



Oxford  
Reading  
Tree

# Vanishing Cream



Roderick Hunt  
Alex Brychta

Story written by Roderick Hunt  
Illustrations by Alex Brychta



### ***What's this story about?***

The key takes Biff and Chip to Wizard Blot's house. Some vanishing cream makes the children invisible, and then a burglar breaks in. Biff and Chip know what to do!

### ***Talk together***

Read the title on the cover. Ask, "What does 'vanish' mean?" and "What has happened to the children's hands?"

### ***Read the story***

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

- W** Page 1, ask the children to sound out the word 'theatre', and help them if they need it.
- W** Page 8, together read the notice outside the house and help them with any difficult words.
- C** Page 19, ask, "Why do you think the burglar would want the Wizard's computer disks?"
- C** Page 21, ask, "What do you notice about the vanishing cream?"
- C** Page 24, ask, "What has happened to the little bottle of vanishing cream?"

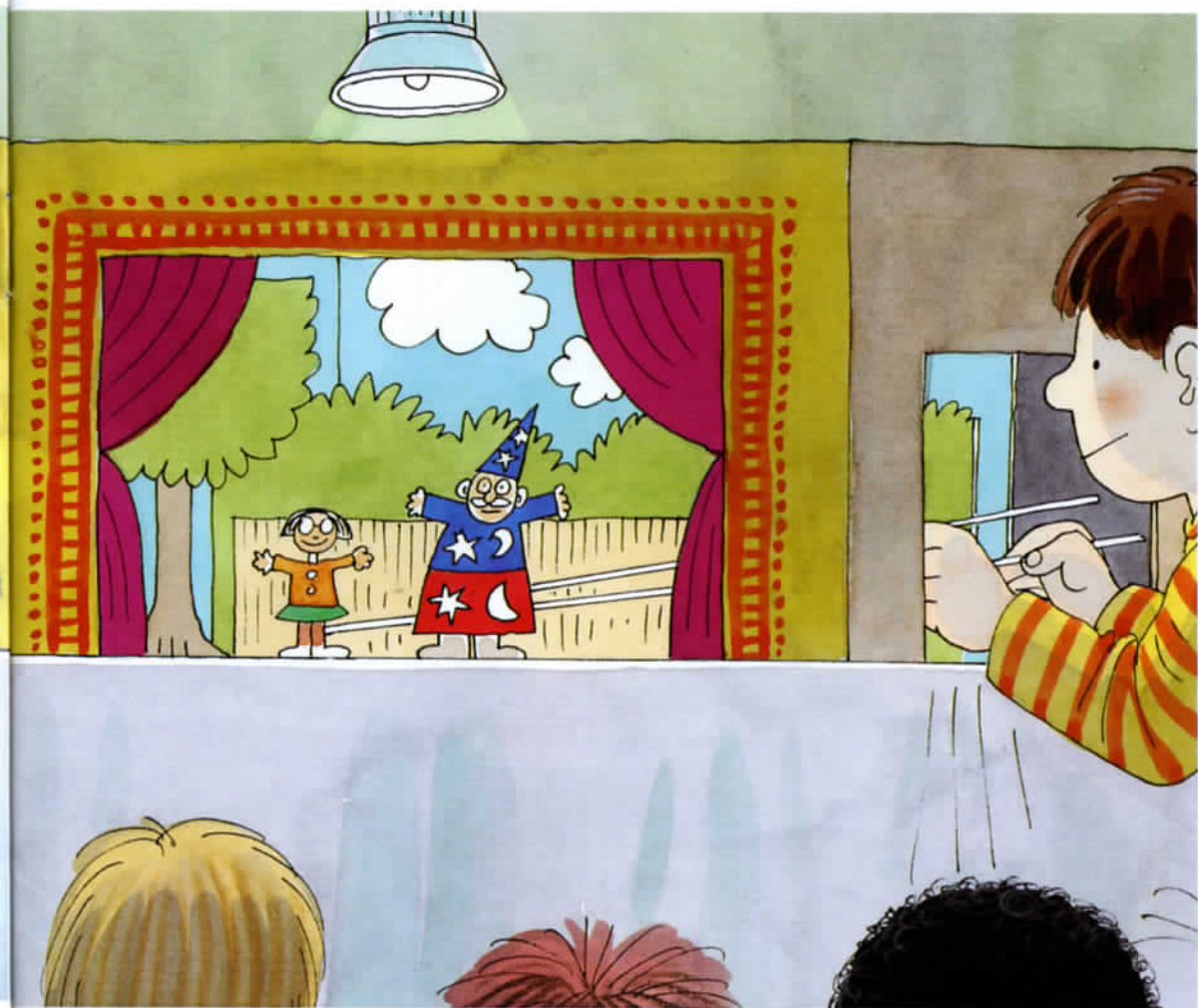


The children were at school. They made a little theatre. They made it out of a box.





The children put on a play. The play was about a wizard.



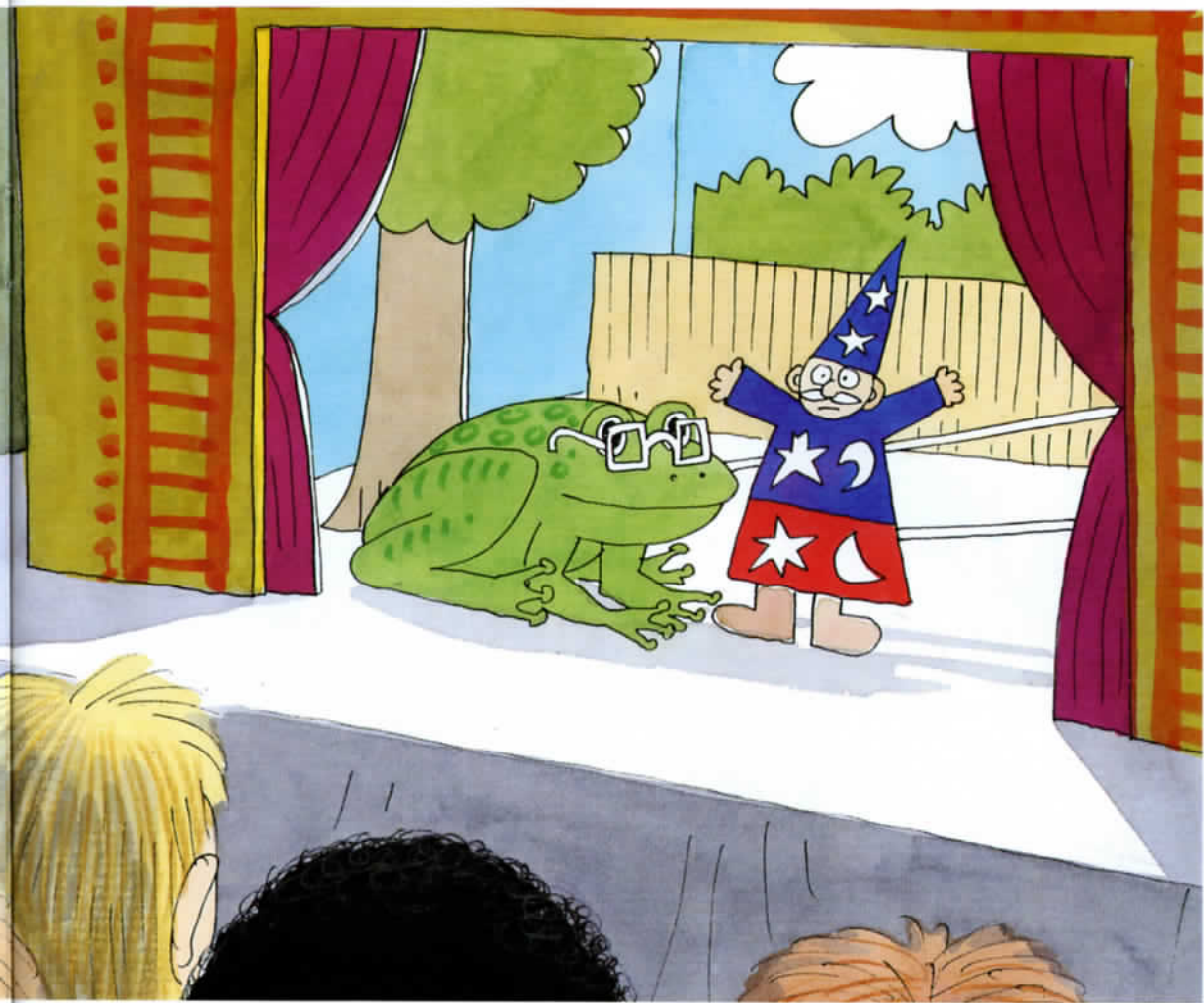
He was called Wizard Blot. Wizard Blot made mistakes.



