

A girl gets very angry because her friends are not kind to animals. But the girl is special because she has a Magic Finger! What strange things will happen to her friends? Will they learn an important lesson?

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ROALD DAHL

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	CEFR level	Story word count	Headwords
1	A1	1,000–2,000	550
2	A1+	3,000–4,000	700
3	A2	5,000–7,000	1,000
4	A2+	8,000–10,000	1,200

Lexile measure 540L

U.K. £7.99 CAN. \$16.99

ISBN 978-0-241-61110-4



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THE MAGIC FINGER



Illustrated by Quentin Blake

ROALD DAHL

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THE MAGIC FINGER

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LEVEL

2

This book has been simplified for English Language Learners
by Kirsty Loehr

Series Editor: Madeleine Burgess

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ABOUT ROALD DAHL AND QUENTIN BLAKE



Roald Dahl was a children's writer, and many of his stories are very famous across the world. Do you know any Roald Dahl books?



Quentin Blake drew pictures for Roald Dahl's stories. Do you like the pictures in this book? Which is your favourite picture?

About this story

In this story, a little girl gets angry with a family because the family enjoys hunting. The little girl has a Magic Finger, and she uses it on the family. Then the family learns about animals, and they do not want to kill them any more.

Roald Dahl teaches us an important lesson in *The Magic Finger*. We must be kind to other people and animals, and then they will be kind to us, too.

MEET ...



Me!



William Gregg



Philip Gregg



Mr Gregg
and Mrs Gregg

Chapter 1 and Chapter 2
NEW WORDS



magic (n. and adj.)



shoot (shot) (v.)



a whisker (n.)



a tail (n.)



hunt (v.)

Chapter 1 and Chapter 2
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What will happen in the story?
Answer the questions.

- 1** Look at the picture on page 8.
What is the girl doing?
- 2** Look at the pictures on pages 10 and 11.
Why are the children laughing?
- 3** Look at the picture on page 14.
Why is the girl shouting?

Now let's read Chapter 1 and Chapter 2!

CHAPTER 1

Mrs Winter

I am a girl, and I am eight years old. And I have a **Magic** Finger. It is very strange! Someone makes me angry, and then the magic starts to happen. My body gets very hot, and I can feel the magic in my right hand. The magic gets stronger and stronger, then it **shoots** from my finger to the other person. Then bad things happen to that person very fast. I never want to point my Magic Finger, but I cannot stop doing it.



One day, I pointed my Magic Finger at my teacher, Mrs Winter. I was in school, and we had a spelling lesson.

"Stand up," Mrs Winter said to me. "Can you spell cat?"

"It's easy," I said. "K-a-t."

"You're a stupid little girl!" Mrs Winter said.

"It's c-a-t."

"I'm not a stupid little girl!" I said.

"Go and stand in the corner of the room," Mrs Winter said.



This made me very angry and hot, and I pointed my Magic Finger at Mrs Winter. Very quickly, Mrs Winter started to change. **Whiskers** grew from her face! They were long black whiskers, and they grew very fast. Then whiskers started growing from her ears!

Of course, all the children in the class laughed loudly.

