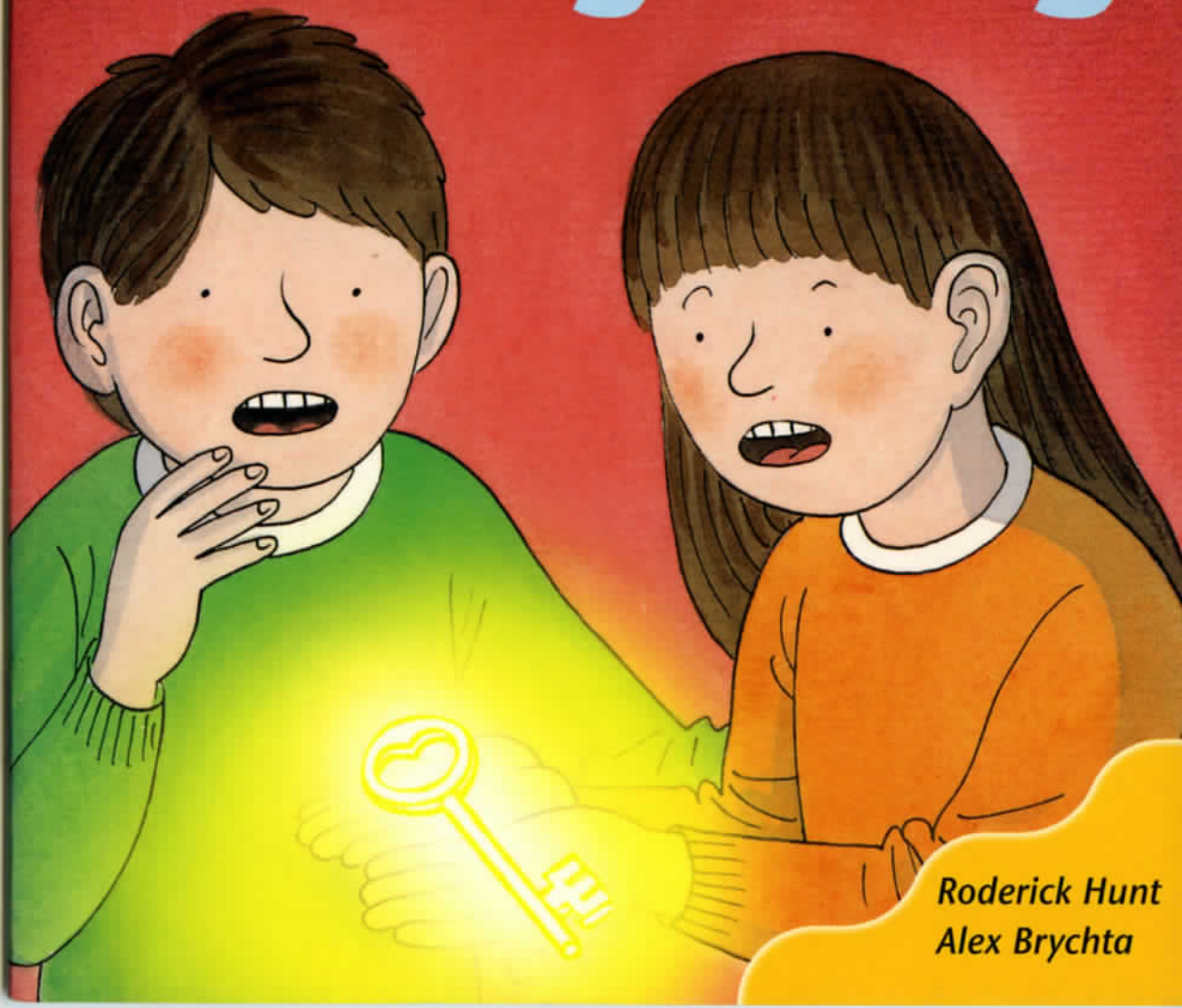




Oxford
Reading
Tree

The Magic Key



Roderick Hunt
Alex Brychta

Story written by Roderick Hunt
Illustrations by Alex Brychta



What's this story about?

Biff and Chip find a magic key inside a box. It starts to glow and they have a strange adventure in which they get smaller and smaller.

