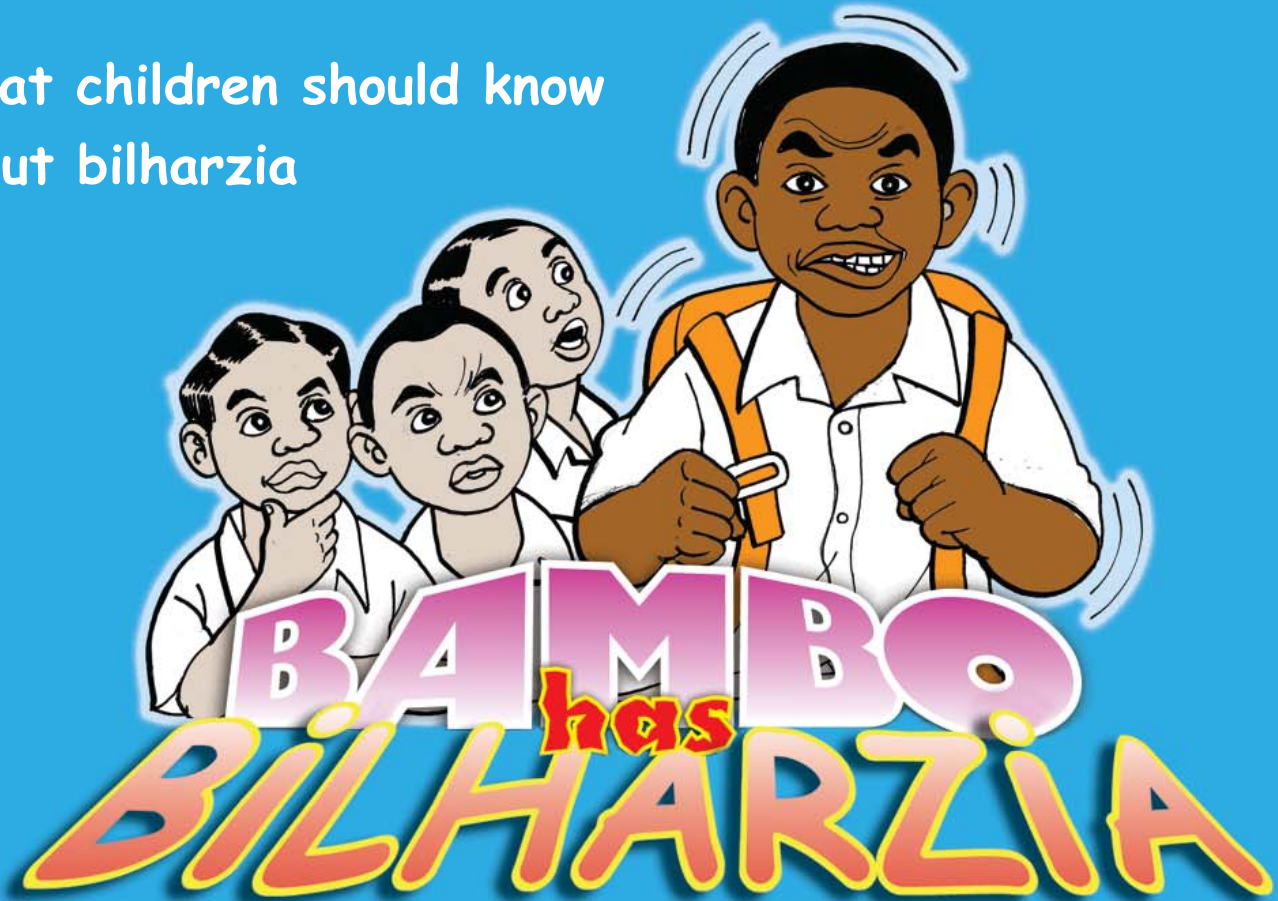


What children should know
about bilharzia



World Health
Organization

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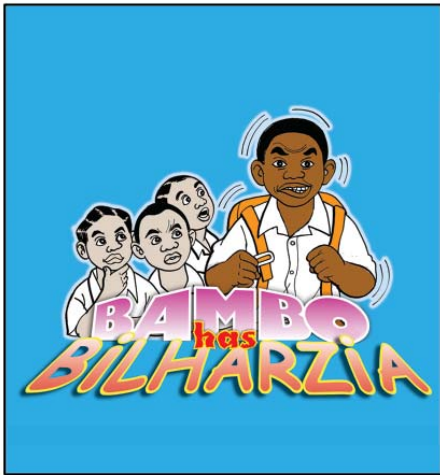
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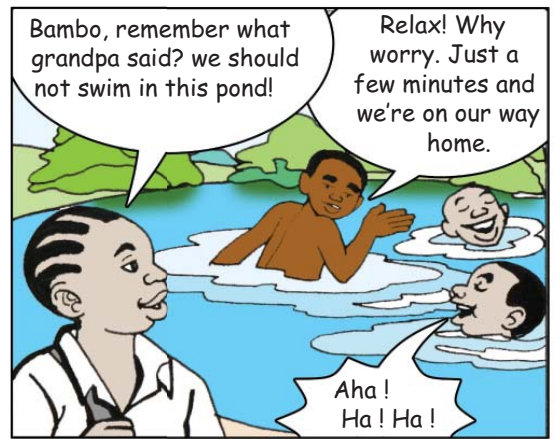
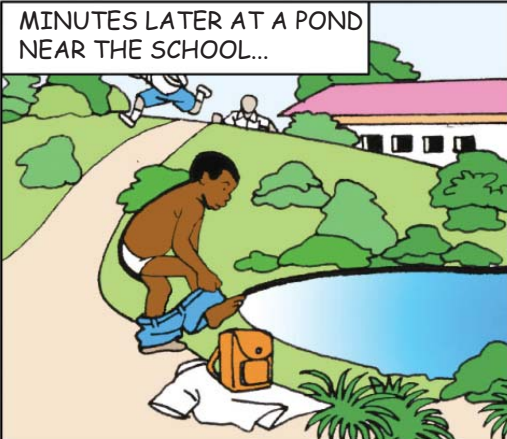
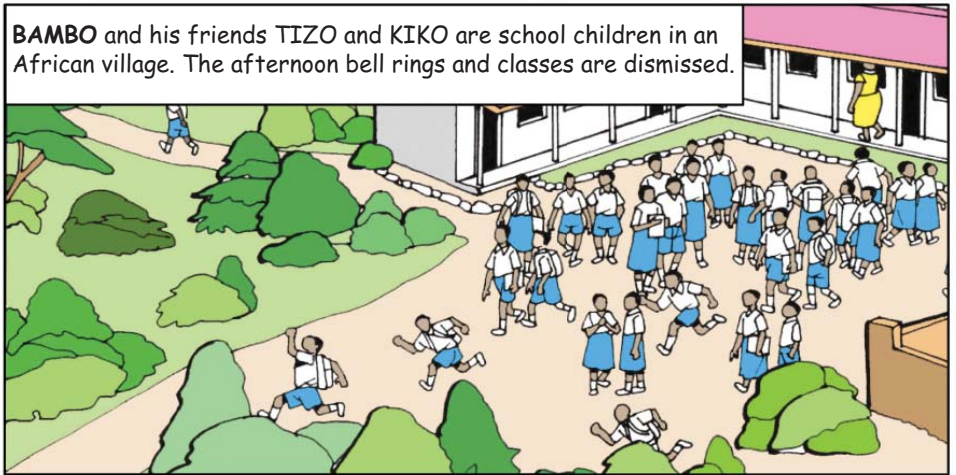
