

YOU  
READY?

# LUPE MA LE LA'AU O LE MAGO

LUPE AND THE  
MANGO TREE



Damien Tyrell, Penani Penani, Petra Vaoga, Salvinia Tuilaepa,  
Tana Lafaele, Therese Matautia, Valentina Thomas

YOU  
READY?

# LUPE MA LE LA'AU O LE MAGO

LUPE AND THE MANGO TREE



Tusia e / written by: Damien Tyrell, Penani Penani, Petra Vaoga,  
Salvinia Tuilaepa, Tana Lafaele, Therese Matautia, Valentina Thomas

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## About the authors

Masina Va'aia is a bilingual Samoan unit at Sutton Park School in Māngere East, South Auckland. Their vision is: "Cast the net wide set it deep to nourish learners for life." Their mission is: "Together we Learn, Together we Lead." They use the Gagana Samoa for learning across the school curriculum, so their students will be proficient in Samoan and English, and have a strong understanding of their identity when they leave for secondary school. With the support of Vaitimu Togi Lemanu, Deputy Principal of the school, and Sapi Neemia, a group of Year 7 students worked with Auckland Emergency Management to create *O Lupe ma le La'au o le Mago | Lupe and the Mango Tree*.

## Student authors:

Damien Tyrell

Petra Vaoga

Tana Lafaele

Valentina Thomas

Penani Penani

Salvinia Tuilaepa

Therese Matautia

**Fa'afetai lava Jane Va'afusuaga for taking time to share with us your family's personal cyclone experiences. Your stories helped us with some of our ideas and we are grateful for your support. Thank you to Veronica Ligaliga for her contributions and proofreading of the Samoan text.**





# INTRODUCTION: OUR CHANGING CLIMATE

Over the past hundred years, Earth's average yearly surface temperature has increased by roughly 1 degree Celsius. This number seems small, but this huge increase in stored heat is changing our climate.

In the past, major volcanic eruptions or changes in the earth's orbit led to periods of global warming and ice ages. But today, the Earth is warming faster because of human activities such as burning fossil fuels, clearing land and forests, and landfills for garbage. Rising temperatures cause our climate to be more unpredictable, and we call this climate change.

The Earth is a system where everything is connected, and changes in one area can influence changes in all others. Climate change impacts our oceans. Melting polar ice and warmer oceans are causing sea levels to rise and coastal land to be washed away. Climate change also leads to a loss of

