

Shirley Hughes

LUCY & TOM



At the Seaside



One hot day Lucy and Tom and their Mum and Dad thought they would go to the seaside. Lucy is helping to pack up the picnic. There are sandwiches and hard-boiled eggs, apples, biscuits and a bottle of orange squash. There is also a lovely chocolate cake. Tom goes off to find the buckets and spades in the sandpit.





They go to the seaside in the train.  
Tom keeps asking when they are going to get to the sea.  
Lucy wears her armbands in the train so as to be all  
ready to swim when they get there.

At last they've arrived! They walk down a rather long  
road carrying all the picnic things and bathing bags and  
buckets and spades.

There's a very special seasidey smell.



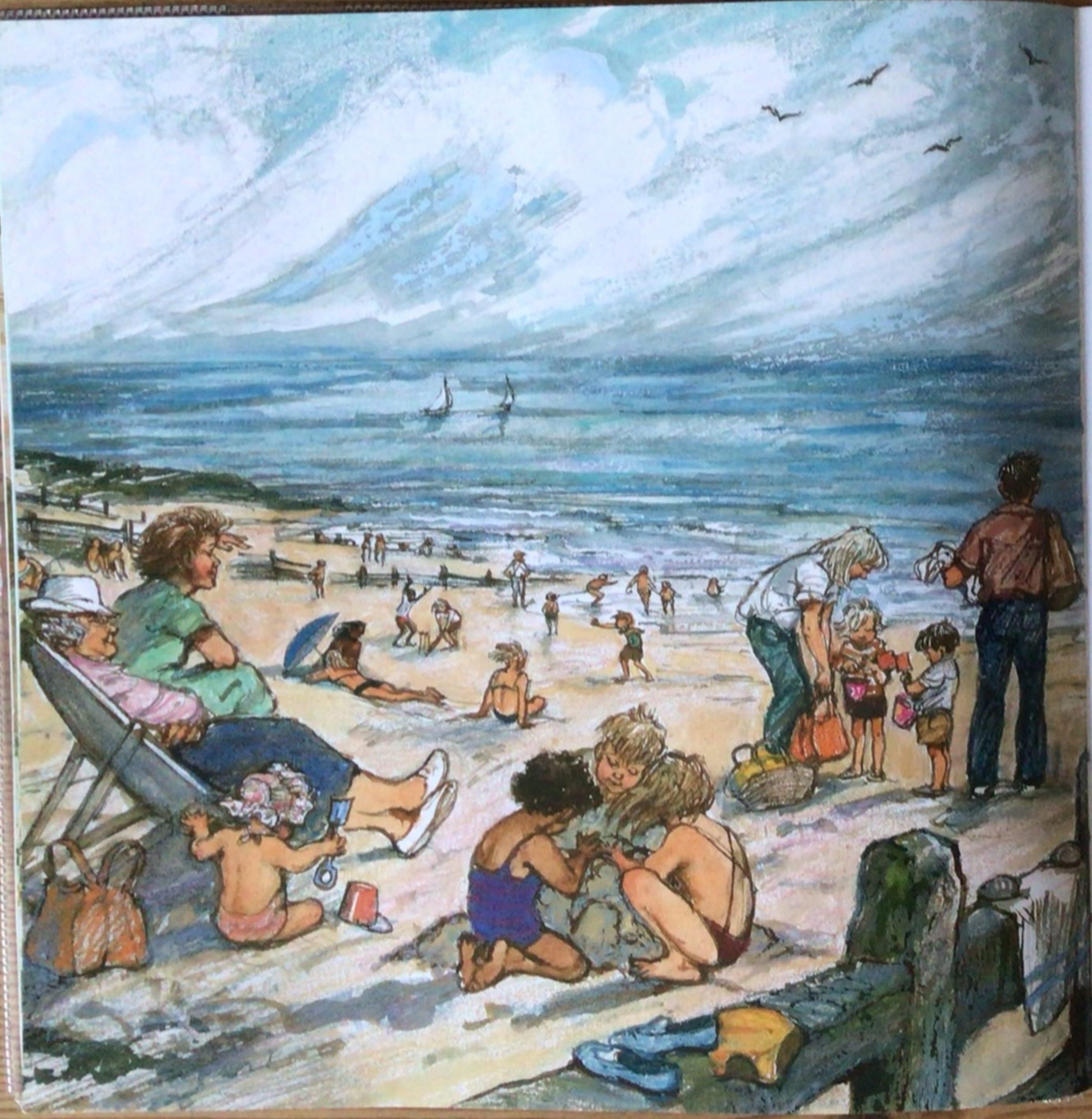


And there's the sea!

