders het gesê: “Ons kom met 'n taxi en ons luister na CD's!”

Phineas het gesê: “My trapfiets is mooi en blink en bly net daar waar ek hom neersit. Hy hoef nie gras te eet nie en het ook nie petrol nodig nie.”

Maar Thabo was baie lief vir Chipso en Chipso was ook lief vir Thabo en hy het hom oral gevolg. Thabo het nie sy pa vir 'n fiets gevra nie.

Eendag op pad skool toe, ry Thabo verby Sally wat langs die pad loop met haar swaar skoolboeke.

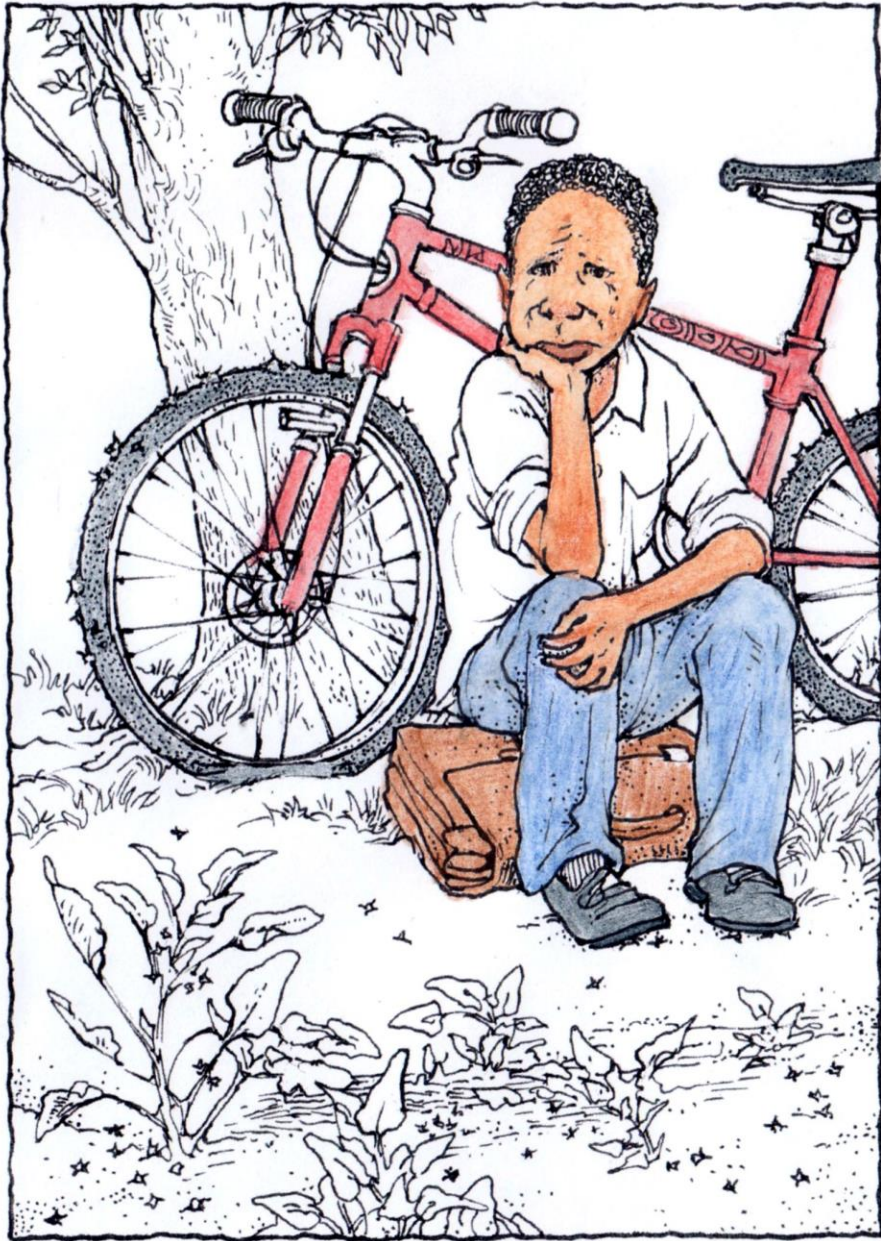
“Waar's jou pa se kar?” vra Thabo.

“Daar is nie petrol in die kar nie” het Sally skaam gesê.

