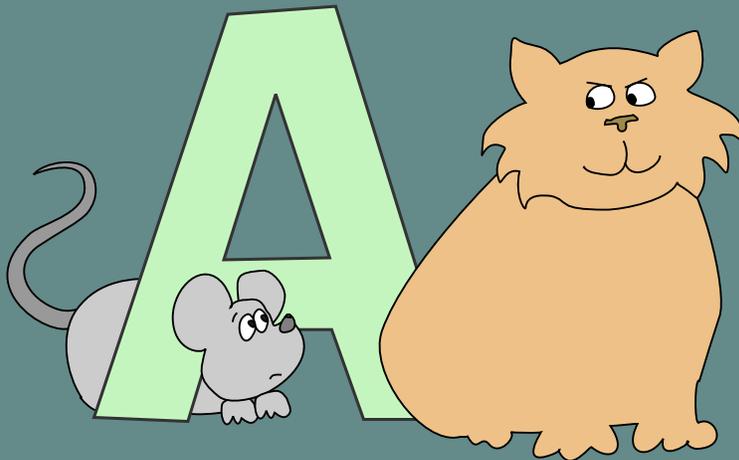


Progressive PHONICS^{TM.}

Beginner
Book **1**

Beginner Book #1 Short Vowel "A"



Written and illustrated by
Miz Katz N. Ratz^{TM.}

Acknowledgements:

For my children, Daniel, Alysa
and Connor. And thanks to my
Mom, who made it all possible.

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Progressive Phonics LLC
Los Angeles, CA

www.ProgressivePhonics.com

Words taught in this book:

at cat hat mat rat sat

am Sam

can man ran

The above list includes the following Dolch** words:

am at can had ran

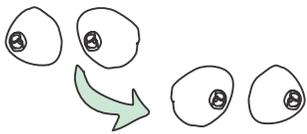
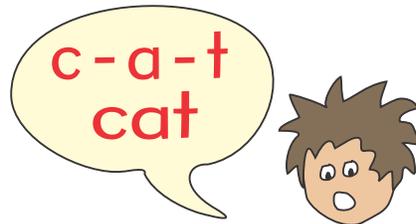
** Dolch words: This is a list of 220 words that comprise 50%—80% of all written texts in English. These words were identified by Edward William Dolch, PhD., in 1948. The theory is that children who can read these words rapidly and without conscious effort will be well on their way to becoming good readers. The “Dolch List” is the backbone of many English reading programs, including Progressive Phonics.

Quick Start Guide



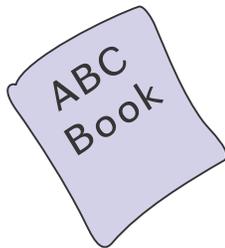
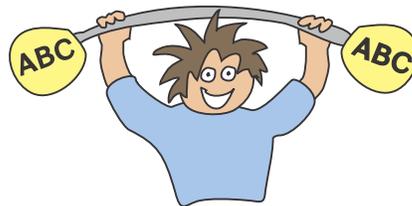
Read the book **WITH** your child. You read the “regular” text, and he/she reads the big, red words, sort of like reading the different parts in a play.

Help your child sound out the words as needed.



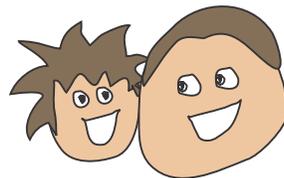
Read the book several times. This helps develop the eye muscles and left-to-right reading patterns that are necessary for reading.

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



If your child is having difficulty, he/she may need more practice with the alphabet. Get some fun books about the alphabet and read them many times. Then come back to Progressive Phonics.

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



Letters:

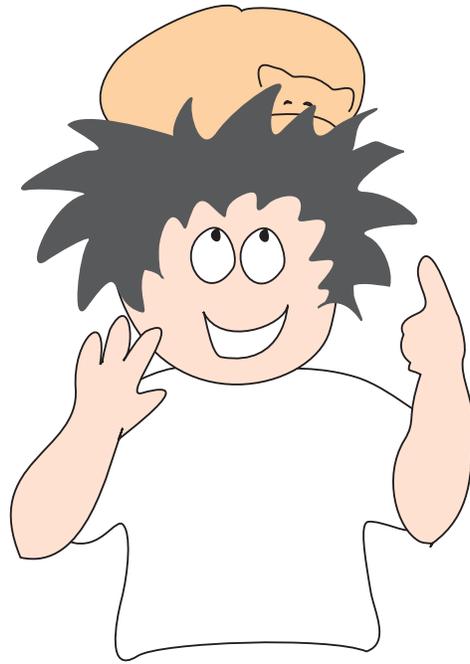
c a t

Words:

