

Mirror Island





Written by Roderick Hunt
Illustrated by Alex Brychta

BEFORE READING

Talk together

- Look at the cover and read the title together. Ask: *What do you think this story is about?*
- Talk about the characters on the cover. Ask: *What do you think the man is doing? What might he be digging for?*
- 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:

time your made saw
I'm here spade hole
rescue cry place crew

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

oh called looked
asked couldn't
busy island
fierce pirates
Captain treasure



DURING READING

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

- Remind your child to blend unfamiliar words from left to right.
- 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.



Chip was in his bedroom. He was busy drawing.

“Chip!” called Biff. “Wilf and Wilma are here!”



Chip went downstairs. Chip showed them his drawing. He had made a pattern.

“What is it?” asked Wilf.

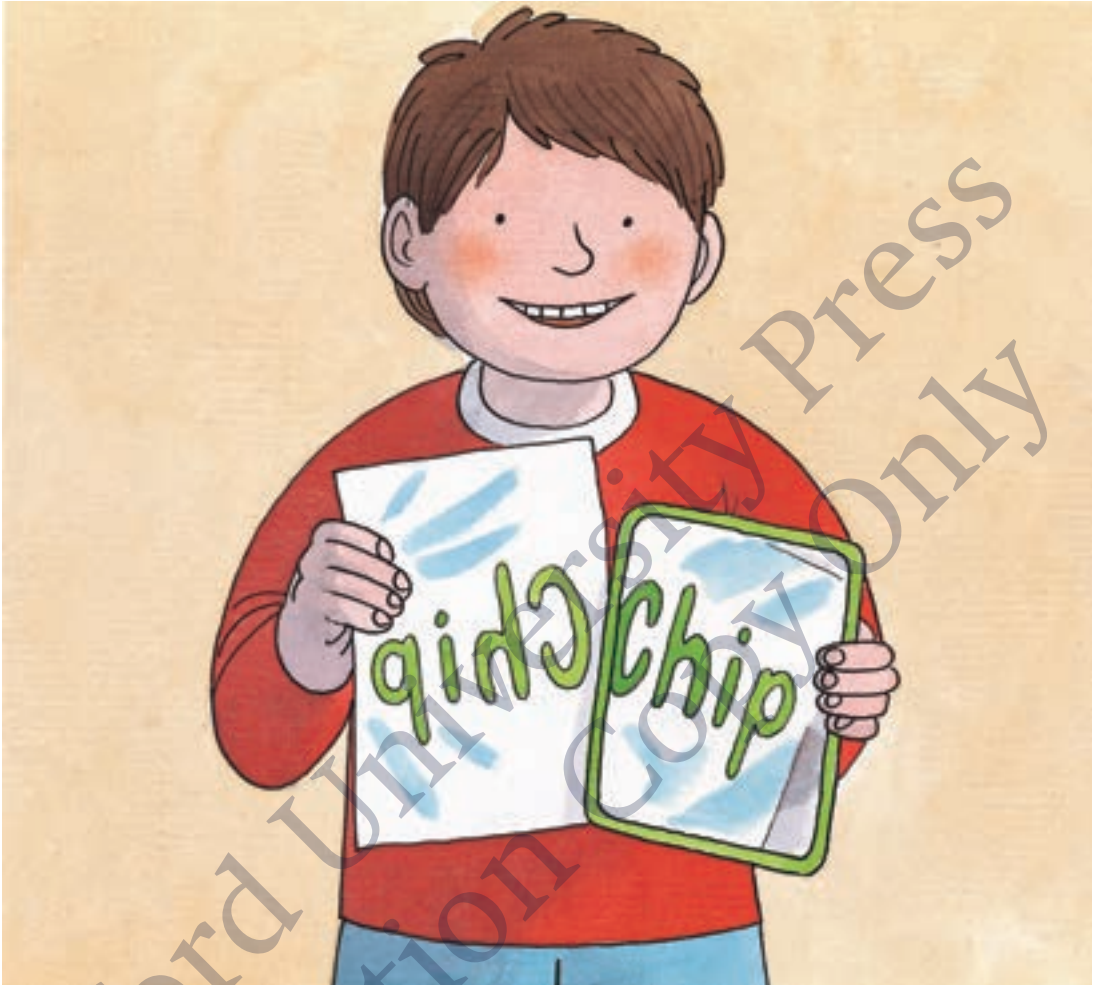


“It looks like a word,” said Wilma.

“Come up to my room,” said Chip.

“Then I can show you.”

They went up to Chip’s room.



Chip put a mirror on the paper. The pattern said “Chip” in mirror writing. Biff wanted to do some mirror writing but Chip had run out of paper.

