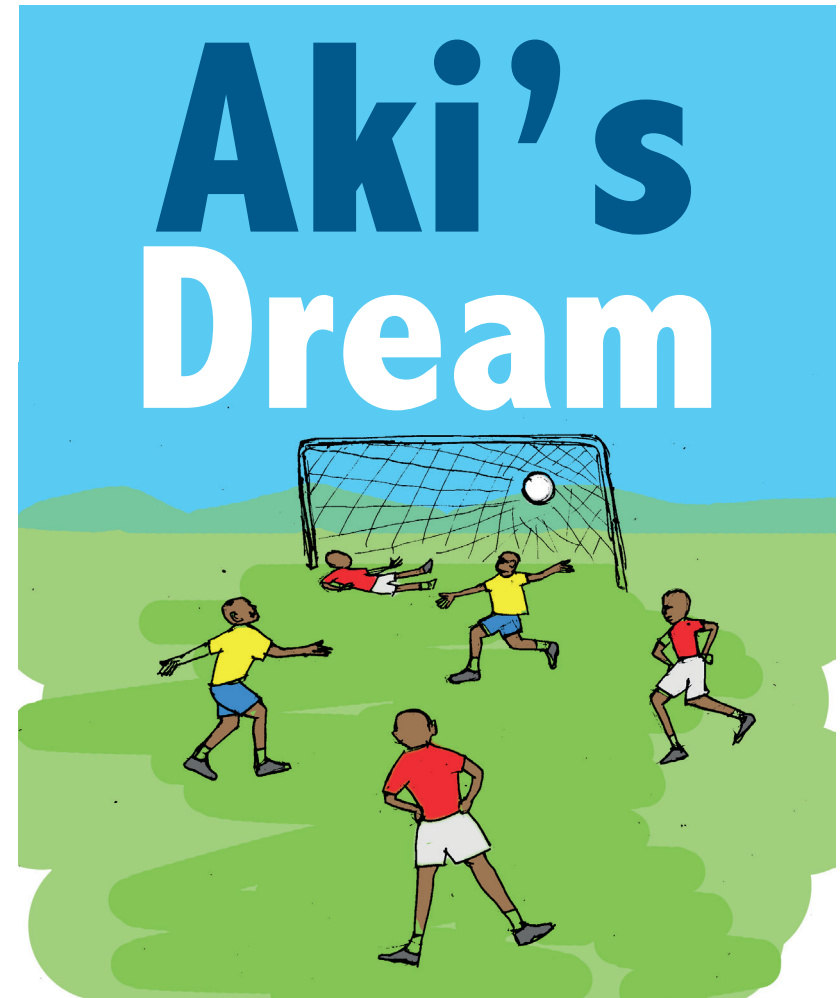


Aki is a very talented footballer. His dream is to become the best footballer. However, when severe drought and famine hit his village, his family migrates to a new area. As a refugee, he doesn't know the language and has no friends and as such cannot play football. When he joins a new school, Aki uses his football talent to win the favour of friends and teachers. He quickly integrates into the new community. Slowly by slowly, his dream of playing football gets back on track. He continues to study and play football and is eventually scouted to play for the national team and foreign clubs in Europe. Aki's dream eventually comes true.



P.O. Box 7002 Kampala, Uganda  
Telephone: 256-312-112088  
E-mail: admin@ncdc.go.ug

[www.ncdc.go.ug](http://www.ncdc.go.ug)



**NCDC**  
NATIONAL CURRICULUM  
DEVELOPMENT CENTRE



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

**APCEIU**

Asia-Pacific Centre of  
Education for International Understanding  
under the auspices of UNESCO



Tactics	a plan you use to get something
Teammates	a member of the same team
Team leader	a person who leads a team
Trophy	an object like a cup given to a team that wins

# Aki's Dream



Published by

National Curriculum Development Centre  
P.O. Box 7002,  
Kampala- Uganda  
[www.ncdc.co.ug](http://www.ncdc.co.ug)  
Copyright NCDC 2018

All rights reserved: No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of the copy holder.

