

PARENT AND TEACHER GUIDE

After The Mudslide

Themes Found in This Story:

- Communities working together
- Natural disasters

The Story:

After The Mudslide: Madala's house is knocked down in a mudslide and the others help him rebuild.

The parent/teacher may read the story aloud, or print the story for the children to read or follow along.

Characters in this Story

Tshameka and Reë (tshah-MEH-kah) and (REE-ah)

They are twin lion cubs from the country of South Africa. Tshameka is the brother—his name is Tswana for “play”. Reë is the sister, and her name is short for Reënboog, which is Afrikaans for “rainbow”—South Africa is also known as the “Rainbow Nation”.

Madala (mah-DAHh-lah)

He is a chameleon from the country of Zambia. His name is the respectful way to say “old man” in the Chinyanga language.

Maro (MAH-roo)

She is a sifaka lemur from the country of Madagascar. Her name is short for “Marojejy”, a national park that is home to many types of lemurs. Sifaka lemurs are also called “dancing lemurs.”

Jos (JAHS)

He is an Abyssinian roller, from the country of Nigeria. His name is also the name of a large city there.

Kili (KIH-lee)

He is a baby black rhinoceros (also called a “hooked-lipped rhinoceros”) from the country of Tanzania. His name is short for “Kilimanjaro”, the tallest mountain in Africa.

Nyati (NYAH-tee)

He is a cape buffalo from the country of Kenya. His name is a Swahili word which means “buffalo.”

Suloliko (soo-loh-LEE-koh)

She is a zebra duiker from the country of Guinea, in West Africa. Her full name is “Suloliko Lamalaka”, which is a language called Kissi, and means “close to the king”.

Omulonga (oh-moo-LOHN-gah)

She is a Black-Footed Penguin from Namibia, and is an immigrant new to the area.

Santo (SAHN-too)

He is a Loggerhead Turtle from off the coast of Mozambique. His name is a Portuguese word which means “blessed”.

Background Information:

In rural parts of Africa, where people live in mud huts, building homes is often a communal activity. It takes some time, as various materials must be cut and dried before they can be used. Usually when a new home is being built, friends and family members will come together to help. If there is some sort of natural disaster that affects the community, like the mudslide in today’s story, people will work together to help one another out.

In areas that get a lot of rain, mudslides can be a serious problem. Homes are knocked down, crops are destroyed, roads are washed away, and sometimes even lives are lost. Early in 2013, for example, the town of Kijabe in Kenya experienced a devastating mudslide. The town sits at the bottom of a mountain, and as a result of deforestation on the mountain itself, there was nothing to hold the soil in place when heavy rains came sweeping through at the end of the rainy season. Many people were injured and about six were killed. The road to the town had been washed away, and so the citizens of the town came out as one to clear the road. Men, women and children worked together, cutting apart branches and hauling away mud to make the road passable again so that help could come to the town.

Possible Bible Memory Verse:

“I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.” Luke 6:47-48 (NIV)

Activities

Make a Mud Hut Craft
Mud Games

Prayer Points:

--Pray for believers in Africa who live in areas affected by natural disasters like floods, droughts, famines or mudslides. Pray that God would give them the help they need, while also giving them the strength to show God’s love by helping others.

Additional Resources:

Kids Like Me photo gallery--“Houses”