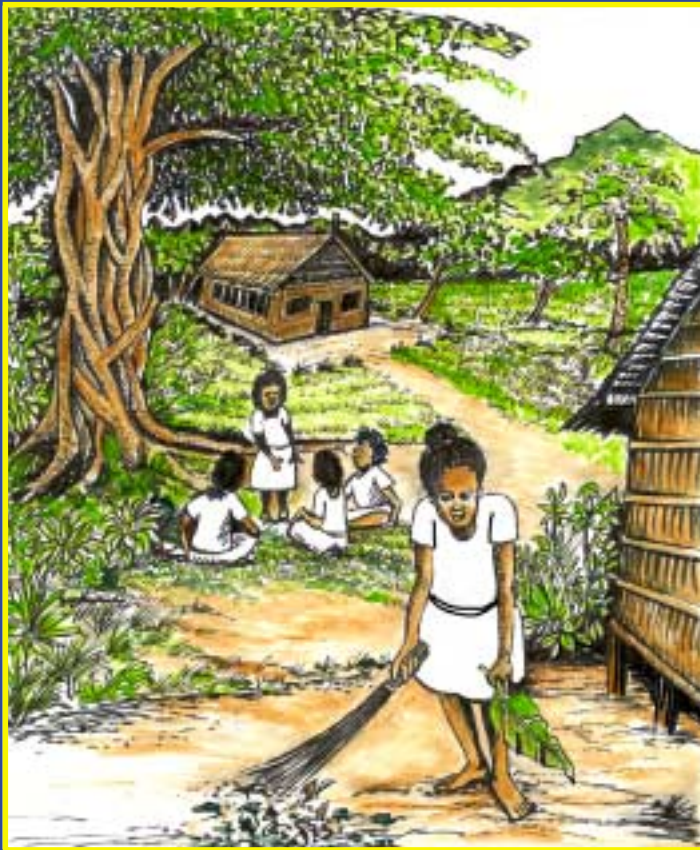


Lego's New Adventure and Other Stories



STANDARD 4
READER 1

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Lego's New Adventure (*Part 1*)

by Ellen Wairiu

New words

*amazed, modern, supermarket, stamp
bank, admiring*

Phrases

nearby stream

Lego lived with her parents in a house made of sago palm leaves. The floor was made from strips of betel nut trunk. The house was in Baunakunu, a village in the mountains of Malaita Province.

Lego spent her days going to primary school in the village, helping her parents in the garden, feeding the pigs and collecting water from the nearby stream. She had not been to Honiara.



One afternoon while she was sweeping behind the house, she saw a group of girls telling stories under an Abalolo tree in the middle of the village.

The tree was next to the church. She wondered what they were talking about and listened with interest as her best friend Flory told them about life in Honiara.

Flory was a student in Honiara High School. She always returned home for the holidays.

“I wish I could go to Honiara,” thought Lego.

Early the next morning her mother told her to go and collect some water. On her way she stopped at Flory’s house and talked with her.

“I heard your story about Honiara yesterday and I intend to go to visit my uncle in Honiara, but how will I get there?” she asked.

“You must have enough money to buy a boat ticket and when you get there you will need money to buy things from the shops,” answered Flory.

“Oh dear! In that case I must do something to earn money,” Lego replied.

“You could plant vegetables and sell them to get money,” suggested Flory.

Lego thought about the idea all day. In the evening after supper, she told her parents she wished to make a vegetable garden and sell the vegetables to raise money for a trip to Honiara.

“You will have to work hard,” said her father.

The next day Lego got up early and collected some garden tools. Then she ate some breakfast and took some food for her lunch. She arrived at her mother’s garden and chose an

area near the riverbank. She thought the place was good because the soil was cold and close to the water which would make watering the garden easier. She took out her knife and began pulling out the weeds. Then she hoed some rows and covered them with the weeds.



In the afternoon her mother went to the garden to collect some potatoes for their dinner. When she saw what Lego had done, she praised Lego and gave her suggestions about what to do next.



Lego went home and collected some dry bean seeds, green pepper seeds, cucumber seeds, watermelon seeds and a packet of Chinese cabbage, which her uncle had given to her mother. She was happy and dreamt of the time when all the vegetables would be ready for harvest.

