



Usborne
Phonics Readers
Big pig on a dig



Usborne Phonics Readers have been created in consultation with a language expert, taking into account the latest research on the most effective ways of teaching reading. Children who have just learned to read can enjoy the lively stories with very little guidance from an adult, gaining the experience and enthusiasm they need to become fully confident readers.

Stephen Cartwright's delightful illustrations complement the text and are designed to stimulate further interest. Fold-out pages add to the enjoyment.

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Supports
synthetic
phonics
learning

Phil Roxbee Cox & Stephen Cartwright

What is synthetic phonics?

Phonics-based reading involves learning to recognize the distinct sounds, or phonemes, that go together to make up words. There are just over 40 phonemes in the English language. Some phonemes correspond to a single letter, like the p-i-g sounds in the word "pig", and others to combinations of letters, such as the sh-ar-k sounds in the word "shark".

Synthetic phonics is the process of reading by *sounding* the individual phonemes in a word, and then *synthesizing* – running them together – or *blending* them to read the whole word. Children who learn to read using synthetic phonics start by learning the individual phonemes, then soon learn to sound and blend in order to read whole words. This gives them the confidence to read unfamiliar words and tackle new texts, an important step towards independent reading.

Words can be divided into two basic groups: regular phonic words, such as "pig", which can be read by sounding and blending, and words which are wholly or partly irregular. Most words in English are regular, but some very common words, such as "the" and "was", are irregular and have to be learned. When your child meets an unfamiliar word, encourage him or her to read it regularly; children may recognize the irregularity and correct themselves, or you can guide them if necessary.

Read this story with your child, encouraging him or her to sound out the words as you go. Soon, most children will start to sound out the words for themselves. This is an excellent way of helping to develop a fundamental reading skill.

Dr. Marlynne Grant

Usborne Phonics Readers Big pig on a dig

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There is a little yellow duck to find on every page.