at

cat

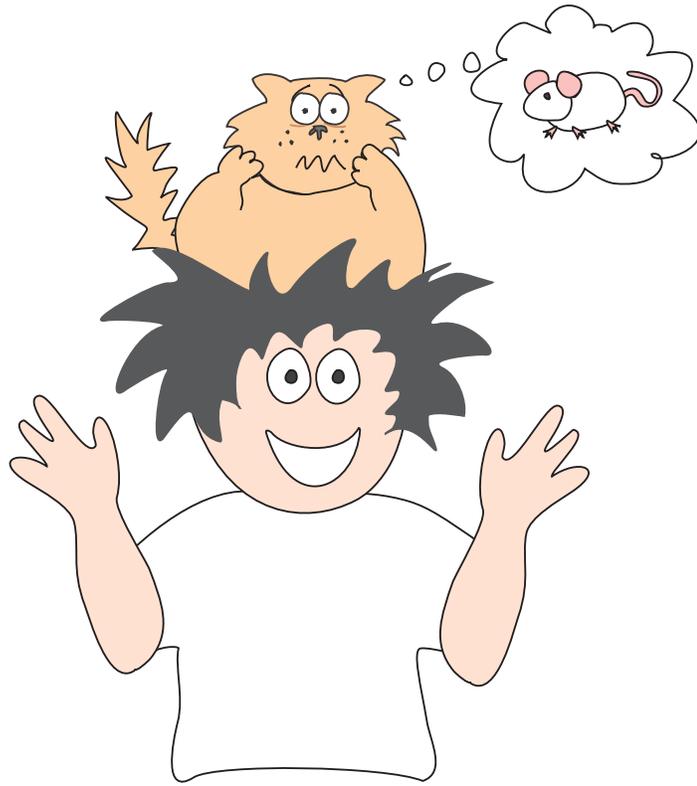
Look At My Cat



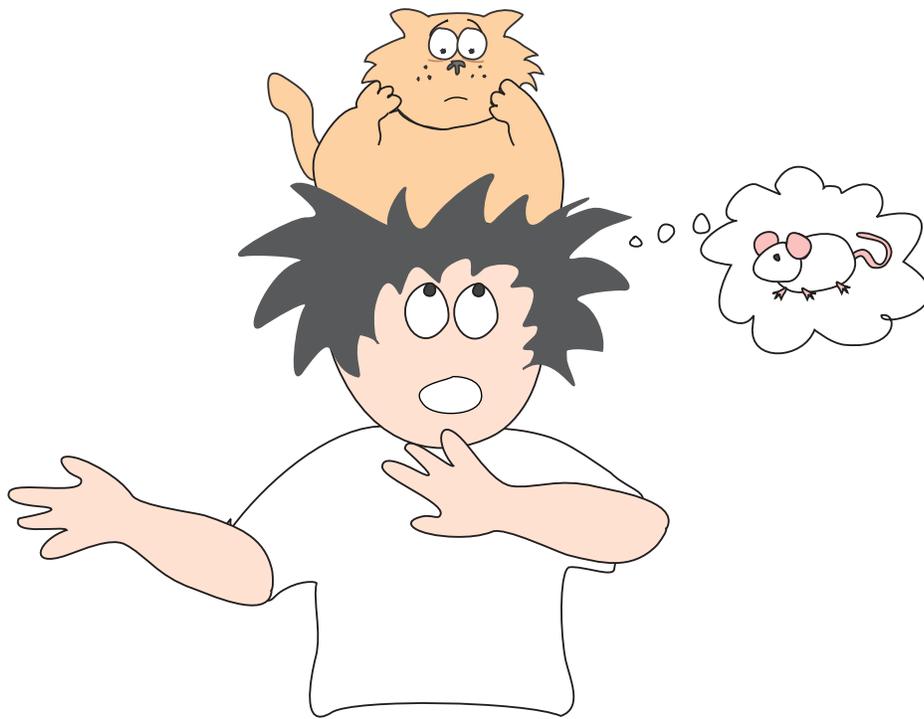
Look, look,
would you look
at that?



That is not
a hat, that
is my **cat**.



My silly little **cat** is
scared of mice, so
she hides on my head
all day and night.

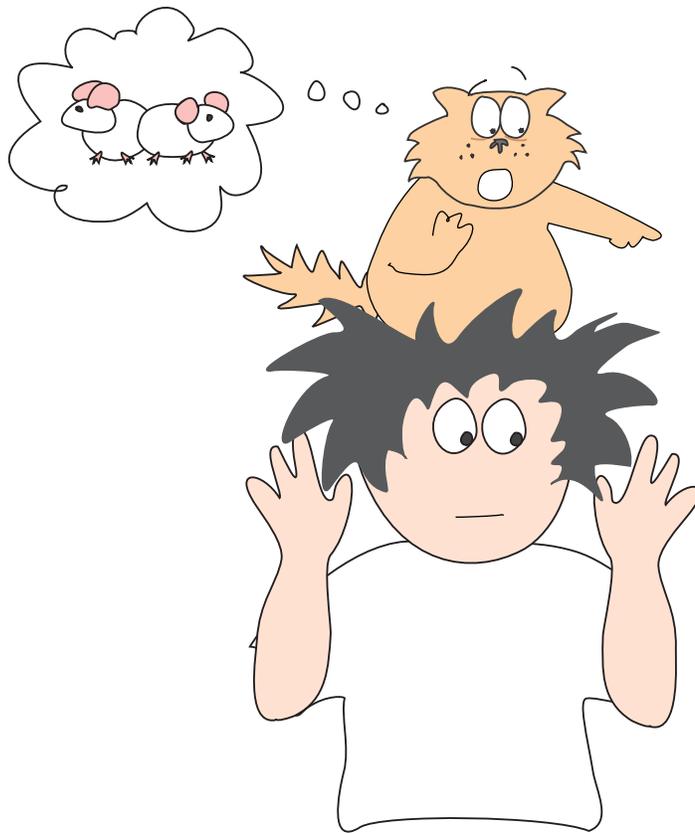


I tell my **cat**,

“Don’t be scared.

Mice can’t catch

you way up there.”



Then one day
my **cat** said,
“Mice!”

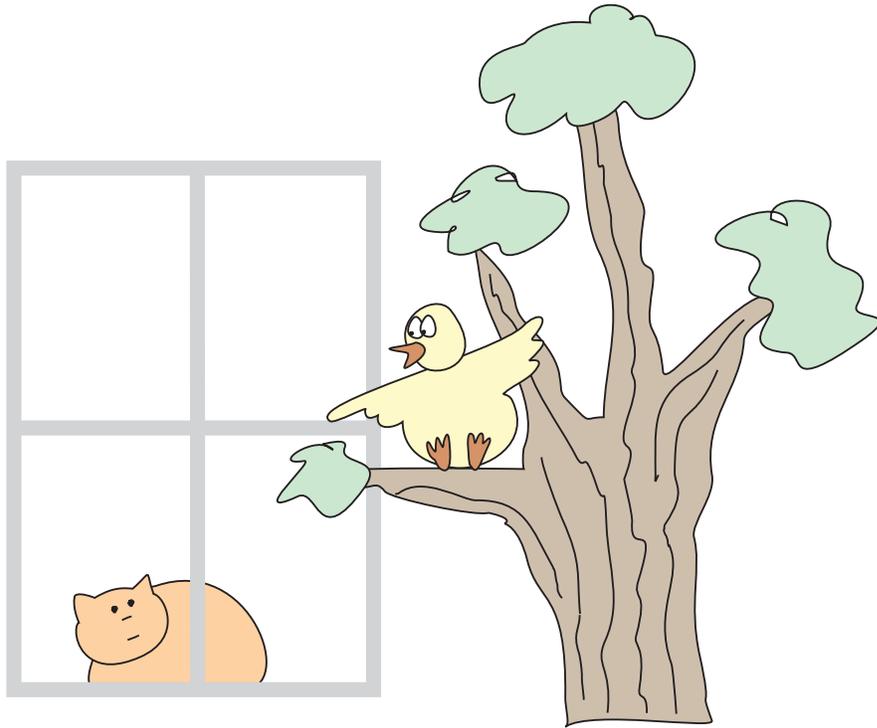


I got so scared that
I screamed twice.

