Decodable Texts: Short a (CVC Words)

"Today, we'll read about Max the bat who loves to play ball! Watch for short a words like bat, mat, and ran as you read."

Max the Bat

Max the bat sat on a flat mat.

He had a red cap and a big bat.

Max hit the ball with a big whack!

The ball went fast.

It hit a tin can with a BANG!

Max ran and ran to the mat.

Max got a big grin.

After reading the story, have your child point to and slowly sound out each practice word.				
bat	mat	sat	cap	can

Max the Bat

1. What did Max have?

A.   a red cap

B.   a black hat

C.   a big ball

D.   a tin can

2. What happened after Max hit the ball?

A.   It popped.

B.   It got lost.

C.   It hit a can.

D.   It stayed still.

3. Fill in the blank:

Max ran and ran to the _____.

4. How do you think Max felt when he got a big grin?

_____

_____

_____

5. What would you do if you hit a ball and it made a loud bang?

_____

_____

_____

Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Short a CVC Words
Genre: Fiction

Before Reading

1. "We are focusing on short a sounds today!"
2. What do you know about bats?
3. Have you ever played baseball or hit a ball before?

During Reading

1. Sounding Out Support: *If a word is tricky, help them look at each letter sound one at a time: b-a-t.*
2. Watch for short a words!
3. Where is Max sitting at the start of the story?
4. Sound excited when Max hits the ball for better fluency!

After Reading

1. Retell what Max did in the story.
2. Why did Max smile at the end?
3. What made the story exciting?
4. Skill Mastery Prompt: *Circle all the short a words you can find!*
5. Fluency Tip: *Try reading the story again and make your voice excited when Max hits the ball!*

Activity Idea

Draw Max hitting the ball at the mat. Label 3 things you see using short a words (like bat, cap, can).

Coaching Tip

Celebrate every success! Even small improvements in sounding out words build huge confidence.