



Story written by Roderick Hunt Illustrations by Alex Brychta



What's this story about?

The family finds out that having a dog is not easy. Floppy does a lot of naughty things in the day, and at night he won't stop barking. Will he have to go back to the dogs' home?

Talk together

Talk about what it would be like to have a dog. Think of annoying things that dogs can do, such as barking and jumping up at people. Ask: "What is Floppy doing in the picture?"

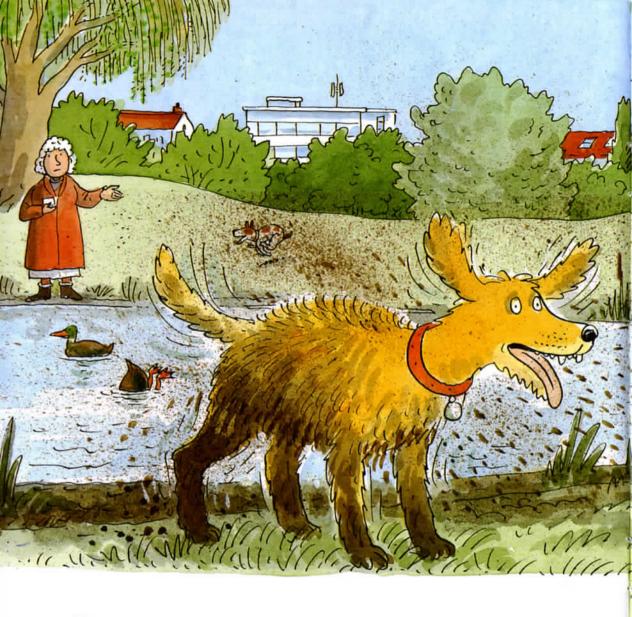
Read the story



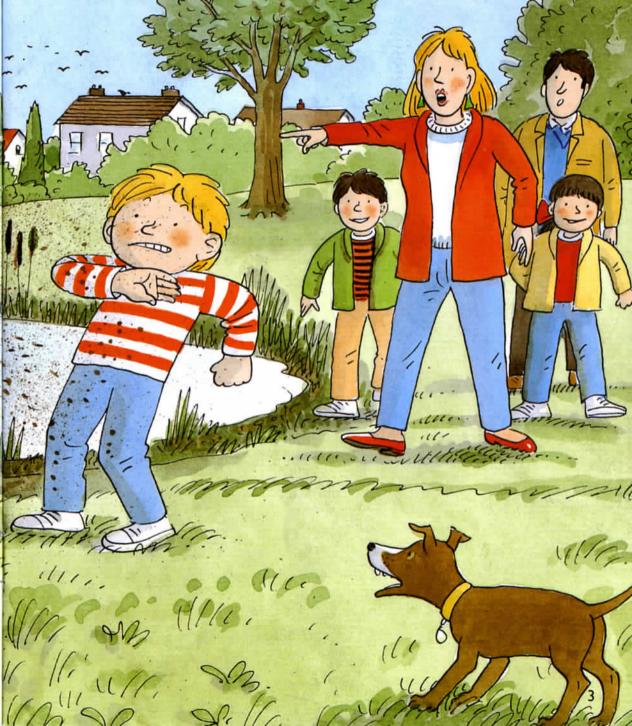
- Read the story together. Use the picture as a clue to words such as 'concrete' and 'washing'.
- Page 1, ask, "Why was Dad cross?"
- Page 2, use letter sounds to read the word 'mud', m-u-d. Ask the child to point to each letter as they say the sound.
- Page 4, ask, "How do you think Floppy managed to pull down the washing?"
- Page 6, ask, "Did Floppy mean to knock the Lego over?"
- Page 8, ask, "What has Floppy done now?"
- Page 13, ask, "Why was Dad cross?"
- Pages 14–15, ask, "Why had Floppy been barking?"
- Page 16, ask, "Do you think the family will keep Floppy now?"



Floppy went on the concrete.



