



Children of wax

Les enfants de cire

-  Southern African Folktale
-  Wiehan de Jager
-  English / French
-  Level 2





Once upon a time, there lived a happy family.

...

Il était une fois une famille bien heureuse.

They never fought with each other.
They helped their parents at home
and in the fields.

...

Ils ne se disputaient jamais. Ils
aidaient leurs parents à la maison
et dans les champs.





But they were not allowed to go near a fire.

...

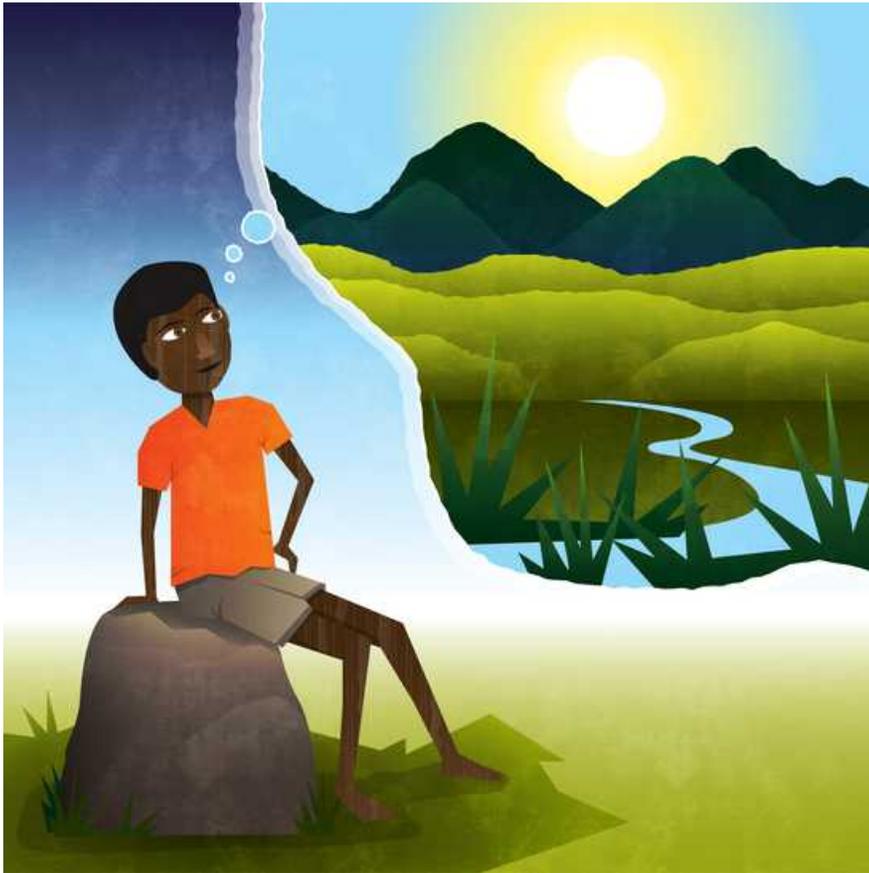
Mais ils n'avaient pas le droit de s'approcher d'un feu.



They had to do all their work during the night. Because they were made of wax!

...

Ils devaient faire tout leur travail pendant la nuit. Puisqu'ils étaient faits de cire !



But one of the boys longed to go out in the sunlight.

...

Mais un des garçons désirait se promener au soleil.



One day the longing was too strong. His brothers warned him...

...

Un jour son désir était trop puissant. Ses frères l'avertirent...

But it was too late! He melted in
the hot sun.

...

Mais c'était trop tard ! Il fonda au
soleil brûlant.





The wax children were so sad to see their brother melting away.

...

Les enfants de cire étaient si tristes de voir leur frère fondre.



But they made a plan. They shaped
the lump of melted wax into a bird.

...

Mais ils firent un plan. Ils
façonnèrent le morceau de cire
fondue en oiseau.



They took their bird brother up to a high mountain.

...

Ils apportèrent leur frère l'oiseau jusqu'au sommet d'une montagne haute.



And as the sun rose, he flew away singing into the morning light.

...

Et lorsque le soleil se leva, il s'envola vers la lumière du matin en chantant.



Storybooks Canada

storybookscanada.ca

Children of wax

Les enfants de cire

Written by: Southern African Folktale

Illustrated by: Wiehan de Jager

Translated by: (fr) Alexandra Danahy

This story originates from the African Storybook (africanstorybook.org) and is brought to you by Storybooks Canada in an effort to provide children's stories in Canada's many languages.



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons
[Attribution 3.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/).