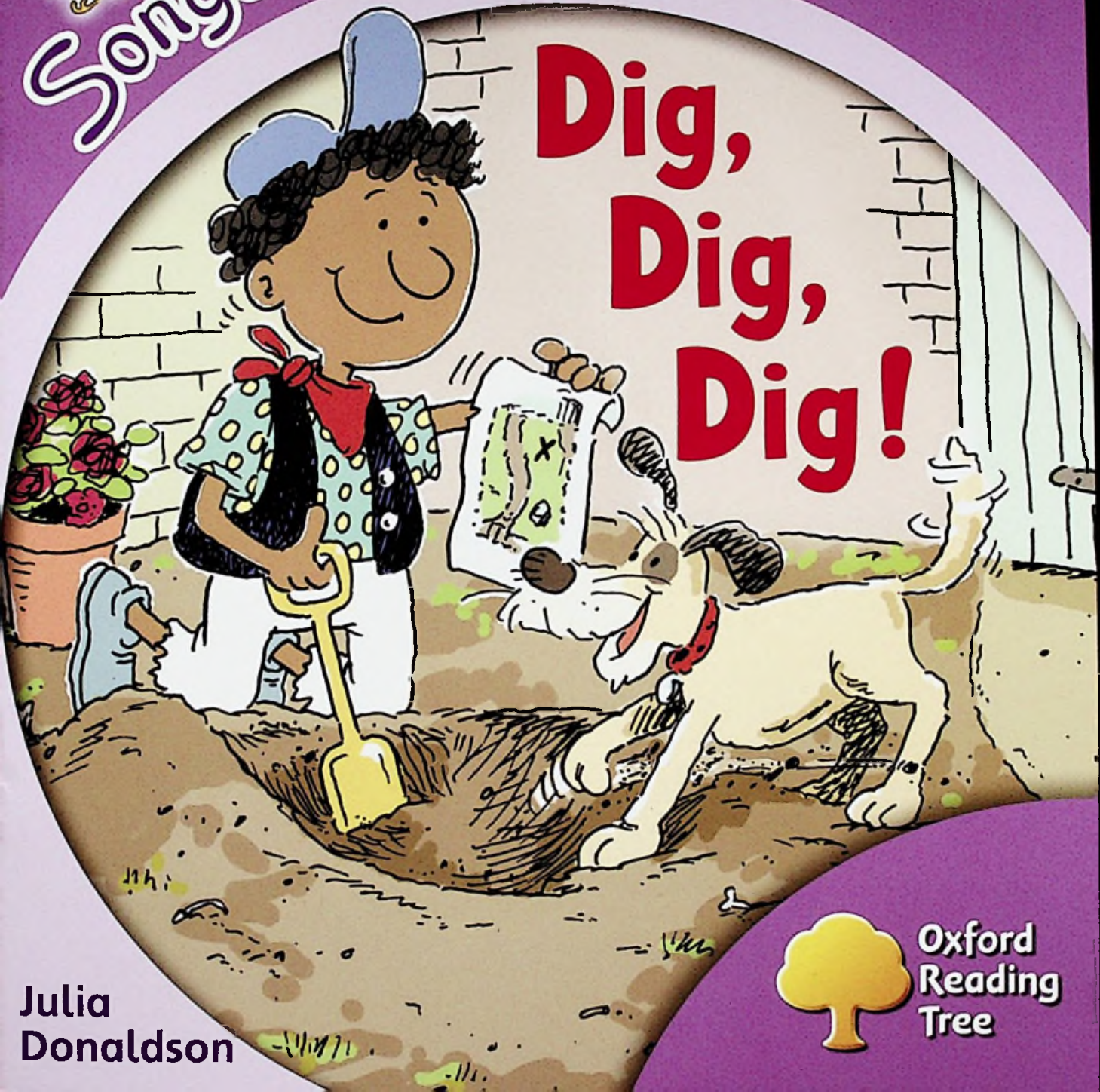


Songbirds



Phonics

Dig,  
Dig,  
Dig!



Julia  
Donaldson



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### Talk together

Ask the 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 the child each letter sound if necessary.
- Look out for these letters in the story and try to remember the sound they make.

### Read the story

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

- Encourage the child to point at the words and try to read any words he/she doesn't recognise by saying the individual sounds separately (e.g. *d - i - g*), then running the sounds together quickly. If the child finds 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 the 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.



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See inside back cover for other activities.

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 comprehension

Ask the child

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

## Check phonics (letter-pattern sounds)

Ask the child to

- Find words in the book which begin with the sound *l*. (*lot, lid, lots*)
- Point to the middle letter of *lid*. Ask: *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 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 and his dog had fun dug up lot mud rag bus lid big tin in it lots bugs

High frequency tricky words – These words are common but children may find them hard to read at this stage: a of



Oxford  
Reading  
Tree

Stage 1+ Songbirds  
Phonics



# Dig, Dig, Dig!

Story by Julia Donaldson • Pictures by Andy Hammond  
Series editor Clare Kirtley



Tim and his dog dig  
up lots of mud.

## Focus Phonics

r l d b f h i u  
s m t g p a o  
n

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