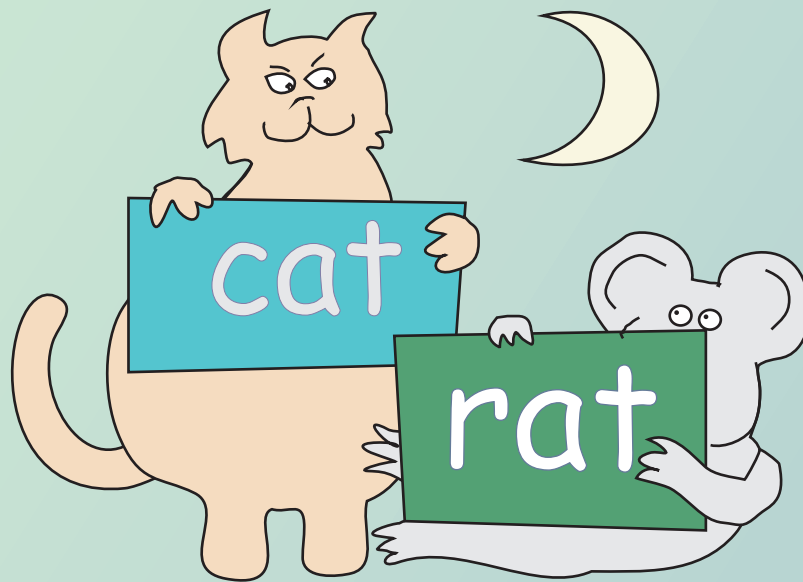


Book One

Short Vowel
a



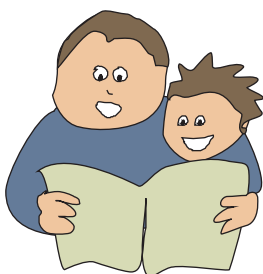
Written and illustrated by

Miz Katz N. Ratz

A Progressive Phonics™ book

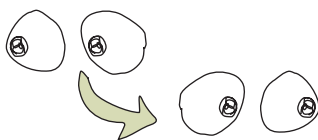
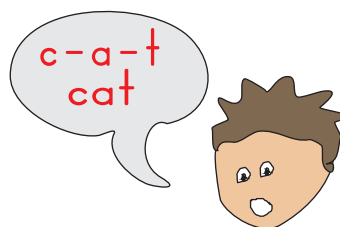
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Quick Start Guide



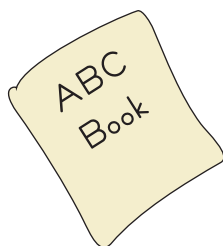
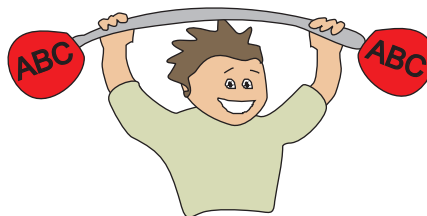
Read the book **WITH** your child. You read the “regular” text, and he/she reads the big, red words, sort of like reading the different parts in a play.

Help your child sound out the words as needed.



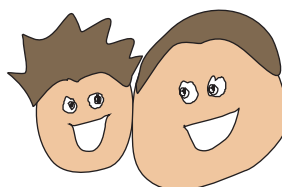
Read the book several times. This helps develop the eye muscles and left-to-right reading patterns that are necessary for reading.

Don't rush it. Body builders don't train in a day – neither does a child.



If your child is having difficulty, he/she might need more practice with the alphabet. Get a fun book about the alphabet, and read that lots of times. Then come back to Progressive Phonics.

And most important of all, **HAVE FUN!**



Short vowel "a" word list

at bat cat fat hat mat pat rat sat

bad dad had mad sad

cab dab gab

bag gag wag

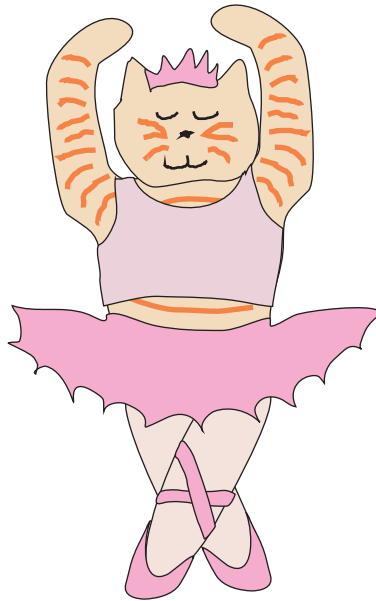
am ham jam Pam Sam yam

can Dan man pan ran van

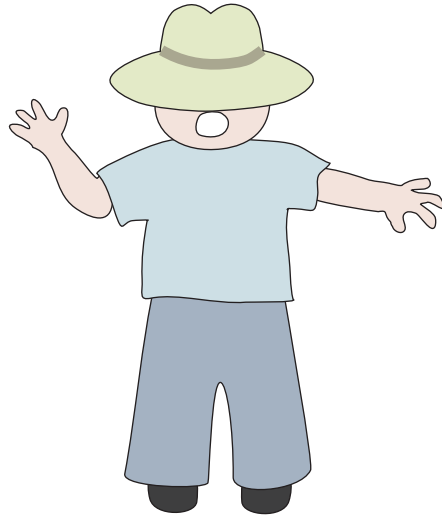
cap lap map nap rap tap yap

has as

a an



I am looking **at** my little
cat. Can you look **at**
my little **cat** too? My
cat is wearing ballet shoes
and my brother's pink tutu.



