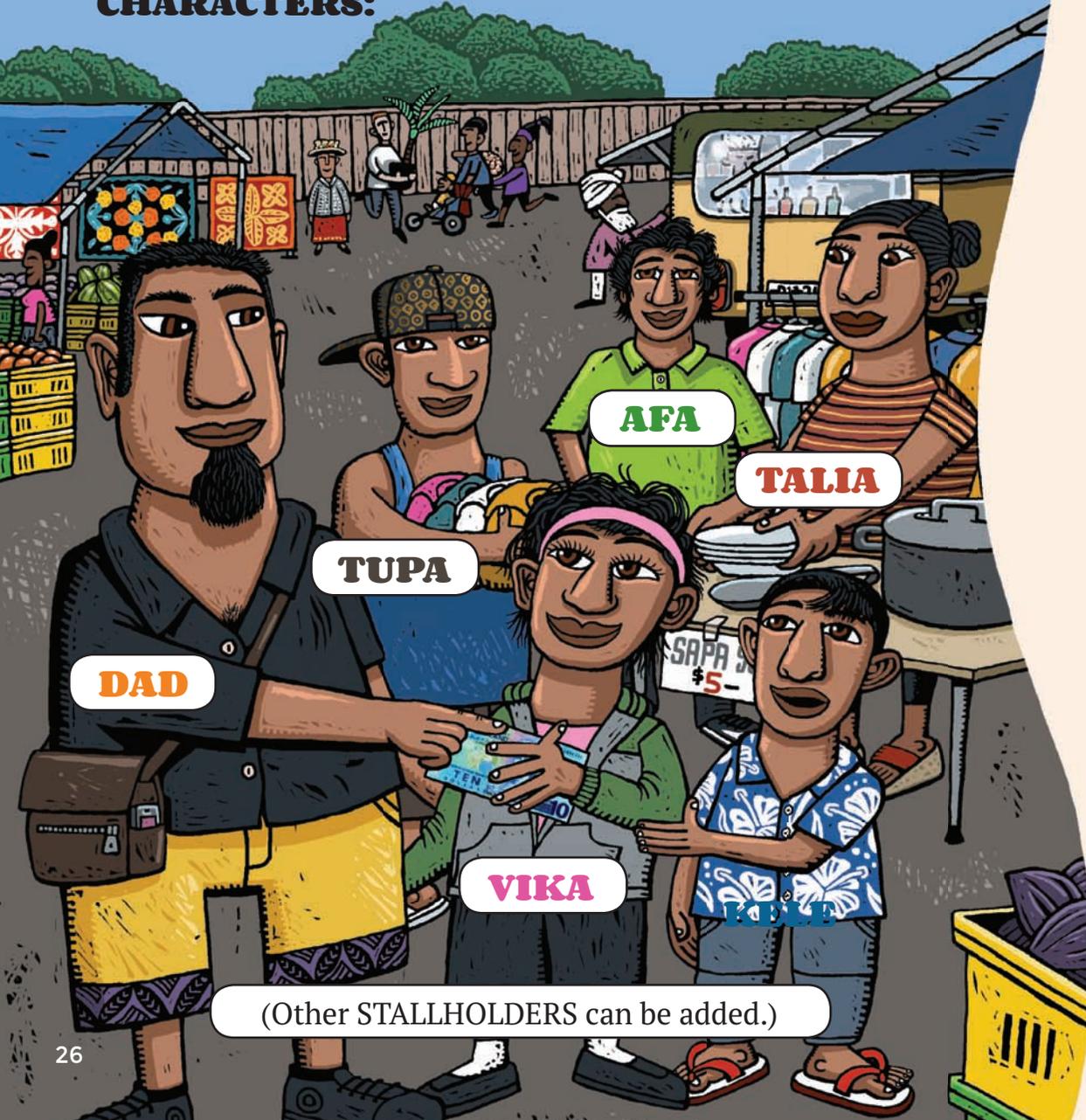


Kele's Car

by Feana Tu'akoi

CHARACTERS:



DAD

TUPA

AFA

TALIA

VIKA

(Other STALLHOLDERS can be added.)

Scene: A weekend market. **STALLHOLDERS** have tables set up around the stage. **TALIA** is standing at her stall. **AFA** and **TUPA** start setting up their stall. **KELE**, **VIKA**, and **DAD** arrive.

KELE. Look at the stalls. There's so much to buy!
Can we have our money please, Dad?

