



TalkforWriting

Reception

Talk for Writing Home-school booklet

# Mavis the Magical Cat

by Jane Ralphs

Hello!  
I'm Mavis.  
Come and explore  
my magical world!



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**Dear Parent/Carer,**

Thank you for taking the time to support your child with their learning. This booklet is designed to inspire and support your child to develop skills and confidence in speaking, reading and writing.

Through the world of Mavis, the Magical Cat, your child will be invited to explore a number of engaging, fun and purposeful activities. In this booklet, you will see 8 different types of learning activities:

- ★ Read Together
- ★ Talk Time
- ★ Rhyme Time
- ★ Ladybird Words
- ★ Let's Pretend
- ★ Ready, Steady, Write
- ★ Out and About
- ★ Let's Get Creative

Each activity is explained by Mavis and has been designed so that you can support your child. For example, there will be shared reading, discussion and writing. On some of the pages you will see a box like this:



Information boxes like this will give you some tips on supporting the activity.

You can also listen to a recording of the story of Mavis the magical cat here:  
<https://soundcloud.com/talkforwriting/mavis>

At the end of the booklet, please support your child to rate and comment on how they got on with their learning and add your comments too.

**ENJOY!**



Read  
together.



## Mavis the magical cat

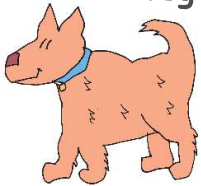


Once upon a time, there was a cat called Mavis who lived with a farmer called Marigold. Now, Mavis was just like any other cat and Marigold was just like any other farmer, except for one thing.

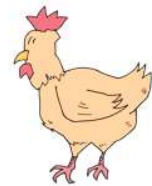


They were both **MAGICAL!**

They worked together on the farm planting flowers and vegetables and looking after Sandy, the farm dog, and Beryl, the farm chicken.



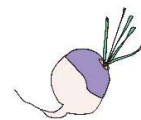
Every morning, Marigold smiled a big smile and said, "Good Morning!" Mavis stretched out her long white claws and said, "Meow!" Sandy wagged his short, scruffy tail and said, "Woof!" And Beryl fluttered her speckled brown feathers and said, "Cluck!"

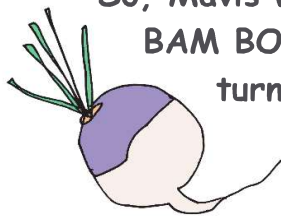


One winter's evening, when the moon was as round as a giant marble, Mavis heard the strangest sound coming from Marigold's room. So, she padded up the stairs, pushed open the door and peered into the bedroom. There, standing by the bed was not Marigold the farmer but Marigold the ... witch! "Come on, Mavis," cackled Marigold. "Time to get izzy, whizzy busy!" So, they jumped on the broomstick, tapped its long handle and held on tightly as it took off down the stairs and out through the farmhouse door.



First, they zoomed to the turnip patch. "Hmmm," mumbled Marigold. "Not very plump. Time for magic, Mavis."





So, Mavis wiggled her ears and twitched her whiskers and ZIP BAM BOO! There in the rich brown soil were the plumpest turnips Marigold had ever seen.

"Good job," cackled Marigold and off they went.

Next, they zoomed to the fresh flower bed. "Hmmm," mumbled Marigold. "Not very colourful. Time for magic, Mavis."



So, Mavis wiggled her ears and twitched her whiskers and ZIP BAM BOO! There, swaying in the breeze, were the most colourful flowers Marigold had ever seen.

"Good job," cackled Marigold and off they went.

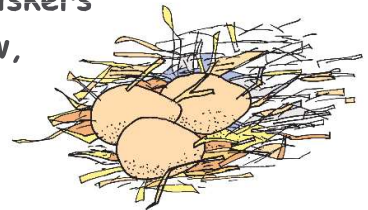
After that, they zoomed to the corn field. "Hmmm," mumbled Marigold. "Not very ripe. Time for magic, Mavis."



So, Mavis wiggled her ears and twitched her whiskers and ZIP BAM BOO! There, standing tall, were rows of the brightest golden corn Marigold had ever seen. "Good job," cackled Marigold and off they went.

Finally, just as the morning sun was peeping over the hill, they zoomed to the chicken house. "Hmmm," mumbled Marigold. "No eggs. Time for magic, Mavis."

So, Mavis wiggled her ears and twitched her whiskers and ZIP BAM BOO! There, snuggled in the straw, was not one, not two but three of the freshest brown eggs Marigold had ever seen. "Good job," cackled Marigold. "Time for home."





Later that morning, Mavis and Sandy and Beryl sat waiting in the farmhouse kitchen. At that moment, the door swung open and in walked Marigold the farmer, carrying warm boiled eggs for everyone.

