

LIZZIE SELLAR

# HORACE *KNOWS*



Helping children  
*LOVE* to learn to read.

# CONVERSATION STARTERS TO HELP *PREVENT* BULLYING

*In the story, Horace has to overcome challenges related to bullying.*

Maybe you have experienced challenges that are similar to those of Horace?

Refer to the *Contents* to find a challenge or theme that you would like to talk about. Share your ideas about what you think works, what doesn't work and why.

You might like to discuss your ideas with a teacher, friend, or whānau,

Make a list of the people who could help you if things get tough.



# CONTENTS

<i>PAGE</i>	<i>THEME</i>
18	Horace was kind and timid and he wasn't interested in fighting.
19	Maria wondered if Horace might be a target one day.
22	Horace wondered what the jumpy feeling was inside him.
24	The world suddenly seemed unfair.
26	Horace started picking faults with himself.
29	The more Horace worried, the more he encountered Thomas.
30	Sometimes they used nasty words and other times it was physical.
33	Why doesn't Thomas like me?
40	Horace wished he could make himself invisible.
41	There was not a single part of his body that was without pain.
45	Who could have done this?
49	Finally, Horace knew he was safe.
51	Horace couldn't muster the energy to walk.
53	Horace must find a way to live in harmony.
54	Using the word <i>stop</i> . Walking away and asking for help.
54	No one wanted to deal with it.
54	Bullying on social media.
55	Stop people bullying.
57	Horace caught his reflection.
59	I used to see the big hippos fighting all the time.
60	I started fighting just to survive.
61	The world is an amazing place – <i>Horace Knows</i> .



# GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

1. The *Zambezi River* is 2,700 kilometres (1,677 miles) long. It's the fourth longest river in Africa and is famous for its spectacular *Victoria Falls*.  
**[www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com)**
2. The *Victoria Falls* are located on the border of *Zambia* and *Zimbabwe*, about half way along the river. They are 1,708 metres wide and 108 metres high. Known as the world's largest waterfall, *Victoria Falls* is neither the highest (*Angel Falls*) nor the widest (*Khone Falls*). However, it is the largest curtain of falling water on the planet, one and half times wider than the *Niagra Falls* and twice as high!  
**[www.softschools.com](http://www.softschools.com)**
3. A large number of hippos live in *Zambia* and some people are trying to stop hippo culling including the *Born Free Conservation Group*.  
**[www.bornfree.org.uk](http://www.bornfree.org.uk)**
4. The word *Hippopotamus* is Greek and it means River Horse.  
**[www.hippoworlds.com](http://www.hippoworlds.com)**
5. A male hippopotamus is known as a *bull*. A female hippopotamus is called a *cow*, and a baby hippo is called a *calf*.  
**[www.hippoworlds.com](http://www.hippoworlds.com)**
6. Hippos are grass eating, semi-aquatic mammals (herbivores not carnivores). They leave the river in the evening to go and eat grass during the night, often for up to six hours at a time!  
**[www.livescience.com](http://www.livescience.com)**
7. Hippos can hold their breath for around five minutes. They like to propel themselves off physical objects such as driftwood, rocks and even other hippos.  
**[www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com)**
8. Zambia is full of wonderful birdlife (more than 700 different species). If you visit, be sure to look out for the *African Fish Eagle*. It's the national bird of Zambia and is a distinctive bird of prey, with a white head and chest, and a yellow face.  
**[www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com)**
9. The massive *Jackalberry* and *Natal Mahogany* trees dotted along the Zambezi River are popular spots for hippos to gather. Watch out! You may unexpectedly come face to face with a hippo!  
**[www.trees-4-zambia.com](http://www.trees-4-zambia.com)**
10. *Hippopotamuses* move in pods or herds and their closest relatives are thought to be whales. They can sometimes be heard making clicking sounds, a bit like an orca. Typically, they live in groups from about thirty individuals, up to as many as one hundred.  
**[www.sciencedaily.com](http://www.sciencedaily.com)**



11. Hippos can run at speeds of up to 30 km/hr and swim about 8 km/hr, so good luck if you are trying to outrun or outswim one.

[www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com)

12. A hippo's predators are humans, lions and crocodiles. Hippos are a danger to humans because they are aggressive and unpredictable.

[www.bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com)

13. A hippo's huge mouth consists of lips that are approximately half a metre wide and teeth that can bite a crocodile in half! They can open their mouth to 150 degrees (more than a metre wide). They have large tusk-like canines and razor sharp incisors that can bite a boat in half!