DAD. Here's ten dollars each for all the jobs you've done. Are you sure you want it now?

KELE and **VIKA** (together). Yes please, Dad!

DAD gives **KELE** and **VIKA** ten dollars each.
They go to **AFA**.

DAD. What are you selling today?

AFA. Everything you need. But I'm still setting up.
(Looks at **TUPA**.) Can you look after the stall while I go and get the rest of the stuff from the van?

TUPA nods. **AFA** leaves.

DAD. Let's get something to eat while we wait.
I'm starving.

TUPA. Don't forget to come back. We have the best bargains.

DAD (grinning). We'll be back.

TALIA (*shouting*). Sapa sui! I make the best sapa sui – great big hunks of meat and heaps of noodles! Come and buy your sapa sui from me!

KELE, VIKA, and DAD go to her stall.

DAD. Sapa sui, please. It looks delicious.

TALIA. It is delicious. And it's only five dollars – what a bargain!

KELE. I'll buy some, too. I love sapa sui.

VIKA. Not for me, thanks. I'm saving my money.

KELE and DAD each give ten dollars to **TALIA** for their sapa sui. **TALIA** gives them their change and then their food.



KELE (*eating*). Yum. Hey! Look at that remote-control car!

They go back to watch TUPA, who is using a remote-control car.

TUPA. This car is awesome. I can make it go wherever I want.

KELE. It's so mean! How much is it?

TUPA (*looking around*). Oh ... er ... ten dollars?

KELE. Ten dollars! What a bargain!

KELE gets out his money.

KELE. Oh no! I only have five dollars left.

DAD. Never mind. You can save up and buy it next time you come.

TUPA. The car won't be here next time.

KELE looks disappointed.

VIKA. I know. I'll buy it, and you can pay me back.

KELE. Great! Thanks, Vika.



DAD (*grinning*). Hang on, Kele. You should always ask a few questions before you agree to a deal.

KELE. What do you mean?

DAD. For instance – where will the car be kept while you save up for it? Is Vika planning to use it?

KELE. Oh, I didn't think of that.

DAD. And if she does use it, will she give you a discount?

VIKA. A discount! What for?

DAD. The car will be second-hand if you use it.

VIKA. What! I'm not going to use it. I'm just trying to help Kele.

KELE. OK, I ...

DAD. One more question. Is she planning to charge interest?

VIKA looks guilty. KELE looks confused.

KELE. Interest? What's that?

DAD. Interest is a charge you pay when you borrow money.

VIKA. It's only fair. It's my money. I deserve to get five dollars for lending it to you.

KELE. Five dollars? As well as the ten dollars for the car. That means the car would cost me fifteen dollars. What a rip-off!

DAD (*grinning*). See? You should always ask questions. And only deal with people you trust.

KELE thinks for a moment.

KELE. I trust you, Dad. Could you buy it for me?

DAD. OK. But you can't have the car until you've done enough jobs to pay for it.

KELE. Deal! Hang on. What kinds of jobs?

DAD. Now you're thinking! Really horrible jobs.

*KELE thinks about it.
Then he shakes hands
with DAD.*



KELE. I'll do any jobs, even horrible ones. It's worth it.

VIKA folds her arms and looks cross.

DAD gets out ten dollars. TUPA picks up the car.

AFA comes back with his arms full of stuff.

AFA. Sorry I was so long. I couldn't find my keys. Hey!
What are you doing with my car?

DAD. Your car?

AFA. Yes. My car. I bring it so I've got something to do
if the stall is quiet.

