

STORY: THE UGA

It was early one Saturday morning when NatVvela sat with his Papa at the table having breakfast. He asked, "Papa what was your favourite thing to do when you were little?"

Papa replied, "I loved to go uga hunting." Natela was excited when he heard this and asked Papa to tell him about uga hunting.

Papa told him it was a very hard job. Papa would help his dad to collect 50 to 100 dried coconuts and put them in a woven basket made from coconut leaves. He had to cut a large stick and then carry the baskets on each end of the stick to help his dad.

Papa carried on "they didn't even have torches when I was little Natela, we had to make our own." So, Papa went outside and Natela followed. Papa showed Natela how they used to make torches from the coconut tree.

Natela was excited and asked Papa "please Papa can we go hunting, I really want to go and hunt for uga?" Papa smile at him and said, "Natela there are a lot of things we need to do before we can go hunting."

The more Papa told Natela the more excited he got. "Natela do you know that uga live in different places in the forest. They live in rocks, under rocks and around rocks. They also live in the roots of the Ovava or Banyan Tree and we have to lay baits in all these different places."

This made Natela even more excited and asked, "Papa so how do we put out the coconuts." Papa replied "Natela we have to tie them onto the rocks and roots of trees so that the uga cannot drag the coconut away with their strong claws." Papa continued "But we must also bless the track we are using so we can catch some uga for our dinner" said Papa.

Natela begged Papa to tell him some more about uga hunting but Papa replied, "let's save that story for another time."

CREATING YOUR BIG BOOK

YOU WILL NEED

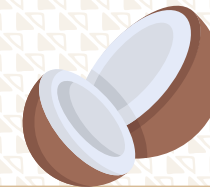
- 8 A4 sheets of paper
- Crayons or pencils

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. How did Papa make fire out of coconut?
- c. Where do Uga live?
- d. How does Papa catch Uga?
- e. Why do we need to bless the track?
- f. Why is Natela so excited to go Uga hunting?



COVER PAGE TITLE AND AUTHOR

The Uga

PAGE 1

Drawing of a father and his son sitting at the breakfast table. The father is telling his son a story, the son looks excited.

PAGE 2

Drawing of the son sitting at the breakfast table, with a thought bubble showing the son thinking about lots of dried coconuts and a woven basket made of coconut leaves.

PAGE 3

Drawing of the son sitting at the breakfast table, with a thought bubble showing his father as a young boy, carrying woven baskets connected by a large stick which is held across the young boy's shoulders, the young boy looks tired.

PAGE 4

Drawing of a father and his son in their garden, the father is making a torch using cuttings from the coconut tree, the son is watching with excitement.

PAGE 5

Drawing of a uga in the forest, a second picture of a uga near rocks, and a third picture of a uga next to a Ovava tree and Banyan tree.

PAGE 6

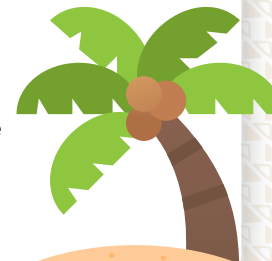
Drawing of the son standing in the garden, with a thought bubble showing a group of people tying dried coconuts onto rocks and roots of trees.

PAGE 7

Drawing of a young boy and his father standing in their garden, the father is talking to his son, the son is looking up at his father with excitement. The father is holding a torch made from coconut tree cuttings.

BACK PAGE

Drawing of a Uga



STORY: HUNTING UGA

Papa and Natela were doing their chores in the back yard. "Papa how can we catch an uga?" Papa replied, "When we finish our chores I can tell you more about hunting uga". This made Natela excited, and he rushed to complete his chores.

Papa called Natela to sit under the tree while he told him more about uga hunting. Natela couldn't stop smiling while he listened to Papa telling him all about hunting uga.

You need to go at the right time so you can catch the uga while it is still eating the coconut baits. "Do you know why Natela?" asked Papa. "The uga is a very clever creature Natela and it does not come out during the day and it does not like to come out when there is a full moon. We had to depend on local knowledge which was watching the tide or by the phases of the moon. Sometimes it was just depending on the time. Either late in the night or early hours of the morning before we went hunting".

"We used to use coconut fibre lights because we had no torches. They would be wrapped around kafika sticks to burn longer. We made up to four to light the way during the night. This was how we would catch our uga. When we caught some we would wrap them in leaves and tie them with vines."

Papa told Natela that sometimes the fibre lights would go out and they would have to spend the night in the forest and wait till morning to see the way home, "When that happens we would just build a small fire and cook the uga we got for dinner on the coals".