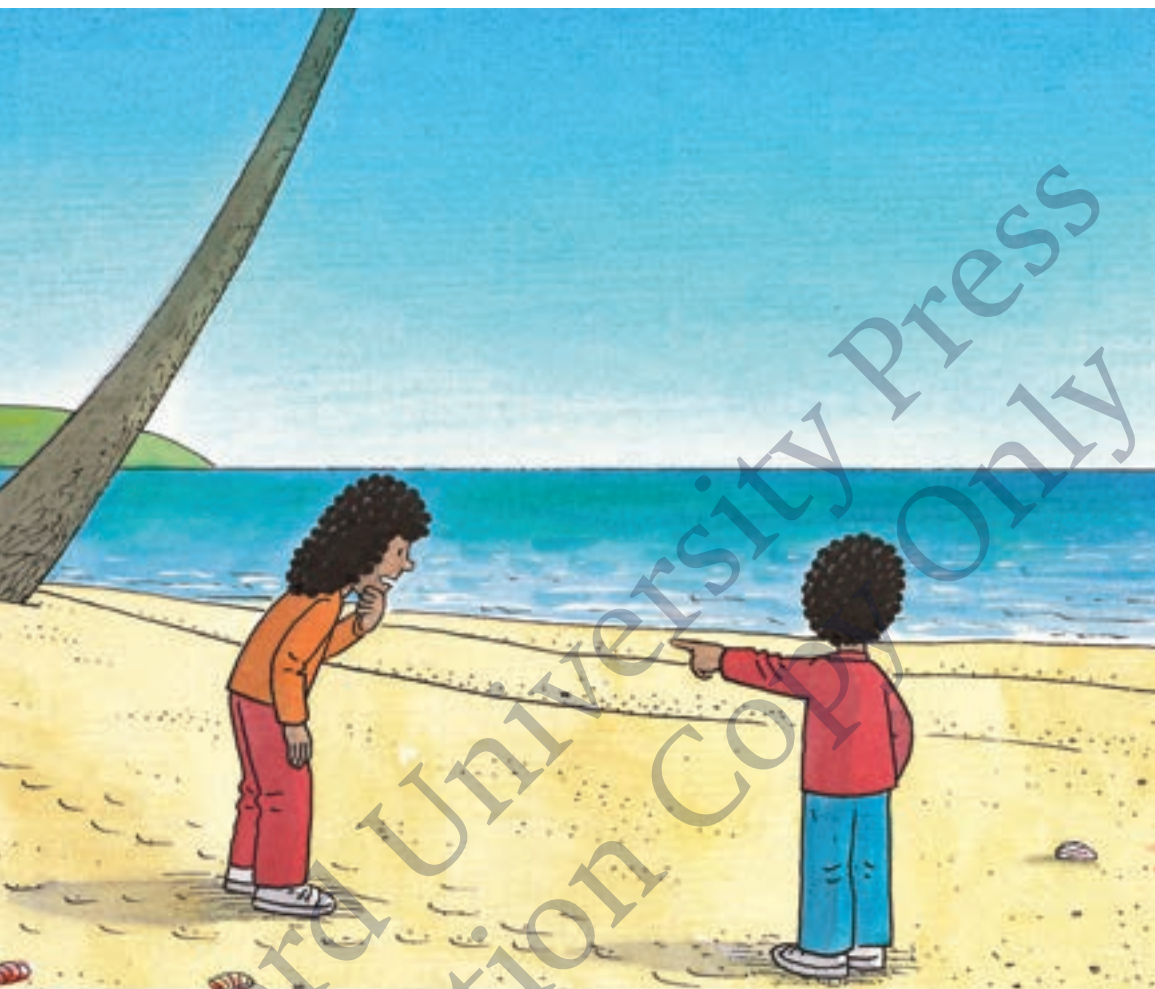


Biff went to her room to get some paper. The magic key was glowing. It was time for an adventure.

“Come here everybody,” she called.



The magic took them to an island.
“We have been here before,” said Wilma.
“We met some pirates,” said Wilf.



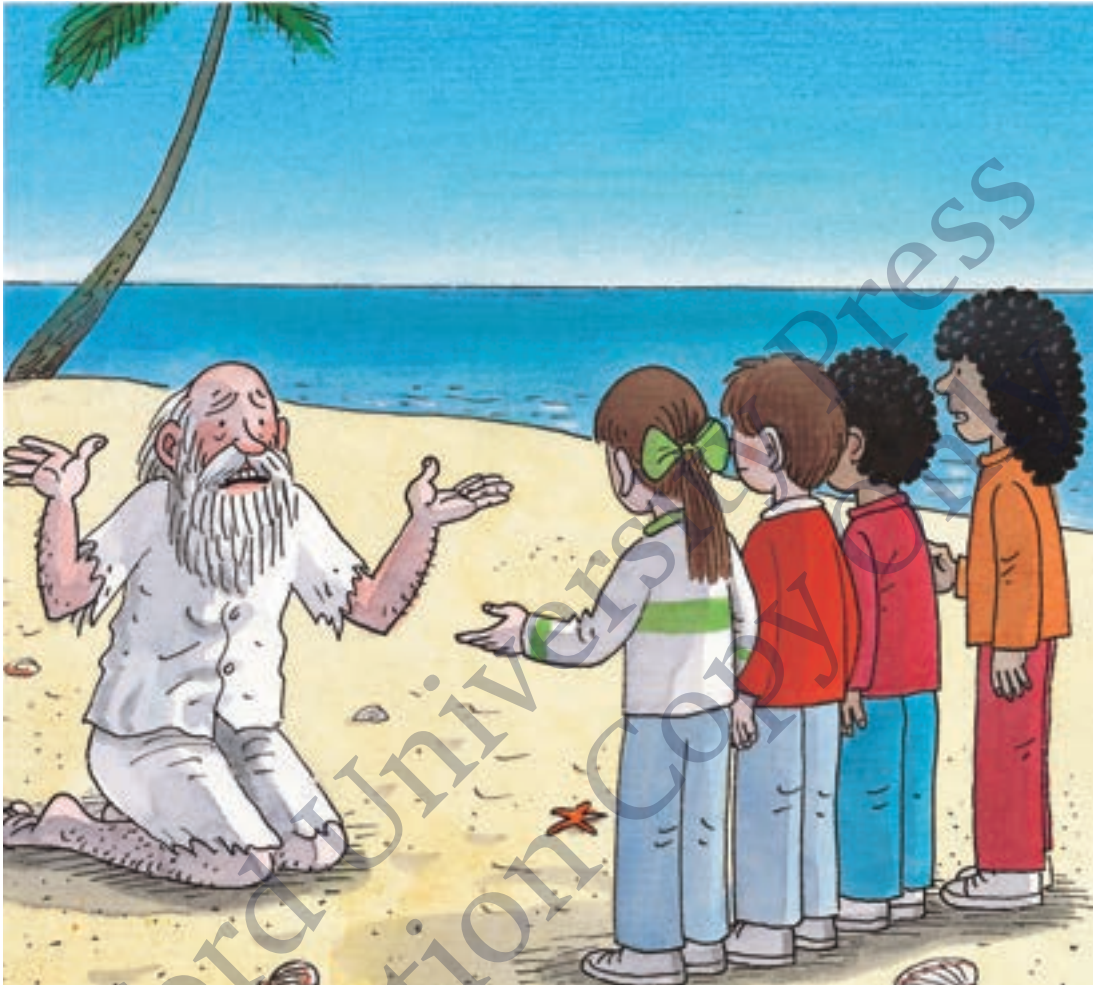
Wilma saw some footprints in the sand.
“There must be someone on the island,” she said.

