Practise Your Phonics With

Julia Donaldson's Songbirds

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Songbirds

Tara's Party



Story by Julia Donaldson
Pictures by Ross Collins
Series editor Clare Kirtley

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Tips for reading Tara's Party together

This book practises these letter patterns that make the same sound:

ar a*

Ask your child to point to these letter patterns and say the sound (e.g. *ar* as in *scarf* and *a* as in *father*). Look out for these letter patterns in the story.

Your child might find these words tricky:

for all come was were have her one said
some the there they everyone friends want

These words are common, but your child may not have learned how to sound them out yet. Say the words for your child if they do not know them.

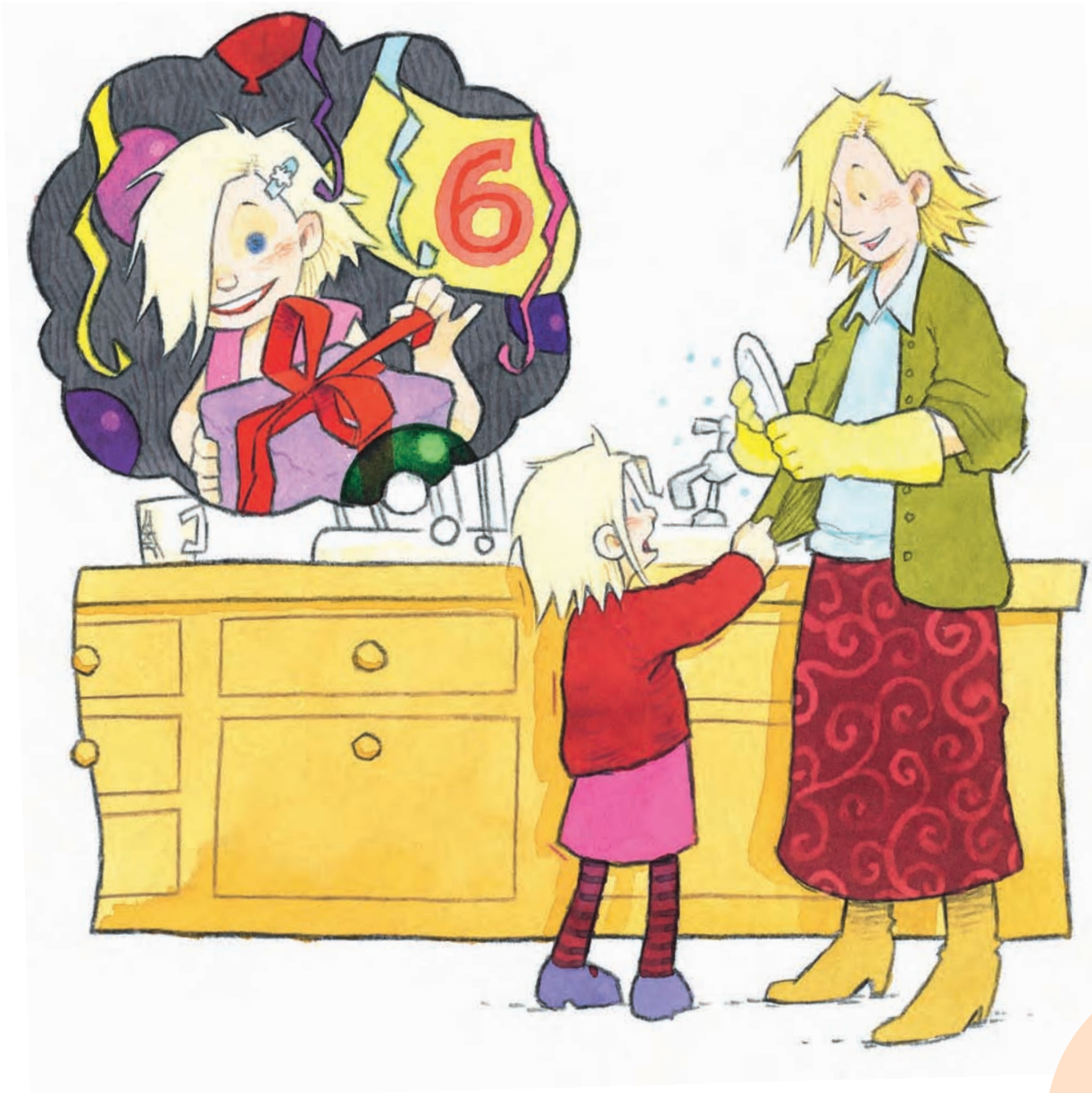
Before you begin, ask your child to read the title. Remind your child to read words they do not recognise by sounding out and blending. Look at the picture together. What do you think this story is about?

When you have finished reading the story, look through it again and:

- Ask your child, *Did Martha enjoy the party?* (No.) *Why not?* (She thought everyone had been nasty to her.)
- Find some words on pages 10 and 11 which contain a long *ar* sound (*Martha*, *scarf*, *Tara's*, *started*). Point to the letter pattern that makes the long *ar* sound in the words (*ar*). Think of some words which rhyme with *start* and try to write them down (e.g. *cart*, *chart*, *dart*, *part*, *tart*).

*The letter *a* is pronounced *ar* in Southern England, but in the north it is pronounced *a* as in h*a*t.

Tara was six.
"Can I have a party?" she asked.
"Yes," said Mum.



Tara sent cards to her friends.



Veejay came to the party.
He gave Tara a toy car.

