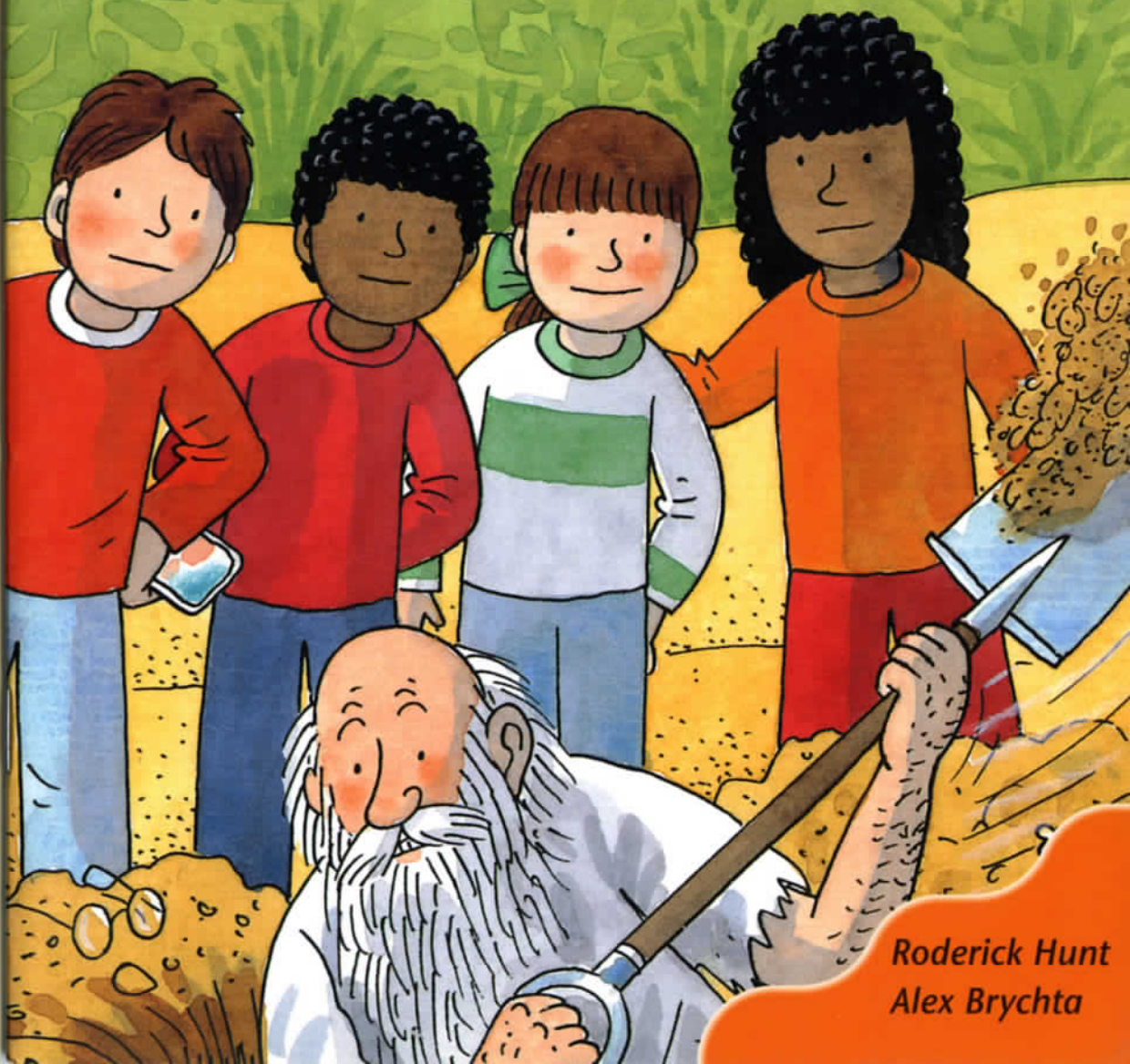




Oxford
Reading
Tree

Mirror Island



Roderick Hunt
Alex Brychta

What's this story about?

Chip has been practising mirror writing. The magic key takes the children to an island where they meet an abandoned sailor. Chip uses his mirror to read the writing on the sailor's treasure map. They can now find the treasure!

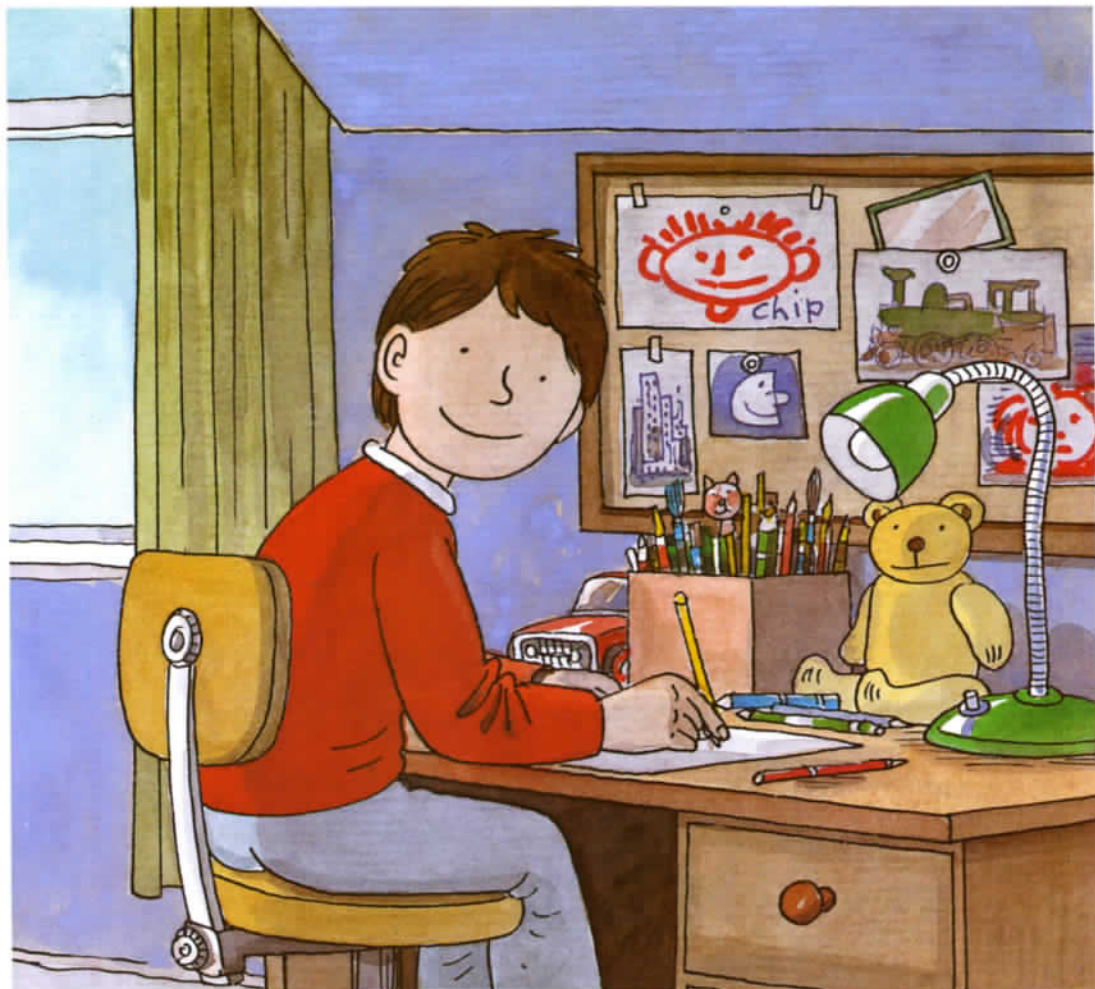
Talk together

Talk about the characters in the picture on the cover. Ask, "What do you think is happening?"