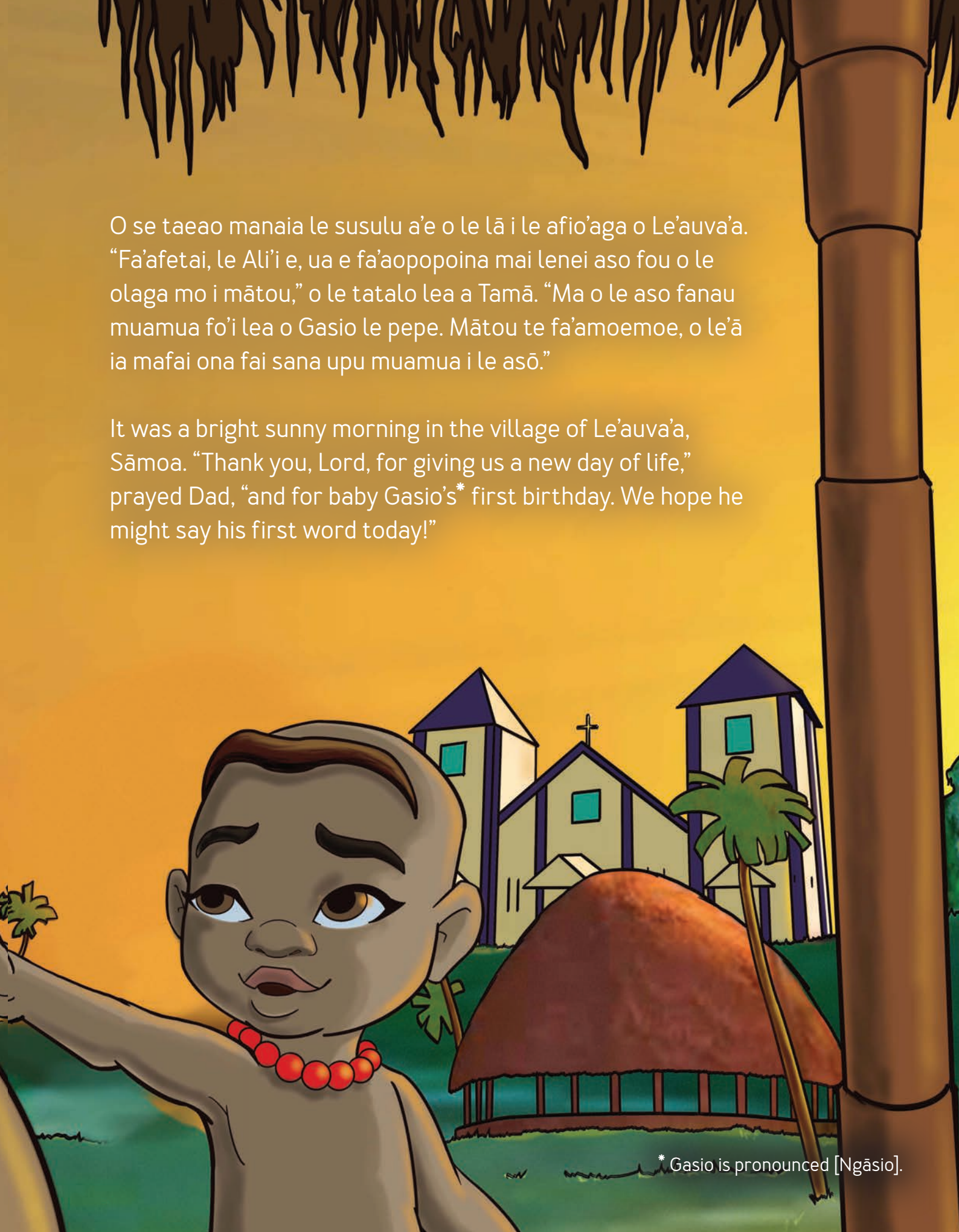
biodiversity and more severe natural disasters, like cyclones, tornadoes, heatwaves, droughts, fires, flooding, and storms. This affects our health, ability to grow food, housing, safety, and work. Some of us are more vulnerable to climate change, such as people living on small islands and in less economically wealthy countries.

You and your āiga can help tackle the climate crisis: eat less meat and dairy, cut back on flying, plant trees, walk/bus/bike instead of drive, use wind or solar power for energy, recycle and reuse, and save energy and water at home. Let's not throw rubbish on the ground or in the ocean – animals can get tangled and hurt. Remember to respect and protect our oceans, rivers, and green spaces!

Talofa, I'm Lupe!  
My friends and I want to teach you about natural disasters and help you get prepared for them. We each tell a story about a cyclone, flood, storm, and tornado. And afterwards, we'll help you get ready for emergencies too!







O se taeao manaia le susulu a'e o le lā i le afio'aga o Le'auva'a. "Fa'afetai, le Ali'i e, ua e fa'aopopoina mai lenei aso fou o le olaga mo i mātou," o le tatalo lea a Tamā. "Ma o le aso fanau muamua fo'i lea o Gasio le pepe. Mātou te fa'amoemoe, o le'ā ia mafai ona fai sana upu muamua i le asō."

