

# Stage Plus 4: Less Mess

Read this page to children (it is not decodable). Use the questions and prompts to talk and write about the topic. While children are learning to read with decodable books, it is important to read other books to them in order to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. What other books could you read to children about upcycling?



Did you know?

## More about re-using things

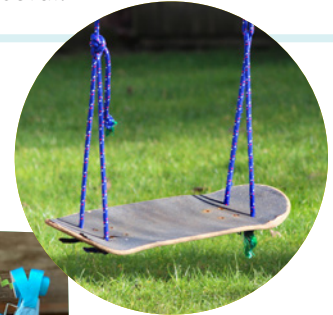
Not all of our rubbish needs to be binned. We can **upcycle** it instead!

Upcycling means taking something old or broken, like a toy with a hole in it, and turning it into something more beautiful or useful.



Anyone can upcycle! And just about anything can be used again.

An old **skateboard** can become a cool swing!



Old bits of wood, rope and **saucepans** can be upcycled to use in a fun playground.



An **egg carton** can become a family of finger puppets.



Upcycling means less mess, and less things going into the rubbish and the environment. The animals will be very thankful.



## Talk about it

- Do you know what goes into the bins at your house?
- What are some things that could be upcycled instead of going into the bin? What could they be turned into?
- What would happen if our rivers and seas were full of rubbish?

## Write about it

Ask children to think of something they would like to upcycle. They should list the things they will need to turn the trash into treasure.

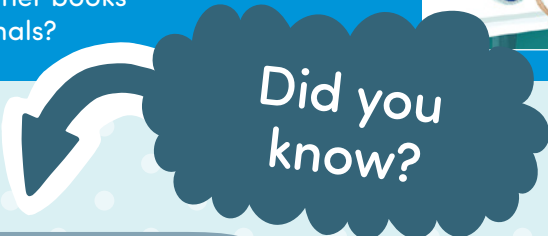
They can draw their finished product and give it a name.



# Stage Plus 4: Puff at the Dog Van



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## More about dog grooming

Going to be groomed at a dog van is a special way to get clean. Dogs also help clean themselves by **rolling on the ground**, chewing their fur and licking their coats.



Dog owners need to take care of their dog's **teeth** as well as their fur. You can even buy special doggy toothbrushes and toothpaste!



Mobile dog vans, like Jill's, are built with all sorts of **gadgets**. These fancy vans can come with bathtubs, water jets, hair dryers and built-in vacuum cleaners.



Poodles like Puff are known for their flashy haircuts. The **lion cut** is probably the most famous of cuts – it leaves the poodle with a big mane, like a lion!

Other styles include the puppy cut, the cupcake cut, and the Miami cut. What hairdo would you do?



**Talk about it**  
Ask children to talk about a dog of their own, or one they have met. How did it keep clean and healthy? Would they take a dog to a groomer in a van? Why or why not?

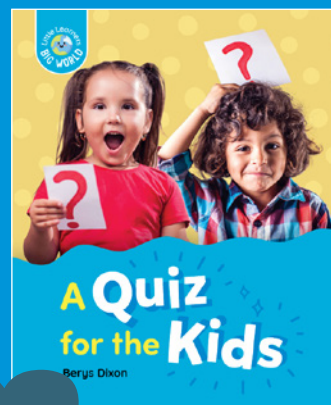
**Write about it**  
Ask children to make a poster for Jill's dog van. They could draw the van and label the van's features.





# Stage Plus 4: A Quiz for the Kids

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Did you know?

## More fun facts



**All insects have six legs.** Animals with ten legs – like crabs, lobsters and prawns – are crustaceans. Creatures such as millipedes have hundreds of legs!

### If it wasn't for bats, we would not have bananas!

Bats make bananas grow by spreading pollen from the flowers of one banana tree to the other. They also help the farmers by gobbling up the pesky bugs that eat the banana plants.



Gulls love human food but it's very bad for them. They have excellent vision and flying skills and need to find their own **healthy** food. So don't feed the seagulls!