Read the story

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

- C** Read the title and ask, "Why do you think the story is called 'Mirror Island'?"
- W** When there is a new word, praise children for using letter sounds to work out the word.
- C** Page 11, ask, "Why was the man surprised by the way he looked?"
- W** Page 14, help children break down 'understand' into syllables, 'un-der-stand'.
- C** Page 19, ask, "What do you think will be in the chest?"
- C** Page 23, ask, "How did the mirror help the man contact the ship?"
- C** Page 24, ask, "Why did the man want to bury the treasure again?"



Chip was in his bedroom. He was busy drawing.

“Chip!” called Biff. “Wilf and Wilma are here!”

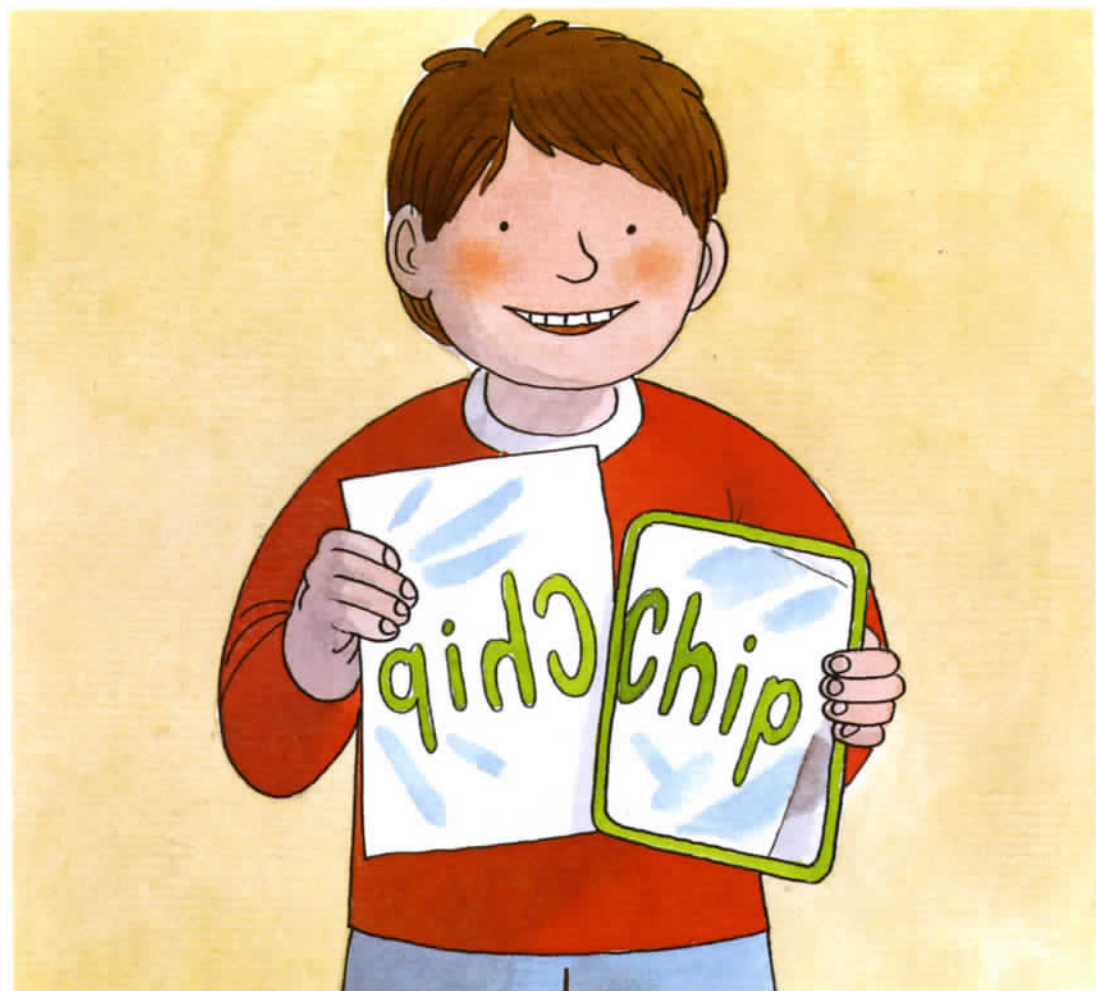


Chip went downstairs. Chip showed them his drawing. He had made a pattern.

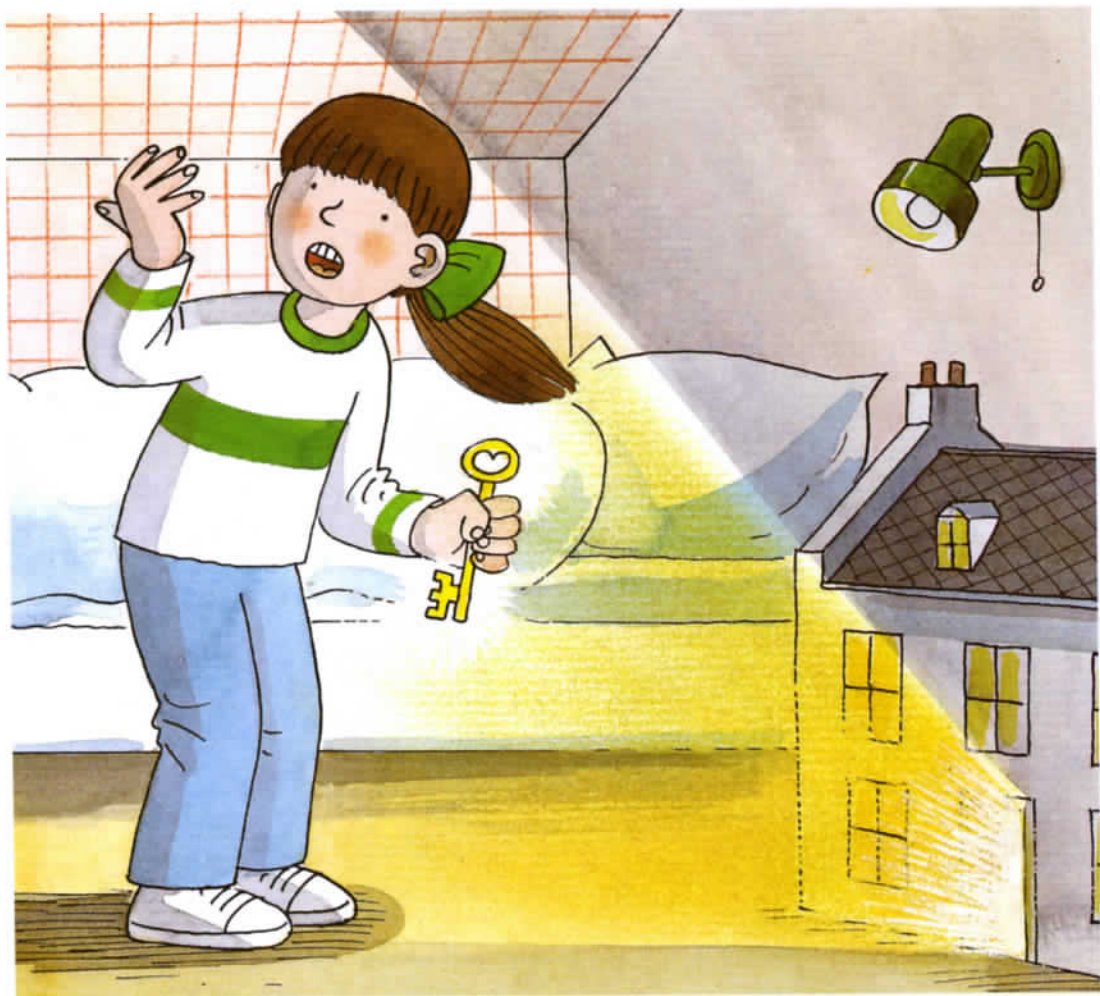
“What is it?” asked Wilf.



