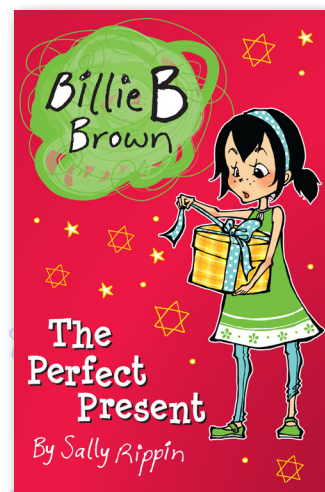


## Billie B Brown: The Perfect Present

### Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Read and follow a simple recipe
- Write a simple instructional text
- Write a card
- Write clues for a treasure hunt



### About the story

With only one more sleep until Christmas day Billie is bursting with excitement, especially at the thought of her shiny new bike! With a little snooping and sneaking, Billie stumbled across the bike and just the very thought of it makes Billie want to sing and dance. But when her parents reveal that the bike hidden in the shed belongs to Jack, her excitement turns to worry and she goes to bed wondering whether she'll get the one present she wants the most. When Billie wakes on Christmas morning, she quickly discovers that none of her gifts resemble a bike. But just when Billie thinks her hopes for a bike are dashed, a strange little note leads her to the best surprise ever!

### Before you read the story

Read the title of the book aloud. Ask students to predict what Billie's perfect present might be and whether that present may be contained in the box Billie is holding. Invite students to share their idea of the perfect present. Now turn to the back cover and read the blurb aloud. Highlight the fact that Billie knows where present is hidden. Ask students if they think it is ok to go looking for hidden presents and whether they have ever done this.

### Questions and activities

#### Chapter One

Why is Billie bursting with excitement? Can you remember feeling this excited?

Why are Billie and Jack making gingerbread biscuits? Are they getting many made? Why or why not?

Billie's mum and dad send Billie and Jack outside. What does Billie think her parents are up to?

#### Activity

Note that Billie is making biscuits to give as a gift. Show students an enlarged copy of a simple biscuit recipe. Read and invite students to help you prepare and make the biscuits. Give students their own portion of dough and a collection of cutters and instruct students to create their own biscuits. Students make their own portion of icing while their biscuits bake. Once biscuits are iced and decorated students wrap their biscuits. Students now write their own instructional text on how to ice and decorate biscuits.

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### Questions and activities

#### Chapter Two

Where does Billie lead Jack?

What is hidden in the shed? Who does it belong to?

Why does Jack hang his head when he sees Billie's new bike?

#### Activity

Ask students to think of a place in or around their home that would be a perfect place to hide a gift as big as a bike. Ask students to identify and explain why they chose that hiding spot.

#### Chapter Three

While Billie is wrapping the gingerbread biscuits, she puts an extra biscuit in Jack's packet. Can you explain why Billie does this?

The big happy bubble in Billie's belly bursts. What does Billie discover that causes her to feel this way?

Why does Billie go to bed feeling worried?

#### Activity

Model how to write a card with a personalised message. Allow students to publish their message and use craft materials to decorate their cards. Give students the option of reading their cards to the group.

#### Chapter Four

Billie walks around her Christmas tree and sighs. Why isn't Billie excited about her presents?

What is hiding at the end of Jack's garden? How did Billie know to go there?

Explain how Billie and Jack's parents organised the best surprise for them.

#### Activity

Invite students to re-read pages 35 to 38, focusing on the clues that lead Billie to her bike. Using the school grounds, ask students to plan a treasure hunt for a friend. Clues should be edited by the teacher and published before students exchange them with a friend.

