

Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: ay

"Today, we're reading a story with words that have the long A sound spelled with both 'ai' and 'ay.' Let's see how a rainy, gray day turns into a day of fun!"



Gray Day Parade

Rain poured down on Main Street. "The parade will fail," said Ray.

"No way!" said Gail. "Let's stay and play music in the rain!"

Ray grabbed his drum. Gail took her pale blue flute. They marched down the gray lane, playing loud and proud.

Other kids saw them and joined in. Max banged a pail, and Fay waved a flag.

Rain dripped off their hats, but no one cared. They made the gray day bright with music and play!

At the end of the lane, people clapped and yelled, "Hooray for the Gray Day Parade!"

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

gray

rain

play

fail

main



Name: _____

Gray Day Parade

1. Why did Ray think the parade would fail?

- A. It was raining.
- B. No one wanted to play.
- C. They had no music.
- D. The road was too long.

2. What did the kids do to make the gray day better?

- A. They went home and stayed inside.
- B. They played music and marched in the rain.
- C. They waited for the rain to stop.
- D. They built a big fort.

3. Fill in the blank:

Rain poured down on _____ Street at the start of the parade.

4. How did the kids turn a rainy day into a fun day?

5. Would you like to be part of a parade in the rain? Why or why not?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Long Vowel Team 'ai' and 'ay' Combined

Genre: Realistic Fiction

High-Frequency Words: the, they, and, in, at, for

Before Reading

1. Remind them of the target skill: "Today we're looking for words that have the long A sound spelled with 'ai' and 'ay.'"
 2. Have you ever seen or been in a parade?
 3. What do people usually do when it rains on a special day?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** When you see 'ai' or 'ay,' try the long A sound like in "rain" and "play."
 2. Watch for target skill words as you read!
 3. What did the kids do when it started to rain?
 4. Read with excitement when the people cheer at the end!
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After Reading

1. Can you retell how the Gray Day Parade happened even in the rain?
 2. Why do you think more kids joined in when they saw Gail and Ray?
 3. Would you start a parade like this? What music would you play?
 4. Find and highlight 5 words with the 'ai' or 'ay' spelling.
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading the story again and tap a beat with your hand as you read the parade parts!
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Activity Idea

Make your own mini parade at home or in class! Create simple instruments like a drum from a pail or a shaker from a box. Write a sentence about how your parade would brighten a rainy day. Share your song and lead a small parade!

Coaching Tip

Support kids by reminding them that even small actions—like playing music—can turn a gray day into a happy one. Celebrate their creative thinking!

