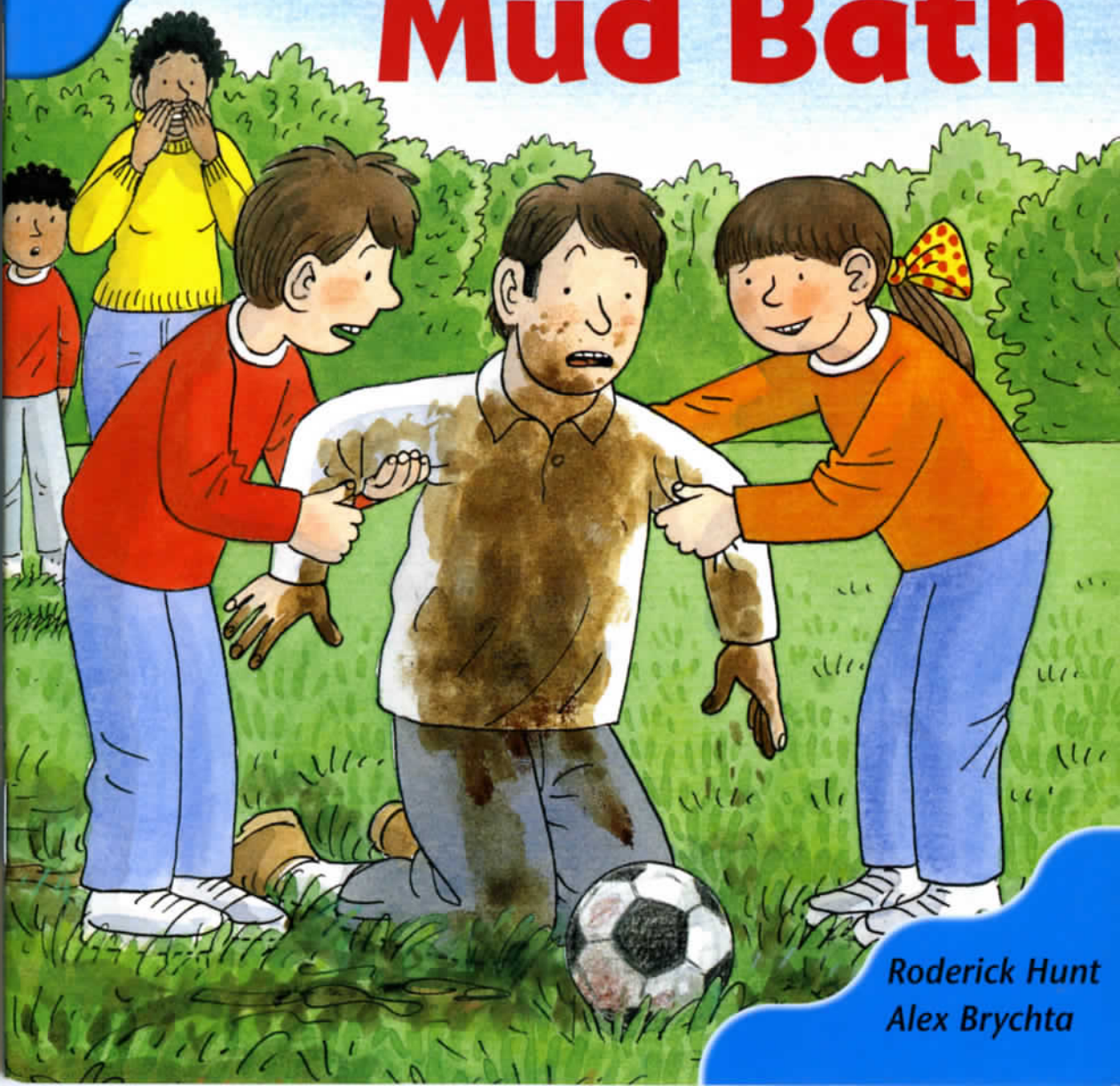




Oxford
Reading
Tree

The Mud Bath



Roderick Hunt
Alex Brychta

IF IF
Story written by Roderick Hunt
Illustrations by Alex Brychta



What's this story about?

Dad falls in the mud when he is playing football. At home Dad runs a bath and watches television while he waits for it to be ready. Then they notice water dripping through the ceiling!

Talk together

Look at the picture on the cover. Ask, "What has happened to Dad?" Explain that when someone gets wet and dirty from falling in mud, they have had a 'mud bath'. Look through the pictures to see what happens. Ask the child if there have been times when he/she has got muddy. Talk about what happened.