ISBN: 978-9970-400-31-7

Elect	to choose somebody to do a particular job by voting for them
Environment	things near you
Escort	go with somebody or something
Hire	pay money to borrow
Improve	to become better than before
Migrate	to move from one part of the world to another
Opponent	a person you are playing against
Papyrus	a tall plant that grows in water
Penalty	in football, a punishment for breaking a law or rule
Request	the act of asking for something politely
Rift valley	deep sided valley
Skill	ability to do something well
Spread	open something that has been folded
Spectators	People watching a football match



# Glossary

Admire	To look at something because it is good
Alert	Able to think quickly
Cheer	Shout with joy
Comment	words said about somebody
Complain	to talk because you are unhappy
Curly hair	hair which is like movement made by water
Defenders	a player who must stop the other team from scoring in the game
Develop	grow or become bigger slowly
Dodge ball	game in which you move quickly to avoid being hit
Drought	a big period of time when there is little or no rain
Donate	give out something
Effort	energy you need to do something
Electrician	a person who studied to work on electricity

# Contents

Aki and the Ball .....	1
Aki Joins a New School .....	6
Topag Games Teacher visits Aki's home .....	13
Aki joins Topag Primary School .....	19
Aki Joins Tidi Secondary School .....	22
Tidi vs Lego .....	25
Aki's Dream Comes True .....	31
Glossary .....	34

donated books to libraries. He paid school fees for some children from his village. He became a good example to many children. They all learnt how they could become what they dreamt of.

#### Questions

1. Who was the national coach?
2. What did Aki dream about?
3. How did Aki help children from his village?
4. Where did his friends watch him from when he played for European teams?

Why was Aki a good example to other children?

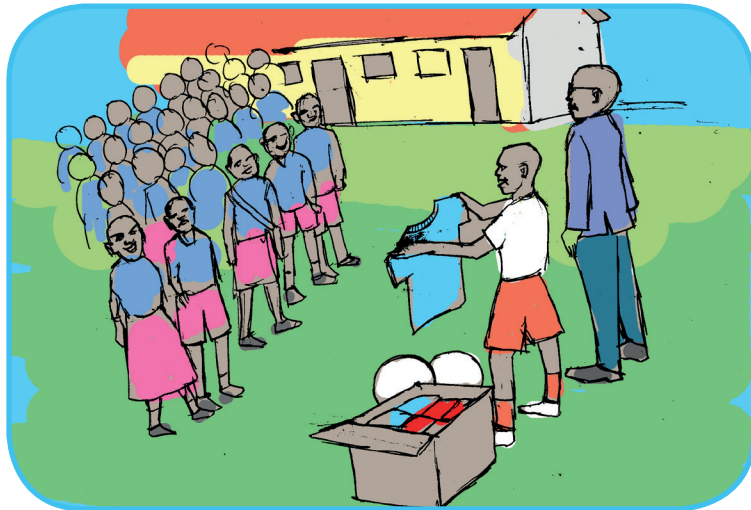
#### Activities

1. In pairs, discuss what your dream is.
2. What would you do to make your dream come true?

That night Aki had a good sleep. He dreamt about playing in the national team. He scored many goals at the National stadium. He dreamt about travelling to America and Europe.

In the national team Aki became a star. He played very well. Many coaches outside Uganda heard about him. He was invited to a foreign club.

He travelled abroad and played for different European teams. Finally, his dream became true. His friends watched him on TV. They admired him.



Back home, Aki donated sports uniforms and balls to different schools and clubs. He also

## Aki and the Ball

“Wake up, wake up Aki,” his mother called. “It is time to go to the garden.”

“It is very cold mother. Can I sleep a little more?” Aki begged.

“No, the sun is already up in the sky,” she said.

“But mother, the handle of my hoe is broken,” Aki told his mother. “I need a new one.”

“You are right my son, let me fix it for you,” his mother said.

She fixed the hoe and gave it to Aki. Aki went with his mother to the garden.

“We need to work hard my son,” Aki’s mother said.

She remembered how they had left their former village. There was drought. The crops had dried and animals died. The wells also had dried up. There was a lot of famine.

Aki’s family moved and settled in Manzi village. Manzi was far from their former village called Toroma. They built a temporary house in Manzi village. It had one door and two small windows. There was a mango tree in the compound. It

had a good shade. Aki's mother prepared their meals under the shade.



The children in Manzi village spoke Kiswahili. Aki spoke only Luo. He did not understand Kiswahili. He could not play with other children. This made him a sad boy. He felt unhappy always.

