



I Didn't Do It!



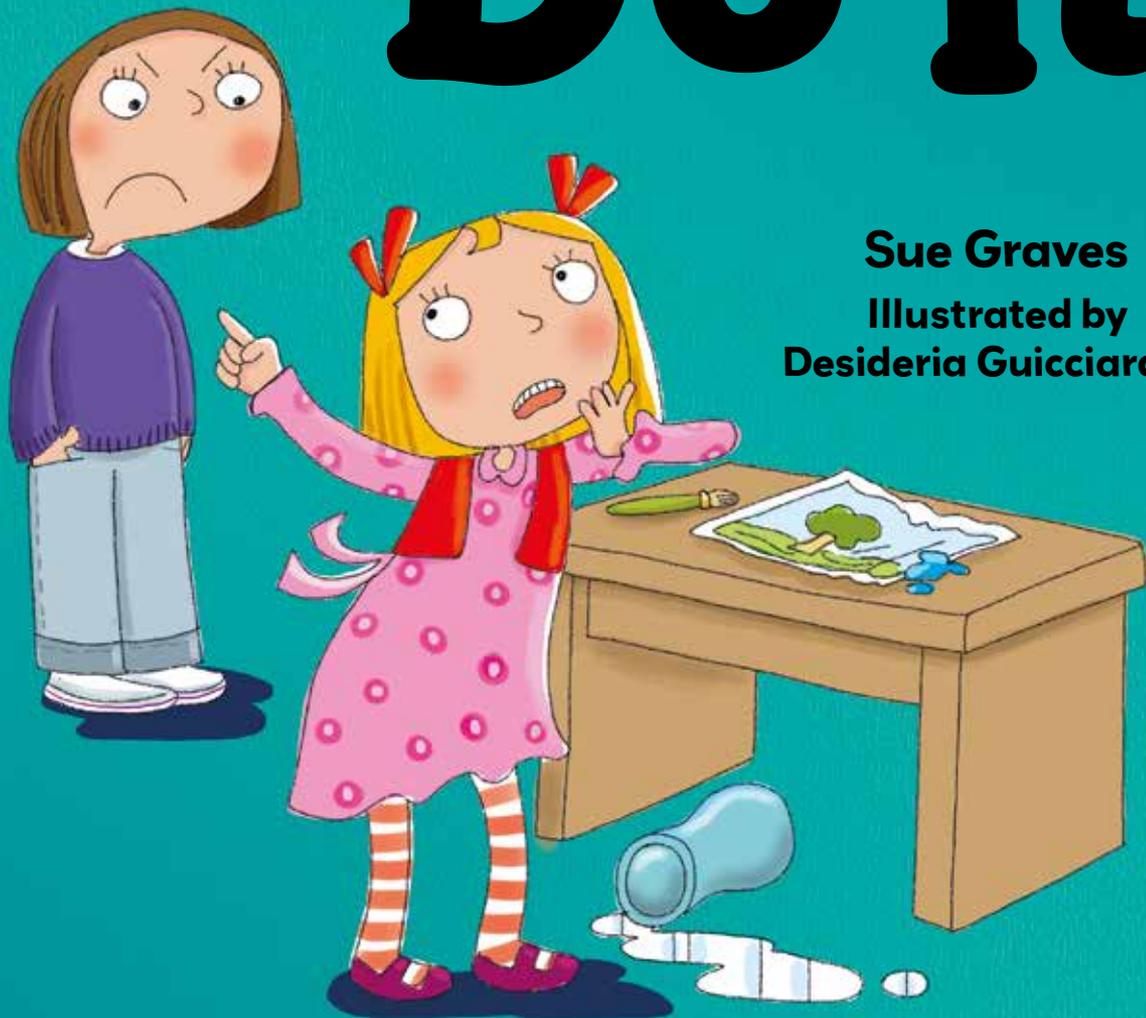
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Illustrated by
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Poppy didn't always tell the truth at home.

“I didn't do it!” said Poppy.



Sometimes Poppy didn't tell the truth at school either. On Monday, she broke a window during morning recess.

"I didn't do it!" said Poppy.
She said that **Joe** broke the window.





A note about sharing this book

The **Our Emotions and Behavior** series has been developed to provide a starting point for further discussion about children's feelings and behavior, in relation both to themselves and to other people.

I Didn't Do It!

This story explores in a reassuring way why it is important to tell the truth and the consequences that can follow when someone is not truthful.

The book aims to encourage children to have a developing awareness of behavioral expectations in different settings. It also invites children to begin to consider the consequences of their words and actions for themselves and others.

Picture story

The picture story on pages 22 and 23 provides an opportunity for speaking and listening. Children are encouraged to tell the story illustrated in the panels: Anna doesn't admit to Mom that she knocked over the flowerpot, and instead accuses her younger sister. Her sister is angry and hurt and doesn't want to play with Anna anymore. Anna realizes she has done wrong and apologizes to Mom and to her sister. She then makes things right by re-potting the plant. Her little sister is eager to play with her again, and Anna learns that it is better to tell the truth after all.

How to use the book

The book is designed for adults to share with either an individual child or a group of children, and as a starting point for discussion.

The book also provides visual support and repeated words and phrases to build confidence in children who are starting to read on their own.

Before reading the story

Choose a time to read when you and the children are relaxed and have time to share the story.

Spend time looking at the illustrations and discussing what the book may be about before reading it together.



After reading, talk about the book with the children

- What was the story about? Have the children not told the truth on occasion? What happened? How did they feel? Did they eventually make things right, and if so, how?
- Have the children ever been wrongly accused of something? What happened? How did they feel?

Encourage the children to talk about their experiences.

- Talk about the importance of telling the truth. Acknowledge that sometimes it feels like it's hard to tell the truth, but point out that telling a lie often makes things harder later on. Also take the opportunity to point out that it is equally as important for adults to tell the truth as for children.
- Ask children why it is important to admit when they do something wrong and to apologize.
- Look at the end of the story again. Poppy felt much better after she apologized and started to make things right. Why do the children think this made her feel happier?
- Look at the picture story. Ask the children to tell the story in their own words. Why do they think Anna didn't tell the truth right away? Why was Anna's sister mad at her and why didn't she want to play with her?
- Can the children think of specific times when it is especially important to tell the truth? Discuss what can happen when people don't tell the truth.
- Choose children to take the parts of Poppy, Miss Plum, Joe, Lucy, Eva, and Mr. Brown. Invite them to pantomime or role-play the story as you read the text aloud.

