






Uma pequena sementinha: A história de Wangari Maathai

A Tiny Seed: The Story of Wangari Maathai



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-  Portuguese / English
-  Level 3



Em uma aldeia nas encostas do Monte Quênia na África Oriental, uma menina trabalhava no campo com sua mãe. Seu nome era Wangari.

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In a village on the slopes of Mount Kenya in East Africa, a little girl worked in the fields with her mother. Her name was Wangari.



Wangari adorava estar ao ar livre. Na horta da sua família, ela arava o solo com seu machete. Ela pressionava as pequenas sementinhas na terra quentinha.

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Wangari loved being outside. In her family's food garden she broke up the soil with her machete. She pressed tiny seeds into the warm earth.





Sua hora do dia favorita era depois do pôr do sol. Quando ficava tão escuro que não enxergava mais as plantas, Wangari sabia que era hora de ir para casa. Ela caminhava pelas trilhas estreitas entre os campos, atravessando rios enquanto seguia.

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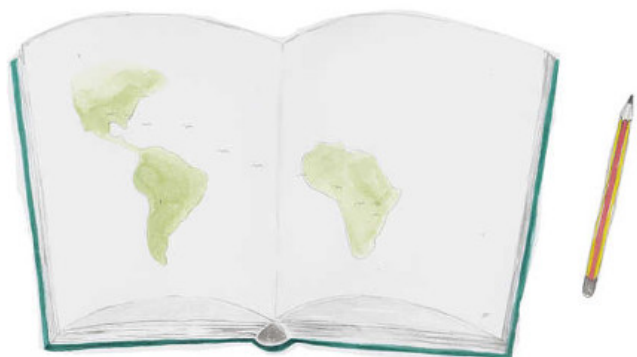
Her favourite time of day was just after sunset. When it got too dark to see the plants, Wangari knew it was time to go home. She would follow the narrow paths through the fields, crossing rivers as she went.



Wangari era uma criança esperta e mal podia esperar para ir à escola. Mas a sua mãe e seu pai queriam que ela ficasse ajudando em casa. Quando completou sete anos de idade, seu irmão mais velho convenceu seus pais a deixarem ela ir à escola.

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Wangari was a clever child and couldn't wait to go to school. But her mother and father wanted her to stay and help them at home. When she was seven years old, her big brother persuaded her parents to let her go to school.

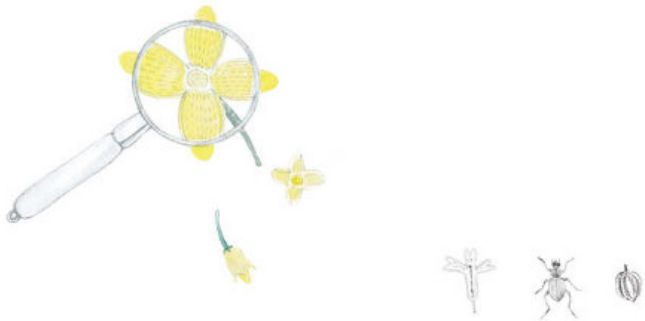


Ela gostava de aprender! Wangari aprendia cada vez mais e mais com cada livro que lia. Ela estava tão bem na escola que foi convidada a estudar nos Estados Unidos da América. Wangari estava empolgada! Ela queria conhecer mais sobre o mundo.

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She liked to learn! Wangari learnt more and more with every book she read. She did so well at school that she was invited to study in the United States of America. Wangari was excited! She wanted to know more about the world.

Na universidade Americana Wangari aprendeu várias coisas novas. Ela estudou sobre as plantas e como elas cresciam. E lembrou-se de como ela cresceu: brincando com seus irmãos debaixo da sombra das árvores nas belas florestas quenianas.



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At the American university Wangari learnt many new things. She studied plants and how they grow. And she remembered how she grew: playing games with her brothers in the shade of the trees in the beautiful Kenyan forests.



Quanto mais aprendia, mais ela percebia o quanto amava o povo do Quênia. Ela queria que as pessoas fossem felizes e livres. Quanto mais aprendia, mais se lembrava de sua casa na África.

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The more she learnt, the more she realised that she loved the people of Kenya. She wanted them to be happy and free. The more she learnt, the more she remembered her African home.

Quando terminou seus estudos, retornou para o Quênia. Mas seu país havia mudado. Grandes fazendas se estendiam pelas terras. As mulheres não tinham lenha para cozinhar. As pessoas estavam pobres e as crianças estavam com fome.



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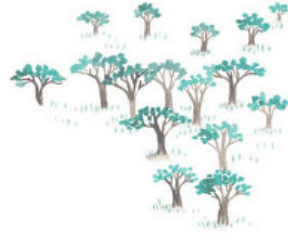
When she had finished her studies, she returned to Kenya. But her country had changed. Huge farms stretched across the land. Women had no wood to make cooking fires. The people were poor and the children were hungry.



Wangari sabia o que fazer. Ensinou as mulheres a plantarem árvores com as sementes. Elas vendiam as árvores e usavam o dinheiro para cuidar de suas famílias. As mulheres ficaram muito felizes. Wangari ajudou-as a se sentirem poderosas e fortes.

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Wangari knew what to do. She taught the women how to plant trees from seeds. The women sold the trees and used the money to look after their families. The women were very happy. Wangari had helped them to feel powerful and strong.



Com o passar do tempo, as novas árvores cresceram e formaram florestas, e os rios começaram a fluir novamente. A mensagem de Wangari se espalhou pela África. Hoje, milhões de árvores cresceram das sementes de Wangari.

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As time passed, the new trees grew into forests, and the rivers started flowing again. Wangari's message spread across Africa. Today, millions of trees have grown from Wangari's seeds.



Wangari trabalhou duro. Pessoas de todo o mundo reconheceram e lhe deram um prêmio famoso chamado Prêmio Nobel da Paz. E ela foi a primeira mulher africana a receber esse prêmio.

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Wangari had worked hard. People all over the world took notice, and gave her a famous prize. It is called the Nobel Peace Prize, and she was the first African woman ever to receive it.

Wangari morreu em 2011, mas podemos lembrar dela cada vez que avistarmos uma árvore bonita.



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Wangari died in 2011, but we can think of her every time we see a beautiful tree.



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