One day Aki met a boy on the path to the well. The boy was big and taller than him. His name was Lapo. He spoke Kiswahili but also knew Luo. He was also going to fetch water.

"Hello," said Aki.

"Hello," replied Lapo.

"What is your name?" asked Aki in a shaky voice.

## Aki's Dream Comes True

**Aki Becomes a National Player**

Aki continued to play for Youth Alive club. When he finished secondary school, he had passed very well. He joined Kosoto Technical College. He wanted to be an electrician.

While at college, he was the captain of the football team. His college team played many matches against other colleges. Aki became more experienced. He travelled to many places.

Pele the National Coach heard stories about a gifted footballer called Aki. One day he attended a football match between Aki's college and another. He was happy with Aki's skills. "He is a gifted player. He can play for the national team," Pele said.

After the match Pele talked to Aki. "You are a good player, I would like you to join the national football team."

Aki shouted with joy. He could not believe what coach Pele told him. "Me, Aki, to join the national team!" he said.

### Questions

1. Who was Charles?
2. Why was Aki's father proud of him?
3. Which club did Aki join?
4. Which country did Youth Alive Club go to?
5. How many goals did Aki score?

### Activities

1. In groups of four discuss how you would prepare for a journey
2. Imagine you were in Aki's school, what would you do if your school won a match?

"I am Lapo," he replied. Aki was happy that the boy spoke his language.

"Where do you stay?" asked Aki.

"I live a short distance from the mosque," Lapo answered. "Our house is big with a red roof."

"We also have many cows and goats and a large banana plantation," Lapo said.

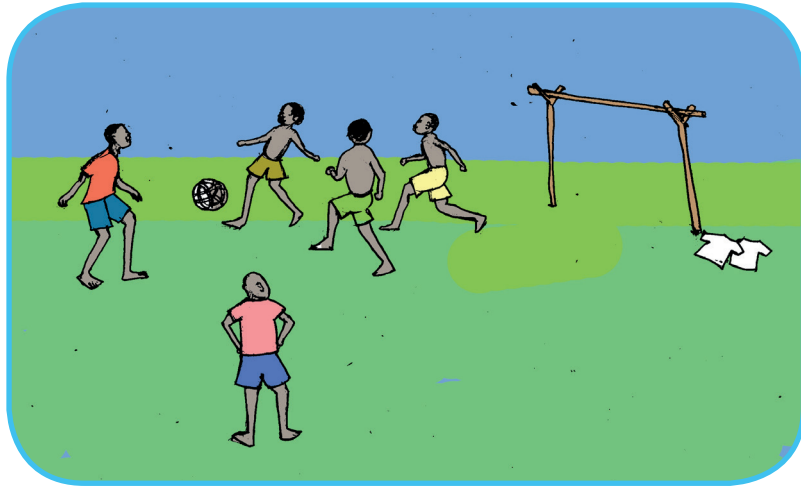
"You are lucky to have all that!" Aki said. "We have a small house. We don't have any animals," Aki said. "Sometimes we lack food," he told his friend. "We left our village Toroma because of famine," Aki told Lapo as they walked towards the well.

"Sorry about what you went through. I pray life improves," said Lapo.

As they came near the well, they heard very loud voices. "Pass it on to me, score... goal...!" The boys were playing football. They always formed football teams and played against each other.

"Come and join us," one boy asked Aki and Lapo. Lapo quickly removed his shirt and joined the other boys to play football.





Aki did not reply because he did not know the language. He did not join in. He picked the ball and threw it to the players. This was whenever it crossed the touch line. Aki liked football. He was a good footballer. He had always wished to play for a big club one day. "I wish I spoke their language, I would ask them to allow me to play," Aki said.

