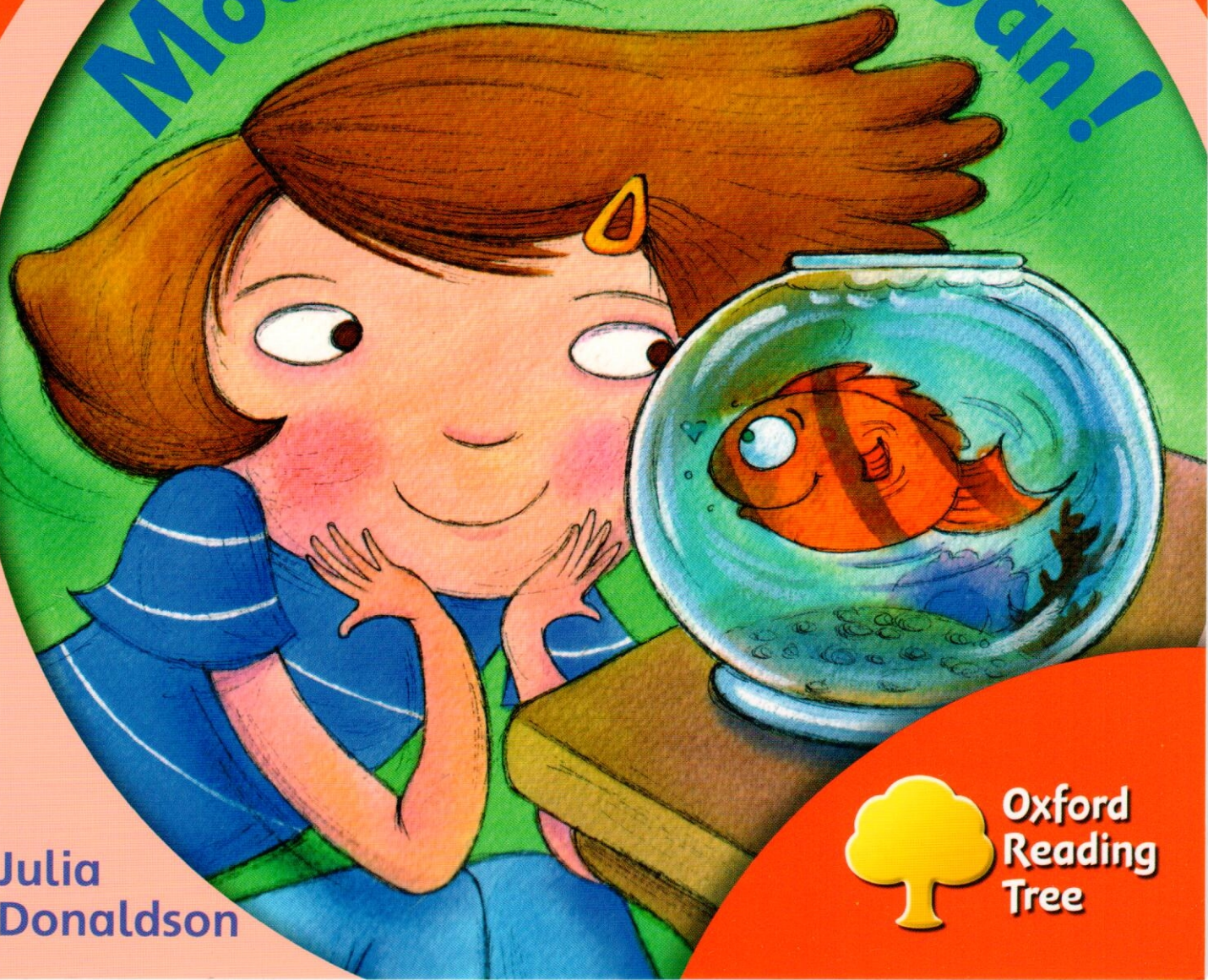




Songbirds

Phonics

Moan, Moan, Moan!



Julia  
Donaldson



Oxford  
Reading  
Tree

### **Talk together**

Ask the child to

- Point to each pattern in the box on the back cover and say the sound that it makes in words. Tell the child that each of these letter patterns can make the same sound.
- Look out for these letter patterns 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 try to read any words they do not recognise by saying the sounds of each letter pattern separately (e.g. *m-oa-n*), then running the sounds together quickly. If the child finds it difficult to say the sounds, say the sounds for them first, then see if they can hear the word.
- Explain that it is important when running the sounds in a word together to check to see if it sounds like a real word as some words are less regular (e.g. *come*). Read these words to the child if they do not recognise them. Point out the letters that make the usual sound in each word (e.g. the *c* in *come*). This will help the child to remember these words.

