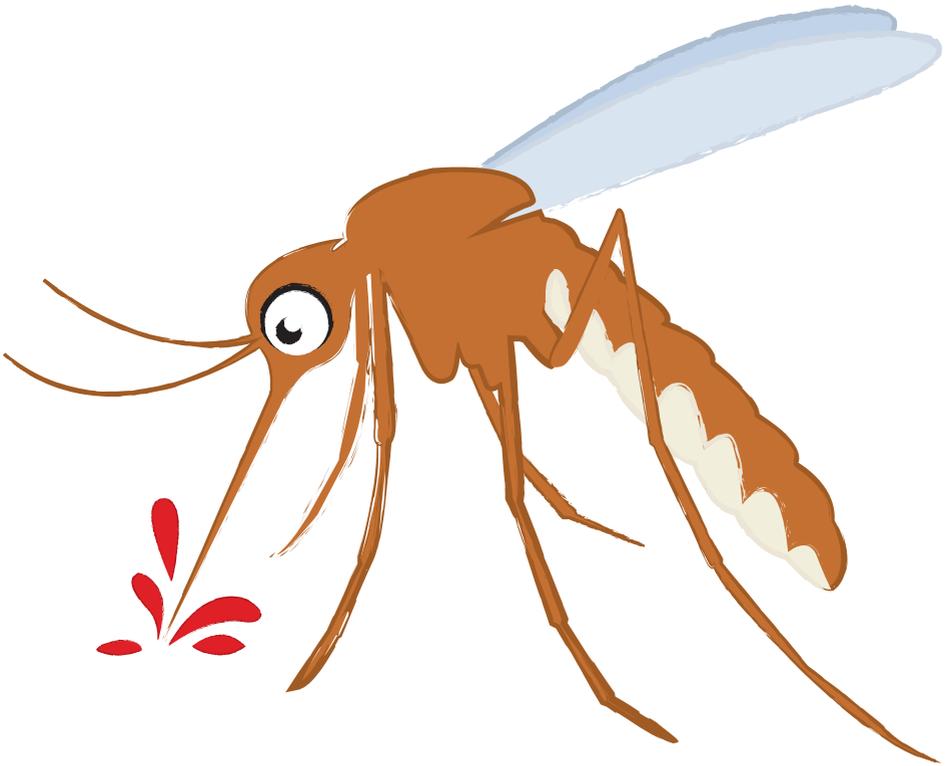


Zzippi

drinks blood



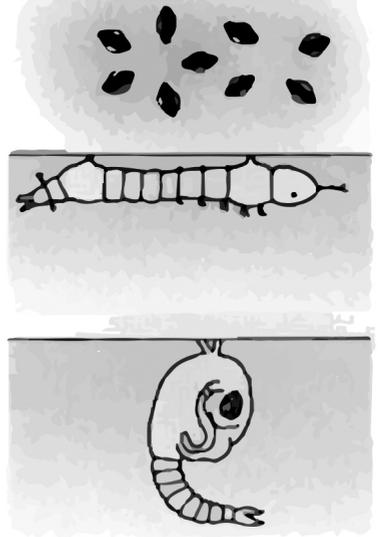
READING IS THE KEY TO LEARNING

It rains and rains.
There is water everywhere,
in the ponds,
in puddles round the houses,
in little pools on the road,
between the leaves of the grasses.

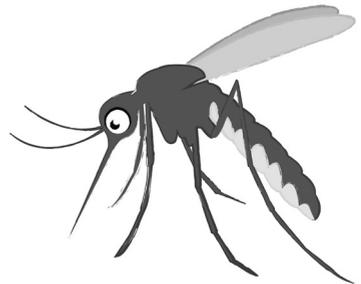


Zzippi and her friends start life
in all this water. So small and
so many. Look!

They dance in the water.
They do not bite.
They do not fly.
Birds eat them.
Fish eat them.
People kill them.
But many do not die.



They change and learn to fly.
They are mosquitoes now!
In the evening they come out.



'I am hungry, I am thirsty, I need blood,' says Zzippi.

ZZZZZZZ ZZZZZZZ ZZZZZZZ

'We are hungry, we are thirsty, we want blood,'
say her friends.

'Now, now.' **ZZZZZZ ZZZZZZ ZZZZZZ**

'Quick, quick, quick.' **ZZZZZZ ZZZZZZ ZZZZZZ**

'Moses sits there, Moses is near, bite him quick!'
ZZZZZZ ZZZZZZ ZZZZZZ

Moses sits outside his house.
Moses is old.
Moses is sick.
Moses is cold. He shivers.
Moses is hot. He sweats.
Moses has malaria.
He has no shoes.
He has no socks.



Zzippi and her friends bite him. They suck his blood.
In his blood are the malaria germs.

He shivers and shakes.

brrrrrr brrrrrr brrrrrr

'I am still hungry, I am still thirsty,' says Zzippi. 'Moses is old, Moses is tough, Moses is not enough! Give me someone young and sweet, with good fresh blood to eat!'