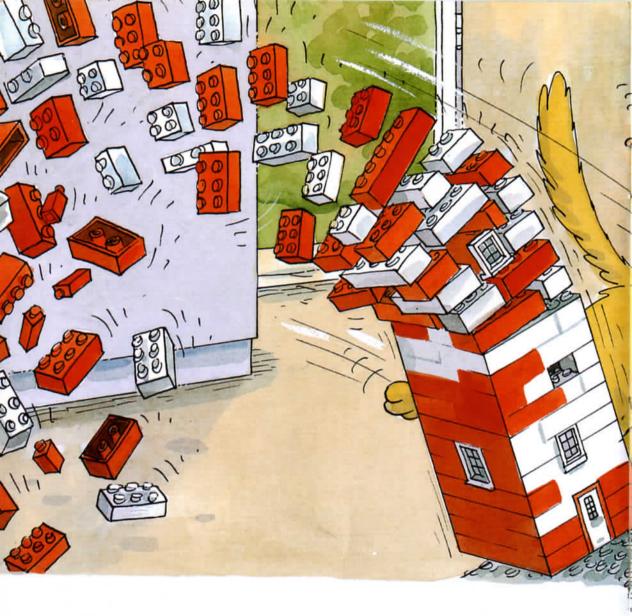
Floppy went in the mud.





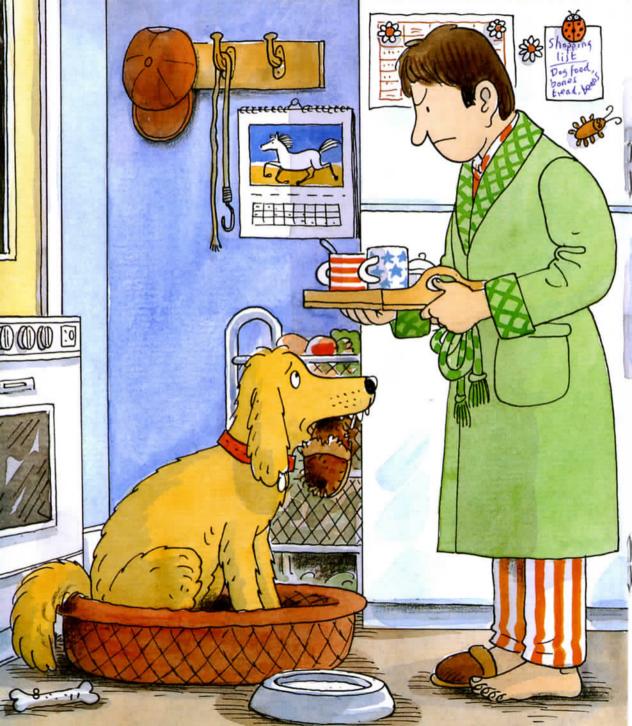
Floppy pulled the washing down.





Floppy pushed the Lego over.







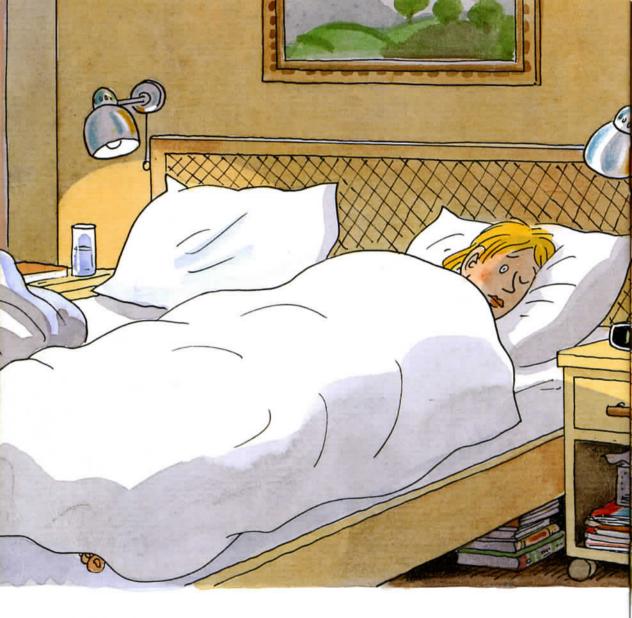
"What a bad dog!" said Mum.



Floppy barked and barked.



Dad couldn't sleep.



Dad was cross.



"What a bad dog!" said Dad.





The tray was on fire.



What a good dog!

Play a game

Three letters

To help the child to remember and spell common words.

- Choose any word from the story that has three letters: 'the', 'mud', 'dog',' bad', 'was', 'and'. Say the word and ask the child to spell it using letter sounds or letter names. Find it in the story and let them check that they were right.
- Then the child chooses a word with three letters for you to spell.
 You find and check the word together.
- Have two or three turns each.

Other ideas

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

- Play 'What happened next...'. Open the book at any page, show the child and ask them to say what happened next. Turn the page to see if you were right. Take turns to open the book.
- Find out more about the different kinds of dogs from your library or the Internet. Learn the name of breeds of dogs that live near you.



What a Bad Dog!

Is Floppy a bad dog?

This story practises these words:

a and dad dog in mum on said the was went

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