

Rats!





Written by Roderick Hunt and Annemarie Young
Illustrated by Alex Brychta

BEFORE READING

Talk together

- Look at the title and cover picture. Ask: *Why do you think there are so many rats?*
- Read the blurb on the back. Help your child to sound out *magic*. Ask: *What story do you think the children will be taken into?* (The Pied Piper of Hamelin)
- 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:

**don't I'm by time house
about pipe play tune**

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

**people looked
called asked
once mayor**



DURING READING

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

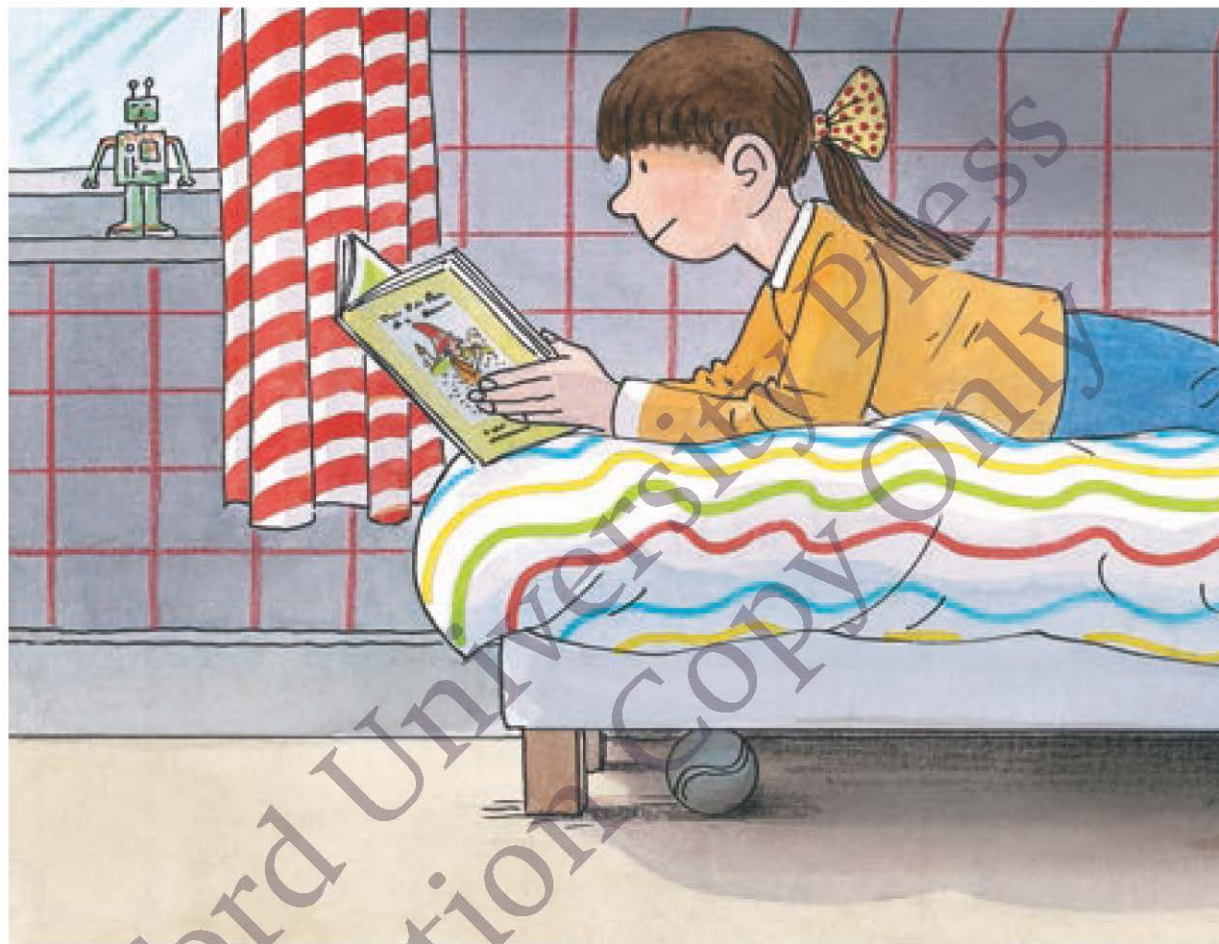
- Remind your child to sound out and blend unfamiliar words from left to right.
- Look for compound words, where two words create a bigger word, e.g. *moonlight*.
- If a word is still too tricky, simply say the whole word for your child.
- Re-read sentences to focus on their meaning where necessary.



