

Animal Race

seconds,
minutes and hours



Age
Umri
7+

Late one morning, Kibena, Kiduchu, Koba and Baraka came together to organise a running race for the animals of Kokotoa.



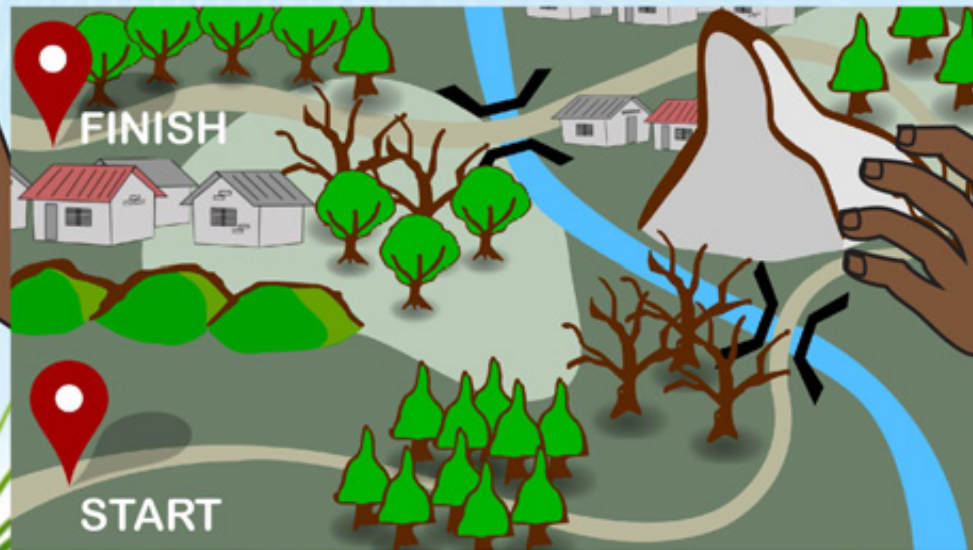
Mama Ndege, Ngedere, Tiny Tembo,
Da Chura, Uncle T and Kobe lined up
at the start, ready to compete.



Koba held up a map of the course. It showed trees, a curvy path between the start and finish, and obstacles such as streams and hills.



He told the animals to study the map well so that no one would get lost.



Uncle T said he didn't need a map,
as he could see the entire course
from above the treeline.



He could spot Kiduchu standing next to the digital timer at the finish.



The kids offered to lift up little Kobe so that he could see the course but Kobe declined.



The sun was getting hot. Koba told everyone to get ready to start.



He looked down at his watch
and said that he would start
the race at one o'clock sharp.



He counted down
from three...two...one,
then blew his whistle
to start the race.



When Kiduchu heard Koba's whistle,
she started the digital timer.
It had three sections...
hours : minutes : seconds.




The animals dashed off.



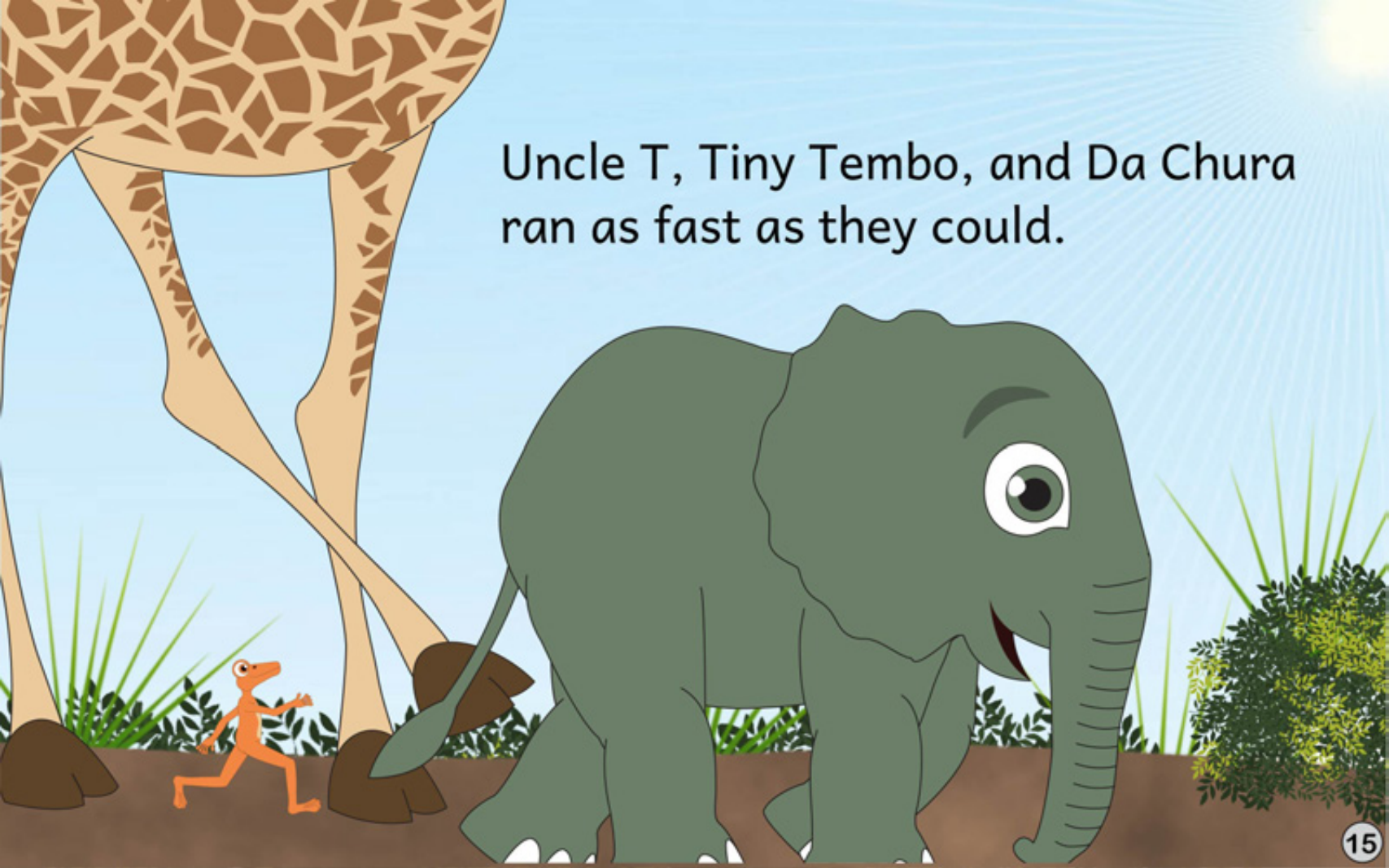
Immediately Mama Ndege flew up and zoomed above the treetops, leaving everyone behind.