Toe klim sy op Chipso en ry saam met Thabo skool toe. “Chipso het my en al my boeke gedra!” het sy vir die ander kinders vertel.

Van toe af het sy amper elke dag saam met Thabo gery.





Op 'n dag, toe Thabo en Sally op pad huistoe is, sien hulle vir Phineas huil. “My wiel is pap! As ek nou my fiets probeer ry, sal die wiel heeltetal breek!”

Phineas het sy fiets by die skool gelos. Hy het ook op Chipso geklim en saam met Sally en Thabo huistoe gery.

Thabo se pa was kwaad want hy het gedink die vrag is swaar vir Chipso om te dra. “Drie kinders en al daardie boeke is genoeg vir een donkie! As nog meer kinders wil saamry, of as julle groter word, sal die vrag te swaar word. Ander kinders moet self hulle eie donkies kry” het sy pa gesê.

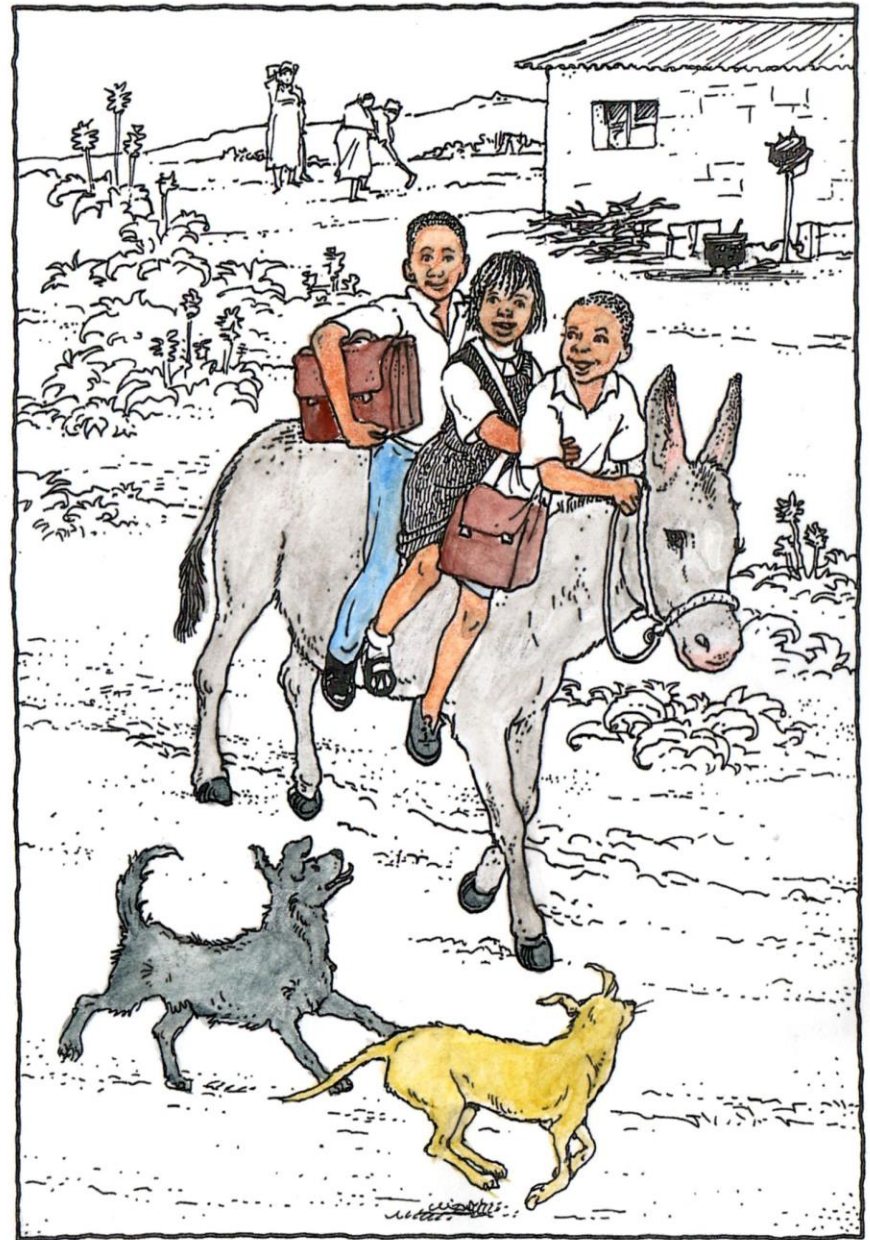
Phineas het ure gesukkel om sy fiets reg te maak. Hy moes dit herhaaldelik doen, want die rowwe paaie het sy bande baiekeer pap laat word, en dan het hy ook laat by die skool gekom.