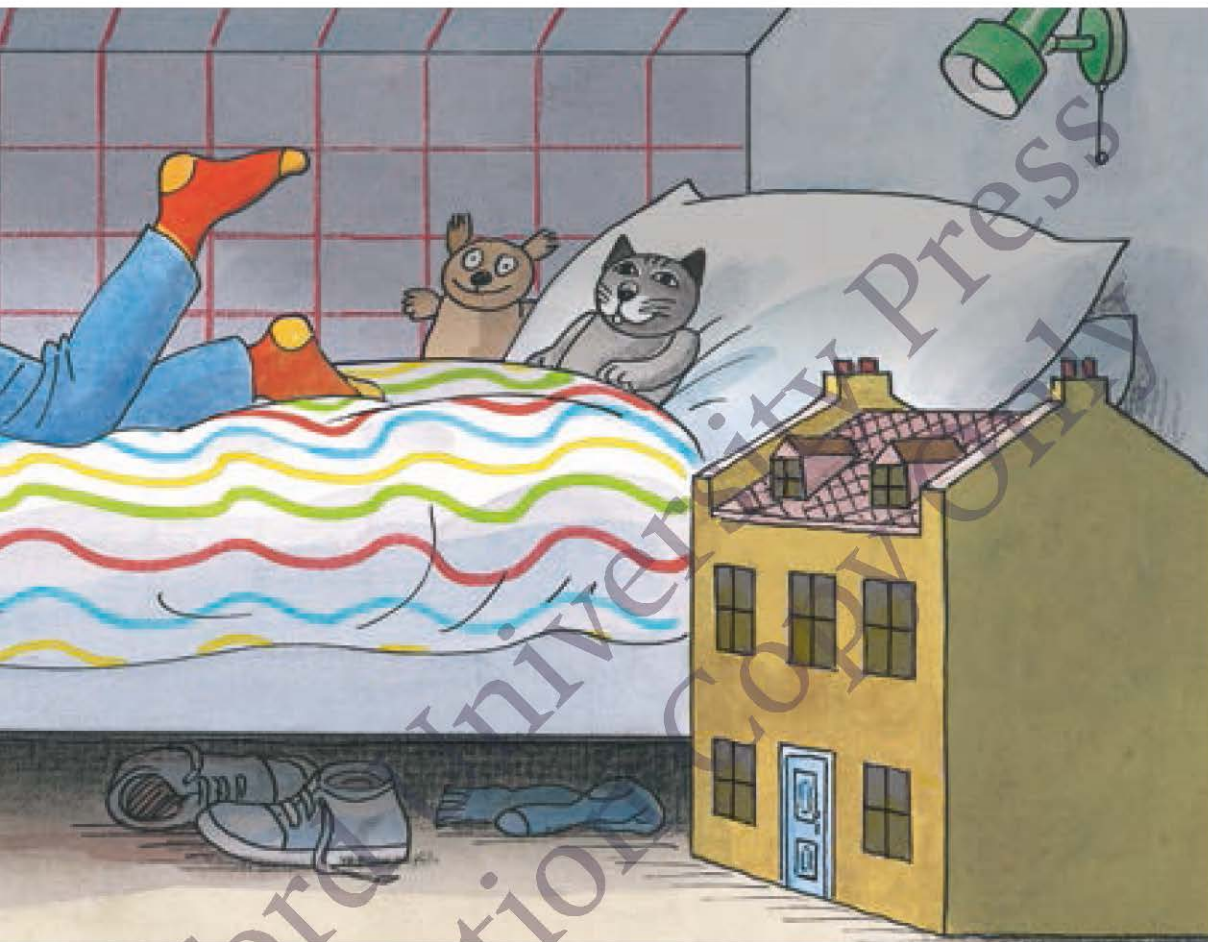
See the inside back cover for more ideas.



