

## Decodable Texts: Short u (CVC Words)

"This story is about Gus and his pup having a muddy adventure. Point out short u words like *mud*, *pup*, and *tub* while enjoying this messy, fun tale."



### Gus and the Mud Pit

Gus got a tub.

He ran with the pup.

The pup dug in the mud.

Gus got in the mud.

Mud is on the pup.

Mud is on Gus!

Gus had fun in the sun.

A mud pit is fun!

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

Gus

mud

pup

tub

dug



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Gus and the Mud Pit

1. What did the pup do in the mud?

- A. Took a nap
- B. Dug
- C. Hid a box
- D. Got a bug

2. What was on Gus at the end of the story?

- A. Paint
- B. Mud
- C. A rug
- D. Sun

3. Fill in the blank:

Gus had fun in the \_\_\_\_\_.

4. What made the mud pit fun for Gus and the pup?

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5. What do you think happened after they got messy?

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# Coaching Guide

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**Target Skill:** Short u (CVC)

**Genre:** Realistic Fiction

**High-Frequency Words:** the, a, is, in, on, with

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## Before Reading

1. Remind your reader that short u says “uh” like in *mud*.
  2. Have you ever played in the mud or gotten really messy?
  3. What do you think happens when a dog digs?
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## During Reading

1. Sounding Out Support: Tap and blend words like *pup* and *dug*
  2. Watch for repeated short u words about the fun and mess
  3. What got covered in mud?
  4. Read the muddy parts with playful expression!
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## After Reading

1. Why was the mud pit so fun for Gus and the pup?
  2. What might Gus need to do after this messy day?
  3. Would you want to play in a mud pit? Why or why not?
  4. Find and read 5 short u words from the story
  5. Fluency Tip: Read it again like you're telling a funny story about a messy day!
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## Activity Idea

Draw Gus and the pup in the mud pit. Then write a sentence about what each one did using short u words like *dug*, *mud*, and *fun*. Add splashes and details to show how messy it got!

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## Coaching Tip

Playful messes make for memorable reading—encourage laughter and connection as kids decode.

