

A colorful illustration of a young girl with blonde hair, wearing a blue shirt with yellow trim and green pants, smiling as she holds a wire birdcage. Inside the cage, a small green and yellow parakeet is perched on a horizontal bar. The background shows a window with a view of a landscape with a small tree and hills. In the top right corner, there is a decorative graphic of a book with yellow stars. The title 'Billy, the Pet Bird' is written in purple text inside a yellow speech bubble.

Billy, the Pet Bird

by Pauline Cartwright
illustrated by Rob Mancini

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT

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School Publishers

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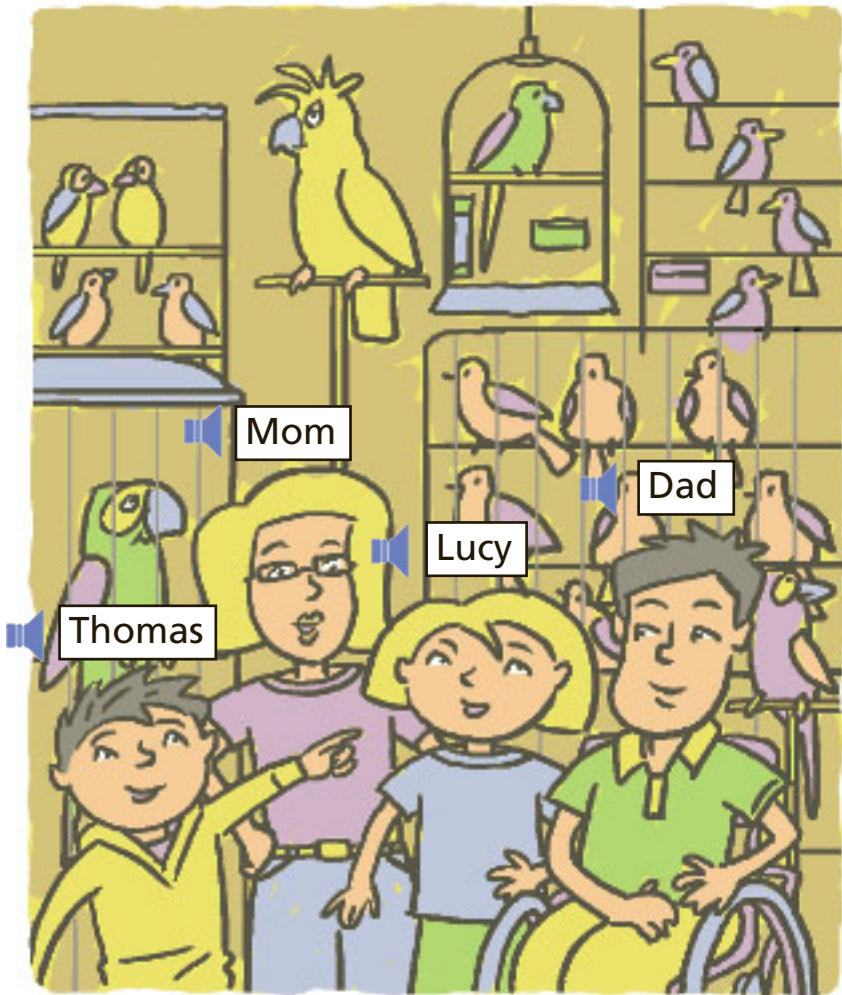
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🔊 Lucy wanted a pet bird. So Lucy went to the pet shop with Mom and Dad and Thomas. Thomas was Lucy's little brother.

