Thandi has a bad day
Group-guided reading

Before reading

• Page through the story the learners will read. Talk about the illustrations.
• Ask them to predict what the story will be about; based on the title and the pictures.
• Introduce new or difficult words prior to the learners reading the story.
• Make word cards to introduce new vocabulary. (See the list of new vocabulary in the back inner cover.)

First reading

• Learners should read the text individually.
• Learners should read silently or they can ‘whisper-read’ the text.
• Move from one learner to the next, requesting each learner to read a section of the text aloud.

Discussion

• Ask comprehension questions based on the text.
• Focus on phonics, sight words and vocabulary.
• You will find the activities in the back of this book useful to guide the discussion. (Select appropriate activities for the level of the learners.)

Second reading

• On later days, let learners reread the book, either in pairs or alone.
• Focus on fluency, grammar and vocabulary.
• Let learners complete the group-guided activities which are included in the back of this book. (Select appropriate activities for the level of the learners.)

Learners should do the group-reading activities after reading the story. Let learners work in groups to complete the appropriate group-reading activities included in the back of the book. They should not write in this book. Written activities should be done in their exercise books.
Thandi has a bad day
Today was Thandi’s birthday. Her mother handed her a box wrapped in pink paper. Inside it was the watch she had always wanted!

“Thank you mom! Thank you dad! I have always wanted a pink watch!” Thandi shrieked excitedly. “I can’t wait to show Sisile and Lisa my new watch.” Her mom gave her a big hug. “Happy ninth birthday, Thandi.”

“You’d better hurry up or you’ll miss the school bus,” said her dad.
“Don’t worry dad. I will never miss the bus again, I now have a watch and I know the bus leaves in twelve minutes time,” she replied happily as she left for school.
Thandi hopped off the bus and ran excitedly towards the school. She could not wait to show Sisile and Lisa her new pink watch.

“I wonder what Sisile and Lisa will say when they see my beautiful watch.”

She looked at her watch. “The school bell will ring in twenty minutes and thirty seconds. I have just enough time to show Sisile and Lisa my watch,” she thought.
“Hi Sisile and Lisa, come and see my birthday present!” Thandi called. But Sisile and Lisa did not seem to hear her. They just walked away.

“Sisile! Lisa! It’s my birthday today! Come and see my new watch!” called Thandi. Still Sisile and Lisa did not seem to hear. They turned their backs on Thandi and whispered to each other.

“They have forgotten it’s my birthday,” Thandi thought. “Mmm, I wonder why?”
During break, Thandi saw Sisile and Lisa sitting under a tree whispering. When Thandi came closer, they moved away.

“Mmm, I wonder why?” Thandi thought.

Just then Ken called, “Hi, Thandi! Come and play with me.”

“I can’t understand why Sisile and Lisa keep running away from me,” Thandi said sadly to Ken.

“Oh don’t worry Thandi. Let’s play football,” Ken replied.

“I’m too sad to play football Ken. I just want to go home.”
After school Thandi climbed slowly onto the school bus. “I hope I can sit with Sisile and Lisa,” she thought. But Thandi sat alone.

She watched as Sisile and Lisa whispered. She wondered why all the other children were whispering to each other. Each time she looked at them they looked away.

Even Ken was whispering.

“Mmm, I wonder why?” Thandi thought sadly.

“I can’t wait to get home. I have had such a bad day,” she muttered quietly to herself.
“What can the matter be?” Thandi wondered. She looked at her new watch. How she wished she could show it to her friends. “Oh well!” she thought. “I will be home in twenty-seven minutes and forty-two seconds. Maybe I will be able to show Sisile and Lisa my watch tomorrow.” Poor Thandi felt all alone. No one spoke to her. No one even looked at her. “Mmm, I wonder why?” Thandi thought sadly.
The children hopped off at the bus stop near Thandi’s home. Thandi shouted out to them one more time. “Sisile, Sisile, Lisa, Lisa, look at my new watch!” she called. But Sisile and Lisa just giggled and ran off.

Ken walked towards Thandi, “Why do you look so sad, Thandi? Come along, I will walk with you.”
... and so, Thandi and Ken walked slowly towards Thandi’s house.
“I wonder why Sisile and Lisa won’t talk to me?” Thandi asked Ken.
“Mmm, I wonder why?” Ken thought, smiling broadly.
Thandi opened the front door. What a surprise! All the children in her class were there.

“Surprise! Happy Birthday!” shouted the Grade 3 class.

“Oh, now I understand why you all kept running away from me today!” Thandi said excitedly.

“Show us your new watch!” shouted Sisile and Lisa.

... and Ken just grinned quietly.

Mmm, I wonder why?

