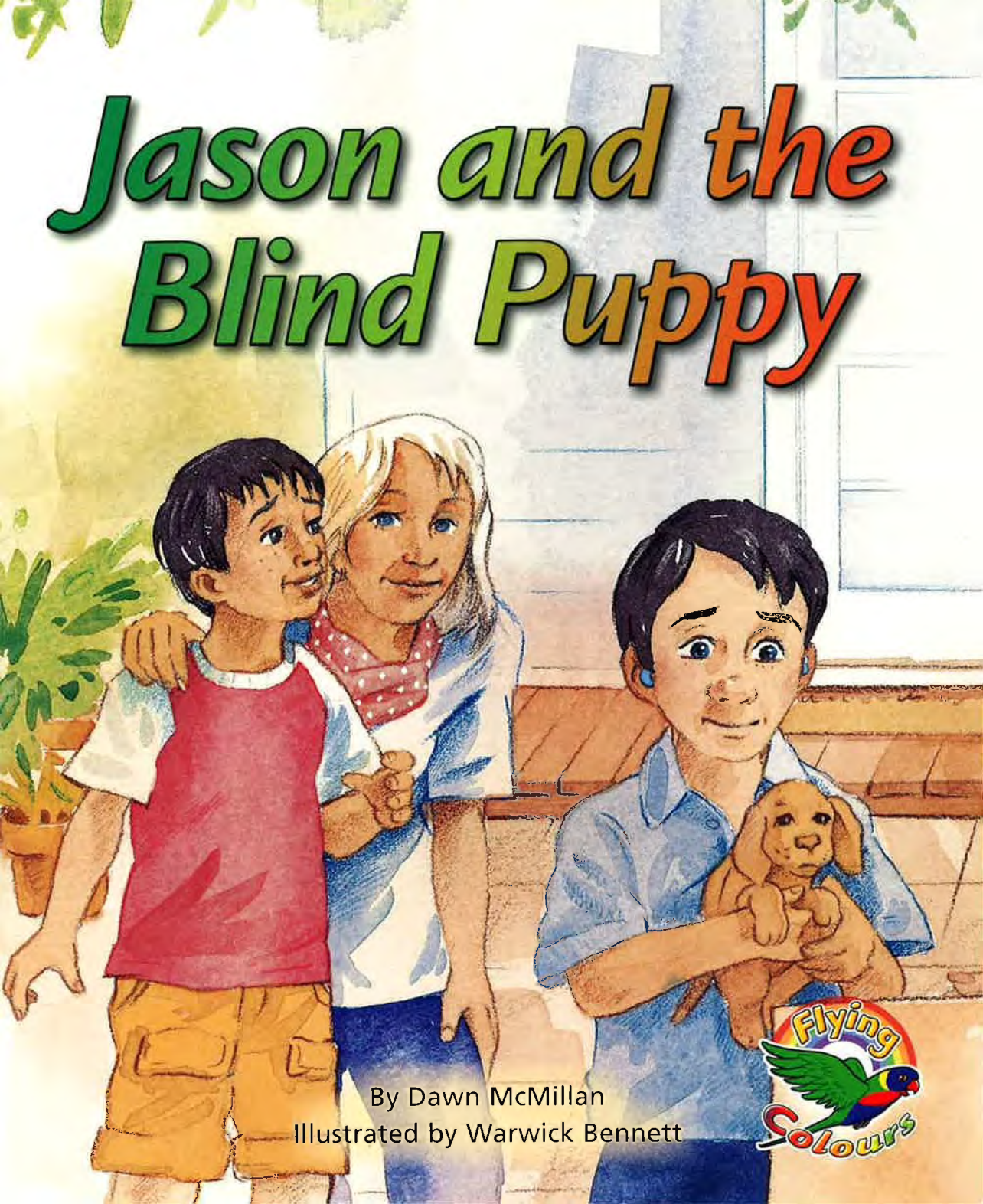
Jason and the Blind Puppy



By Dawn McMillan
Illustrated by Warwick Bennett

Flying Colours



Title	*Jason and the Blind Puppy*
Levels	17–18/19
Running words	605

Jason is deaf. He wears hearing aids
to help him hear most sounds, and he lip-reads.
When Jason lip-reads he watches the way
that people move their mouths
so that he can work out what they are saying.



Jason and Danny and Mum use sign language
to talk to each other.
Sign language is a special language
where people use their arms, hands and face
to do the talking,
and their eyes to do the listening.









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Chapter 1

Four Puppies!

Jason and Danny rushed over
to Mrs Brown's place
to see Bessie's new puppies.

"Hello," said Mrs Brown.
"Come and look in the box!"

"Oh!" said Jason. "They are so tiny!"

"Yes. They were only born yesterday afternoon,"
said Mrs Brown.



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"Four of them!" Jason smiled.

"Three black ones, just like Bessie,
and one little brown one," said Danny.
"Which one do you like best?" he asked Jason.

Jason pointed to the brown puppy.
"This one!" he said.

"He is the youngest," said Mrs Brown.
"He was born last."



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Ten days later, the puppies had their eyes open. Jason picked up the brown puppy and hugged it carefully.

"That puppy really loves you," said Danny. "Look at the way he snuggles into you!"



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Danny whispered to Mum,
"Can Jason have the brown puppy
for his birthday?
Please, Mum! He loves it,
and I'll help him take care of it!"

Mum shook her head. "Sorry, Danny," she said.
"You boys know I don't want a dog."



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Chapter 2

Growing Stronger

Every day the puppies grew stronger.
Soon they were running
out of Mrs Brown's shed and into her garden.

"I'll have to find homes for them soon,"
laughed Mrs Brown,
"or they will be digging up my flowers!"

"Look, Mrs Brown!" Danny pointed.
"The brown puppy bumps into things."



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"Yes," said Mrs Brown,
"I think I should get the vet to look at him.
I think he might be blind!"

Jason looked up at Danny.
He signed very fast, and then ran home.

"Jason says that no one will want a blind puppy,"
said Danny, sadly.

"Oh," said Mrs Brown, "now he will be worried!"



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