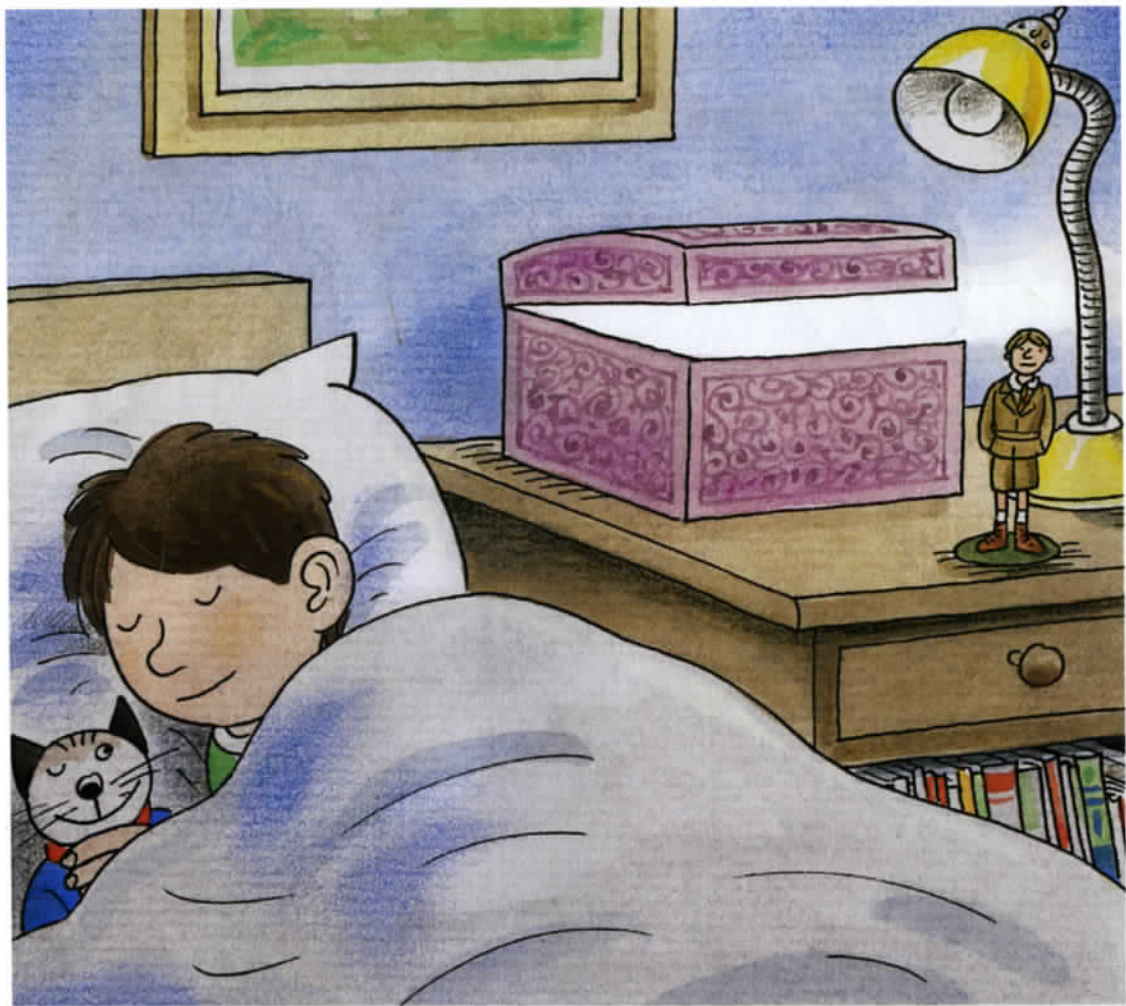
Talk together

Read the title on the cover and talk about what Biff is holding. Ask, "Why do you think the key is glowing?"

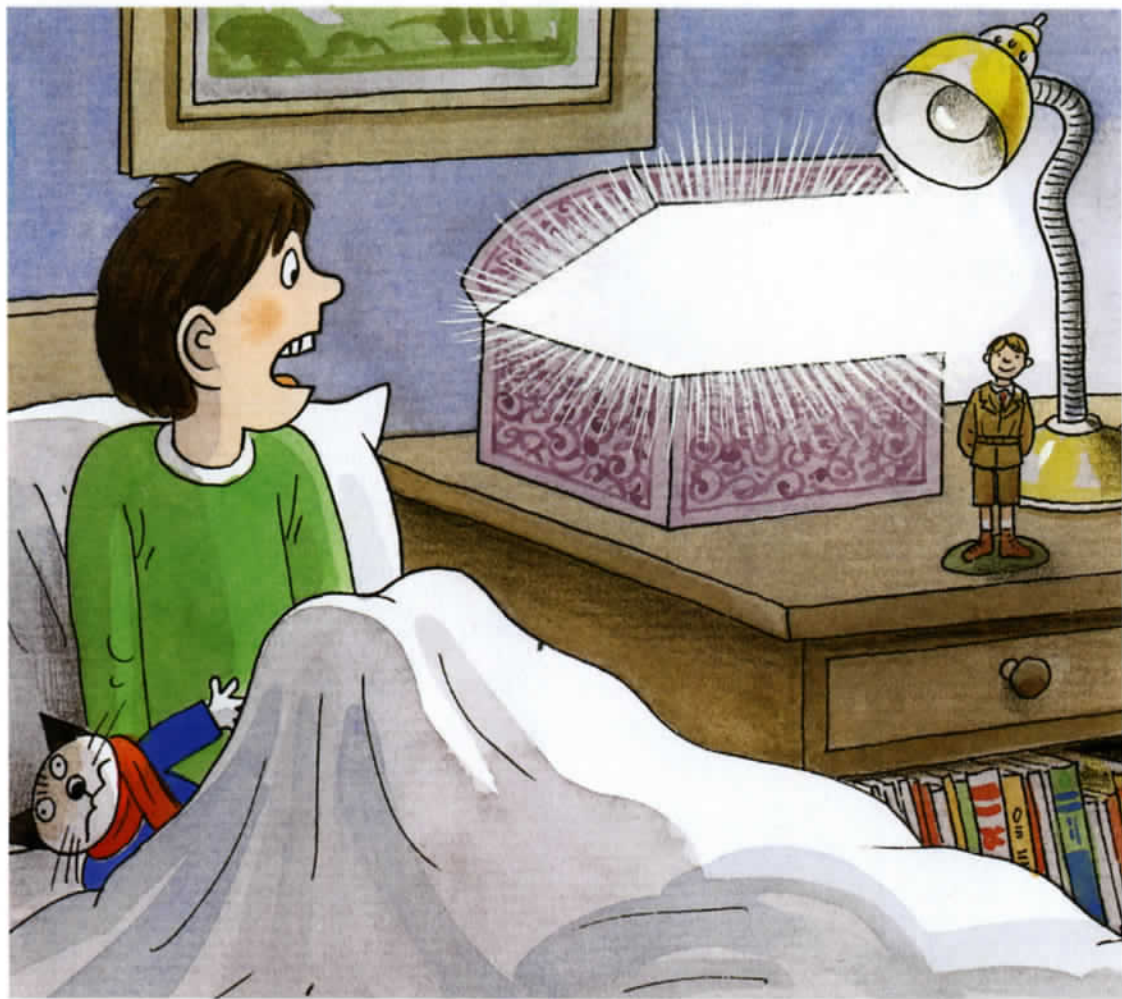
Read the story

W = Word recognition **C** = Language comprehension

- Read the story together. Talk about what is happening on each page.
- W** Page 4, help the child read 'glowing' by sounding out the syllables (glow-ing).
- C** Pages 4-5, ask, "Why did the children think that the glowing box was magic?"
- C** Page 8, ask, "What is happening to Biff and Chip?" Look back at page 7 to find out that the magic happened because Biff picked up the glowing key.
- W** Pages 8, 11 and 12, help the child to sound out the phonemes for the words, 'smaller', 'slippers' and 'pencil'.
- C** Page 19, ask, "Why was Chip holding the pin in front of him when he and Biff were scared?"
- C** Page 20, ask, "Why does the mouse look so big?"
- C** Page 21, ask, "What happened to make the children become bigger?" (Biff picked up the key again.)



