

Grade

Anthology

2

Read Aloud Story 1

I am Ayanda

I am Ayanda. I am a girl. I am eight years old.

I live at home with my sister and my brother, and my mother and my granny.

Sometimes my uncle comes to see us. I love my uncle. He always tells us funny stories and makes everyone laugh. Once he told us about how he did something naughty at school and hid from the teacher in the cupboard. When the teacher opened the cupboard she got such a fright that she fell over. He says all his teachers loved him even though he was naughty.

Sometimes my mother's boyfriend come to stay. I don't think he likes us. My granny doesn't like him. But my mother likes him very much. She puts on pretty clothes when he comes. He takes her out with him in his car. She says we will all go and live with him in a big house one day.

I am in Grade 2 and my sister is in Grade R. Her name is Lindiwe. We like school. My best friend at school is Dora. She lives with her two big sisters. Sometimes Dora cries but I don't know why she cries. She says it's nothing. I have other friends at school too. We play hopscotch. We sing songs. We have a very nice teacher. She helps everyone in the class, and she doesn't get cross if we don't understand quickly or if we get things wrong.

There is one boy in the class that I am scared of. He is a big boy called Jakob. I think Jakob likes to hurt other people. One day when I went early to school he saw me on the path and he chased me. I ran to the school gates. He ran after me. He asked why I was running. I stayed quiet. He asked me what I was scared of. I stayed quiet. Then our teacher drove her car into the gate and waved to us and Jakob went away.

The time of the day I like the best is when we all walk home from school. I walk with Dora and my sister and the other girls. We all walk slowly together and talk about all the things we like. We laugh a lot.

I know granny will be at home when we get there. She looks after my little brother and some other small children at our house while their mothers are at work. She is happy when we come home because we play with the babies and sing songs to them. They all clap and granny sits down and has a cup of tea. Then we get a basin of water and put it on the floor and wash our socks and we let the babies pretend they are helping us.

What Dora and I like to do on weekends is to play school. We are the teachers and the small children are the learners. We use a piece of chalk we got from school and we write on the wall. We ask the small ones questions and they have to put their hands up and answer our questions. I think we like this game more than they do. I also like to look after Granny's chickens. They come when I call them and I give them old food that we can't eat. I like the way they make happy clucking noises while they eat. At night we shut them in their hen house to keep them safe.