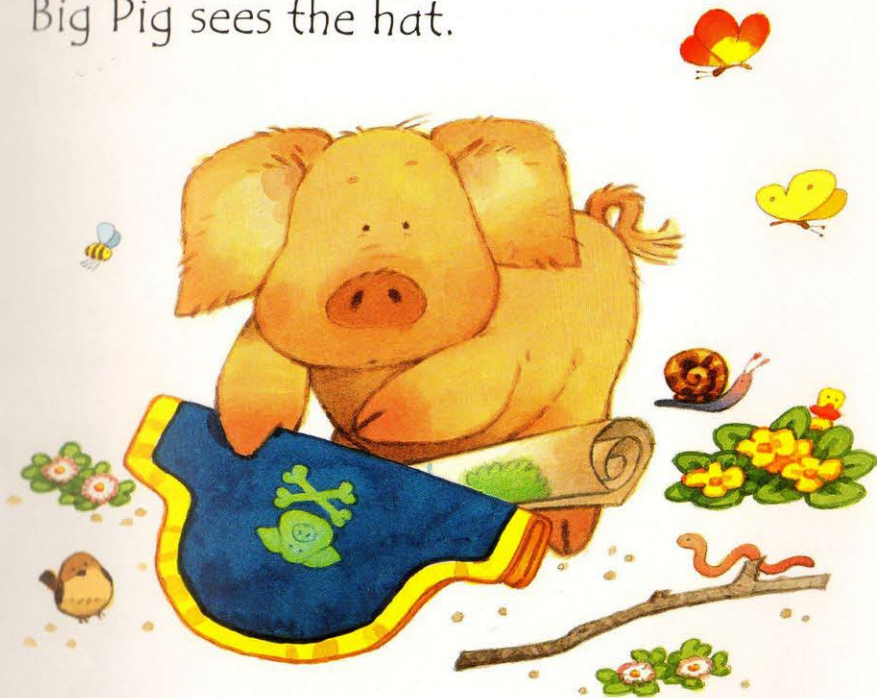
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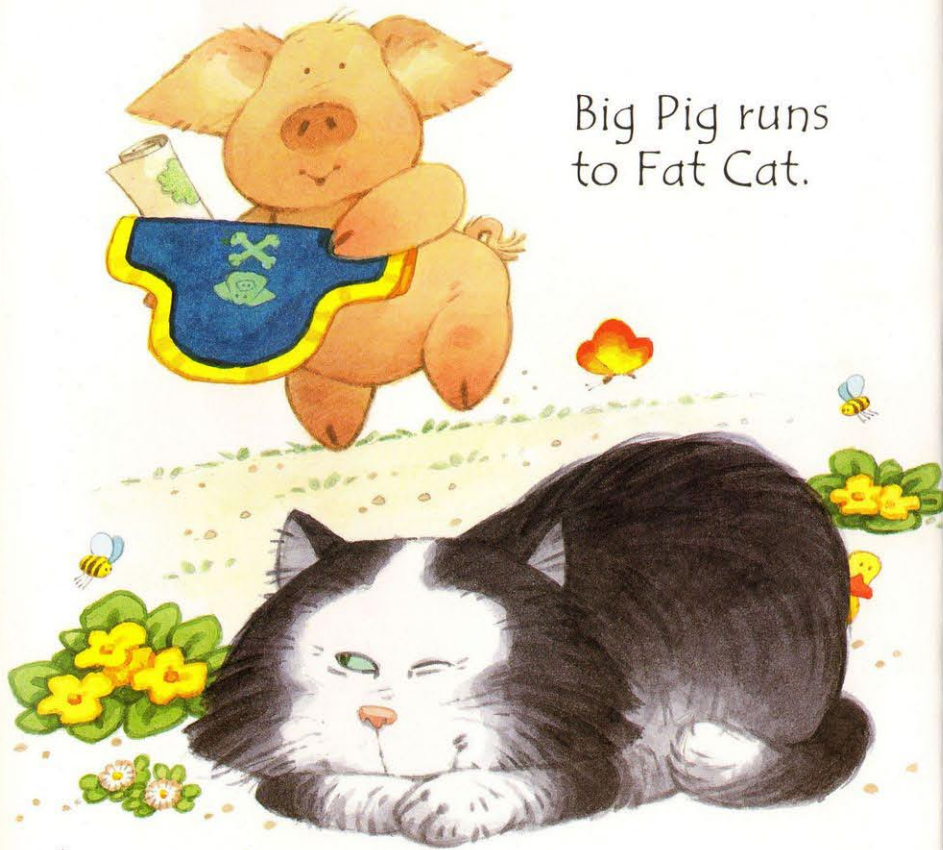
Big Pig gets a letter.



Big Pig sees the hat.