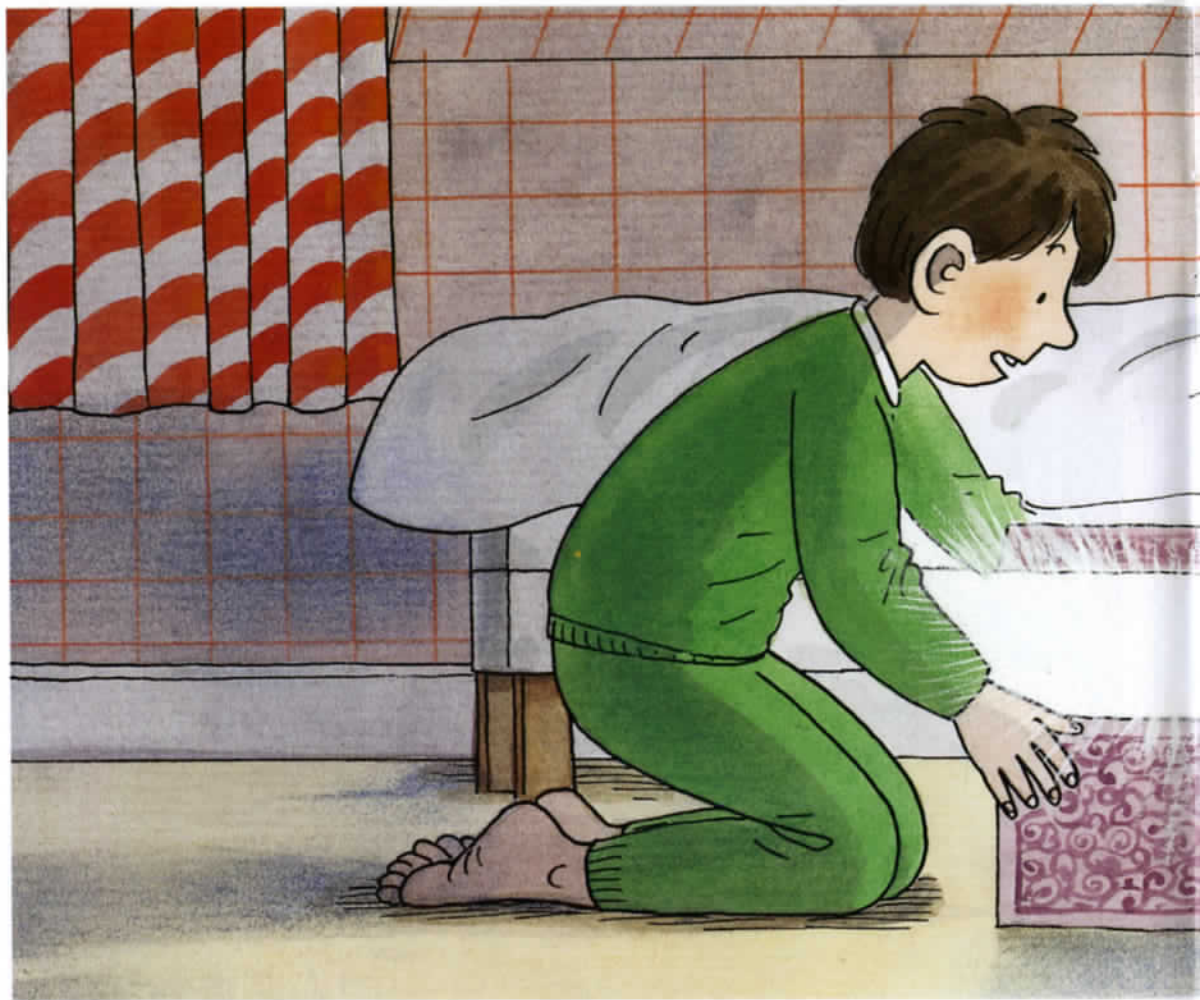
The box was by Chip's bed. Something was glowing inside it.



Chip looked at the box.
“It’s magic,” he said.



Chip ran into Biff's room.
"Biff," he called. "Look at the box."



Biff and Chip looked at the box.
Something was glowing inside it.



They opened the box. They looked inside.

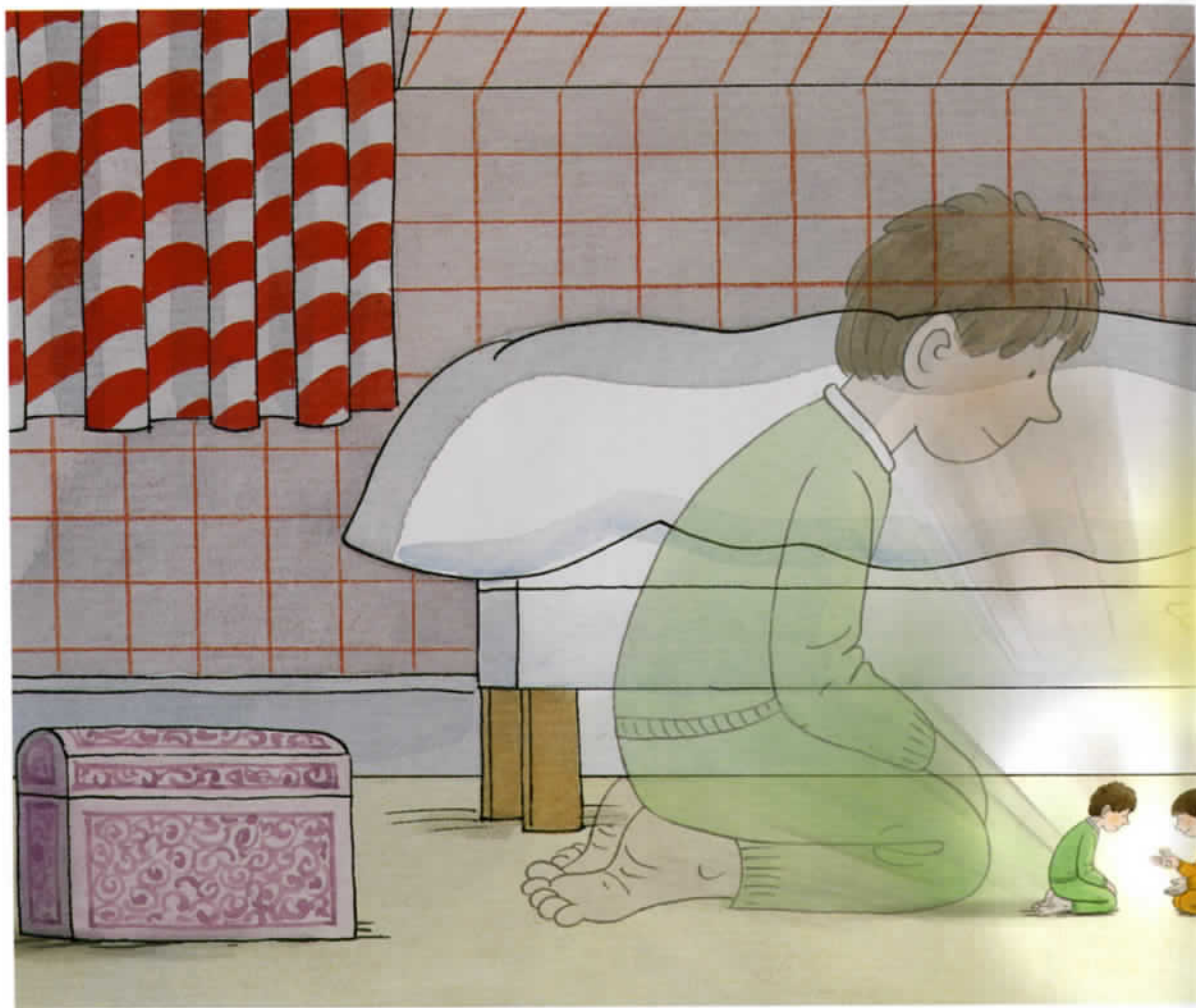
"It's magic," they said.



