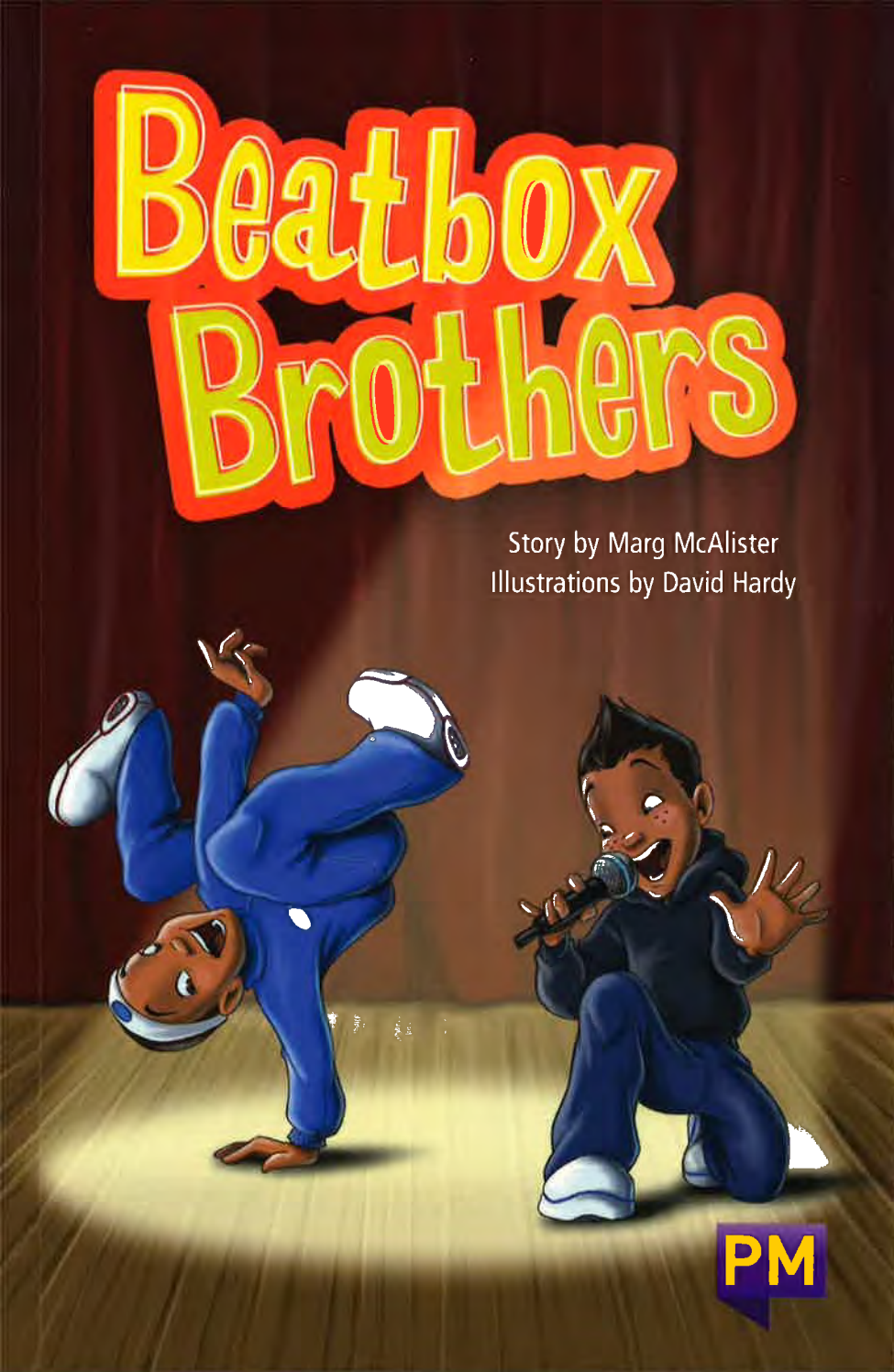
# Beatbox Brothers

Story by Marg McAlister
Illustrations by David Hardy



PM

For teachers' inspection ONLY

## Beatbox Brothers

**Level** 27

**Running Words** 3823 **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 Why did Mum suggest that Logan should demonstrate a range of moves?