Biff, Chip and Kipper had a magic key. When it glowed, the magic took them into an exciting adventure.



They didn't know when the key might glow. And they didn't know why it glowed. It just did!

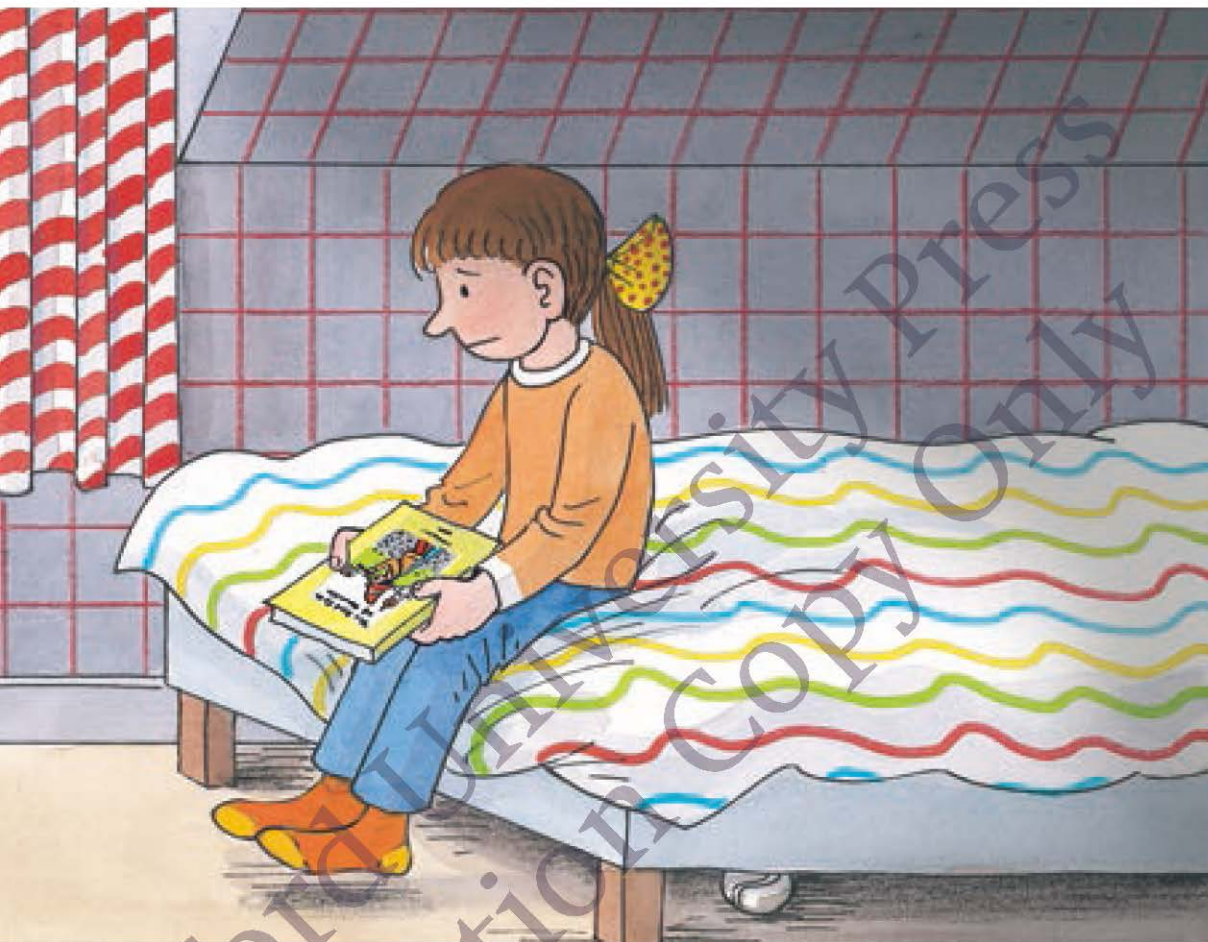


Whenever the key glowed, the magic took them into the little house in Biff's bedroom.



Chip had learned a new tune on his recorder.

“Listen to this, Biff,” he said.



Biff was looking sad.

“What’s the matter?” asked Chip.



Biff had been reading a story.
“It’s such a sad story,” said Biff.
“It’s about rats. . . .”



"Rats!" said Chip. "Why is it sad?"
Just then, the magic key glowed.
It was time for an adventure.



The magic took the children to a town by a river. There were mountains far off.



“It’s a pretty town,” gasped Kipper.
“But I can see rats. Lots of rats!”



A rat ran past Chip's feet.
Chip jumped out of the way.



"I can hear a band," said Biff.

"Look. People are coming down
the street."



The people went to see the Mayor.
“How can we rid the town of rats?”
they shouted.



Then an odd-looking man called out.
“I can get rid of them,” he said.
“But you must pay me well.”



"We'll pay you," said the Mayor,
"but get rid of the rats first."



The man went out onto the street.
He began to play a tune on a pipe.
At once the rats ran after him.



"All the rats are going," said Kipper.

"The piper's tune must be magic."

"I'd love to play like that," said Chip.



The Piper went back to the Mayor.
"I have rid you of the rats," he said.
"Now pay up."



"We don't need to pay you," the Mayor said. "The rats have gone."
"She will be sorry," said Biff.



“You will be sorry,” said the Piper.
He began to play a tune on his pipe.