Read the story

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

- Read the story together. Point to each word as you read.
- W** Page 4, show the child how you can use the letter sounds to work out the word 'splat': s-p-l-a-t.
- C** Ask the child questions to check his/her understanding of the story. On page 8, ask, "Why is Dad running a bath?"; on page 15, ask, "Why is water dripping on Dad's head?"
- C** Show the child how to read with expression when someone is speaking, for example, 'Go on!' and 'Kick it!' (page 13). Explain that whenever the child sees an exclamation mark, this is a clue to read the text with expression.
- Ask the child to read the whole story to you again and give lots of praise.



Dad was playing football.



He ran with the ball.



“Go on Dad!” called Chip. “Kick it!”



Dad fell over in the mud. Splat!



“Bad luck, Dad!” said Biff.



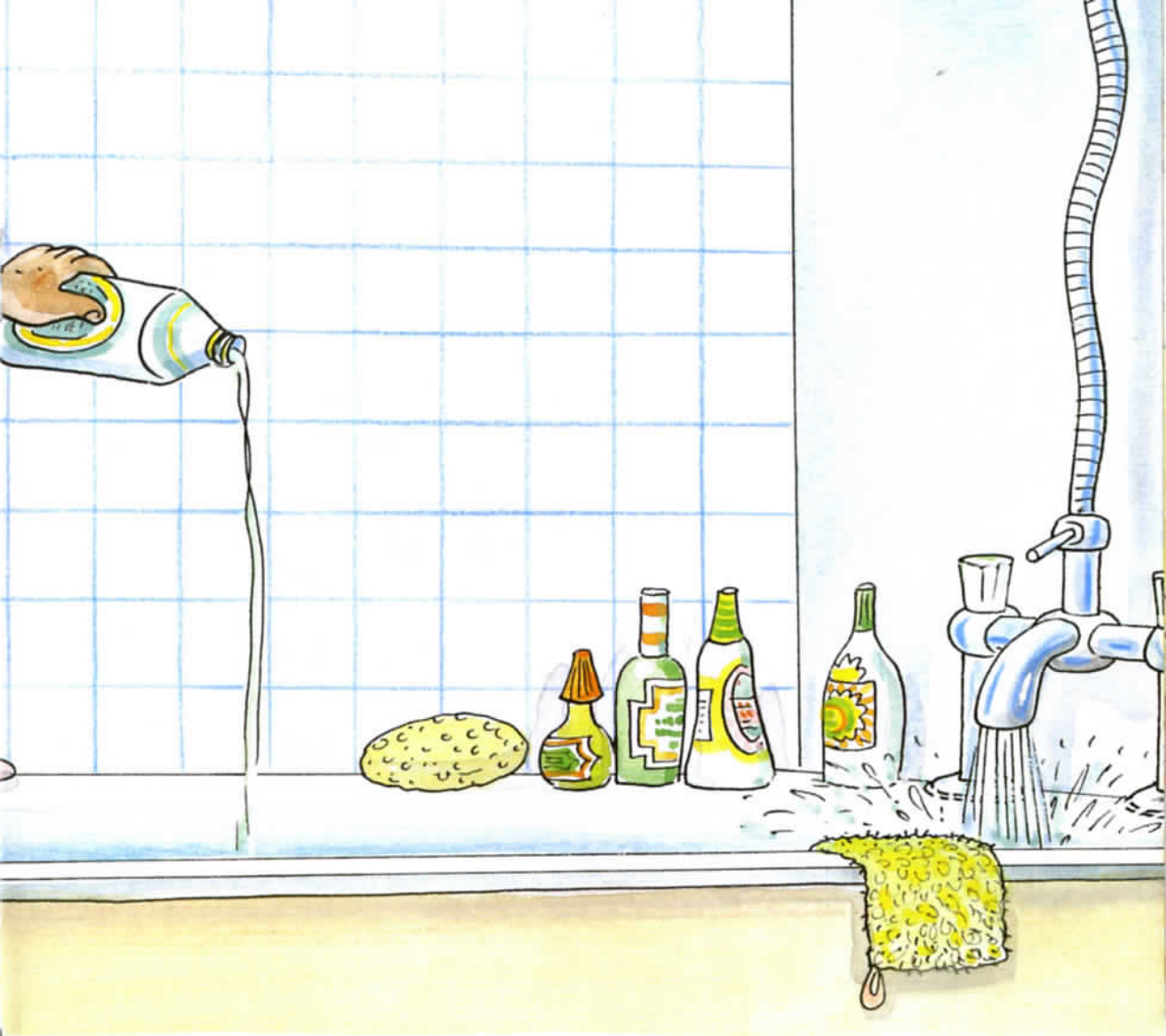
“Oh Dad,” said Mum. “What a mess.”



