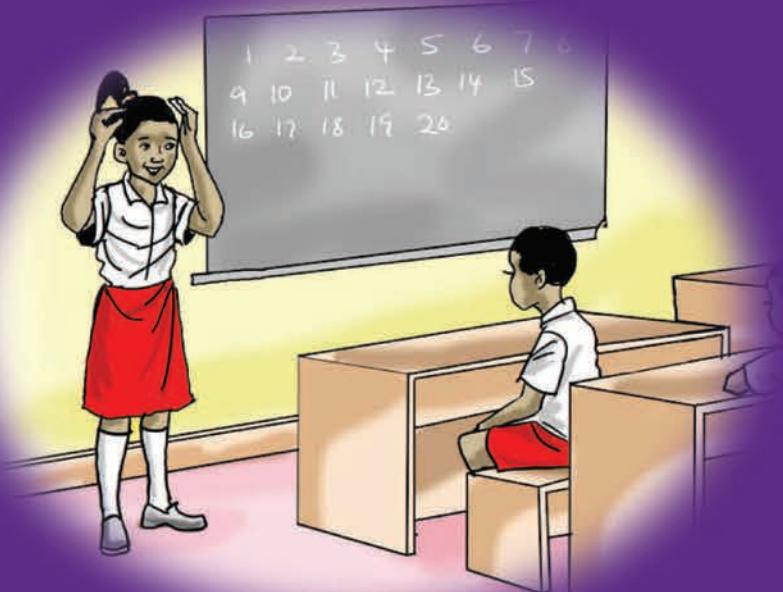


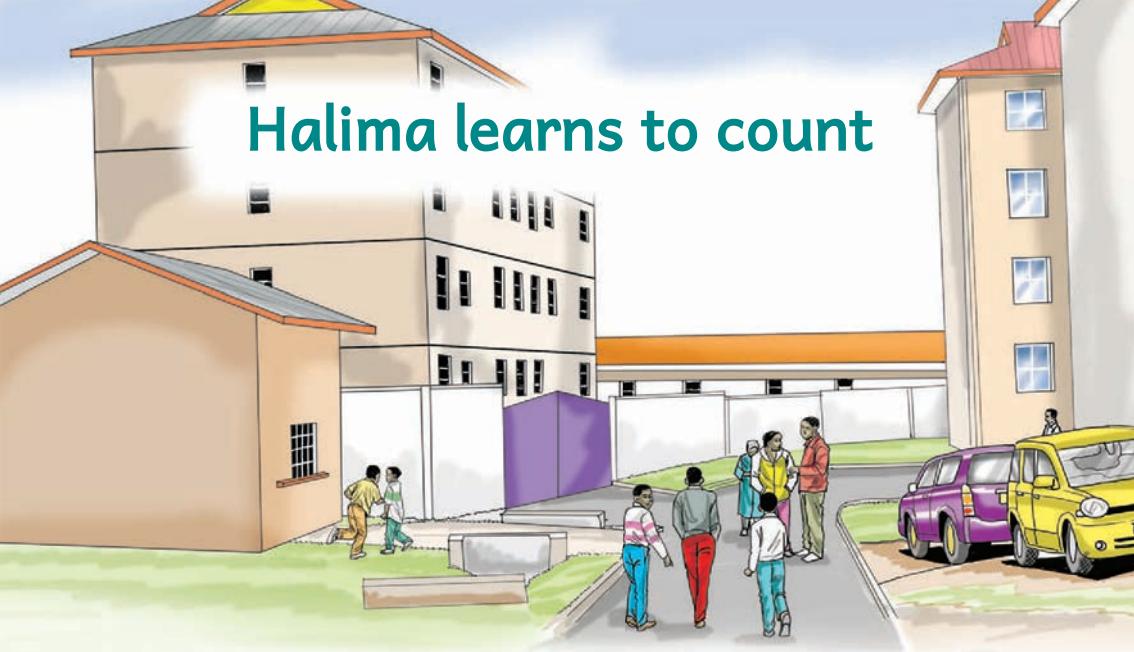


# Halima learns to count



Tusome Early Literacy Programme

# Halima learns to count



Ewoi and Halima were friends.

Ewoi was a boy.

Halima was a girl.

Ewoi's family was from Turkana County.

Halima came from Mombasa County.

Ewoi's and Halima's fathers worked in Nairobi.

The two families lived in Kayole Estate.