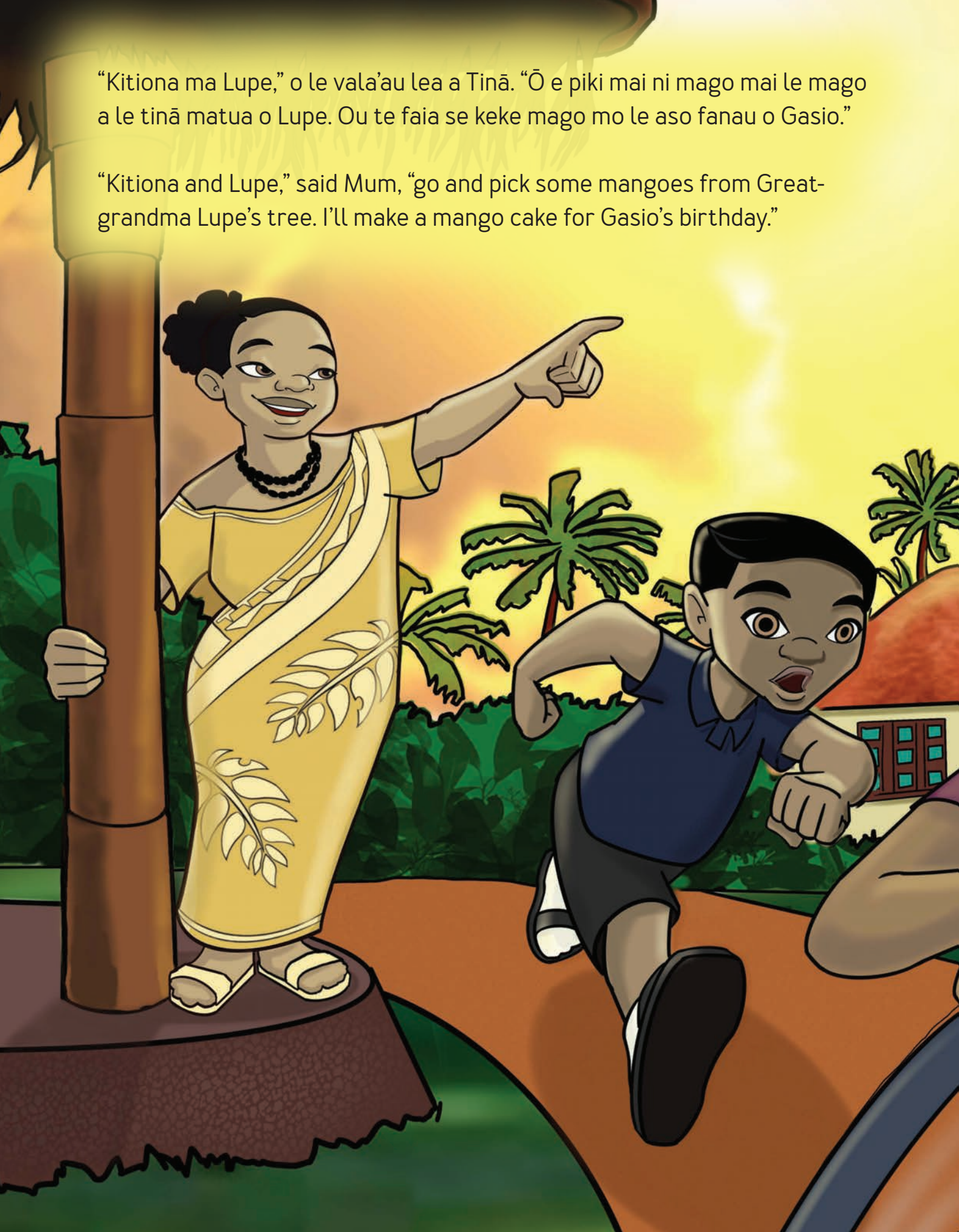
It was a bright sunny morning in the village of Le'auva'a, Sāmoa. "Thank you, Lord, for giving us a new day of life," prayed Dad, "and for baby Gasio's\* first birthday. We hope he might say his first word today!"

\* Gasio is pronounced [Ngāsio].



“Kitiona ma Lupe,” o le vala’au lea a Tinā. “Ō e piki mai ni mago mai le mago a le tinā matua o Lupe. Ou te faia se keke mago mo le aso fanau o Gasio.”

“Kitiona and Lupe,” said Mum, “go and pick some mangoes from Great-grandma Lupe’s tree. I’ll make a mango cake for Gasio’s birthday.”



“Sau tā mili!” ua fai atu ai Lupe ma alu ifo i le ‘ātoa i lalo o le ‘auala i lona nofoa fa’atā’avalevale.

“E lē fetaui nā mea, o lenā e i ai āu uili!” ua vala’au atu Kitiona ma tuliloa atu lona tuafafine.

“Race you!” said Lupe and rocketed down the ramp in her wheelchair.

“That’s not fair, you’ve got wheels!” said Kitiona, chasing after his sister.