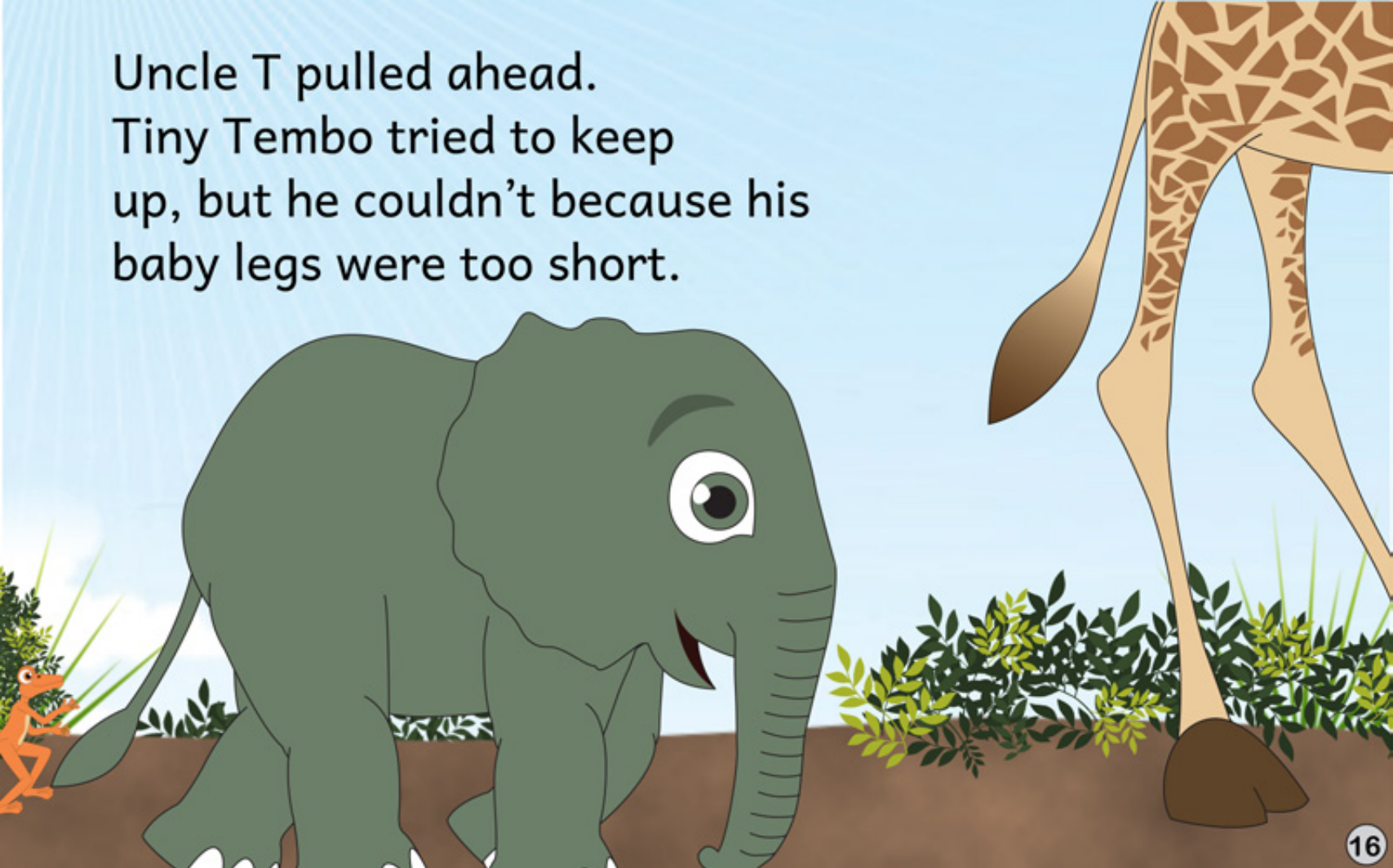


Ngedere swung on vines
from tree to tree.

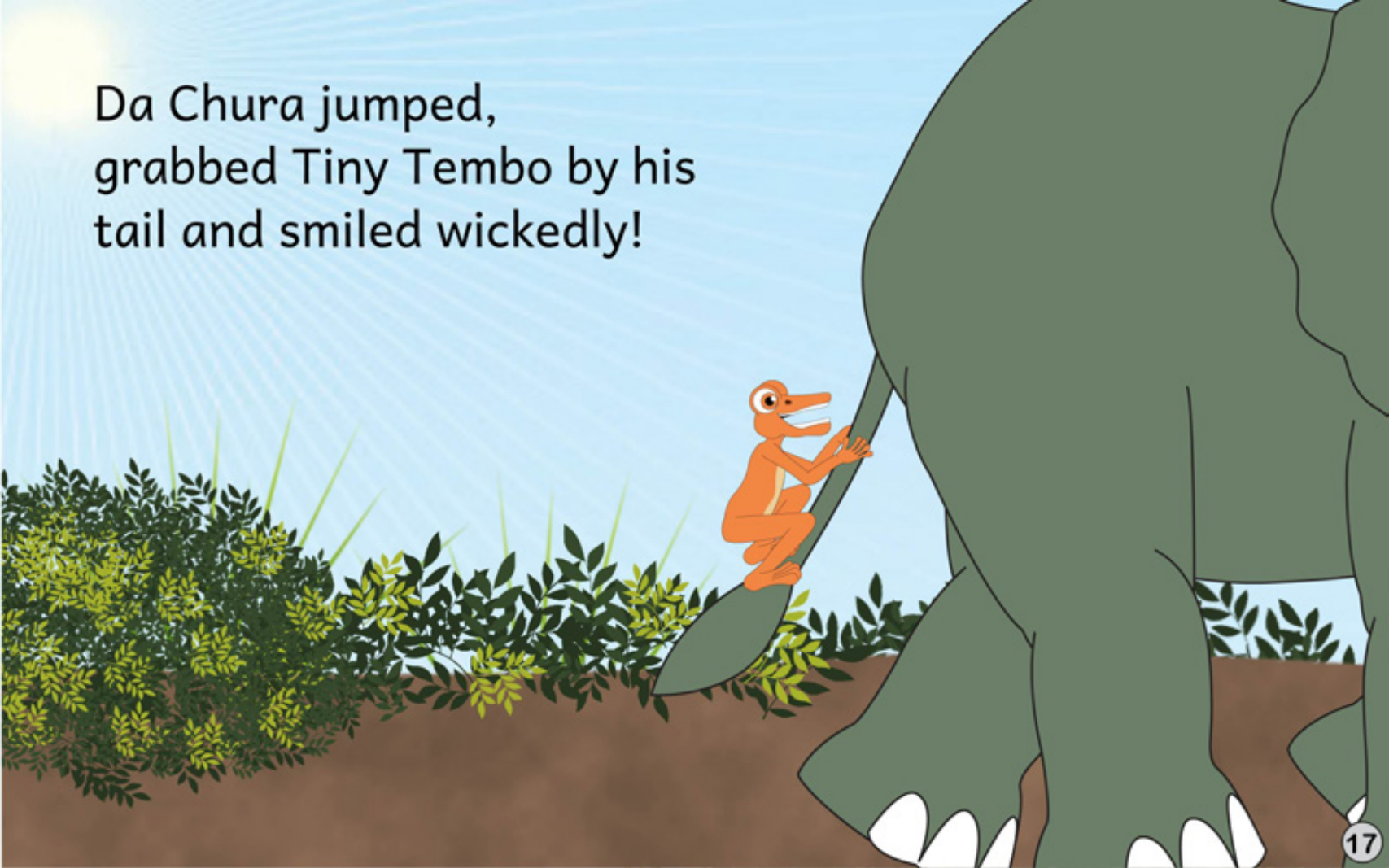
Uncle T, Tiny Tembo, and Da Chura
ran as fast as they could.



Uncle T pulled ahead.
Tiny Tembo tried to keep
up, but he couldn't because his
baby legs were too short.



Da Chura jumped,
grabbed Tiny Tembo by his
tail and smiled wickedly!



In a flash, Mama Ndege flew past
the finish line, breaking the ribbon.



The timer read fifty eight seconds.
“Wow, Mama Ndege, you’re
a speed demon!”
said Kiduchu.

hours : minutes : seconds

00:00:58

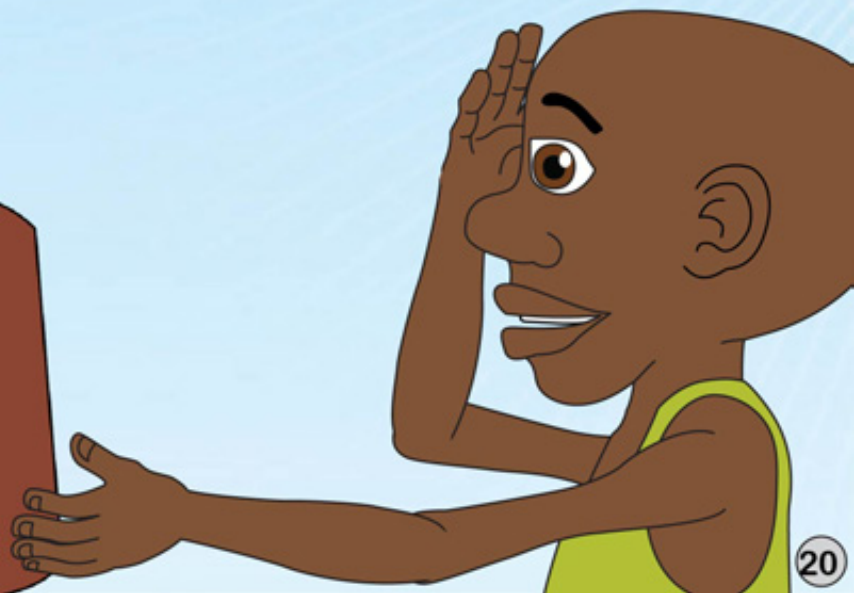


The timer kept on running.