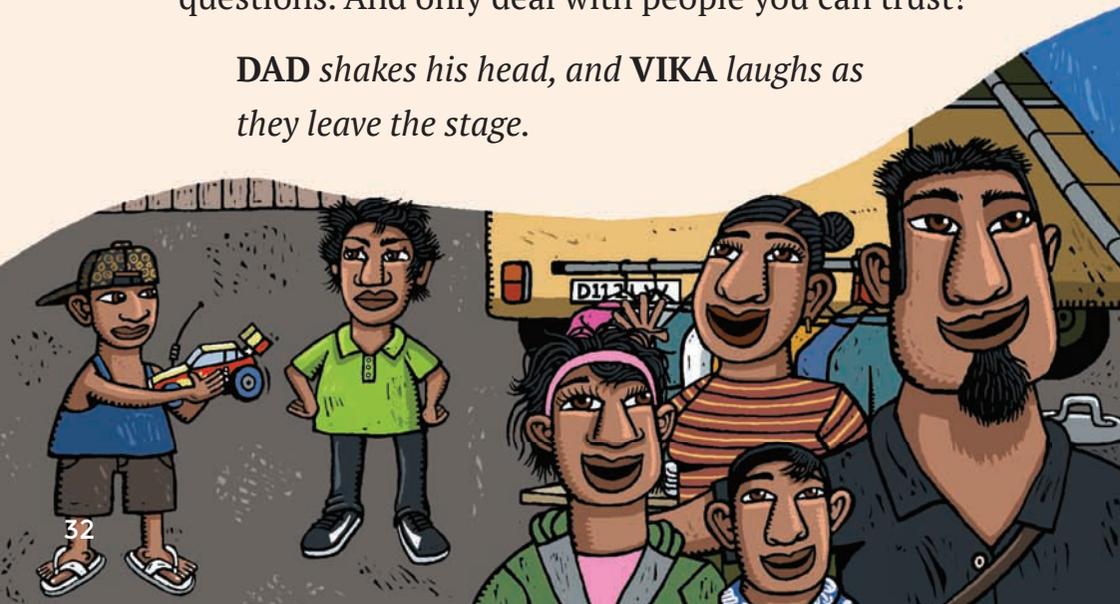
TUPA (*guilty*). I wasn't really going to sell it. It was
just a joke.

*AFA puts his hands on his hips and glares at
TUPA. VIKA grins.*

VIKA. Dad's right, Kele. You should always ask
questions. And only deal with people you can trust!

*DAD shakes his head, and VIKA laughs as
they leave the stage.*

illustrations by Fraser Williamson



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Published 2014 by the Ministry of Education
PO Box 1666, Wellington 6011, New Zealand.

www.education.govt.nz

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Enquiries should be made to the publisher.

ISBN 978 0 478 44372 1 (online)

Publishing services Lift Education E Tū

Series Editor: David Chadwick

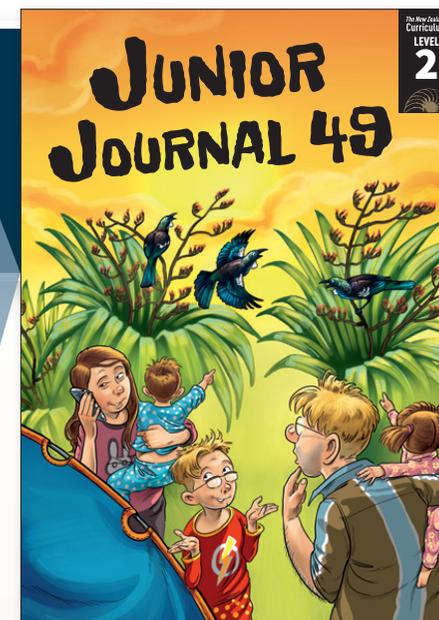
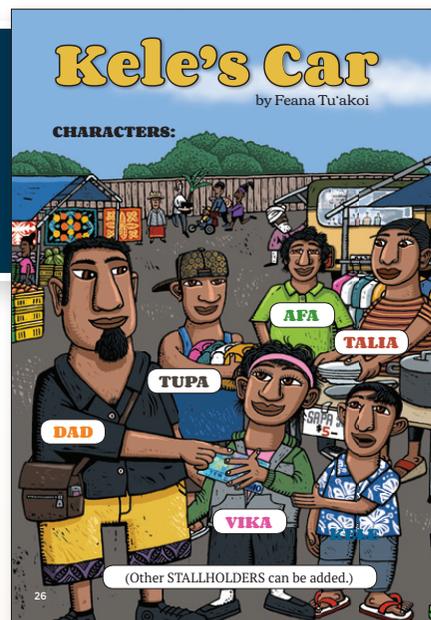
Designer: Liz Tui Morris/Bolster Design

Literacy Consultant: Kay Hancock

Consulting Editors: Hōne Apanui and Emeli Sione



[New Zealand Government](http://www.govt.nz)



JUNIOR JOURNAL 49

Curriculum learning area	English (Reading) Level 2– Ideas: Show some understanding of ideas within, across, and beyond texts. Level 2 – Structure: Show some understanding of text features. Financial literacy
Reading year level	Year 3
Keywords	play, buying, selling, market, money