

Battle of the Body Parts

body parts



Age
Umri
7+



The game is on! Spectators cheer from the sidelines as Koba runs with the ball. Mama Ndege is the announcer.



“Koba is running with the ball!” says Mama Ndege.
“But there’s a strong defense from Matimbwa.
Now Koba is down! He’s injured! It’s a penalty!!!”



“Penalty!” shouts Koba.

“I’ve got this one! I’m the BEST shooter on the team!”

“No, you can’t, Koba,” replies Kiduchu.

“You’re hurt! Let Baraka take the shot.”



Koba finally agrees, and limps off the field with Kibena's help. Baraka positions himself for the penalty...and MISSES! The crowd groans.



Koba wants to go back on the field, but Kibena takes him to get his leg treated.



Koba thinks they have won as there is no excuse for missing a penalty.



Kibena argues that a penalty is not an automatic point, because a good goalkeeper can stop a penalty.



After the disappointing penalty, the Kokotoa team leaves the field.



Kiduchu complains that she doesn't want to play anymore, and Baraka complains that Matimbwa will take advantage of them with Koba, their best striker, hurt.



Ngedere tells them they need to play as a team.
“Keep on fighting,” he tells them, “or you’ll never win!”



The Kokotoa players head back to the field as the ref sets up for the kick-off. “The Kokotoans are back on the field with new energy!” announces Mama Ndege.



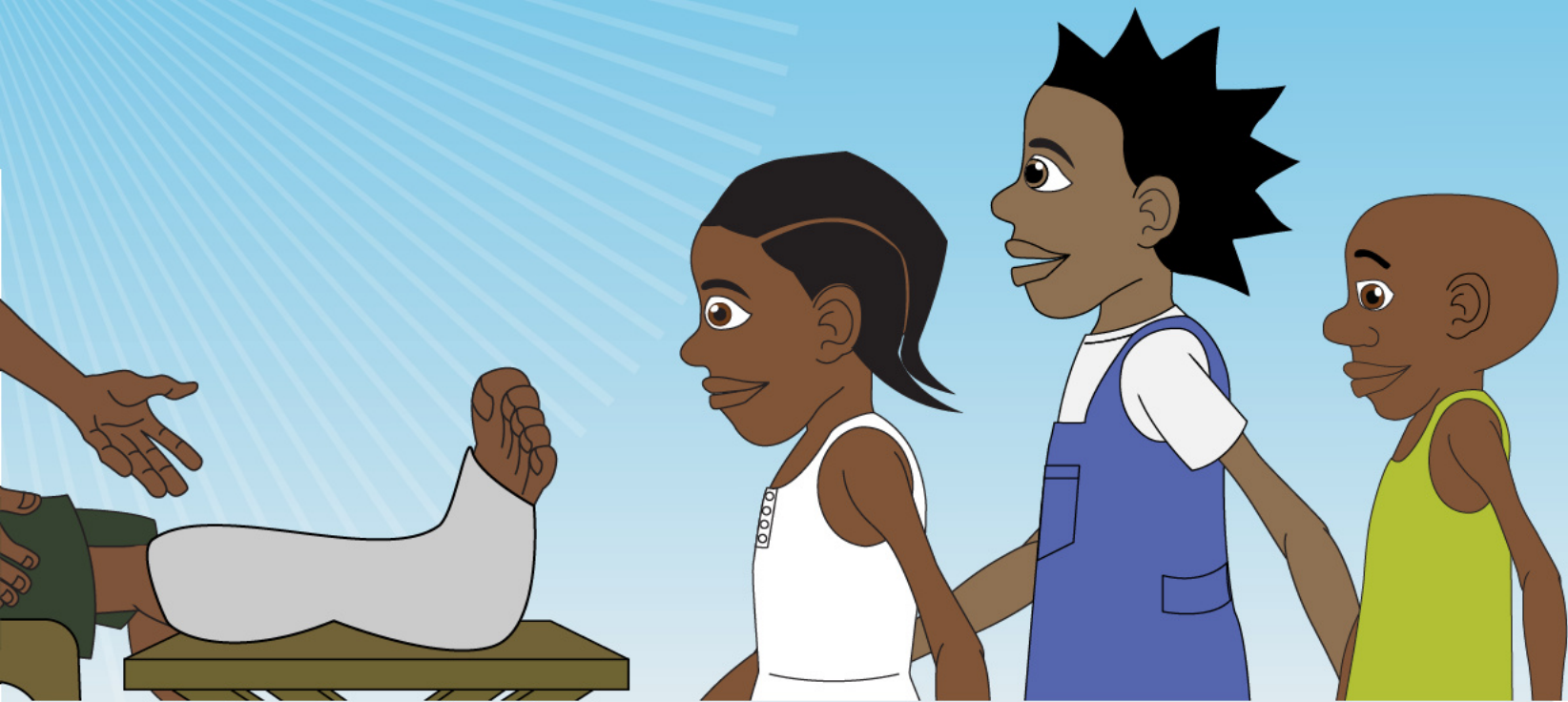
After the game, the kids meet at Koba's house.
Koba has crutches and a cast on his foot.
His leg is broken! "Did we win?" Koba asks.