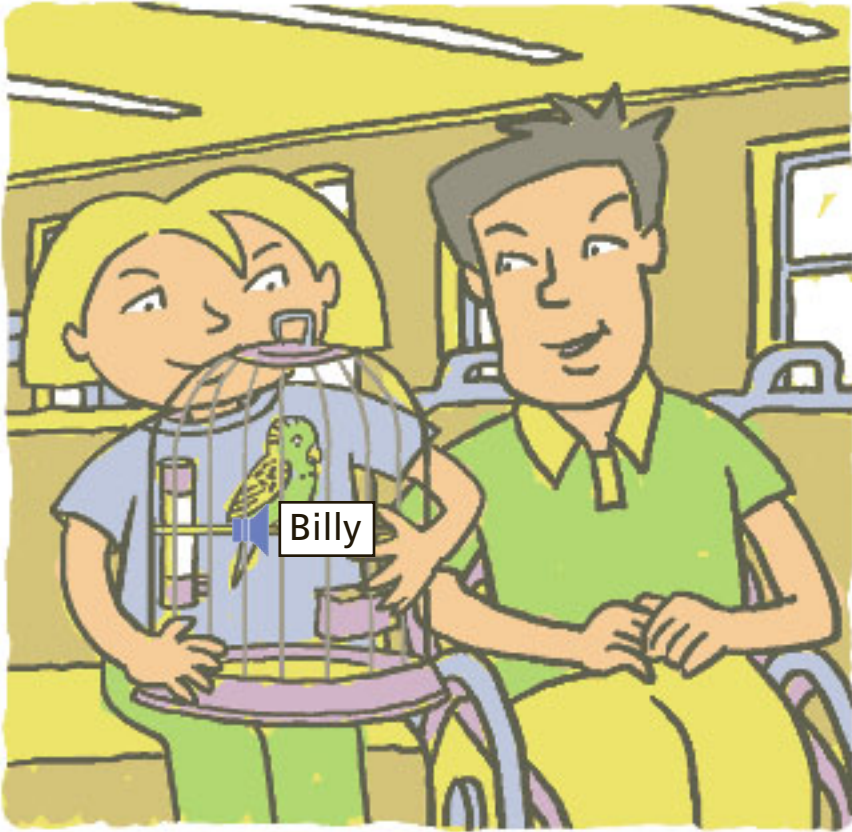
🔊 “The birds are sitting in a **row**,” said Thomas.



🔊 Lucy liked the little green bird.

🔊 Lucy looked at the birds. One bird **drooled**. It was all wet. Two birds had **collars** on their necks.

🔊 Then Lucy found the best bird. The bird had green feathers that were long and **straight**. The bird had a **curly** yellow beak.



🔊 Lucy took her bird home.

🔊 Lucy picked a name for the pet bird. She called him Billy.

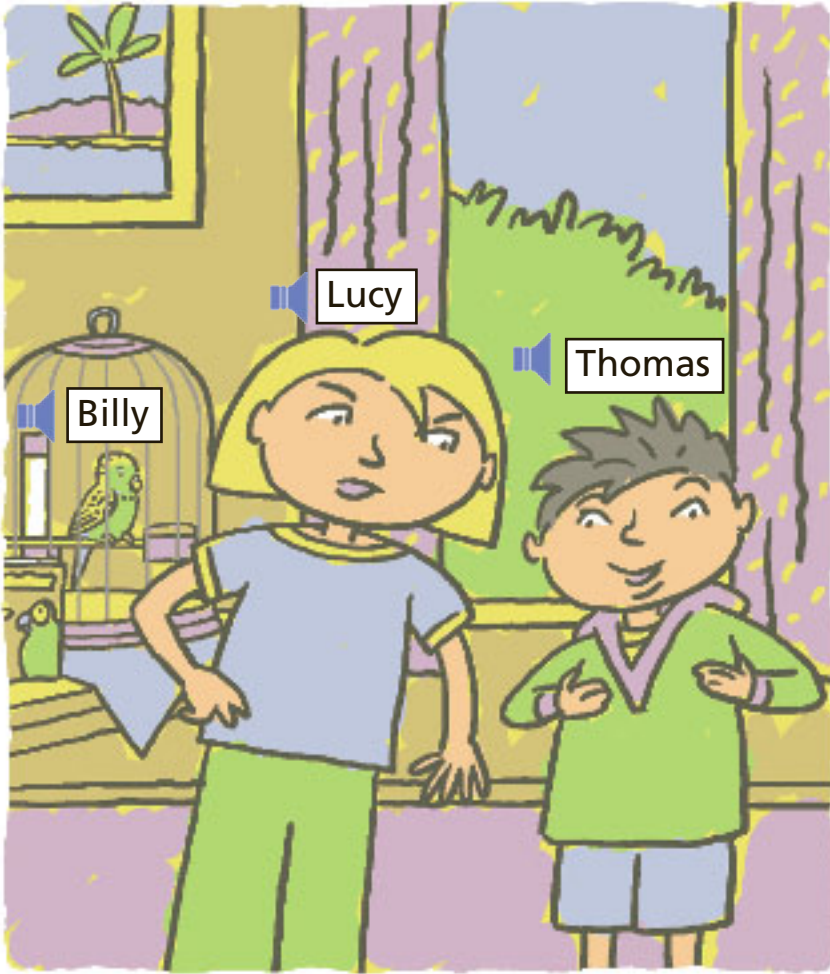
🔊 Lucy said, “I want to teach Billy to talk. I want Billy to say his name.”

