

Level 6



# A Big No



**By Rollina Seth Malites**  
**Illustrated by Nadica Zlatkova Mitevska**



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"It's Friday afternoon. I'm done for the week," Rolyne says to herself. She decides to celebrate by doing a little dance.

*It's Friday! It's Friday! It's Friday!*



Rolyne plans to buy a snack from the nearby shop on her way to the bus stop. She has 100 vatu on hand. 50 vatu will be for the snack and the other 50 vatu will be for her bus fare.

After buying the snack, she gets on the bus. It takes her to the Ohlen area, where she lives.





In the bus, the window is wide open.  
Rolyne feels the wind on her face as she  
enjoys her snack.

She soon finishes her snack and crumples  
up the packet. Then, Rolyne throws the  
rubbish out of the window.

“No, no, no!” the bus driver cries, staring at Rolyne in the rearview mirror. He stops the bus.

“Please,” he says, “pick up that rubbish you just threw out the window.”



Shocked, Rolyne moves towards the now open door. *What did I do wrong?* she wonders. *Why is the driver upset?*





Now upset herself, Rolyne exits the bus and picks up her snack packet. She wonders if it would be better to get a different bus to avoid the embarrassment.



But she wants to understand *why* the driver had yelled at her. Why had he been so upset by the snack packet? She decides to go back on board.



Upon her return, the driver speaks.

"I'm sorry for yelling at you," he apologises. "My name is Alex. Do you know why you shouldn't throw your rubbish out the window?"

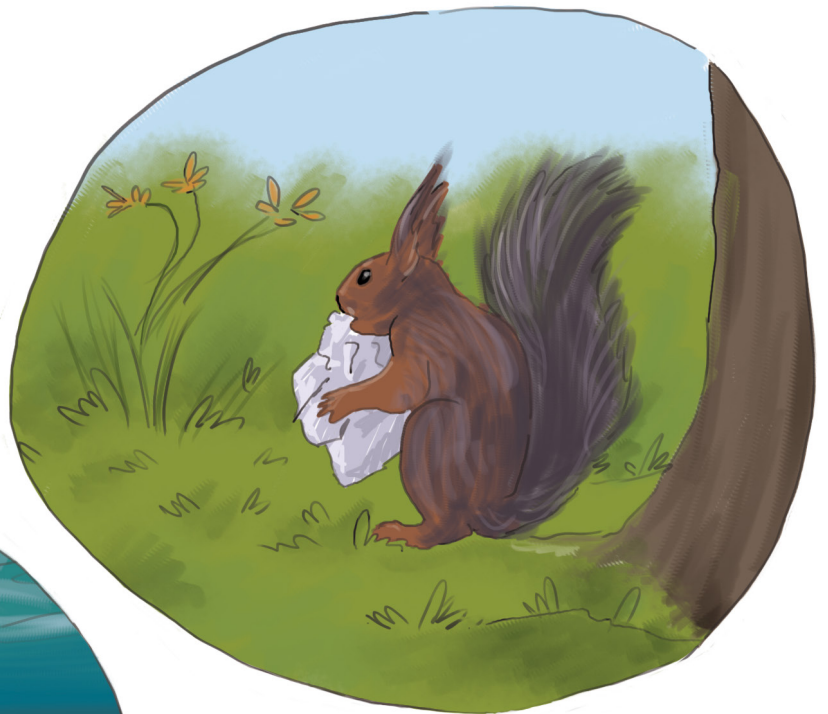
Rolyne shakes her head. "Tell me," she says.

Alex explains.



“We have to keep our environment clean by putting rubbish in the proper bins,” he says.

“Some animals mistake plastic and other things for food, and eating it makes them sick. A lot of our rubbish also ends up in the ocean if it’s not thrown away properly, which pollutes the water and hurts the animals there, too.”





“Did you know you can even do cool things with your rubbish?” Alex asks.

“But this snack packet is useless,” Rolyne says.

Alex turns around and shows Rolyne a beautiful coloured purse.

