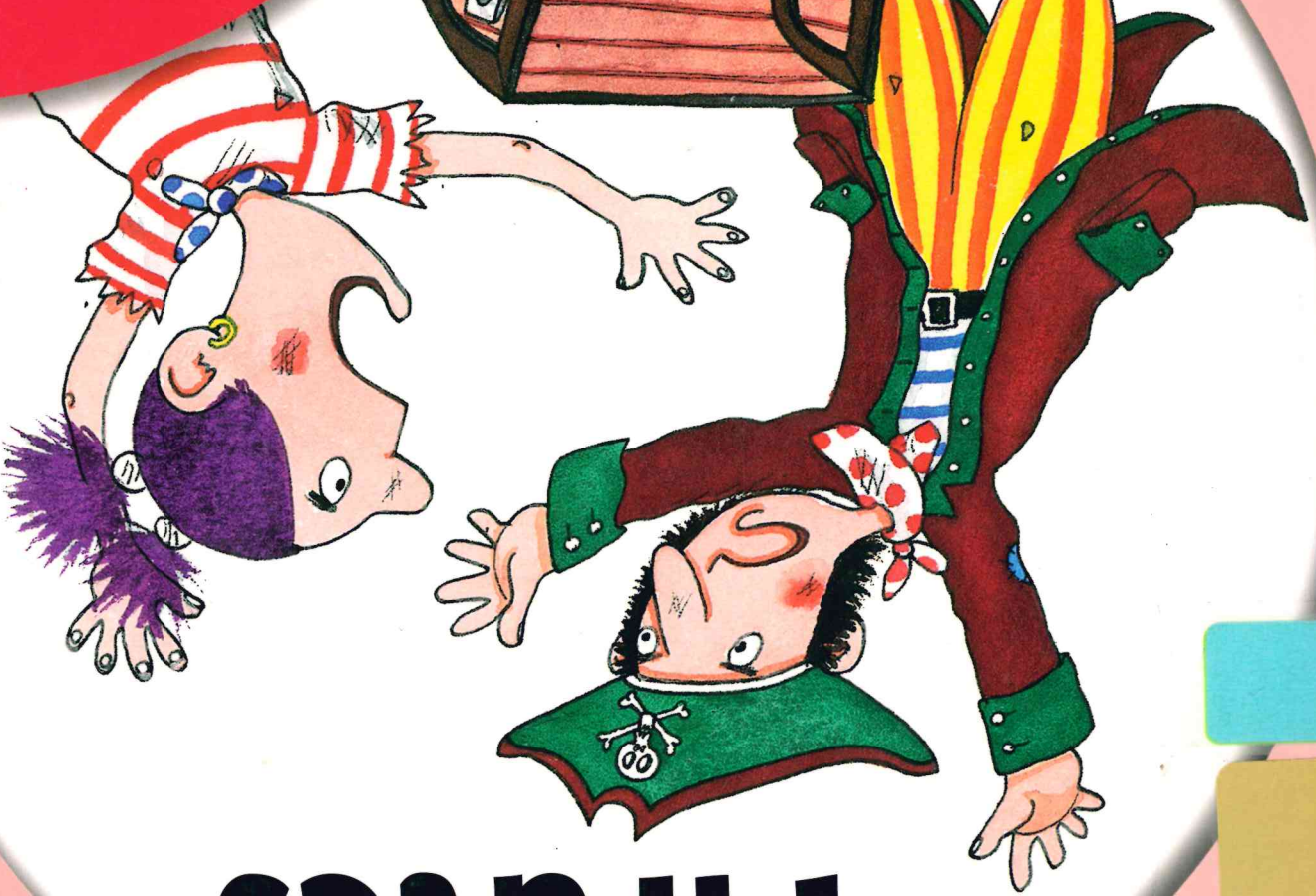


Julia Donaldson

Oxford Reading Tree



# Pirates

Phonics

Songbirds



### Read the story

- Ask your child to point to each letter pattern in the box on the back cover. Say the sound that it makes in words. Tell your child the sounds if necessary.
- Look out for these letter patterns in the story. Try and remember the sound they make.

### Talk together

- Remember, children learn best when reading is relaxed and enjoyable so give lots of praise.
- Encourage your child to try to read any words they do not recognise by saying the sounds of each letter pattern separately (e.g. *d - ee - d*), then running the sounds together quickly. If they find it difficult to say the sounds, say the sounds for them first and then see if they can hear the word.
- Explain that it is important when running the sounds in a word together to check to see if it sounds like a real word as some words are less regular (e.g. *comes*). Read these words to your child if they don't recognise them. Point out the letters that make the usual sound in each word (e.g. the *c* in *comes*). This will help your child to remember these words.





Jack is a pirate. He is digging for gold.



Jack digs a deep hole.

While Jack is asleep, along comes  
Pirate Jade.





Jade begins to dig in Jack's hole.