Wizard Blot made a spell. The spell went wrong.

“Oh dear! Oh dear!” said Wizard Blot.





Everyone laughed. Everyone liked the play. Mrs May liked Wizard Blot.



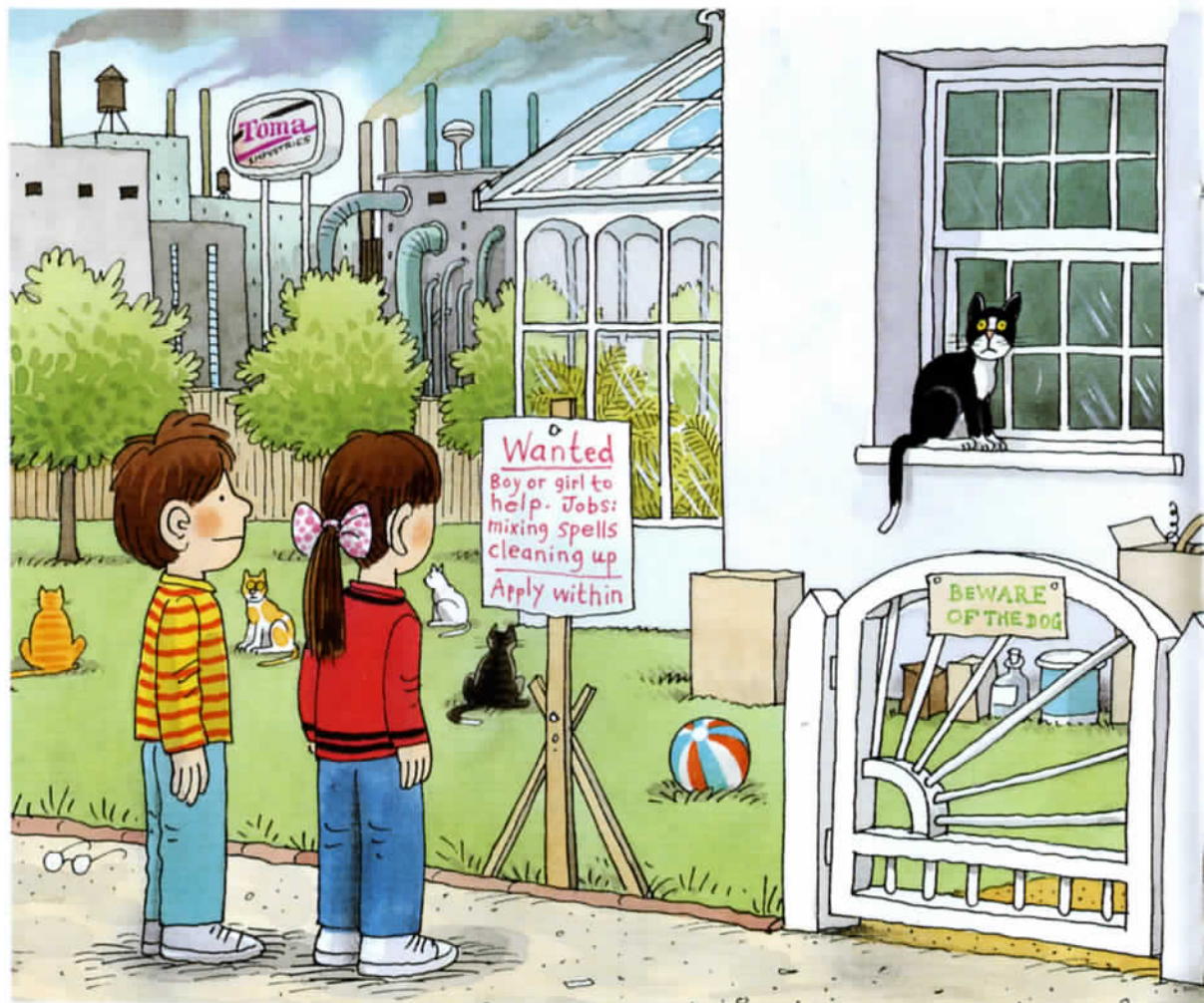
Biff was in her room. The key began to glow.