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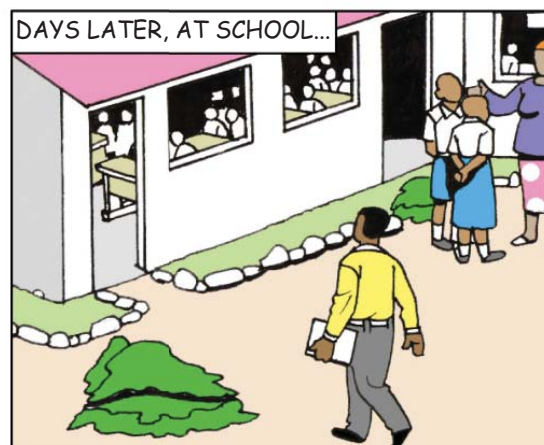
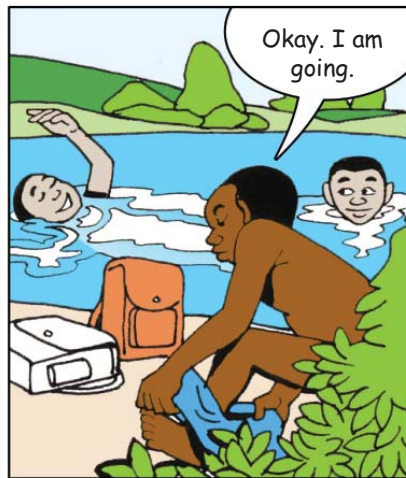
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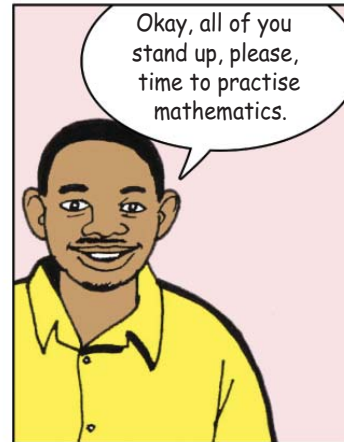
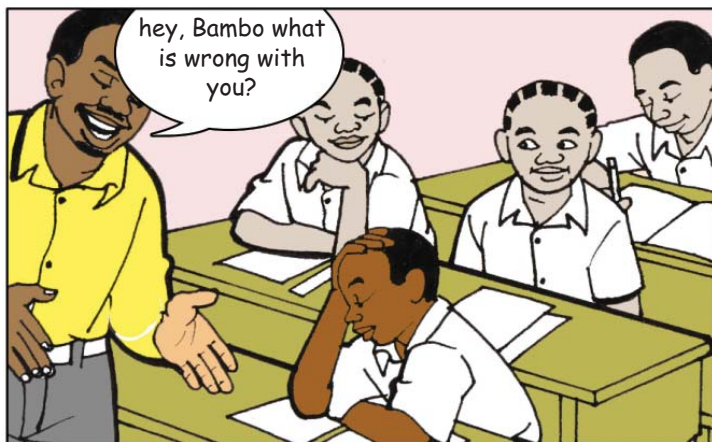
**Formerly published under the title: Bambo has schistosomiasis: what children should know about schistosomiasis

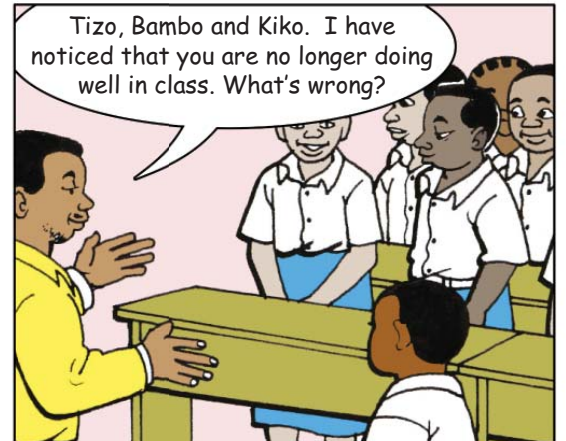
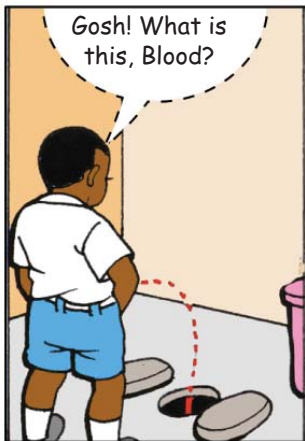


