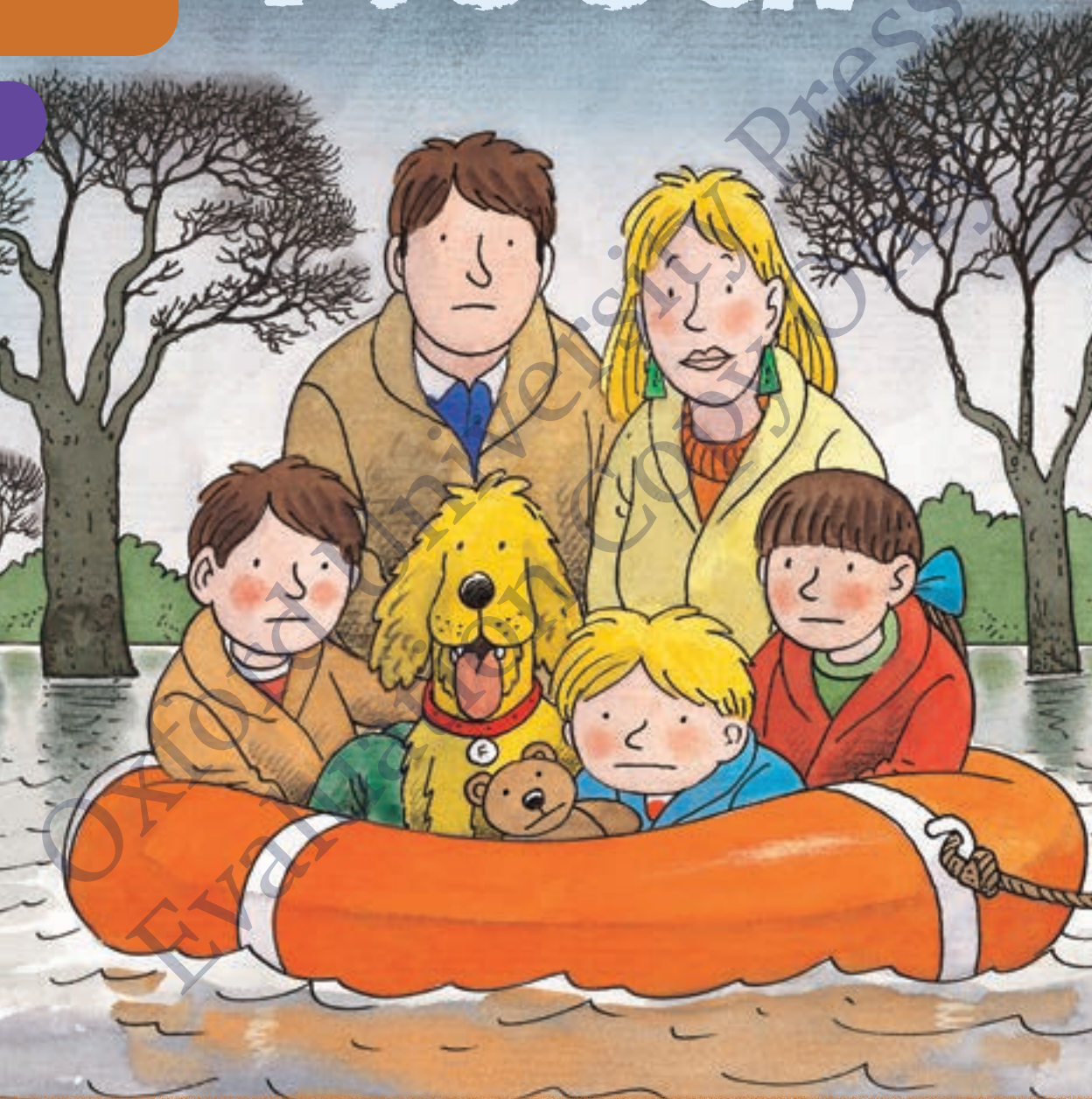


Flood!





Written by Roderick Hunt
Illustrated by Alex Brychta

BEFORE READING

Talk together

- Read the title together. Point out the exclamation mark. Ask: *What happens if it rains a lot or for a long time?*
- Look at the front cover picture. Ask: *How do you think the family are feeling?*
- Look through the book and talk about the pictures.

About the words in this book

- Your child will probably be able to read most of the words in this book. Encourage your child to sound out and blend any challenging words, such as those below. If necessary, model the blending or read the words for your child.

brought
worried

canoe
thoughtful

DURING READING

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

- Break unfamiliar words into chunks or syllables to work them out (e.g. e-nor-mous).
- 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.



It had been raining for days.

“All this rain,” said Biff. “I wish it would stop.”

“I’m taking Floppy for a walk,” said Mum.

“Who wants to come?”

Biff and Chip looked at her.

“Not us!” they said. “It’s raining!”



In the end, Biff said she would go with Mum. They went into the park. It was not much fun in the rain.

“Look at Floppy,” said Mum. “He can’t help getting muddy. The ground is so wet and squelchy.”



Biff and Mum walked across the park.
They wanted to cross the little bridge, but the
stream had flooded.

