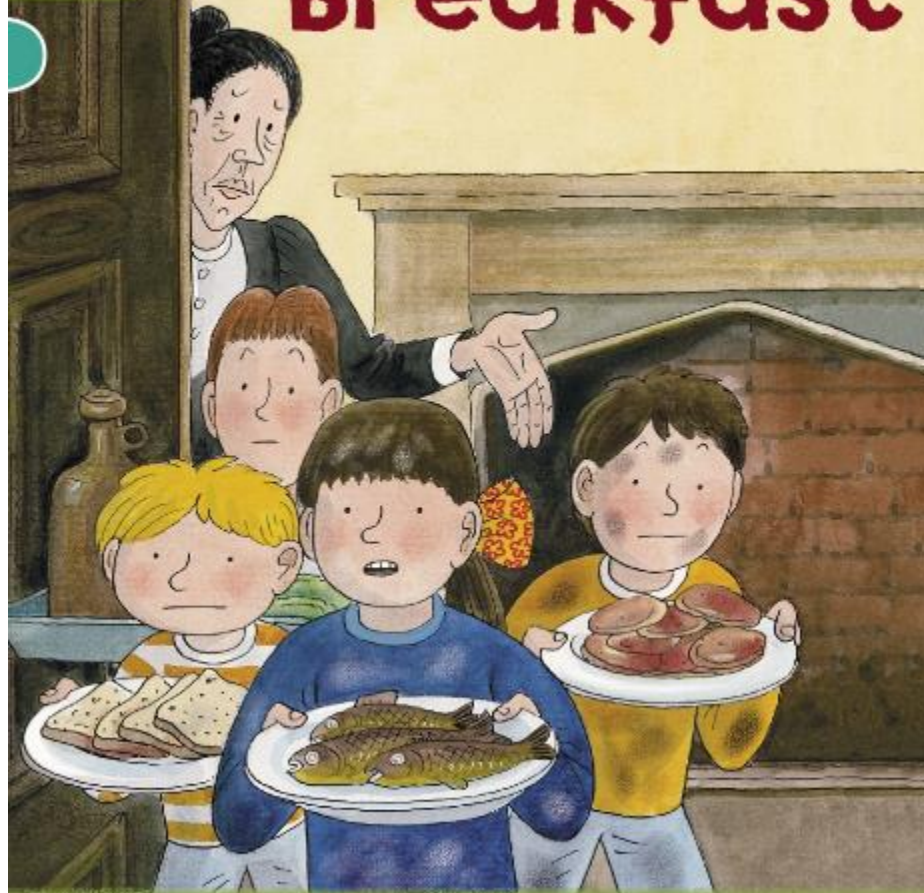




Oxford  
Reading  
Tree

# The Big Breakfast



Series created by Roderick Hunt and Alex Brychta



Written by David Hunt and illustrated by Alex Brychta,  
based on the original characters created by  
Roderick Hunt and Alex Brychta

## BEFORE READING

### Talk together

- Look at the cover and read the title together. Ask: *What is different about the food in the picture compared to what we might have for breakfast?*
- Talk together about the things you like to eat for breakfast.
- Look through the book and talk about the pictures.

### About the words in this book

- Your child will probably be able to read most of the words in this book. Encourage your child to sound out and blend any challenging words, such as those below. If necessary, model the blending or read the words for your child.

