

Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: ou

"This story explores words with the 'ou' vowel team, like 'sound,' 'house,' and 'shout.' Join Scout as he listens closely to the world around him!"



Scout's Sound Hunt

Scout was a boy who loved sound.

He kept a pouch to write down what he found.

One day, he heard a loud bounce in the house.

"Was that a mouse?" he asked.

Outside, he heard an owl hoot and a dog howl.

In the park, kids shouted and shoes pounded the ground.

At sunset, Scout sat on the couch.

"This town is full of sound!" he said with a smile.

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

sound

house

loud

mouse

shout



Name: _____

Scout's Sound Hunt

1. What did Scout collect?

- A. Sounds
- B. Coins
- C. Books
- D. Leaves

2. What did Scout hear in the park?

- A. An owl hoot
- B. Shouting and pounding feet
- C. A dog barking
- D. Rain falling

3. Fill in the blank:

"This town is full of _____!" Scout said.

4. What sounds do you think Scout liked the most and why?

5. How can you become a better listener like Scout?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: ou Vowel Team (Long /Round/ Sound)

Genre: Fiction – Realistic Fiction / Curiosity

High-Frequency Words: he, a, was, the, on

Before Reading

1. This story is filled with “ou” words that make the /ow/ sound. Watch for words like *sound*, *house*, and *shout*.
 2. Have you ever stopped to notice all the sounds around you?
 3. What’s your favorite sound?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Show how “ou” often makes the /ow/ sound in words like “loud” and “mouse.”
 2. Watch for ou words that describe places and sounds Scout hears
 3. What does Scout do after hearing each sound?
 4. Read the final line with energy, like Scout is proud of his discoveries!
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After Reading

1. Retell what Scout did and what he heard
 2. Why do you think Scout wrote down each sound?
 3. What sound would you add to his pouch list?
 4. Skill Check: Underline six ou words in the story
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Read it again using voice changes to act out each sound!
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Activity Idea

Make your own “sound list” like Scout. Draw a pouch and write six “ou” words that name sounds or places. Then write one sentence about what makes your favorite sound special.

Coaching Tip

Helping kids notice sounds builds both reading fluency and awareness—use this story to link phonics to real-world observation!

