



Story Star Blastoff

Theme: Birds

Phonics Focus: ER, IR, and UR Controlled Vowels

READ: *The Lucky Bird* by Margaret Williamson

Have your child read aloud to you, reading the words they can while you help with challenging new words. Encourage them to solve unfamiliar words using the patterns they know, as well as use the pictures for more detail. Learning to read is all about building your toolkit of known words and sounds!

Extension Activity:

Work through the included activities at your child's pace. They should be challenged, but not frustrated, and these activities do not need to be done in one sitting. Directions are included for each activity. If your child has trouble, that's okay! You can help them, just try not to give them the answer. They should be doing most of the work.

READ: *Only* by Airlie Anderson

Read this book to your child. If able, let them read to you, or take turns. Along the way, talk with your child about what is happening and how they feel about the story. Ask questions like: why do you think the character did that? How would you solve this problem? What is the story trying to teach us? What was your favorite part of the story? All questions are good questions.

WRITE and DRAW: What is the fanciest bird you can imagine?

You can use notebook paper or the writing templates provided on our website. As your child writes, let them get their full thought down on paper before you correct anything. This is how they become a writer! As they spell, encourage them to use the rules they know. This is called invented spelling. Even if it doesn't look like what an adult would write, they are still practicing their phonics. Illustrations are always welcome!



Mother and Brother



When *e* is followed by *r*, it makes the sound you hear at the end of *mother* and *brother*.

Mother and **brother** are rhyming words. Use a ruler to draw lines to match other **er** words that rhyme.



serve ●

drummer ●

germ ●

lumber ●

perky ●

smaller ●

later ●

flower ●

letter ●

never ●

● perm

● summer

● nerve

● skater

● taller

● jerky

● number

● better

● ever

● shower



They are two seasons of the year. One is hot. One is cold. They are not spring or fall. They both end with *er*. What are they? Now say the months of the year. Which four end with *er*?

Answer Key



serve—nerve,
drummer—summer, germ—
perm,
lumber—number,
perky—jerky, smaller—taller,
later—skater,
flower—shower,
letter—better, never—ever;
summer, winter,
September, October,
November, December

ir

Name _____

bird dirt first girl shirt stir

Trace each word.



dirt



first

Write each word. Use words from the box above.









Circle each **ir** word. (Hint: There are 6.)

p	a	d	w	s	h	i	r	t	o
f	h	i	n	f	g	s	t	i	r
i	u	r	m	p	b	a	n	g	f
r	q	t	x	e	u	l	w	i	c
s	y	z	b	i	r	d	m	r	g
t	c	o	d	j	k	e	v	l	n



How to Use this Activity Page

Completing this Write-N-Seek activity page is as easy as 1, 2, 3! Print and distribute copies of the page. Point out the target skill at the top of the page. Then have children:

- 1 Trace each word.
- 2 Write each word. (Use words from the box.)
- 3 Find and circle each word in the word-search puzzle. (Each word appears once.)

Tip: All the target words in the puzzle go from left to right (→) or top to bottom (↓).

i Name Kelly

bib fish lid pig ring six

1 Trace each word.

fish ring

Write each word. Use words from the box above.

bib pig

2

lid six

3

Circle each i word. (Hint: There are 6.)

k r a f e h q s i x
s i v b c t o l m n
o n w i j a p i g r
t g x b u l y b c d
y m r e q i w t p k
j f i s h d z v u o

Teaching Tips

Use these tips to help children get the most from this activity page.

- **Provide a model:** Demonstrate, step by step, how to complete the activity page.
- **Focus on the target words:** Have children read aloud each of the target words and finger-write them in the air.
- **Promote visual skills:** Have children look carefully for each target word in the word-search puzzle. As they complete the activity, encourage them to note how each word is spelled as they find it in the puzzle.

Connections to the Standards

Print Concepts

Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print.

Phonological Awareness

Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds.

Phonics and Word Recognition

Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.