**café iron juice brought**  
**water sausages pigeon**



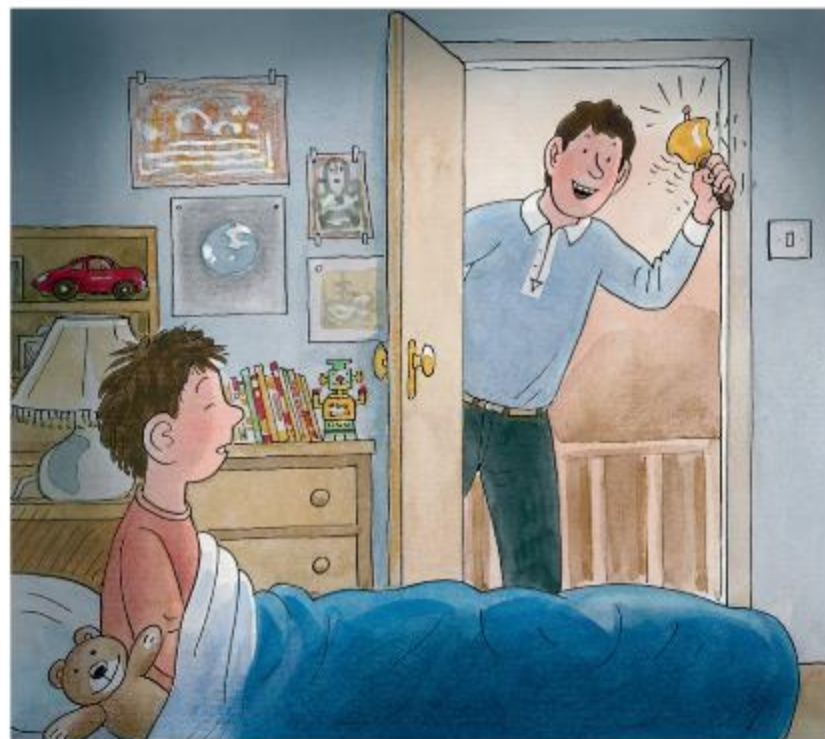
## DURING READING

Enjoy the story together.  
If your child needs support to read the story:

- Remind your child to blend unfamiliar words from left to right.
- If a word is still too tricky, simply say the whole word for your child.
- Re-read sentences to focus on their meaning where necessary.



See the inside back cover  
for more ideas.



“Ding, ding! Ding, ding!”  
Dad came into Chip’s room. He was ringing a bell. Chip sat up in bed.

“It’s time to get up,” said Dad. “Mum’s away and we have a lot of jobs to do.”



Dad rang the bell on the stairs.  
“Time to get up!” he called.  
“Do we have to?” asked Biff. “It’s  
the weekend.”

“Yes,” said Dad. “Mum gets back  
tonight. The house is a mess. We must  
tidy up.”

“I suppose so,” yawned Chip.

“Good. I’ll start breakfast,” said Dad.



The children came down for breakfast.  
“Bad news,” said Dad. “The milk has gone off, I’ve burned the toast and we’ve run out of juice. I’m sorry.”  
“Oh no!” said Kipper. “I’m hungry!”

“We’ll have to go to the supermarket,”  
said Dad. “We need some more food.”  
“I’ve got a better idea,” said Chip.  
“Let’s have breakfast in the café.”



“You can eat what you like,” said Dad.  
“Then we’ll do the shopping.”  
“Hooray!” said Kipper. “I’m going  
to have a big breakfast!”

“I’d like blueberry pancakes,” said Biff.  
“I want eggs,” said Kipper.  
“Why not have a kipper, Kipper?” said Chip.  
“Only if you have chips, Chip!” said Kipper.



At home, Dad told the children to start their jobs.

"I'll put the shopping away," he said. "You go and tidy your rooms. That big breakfast should give you lots of energy."



The children looked at the mess.

"Let's tidy up later," said Chip.

"I'm so full, I can't move!"

"No chance of a walk then," thought Floppy.

Just then, the magic key began to glow.