It's much, much bigger than either Lucy or Tom had ever remembered.

They run straight down to where the waves are coming up on to the wet sand and walk along the edge.





There are a lot of other children on the beach as well as mothers and fathers and babies and grannies and people paddling, and dogs who dash in and out of the water barking excitedly at seagulls.





Lucy and Tom want to swim right away, so they all put on their bathing suits and go into the sea, hand in hand. Lucy and Dad do some swimming. The sea is much rougher and splashier than the swimming pool near home. It's harder to swim in, but much more fun.

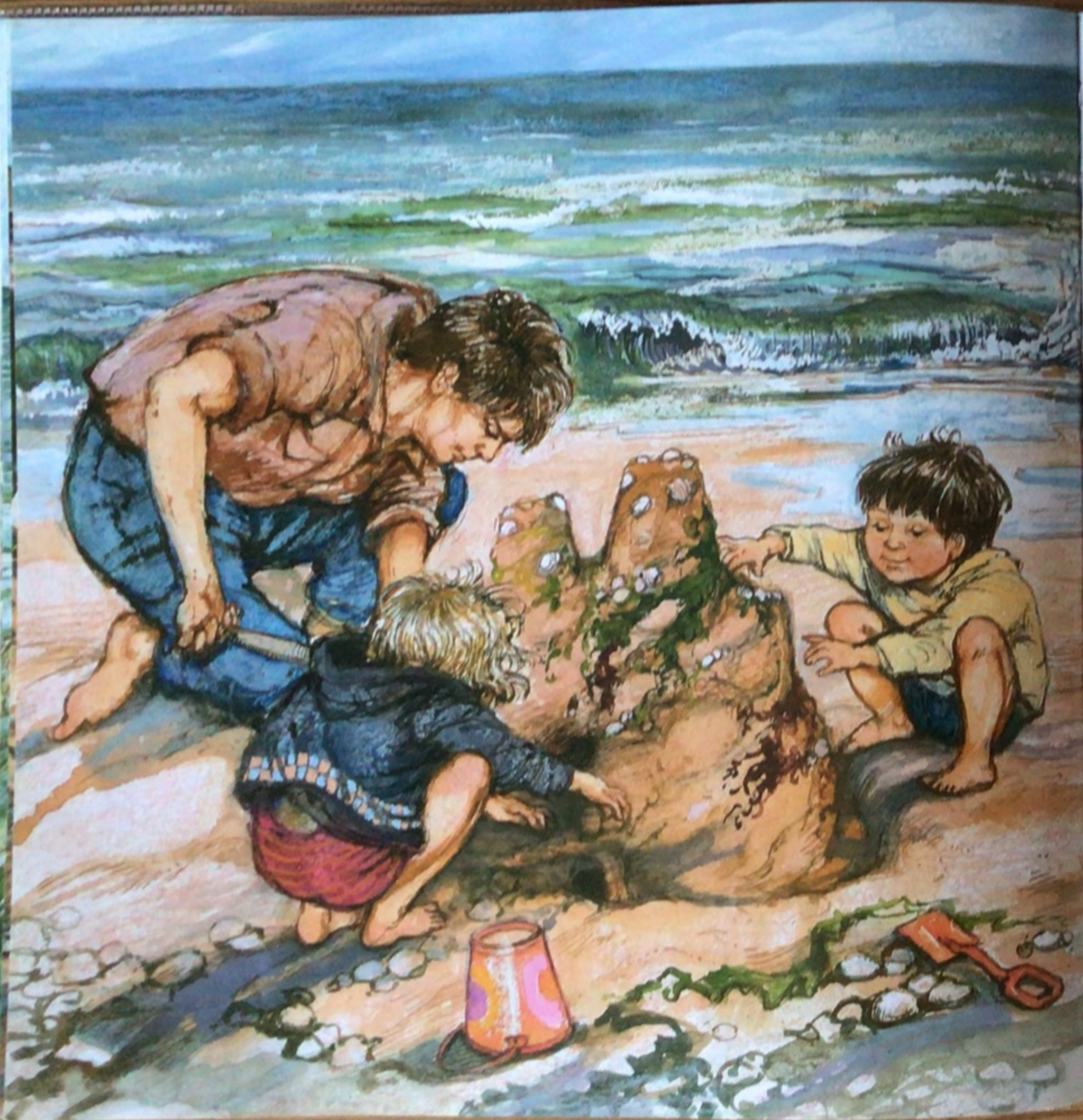
Tom likes being chased by the waves.