“No,” Kiduchu tells him.

“We were beaten just after you left.

We’ll have a rematch when you are better.”



But Ngedere explains that Matimbwa won because the Kokotoans didn't play as a team.



Teamwork



No Teamwork



“Playing football is not as easy as eating pilau!”
Kibena tells Ngedere.

“It’s no fun losing all the time,” Ngedere tells them.

“You need to get organized and play as a team.



Or bring ME onto your team!” Ngedere suggests.
He tries to show off his skills by juggling the ball with
his feet, but he falls down and the children all laugh.



Suddenly, Mama Ndege
lands on Koba's head.
Koba is surprised!
"You're heavy!"
Koba exclaims.



Mama Ndege moves to a branch. “Where did you learn to be a football announcer?” Koba asks her. “You’re a real pro!”



Mama Ndege says it is just one of her many talents.

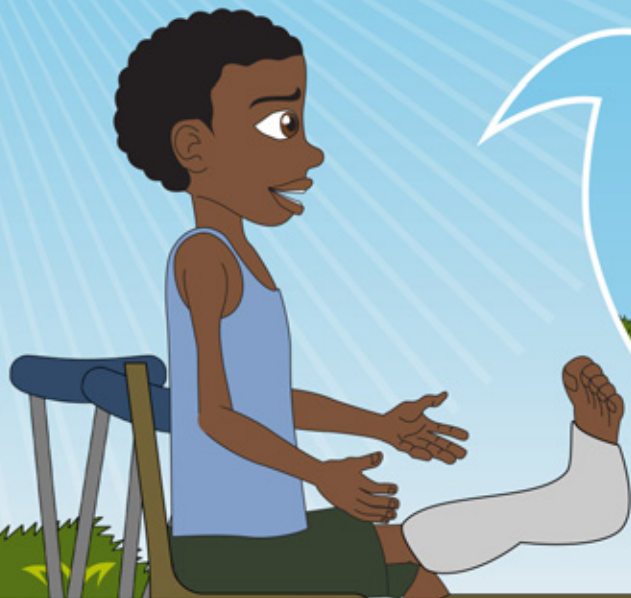
Koba shows Mama Ndege his broken foot.

“It hurt!” he says.

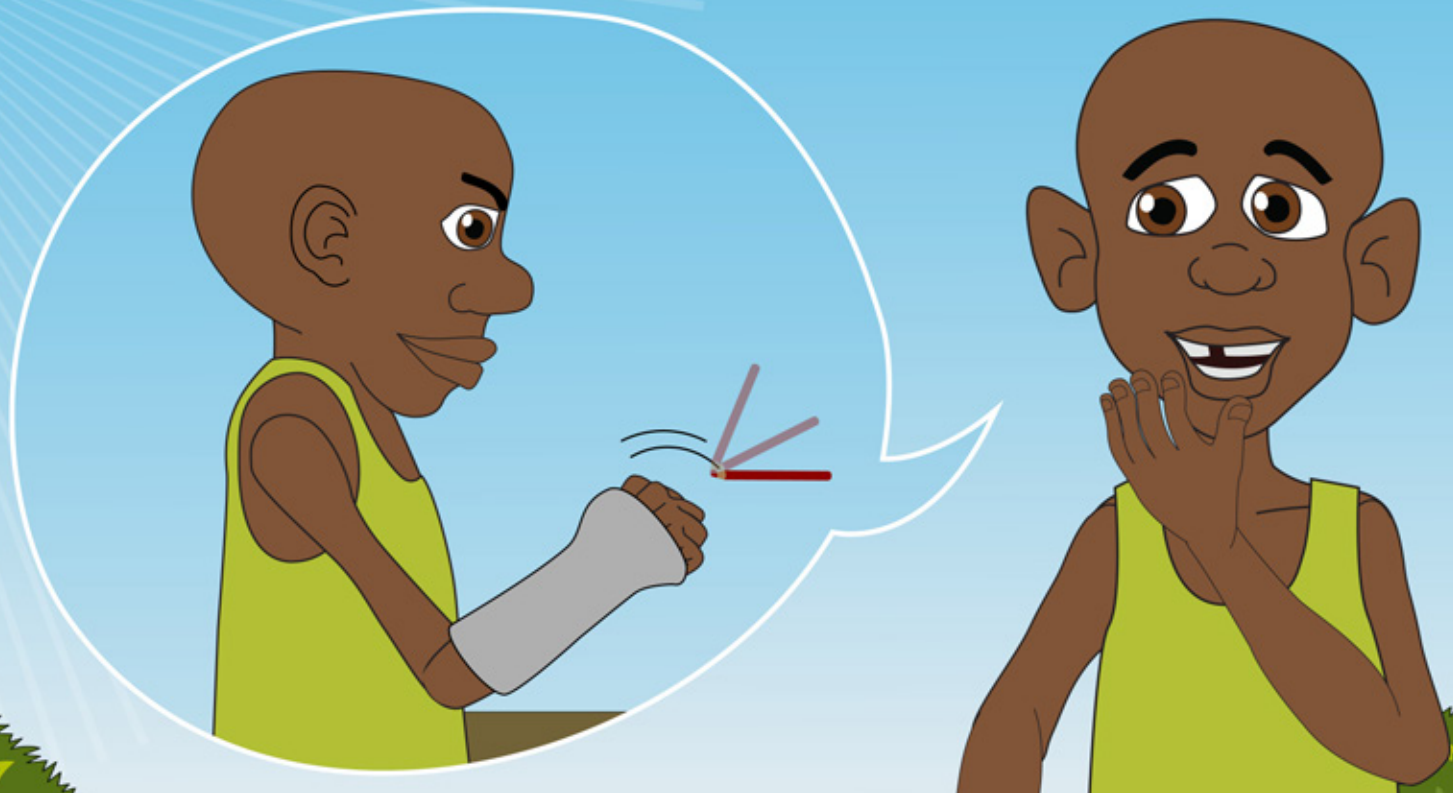
“I wanted to cry like a kitten caught in a door!”



