A WATOTO NA VITABU CHAPBOOK

THE LAMB AND THE LION AND OTHER STORIES



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

SOMA MANAGEMENT, STAFF AND WATOTO NA VITABU PROGRAM WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS THEIR APPRECIATION TO ALL CHILDREN FOR THEIR ENTHUSIASM AND CREATIVITY WITHOUT WHICH THIS CHAPBOOK WOULD NOT EXIST. WE ALSO THANK THEIR PARENTS FOR ENTRUSTING THEIR CHILDREN TO US. IN A SPECIAL WAY, WE WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE WATOTO NA VITABU FACILITATORS: PAULINA GEORGE, DOROTHY MCHATTA AND HEDWIGA MTENGA.

Stories by children aged 4-11 years
Soma's Watoto na Vitabu Program
May-July 2026

soma WATOTO & VITABU

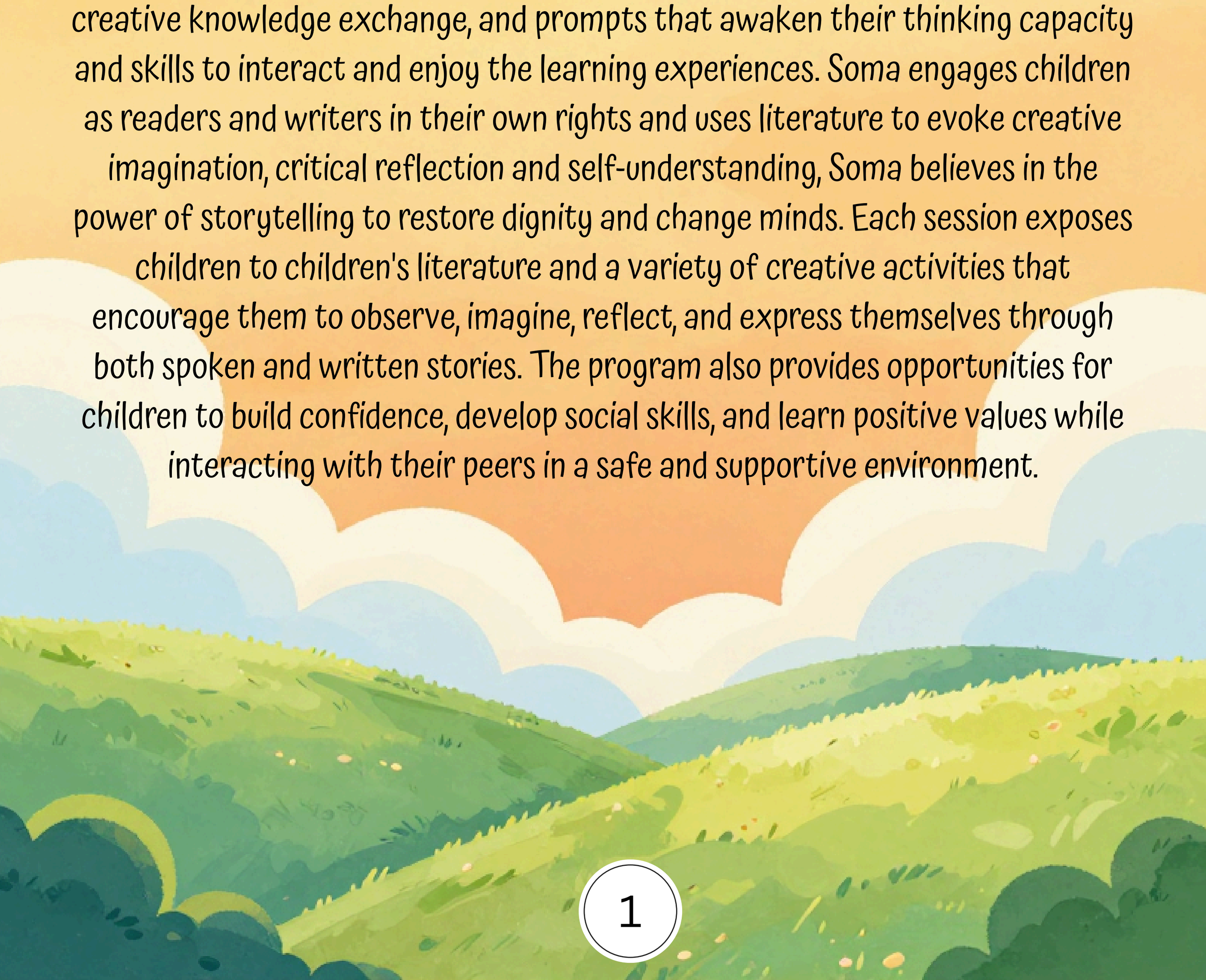
soma

Readership for Learning and Development

Introductory Note

The Lamb and the Lion and Other Stories is among many Soma's children's chapbook series of children's programs authored by children. It is a collection of different stories narrated and written by children who participated in the Watoto na Vitabu program on a weekly basis (every Saturday of the week for three months consecutively). The program offers children a safe space to reflect on their weekly experience and daily life, imagine and create new stories of their kind. It also exposes children to different storybooks available in the children's hub where they could read, tell, discuss and exchange knowledge with their peers. The program signs up for children aged 5 to 10 years, and it runs quarterly and after that children celebrate their achievement with a collection of their stories.

