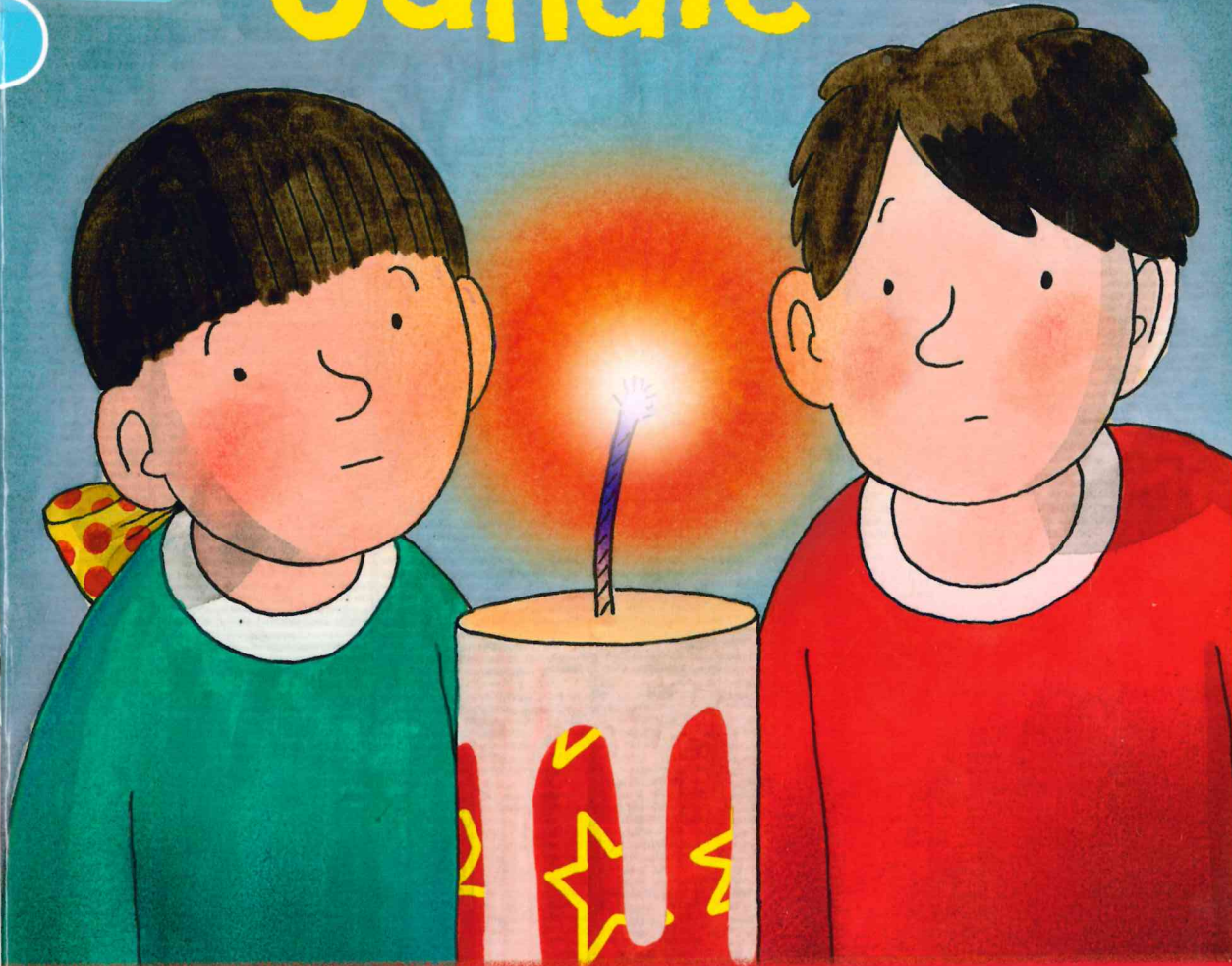


The Birthday Candle



Series created by Roderick Hunt and Alex Brychta



Written by Roderick Hunt and Annemarie Young
Illustrated by Nick Schon, based on the original characters
created by Roderick Hunt and Alex Brychta
Phonics Consultant: Debbie Hepplewhite

BEFORE READING

Talk together

- Read the title together and look at the picture on the cover. Talk about the number of candles your child will have on their next birthday cake.
- Ask: *Can you guess why there is only one candle on the cake?*
- Look through the book and talk about the pictures.