After the swim Mum helps everyone to rub dry  
and they play a running-about game to get warm.  
They settle down to their picnic.  
Several wasps try to join in.





The tide is coming in.  
Dad helps Lucy and Tom to make a beautiful sand castle.  
It has turrets covered in shells and stones, a moat, and a tunnel  
going right through the middle and coming out the other side.  
Slowly the moat fills up with water, then the tunnel.

Soon only the top turret is left.

Then nothing at all.







A lot of interesting things  
are happening on the beach.

There are people flying kites . . .

. . . and playing cricket and ball games.



Two little girls are burying their father's legs in the  
sand so that only his toes are sticking out.

Some people are trying to get in or out of their bathing  
suits under towels, which is very difficult.





Lucy and Tom play in a rock-pool.  
Lucy finds lots of different kinds of seaweed  
and some shells which she puts into her bucket.  
Tom finds some stones and a crab's claw.





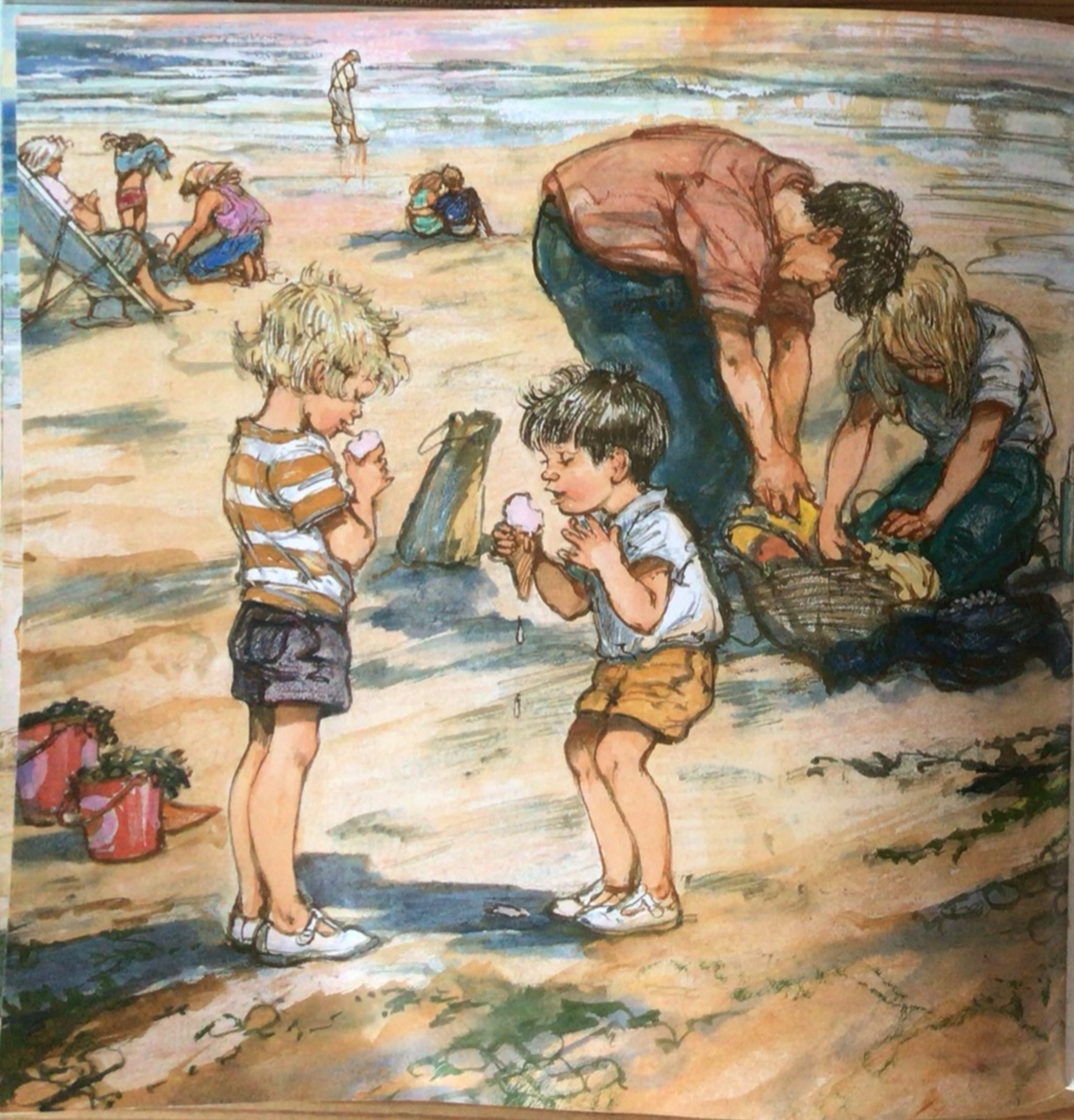
Lucy makes a face in the sand. It has stones for eyes,  
a row of little shells for teeth, and a lot of seaweedy hair.  
Mum helps Tom make a speedboat pointing  
right out to sea.