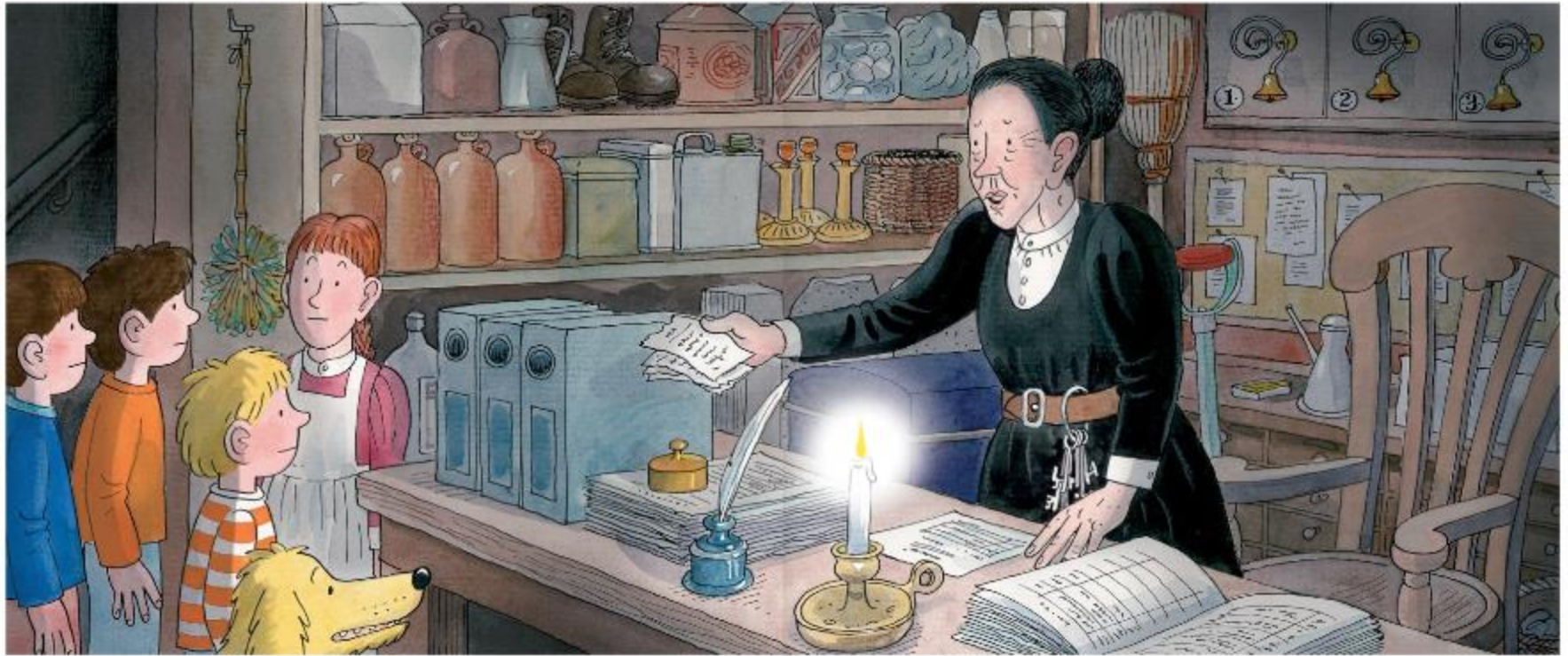
The magic took them back in time. It took them to a big house. It took them into a large hall with a big staircase.

“It’s still dark outside,” said Biff.

“Ding, ding!” A bell began to ring.

Suddenly, a door opened. A little girl came in. She was holding a candle.

“I’m Rose. You must be the new servants. The housekeeper will see you now. Follow me,” she said.



Rose took them down a corridor into a large storeroom. The housekeeper was waiting for them.

“You are late,” she said, sternly.  
“There are lots of jobs to be done.”

She gave the children lists of jobs.  
“Begin with the cleaning,” she said.  
“It has to be done before breakfast.  
Ah! I see you have brought a  
dog. Good.”





Rose took them to a large kitchen.  
“This is Mrs Fry,” said Rose. “She’s the cook.”  
“Hello,” said Mrs Fry. “I see you have brought a dog. Good.”

“Why is everyone pleased that we have brought a dog?” asked Chip.  
Mrs Fry pointed at a wooden wheel.  
“Put your dog in here,” she said.  
“I may not like this,” thought Floppy.



Rose put Floppy inside the wheel.

“The wheel turns the meat over the fire,” said Rose. “It stops the meat burning.”

“You look like a giant hamster,” laughed Kipper.



“Now we must hurry, there’s so much to do,” said Rose. “Lord Plum will be up soon. We must finish the jobs, then we can get his breakfast ready.”



Mrs Fry put the meat on the spit.  
“We need this for Lord Plum’s breakfast.”  
She looked at Floppy.  
“Keep walking and don’t stop!” she said.  
“Funny way to get a walk,” thought  
Floppy.



