

Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: ou (soup)

"This story focuses on the 'ou' sound as in 'soup.' Look for words like 'group,' 'swoop,' and 'through' as you read about Sue's new friends!"



A Group for You

Sue felt new at school and stood by the wall.

She saw a group of kids with a ball.

"Would you like to join us?" one called out.

Sue gave a small nod and walked to the group.

They played a smooth game where the ball had to swoop through a hoop.

Sue gave a great toss, and the ball flew through!

"You're part of our group now!" they cheered.

After reading the story, have your child point to and slowly sound out each practice word.

group

through

swoop

you

soup



Name: _____

A Group for You

1. What did the group invite Sue to do?

- A. Sit by the wall
- B. Join their game
- C. Eat lunch
- D. Go to the library

2. How did Sue feel at the start of the story?

- A. Happy
- B. New and shy
- C. Busy and loud
- D. Tired

3. Fill in the blank:

"You're part of our _____ now!" they cheered.

4. What helped Sue feel better about being new?

5. What game would you play to welcome someone new?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: *ou as in "soup" (/oo/ sound)*

Genre: *Fiction – Realistic Fiction / Friendship*

High-Frequency Words: *you, now, our, through, new*

Before Reading

1. This story focuses on “ou” words like *group*, *swoop*, and *through*.
 2. Have you ever felt new somewhere?
 3. What are kind ways to help someone feel welcome?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support: Sounding Out Support:** Remind students to stretch the /oo/ sound in words spelled with “ou” like *group*, *swoop*, and *through*.
 2. Watch for words that show how Sue’s feelings change.
 3. What does the group say to make Sue feel welcome?
 4. **Fluency Tip:** Read the final line like you are cheering with the group!
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After Reading

1. Retell how Sue joined the group and how she felt at the end.
 2. What does this story teach about including others?
 3. How would you welcome someone new?
 4. Skill Check: Highlight six “ou” words in the story.
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Read it again using kind and excited voices to show how feelings change from shy to happy!
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Activity Idea

Draw Sue playing the game with the group, tossing the ball through the hoop. Label items using “ou” words like *group*, *through*, *swoop*, *you*, *smooth*, or *soup*. Write one sentence about how Sue became part of the group.

Coaching Tip

Building confidence through kindness helps readers grow socially and academically—every small moment counts!

