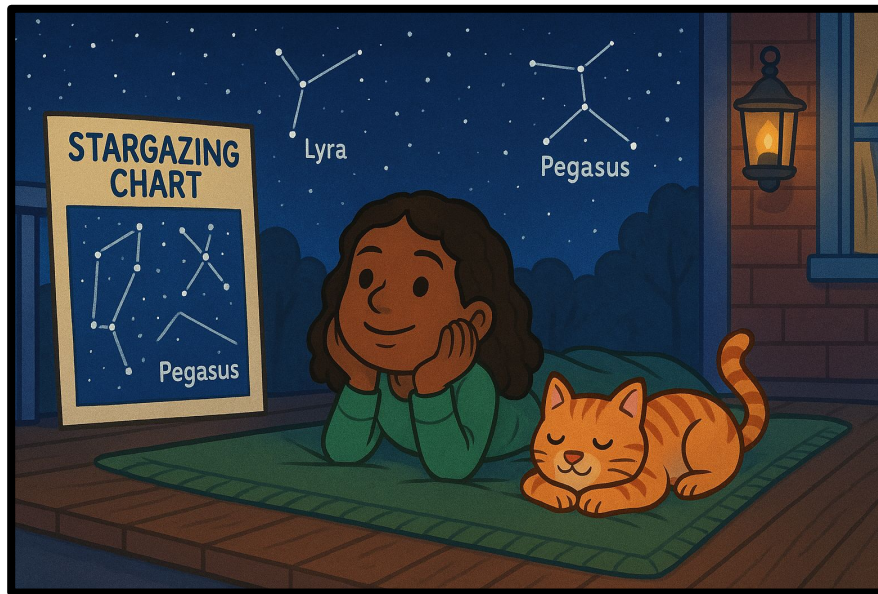


Decodable Texts: R-Controlled (ar)

"This story features the 'ar' pattern like in 'car,' 'star,' and 'chart.' Let's read how Carla and her cat share a starlit hobby!"



Carla and the Stargazing Cat

Carla had a cat who loved to stare at stars.

Each night, the cat sat on the porch and gazed up.

Carla named her Spark, short for "star sparkler."

"Why do you like the dark?" Carla asked.

Spark would purr and blink at the sky.

One night, Carla brought a chart to learn star names.

She and Spark lay side by side, heart to heart.

"This is the best part of the day," Carla whispered.

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

Carla

star

Spark

chart

dark



Name: _____

Carla and the Stargazing Cat

1. What did Carla bring outside?

- A. A snack
- B. A blanket
- C. A star chart
- D. A flashlight

2. What did Carla name her cat?

- A. Star
- B. Spark
- C. Moon
- D. Twinkle

3. Fill in the blank:

She and Spark lay side by side, heart to _____.

4. What does the story tell us about the bond between Carla and Spark?

5. Why do you think they liked looking at stars together?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: ar R-Controlled Vowel

Genre: Fiction – Animal Fantasy

High-Frequency Words: had, her, and, the, each

Before Reading

1. This story uses “ar” words like *star*, *dark*, and *chart*.
 2. Have you ever watched stars at night or used a star map?
 3. What do you think animals notice when they look at the sky?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Practice stretching the /ar/ sound in words like *Carla*, *chart*, and *heart*.
 2. Watch for “ar” words that describe names, feelings, and sky scenes
 3. What did Carla learn about stars?
 4. Read her final line softly like she’s feeling peaceful and calm
-

After Reading

1. Retell how Carla and Spark spent their stargazing nights
 2. What made this time special for them both?
 3. If you had a stargazing buddy, what would you name them and why?
 4. Skill Check: Circle six “ar” words in the story
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Read it again with a gentle nighttime voice, like you’re reading under the stars
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Activity Idea

Draw Carla and Spark on the porch under the stars, with a chart and starlit sky. Label items using “ar” words like *car*, *star*, *chart*, or *dark*. Write one sentence about what they might wish for on a star.

Coaching Tip

Let peaceful stories support soft reading expression—kids build fluency while feeling calm and connected. Let peaceful stories support soft reading expression—kids build fluency while feeling calm and connected. Let peaceful stories support soft reading expression—kids build fluency while feeling calm and connected.