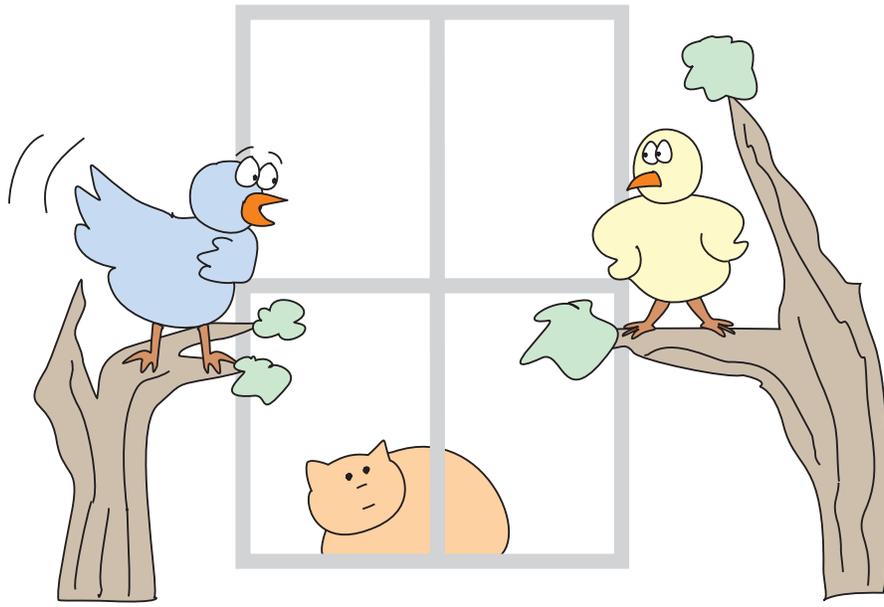
New letter: **S**

Words: **sat**

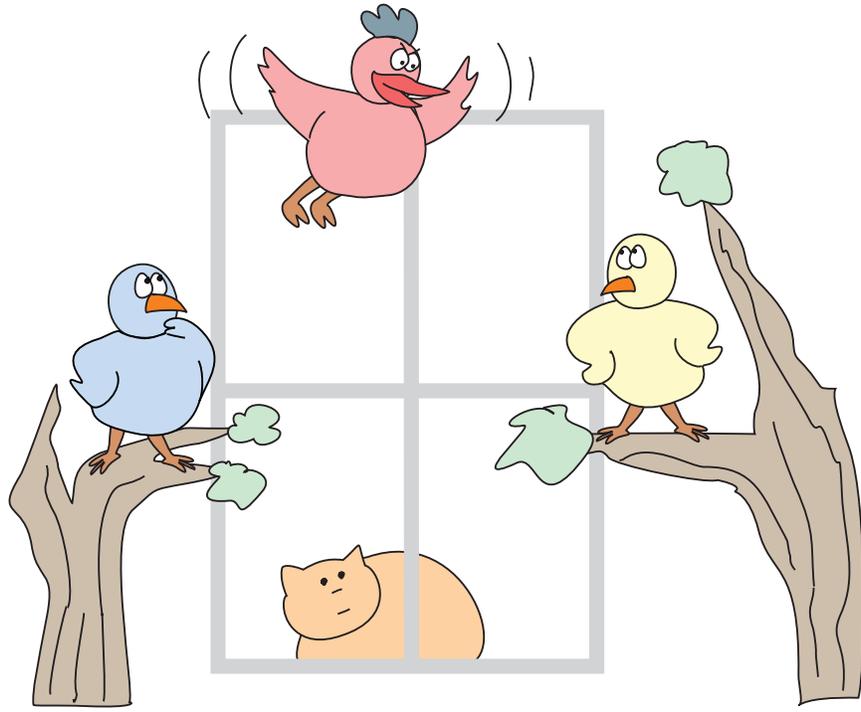
The Cat in the Window



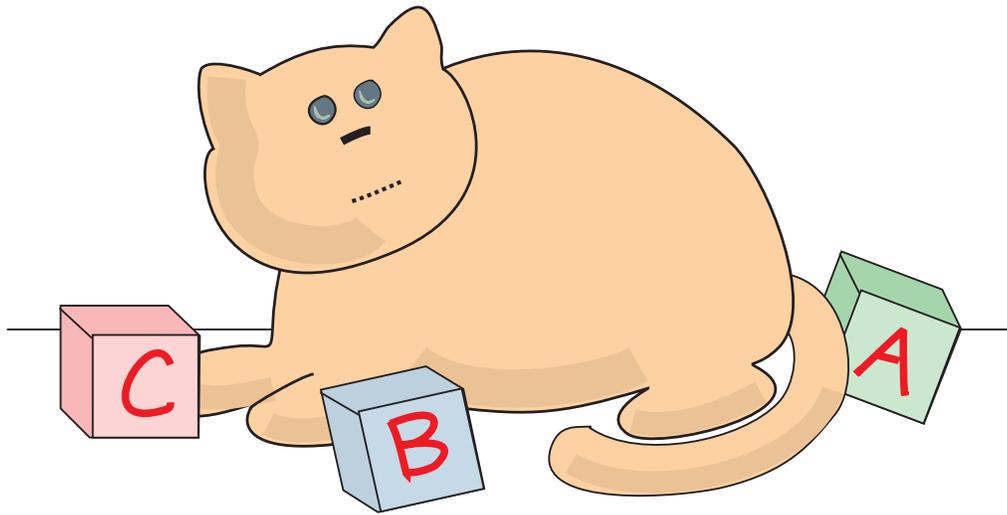
“The **cat** in the window
is looking **at** me,” said
a bird who **sat** on the
branch of a tree.



“No, no, no!” a second
bird said. “The **cat**
is looking **at** me
instead.”



“The **cat** looks **at**
me because I am better,”
said bird number three
with the flick of a feather.



But the **cat** was a toy,
with glass eyes and stuffing,
so the **cat** in the window
was looking **at** nothing.

