

Story written by Roderick Hunt Illustrations by Alex Brychta



What's this story about?

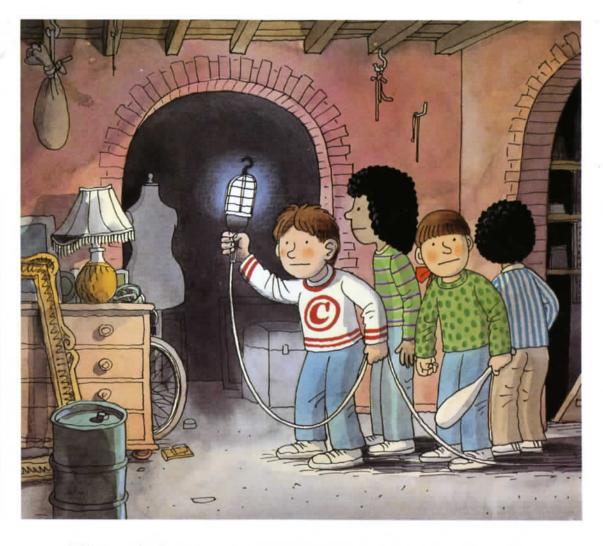
The key takes the children to meet some unhappy elves. Wilma thinks of a way to help them.

Talk together

Ask the child, "Have you ever been underground?" "What was it like?"

Read the story

- Read the title on the cover and point out that 'underground' is made up from 'under' and 'ground'.
- Page 1, explain that a 'cellar' is a room under a house used for storing things.
- Page 7, if the child reads 'light' for 'lamp', look at the sounds in 'lamp' ('l-a-m-p').
- Page 8, talk about what being shy means.
- Page 12, talk about what an echo does.
- Page 15, ask, "Why weren't the elves shy any more?"



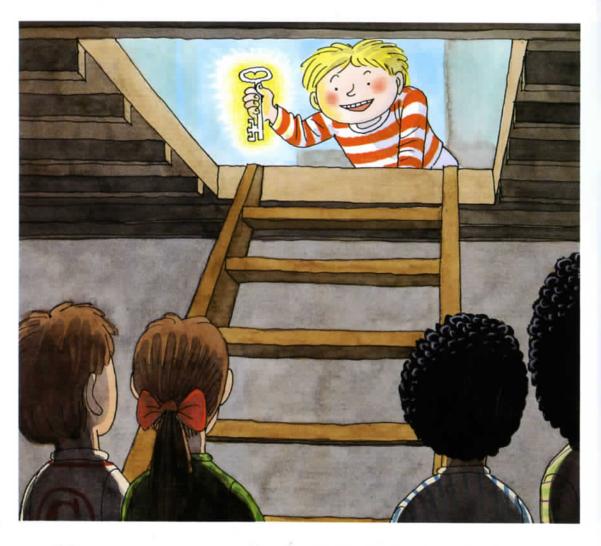
The children were in the cellar. They wanted to find a secret tunnel.



The children looked everywhere. They tapped on the floor. They tapped on the walls.



But there was no secret tunnel. "It's no good," said Biff.

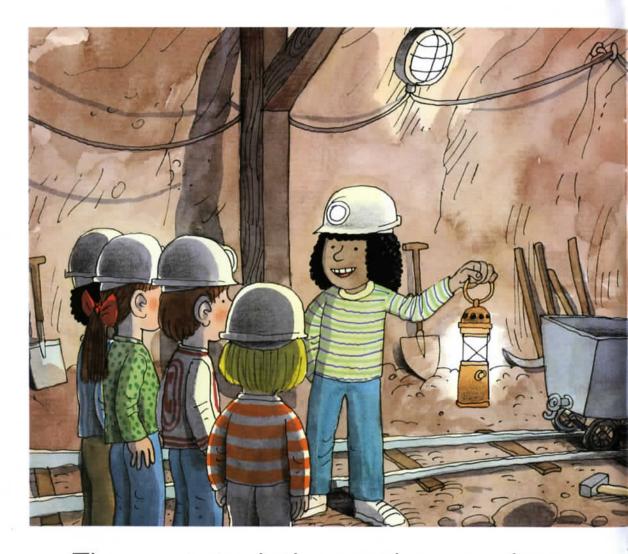


Kipper ran to the cellar. He had the magic key. The key was glowing.