Do not throw a ball **at** me.

Because of this **hat**, I cannot

see. The **hat** is so big it

covers my eyes. I need a

hat that's more my size.

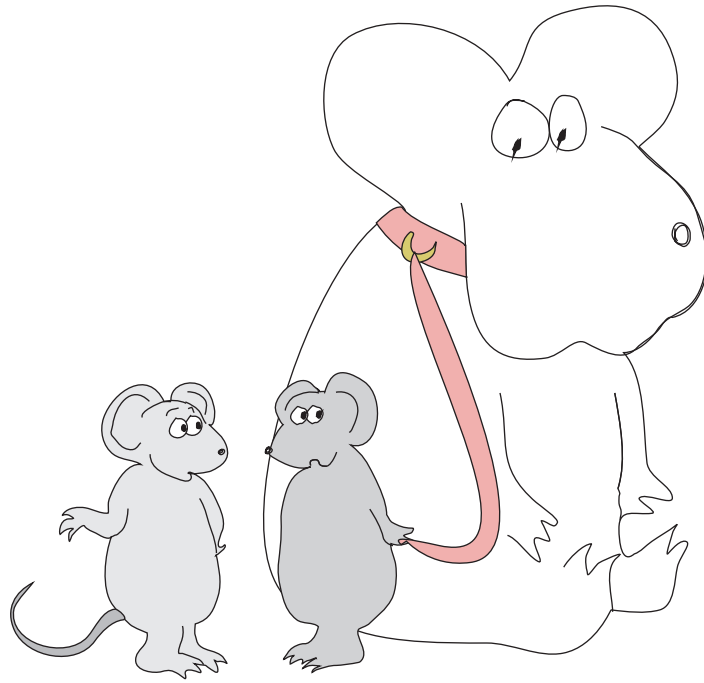


I want to buy a baseball **hat**.

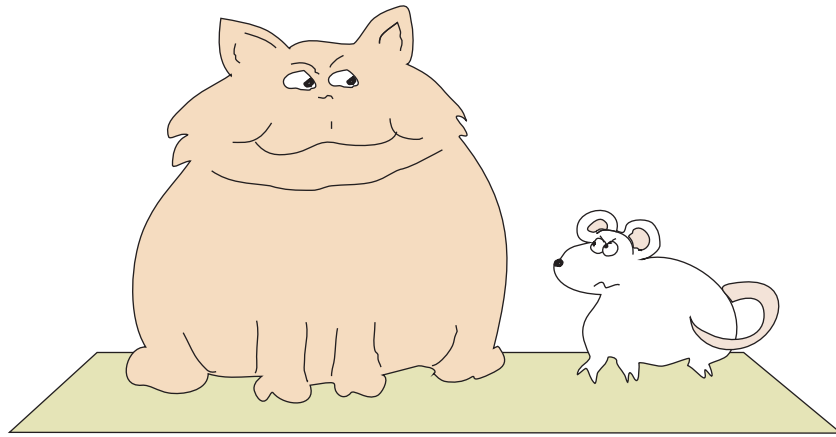
I want to buy a baseball **bat**.

I need a **bat** so I can play

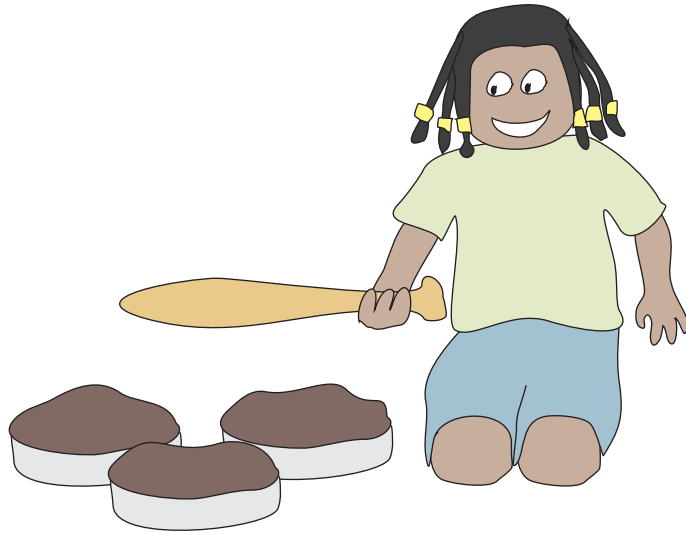
baseball, baseball every day.



You tell me I can **pat** your
rat, but I don't want to
pat your **rat**. I'm sure
your **rat** is very nice, but he
is a **rat** and we are mice



My **fat cat sat** on a
big, **fat mat**, right beside
my big, **fat rat**. If my
big, **fat cat sat**
on my **rat**, then my big, **fat**
rat would be flat as a **mat**.