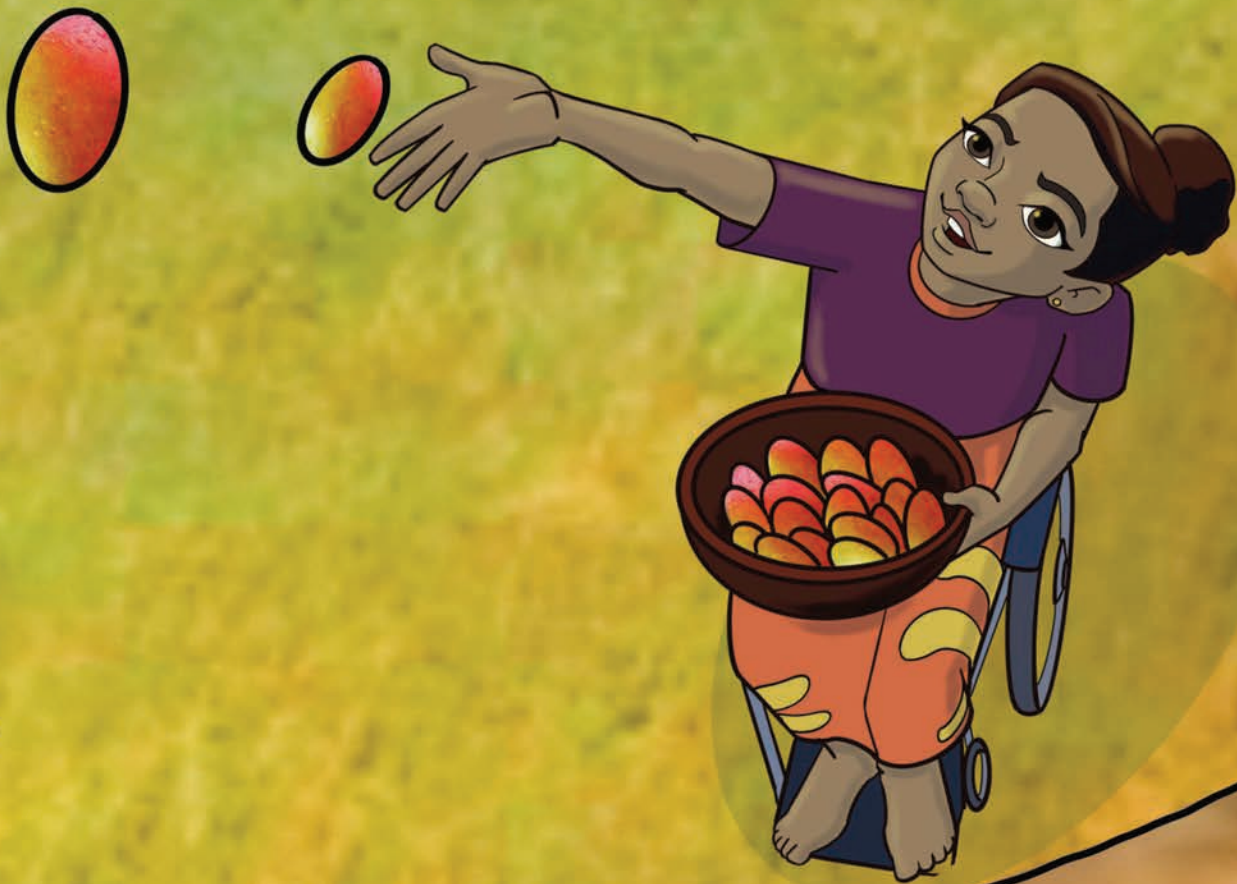








Na a'e Kitiona i luga o le mago lapo'a ma  
'amata ona fa'apa'u ifo mago suamalie ia  
Lupe. Sa ia tu'u i totonu o le 'ato o lo'o i  
luga o ona vae. O nisi taimi e saposapo  
muamua e Kitiona mago.



Kitiona climbed into the huge mango tree and  
began dropping juicy ripe mangoes down to  
Lupe. She put them in a basket on her lap.  
Sometimes Kitiona juggled the mangoes first.



Ua lagona fa'afuase'i e Lupe le ma'alili ma tepa atu aga'i le vāteatea. Ua amata ona fegāsoloa'i āo pogisā i le lagi. Ua agi mālosi foi le matagi, ua fa'atumulia ai le 'ea i lau o le mago.

Suddenly Lupe felt cold and looked up at the sky. Dark clouds began creeping across the sky. The wind blew stronger, filling the air with leaves from the mango tree.



PĀPĀ! Ua gogolo faititili.  
Ua amata ona to'ulu timuga  
mamafa.

BOOOOM! Thunder crashed.  
POT-POT-POT-POT! Heavy rain  
began to fall.





