

STORY: NATELA BUILDS A CANOE

Natela heard that his cousin Kuki was having a 21st Birthday. He knew just the right gift to get Kuki. He would build him a traditional canoe to surprise him on his birthday. Papa Milo had often spoken about building a canoe and Natela really wanted to surprise Kuki with his gift.

He rang Papa Milo "Papa I really want to make a traditional canoe. Can you help me make one?" Papa told Natela to go over to his house after school so they could talk about it. Natela couldn't wait for the last bell to ring, and he raced over to Papa's house.

Papa was waiting for Natela with a snack of talo and corned beef. After a long talk Natela was not happy that Papa had told him it was too much work for the two of them. So, he decided that he would follow what Papa had told him and he would do it himself!

He found a Moota tree just down the road from his house and set it on fire, just like Papa said. He waited for it to die down. He tried to chop the tree down with an axe he had made from a sharp stone and a piece of wood, just like Papa said. But as soon as he started to chop the Moota tree the axe broke into pieces.

Meanwhile Papa had seen the smoke while he was feeding his pigs and he was afraid it was a bush fire that could reach his pig pen. Just then Koko arrived and told Papa, "Did you know that your grandson is trying to burn a Moota tree to make a canoe?" Papa found Natela trying to cut down the tree. Papa reassured Natela that he was not in trouble. He gave him a lesson about burning trees and destroying property on land that did not belong to them. Natela apologised and asked Papa to help him make Kuki's gift.

"How about a necklace or a traditional spear," replied, Papa. Natela tried to make a spear but accidentally dropped it and the tip broke. He went and showed Papa. He was about to cry when Papa said, "Let me help you make a miniature canoe for your gift" Natela had the biggest smile. He worked with Papa until they finished his gift. He was so excited to give his gift to Kuki. "Don't worry Natela one day we will make a full-size traditional canoe."

"Oh, Papa I love the sound of that", said Natela.

CREATING YOUR BIG BOOK

YOU WILL NEED

- 8 A4 sheets of paper
- Crayons or pencils

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read the story
2. Follow the guidance below to create your big book
3. You can use pictures only OR words and pictures
4. Read the big book to your child
5. Ask questions before, during and after the story is read.



QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER READING

- a. What can you see in this picture? What do you think the story is about?
- b. What do you need to build a canoe?
- c. Why did Papa not want Natela to build a canoe?
- d. What happened when he tried to cut the tree down?
- e. What did he end up giving Kuki for his birthday?
- f. What did Papa promise to do with him one day?

COVER PAGE TITLE AND AUTHOR

Natela builds a canoe

PAGE 1

Drawing of a young boy with a thought bubble showing the boy gifting a canoe to his cousin on their 21st birthday.

PAGE 2

Drawing of a young boy at his grandfather's house. His grandfather has a snack of talo and corned beef for him.

PAGE 3

Drawing of a young boy in the forest trying to cut down a Moota tree with a tool made from a sharp stone and a piece of wood.

PAGE 4

Drawing of a young boy in the forest trying to cut down a Moota tree, the boy's tool is broken. The boy looks sad.

PAGE 5

Drawing of a young boy with his father, trying to make a spear.

PAGE 6

Drawing of a young boy with his father, trying to make a spear. The spear has dropped and the tip is broken.

PAGE 7

A picture of a young boy and his father making a miniature canoe.

PAGE 8

Picture of a young boy gifting his cousin the miniature canoe on his cousin's 21st birthday.

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