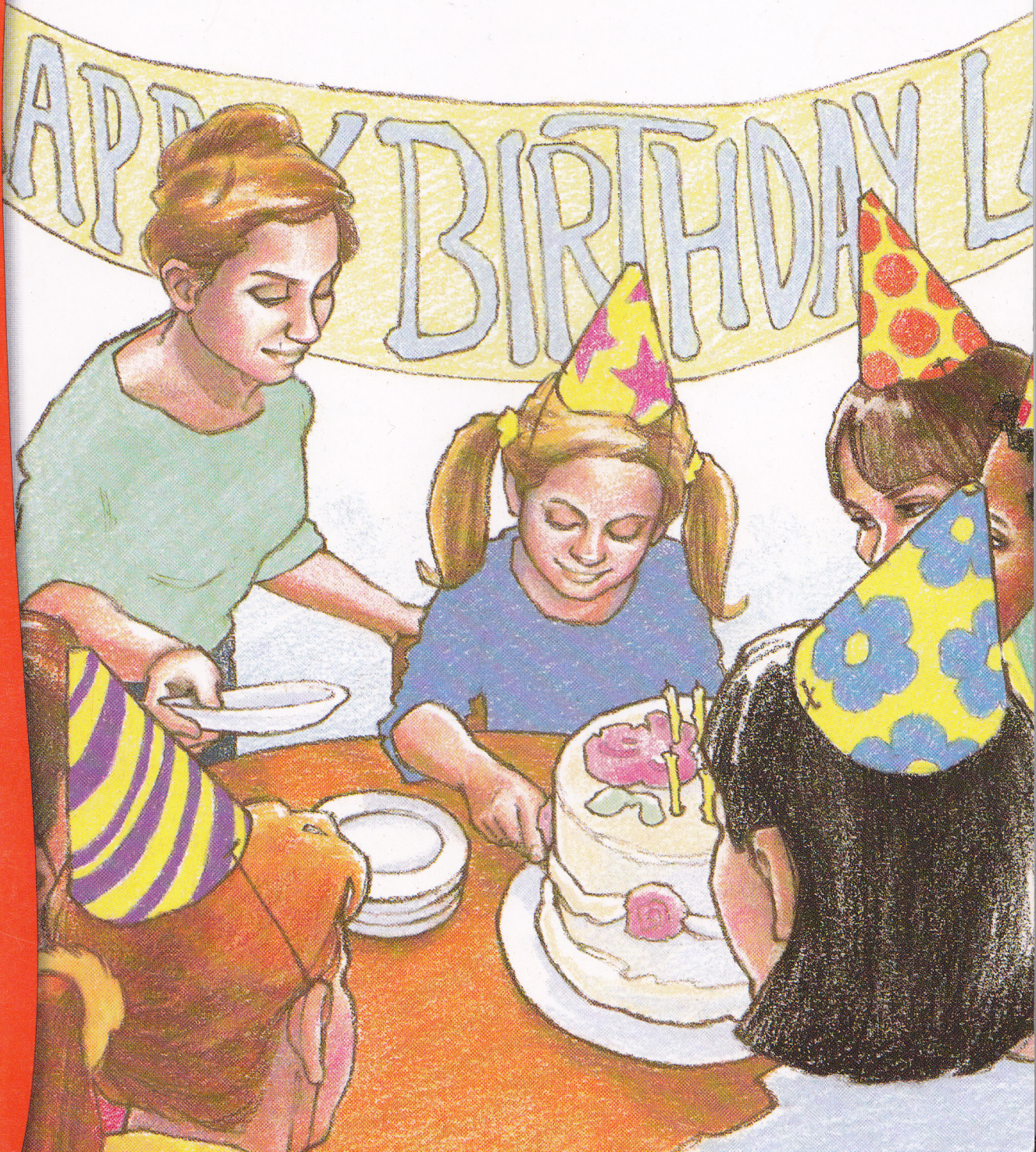


Laura's Birthday Party

by Betty Gorey

Orange 1c
Power Builder

8



Her friends sang "Happy Birthday" to Laura. Then she cut the big yellow cake.