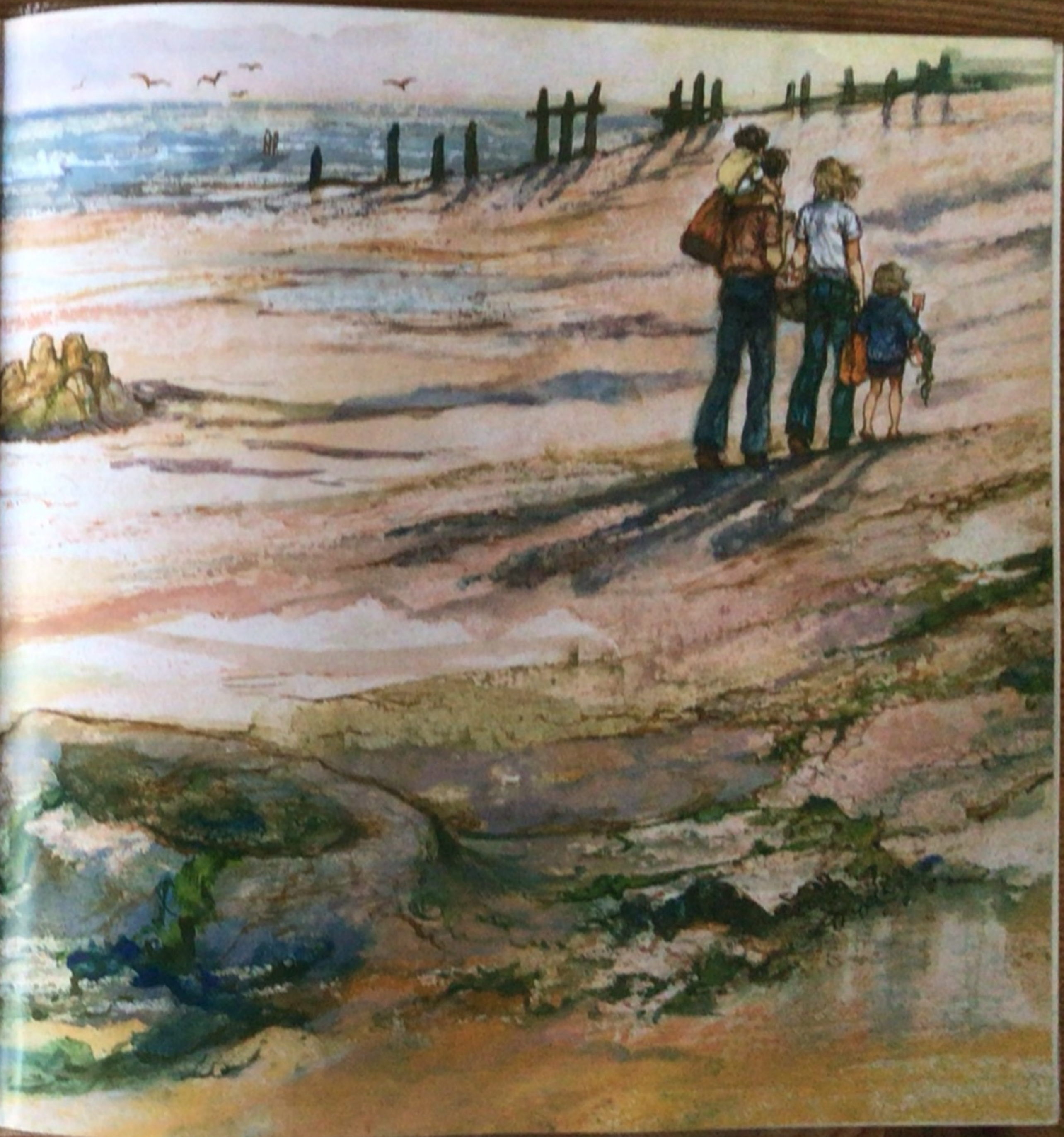
Further up the beach there are some donkeys. Lucy and Tom ask if they can have a ride. Lucy's donkey is grey with white legs. His name—'Pepsi'—is written on his harness. Tom's donkey is brown and is called 'Cola'.





