



THE MONKEY AND THE CROCODILE



Long time ago, when the day was done and the sun had set, after eating their dinner, little children would gather around the fire and listen to their moms and dads, uncles and aunts telling them stories. These stories were very important because they passed down African traditions and culture from one generation to the next. The stories were entertaining but they also taught valuable lessons.

Dedicated to our children, Mandla, Tatenda and Talo.



Once upon a time, in a land by the river, lived a Monkey called Tumbili. Tumbili spent all day swinging from tree to tree. "Wheeeeeeeeeeeeeey...Wheeeeeeeeeeeeeey!" He would swing all day.



When Tumbili got tired, he would stop and sit on a branch of a tree that overlooked the river.
He would pluck fruit from the tree and eat them.
“Crunch crunch...munch munch.”
He would eat and enjoy his food.



One day when Tumbili was sitting on the tree branch eating fruit, he saw the water moving.

“There is something in the water,” he thought.

“Hey!” shouted Tumbili. “Who is there?”

The Crocodile who lived in the river came to the surface.

“Hi. It’s me. My name is Mamba.”



“Oh! Lovely to meet you Mamba,” said Tumbili. “My name is Tumbili.”
“Lovely to meet you Tumbili,” said Mamba.
“What are you doing?” asked Mamba.
“Oh, nothing much,” said Tumbili. “I am just having some fruit for lunch.”
“Does the fruit taste good?” asked Mamba.
“Oh yes!” said Tumbili. “It’s very yummy.”



“Could you throw me some yummy fruit please?” asked Mamba.
“I have not had anything to eat since breakfast.”
“Alright. I will,” said Tumbili.
So Tumbili took some fruit and threw it at Mamba.
They both ate. “Crunch crunch...munch munch.”



Every day when Tumbili was tired of swinging on the tree branches and Mamba was tired of swimming in the river, the two would meet. Tumbili would pluck some fruit and throw it at Mamba. Mamba would say, "Thank you Tumbili." Tumbili would say, "You are welcome Mamba." And they would eat the fruit. "Crunch crunch...munch munch."

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