🔊 Dad said, “It takes a long time to teach a bird to talk.”



🔊 Lucy gave Billy water. Lucy weighed the bird seed so Billy did not eat too much food.

🔊 Lucy wanted the bird to say his name, so she said to him, “My name is Billy.” She wanted Billy to say the same thing.



🔊 Lucy said, “My name is Billy.”

🔊 Then Thomas said, “My name is Billy.”

Thomas was very silly.

🔊 Lucy got mad at Thomas. Lucy said, “Don’t do that! That’s not your name!”



🔊 Billy sat on Lucy's finger.

🔊 Lucy liked to pet Billy. He had a floppy head. His head moved all around.

🔊 Lucy always said the same thing to Billy, the bird. Lucy said, "My name is Billy."



🔊 When Lucy talked to Billy, Thomas was always silly. He always said the same thing that Lucy said. He said, “My name is Billy.”

🔊 Then Lucy got mad again. “Don’t do that!” Lucy always said to Thomas.



🔊 Lucy let Billy fly around the room. She said over and over, “My name is Billy.”

🔊 Thomas said over and over, “My name is Billy.”

🔊 Then Lucy had to say, “Don’t do that!”



🔊 Lucy was in her room. Then Thomas came in. He stood in the door. Thomas said to Lucy, “Come see Billy! Billy can talk!”

🔊 Lucy and Thomas ran to see Billy.



- ▶ Lucy was so excited!
- ▶ Lucy said to Billy, “Say something.”
- ▶ Lucy waited. She wanted to hear Billy talk.



🔊 Billy looked at Lucy. Then he said something!



🔊 Billy, the pet bird can talk!

🔊 Billy did not say, “My name is Billy.”

🔊 But Billy did say something that Lucy always said.

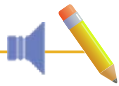
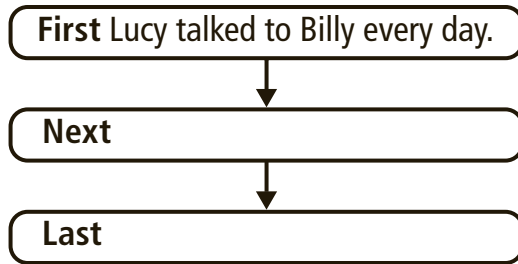
🔊 Billy said, “Don’t do that!”

Responding



TARGET SKILL Sequence of Events

Lucy wanted a pet that could talk. Copy the chart below. Think about some things that happened first, next, and last in the story. Use the chart to show the steps Lucy took to teach Billy.



Write About It

Text to Text Think about a book you have read about a pet. Write some sentences that tell what happened in the story. Be sure to use order words such as *first*, *next*, and *last*.



TARGET VOCABULARY

collars

curly

drooled

floppy

row

stood

straight

weighed



TARGET SKILL

Sequence of Events Tell the order in which things happen.



TARGET STRATEGY

Infer/Predict Use clues to figure out more about story parts.



GENRE Realistic fiction is a story that could happen in real life.

Level: H

DRA: 14

Genre:

Realistic Fiction

Strategy:

Infer/Predict

Skill:

Sequence of Events

Word Count: 371

2.1.1

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