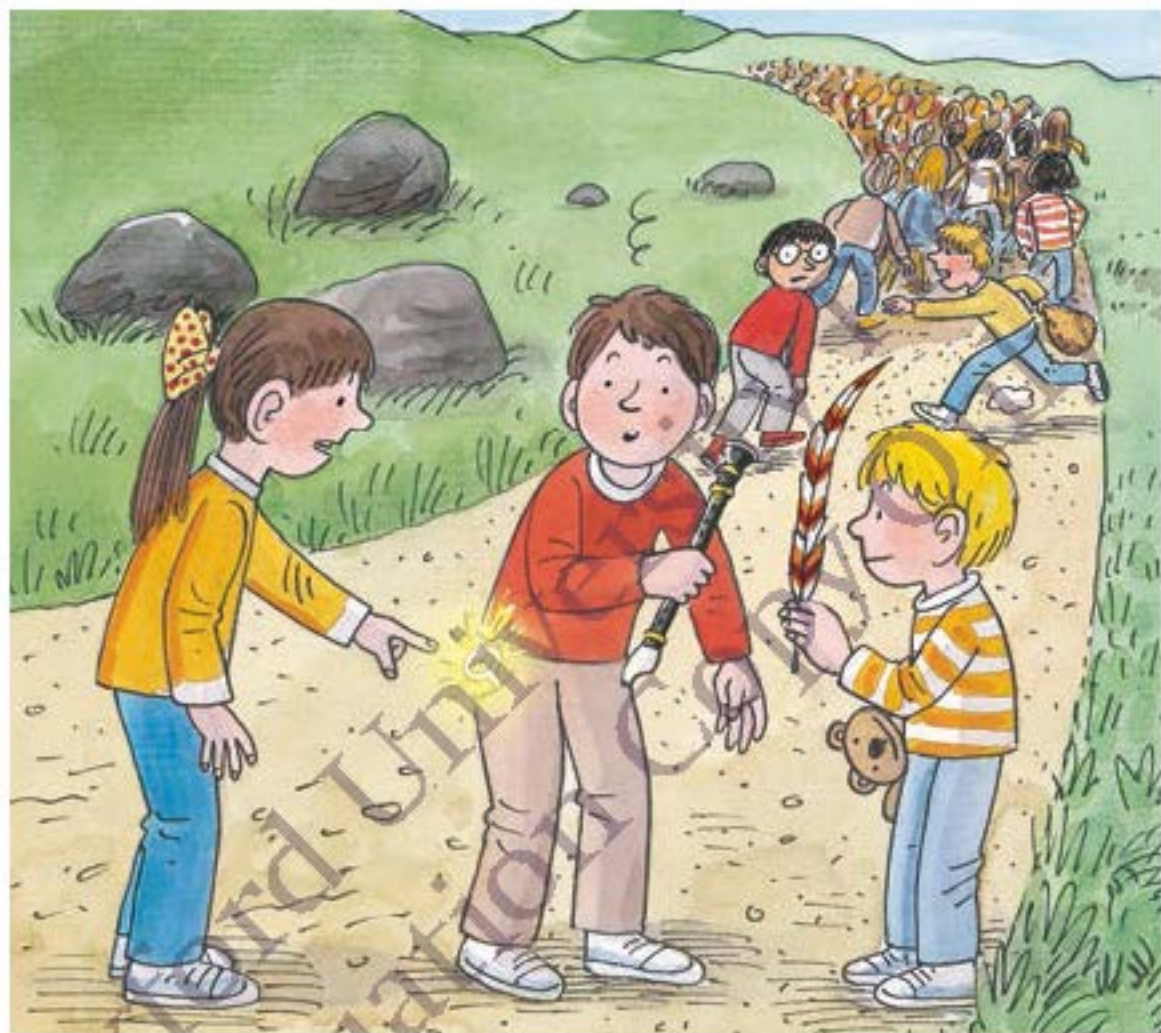
The Piper played a magic tune. All the children began to run after him.



