

Jessica and Chloe were friends. One day, during playtime, Jessica asked Chloe, 'Will you come to my house to play on Saturday? Mum says you can.'

Chloe didn't really want to. That afternoon she wanted to feel more important than Jessica. 'No, I can't come,' she boasted. 'Dad's promised me a puppy and we're going to get it.'

It was a lie. Chloe's dad hadn't promised her a puppy, but Jessica didn't know that. She simply said, 'All right then,' and ran off to join some other friends.

'I got out of that one', thought Chloe. 'Easy!'

But lying doesn't always make things as easy as you might think. The lie Chloe had told wouldn't go away. A few moments later, Adam saw Chloe. 'Jessica told me you're getting a puppy.'

'Yes,' said Chloe, 'on Saturday, from the kennels.'

'Great,' laughed Adam.

Jessica returned. 'You're so lucky. What kind of puppy will it be?'

Chloe thought quickly: 'One of those puppies you see in the TV adverts - a golden one.'

'Wow! And what will you call it?'

'He's called Goldie.'

'Can I come with you when you take it for walks?'

'Of course you can,' said Chloe.

Back in the classroom, it seemed as if everyone had heard!

'Are you getting a puppy?' asked Jade enviously.

'Yes,' said Chloe again.

'Won't that be fun!' whispered Kevin.

'Yes,' whispered Chloe.

Chloe enjoyed all the attention. But she knew that what she'd said wasn't true and secretly she didn't feel very comfortable. She was rather pleased when home-time came. On Monday morning, Chloe had almost forgotten how she had boasted and told lies to her friends the week before. But when Jessica met her in the playground the first thing that she asked was, 'Did you get your puppy?'

What could Chloe say? There was no puppy. But because she'd lied all her friends thought she had one.

'No,' she said, 'we haven't got the puppy.'

Jessica was surprised: 'Why not?'

Now, Chloe didn't want anyone to know that she'd made up a story that wasn't true and so she continued: 'Because the kennels said it wasn't big enough yet.' The words tumbled out and Chloe felt awful - the lies seemed so strong that she just couldn't escape from them!