“It looks like a word,” said Wilma.
“Come up to my room,” said Chip.
“Then I can show you.”
They went up to Chip’s room.

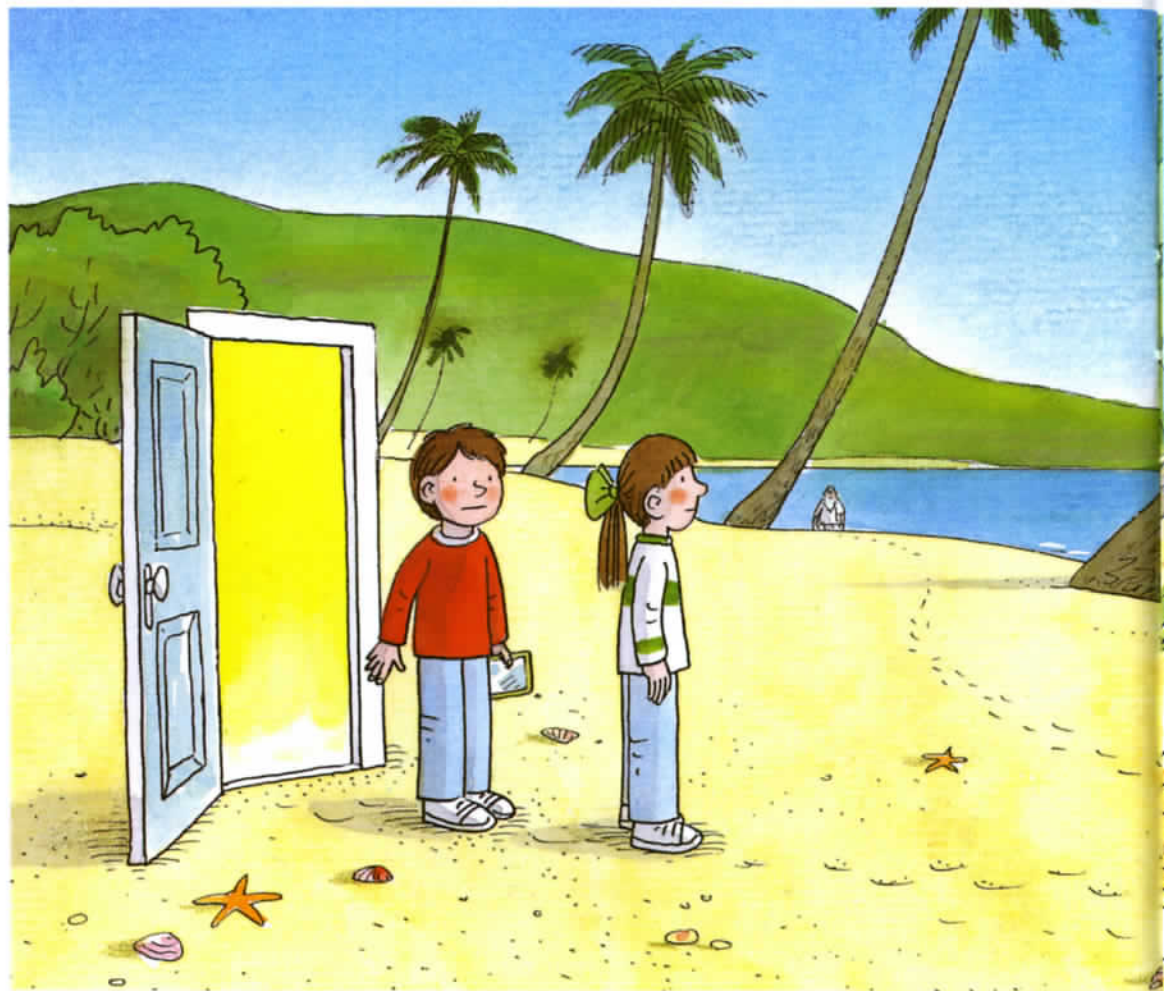


Chip put a mirror on the paper. The pattern said “Chip” in mirror writing. Biff wanted to do some mirror writing but Chip had run out of paper.

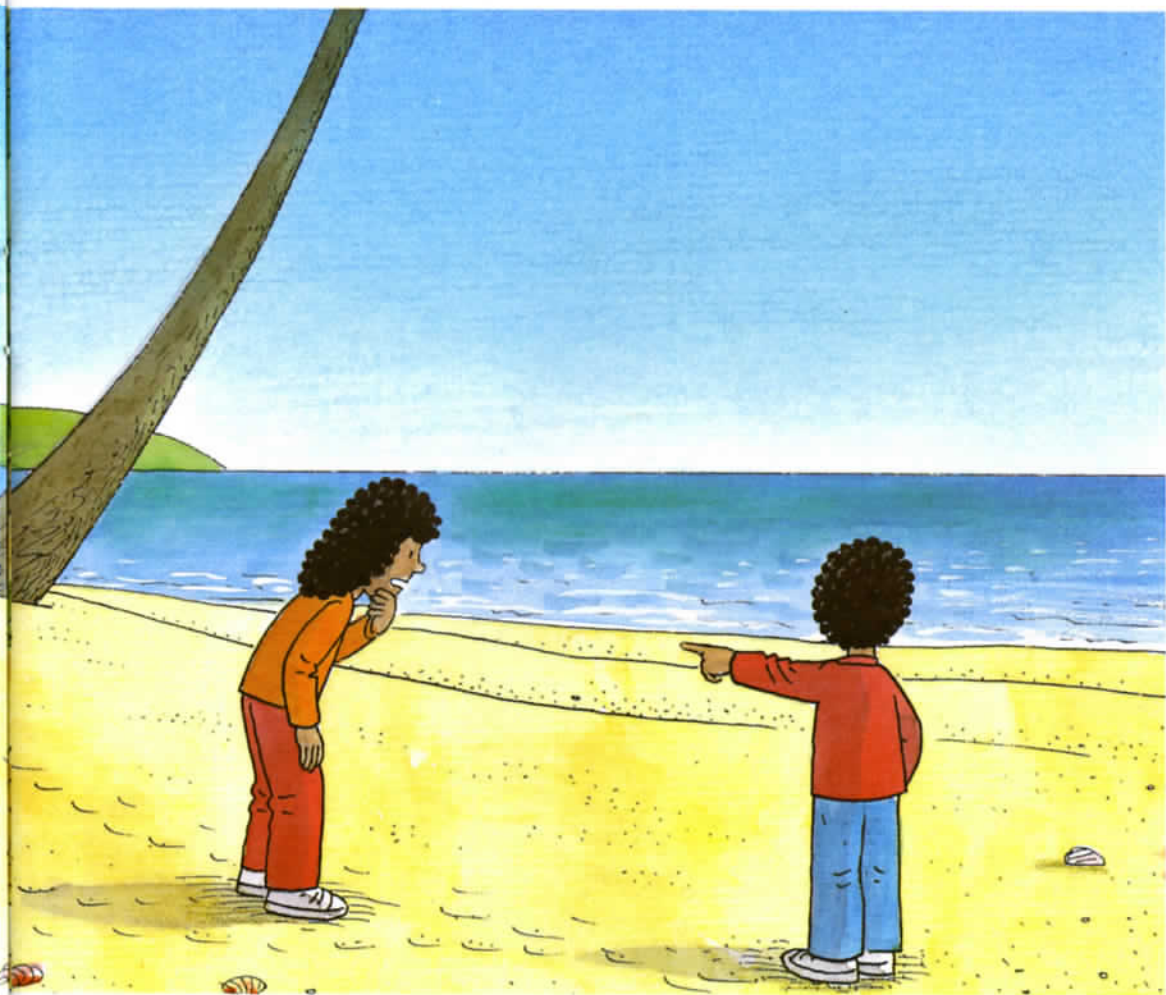


Biff went to her room to get some paper. The magic key was glowing. It was time for an adventure.

