

SIYAVULA

TECHNOLOGY-POWERED LEARNING

**Open Education: What does it mean to you to
us and to Africa?**

Megan Beckett

South Africa's context and challenges



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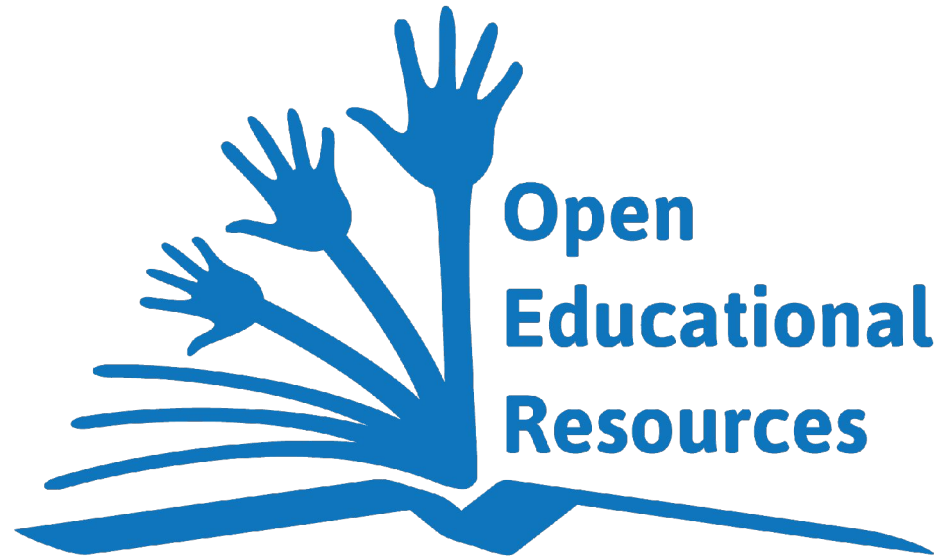
Parklands School gallery

