



**Reading aloud is the foundation for literacy development.  
It is the single most important activity for reading success**  
(Bredenkamp, Copple, & Neuman, 2000).

We have been reading aloud to classes at 4 schools this term. At Isikhuthali Primary we read to the Grade 4, 5 and 6 in English. Our new initiative is to read to Grade 1 and 2 in isiZulu. Themabela, a retired teacher, has really enjoyed being back in the classroom reading to the little children and they have loved the stories.



At Ithongasi FS School, Jos and Wendy read to Grades 1 and 7 on Read-aloud day in February.



At Dlukulwane Primary School we read to Grade 3 and Grade 7. Neil read outside under the trees to the Grade 3 class. They were engrossed!!!

This term we held our first 'Reading and Phonics' workshop with teachers. We interacted with Foundation Phase teachers at Ithuba school. We talked about the importance of wordless books in building early story-telling skills; the role of reading-aloud in building early literacy skills and emphasized the importance of learning to read in English using phonics – letter sounds.

With two weeks to the end of the first term at schools we are busy collecting our books from the schools and catching up with the teachers. Its always good to drive through the beautiful hills of KZN on the way to the schools.

As always, grateful thanks to those who support our work in the schools financially.



**The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for  
eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children.**

— Becoming a Nation of Readers: The Report of the Commission on Reading Anderson et al, 1985

Standard Bank South Africa  
A/c number: 055351271  
Branch code: 057528  
A/c name: Sithanda ukufunda – We love to read  
Swift code: SBZAJJ

NPO no: 135 - 162  
PBO no: 930053749  
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