“Come here everybody,” she called.



The magic took them to an island.
“We have been here before,” said
Wilma.
“We met some pirates,” said Wilf.

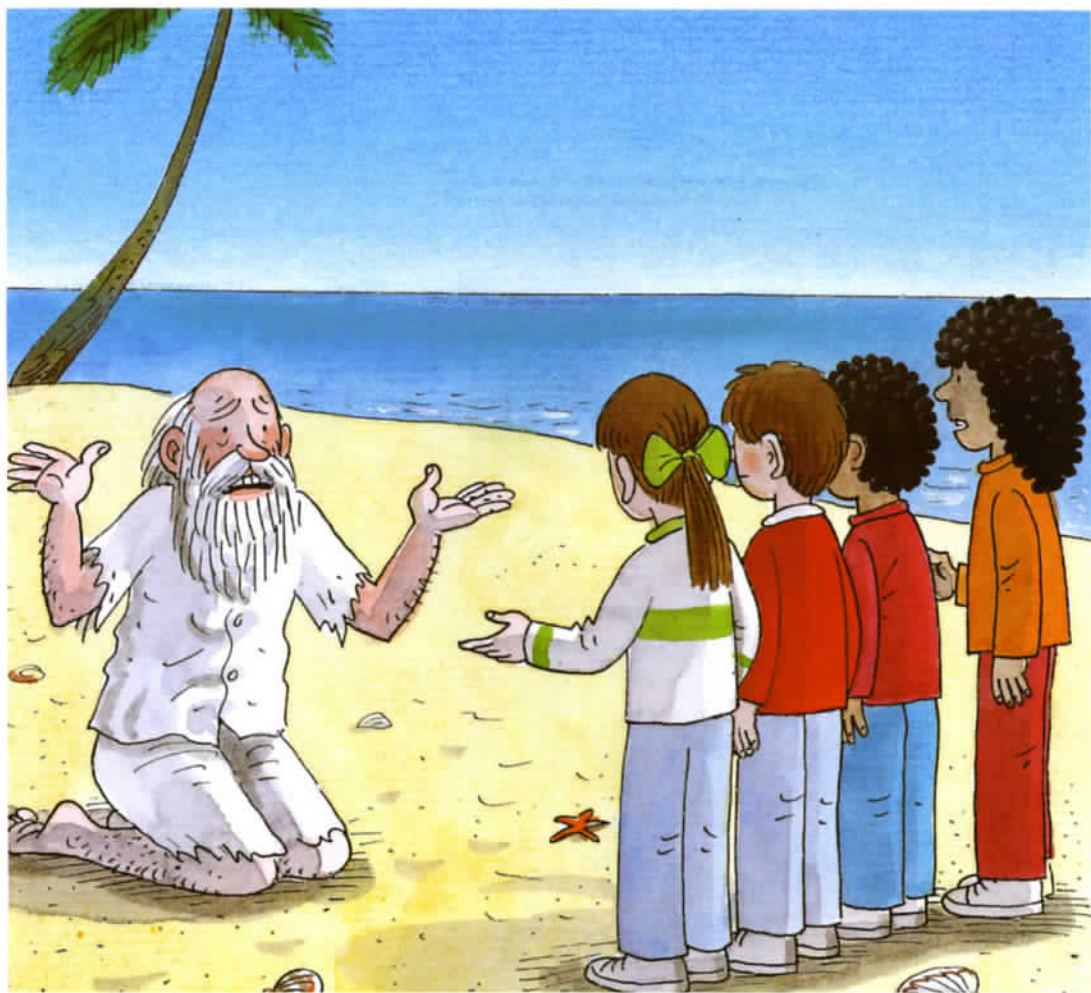


Wilma saw some footprints in the sand.
“There must be someone on the
island,” she said.
“Oh help!” said Wilf. “There he is.”



“He looks fierce,” said Biff. “Run for it!”
The children began to run.

“Stop!” called the man. “Come back!”
And he began to cry.