She sowed the Chinese cabbage and the green pepper seeds first. Then she built a hut over the nursery. She planted the other seeds in the garden. She planted the bean seeds in three rows and the cucumber seeds in the other three rows. The watermelon seeds were planted between her mother's new potato mounds. She was pleased with what she had done. She visited her garden every morning and evening to make sure the soil was always moist and to check the insects.

After three days all the seeds had sprouted. Lego transplanted the seedlings into the prepared rows. The seedlings grew greener and healthier. After a month the beans, green peppers, Chinese cabbage and the cucumbers were ready for harvest.

On Saturday morning she decided to sell some of her produce at the market. She picked some Chinese cabbage, a medium sized dish full of green peppers and a coconut basket full of cucumber. She displayed the vegetables, put prices on them and waited.

Everybody was surprised to see Lego's fresh vegetables and they were sold quickly. She counted the money she had earned that day. She had earned \$54.00

"That's for the boat ticket," Lego murmured to herself.

By the end of the following month her watermelons were ready. She sold them all in a week. She earned a total of \$250.00. Lego was overjoyed. She told her friends about the money.

The day for her trip to Honiara arrived. Lego put her basket and bags of food in her father's canoe and he paddled her to the boat.

Her father bought her boat ticket and asked one of the crew to look after Lego during the trip. She sat at the back of the boat and waved to her family.



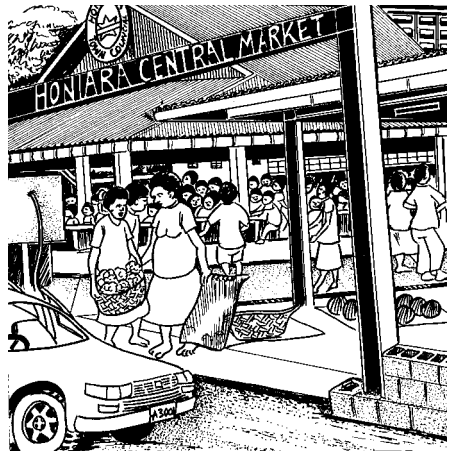
Lego's New Adventure (Part 2)

Early the next morning the boat arrived in Honiara. The tall buildings, wide houses, big round tanks, large boats and the cars on the road, all surprised Lego.

Her uncle and his family met her and carried the bags of food. Lego carried her basket. They walked to a car and Lego sat in the back seat. She watched the other cars passing to and fro as they drove to her Uncle's house. Everybody ran out to welcome her.

The house was a two-storey building. Lego had never been inside such a big house with so many rooms. She was amazed to see hot and cold water, a power supply and a toilet in the same building. She thought life must be easier in Honiara town.

On Saturday morning Lego went with her aunt to the market and to a nearby second hand clothing shop. She bought Lego some clothes and a pair of slippers.



Next they went to a supermarket. Lego went through the rows of shelves admiring the different types of tinned and packaged foods and the display of fruit and vegetables. Her aunt bought a few things from the supermarket.

On Monday, Lego went with her aunt to the ANZ bank.

“What is this building for?” asked Lego.

“This building is called a bank. It is a place where people keep their money. They can come and take it out any time they want,” answered her aunt.



Next they went to the post office. “This is where we send and receive letters. I’m going to buy a stamp then send this letter to a friend,” explained her aunt.

“How will your letter get to her?” asked Lego.

“My friend is overseas, so this letter will go there in an aeroplane,” answered her aunt.

Lego spent two weeks with her uncle’s family. She visited many places in the town. She enjoyed riding on buses, watching videos, eating ice cream and going to the shops. She bought some presents for her sisters and a few things to take home. Her uncle bought a bag of rice and some mixed goods for her family.

On Saturday evening Lego's uncle drove her to the wharf to catch the boat home. Lego waved goodbye to everyone and thought about all the new things she had seen in Honiara.

When the boat arrived at the island her family were waiting for her. They carried her things to the canoe and paddled back to the village.

That evening all the girls in the village listened to Lego's stories. She told everyone about life in the town, her new experiences and about the things she had bought.

Paulo's New Experience

by David Sokaika

New words

*pointing, afford, uniform, turnstile
trolley, knocked*

Phrases

*sitting at each counter, serve yourself,
hadn't been able to eat breakfast*

Paulo lived in a small village called Palolo. He had never been to Honiara. During the school holidays his parents decided to take him to visit his uncle and aunt in town.