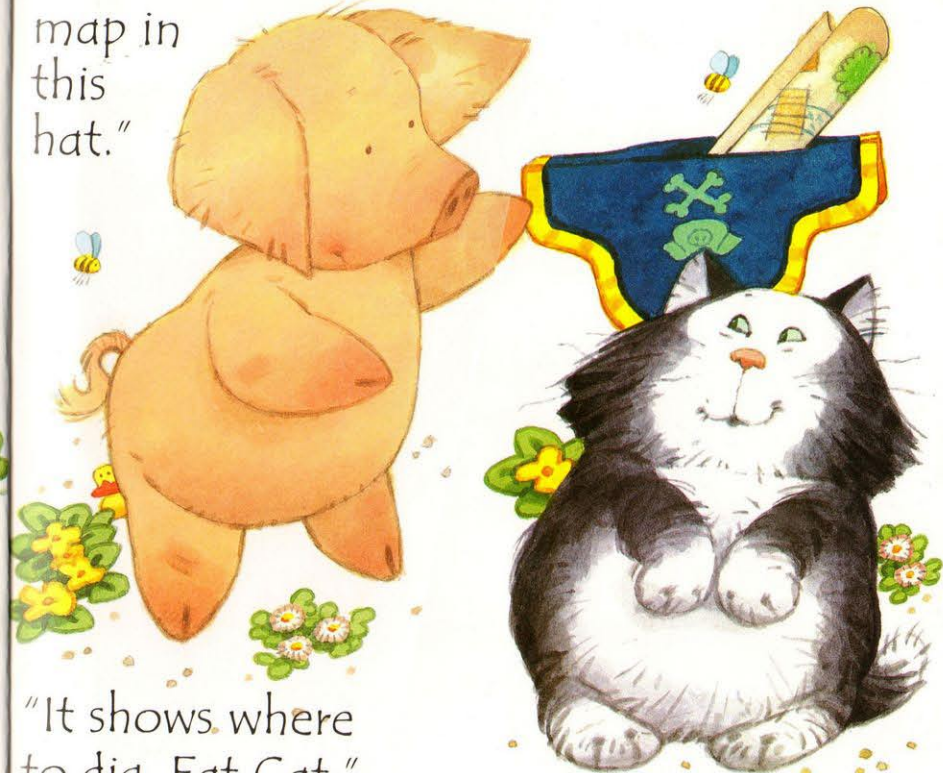


There is a map in the hat.



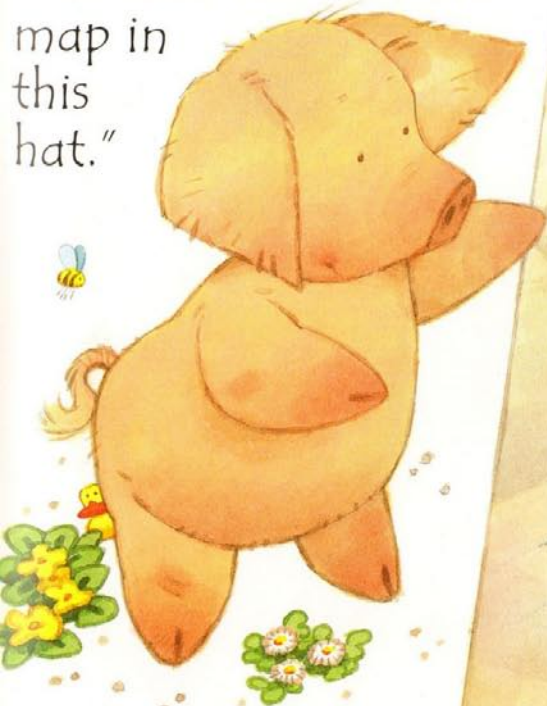
Big Pig runs
to Fat Cat.

"Fat Cat! Look at the
map in
this
hat."

