**18** Listen and read. Match paragraphs 1–4 with pictures a–d. Who eats Fairy Bread on their birthday?

# Special Birthdays

Do you celebrate your birthday? Is there a special tradition in your family or in your culture for birthdays? Many cultures around the world celebrate birthdays – in many different ways. Some cultures celebrate by giving treats to the birthday boy or girl. Other cultures celebrate by doing something special that symbolizes the child's special day. Read on to find out more about how some children around the world celebrate their birthday.

1 In Nigeria, first, fifth, tenth, and fifteenth birthdays are very important. Many parents have big parties for their children and more than 1,000 people come. They eat a lot – sometimes a whole roasted cow!

2 A lot of Brazilian children have fun birthdays. Some parents decorate the house with brightly-colored banners and flowers. Brazilians also pull on the ear of the birthday boy or girl. They pull once for each year.

3 On the first birthday of all Hindu children in India, the parents shave the top of their child's head. When they are older, they have birthday parties. They wear new clothes and give thanks to their parents by touching their parents' feet. At school, the birthday child gives chocolate to classmates.

4 Australian children have very sweet birthdays! They eat Fairy Bread. This is a slice of bread and butter covered with small sugary sprinkles called *hundreds and thousands*.

**19** Read 18 again and circle **T** for true or **F** for false.

| | | T | F |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Fifth, tenth, fifteenth, and twentieth birthdays are important in Nigeria. | T | F |
| 2 | Sometimes people in Nigeria roast a cow for a special birthday. | T | F |
| 3 | Brazilian parents sometimes decorate the house on their child's birthday. | T | F |
| 4 | Brazilians pull twice on a child's ear for each year of his or her birthday. | T | F |
| 5 | When Hindu children in India turn one, their parents shave the top of their heads. | T | F |
| 6 | Australian children have fairy cakes on their birthdays. | T | F |

How did I do? ☆☆☆☆☆

LIVEWORKSHEETS