



How Zebra got his stripes

Author: Jaco Jacobs

Illustrator: Stephen Wallace



Long, long ago, when Zebra's skin was still white, a terrible drought occurred. For months not a single drop of rain fell. The grass turned dull, the trees became bare and the rivers dried up one by one. Springbok, Warthog and Zebra had to walk very far each day in search of water.



One morning when Springbok arrived at the only watering hole, he heard an angry voice say, “Make way! Scoot! Or heads will roll! This is Baboon's watering hole!” Springbok's eyes widened. Baboon was sitting on a rock next to the watering hole, grilling bananas over his open fire. “But I'm so thirsty, my tongue feels like biltong,” Springbok said. “Where will I find water?”

Baboon growled. "Not my problem! Scoot!
Or heads will roll! This is Baboon's watering hole."
Springbok saw Baboon's long teeth and was scared.
He turned around and trotted away.



After a while Warthog came trotting along. But as soon as he lowered his head to take a sip of water, he heard an angry voice, "Make way! Scoot! Or heads will roll! This is Baboon's watering hole!" Surprised, Warthog turned around. He saw Baboon sitting on the rock next to the watering hole grilling his bananas.



"But I'm so thirsty, it feels as if I've eaten dust," Warthog said. "Where will I find water?" Baboon growled. "Not my problem! Scoot! Or heads will roll! This is Baboon's watering hole." Warthog bristled at first, but when he saw Baboon's long teeth, he got scared. He turned around and trotted away, tail in the air.



After a while Zebra turned up at the watering hole. Before he could take a sip of water he heard an angry voice. "Make way! Scoot! Or heads will roll! This is Baboon's watering hole!" Zebra snorted and looked up. He saw Baboon sitting on the rock grilling his bananas.



“But I'm so thirsty, it feels as if my tongue slept outside my mouth last night,” Zebra said. “Where will I find water?” “Not my problem! Scoot! Or heads will roll! This is Baboon's watering hole.” Baboon showed his long teeth. Zebra wasn't scared. With clip-clopping hooves he stormed at baboon. He was so angry that he ran right through Baboon's burning fire. Sparks and smoke and bananas were flying.



Baboon tried to escape, but it was too late. Zebra kicked him so hard that he flew through the air. "Ouch!" Baboon yelled. His butt landed on a sun baked rock. The rock was so hot that it burned off Baboon's hair. From that day Baboon has never had hair on his butt.



And Zebra's skin has never been lilywhite again.
Baboon's fire burned stripes onto his skin.



It was now safe for the animals to drink at the watering hole. And each morning, as they came to drink water, Springbok, Warthog and Zebra sang, "Come wet your throat here while you stroll, this is everybody's watering hole!"

Story Attribution:

This story: How Zebra got his stripes is written by [Jaco Jacobs](#) . © African Storybook Initiative , 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

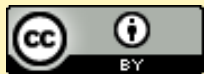
Other Credits:

This book has been published on StoryWeaver by African StoryBook Initiative.

Images Attributions:

Cover page: [The animals meet](#), by [Stephen Wallace](#) © African Storybook Initiative, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 2: [A warm day](#), by [Stephen Wallace](#) © African Storybook Initiative, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 3: [Angry Chimpanzee](#), by [Stephen Wallace](#) © African Storybook Initiative, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 5: [Chased by chimpanzee](#), by [Stephen Wallace](#) © African Storybook Initiative, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 6: [The white horse](#), by [Stephen Wallace](#) © African Storybook Initiative, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 7: [The white horse and the chimpanzee](#), by [Stephen Wallace](#) © African Storybook Initiative, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 8: [Horse attacks chimpanzee](#), by [Stephen Wallace](#) © African Storybook Initiative, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 9: [Chimpanzee on fire](#), by [Stephen Wallace](#) © African Storybook Initiative, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 10: [The animals and black striped horse meet](#), by [Stephen Wallace](#) © African Storybook Initiative, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license. Page 11: [The Zebra and other animals](#), by [Stephen Wallace](#) © African Storybook Initiative, 2016. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0 license.

Disclaimer: https://www.storyweaver.org.in/terms_and_conditions



Some rights reserved. This book is CC-BY-4.0 licensed. You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission. For full terms of use and attribution, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

How Zebra got his stripes

(English)

Brave Zebra saves the day.

This is a Level 4 book for children who can read fluently and with confidence.



Pratham Books goes digital to weave a whole new chapter in the realm of multilingual children's stories. Knitting together children, authors, illustrators and publishers. Folding in teachers, and translators. To create a rich fabric of openly licensed multilingual stories for the children of India and the world. Our unique online platform, StoryWeaver, is a playground where children, parents, teachers and librarians can get creative. Come, start weaving today, and help us get a book in every child's hand!