A wide range of contexts and all are challenging

Every child deserves a chance

Opening up access to education and resources will help

Open Education

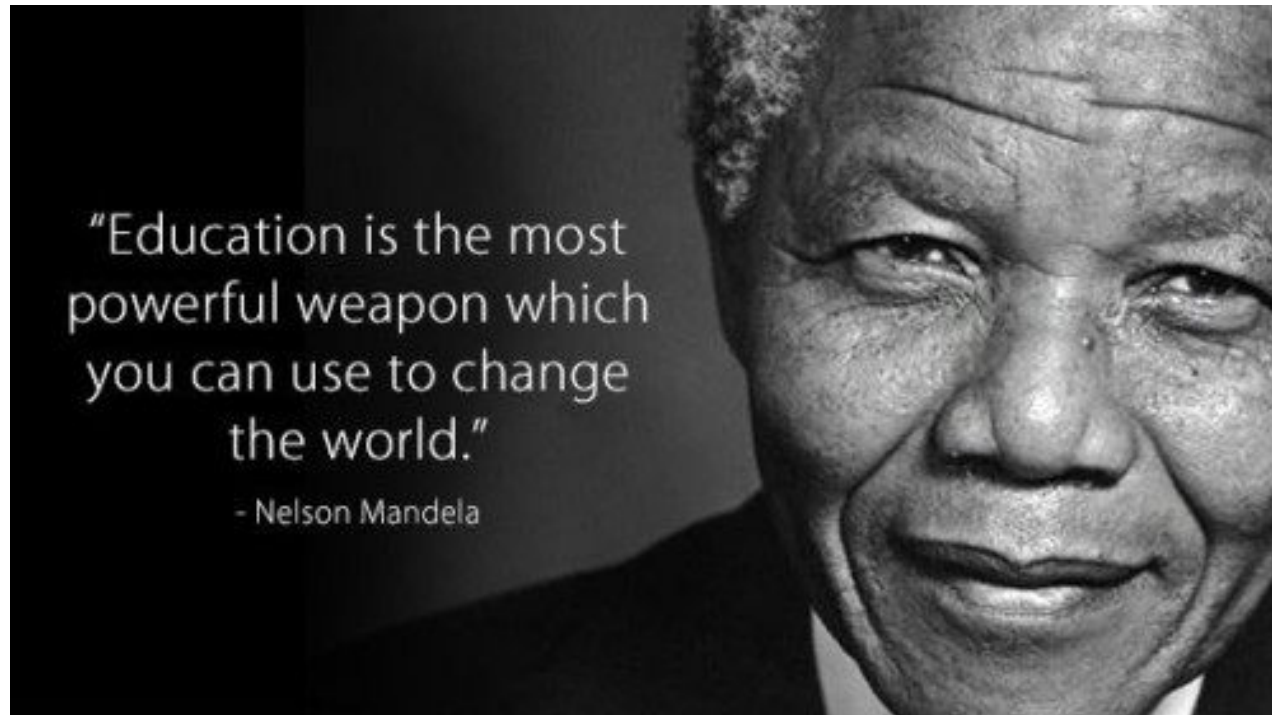


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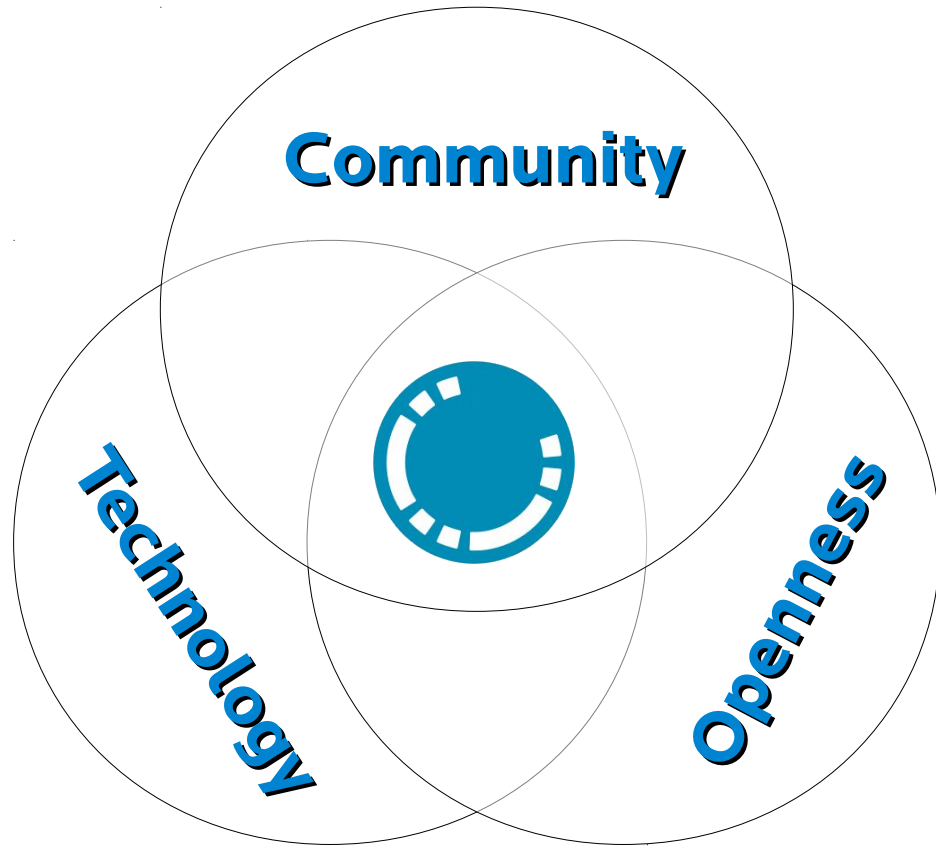
William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