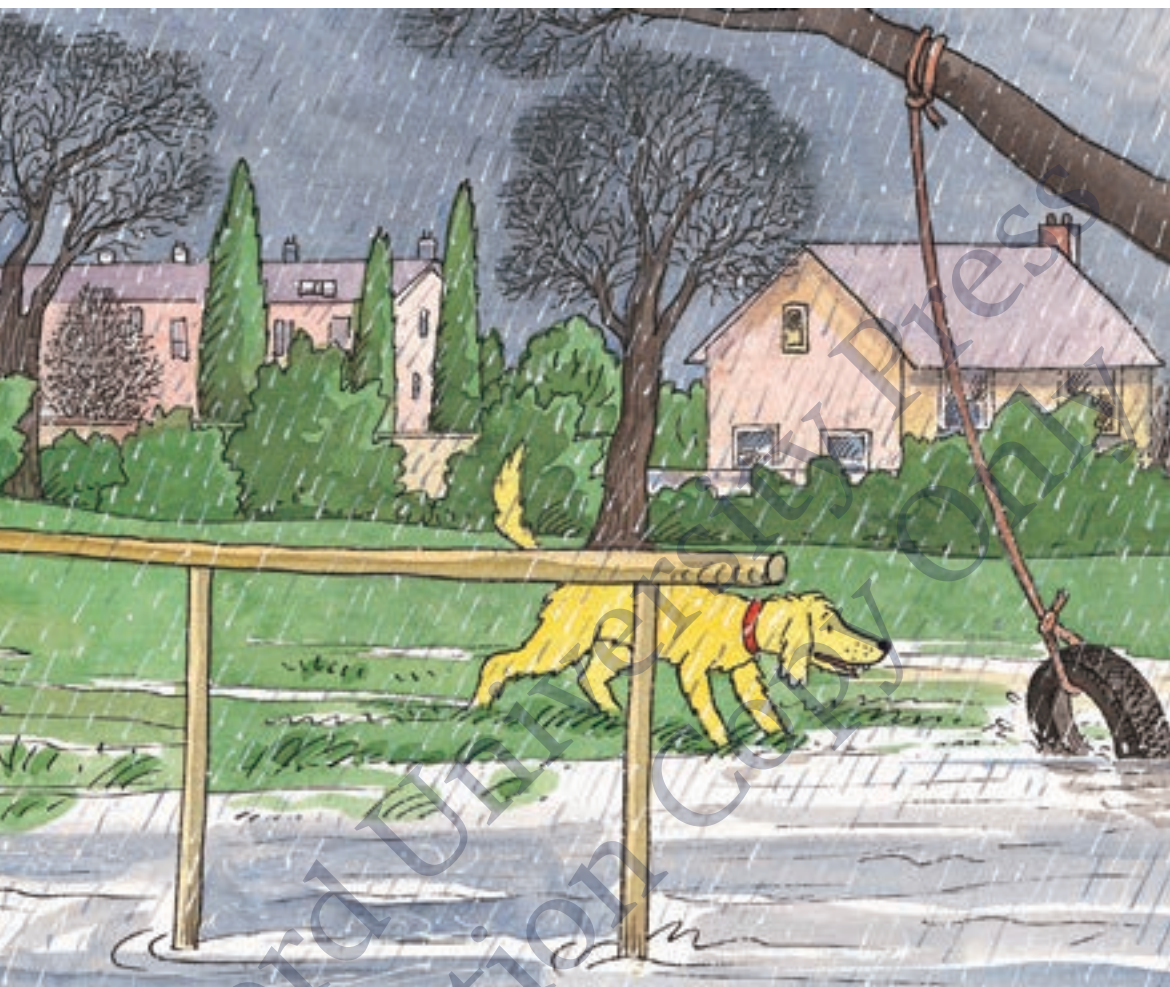
“I’ve never seen it this high,” said Mum.
Biff was excited.

“Oh look!” she said. “The bridge is under water.”



Biff began to wade across the bridge, but Mum called her back.

“It’s not a good idea,” said Mum. “The stream is flowing really fast and you can’t see the edge of it. What if you slipped in?”



“If it goes on raining, the water will flood across the park,” said Biff.

Mum looked thoughtful.

“I hope the rain stops,” she said. “We don’t want the flood to get as far as our house.”



The next morning, when Biff and Chip were at school, it was still raining. The children couldn't go out to play.

"Another wet playtime," sighed Chip. "I wish it would stop raining."

"So do I," sighed Mrs May, too.



In the afternoon it stopped raining.

“Hooray! Now we can play football,” said Wilf.
But there were big puddles on the field.

“I’m sorry,” said Mrs May. “We can’t play
football today. The ground is too wet.”



That evening Biff, Chip and Kipper were watching television. The weather forecast came on. Some bad storms were coming, with a lot more rain.

“Not more rain!” sighed Chip.



The storm came in the middle of the night. The rain beat on the roof of the house and it lashed against the windows. It was so loud that Biff and Chip couldn't sleep. Mum brought them a hot drink.

"Poor Floppy," said Biff. "He hates this."



In the morning, Dad took Floppy for a walk. Chip went with him. When they got to the park, Chip gasped. The park was flooded. It was like a giant lake. Chip thought the floods were fun.



Dad looked worried.

“I don’t like the look of this,” he said. “We don’t want the water to get as far as our house.”
Chip grinned at Dad.

“It couldn’t go that far,” he said. “Could it?”



But it didn't stop raining, and the floods grew worse. The water reached the edge of the park. Then it began to creep up the road. It came through the fence and flooded the end of the garden.



The road near Wilf and Wilma's house was flooded. The children watched the cars going through the flood. One car had broken down and was stuck in the middle.



That day, the school was closed. The hall was flooded and there was no heating.

“What are we going to do all day?” asked Wilf.

“I’m sorry,” said Mrs May. “We can’t open the school today.”



When the children got home, they saw a lorry in the street. It was loaded with sandbags. People were taking the sandbags to their houses.

“We need you all to help,” said Mum.



Biff and Chip helped to carry the sandbags. They were very heavy. Dad put them in front of the doors.

“I just hope the water doesn’t come up this far,” said Dad.