Pat mud pies with a baseball

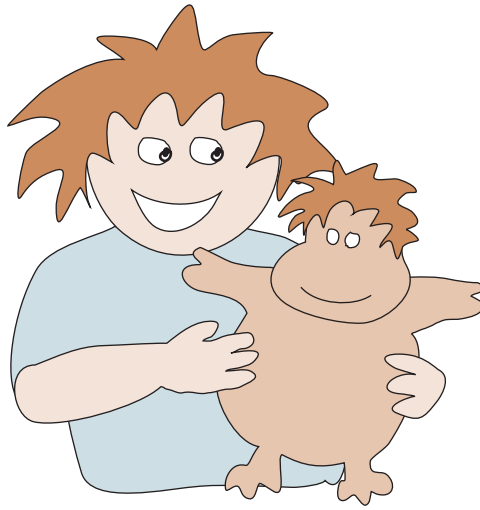
bat. **P**at until they're

nice and flat. **P**at, pat,

pat with the **b**at, bat,

bat, but don't eat them —

they are not a snack.



When I was a baby, I **had**
a yellow duck. When I was two,
I **had** a red truck. When I
was three, I **had** a chimpanzee.
Everybody says he looks a lot
like me.



My mother said I **had** to take
a nap. My sister said I **had**
to feed the cat. My brother said I
had to tie his shoe.

Everybody tells me what to do;

I think I'll scream until I'm blue.



My sister says my manners are

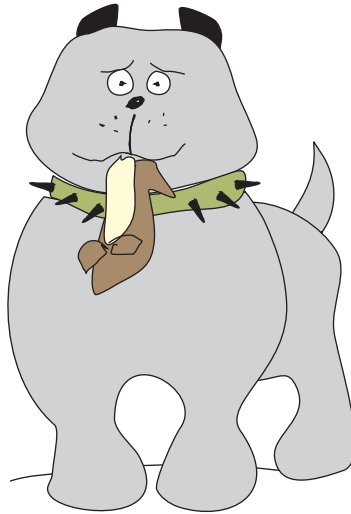
bad. She makes me feel so

sad. But then she said I **had**

no manners, which really made me

mad – because if I have no

manners, how can they be **bad**?

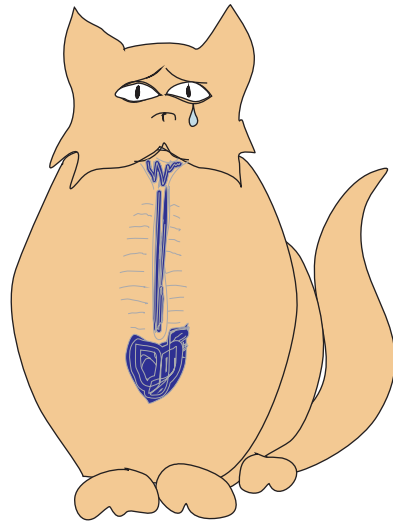


I am **mad** at my dog.

My dog is **bad**.

I **had** some shoes —

now they're doggie chews.

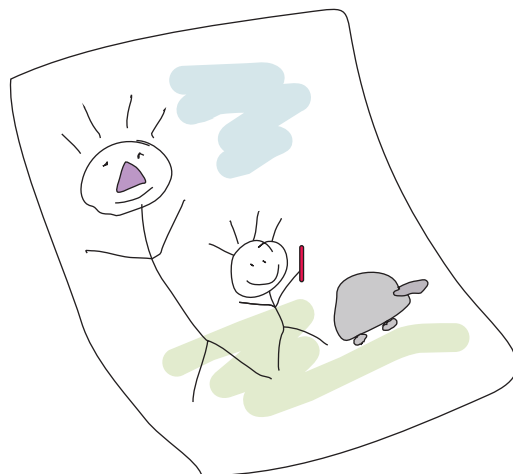


My cat is very **sad** today —
she is very, very **sad**.

She is **sad** because our fish
is gone, and she found his bones
out on the lawn.

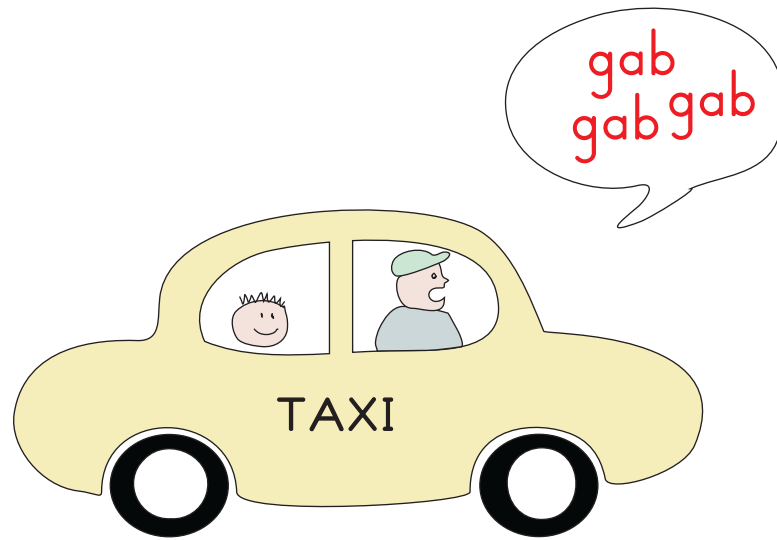


When **dad** was young he
had more money; **dad**
had a lot of hair, and his nose
was funny. I got the hair, Jim's
nose is funny — but we want to
know, who got the money?