Baraka didn't understand why the number in the seconds section started recounting from zero again.



hours : minutes : seconds
00:01:04



He shouted that there was something wrong with the clock.
“Nothing’s wrong,
the timer is running fine,”
said Kibena.

hours : minutes : seconds

00:01:10

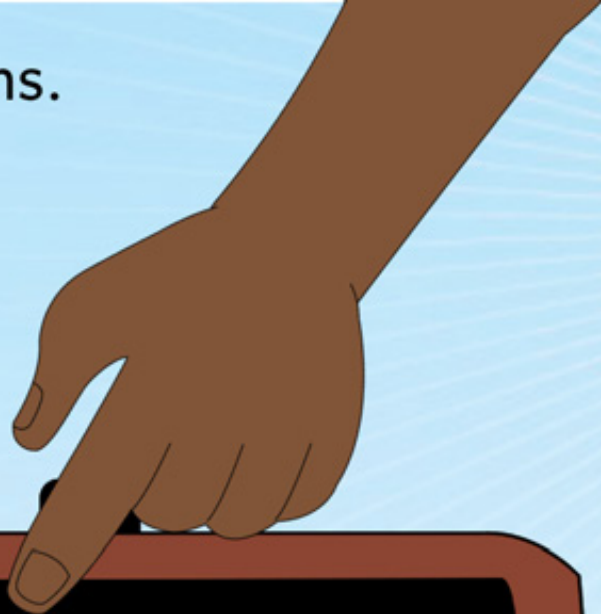


“Look at the different sections.
From right to left, it shows

seconds

minutes

hours.



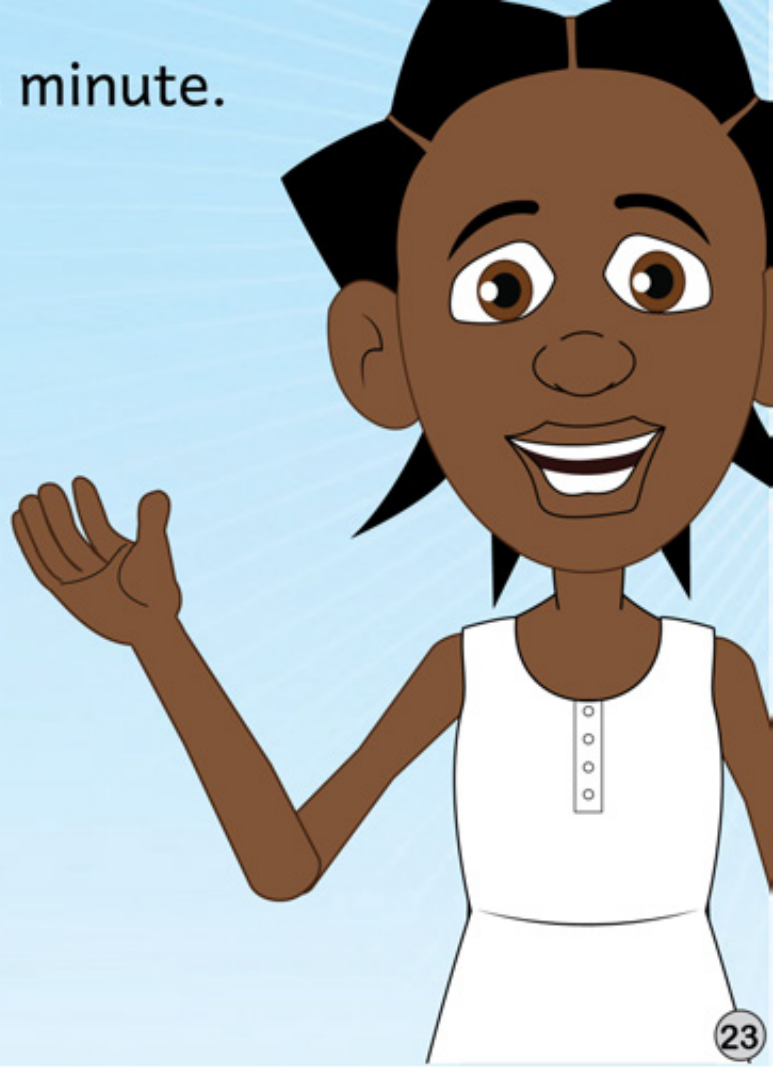
hours : minutes : seconds

00:01:12

Since there are 60 seconds in a minute.
The seconds counted up to 59,



then restarted again at zero,
while the minute went up by 1.



You see how the minutes section now shows “one,”

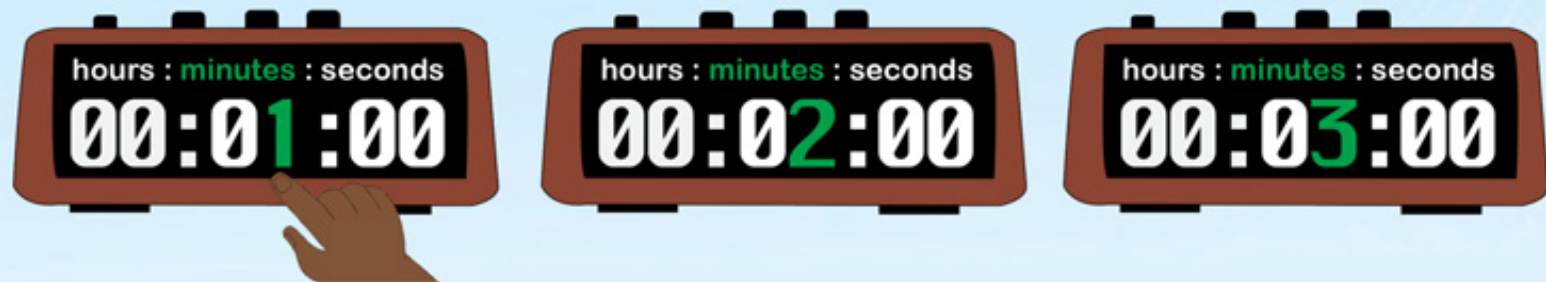


and the seconds have gone up from “zero” to “twelve.”

It keeps going like that.
Every 60 seconds, we get one more minute...

60 seconds = 1 minute

and the minutes keep counting up, like this...



There are also 60 minutes in an hour,

60 minutes = 1 hour

so after **59 minutes**,

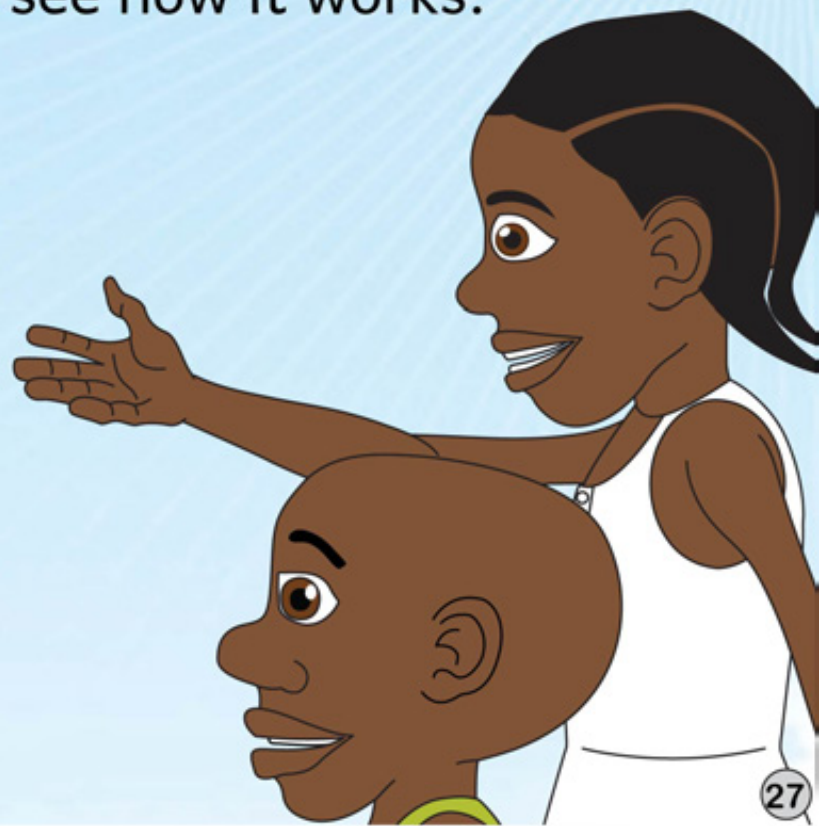
we'll get a "**one**" in
the **hours section**...
and the **minutes** will
restart at **zero**.



