

# What Came First? The Chicken or the Egg?



By Mokone Matsobane James

Illustrations by Karen Diedericks

Design by Tom Jeffery

This book belongs to

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Chickens lay eggs.

Chickens come from eggs.

What came first?

The chicken or the egg?



Tebogo is 8 years old. He is a very clever boy. He lives in a town called Polokwane.

The only animal that Tebogo knows is his dog, Lazola.





Tebogo is in Grade 3. He is going on a school trip to Bakone Farm. The trip is for the city children to meet farm animals.



Tebogo is very excited. He cannot wait to tell his parents about the trip to Bakone Farm.





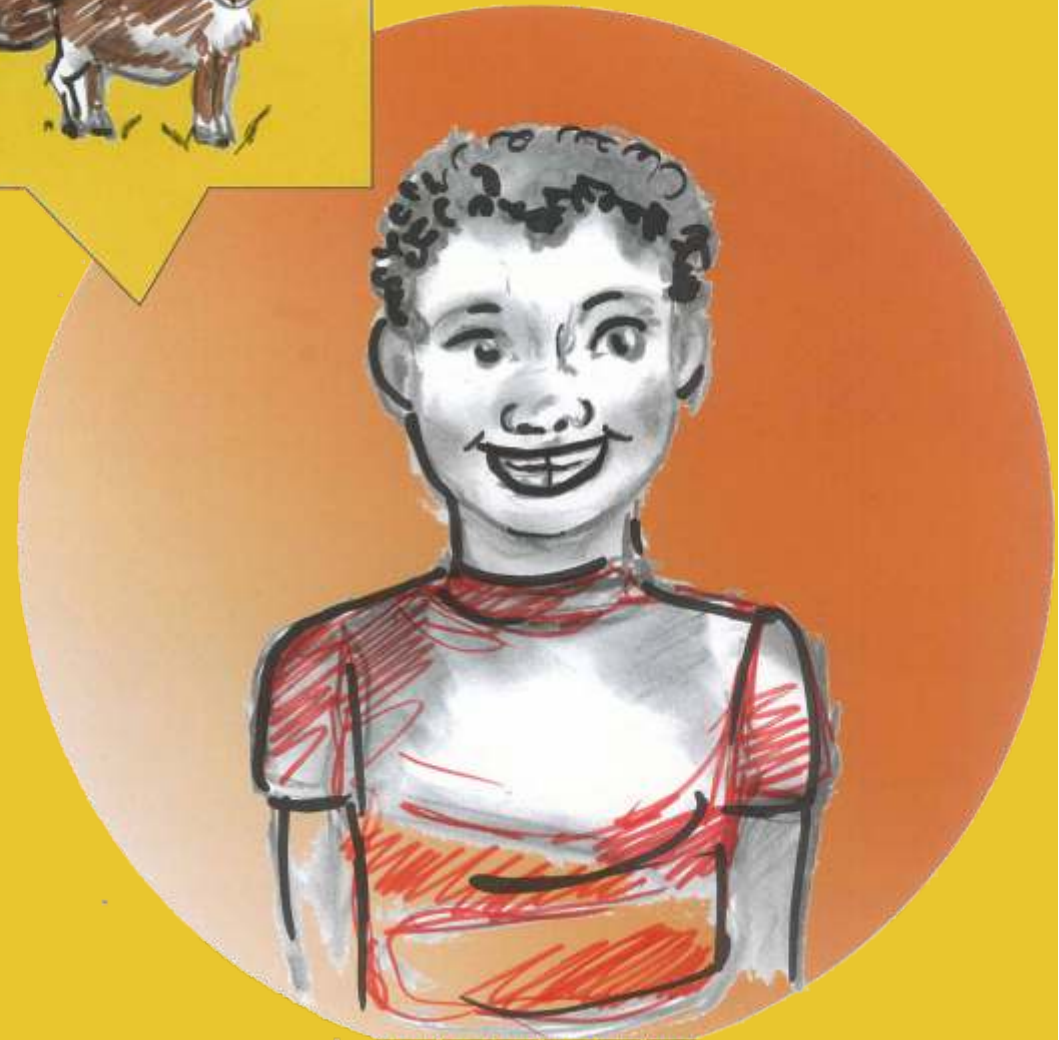
Eventually the bell rings and school is over for the day.

Tebogo is so excited he even forgets to help the teacher to clean the classroom after school.





As Tebogo walks home with his friends they are all very excited about the trip. They talk about what they might see on their trip. Tebogo is very excited to learn about the farm and the animals that live there.



Tebogo arrives home and tells his parents about the trip. His parents are worried about the cost of the trip because they are poor.





Tebogo's teacher knows that his family is poor. Tebogo has worked very hard at school, and his teacher knows he is very excited about the trip.

The teacher pays for Tebogo to join his friends on the trip to the farm.



On the day of the trip all the children are very excited when they arrive at the farm.





They learn the names of all the different types of animals. There are sheep, goats and cows, and even zebras.

Then Tebogo sees a chicken laying an egg. He also sees an egg hatching!

A big question comes into Tebogo's mind.





Tebogo asks the farmer,  
“Mr Farmer, what came first? The  
chicken or the egg?”

The farmer says, “That is a very  
good question! My grandmother  
once told me a story. She said that  
a long time ago there was a big,  
strange animal that looked like a  
person but had the colours of all  
the animals in the world.”





“From that one big, strange animal came all the animals we see in the world. That animal also laid the very first chicken egg, from where all the chickens came.”

“And so, the egg came first, and then the chicken!”









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The Chicken or the Egg?

