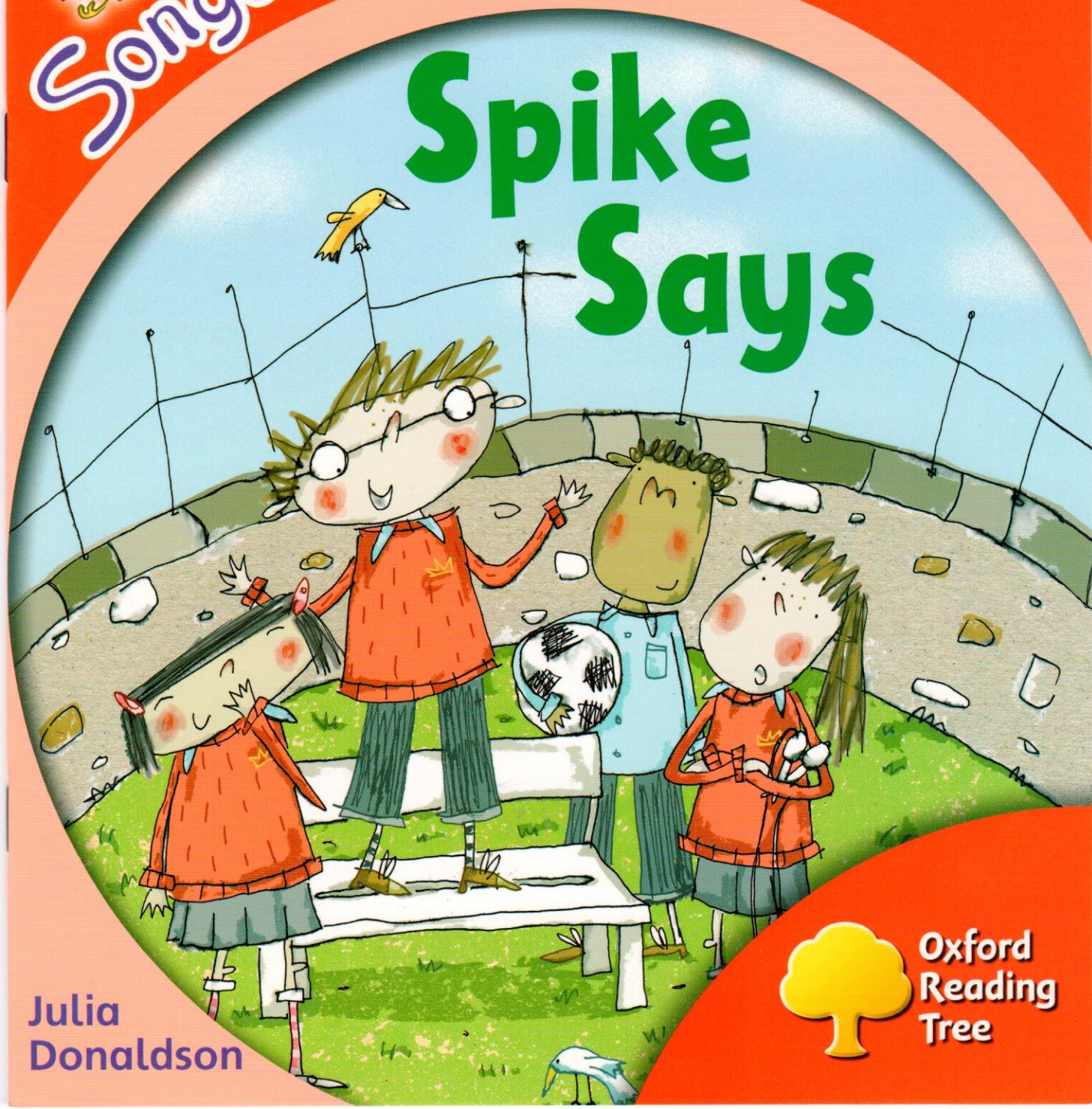


 Songbirds

Phonics

Spike Says



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. *s-p-y*), then running the sounds together quickly. If they find 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. *says*). 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 *s* in *says*). This will help the child to remember these words.

See inside back cover for other activities.