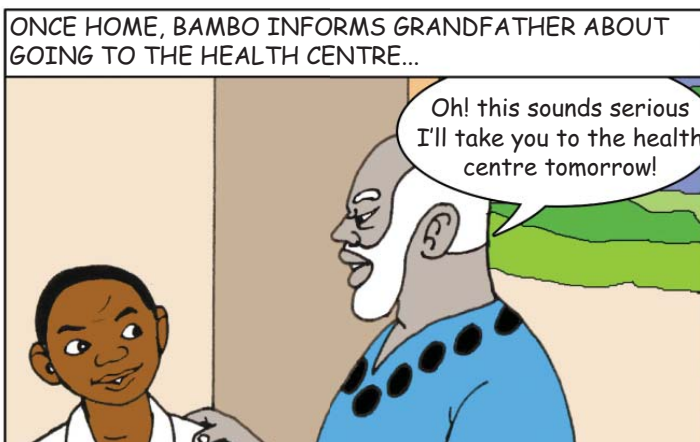
BAMBO and his friends **TIZO** and **KIKO** are school children in an African village. The afternoon bell rings and classes are dismissed.

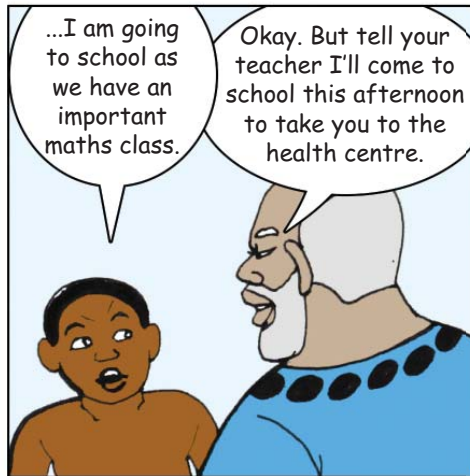


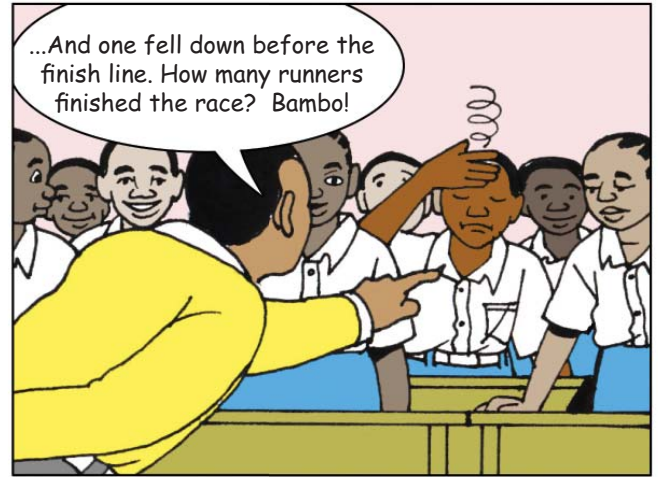




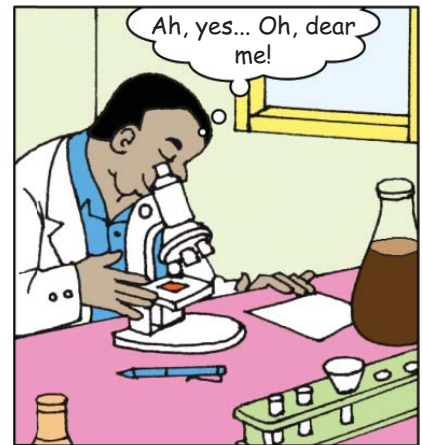
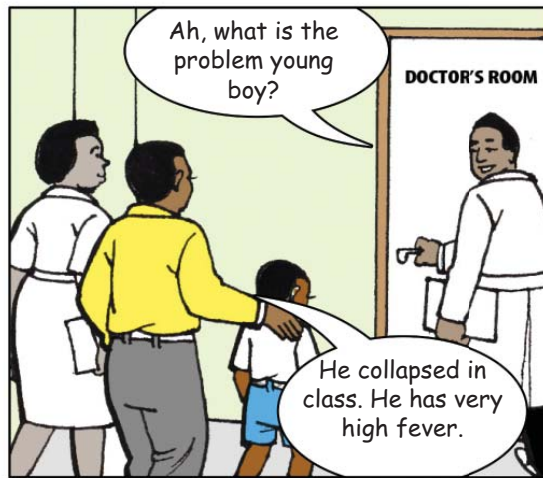


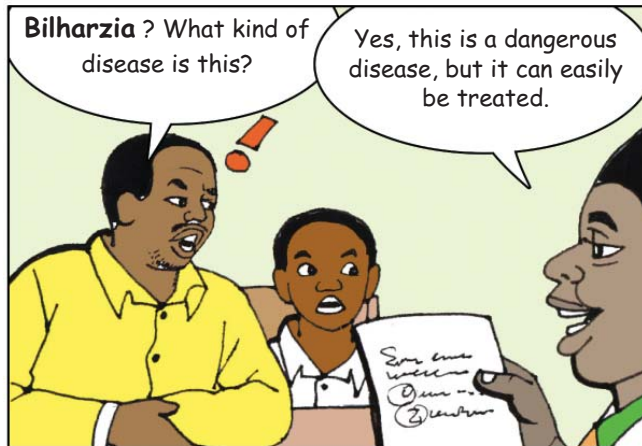
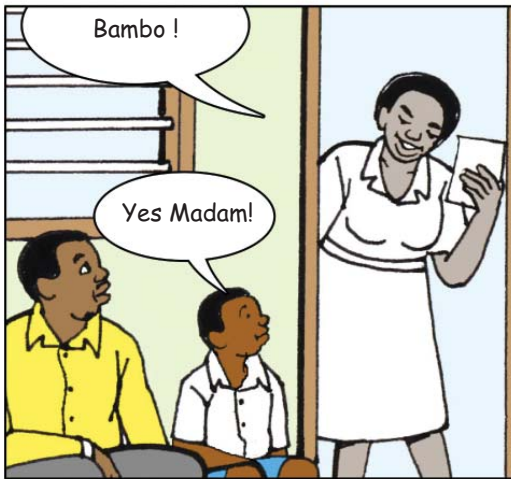


