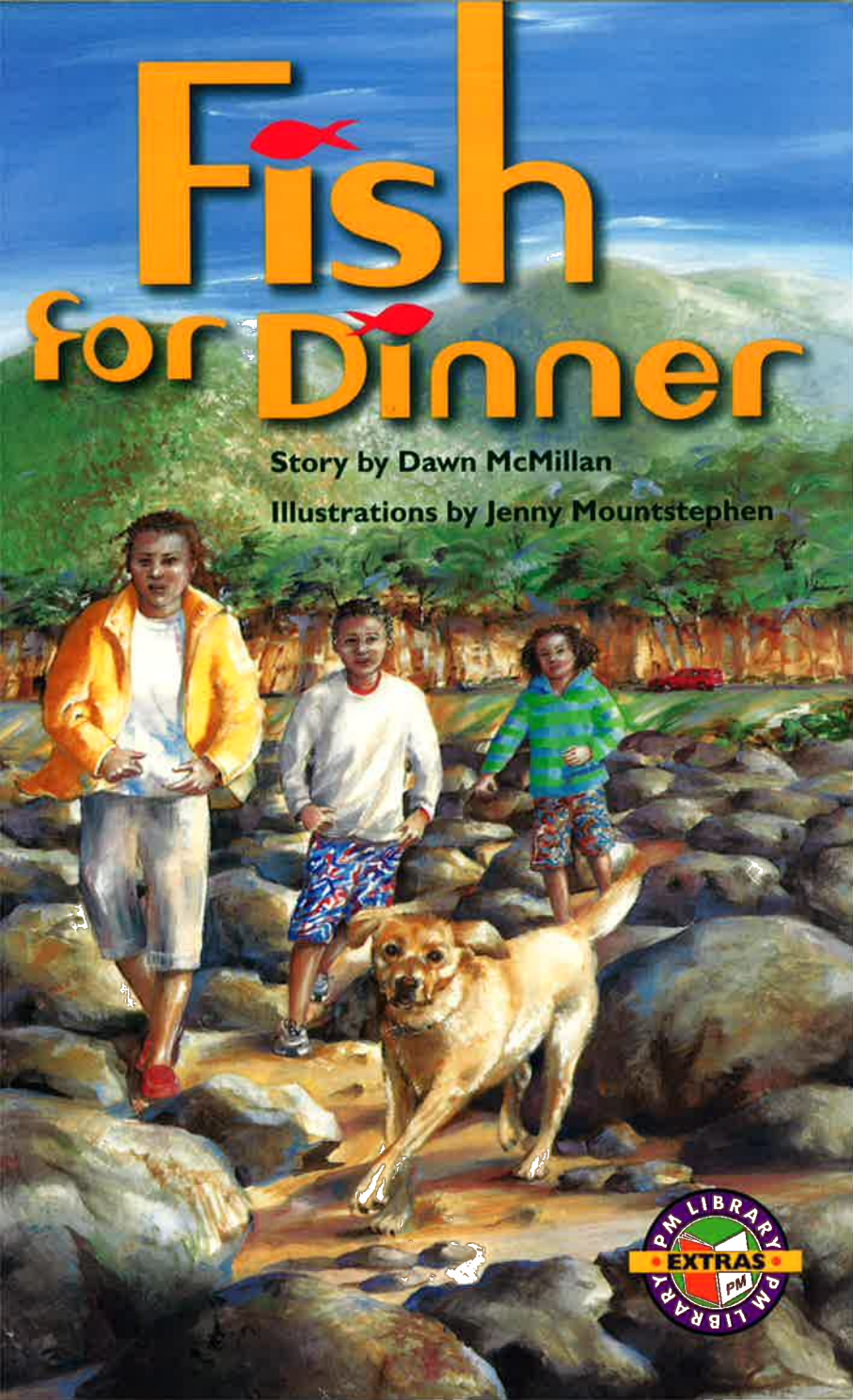
Fish for Dinner

Story by Dawn McMillan

Illustrations by Jenny Mountstephen



Fish for Dinner

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Key vocabulary

casting, bait, choppy, grimaced, paramedics, hazard lights

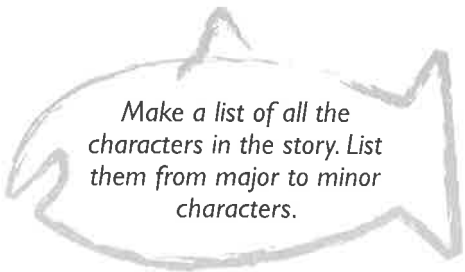
Grammatical conventions

- Use of direct speech
- Past tense: washed, laughed, arrived, remembered, turned
- Noun groups build descriptions of characters and places, e.g. 'From one side of the car we can see tall banks with big trees bending over us'
- Action, saying and thinking verbs: swim, shouted, remembered
- Temporal and causal conjunctions, e.g. 'Then just before two o'clock ...'
- Complex sentences, e.g. 'When the water is low there are lots of places where we can push our rod holders deep into the sand'

Spelling

- Syllabification: in/for/ma/tion, re/mem/ber/ed
- Contractions: we'd, must've, we're
- Changing spelling of verbs to change tense: hurry, hurries, hurrying, hurried
- Words containing 'c' that makes an 's' sound: ambulance, ice-cream, grimaced, services, Lucy

Creative thinking task – Knowledge



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CHAPTER 1

Along the Coast



The road to our favourite fishing place twists and turns around the coastline. It's narrow, and in some places there's barely enough room for the cars to pass.

