

# Wild School



Mairi Mackinnon  
Illustrated by Lee Wildish

Usborne Very First Reading has been developed in consultation with literacy specialists Alison Kelly and Anne Washtell of Roehampton University, London.

Each book contains:

- a **story** that children will love to read
- fun **puzzles** to reinforce new skills
- **guidance notes** on reading with your child.

Further help and support for parents and teachers can be found on the Usborne Quicklinks Website at [www.usborne-quicklinks.com](http://www.usborne-quicklinks.com)

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# How this book works

The story of **Wild School** has been written  
for your child to read with your help.

Encourage your child to read as much as they can, helping to sound out the words if they get stuck.



There are puzzles after the story, and for these you will need to read the instructions to your child.

You can find out more about helping your child with this book, and with reading in general, on pages 30-31.

# Wild School



Turn the page to start the story.

“Miss Blair, Miss Blair!  
There’s a hare on  
my chair.”







Can he share  
my lunch?

“Can I have a hare?  
Miss, it’s not fair!”







“Miss Burt, Miss Burt!  
See that bird? Is it hurt?”



Can it perch  
on my arm?



Look,  
it's pecking  
my shirt!



“Miss York, Miss York!  
There’s a hawk on  
the porch.”







Is it your  
hawk?





Hey, look at  
its down!



Miss, it's  
flown off!





It's not my  
fault.




“Miss Brown, Miss Brown!  
There’s an owl on  
the ground.”










Howard  
found him.

He's my  
owl now.





Can I have  
an owl?

“Look out, it’s Miss Boyd!”





“Now, girls and boys,  
And animals too –”



There's TOO  
MUCH NOISE!



Shhh!



Shhh!



# Puzzle 1

Look at the pictures, read the sentences,  
then say whether they are true or false.

1.



There's a hare on the stair.

2.



There are four hawks.



3.



Howard found an owl.

4.



Miss Boyd is annoyed.

## Puzzle 2

- Match the speech bubbles to the pictures.

1.

Is it your  
hawk?

2.

Look, it's  
pecking my  
shirt!

3.

Can I have  
an owl?

4.

Can he  
share my  
lunch?

A



B



C



D





## Puzzle 3

There is one word in each group that doesn't rhyme with the rest. Can you spot it?

1. hare here chair there

2. your our for pour

3. court hurt dirt shirt

4. allow how now slow

5. boys nose noise toys

# Answers to puzzles

## Puzzle 1

1. False
2. False
3. True
4. True

## Puzzle 2

1. "Is it your hawk?" – C
2. "Look, it's pecking my shirt!" – B
3. "Can I have an owl?" – D
4. "Can he share my lunch?" – A

## Puzzle 3

1. here
2. our
3. court
4. slow
5. nose

# Guidance notes

Usborne Very First Reading is a series of fifteen books, specially developed for children who are learning to read. **Wild School** is the eleventh book in the series, and by this stage your child should be able to read the story alone, with occasional help from you.

The story of **Wild School** introduces different spellings of the five sounds shown below:

air	or	ur	ow	oi
are	our	er	ou	oy
ere		ir		

Later books in the series gradually introduce more ways of spelling these and other sounds, while reinforcing the ones your child already knows.

You'll find lots more information about the structure of the series, advice on helping your child with reading, extra practice activities and games on the Usborne Quicklinks website. Just go to [www.usborne-quicklinks.com](http://www.usborne-quicklinks.com) and type in the keywords **Very First Reading**.



## Some questions and answers

- **Why do I need to read with my child?**

Sharing stories makes reading an enjoyable and fun activity for children. It also helps them to develop confidence and stamina. Even if you are not taking an active part in reading, your listening and support are very important.

- **When is a good time to read?**

Choose a time when you are both relaxed, but not too tired, and there are no distractions. Only read for as long as your child wants to – you can always try again another day.

- **What if my child gets stuck?**

Don't simply read the problem word yourself, but prompt your child and try to find the right answer together. Similarly, if your child makes a mistake, go back and look at the word together. Don't forget to give plenty of praise and encouragement.



