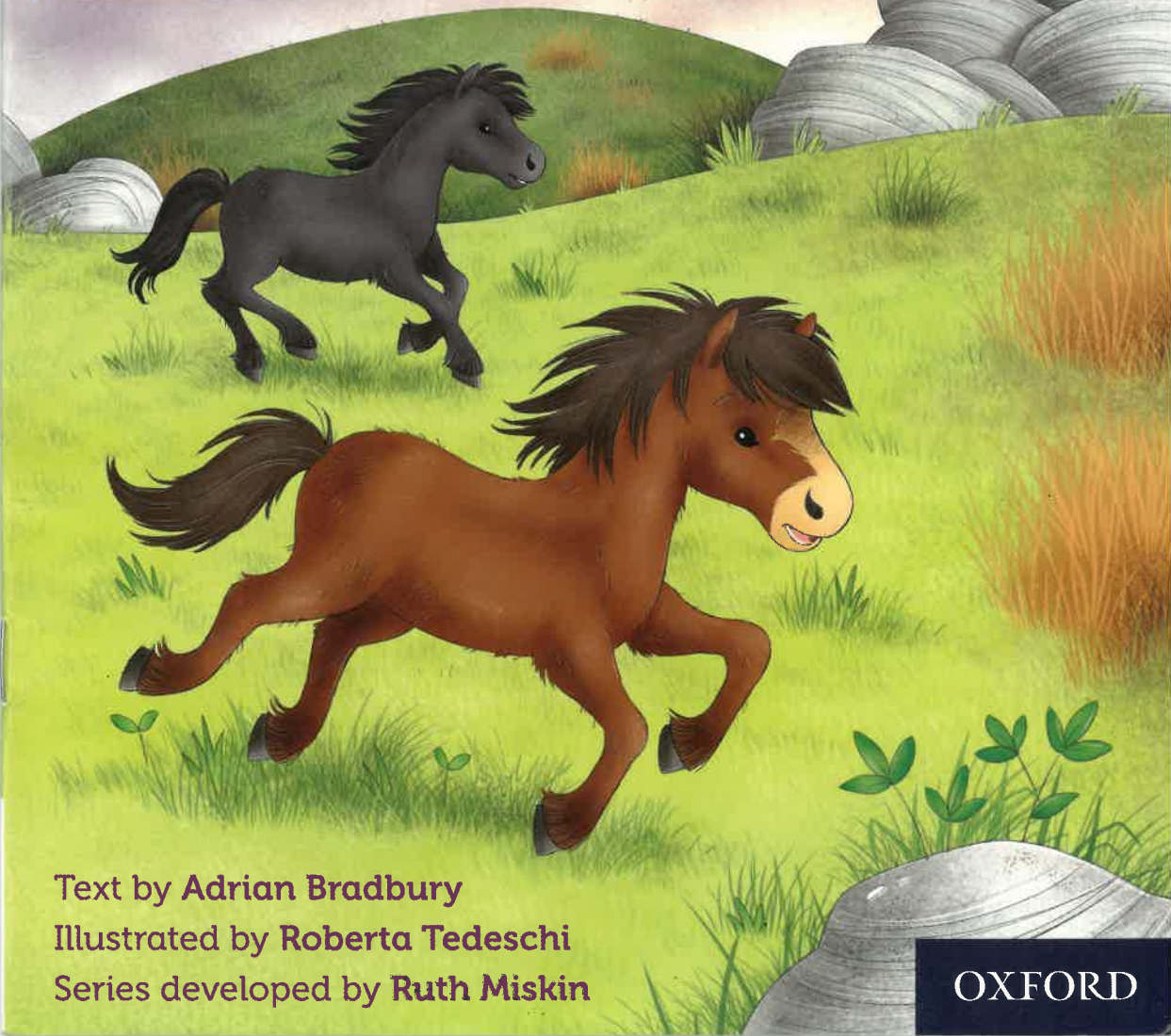


**Read
Write
Inc.**
Phonics

**BOOK
BAG
BOOKS**

A horse on Dartmoor



Text by **Adrian Bradbury**
Illustrated by **Roberta Tedeschi**
Series developed by **Ruth Miskin**

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How to help your child read this book

This book gives your child extra practice in reading a story that includes sounds he or she has learnt at school.

