The Halfway Party



Story by Pauline Cartwright
Illustrations by Rachel Tonkin

PM Early Chapters

For teachers' inspection ONLY

The Halfway Party

Level 19

Running Words	Complete text	**503**
Reading Record	Pages 12–16	**190**

Key Teaching Points

- Predict the content of the story from the title and cover illustration.
- Read page 2 and identify the main problem.
- As the story is read, identify additional problems the boys encounter.

Key Questions

- Why did the boys decide to have a halfway party? ***(Literal)***
- Where were they going to have the party if it rained? ***(Literal)***
- Why did Gus's mum say they needed rain on the farm? ***(Inferential)***
- Why do you think they drew a map? ***(Inferential)***
- Explain how the stream would fill quickly if it rained. ***(Applied knowledge)***

Vocabulary Enrichment

- Discuss the different sounds in *thought*, *through* and *enough*.
- Explain that the word *sound* can be used as a noun or a verb.
- Identify verbs that convey action; e.g. *rolled, sped, arrived.*

Links with other PM Books

PM Early Chapters	Level 16	Chicken Surprise
PM Early Chapters	Level 17	Fuzzy on Parade

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Chapter 1

The Great Idea

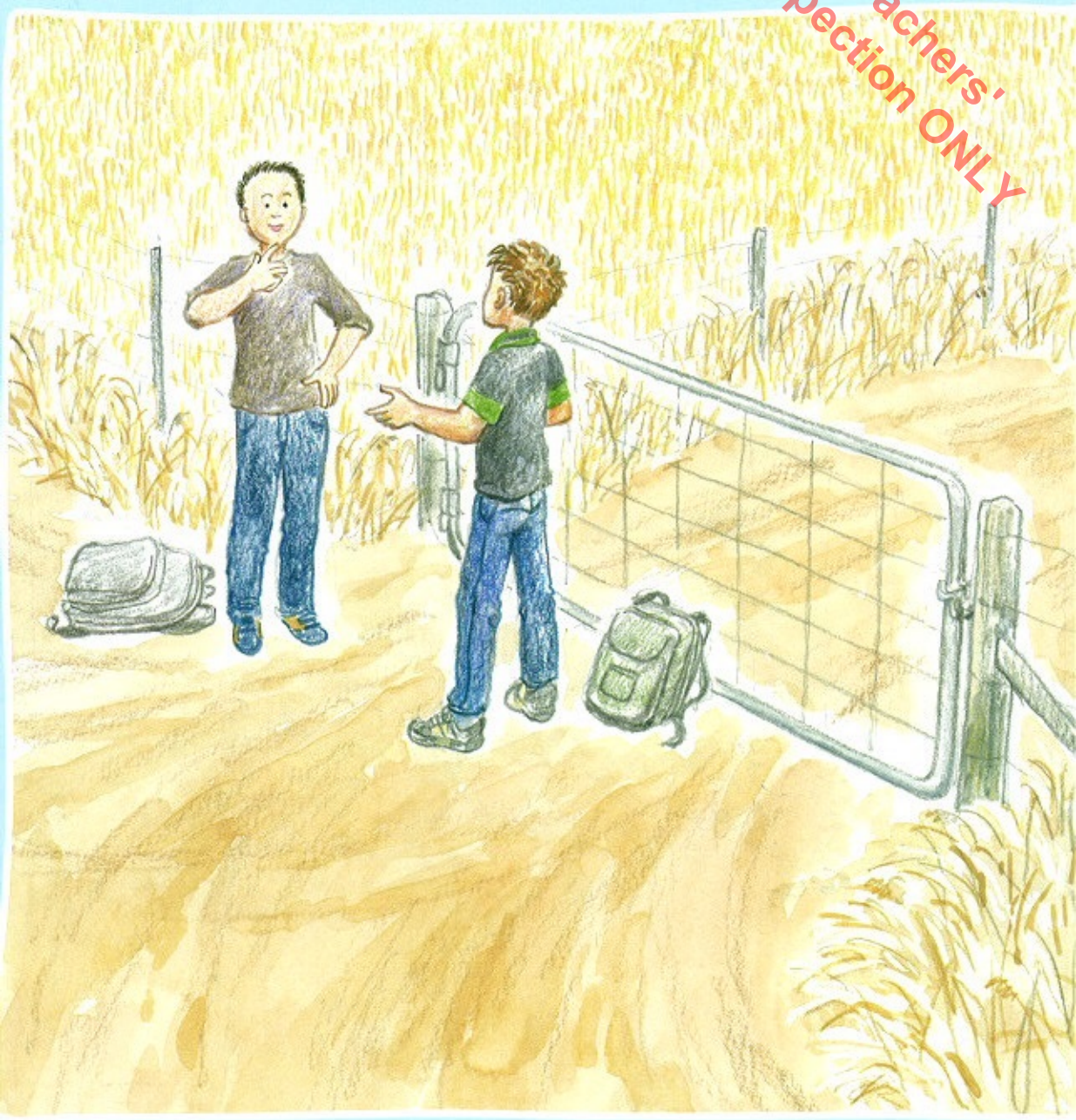


"I'm not going to be here for your birthday,"
Gus told Adam.
"Our family is going away for the weekend."

"Oh, no!" said Adam.
"And I won't be here for yours.
Dad has to go into the city that day,
and we are going with him."

The boys always went to each other's birthdays.
Gus's birthday came first,
and Adam's was two weeks later.

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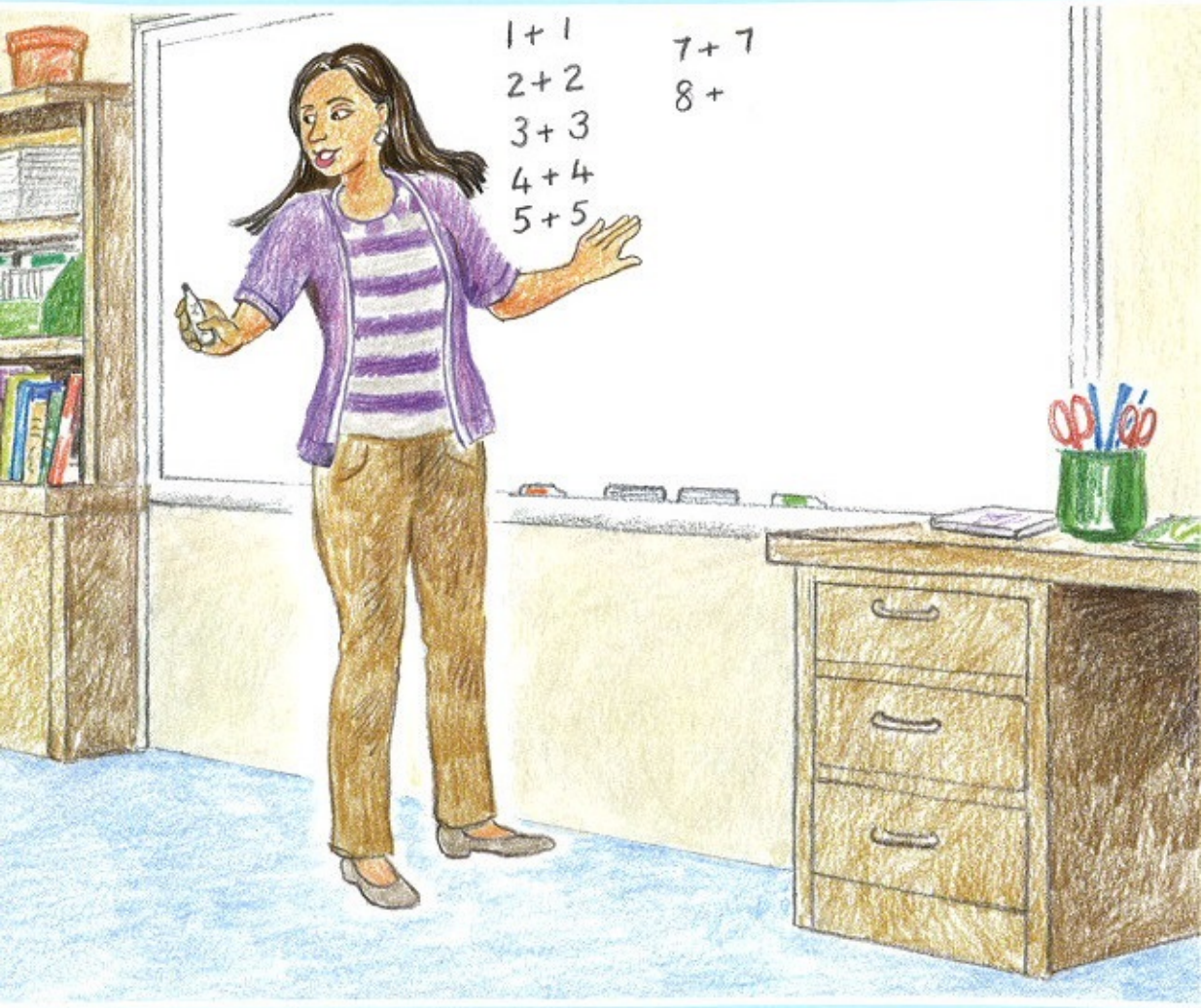
All day, Gus thought about how he and Adam would miss each other's birthdays.

