

Decodable Texts: Beginning Blends (All)

"This nonfiction-style story explains how to run a sprint course. Listen for blend words like *skip*, *clip*, *flat*, and *grab* as you read."



Steps to a Flag

This is a sprint.

A flag is on a flat hill.

Step on the mat.

Skip to the log.

Clip the bag to your back.

Grab the flag!

Run to win!

You can do it!

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

flag

clip

flat

skip

grab



Name: _____

Steps to a Flag

1. What is at the top of the hill?

- A. A bell
- B. A bag
- C. A cap
- D. A flag

2. What does the runner clip to their back?

- A. A stick
- B. A bag
- C. A mat
- D. A rag

3. Fill in the blank:

Step on the _____.

4. What steps does the runner follow in this race?

5. Why do you think the flag is the goal at the end?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: All Beginning Blends

Genre: Nonfiction / Sports

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

Before Reading

1. You'll find many blends in this race-themed story: *fl*, *cl*, *gr*, and *sk*.
 2. Have you ever done an obstacle course or relay race?
 3. What do you think you might find at the top of a hill?
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During Reading

1. Sounding Out Support: Help your child notice the different starting blends in action words like *grab* and *clip*
 2. Follow the steps in order—what comes after the mat?
 3. What's the goal at the end?
 4. Use an excited tone for the final cheer: "You can do it!"
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After Reading

1. What order do the steps happen in?
 2. How do the blend words help show action?
 3. Would you want to try this race? Why or why not?
 4. Highlight all beginning blend words
 5. Fluency Tip: Read the story again like a sports coach giving directions!
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Activity Idea

Create your own mini race at home or on the playground. Set up a path with mats, logs, and flags. Label the stations with blend words like *step*, *grab*, and *skip*.

Coaching Tip

Nonfiction with a goal-based structure builds sequencing skills—talk through each action to build understanding and fluency.