“Topetope, ō mai i totonu!” ua vala’au atu Nana Miriama.

“Quick, come inside!” called Nana Miriama.







Na 'u'u mau e Lupe le 'ato mago 'ae tūlei e Kitiona lona nofoa fa'ata'avalevale i totonu o le fale.

Lupe held tightly to the basket of mangoes while Kitiona pushed her wheelchair inside the fale.



Sa kī e Tamā le leitiō pe i ai se tala fou a le  
Leitiō fa'asalalau o le 2AP e uiga i le afā.

Dad turned on the radio to see if Radio  
2AP had any news about the storm.





*“Lapata’iga, lapata’iga. O le afā o Eveni  
o lo’o aga’i mai i Samoa. O le’ā mamafa timuga,  
faititili, ma matagi mālolosi.”*

*“Tatou ō i le falesā,” o le tala lea a Tamā. “E sefe tatou ‘i ‘ilā.”*

*“Warning! Warning! Cyclone Evan is moving towards Samoa.  
Expect heavy rain, thunderstorms, and super strong winds.”*

*“Let’s go to the church,” Dad said. “We’ll be safe there.”*



E tuā'oi le falesā ma le lātou fale. Ua susū uma i lātou i le timu ina ua lātou taunu'u i le falesā ae sa i ai o lātou ofu se sui ai.

The church was next door to their home. Everyone was soaking wet from the rain when they got there but there were spare clothes to change into.







Ua tipi e le afā le paoa, ona tutuina lea e tagata matutua o mōlīga’o. I le taimi o le aoauli, sa tatalaina apa eleni ma saimini e ‘a’ai ai tagata uma. Sa molimoli e vai utufagu le taumafataga o le afā.

The storm cut the power so the adults lit candles. At lunchtime they opened cans of eleni\* and everyone ate them with noodles. They washed down their cyclone lunch with bottled water.



\* Eleni is a type of fish, known as herring in English.





EMO UILA! PĀPĀ FAITITILI! PA'Ō TIMUGA!

Sa fa'aaauau pea le afā i le aso 'atoa. O lālā la'au gau, o fasi 'apa na felele i le isi itū o le fanua. O tualuga o isi fale ua lelea 'ese.

“Oka, va'ai i le mālosi o le matagi!” o le tagi lea a Kitiona.

“Alu 'ese mai ma le fa'amalama!” o le vala'au atu lea a Tinā.

“Le Alii e, mātou te tatalo ia vave ona muta le afā,” o le tala lea a Nana Miriama.

FLASH! BANG! THUD!

The cyclone carried on throughout the day. Broken tree branches and pieces of tin flew across the fanua.\* The rooftops flew off some of the houses.

“Whoooooah, look how strong the wind is!” cried Kitiona.

“Move away from the windows!” said Mum.

“Dear Lord, we pray the cyclone will end soon,” said Nana Miriama.





\* Fanua is the Samoan word for land.



I fafo, sa latou fa'alogoina la'au ua tã gau, ona soso'o ai lea ma se PĀ leotele! Na lia'i i luga e le afā le mago a le tinā matua o Lupe mai le ele'ele ma lafo i tafatafa o le falesā. Ua salalau solo fua o le mago. Ua amata ona fetāgisi nisi o tamaiti.

Outside they heard wood breaking and then a massive BANG! The cyclone pulled Great-grandma Lupe's mango tree out of the earth and dumped it next to the church. Mangoes scattered in every direction. Some of the children started crying.









Na uili atu e Lupe lona nofoa fa'ata'avalevale i le ogātotonu o le falesā. “O ai e fia ta'alo Pōpō Mano'o?” o lana fesili lea.  
*“Pōpō mano'o, pōpō mano'o toso le taliga ua mu falō ...”*  
A'o ta'a'alo tamaiti, sa usuina e tagata mātutua pese fa'aleagaga.  
Sa lagona e tagata uma le to'afilemū.

Lupe wheeled herself into the middle of the church. “Who wants to play Pōpō Mano'o\*?” she said.

*“Pōpō mano'o, pōpō mano'o, toso le taliga ua mu falō ...”*  
While the children played, the adults sang Christian songs.  
Everyone felt calm.





\*Pōpō Mano’o is a traditional Samoan children’s game.