“Oh help!” said Wilf. “There he is.”



“He looks fierce,” said Biff. “Run for it!”
The children began to run.

“Stop!” called the man. “Come back!”
And he began to cry.

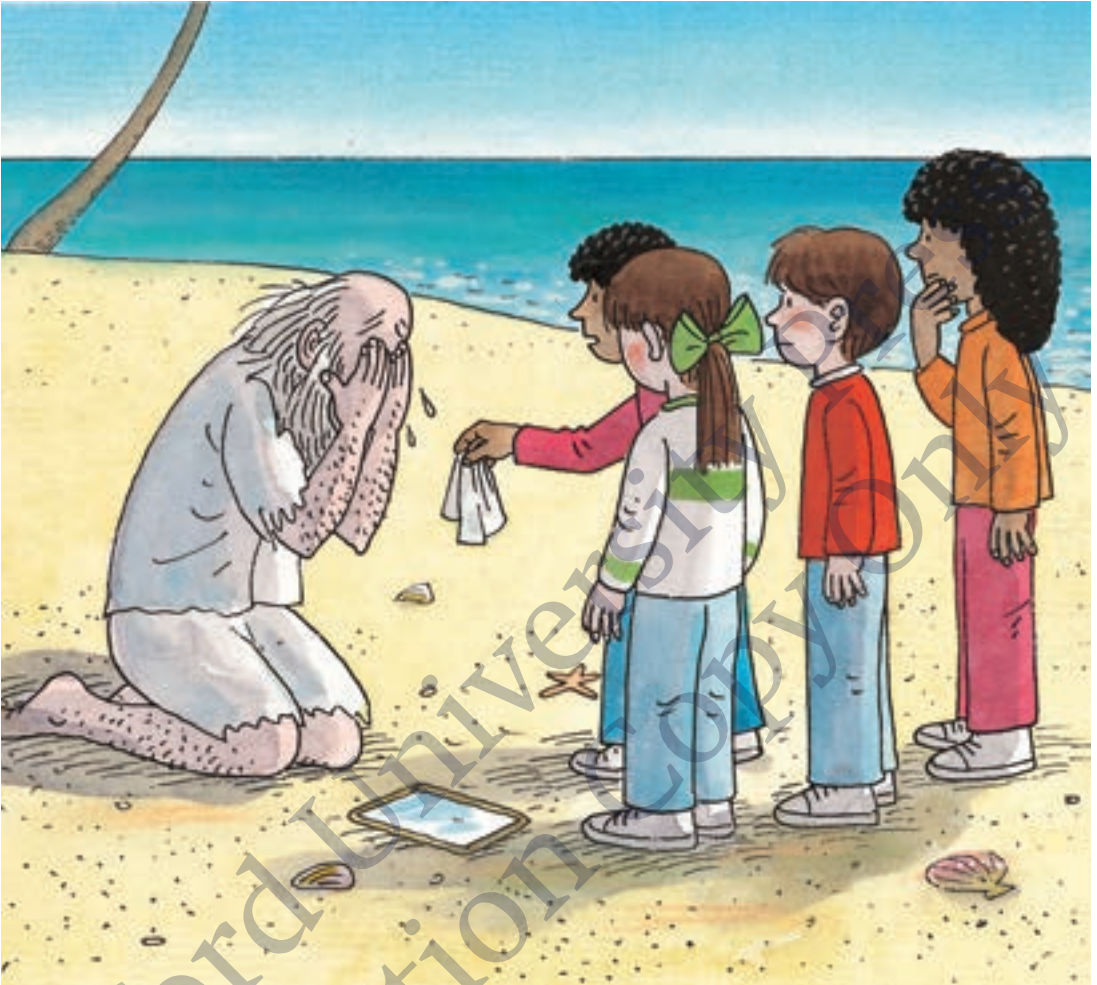


“Why are you crying?” asked Wilma.
“Do I frighten you?” asked the man.
“Yes,” said Biff. “You look so fierce.
You have such long hair.”

