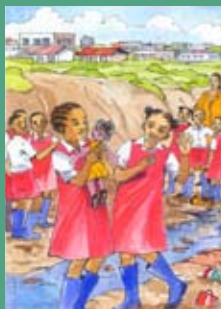


# Marias Doll

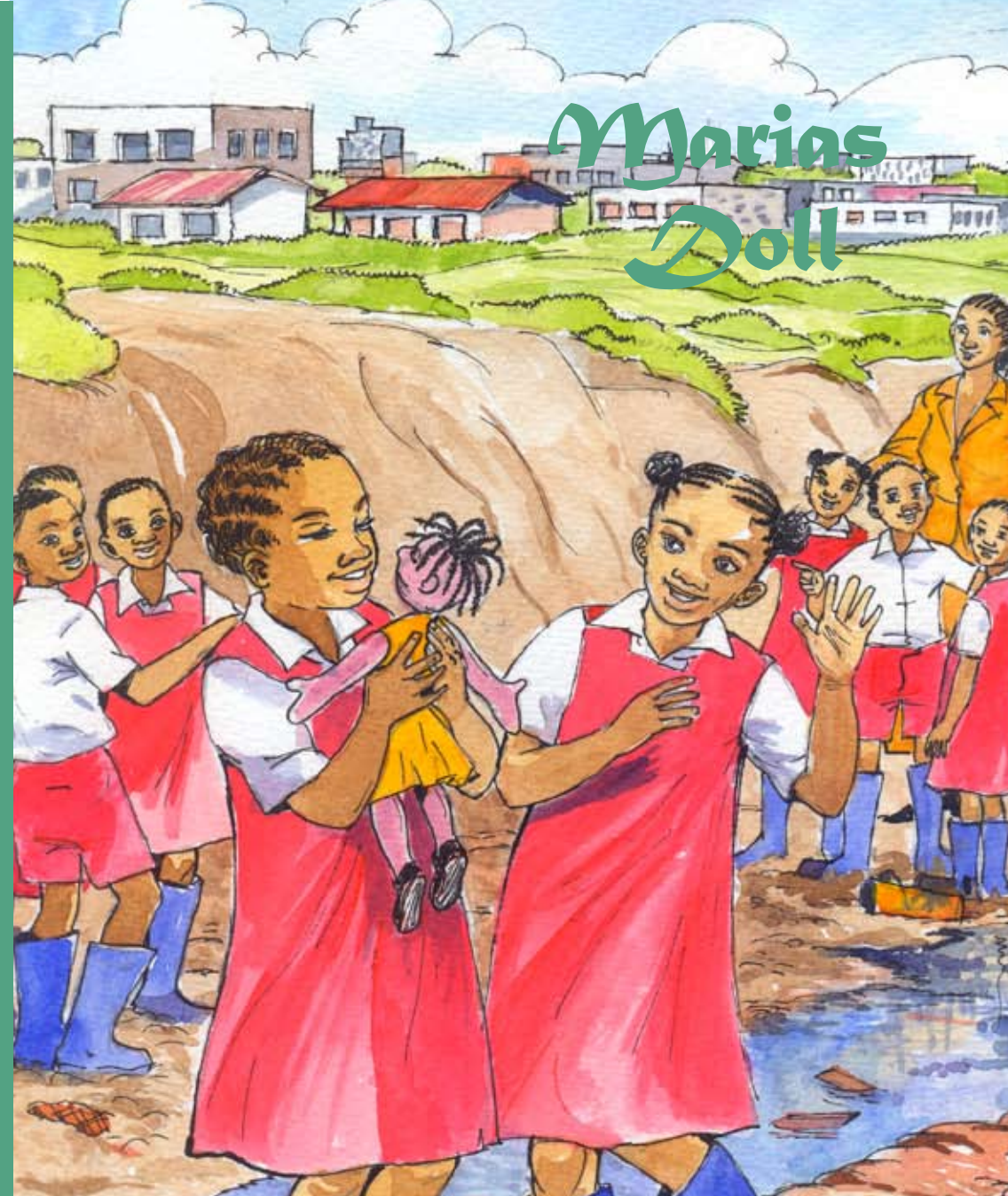
The heavens seem angry. The rain pounds the earth, lightening strikes and the thunder roars. People are frightened. Water sweeps carrying away things on its paths. Maria's doll is swept away. Maria embarks on a search that leads her to an adventure of a lifetime. Will she ever find her doll? Find out in this surprising story.



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**UN HABITAT**  
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Classes 4-5

# MARIA'S DOLL

UN-HABITAT  
Series on Water and Sanitation  
Lower Primary







My name is Shakira. I am in Standard Three.

My class teacher is Miss Tasha. There are many girls and boys in my class. Maria is my best friend. I like her because she is always happy.



During school days, Maria waits for me at her gate every morning. Then we walk to school together.

Maria has a beautiful doll. She calls her doll Jima. We like playing with Jima.

One day, it rained all night. There was thunder and lightning.

But the next morning, the beautiful sun had risen. I ran all the way to Maria's gate.

Maria was not at her gate.

There was a very long ditch near her gate.

Then, I saw her. She looked sad. Maria said that her doll was washed away when their house was flooded.

Everyday, we thought of a new place to look for Jima.

After many days, we stopped looking. We thought Jima was lost forever. Maria was sad but she tried to look happy





One day, Miss Tasha took our class behind the classroom block. She showed us a ditch. She asked, “What made this ditch?”

“Maria said, “Rain water dug the ditch just like the one at our house. “Yes, very good,” said Miss Tasha. “When rain falls from the roof to the ground, it digs a ditch.”

She asked, “Where did the water take the soil from the ditch?”

No one answered the question. “Shall we find out?” she asked.



“Yes!” We said happily. When we go for lessons outdoors, Miss Tasha says it is called a nature walk.

Miss Tasha said, “We shall follow the ditch to see where the water took the soil.”

“There is something we say when we go for a nature walk. Who can remind us?” Miss Tasha asked.

We all knew the answer. So she said, “Can we all say it together?”

“We must always take care of our environment.

We must not



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