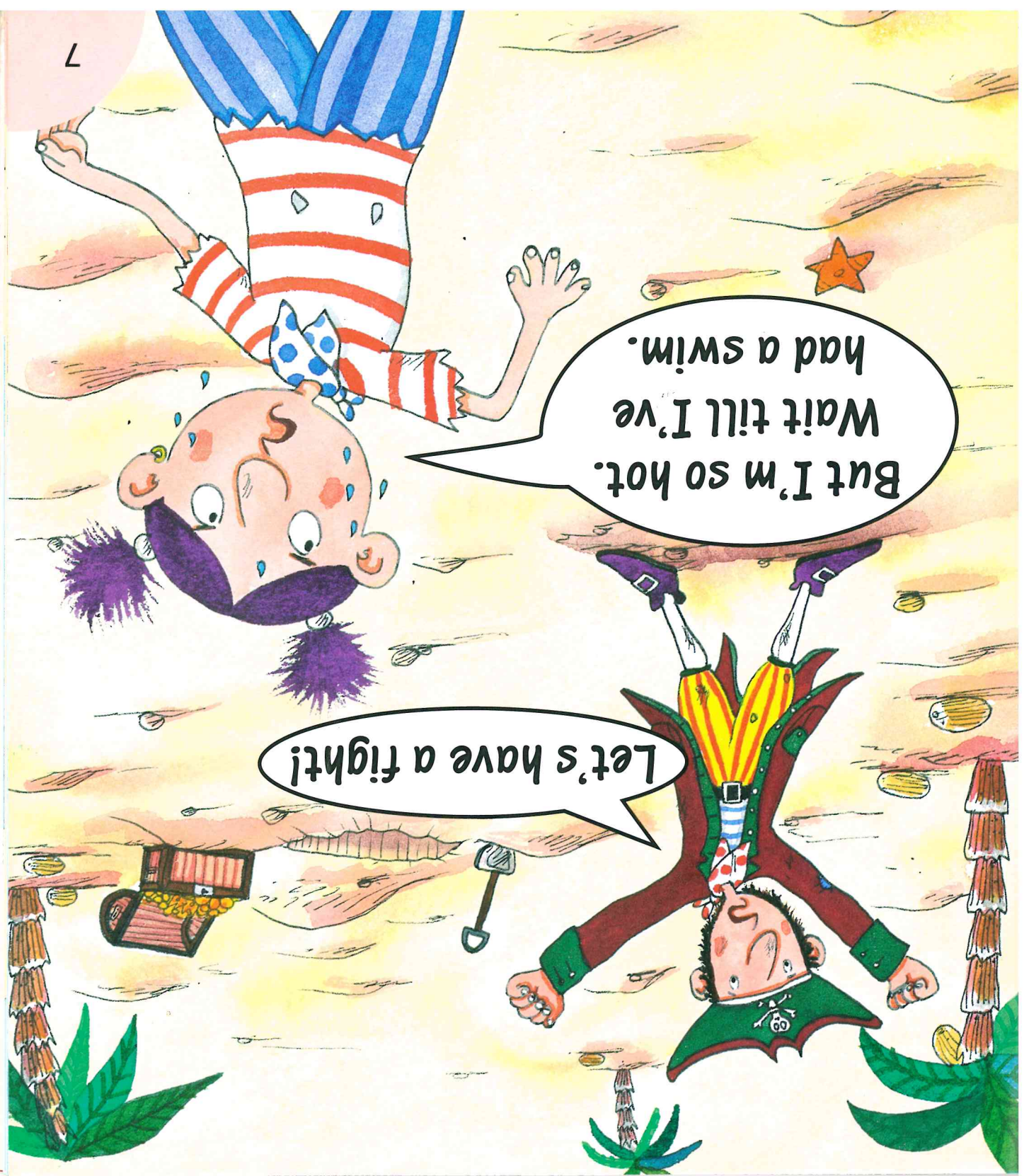


Lots of gold!

She digs up a chest and opens the lid.



Jack wakes up and sees Jade.



Let's have a fight!

But I'm so hot. Wait till I've had a swim.