Keep watching the timer as the race goes on. You'll see how it works. You'll get it."

hours : minutes : seconds

00:01:59



Baraka nodded and repeated over and over,
“Sixty seconds is equal to one minute.

60 seconds = 1 minute

Sixty minutes is equal to one hour.”

60 minutes = 1 hour



Next at the finish line was
Ngedere. He swung past the kids,
did a flip in the air and landed.



His time was four minutes and twenty-five seconds.



He was surprised that he came in second behind Mama Ndege. He was sure that by using the trick of swinging on vines he would win.



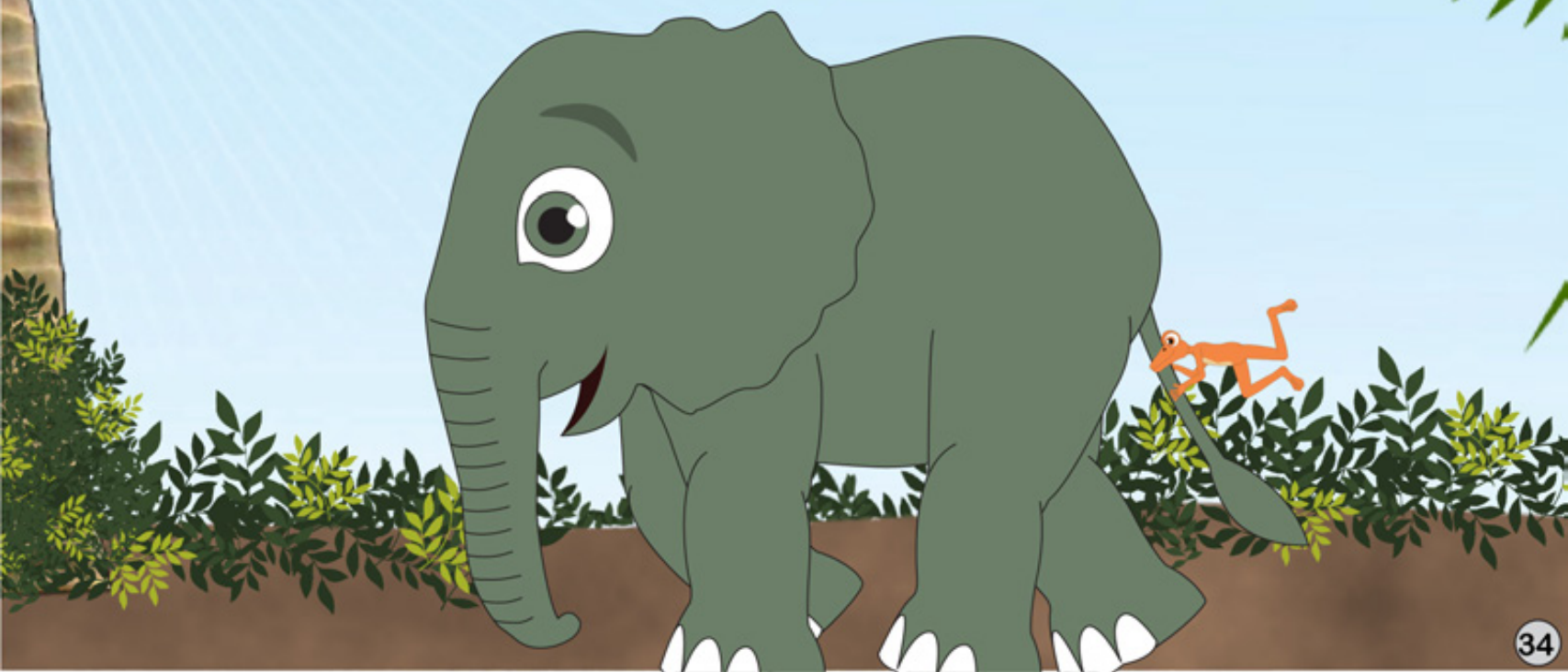
After a short while, Uncle T arrived, huffing and puffing badly. He was so tired, he could not go one more step. He simply leaned his neck forward to cross the finish line.



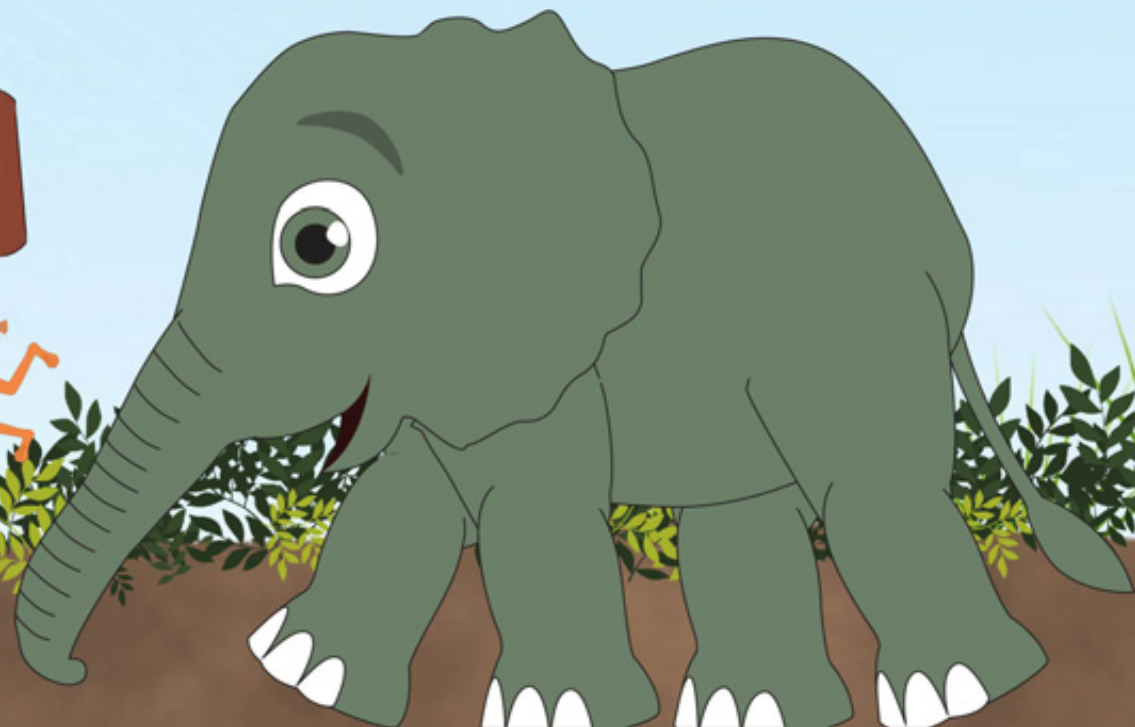
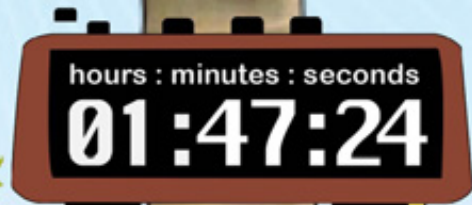
His time was thirty-one minutes and thirty-six seconds.