2 Who gave Jack the idea to be a proper beatboxer?

3 How did Jack try to calm his nerves before the audition?

Inferential

4 Why do some children want to be in TV advertisements?

5 How was Jack able to make drum effects by cupping his hand over his mouth?

6 Why was Logan embarrassed when Jack was mimicking a siren at the bus stop?

7 Why did Jack think it wasn't easy being Logan's brother?

8 What was Jack's reaction when his name was called first? Why?

9 When Logan was waiting for his turn, why did he move around nervously?

10 Why did Jack slide lower in his seat when he was worried?

Applied Knowledge

11 Why would entrants for a children's talent quest require the consent of a parent or guardian?

12 What type of advertisements might Logan and Jack be chosen for?

Vocabulary

Replace the verb 'amended' in this sentence:
*"No. I mean, yes, I will," Jack amended hastily.*

### Links with other PM Guided Reading Books and Cards

Level 28 Book Narrative *Play On!*

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Chapter 1

# Talent Time!

"There," said Jack's older brother, Logan, turning the newspaper around so Jack could see it. "See that? They're looking for kids to appear in TV ads. I'm going to audition!" He pointed to the story he had been reading.

Jack read the headline:

**ADVERTISING COMPANY SEEKS NEW TALENT**

"They want kids who can sing, dance or act – or do all three," Logan said. "I'll do a dance routine!"

Jack read the whole article. The audition was just under four weeks away.

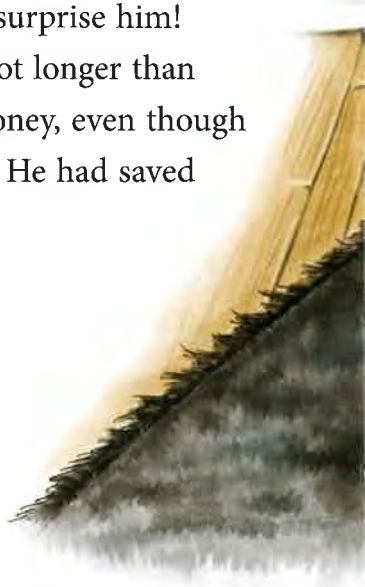
"Can you film me while I rehearse?" asked Logan. "Then I can play back my performance and analyse it. It's got to be perfect if I want to be accepted."

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"Sure," said Jack. He felt a bit envious. Logan was better than he was at everything. In fact, a lot of the time Logan got impatient with him, because when he practised his breakdance moves or played his guitar, Jack liked to keep time by drumming on his knees or adding sound effects.

When Jack did that, Logan would stop whatever he was doing. He'd frown and say things like, "Will you stop making weird noises? You're distracting me!"

Jack hadn't told Logan that he was saving up for a drum kit. His plan was to practise in secret, whenever Logan was out of the house, until he was really, really good – and then surprise him! The problem was, it was taking a lot longer than he thought it would to save the money, even though his parents had agreed to pay half. He had saved only thirty dollars so far.



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"Let's get started, then," Logan said. "You can help me choose a good song to dance to, and to work out my routine."

Their mother was listening. "Why don't you dance to a medley of songs, Logan?" she suggested. "That way you can demonstrate your breakdancing and hip hop moves. Wait, you can use my camera to film your performance." She went to get it, then handed it to Jack. "Let me know when you've worked out a routine, and I'll come and be your first audience!"



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Jack followed Logan to the basement. It was a big room with a polished floor, just right for Logan to practise his dancing. Logan's guitar rested on a stand next to a microphone.



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Jack perched on a stool and switched the camera to video mode.

He really wished he had a drum kit. Then, he would have been able to try out at the audition, too.

*One day,* he thought. Meanwhile, he had better help his brother. He attached the camera to the tripod, ready to film.



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Jack's brother, Logan, is good at everything! He can breakdance, sing and play the guitar. When Logan decides to audition for an advertising agency, Jack wants to try out, too – but he doesn't have an instrument.

He does have a secret musical talent though ... one that might surprise everyone.




Text Type:
**Narrative (Imaginative)**

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