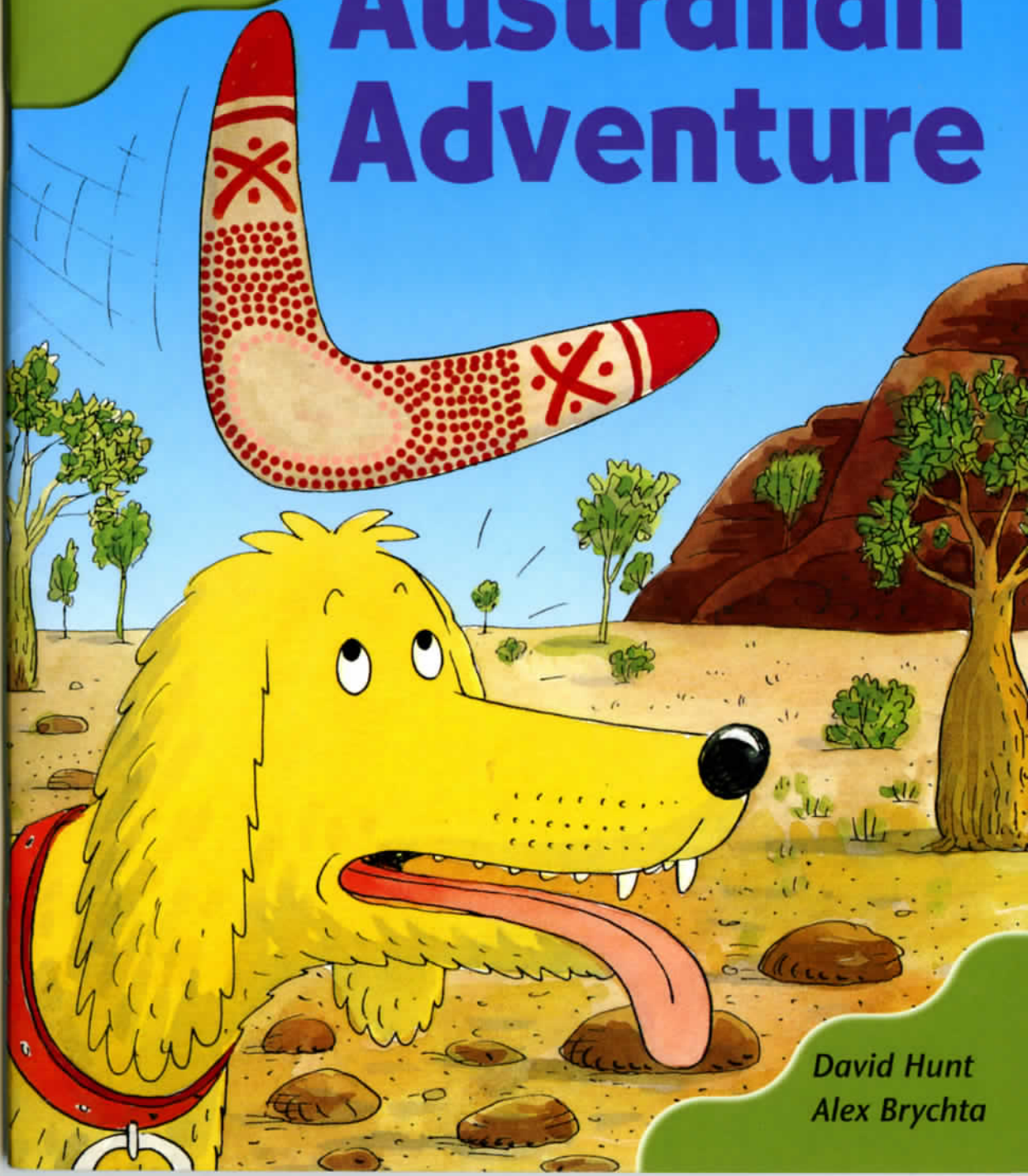




Oxford
Reading
Tree

Australian Adventure



David Hunt
Alex Brychta

Story written by David Hunt based on the original characters created by Roderick Hunt
Illustrations by Alex Brychta



What's this story about?

The magic key takes Floppy to Australia where he helps some dingos get rid of their fleas.

Talk together

Look through the pictures to see where the story is set. Talk about Australia, and let children tell you what they already know about the country. Explain any new terms.

Read the story

W = Word recognition **G** = Language comprehension

- Listen as the children read. Discuss what is happening in the pictures.
- W** Page 1, ask children to split 'boomerangs' into syllables (boom-er-angs).
- G** Page 3, ask, "Why does Chip say 'Too late!'?"
- G** Page 12, look at the dingos in the picture and work out which one is which.
- W** Page 16, find two words with 'ar' ('dark', 'far'). Ask children to think of other words with this sound and spelling.
- G** Page 23, ask, "What do you think Floppy's idea was?"
- G** Page 32, ask, "Did Floppy bring anything back from the adventure?"



Floppy had not been for a walk.

“We should take Floppy out,” said Mum.
Chip groaned, “Walking Floppy is boring.”

“Well, you could bring the boomerangs,”
said Mum.



Biff threw her boomerang really hard.
It flew up into the sky.

“I’ll show them I’m not boring!”
thought Floppy. “I’ll make them laugh.”



Floppy chased after the boomerang.
Suddenly it turned in the air. Floppy
turned as well.

“Mind the pond!” shouted Mum.

“Too late!” laughed Chip.



