Grade 3 Reader and Activity Book

# A Bucket? You must be Joking!





## Do you Know these Animals?



Image by Ray Miller from Picchay transfering and anything

Pied crows are clever and brave birds that are very good at flying. They live across Africa in grasslands, riverbanks, veld and open areas with trees. Pied crows are omnivores, which means that they eat animals, like insects, spiders, snails, rodents, birds and birds' eggs, lizards, frogs and fish, and plants, like seeds, roots and fruits. Like all animals, Pied crows need water to survive. Their diet of animals and plants all need water too.

Afrikaans: Witborskraai; Sotho: Pekwa; Zulu: Igwababa



Image by Chiem Seherin from Pisabay

Meerkats live in large groups with up to 50 meerkats in a group.

The whole group works together to collect food, watch out for danger and take care of the babies. Meerkats are omnivores.

They eat beetles, caterpillars, spiders and scorpions, as well as small reptiles, birds, eggs, fruits and plants. Meerkats live in desert and grassland areas across Southern Africa. They get all the water that they need from the food they eat.

Afrikaans: Meerkat; Sotho: Mosha; Zulu: Ububhibhi



Image by Miniformat 65 from Possbay

Crocodiles are the world's largest reptiles. They are very aggressive hunters and have the strongest bite of any animal. Crocodiles hide and wait for their prey and attack them by surprise. Crocodiles are found all over Africa, as well as many other places on Earth. Crocodiles are carnivores, which means that they eat animals like fish, frogs, birds, reptiles and even large mammals. Crocodiles live in freshwater areas like rivers or lakes, and saltwater areas like lagoons and mangrove swamps. They spend most of their lives in or near water.

Afrikaans: Krokodil; Sotho: Kwena; Zulu: Ngwenya

### Do you Know the Sounds these Animals Make?

Using a cell phone scan each QR code to find out:





Pied crow





Meerkat





Crocodile

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For more information on being Water Wise please contact 0860 10 10 60 or visit www.randwater.co.za and click on Water Wise.



#### Three hours later...

"Hello Carol, I am so happy to see you," says Ntsiki, who is waiting for her cousin.

"Hello Ntsiki, it is good to see you too," says Carol, as they hug each other.

"I am very dirty," says Carol.
"The taxi blew dust all over me in the big city."

"How can I help you?" says Ntsiki.

"I am so hot," says Carol. "I need to have a bath to get rid of the dirt and dust on my **feathers**. I would also love a cup of tea, please."

The cousins make their way to Ntsiki's house where she makes Carol a cup of tea with sugar and milk.



- I. Why is Carol dirty?
- 2. What does Carol want?
- 3. What does Ntsiki put into Carol's tea?

"Yuck!" says Carol, "This tea tastes bad. What is wrong with it?"

"Oh, Carol, the farm water tastes very **different** from city water," says Ntsiki.

"Why?" asks Carol.

"Here, on the farm, there are no taps," says Ntsiki.

"We use a bucket to fetch water from the river.

It is very heavy and we must take care not to waste a drop.

Then we boil it to make sure that it is clean."

"No taps? Where will I bath?" asks Carol.

"We bath in a bucket," says Ntsiki.



3. How does Ntsiki bath?

"A bucket? You must be joking! I've never bathed in a bucket before. Oh my! My bath, my bubbles, my taps! I miss you," says Carol, sadly.

"I will go fetch your water now," says Ntiski.

"The water in the river is not very clean. Some people wash their clothes in the river, or they dump rubbish in it. Some even use the river as a toilet. We boil the water to kill the germs so that we don't get sick."

"I am so lucky to get clean water from taps in the big city.

A bath on the farm is a lot of hard work."



At the river, Ntsiki meets Ma Ngwenya, the crocodile, who watches over the river.

