

Read Write Inc.

An inclusive literacy programme by Ruth Miskin

Our house

Blue Storybook 5



Story by Gill Munton
Illustrated by Tim Archbold

OU

Our house

Our house isn't much to look at.

I doubt if you'd bother to stop next to it
if you went along Mount Street (that's our street).
Not that anyone much goes along Mount Street.
(It's that kind of street.)



Our house is sort of pink, with a red door and a little
garden all round it. I can't begin to count the weeds in that garden.
And Bounder (Grandad's greyhound), is always digging
up the ground, looking for his bouncy ball.

We've got three bedrooms - one for Mum, one for Grandad (and Bounder) and one for me and Carl. Carl plays his CDs for hours, so loud that - ouch! - my head starts to pound.



Then Mum shouts up the stairs and says "Stop that!".
(She can get a bit grouchy, our Mum.)

Most days we have our dinner on the couch, watching TV.
Last week, Bounder found a bit of
egg sandwich next to Grandad's chair.

He pounced on it and
devoured it at top speed.

Yuck.



We've just got one small bathroom.
So when Bounder's having his bath,
you can forget about going to the loo
or washing your hands
for about ten hours.

Grandad gets shampoo and
dog hairs all over the floor -
and guess who gets to mop it up!





I'm in bed as I'm telling you all this.

I was just thinking - it doesn't sound much, our house. But it's not that bad.

Tonight, Mum sent me to the corner shop to get some flour and I got a pound, for sweets. They were so good, I stuffed about six into my mouth.

When I got back, Bounder stuck his snout into my hand and started to lick my arm. They're fantastic dogs, greyhounds, and so fast! Bounder can run at about 60 km an hour.

Then Carl and I went out to Southways Park to have a kickabout in the playground. He's a knockout at football, our Carl. He plays for our school. I guess I'm proud of him.

And when I went to bed,
Grandad chatted to me as
I brushed my teeth.

Then he said, was I too old for a story.

I said no, I wasn't.



Our house is ...

... too small

... full of shouting

... a bit of a mess (well, some days).

But it's never boring.

Our house is - well, it's all right.



Questions to talk about

Re-read the page. Read the question to the children. Tell them whether it is a **FIND IT** question or **PROVE IT** question.

FIND IT

- ✓ Turn to the page
- ✓ Read the question
- ✓ Find the answer

PROVE IT

- ✓ Turn to the page
- ✓ Read the question
- ✓ Find your evidence
- ✓ Explain why

- | | | |
|----------|----------|---|
| Page 9: | PROVE IT | Why does the narrator says that he 'doubts people would bother to stop'?
What's your first impression of the house? |
| Page 10: | PROVE IT | What does he feel about sharing a bedroom with Carl? |
| Page 11: | PROVE IT | What does Bounder think about the family eating their dinner on the couch? |
| Page 12: | FIND IT | What happens when Grandad is bathing Bounder? |
| Page 13: | PROVE IT | I think the narrator wants us to know he quite likes his house.
Which sentence tells us this? Do you think he likes Bounder? |
| Page 14: | FIND IT | Why is the narrator proud of Carl? What did Grandad ask Carl? |
| Page 15: | PROVE IT | What does the narrator really like about his house? |

Questions to read and answer

(Children complete without your help.)

1. What does the house look like? The house has...
2. Why is Mum grouchy? She is grouchy because...
3. What happens when Bounder has a bath? When Bounder has a bath...
4. What is Carl good at? Carl is good at ...
5. Why is your house a good house? It is good because...