The Watoto na Vitabu program aims to nurture children's authors and strengthen their imagination and creativity through multimedia storytelling, creative knowledge exchange, and prompts that awaken their thinking capacity and skills to interact and enjoy the learning experiences. Soma engages children as readers and writers in their own rights and uses literature to evoke creative imagination, critical reflection and self-understanding, Soma believes in the power of storytelling to restore dignity and change minds. Each session exposes children to children's literature and a variety of creative activities that encourage them to observe, imagine, reflect, and express themselves through both spoken and written stories. The program also provides opportunities for children to build confidence, develop social skills, and learn positive values while interacting with their peers in a safe and supportive environment.



Introductory Note

This chapbook brings together stories written during the first quarter (May to July 2026) of the program under the quarter theme of Culture, Peace, and Kindness. Throughout the quarter children explored these themes by reading storybooks, interpreting illustrations, observing everyday objects, participating in discussions, drawing, coloring, and engaging in creative writing activities. These different approaches encouraged them to think critically, connect stories to their own experiences, and transform their ideas into original stories.

The stories in this collection reflect the children's imagination, curiosity, and unique ways of seeing the world. While some stories were inspired by books, pictures, or classroom discussions, every story represents the child's own voice and creative expression. To preserve this authenticity, editing was kept to a minimum and focused mainly on improving clarity and correcting basic language errors without changing the children's original ideas or storytelling style.

We hope The Lamb and the Lion and Other Stories inspires other children to read, imagine, write, and appreciate the power of stories to share experiences, celebrate creativity, and promote positive values within their communities.

Copyrights for this book are jointly held by children and Soma's Watoto na Vitabu program, this means that anyone can freely read, download and distribute this book, as long as you credit the copyright holders.

CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT I
INTRODUCTORY NOTE 1
CONTENTS 3
THE LAMB AND THE LION 4
HOW TO MAKE SPAGHETTI 4
THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 5
A HAPPY BOY 5
STONE WOOD 6
THE FOOTBALL COACH CARD 6
FOREST 7
SPAGHETTI 7
TO SHARE 8
A STORY ABOUT A BOTTLE 8
A WATCH 9
HELPING 9
BEING KIND IS NICE 10
A CUP 10
AT THE HOSPITAL 11
FLOWER 11
THE STAR 12
CAT AND FRIENDS 12
MY CAT CALLED KOLO 13
THE BOY WHO FELL DOWN 13
THE PLATE 14

THE LAMB AND THE LION

by

Nisa Assata, 7 years

Once upon a time, there was a lamb who did not want to do his chores and went far away from home. Her mother banished her from going far from home, but she did not listen. One day the lamb saw the lion. The lamb tried to run away, but the crocodile ate the lamb.

HOW TO MAKE SPAGHETTI

by

Nisa Assata, 7 years

One day my mom and I were making spaghetti. My mom told me how to make spaghetti and meatballs, but then I told my mom that I could go and get the ingredients. My mom said yes, that I could go and get the stuff for making spaghetti. So, she gave me a list of the stuff we need to make spaghetti. And this is the list: Spaghetti, Sase, Meatballs, cheese. And she gave me $120 to buy the supplies to make spaghetti. When I went home, I gave my mom the stuff for making spaghetti, and then we were done making spaghetti.

THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

by

Nisa Assata, 7 years

When the bell rang at the school, it was the last day of school. A boy called Shushi fell down, and Kaiten, Ryan, and Lela saw Shushi fall down. So, Lela and Ryan helped Shushi. And then Kaiten saw a lady called Mama Upendo, Mama Upendo was carrying some fruits, but there were two baskets of fruits. Then Mama Upendo gave Kaiten some fruits, and then mama Upendo smiled at Kaiten. Kaiten, Shushi, Ryan, and Lela played and laughed together.

A HAPPY BOY

by

Nurdin Mtega, 8 years

One day, a boy was getting bullied because he wanted to make a light. So, he bought a wire, he bought a bulb, and he bought a switch, and a battery to make a light. Then he made a light and proved his friends wrong. His friends were shocked and jealous.

