

Decodable Texts: Ending Blends (N-Blends)

"Today's story is about a silly way to join a band! Remind your reader to look closely for words that end with the -nd blend."



Blake and the Blue Drum

Rex had sand in his hand.

Dax had drums and a band.

Rex said, "Can I jam in the band?"

Dax said, "No! You just have sand!"

Rex said, "But sand can thump!"

Rex went *thump thump* with sand.

The band said, "Wow! That is grand!"

Rex was in the band!

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

sand

hand

band

grand

thump



Name: _____

Sand Band

1. Why didn't Dax want Rex in the band at first?

- A. Rex had no real instrument
- B. Rex was too loud
- C. Rex forgot the words
- D. Rex broke the drums

2. What made the band let Rex join?

- A. He gave them sand
- B. He made music with sand
- C. He fixed the drum
- D. He danced on the mat

3. Fill in the blank:

Rex went *thump thump* with _____.

4. How did Rex solve the problem of not having an instrument?

5. What does this story teach us about trying new ideas?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: -nd Ending Blends

Genre: Humorous Fiction

High-Frequency Words: said, was, the, to, no

Before Reading

1. Let's focus on -nd words, like *sand* and *band*!
 2. What is something fun you've made music with?
 3. Have you ever been told "no" but tried anyway?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Help kids blend -nd words slowly: /s/ /a/ /n/ /d/ → *sand*
 2. Watch for -nd words like *hand*, *band*, and *grand*
 3. What does Rex want to do?
 4. Try reading Rex's line with excitement: "But sand can thump!"
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After Reading

1. Can you retell what happened at the start, middle, and end?
 2. Why do you think the band changed their mind about Rex?
 3. Do you think sand is a good instrument? Why or why not?
 4. Skill Mastery: Highlight 5 -nd words in the story
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading the story again like you are acting it out!
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Activity Idea

Make your own classroom "Sand Band"! Use small items (sandpaper, cups, pencils) to create fun sounds and perform a group rhythm.

Coaching Tip

Let your child try creative voices or actions while reading—it builds confidence and fluency!