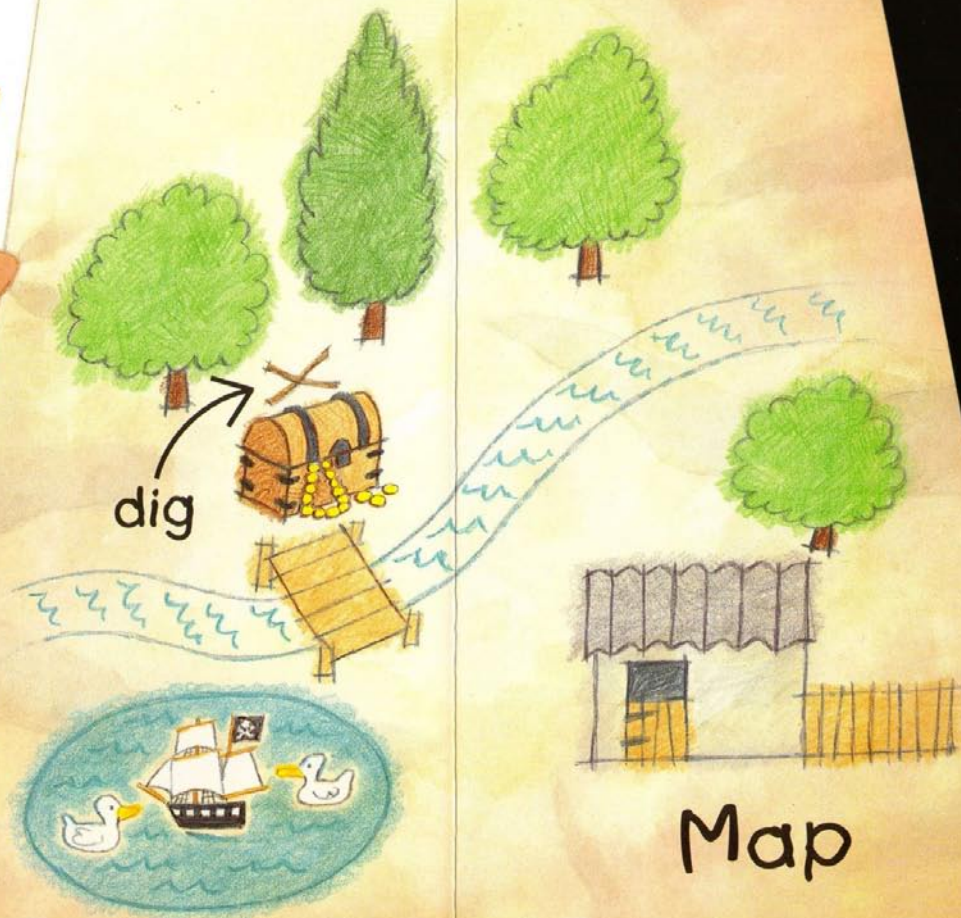


"It shows where
to dig, Fat Cat."

"Fat Cat! Look at the
map in
this
hat."



"It shows where
to dig, Fat Cat."



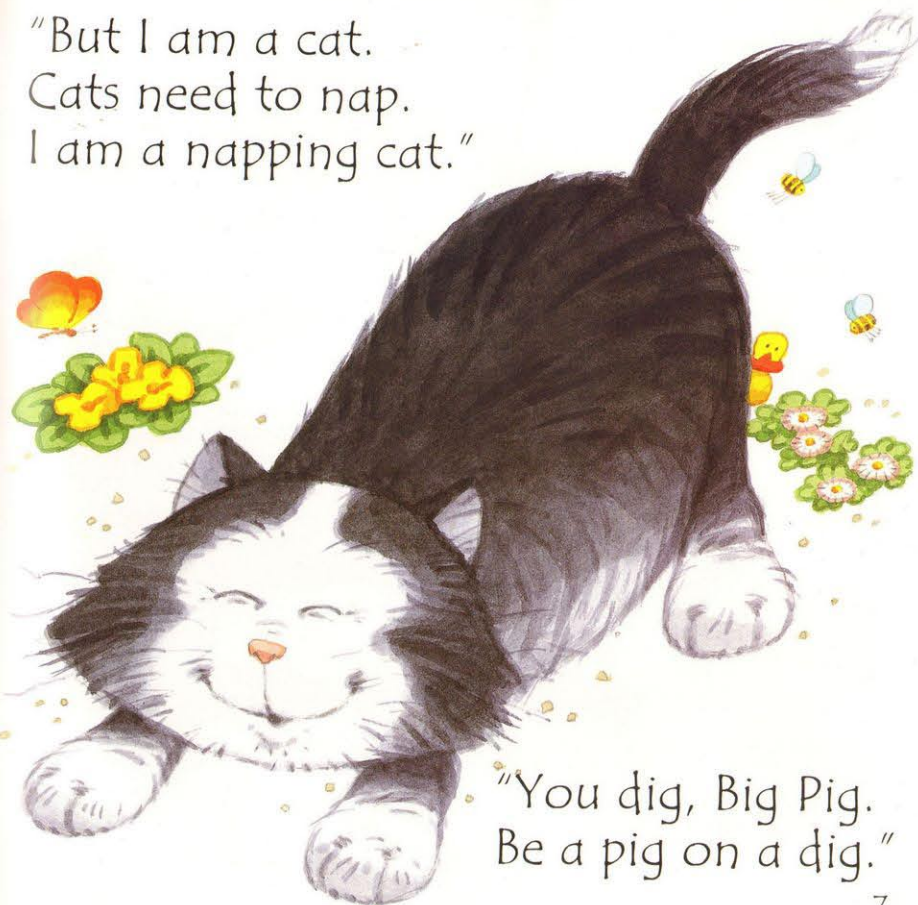
Map

"Where to dig?
Dig for what,
Big Pig?"



