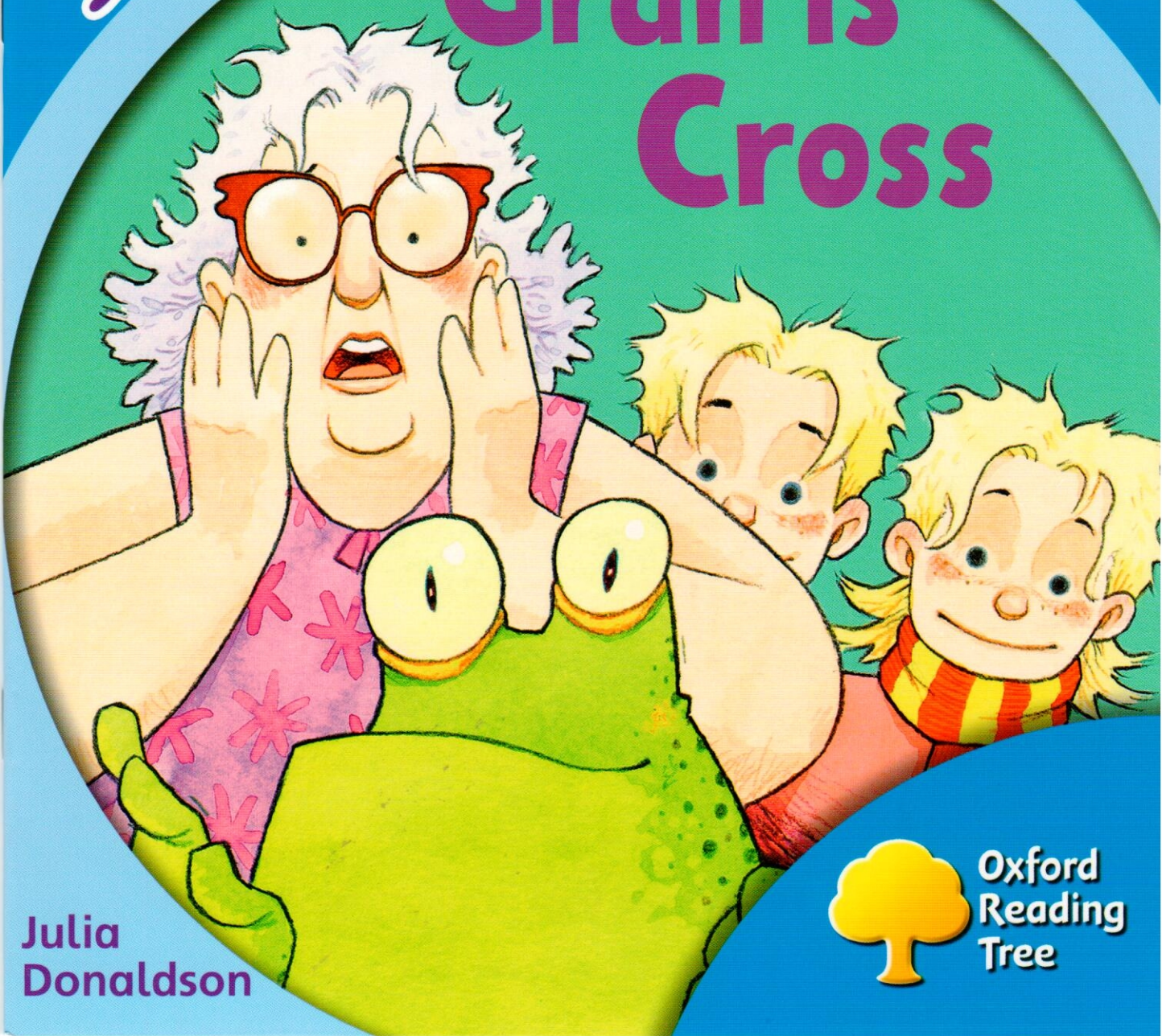




Songbirds

Phonics

Gran is Cross



Julia
Donaldson



Oxford
Reading
Tree

Talk together

Ask the child to

- Point to the word *Cross* in the title and point to the letter pattern that makes the *ss* sound. Stress that these two letters make one sound.
- Point to the letters that make the beginning sounds *cr*. Stress that, unlike the end two consonants, *ss*, both letters in *cr* make separate sounds (*c – r*).
- Look out for words with two consonants at the beginning.