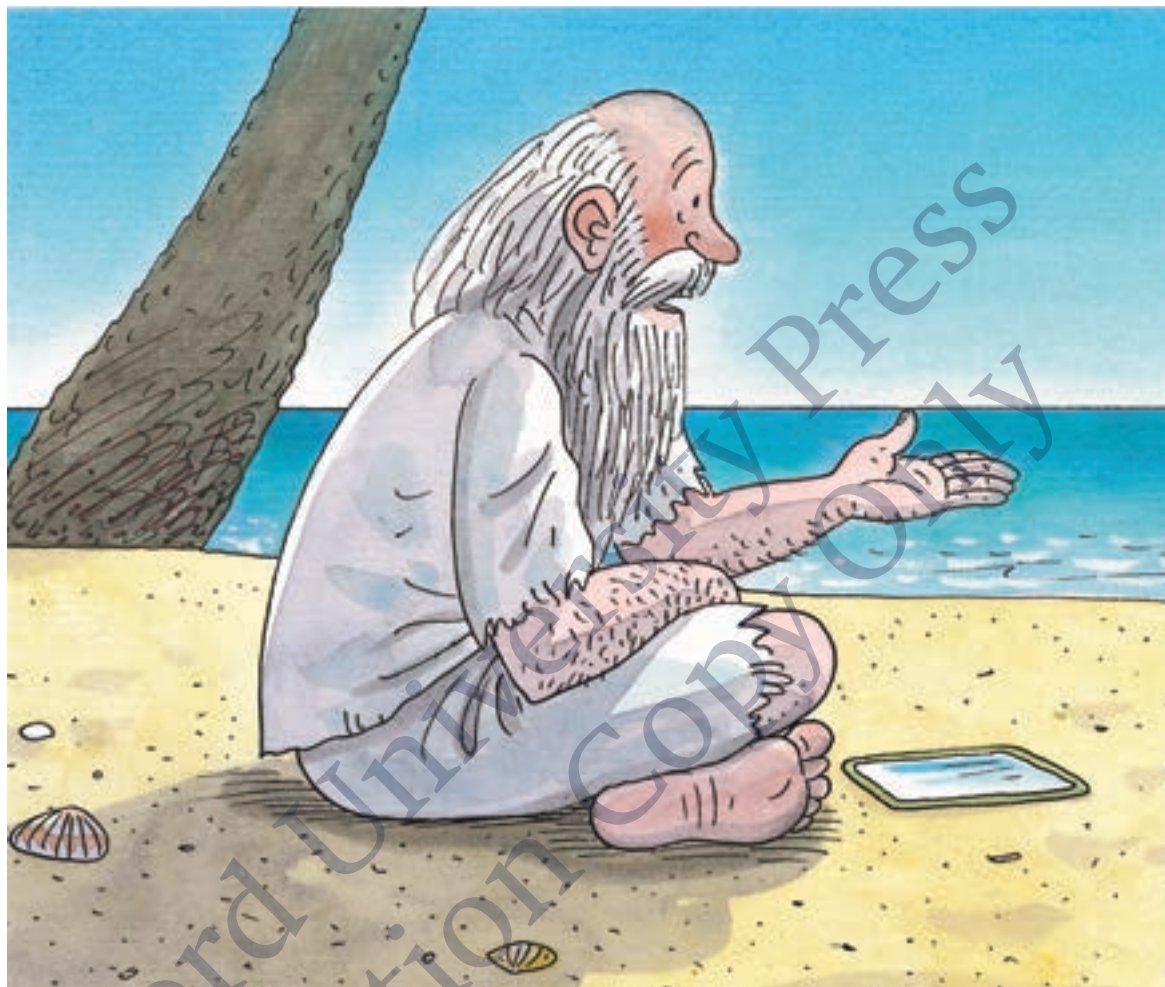


“I don’t look that bad, do I?” asked the man.

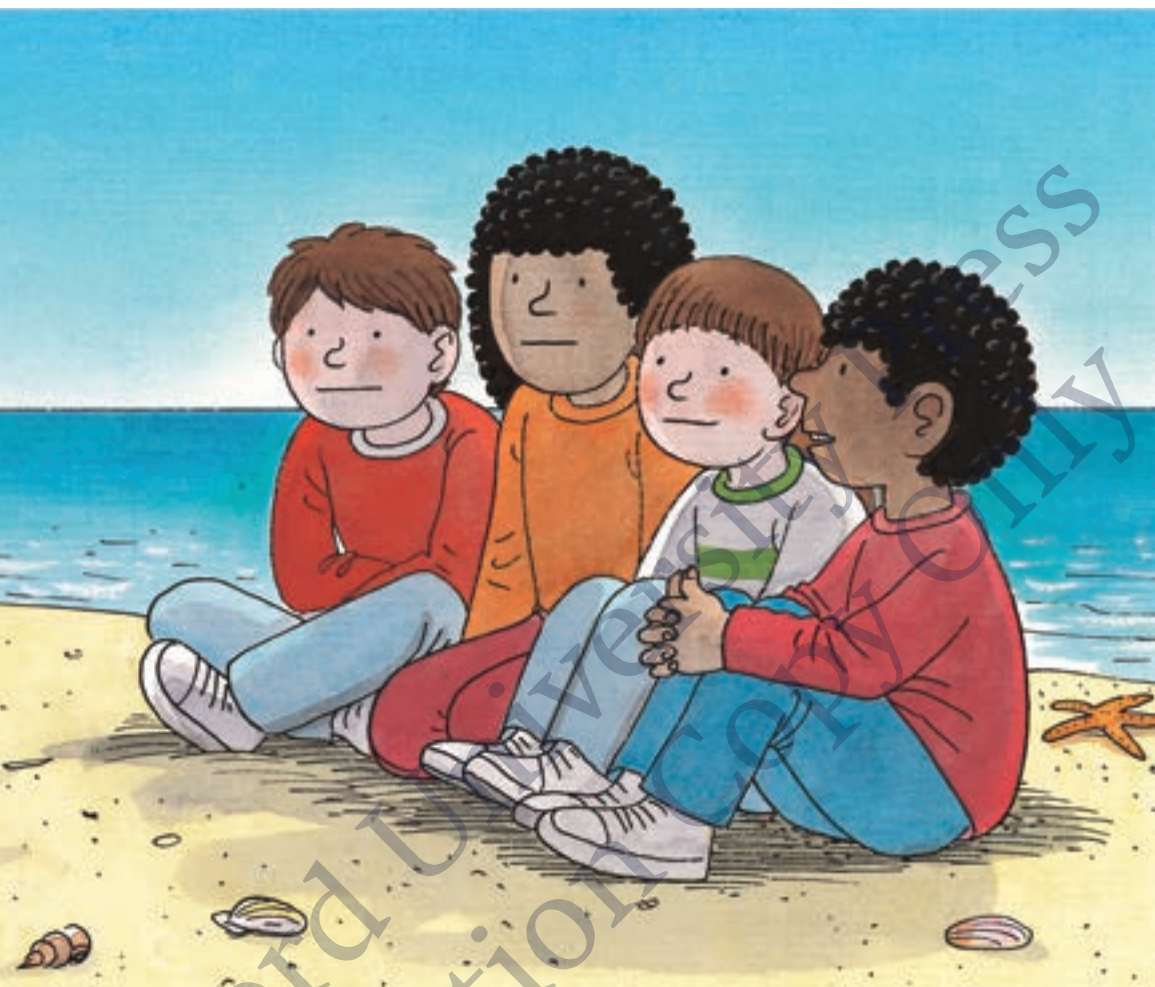
Chip gave him the mirror. The man looked in it.