“Chip! Chip!” called Biff.





Chip ran into Biff's bedroom. The magic took them inside the little house.

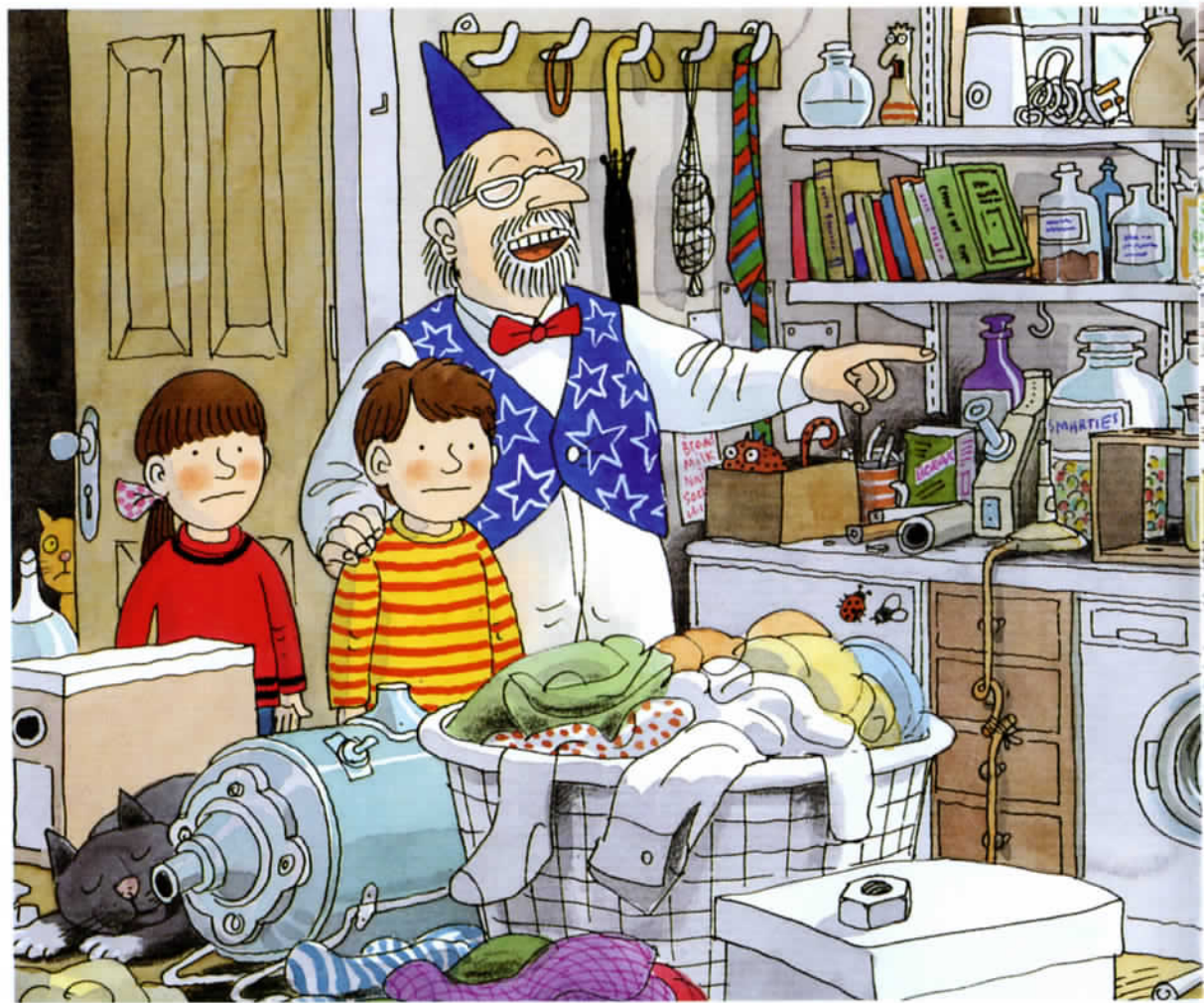


The magic took them to Wizard Blot's house. The Wizard wanted some help.



“Come in!” said the Wizard. “I wanted one helper, but two will do.”





“Come in!” said the Wizard. “You can wash up, then you can tidy up.”



Biff and Chip looked at the mess.  
“Don’t be lazy,” said the Wizard, “or  
I’ll turn you into frogs.”





Biff and Chip did the washing up.  
“I don’t like this,” said Chip, “but I  
don’t want to be a frog.”





"I don't like ironing," said Biff, "but we don't want to be frogs."



Oh no! Biff dropped a bottle. It was vanishing cream.





“Help!” said Biff. “This is vanishing cream.”



