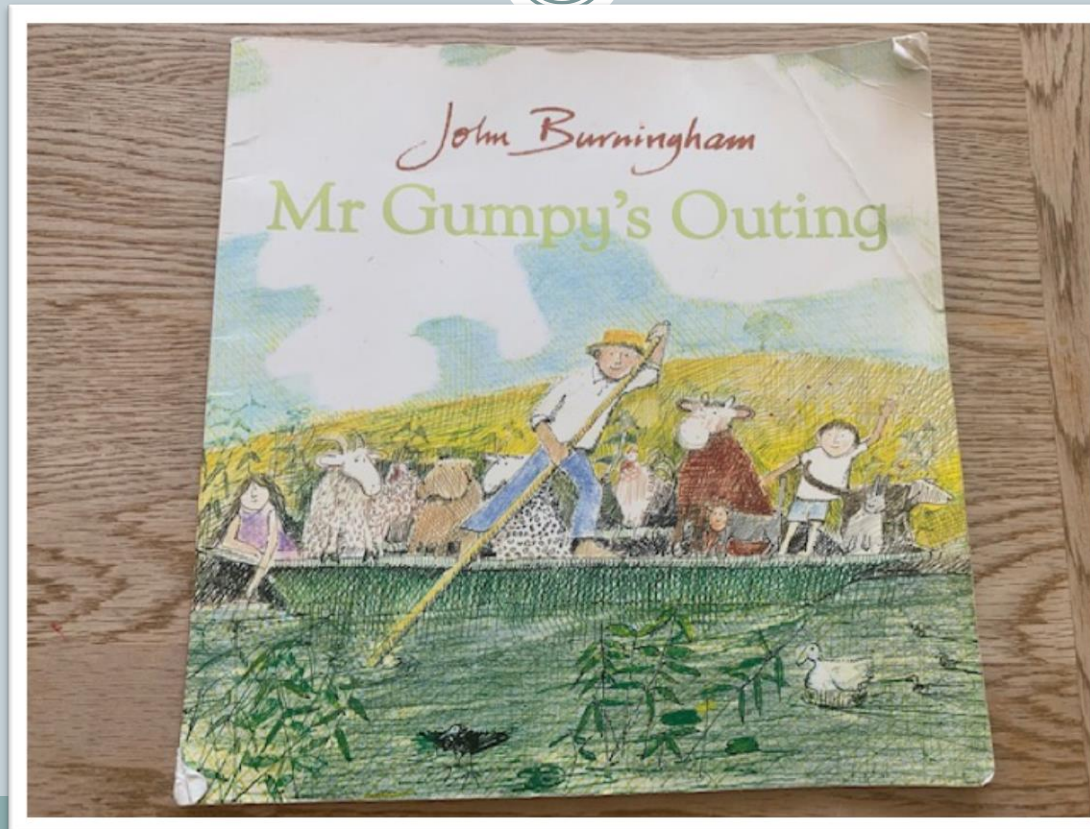


# Mr Gumpy's Outing by John Burningham





This is Mr Gumpy.



Mr Gumpy owned a boat and his house  
was by a river.





One day Mr Gumpy went out in his boat.  
"May we come with you?" said the children.  
"Yes," said Mr Gumpy,  
"if you don't squabble."





"Can I come along, Mr Gumpy?"  
said the rabbit.

"Yes, but don't hop about."





"I'd like a ride," said the cat.  
"Very well," said Mr Gumpy.  
"But you're not to chase the rabbit."





“Will you take me with you?” said the dog.  
“Yes,” said Mr Gumpy.  
“But don’t tease the cat.”





“May I come, please, Mr Gumpy?”  
said the pig.  
“Very well, but don’t muck about.”







"Have you a place for me?" said the sheep.  
"Yes, but don't keep bleating."





“Can we come too?” said the chickens.  
“Yes, but don’t flap,” said Mr Gumpy.





"May I join you, Mr Gumpy?" said the goat.  
"Very well, but don't kick."





For a little while they all went along happily  
but then...

The goat kicked

The calf trampled

The chickens flapped

The sheep bleated

The pig mucked about

The dog teased the cat

The cat chased the rabbit

The rabbit hopped

The children squabbled

The boat tipped...







Then Mr Gumpy and the goat and the calf  
and the chickens and the sheep and the pig  
and the dog and the cat and the rabbit and  
the children all swam to the bank and climbed  
out to dry in the hot sun.

“We’ll walk home across the fields,”  
said Mr Gumpy. “It’s time for tea.”







“Goodbye,” said Mr Gumpy.  
“Come for a ride another day.”