“I want a bath,” said Dad.



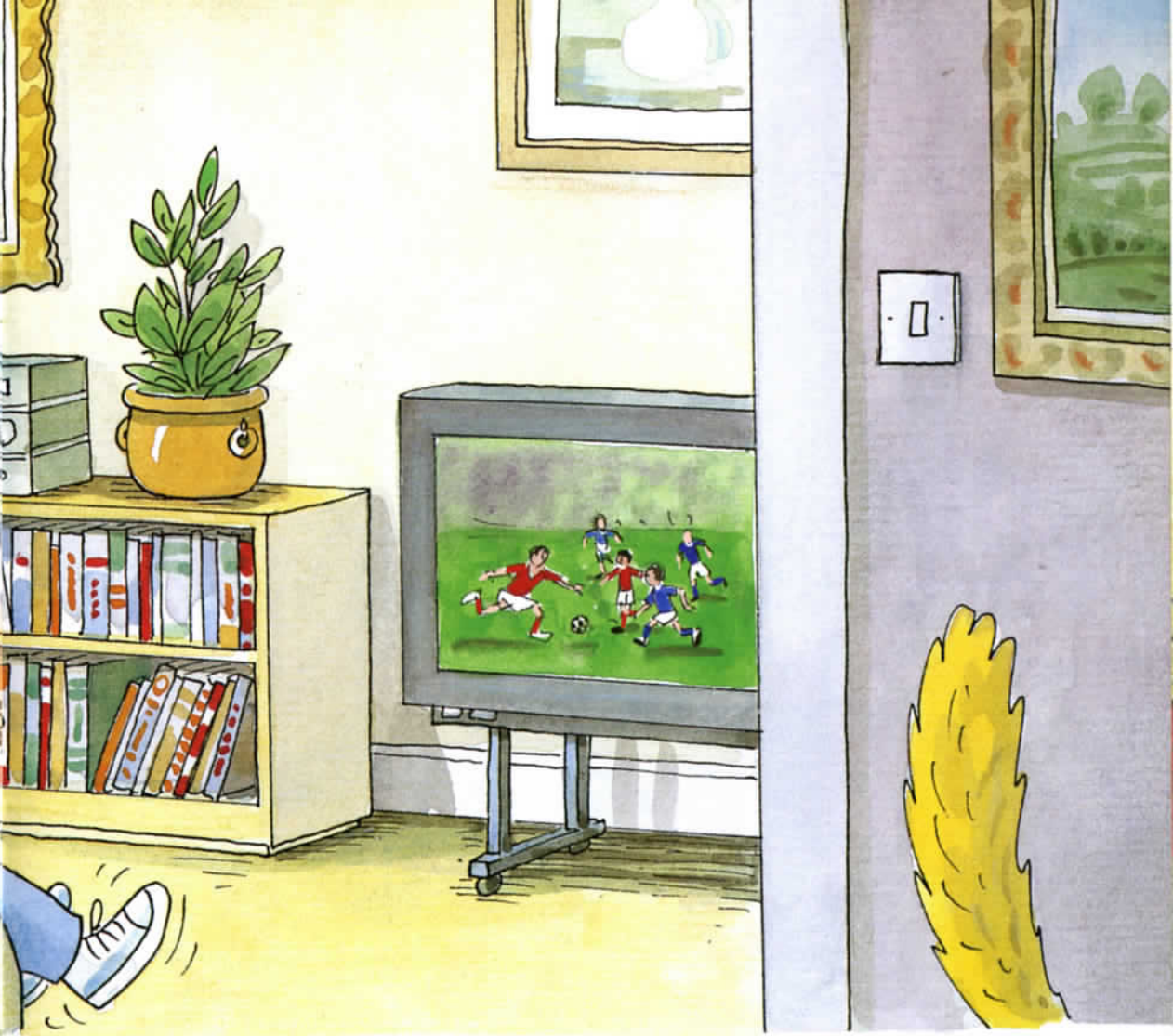
Dad went up to the bathroom.