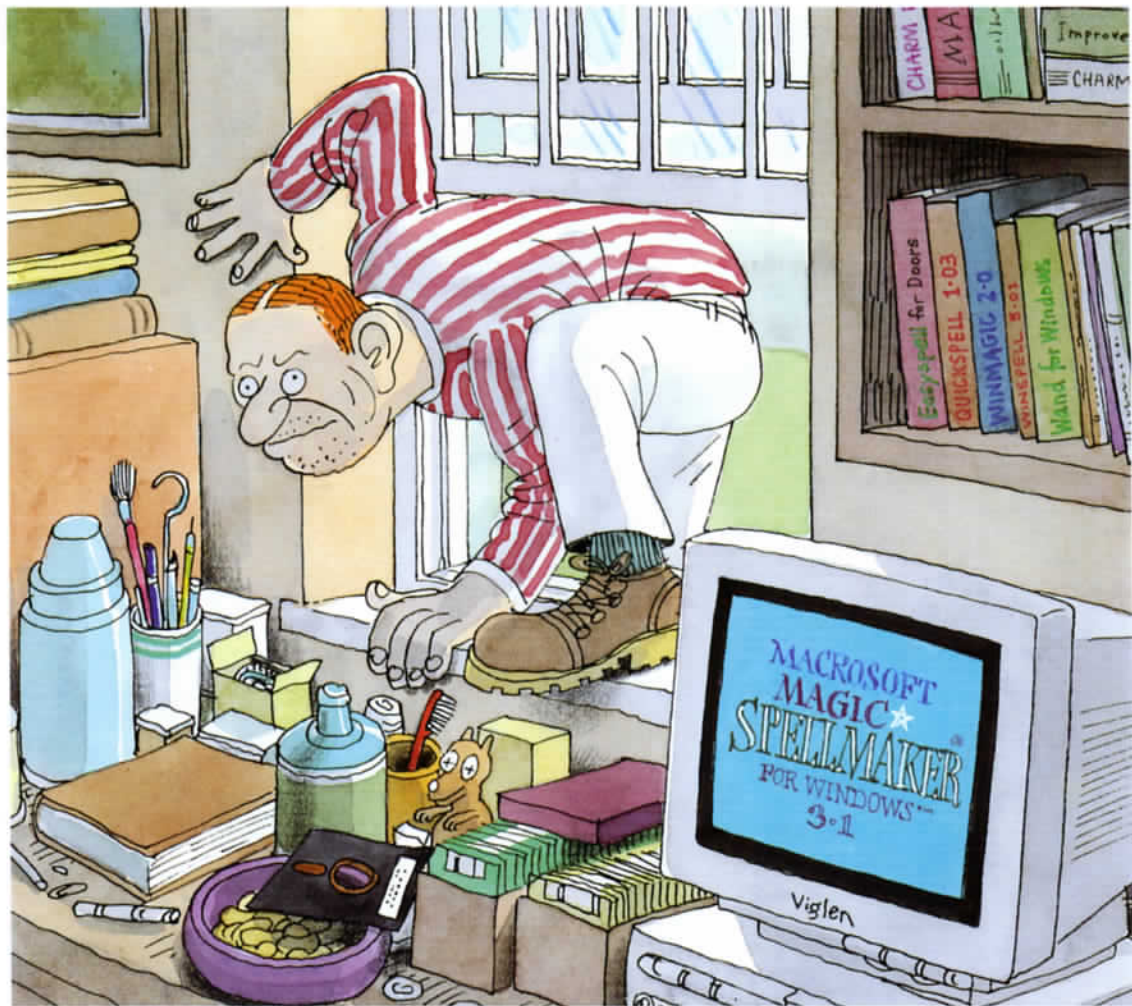


Chip looked at his hands.  
“Oh no,” he said. “Bits of us are  
vanishing.”



