

**Zama muukali**

**Zama is great!**

 Michael Oguttu

 Vusi Malindi

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 IciBemba  / English 



Kandume yandi takalaala bwangu. Ndabuka  
bwangu pantu ndi mukali!

...

My little brother sleeps very late. I wake early,  
because I am great!



Nine njingisha akasuba mu ng'anda.

...

I am the one who lets in the sun.



Bamaayo batiila “Uli lutanda Iwakumacaca  
yandi.”

...

“You’re my morning star,” says Ma.



Ndaisamba, nshifwaya wakungafwilisha.

...

I wash myself, I don't need any help.

Shakwata bwafya na menshi yatalala nangu  
sopo wa nunka uwa bulu.

...

I can cope with cold water and blue smelly  
soap.

Bamaayo balanjibukisha, "Wilaba ameeno."  
Naine nayasuka, "Teti, teine."

...

Ma reminds, "Don't forget teeth." I reply,  
"Never, not me!"



Panuma yakusamba, ndaposha bamaama na  
bamaayo senge, na ukubashalikapo bwino.

...

After washing, I greet Grandpa and Auntie,  
and wish them a good day.



Elyo naifwika naati, "Ndi mukalamba nomba  
maayo."

...

Then I dress myself, "I'm big now Ma," I say.



Ndamanka amabatani na ukukaka intambo  
shapa nsapato.

...

I can close my buttons and buckle my shoes.



Nshipusa ukweba kandume yandi pa ficitaka  
ku sukulu.

...

And I make sure little brother knows all the  
school news.



Mu sukulu ndabombesha munshila shonse.

...

In class I do my best in every way.



Ncita ifi fisuma fyonse cila bushiku. Nomba  
icikulu ico natemwisha, kwangala na  
ukwangala.

...

I do all these good things every day. But the  
thing I like most, is to play and play!



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✍ Michael Oguttu

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☞ Joseph Mwansa (bem)

