

STD 3 NATIONAL LEARNING ASSESSMENT
MENTOR TEXT – BOOKLET 1

THE BROKEN WINDOW

One sunny afternoon, my friends Kevin, Michael and I were playing a super exciting game of football in Michael's front yard. His house has a big grassy space, with two trees in the corner, perfect for scoring amazing goals. I was dribbling the ball, trying to get past Kevin, who was a pretty good defender. Michael was running ahead, ready to receive a pass and hopefully score.

About ten minutes into the game, I took a powerful kick. I was aiming for the back of our imaginary net, but the ball went a little too high and way too wide! I watched in horror as the football zoomed straight towards Michael's house. Crash!!! The sound of breaking glass made all three of us freeze like statues. The ball had hit the big window right next to Michael's front door.

Michael looked really scared and I felt terrible. We all ran to the window, and there it was, a big hole, right in the middle of the glass. We knew Michael's dad would not be happy and his mom would ban us for life. Just then, Michael's dad came outside. He looked at the broken window and then at us, with his hands on his hips. We were all silent, waiting for what he would say. Michael, holding the football, looked down at his shoes.

"What happened here?" his dad asked, but he didn't sound too angry, just a little disappointed. Michael quietly explained that we were playing football, and the ball accidentally went astray. I quickly added that it was my fault because I took the shot. Michael's dad sighed. "Well, accidents happen," he said. "But we need to fix this." He then supervised us as we carefully cleaned up the broken glass. After cleaning up the broken glass, Micheal's dad took us to the hardware to get a new piece of glass for the window. He told us that he wanted us to see how much money he expected us to save up and repay him.

When we returned to Michael's house, Micheal's dad carefully replaced the broken glass with the new glass. Even though breaking the window was scary, it turned out okay because we were honest about it and helped fix the problem. Michael's dad spoke to us about being more careful when playing near the house. He said we could still play football but suggested that we choose a spot further away from the windows next time.