A little **dab** of green; a little
dab of blue – I am making a
picture of me and you.

A little **dab** of grey – I think
that's a turtle. Another little
dab, and your nose is purple.



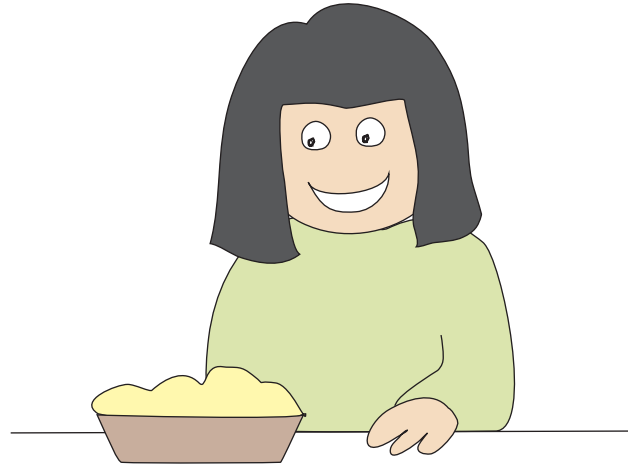
I like to ride in a taxi **cab**.

I like it when the driver likes
to **gab**. When I grow up,

I will drive a **cab** –

I will talk as I drive, I will

gab, gab, gab.

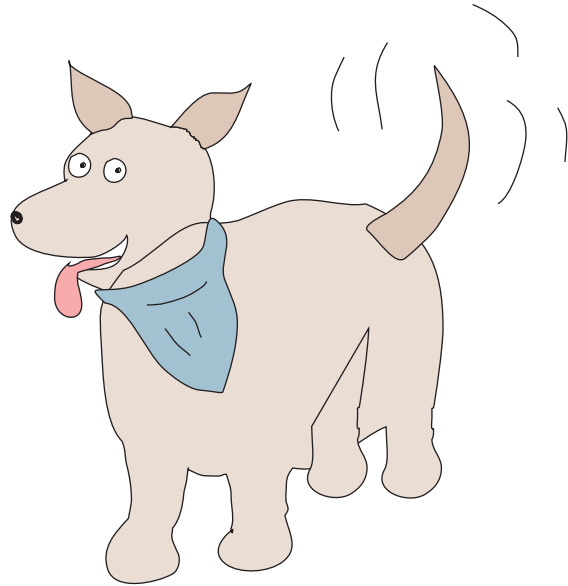


I **gag** when I eat tomatoes.

I **gag** when I eat French fries.

I **gag** when I eat most anything,

except banana pies.

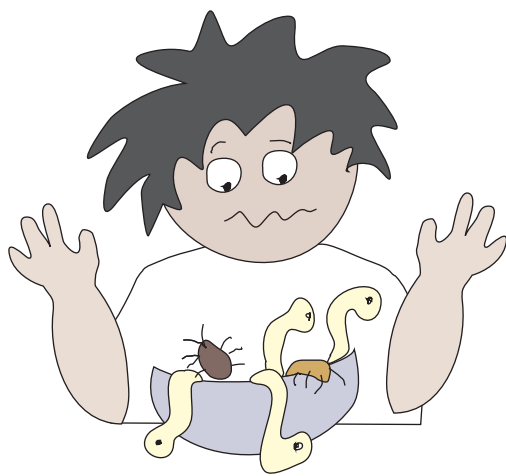


I've got a **bag** of candy.

I've got a **bag** of treats.

And if my dog can **wag** his tail,

he'll get the **bag** to eat.



I **am** Sam; I **am**

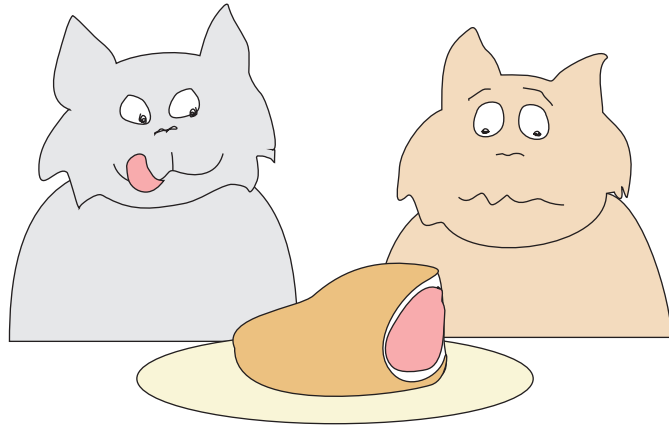
eating from this bowl – worms and

bugs, or so I **am** told.