Eendag het baie kinders laat by die skool opgedaag. Hierdie kinders het met die taxi gery. Die Skoolhoof was baie bekommerd. Hy het 'n telefoonoproep gekry, en toe vertel hy vir die onderwysers: “Die taxi was in 'n ongeluk, maar niemand is beseer nie!”

Die Taxi

Daarna was Thabo se pa die taxibestuurder vir die skoolkinders, en die donkiekar was die 'taxi'. Sally en Phineas het ook met die 'taxi' gery, maar Thabo het nog steeds op Chipso gery want hy was baie lief vir hom. Al die kinders by die skool het toe lief geraak vir donkies.

Somtyds het die kinders vir Thabo en sy pa gaan help om donkiemis op die landerye te gooi. So het Thabo se pa geld gespaar en goeie oeste gekry. Hulle het almal saamgestem dat Chipso 'n baie spesiale geskenk aan Thabo was. Hulle kon ook sien hoekom Thabo hom so goed versorg het.





Chipo was nooit toegelaat om op die hoofpaaie te gaan nie. En Thabo was altyd saam met hom op die ander paaie. Snags het Chipo 'n lekker veilige plek gehad om te slaap. Party kinders het hulle pa's gevra of hulle ook donkies mag kry.

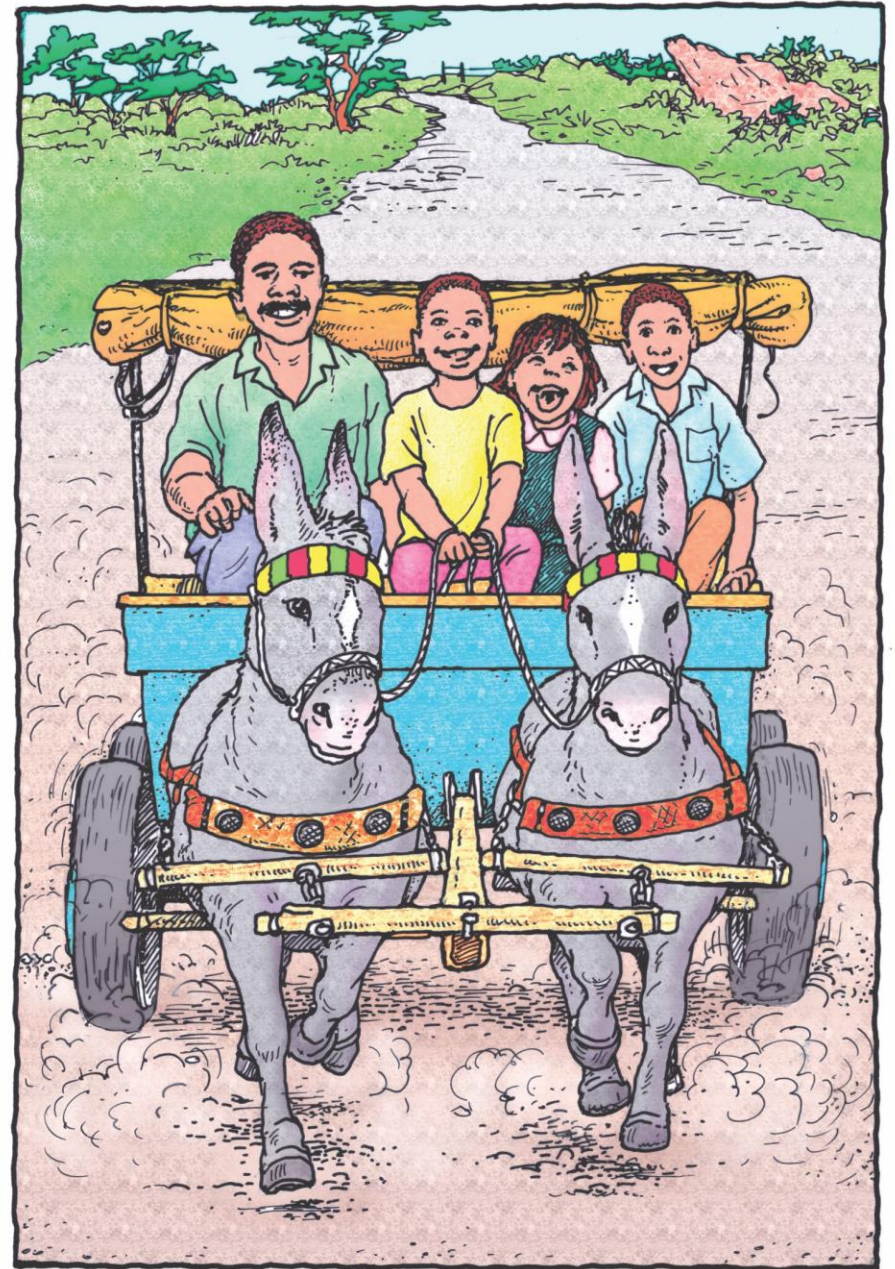
Thabo se pa het sy twee-wiel kar vir 'n vier-wiel wa geruil, en kon toe meer kinders skool toe vat. As 'n karretjie net twee wiele het, is dit moeilik om hom te balanseer, spesiaal vir die donkies. Met vier wiele is die probleem opgelos.