“Oh no!” screamed the man. “I look terrible! No wonder you were frightened.” He began to cry again.

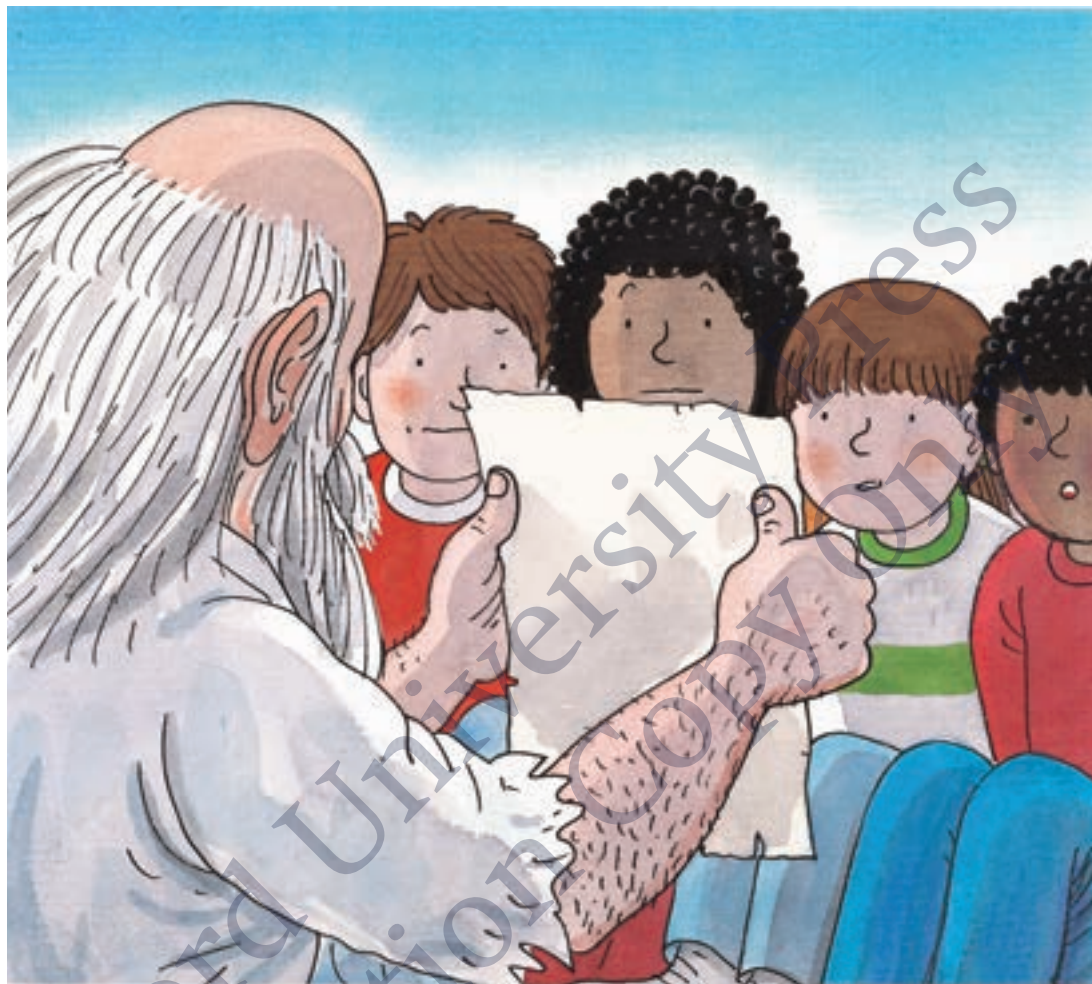


“My name is Captain Crow,” he said.
“I’ve been alone for ten months and six
days. My crew took the ship.”



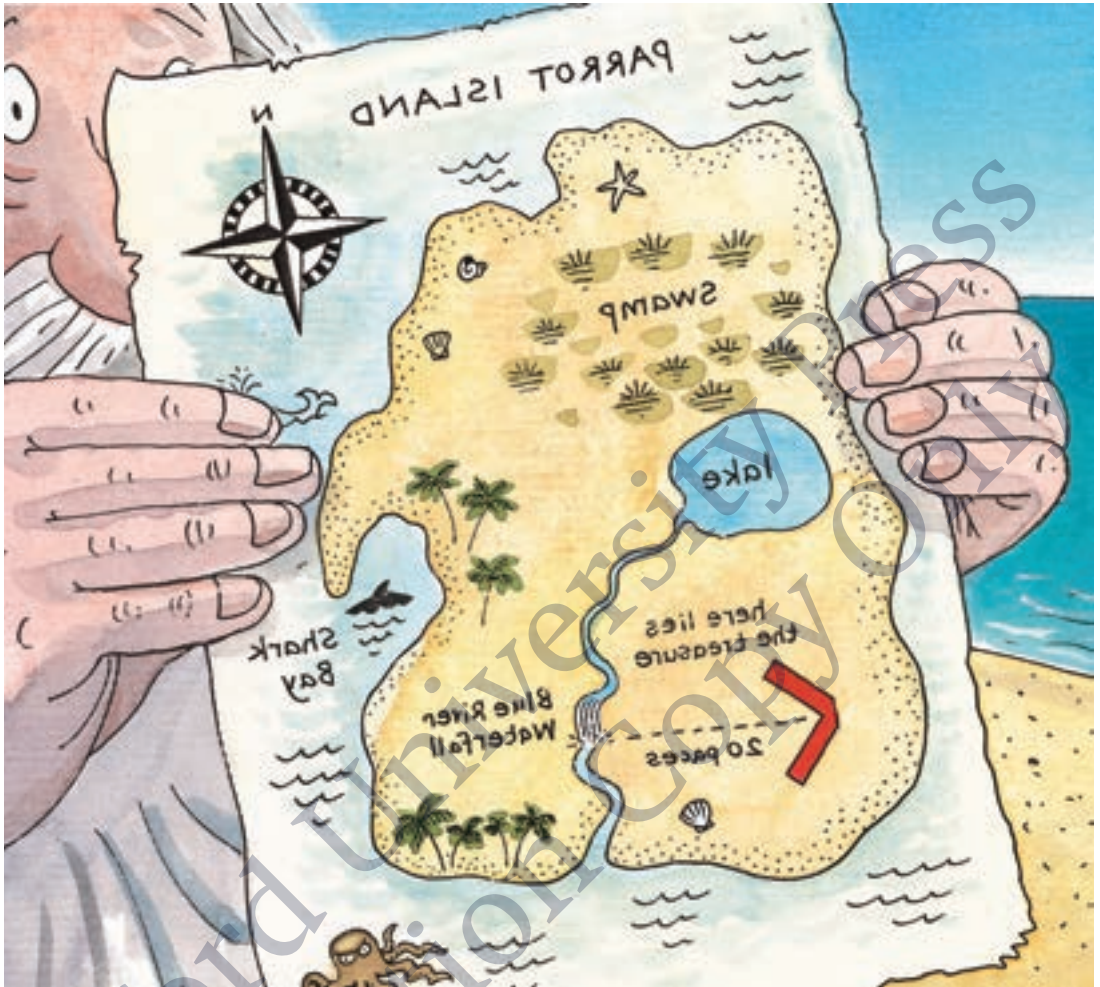
“Why did they do that?” asked Wilf.