They had to fly in a plane to get to Honiara. It was the first time Paulo had flown and he was very excited. When they arrived at Honiara airport, they took a taxi to his uncle's house. Paulo was so excited that he hadn't been able to eat breakfast, but when they reached the house they all sat together for a meal. Paulo's aunt realised that she didn't have any milk, so she asked Paulo if he could go to the shop and buy some. She gave him ten dollars and explained how to find the shop.

He walked the way his aunt had told him to and finally came to a huge building. It had a large sign on the roof saying, 'supermarket' in very bold letters. When he went inside, he noticed girls in uniform sitting at each counter. The shop was empty.

Paulo went to the first counter and said to the girl who was sitting there. "May I have a tin of milk, please?"



“What?” yelled the girl. “Do you think I am going to leave my counter and get you a tin of milk? Go and get it yourself!” Paulo was surprised.

“In my village store, shopkeepers are helpful!” he thought.

He moved along a little further to the next counter where there was a kind, pretty lady. “May I have a tin of milk, please?”

“I’m sorry,” she said softly. “I can’t leave this counter. You must serve yourself in this shop. Go to the shelf and take what you want.”

“Thank you,” he said. “But where do I go?”

“There is a revolving turnstile down at the other end near the first counter. Walk through it to get in,” she said to him.

Paulo went along to the turnstile. It was made of four pipes in the shape of a cross. It was supported by another pipe and turned as the customers walked through. He followed an old lady through the turnstile. The woman hit the bar in front of her with her hips.



Bang! The bar hit Paulo from behind! He bumped into the

woman. He was going so fast that he almost knocked her over.

“My goodness! What are you doing?” she said in a shocked voice.

“I - I - I was hit by the bar,” whispered Paulo.

“I see. You should be more careful,” she said kindly, as she hurried away.

“It wasn’t my fault,” Paulo muttered to himself. “This is a strange kind of shop.”

He watched the woman getting a trolley. She pushed it between the shelves and put things into it as she went.

“That’s what I’ll do. That looks like fun,” he said as he collected a trolley. He walked up and down the rows collecting different foodstuffs including a big tin of milk powder.

When the trolley was filled, he pushed it to the counter. He saw that the girl, who sent him away, did not have a customer.

“I’ll make her do some work,” he thought.

He unloaded the trolley. Using her machine, the girl added the price of each item while a shop assistant carefully packed the goods in a large cardboard box. Paulo reached out and picked up the box.

“Thank you,” he said as he walked away.

“Hey! Hey! Wait a minute!” the girl shouted. “You haven’t paid!”

Paulo turned to the girl who was shouting.

“I thought that this was a self-service shop,” he said.

“There is nothing free in this town, you have to pay for everything you buy. The things in the box are worth thirty-six dollars,” she said rudely.

“I’m sorry, I can’t afford that much. I only have ten dollars,” he replied.

“Well that is just enough for the tin of milk powder,” the girl replied.



Paulo walked towards the counter. He put the box of shopping down, picked up the tin of milk powder and handed over the ten dollars to the girl.

On his way out of the supermarket, he made a promise never to go back to that shop again.

Paulo went home. Both his mother and his aunt were worried. He had been away for a long time.

“Where have you been? It should have taken you just a few minutes to go to the shop and back!”

“Oh, I have never been to a supermarket before. It was very interesting, so I looked around.”

Paulo thought to himself, “If they really knew what had happened, they would think I was very silly!”

Going to Church

by Ellen Wairiu

New words

*specific, sermon, noticed, survey
various, Sabbath, programme
bored, regularly*

Phrases

*religious activities, good examples
youth groups, last hymn,
best attendance, rushed back*

The word 'church' has two basic meanings. Church is a term for a community of Christians who share a specific set of beliefs. It also means the building that Christians use for worshipping and participating in other religious activities.

Here is a survey collected from four young people from various churches in Honiara. They explain why they go to church and give further information about the activities that they do in the church.

1. Lionel

I usually go to church to pray to God. The other reasons why I go to church are to meet some of my friends or to pass on a message to somebody in the church.



I joined the Sunday school class and sang in the church choir when I was a kid. By joining these groups in church I got to know lots of young people from many of the islands.