Meanwhile, Tiny Tembo ran as fast as his little legs would go, with Da Chura holding on to his tail.



As he came to the finish, Da Chura let go,
jumped and finished ahead of Tiny Tembo.

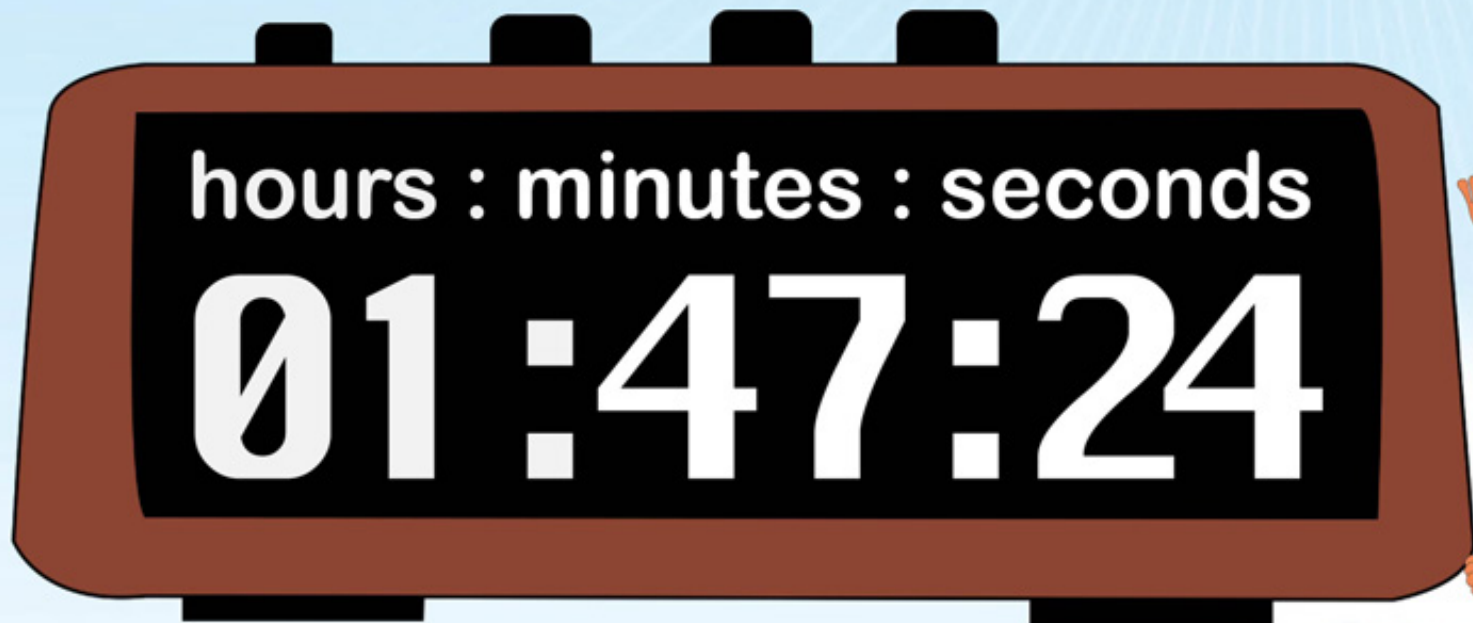


The timer showed Da Chura's time at

one
hour

forty-seven
minutes

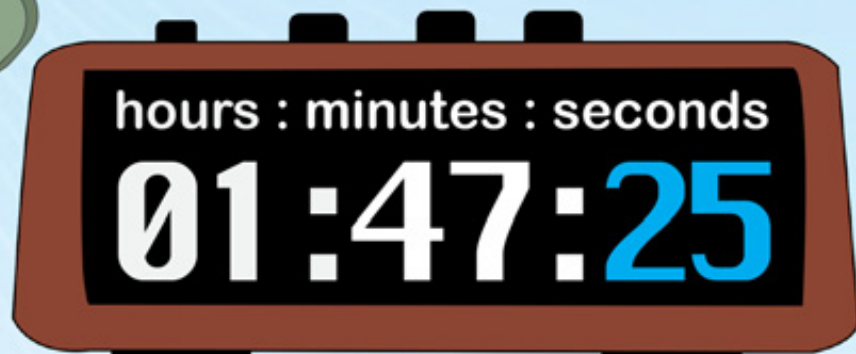
twenty-four
seconds.



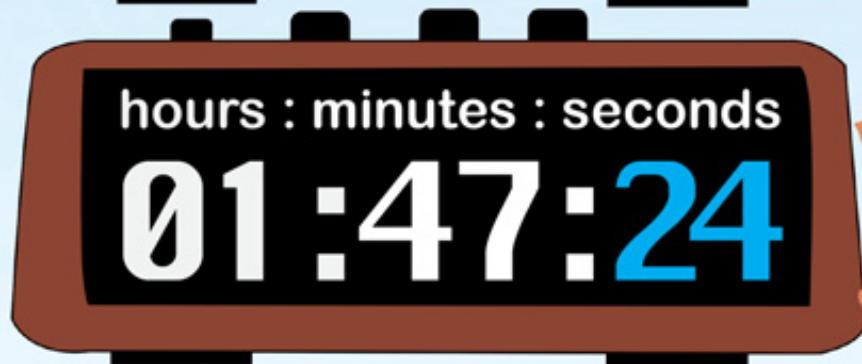
Tiny Tembo's time was



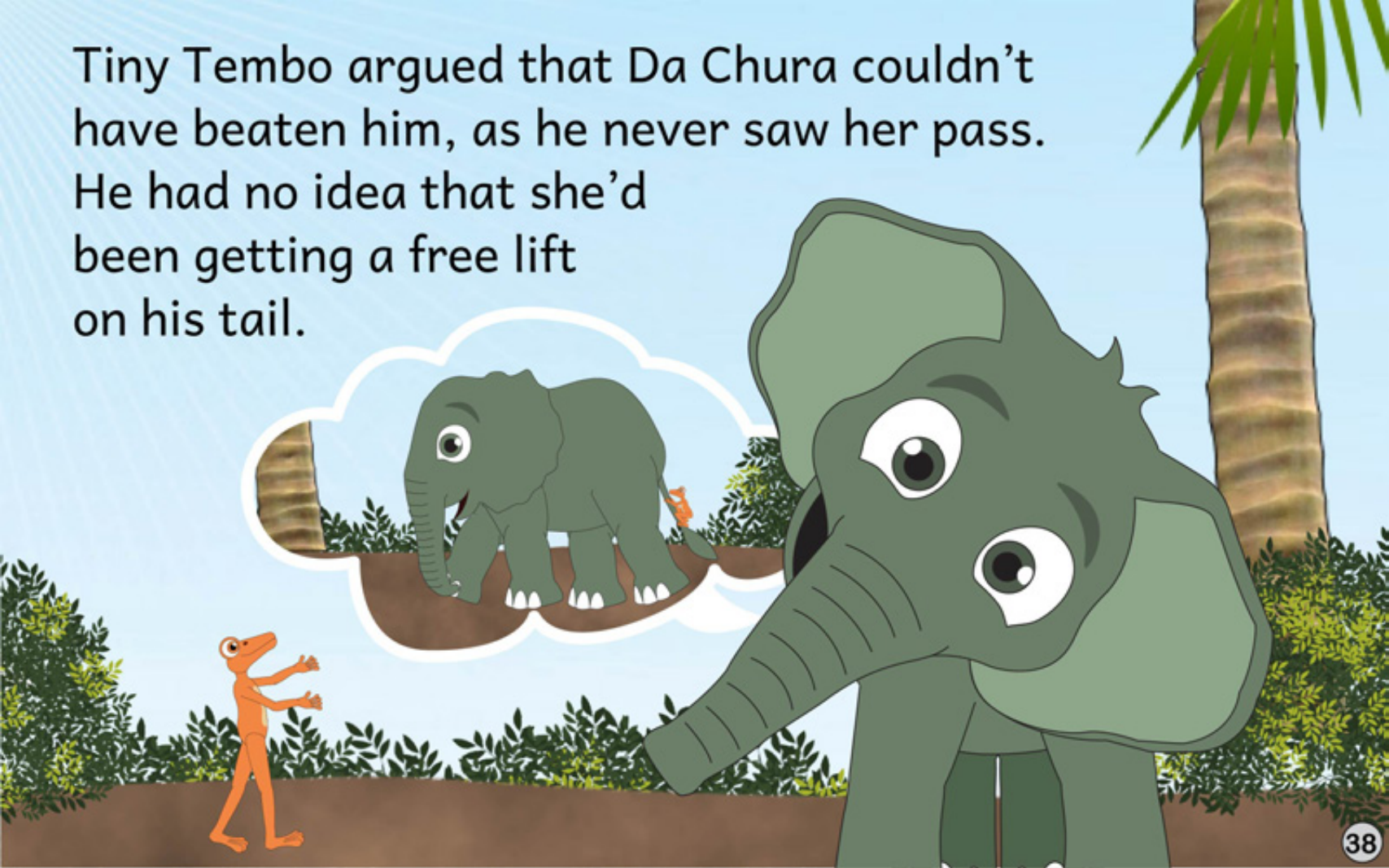
one forty-seven twenty-five
hour minutes seconds.



