

Decodable Texts: Ending Blends (L-Blends)

"This story takes place near the ocean! Remind your reader to look for -It words and use clear, steady reading like a nature explorer."



Salt in the Gulf

Tasha went to the gulf with Mom.

She had a flask and a test strip.

She bent to get a drop of gulf water.

She set the strip in the flask.

Mom held the flask up to the sun.

"Look at the salt!" said Tasha.

"It left white dust on the strip."

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

gulf

flask

salt

strip

bent



Name: _____

Salt in the Gulf

1. What did Tasha test?

- A. The sand
- B. The fish
- C. The gulf water
- D. The sun

2. What showed that there was salt?

- A. A smell
- B. A splash
- C. A white dust
- D. A sticker

3. Fill in the blank:

"It left white _____ on the strip."

4. Why do you think Tasha used a strip and a flask?

5. What does this story teach you about saltwater?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: -It Ending Blends

Genre: Realistic Fiction

High-Frequency Words: said, the, with, it, at, look

Before Reading

1. We're working on -It words like *salt*, *gulf*, and *flask*.
 2. Have you ever been near the ocean or tested water?
 3. Why do scientists test water in different places?
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During Reading

1. What happened during the test?
 2. Why did the strip show white dust?
 3. What other places might Tasha want to test next?
 4. Skill Mastery: Find 5 -It words in the story
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading like you're a scientist explaining a cool discovery!
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After Reading

1. What items were used in the quilt?
 2. Why did Nell say it was soft?
 3. What does it mean to say something is "built with love"?
 4. Skill Mastery: Find 5 -It words in the story
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading this story again like you're telling a calm bedtime story.
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Activity Idea

Do a mini "salt test" at home or school. Use warm water and salt to mix a solution, then dry it on a strip or plate to see if salt is left behind. Label your experiment with -It words like *salt*, *test*, *dust*, and *flask*.

Coaching Tip

Encourage your reader to pause and talk about what they're learning—it builds deeper thinking and stronger connections.