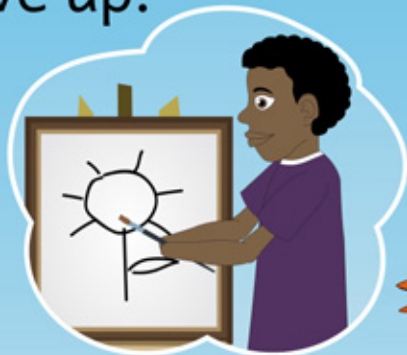
“Don’t worry,” Mama Ndege tells him. “It will mend.”
“It would have been better if I had hurt my hand,”
Koba says, “because I could have still played with a
sore hand and scored that penalty.”



Baraka thinks about hurting his hand. "If I hurt my hand," he thinks, "I wouldn't be able to write!"



Mama Ndege asks the kids to think about people with no legs or no hands...People with disabilities who do incredible things and never give up.



“I don’t care about the other parts,” says Ngedere.
“All I need is my mouth for eating pilau!” Ngedere
imagines trying to eat pilau if he didn’t have a mouth.



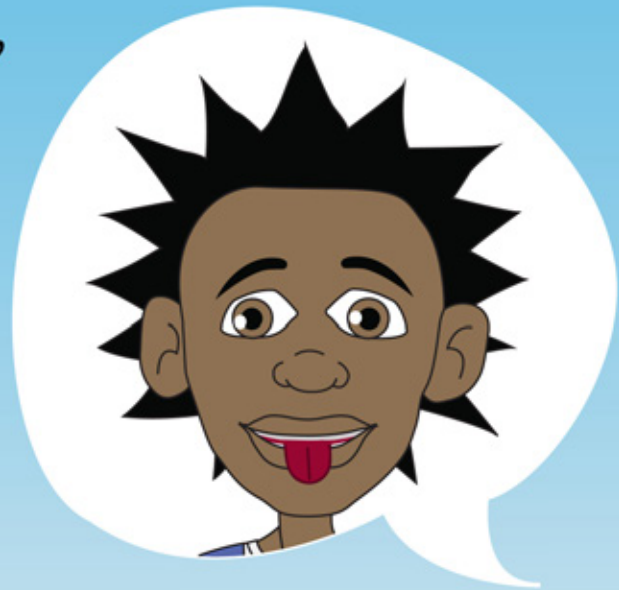
“Maybe it would be better not to have eyes,” says Kibena. “A blind person can still kick the ball.” Kiduchu disagrees, and tells her that eyes are important to see the ball.



Koba imagines trying to find his way without eyes.
He might bump into a tree!
He says it might be better to live without a nose.



“Without a nose!” exclaims Kibena.
“How would you smell food and
know if something has gone bad?”



Kiduchu wonders about living
without a tongue.

Koba holds his tongue and tries to talk. No one can understand the weird noises he makes, and they all laugh. "You can't talk without a tongue," Koba explains, "and you can't taste or eat properly, either!"



“Maybe missing an ear is not so bad,” suggests Ngedere. “You can play even if your ear hurts.” Kiduchu covers her ears so that she can’t hear, and doesn’t hear Ngedere offering her some of his pilau!



"Do you want some pilau?"



Kiduchu imagines playing football with no ears.
“How would you hear the ref’s whistle,
or when someone is calling you?” she asks.