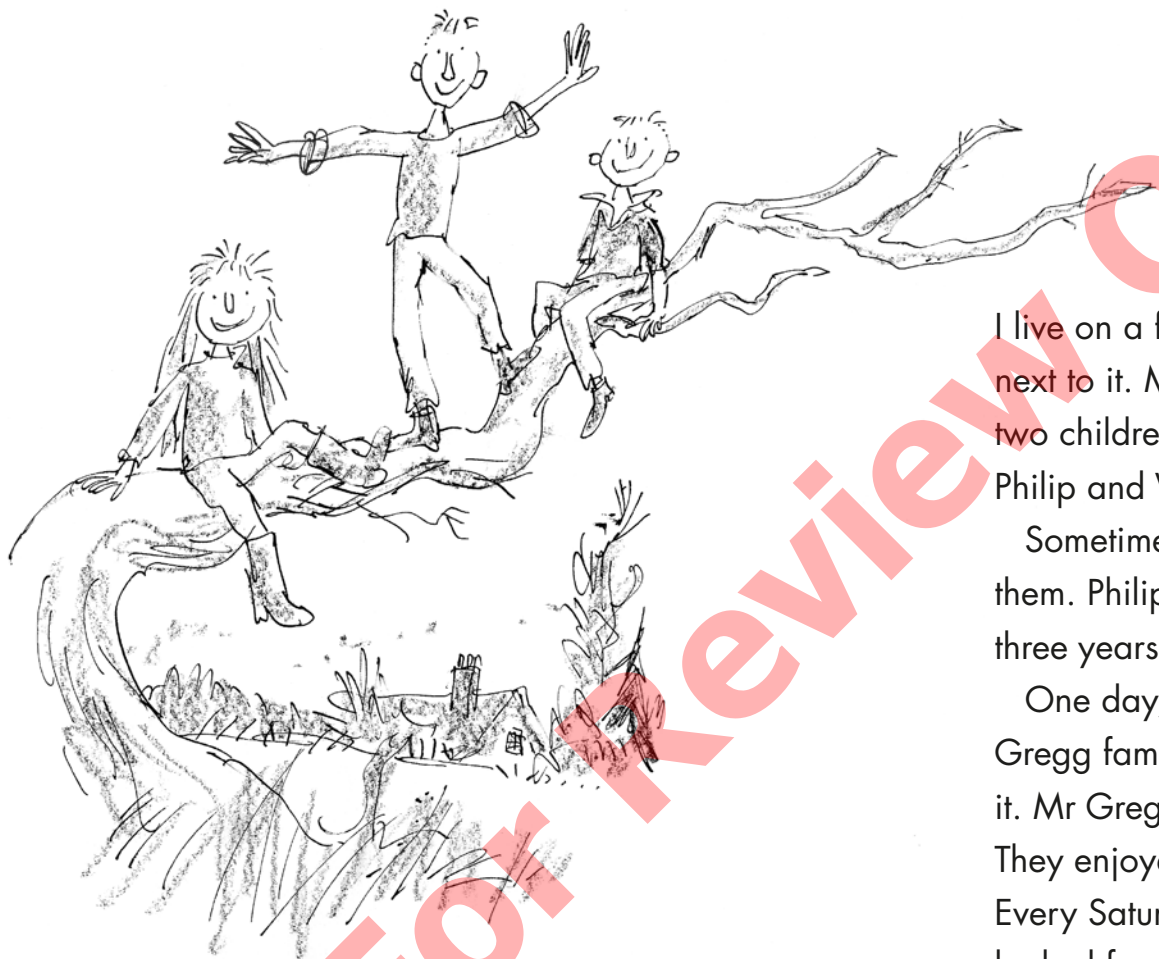


"Why are you laughing?" Mrs Winter asked.

No one answered, but then the children saw Mrs Winter's new **tail**! It was very big, and it grew from under her skirt.



More bad things happened to Mrs Winter that day, but I cannot tell you about them now. Are you thinking, *Is Mrs Winter OK again now?* The answer is no, and she will never be the same again.



CHAPTER 2

The Gregg family

I live on a farm, and there is another big farm next to it. Mr and Mrs Gregg live there with their two children. They are boys, and their names are Philip and William.

Sometimes, I go to their farm and I play with them. Philip is eight years old, too. William is three years older than us. He is eleven.

One day, a very strange thing happened to the Gregg family, and I am going to tell you about it. Mr Gregg, Philip and William loved **hunting**. They enjoyed it more than anything in the world. Every Saturday morning, they went out and they looked for animals to shoot.

I do *not* like hunting. It is a very bad thing to do to animals, and I did not want William and

Philip to hunt. I always tried to stop them, but they laughed at me. I also tried to stop Mr Gregg, but he did not listen to me.



Then, one Saturday morning, Philip and William and their father killed a beautiful young animal. This made me angry, and I started shouting at them. But the boys laughed at me.

Mr Gregg said, "Be quiet and go home."

Now I was very angry. I got hotter and hotter. And then, it happened. I pointed my Magic Finger at all of them!

I also pointed my Magic Finger at Mrs Gregg.



She was not with them. She was at home, but I did it to everyone in the Gregg family. I did not want to point my Magic Finger at the Gregg family, but I could not stop it.

I ran home quickly, and I waited for things to happen. They happened fast. Philip and William told me everything the next morning, and I will tell you about it now . . .

Chapter 1 and Chapter 2
WHAT CAN YOU REMEMBER?

Find the words.

~~magic~~

shoot

tail

whisker

hunt

wohtailxrtmagic
swkshootainhunto
wowhiskericl



Correct the sentences.

1 The girl is ~~ten~~ years old.

The girl is ~~eight~~ years old.

2 ~~Water~~ shoots from the girl's finger.

3 Mrs Winter grows ~~fingers~~ and a tail.

4 Mr Gregg, Philip and William love ~~swimming~~.

5 The girl ~~shows~~ her Magic Finger ~~to~~ the Gregg family.