



# Story Star Countdown

**Theme: Friendship**

**Phonics Focus: Short Vowel and Digraph Review**

**READ: *At the Beach* by Kathleen Corrigan**

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: *Hornbeam All In* by Cynthia Rylant**

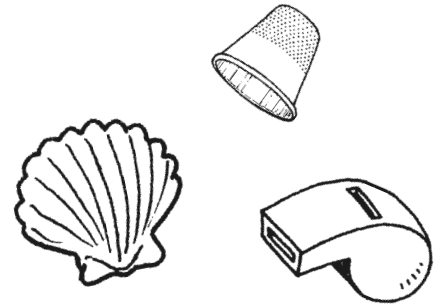
Read this book to your child. If able, let them read to you, or take turns. Along the way, talk with your child about what is happening and how they feel about the story. Ask questions like: why do you think the character did that? How would you solve this problem? What is the story trying to teach us?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

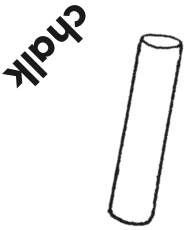
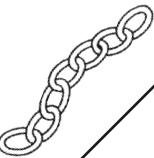

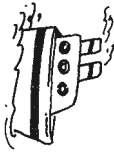




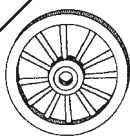


**WRITE and DRAW: Who is your best friend in the whole world?**

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!

# 31 Little Things

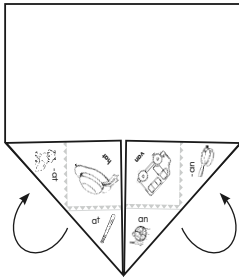
Name the picture. Add the beginning sound.  
Pick your favorite little thing to start.



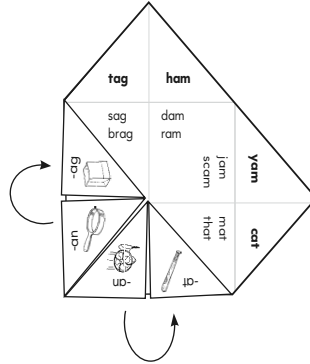
 ____ain  <u>chain</u>	<u>cheese</u>  ____ee chat chill chip chunk	 ____ip <u>ship</u> share shut she shape	 ____oe  <u>shoe</u>
 ____umb <u>thumb</u>	thank third thing thaw <u>thorn</u>  ____orn	white when whim what <u>wheel</u>  ____eel	 ____ale <u>whale</u>  ____istle

# Folding Directions

- 1** Trim off the top part of the fun flap page.
- 2** Place the fun flap on a flat surface with the blank side facing up.
- 3** Fold back the four corners along the solid lines so that they touch in the center of the square.



- 4** Turn over the fun flap. Fold back the corners again so that they touch the center of the square.



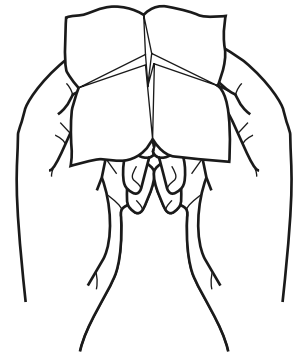
- 5** Fold the fun flap in half.

- 6** Place your right thumb and index finger in the right side.



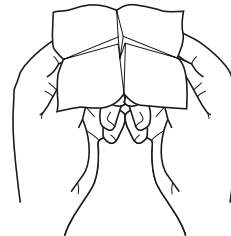
- 7** Place your left thumb and index finger in the left side.

- 8** Open and close the fun flap by moving your fingers.



## Using the Fun Flaps









- 1** Partner A holds the fun flap in a closed position, so that the points touch. Partner A asks Partner B to choose a picture on a flap.
- 2** Partner B selects one of the four pictures.
- 3** Partner A opens and closes the fun flap the number of times shown above the selected picture, ending with the fun flap in an open position. Partner A holds the fun flap so Partner B can view the four pictures with word family endings.
- 4** Partner B chooses a picture and names it. Partner A lifts the flap to reveal the word and reads aloud the other words beneath the flap.
- 5** Partners can switch roles at any point. Practice continues until both partners have taken several turns and are familiar with the word family words on the fun flap.



