

Decodable Texts: Ending Blends (S-Blends)

"This story is about a bird on a mission to build the best nest! Remind your reader to look for words that end in -st and to use great expression when Finn finds what he needs."



The Best Nest

Finn had a nest, but it was a mess.

"I must fix it," said Finn.

He went on a quest.

He got grass. He got a twig.

He got a red bit of string.

"This is the best!" said Finn.

He set the string in the nest and gave it a rest.

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

nest

must

quest

best

rest



Name: _____

The Best Nest

1. What did Finn want to do?

- A. Make a mess
- B. Find bugs
- C. Fix his nest
- D. Fly fast

2. What was the last thing Finn added?

- A. A leaf
- B. A stick
- C. A worm
- D. A red string

3. Fill in the blank:

"This is the _____!" said Finn.

4. What steps did Finn take to fix the nest?

5. Why do you think Finn liked the string so much?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: -st Ending Blends

Genre: Animal Fiction

High-Frequency Words: said, the, it, he, a, this

Before Reading

1. Today we'll look for -st words like *nest*, *must*, and *rest*.
 2. Have you ever made or fixed something before?
 3. Why do birds build nests?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Help your reader stretch the short vowel, then blend -st: *be...st* → *best*
 2. Watch for -st words like *must*, *nest*, and *rest*
 3. What is Finn searching for?
 4. Use a cheerful tone when Finn says, "This is the best!"
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After Reading

1. Can you retell the beginning, middle, and end of the story?
 2. Why do you think Finn felt proud at the end?
 3. What would you have added to your own nest?
 4. Skill Mastery: Find 5 -st words in the story
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Try reading the story again like you are the bird on a quest!
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Activity Idea

Make a "Best Nest" collage! Use paper bits, yarn, and twigs to build your own nest on paper. Label it with -st words like *nest*, *rest*, and *best*. Then write one line about why your nest is the best.

Coaching Tip

Encourage expression and pacing during dialogue—it helps bring characters and stories to life!

