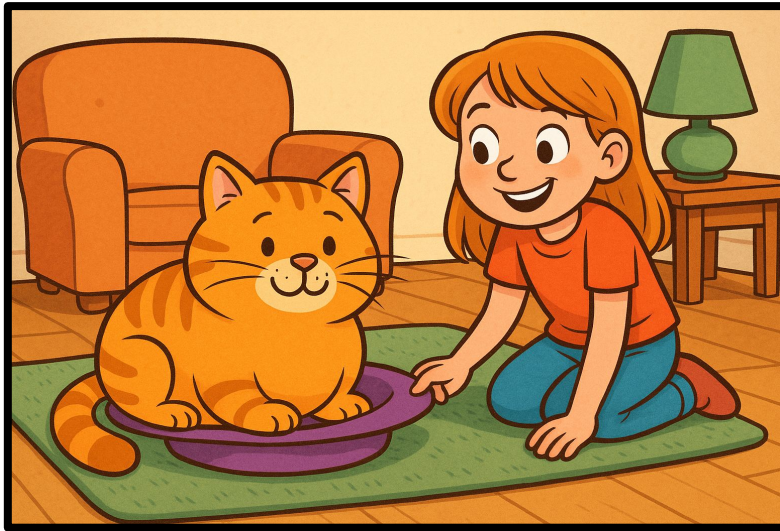


Decodable Texts: Beginning Blends (L-Blends)

"This story is about a boy named Blake and his big blue drum. Help your reader look for words that start with the *bl* blend like *Blake*, *blue*, and *black*."



Blake and the Blue Drum

Blake got a drum.

The drum is big and blue.

Blake can tap it.

He can hit it fast.

He can hit it slow.

The drum is on a black mat.

Blake is glad to play!

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

Blake

blue

black

drum

glad



Name: _____

Blake and the Blue Drum

1. What is Blake playing?

- A. A flute
- B. A drum
- C. A bell
- D. A bugle

2. Where is the drum?

- A. On a desk
- B. On a mat
- C. On a rug
- D. In a box

3. Fill in the blank:

The drum is big and _____.

4. What do you think makes Blake glad about his drum?

5. How do you think the drum sounds when it is hit fast or slow?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Beginning Blend *b/*

Genre: Realistic Fiction

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

Before Reading

1. Remind your reader that words starting with *b/* blend the sounds /b/ and /l/ together.
 2. Have you ever played a drum or seen one?
 3. What color would your dream drum be?
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During Reading

1. Sounding Out Support: Help blend the *b/* sound smoothly at the start of each word
 2. Prompt your reader to find three words that start with *b/*
 3. Where is the drum, and what is Blake doing with it?
 4. Read the last line with excitement and rhythm
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After Reading

1. What does Blake do with his drum?
 2. Why do you think he feels glad about it?
 3. Would you want a blue drum like Blake's? Why or why not?
 4. Circle all the *b/* words in the story
 5. Fluency Tip: Try reading the story again like you are tapping along to a beat!
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Activity Idea

Make your own "Bl Word Beat!" Clap once for every word you find that starts with *b/* in the story. Then write your own sentence using at least two *b/* words (e.g., "Blake had a blue block").

Coaching Tip

Helping your reader feel the rhythm of *b/* words builds fluency and fun—don't be afraid to add a drumbeat!