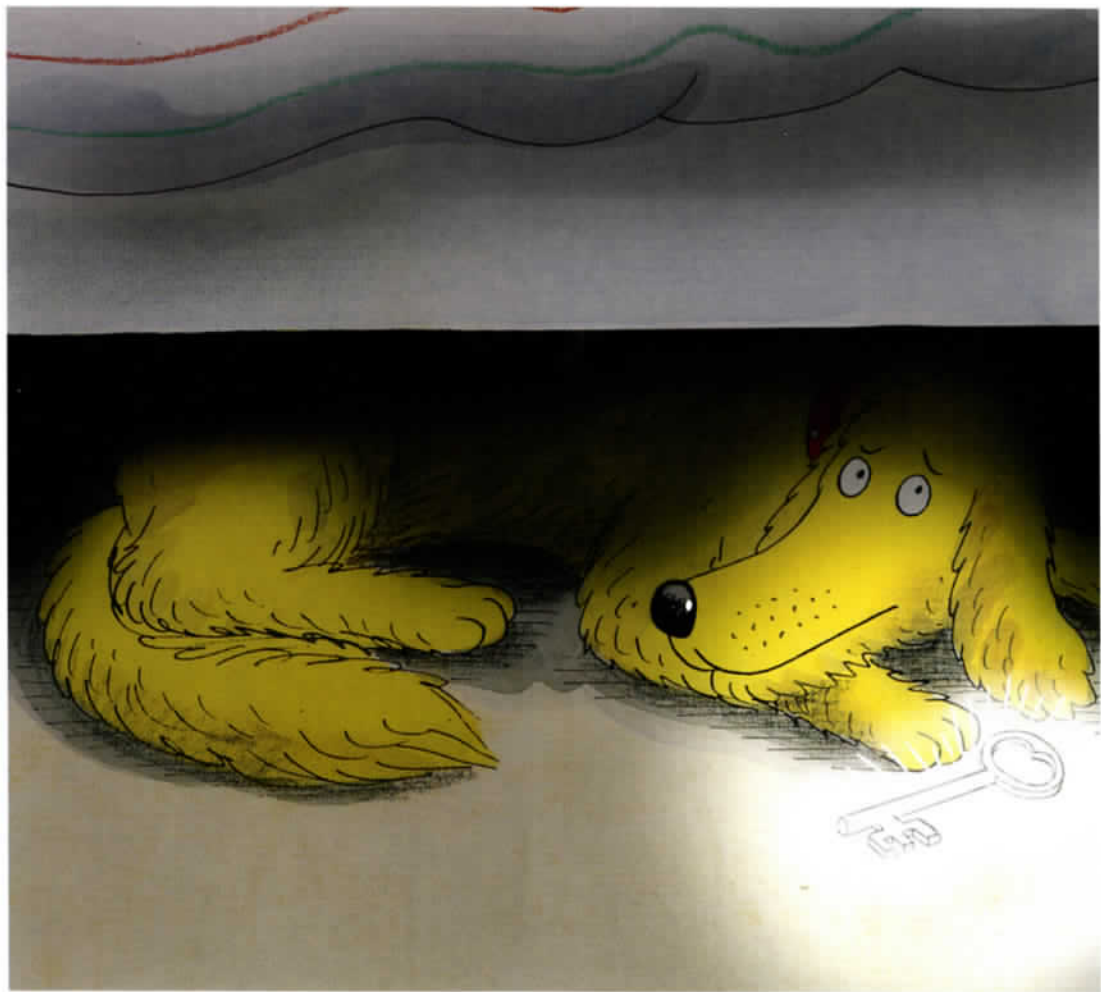
Splash! Floppy landed in the pond.
“Oh Floppy, you’re filthy!” said Mum.
Everyone laughed. Floppy was pleased.
“At least I made them laugh,” he thought.



Floppy was not so pleased when he got home. Mum wanted to give him a wash.

“Let’s use the hose-pipe,” she said.

“Oh no!” thought Floppy.



Floppy hid under Biff's bed.

"Why do I need a wash?" he thought.

"Dogs like being dirty."