Open education

**What does this mean to us at Siyavula
and to South Africa?**

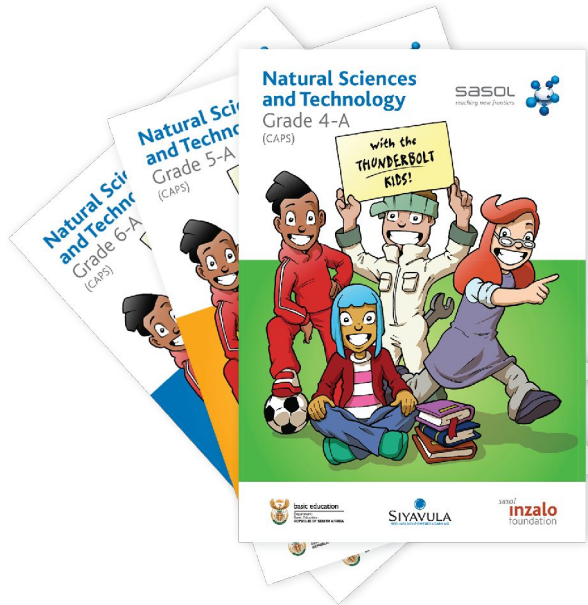


Siyavula – 'we are opening'

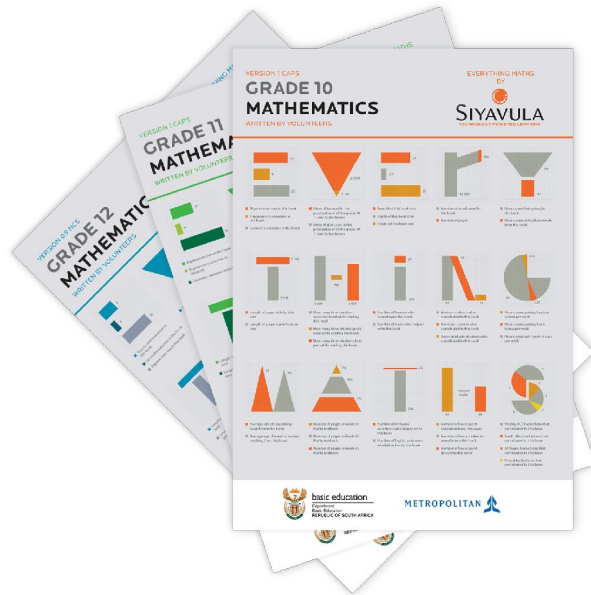


Siyavula is a social enterprise built on community, openness and technology, working to make high quality educational resources available to every learner and teacher in South Africa.

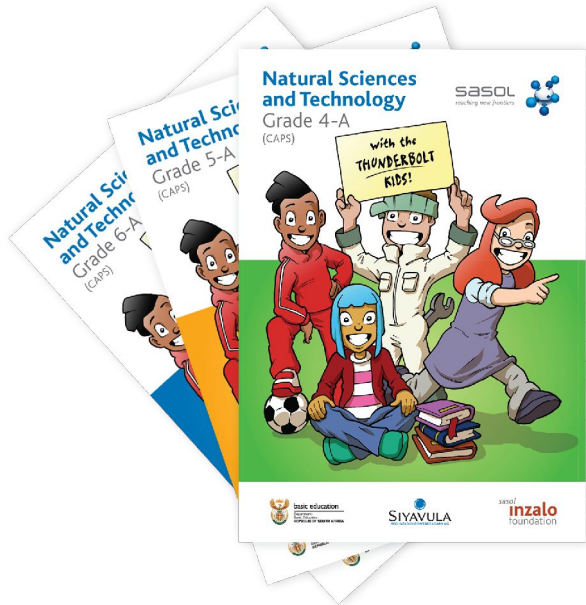
Siyavula's OER content



- Curriculum aligned
- Collaboratively authored
- Gr 4-12 Maths and Science focused
- English and Afrikaans

