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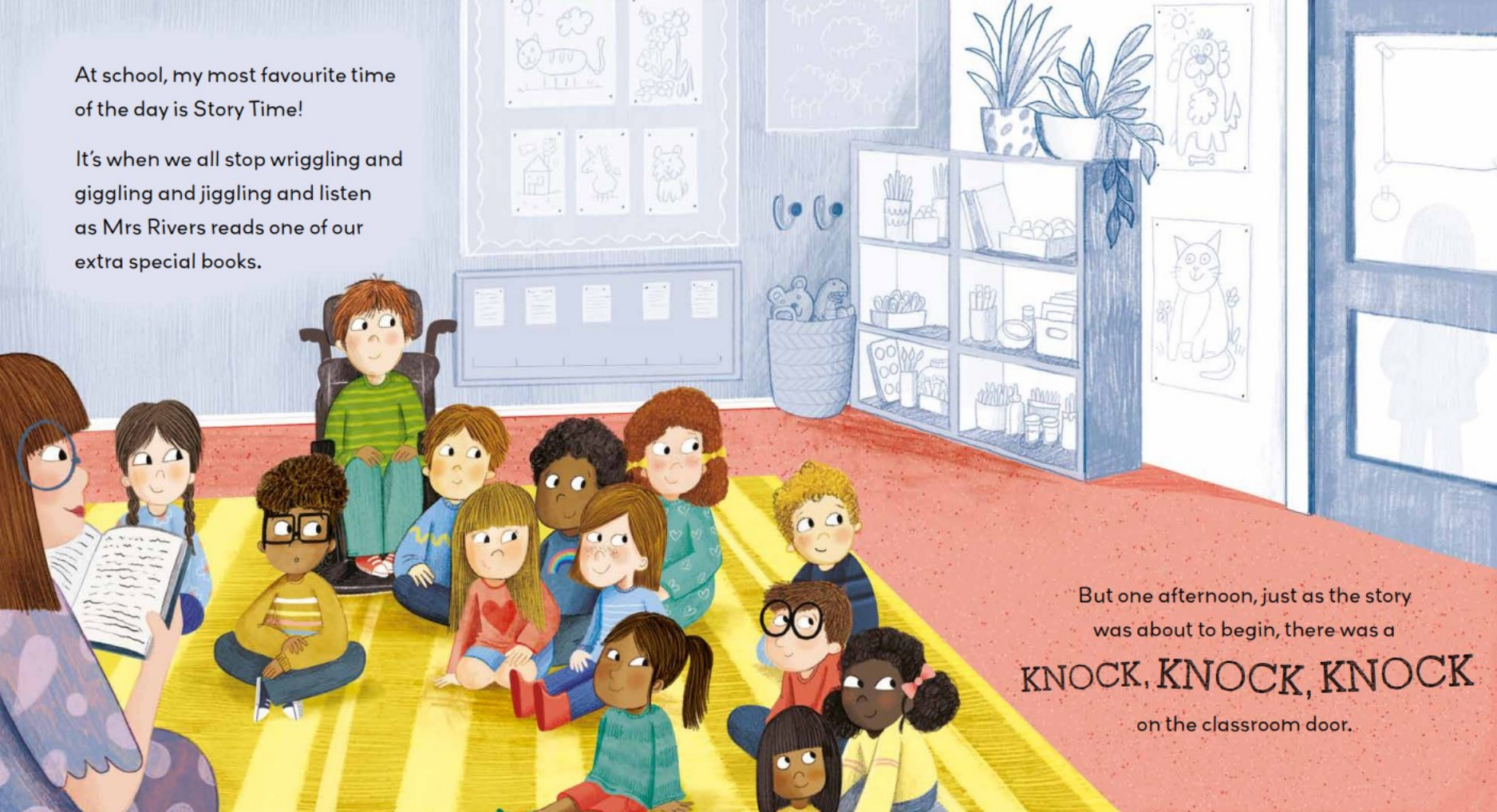
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ONJALI Q. RAÚF

PIPPA CURNICK

The Girl at the Front of the Class

Inspired by a true story



At school, my most favourite time of the day is Story Time!

It's when we all stop wriggling and giggling and jiggling and listen as Mrs Rivers reads one of our extra special books.

But one afternoon, just as the story was about to begin, there was a

KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK

on the classroom door.

Mrs Rivers opened the door, and standing there was a girl with eyes as wide and as golden as a tiger's, and face as pale as a glass of milk, and hair as shiny as a mirror.



"Children," said Mrs Rivers. "This is your new classmate. I want you all to welcome her and be her friend."

Everyone smiled and waved at the new girl, but she only stared at the floor.