Something shiny

"How much have we made?" Ryan asked.

Pritesh counted out the money.

"Twenty-one pounds and fifty pence."

"Fifty pence?"

"I just sold that computer game," Pritesh said. "The one with the car chase."

"Well, I told Mum we'd sell all our stuff," Ryan said.

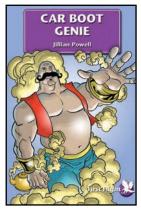
"Yeah," Pritesh agreed. "And we've made ten pounds each."

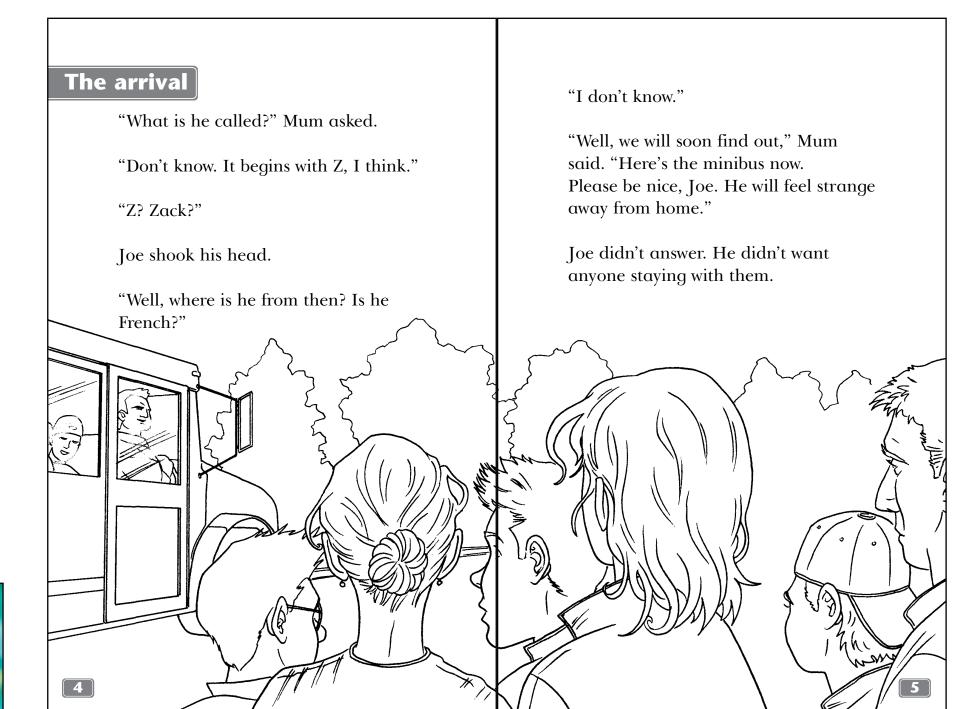
"Um, ten pounds and seventy-five pence!" Ryan said.

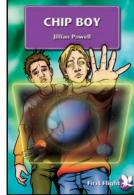
Pritesh handed over the money. "Time to pack up then?"

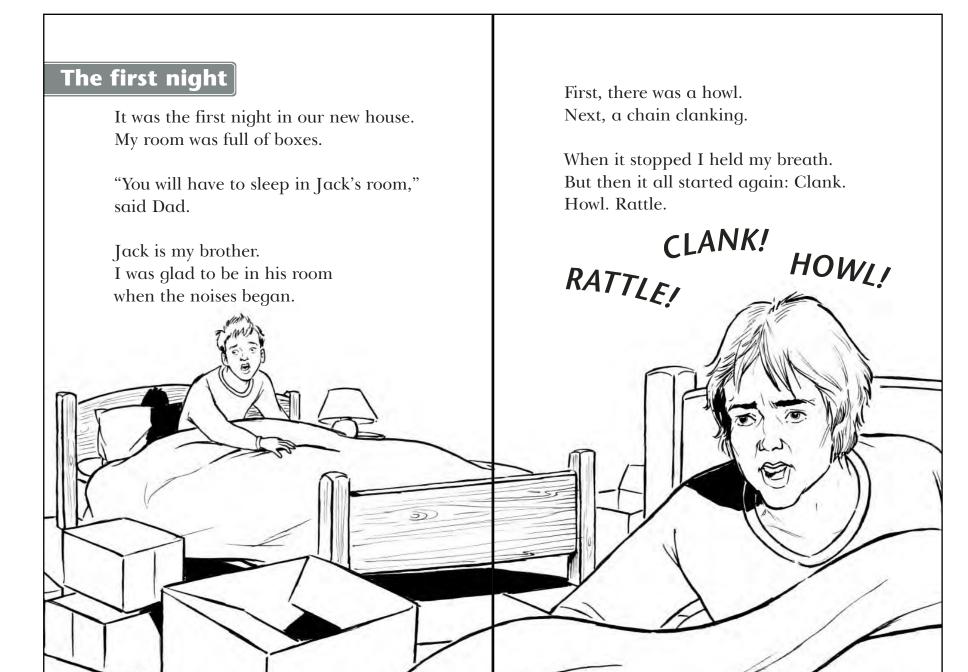
The boys started packing up.