A key was in the box. The key was glowing.



“It’s a magic key,” said Biff.
She picked up the key and the
magic began.



Biff and Chip got smaller and smaller
and smaller.



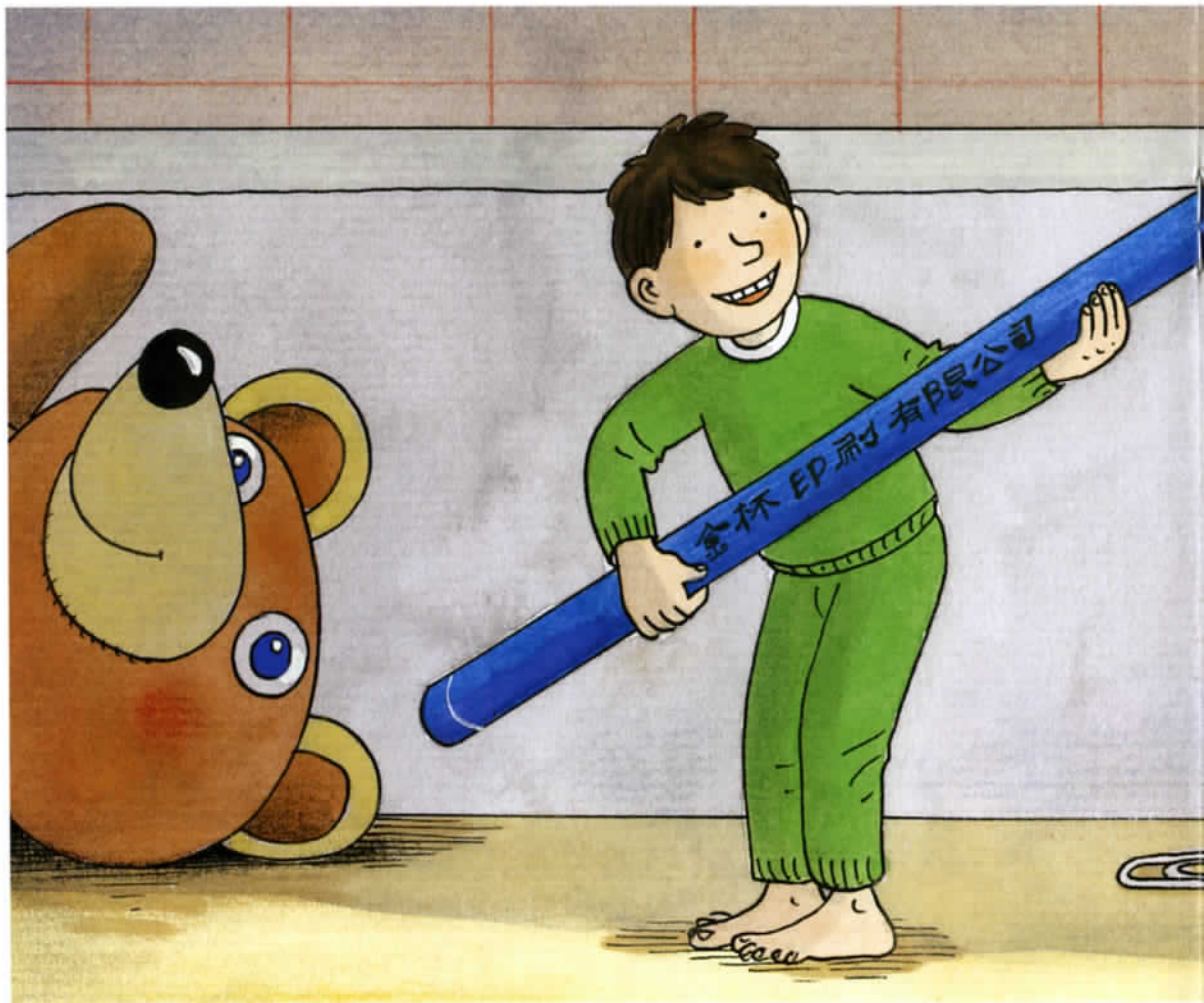
“Oh help!” said Biff.
“It’s magic,” said Chip.