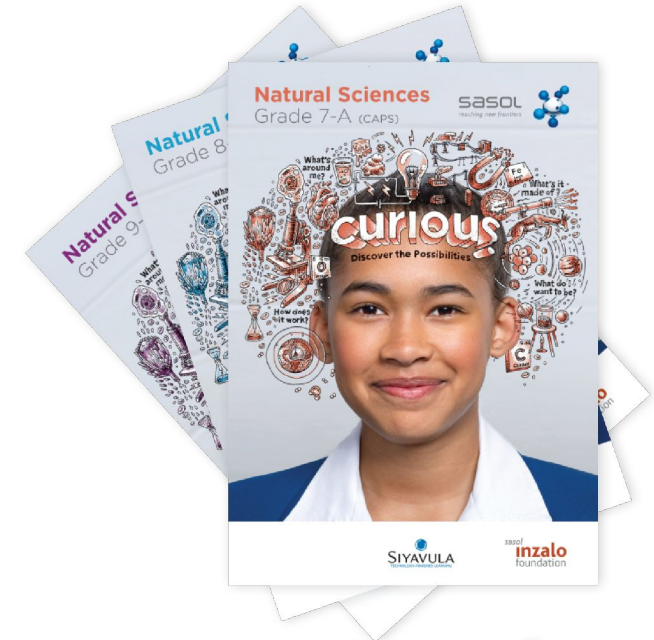


Siyavula's OER content



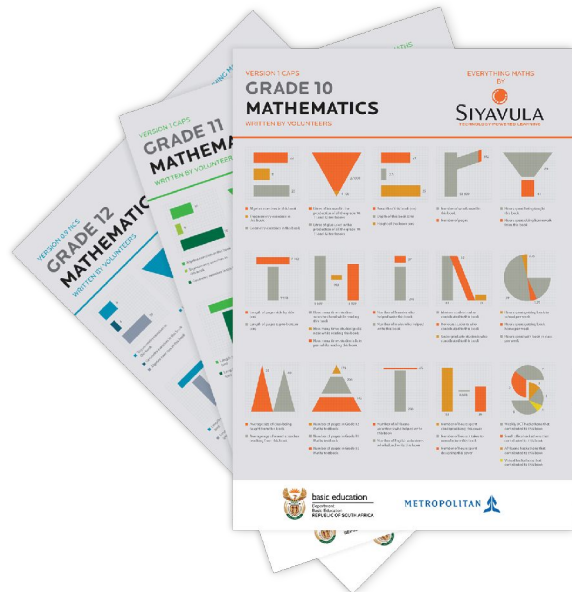
Gr 4-6 Natural Sciences

www.thunderboltkids.co.za



Gr 7-9 Natural Sciences

www.curious.org.za



Gr 10-12 Mathematics and Science

www.everythingmaths.co.za

www.everythingscience.co.za

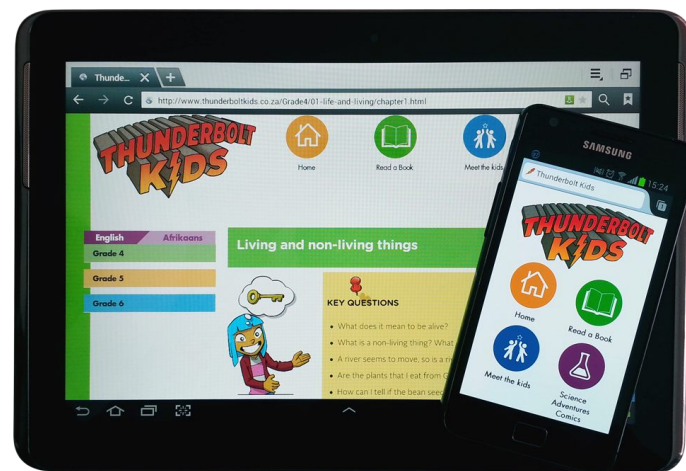


Technology enables and enriches



- Available on **web, mobile and Mxit** (chatroom service in South Africa)