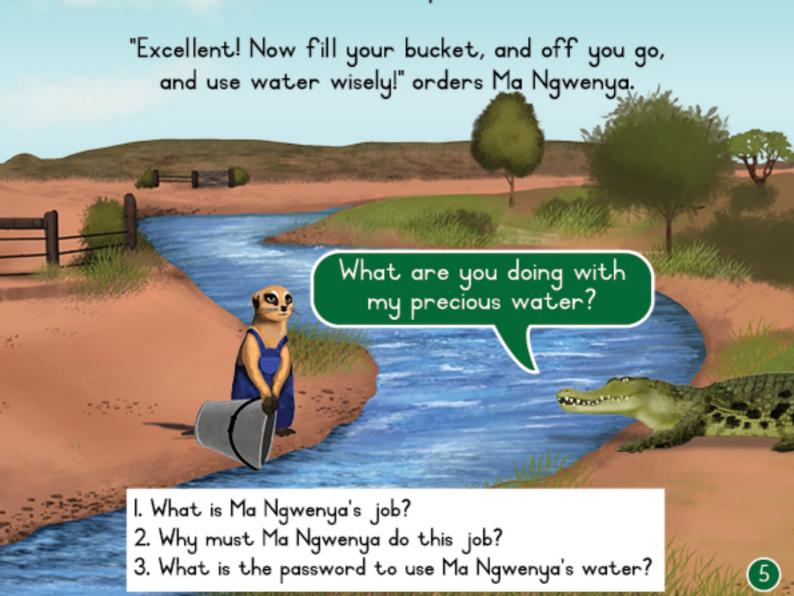
"What are you doing with my precious water?" asks Ma Ngwenya, "Are you making it dirty?"

"Oh no, not at all Ma Ngwenya!" says Ntsiki,
"I'm just fetching water for my cousin to take a bath."

"That's good. I was worried that you were throwing litter into this water, when you know that water must always be respected!"

What is the password to use my water?" asks Ma Ngwenya.

"Water Wise!" replies Ntsiki.



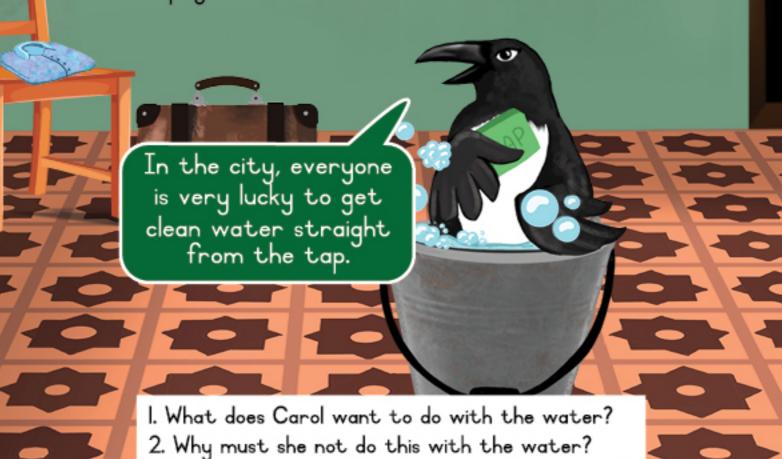
Ntsiki walks back up to the house and walks in the door, huffing and puffing, carrying the very heavy bucket filled with water.

When Ntsiki gives the bucket to Carol, Carol wants to pour out some water to wash her dirty necklace.

"No! No! I walked too far to fetch that water. It is too precious to waste on your necklace," cries Ntsiki.
"We always try to be Water Wise!" she tells her cousin.

"Sorry," says Carol. "After the water has been boiled, I will just take my Water Wise bath then."

While she is bathing in the bucket, Carol thinks about home. "In the city, everyone is very lucky to get clean water straight from the tap. That is why it is so important that we all pay for the water that we use," thinks Carol.



3. Why must we pay for the water that we use?

After Carol finishes her bath, she sits down with Ntsiki.
"There are 6 ways to be Water Wise in a dry country like
South Africa," Ntsiki tells Carol. "The first way is to respect
all water and life on Earth," says Ntsiki.

Carol says, "I understand now that water is precious and must not be wasted."

"That is the second way!" says Ntsiki. "We must not waste a single drop of water. The third way is to make sure that rivers are clean and not polluted with litter and waste."

Carol says, "Aha, so that is why we must pay for our tap water so that everyone can get clean water."

Ntsiki says, "The fifth way is to fix leaking taps and pipes, throw litter in the dustbin and remember to recycle. We must all learn to take action! The sixth way is to look after and care for water and the environment."

There are 6 ways to be Water Wise in a dry country like South Africa.