It's nearly time to go home.  
Mum is packing up the picnic things.  
There's just time for a last ice-cream.  
Lucy writes her name in very big letters in the wet sand.  
Then she writes Tom's name too.  
It's been a *lovely* day.







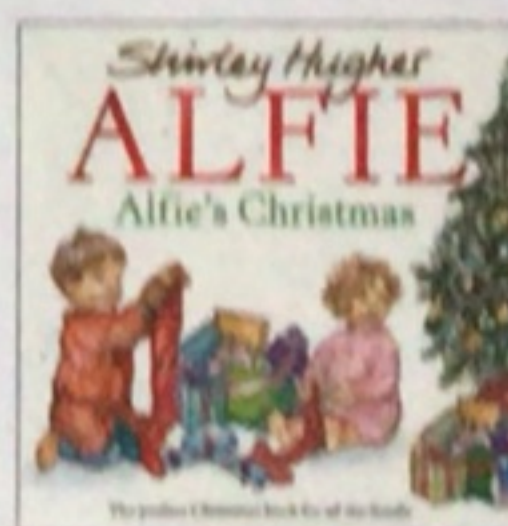
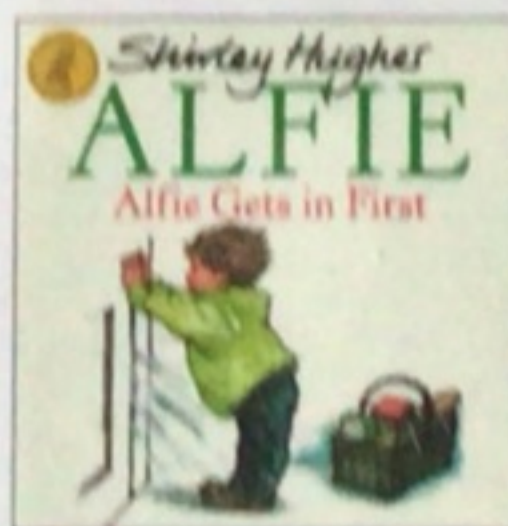
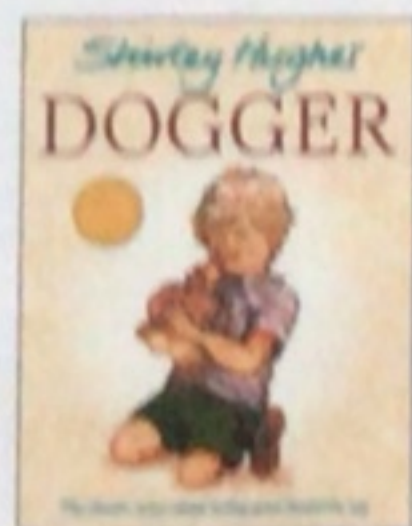
Lucy and Tom are off for a very special day out at the seaside!  
But what to do first? They can paddle and swim, make  
magnificent sandcastles, and play games on the beach...  
It's going to be a lovely day.

This classic picture book from the creator of *Dogger*  
is the perfect book for family fun.

*"Shirley Hughes is a national treasure"* Philip Pullman

Some other books by Shirley Hughes:

*Dogger* • *Alfie Gets in First* • *Alfie's Feet* • *Alfie and the Birthday Surprise*  
*All About Alfie* • *Alfie's Numbers* • *Alfie's Alphabet*



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