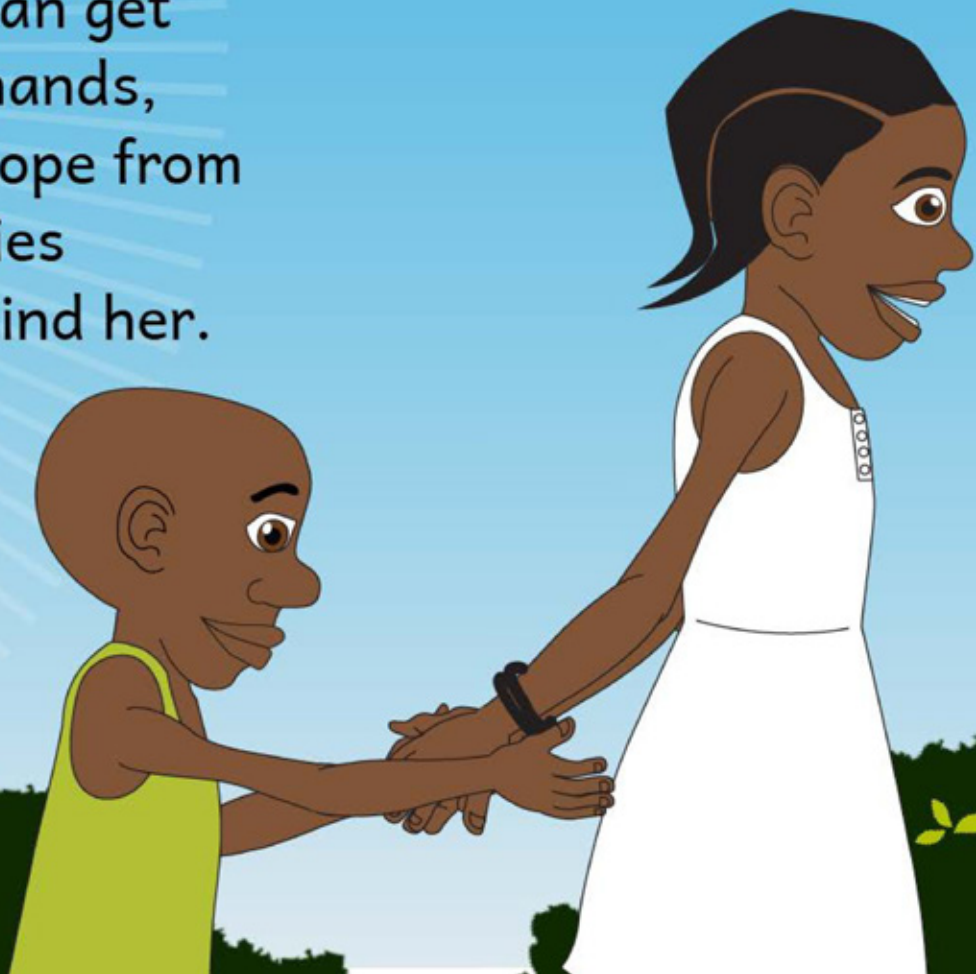
Kibena asks Mama Ndege which body part is most important to her, which part she could not live without. But instead of answering Kibena...



...Mama Ndege tells them it's time to play a new game. She explains the rules, "The first to reach the goal with one body part unused will be the winner!"



Kibena thinks she can get along without her hands, so Baraka takes a rope from Mama Ndege and ties Kibena's hands behind her.



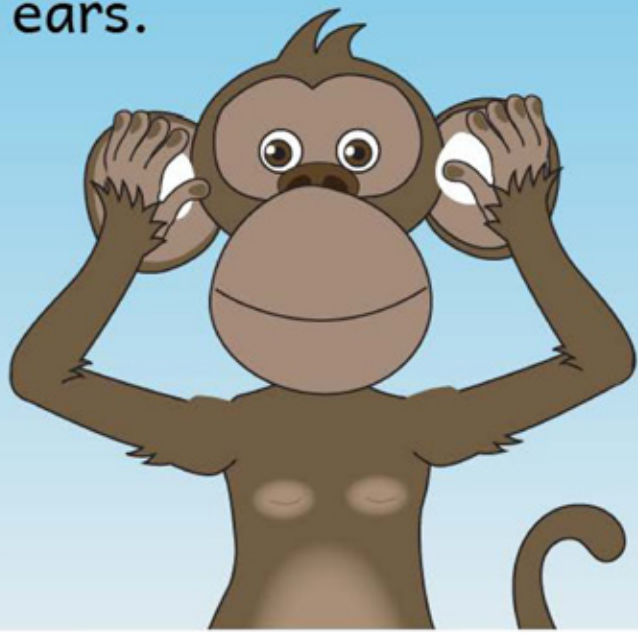
“I think I can get along
without my legs,”
Baraka says.
Kiduchu ties
Baraka’s legs together.



“I think I’ll give up my eyes,” says Kiduchu. Ngedere covers Kiduchu’s eyes with a cloth and ties the cloth behind her head.



“Ngedere said he could do without his ears,” says Mama Ndege, as she gives him cotton plugs to put in his ears.



“Ngedere, get in the goal,”
Mama Ndege says.

“The first one to reach
the goal should shout out,
and the winner will get pilau.”
Mama Ndege blows the
whistle for the race to begin.



Baraka's feet are tied,
so he can't run very well.



Kiduchu has a blindfold covering her eyes.
She loses direction completely, and stumbles
over a rock.