Ask your child to read the Story Green Words and Red Words below, before reading the story. Do not read the story to your child first. Point to the words as he or she reads. If your child hesitates, help him or her to sound-blend the word.

Re-read each sentence or page to keep the plot moving. Children's attention is focused on reading the words and they find it hard to focus on the story at the same time.

Don't make them struggle too much and praise them when they succeed. Do it all with patience and love!

Story Green Words

Story Green Words are made up of sounds your child has already learnt. This book contains the following green words:

Dartmoor penned up rocky
harsh boggy fences adore

Red Words

Red Words are harder to read because the letters represent unusual sounds. Ask your child to read the red words, but if he or she gets stuck on a word, read the word to your child. This book contains the following red words:

was are watch where put they



Important note

Read stories to your children that are beyond the level they can read for themselves – every evening. They'll only want to become readers if they experience the joy of listening to a range of stories, non-fiction and poetry. Very soon, they will be able to read those books for themselves, as well as listen to them.

Vocabulary check

Tell your child the meaning of each word in the context of the story.

	definition:	sentence:
Dartmoor	a large area of open space in the UK	I was born on a farm on Dartmoor ...
the UK	the United Kingdom	... on Dartmoor, in the far west of the UK.
penned up	kept in a small space	But I am not penned up in the farmyard.
harsh	hard and rough	A harsh storm might hit the moor ...
boggy	muddy and wet	But the moor can get very boggy when it gets wet.
block	get in the way	... no fences block my path.
damp	wet and cold	At night, it is damp on the moor ...
creep	move slowly and quietly	... the sun's rays creep across the moor.
adore	love and cherish	I adore the moor.