**See inside back cover for other activities.**

My goldfish never moans at me.  
She never says,  
"Don't climb that tree."



She never tells me,  
"Don't throw stones."



But Mum just moans  
and moans and moans.



Don't dig holes.



Don't pick that rose.



Don't untie your  
sister's bows.

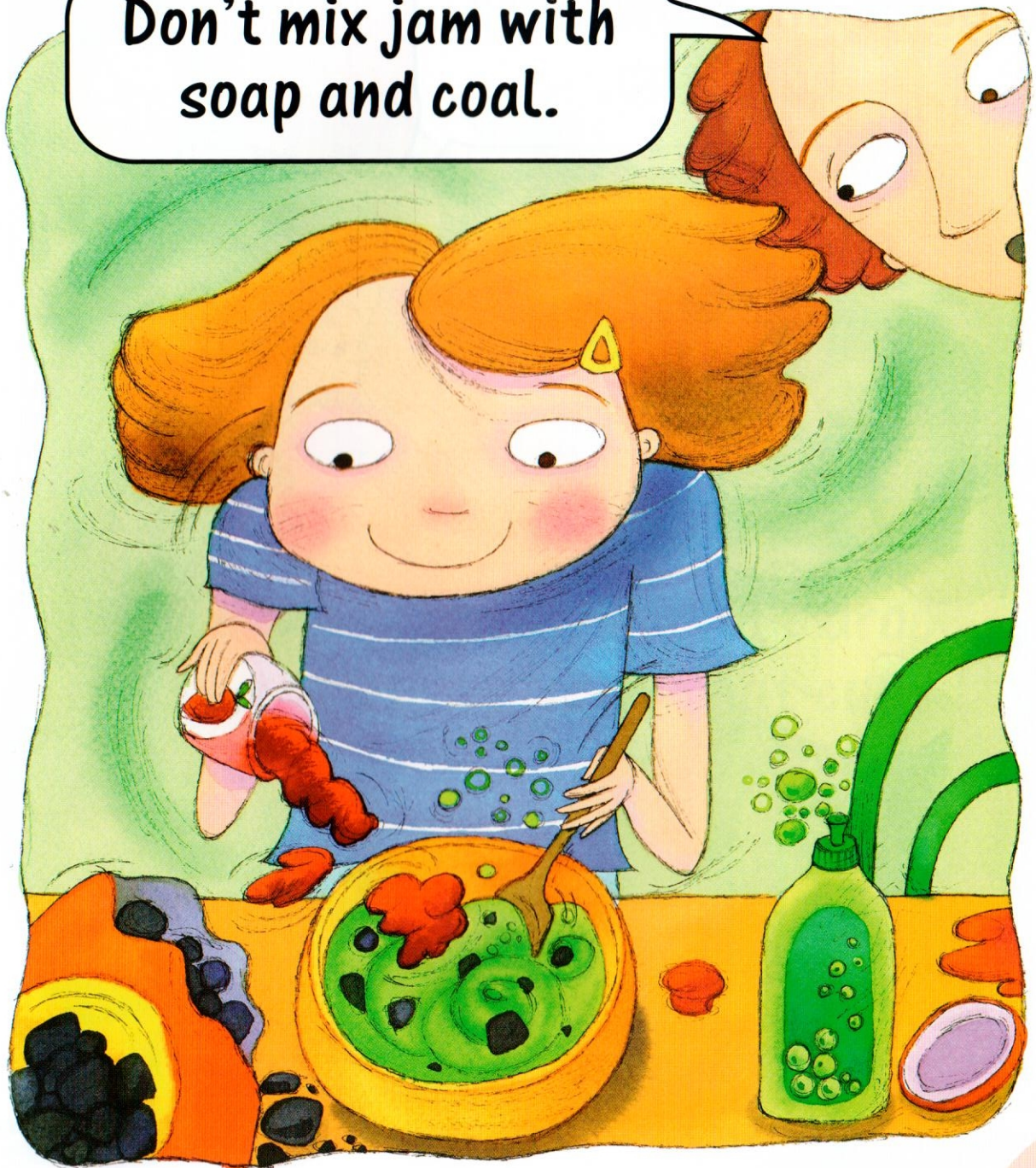


Hang that coat up.