- Over **800 000** learners reading content on mobile every month



- Embedded **videos and simulations**

- Make it easy for teachers to **implement technology** in the classroom

Creating an open textbook



An open, transparent and collaborative process for maximum impact

Benefits of collaborative OER production



Relevant to many different contexts and backgrounds

Scrutiny of the content

Space for people to give back meaningfully to education in

South Africa

Build a community around the open textbooks

Seed communities of open practice



Share ideas

**Learn about
OER**

Build skills



**Adopt and
adapt**

Localize

Translate

Community recognition

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Siyavula Education is a social enterprise launched in 2012 with capital and support from the PSG Group Limited and the Shuttleworth Foundation. The Everything Maths and Science series is one of the titles developed and openly released by Siyavula. For more information about the writing and distribution of these or other openly licensed titles:

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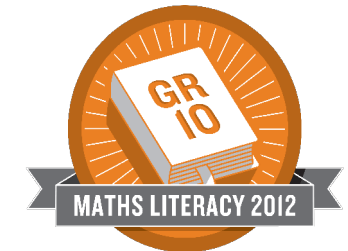
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**Collaborative authoring also
 seen as an indicator of quality**

Open everything...

Open processes - iterative, transparent and collaborative

Open copyright licenses - freedom to distribute, adapt and enhance

Open standards - formats that enable the freedoms

Opensource software - freedom distribute, adapt and enhance



What does this achieve?

- **Strengthens** the work we do
- **Builds a community** - facilitates adoption
- **Broader impact** in South Africa (and beyond)
- **Government:** understanding benefits of open policy
- **General public:** involved an education project with huge impact
- **Educators:** learning about and using OER
- **Learners:** engage with a 'living' resource and understand OER



National distribution in South Africa



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Work in collaboration with government

Department reviews and endorses content in workshops and online

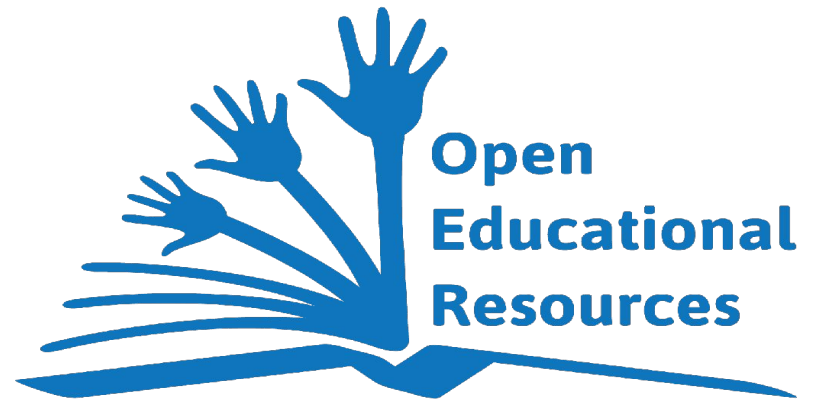
Printed and distributed open textbooks for whole country

About 10 million books so far

Going forward...

Siyavula Slate of Open Titles

- **50 most crucial textbooks**
- Government to **review and endorse** content
- **Approved list** for provincial printing
- **Web, mobile and Mxit**
- **3 year** implementation
- Looking for **sponsors and partnerships**
- Working with government on **open policy**



Some of our challenges

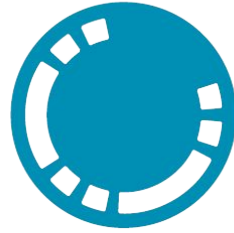


Technology

Awareness

Sustainability

Open business models



SIYAVULA

TECHNOLOGY-POWERED LEARNING

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www.slideshare.net/meganbeckett/wiki-indaba-2014