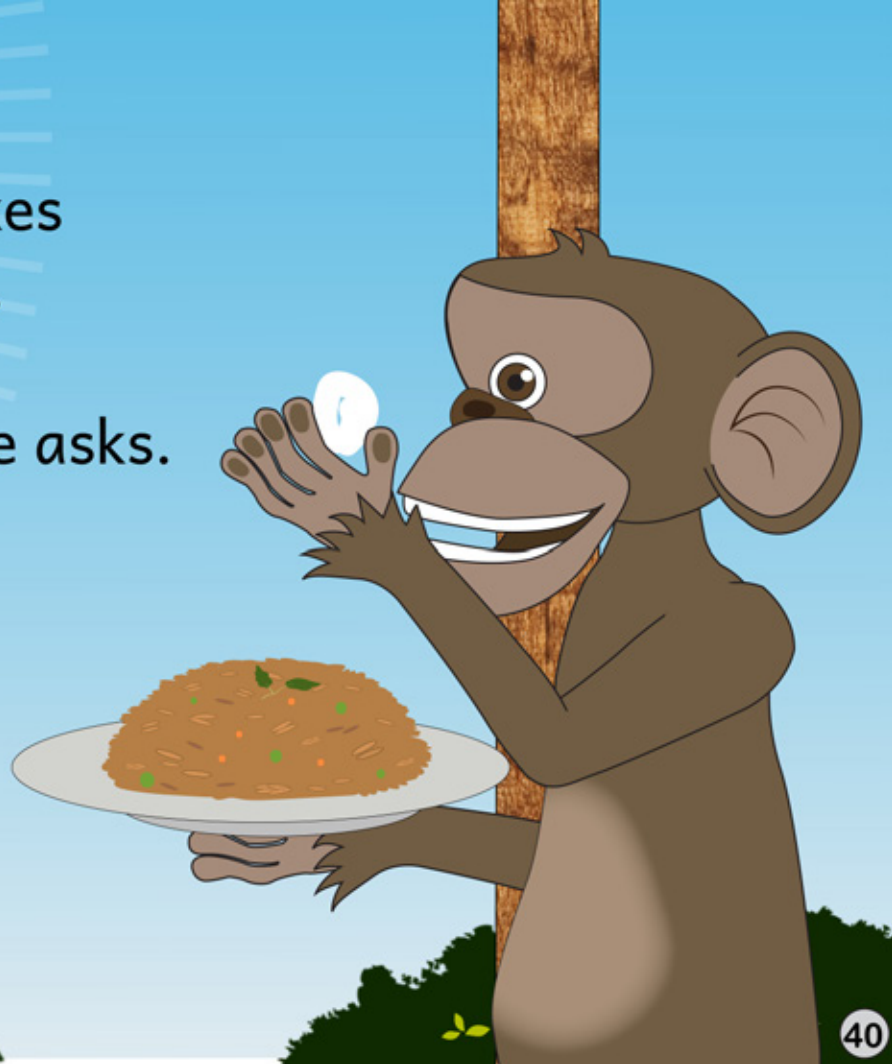
Kibena is near the goal when she loses her balance and falls. With her hands tied, she can't get up! She calls to Ngedere for help, but Ngedere can't hear her. Baraka reaches Kibena, but he is all tired out.



Mama Ndege goes to Kiduchu, who is completely lost, and takes off her blindfold.



Ngedere finally looks up from eating pilau, and takes the cotton out of his ears. “Why are you over there when the goal is here?” he asks.



Baraka explains that Kibena has fallen,
Kiduchu is lost without her eyes,
and he is soooo tired that he has had to stop.