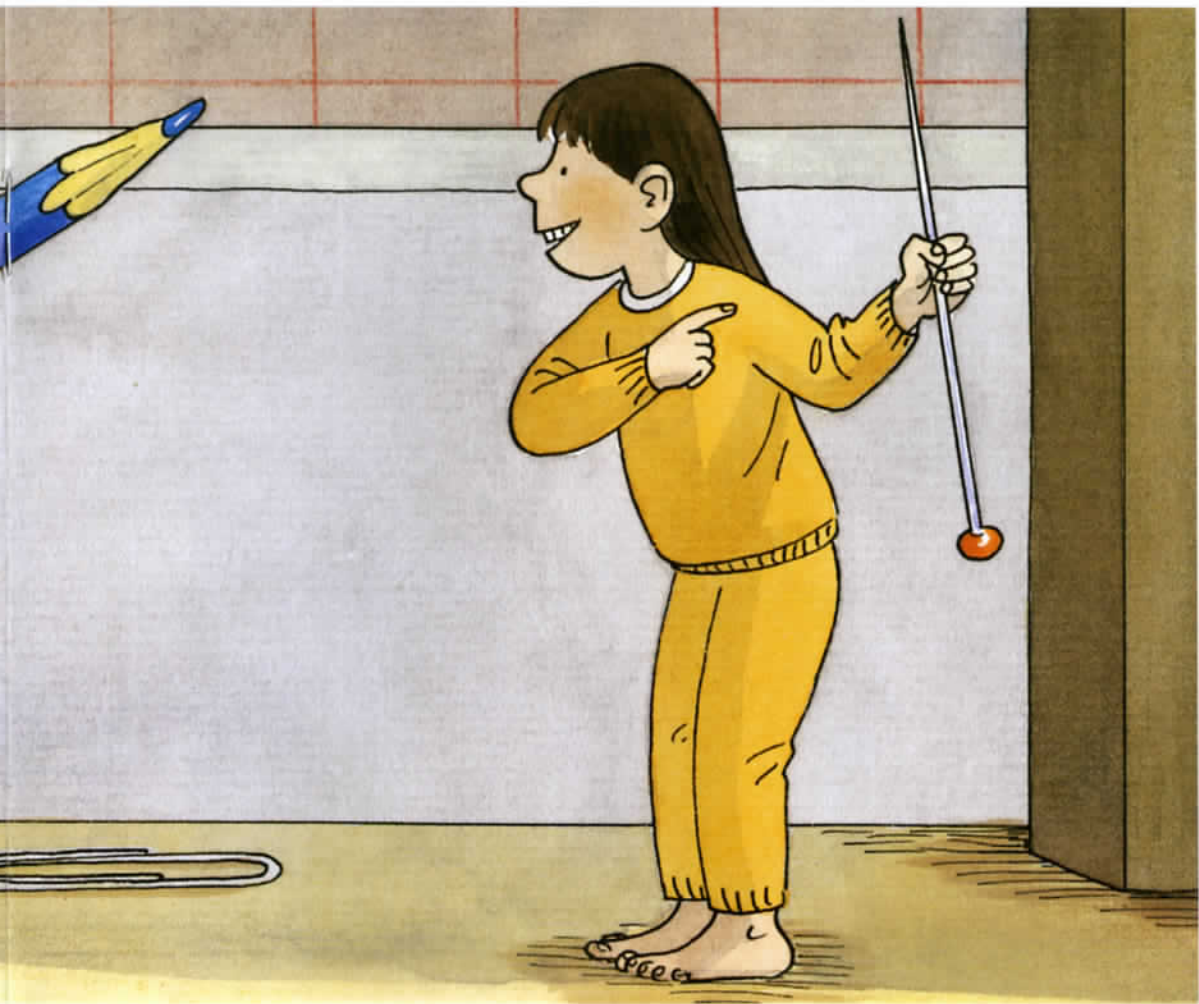
Biff and Chip looked at the room.
Everything looked big.



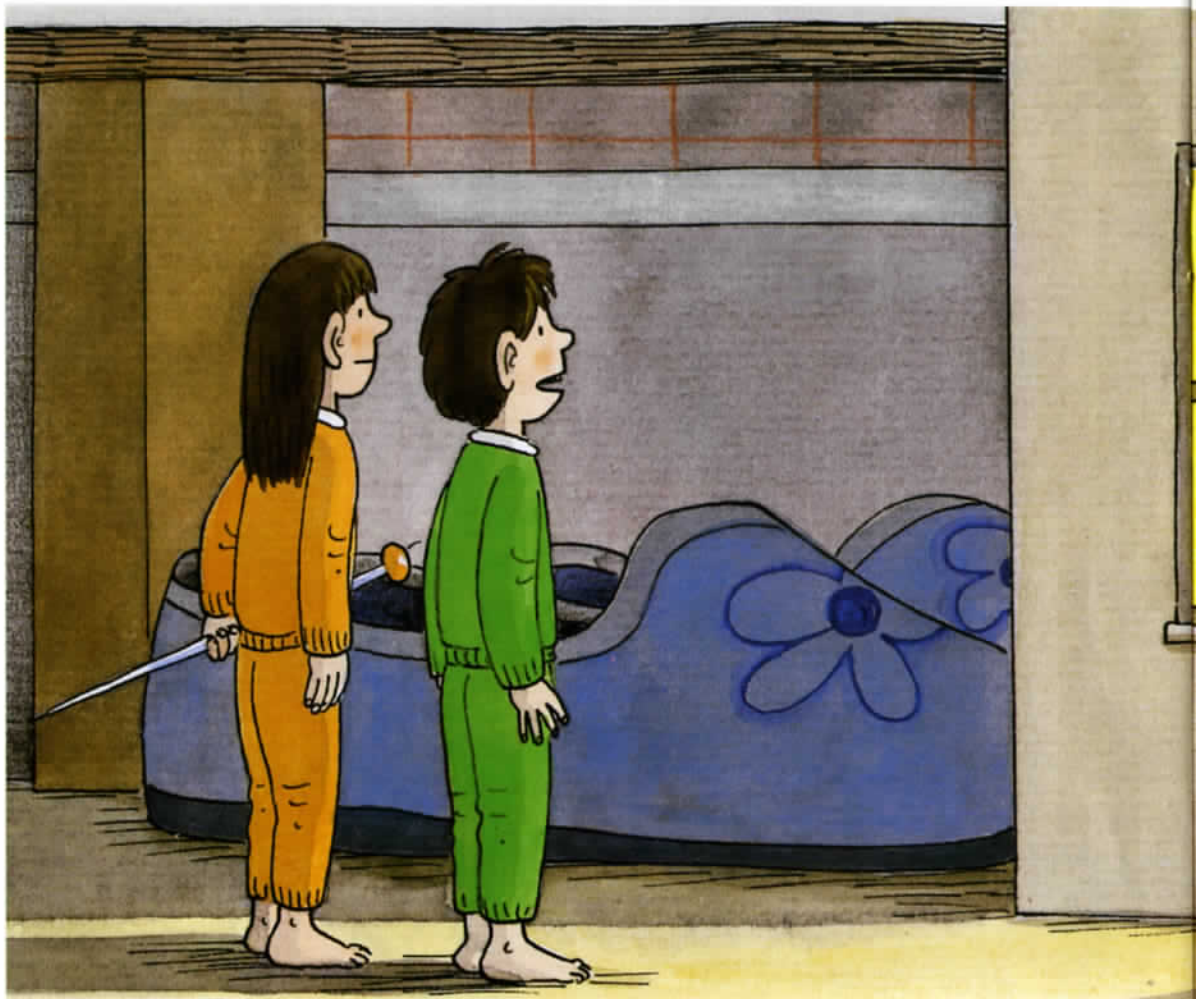
“Look at my big slippers,” said Biff.
“Everything looks big.”