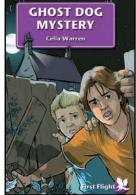












I. THE FIRST MONEY

When we think of money we think of coins, cards and notes.

But in the past there were none of these. So people had to use other things instead.



All these items have been used as money in the past. They were all things that were valuable to people at the time.



Money Box Fact

Long ago in Sumatra,
people used skulls
as money!





Card night

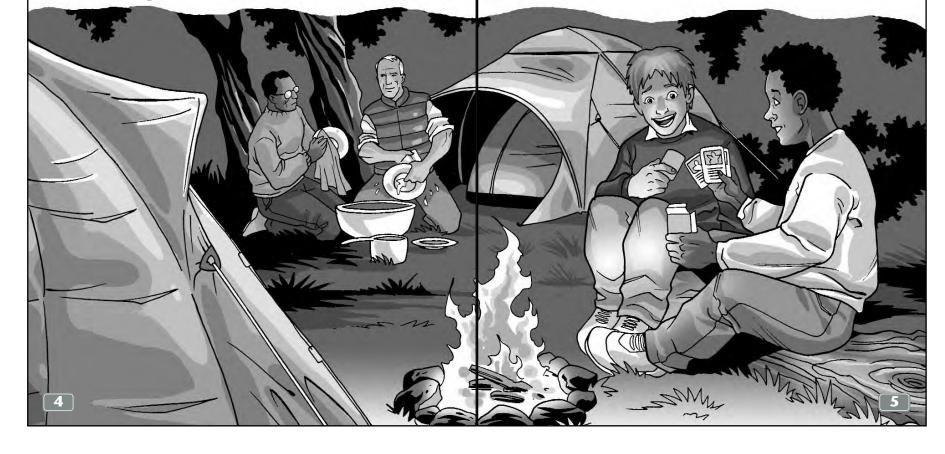
Nick and Sam were sitting by the fireside. Their dads were washing up the supper things.

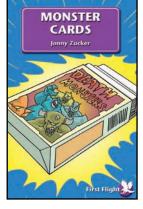
It was Friday night.

The four of them were on a camping weekend.

"I've got these new trading cards," Nick said, pulling a red packet out from his pocket.

DEATH MONSTERS it said on the front of the pack. Each card had a different monster on it.





Act 1

Narrator – Robert is on holiday with his dad and little sister, Sarah. They are in a farmhouse in Wales.

Dad – Come on, you two.

Sarah – My legs are tired.

Narrator – They are out for a walk in the hills.

Robert – Hey, Dad. Was it true what it said in that book?

Dad – Which book?

Robert – The book back at the farmhouse. It said there used to be lots of wolves in Wales.

Narrator – Dad pulled a face.

Dad – Robert! I don't want to talk about wolves! You'll frighten your sister. Now come on, Sarah – we can't sit down here.

Sarah – Why not?

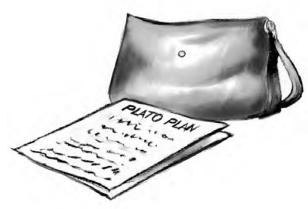




The secret meeting

Tom's new Nan was a spy. He had seen the proof with his own eyes.

She had papers in her handbag. They were yellow papers with black words. Tom had seen the words PLATO PLAN at the top of them.



Nan picked up her handbag. She pushed the yellow papers in and shut the bag.

"I'm going out!" she shouted. Then the door went BANG! Tom had to act fast. He had to know what the papers were.

"Mum! Can I take the dog for a walk?" he yelled.

"Yes, but don't be long," said Mum.

Tom had only been with his new family for a year. Did Mum and Dad know that Nan was a spy? He didn't think so.





Red card

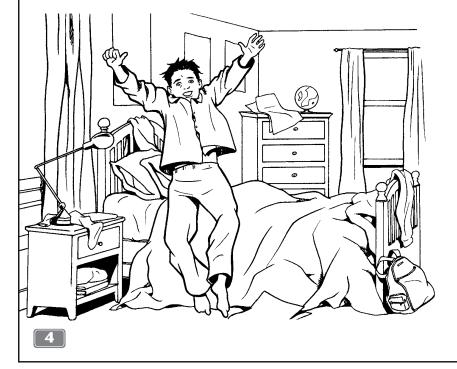
The summer sun beat down on the tall block of flats in the big city.