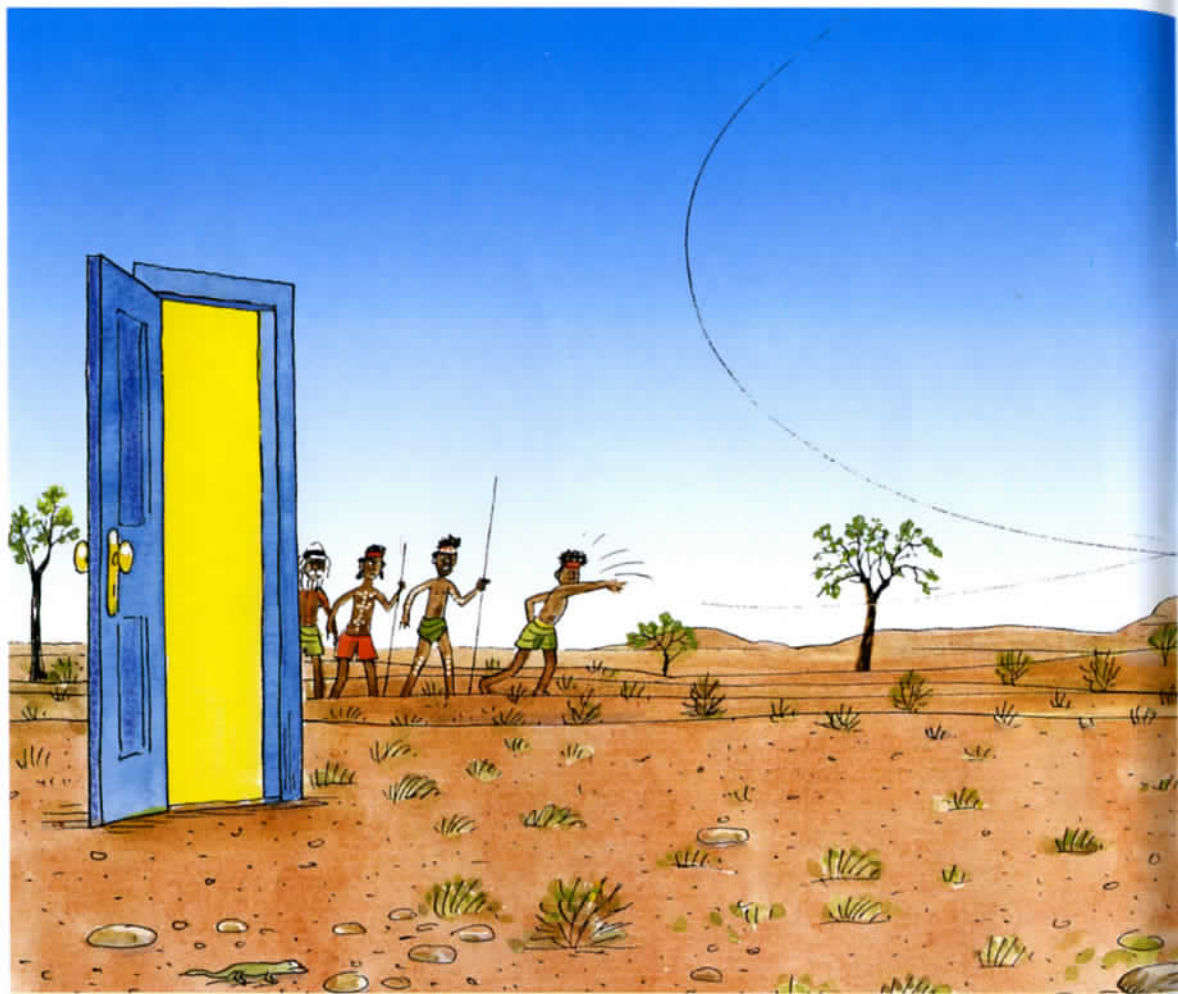
Suddenly, the magic key began to glow.



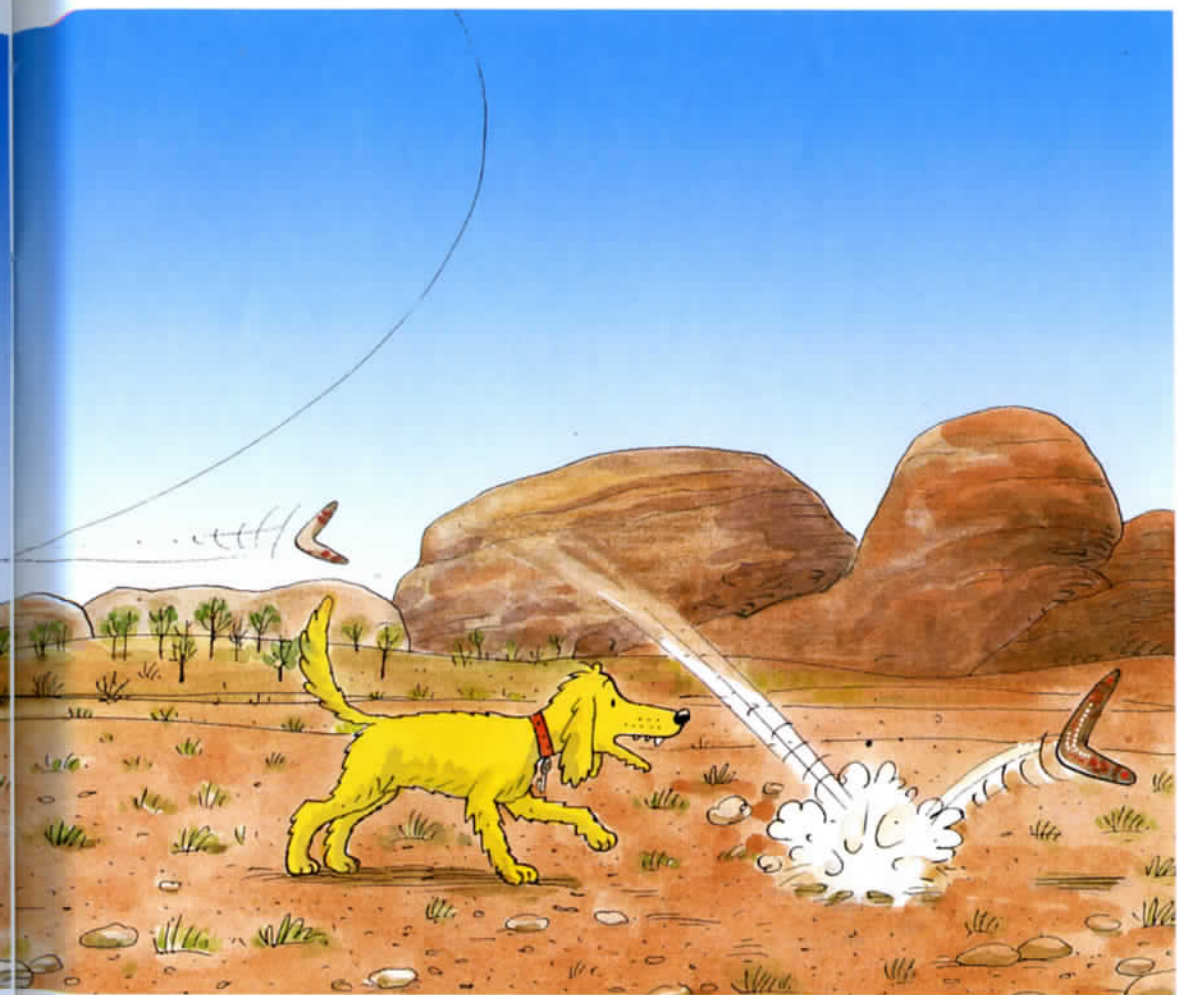
It was time for a new adventure.