- **We've finished, now what do we do?**

It's a good idea to read the story several times to give your child more practice and more confidence. Then, when your child is ready, you can go on to the next book in the series, *The Circus under the Sea*.

Edited by Jenny Tyler and Lesley Sims  
Designed by Russell Punter



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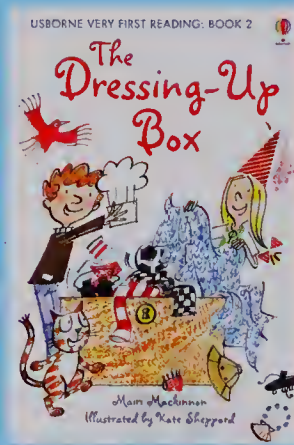
# USBORNE VERY FIRST READING

There are fifteen titles in the Usborne Very First Reading series, which has been specially developed to help children learn to read.

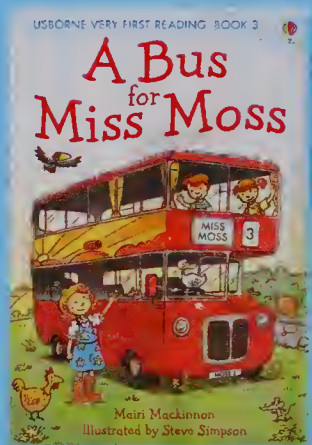
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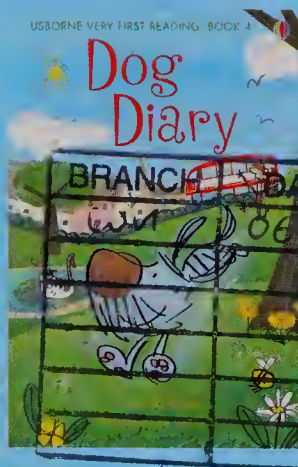
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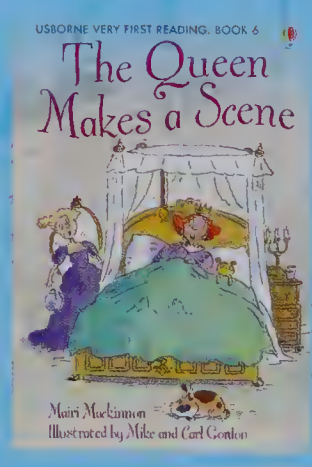
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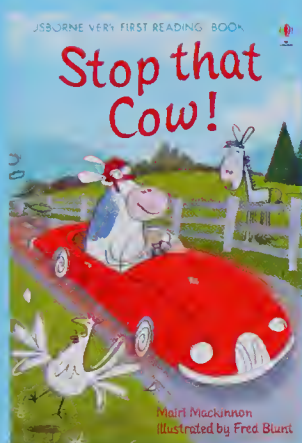
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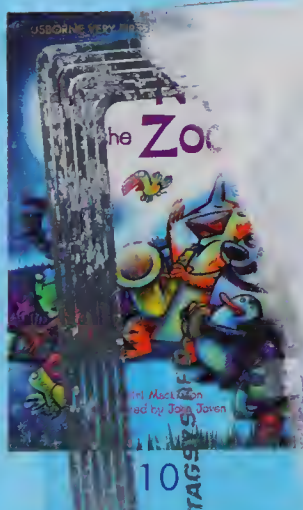
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9



10



Goodbye



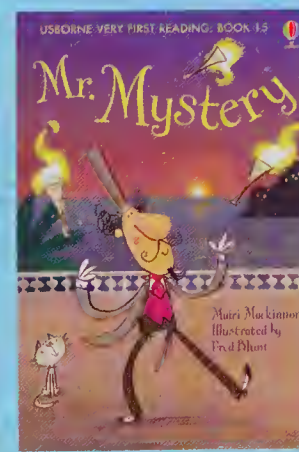
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15



# Wild School

**Wild School** is the eleventh book in the **Usborne Very First Reading** series which has been specially developed to help children learn to read. Each book in the series introduces new letters or reading patterns, and reinforces material from previous books.

Designed for an adult and child to read together, the series combines lively rhyming stories with interesting illustrations in order to build the skills and confidence that will encourage a lifelong enjoyment of reading.



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