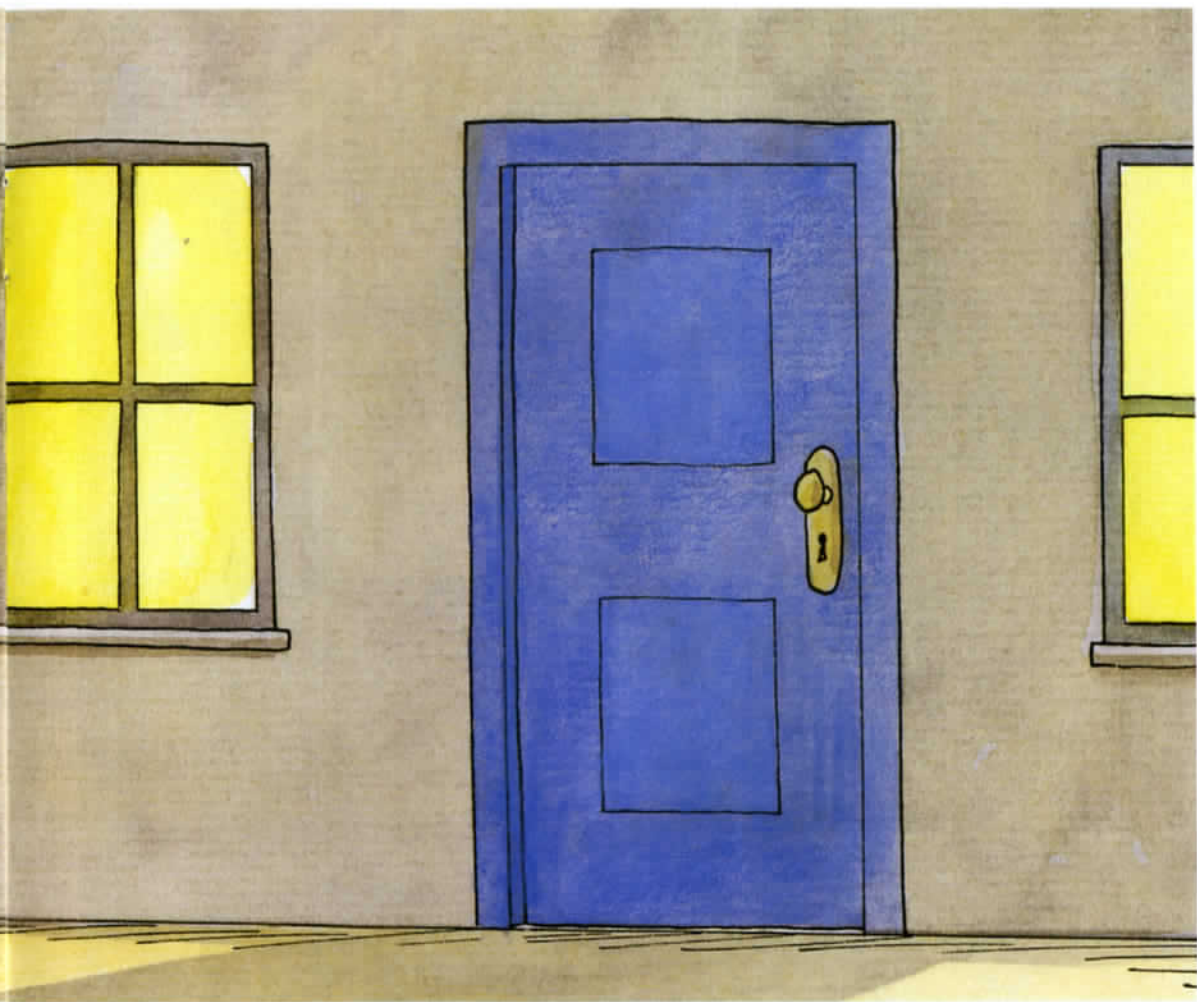
Chip picked up a pencil.
“Look at this big pencil,” he said.



Biff picked up a pin.
“Look at this big pin,” she said.



They looked at the house. It looked like a big house.



The windows were glowing.
“It’s magic,” said Chip.



Biff and Chip ran to the house. They looked in the window.



Biff went to the door. She pushed and pushed, but she couldn't get in.