They ran to Biff's bedroom.

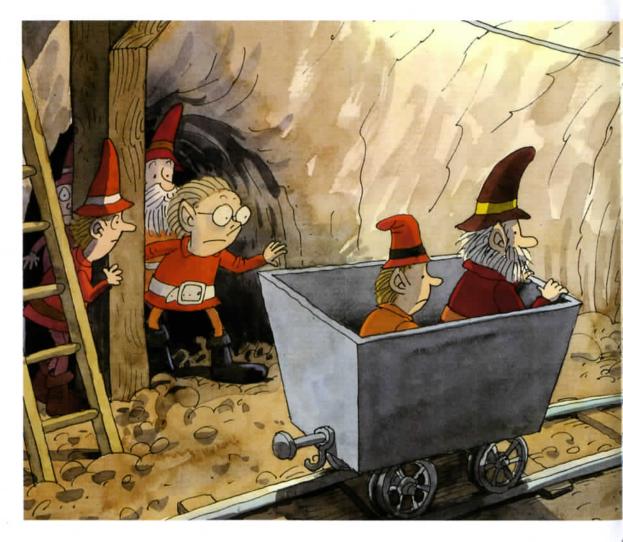
"Come on!" called Kipper. "It's time for a magic adventure."



The magic took them underground. They were in a big tunnel.

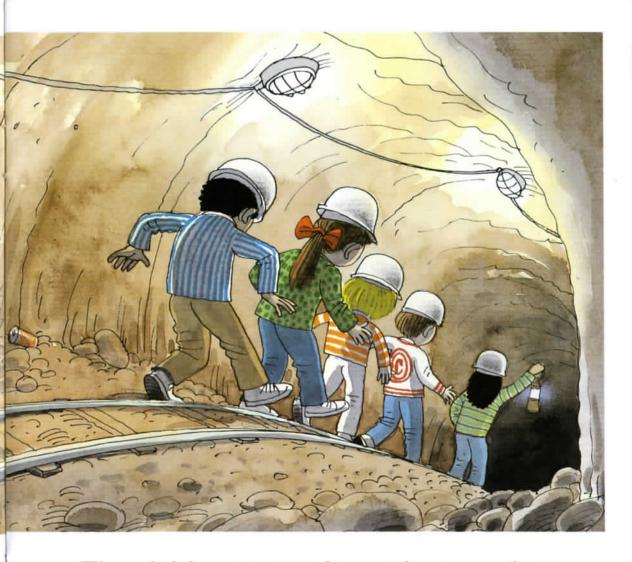


Wilma picked up a lamp. "Come on," she said. "Let's go!"

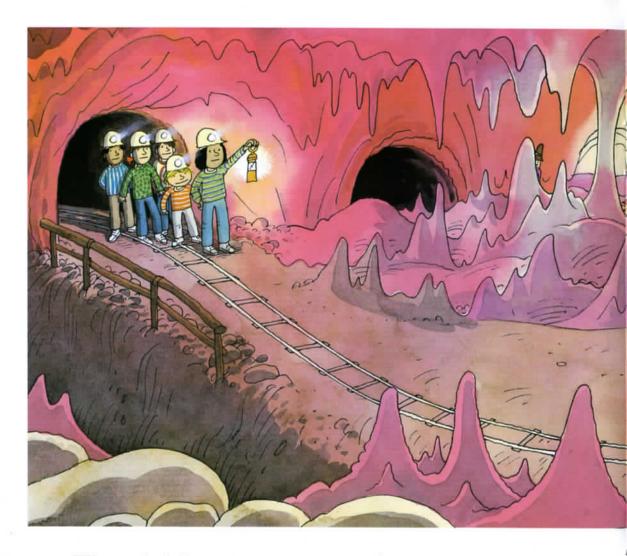


There were elves in the tunnel. But they were shy.