About the words in this book

- Your child should be able to sound out and blend some words, which may include:

**just from went twins
drums contest sing**

- Some words may be more challenging. Encourage or model blending, then read the words below to your child if necessary.

**said so out were
one team cake
birthday candle
enormous**



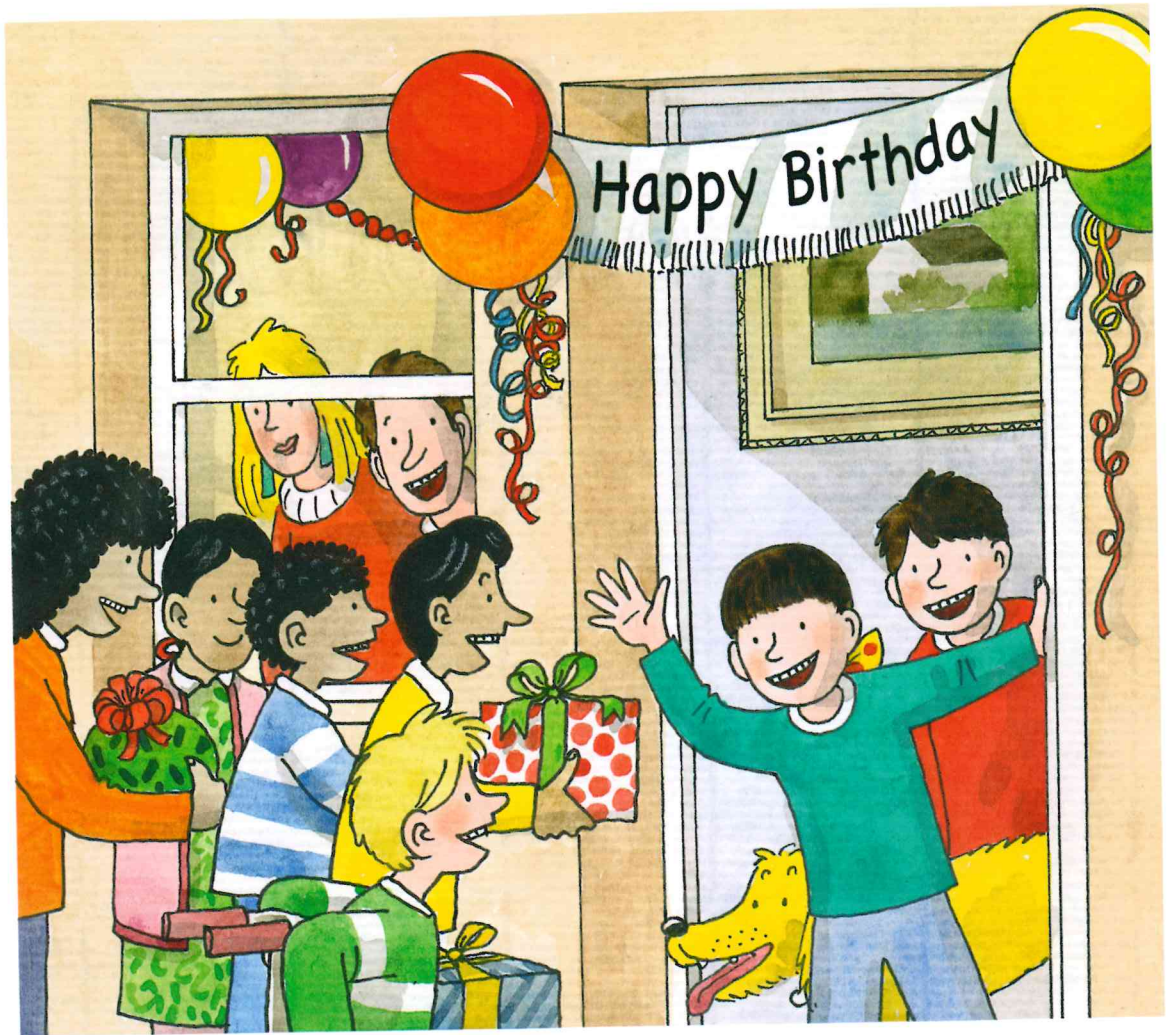
DURING READING

Enjoy the story together. If your child needs support to read the story:

- Remind your child to sound out and blend unfamiliar words from left to right.
- Look for compound words, where two words create a bigger word, e.g. *moonlight*.
- If a word is still too tricky, simply say the whole word for your child.
- Re-read sentences to focus on their meaning where necessary.



See the inside back cover
for more ideas.



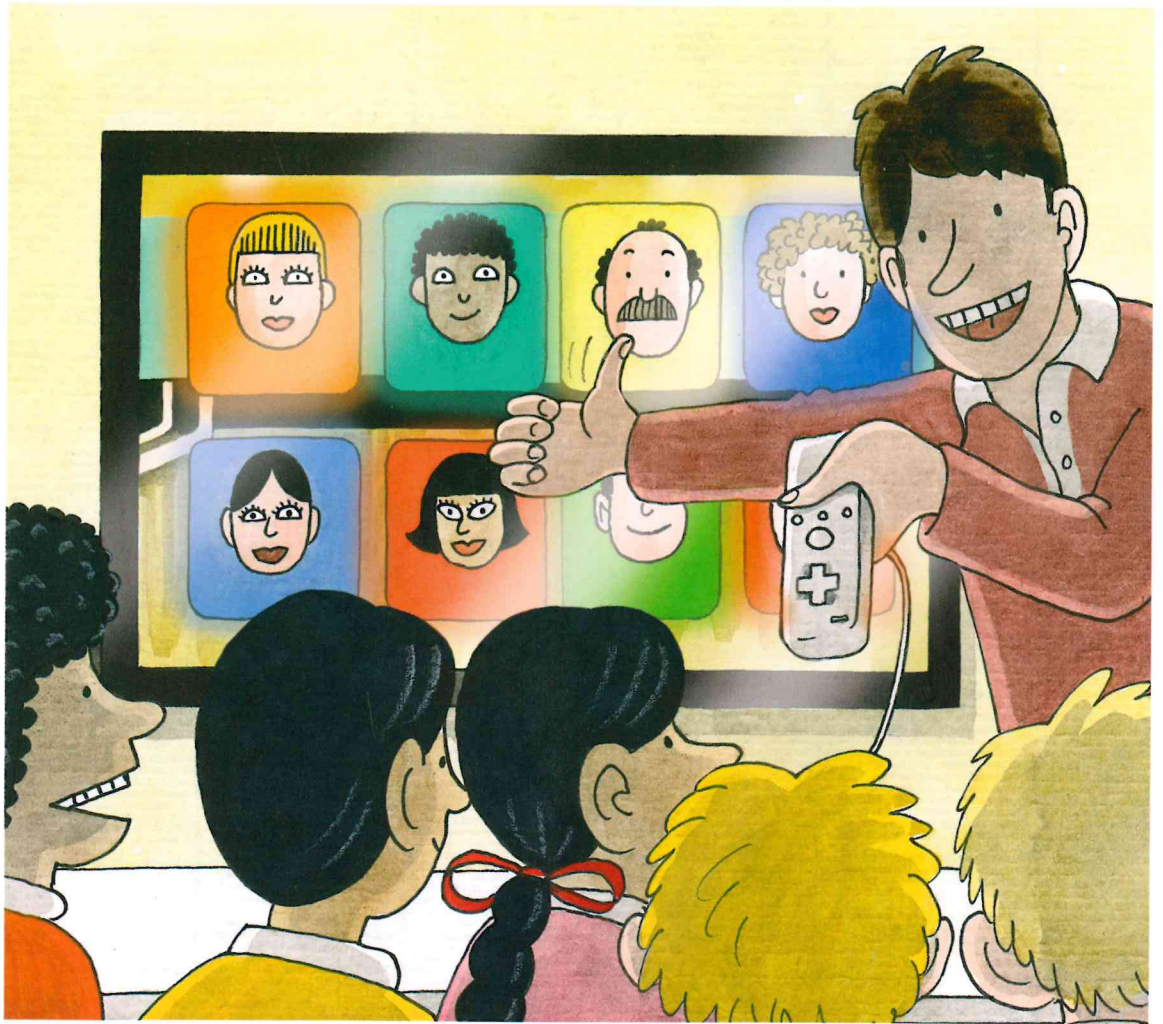
It was Biff and Chip's birthday.
They had a party.