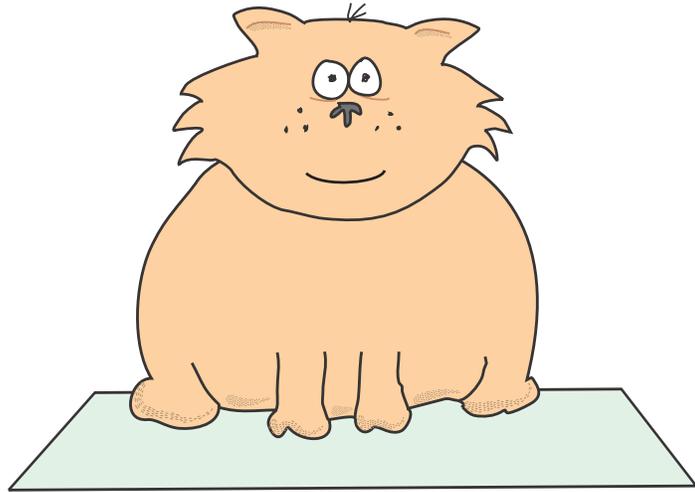
New letters: m r

Words: mat
rat

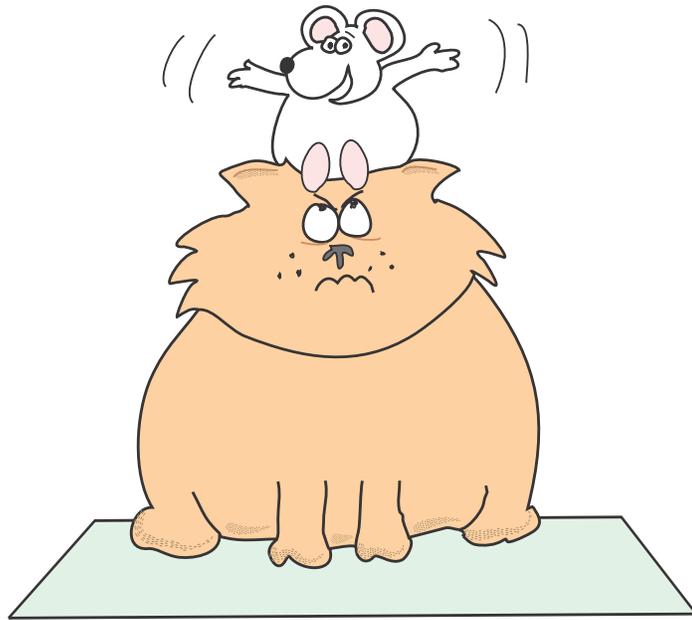
Mat Sat



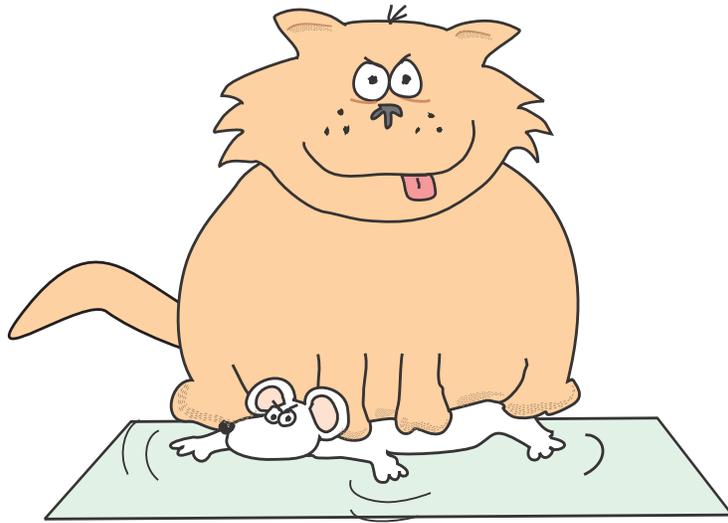
This is a **mat**.



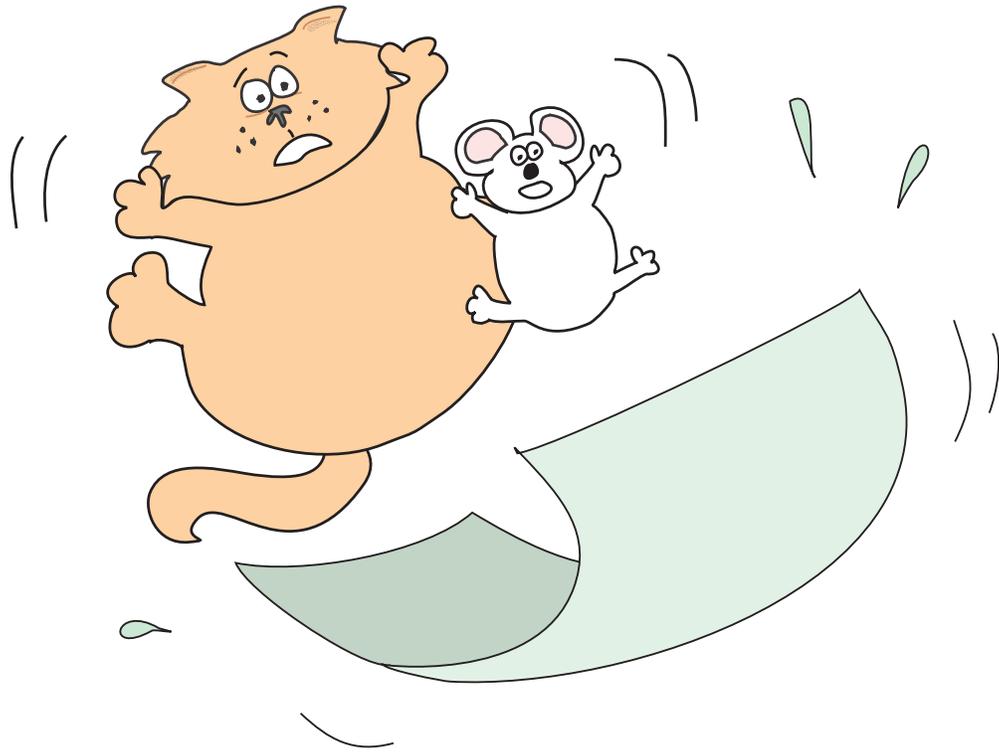
A **cat** sat
on the **mat**.



Then a **rat**
sat on the
cat.



Then the **cat**
sat on the
rat.



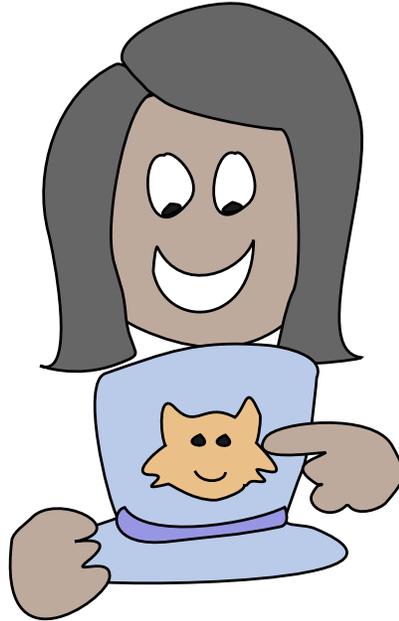
And then the
mat said,

“Stop it!”