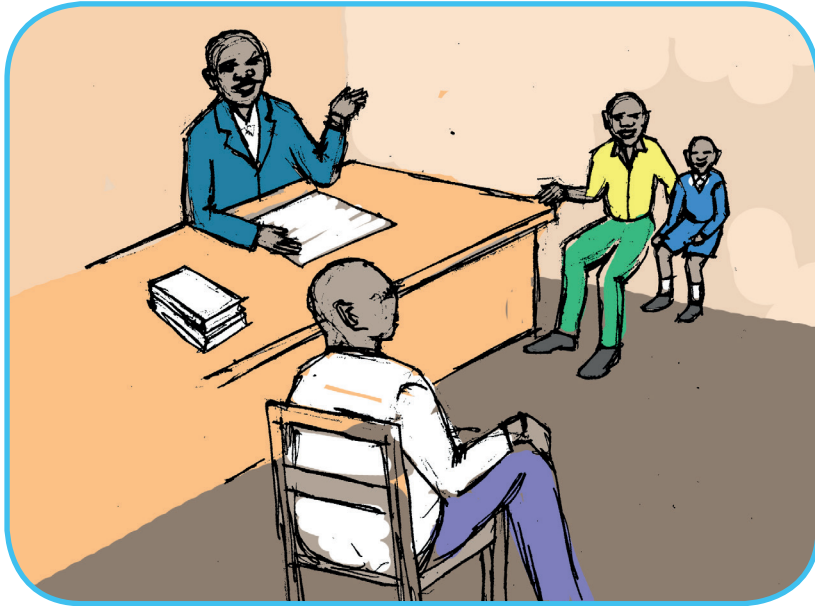
Aki took a long time at the well. His mother became worried. It was getting dark. His mother was not happy because he had delayed at the well. Aki finally appeared but he had no pot.



Along the way, they saw the rift valley, and mountain Elgon. They also saw big markets, railway lines and different industries. The journey was long but very interesting. The journey took twelve hours but the players never noticed it. They reached Nairobi the next day.

The match started at 4pm the next day. The Nairobi team had many supporters. Aki's team didn't have many people to cheer them. Aki's team played well. A few minutes to half time, Aki headed the ball. The ball went in. It was a goal!

The supporters cheered the team. They beat the drums and danced. "Aki, Aki, Aki!" they shouted his name. They sang and clapped. Soon the referee blew the whistle to end the match. Youth Alive Club won the match 1- 0.



They agreed that Aki can join Youth Alive football club. Aki's father thanked the teachers for the good work done for his son. The teachers were happy to hear the good comments from Alipo.

Coach Charles was happy that Aki joined his club. Aki trained with other players. One day, the coach received a letter inviting the club to go to Nairobi. Aki was one of the players selected to go.

"I am going to Kenya!" Aki told his parents. They were happy to hear the good news. The players went to Nairobi by bus.

"Where have you been Aki?" his mother asked.  
 "I have been to the well but my pot broke," Aki replied.  
 "Have you been playing football again? I am not happy with you," Aki's mother said angrily.  
 "I am sorry mother," Aki said.

#### Questions

1. What language did Aki speak?
2. Why was Aki unhappy?
3. Why do you think Aki was happy when he met Lapo?
4. How many languages could Lapo speak?
5. Why did Aki say sorry to his mother?

#### Activities

1. In pairs, write two things that cause famine.
2. In groups, discuss why Aki's mother was worried about him.

# Aki Joins a New School

A week later Aki joined a new school. It was called Molu Primary School. The school was far from Manzi village. The school was bigger than his former school. It had many buildings. There were also many children. In Primary Four there were seventy children. Although they spoke different languages, the children played together. Children spoke to one another in English. Some learners spoke broken English.

Their teacher taught them only in English. There was also a message in the school compound. It read "Use English at school".

Aki sat on the front seat so that he could see properly. The teacher was friendly. She called pupils by name. She told them interesting stories. The class had many story books.

Aki enjoyed looking at the coloured pictures of footballers. He could not read many of the books. Aki shared the desk with one boy and a girl. They talked to him but he did not understand their language. This made him sad.

"You have a talented boy," he said. "I would like him to join my club."

"I need to talk to his parents about it," the Games teacher said. "I will inform the Head teacher about it too," he added.

The next day, Charles went to Aki's school. He met the Games teacher and the Head teacher. They asked Aki to come to school with his father the next day.

"Is there a problem at school?" Aki's father asked.

"No father," Aki replied. "There's a coach who supports children gifted in football. He wants me to join his football club. He can make me a better player," Aki said.