Good friends care for each other.
Along time ago, people told time by looking at the sun. They arranged to meet at dawn, or at noon or at sunset. When you agreed to work for somebody you measured your working hours by the day, from sunrise to sunset. The time from one new moon to another was a month, and the time from one spring to the next was a year.

Then people developed ways to measure shorter periods of time. Just as the year was divided into twelve months, they decided to divide the day into twelve hours, and the night into twelve hours too. In the summer, when days were longer, the daytime hours were longer too.

The earliest things that measured time before we had clocks and watches were the sundial and the hourglass.

The sundial is a round disk marked with the hours like a clock. It has an upright structure that casts a shadow on the disk – this is how time is measured with the sundial.

The hourglass was made up of two rounded glass bulbs connected by a narrow neck of glass between them. When the hourglass is turned upside down, a measured amount of sand particles stream through from the top to bottom bulb of glass in a certain amount of time.

Aren’t you glad that we have neat little watches instead?
FULL OF CHEER
May you have a special day,
May your heart be full of cheer,
May love and laughter find you,
May your smiles be ear to ear.
May your joy be everlasting,
May only good things come your way,
May all your wishes be answered,
May you be blessed on your birthday.

BRING OUT THE CAKE
Let’s get out the balloons,
Let’s bring out the cake,
Let’s blow out the candles,
Let’s really celebrate.

You deserve to be happy,
You have it coming your way,
You deserve to be loved,
Since it’s your special day.
Happy birthday!
Group reading activities

1. Look at the pictures.
   - Tell your friend what is happening in each picture.
   - Tell your friend which picture should be first, second, third and last.
   - Retell the story to your friend using the pictures.

2. Match the words with the pictures. Mime the words so that your friend can guess what you are doing. Lastly, use each word in a sentence to show that you understand its meaning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>whispered</th>
<th>shouted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>giggled</td>
<td>sulked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wondered</td>
<td>watched</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>laughed</td>
<td>hugged</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Read the story again and then tell your friend the answers to these questions.

• Who are the main characters in the story?
• What present did Thandi get for her birthday?
• What words on page two show that Thandi was very happy with her present?
• Why did she want to show it to her friends?
• The story starts and ends with Thandi feeling excited. What caused her to feel excited at the start and the end of the story?
• What happens in the middle of the story that causes Thandi to feel sad?
• How do we know that Thandi was able to tell the time?
• Do you think that Sisile and Lisa are good friends? Why?
• When you read how Thandi felt in the middle of the story, did you feel sorry for her? Say why.
• Look at the pictures in the story. What clues do they give that tells us that the children were planning a secret birthday party?
• If your friends ignored you on your birthday, how would you feel? What would you say?
• At the end of the story, Ken grinned. Why do you think he grinned?
Imagine you are Thandi.
Copy the following times into your exercise book and then write down what happened to you at the different times today.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07:00</td>
<td>I got onto the school bus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07:15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07:30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07:55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00</td>
<td>I walked into my house and I saw all the Grade 3 children.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>They had arranged a surprise party for me.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Imagine you are Sisile or Lisa. Make an invitation card for the children in Grade 3 inviting them to the surprise party at Thandi’s house. Give the date, time and address. Remind the children to keep the party a secret.

Date: ____________________________
Time: ____________________________
Address: _________________________
Contact: _________________________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title:</strong></th>
<th>Thandi has a bad day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language:</strong></td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level:</strong></td>
<td>Grade 3 Home Language Reader Level 2 Book 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Text type:</strong></td>
<td>Narrative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sight words:</strong></td>
<td>again, along, called, during, herself, maybe, never, thought, today, tomorrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vocabulary:</strong></td>
<td>birthday, shrieked, excitedly, beautiful, whispering, muttered, quietly, broadly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Phonics:** | • Same sounds represented by a number of different spelling choices, eg. how/out, football/could, replied/1/my, enough/friend
• Same spelling can represent different sounds, eg. leaves/hear/break
• Pronounced the same way, but have different meanings, eg. see/sea |
| **Content, concepts and skills:** | • Describe pictures.
• Puts pictures in the right order.
• Use the pictures to retell the story.
• Use mime to represent words.
• Read and answer comprehension and insight questions.
• Set graphic text together - record keeping.
• Set up an invitation card together. |
The CAPS requires teachers to allocate some time each day for focused group-guided reading. In group-guided reading, teachers guide learners of a similar reading level, to read the same book, in a group. The reading session should include a range of word attack skills and comprehension strategies that children require when reading.

Reading effectively also requires “text talk” between the teacher and learners, and amongst the children in the group. These books include a number of “text talk”, comprehension and other related activities to help teachers direct group reading in their classes.