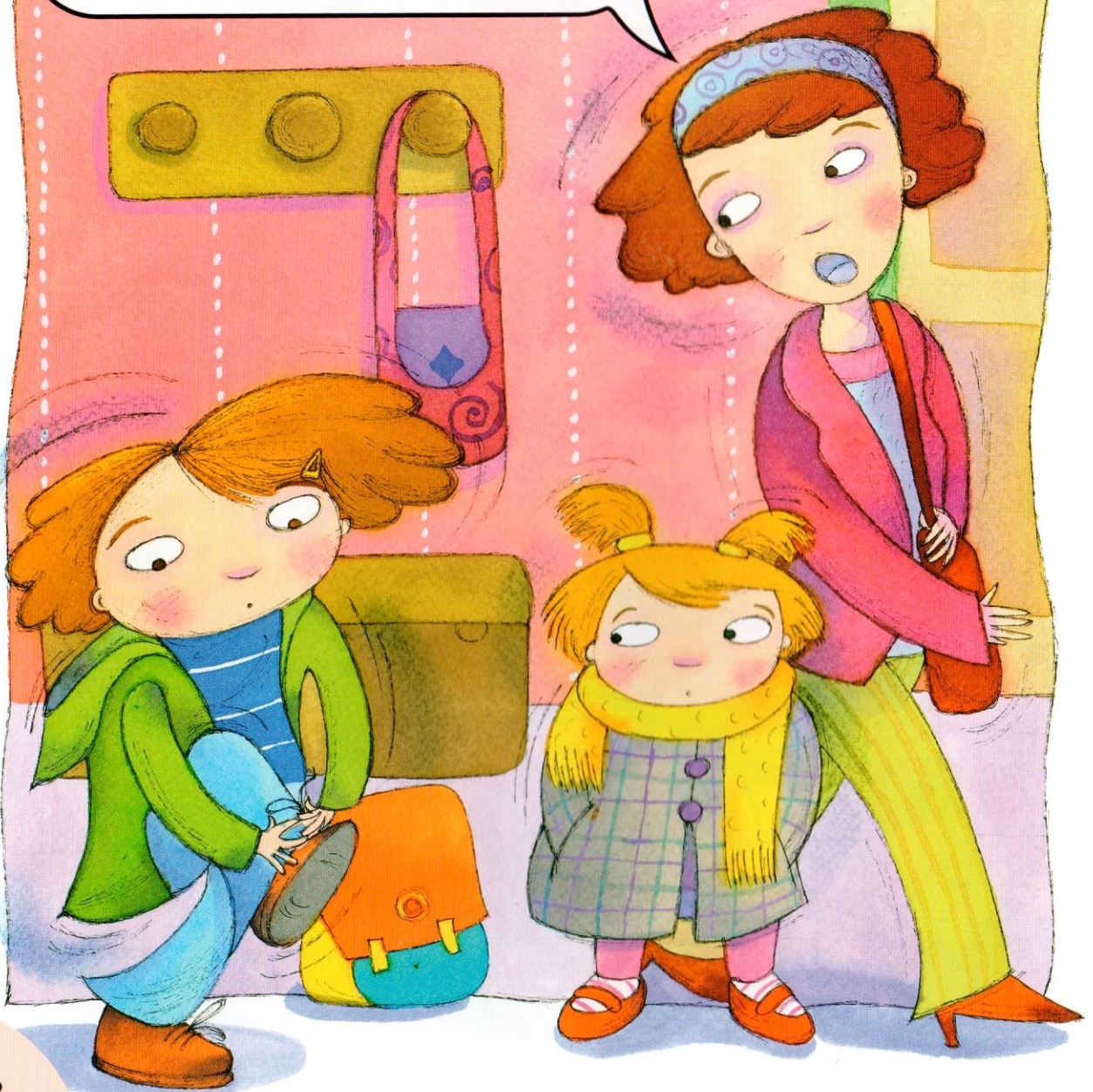
Dry that bowl.



Don't mix jam with  
soap and coal.



Come on, slowcoach,  
hurry up.





Eat that toast.

Don't drop  
that cup.

Fold those clothes up.

Blow your nose.

Did you dry between  
your toes?