New letter: **h**

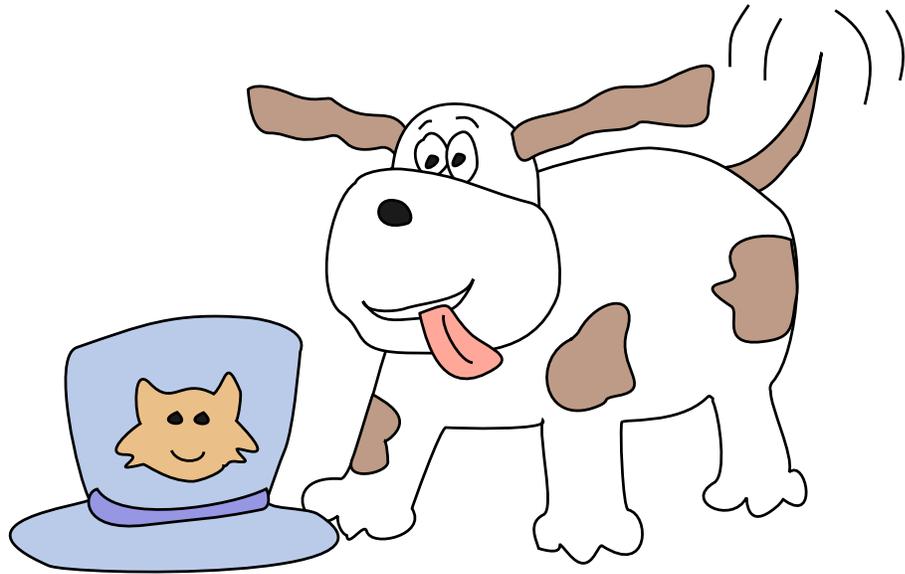
Words: **hat**

My Hat

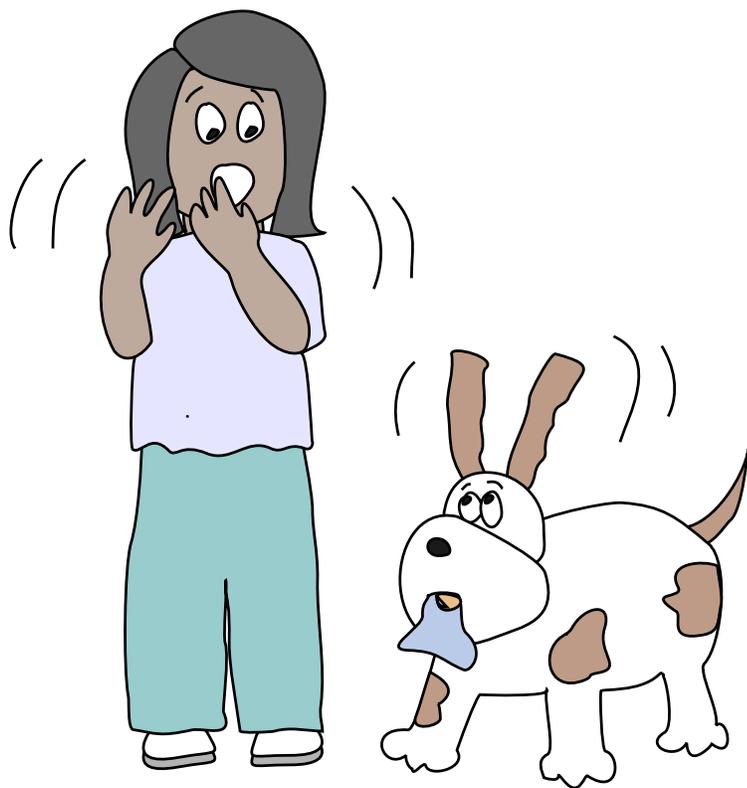


Look **at**
my little **hat**.

On my **hat**
is a little **cat**.



Oh, no! My dog
thought the **cat**
on the **hat**
was real.

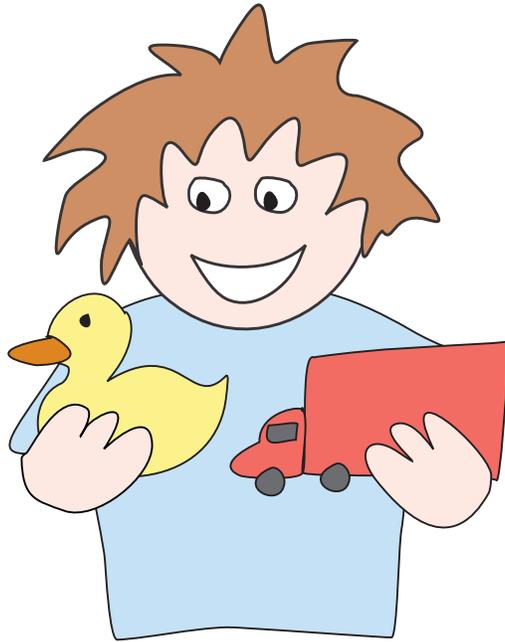


So my naughty,
little dog had a
cat hat meal.

New letter: **d**

New words: **had**

Had

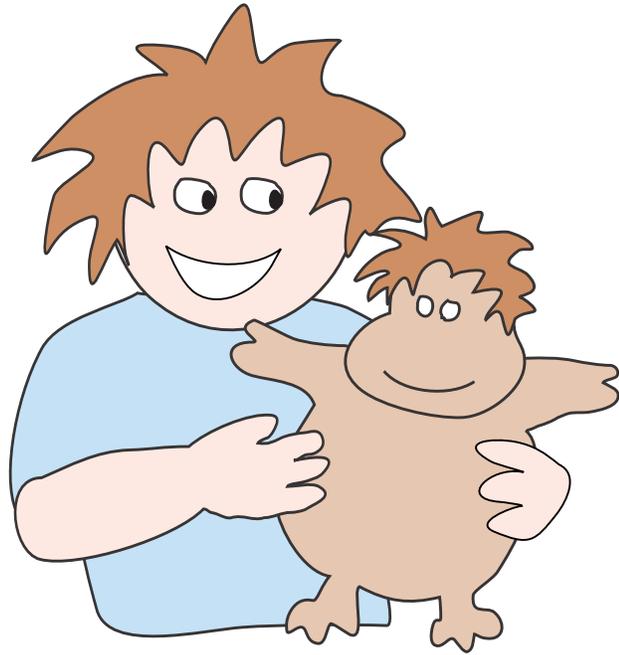


When I was a baby,

I **had** a yellow duck.