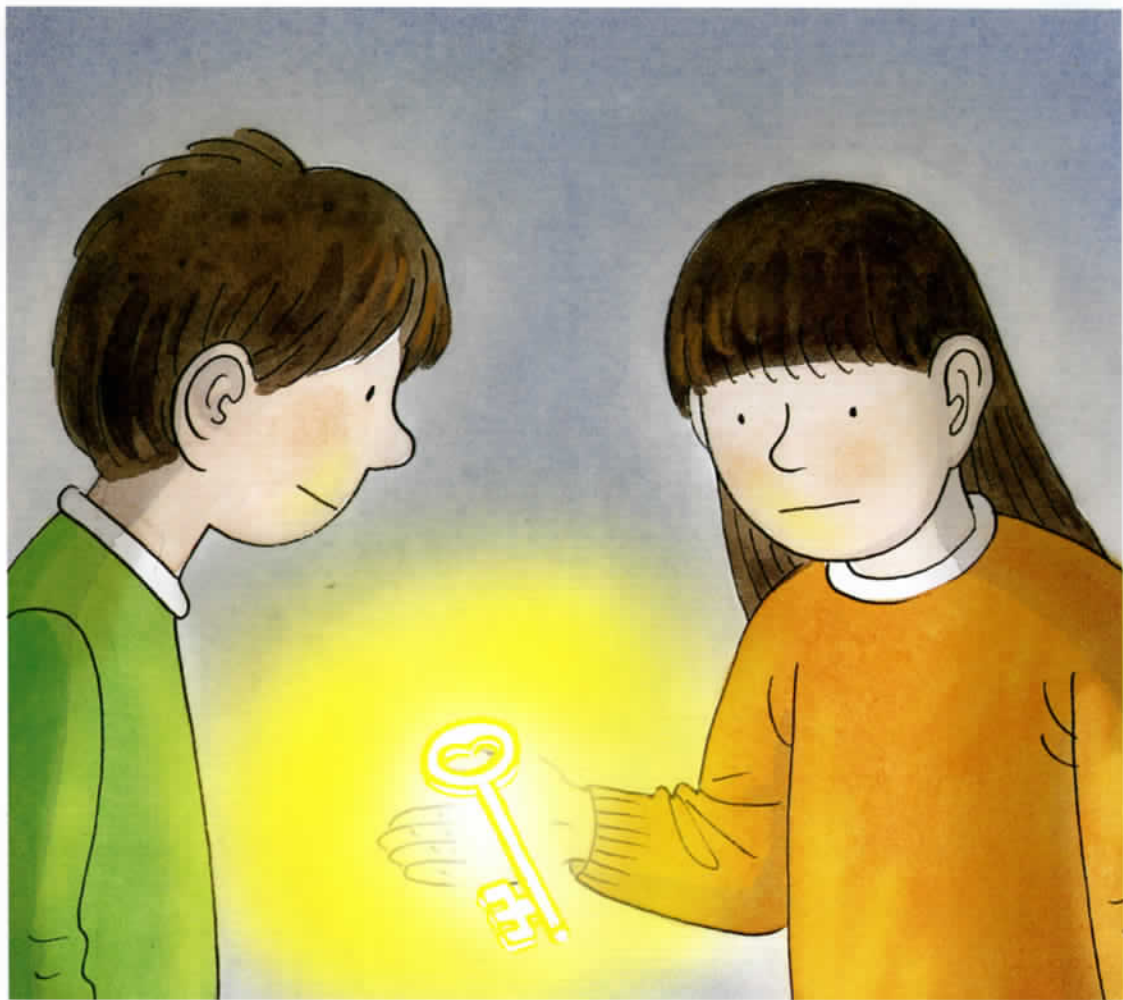
They went to the window. Chip pulled and pulled, but he couldn't get in.



Something was coming. Chip picked up the pin.
“Oh help!” he said.



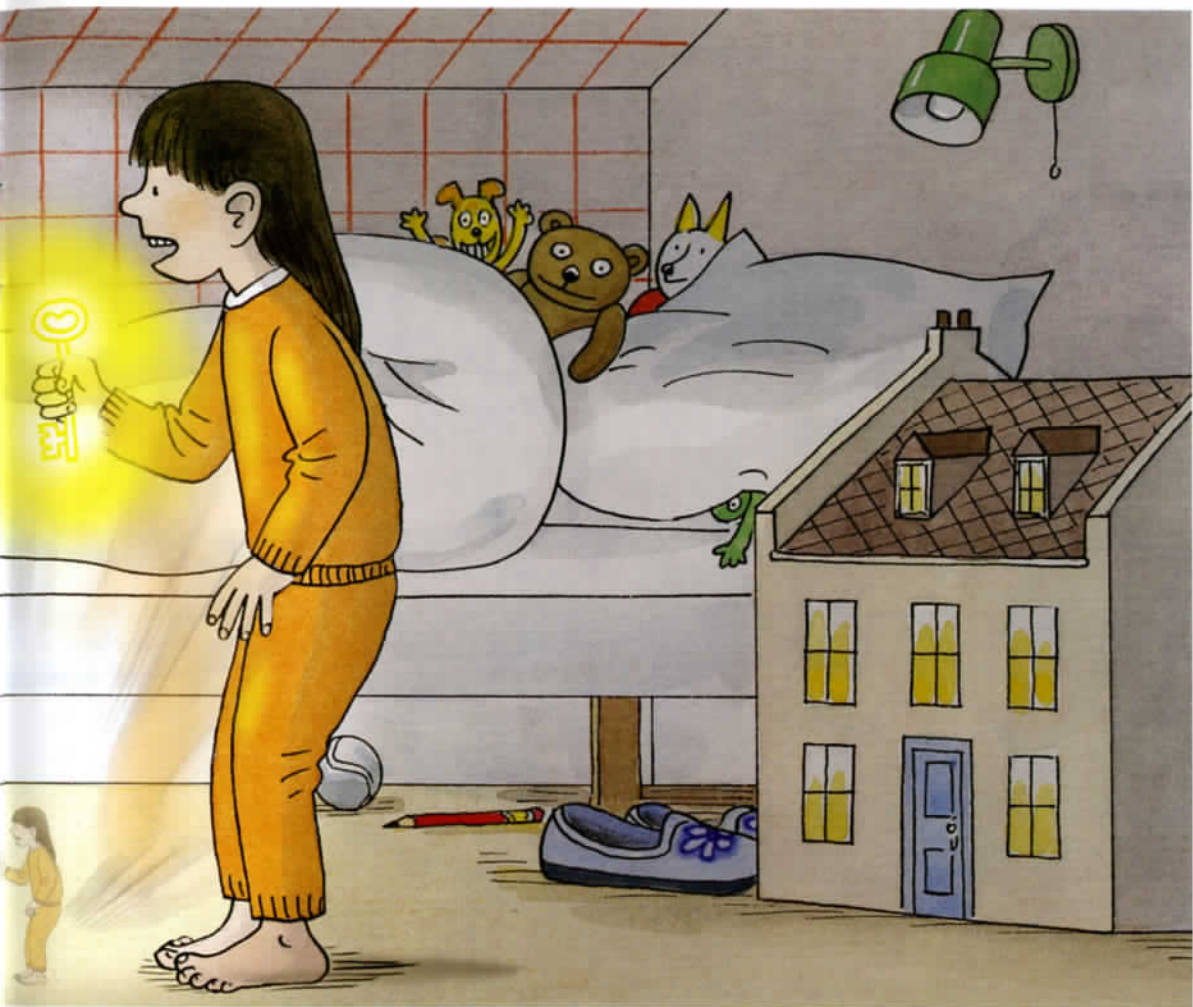
It was a little mouse. Biff and Chip looked at the mouse. The mouse ran away.



