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Opening Extract from...

A Parcel of Pigs

And Other Funny 'Tails'

Written by Andréa Prior

Published by Matador

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A Parcel of Pigs and other Funny 'tails'

Poems and pictures by
Andréa Prior



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Cover design Martin Smart

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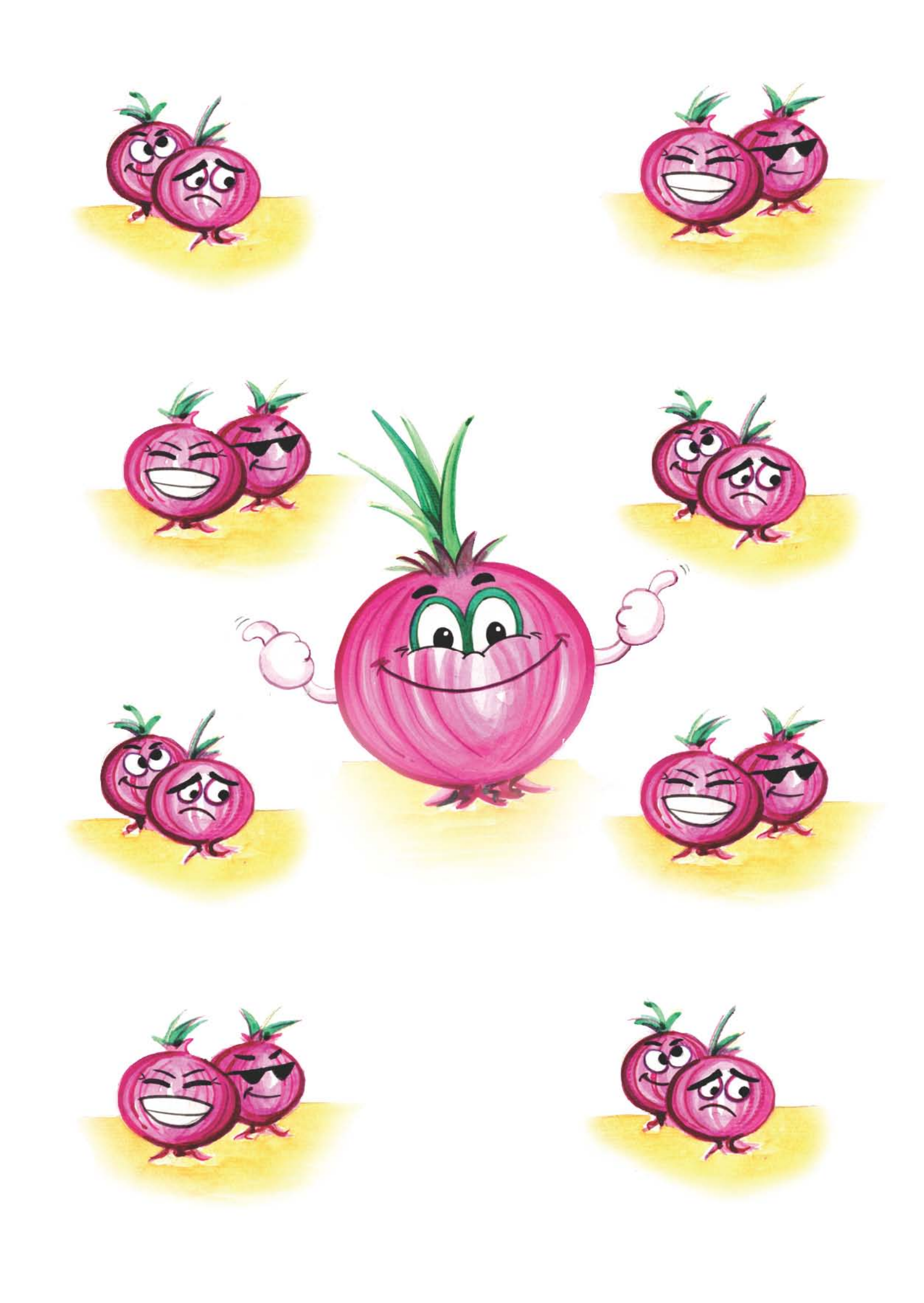


Matador is an imprint of Troubador Publishing Ltd

This book is dedicated to…
My wonderful parents Eve and Bill, who showed me love, laughter and bundles of fun, and I thank you both for reading to me endlessly when I was very young.

This book belongs to





Acknowledgements

I would like to thank my friends and family who provided help and support during the writing and illustrating of this book, and to those of you who took the time to read, listen and offer comments.