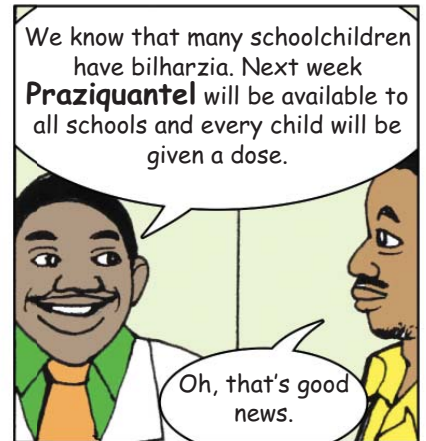
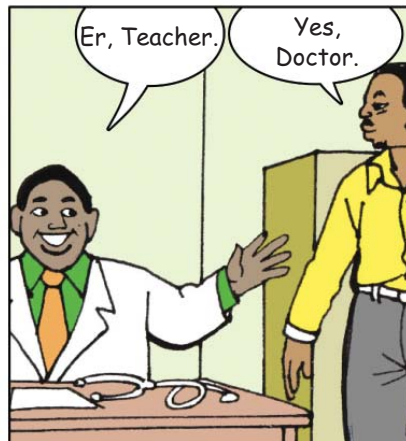
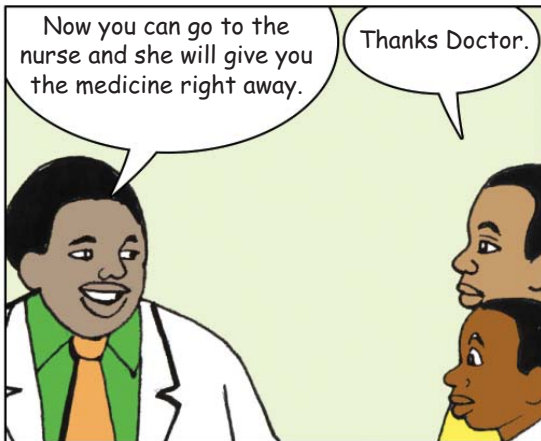
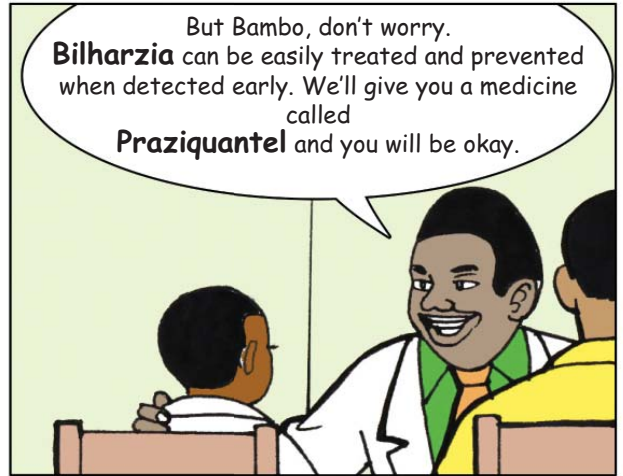


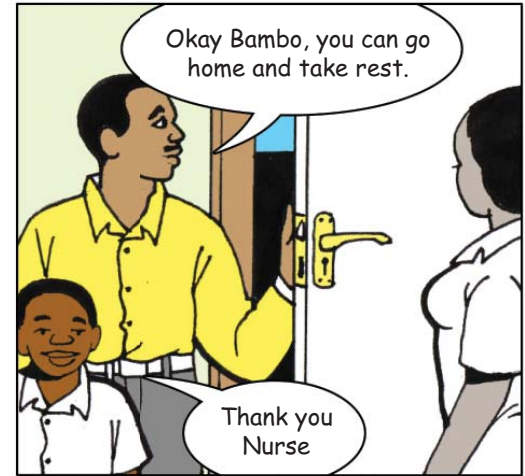
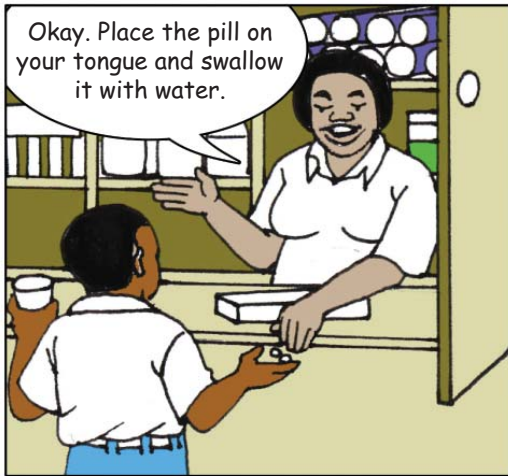


