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#### Foreword

The desire to improve the quality of basic education is much felt by many especially educators. Hence, local and foreign- assisted programs and projects that provided opportunities in attaining this desire are given impetus.

Specifically, the Government of Spain-Improvement of Quality Primary Education(GOS-IQPE) Project through the Agencia Española de Cooperacion International para el Desarollo (AECID) provided the necessary financial and technical assistance in the reproduction of Big Books.

In Caraga Region, the reproduction of these Big Books is in support to Every Child a Reader (ECARP) of the Department of Education for its Lingua Franca classes.

Considering that there is a dearth of beginning reading and instructional materials in teaching Lingua Franca, the presence of Big Books in schools is most valued by the teachers and pupils. With the main objective of enhancing comprehension skills as well as developing appreciative and pleasure reading, these Big Books are being availed of by the 25% of the elementary schools in the Divisions of Agusan del Norte, Surigao del Norte and Siargao.

The reproduction of these Big Books was made possible through the unstinted support and concern of Ms. Bella Hernandez of AECID, Manila and the Government of Spain; the Project Staff of Project Management Office (PMO-EDPITAF) of DepEd, Manila; Officer-in-Charge to the Office of the Regional Director, Dr. Gloria D. Benigno of DepEd Caraga; Education Supervisor II, Ms. Juliet Lebios of DepEd, Caraga; Regional/Division Focal Persons Dr. Rebecca Delapuz, Ms. Vernie P. Ojeda, Ms. Vicelita B. Anzano and Ms. Jeanie L. Mativo; and the rest of the reading enthusiasts who in one way or another had extended a helping hand.

The writers and artists who were teachers and supervisors of this Region most deserve sincere thanks and deep appreciation for the time spent and efforts exerted in the development of these Big Books.

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#### For the Teachers

It is a fact that a child must be able to read in order to learn more. To be a reader, one need not only recognize letters, words, phrases, and sentences, but most importantly, comprehend what is being need. For this reason, all school children need to be a reader as envisioned by Education for All (EFA).

In support to Every Child a Reader program (ECARP) of the Department of Education, the Government of Spain-Improvement of the Quality of Primary Education (GOS-IQPE) Project extended the necessary financial assistance for the development of Big Books.

As this Region implements Lingua Franca, the need for beginning reading materials written in the vernacular was a felt need. Hence, the development of big books in Cebuano, which is the dominant dialect of the Region was given focus by teachers and artists of the Region. Later, writing of big books using the Surigaonon dialect was encouraged for the school children of Surigao Provinces.

These big books were written for specific subject areas but their usage can be extended in teaching other subjects. Using creativity, intelligence and resourcefulness coupled with the right perception of a teacher, the use of these big books can be maximized using the four-pronged approach.

Guided with the suggestive competencies to be developed using these big books, one may use other competencies found in the Philippine Elementary Learning Competencies (PELC) using the big books as springboard or instrument in developing other competencies.

Further, these big books can be used for appreciative or pleasure reading among schoolchildren.

## Angay nga Mahibaloan

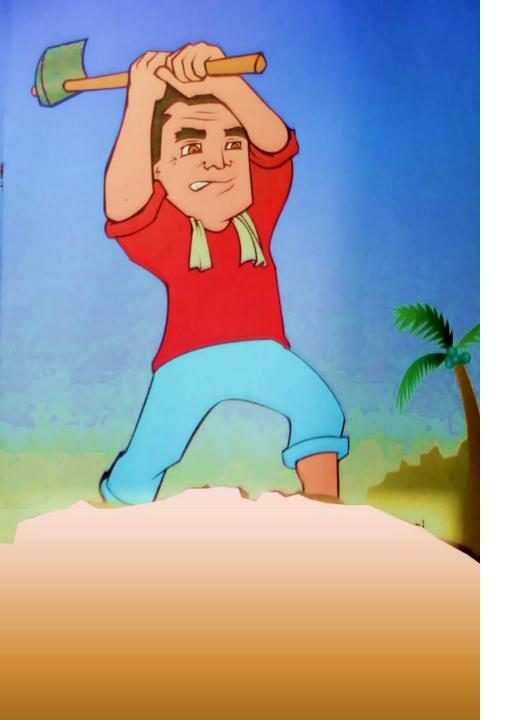
- Makahibalo nga ang mga lumulupyo sa usa ka dapit adunay mga katungdanan.
- 2. Maikinabuhi ang pagkabililhon sa pagmahal sa kaugalingong nasod o dapit.
- 3. Maila ug mahatagan ug bili ang nahimo sa mga lider sa matag dapit.