“What else is for breakfast?” asked Biff.  
“Kippers, oyster bread, beetroot  
pancakes, ale and ice-cream. Nothing too  
fancy,” said Rose. “I’ll get it ready. You get  
on with the jobs on the list.”

Biff had to scrub the clothes clean.



She beat the rugs.



Then, she had to make some bread. . .



. . .and put powder on some wigs.



Chip had to clean all the fireplaces.



Then, he had to collect a lot of coal.



Next, he had to polish the silver. . .



. . .and polish all the boots.



Kipper churned milk to make butter.



He got ice cream from the icehouse.



He had to carry water to the bathrooms. . .



. . .and scrub all the floors.





“Come quickly,” said Rose. “The food is ready. We must take it to the dining room.”

“Hurry up and don’t forget Lord Plum’s newspaper,” said Mrs Fry.



The children put out the dishes on a big table.

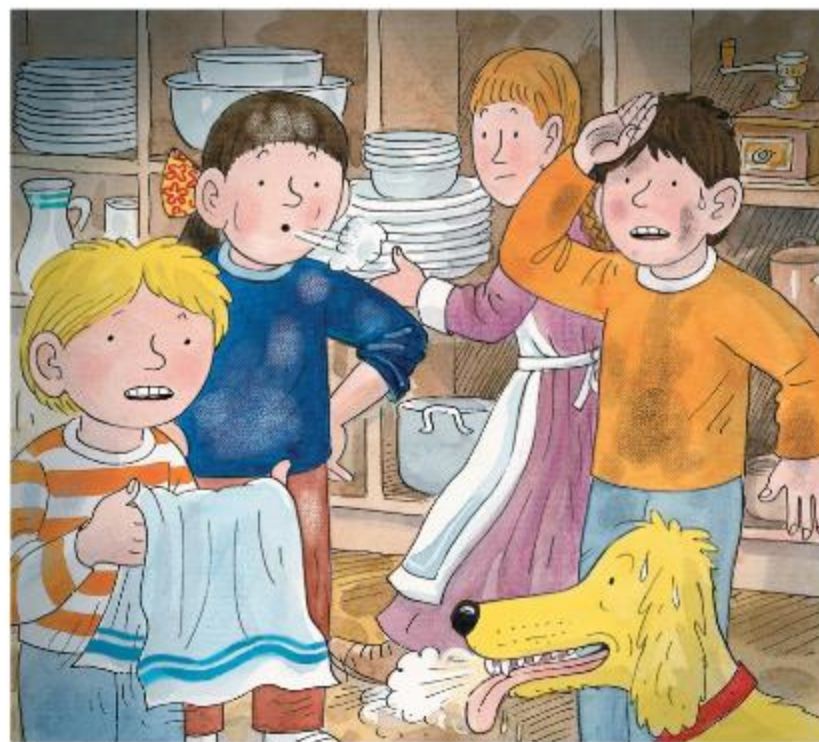
“Hurry up,” said the housekeeper. “Lord Plum will be down soon. He won’t want to see you in here.”



At last, breakfast was finished.

“Was Lord Plum happy with his breakfast?” asked Kipper.

“No!” said the housekeeper. “You forgot to iron his newspaper!”



“I’m worn out,” said Kipper.

“I never want another walk,” said Floppy.

“At least we can have a rest now,” said Chip.





“A rest?” said Rose. “We have to start getting ready for lunch!”

Suddenly, the magic key began to glow. It was time to go home.

“What a relief!” said Biff.



“That was hard work,” said Biff. Dad came into Biff’s room.

“Hurry up,” he said. “We’ve still got lots of jobs to do. Then we have to walk Floppy.”

“Oh no!” said everyone.



Early next morning, the children made Mum a surprise breakfast.

“What a big breakfast!” said Mum. “You have gone to so much trouble.”

“It was nothing,” said Biff.

#### AFTER READING

- Re-read page 28. Ask: *Why would Lord Plum want his newspaper ironed?*
- Ask: *What would you like and dislike about being a servant?*
- On page 7 point to the word *blueberry*. Explain that it is made up of two words. Take it in turns to find other words that are made up of two different words in the book.

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