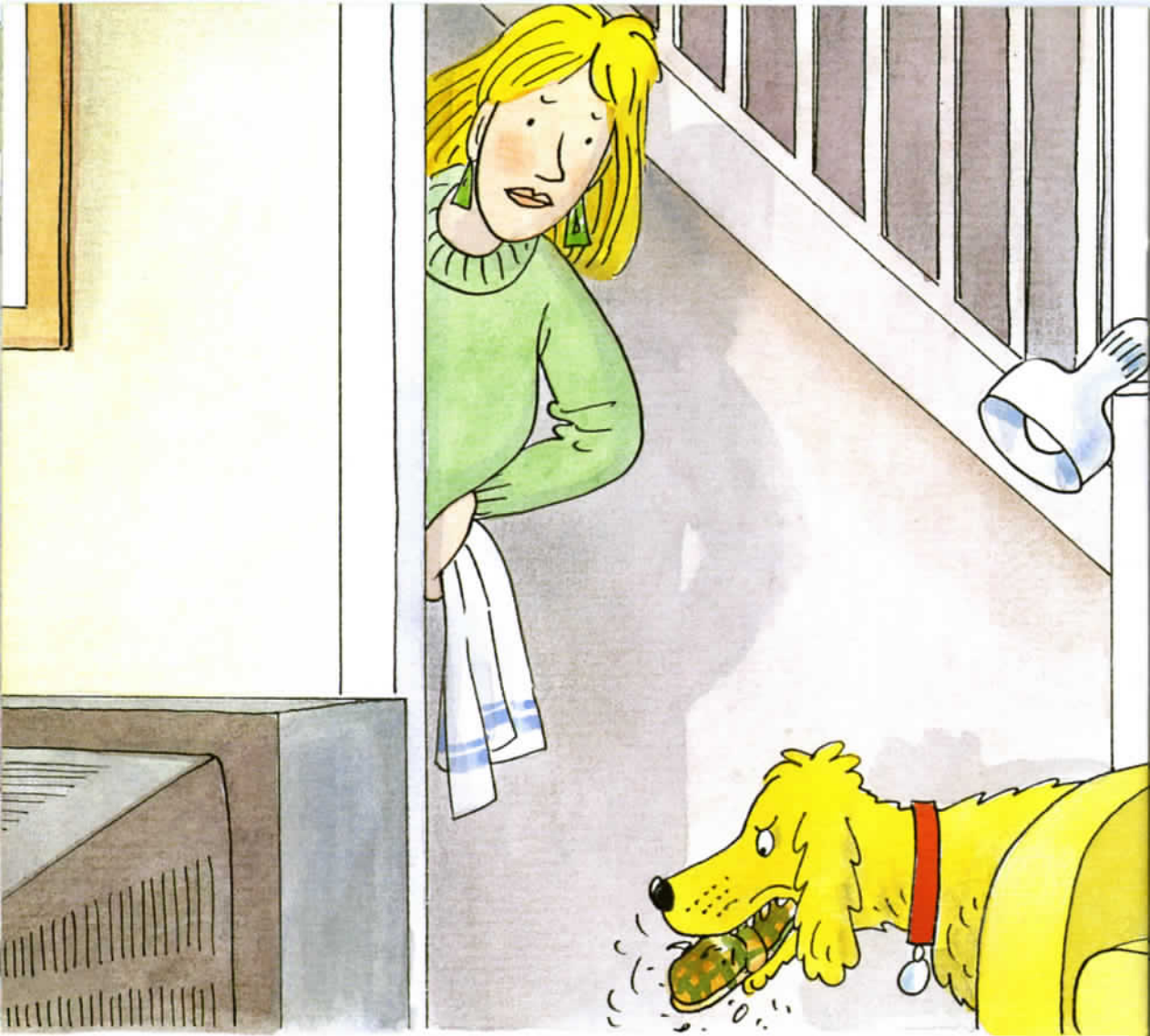
He ran a bath.



Dad came down.



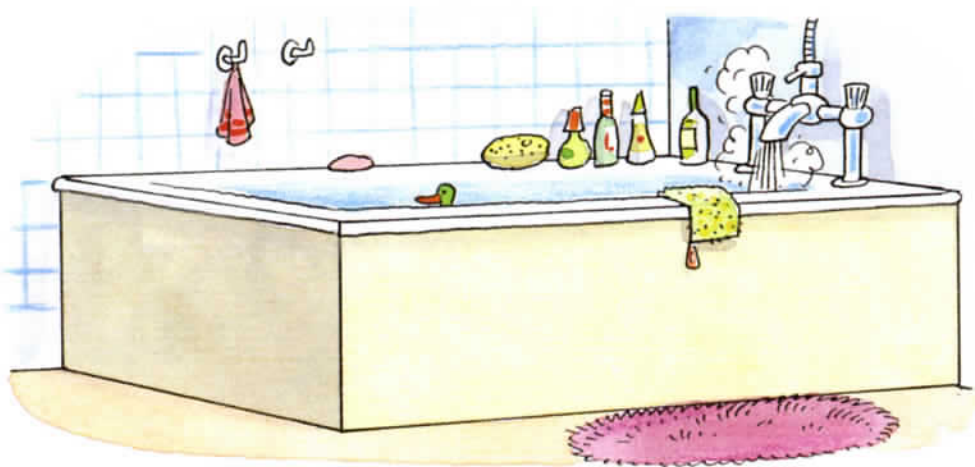
There was football on TV.