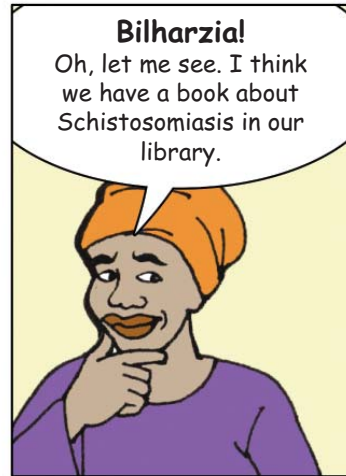


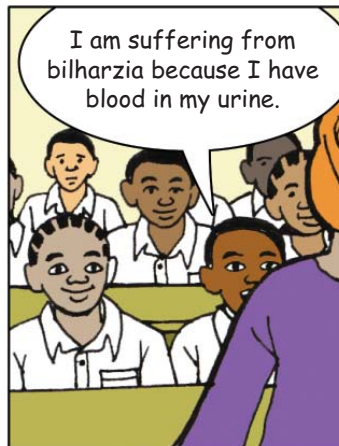
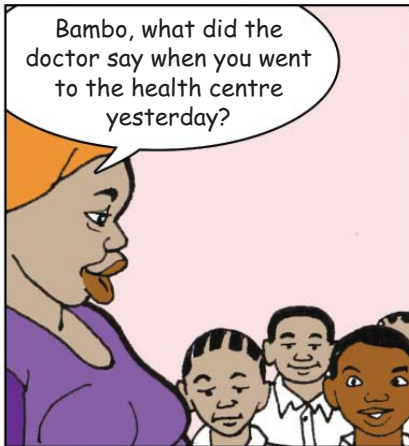
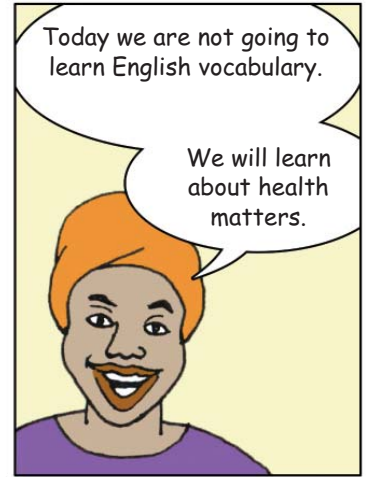
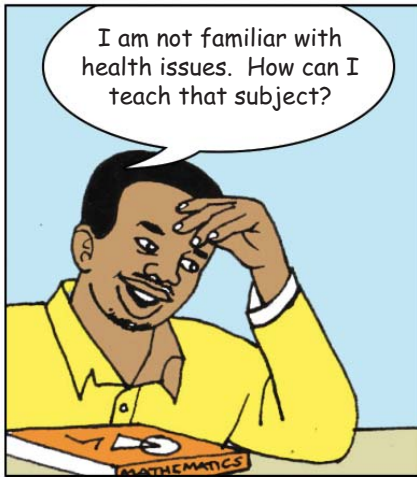






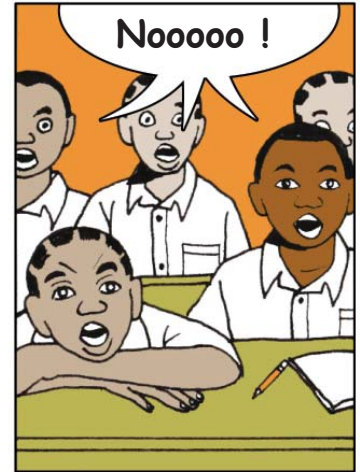






Bilharzia, also known as **schistosomiasis...**

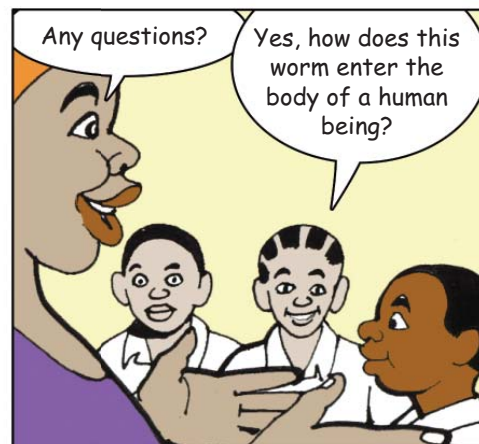
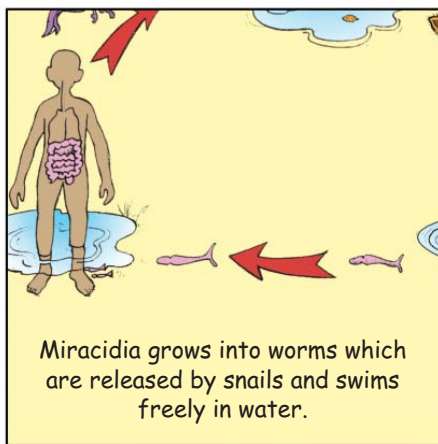
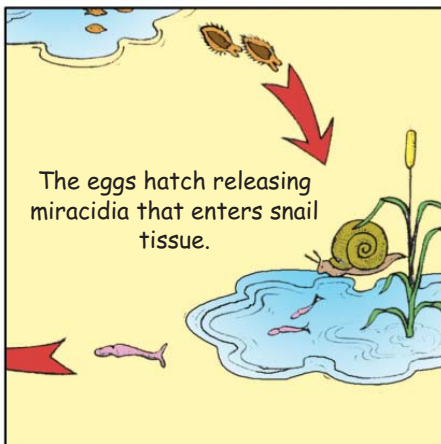
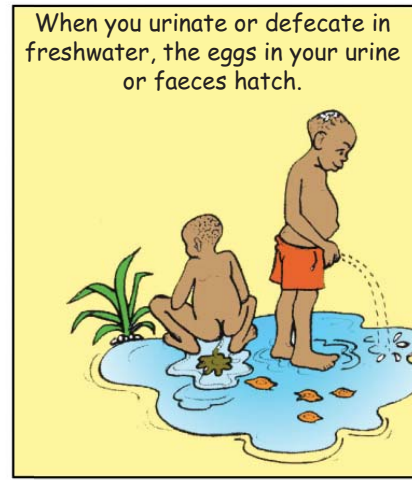
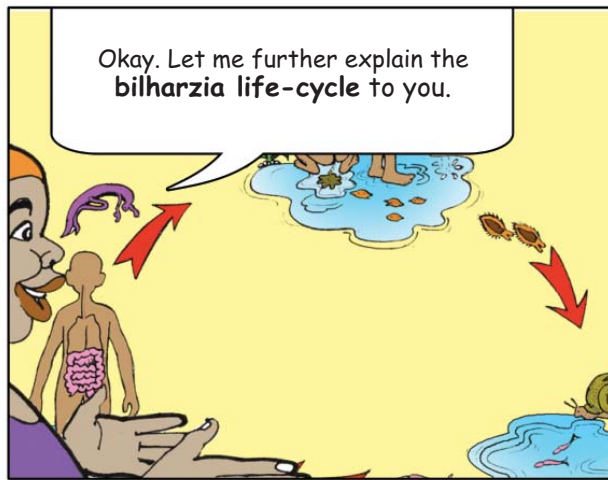
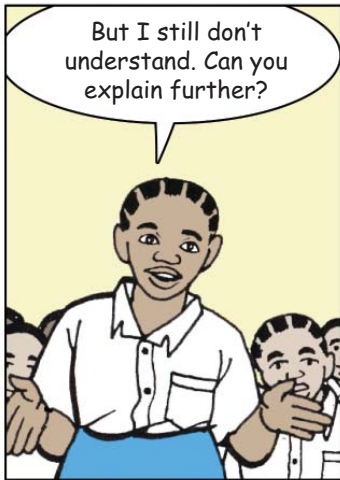
...Is a parasitic disease caused by several species of worms ("flukes"), a parasitic worm of the genus *Schistosoma*. It is clear!