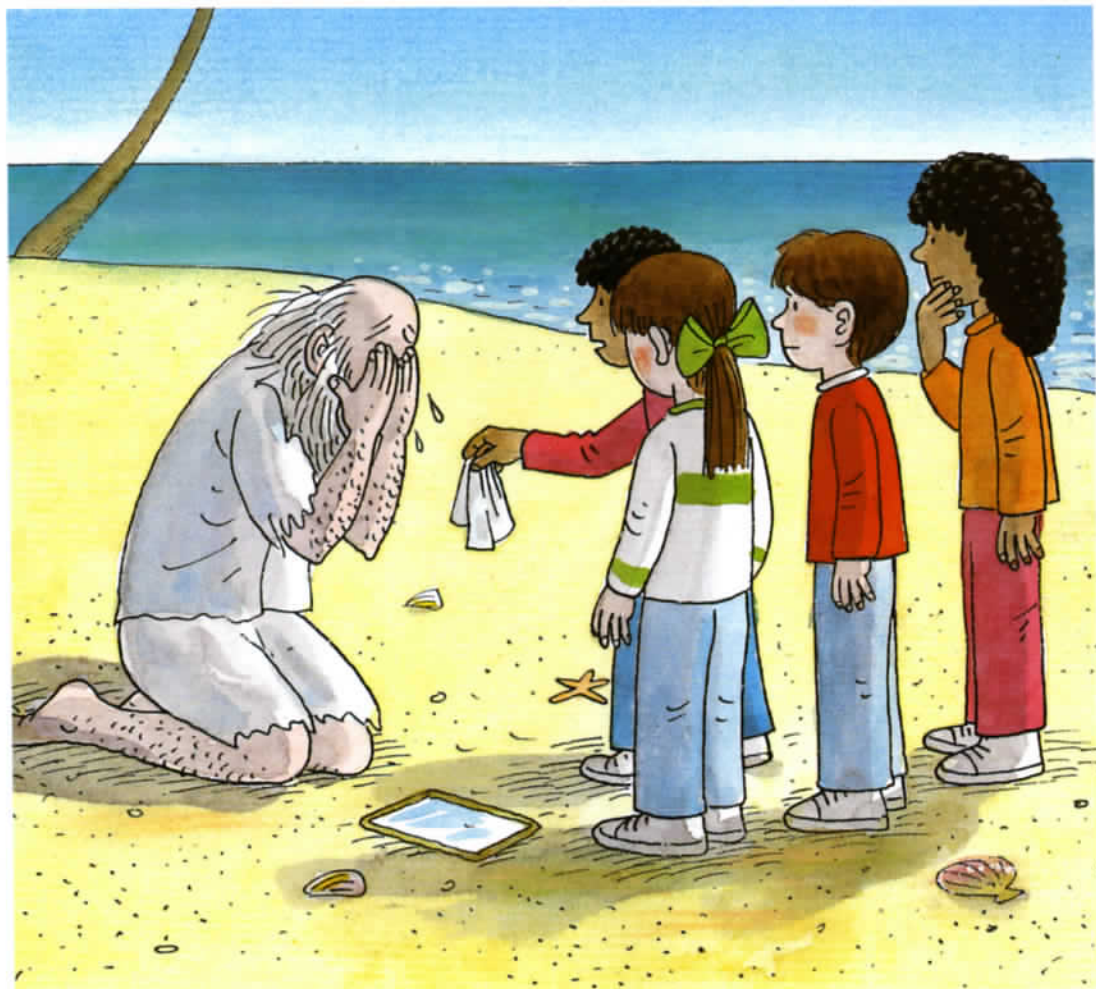


“Why are you crying?” asked Wilma.
“Do I frighten you?” asked the man.
“Yes,” said Biff. “You look so fierce.
You have such long hair.”

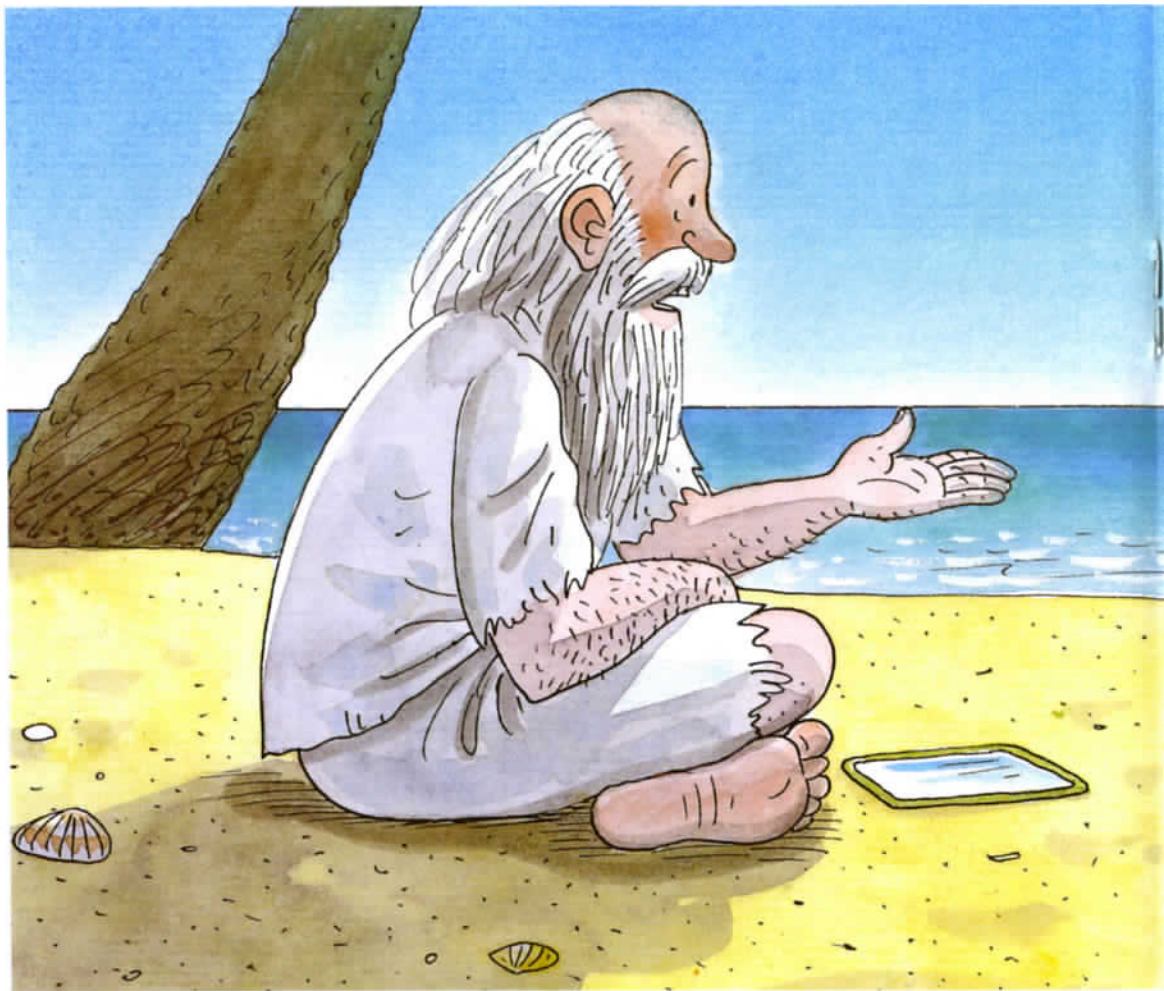


“I don’t look that bad, do I?” asked the man.

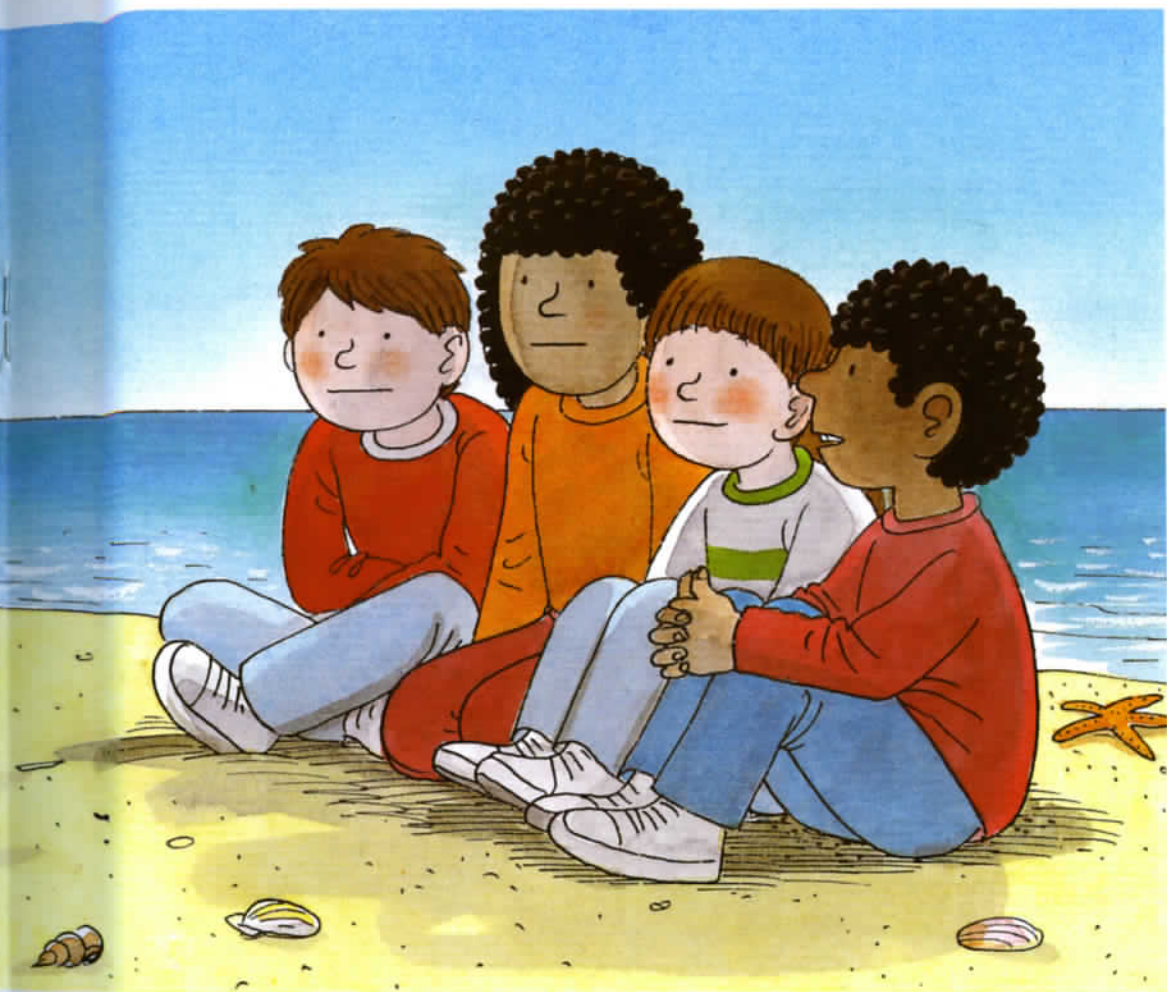
Chip gave him the mirror. The man looked in it.