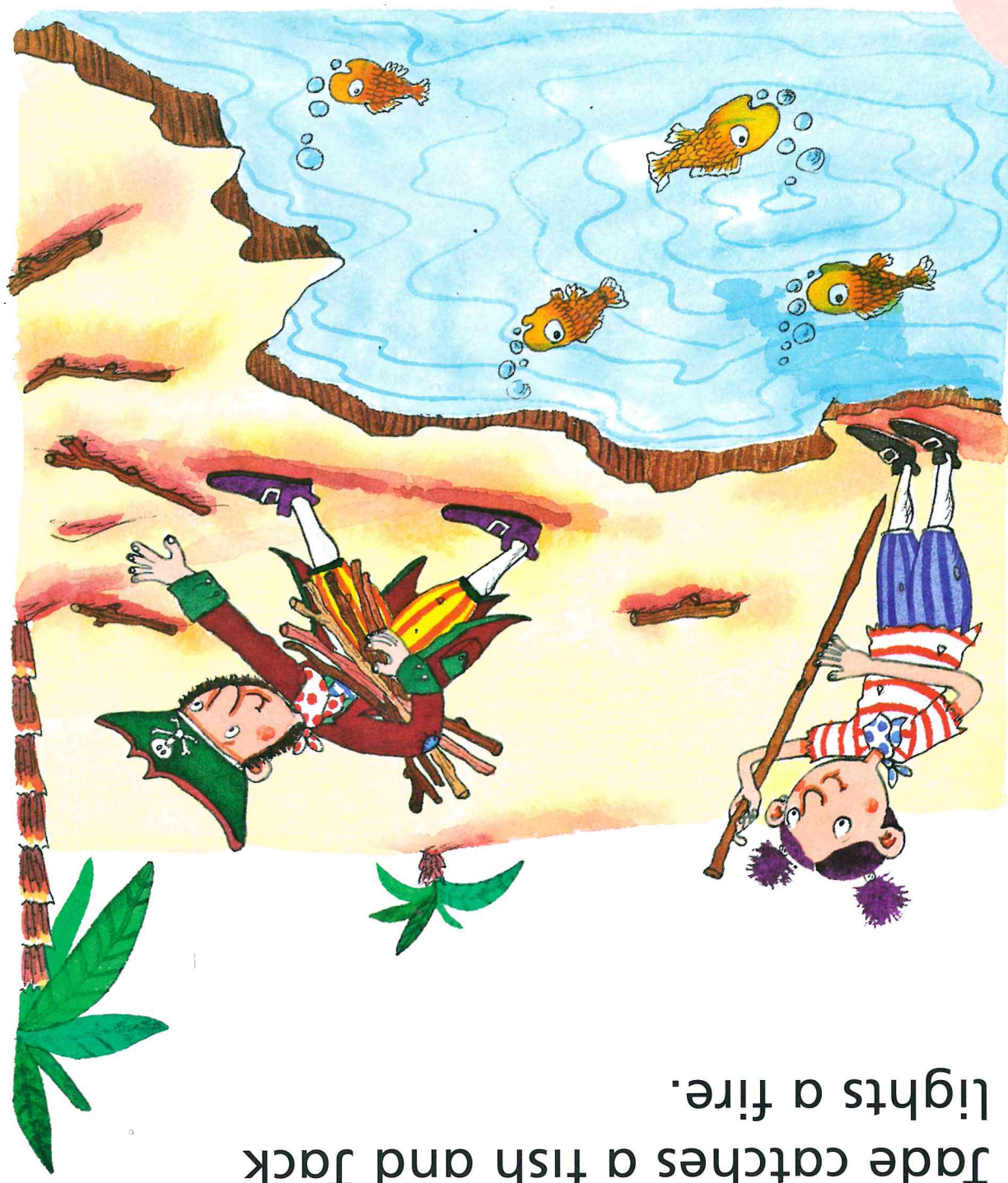
But I'm so hungry.  
Let's wait till we've  
had lunch.

It's time for  
that fight.





Jack and Jade have a swim.  
They splash and play.



Jade catches a fish and Jack lights a fire.

Then they eat lunch.

It's time for that fight.

Yum, yum!





And I like you. But I still want the gold!

But I don't feel like fighting. I quite like you.

Fifty lumps for you and fifty lumps for me.

I know. Let's split it between us.





Jack and Jade load their boats.  
Then it's time to go.

Jack feels shy.



Can I write to you?

Yes, and I'll write back.



Jack and Jade wave as they sail away.

### Check comprehension

Ask your child

- Why didn't Jack and Jade fight? (They were too hot, then too hungry. Finally they became friends.)

### Check phonics (letter-pattern sounds)

Ask your child to

- Find and read some words on page 2 which contain a long ee sound (*deep, need, sleep*). Point to the letter pattern that makes the long vowel sound in these words (ee).
- Find and read some words on pages 12, 13 and 14 which contain a long oe sound (*don't, gold, know, load, boats, go*). Point to the letter patterns that make the long vowel sound (o, ow, oa, oa, o).
- Find and read some words on page 15 which contain a long ie sound (*shy, I, write, I'll*). Point to the letter patterns that make the long vowel sound (y, i, i-e, ll).
- Find and read some words on page 16 which contain a long ai sound (*Jade, wave, they, sail, away*).

**Example phonic words:** sail wait away play Jade wakes wave a asleep between deep feel feels need sees sleep eat begins he me hungry fifty fire like mine quite time while write fight fighting lights my shy I'm I've I'll boats load hole know don't go gold no opens so

**Context words:** pirate for comes to the of have they we've you want