“This is made from a snack packet,” he tells her.

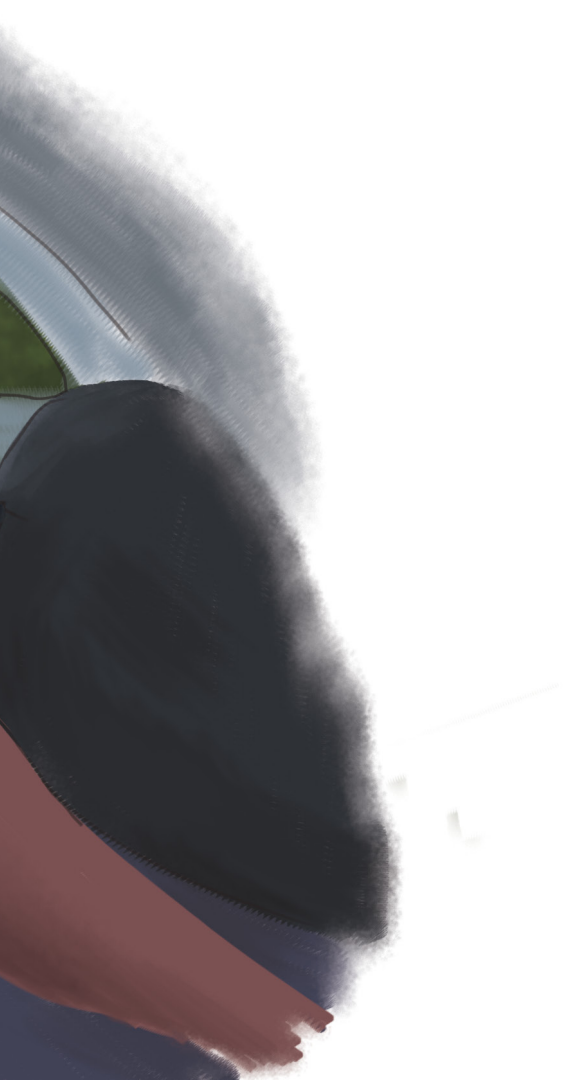
Rolyne’s face lights up when she sees the little purse. “That’s amazing!” she says.



"It is," Alex agrees. "This is what we can get from recycling."

"What is recycling?" asks Rolyne.

Alex smiles and closes the bus doors. "It's when we reuse things like paper, plastic and cans, and turn them into something new. I can tell you all about it on the way!"



**You can use these questions  
to talk about this book with  
your family, friends and  
teachers.**



**What was the bus driver upset about?**



**How else could Rolyne have thrown away  
her snack packet?**



**What are some of the ways Rolyne's  
littering would harm the environment?**



**Draw a poster to put up at your school  
that tells people to put their rubbish in  
the bin.**

## About the author

Rollina Seth Malites was born in Port Vila and now lives in the Olhen area. She hopes to encourage parents and children to spend more time together by reading stories, especially since she loves telling stories with her own family. As a child, her favourite story was about how the coconut tree came into existence.



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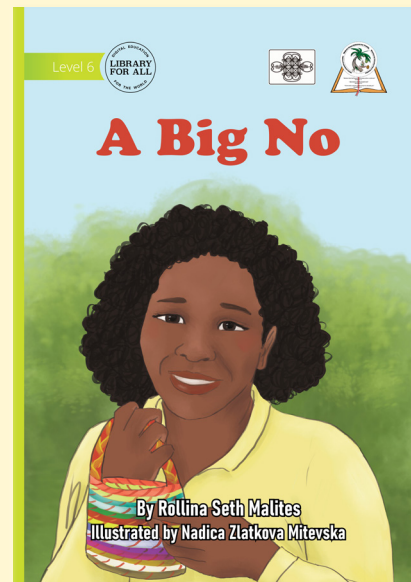
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Rolyne throws her empty snack packet out of the bus, and the driver teaches her why it's important to dispose of rubbish properly and look after the environment.



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