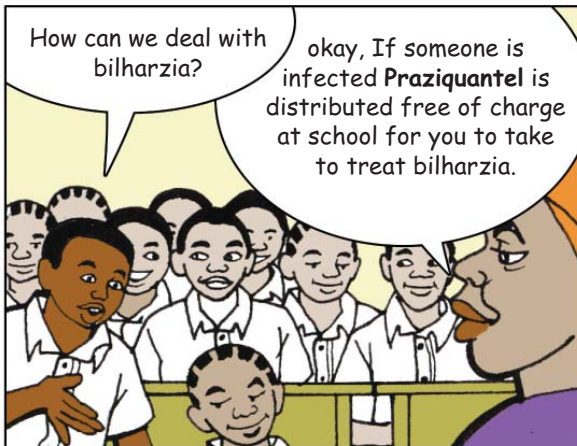
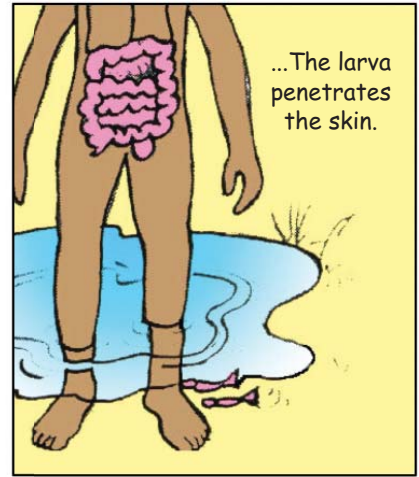
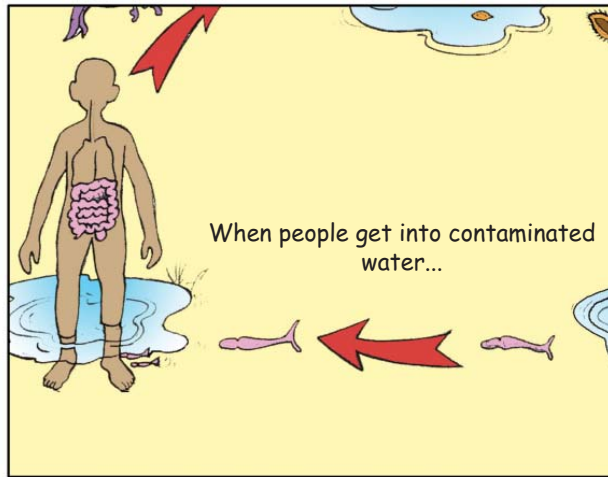


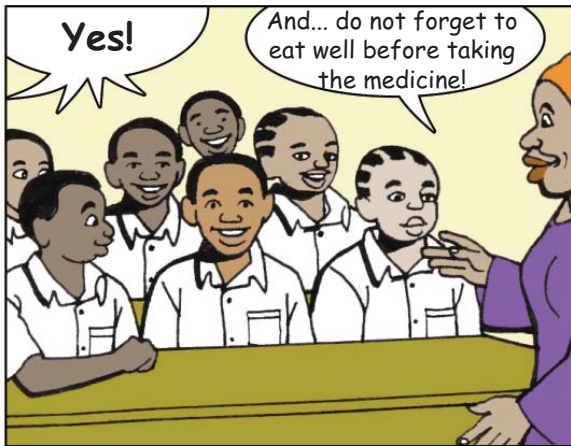
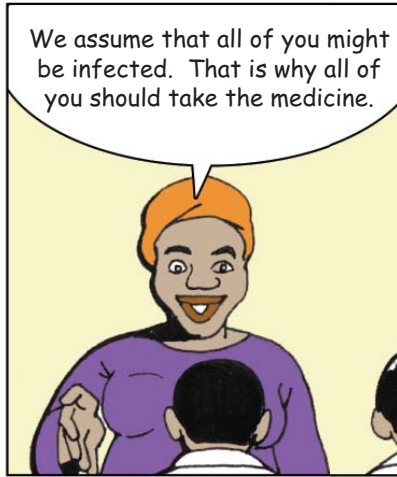
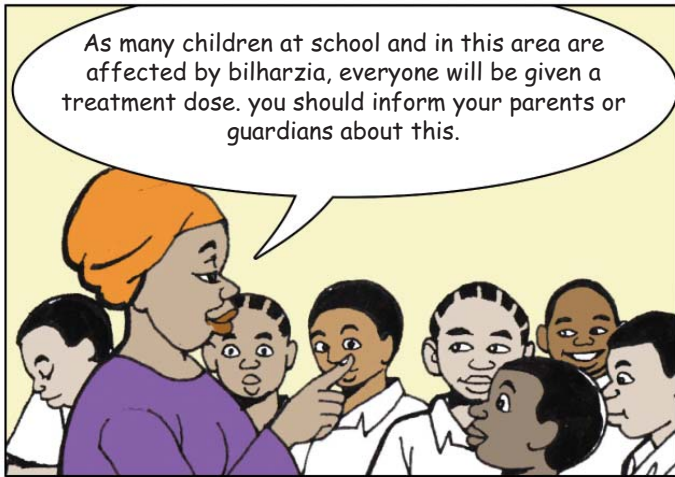
Okay, let me put it this way. Bilharzia is a worm disease.

