

Decodable Texts: Beginning Blends (L-Blends)

"This story is about planting a plum and watching it grow. Listen for *pl* blend words like *plant*, *plum*, and *plot* as your reader works through the story."



Planting with Plums

Max can plant a plum.

The plum has a pit.

Dig in the flat plot.

Drop the pit in the gap.

Pat the mud on top.

The plum can grow!

Max is glad to plant.

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

plant

plum

plot

pit

gap



Name: _____

Planting with Plums

1. What does Max plant?

- A. A seed
- B. A plum
- C. A flower
- D. A bean

2. What goes on top of the pit?

- A. Rocks
- B. A mat
- C. Mud
- D. A cap

3. Fill in the blank:

Max is glad to _____.

4. What are the steps Max follows to plant the plum?

5. Why do you think Max feels glad after planting?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Beginning Blend *P/*

Genre: Nonfiction / Gardening

High-Frequency Words: the, a, is, can, in, to

Before Reading

1. Remind your reader that *p/* is a beginning blend, as in *plum* and *plant*.
 2. Have you ever planted something in a garden?
 3. What do you need to make something grow?
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During Reading

1. Sounding Out Support: Emphasize the /p/ + // blend in *p/* words
 2. Ask your reader to follow Max's steps
 3. Where does the plum pit go?
 4. Read the final line with a smile of accomplishment
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After Reading

1. What did Max use to plant the plum?
 2. Why might it be fun to grow a tree from a fruit?
 3. Would you want to plant something? What would you grow?
 4. Highlight all the *p/* words you can find
 5. Fluency Tip: Try reading the story like you're showing a friend how to garden!
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Activity Idea

Draw a step-by-step plum planting guide like Max's. Label each step with a short phrase, using at least two *p/* words (e.g., "plant plum," "pat plot").

Coaching Tip

Connecting decoding to real-life experiences like planting builds motivation and memory—dig into those learning moments!