It was gone eleven, but Tyler was still in bed. He was bored. Bored silly.

He didn't want to watch TV.

He didn't want to play video games.

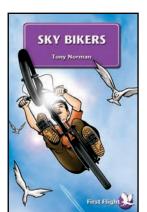
He was sick and tired of all that stuff.



Football. That's what he needed. A game of football. Great idea!

Tyler jumped out of bed and picked up two old socks from the floor. He rolled them into a ball. He gave the socks a kick and they flew across the room.





Don't fight

"I'm going to the shop," Mum said. "I won't be long. And don't fight while I'm gone."

"We won't," Jamie said. "We never fight, do we Sally?"

"No, we never fight," Sally said.

"Good. Now, you're in charge, Jamie. So look after your little sister."

"I will, Mum," Jamie said. "Can I have a Lucky Bag?"

"If you behave."

"And can I have a Curly Wurly?" Sally asked.

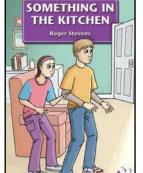
"She'll stick it up her nose," Jamie said.

"I won't."

"You did last time."

"Stop it!" Mum said. "Sally was only three when she did that."





Stranger on the beach

Jake looked at the sea.

He hated it.

He hated the grey waves and he hated the beach.

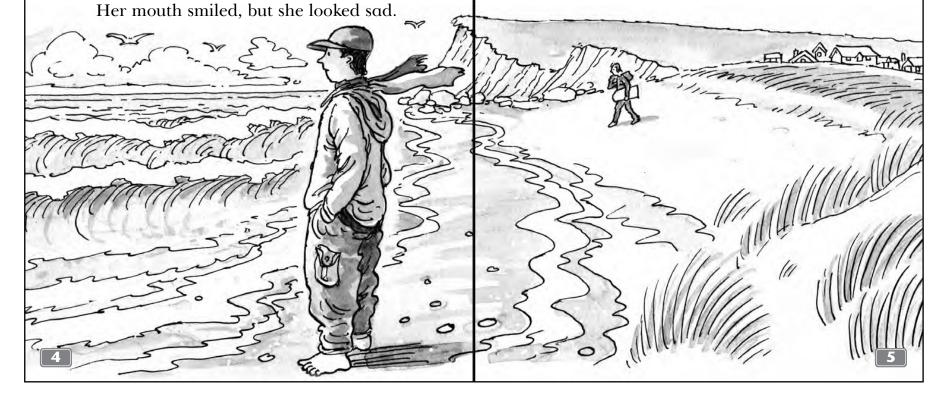
He had been happy at his old school. Then his dad left, and everything changed.

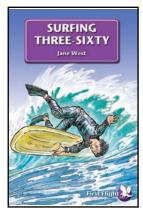
"We'll live by the sea with your grandparents," said Jake's mum.

So they had moved house. And now Jake didn't have any friends.

The wind was cold. Jake felt drops from the waves on his cheeks.

Suddenly, Jake heard a voice. "What is wrong with you?"





1. LIAR!

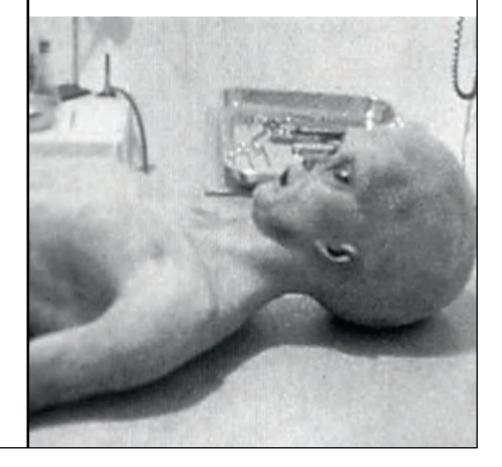
We all tell lies sometimes. Lots of us tell little lies – or fibs. But some people, like the ones in this book, tell very big lies!

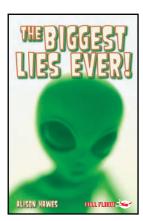
In 2009, Richard and Mayumi Heene phoned the police in a panic. They couldn't find their six-year-old son! They thought he may have climbed into a helium balloon that they had launched from their garden.

The police later found out that the boy was hiding in the familiy's attic the whole time.

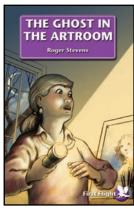
A man named Ray Santilli claimed he had footage of an alien autopsy.

A lot of people were fooled by the footage. He later confessed that the video was a fake and that the alien was in fact a sculpture.









Sample pages taken from First Flight Level 2: The Ghost in the Artroom