31 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Fill in the missing letter pairs. Then write each word.  
Use the letters in the box to help you.

ch sh th wh









- |    |  |        |       |           |
|----|--|--------|-------|-----------|
| 1. |   | __ain  | _____ | 1. chain  |
| 2. |   | __ell  | _____ | 2. shell  |
| 3. |   | __eel  | _____ | 3. wheel  |
| 4. |   | __orn  | _____ | 4. thorn  |
| 5. |   | __ale  | _____ | 5. whale  |
| 6. |   | __eese | _____ | 6. cheese |
| 7. |   | __umb  | _____ | 7. thumb  |
| 8. |  | __ip   | _____ | 8. ship   |

Fold back here.

31 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Fill in the missing letter pairs. Then write each word.  
Use the letters in the box to help you.

ch sh th wh









- |    |  |        |       |           |
|----|--|--------|-------|-----------|
| 1. |  | __ain  | _____ | 1. chain  |
| 2. |   | __ell  | _____ | 2. shell  |
| 3. |   | __eel  | _____ | 3. wheel  |
| 4. |   | __orn  | _____ | 4. thorn  |
| 5. |   | __ale  | _____ | 5. whale  |
| 6. |   | __eese | _____ | 6. cheese |
| 7. |   | __umb  | _____ | 7. thumb  |
| 8. |  | __ip   | _____ | 8. ship   |

Fold back here.

31 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Fill in the missing letter pairs. Then write each word.  
Use the letters in the box to help you.

ch sh th wh









- |    |   |        |       |           |
|----|---|--------|-------|-----------|
| 1. |  | __ain  | _____ | 1. chain  |
| 2. |  | __ell  | _____ | 2. shell  |
| 3. |  | __eel  | _____ | 3. wheel  |
| 4. |  | __orn  | _____ | 4. thorn  |
| 5. |  | __ale  | _____ | 5. whale  |
| 6. |  | __eese | _____ | 6. cheese |
| 7. |  | __umb  | _____ | 7. thumb  |
| 8. |  | __ip   | _____ | 8. ship   |

Fold back here.

31 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Fill in the missing letter pairs. Then write each word.  
Use the letters in the box to help you.

ch sh th wh

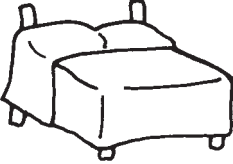


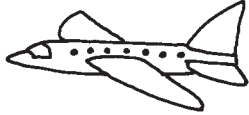



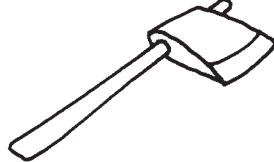


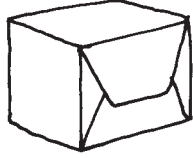

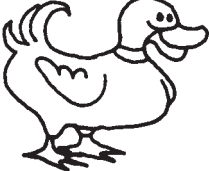

- |    |  |        |       |           |
|----|--|--------|-------|-----------|
| 1. |  | __ain  | _____ | 1. chain  |
| 2. |   | __ell  | _____ | 2. shell  |
| 3. |   | __eel  | _____ | 3. wheel  |
| 4. |   | __orn  | _____ | 4. thorn  |
| 5. |   | __ale  | _____ | 5. whale  |
| 6. |   | __eese | _____ | 6. cheese |
| 7. |   | __umb  | _____ | 7. thumb  |
| 8. |   | __ip   | _____ | 8. ship   |

Fold back here.



## Testing, Testing, 1-2-3

Say the name of each picture. Fill in the circle under the word that matches the picture. Mark the vowel short.

 <div> <div>bag</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>bud</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>bed</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div>	 <div> <div>skill</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>skunk</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>chunk</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div>
 <div> <div>will</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>well</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>bell</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div>	 <div> <div>jam</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>get</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>jet</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div>
 <div> <div>fan</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>can</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>fin</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div>	 <div> <div>crib</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>bib</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>big</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div>
 <div> <div>best</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>fast</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>fist</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div>	 <div> <div>at</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>ox</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>ax</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div>
 <div> <div>man</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>mad</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>can</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div>	 <div> <div>cash</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>truck</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>trash</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div>
 <div> <div>bog</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>box</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>beg</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div>	 <div> <div>bug</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>bunk</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>bus</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div>
 <div> <div>deck</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>duck</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>dock</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div>	 <div> <div>ship</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>shop</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div> <div> <div>dish</div> <div><input type="radio"/></div> </div>



Both of these snacks are fun to eat at a party. You use one of them to scoop up the other one. Then you eat them together. Both words have a short-*i* sound. What are they? Plan a pretend party. What will you serve? On another sheet of paper, make a list.



**Page 1**

bed, skunk; well, jet; fan,  
bib; fist, ax; man, trash;  
box, bus; duck, ship;  
chips and dip