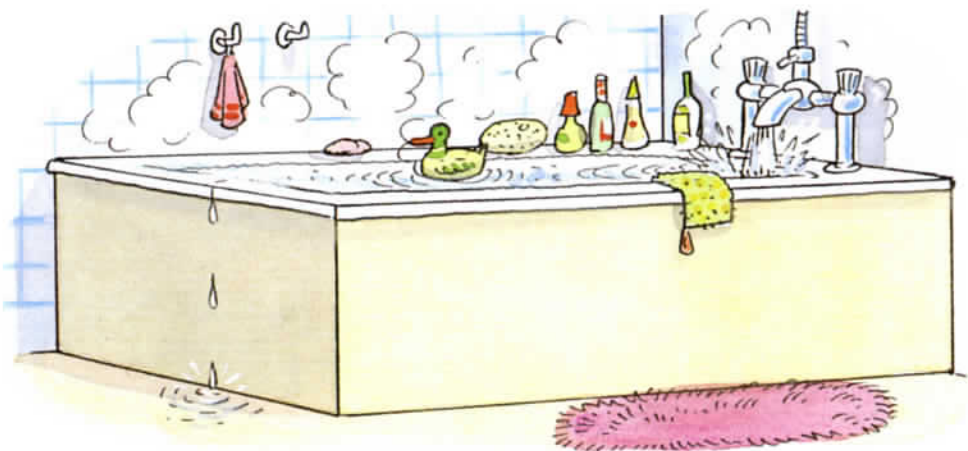
Dad looked at the football.



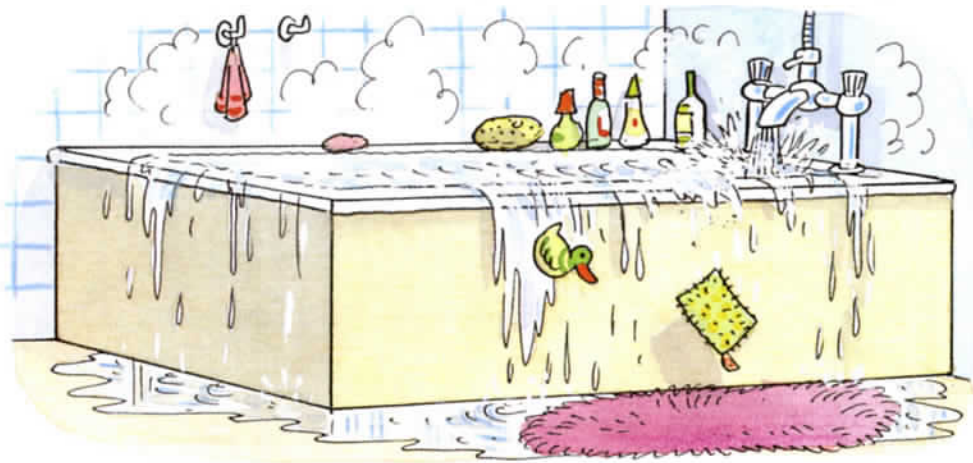
“Go on!” he called. “Kick it!”



Dad forgot the bath.



Drip! Drop! Drip!



Plop! Plop! Splat!



“What was that?” said Dad.



Splash! "Oh no," said Dad.

Play a game

Who said it?

To help the child find parts of the story where the characters are speaking.

- Without showing the child, choose a page where someone is speaking. Read what he/she said, e.g. "What was that?" (page 15).
- Ask the child to find the page and find out who said it.
- Then let the child ask you to find out who said something else.
- Have two or three turns each.

Other ideas

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

- Take it in turns to read what each person says in the story. Remind the child that he/she should read only the text inside the speech marks.
- Ask the child to draw a picture from the story, then put in a speech bubble next to a character. Then, in the bubble, help the child to write what the person said.

The Mud Bath

Dad has a bath – but not
the way he wanted.

This story practises these words:

ball call(ed) down over ran that there
want what with



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Sniff

Pond Dipping

The Ice Rink

The Mud Bath

The Steel Band

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