

Decodable Texts: Beginning Blends (3 Letter S-Blends)

"This story shows how Trin fixes her drum. Help your child watch for *str* words like *string*, *strap*, and *Trin* while they read."



A String for the Drum

Trin gets a big drum.

The drum has a rip.

The string is in a box.

Trin can fix it!

She tugs and tugs.

Strap! The string is on.

Trin taps the drum.

The drum is fun!

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

string

strap

drum

taps

tugs



Name: _____

A String for the Drum

1. What does Trin fix?

- A. A bag
- B. A mop
- C. A drum
- D. A van

2. What helps her fix the drum?

- A. A tag
- B. A string
- C. A rod
- D. A pad

3. Fill in the blank:

Trin taps the _____.

4. How does Trin solve the problem with her drum?

5. Why do you think Trin wanted to fix the drum instead of getting a new one?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Beginning Blend *Str*

Genre: Realistic Fiction / Music

High-Frequency Words: the, a, is, on, in, can

Before Reading

1. *Str* is a 3-letter beginning blend found in words like *string*, *strap*, and *street*.
 2. Have you ever played a drum or fixed something broken?
 3. What might a string be used for?
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During Reading

1. Sounding Out Support: Emphasize the full blend *s + t + r* in *string* and *strap*
 2. Track how Trin solves the problem
 3. What does she do with the string?
 4. Read “Strap! The string is on.” with excitement
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After Reading

1. What was wrong with the drum?
 2. How did Trin fix it?
 3. What would you fix if you could?
 4. Highlight all the *str* words
 5. Fluency Tip: Use rhythm and beat while reading it again—tap your desk or hand like a drum!
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Activity Idea

Create your own mini-drum using a cup and rubber band “strap.” Write a label for it using a *str* word from the story.

Coaching Tip

Linking stories to creative projects makes the reading process meaningful and joyful—let the child share their “drum” and story retell with someone else!

