

**Key vocabulary within the story**

first last birthday later next into  
outside

**Additional vocabulary beyond the story**

pattern sequence position timetable  
addition sharing subtraction more than  
less than months of the year

**Maths links**

- Positional language
- Counting
- Sharing
- Solving problems
- Sequencing
- Money

**Questions to ask**

*How many buns were in Kevin's basket at the beginning of the story?*

*How many buns were white? How many were green?*

*Can you remember how they were arranged?*

*What was the colour of the bun the pigeon took first?*

*What job did Kevin do first on his morning round of the zoo?*

*How many spotted and striped patterns can you see in the story?*

*Why do you think Kevin has one bun, when everyone else has two?*

*Did Kevin see the naughty pigeon taking the buns?*

*How many steps did Kevin have to climb to reach the top of the ladder?*

*Why are there no buns left?*

**Optional resources**

- 1 basket of buns (coloured)
- Sweets, biscuits
- Timetables

**Follow-up activities**

- Bring in a box or basket of buns (with coloured icing if possible!) and a packet of biscuits or a packet of sweets, etc. Now explore addition, subtraction and sharing. Ask the children questions such as: *If the pigeon took away two of our buns, how many would be left?* *If Candy brings five more buns, how many would there be in total if Kevin manages to keep all his buns?* *How many more buns do we need if we want twelve in total?* etc. *How many buns does the pigeon take at a time? Count down in steps of one or two.*
- Explore pattern and position using the coloured buns. Ask the children: *Which buns are **next** to a red bun?* *Which bun is to the **left** of the yellow bun?*
- Enjoy rearranging the buns into different patterns or sequences.
- Explore sharing using buns, sweets or biscuits. Ask the children: *If only two animals were going to share Kevin's buns, how many would they have each?* *Can you share ten buns equally amongst three animals, so they all get the same number of buns?*
- Investigate pattern and shape. Ask the children: *How many spotty patterns can you see in the story?*
- Examine Kevin's busy day and look at his timetable of jobs! Ask the children: *What job did Kevin do second?* *What job did Kevin do last?* *Can you remember the sequence of Kevin's day? Now let's make a timetable of our day!*
- Have birthday fun! Ask the children: *How old do you think Kevin is?* *How many candles will he need on his cake?* *How old are you?* *When is your birthday?* *How many of you were born in March?* etc. *How many candles will you need on your cake, on your next birthday?*

- Set up a baker's shop in the classroom. Ask: *If each bun cost 5p each and Kevin wanted to buy ten buns, how much would it cost him?*

### Soft toy play

- Play a sharing and matching game! Give each soft toy a coloured bun. Look at them carefully. Now take them away. Ask: *Can you remember which coloured bun each animal had? Try and match them again.*
- Share ten buns equally, if you can, to two animals, three animals, etc.
- Lay out the animals in a line. Give each animal some buns, e.g. two for Hilda, three for Alfie, etc. Now ask:  
*Who has the most buns?*  
*Who has the fewest?*  
*Does Hilda have more or fewer than Alfie?*  
*How many more buns does George have than Boo Boo? etc.*  
*Take a bun from Alfie. How many will he have left?*  
*If I want Boo Boo to have eight buns, how many more will I need to give her?*
- Have a birthday party for the animals!
- Act out a story where the animals hide and then steal a bun as Kevin passes by!

### Easy, instant play, indoors and out

- Act out a *Handa's Surprise*-type story.
- Plan a timetable of jobs for the day and act them out.
- Plan a birthday party for Kevin!
- Have a pretend baking day in a kitchen.
- Go on a hunt for 'missing buns'. (A bun burglary!)
- Have fun filling a paddling pool or water tray for Alfie to have a bath! Use buckets, a hose, etc.
- Act out the 'missing buns' story outdoors.
- Draw trays of buns with chalk on a hard surface. Design different-coloured arrangements of buns.

- Create patterns in the sand with coloured counters or pot lids, etc. representing buns. Ask the children:  
*Can you copy my pattern?*
- Lay out a pattern in the sand. Let the children look at it. When they are not looking, remove or change something. Then ask:  
*Can you see what has changed?*
- Create Kevin's 'missing buns' journey in the sand tray.

### Gross-curricular maths

- Bake buns or other cakes.
- Lay a table for a birthday party.
- Explore routes, e.g. Kevin went to Hilda's first, then to Alfie's pool, etc.
- Look at timetables: trains, buses, the school day, etc.
- Discuss stealing.
- Discuss sharing.
- Look at the shapes of trays and baskets.
- Weave paper baskets.

### Rhyme time

*Five currant buns*

*Hot cross buns*

### Cutouts

1 set of 10 different coloured buns

### Maths talk

- 17 Boo Boo's timetable
- 19 6 different shaped parcels
- 58 Trays of buns
- 59 Empty trays to draw own buns
- 60 Trays of buns for comparison
- 67 1 feeding chart for the animals
- 68 1 zoo timetable