“Dogs don’t have magic adventures by themselves, do they?” thought Floppy.

“Well, it’s better than a bath.”



The magic key took Floppy to Australia.
It took him to a red desert. The sand was
hot. It hurt Floppy's paws.



Suddenly, a boomerang flew over his head. Whoosh! Another one landed next to him. Then Floppy saw some men.

“Go away you dirty dingo!” they shouted.



Floppy ran away. The men chased him.
He ran past some rocks.

“Quick!” said a voice. “Hide here!”
The men ran past.

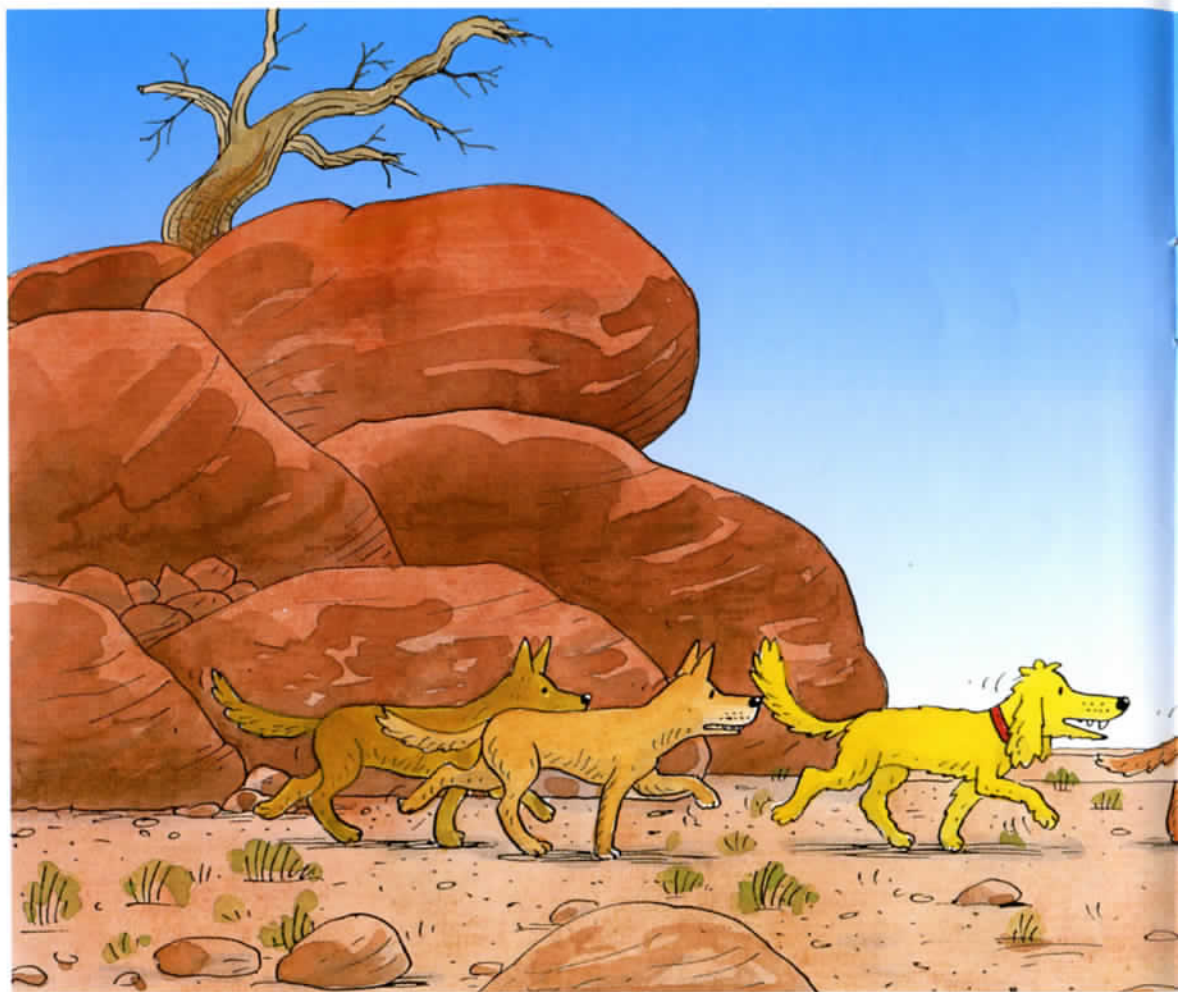


Behind the rocks were four dogs. They all laughed at Floppy.

“What floppy ears!” said one of them.

“What’s your name?” asked another.

“Floppy,” said Floppy.



“My name is Red,” said Red. “This is Ginger, she’s Amber, and he’s called Tan. We’re dingos.”

“What’s a dingo?” asked Floppy.