Suddenly, he had a great idea!
"I know what we can do about our birthdays," Gus whispered to Adam.

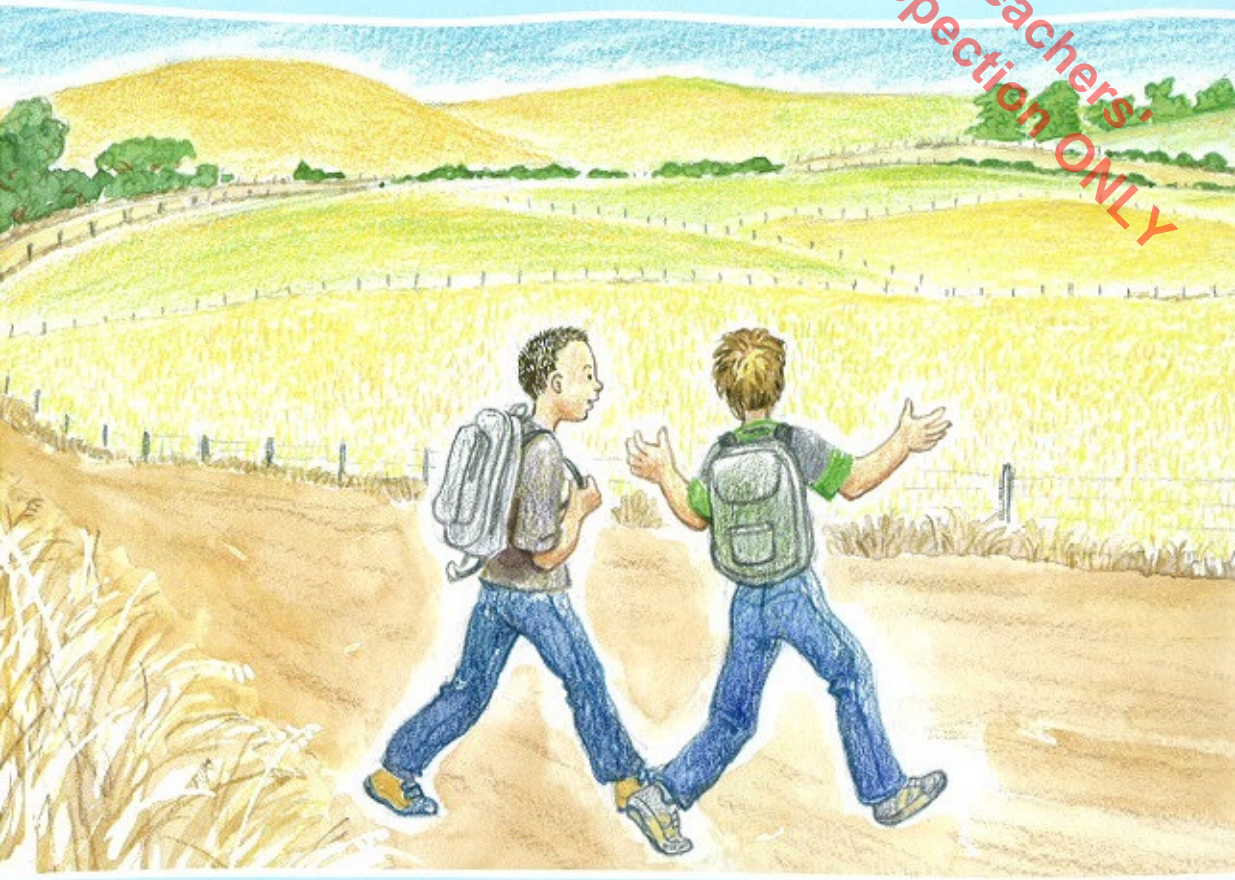


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Mrs Nelson looked over at the boys.
"Please stop talking," she said to them,
"and finish your work. The bell is about to go."



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After school, Gus told Adam his great idea.

"We don't have to miss
each other's birthdays," he said.
"We could have one party instead of two."

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"You're right," said Adam.
"Let's have it on the weekend
between our birthdays."

"Yes!" laughed Gus.
"We can have a halfway party!"