STONE WOOD

by

Nurdin Mtega, 8 years

A long time ago there lived a man called Yoshi. Yoshi was an old man with a bent back from cutting stones. Then he saw a rich man's house. "I wish I was a rich man" said Yoshi. Your wish is granted. Yosh you will be a rich man said the rich man.

THE FOOTBALL COACH CARD

by

Dereck Dickdaniel, 7 years

Once upon a time, Mark had a lot of cards. Matt bullied him and said to him, "You will never be in the football team". But Mark trained and became a Stricker.

FOREST

by

Dereck Dickdaniel, 7 years

Once upon a time there was a girl, and she was hungry. She went wandering out in the forest. She saw a house, and she entered. There she saw a bowl; she ate a lot. She fell asleep. And she saw the bear, and she woke up.

SPAGHETTI

By

Jaydan, 4 years

Once upon a time, the farmer made spaghetti for us. I like to eat it. They were given to us. They are ringing the bell. The farmer was hungry. I want my spaghetti.

TO SHARE

By

Jaydan, 4 years

Once upon a time, you have to share. If you have nothing, you can share your food. You have to share something like lunch, food, rice, or even Spaghetti. I share with Dereck, my teacher, my mommy, and Mommy Jayson.

A STORY ABOUT A BOTTLE

by

Anaya, 4 years

The bottle opened and then the bottle closed. A bottle has a blue color. There is water in the bottle. I drink the water.

A WATCH

By

Jayson, 4 years

I want to buy a watch because I do want a red watch. Then I will wear it on my hand. I will go and show it to my friends.

HELPING

by

Iteeka Bakari, 4 years

Once upon a time there was a boy and a girl. She was helping her to give her food. Others waited for their turn to get the food. The girl fell down, and she got hurt. She cried. The mommy helped to pick her up. She went and told her dad. "Dad, I got hurt here." Dad said, "Sorry," and she went to the doctor. And the girl helped to feed the chicken, and then the boy also helped to feed the chicken.

BEING KIND IS NICE

by

Iteeka Bakari, 4 years

Shouting is bad, listening is good. The teacher says not to shout. I have two teachers. Teacher Fatma said, "Do not shout and be kind".

A CUP

by

Iteeka Bakari, 4 years

Today I drink water in a cup, and then I put it in the kitchen. And I got a watch, and I did my homework. I went to play and I came back and played again.

AT THE HOSPITAL

by

Hope-Diah Marie Heri, 4 years

My mom was sick. Her tummy was hurting her. My mom is very helpful, and the doctor gave her medicine, and my mom drank the medicine and water.

FLOWER

by

Adeline Judith Chale, 7 years

The flower is on the ground. Then the boy picked it up and smelled the flower, and it smelled so good. The girl saw the boy had the flower. The boy gave it to her; he gave it for her to smell it.

THE STAR

by

Adeline Judith Chale, 7 years

The stars are in the sky. When a boy looked in the sky, he saw the stars. He saw many stars. They were light and bright.

CAT AND FRIENDS

by

Jaydan, 4 years

Once upon a time, the girl was holding a cat. It was called a Hippocat. The girl was playing with the cat. Then she found another cat called Chicken Banana. The two cats were drinking cold milk. The cats are not feeling cold after drinking the cold milk. When they feel cold, they take a cat towel to cover them.

MY CAT CALLED KOLO

by

Gavrina Malaika, 5 years

Cat has run to the bird, the bird went away then the cat went to his mommy. He went to his mommy to get some milk but the milk was too hot. He asked for help to cool down the milk. After cooling down the milk, he drank that milk very well.

THE BOY WHO FELL DOWN

by

Israel Raphael, 11 years

The boy was running in the Bush until he fell down "Paw!" and then his friends who were passing saw that boy down, they ran to help him while they were helping one girl was trying her best not to laugh him, but the boys were helping him without any thing. So, the boys were real friends, and the girl was a fake friend.

THE PLATE

by

Leo Ismail, 8 years

I saw a girl who was holding a plate that was full of food and there was a line behind that plate, that line was so beautiful. Another boy was tying his shoes then the girl kept waiting for him to finish tying. After the boy finished, he fell down and people tried to help him.



Special thanks to the young authors of this bundle of joy:

Nisa Assata

Nurdin Mtega

Dereck DickDaniel

Jaydan Joachim

Anaya Lukanza

Jayson Wayson

Iteeka Bakari

Hope-Diah Marie Heri

Adeline Judith Chale

Gavrina Malaika

Israel Raphael

Leo Ismail

soma WATOTO & VITABU

soma

Readership for Learning and Development