Ewoi lived in house number 14.

Halima lived in house number 15.

The two children went to Kayole Primary School.

Their school was in Kayole Estate.

They were both in Class Two.

Ewoi and Halima were always together.

They played together at home and at school.





Ewoi and Halima always walked to school together.

Sometimes, they walked with other children.

One Monday morning, they went to school early.

At half past seven, the school bell rang.

All the children ran to their classrooms.

The head teacher stood in front of his office.

The teacher on duty was with him.

At quarter to eight, the bell rang again.

It was time for parade.

All pupils stood in the parade ground.

The teachers stood in front of the pupils.

The pupils listened as the teachers talked to them.

After the parade, all the pupils went back to their classrooms.

The class teachers also went to their classes.





Mrs Nyati walked to Class Two.

“Good morning, class,” she said.

“Good morning, Mrs Nyati,” the pupils answered.

She told them to sit down.

She got ready to teach.

The first lesson was Maths.

The lesson was on counting.

The pupils counted forward and backwards.

Mrs Nyati said, “Listen as I count by five from zero to twenty.”

“Zero, five, ten, fifteen, twenty,” the teacher counted.

The pupils listened.

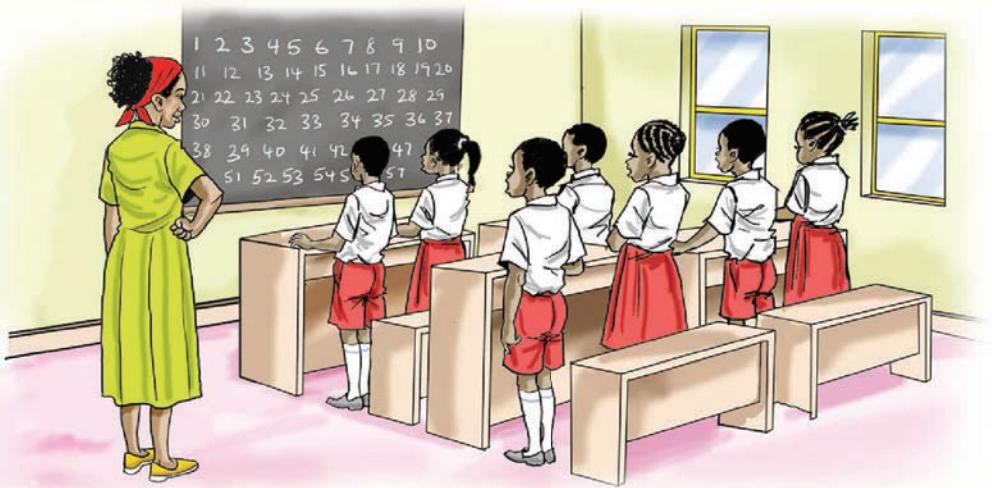
“Let’s count together by fives from zero to twenty,” the teacher said.

“Zero, five, ten, fifteen, twenty!”

Mrs Nyati and the pupils counted.

The teacher asked the pupils to count on their own.





“Zero, five, ten, fifteen, twenty,” the pupils counted.

The pupils clapped for themselves.

Mrs Nyati wrote numbers from one to one hundred on the chalkboard.

She wanted to count the numbers.

“One, two, three...,” the teacher counted on up to a hundred.

Then she counted with the pupils.

“One, two, three...,” the class counted up to a hundred.

“Let us count by fives from zero to one hundred,” Mrs Nyati said.

“Listen to me. Zero, five, ten....”

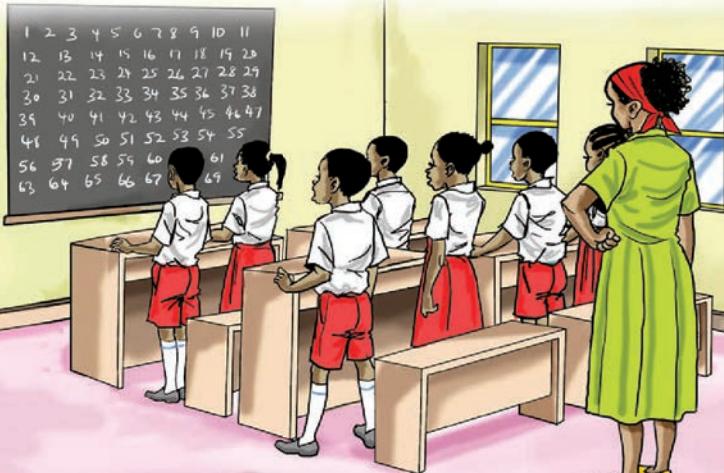
The teacher counted by fives up to one hundred.