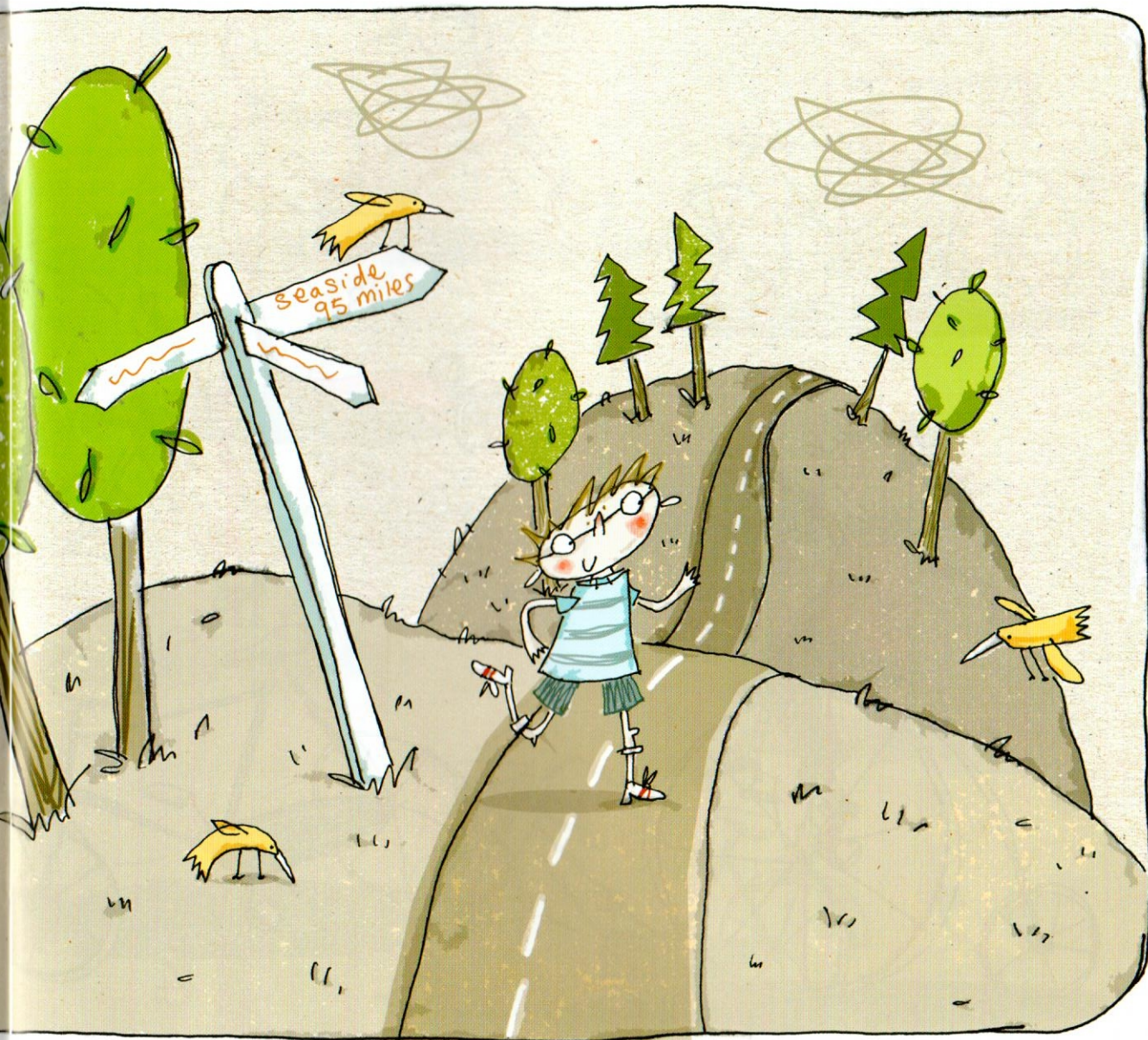
Spike is five.