I **am** happy to share my food

with you – please tell me if you

want some too.



My name is **P**am, and

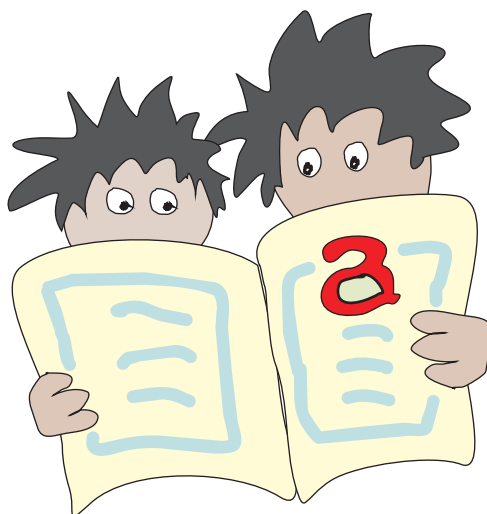
this is **S**am. I **a**m

hungry to eat some of this

ham. But **S**am will

not eat **h**am at all – not

one little bit, big or small.



My brother, **D**an can

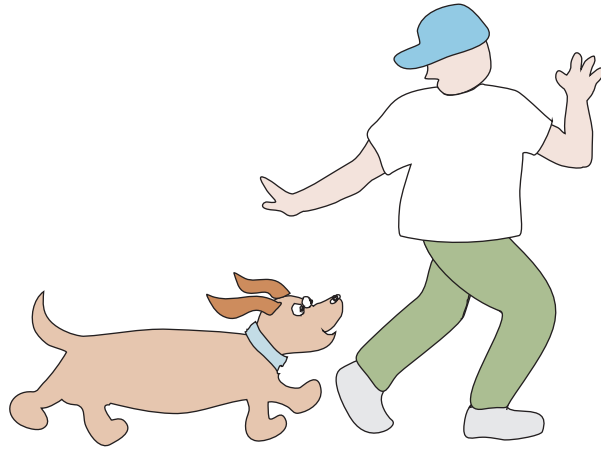
read this book. I **can** too –

Dan let me look.

Dan and I **can** read

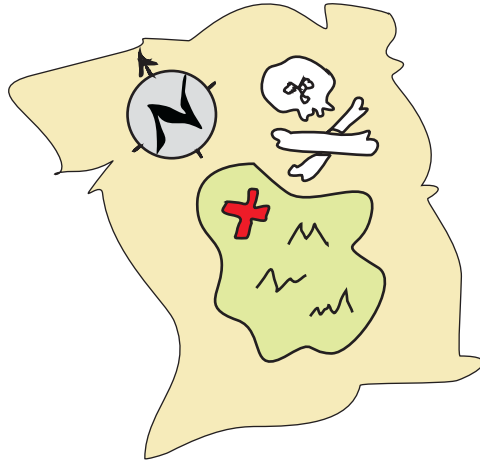
very well. **D**an can

also write and spell.



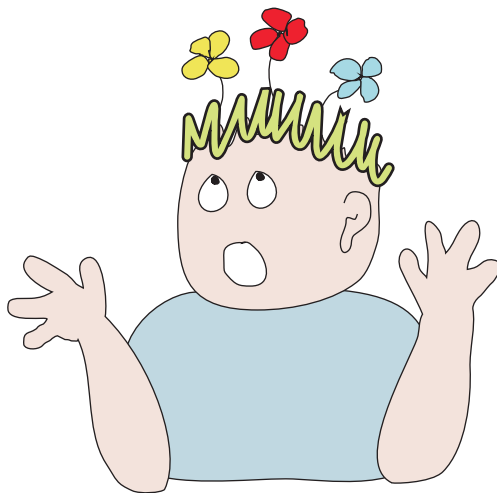
A **man ran** down the
road. A dog **ran** too, but
the **man** said, "No."

The **man ran** as
fast as he could. The dog **ran**
faster — boy, he was good.



Although this **map** is a little
bit scary, the **map** shows
where the treasure is buried.

I asked my mom to help me with
the **map**, but she said no, it
was time for my **nap**.



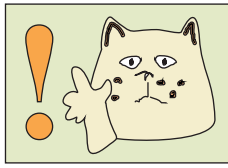
I always wear my baseball **cap**.

I never take it off, not even for

a **nap**. One day my **cap**

fell off my head — I didn't have

hair, I had flowers instead.



Sometimes an "s" at the end of a word sounds like "zzz" like in "is", "his" and "was".

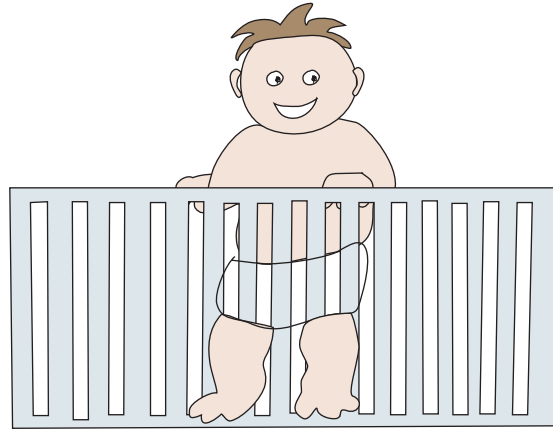


My cat **has** eyes.