"Finish your cake, children," Laura's mother said. "Then you'll have a surprise."

The door opened. In came a real clown! His face was painted white. He had a big orange nose. His funny suit was orange and yellow.

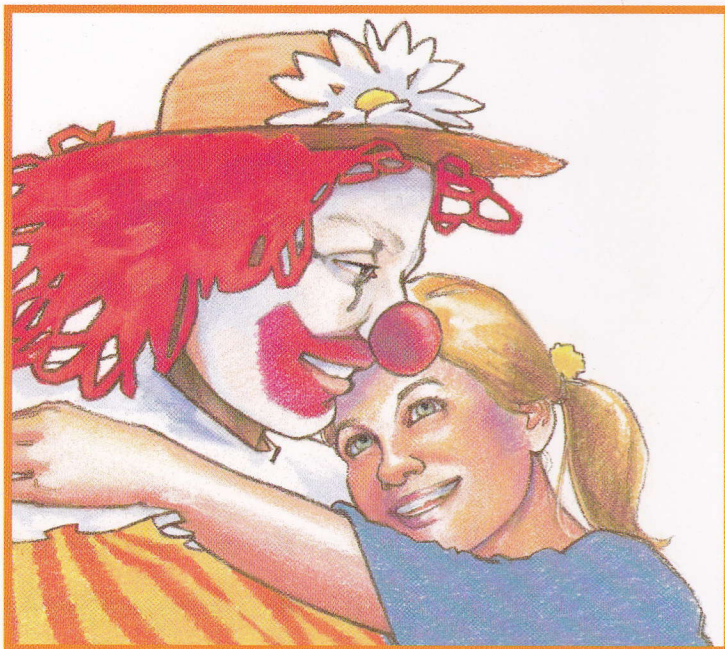
The clown didn't talk. He just did tricks. Everyone laughed. The party was fun. It was over too soon!

"Did you like your party, Laura?" Mother asked.

"Oh yes!" Laura said. "But I'm sorry Dad missed it."

Then the clown hugged Laura.

"Happy birthday," he said. "Do you know me now?" It was Dad!



COMPREHENSION

A Read each question. Write *a* or *b*.

- 1 What is this story really about?
 - a A funny birthday surprise
 - b A clown who does tricks
- 2 Why didn't the clown talk?
 - a Because Laura might know who it was
 - b Because he was doing tricks
- 3 How do you know that the children liked the clown?
 - a They watched.
 - b They laughed.
- 4 How did Laura feel after the party?
 - a She felt sad that her dad had missed the party.
 - b She felt happy to have had so many friends at her party.
- 5 When did Laura know the clown was her dad?
 - a When he did tricks for her
 - b When he talked to her

LEARN ABOUT WORDS

B c _ k _ = cake

Look at the words in the box. Add the *a_e* sound to make the word. Then write the word below.

- | |
|-------------|
| 1. f _ k _ |
| 2. m _ k _ |
| 3. l _ k _ |
| 4. sn _ k _ |

+ a _ e



LEARN ABOUT WORDS *(continued)*

C Read the words you wrote. Which one best fits in each sentence? Write the word.

- 6 The clown's nose was not real but _____.
- 7 Clowns like to _____ children laugh.
- 8 Laura's dad must _____ his clown suit back to the store.
- 9 One of Laura's friends gave her a toy _____.
- 10 Next year Laura wants a picnic at the _____.

THINK ABOUT IT

D Read each sentence. If the sentence tells why a birthday party is fun, write *Yes*. If it does not tell why a birthday party is fun, write *No*.

- 1 Children get to eat birthday cake.
- 2 Boys and girls sit at a table.
- 3 Friends get to sing and play games.
- 4 Children win prizes and get balloons.
- 5 Everyone goes home after the party.