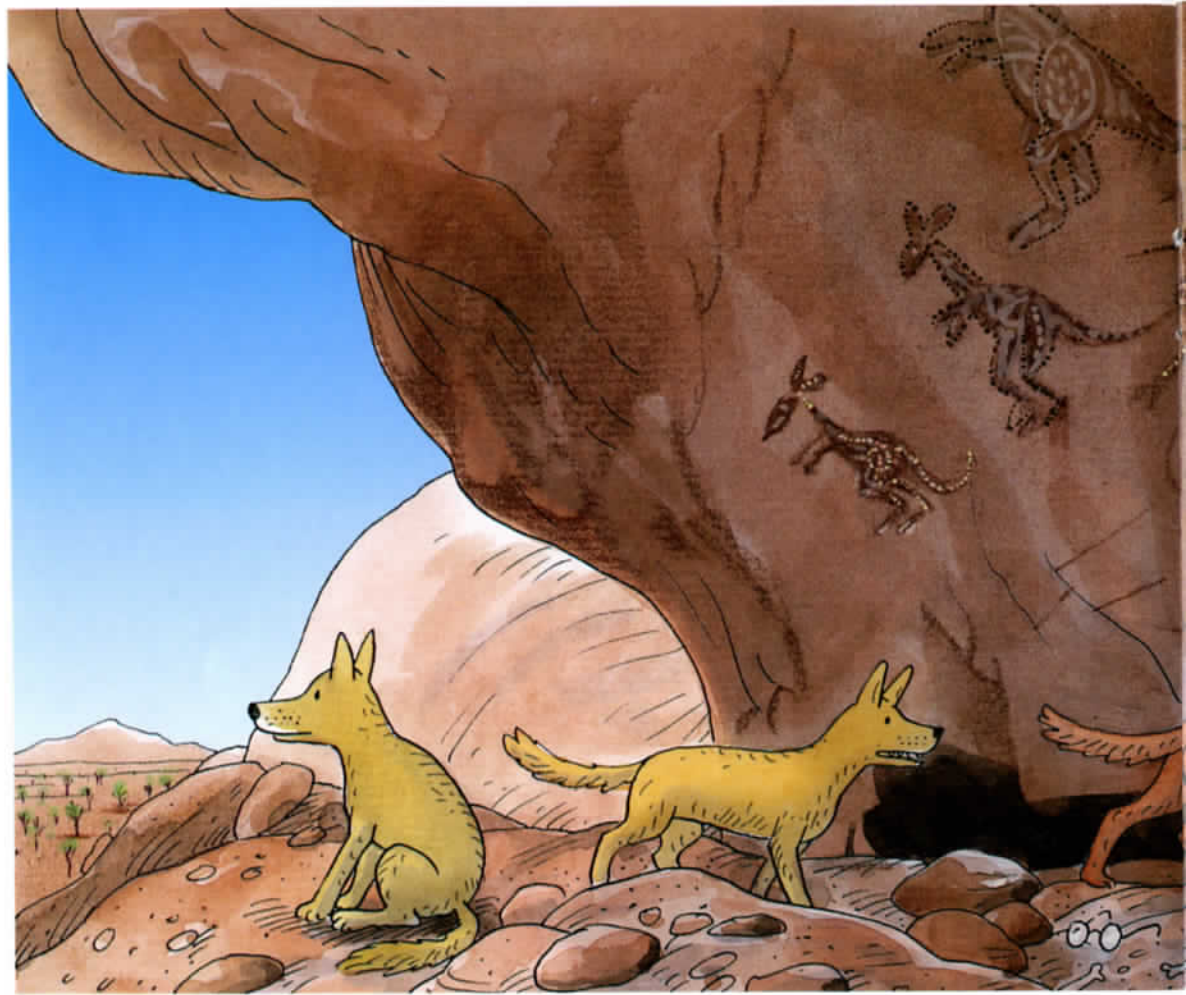
“That’s what men call us,” said Amber.



“Why did they chase me?” asked Floppy.
The dingos looked sad.

“We used to be friends,” said Tan. “But
now men don’t like us because we
have fleas.”

“We’ll show you,” said Red.



The dingos took Floppy to a cave. On the walls of the cave were paintings.

Some of the paintings were of animals Floppy had never seen before.



“These are very old paintings,” said Amber. “They show a time when men and dingos lived together.”

“We used to help men get food and sleep near their fires,” said Red.

“If only we didn’t have fleas,” said Tan.



Outside the cave it was getting dark.
The night was cold. Far away, the men had
lit a fire.

“Let’s hide near the men,” said Red.



