Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: ou

"This story uses the 'ou' sound as in 'shout.' Watch for words like 'loud,' 'out,' and 'about' as you read about Gail's fun parade!"



Gail and the Loud Parade

Gail stood at the corner with a bright blue flag.

"It's time for the loud parade!" she shouted.

Drums boomed. Kids marched with pails and pots.

One boy gave a big shout and tossed confetti in the air.

They marched around the town square, making sounds all about.

Gail spun her flag and took a proud bow.

"It's the best loud day yet!" she said.

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

loud shout out about round



Gail and the Loud Parade

1. What event was happening in town?	2. What did Gail hold during the parade?
A. A magic show	A. A sign
B. A loud parade	B. A blue flag
C. A quiet meeting	C. A snack
D. A science fair	D. A balloon
3. Fill in the blank: Gail spun her flag and took a bow.	
4. What made this parade different from other parades?	
5. How did Gail feel about leading the parade?	

Coaching Guide

Target Skill: ou as in *shout* (/ow/ sound) **Genre:** Fiction – Adventure / Humor

High-Frequency Words: it, with, the, she, said

Before Reading

- 1. This story focuses on "ou" words like loud, shout, and about.
- 2. Have you ever been to a loud or exciting parade?
- 3. What makes a parade fun and exciting?

During Reading

- 1. **Sounding Out Support:** Stretch the /ow/ sound in "ou" words like *loud*, *shout*, *out*, and *about*.
- 2. Watch for words that describe sounds and actions
- 3. What did Gail do to lead the parade?
- 4. Read her final line with big excitement!

After Reading

- 1. Retell what happened at the loud parade
- 2. Why was this parade fun for the kids and Gail?
- 3. If you made your own parade, what sounds would you include?
- 4. Skill Check: Highlight six "ou" words in the story
- 5. **Fluency Tip:** Read it again with loud, joyful voices—just like the parade!

Activity Idea

Draw Kai flying his kite in the night sky. Label parts of the scene using igh words like "night," "light," or "flight." Write one sentence about what made this moment special.

Coaching Tip

Let high-energy stories build confidence—big sounds lead to big reading expression!