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LEARNING CENTERS

Make this activity page self-checking when using it in a learning center. To create an answer key, simply complete the page, drawing a bold circle around each target word in the word-search puzzle. Then tape the completed page to the back of a file folder and place copies of the activity page inside the folder. Have children complete the page and then use the answer key to check their work.

Answers

ir

p a d w s h i r t o

f h i n f g s t i r

i u r m p b a n g f

r q t x e u l w i c

s y z b i r d m r g

t c o d j k e v l n

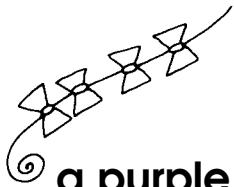
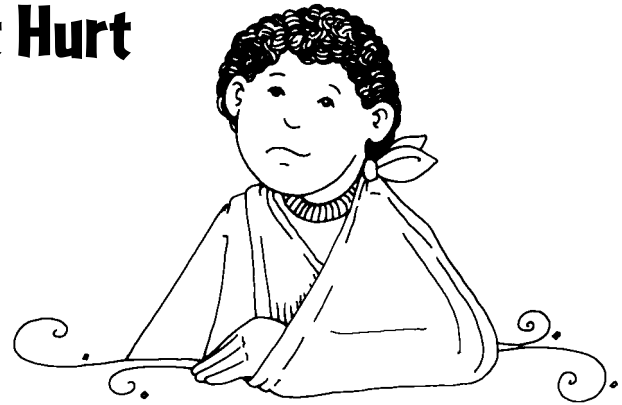


Kurt Got Hurt

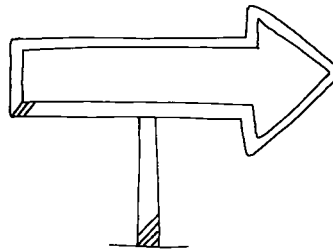


When *u* is followed by *r*, it makes the sound you hear in Kurt and hurt.

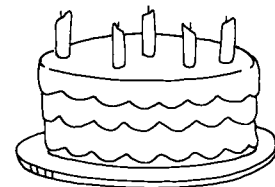
Kurt cannot finish drawing the pictures below. His arm is hurt. Finish each picture to show the **ur** word for Kurt.



a purple kite



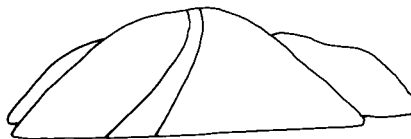
a red turn signal



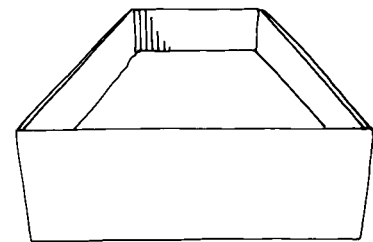
candles burning



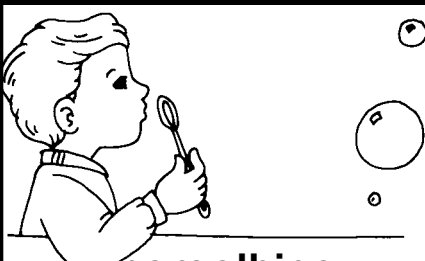
a turtle on a rock



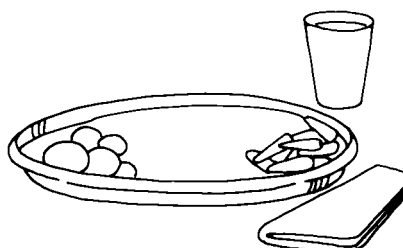
a church on a hill



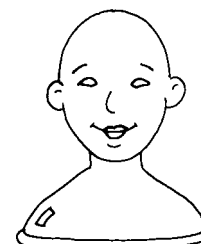
a pet with fur



something that can burst



a turkey leg



a curly wig



Bob lost his glasses. He cannot see clearly. How does everything look to him?
The word rhymes with *furry*. What is it?

Answer Key



Check children's
drawings.; blurry