Something was glowing. It was the magic key. Biff picked it up.



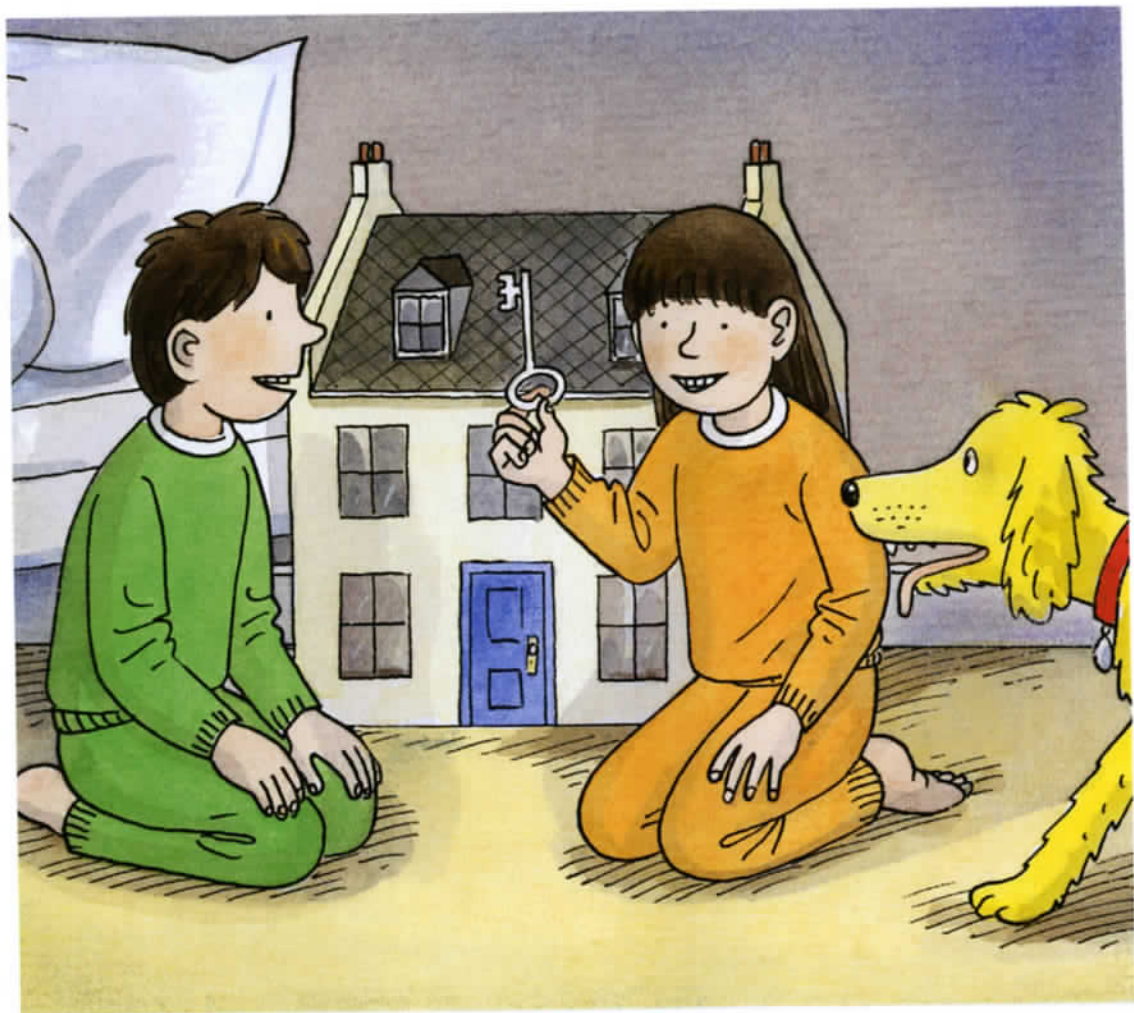
Biff and Chip got bigger and bigger
and bigger.



“Oh no!” said Biff.

“Oh help!” said Chip.

“It’s the magic,” they said.



The magic was over.

“What an adventure!” said Biff and Chip.

Play a game

Find the word

To help the child to keep one word in mind, while they scan through the text.

- Choose a word from the book that appears more than once, e.g. 'glowing', 'picked', 'magic'.
- Close the book and ask the child to find the word, e.g. say, "Find the word 'magic'." The child finds the word and reads the whole sentence to you. Then the child chooses a word for you to find. Have two or three turns each.

Other ideas

You can use these ideas straight away, or on another day.

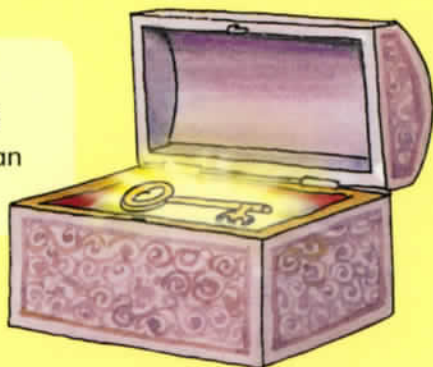
- Find 'something' and 'everything'. Which part of the two words is exactly the same? Help the child to work out how to write 'nothing'.
- Talk about what it would be like to be as small as a mouse. Ask, "What would be frightening? How would you get up stairs?".

I The Magic Key

The magic key starts to glow.

This story practises these words:

an by but could(n't) door got help
house little over push(ed) pull(ed) ran
were what



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