So Da Chura
had finished just
one second ahead!



Tiny Tembo argued that Da Chura couldn't have beaten him, as he never saw her pass. He had no idea that she'd been getting a free lift on his tail.



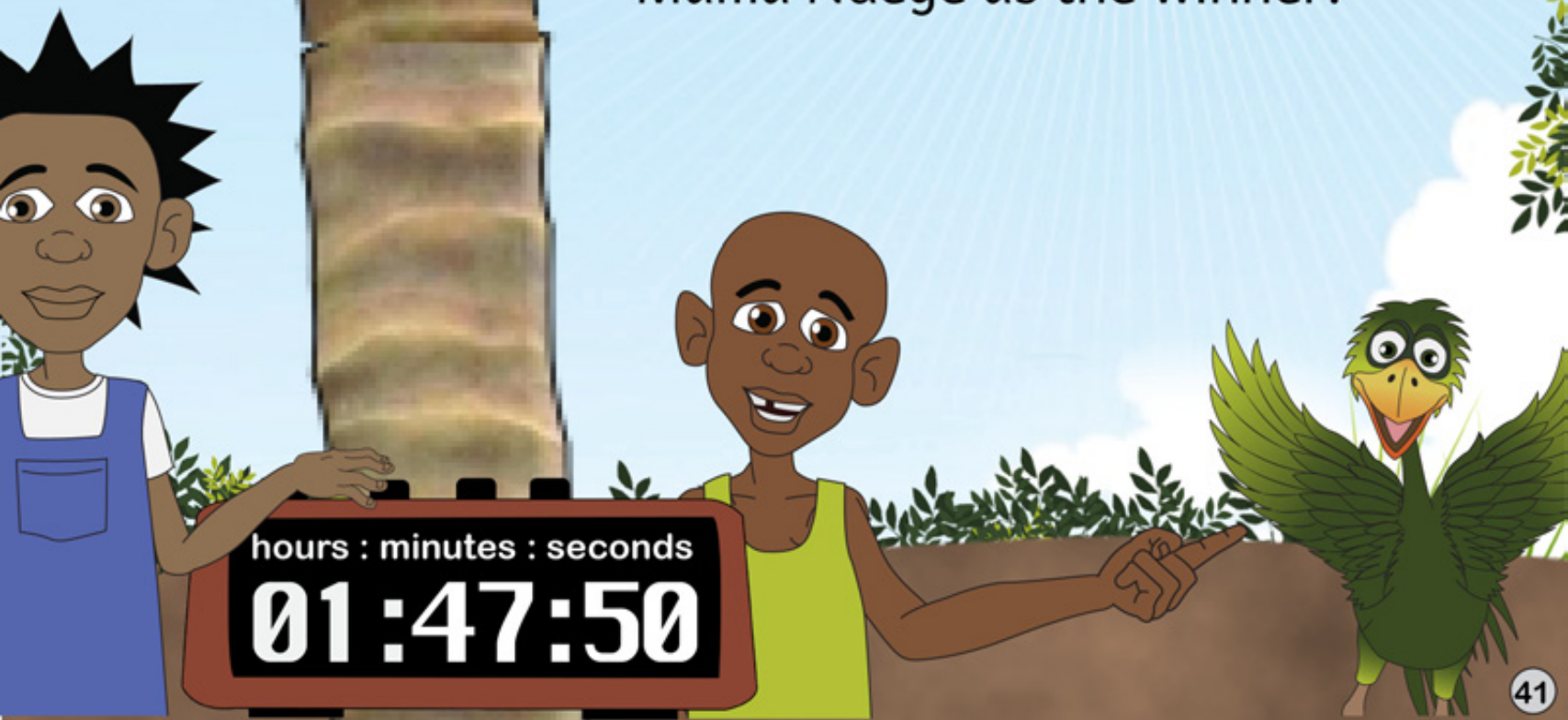
“Thanks for the free lift, Tiny Tembo!” said Da Chura,
as she jumped up and grabbed onto his tail again.



Tiny Tembo tried looking back at his own tail,
but he couldn't see Da Chura. He swung his tail
so hard that Da Chura went flying.



Then Kiduchu stopped the timer
and Baraka announced
Mama Ndege as the winner.



The birds cheered and whistled loudly
and Mama Ndege took a bow and thanked
everyone.



Uncle T interrupted, “I’m the real winner.
Those two didn’t run the race.



Mama Ndege flew and Ngedere swung on the vines.
This was a running race, and out of the runners,
I came first! I should be the winner!”

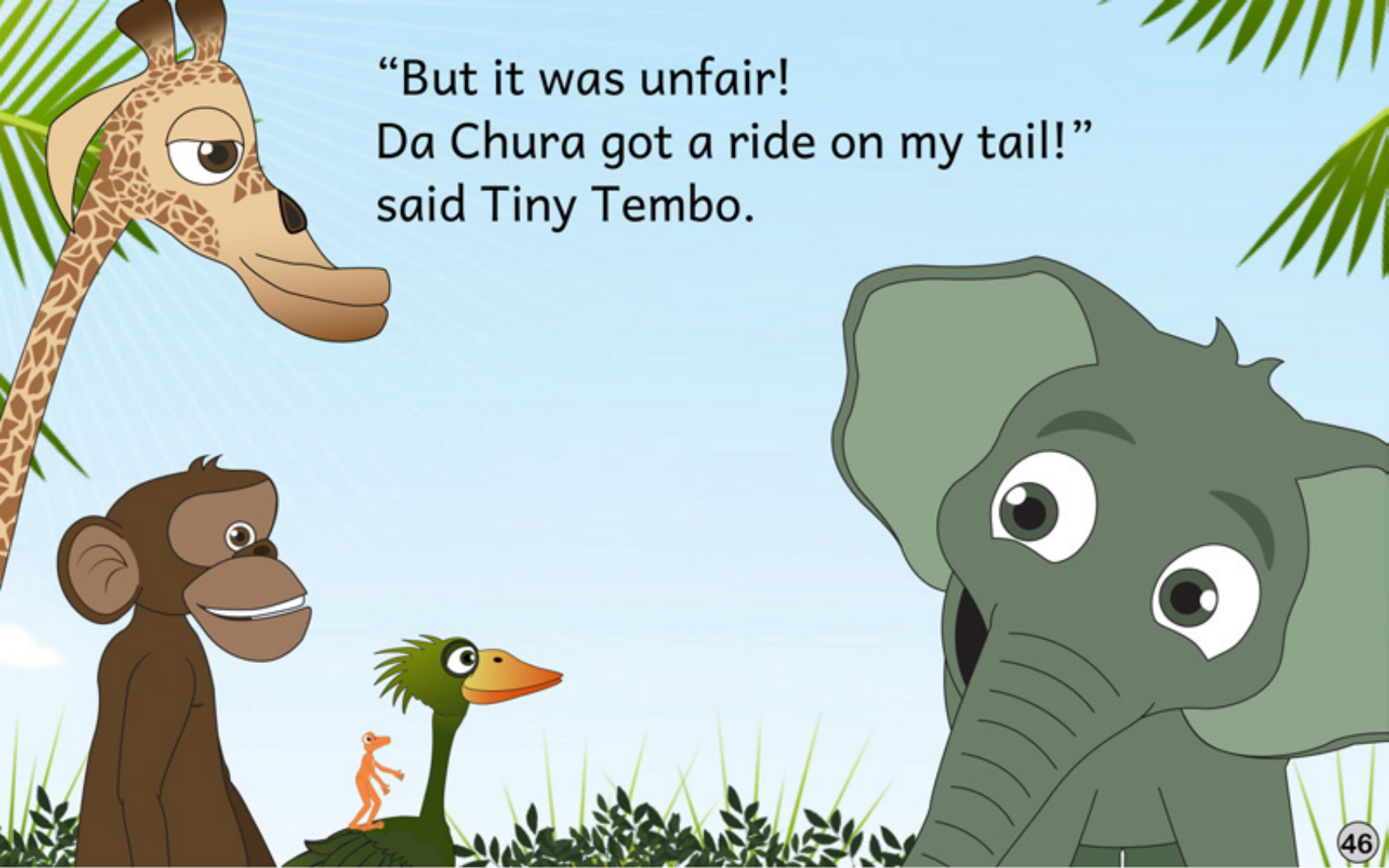
Tiny Tembo agreed with Uncle T and said that he should be the runner up, as he came in after Uncle T.