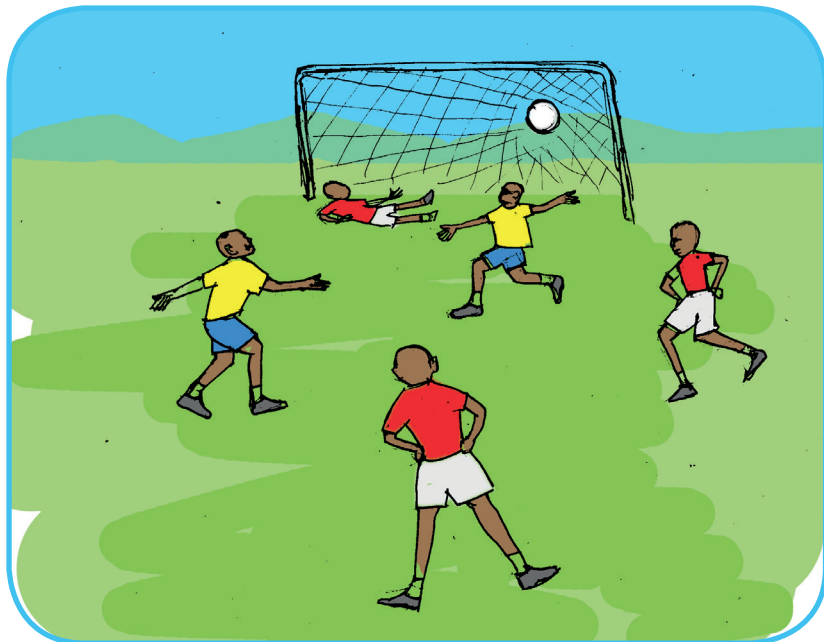
"But you need to work hard on your class work. I am worried that you will not perform well," his father said.

"I will train over the weekends and holidays. I will make sure that I balance class work and football," Aki said.

Aki's father listened to him. He was proud of him. "That's a good idea my son. I will do what I can to support you to become the best footballer," Aki's father said.

The next day, Aki and his father went to school. They met the Head teacher, Games teacher and coach Charles.





Aki's team doubled its efforts. It continued to play well. After fifteen minutes, they scored another goal. The students cheered them more. Everybody was now talking about Aki. He used every chance he got. He passed the ball to his team mates. He easily scored the second goal.

### Aki Joins Youth Alive Club

The coach of Youth Alive club was called Charles. He watched the match between Tidi and Lego. He liked how Aki played. After the match, Charles went and talked to Aki's Games teacher.

At break time, he watched as the girls skipped the rope. Others played dodge ball. The boys played football. They made balls out of fibres.

When the bell rang to end the last lesson, Aki joined other boys to sweep the class. He loved doing work. His teacher thanked them. As he went home that day Aki thought about learning Kiswahili. He also wanted to make friends. He reached home when the sun was setting. That day he did not fetch water.

"Welcome back my son," said Aki's mother. "You look unhappy, are you sick?" she asked. "No," Aki replied. "I am very tired," he added.

The next day, Aki woke up early to go to school. On the way he met a boy who was going to the same school. He was riding a bicycle. He stopped and got off the bicycle.

"Come, let's go," the boy called Aki. Aki smiled and quickly sat on the bicycle. They rode to school together. Aki and the boy did not talk much on the way. Once in a while he asked a question in broken English. Soon they arrived at school.

In class, Aki saw one child who was very quiet. He was brown with curly hair. "He must be from another country," Aki said. "I want to be his

friend. Let me talk to him.” As he stood up to go to him he thought to himself. “My English is not good. How will I talk to him?” He decided to sit down. He waited for the teacher to begin the lesson.

“Aki,” the teacher called. “Please give out these books. Make sure that you put a book on each desk,” he said.

Aki was happy to give out the books. He felt loved.

At lunch time, Aki went near one boy in his class. “Will you allow me to play football with you?” he asked. “Please I beg you. I can play very well,” he said.

“Well, let me talk to my friends,” the boy replied. The boys had already formed their team.

“Ok, let him join us,” the captain said.

Aki played well in that match. He dodged the defenders and scored. All his teammates were happy. As they continued to play, he made a mistake. He was trying to save a goal but he handled the ball. The referee gave a penalty kick. Their opponents scored. Aki’s team lost. The boys blamed him for the loss. He was sad.

“You will not play with us again,” the captain said. “You should be more careful,” he said. “I am sorry,” Aki apologised.