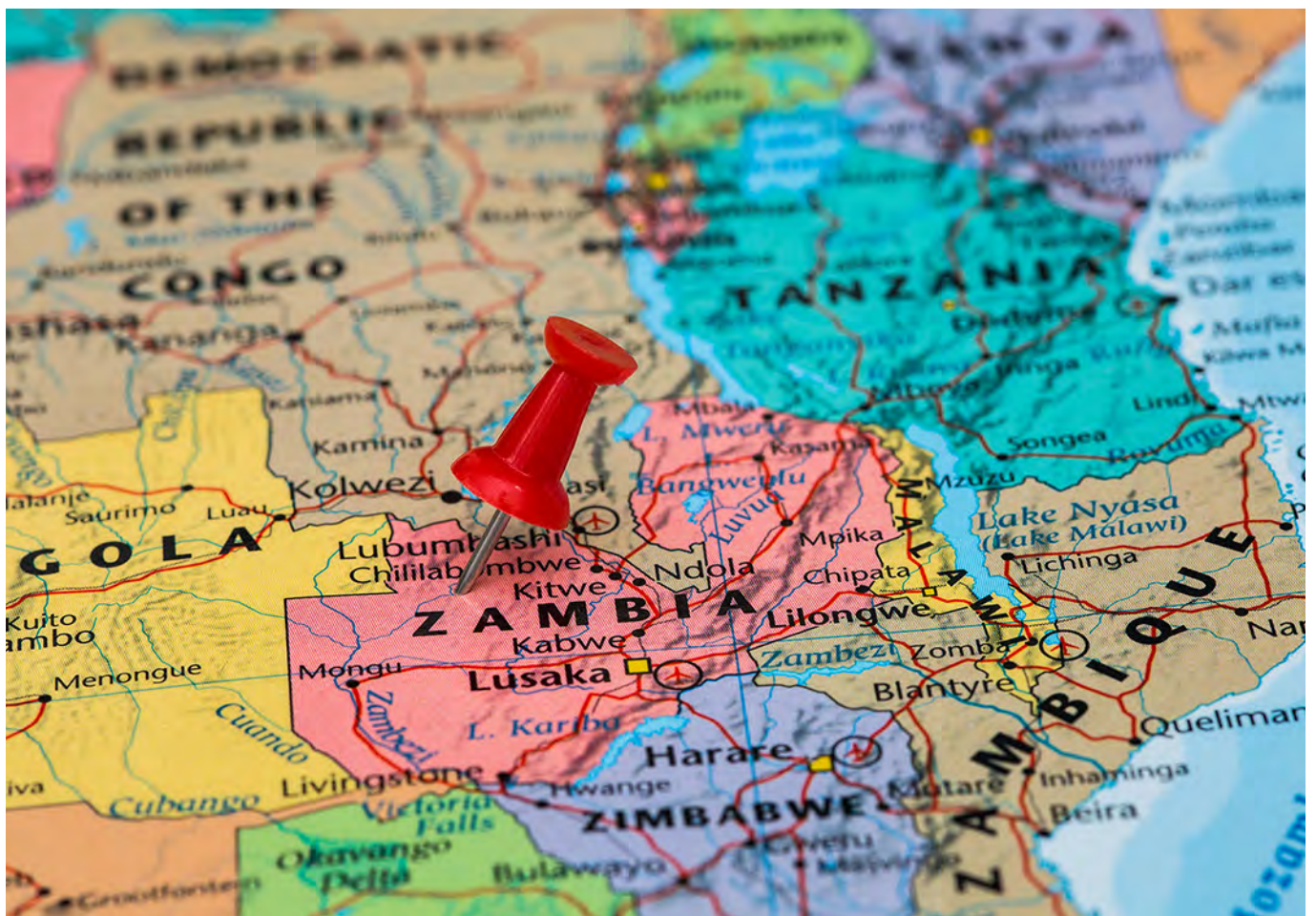
[www.livescience.com](http://www.livescience.com)

14. *Sindabezi Island* is located in the middle of the Zambezi River, not far from Victoria Falls. Imagine – a beautiful jungle island with a sandy beach in the middle of the river! The Parker family started a school for underprivileged rural Zambian children; it's located on the mainland across from the island.

[www.tujatane.com](http://www.tujatane.com)

15. An *aardvark* (also known as an ant bear) is a nocturnal mammal. It looks all mixed up with a nose like a pig, ears like a rabbit, and a tail like a kangaroo. Aardvarks are skillful diggers with extremely long tongues that help them gather insects to eat. They can eat up to 50,000 insects in a night! Because of their poor eyesight they are cautious when leaving their burrow.

[www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com)



# HELP FOR NEW ZEALAND READERS

## *'Need to talk?'*

Free call or text 1737 day or night to speak to a trained counsellor.

*For anyone experiencing bullying*, or for whānau needing help, advice and information is available here:

<https://www.pinkshirtday.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Help-and-Advice2.pdf>

Bullying-Free NZ Week has helplines for whānau at the end of this link:

<https://www.bullyingfree.nz/need-help-now/parents-need-help-now/>

## *New Zealand websites for information on bullying:*

[www.mentalhealth.org.nz](http://www.mentalhealth.org.nz)

[www.pinkshirtday.org.nz](http://www.pinkshirtday.org.nz)

[www.bullyingfree.co.nz](http://www.bullyingfree.co.nz)

[www.nzpolice.govt.nz](http://www.nzpolice.govt.nz)

[www.netsafe.org.nz](http://www.netsafe.org.nz)

## *Mindfulness and Meditation:*

We recommend downloading a free app such as Smiling Mind.