Spike says he can run for miles

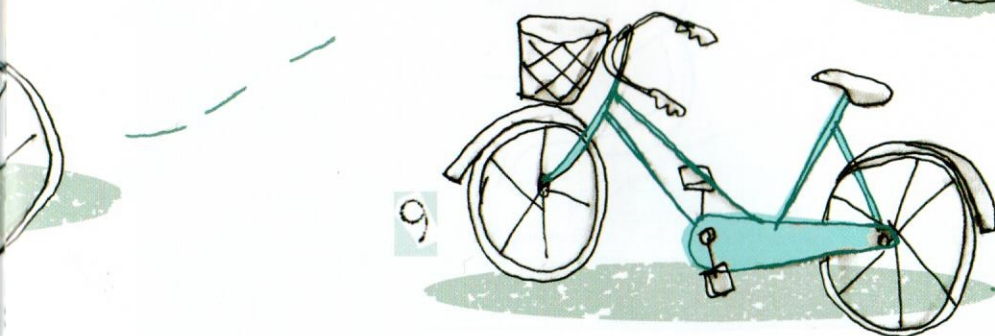


and miles.



Spike says he has nine bikes.





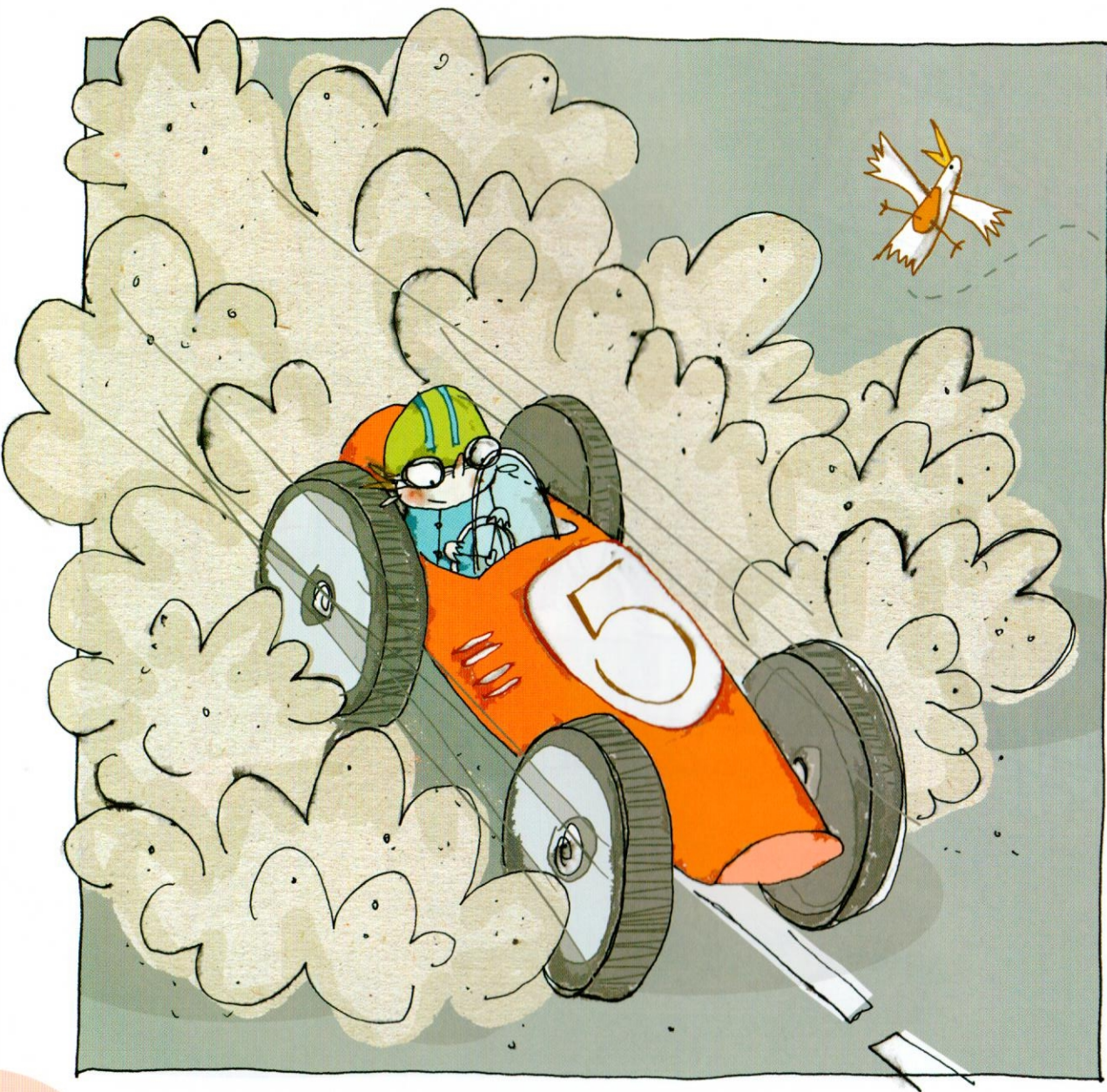
Spike says he can dive.