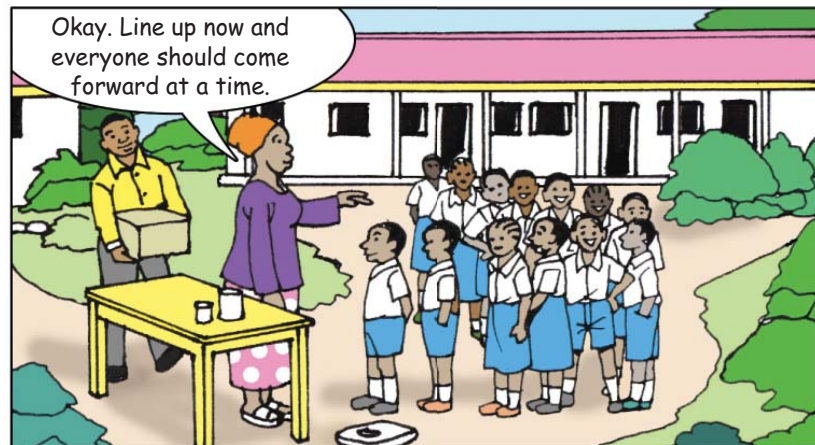
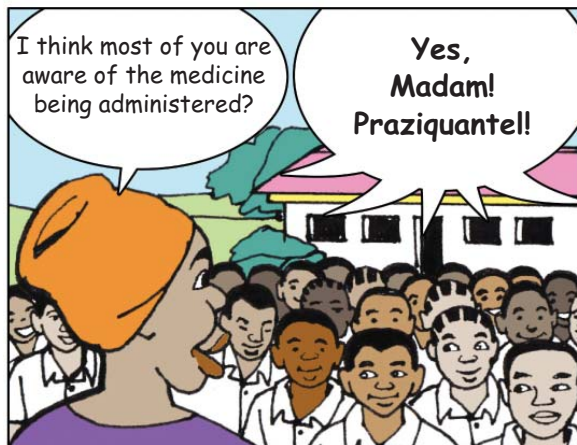
Caused by flat worms, Larva is released by freshwater snails.

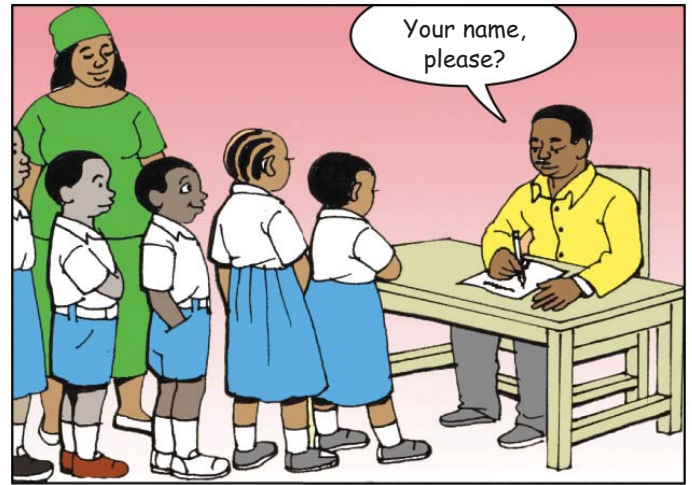
When you urinate or defecate in freshwater, bilharzia eggs hatch in the water and infect snails. Worms develop in the snails and can infect you if you bathe, swim or wash clothes in infected ponds.

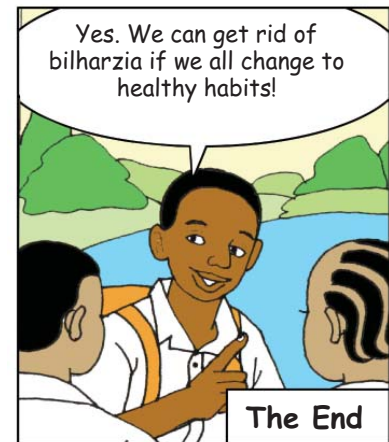
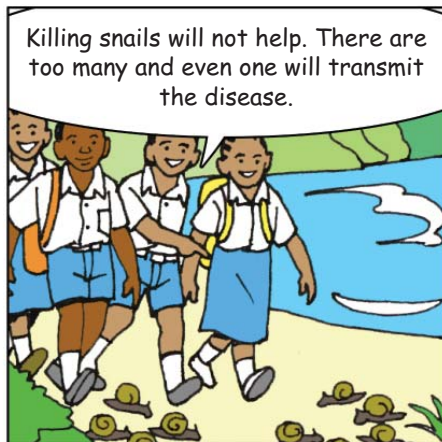










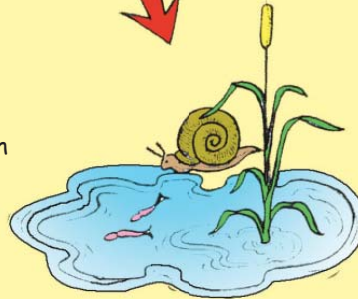


BILHARZIA (SCHISTOSOMIASIS) LIFE-CYCLE

When infected people urinate or defecate in freshwater, the eggs in the urine or faeces hatch.