A special thanks to my dear friend Martin Smart, who has not only worked with me on the design of this book but who has been an inspiration to me throughout my career.

Last but never least my darling husband JP who encouraged me to "Get on with it!"



Before we begin…

I love the musicality of rhyme and my ideas come from anywhere and everywhere; people I love, people I don't, friends I talk to, stories they tell, countries I visit, things I see, things I do, phrases I hear, dreams I dream.

When I was young, my mother read to me every night and I look back at those times as truly magical. Rhymes we read together were my favourites and I was inspired by the work of A. A. Milne, Roald Dahl and the nonsense poems of Edward Lear.

There is something enchanting about rhyme; not only is it great to read aloud but it is also an ideal way to help children with their reading and linguistic development. It helps with spelling, pronunciation, and memory recall and lets them have fun with language. It helps children to understand word patterns, words that share common sounds and to read with energy and liveness, which will be so important to them in later life.

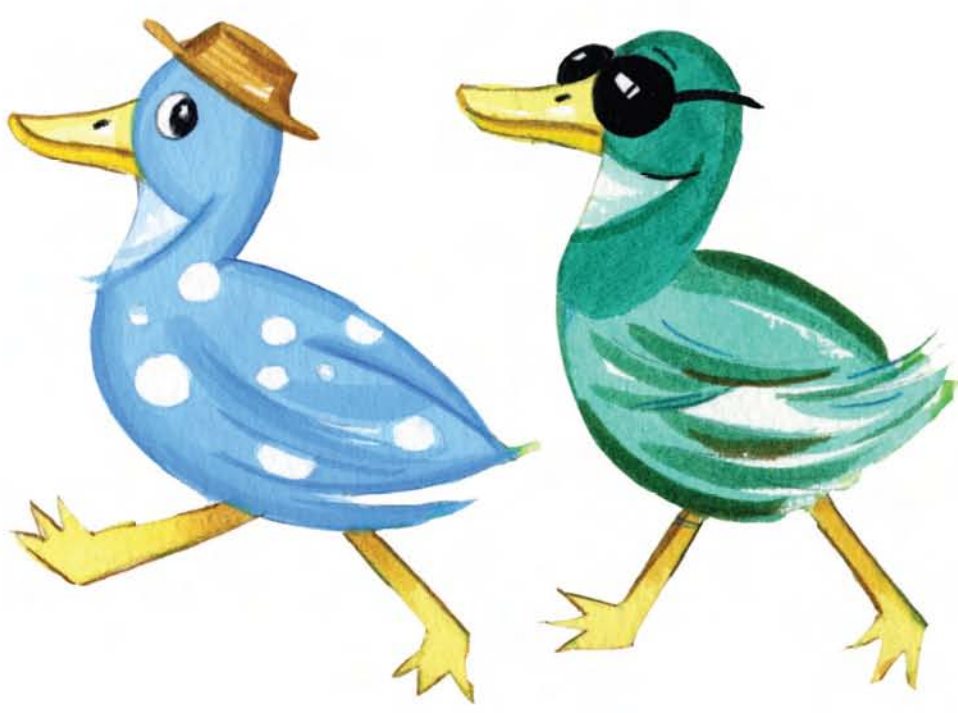
I love writing rhymes; they make learning fun, and my poems are written for those parents and children that love reading together!

Go on!

Open the parcel and See What's inSide!

Have FUN!!