**Vets** have a very difficult job because their patients cannot talk to tell them what's wrong! But there are vets to help all kinds of animals, from turtles to tigers!

The word 'sax' is short for **saxophone**. 'Saxophone' has three parts: 'sax' – named for Adolph Sax, the man who invented the instrument, the letter 'o', and 'phone' – which means 'sound'.



## Talk about it

Ask children to talk about the fun fact that really surprised them, and explain why.

Encourage children to make their own quiz using the 'Did You Know' facts.

For example,

- Why are bats important for farmers?
- What creature has hundreds of legs?
- Why is it wrong to feed the seagulls?
- How did the saxophone get its name?

## Write about it

Ask children to choose their favourite fact to draw.

They can label it or write a caption or sentence about it. They might even like to write a quiz question and write the answer on the back.

For example:

Q: Can gulls see well?

A: Yes! Gulls can see well.



# Stage Plus 4: Get Set, Sell!

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Did you know?

## More about getting set to sell

Are you good at tidying up? Then maybe you can do it as a job! **Tidying experts** go into people's homes and helps them declutter. This helps make their homes relaxing and calming to live in.



If you go to a market or garage sale, you can **negotiate** with the seller to pay less for an item than the price on its tag. This is called **haggling**. In some countries haggling is a normal part of doing business and adds to the fun of the sale!



You can donate good quality items you no longer need to an **op-shop**. Op-shops sell second-hand items at bargain prices. They're usually run by volunteers and the money from sales goes to charity. So, get set, give!



If two or more customers are interesting in the same item at your sale, and offer different amounts of money for it, this is called **bidding**. Be a smart seller and accept the offer from the highest bidder – the person that offers to pay the most!

## Talk about it

- How do you feel when your room is in a mess? And what about when it's tidy?
- An op-shop is one way to get rid of things you no longer need. What are some other ways?
- If you were organising a garage sale, how would you decide what price the items should be? What things would need to do to set up on the day?

## Write about it

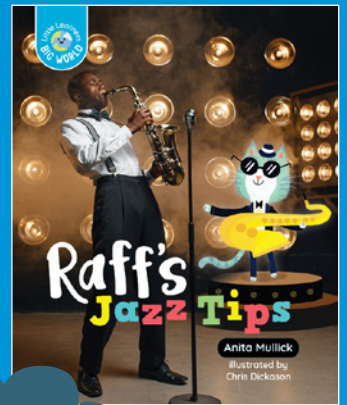
Ask children to make an ad for a garage sale, like the one Bess did on page 5. They can draw a picture to attract customers and write information about the sale, such as when and where it will take place.





# Stage Plus 4: Raff's Jazz Tips

Read this page to children (it is not decodable). Use the questions and prompts to talk and write about the topic. While children are learning to read with decodable books, it is important to read other books to them in order to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. What other books could you read to children about jazz?



Did you know?

## More about jazz

New Orleans in the USA was the **birthplace of jazz**, over a hundred years ago.

Jazz developed mainly from African American music but was also influenced by other musical styles – the people in New Orleans were from many different countries.



When jazz music first started, it wasn't just for listening to – it was for dancing to! **The Charleston**, which was popular around 100 years ago, was a high-energy jazz dance with lots of kicking moves. Bop till you drop!



**Express yourself!** There are lots of different styles of jazz. And whatever the style, jazz musicians like to put their own stamp on classic tunes, keeping things funky and fresh!

## Call-and-response

is a key part of jazz.

A singer or instrument sings or plays a short phrase of music (the 'call'), and another singer or instrument answers back (the 'response'). A bit like a conversation, where music is the language!



## Talk about it

- Have you ever been to a gig (a music concert)? Who did you go with? What did you wear? What kind of music was there?
- Do you like dancing? Why or why not? How does dancing make you feel?
- Would you like to go to jazz gig? Why or why not?

## Write about it

Ask children to draw Raff the Jazz cat playing his saxophone and write one of his jazz tips as a caption. Alternatively, they could write some musical sound effect words on the picture.

