

Story written by Roderick Hunt Illustrations by Alex Brychta



## What's this story about?

Floppy barks at a cat and it runs up a tree. Wilma tries to save it and then Wilma's dad. When Wilma's dad gets stuck too, the only thing to do is call the fire brigade!

## Talk together

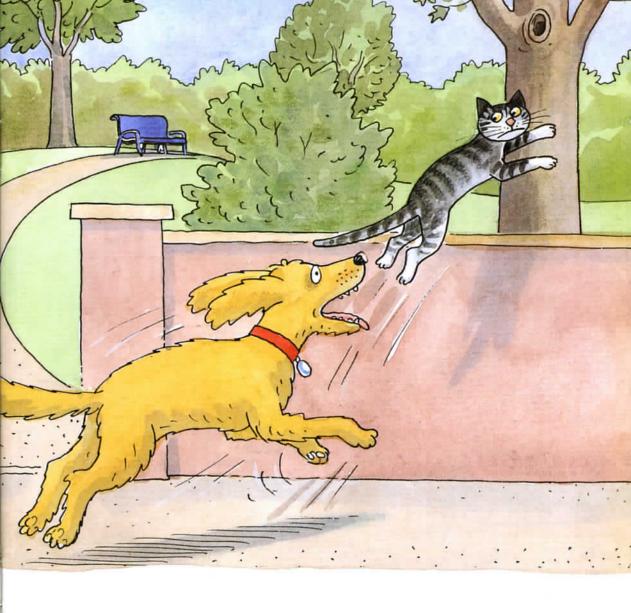
Read the title on the cover. Ask, "Why might the cat be up the tree?" Point out the cat's sharp claws. Ask, "How do those claws help the cat climb?"

#### Read the story





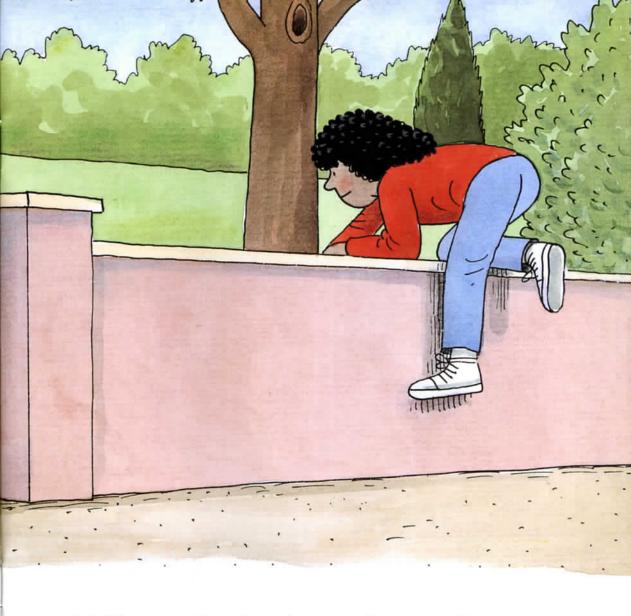
- Look through the pictures to see what happens. Did the child guess correctly about why the cat was up the tree?
  - Read the story together.
- Before turning each page, ask, "What do you think will happen next?"
- Help them read the tricky words, e.g. 'climbed' on page 3 and 'couldn't' on page 5.
- Encourage the child to sound out the letter sounds in 'stuck' and 'jumped'.
- Page 15, talk about why the fireman in the fire engine is looking at his watch.



Floppy barked at a cat. The cat ran up a tree.



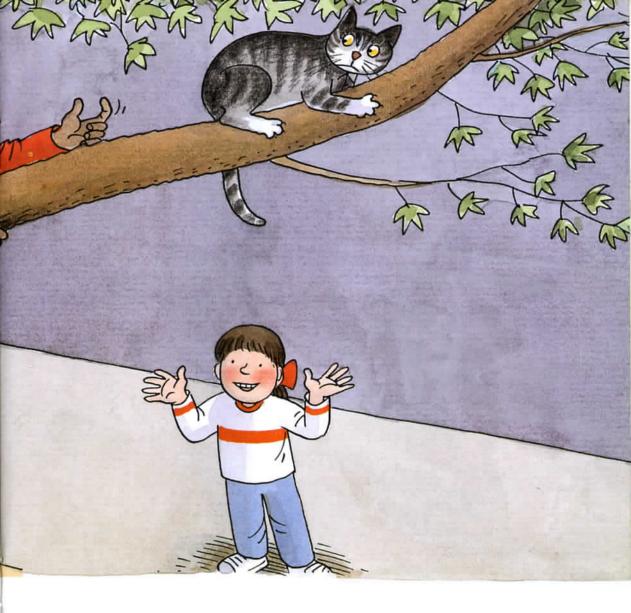
Biff was cross with Floppy.



Wilma climbed on the wall.



Wilma climbed up the tree.



She couldn't get the cat.



Wilma couldn't get down.



Wilma's dad was cross.



He put the ladder up.



Wilma climbed down.



Wilma's dad climbed the tree.



He couldn't get the cat.



Wilma's dad was stuck.



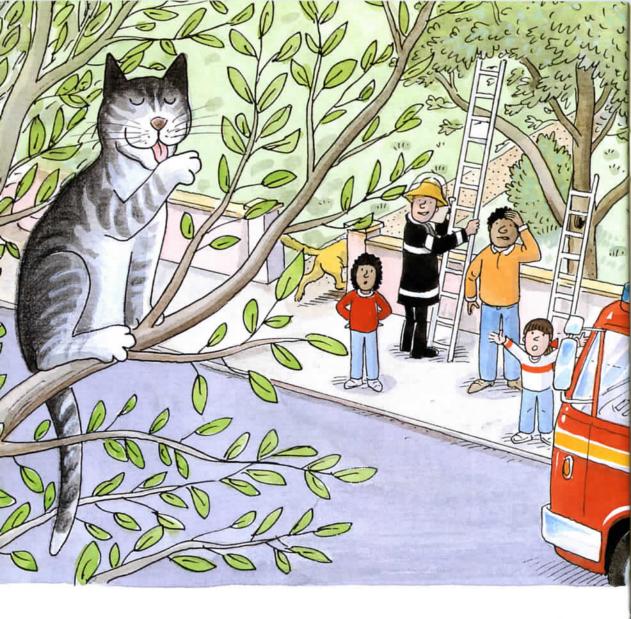
The cat jumped down.



The fireman put a ladder up.



Wilma's dad climbed down.



"Oh no!" said everyone.

#### Play a game

#### Up and down

To help the child skim texts for words.

- Ask the child to find a sentence with the word 'up' or 'down' in it.
- The child skims through the book and reads out the sentence when they find the word.
- Swap roles.

#### Other ideas

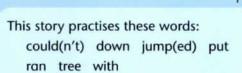
You can use these ideas straight away, or on another day.

- 'Up' and 'down' are opposites. Think of some more opposites together, e.g. 'hot' and 'cold'.
- Choose a word with two or three letters from the book and practise spelling it with the child.



# A Cat in the Tree

Who is stuck up a tree?





On the Sand The Egg Hunt Nobody Wanted to Play A Cat in the Tree The Rope Swing By the Stream

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