Then the class counted.

Some pupils stopped counting.

Mrs Nyati asked the class to start counting again.

“Zero, five, ten....,” the class counted up to one hundred.





The teacher and the pupils counted again up to one hundred.

“Very good, class,” the teacher said.

The pupils clapped for themselves.

Then they counted on their own.

They counted by fives from zero to one hundred.

They clapped for themselves.

Next, the teacher wanted to count Maths textbooks.

The pupils put their Maths books on their desks.

Mrs Nyati asked the pupils to collect the books.

They put the books on her desk.

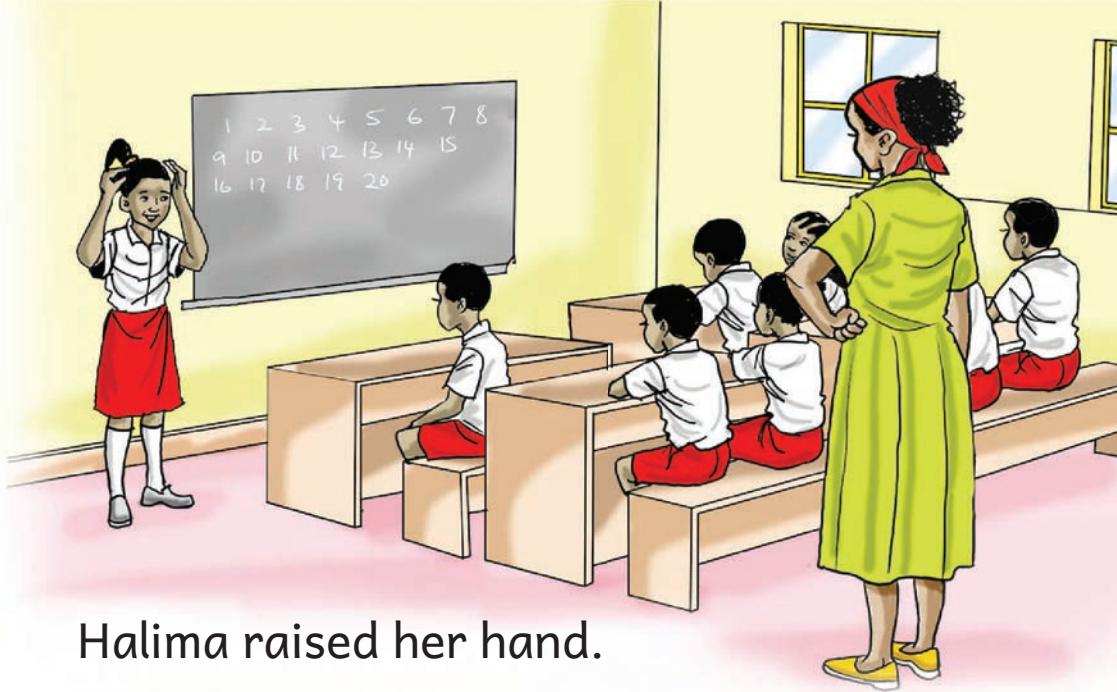
Then she asked one pupil to show how to count by fives.

“Five, ten, fifteen, twenty....,” Ewoi counted up to thirty five.

“There are thirty five books!” Ewoi said.

“We have thirty five Maths books in our class,” said another pupil.





Halima raised her hand.

“Teacher, how much hair do I have on my head?” she asked.

“It is a lot.

We cannot count all of it.” Mrs Nyati said.

“Teacher, how many is a lot?

Is it one thousand?” Halima asked.

“We need to count to know,” Mrs Nyati answered.

“Where can we get hair to count?” the teacher asked Halima.

“I can cut my hair and bring it for counting.