## Tidi vs Lego

The Head teacher hired a bus to take the players. Some students were selected to go and support the team. The match was attended by many spectators. They came from near and far. Both teams played very well. The whole school came to the field to support their team. Whenever their players touched the ball, everyone cheered them.

By first half, no team had scored a goal. “Let us change the tactics,” Aki told the players during break.

“Yes, let us attack them more,” one player said. “Our defenders must be alert also,” the coach said.

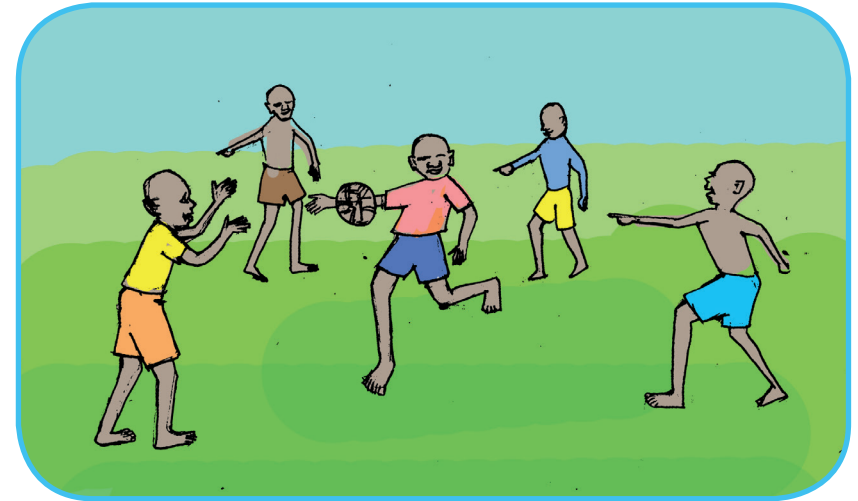
Soon the referee blew the whistle for the second half to begin. When the match started, Aki dodged the defenders well. He ran very fast. He dodged the goal keeper and scored. “Goal!” the students shouted. They cheered him ‘Our boy, our boy’. He ran around the field. He was very happy. Some players lifted him up. “We are the winners,” they shouted.

### Questions

1. How did the head teacher treat his students?
2. What shows that the teachers liked the students?
3. Why was Aki lucky to join the new school?
4. How long did the team train?
5. Why do you think the children were happy with the news of the football match?

### Activities

1. In pairs write three uses of trees to man?
2. Have you ever attended a football match? What you would do if your team scored a goal.



As time went by, Aki got a friend. The friend taught him Lugungu, his language. They played together most of the time. Each day, Aki showed that he was a good player. His friends called him the “thin one”. This was because he had oversize clothes which made him look thin.

Aki’s class work was not very good. His teacher encouraged him to work hard. Sometimes his friend helped him with homework. His main problem was English. At his former school, they learned lessons in Luo. They were only taught English as a subject.

One day, their class teacher gave them a project to work on. “You are going to make a nursery bed. I will give you some tomato seeds to plant,” he said.

Aki used to help his mother in the garden. He knew how to make a nursery bed.

"I will help my class to do it," he thought.

The next day, the class started working on the project. They cleared a piece of land. They dug the ground and planted seeds. They used dry sticks and grass for the shelter. Soon the nursery bed was ready. They cared for the nursery bed. They watered it in the morning and afternoon.

After a while, the seedlings were ready for transplanting.

"Let us make a sack garden," Aki said. He wanted to teach his friends. Aki learnt from his mother.



The students were friendly. They treated one another well. There was no teasing at Tidi Secondary School. Aki liked his new school. The teachers liked the students. They lived together in peace. This made Aki very happy.

"I am lucky to join this school. I will be able to play football," Aki said. Soon, Aki got friends and they played together.

In second term, Tidi Secondary School was invited by Lego Secondary School for a football match. The news of the match spread quickly in the school. Everybody was talking about the match.

"We have to start practicing now," the Games teacher told players. "We must win this match," he said.

"We should work together as a team," Aki told his friends. "Each one of us must work hard to win," he said.

The team trained for two weeks. During that time, they learnt new skills. Aki was liked by his friends. He had good football skills. He taught the team the skills for winning a match. "Team work is the key," he told them.