Sa mga tribu sa munisipyo sa Hinatuan, Bislig, Tagbina, Barobo ug Lingig sa Probinsya sa Surigao del Sur hangtod sa Probinsya sa Agusan del Sur, may giila nga usa ka lider.



Siya si Fernando Nazareno nga mas nailhan sa tawag nga Balaraw.



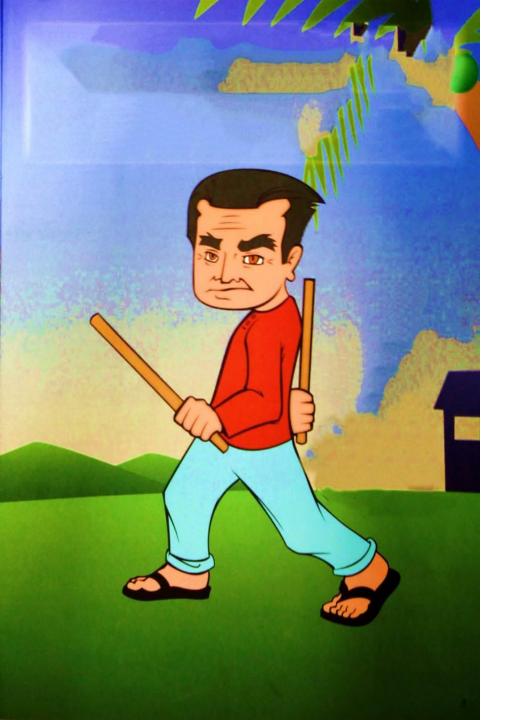
Kugihan ug determinadong magtrabaho si Balaraw.

Sa iyang pakigbisog, iyang nahiusa ang mga magkaaway nga mga tribu ug mao nga namugna ang mga barangay ug mga munisipyo sa maong dapit.



Gibantug siya nga adunay kahibulungang gahum sa mahika.

Ang mga hayop nga galibot sa iyang balay malipayon ug maabtikong magtapok kung makabati na sa tingog sa iyang tambol.



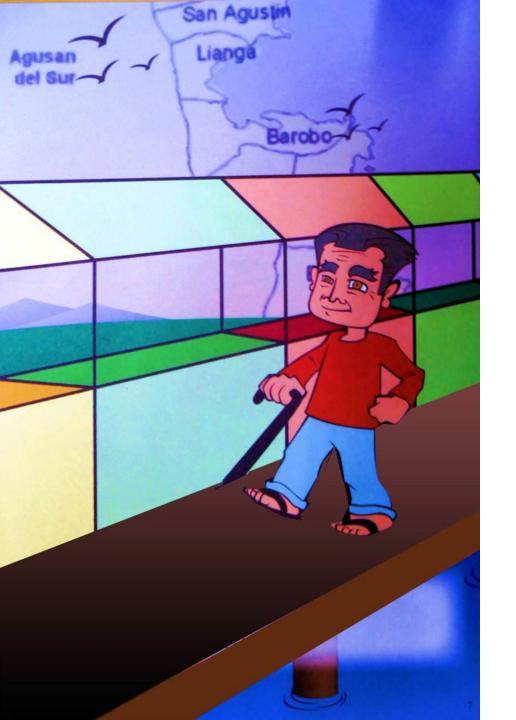
Si Balaraw hanas usab sa eskrima.