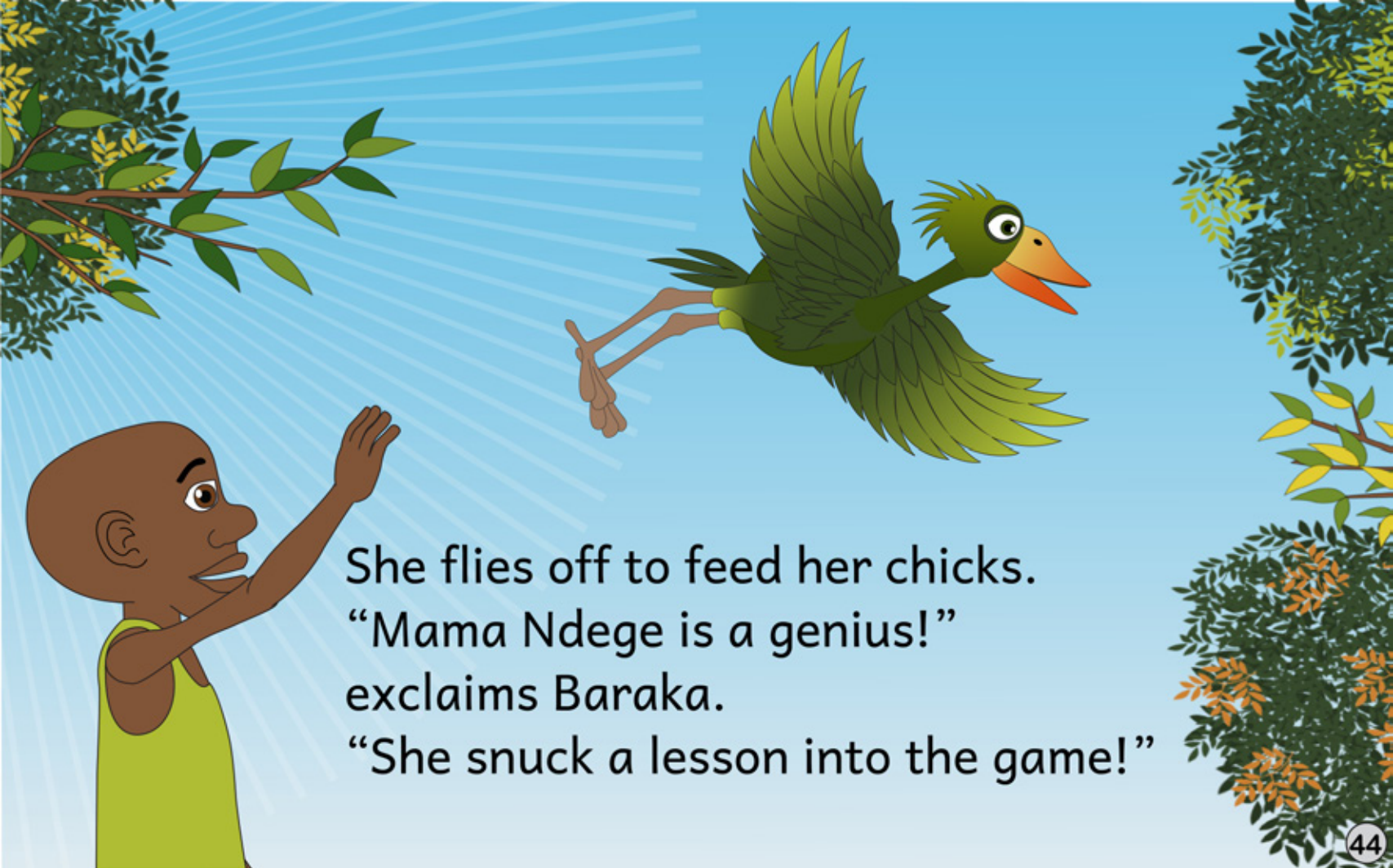
They all gather under the tree to rest because they are tired. “Who can tell me which body part is most important after playing this game?” asks Mama Ndege.



“I think each body part has its own role,” says Kibena. They share how hard it was to play without hands, legs, eyes, and ears.

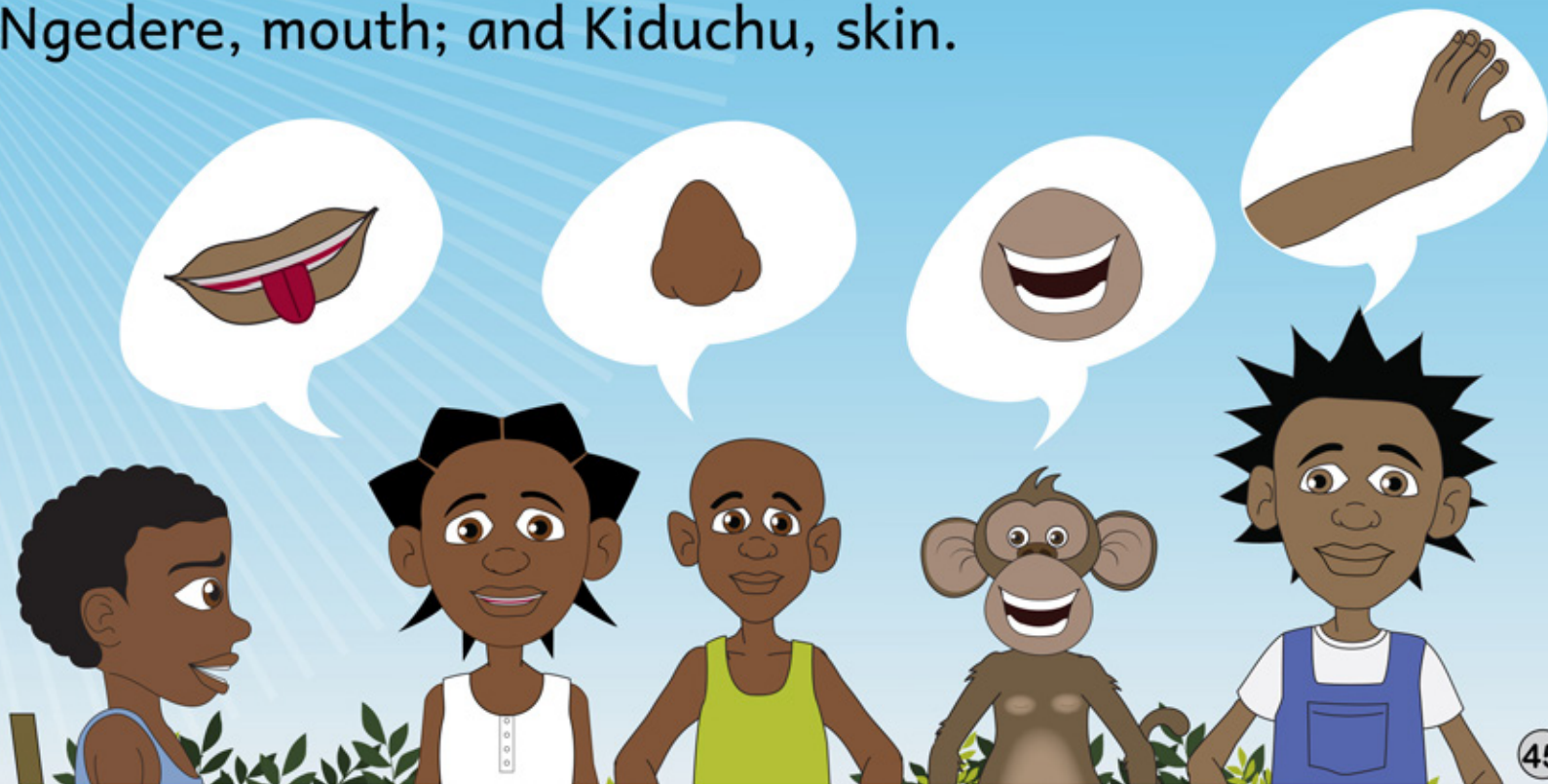
“All our body parts are important!” concludes Koba. Mama Ndege is pleased that they have learned the lesson.





