

Songbirds



Phonics
4

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Dig,
Dig,
Dig!



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Oxford
Reading
Tree

Talk together

Ask your child to

- Point to the letters in the box on the back cover and say the sound (not letter name) that each letter usually makes in words (e.g. *d* as in *dig*). Tell your child each letter sound if necessary.
- Look out for these letters in the story and try and remember the sound they make.

Reading the story

Remember children learn best when reading is relaxed and enjoyable so give lots of praise.

- Encourage your child to point at the words and try to read any they don't recognize by saying the individual sounds separately (e.g. *d - i - g*), then running the sounds together quickly. If they find it difficult to say the sounds, say the sounds for them first and then see if they can hear the word.
- On page 2, if your child has difficulty reading the word *of*, explain that in this word the letter *f* is unusual and makes a *v* sound. Point out that it is important when running the sounds in a word together to check to see if it sounds like a real word.

Dig, dig, dig!
Tim and his dog had fun.



Dig, dig, dig!
Tim dug up a lot of mud.

Dig, dig, dig!
His dog dug up a rag.



Dig, dig, dig!
Tim dug up a bus.

Dig, dig, dig!
A lid!



Dig, dig, dig!
A big tin!

And in it. . .



lots of bugs!



Check understanding

Ask your child

- What did Tim and the dog hope would be in the tin? (Treasure and a bone.) How do you know?

Check knowledge of letter-pattern sounds

Ask your child to

- Find words in the book which begin with the sound *l*. (*lot, lid, lots*)
- Point to the middle letter of *lid*. What sound does this letter make in the middle of *lid*?
- Find some more words with the sound *i* in the middle. (*Dig, dig, Tim, his, big*)
- Think of other words which have the sound *i* in the middle (e.g. *wig, him, bin, fit*).
- Look in the book and find the words with the sound *a* in the middle. (*had, rag*)
- Think of other words which have the sound *a* in the middle (e.g. *bad, Dad, bag, cap, rat*).

Example phonic words: dig Tim his dog had fun dug
up lot mud rag bus lid big tin in it lots bugs and
Context words: a of