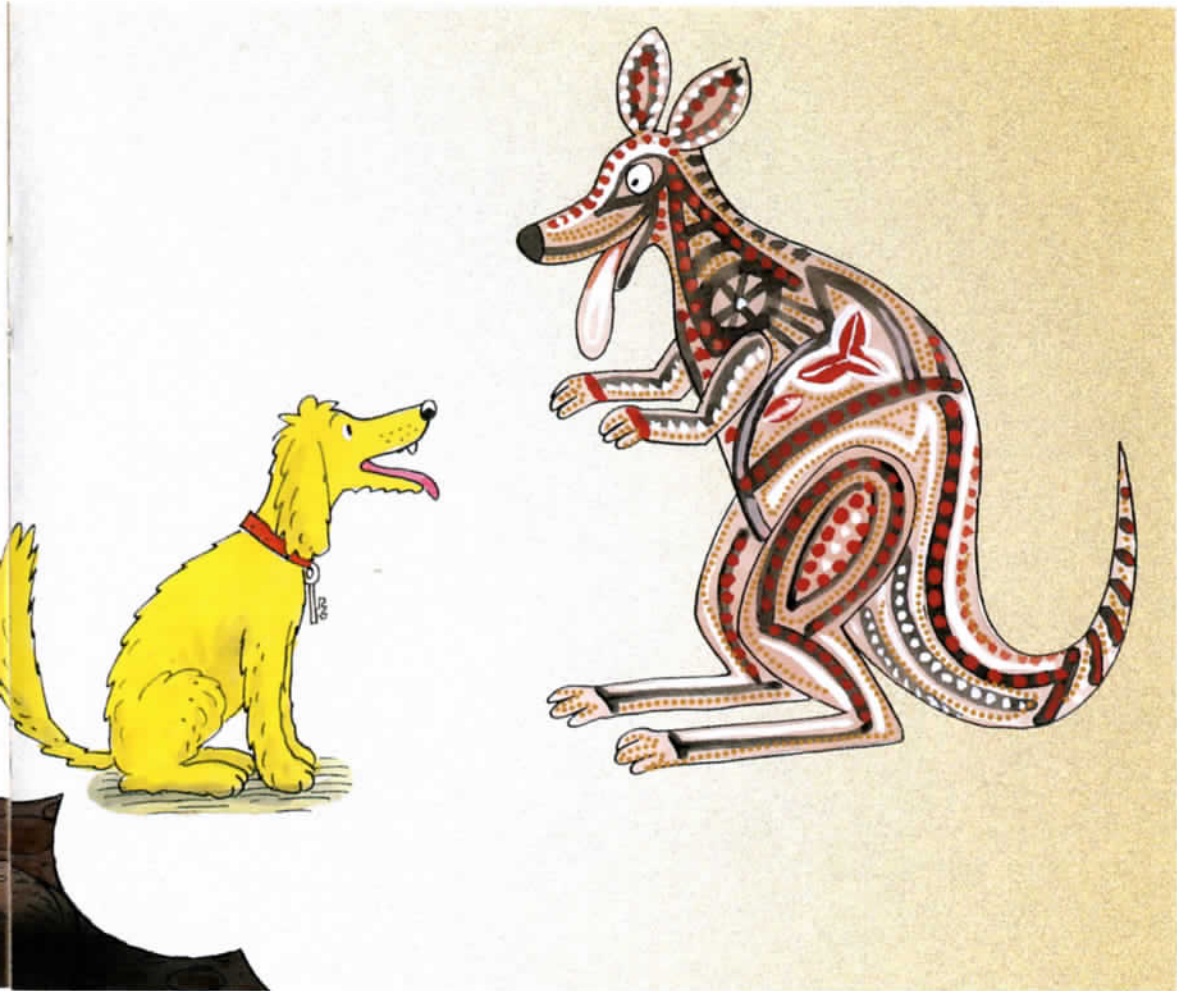
One of the men was telling a story.
It was about a time long ago, when
the world began.

“Those times long ago were called
The Dreamtime,” whispered Amber.



The story was about a creature called a kangaroo. The kangaroo wanted to steal fire from men.

Floppy was tired. He closed his eyes.
He began to dream.



In Floppy's dream he met a strange animal with a long tail. It looked like one of the cave paintings.

"What's your name?" asked Floppy.

"They call me Kangaroo," he said.



Kangaroo wanted to make a fire. He rubbed two sticks together.

“This is how men make fire,” he said.

Suddenly, the sticks caught fire. It made Kangaroo jump. He dropped the sticks.



The dry grass caught fire. The fire spread quickly. Kangaroo jumped up and down.

“It’s hot! It’s hot!” he said.

“Run to the water-hole,” said Floppy.