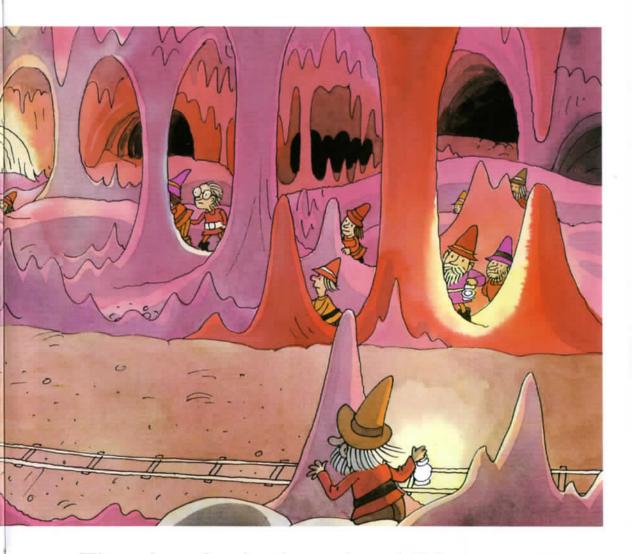
"Oh no!" they said. "Children!"



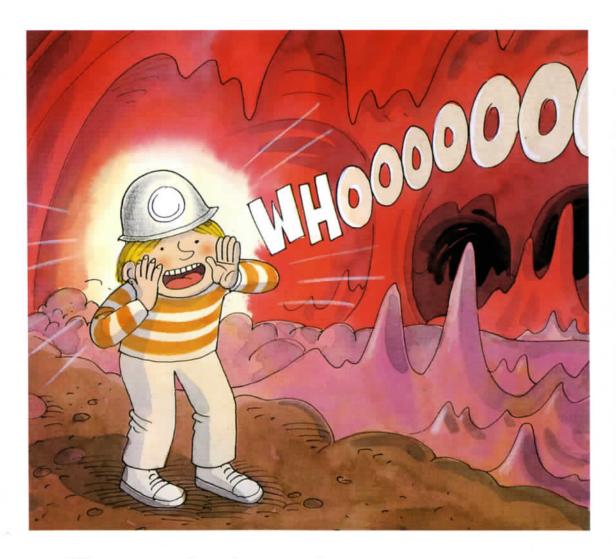
The children went down the tunnel. They didn't see the elves. "This way," said Wilma.



The children came to a big cave. "Wow!" said Biff.



The elves looked at the children. "Oh dear!" said the elves. "Oh dear! Oh dear!"



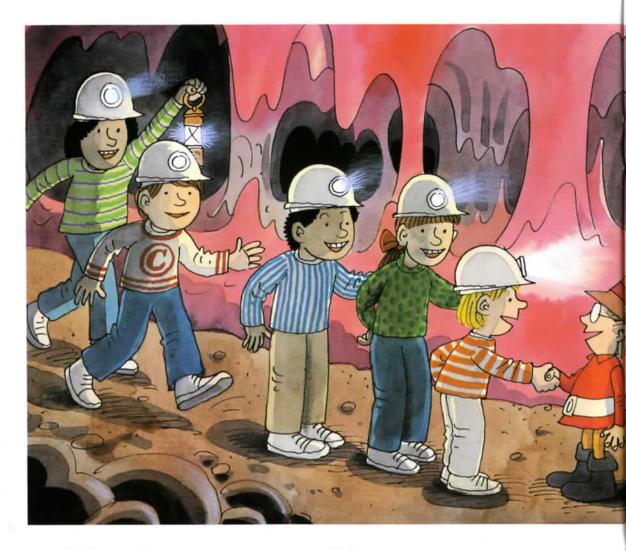
The cave had an echo.

"Whoooooaa!" called Kipper.

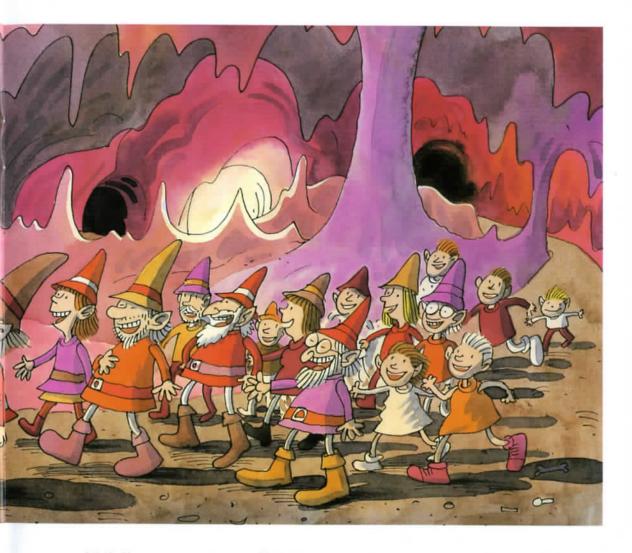
"Whoooooaa!" went the echo.



