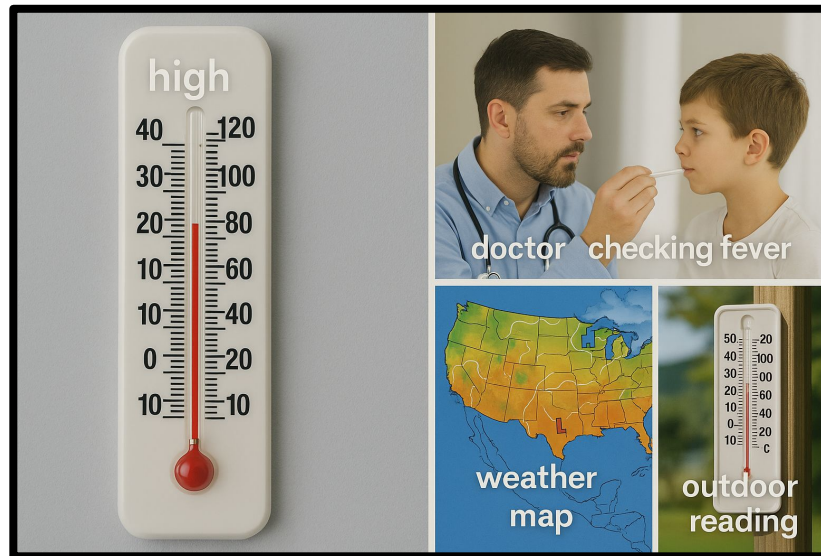


## Decodable Texts: R-Controlled (er)

"This nonfiction story teaches how a thermometer works. Look for 'er' words like 'thermometer,' 'hotter,' and 'lower' as you learn about this cool tool!"



### How Does a Thermometer Work?

A thermometer measures how hot or cold something is.

It has a narrow glass tube with silver or red liquid inside.

When things get hotter, the liquid goes higher.

When things get cooler, the liquid goes lower.

Thermometers help doctors check a fever.

They also help weather experts tell the air temperature.

This tiny tool is useful all over the world!

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

hotter

lower

silver

measure

fever



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

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## How Does a Thermometer Work?

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1. What does a thermometer do?

- A. It makes food
- B. It gives medicine
- C. It measures heat and cold
- D. It cleans the air

2. What happens to the liquid when it gets hotter?

- A. It freezes
- B. It changes color
- C. It goes higher
- D. It disappears

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3. Fill in the blank:

Thermometers help doctors check a \_\_\_\_\_.

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4. Why do you think people use thermometers in science, health, and weather?

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5. What are two ways this tool helps us in everyday life?

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# Coaching Guide

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**Target Skill:** er R-Controlled Vowel

**Genre:** Nonfiction – Tools & Technology

**High-Frequency Words:** how, with, when, over, help

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## Before Reading

1. This story includes “er” words like *thermometer*, *hotter*, *lower*, and *measure*.
  2. Have you ever seen or used a thermometer? What was it for?
  3. Why might it be helpful to know the temperature?
- 

## During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Break down “er” words like *thermometer*, *measure*, *fever*, and *hotter*.
  2. Watch for er words that describe what the tool does
  3. How does the liquid show hot or cold?
  4. Read the final sentence with appreciation for small but powerful tools
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## After Reading

1. Retell what a thermometer is and how it works
  2. Where might you use one—in school, home, or outside?
  3. What would you invent if you could make your own tool?
  4. Skill Check: Highlight six “er” words in the passage
  5. **Fluency Tip:** Read it again clearly and smoothly like a science presenter
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## Activity Idea

Draw a thermometer and show it in hot and cold settings (sunny day, sick child). Label parts using er words like *thermometer*, *lower*, *hotter*, or *fever*. Write one sentence about why it's a useful tool.

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## Coaching Tip

Simple tools build real-world reading skills—when decoding meets science, every word has a job!

