Rag the rat

Book 2A

How to use this book

This book has two stories.

Rag the rat   page 6
Jess in a mess   page 16

Before each story there are important activities which will help prepare your child for reading it. When he or she has read the story, there are further activities which will help reinforce what has been learnt.

⭐ *Have fun talking about the pictures.*

⭐ *Encourage your child to read the engaging stories again and again for fun and practice.*

⭐ *Use the Star checklists on pages 3 and 13 to build your child's confidence as he or she colours in a star after each activity.*

Six steps for reading success

1 Practise reading the Speed sounds before each story.
2 Read the Green and Red words before each story.
3 Read the story.
4 Re-read the story to reinforce meaning.
5 Answer the questions about the story.
6 Practise reading the Speed words.

Give your child lots of praise and encouragement. Have fun!

Story 1

I can read the Speed sounds.

I can read the Green words.

I can read the Red words.

I can read the story.

I can answer the questions about the story.

I can read the Speed words.

Story ① Rag the rat

Say the Speed sounds

Consonants

Ask your child to say the sounds (not the letter names) clearly and quickly, in and out of order. Make sure he or she does not add 'uh' to the end of the sounds, e.g. ' f' not 'fuh'.

f	l	m	n	r	s	v	z	sh	th	ng nk

b	c k ck	d	g	h	j	p	qu	t	w	x	y	ch

Each box contains one sound.

Vowels

Ask your child to say each vowel sound and then the word, e.g. 'a' 'at'.

at	hen	in	on	up

Read the Green words

For each word ask your child to read the separate sounds, e.g. 'r-a-t', 'w-i-th' and then blend the sounds together to make the word, e.g. 'rat', 'with'. Sometimes one sound is made up of more than one letter, e.g. 'th', 'sh', 'ck'. These are underlined.

rat   wi<u>th</u>   his   big   top   hat

it   and   up   a   bat   clap

cat   mat   flap

Ask your child to read the root word first and then the word with the ending.

rap → raps   tap → taps   pop → pops

Read the Red words

Red words don't sound like they look. Read the word out to your child. Explain that he or she will have to stop and think about how to say the red word in the story.

<u>th</u>e

Story 1

Rag the rat

Introduction

Have you ever seen a magician? This rhyming story is about a magician who is a rat. What do you think he might pull out of his hat?

Rag **the** rat

with his big top hat,

raps it, taps it,
and up pops a bat.

Clap, clap, clap!

Ask your child:
⭐ *What does Rag the rat do to his hat to make magic?*

Rag *the* rat
with his big top hat,

raps it, taps it,
and up pops a cat.
Clap, clap, clap!

Rag *the* rat
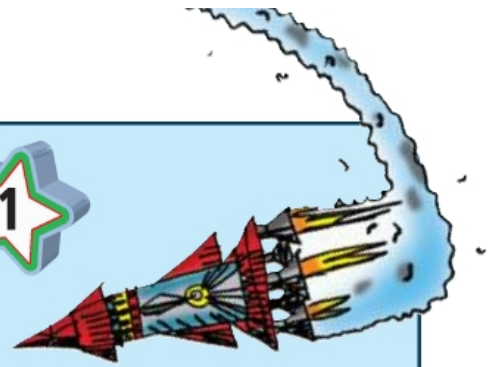with his big top hat,
raps it, taps it,
and up pops a mat.

Flap, flap, flap!

Speed words for Story ⭐1

clap	big	mat	pops	up
bat	and	the	hat	taps
it	cat	raps	a	top
his	with	clap	rat	flap

Story 2

I can read the Speed sounds.

I can read the Green words.

I can read the Red words.

I can read the story.

I can answer the questions about the story.

I can read the Speed words.

Story ② Jess in a mess

Say the Speed sounds

Consonants

Ask your child to say the sounds (not the letter names) clearly and quickly, in and out of order. Make sure he or she does not add 'uh' to the end of the sounds, e.g. ' f' not 'fuh'.

f	l	m	n	r	s ss	v	z	sh	th	ng nk

b	c k ck	d	g	h	j	p	qu	t	w	x	y	ch

Each box contains one sound.

Vowels

Ask your child to say each vowel sound and then the word, e.g. 'a' 'at'.

at	hen	in	on	up

Read the Green words

For each word ask your child to read the separate sounds, e.g. 'm-u-d', 's-p-l-a-sh' and then blend the sounds together to make the word, e.g. 'mud', 'splash'. Sometimes one sound is made up of more than one letter, e.g. 'th', 'sh', 'nk'. These are underlined.

in   mud   and   spla<u>sh</u>   a   big

me<u>ss</u>   but   big   tru<u>nk</u>   is

just   <u>th</u>i<u>ng</u>   o<u>ff</u>

Ask your child to read the root word first and then the word with the ending.

hop → hops   sit → sits

skip → skips   slip → slips

Read the Red words

Red words don't sound like they look. Read the words out to your child. Explain that he or she will have to stop and think about how to say the red words in the story.

<u>sh</u>e   <u>th</u>e   to

Story 2

Jess in a mess

Introduction

Do you like elephants? This rhyming story is about an elephant who keeps getting dirty.

Jess hops in mud.
She sits in mud.

She skips and slips and trips in mud.

splash!

Splash!

Ask your child:
⭐ *What five things does Jess do in the mud?*

Jess gets in a
big, big mess.