Biff had a bag from Anneena.



Chip had a set of bongo drums.
“Wow! Fab presents!” said Chip.



“This is a contest,” said Dad.
“Get into teams.”



So Biff had a team and Chip had a team.



They all had a go.
"This contest is fun," said Wilf.



Chip's team did well.
"Chip's team wins," said Dad.



Then Mum got the birthday cake.
But the cake had just one candle.



“Chip and I are seven,” said Biff.
“We need seven candles.”



“No, just one candle,” said Dad.
“That’s all.”



Biff and Chip were upset.
“We need seven candles,” said Chip.



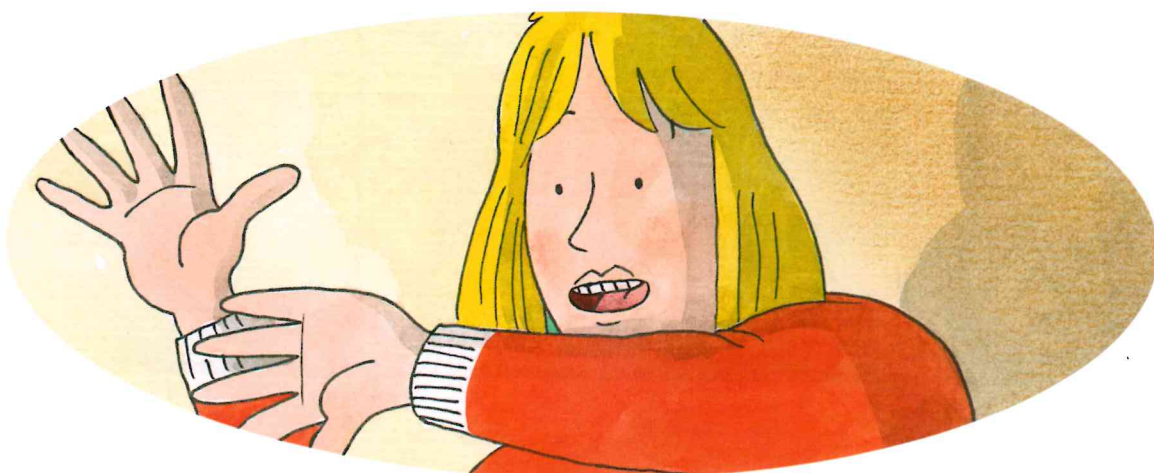
Dad lit the candle.