“Oh no!” screamed the man. “I look terrible! No wonder you were frightened.” He began to cry again.



“My name is Captain Crow,” he said.
“I’ve been alone for ten months and six
days. My crew took the ship.”



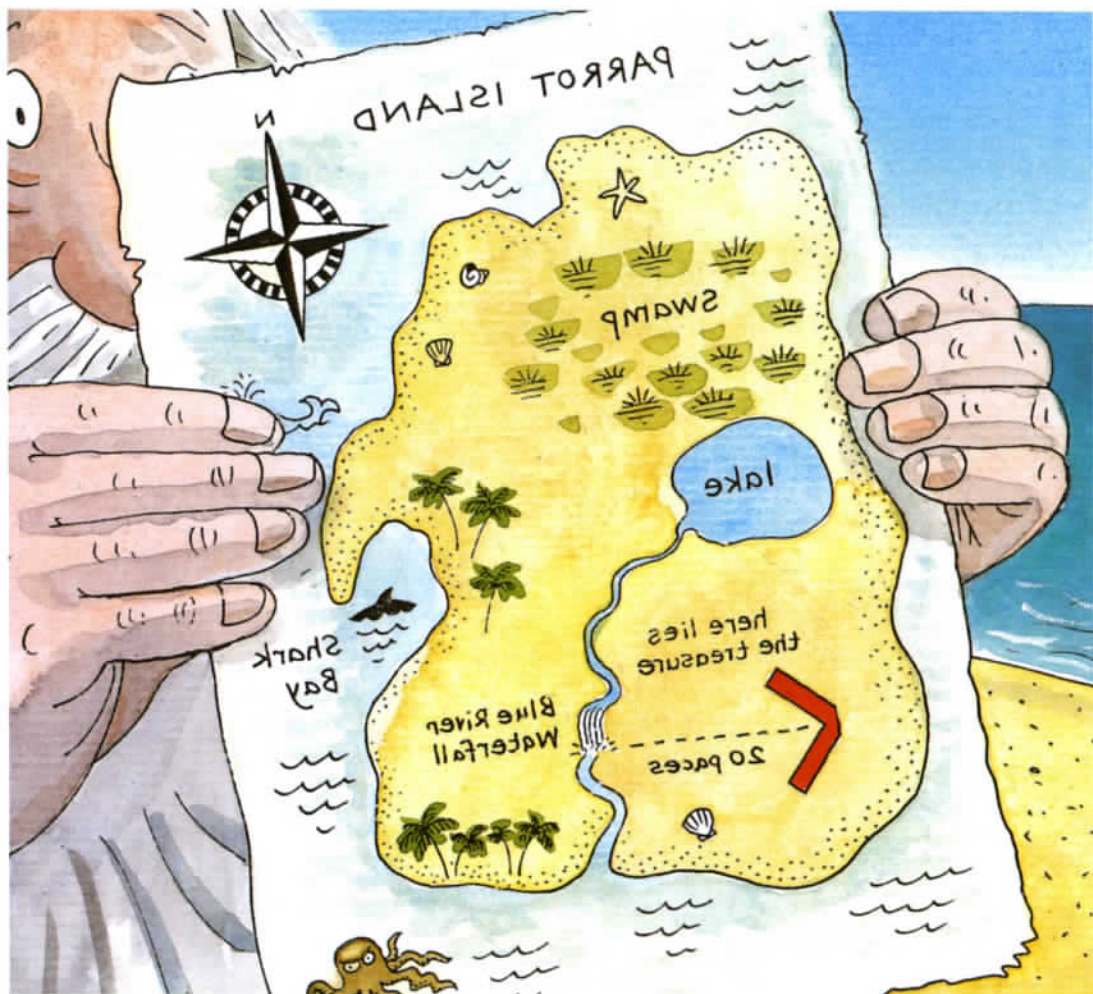
“Why did they do that?” asked Wilf.

“We couldn’t find the treasure,” said Captain Crow. “They said I was useless.”



Captain Crow had a treasure map.
The children looked at it.

“It looks odd,” said Captain Crow. “I
couldn’t understand it.”



“Look at these funny words,” said Biff. “What do they mean?”

“I think I understand it,” said Chip. “It’s in mirror writing!”



Chip put the mirror on the map.
Captain Crow could read the writing.
“It says, *Here lies the treasure*,” he said.
He began to run.



“Where are you going?” said Biff.

“To get my spade!” said Captain Crow.

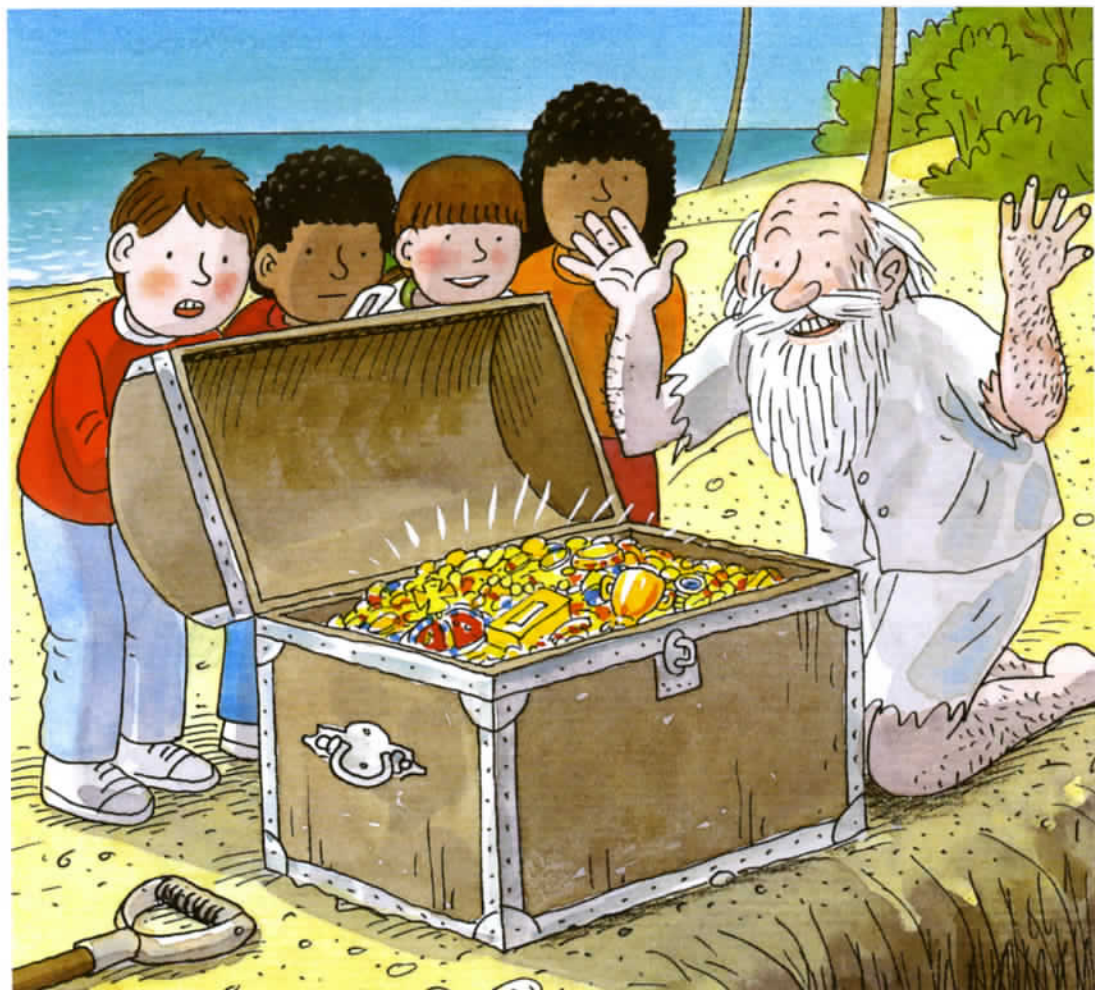
“Come on!” said Wilma. “It looks as if we have some digging to do.”