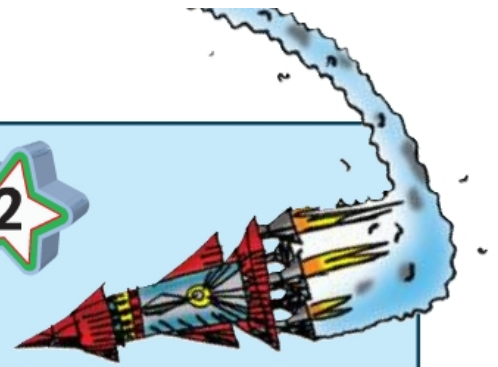But Mum's big trunk
is just the thing

to get the mud off Jess.

Splash!

Speed words for Story 2

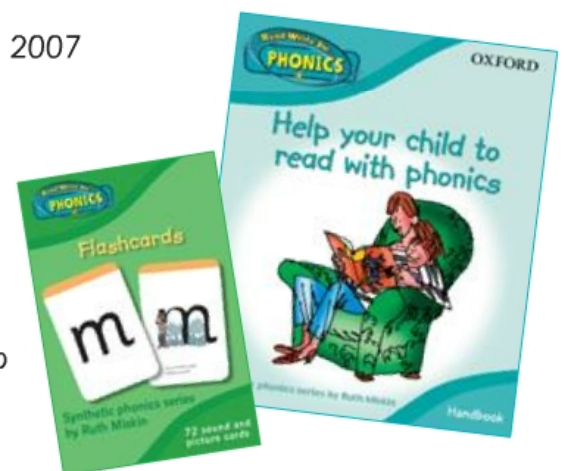|				
mud	big	just	hops	she
trunk	to	skips	sits	thing
splash	slips	mess	in	gets
trips	and	the	off	but

Help your child to read with phonics
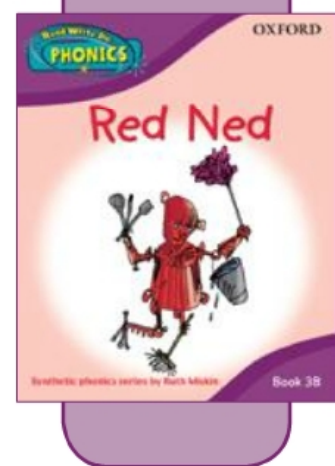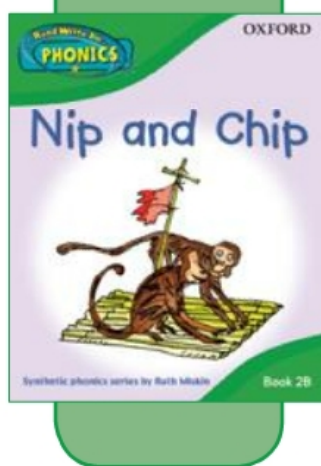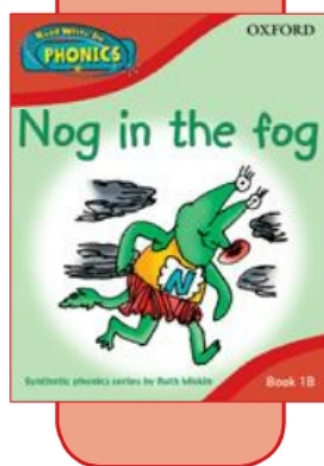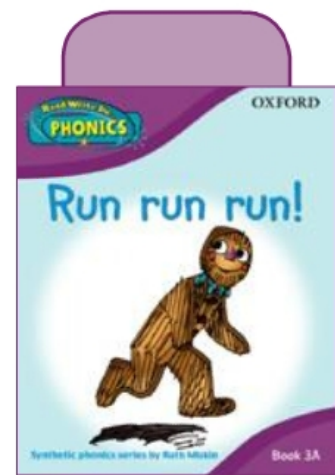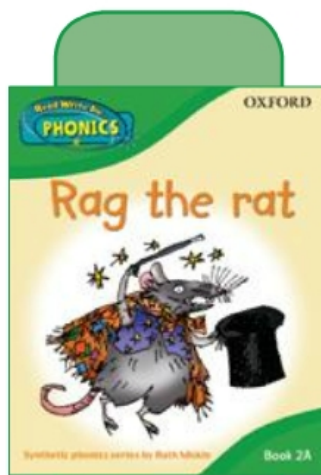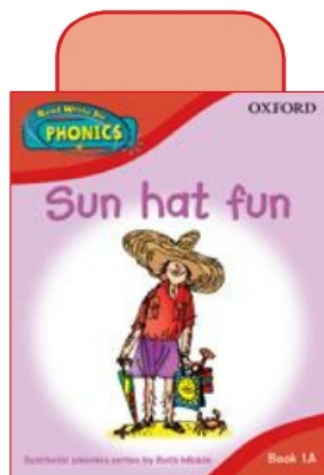
Series created by
Ruth Miskin
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Tim Archbold

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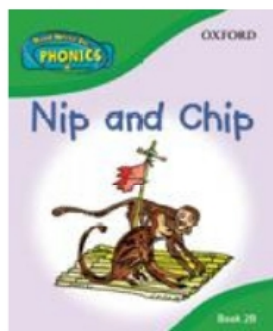# Rag the rat does magic tricks.

Ruth Miskin advises the government on the teaching of synthetic phonics and has trained its senior literacy advisers.

The *Read Write Inc. Phonics Storybooks* are lively, rhyming stories for your child to practise reading at home. They will enable you to support your child by reinforcing what he or she is learning at school in a fun and structured way.

Level 2 books will help your child practise:
- blending sounds to make words
- reading simple sentences
- reading short, rhyming stories