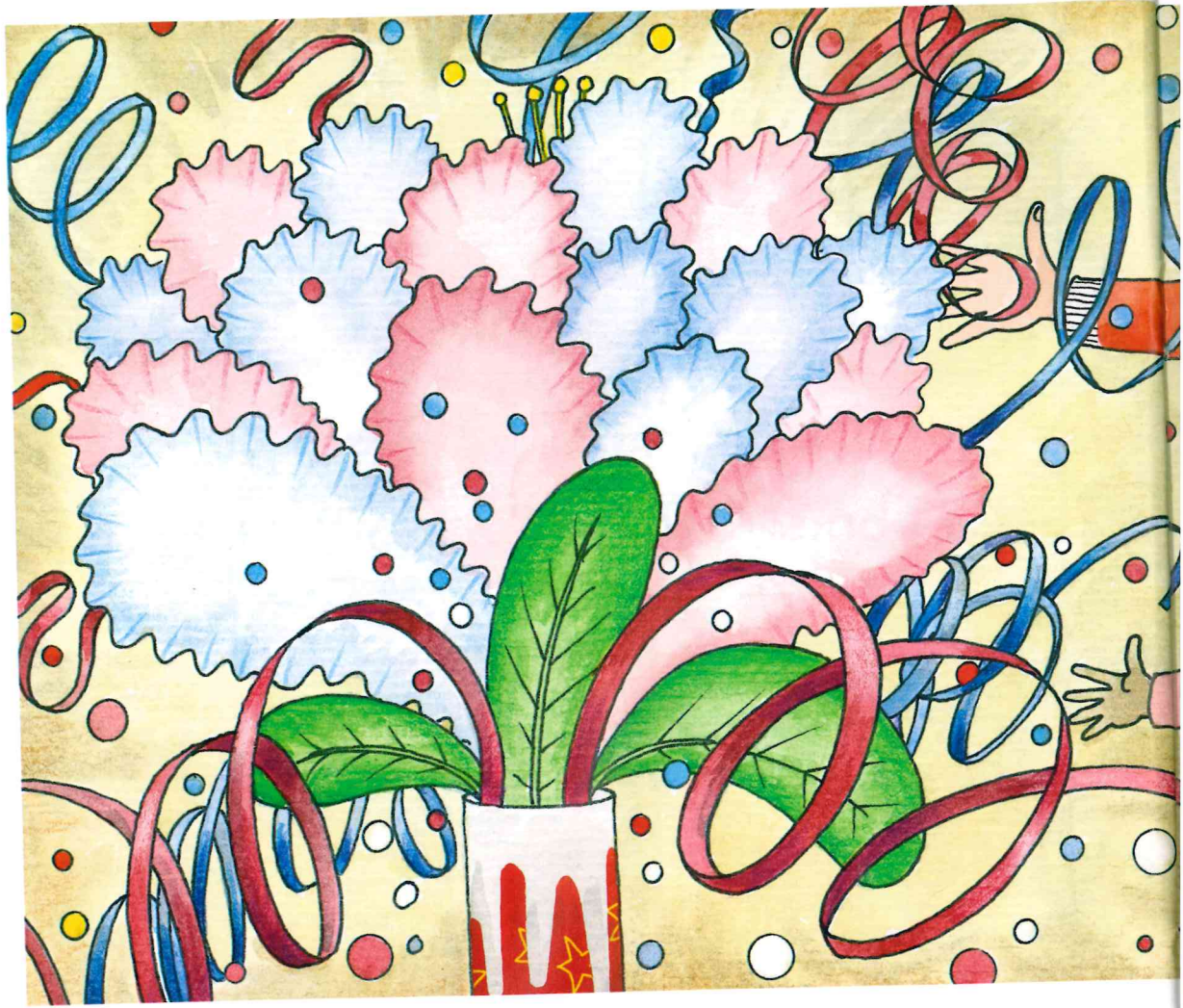
It went hiss and fizz.



“Get back!” said Dad.



“Look out!” said Mum.



The candle went pop!
An enormous flower shot out of it.



“Happy Birthday!” said Mum. “This candle was just a bit of fun.”



“Here are seven candles,” said Mum.
“Let’s all sing Happy Birthday!”

AFTER READING

- Look at pages 4 to 7. Ask: *What is a contest? Can you see why Chip's team won?*
- On page 11, ask: *Why were Biff and Chip upset?*
- Ask: *Why did the twins have only one candle?*

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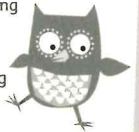
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Biff, Chip and Kipper Stories

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The Birthday Candle

Why has the cake
got just one candle?



*Biff, Chip and
Kipper Stories
Level 4
Decode and Develop*

The Stars
Long Legs
Floppy and the Skateboard
Gran's New Glasses
The Birthday Candle
The Seal Pup

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web www.oxfordprimary.co.uk
email schools.enquiries.uk@oup.com
tel. +44 (0) 1536 452610
fax +44 (0) 1865 313472

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