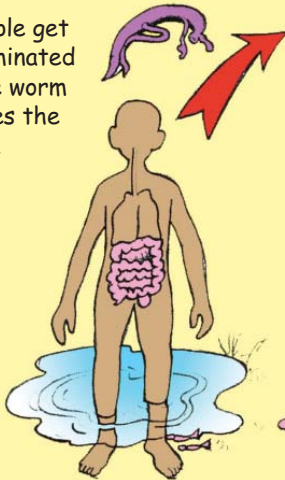
The eggs hatch releasing miracidia that enter snail tissue.

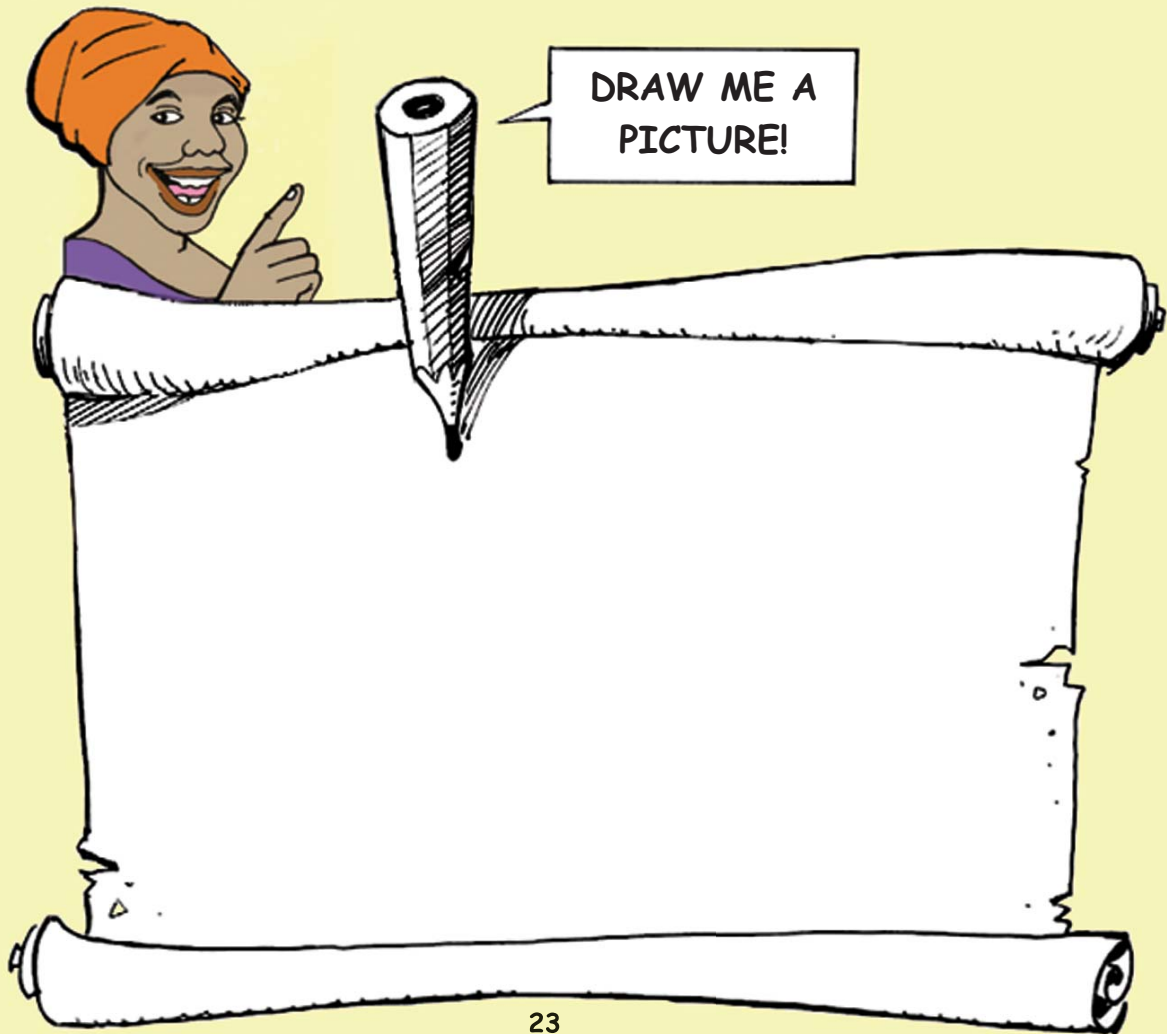


Miracidia grows into worms which are released by snails and swim freely in water.



When people get into contaminated water, the worm penetrates the skin.





1. What is bilharzia?
2. How do you get infected with bilharzia?
3. What are the symptoms?
4. What should you do when you see blood in your urine?
5. What is praziquantel?
6. Who gives you praziquantel?
7. What health advice would you give to your friends?

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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In 2007, Merck KGaA entered into a partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO) to combat schistosomiasis in school children on the African continent.

Merck is donating 200 million tablets of Cesol 600 containing the active ingredient praziquantel. This donation, valued at US\$19 million is expected to treat 27 million school children until 2017.

Bambo and his friends enjoy swimming.

Little do they know about the risks they take every time they swim in a dam near their school, until Bambo's health deteriorates.

This results in his inability to study.

Like Bambo, there are millions of children who should be aware of the risks posed by poor sanitation and unhealthy habits.