My cat **has** teeth.

My cat **has** a name —

Miss Furry Feet.



My brother **has** a lot of toys,
but he always plays with mine.

My brother **has** a lot of books,
but he always chews on mine.

I think that's why he **has** a cage –
when, oh, when will he be my age?

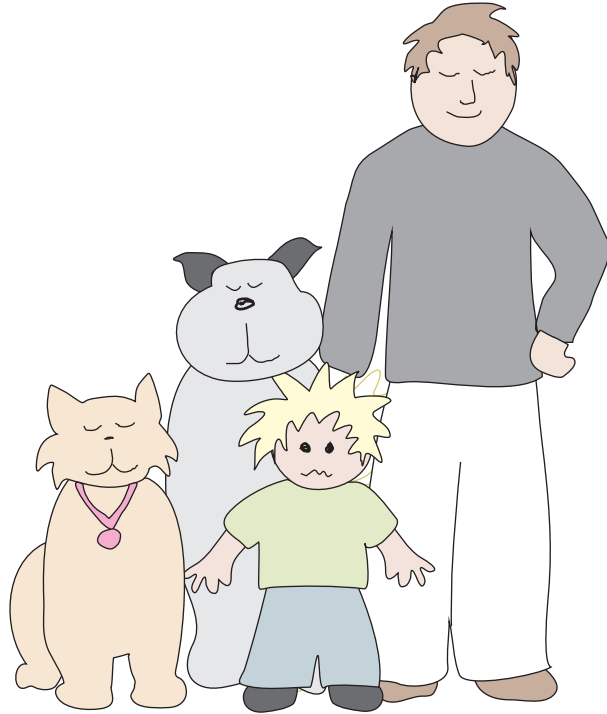


Johnny **has** to wash his face.

Johnny **has** to brush his teeth.

Johnny **has** to go to say goodnight,

and Johnny **has** to go to sleep.

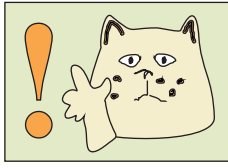


My cat is **as** big **as** a dog.

My dog is **as** big **as** a wall.

My dad is **as** big **as** a tree,

and I'm smaller than them all.

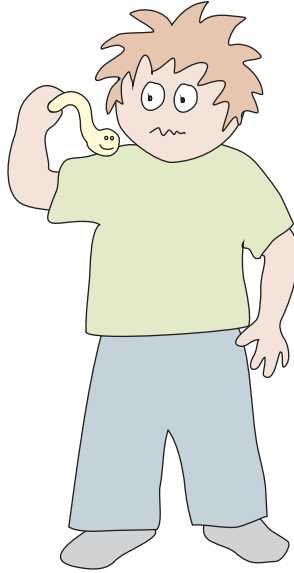


When you're reading, and you see an "A" all by itself, it usually means ONE of something.

Like, a dog, a mouse, a car, a house, and so on.

This kind of "a" doesn't sound like other "a" sounds — it usually sounds like this: "uh" dog, "uh" mouse, "uh" car, "uh" house. You try...

a man a cat
 a cap a rat
 a pan a bat



I like to play **a** silly game – the

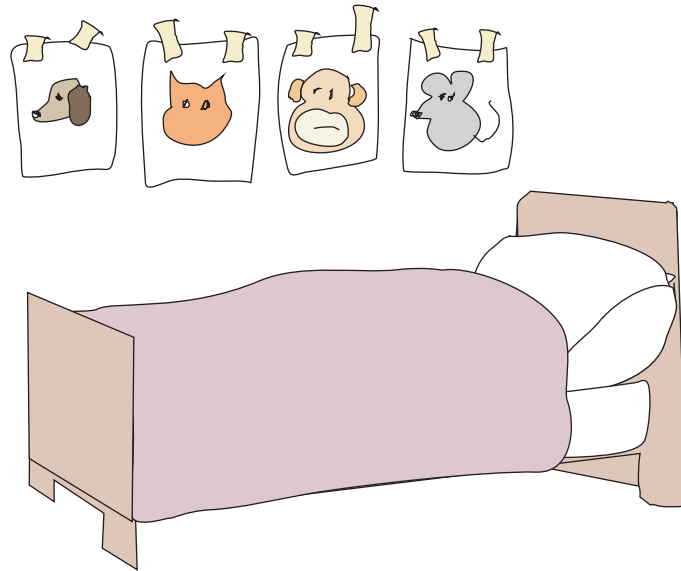
game is so silly it doesn't have

a name. You climb **a** tree, you

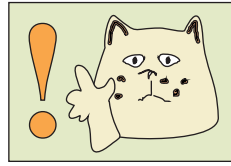
pretend you're **a** bird, you eat

a lot of worms that you dig from

the dirt... Just kidding!