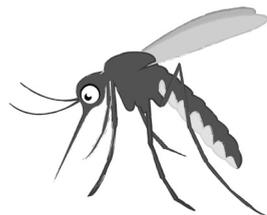
'Amina is young. Amina is sweet. Amina is good to eat. I will bite when she's asleep.'

But Amina sleeps under a net. Amina's mother says, 'Mind the mosquitoes. They come in the evening to bite you. They bring germs in their bites. They give you malaria. Cover your legs, cover your arms. When you sleep at night they bite so always use your net.'

Zzippi listens and laughs. 'She doesn't know I can bite early in the morning too. I will wait quietly and have blood for breakfast,' she says.

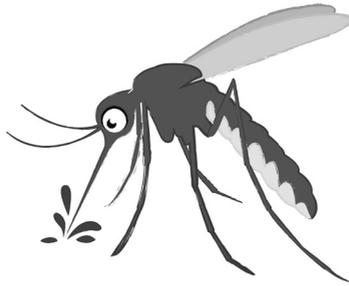
So she waits in the dark, high up in the corner of the room where Amina sleeps.

shhhhhh shhhhhh shhhhhh



Zzippi waits, high on the wall.
She makes no noise. She gets hungrier and hungrier.
The moon goes to bed.

The sun wakes up and starts to put on his trousers.
A little wind wakes up too. But it is still dark.



Amina gets up to bring water from the well.



She is still half asleep.
She does not cover her legs.
She does not see Zzippi fly down.
She does not feel Zzippi bite her.

Zzippi has Amina's blood for breakfast!

Glug, glug, glug.

The germs from Moses are in Zzippi's bite.
The germs from Moses' blood come and live
in Amina's body.

So many germs.
They make her sick. Her head hurts.
Amina is cold. She shivers.
Amina is hot. She sweats.
Amina has malaria.



Her mother calls the health worker.
Her old auntie comes to see her too.
'Cover her up,' says Auntie. 'Don't
give her any food.'

'No,' says Amina's mother.
'No,' says the health worker.

'Give her medicine. Keep her cool and give her
a lot to drink.'

They give her medicine.
They give her drinks all the time.
When she can eat they give her food.

They bathe her head with cool
water, not too cold. The other
children fan her.

Swish, swish, swish.



And **swish, swish, swish** go the brooms of the children as they sweep away the puddles where Zzippi and her friends breed.

Swish, swish, swish go the slashers of the farmers as they cut down the high grass which holds water.

Swish, swish, swish go the tails of the little fishes as they eat the baby mosquitoes in the ponds.

Now there are new nets in the houses. They are dipped in insecticide. Even when the new nets get little holes Zzippi and her friends die if they touch the net. Now even Moses has a net.



Life is bad for Zzippi. She can't eat well. She can't fly far. She is tired, so tired, so very tired. She rests on the wall.

Amina sees her.
Amina kills her with a swat!

Slip, slap, slop.

'Goodbye Zzippi,' says Amina.



Malaria messages for children to learn and share

1. Malaria is a disease spread by the bite of an infected mosquito.
2. Malaria is dangerous. It causes fever and can kill, especially children and pregnant women.
3. Prevent malaria by sleeping under insecticide-treated bed nets that kill mosquitoes and stop them biting.
4. Malaria mosquitoes often bite between sunset and sunrise.
5. When children get malaria they may grow and develop more slowly.
6. There are three types of insecticide spraying to kill malaria mosquitos: in houses, in the air and onto water.
7. The signs for malaria are high fever, headaches, muscle and stomach aches, and chills. Rapid tests and treatment will save lives.
8. Malaria can be prevented and treated with medicine as directed by a health worker.
9. Malaria lives in an infected person's blood and can cause anaemia, which makes us tired and weak.
10. Antimalaria pills can prevent or reduce malaria and anaemia in places and at times when there is lots of malaria in a community.

Zzippi drinks blood

5 Questions

1. Where does Zzippi live when she is small and cannot fly or bite?
2. What happens when she learns to fly?
3. How does Zzippi get the malaria germ?
4. When does she bite Amina?
5. How does Amina's family help her when she is ill?

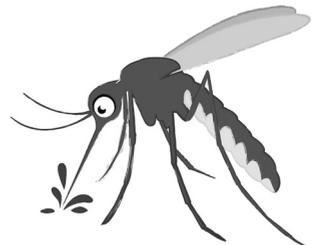
A Good Question to Ask our families

How can we stop mosquitoes biting us at home?

Something to do

Find places where Zzippi and her friends are growing.
Draw a picture of them.

Find out what people are doing to stop them in your area and what you can do yourself. Make a list.



These books have been developed from an idea by Hugh Hawes and Sam Muwonge and used since 2007 in schools in and around Kampala. The books have been revised since 2014 and new titles created.

We would like to thank Violet Mugusa and Jones Kyazze for their generous time and energy in facilitating visits in 2015 to Makindye Junior School, The Light Primary School Bulenga, Busaabala Primary School and Nakyessanja Primary School.

Our thanks go particularly to the schools for their feedback and especially their suggestions on how to improve the project.



Second stage

Stop Mosquitoes breeding and biting.



a hanging library book in partnership
with children for health

Story Hugh Hawes.