Mulimuli ane, ua mou atu le afā ona ō ifo lea o tagata o le nu’u ua fa’amamā fafo. Na fa’aputu mai e Lupe ma Kitiona fua o le mago na salalau solo ma avatu i nai tagata ua fa’aleagaina o latou fale. Ina ua goto le lā, sa nonofo le aiga i le mea sa māsani ona tū ai le mago. Ua leai se mea ae ua na o le ‘omo.

At last, the cyclone left, and the villagers went outside to clean up. Lupe and Kitiona picked up the scattered mangoes and gave them to people whose homes were destroyed. At sunset the family sat where the mango tree used to stand. There was nothing but a ditch there now.







Sa totō e Lupe se fatu mago i le ele'ele  
'ae ufiufi e Kitiona i palapala.

Lupe planted a mango seed in the  
ground and Kitiona covered  
it with dirt.

“E sau le afā ma toe alu, 'ae o le alofa e  
fa'avavau,” o le tala lea a Tinā. “O lenei mago  
fou, o le'ā fafaga ai lo matou aiga, e pei lava  
ona fai e le tinā matua o Lupe.”

“Cyclones come and go, but love is forever,”  
said Mum. “This new mango tree will feed our  
family, just like Great-grandma Lupe's did.”





“Tatou ō e ‘ai sina keke mago,” o le tala lea a Nana Miriama.

“Let’s go and eat some mango cake,” said Nana Miriama.



“Mago!” o le upu lea a Gasio le pepe. O lana upu muamua lea.  
Sa taliē tagata uma.

“Mango!” said baby Gasio. His first word! And everyone laughed.





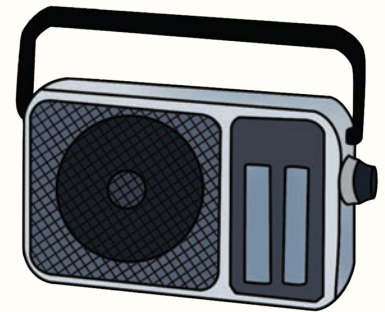
Wow, what a wild adventure!  
We're lucky we made it through  
the cyclone safely – because we were  
prepared and knew what to do. So, do  
you want to get prepared too?

Take some time with your āiga to talk about  
what natural disasters could happen where  
you live, how you can prepare and stay safe,  
and who can help you. Look at the following  
pages and learn how to create a Family  
Emergency Plan and a Grab Bag.

**YOU READY?**



# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIPS



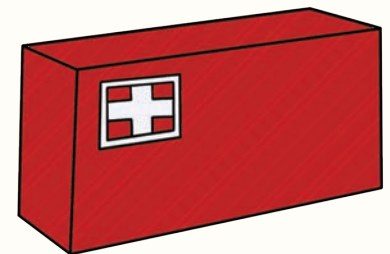
## Get prepared for an emergency

- Talk about the hazards in your home and for your area
- Make your home safer by securing furniture and heavy items
- Make a Family Emergency Plan
- Prepare an emergency grab bag (in case you need to evacuate)
- Stay informed through radio, online, and Emergency Mobile Alert
- Check in with your friends and neighbours
- Have protective items like masks, gloves and shoes ready for any cleaning up

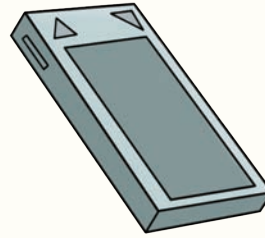


## Family Emergency Plan

- Write down the names of the people who live with you and two others who don't live with you and their mobile numbers. Memorise your home address and you parents' or guardians' phone numbers.
- Choose a meeting place if you can't get home – e.g., library, school, marae, church, or temple.
- Dial 111 for Emergency Services (Police, Fire or Ambulance) and 105 for Police Non-Emergencies.
- Keep extra food and water for at least three days (remember to include babies and pets). Keep a minimum of 3 litres of water per person per day for 3 days or more and change it every 12 months.
- Make sure you have alternative lighting, cooking and heating options in case there is no power.
- Find the radio or social media channels you will check to get the latest news and alerts.
- Prepare an Emergency Grab Bag.

