

# STORY: FIVE STONES AND A RIVER BY CEDELLA NONGEBATU

A long time ago, there were two villages called Ria and Sua. Both were separated by a river. In the past, the people lived in Sua but a fight over places to fish forced one group to leave and make a new village called Ria.

Children were taught to be enemies and had to fight if they ever came across someone from the other village.

In both villages, the children had a favourite game called 'Five Stones' which was played with five small stones. Deve was a champion player.

One day he went on a hunt with his uncles and met a boy from Ria named Saja. They were about to fight when they discovered they were carrying their stones with them.

Instead of fighting, they started to play Five Stones on the riverbank. They forgot about fighting.

Warriors from both villages found the boys. When they saw them playing Five Stones, they put down their weapons.

Deve and Saja brought peace through a game of Five Stones and people of Ria and Sua became one people again.



## 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. Do you know Five Stones? Do children play Five Stones in this village?
- c. Why did the clan split?
- d. What were the boys fearing when they stood staring at each other?
- e. How did the game of Five Stones bring peace to the two villages?

### COVER PAGE TITLE AND AUTHOR

Five Stones and a river

### PAGE 1

Picture of people running across a bridge over a river.

### PAGE 2

Drawing of children sitting and watching men with bows and arrows.

### PAGE 3

Drawing of children sitting in a circle playing Five stones. Focus is on one boy in particular – Deve.

### PAGE 4

Drawing of Deve holds a bow and arrow awkwardly and Saja does the same with a spear.

### PAGE 5

Drawing of the boys sitting on the riverbank playing Five Stones.

### PAGE 6

Drawing of some warriors holding spears, others putting them down.

### PAGE 7

Drawing of a people of Ria and Sua walking across a bridge over the river. Saja pulling Deve and they run across to Sua.

### BACK PAGE

Drawing of Five Stones