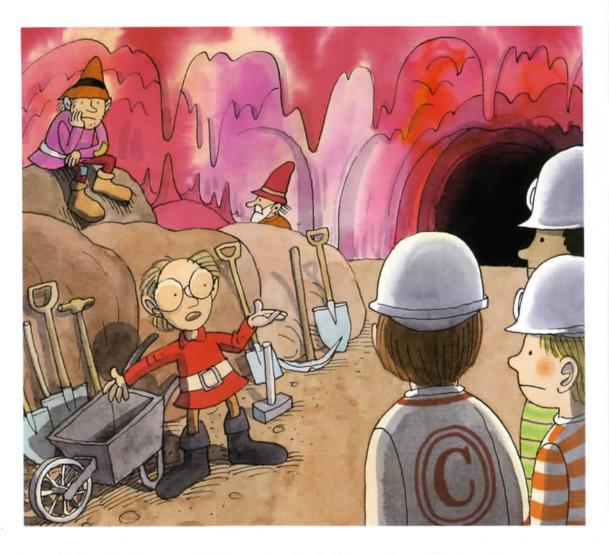
"Whooooaa!" went Kipper.
The elves laughed. They laughed and laughed.



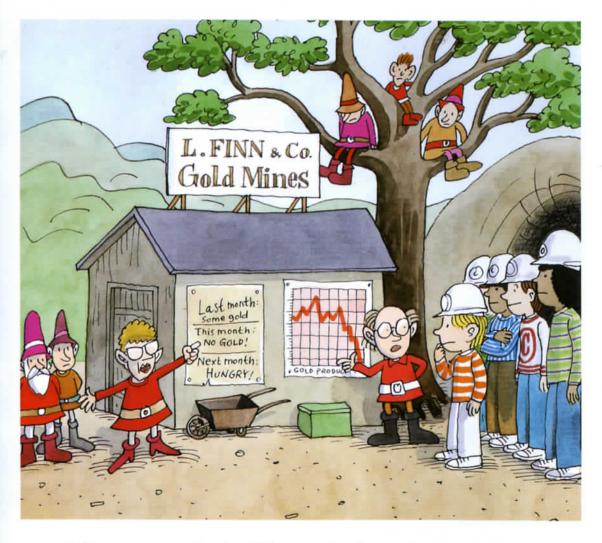
The elves came out. They ran to say hello.



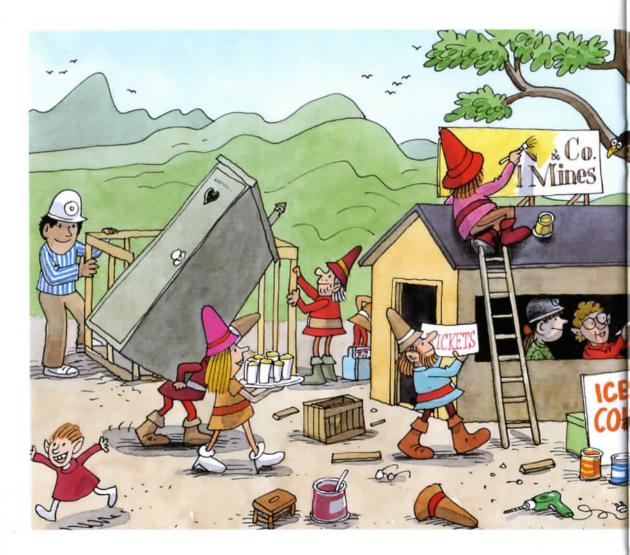
"Whoooooaa!" they went.
"Whoooooaa!" went the echo.
And everyone laughed.