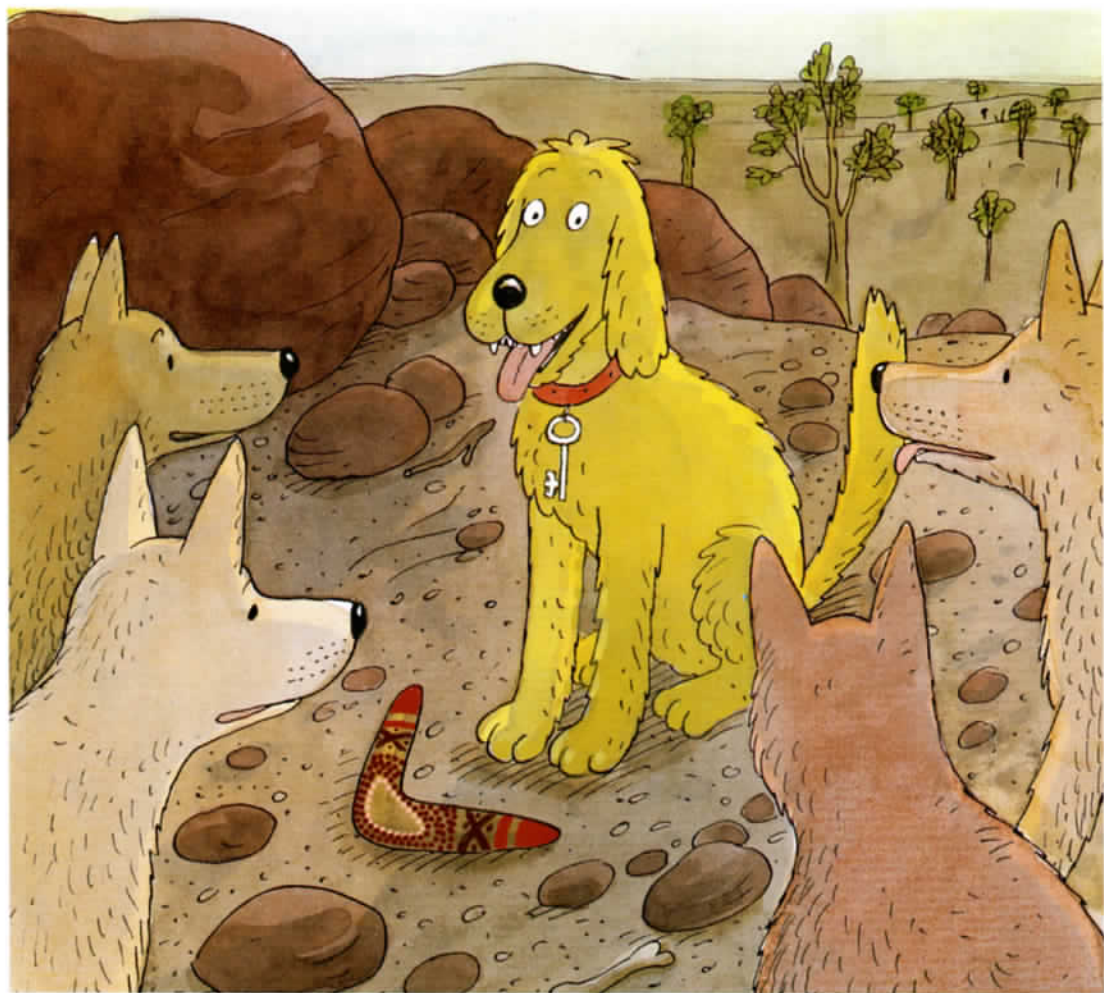


All the animals ran to the water-hole.
As they went into the water, fleas began
to jump off their backs.

“Ah! Fleas don’t like getting wet!”
thought Floppy.

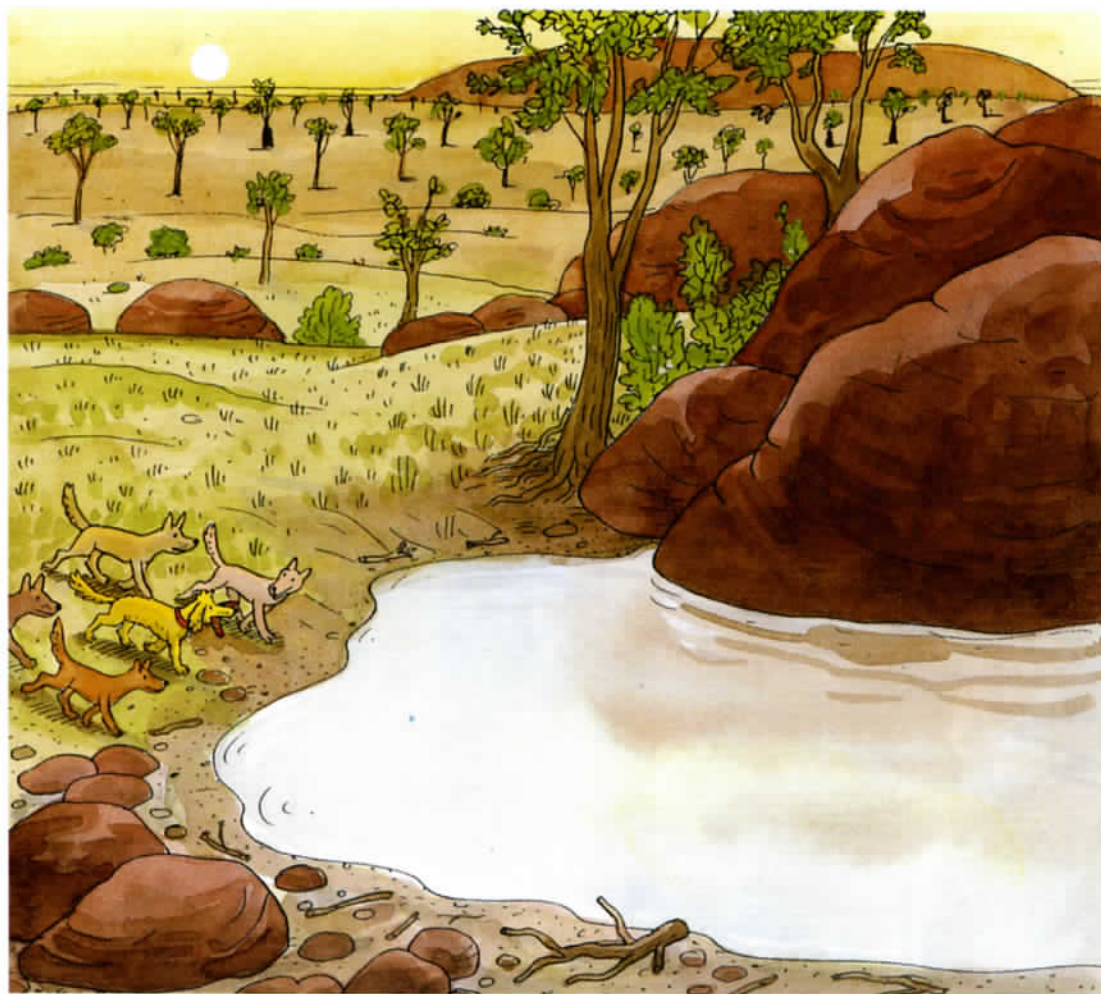


Floppy woke up. He had an idea.
He crept up to one of the men and picked
up his boomerang.



“I have a plan,” Floppy said to the dingos. “I think I can get rid of your fleas.

“You can?” said Amber. “Then we can make friends with the men.”



“We need to find a water-hole,” said Floppy.

“Follow us,” said Red.

They walked for a long time. At last, they got to the water-hole.



“Pick up the boomerang,” said Floppy.
“And walk backwards into the water.”

Ginger walked backwards into the water.
The fleas on his legs began to crawl on to
his back. They did not want to get wet.



“Keep going!” said Floppy.

Ginger went deeper. Soon his back was under the water. The fleas crawled on to his head. They did not want to get wet.



All the fleas were now on Ginger's head.
"Now put your head under the water,"
said Floppy.

