# STORY 12

# FOLLOW CAREFULLY AND LEARN

JOIN MASKI FOR ANOTHER EXCITING ADVENTURE

It was computer day for the Grade 4 learners from Maskew Miller Primary. They were going to visit **MASKI** at the Logic Lab.

**MASKI** greeted them at the door with a wide grin.

'Today,' he said, 'I'm giving you a special set of instructions.

You must follow them exactly, as coding is all about following instructions carefully.' The class were very excited and couldn't wait to start coding.
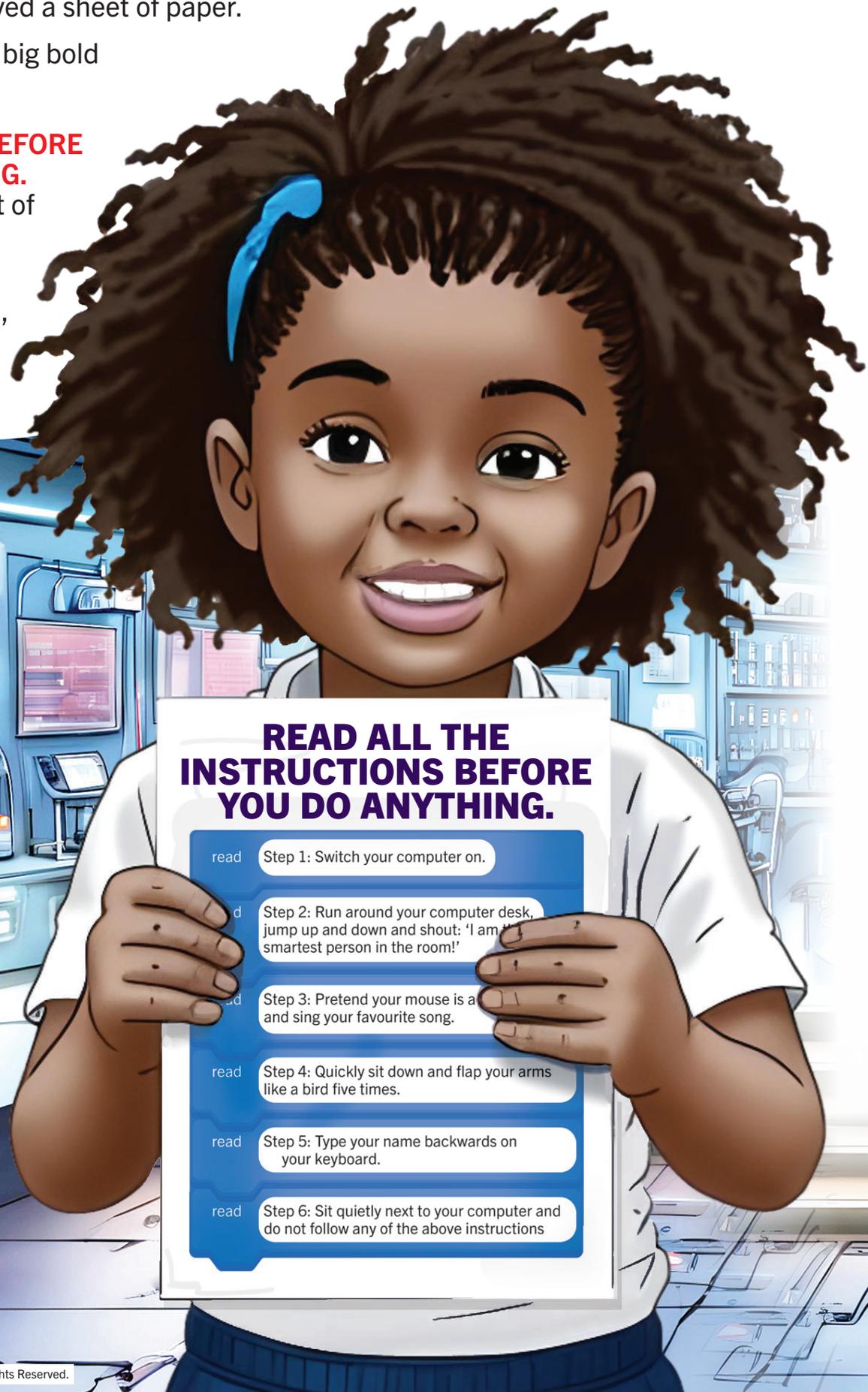
Each learner received a sheet of paper.

Right at the top, in big bold letters, it said:
**READ ALL THE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE YOU DO ANYTHING.**
Then followed a list of instructions.

Lerato, who was always very careful, read the top line twice.

## READ ALL THE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE YOU DO ANYTHING.

read — Step 1: Switch your computer on.

read — Step 2: Run around your computer desk, jump up and down and shout: 'I am the smartest person in the room!'

read — Step 3: Pretend your mouse is a and sing your favourite song.

read — Step 4: Quickly sit down and flap your arms like a bird five times.

read — Step 5: Type your name backwards on your keyboard.

read — Step 6: Sit quietly next to your computer and do not follow any of the above instructions

BUT … most of the learners were too excited to get started and barely glanced at the top sentence before rushing to the first instruction.

**Step 1.** *Switch your computer on.*
That was easy. The room was soon humming as all the children switched their machines on.

**Step 2.** *Run around your computer desk, jump up and down and shout: 'I am the smartest person in the room!'*

Immediately, the kids began leaping up, running around their desks and yelling at the top of their voices.

The lab filled with laughter and noise.

**Step 3.** *Pretend your mouse is a microphone and sing your favourite song.*

Now the room sounded like a strange talent show. Some were singing pop songs, others were humming. Someone was even singing 'Happy Birthday!'

Happy Birthday!

I am the SMARTEST person in the room!

**Step 4.** *Quickly sit down and flap your arms like a bird five times.*

Chairs squeaked, arms flapped, and there was lots of giggling.

**Step 5.** *Type your name backwards on your keyboard.*

The keys clattered and all the screens filled with strange words.

**Step 6.** *Sit quietly next to your computer and do not follow any of the above instructions.*

Lerato was the only one in the class who had sat down and was quietly waiting for the others to realise what had happened.

STOP everyone

Finally after ten minutes, **MASKI** clapped his hands.

'Stop, everyone! Let's see who actually followed the instructions.'

The class turned and saw Lerato sitting calmly next to her computer watching them all.

They were all out of breath… and felt very, very silly. **MASKI** chuckled.

'**The very first instruction said to read all the instructions before you do anything. Lerato was the only one who did exactly that. And she's the only one who got it right.**'

The rest of the class groaned and realised that they had failed at the task. They would never make that mistake again. Especially working with a computer.

You need to be very careful and get it right!
Read all the instructions first or you could make a mistake. This rule does not only apply to computer class, but also to any exam test.

Remember, always read the instructions carefully, before you jump away and start answering the questions.

The whole class laughed and had so much fun.
They asked teacher Michelle if they could redo steps 1 to 5 just for fun, and asked Lerato to join in the fun.

**This was the best computer lab day ever!**

**THANK YOU MASKI.**