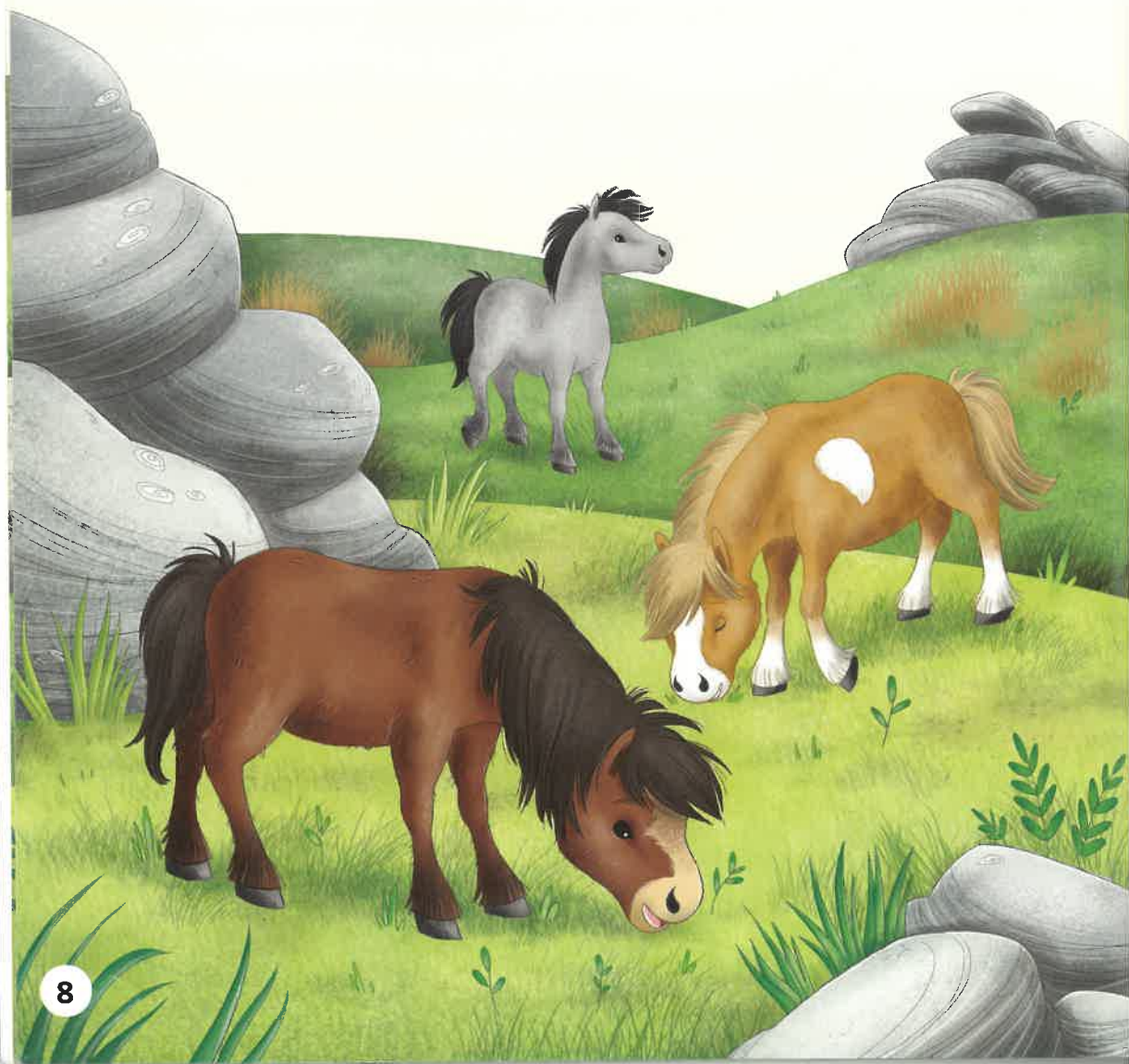
I am such a lucky horse. I was born on a farm on Dartmoor, in the far west of the UK.



But I am not penned up in the farmyard.
I can run free on the moor.



In the day, I can trot in the sun. I pick my way across the rocky hills, munching the green grass.