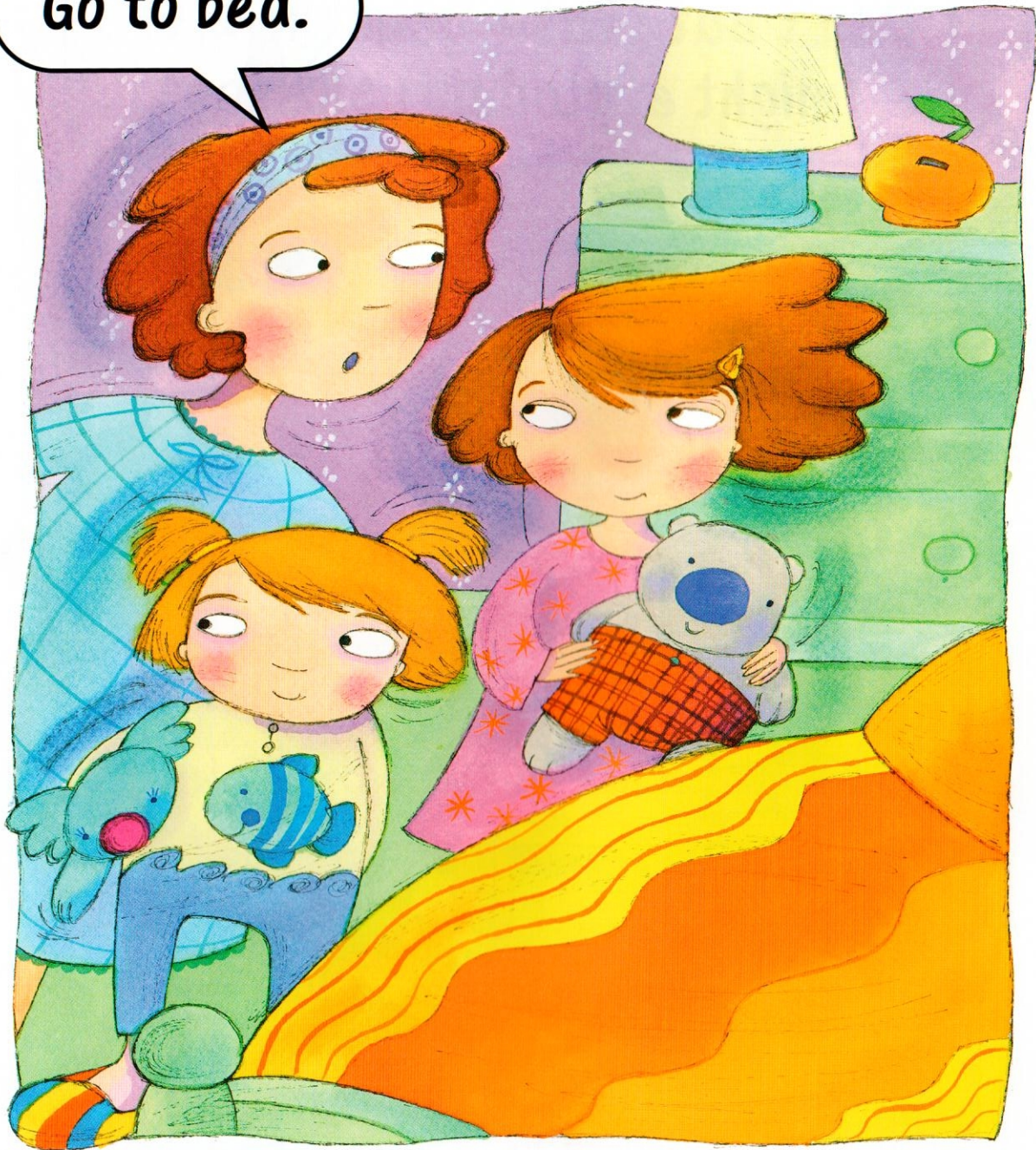
Hold my hand to  
cross the road.



Don't eat that - you  
might explode!



Go to bed.





Don't suck your thumb.



I wish my goldfish was my mum.



### **Check comprehension**

Ask the child

- Why did the child wish her goldfish was her mum? (Because her goldfish never moans.)
- Why did the Mum say, 'Don't throw stones'? (Because it is dangerous.)

### **Check phonics (letter-pattern sounds)**

Ask the child to

- Read pages 2 and 3, and find some words which contain a long oe sound (*don't, throw, stones, moans*).
- Point to the letter pattern that makes the long oe sound in the words (*o, ow, o-consonant-e, oa*).
- Find and read some more words which contain the letter pattern *ow* (*bows, bowl, slowcoach, blow*).
- Find and read some more words which contain the letter pattern *oa* (*coat, soap, coal, slowcoach, toast, road*).

**Example phonic words:** moans coat soap coal toast road throw bows bowl slowcoach blow stones holes rose those clothes nose explode goldfish don't fold hold go

**Context words:** climb come never says sister's thumb to was you your