“We couldn’t find the treasure,” said Captain Crow. “They said I was useless.”



Captain Crow had a treasure map.
The children looked at it.

“It looks odd,” said Captain Crow. “I
couldn’t understand it.”



“Look at these funny words,” said Biff. “What do they mean?”

“I think I understand it,” said Chip.
“It’s in mirror writing!”



Chip put the mirror on the map.
Captain Crow could read the writing.
“It says, *Here lies the treasure*,” he said.
He began to run.



“Where are you going?” said Biff.

“To get my spade!” said Captain Crow.

“Come on!” said Wilma. “It looks as if we have some digging to do.”



Captain Crow looked at the map.
“This is the place to dig,” he said.
He dug and dug. Soon he had dug a
deep hole.

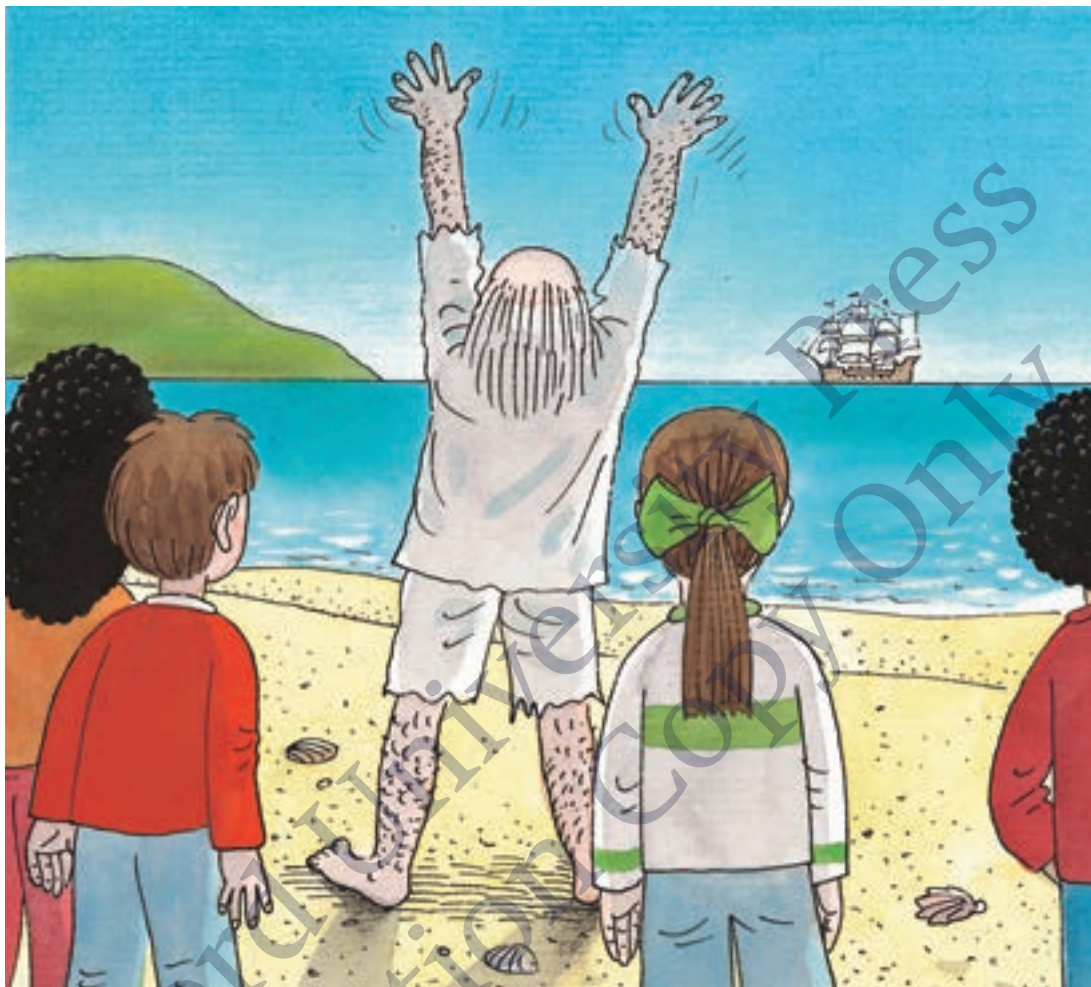


At last the spade hit a wooden box.
“It’s a big chest,” said Captain Crow.
“Thanks to you and your mirror, I’ve
found the treasure!”