Ngedere argued back that
Da Chura finished one second before Tiny Tembo.
So Da Chura should get **second** and
Tiny Tembo should get **third**.



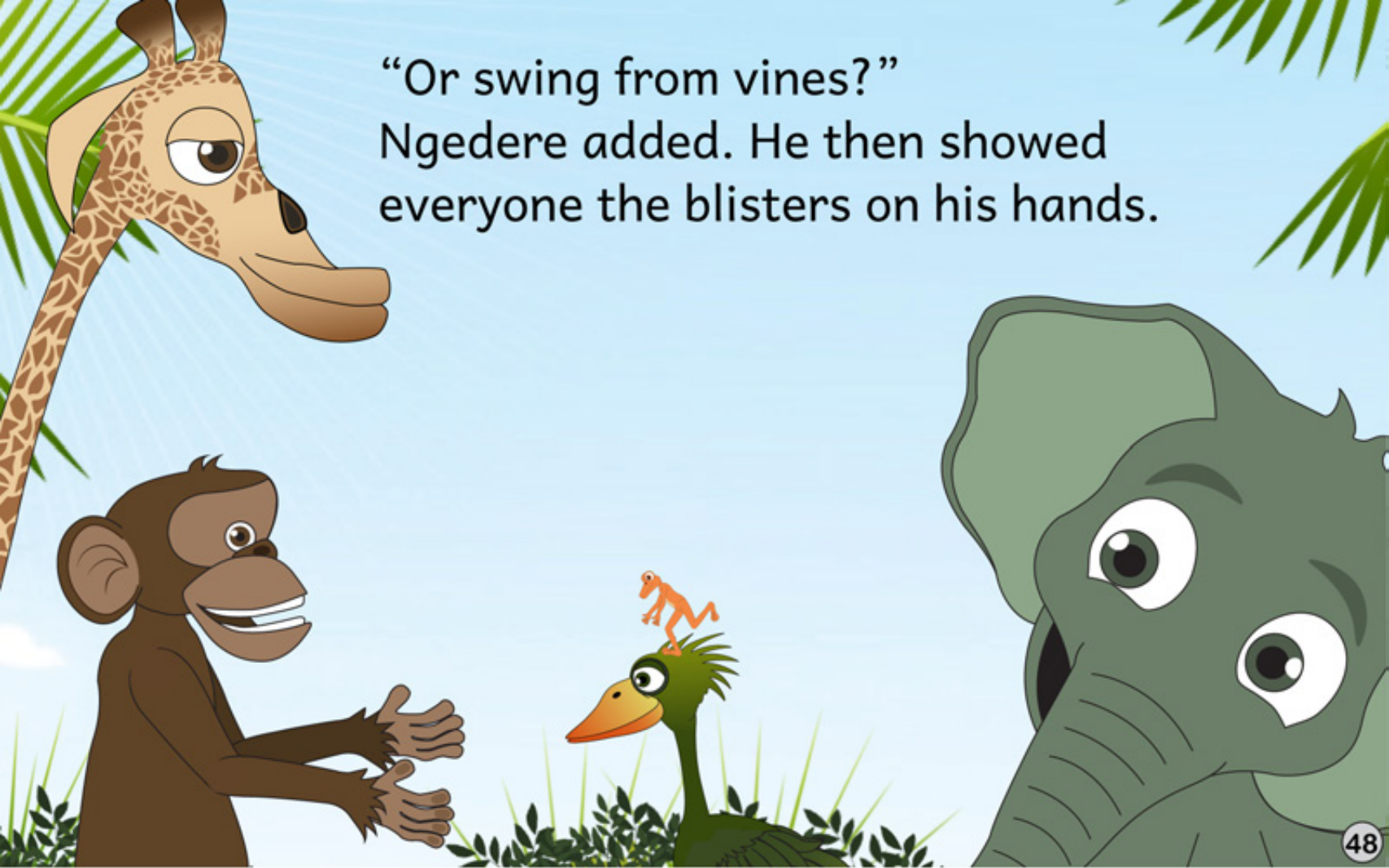
“But it was unfair!
Da Chura got a ride on my tail!”
said Tiny Tembo.



Now it was Mama Ndege's turn, "I never heard any rules about no flying. You think flying is easy? If it's that easy, why didn't you fly?"



“Or swing from vines?”
Ngedere added. He then showed
everyone the blisters on his hands.



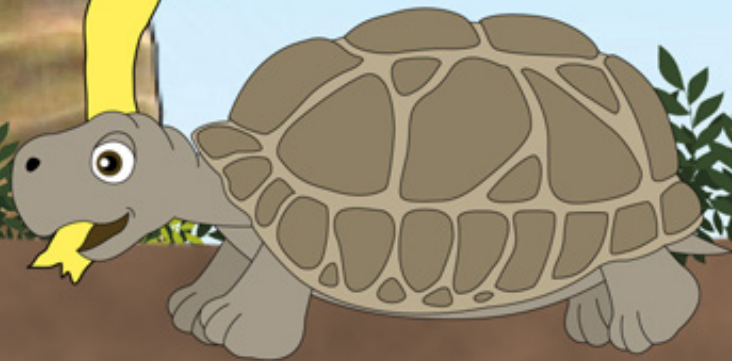
“Well, I should say I won because I SAW the finish line first. I made it with my eyes even before I made it with my feet. My seeing was faster than your flying and your vine swinging!” said Uncle T.



While the animals were arguing, Kobe quietly arrived and collapsed at the finish.

hour : minute : second

01:47:50



He made a thump as he hit the ground and laid on his back. The kids crouched down to check him. They had completely forgotten him since he'd taken so long.

hour : minute : second

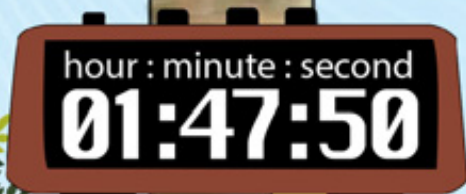
01:47:50



“Where has Kobe been all this time?”
said Da Chura, laughing.



Kobe was so exhausted that
he couldn't speak.
As soon as he caught his breath,
he asked for his time.



Last year he had run the race in

two thirty-two
hours minutes.



Now he wanted to know if he'd beaten
his last year record!



Kibena apologised that they didn't have his time, as they had already stopped the timer.

hour : minute : second
01:47:50



But Koba said that they could figure it out.



“Kobe finished
at three twenty.



The race started
at one o'clock sharp.

hours minutes

03 : 20

- 01 : 00

We need to find the **difference** between
one o'clock and three twenty.
So we have to **subtract**,” said Kibena.