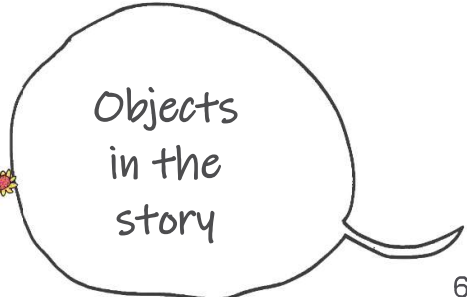
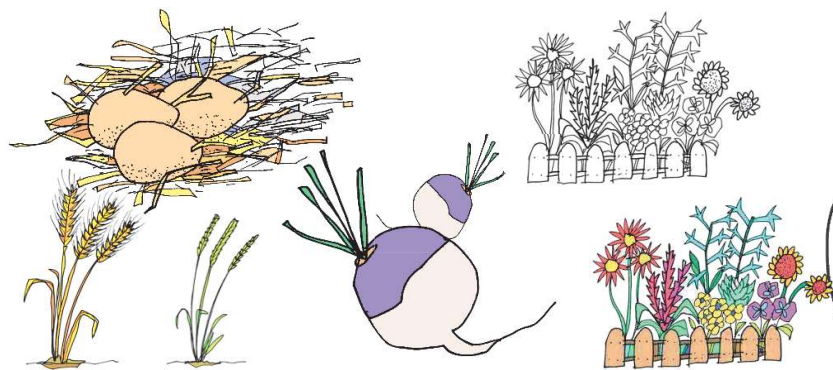
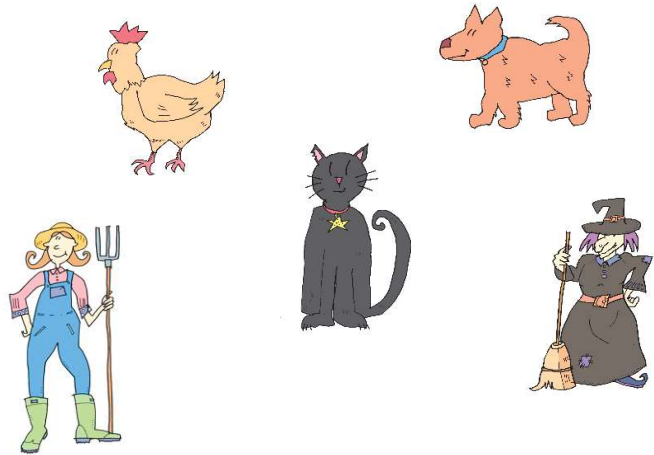
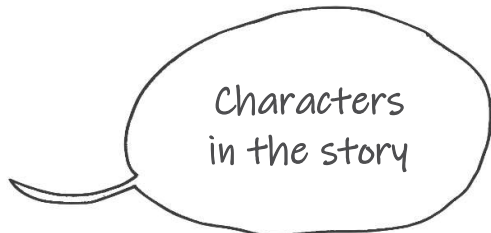
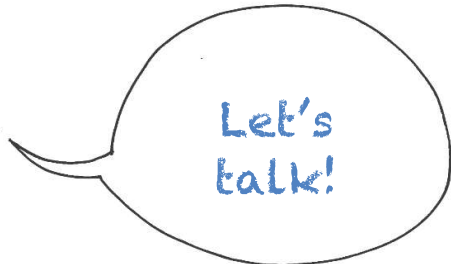


"Time to check the flowers and vegetables, Mavis," she said, and off they went.



Talk with your child about the characters and objects in the story. You could chat about:

- colour/size
- what they look like
- what they are wearing
- what it feels like
- does the child like them?
- have they seen one before?



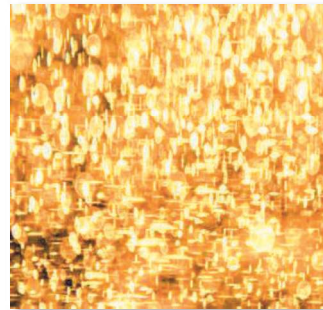
LADYBIRD  
WORDS

★ Ladybird loves words! She has chosen some words from the story.  
Can you say each word together and match it to the right picture?

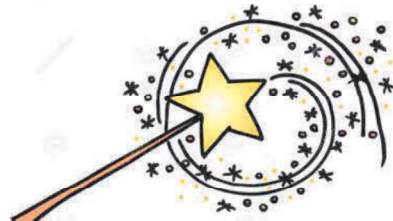
magical



speckled



soil

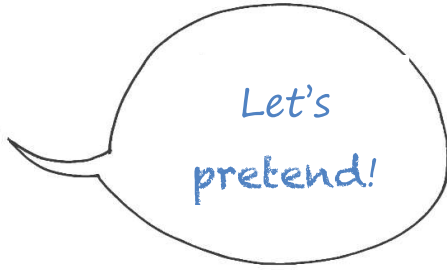


golden



whiskers





**A**

Read the story to your child, stopping after each paragraph to do the activities. Encourage your child to understand the story better by entering into the story world, moving, acting and speaking in role as the characters in the story.

★ Can you pretend to be some of the characters in the story? Listen while a little bit of the story is read to you. What would the character be doing? What might they say? What would their face look like?

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