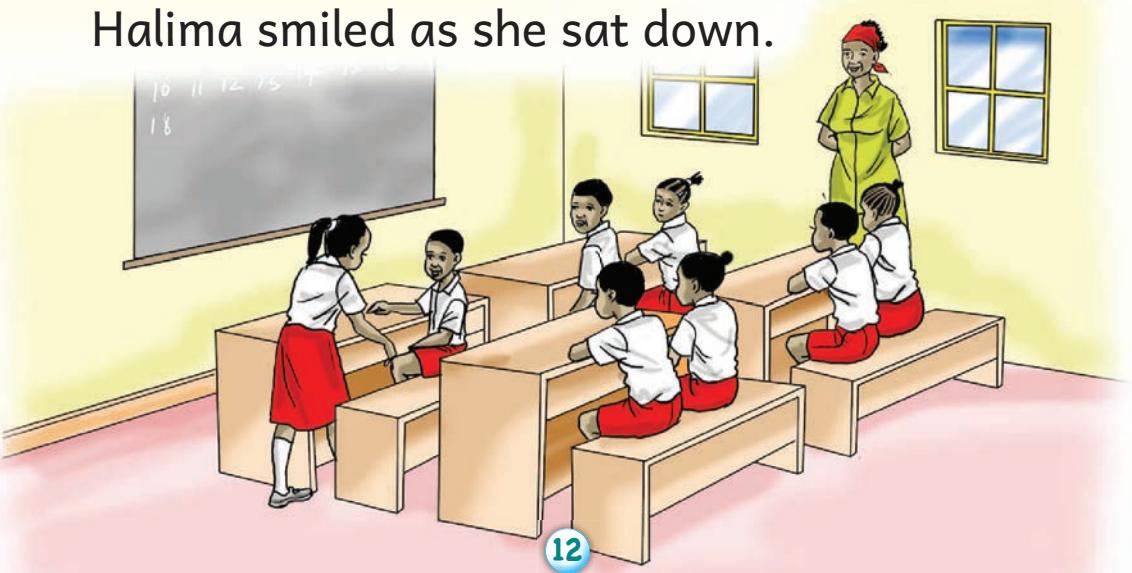
I will first ask my mother.

I think she will agree.

I will put my hair in small bundles.

It will be easy to count the hair,” Halima said.

Halima smiled as she sat down.





The whole class was happy with the idea.

Mrs Nyati talked to the other teachers about it.

The teachers also liked the idea.

Even the head teacher liked the idea.

The other classes heard about counting Halima's hair.

Everyone wanted to take part.

They were all talking about counting hair.

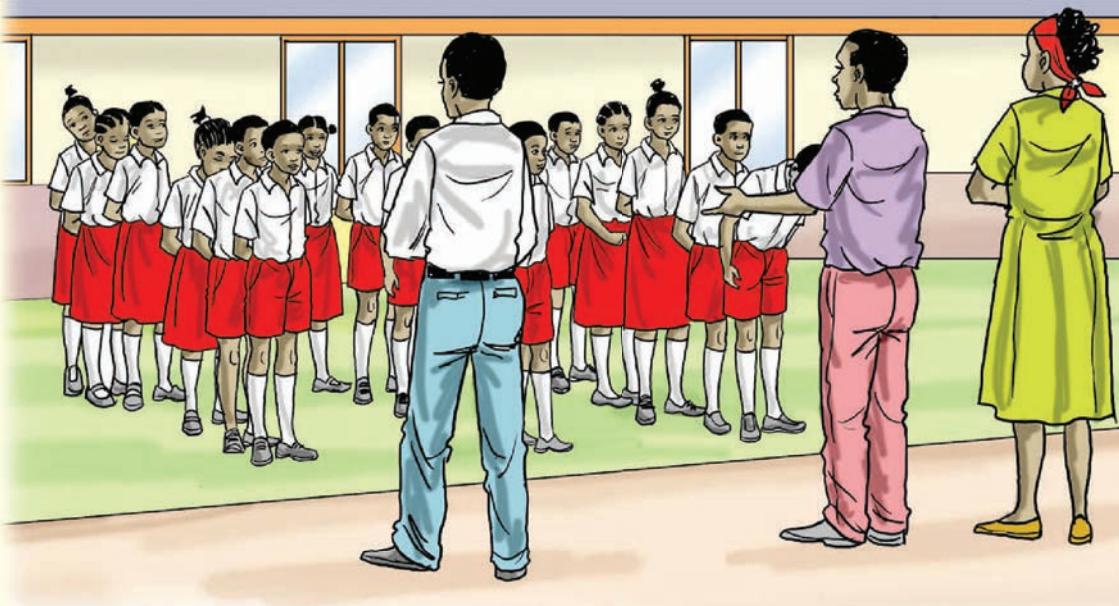
The next day, the whole school was waiting.

