

 Songbirds

Phonics

Zak and the Vet



Julia Donaldson



Oxford Reading Tree



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. *v* as in *vet*). 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.

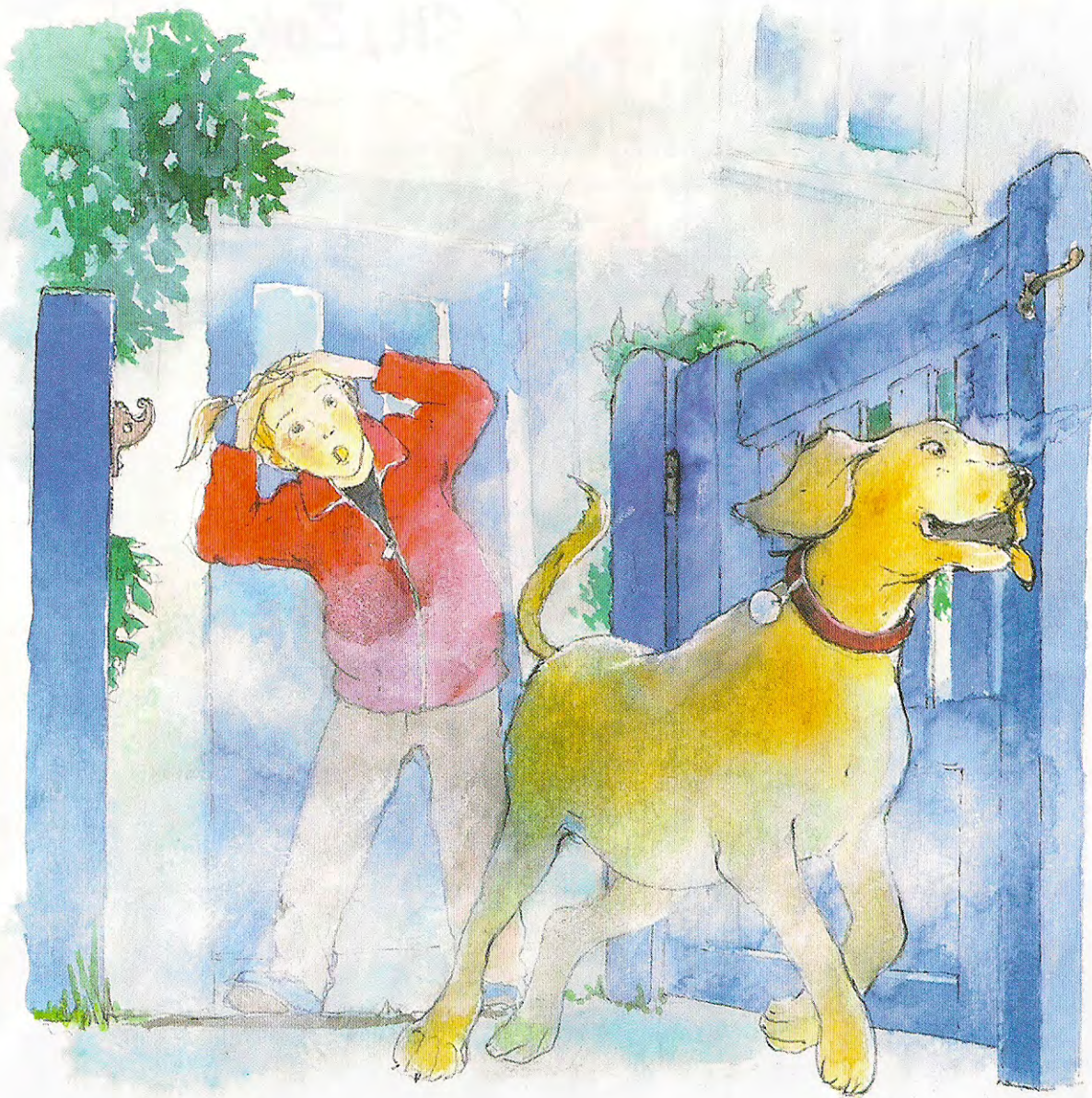
- Encourage the child to point at the words and try to read any words he/she doesn't recognise by saying the individual sounds separately (e.g. *v – e – t*), then running the sounds together quickly. If the child finds it difficult to say the sounds, say the sounds for them first and then see if they can hear the word.
- 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. Read the words *the*, *to*, *He*, *better* to the child and point out the letters that make the usual sound in each word (e.g. the *t* in *to*). This will help the child to remember these words.

See inside back cover for other activities.



Sit, Zak. Sit!

Zak did not sit. Zak ran.





Sit, Zak. Sit!

Zak ran and ran!

Zak ran in the fog.
A red van hit him.



Jen and Zak went to the vet.



Zak had a bad cut. He had to get a jab.

Will Zak get better?





Yes.

Zak did get better.



Check comprehension

Ask the child

- Why did Zak get hurt? (Because he ran across the road.)
- Who helped him? (The vet.)

Check phonics (letter-pattern sounds)

Ask the child to

- Find words in the book that begin with the sound *v*. (*van, vet*)
- Point to the middle letter of *vet*. Ask: *What sound does this letter make?*
- Find some words with the sound *e* in the middle. (*red, Jen, vet, get, yes*)
- Think of other words that have the sound *e* in the middle (e.g. *bed, hen, pen, pet*).
- Look in the book and find words with the sound *o* in the middle. (*not, fog*)
- Think of other words that have the sound *o* in the middle (e.g. *dot, hot, dog, log, top*).

Example phonic words: sit Zak did not ran and in fog red van hit him
Jen vet had bad cut get jab yes wag went

Context words: a better He the to will



Oxford
Reading
Tree

Stage 1+ Songbirds
Phonics



Zak and the Vet

Story by Julia Donaldson • Pictures by Alan Marks
Series editor Clare Kirtley



Zak ran in the fog . . .

Focus Phonics

v w y z j n k e
r d b f h i u
s m c t g a o

Stage 1+ Songbirds

Top Cat
Sam's Pot
Bob Bug
Dig, Dig, Dig!
Zak and the Vet
Mum Bug's Bag

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