Read the story

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

- Encourage the child to try to read any words they don't recognise by saying the sounds of each letter pattern separately (e.g. *G – r – a – n*), then running the sounds together quickly. If they find it difficult to say the sounds, say the sounds first and then see if they can hear the word.
- Explain that it is important when running the sounds in a word together to check it sounds like a real word as some words are less regular (e.g. *her*). Read these words to the child if they don't recognise them. Point out the letters that make the usual sound in each word (e.g. the *h* in *her*). This will help them to remember these words.

The twins go to visit Gran.

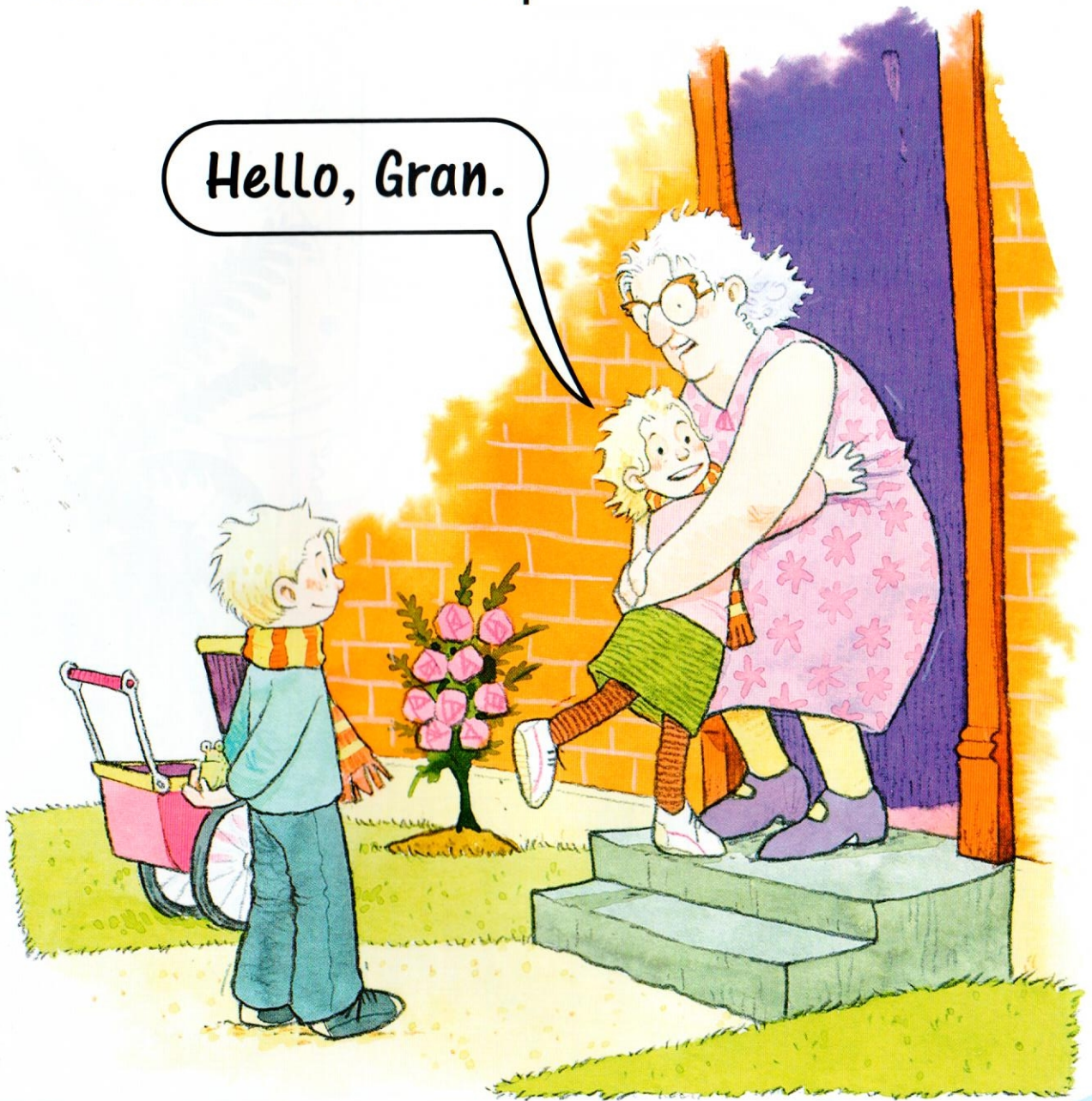


Flick brings a pram. Fred brings his frog.