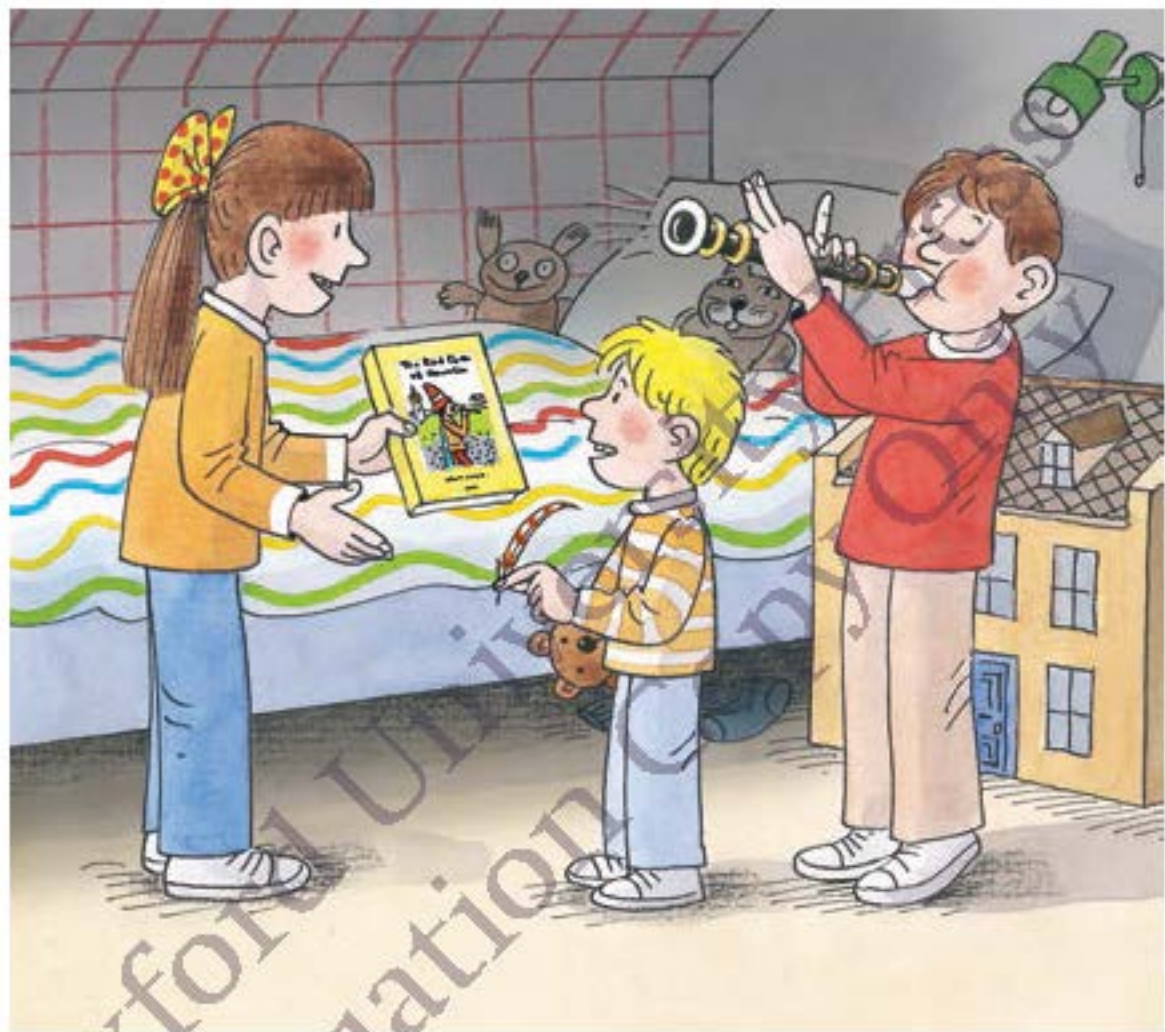
Chip and Kipper began to run after the Piper too.



Biff pulled Chip and Kipper back.
“Stop!” called Biff. “Don’t go.”



Biff looked at the magic key.
“Phew! I’m glad it’s glowing,” she said.



"How did the story end?" said Kipper.
"You had better read it," said Biff.

AFTER READING

- Look at page 18 together. Ask: *What does Biff say? How does Biff already know what will happen?*
- Talk about the end of the story. Ask: *Why do you think Biff did not want to say how the story ends?*
- Ask your child to re-tell the story to you.

Text © Roderick Hunt 2011

Illustrations © Alex Brychta 2011

The characters in this work are the original creation of Roderick Hunt and Alex Brychta who retain copyright in the characters.

First published 2011

ISBN 978-0-19-848415-8

All rights reserved. Photocopying of this book is prohibited.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in China by Imago

Paper used in the production of this book is a natural, recyclable product made from wood grown in sustainable forests. The manufacturing process conforms to the environmental regulations of the country of origin.

**Oxford
OWL**

For school

Discover free eBooks, teaching notes, advice and support

For home

Helping your child's learning with free eBooks, essential tips and fun activities



www.oxfordowl.co.uk



Biff, Chip and Kipper Stories



Oxford
Level 5

Book Band 5 Green

Rats!



The magic takes the
children into a story.



*Biff, Chip and
Kipper Stories
Level 5*

Decode and Develop

Highland Games

The Orchid Thief

Rats!

A Pet Called Cucumber

Bush Fire!

Bessie's Flying Circus

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

How to get in touch:

web www.oxfordprimary.co.uk

e-mail schools.enquiries.uk@oup.com

tel. +44 (0) 1535 452610

fax +44 (0) 1265 313472

ISBN 978-0-19-846415-6



9 780198 484156