"Gold!" grunts Big Pig.
"Old gold."

"But I am a cat.
Cats need to nap.
I am a napping cat."



"You dig, Big Pig.
Be a pig on a dig."

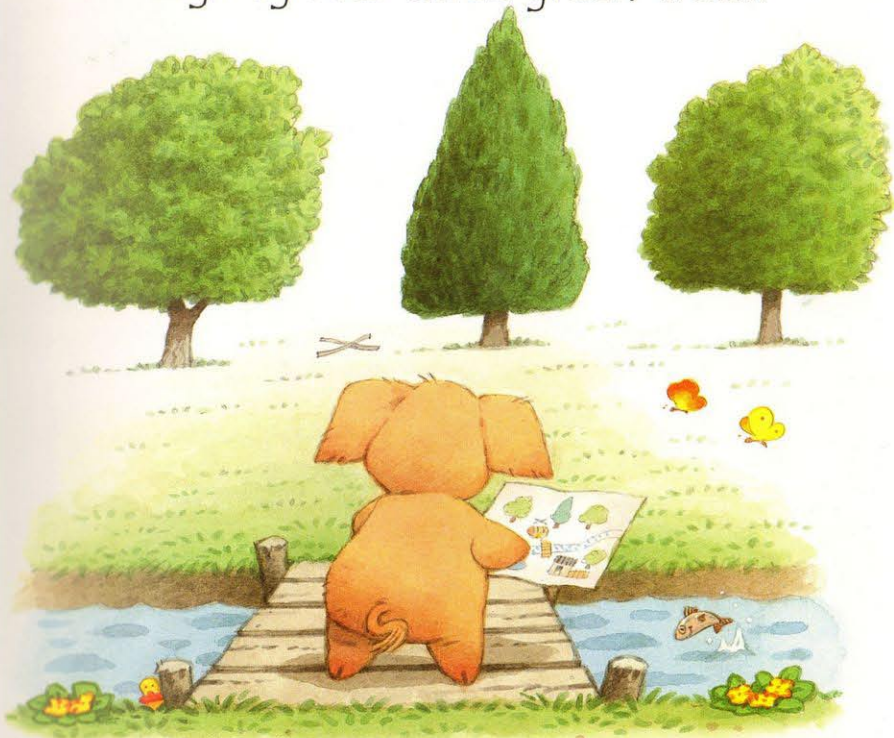
"Let me nap



and dream of cream."