When I was two, I

had a red truck.



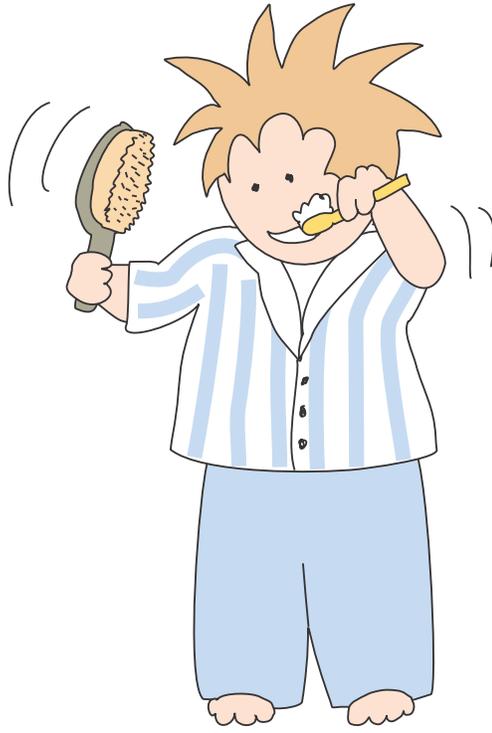
When I was three, I

had a chimpanzee...

look **at** him, he looks

like me!

Had To



I **had** to brush my hair,
and I **had** to brush my
teeth. Then I **had** to put
socks and shoes on my feet.



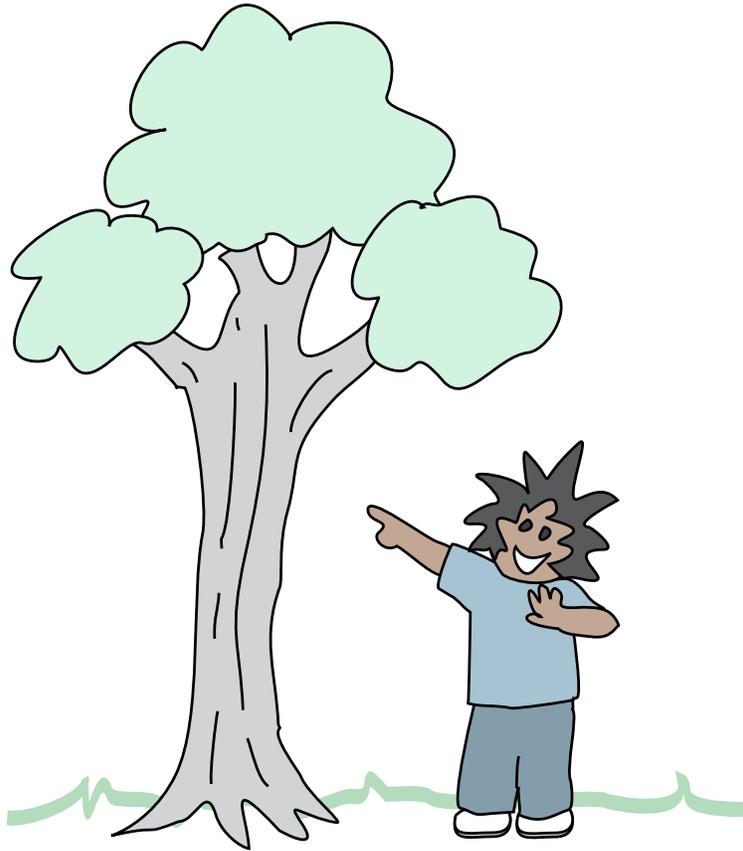
Then I **had** to put a
hat on top of my head.

Is this what you wear
when you go to bed?

New letter: **n**

New words: **can**
man
ran

Can I?



Can I jump

higher than a tree?

Can I? **Can** I?

Little, tiny me?



Yes, I **can** jump

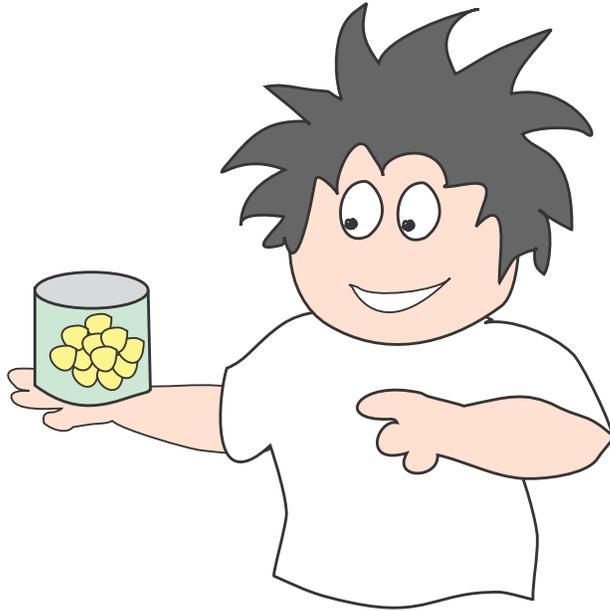
higher than a tree.

A tree can't jump,

tee, hee, hee!

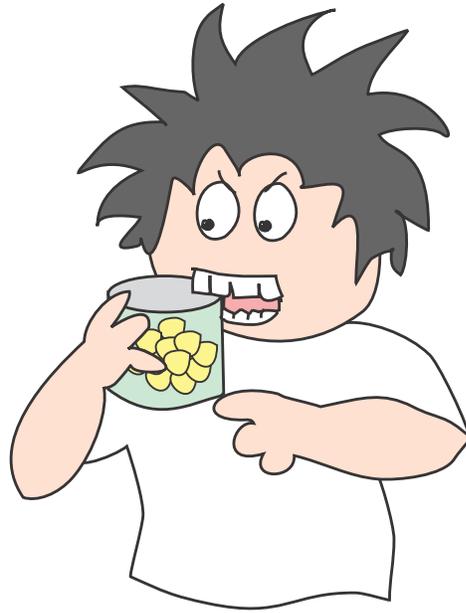
Tee, hee, hee is a silly way of laughing.

Can Of Carrots



See this **can** of
corn in my hand?

I **can** eat it all,
oh, yes, I **can**.



But a **can** of corn
doesn't taste very good,
and a **can** of corn is
as hard as wood.

A Man Ran



A pair of shoes **ran**

down the street. A

man ran too,

but he **had** bare feet.



“Come back to me!” said
the **man** as he **ran**.

“Wash your feet,” said the
shoes, “then we **can**!”