I wish I had **a** puppy. I wish I
had **a cat**. I wish I had
a monkey, and I wish I had **a**
rat. So I drew **a** picture
of them all, and I put the pictures
on the wall.



When a word starts with a letter
“a”, we don’t say, “a apple”, we
say, “an apple.”

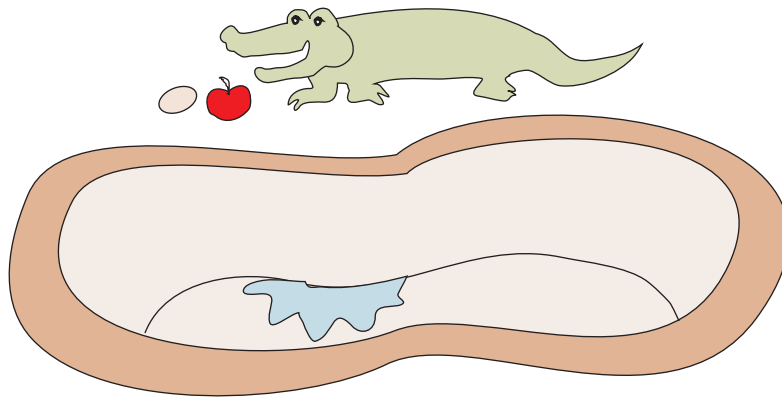
an airplane **an** ant

an alligator **an** animal

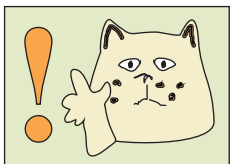
And when a word starts with a
letter “e,” we don’t say, “a elephant,”
we say, “an elephant.”

an egg **an** elevator

an elbow **an** Eskimo.



An alligator ate **an** apple
and **an** egg, as he sat by
an empty pool. **A**n alligator
has **an** awfully big mouth — next
time I get **a** pet, I will get
a mouse.



And same with words that start with the letters “i,” “o” and “u” —

wrong

right

a animal

an animal

a elephant

an elephant

a idea

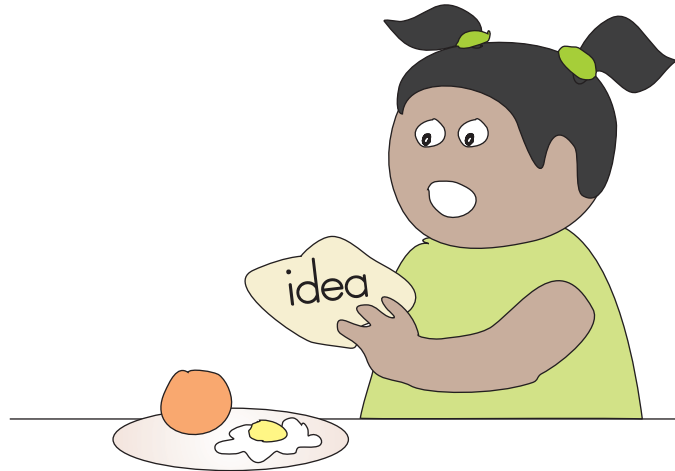
an idea

a orange

an orange

a umbrella

an umbrella



I had **an** idea – **an** awful
idea – stuck inside my head.

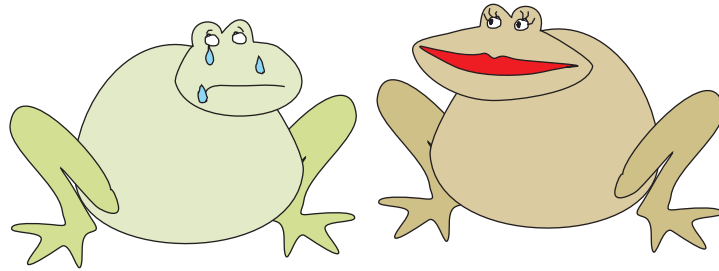
So I put the idea on **a** piece of
bread, and I swallowed it down
with **an** orange and **an** egg.

Mix it up

Up until now, each “story” focused on just a few letters and words at a time.

In the “Mix It Up” section, we “step it up” by highlighting a sampling of ALL words that the child should know by now.

If the child has trouble with the “Mix It Up” section, re-read the earlier portion of this book to help the child develop better recognition of these particular words.



“I **am an** ugly frog,”

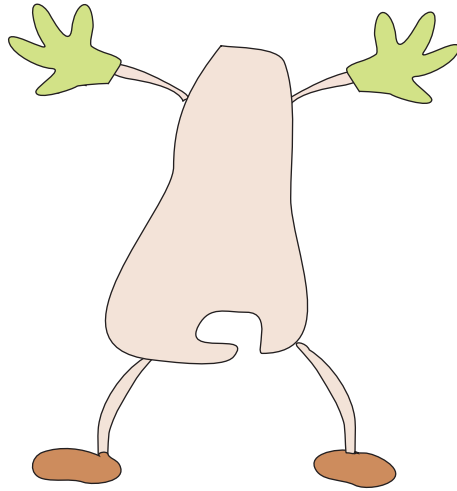
he said with **a** sob.