Gran is on the steps.

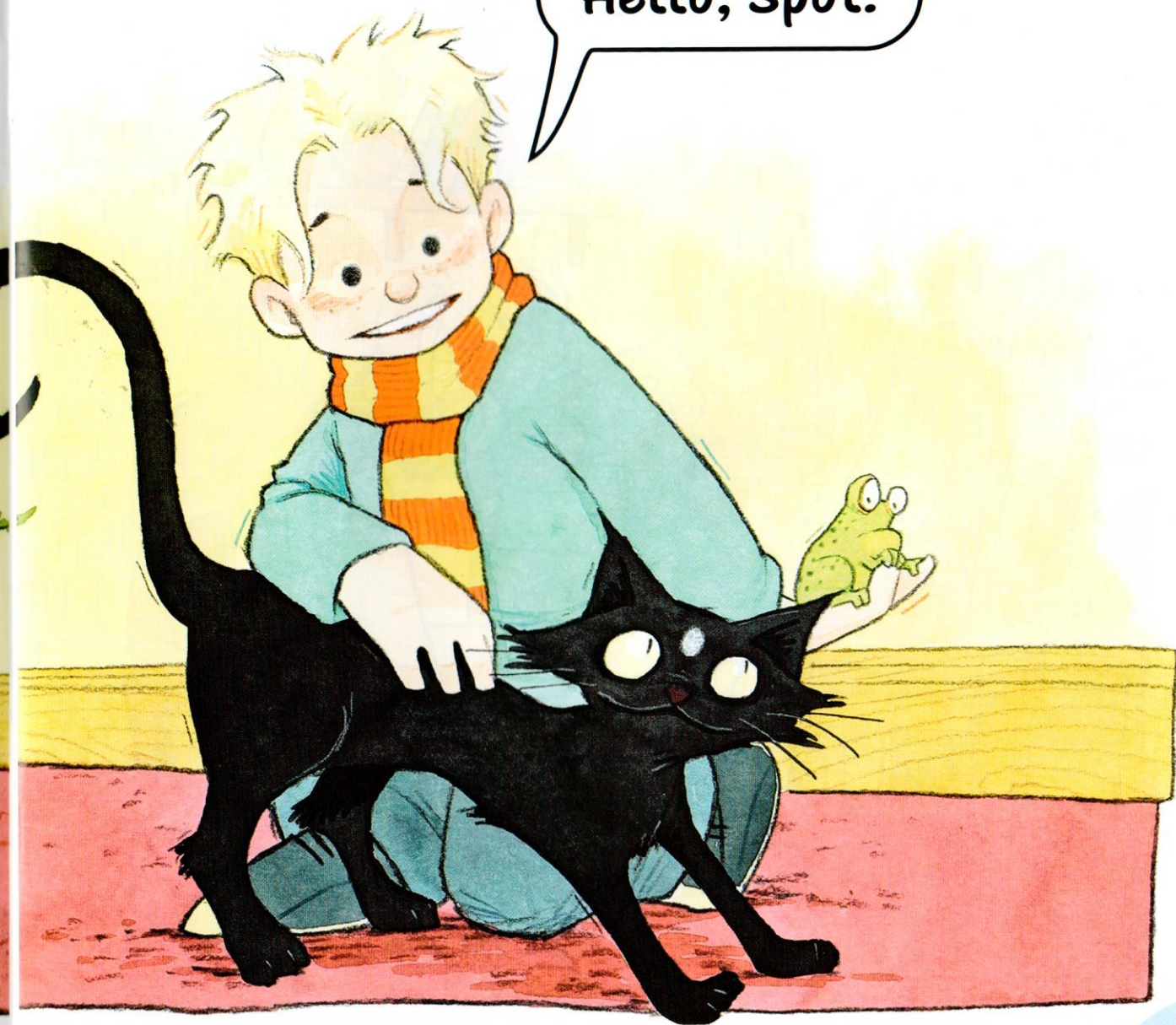
Hello, Gran.



Gran has a black cat.



Hello, Spot.