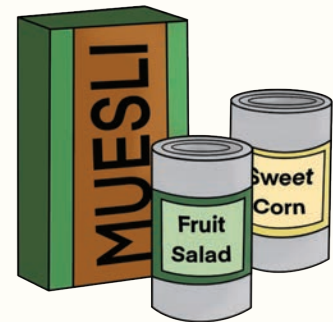
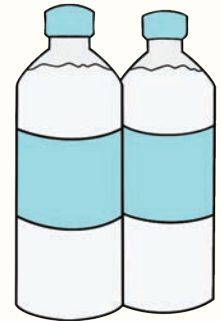






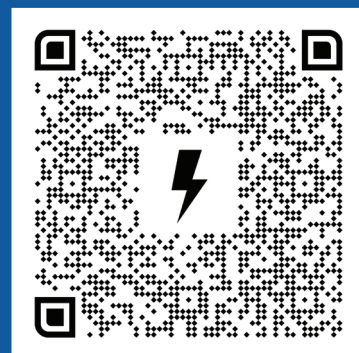
## Emergency Grab Bag

- Walking shoes, warm clothes, raincoat, and hat
- Water and snack food (remember babies and pets too) and special dietary requirements
- Hand sanitiser, gloves, masks
- Portable phone charger / power bank
- Cash
- Copies of important documents and photo ID
- Special needs items such as hearing aids, glasses and mobility aids (include spare batteries)
- Radio and batteries
- First aid kit and essential medicines
- Torch and batteries
- Toiletries (towel, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, sanitary items) and toilet paper
- Sleeping bag or blankets



Scan the code to find more helpful resources or to create a digital Family Emergency Plan.

[aem.org.nz/storybooks](https://aem.org.nz/storybooks)



# CHECK OUT THE OTHER BOOKS IN THE SERIES:



[aem.org.nz/storybooks](http://aem.org.nz/storybooks)





Published by Auckland Emergency Management  
PO Box 92300  
Victoria Street West  
Auckland 1142  
[www.aem.org.nz](http://www.aem.org.nz)

In partnership with  
Masina Va'aia, Sutton Park School  
National Emergency Management Agency  
Auckland Council Libraries

Copyright © Auckland Emergency Management 2023

Story development: David Riley – Reading Warrior  
Samoan Translation: Vaitimu Togi Lemanu, Sapi Neemia  
Illustration: Kurawaka Animations – Stan Fong, Dean Trembath,  
Holly Romana-Otimi, Wailer Ngātai-Watene, Parewaikahurangi Pahewa Johnson  
Project team: Angela Joseph, Melanie Hutton, Ella Fischer, Rebecca Long  
Book design: Macarn Design

This book is copyright. Apart from fair dealing for the purpose of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the Copyright Act, no part may be reproduced by any process without the prior permission of the publisher.

978-1-7385909-3-3 [Physical book]

978-1-7385909-4-0 [Epub]

978-1-7385909-5-7 [Pdf]

First published in 2023.  
Printed in Auckland.



**National Emergency  
Management Agency**  
Te Rākau Whakamarumarū



**Auckland  
Council**  
Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau



**READINGWARRIOR**

O le aso fanau o le latou tuagane pepemeamea. O Lupe ma Kitiona o lo'o taena'i mago mai le mago a le tina o le tina o lona tina. Peita'i, ua fa'afuase'i ona pogisā le lagi, ua amata ona agi mālosi le matagi ma pāpā mamao mai faititili. O le 'afā ua lata mai, ma ua tatau ona galulue fa'avave Lupe ma lona aiga mō le nonofo saogalemu. Pē faamata latou te iloa le mea e tatau ona fai mō le nonofo saogalemu pe'a agi le 'afa?

It's their baby brother's birthday, and Lupe and Kitiona are picking mangoes from their Great-grandma's tree. Suddenly, the sky turns dark, the wind starts to blow and thunder rumbles in the distance. A cyclone is on its way, and Lupe and her family must act fast to stay safe. Will they know what to do and how to stay safe in the cyclone?



[aem.org.nz/storybooks](http://aem.org.nz/storybooks)



ISBN 978-1-7385909-3-3



978-1-7385909-4-0 • Epub  
978-1-7385909-5-7 • PDF

**YOU  
READY?**

The *You Ready?* series follows a group of friends as they face dangerous weather events and natural disasters. From cyclones and tornadoes to flash floods and thunderstorms, the children use their quick thinking, knowledge and resilience to prepare for and stay safe in emergencies. The characters take you to different communities – Māori, Samoan, Hindi and Chinese – and teach you how to get ready too.



**Auckland  
Emergency Management**  
Tokonga Mate Ohotata o Tāmaki Makaurau