## Aki Joins Tidi Secondary School

Aki passed his Primary Leaving Examinations well. The Head teacher of Topag advised him to join Tidi Secondary School. It was in the village near Aki's home.

Tidi Secondary School had a good environment. It had tall trees along the fence. The trees provided shade. They also acted as wind breaks. The school had many beautiful buildings. The students in the school were many. There were both girls and boys.

Some students came from home daily. Other students slept at school. The students came from different parts of Uganda. Most teachers were also from different parts of Uganda. Some teachers were from other countries. All students and teachers lived happily together.

The Head teacher was a good man. All students liked him. He advised students to behave well. He also told them to work hard.

The teacher was very happy with Aki's idea. "You are such a hardworking boy!" the teacher said.

The teacher asked children to bring some old sacks. Children brought sacks from their homes. Aki taught the children how to fill the sacks with fertile loam soil. They were able to prepare ten sacks. He showed them how to carefully remove the seedlings. This was from the nursery bed to the sacks.

They covered the sack tops with dry grass. They watered the seedlings every day. After a month, the tomatoes flowered and later put on fruits. The tomatoes grew bigger and bigger. Before the end of the term, the tomatoes were ready for harvest. The teacher and the children were happy to harvest the tomatoes. The teacher gave each child some tomatoes. The children took the tomatoes home.



### Questions

1. In which class was Aki?
2. Mention the games that children played at school.
3. Why did the teacher thank Aki?
4. Why did the teacher like Aki?
5. How did Aki help his class with the project?

### Activities

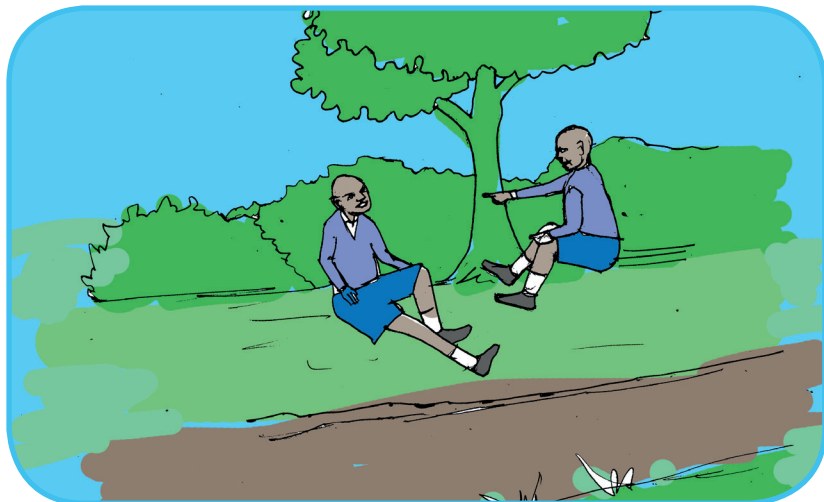
1. Discuss why it is good to clean the class.
2. In pairs, write two reasons why Aki was unhappy at school.

### Questions

1. Who helped Aki with class work?
2. Why did the head teacher called Aki, 'the gifted pupil'?
3. Why was Aki's mother happy at the football match?
4. When did Aki lead the football team?
5. What did Aki help Lapo to do?

### Activities

1. In pairs, write a list of functions that parents attend at school
2. Discuss how Lapo helped Aki with class work



After sometime, Aki's class work improved. Aki and Lapo's friendship grew stronger. Aki also helped Lapo to play football. Aki now spoke some Kiswahili. His fame in football grew day by day. He was elected the Deputy Football Captain. When the Captain got sick, Aki led the team very well. Everybody was happy with him. The teachers learnt why the head teacher called Aki a gifted boy.

When Topag played with other schools, they always won. Aki became a football star. Everyone in the village knew him.

One day, Aki's mother attended the school function. There was a football match too. She was happy to see Aki playing. Everybody was clapping and saying "Our boy Aki". Aki's mother felt proud of her son.

## Topag Games Teacher visits Aki's home

After some time, Aki got friends. He also joined the school football team. One day there was a football match. This was between Molu and Topag Primary School. Aki's school was Molu Primary School. Aki played very well. He ran faster than his opponents. He made very good passes and the teachers were happy. Molu beat Topag two goals to zero. Aki scored both goals for Molu.