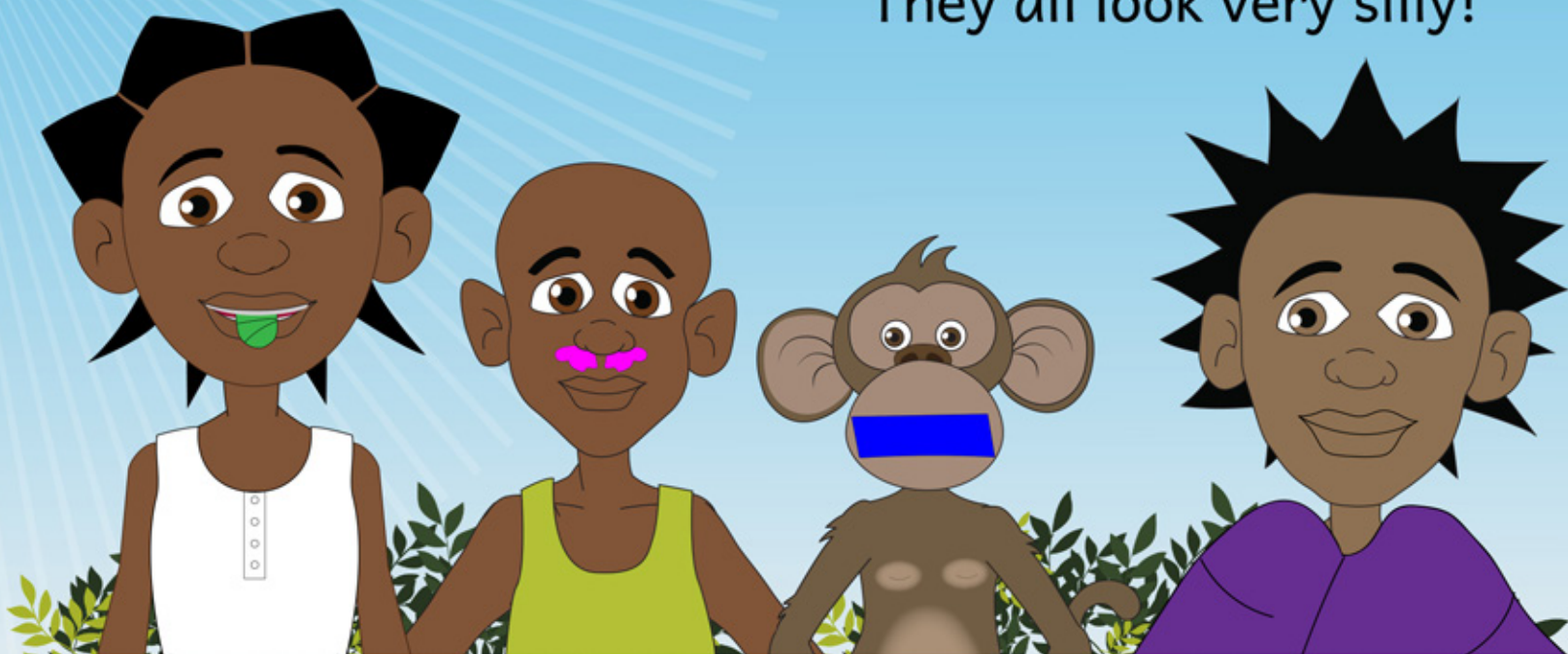
She flies off to feed her chicks.
“Mama Ndege is a genius!”
exclaims Baraka.
“She snuck a lesson into the game!”