Captain Crow looked at the map.
“This is the place to dig,” he said.
He dug and dug. Soon he had dug a
deep hole.

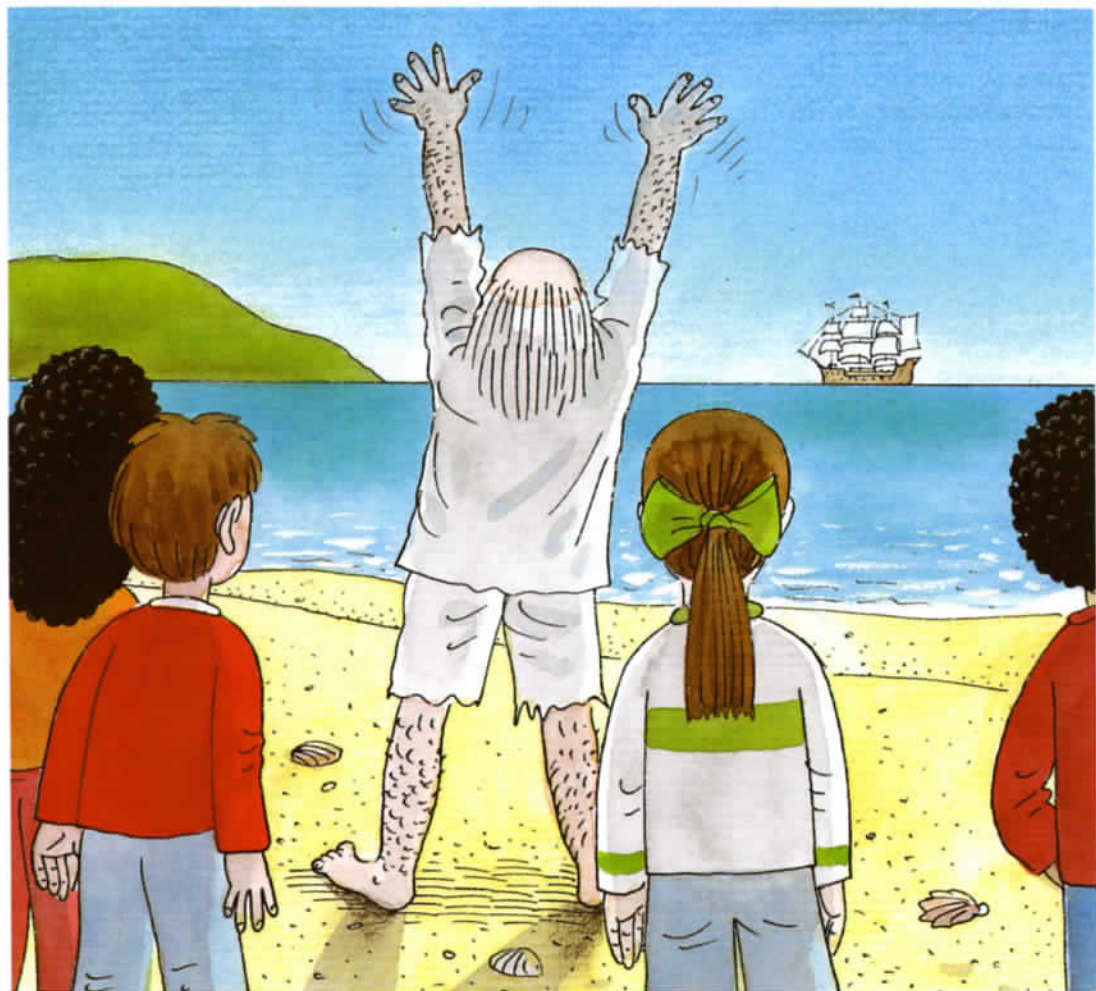


At last the spade hit a wooden box.
“It’s a big chest,” said Captain Crow.
“Thanks to you and your mirror, I’ve
found the treasure!”



Captain Crow opened the chest.
Everyone gasped. It was full of gold and
silver.

“Hooray!” shouted Captain Crow.
“I’m rich!”