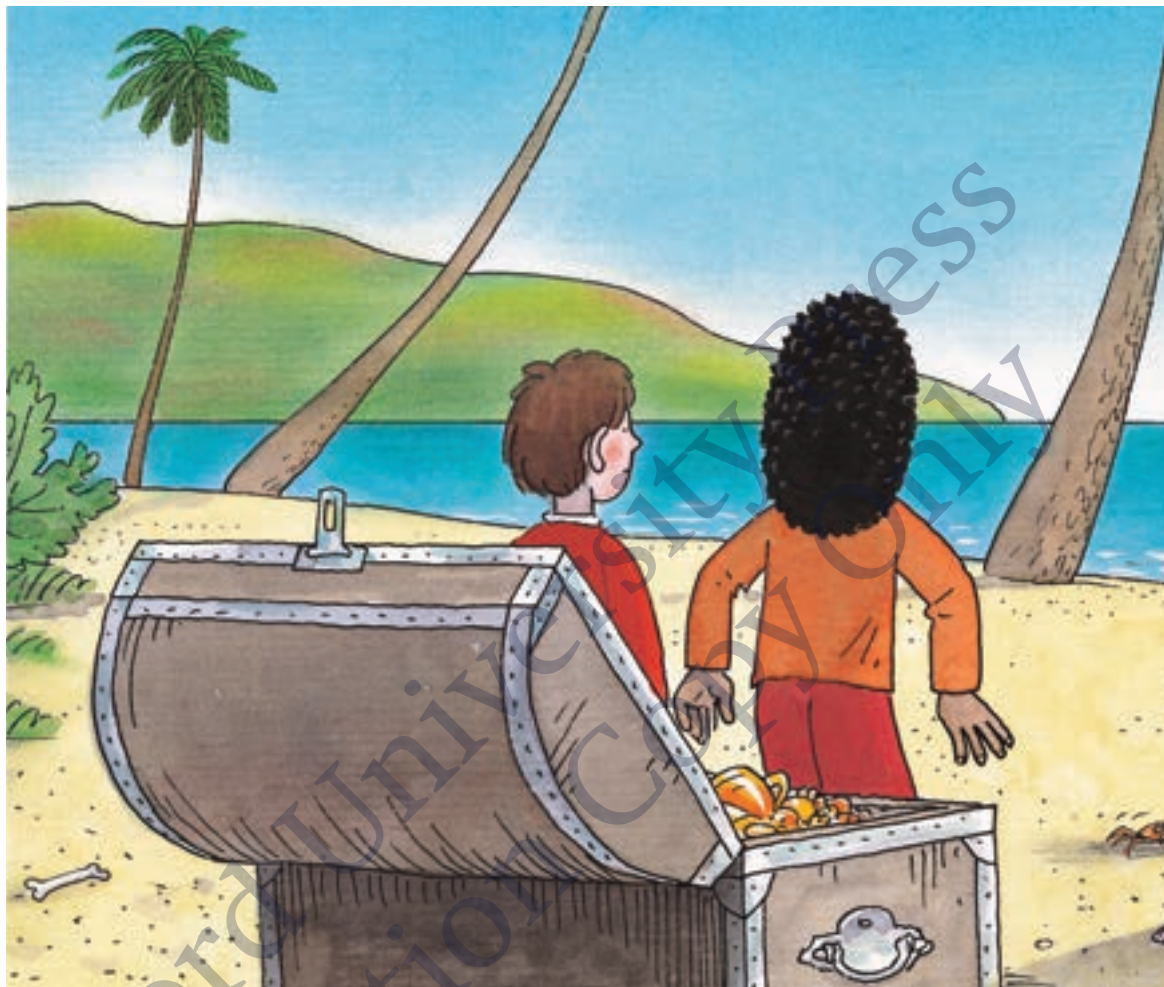
Captain Crow opened the chest.
Everyone gasped. It was full of gold and
silver.

“Hooray!” shouted Captain Crow.
“I’m rich!”



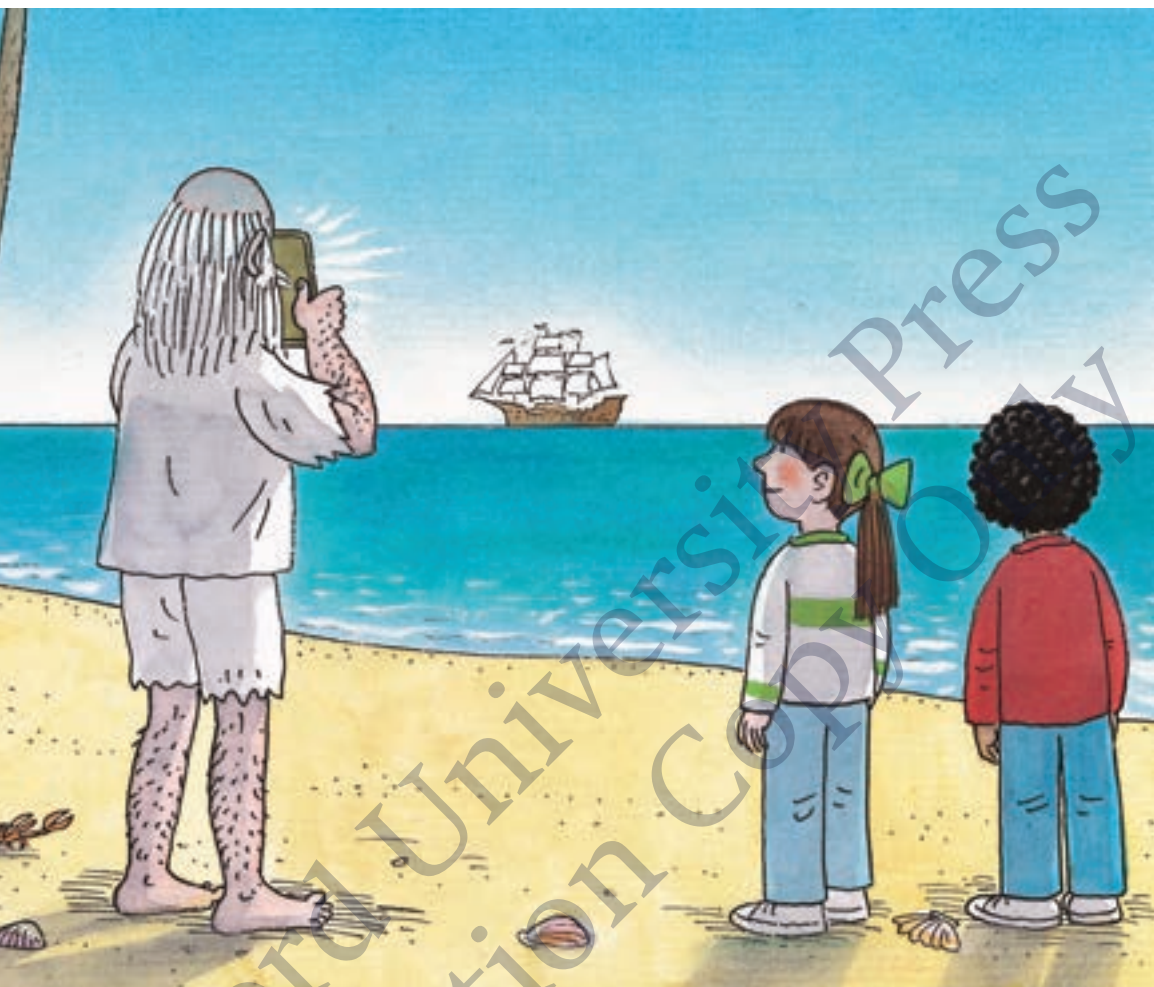
Wilma saw a ship. It was sailing past the island.