When Natela heard his Papa talk about sleeping in the forest and cooking on the coals this made him even more excited. He turned to Papa and said, "I can't wait to go hunting with you Papa".

Papa smiled at him and said, "don't worry Natela, Papa will take you soon".

CREATING YOUR BIG BOOK

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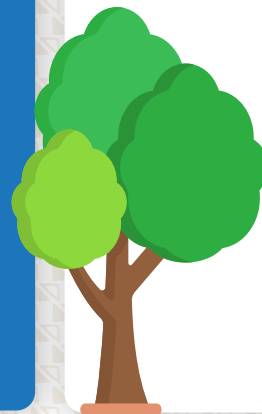
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QUESTIONS YOU CAN ASK BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER READING



- a. What can you see in this picture? What do you think the story is about?
- b. What are the two times that the Uga does not come out?
- c. Why are uga's so clever?
- d. When uga was caught, how was it wrapped?
- e. Why did Papa sometimes need to spend a night in the forest when hunting uga?



COVER PAGE TITLE

Hunting Uga

PAGE 1

Drawing of a father and his young son gardening.

PAGE 2

Drawing of a father and son sitting under a large tree in their garden.

PAGE 3

Drawing of the sea at night, there are waves and the sky is dark.

PAGE 4

Drawing 4 torches made from coconut fibre lights, wrapped around kafika sticks. The kafika sticks are burning to create fire, creating light.

PAGE 5

Drawing of uga wrapped in leaves and tied with vines.

PAGE 6

Drawing of a group of adults sitting around a small fire, in the forest, cooking uga on the fire.

PAGE 7

Drawing of a father and his son sitting under a tree in the garden. The boy is looking at his father with excitement.

BACK PAGE

STORY: COOKING UGA

Natela really enjoyed listening about how Papa would catch uga when he was little. But what excited him more was listening to how they cooked the uga in the forest. Natela asked "How do you cook uga on the coals Papa?"

Just then Natela's Uncle Kofe came to visit Papa. He bought with him a gift for Papa's dinner. Natela couldn't hold his excitement when he saw that Uncle Kofe had bought two large uga that he had caught the night before.

Both Papa and Natela were so happy. When Uncle Kofe left Papa said to Natela "We are so blessed to receive such a gift." Papa got up and put a pot of water on the stove to boil and poured in some salt. Natela sat watching Papa. He asked, "Papa aren't we going to cook it on the coals just like you told me in the story...Please Papa?"

Papa replied, "Let's wait until this uga is cooked first then we can make a fire outside to cook the second uga". Natela was getting impatient as he watched Papa put the Uga in the pot then waited for it to turn bright red when it was cooked. After what seemed like forever to Natela, Papa finally said it was cooked.

Papa wrapped the cooked uga and left it on the table. He told Natela to go and gather some wood to make a fire. Natela watched Papa start the fire. Papa said they would have to wait for the fire to die down so they could cook the uga on the coals.

As the fire started to die down, Papa put the uga on the coals. After a while the uga started to smell so good. Papa reached over and broke off one of the claws and he sucked on it. "Is it cooked Papa?" asked Natela, but Papa told him it was best to be eaten when it was semi cooked. Papa said "Here Natela have a taste".

Natela couldn't stop smiling as he sat beside Papa. They ate both the boiled Uga and the uga cooked on the coals until there was nothing left. Natela licked his lips and told Papa that his tummy was full. Papa said, "We are thankful for our blessings and the uga was definitely a blessing".

CREATING YOUR BIG BOOK

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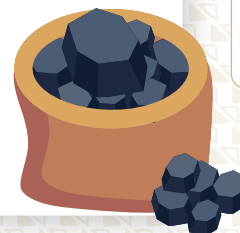
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- a. What can you see in this picture? What do you think the story is about?
- b. What did Uncle Kofe bring with him when he visited Papa?
- c. How did Papa cook the first Uga?
- d. How did Papa cook the second Uga?
- e. When is the best time to eat Uga?



COVER PAGE TITLE

Cooking Uga

PAGE 1

Drawing of a small boy sitting on the ground, listening to his father talking to him.

PAGE 2

Drawing of a man holding a Uga, walking towards a small boy and his father.

PAGE 3

Drawing of a man standing at a hot stove, placing the Uga into a pot of boiling water.

PAGE 4

Drawing of a small boy feeling frustrated. The boy is standing near the hot stove next to his father and uncle.

PAGE 5

Drawing of a small boy watching his father make a fire for cooking, they are outside.

PAGE 6

Drawing of a small boy, standing next to his father, both are watching the hot coals cooking the wrapped Uga.

PAGE 7

Drawing of a boy and his father sitting near the hot coal, both smiling and eating.

BACK PAGE