New letters: none

New words: am
ram
Sam

I Am Sam

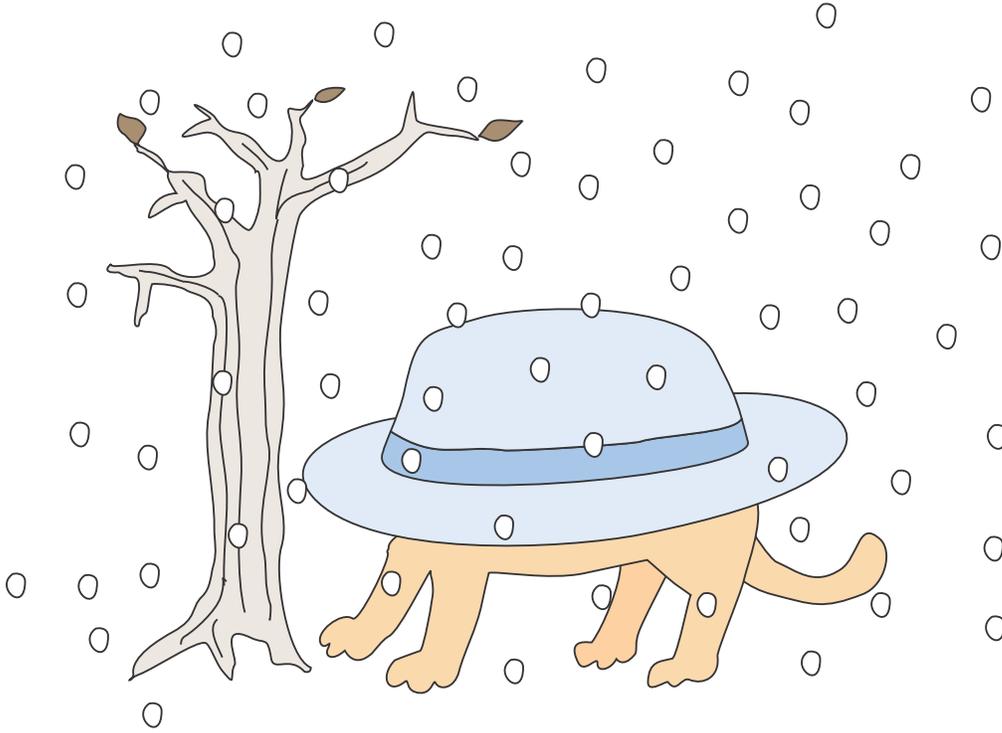


I **am** Sam.

I **am** a **cat**,

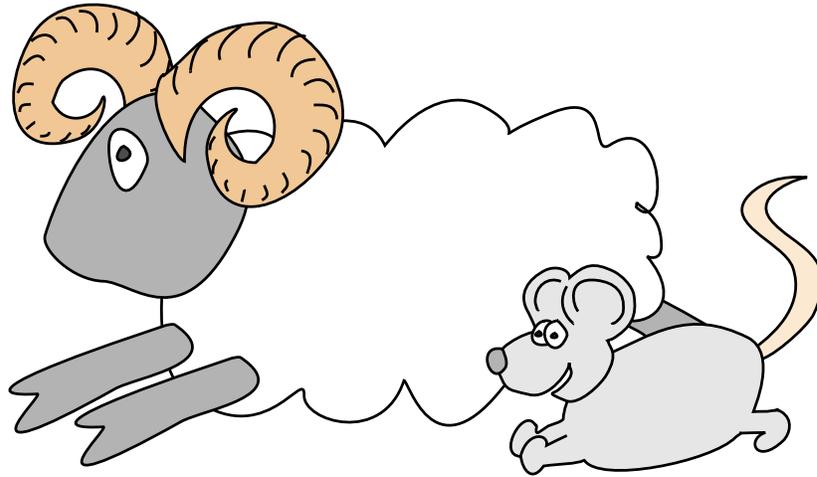
and I **am** stuck

inside a **hat**.



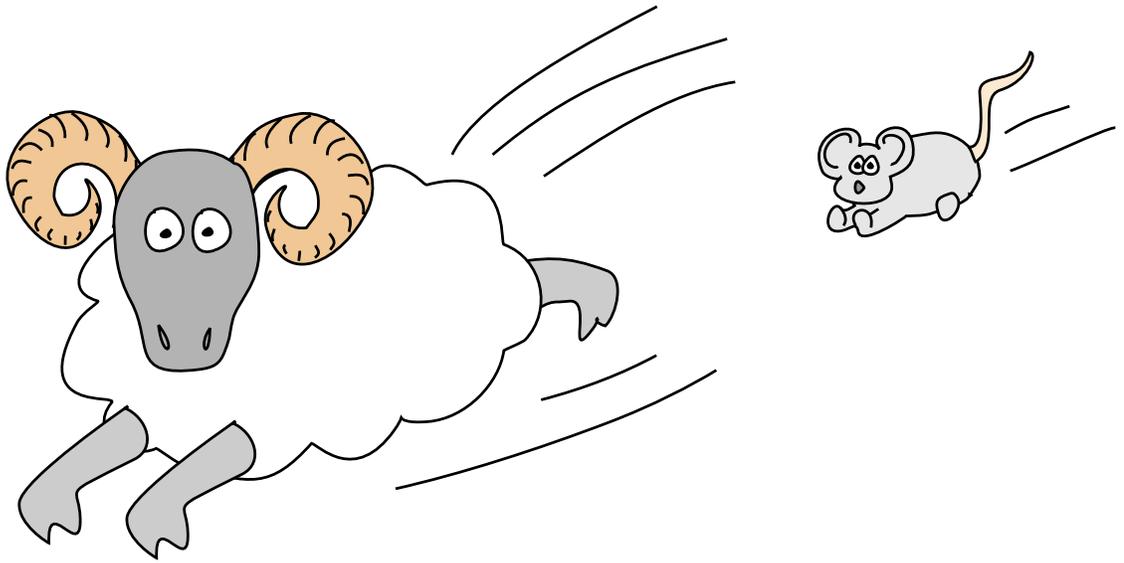
The **hat** is nice
when it is snowing,
but I can't see where
I **am** going.

