

Grade

Anthology

2

# Read Aloud Story 4

## The terrible road, the terrible toilets and the tippy tap

I am Ayanda. My friend Dora and I like playing netball. One day we went to play netball against another school.

We went in a taxi to the other school. We went very far from town in the taxi to find the school. At our school we have a tar road that comes to the school gate. The road at our school has some holes but people in cars can drive round them. This school was far from town. The road had no tar. It had some big stones in it and a lot of big holes. The taxi driver was driving very slowly. He kept turning the steering wheel hard so that he would not hit the rocks or drive into the holes on the road. He was talking loudly to himself. At one place he drove into a muddy hole and the taxi got stuck. We had to get out and push the taxi and we got a lot of red mud on our clothes. When he saw the school at the bottom of a hill the driver just stopped. He said we had to walk to the school. He wouldn't take his taxi down the road to the school. He said the taxi was nearly dead already. He said if he drove it down it would never get up again. So we walked down the hill to the school. The children there laughed when they saw our muddy clothes. "So you are just like us now," they said.

This school was not like our school. We have nice desks but their desks were old and broken. The doors of their classrooms were old and broken too. But they did have netball posts.

We had a good time playing netball. We forgot all about the mud on our clothes and we had fun. After we played we sat down to rest. Then we needed the toilet. The girls from that school showed us the toilets. Yo! Yo! Yo! I have never seen toilets like those ones. The first thing we saw was a wooden box with a hole in it. That was there for you to sit on. It was the toilet seat. Under the wooden box seat there was just a big hole. Some of the wooden box seats were broken. Dora said she was scared to use these toilets. She said she was scared she might fall in the toilet hole. Then the girls from that school said that a small girl did fall in the toilet hole once but the teachers got her out. We were too scared to use those toilets. We did not want to fall in to the toilet holes. So we went outside and went behind a bush.

Then the girls showed us where to wash our hands. They said it was called a tippy tap.

The tippy tap was a big plastic bottle full of clean water with soap in it. It was hanging from a little pole and it had a string tied to a small plank on the ground. If you pressed the plank with your foot the plastic bottle tipped up and some water came out to wash your hands. The girls said that one of their teachers came with the idea of the tippy tap. They said that before they had it, they used to get sick with sore tummies. But when they started to use the tippy tap they didn't get sick. And they said it felt good to have clean hands.

We told our teacher about the toilets. She said thank goodness we had good toilets at our school. Then we showed her the tippy tap. She said it was a wonderful idea. Then she said she wanted one right outside her classroom. We helped her make one and now we wash our hands at the tippy tap every time we go into the classroom.