

Decodable Texts: Long Vowel Teams: ai

"Today, let's find words that have the long A sound spelled with 'ai.' This story has a fun project you might want to try after reading!"



The Amazing Paper Chain

Jill sat at the big craft table. "I will make the best paper chain!" she said.

She cut red strips, then blue ones. She made a long chain, but it was too plain.

"Add rain shapes!" said her mom.

Jill made tiny gray clouds and bright rain shapes. She taped them to the chain.

Her cat, Trail, sat in the sun and swiped at the chain. "No, Trail!" Jill said.

At last, Jill hung the chain by the big glass pane. The rain shapes swayed in the air.

A gust of wind made the chain twist and spin. Jill gave a big grin. "This is the best chain!" she said.

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

chain

plain

rain

trail

gain



Name: _____

The Amazing Paper Chain

1. What did Jill make at the craft table?

- A. A rain stick.
- B. A big flag.
- C. A paper chain.
- D. A painted box.

2. How did Jill make her chain more fun?

- A. She made it very plain.
- B. She added rain shapes.
- C. She gave it to her cat.
- D. She took it apart.

3. Fill in the blank:

Jill taped _____ shapes to the paper chain.

4. How did Jill feel when her chain spun in the wind?

5. What would you add to make a paper chain more exciting?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Long Vowel Team 'ai'

Genre: Realistic Fiction

High-Frequency Words: said, was, the, she, her, at

Before Reading

1. Remind them of the target skill: "Today we're looking for words that have the long A sound spelled with 'ai.'"
 2. Have you ever made something with paper?
 3. What do you think makes a craft really special?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** When you see the letters 'ai' together, try the long A sound like in "rain."
 2. Watch for target skill words as you read!
 3. Where did Jill hang her paper chain?
 4. Try reading with a big smile when Jill sees her chain spin!
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After Reading

1. Can you retell what Jill did to make her paper chain special?
 2. Why do you think Jill gave a big grin at the end?
 3. Did the cat Trail help or make trouble for Jill? Why?
 4. Find and highlight 5 words with the 'ai' spelling.
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading the story again and show how Jill's feelings change by using your voice!
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Activity Idea

Make your own paper chain like Jill! Use bright colors and try adding fun shapes just like in the story. Hang it near a window and watch how it moves. Write a short note to explain why your chain is special! Try showing your design to a friend and explain how you made it unique.

Coaching Tip

Encourage kids to reread the story out loud and celebrate when they read the target skill words smoothly!