He says he wins prizes for diving.



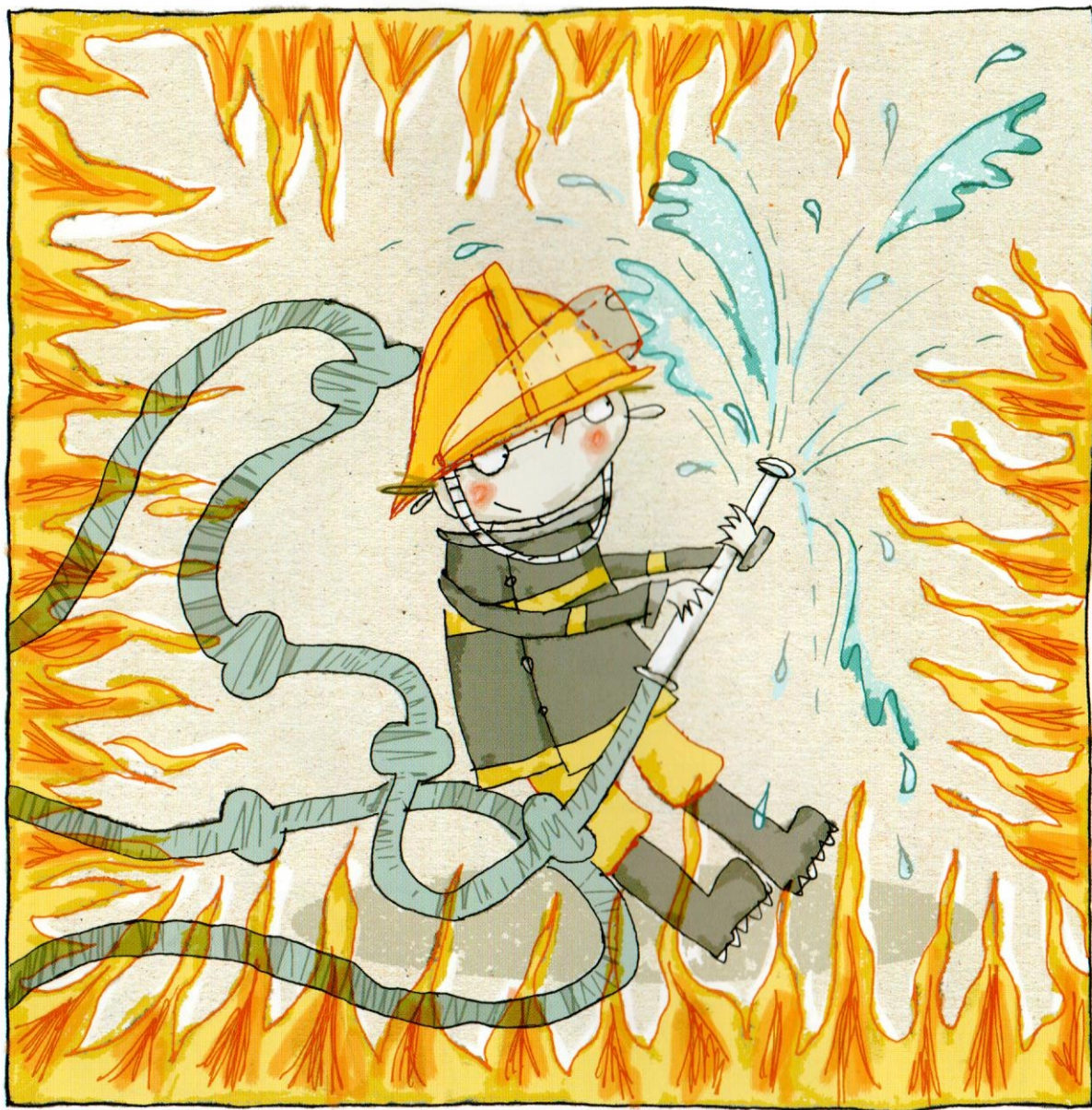
Spike says he can drive.