The Ram And The Rat

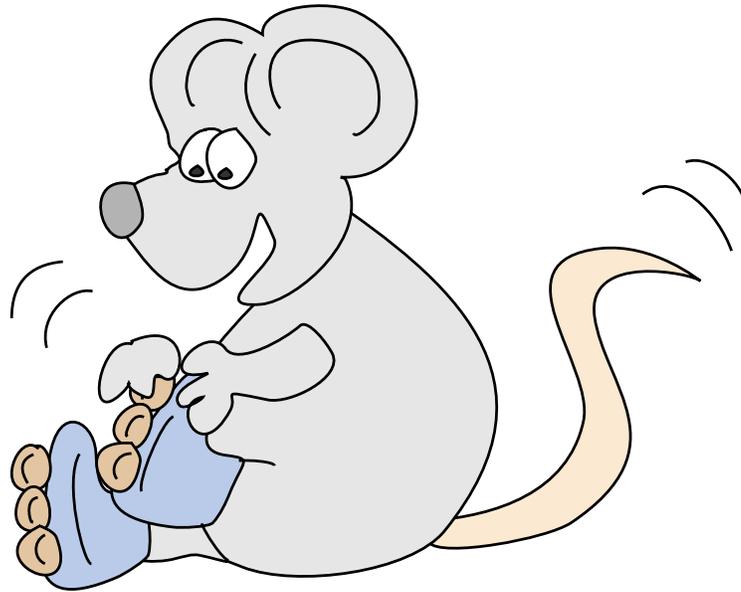


A **rat** and a
ram ran
a race.

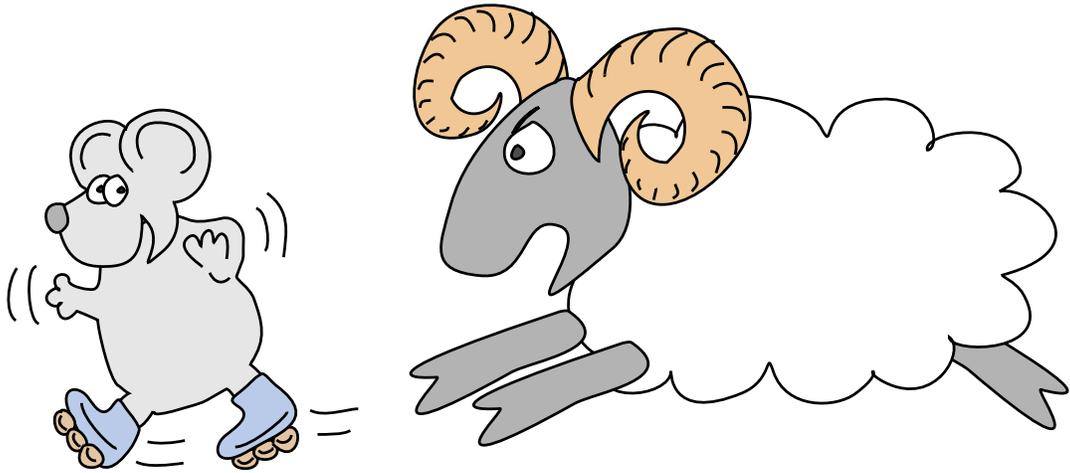
A ram is a boy sheep.



The **ram ran**
faster..



...so the **rat** put
on skates.



“Cheater!” said the

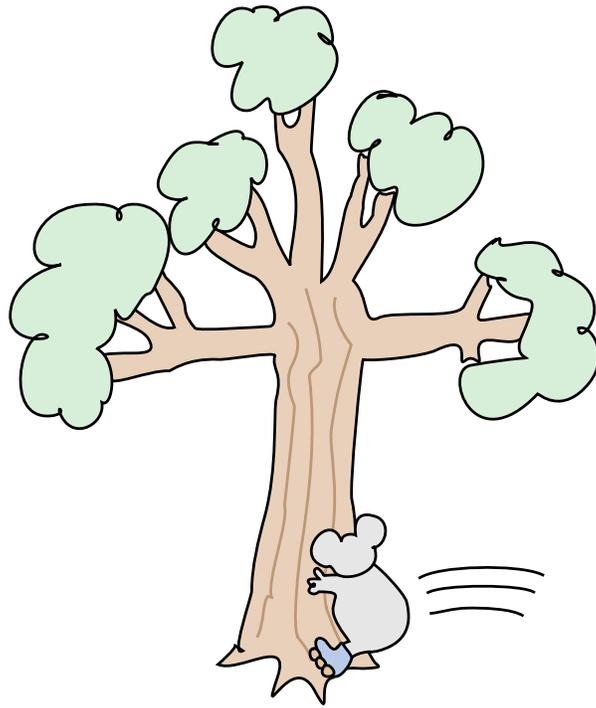
ram as the **rat**

rolled by.

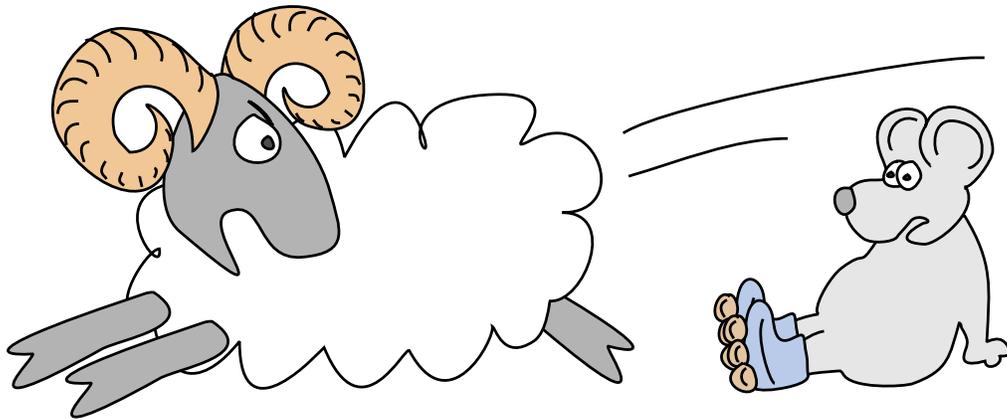


“I **am** the winner!”
said the **rat**.

“Bye-bye!”



But the **rat** wasn't
looking, and he
ran into a tree.



“No,” said the **ram**,

“the winner is me!”

Suggested activities:

Younger children:

Flash cards and memory games using alphabet letters and simple words.

Finger painting, especially to make shapes (circles, squares, lines, triangles) and to make different alphabet letters.

Tracing, connect-the-dots, mazes, etc.

Beginner-style handwriting exercises.

Older children:

All the above plus:

More handwriting (writing actual words, not just tracing letters).

The End

Next:
Progressive Phonics
Book 2: Short Vowel “e”

ProgressivePhonics.com

Miz Katz N. Ratz is a writer/illustrator who lives in Los Angeles, California, with her family and dozens of pencils.