Talk together

Ask the child to
- Point to the letters in the box on the back cover and say the sound (not letter name) that each letter usually makes in words (e.g. b as in bug). Tell the child each letter sound if necessary.
- Look out for these letters in the story and try to remember the sound they make.

Read the story

Remember, children learn best when reading is relaxed and enjoyable so give lots of praise.
- Encourage the child to point at the words and try to read any words he/she doesn't recognise by saying the individual sounds separately (e.g. b - u - g), then running the sounds together quickly. If the child finds it difficult to say the sounds, say the sounds for them first and then see if they can hear the word.

See inside back cover for other activities.
Bob is a bug.
Bob Bug has a mum. His mum is big.
Bob has a dad. His dad is fit.
Bob has a cup. It has a lid.
Bob has a cot. His cot has a rug.
Mum! Dad! A big, bad rat!
Bob Bug has a hug.
Check comprehension

Ask the child
- Why did Bob Bug call Mum! Dad!? (Because he was frightened.)
- Was there a rat in Bob Bug’s bedroom? (No.) How do you know? (It was just a shadow made by things in his room.)

Check phonics (letter-pattern sounds)

Ask the child to
- Find words in the book that begin with the sound b. (Bob, Bug, bug, big, bad)
- Tell you if the letter b looks the same in all these words. Explain that a capital is used at the beginning of a name and at the beginning of a sentence.
- Find some more words that begin with capital letters. (Mum, Dad)
  Ask: What sound does the capital letter make in each word?
- Think of other words that begin with the same sound as Dad (e.g. dog, dig).
- Look in the book and find other words that end with the sound g. (Bug, bug, big, rug, hug).
- Tell you whether bug, rug and hug sound the same at the beginning or the end. (The end; they rhyme.)
- Think of other words that rhyme with bug, rug and hug (e.g. dug, jug, mug, tug, snug).

Example phonic words: Bob is bug has mum His big dad fit cup It lid sip cot rug big bad rat hug

Context words: a
Bob Bug

Story by Julia Donaldson • Pictures by Deborah Allwright
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Bob is a bug.

Focus Phonics
r l d b f h i u
s m c t g p a o

Stage 1+ Songbirds
Top Cat
Sam’s Pot
Bob Bug
Dig, Dig, Dig!
Zak and the Vet
Mum Bug’s Bag

Available in packs
Stage 1+ Songbirds Pack of 6 (one of each title)
Stage 1+ Songbirds Class Pack (six of each title)