

Decodable Texts: R-Controlled (ar)

"This story focuses on the 'ur' pattern, like in 'Burt,' 'surf,' and 'turn.' Let's see how one turtle proves it's his turn to shine!"



Burt the Turtle's Turn

Burt was a small turtle who liked to surf.

But the other turtles said, "Turtles don't surf!"

Still, Burt was firm. "I'll learn," he said.

Each day, he went to the shore with a bright board.

He stood, slipped, and spun in the surf.

One day, he stayed up the whole time.

A big cheer burst from the beach.

"It's your turn to teach us, Burt!" the turtles said.

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

Burt

surf

turn

firm

burst



Name: _____

Burt the Turtle's Turn

1. What did Burt want to do?

- A. Build a boat
- B. Fly a kite
- C. Surf in the sea
- D. Dig in the dirt

2. How did the other turtles feel at the end?

- A. Upset
- B. Proud and ready to learn
- C. Sleepy
- D. Still unsure

3. Fill in the blank:

"It's your turn to teach us, _____!" the turtles said.

4. What does this story show about practice and believing in yourself?

5. How did Burt's actions change the minds of the other turtles?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: ur R-Controlled Vowel

Genre: Fiction – Animal Fantasy

High-Frequency Words: each, was, said, the, to

Before Reading

1. This story includes “ur” words like *Burt*, *surf*, and *turn*.
 2. Have you ever wanted to try something others thought was too hard?
 3. What helps you stick with something when it gets tricky?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Focus on the /ur/ sound in “Burt,” “surf,” and “burst.” It often appears in the middle of words.
 2. Watch for ur words that show Burt’s actions and success
 3. What did Burt do that surprised everyone?
 4. Read the cheer at the end with loud, happy energy!
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After Reading

1. Retell how Burt went from learning to leading
 2. Why did the turtles change their minds about surfing?
 3. What’s something you’d love to try even if it’s hard?
 4. Skill Check: Highlight six “ur” words in the story
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Read it again with a brave and proud tone—just like Burt on his board!
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Activity Idea

Draw Burt surfing a big wave with turtles cheering from the beach. Label parts using “ur” words like *surf*, *turn*, *burst*, or *Burt*. Write one sentence about why it was his turn to shine.

Coaching Tip

Encouraging stories help children connect confidence with decoding—let their reading journey reflect Burt’s bravery.

