

Decodable Texts: Short u (CVC Words)

"This story is about a fun moment between Mum and her pup! Watch for short u words like *drum*, *pup*, and *rug* as your reader enjoys the rhythm."



The Drum and the Pup

Mum had a drum.

The drum is big.

The pup is on the rug.

Mum can tap the drum.

The pup can hum with the drum.

Mum and the pup jump and run.

It is fun with the drum!

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

drum

pup

rug

hum

fun



Name: _____

The Drum and the Pup

1. What does Mum do with the drum?

- A. Wash it
- B. Tap it
- C. Sit on it
- D. Hide it

2. What is the pup doing during the story?

- A. Playing in mud
- B. Humming and jumping
- C. Sleeping in a tub
- D. Running with a bug

3. Fill in the blank:

It is fun with the _____!

4. How does the pup react to the drum?

5. What made the moment with Mum and the pup special?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: Short u (CVC)

Genre: Humorous Fiction

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

Before Reading

1. Remind your reader that short u says “uh” like in *drum*.
 2. Have you ever played a drum or made your own music?
 3. What do pets sometimes do when they hear music?
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During Reading

1. Sounding Out Support: Break longer words like *drum* and *jump* into sound chunks
 2. Encourage reading with rhythm and noticing rhyming short u words
 3. What do Mum and the pup do together?
 4. Read the last line with joy and bounce!
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After Reading

1. How do Mum and the pup have fun in this story?
 2. Why do you think the pup hummed along with the drum?
 3. Would you want to play music with a pet? Why or why not?
 4. Circle 5 short u words from the story
 5. Fluency Tip: Read it again like you're singing along with the drumbeat!
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Activity Idea

Make your own rhythm band! Use your hands, a box, or a spoon and tap a rhythm like Mum. Then write a short sentence with two short u words describing how it sounds (e.g., “I thump the drum”).

Coaching Tip

Bringing reading to life with rhythm, sound, and movement deepens word retention and keeps things fun!