“Lets do the minutes first :

hours		minutes
03	:	20
<u>01</u>	:	<u>00</u>
02	:	20

Zero minus
zero is zero.

Two minus
zero is two.

Then look here at the hours.
Three minus one is two.
So the answer is

two hours and twenty minutes.”

Kibena told Kobe that he took two hours and twenty minutes to run the same distance this year as he ran last year.



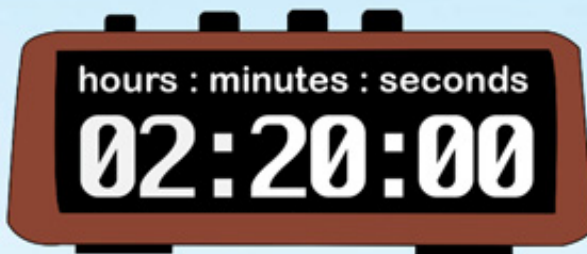
“How much did I improve?
Calculate it for me, please!”



“To know how much faster you ran this year,
we need to find the difference between



Kobe's time last year



and his time today.

Let's start with the minutes.

hours

minutes

We subtract.

02 : 32

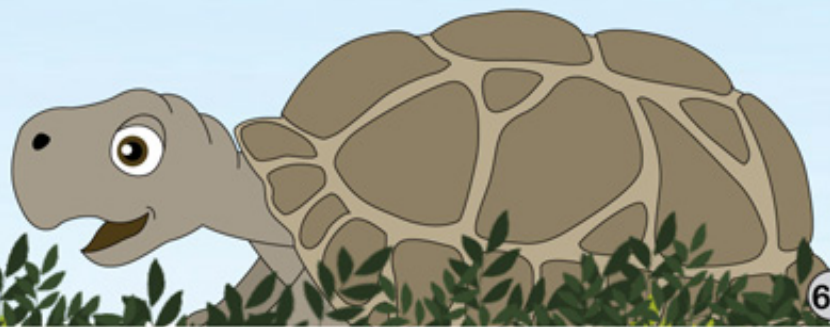
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Two minus zero is two

Three minus two is one.

02 : 20

12



Now we move over to the hours.

Two minus two equals zero.

Zero minus zero is zero.

hours		minutes
02	:	32
- 02	:	20
<hr/>		
00	:	12

So the difference between your time last year
and your time this year is
twelve minutes.”

Kibena told Kobe that he had improved by twelve minutes, which meant that he ran a lot faster than last year.



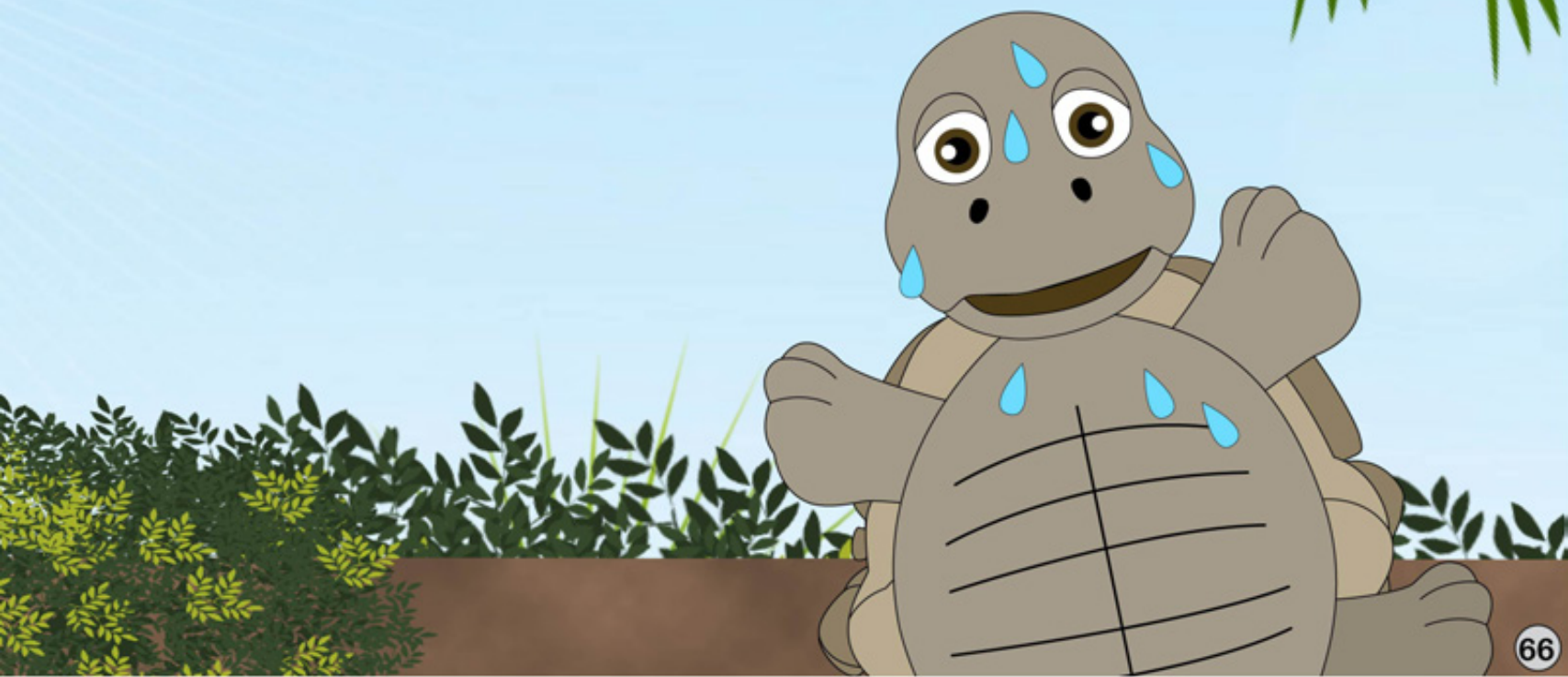
Kobe stood up and started
jumping around in celebration.
He then fell back
on his shell in exhaustion.



Mama Ndege was so impressed and said,
“He who won’t be defeated is truly a winner. We’re all
arguing over who won, who ran a fair race,
and who came in which place,
while Kobe is proud to have improved
his own time. Anyone who improves
is a true winner.”

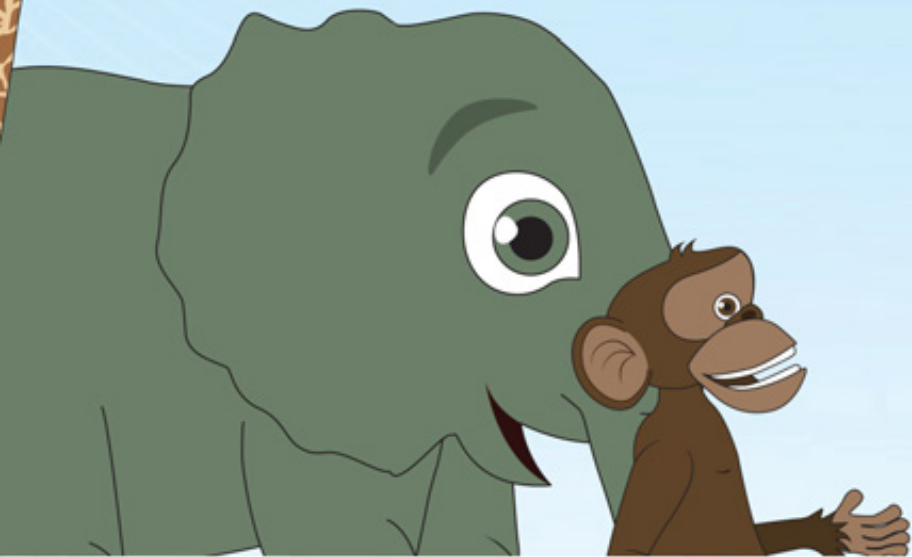


“Thanks, Mama Ndege,
but I could really use some water!”
said Kobe.





Sadly there was no water where the animals were. So Mama Ndege led the whole group to find a nearby stream. It had been a great race and a fun day for everyone.





The End

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