



TEACHERS' NOTES for Moli det bigibigi
by Karen Manbulloo

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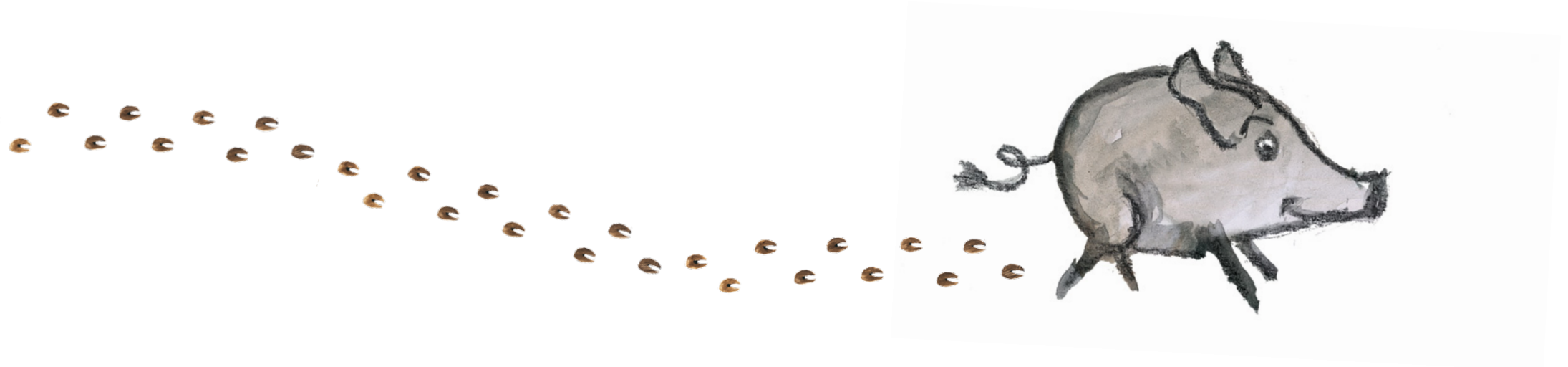
Working with Kriol and English together

In ***Moli det bigibigi***, the Kriol story is told with its English translation on the same page.

The Kriol-speaking women who worked on all the **Binjari Buk** (Binjari Books) particularly recommend this layout: they report that it is very helpful for them to be able to 'bounce' between Kriol (their first language) and English (their second language). Other Kriol speakers might like to try this strategy for reading ***Moli det bigibigi***.

This bilingual layout should assist English-speaking teachers and their Kriol-speaking students to read ***Moli det bigibigi*** together. Looking at the Kriol text alongside the English text, might encourage students and teachers to learn from each other about the two languages.

Thanks to the bilingual layout English-only speakers can enjoy ***Moli det bigibigi*** too. They can follow the story as the author, Karen Manbulloo, reads it in Kriol, or watch ***Moli det bigibigi*** in animation, too.



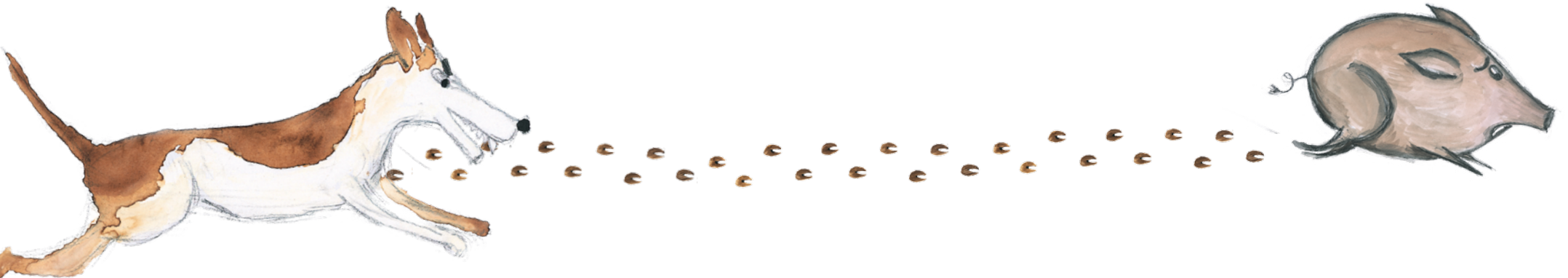
Five fun facts about Kriol with *Moli det bigibigi*

1. Note: You might notice that **im** refers both to **Moli det bigibigi** who has a girl's name, and to **main braja** 'my brother', who is a boy.

Explanation: This is because Kriol pronouns (short words referring to people and things, like we, she, they) have 'common gender'. So Kriol **im** means 'he/she/it' and could refer to a boy, girl (including Molly) or a thing. English uses these three separate words in the singular, 'he' for a boy, 'she' for a girl or 'it' for a thing, but just one word for plural, 'they'.

2. Question: You might spot that lots of describing words in **Moli det bigibigi** end differently to their English versions, like 'little', 'biggest', 'baby'. Can you figure out what this ending is?

Answer: Kriol describing words often end in **-wan**, like **lilwan** 'little', **bigiswan** 'biggest (i.e. really big)', **beibiwan** 'baby'.



3. Question: The story of **Moli det bigibigi** happened in the past. (Molly was all grown up by the time Karen Manbulloo wrote this story about her). Kriol sentences use a little word to tell you this story is in the past. Can you crack the Kriol language code and work out which word does this 'past job' in this following sentence?
Main braja bin faindim Moli jeya la bush. ('My brother found Molly out in the bush.')

Answer: Kriol places the past word **bin** before plain words (doing words like 'find', 'take'), like **bin faindim** 'found'. If we made a maths sentence, this would be PAST + find = 'found'

Extra question (for smarties): When **im** 'he/she/it' goes before **bin**, the little past word, they melt together into a single word (a contraction). Can you find examples where **im** and **bin** melt into just one word?

Answer: In Kriol **im + bin** becomes **imin**, like in **imin jidan misalp** 'she was all by herself'

4. Question: In **Moli det bigibigi** there are some pesky dogs that chased Molly. We can see in the pictures that there are a few dogs. But the Kriol language also has ways of telling us that there is more than one dog. The usual English way is to add an s/z sound, but this is not the Kriol way! How does the Kriol language show it is not just a single dog chasing Molly? (Hint there is more than one way!)

Answer: Kriol uses separate words in front of **dog**, like

- **ola dog** 'the dogs'. **ola** just means 'more than one' or "plural".
- **dem dog** 'those dogs' **dem** can often be translated as 'those, these'.



5. Challenge: Kriol has some very common tags, or endings, on its doing words (verbs, like 'find', 'pick', 'bring', 'chase'). See if you can find any of these:

- **-im** when the action is done to somebody or something else
- **-bat** when an action keeps on happening
- or any direction endings like **-ap** 'up', **-bek** 'back'.

Answers:

- **-im: faindim** 'find', **pikimap** 'pickup', **teigimbek** 'take back', **beldimbat** 'pick on', **laigim** 'like'
- **-bat: beldimbat** 'pick on (all the time)'
- **-ap: pikimap** 'pickup'
- **-bek: teigimbek** 'take back'