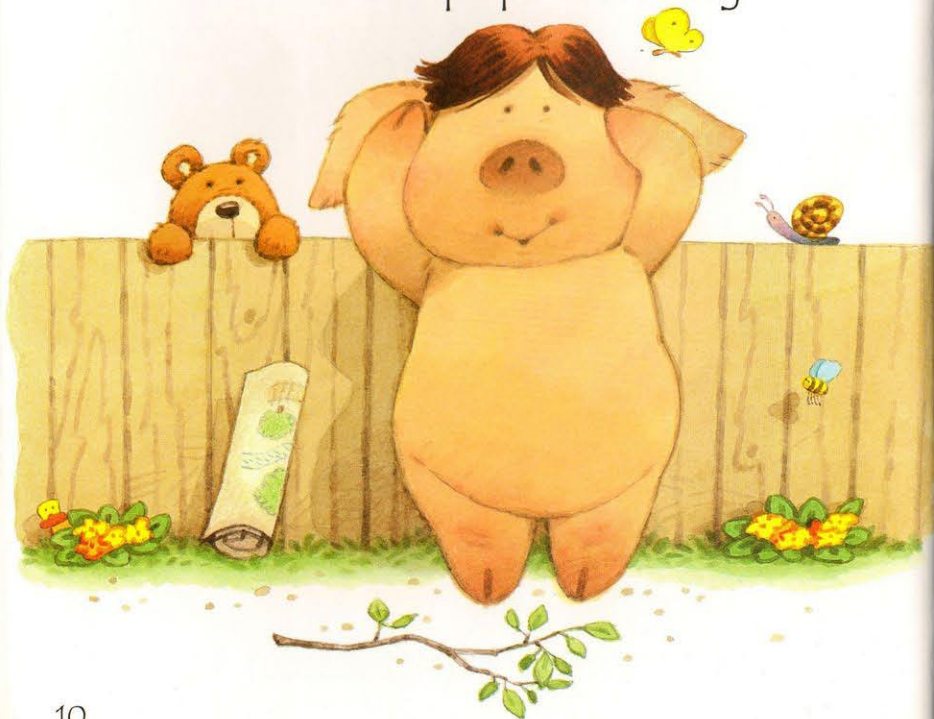
Big Pig sees three green trees.



Big Pig sees three green trees on the map.

Big Pig is happy.

He pops on a wig.



Big Pig is happy.



He hops on a twig. He can go on a dig!

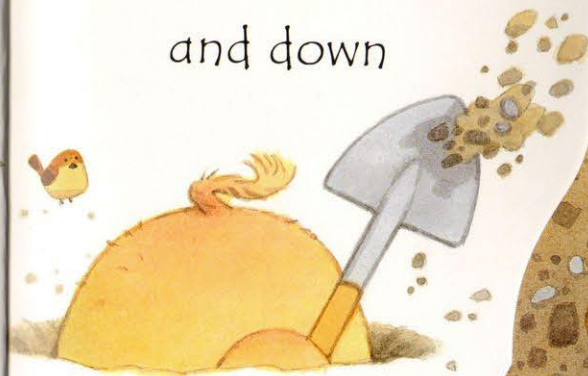


"I am a happy big pig on a dig."

"I dig down



and down



and...



and down

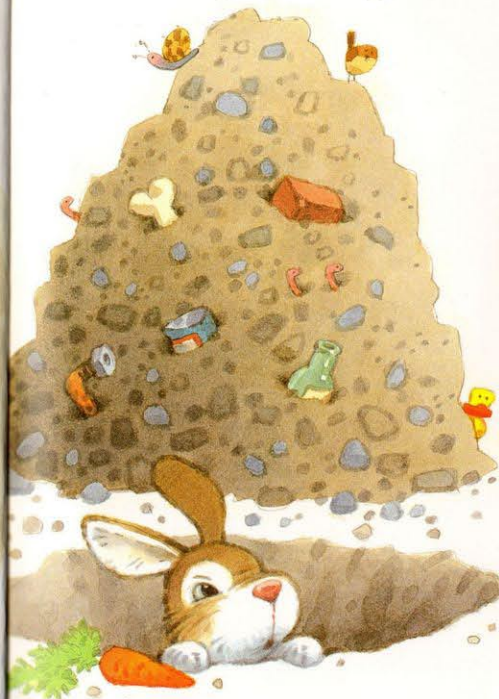
An illustration of a mole digging a hole in the ground. The mole is shown from behind, wearing a yellow shirt and a small yellow hat, with its long, pinkish-brown tail sticking out of the hole. A silver shovel is stuck in the ground next to the hole, with a pile of brown soil and small stones on its blade. A small, round, brown bird with a yellow beak is perched on the ground to the left of the hole, watching the mole. The background is a light, textured yellow.

What has Big Pig found...



...down in the ground?

It's Funny Bunny.



"There's no
old gold here."

It's Funny Bunny.



"There's no
old gold here."



Fat Cat grins.



"I drew the
map for fun,"
she says.



Big Pig grins. "Digging is fun too!"

