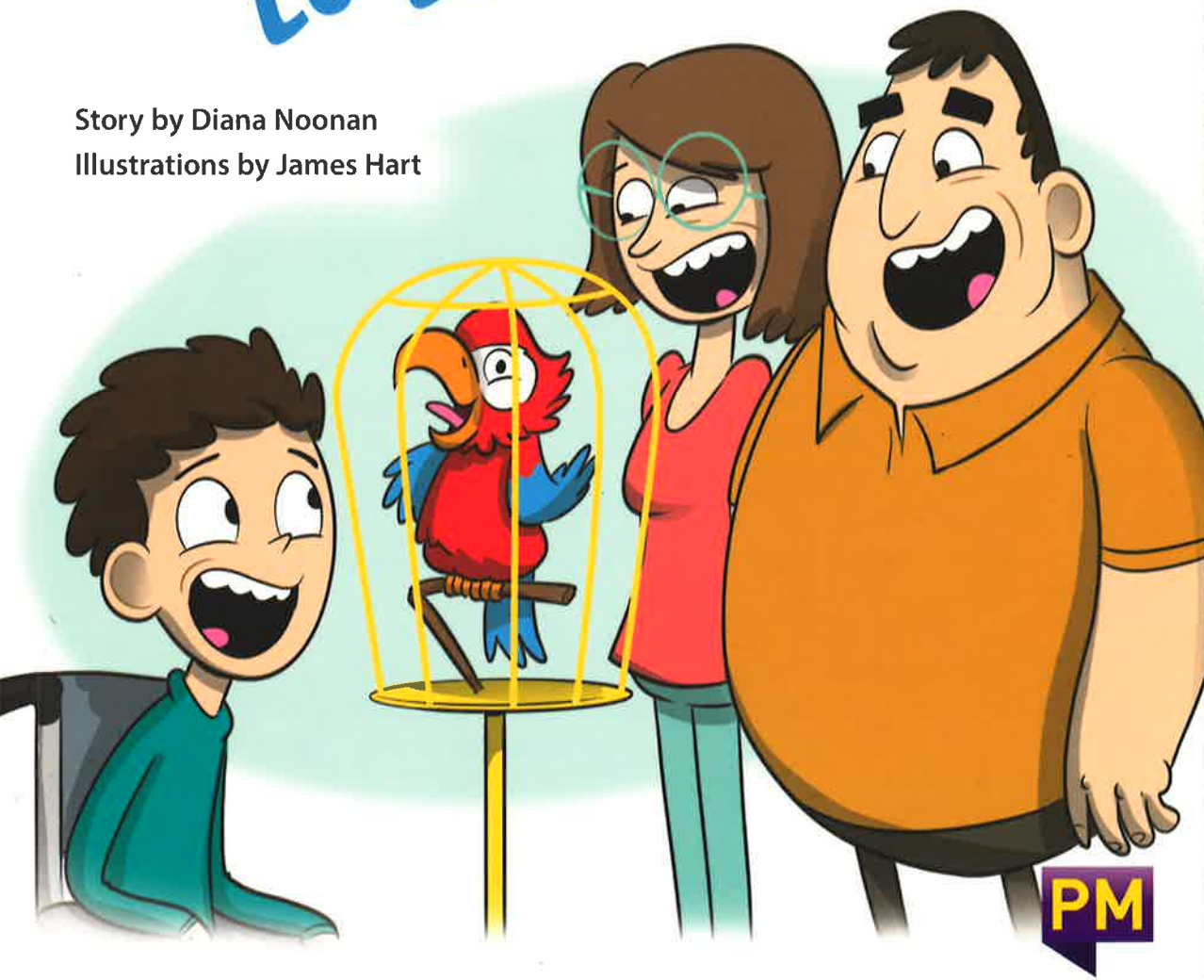
Percy to the Rescue

Story by Diana Noonan
Illustrations by James Hart



PM

For teachers' inspection ONLY

Percy to the Rescue

Level 23

Running Words 1008 **Text Type** Narrative (Imaginative)

Curriculum Areas Literacy; Personal and Social Capability

Retelling to encourage critical thinking about the content

Ask each student to retell the story in his or her own words.

Record the retelling for further discussion and reflection.

Questions to reinforce meaning and stimulate discussion

Literal

1 What were the first words Mum tried to teach Percy?

2 How long did it take before Percy began to talk?

3 Why did Percy become a problem?

Inferential

4 Why did Dad say they would have to be patient?

5 Why did Percy take extra notice of the police sirens when he was watching *Police Patrol*?

6 Why was Tom so sad when his parents said that Percy would have to go back to the pet shop?

7 Why did Percy make the police siren noise when the burglars were in the house?

8 Why did Tom say Percy was a very useful parrot?

9 Why did everyone laugh when Percy said *"TV for me!"*?

Applied Knowledge

10 Why did Tom travel to and from school in a taxi van?

11 Why did the family decide to have a pet in a cage?

12 Why do parrots copy high, shrill noises?

Links with other PM Guided Reading Books and Cards

Level 23	Card	Information Report	*Parrots Around the World*
Level 23	Book	Narrative	*Olivia's First Surf*
Level 23	Book	Narrative	*Saving the Hens*
Level 24	Book	Narrative	*The Troublesome Terrarium*

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Chapter 1

A New Pet



On Monday afternoon, Tom sat in the back of Mrs Judd's taxi van with a big grin on his face.
He couldn't wait to get home from school.

"You sure look excited about something," said Mrs Judd, as she parked outside Tom's house.

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"I am," replied Tom. "My family is getting a new pet. He's a parrot called Percy. He'll be waiting for me when I get inside."

Mrs Judd helped Tom wheel his chair out of the taxi.

"Mum and Dad and I are going to teach Percy to talk," said Tom.

"Have fun together!" said Mrs Judd, as she drove away.



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Tom's mum and dad worked from home. They were writers.
But when Tom went inside,
Mum and Dad weren't in their office.

They were sitting in front of a big cage in the lounge room.
Inside the cage was Percy.

"Present for Percy!" said Mum, as she fed seeds to the parrot.
"Present for Percy!"





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"Hello, Percy!" said Tom.

"Pretty boy!" said Dad to Percy. "Pretty boy!"

"Can he say anything yet?" asked Tom.

"The pet shop people said it could take a few weeks before he talks," said Mum.

"We have to be very patient," added Dad. "And talk to him a lot."

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Chapter 2

Clever Boy!



For three weeks, Mum, Dad and Tom talked to Percy all the time.
Percy pretended not to take any notice.
But he did like watching TV.

Percy's favourite program was *Police Patrol*.
When the police cars raced along the highway with their sirens going, Percy took extra notice.



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And after three weeks, Percy began to talk!
He said his first words on Monday morning.

Tom was eating breakfast with Mum and Dad
before he went to school.

Suddenly, Percy said, "Hello! Hello!"

Tom dropped his spoon. Dad stopped chewing his cereal.
Mum almost spilled her coffee.

"Pretty boy! Pretty boy!" said Percy.

"Clever boy!" said Tom.

"Clever boy!" said Percy, right back to him.