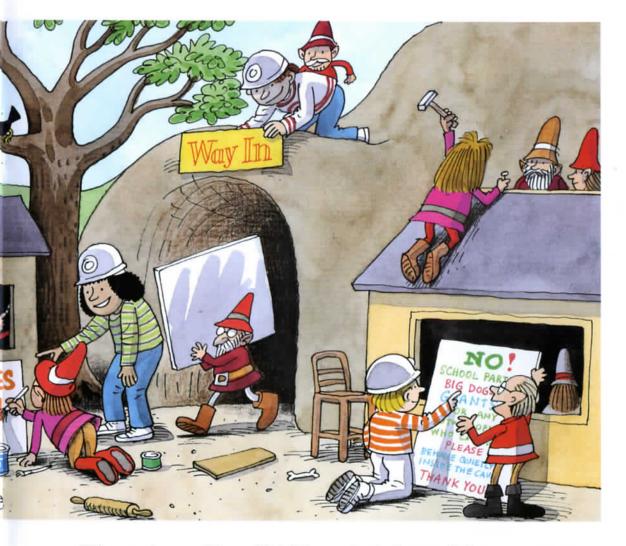
The elves were sad. They had no work.



"Can you help?" said the elves. "Our gold has run out. We don't know what to do."



Wilma had a good idea. She told the elves what it was.



The elves liked Wilma's idea. They painted some signs. The children helped.



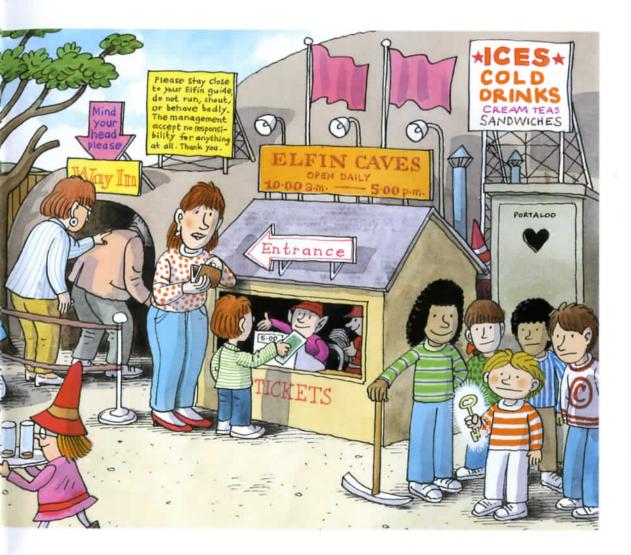
The elves put lights in the caves. The cave looked beautiful.



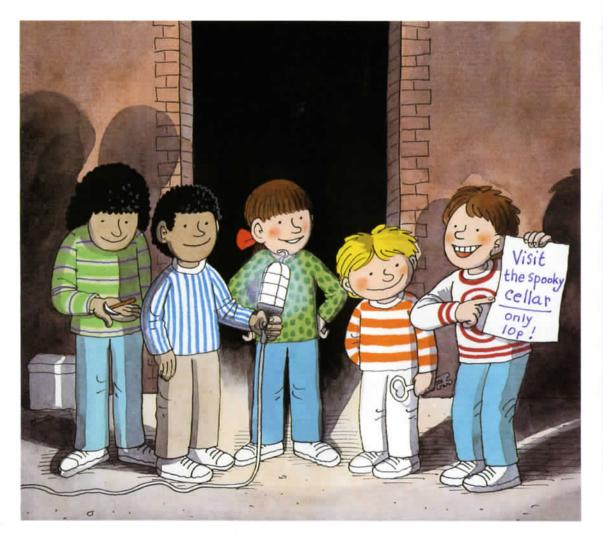
People came to see them. The elves were happy.



The elves were busy. "Thanks to the children," they said.



The magic key began to glow. It was time to go home.



"What an adventure!" said Wilf. "I have a good idea," said Chip. "What do you think?"

Play a game

a, e, i, o, u

To help children remember the five vowels.

- Pick a page and look for a word that has an 'a' in it, then a word with an 'e', an 'i', an 'o', a 'u'.
- Ask the child to choose a page and find words using any of the vowels.

Other ideas

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

- Find 'laughed' in the story. Practise spelling 'laughed'.
- Use the letters in 'adventure' to make as many words as you can.



Underground Adventure A

The children help the elves.

This story practises these words:

an but call(ed) came do don't down good had has have help(ed) home laugh(ed) our out people put ran some them there time took want(ed) way were what



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Printed in China by Imago