"That boy is gifted," the Games teacher of Topag said. He was also happy with Aki's skills. He wished Aki was in his school.

"What is the name of that boy?" he asked.

"He is Aki," one pupil answered. "He comes from Manzi village beyond the Kata swamp. His family migrated to Manzi last year. He has just learnt our language. He is a well behaved boy." The Games teacher listened to the pupil attentively. He said, "That is nice to hear," as he nodded his head.

During the holidays, the Games teacher of Topag looked for Aki's home. He asked Aki's teachers for directions to Manzi. Manzi was three kilometres from Topag Primary School. He walked for some time until he reached a hill. Below it was a forest. The forest was cool and quiet. He met a few people in the forest.

At the end of the forest there was Kata swamp. The swamp had water, papyrus and some long grass. He walked up to the end of Kata swamp. He met a tall man coming from the garden. The man had a panga and hoe.

The Games teacher greeted the man. "Is this Manzi village?" he asked.

"Yes, it is," he replied. "Where do you come from?" the man asked.

"I am from Topag Primary School. I am going to Manzi. I am going to the quarters for migrants."

"Oh, ok," replied the man. "Just walk straight for about five hundred metres. Turn right, go straight until you reach the shops. The quarters for migrants are behind the shops," he directed.

## Aki joins Topag Primary School

Aki's mother escorted him to Topag Primary School on the opening day of second term. She introduced him to the head teacher. The head teacher led him to the P.7 class. He introduced him as the "gifted pupil". He was given books, pens and a mathematical set.

Topag Primary School was big with many buildings. There were many pupils. They spoke different languages but were able to live together. Learning went on well but Aki's class work was not good. The teachers complained. They tried to help him improve.

At Topag, Aki met Lapo. This is the boy who was a friend of Aki. He played with him at the well. Lapo was almost the same age with Aki. They were also in the same class. Aki told Lapo about his class work. Lapo always did well in class. Lapo made a plan to help Aki after school. They sat under a tree and did some class work together.



### Questions

1. Why did Aki's teachers like him?
2. What skill did Aki have?
3. Name Aki's village?
4. Which language did Aki speak?
5. What was the good news from the games teacher?

### Activities

1. Draw a picture to show Kata swamp.
2. In groups of five, discuss why Aki's mother was worried when he saw the visitor.



The Games teacher walked until he reached the shops. He met children playing with mud. He asked them if they knew a boy called Aki. "Which Aki?" one of them asked. "Do you mean the son of Alipo?" Another child pointed to the house. It was in front of a big mango tree. The mango tree was used as a shade and a kitchen. There was a woman sorting beans. She welcomed him.

"You are welcome sir," she said in Luo, she asked for a stool. One of her daughters brought a stool. The Games teacher knew Luo. He talked to Aki's family in Luo.

"Is this the home where Aki stays?" he asked.

"What is it sir? What did he do?" the woman

asked. She was surprised that her son could receive such a visitor. The visitor was wearing a coat and glasses.

“There is no problem Madam, you should not worry!” he said. “I am the Games Teacher of Topag Primary School. I would like him to join my school.”

“Why do you want Aki to join your school?” Aki’s mother asked.

“Aki is a good footballer. We shall help him develop his talent,” the Games teacher said. “You will not have to pay fees. He will study for free,” he added.

Aki’s mother smiled. “That is a good idea but your school practices a different religion from ours. I also hear that they learn in Kiswahili. Aki is not good at Kiswahili. I don’t think he will be happy at your school,” Aki’s mother said.

“Do not worry about the language, Aki will soon learn it.

We also have children of different religious backgrounds,” the Games teacher said. “We do not force learners to change their religion. We respect each learner’s religion,” he added.

“Aki” his mother called. Aki came from behind the house. “This is your visitor,” the mother said.

Aki greeted the visitor. Aki’s mother explained to him that the visitor wanted him to join his school. She also told him that he was going to study for free at the new school. Aki was happy. He smiled when he heard the good news.

“Which school is that?” Aki asked happily. “It is Topag Primary School,” the Games teacher answered.



“Is that the school we beat in the football match?” Aki asked.

“Yes, that’s the one,” the Games teacher replied. He gave Aki’s mother a piece of paper. On the paper he had written his name and telephone number. He directed Aki’s mother to the school. He asked her to bring him when the term begins.