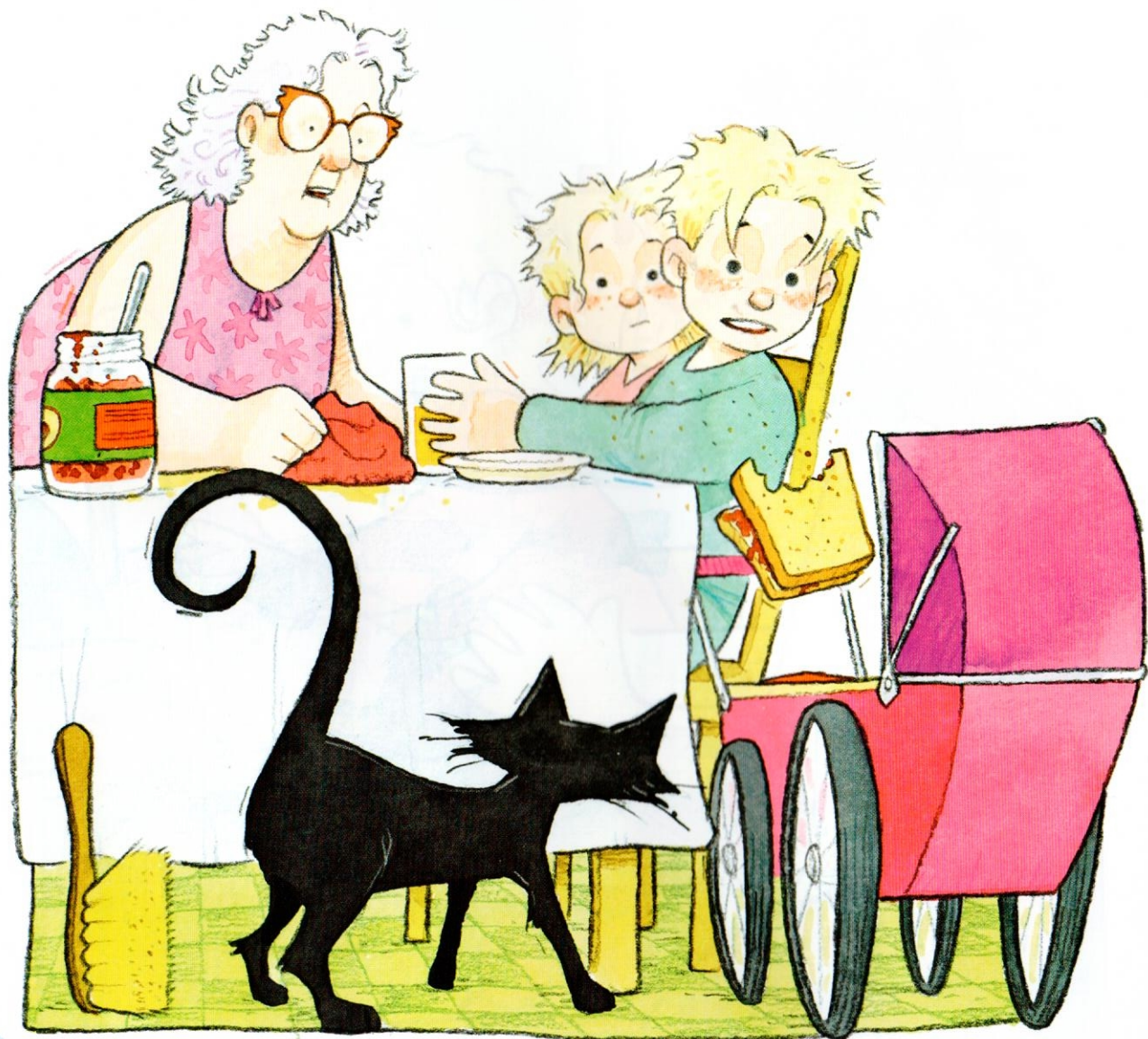
Gran gets the twins a snack.



Flick spills her drink on the cloth. Gran is cross.



Fred drops his sandwich in the
pram. Gran is cross.



But Spot the cat is glad.



The frog jumps in the jam.
Fred grabs him.



Smash!
Gran is cross.



The frog jumps and jumps.
Spot runs and runs.



The frog jumps on the clock.
Gran is cross.