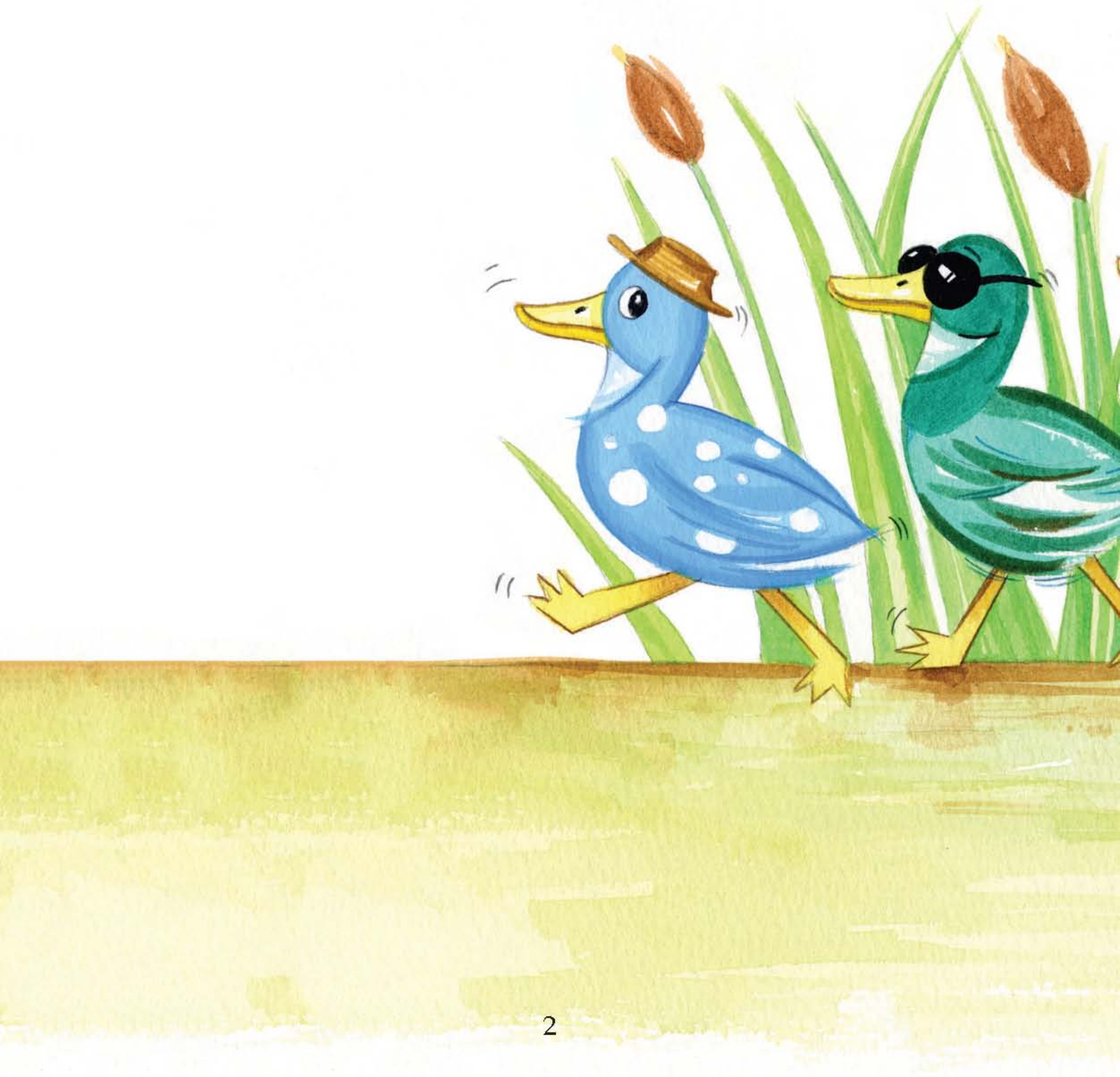


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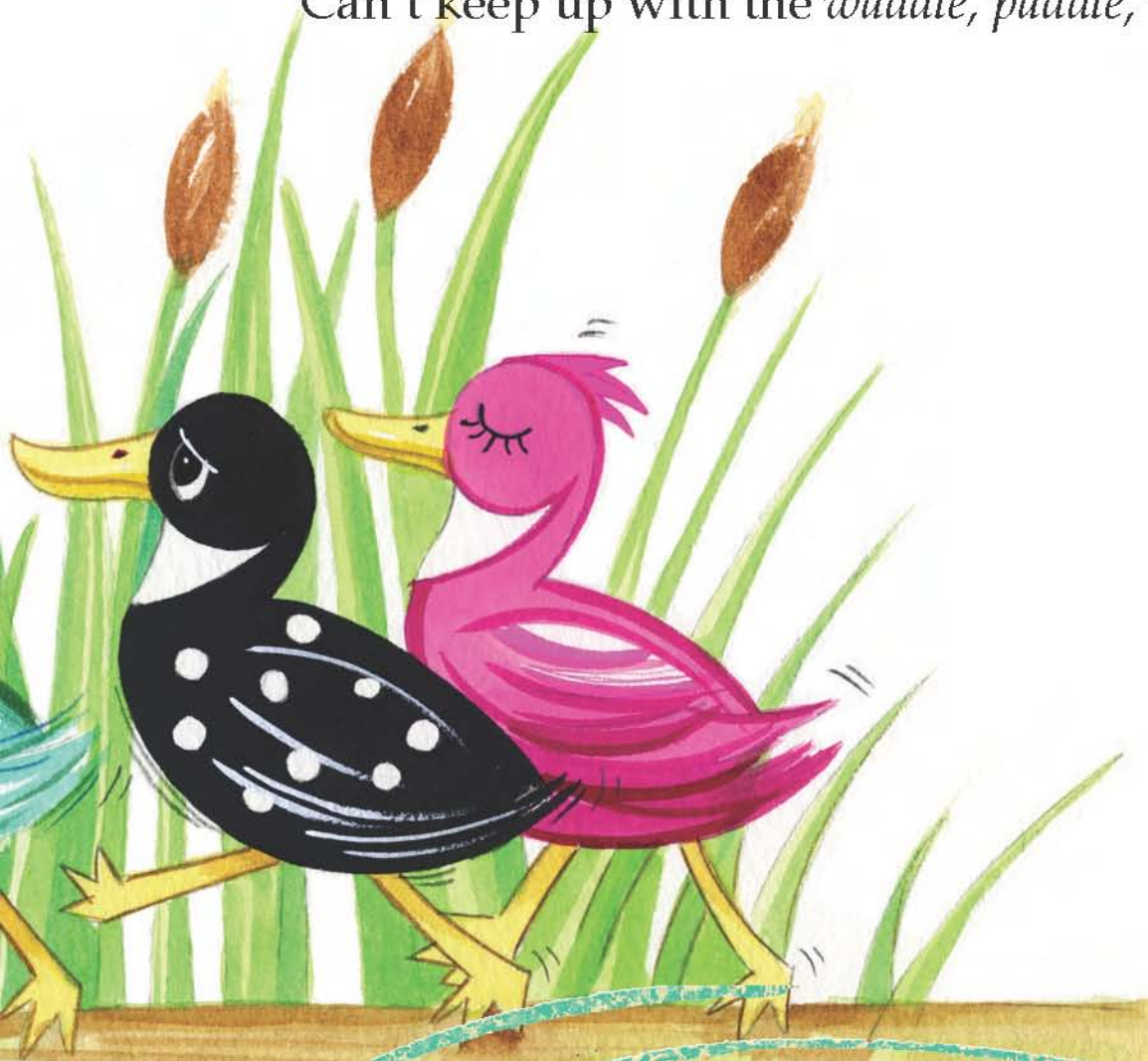
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Silly Ducks

Ducks a' talking *quack, quack, quack,*
Ducks a' walking *clack, clack, clack,*
That side – this side – which side – your side,
Can't keep up with the *quack, clack, quacks!*



Ducks a' swimming *paddle, paddle, paddle,*
Ducks a' strolling *waddle, waddle, waddle,*
This side – that side – which side – your side,
Can't keep up with the *waddle, paddle, waddles!*



Shall we talk about this poem?

How many times can you say 'QUACK, CLACK, QUACKS' and 'WADDLE, PADDLE, WADDLES' without getting tongue-tied?

Why not give each duck a name?

Why are they good names for the ducks?



Cecilia's Mother

Cecilia's mother is as MAD as a hare,
With a huge big mouth and a wide eyed stare,
She barks and shouts and snorts and sprouts,
Hairs from her nose and rings on her toes,
"**Get out!**" She cries, she cries, cries she,
She's the scariest mother I've ever seen!

Cecilia's mother is as TALL as a tree,
With legs so long they're taller than me!
Her beads and pearls she twists and twirls,
With her big red hair and her frightening glare,