He says he wins prizes for driving.



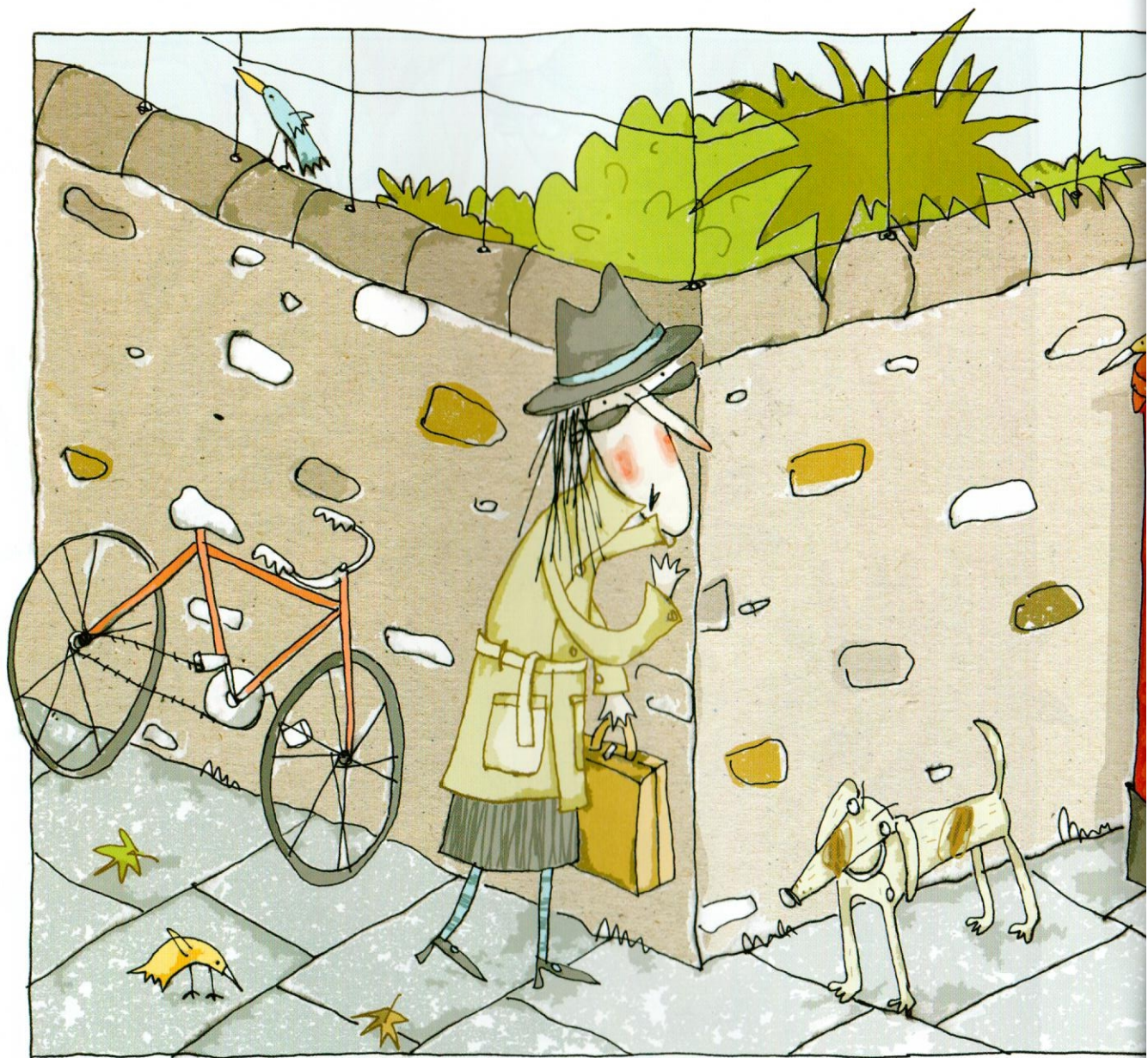