Ginger lay down in the water. The fleas
crawled up his nose and on to the
boomerang.



“Let go of the boomerang!” said Floppy.
The boomerang floated away. The fleas
stayed on the boomerang.

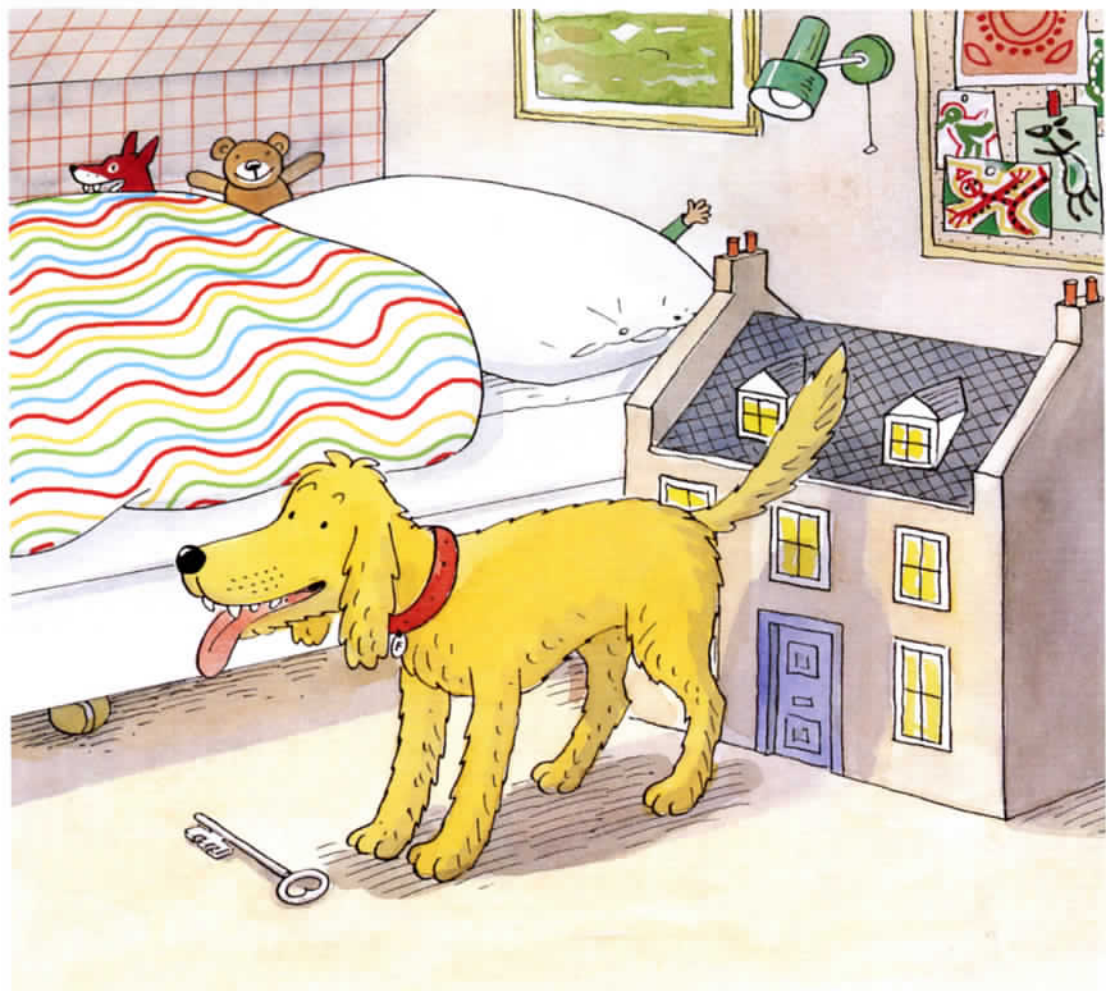
“Hooray!” cheered the dingos.



“Now we can all get rid of our fleas and make friends with the men,” said Amber.

“I hope so,” said Floppy.

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



“Oh no!” said Floppy. “I didn’t bring anything back from my adventure.”

Floppy heard Mum calling. She was still in the garden.

“Floppy! It’s bath-time,” she said.



Mum washed Floppy with the hose-pipe.
“Fleas!” she said. “How did you get fleas?”
Floppy picked up the boomerang.
“I’m off to the park,” he thought. “I need
to find a water-hole!”

Play a game

'ee' and 'oo'

To help with spelling.

- On page 1, find a word with the long 'oo' sound. Say the sound together.
- Look at page 13. Find a word with the short 'o' sound ('dingos') and a word with the 'ee' sound ('fleas').
- Take turns to find other words with the long 'oo' or 'ee' sound.

Other ideas

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

- Use an atlas or the Internet to find a map of Australia. Find place names you have heard of.
- Make a boomerang shape using card. Try throwing it to see what happens.

Australian Adventure

Floppy has an adventure that takes him to Australia. Can he help the dingos solve a problem?



Stage 7 More Stories C

The Power Cut

Australian Adventure

The Riddle Stone *Part 1*

The Riddle Stone *Part 2*

A Sea Mystery

The Big Breakfast

Available in packs

Stage 7 More Stories Pack C (one of each title) ISBN 978-0-19-846595-9

Stage 7 More Stories Class Pack C (six of each title) ISBN 978-0-19-846596-6

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

www.OxfordPrimary.co.uk

Orders and enquiries to Customer Services:
tel. 01536 741171

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

text © David Hunt and Roderick Hunt 2007
illustrations © Alex Brychta 2007

First published 2007

This edition published 2008

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3

ISBN 978-0-19-846598-0



9 780198 465980

Printed in China by Imago