Nikki and I love going along that road. From one side of the car we can see tall banks with big trees bending over us. From the other side we can see the sea.

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Sometimes the sea is still, lying quietly against the rocks. Sometimes it crashes and splashes high in the air.

Mum never takes us fishing when the sea is rough. "There'll be no fish," she says. "They won't come close in when the sea is too choppy."

But she's thinking of us, not the fish. She's keeping us safe. She is always telling us not to take risks with the sea.



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The best time for fishing along the coast is when the tide is just starting to come in. When the water is low there are lots of places where we can push our rod holders deep into the sand.

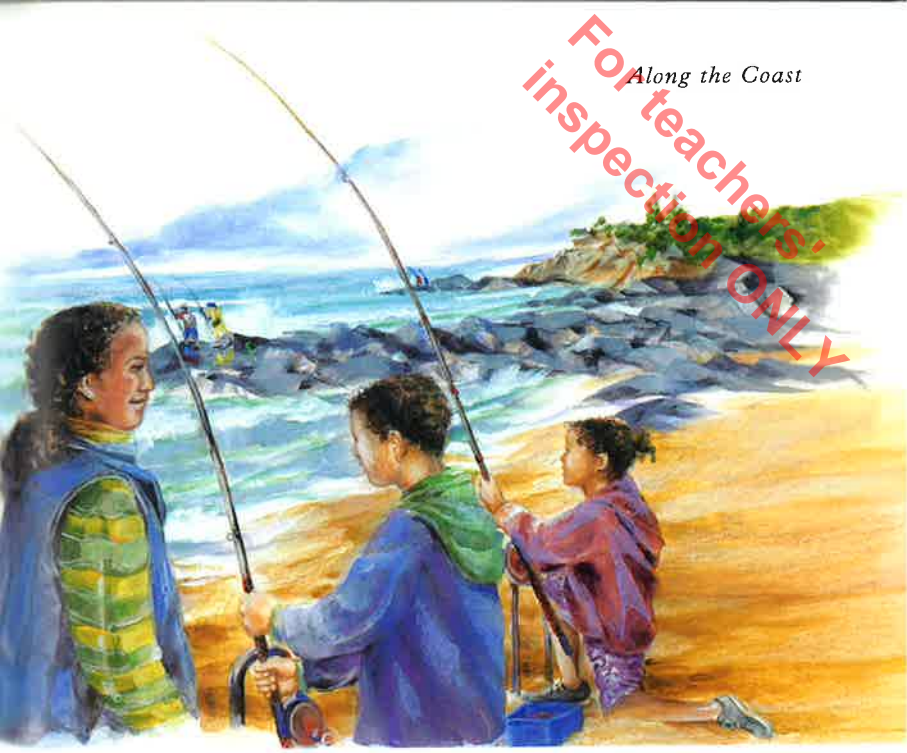
At our favourite beach we can swim as well as fish.

Mum teases us and says, "All that splashing will scare the fish away!"

We have to keep shifting the rod holders up the beach as the water comes in, and we have to move our picnic blanket and towels too.

I remember one time when the water tricked us and a wave washed over my towel. Mum and Nikki laughed and laughed.

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From our beach we can see people fishing way out on the rocks, casting their lines into the deeper water. Sometimes, when I see the rods bending, I want to go there too.

But Mum says we're much safer here. The rocks can be slippery, and out there you can get caught by the tide.

And what happened today proves she is right!

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CHAPTER 2

Stopping the Traffic



When I woke up this morning the sun was shining. No wind, I thought.

I woke Nikki and we raced downstairs to Mum's room. "Come on, Mum!" we shouted. "It's a perfect day for fishing!"

Mum sat up and looked out the window. "You're right," she said. "No sleep-in for me this morning, not with such keen fishers in the family!"

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While Mum cooked breakfast and made our picnic lunch, Nikki and I put the fishing gear in the car. I remembered to put all the bait into an ice-cream container. Mum wasn't keen on the smell of bait in the car. By ten o'clock we were on the road.

When we arrived at the beach the water was well out. We had plenty of time to set up our picnic place before the tide turned. Then we were ready to catch some fish.