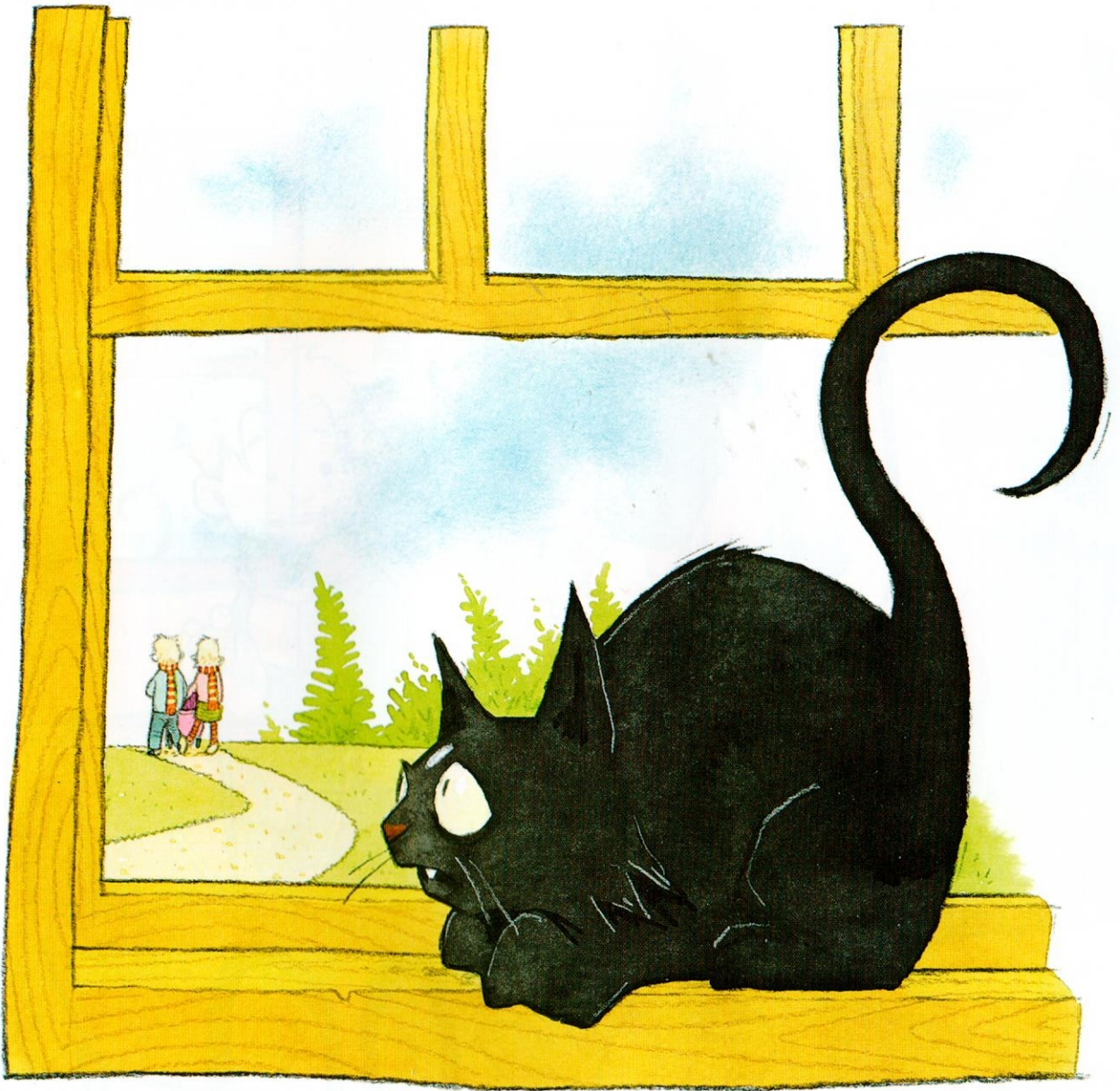
At the end of the day the twins go home.



Gran is glad. The twins are glad.



But Spot is sad.



Check comprehension

Ask the child

- How are the characters feeling by the end of the story?
- Why was Gran cross? (Because the twins made a mess.)
- Why was Spot sad? (Because the twins went home.)

Check phonics (letter-pattern sounds)

Ask the child to

- Find and read some words in the book which begin with the two consonants *cl* (*cloth, clock*).
- Think of other words which begin with the sound *cl* (e.g. *clap, club, clip*).
- Find and read some words in the book which begin with the two consonants *fr* (*Fred, frog*).
- Think of other words which begin with the sound *fr* (*from, fresh, frill*).
- Try to write some words which begin with two consonants on a piece of paper (e.g. *crab, crack, trick, stop, slip*).

Example phonic words: twins Gran Flick brings pram Fred frog steps black Spot snack spills cloth drops cross glad grabs smash clock Stop drink

Context words: are day go her Hello home of the to