His wife gave **a** smile

as wide as a mile —

“You’re not ugly **at** all,

you’re cuddly!”



I **can** run **as** fast **as** your

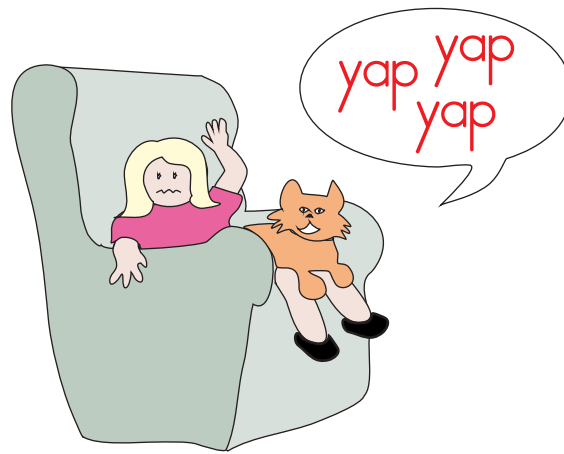
little feet. I have two little holes

so that you **can** breathe. I

can smell **as** well **as** your

little toes – **can** you guess what

I **am**? I **am** your nose!



I **sat** down to take **a nap**.

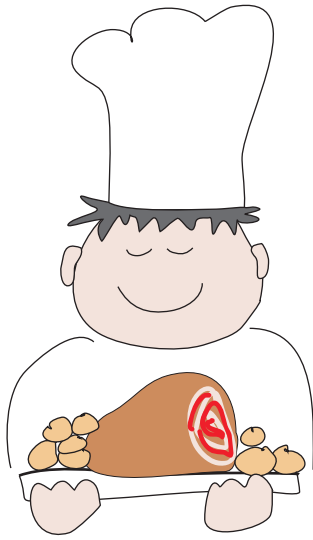
I **had** my **cat** and my teddy

bear in my **lap**. I took off my

hat and closed my eyes — then

the **cat** began to **yap**,

oh, big surprise.



Put the **ham** in the **pan**

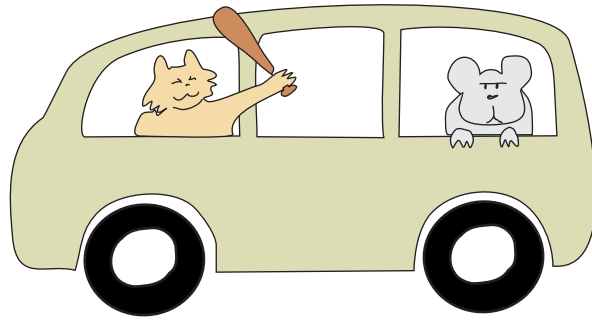
with some of that **yam**.

Add **a pat** of butter, and

a little **pat** of **jam** ...

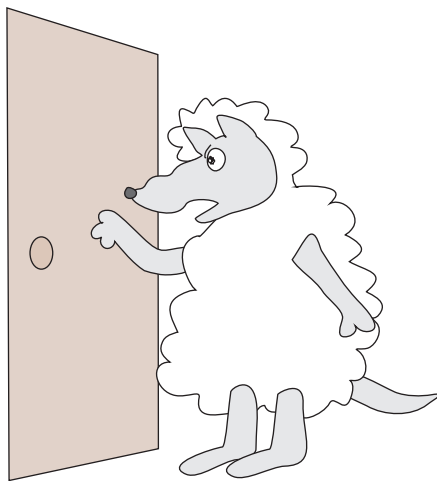
I **am a** good cook?

oh, yes I **am**.

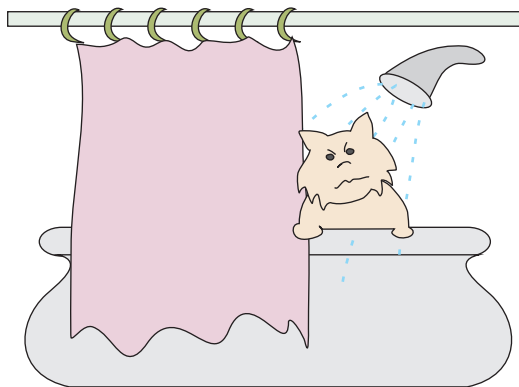


I am mad at my
cat. I am mad
at my rat. They ran
away with my baseball bat.

They were told to take a nap,
but they took the van. Please
help me catch them if you can.



A cat was taking a
nap when someone at the
door went rap, tap, tap.
“Who’s there?” said the cat, still
half asleep. “A big, bad wolf
dressed as a sheep.”



“Go away,” said the **cat**,

“I **am** taking **a nap**.”

But still the wolf went **rap**,

tap, tap. “Go away,”

said the **cat**, “I **am** in the

shower.” But the wolf went **rap**,

tap, tap for **an** hour.



The wolf said, "Cat, can
I please come in?" The cat said,
"No, you have a hairy chin."

The wolf said, "Ooh, what am
I going to do? I know I am
bad, but I need to use the loo."

The End

Next:
Progressive Phonics
Book 2: Short Vowel "e"

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