- I. What are the 6 ways that you can be Water Wise?
- 2. Draw pictures of the 6 ways in your workbook.

#### One week later...

"I've had so much fun," says Carol. "I bathed in a bucket, and even had a shower in the rain. I have learned to be wise with water while visiting you, Ntsiki!"

"Maybe you should take this bucket back to the city. You can show everyone how little water you need for a bath," says Ntsiki.

"I will!" says Carol, "I will never waste water again.
Not a drop!"

On her way home, Carol thinks about all the ways she will teach people in the city not to waste or pollute water. "I will tell them all that water is precious. It is not a joke to bath in a bucket!" she thinks to herself.



## Activities

#### Say the words

Can you say these words correctly? Listen to your teacher and repeat them.

- cousin
- meerkat
- feathers
- different

- sure
- germs
- precious
- password

- straight

- important
   polluted
   environment

Use a dictionary to look up the meanings of any words you do not know.

#### In or on?

Each of these sentences is missing the word 'in' or 'on'.

Write the correct word in each sentence.

- Carol climbs \_\_\_\_\_ to the taxi.
- The dust is \_\_\_\_\_ Carol's feathers.
- Carol gets \_\_\_\_\_ to a bucket to bath.
- There are no taps \_\_\_\_\_ the farm.
- On the farm, they bath \_\_\_\_\_ a bucket.

#### Describing words

Use the story to match these naming words with the correct describing words below.

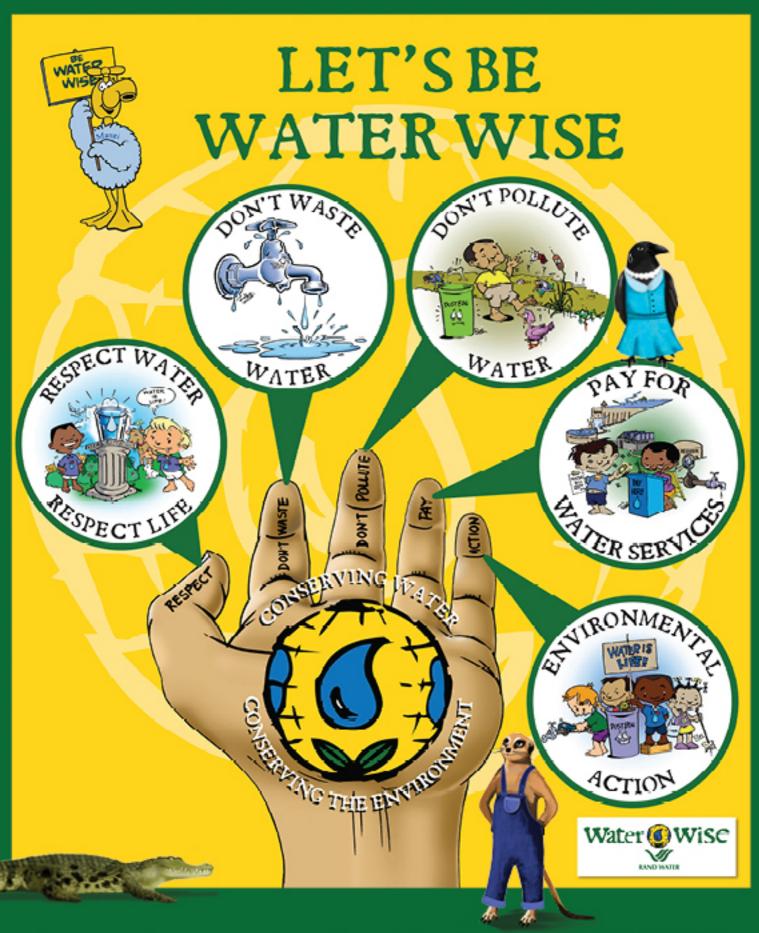
• feathers	• river	<ul><li>bucket</li></ul>	• water	<ul><li>country</li></ul>
• distu				
<ul><li>dirty</li><li>dry</li></ul>				
-				
• dusty				
•				
<ul> <li>precious</li> </ul>				

#### Make a poster

Make a 'Water Wise' poster to teach other learners about the importance of looking after water.

#### Act it out!

In groups, act out the story of Carol's visit to the farm.



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