I love singing. However, I sometimes become bored and sleepy when it's time for the sermon, because I think some sermons are too long.

2. Joyce

When I was a small girl I went to church regularly. I attended church because it was one of my father's rules. He expected every member of the family to attend church services.



I learnt a lot from the preachers and my Sabbath school teachers. I made lots of friends in church too. Sometimes while the preacher preached the sermon, the children sat together telling each other about things happening in other villages. That was the only time the children in my village met up with children from other villages.

I love the beginning of the church programme because of the singing but I often get bored and hungry when lunchtime passes.

After church services I always notice the people gathering in groups telling stories or even planning their week's programme. For some it is time to gossip.

3. Rubenson

I started going to church when I was a very small boy. My father was a pastor so he made sure his children set a good

example to other children. I joined Sunday school classes and youth groups. The best thing about joining Sunday school classes was that at the end of the year the teachers gave presents to those pupils who presented the best verse reading and to those with the best attendance.



When I was 12 years old, I joined the church choir. We usually went out to other villages to sing. Sundays are the only time I see and meet my friends who live in a village far from us.

Singing is the best part of the service because I want to be a singer.

Church is one of the meeting places for people. I notice women meeting after service to talk about their church programmes. Some give messages for others to pass on. I sometimes go out during sermons just to play or tell stories with my friends and then rush back to my seat as they are singing the last hymn.

4. Esther

I was told that my parents started taking me to Church when I was a baby. My family went to a church at Tutuva in the Central Guadalcanal. I was five years old when I joined the Sunday

school. The Sunday school started after the main church service.

My favourite song was 'Our Sunday School Is Over' because when I heard my Sunday school teacher starting the song I knew that it was time to go home.



As I grew up I met lots of people from different provinces through going to the church. Groups from other churches were invited to share church activities with us.

In the church there are three groups, the women's group, the men's group, and the Sunday school group. Each group has its own programme to follow and they have their own times for activities in the church. The groups normally meet and share ideas.

Once a year we have Sunday school rallies at different places. All the Sunday Schools from Grasshill village to Numbu village attend. That is a very enjoyable time because we play different games and hold singing and memory verse reading competitions. At one time I won the solo singing competition and our netball team won the first prize.

Living in a Quiet World

by David Sokaika

New words

village, deaf, hear, tears, vegetables
clearly, correctly, cheers

Phrases

looked surprised,

Three old women lived in a small village. They were sisters and lived together in a small leaf hut. They spent most of each day together. Sometimes they went to the garden to collect vegetables. Sometimes they cooked food together. Sometimes they sat and made baskets from pandanus. They were all very old, and so they had become quite deaf. They could not hear very well at all. They would often listen to someone talking and they would not hear the words clearly.

One evening they were sitting on the grass by their leaf hut. They had just eaten a good meal. They were telling stories. They enjoyed telling stories even though they didn't hear each other very well.



The evening was cool. They started to talk about the weather. One of the old women said, "Today is windy." "No it isn't," said her friend, "That was yesterday. Today is Thursday and tomorrow will be Friday."

The third woman said, "I agree. I think it's a good idea to have a cup of tea. I'm thirsty too."

Two of the sisters had not heard the words correctly. One

thought she had heard Wednesday instead of windy. The other thought she had heard thirsty instead of Thursday. So the third woman got up and went to the back of the leaf hut. She lit some firewood and filled a big pot with water. She put the pot on the fire to boil the water. Then she made three cups of tea. She carried the drinks to her sisters. They were still sitting on the grass. “We thought you had gone to bed,” said one of the women.

“No, I told you I was thirsty too. Here’s a cup of tea for both of you,” said the old woman who had made the tea.

Her sisters looked surprised. “Thank you very much,” they said taking the cups.

“Cheers,” said one of the old women. The other two looked at each other, “Why did she say tears?” asked one.

The sisters drank their tea. The moon was still shining. It was now getting late. They slowly got up and got ready for bed.

“Goodnight,” they called to each other. “Thursday tomorrow!” said one of the women.

“You can’t still be thirsty”, said her sister, “You’ve just had a cup of tea!”.

“No it’s not, it’s Friday”, said the other sister. “Goodnight!”



NGUZU NGUZU STORIES

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