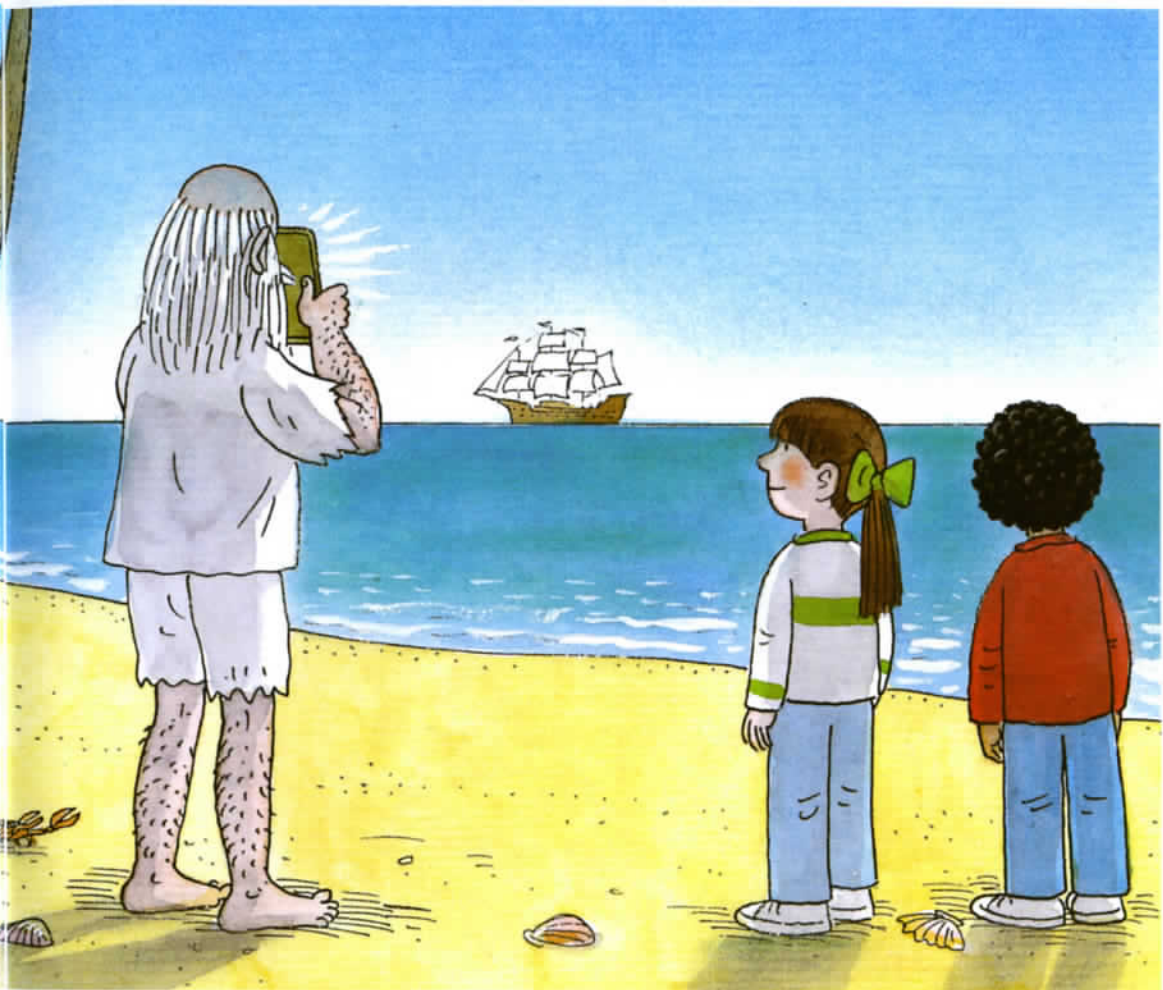
Wilma saw a ship. It was sailing past the island.

“Help!” shouted Captain Crow. “I’m over here. Come and rescue me!”



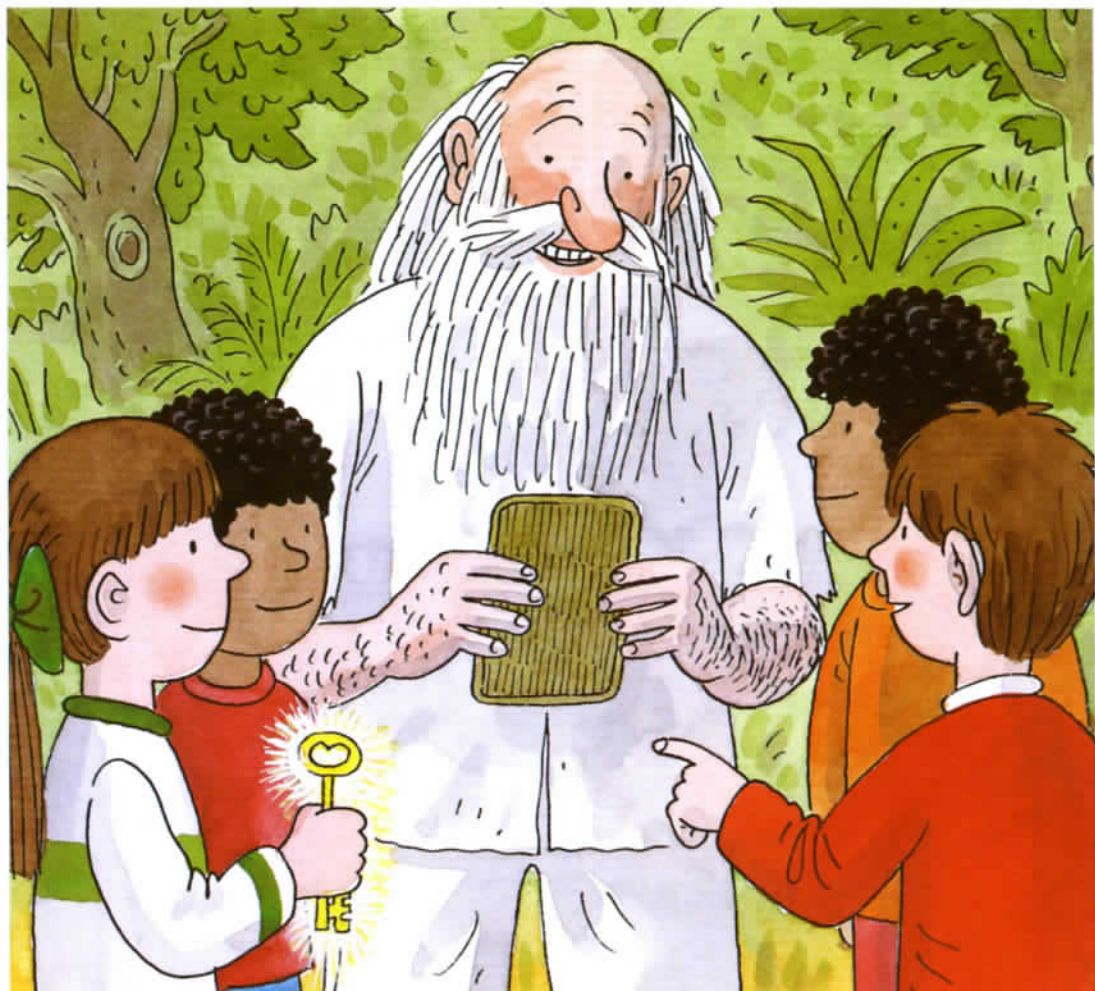
“It can’t see you,” said Wilf.
Wilma had a good idea.

“Use the mirror,” she cried. “Flash it
at the ship!”



The ship flashed back at Captain Crow.

“Now I can leave the island!” he yelled. “Help me hide the treasure. I will come back for it one day.”



The magic key began to glow.

“It’s time for us to go,” said Biff.

“You can keep the mirror,” said Chip,
“to have a shave and a haircut!”

Play a game

End-ing in 'ing'

To help notice words with the same spelling pattern.

- Look through the book and find a word ending with '-ing', e.g. 'writing'.
- Ask children to find another '-ing' word in the book.
- Have two or three turns each.

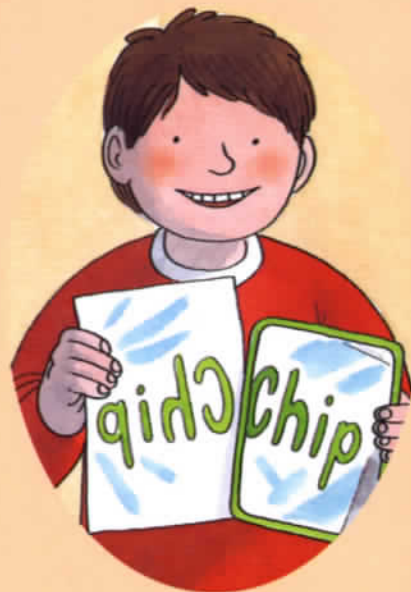
Other ideas

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

- Look for words ending with '-ed' in the story. Change the '-ed' to '-ing' and say the word, e.g. 'called'/'calling'.
- Use a small mirror to try out mirror writing. Write some secret messages.

Mirror Island

Chip discovers mirror writing
and helps to find buried
treasure.



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