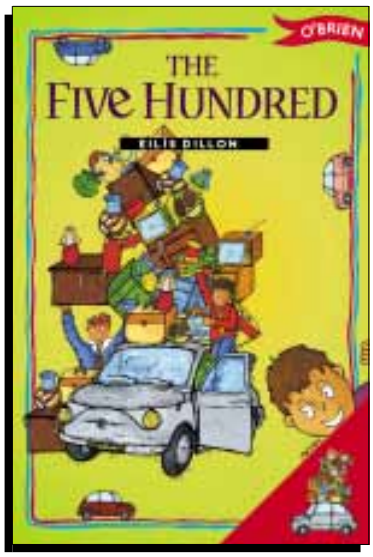
Read pages 5–20

ACTIVITY SHEET 1



- Cars are described in detail on pp. 5–6 and p.9. Write a similar description of your family car **or** of the car you would most like your family to own if money were no object. State what the car would be used for and where it would be kept.
- Hanging in the back window of the car was a little stuffed figure of Garibaldi (p.10). In an encyclopaedia or using a search engine, find out at least three interesting facts about this man.
- Have you ever attended a Sunday market of the sort described on pp. 14–17? Write an account of what you saw there, what you bought or wanted to buy, who accompanied you, whether the market was indoor or outdoor, etc. If you have never been at a market, picture one in your head and write about that instead.
- Luca felt that people respected him since he had acquired the Five Hundred. Read what he says on p.15. Do you think he is right? Do you think that people would keep back their goods to sell to traders who look richer?
- From the directions given on pp. 15–16, draw a street map of the route taken by Pierino and his family, from outside the house (see p.11), through the winding streets to the market. Mark in traffic lights, gates and bridges.
- Pierino liked the old things better, because 'you never knew what you might find among them' (p.17). Which would you prefer and why? Have you ever had to clean out your old books and toys for a school or other fair/charity? Did you find it difficult to give up these old things? Write a paragraph on giving up some possession.
- 'Poor people shouldn't have big ideas,' says Alfredo (p.18). Why might he say such a thing? What do you think of this statement?

By Liz Morris. Based on *The Five Hundred* by Eilís Dillon
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