Usa kini ka pamaagi sa pagdepensa sa iyang kaugalingon batok sa mga bandido ginamit ang mga kamot ug duha ka kahoy.

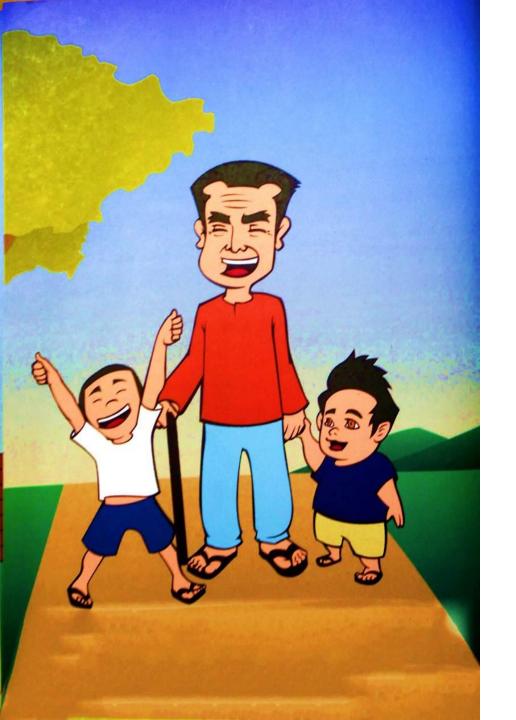


Si Balaraw nahimong kabahin sa pagmugna sa lungsod sa Hinatuan ug sa pagpalambo niini.

Iyang gitukod ang munisipyo ug ang simbahan nga nagbarog pa hangtod karon ug puno kini sa katahum ug kalig-on.



Nagtukod usab siya ug mga tindahan sa mga Lungsod sa Barobo, Malixi, Marikangkang, Rosario ug Bahi.



Sa iyang mga binuhatan, angayan gayod handumon ug pasalamatan si Balaraw.

# Mga Pangutana

- 1. Unsay tinuod nga pangalan ni Balaraw?
  - a. Fernando de Jesus
  - b. Fernando Nazareno
  - c. Fernando Nazarene
- 2. Gibantog si Balaraw sa iyang gahum sa \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. musika
  - b. mahika
  - c. pagpanambal
- 3. Sa Lungsod sa Hinatuan, gitukod ni Balaraw ang
  - a. mga tindahan ug templo
  - b. mga balay ug tulunghaan
  - c. munisipyo ug simbahan
- 4. Sa mga binuhatan ni Balaraw, angay siyang
  - a. hikalimtan
  - b. handumon ug pasalamatan
  - c. hatagan ug premyo
- 5. Kinsa man ang giilang lider sa inyong dapit? Unsa man ang iyang naipaambit sa inyong dapit?

# **English Translation**

There was once a leader, well-known among the tribes of the municipalities of Hinatuan, Bislig, Tagbina, Barobo, and Lingig in the Province of Surigao del Sur. He was known even in the nearby province of Agusan del Sur.

His name was Fernando Nazareno but he was more fondly recognized as *Balaraw*.

When it comes to work, Balaraw was hardworking and determined to finish what he started.

Through hardwork and determination, he was able to settle the disputes between the warring tribes in his place which paved the way to the establishment of the barangays and municipalities of the province.

Balaraw was famous for his wonderful works of magic. Whenever he played his drum, the animals that lived within the vicinity of his house happily thronged around him.

He was also an expert of arnis, an art of self-defense which made use of one's hands and two sticks. This was his way of protecting himself against the bandits.

Balaraw was party to the establishment and development of the town of Hinatuan. He particularly constructed the municipal and church buildings of the town which are still existing at present because of their strength and beauty.

He also established stores in the municipalities of Barobo, Malixi, Marikangkang, Rosario, and Bahi.

With his accomplishments, Balaraw is worth thanking remembering.



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