Spike says he can fight fires



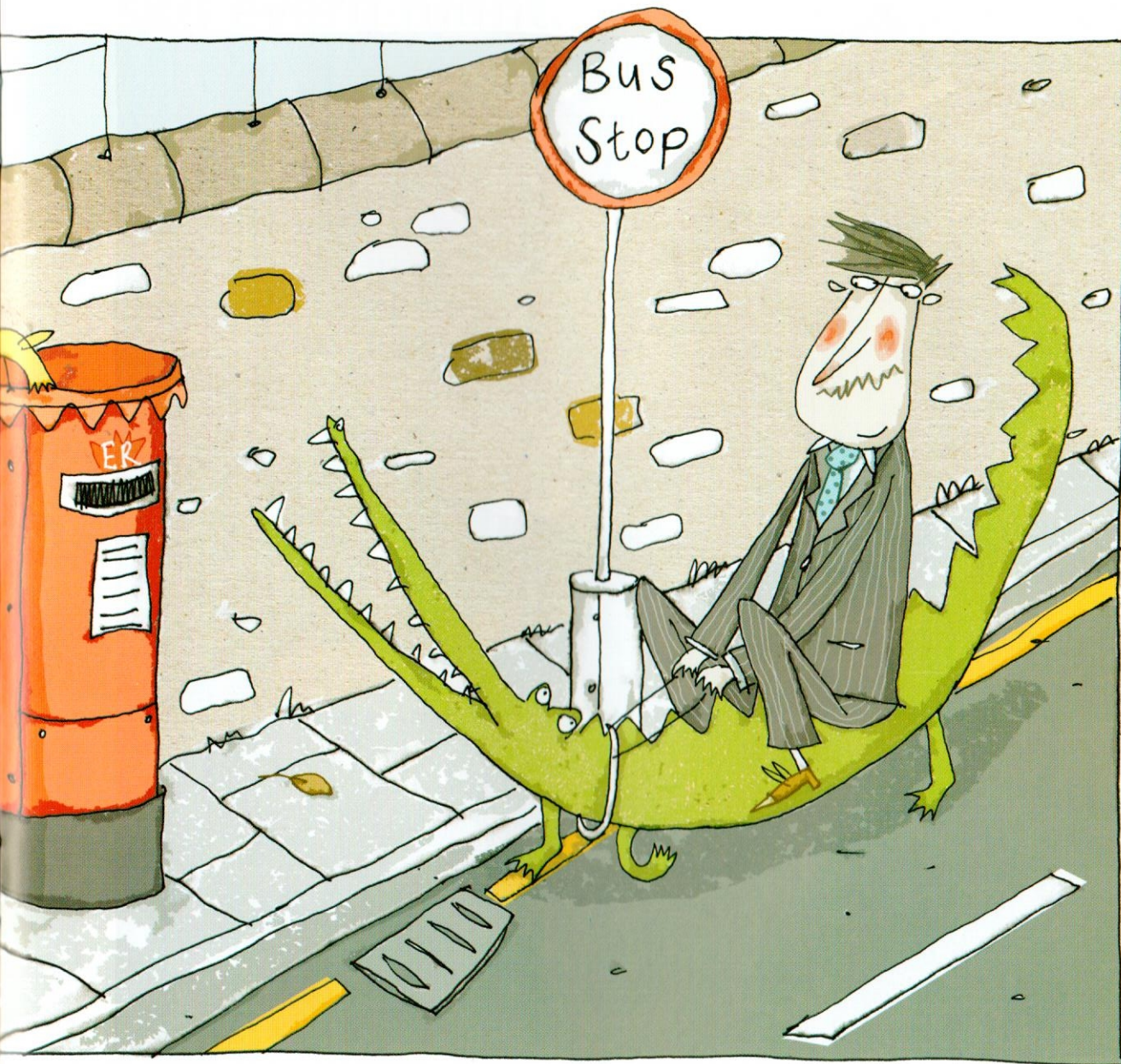
and feed wild lions.