"**Buzz off!**" She cries, she cries, cries she,
She's the spookiest mother I've ever seen!

Shall we talk about this poem?

What scares you the most about Cecilia's mother?

Make up your own scary story about what she might do!

Would it scare you?


PORKER POST
FRAGILE
A PARCEL OF PIG
HANDLE WITH CARE
AND KINDNESS

A Parcel of Pigs

A parcel of pigs and a gaggle of geese,
A mountain of mice with a chunk of cheese,
"**What's that**?" said the pigs to the mice with the cheese,
"It's none of your business Mr Pig if you please!"

A pen of hens and a bumble of bees,
A warbling sparrow with two knocking knees,
"**How's that**?" said the hens to the sparrow with the knees,
"Well never you mind Mrs Hen if you please!"

A cauldron of cats with some sleepy old fleas,
A bundle of bats fast asleep in the trees,
"**Wake up**!" said the cats to the bats and the fleas,
"Please do be quiet Mrs Cat if you please!"

A haram of hares and a tumble of trees,
A rumble of rabbits with a golden key,
"**What's that**?" said the hares to the rabbits with the key,
"Mind your own beeswax Mr Hare if you please!"

Shall we talk about this poem?

How many eyes can you count in the picture?

If you had a pet pig, what would you call it?

Why?