Op haar beurt het Thabo se ma geleer om harnasse te maak deur gebruikte supermark-plastieksakkies inmekaar te vleg. Dit maak sterk bande vir die harnasse en maak nie die donkies seer nie. Terselfdertyd het die plastieksakke mooi helder kleure en dit kan ook maklik gewas word sodat die harnasse helderkleurig en skoon kan bly.

Dit is baie beter as om die plastieksakke op die grond te los waar dit deur diere geëet kan word. Diere eet die plastieksakke omdat dit na kos ruik, maar die plastiek maak groot knope in hul mae en kan selfs hulle dood veroorsaak.

Aankomende motors kon die karretjie sien as dit die hoofligte weerkaats. Die wa het ook 'n seil gehad om die kinders te beskerm teen wind en reën.

Thabo se pa het 'n kassetspeler gekoop om in die wa te luister, maar meestal het die kinders gesing.



*Note to
Teacher*

*Discuss with the learners
how Thabo and his family
made sure their
donkeys enjoyed the
Five Freedoms for Animals.*

*These principles
are endorsed by the
World Organization for
Animal Health.*

5 VRYHEDE vir DIERE



5 VRYHEDE vir DIERE

Onderskryf deur Die Wêreld Organisasie vir Diergegesondheid

Vryheid van honger en dors

Vryheid van ongemak

Vryheid van pyn, besering en siekte

Vryheid om normale gedrag te beoefen

Vryheid van angs en vrees



How well do you remember the story?

1 Write **TRUE** or **FALSE**

The name **Chipo** means gift

The skin surrounding Chipo's mouth was soft

When Chipo was 3 years old, he had to pull the cart

Thabo started school when he was 7 years old

Thabo's Father was cross that all 3 children had ridden the donkey at the same time

2 Write down the missing words

The wagon had at the back for when it got dark.

Plastic bag harnesses can easily be

Chipo was never allowed on the roads.

In the olden days and noblemen rode donkeys.

Harnesses made from do not hurt the donkeys.

3 Who...

owned a bicycle?

phoned to find out what had happened to the taxi?

warned the children about Chipo's bones?

drove a fast car?

named the foal?

4 What...

did Thabo's father buy for the wagon?

food did Chipo eat?

could make a donkey's eyes weep?

did Thabo's father use to fertilise the field?

part of the wagon protects the children from the rain?



Write an ACROSTIC poem...

If you look at the following poem you will see that the letters on the left in dark print form the word **DOG**

Dear little puppy
Outside playing with a red ball
Give it lots of love and attention

See if you can create a similar **acrostic poem** using the word **DONKEY**

D

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WORKER'S DAY

**1
MAY**



Just like ***the work of humans is celebrated*** on International Workers' Day on 1st May every year, ***donkeys too are deserving of respect and dignity*** and the right not to be exploited.

Now lawyers are putting their heads together to
discuss how best to...

recognize

*the toil
and labour*

*of
donkeys*

*and
other*

animals



O, die donkie! Ja, die donkie!

Die donkie is 'n wonderlike ding!

Hy staan en dink waar die muishond stink!

Die donkie is 'n wonderlike ding!