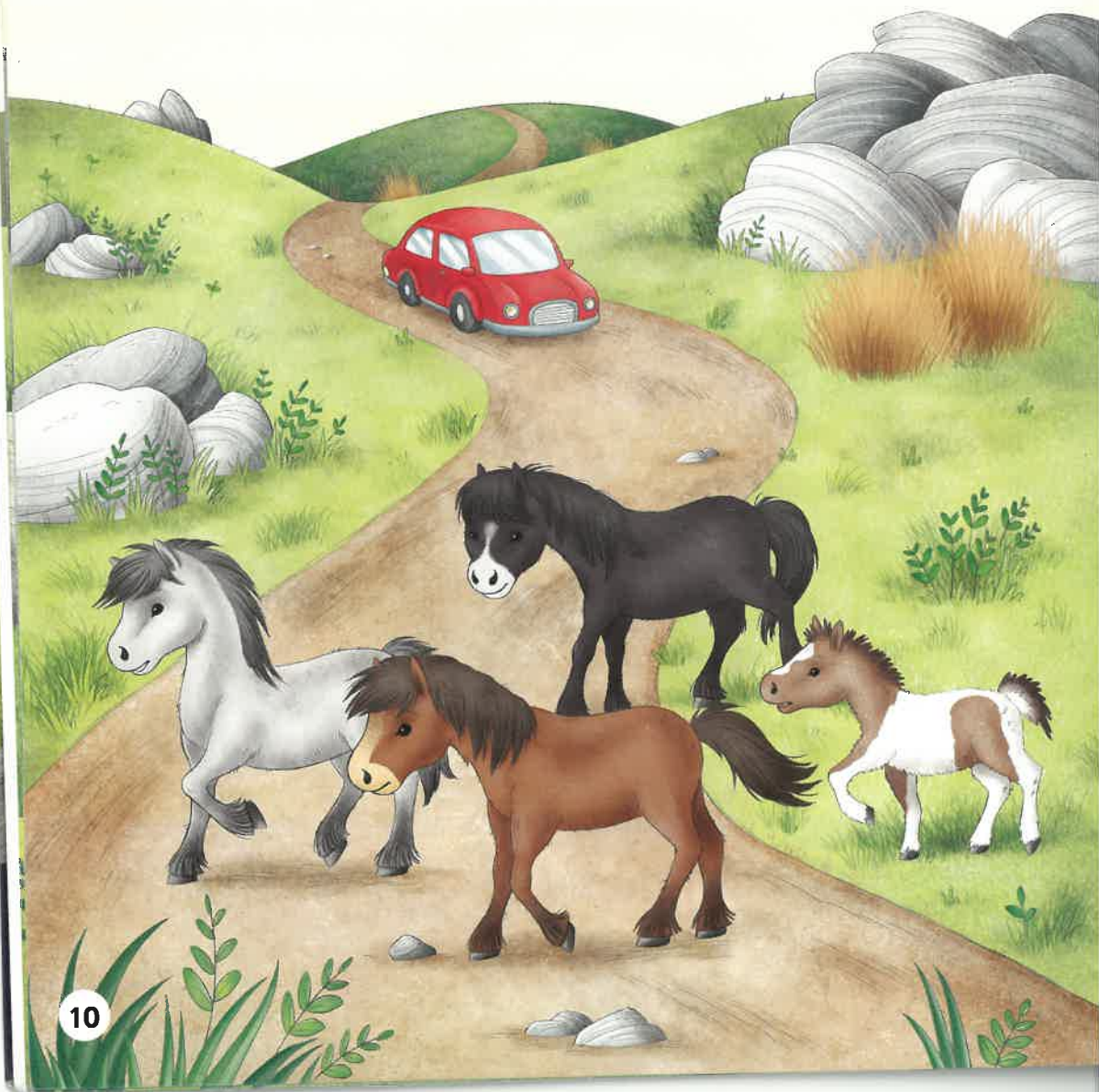


A harsh storm might hit the moor, but that is not a problem for me. Dartmoor horses are strong. Wind or snow cannot harm us.



But the moor can get very boggy when it gets wet. I must watch where I put my feet. If my short legs sink into the mud, I will get stuck.

As I cross the moor, no fences block my path.
But I have to watch for cars. Cars must go slowly
as they bump along the track, and stop if animals
stand in the way. If they forget or ignore me,
I need to dash back onto the grass quickly.



At night, it is damp on the moor, so I look for a spot away from the wind to sleep. My thick skin stops me from getting chilly.



Before long, the sun's rays creep across the moor.
The dark night ends and morning begins. I adore
the moor. I am such a lucky, happy and free horse.





Questions to read and answer

Ask your child to read the sentences and choose the correct answer.

1. The horse thinks it is a **bad / lucky / good** horse.
2. When it crosses the track, the horse must watch for **bogs / cars / rocky hills**.
3. If animals stand in the way, cars must **go slowly / stop / go quickly**.
4. The horse's thick **skin / legs / blanket** stops it from getting chilly at night.



Explain the text

Take turns explaining the text with your child.





Questions to chat about

Read the questions aloud to your child and ask him or her to find the answers on the relevant pages. Do not ask your child to read the questions – the words are harder than he or she can read at the moment.

- p.6** Where does the horse live?
- pp.7, 8** Do you think the horse is happy on the moor? Why?
- pp.9, 10** What two things does the horse have to be careful about?
- p.11** How does the horse stay warm at night?

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