Halima's classmates were also waiting.  
They were ready for the day.

They wanted to count Halima's hair.  
It was going to be fun.

Class Two pupils would be the first to count the hair.





The bell for parade rang.  
The pupils went to the parade grounds.  
Class Two pupils stood in their place.  
There was one problem.  
They could not see Halima.  
Halima was missing.  
She had not come to school.

“Where is Halima?” a boy asked Ewoi.

Ewoi did not answer.

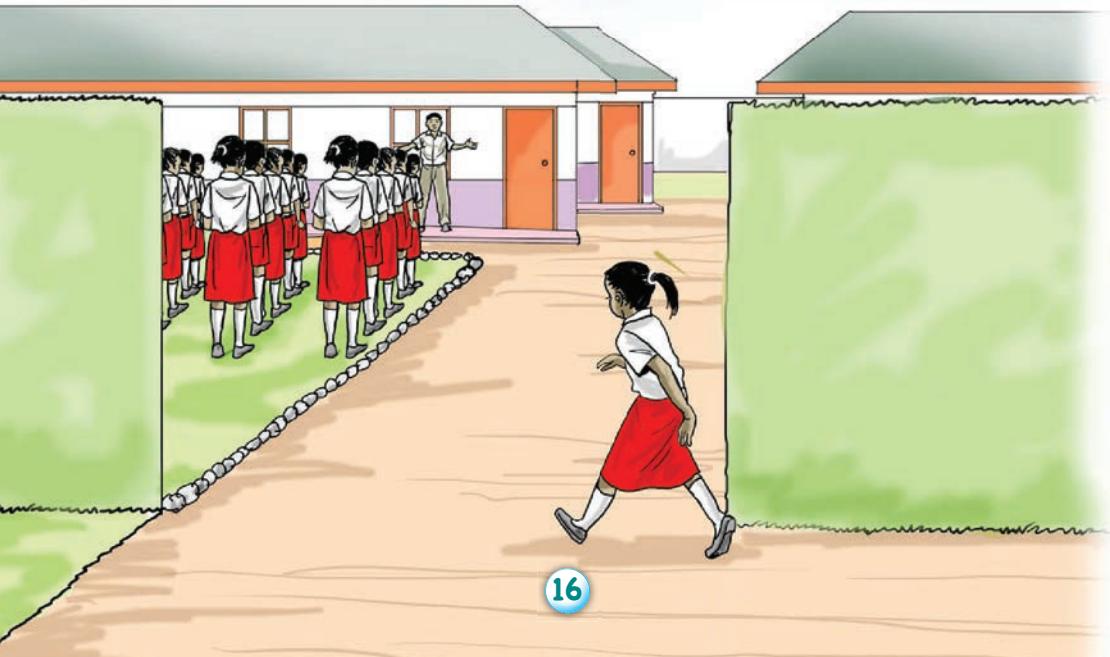
The classmates were now worried.

They talked about Halima in low voices.

Mrs Nyati looked worried too.

A few minutes later, Halima got to school.

Her classmates saw her enter through the gate.





Halima ran to the parade ground.  
She stood next to her friend, Ewoi.  
All the pupils were happy that she had  
come.  
They were also surprised.  
Halima still had her long hair.  
They thought her hair would be in her bag.  
Halima's hair was still on her head.

Halima had not brought any hair to count.  
Her hair was not cut.

Halima's mother did not allow her to cut  
her hair.

"Next Friday is my friend's wedding.  
You are one of the flower girls.

We will want you to have your long,  
beautiful hair," her mother had said.

Halima's hair was not cut.





Halima had passed by a barber shop.  
She wanted to get some hair from there.  
The shop was still closed.  
She decided to wait.  
Halima was getting late for school.  
She decided to run to school.  
She did not bring any hair to school.

Halima asked her  
classmates to forgive  
her.

“We will count hair  
another day,” she said.

In the end, there was  
no hair to count.



The pupils were not angry with Halima.

Mrs Nyati was also not angry.

Halima was happy to be forgiven.

The class will count hair another day.

## Questions

1. Who was Ewoi's friend?
2. Which school did Halima go to?
3. Who taught Class Two Maths?
4. Why was Halima's hair not cut?
5. Can you count your hair? Why?

# Halima learns to count

Halima and Ewoi go to school. They learn how to count. Halima asks her teacher if they can count the hair on the head. Can she count her hair?



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