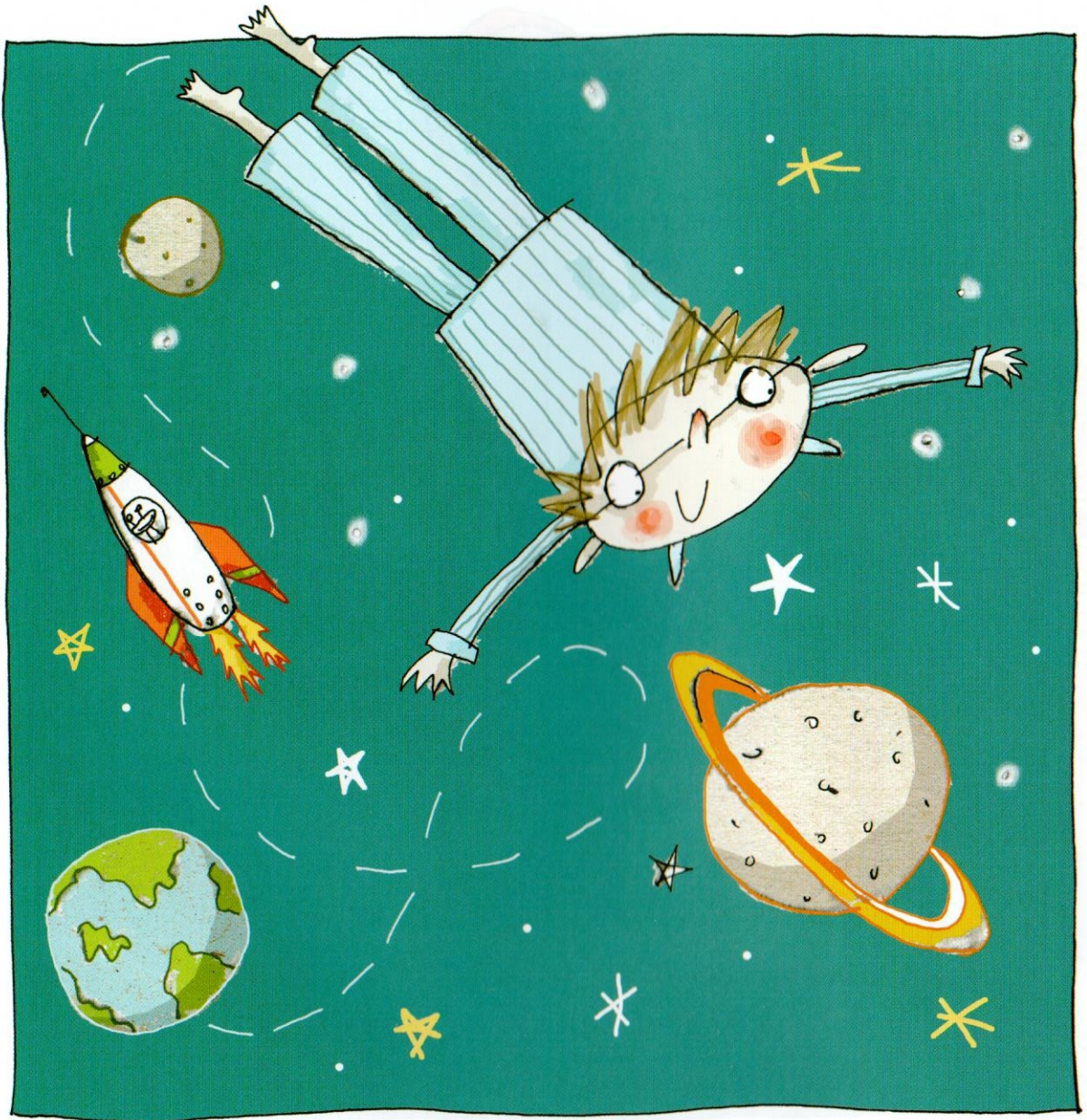
Spike says his mum is a spy



and his dad rides a crocodile.



Spike says he can fly.



He says he eats a pie in the sky every night.



Spike says that he never, ever
tells a lie.



Check comprehension

Ask the child

- Does Spike ever tell a lie? How do you know? (His claims become more impossible.)
- Which of Spike's claims do you like best? Why?

Check phonics (letter-pattern sounds)

Ask the child to

- Find and read some words on pages 15 and 16 which contain a long *ie* sound (*pie, sky, night, Spike, lie*).
- Point to the letter pattern that makes the long *ie* sound in the word (*ie, y, igh, i-consonant-e*).
- Explain that there are two letters that make the long *ie* sound in *Spike* but they are separated by the last consonant.
- Think of other words which contain the long *ie* sounds (e.g. *light, my, cry, like*).

Example phonic words: fight night spy fly fly sky pie lie Spike five miles nine bikes dive prizes drive fires rides crocodile I diving driving wild lions

Context words: came do going have home my no one some said the there to want was what you