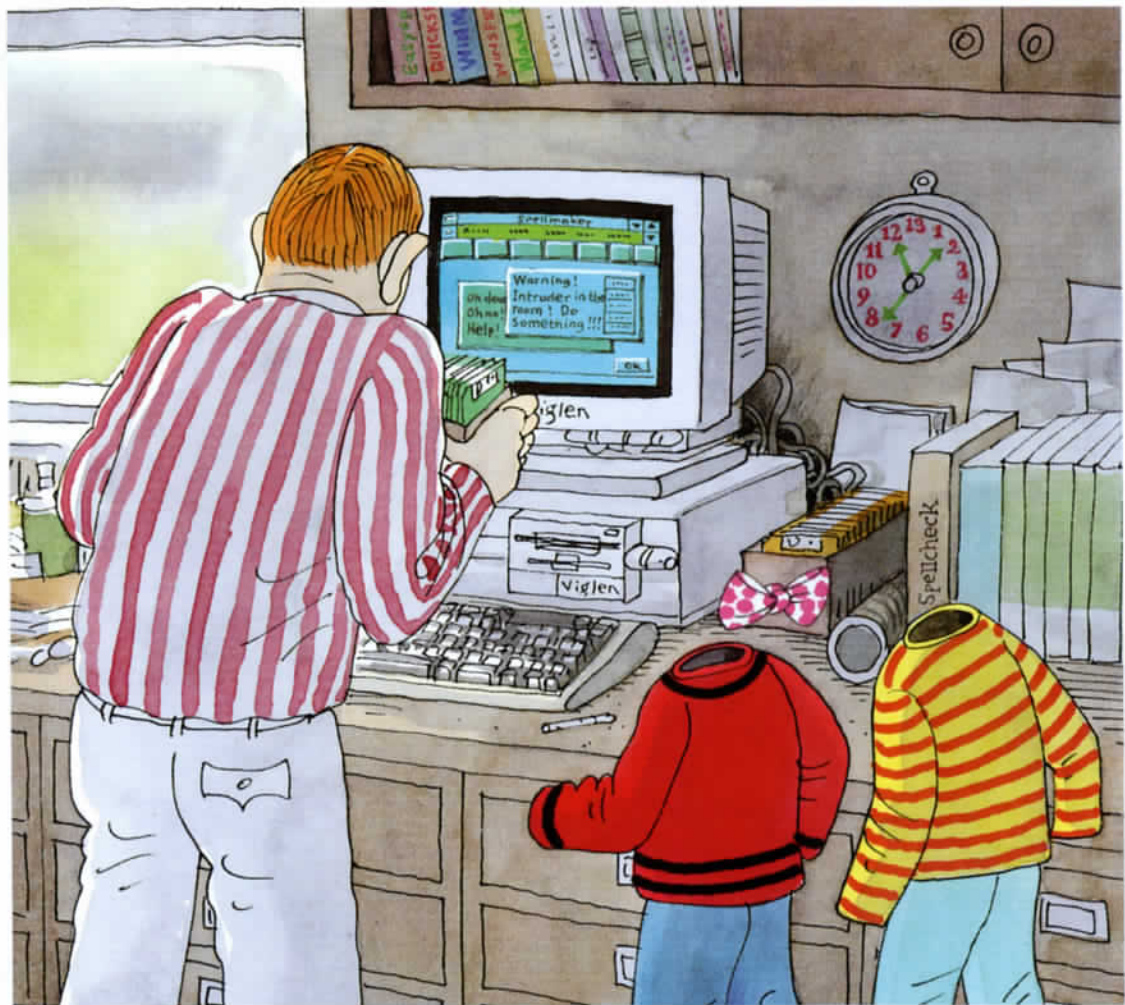
He rubbed his face.

“Oh no!” said Biff. “Your face is vanishing.”



A man came to the house. He  
climbed through the window.





The man didn't see Biff and Chip. He took all the Wizard's computer disks.



“Help! Help!” said the man. “I’m being attacked by the washing.”





Wizard Blot came back. Biff told him about the vanishing cream.





Chip gave Wizard Blot the computer disks. The Wizard was pleased.



It was time to go home.  
“Thank you,” said Wizard Blot. “Do  
come again.”





Biff had a little bottle.

“Don’t drop it,” said Chip. “It’s vanishing cream.”



## ***Play a game***

### ***Vanishing words***

*This helps children predict words in a sentence, which helps fluent reading.*

- Cover one word in a sentence: Ask the child to read the whole sentence and guess the word.
- Reveal the word a letter at a time, to see if the guess was right.
- Take turns to cover a word and to guess.

### ***Other ideas***

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

- Change words into other words by changing the first letter or letters, e.g. Ask, "How can we change 'cream' into 'dream'?"
- Together, make up a story about a wizard.

# Vanishing Cream

Biff and Chip begin to vanish.

This story practises these words:

about again back be but by called  
came do don't had help her him his  
home house laugh(ed) little made one  
or out put ran school some them  
then time took two us want(ed) were  
will your

## Stage 5 More Stories A

The Whatsit

Underground Adventure

Vanishing Cream

It's Not Fair

The Great Race

A Monster Mistake

*Available in packs*

Stage 5 More Stories Pack A (one of each title) ISBN 978-0-19-846519-5

Stage 5 More Stories Class Pack A (six of each title) ISBN 978-0-19-846520-1



**OXFORD**  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Orders and enquiries to Customer Services:  
tel. 01536 741171

For further information, phone the  
Oxford Primary Care-line: tel. 01865 353881

text © Roderick Hunt 1993  
illustrations © Alex Brychta 1993  
First published 1993  
This edition published 2008  
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3

ISBN 978-0-19-846525-6



9 780198 465256