“Help!” shouted Captain Crow. “I’m over here. Come and rescue me!”



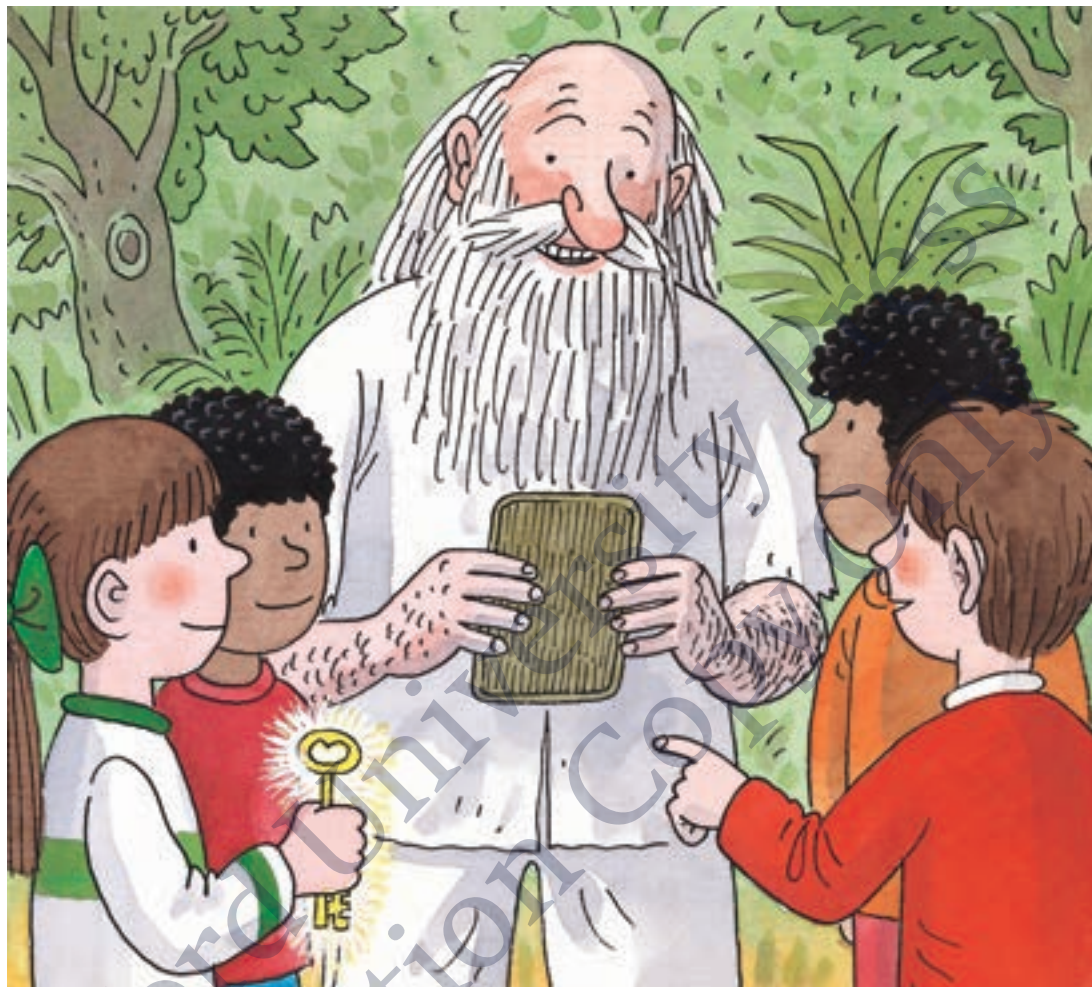
“It can’t see you,” said Wilf.
Wilma had a good idea.

“Use the mirror,” she cried. “Flash it
at the ship!”



The ship flashed back at Captain Crow.

“Now I can leave the island!” he yelled. “Help me hide the treasure. I will come back for it one day.”



The magic key began to glow.

“It’s time for us to go,” said Biff.

“You can keep the mirror,” said Chip,
“to have a shave and a haircut!”

AFTER READING

- Re-read pages 10 and 11. Ask: *Why was the man surprised by the way he looked?*
- Look at pages 21 to 23 and ask: *How did the mirror help Captain Crow to contact the ship? Can you think of any other ways he could have contacted the ship?*
- Turn to page 23 and ask: *Why does Captain Crow want to bury the treasure again?*

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