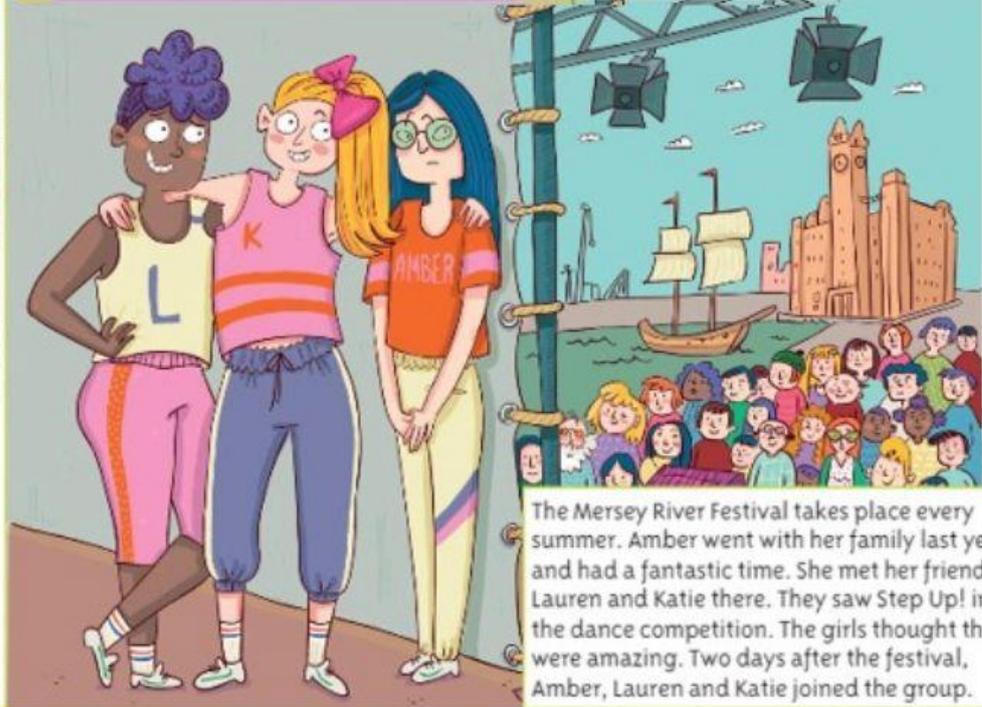


★STEP UP!★

1



The Liverpool Mersey River Festival started yesterday, but today was the day of the dance competition. Amber was very nervous. Her dance group, Step Up!, were on stage next, but Amber just wanted to run away and hide. It all started a year ago...



The Mersey River Festival takes place every summer. Amber went with her family last year and had a fantastic time. She met her friends Lauren and Katie there. They saw Step Up! in the dance competition. The girls thought they were amazing. Two days after the festival, Amber, Lauren and Katie joined the group.

2

Amber didn't want to join the group at first, she felt too shy, but Lauren and Katie persuaded her. Learning to dance is hard work. They had to practise every week at the community centre. But Amber made lots of friends in the group and she enjoyed the dancing.



Six months ago, Josie, the dance teacher, said that Step Up! were in the competition again this year. Everyone was happy, but Amber just felt really nervous.