Koba suggests another game, and each one chooses a body part: Kibena picks tongue; Baraka, nose; Ngedere, mouth; and Kiduchu, skin.



They each cover the body part they selected:
tongue for Kibena, nose for Baraka, mouth for Ngedere,
and skin for Kiduchu.

They all look very silly!



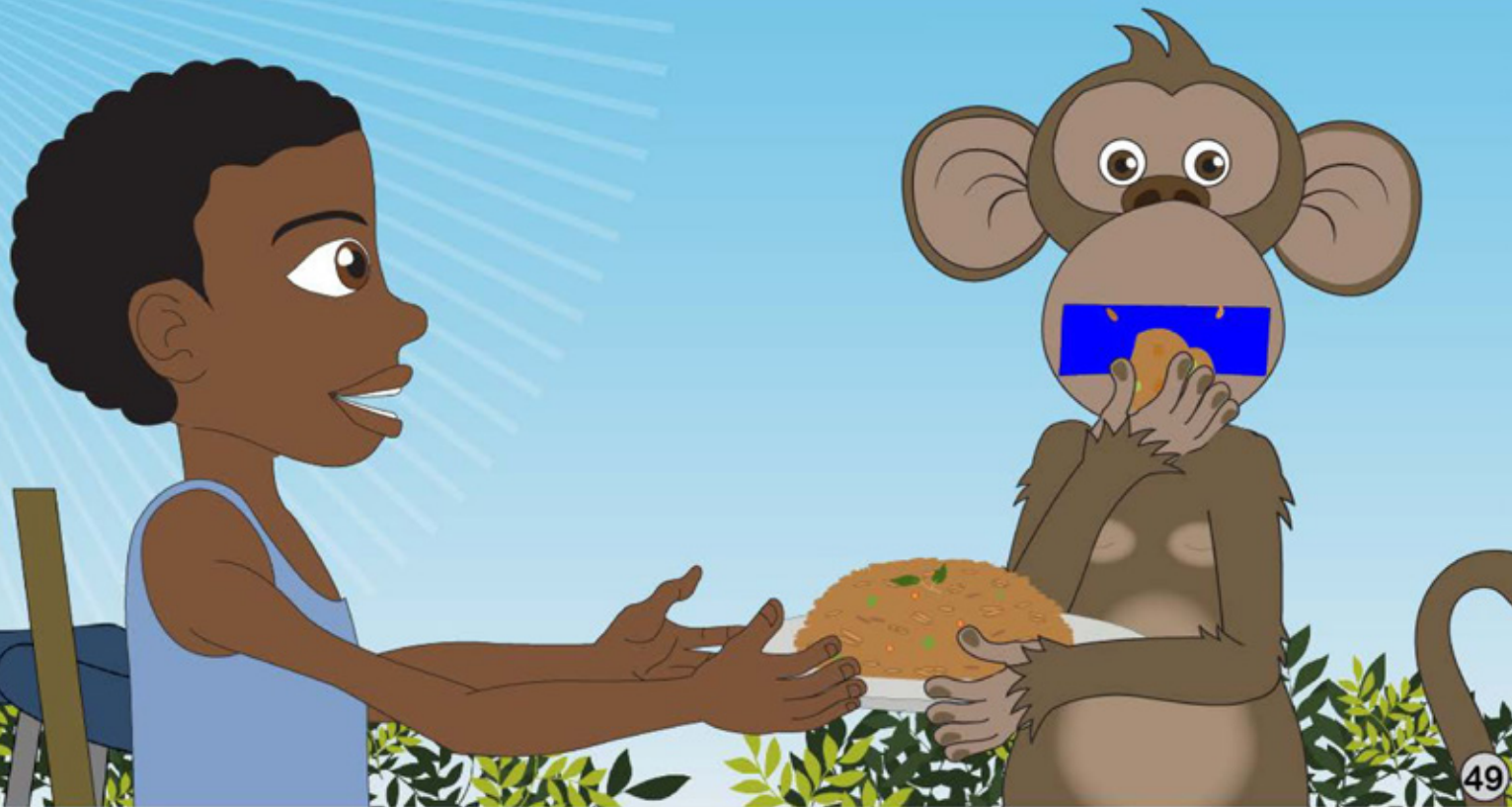
Koba gives a bowl of sugar to Kibena. She licks it, but can't taste whether it is salty or sweet.



Koba gives a bottle of perfume to Baraka.
With his nostrils plugged, he can't smell anything!



Koba passes a bowl of pilau to Ngedere,
but he can't eat it with his mouth covered.



Koba asks Kiduchu how she feels.

“I’m overheating!” she replies.

“You’re the hottest striker we’ve got!” Kibena jokes.



They untie and uncover themselves so that they can eat, smell, taste, hear, and feel like normal.



The next day at the football pitch, Koba explains the important lesson he learned. “A team is like a body,” he says. “All the body parts must work together. When we play football, we have to pass the ball to each other and work as a team.



When one body part is hurt, the others have to help out. Let's work together and we'll win this game!" Koba says. "Hooray!!!" replies his team.





The End

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